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District Representatives at Work

EARLY in the winter it became apparent that dealers in grain were planning to dispose of quantities of oats purchased in the Western Provinces through the ordinary commercial channels as seed oats. I have examined quite a number of samples of grain of this description. In the great majority of cases these oats are seriously polluted with wild oats, and I have advised the dealers that it would be exceedingly unwise to offer them for sale as seed, and that unless the packages containing the oats were labelled in accordance with the Seed Control Act, that they would be liable to prosecution under the Act. In spite of this there have been sales amounting to perhaps two or three hundred bushels of Western oats carrying a considerable quantity of wild oats, which will be used for seed by a number of less progressive farmers in the country, and this, in spite of the fact that there are within the county considerable supplies of reasonably good seed oats of the O. A. C. 72 and other standard varieties. The only attraction which induced these men to purchase the Western oats was that they were enabled to give their notes in payment, and so defer finding the capital to secure their seed until later in the season. It is difficult to suggest any plan by which such short-sighted and improvident buying could be overcome.—H. Street, Northumberland Co., Ont.

Live Stock Improvement.

Farmers are taking a very deep interest in the assistance to horse breeding offered by the Federal Department. It is likely that three or four Clubs, if not more, will be formed in the County.

The scheme for marketing wool appears to be popular with the farmers, and after discussing the subject at the Dalton meeting, Mr. Wiggin received the signatures of eight men who are ready to ship their wool to Guelph. This was practically every sheep breeder in the audience. We are forwarding to Mr. Wade the names of sheep breeders as rapidly as we can get them from the various townships.—J. Laughland, Simcoe Co., Ont.

Students for Farms.

Interest in the movement to place High School students on farms is increasing very rapidly. A number of students have interviewed us, and we are pleased to note that the majority wish to enlist for the sake of helping in production and not for the sake of securing promotion without the usual examination. The idea is being well received by the farmers, and we notice that the trend of conversation is now for larger crops. The feeling is that the crops will be looked after if the grain is put in.—H. C. Duff, Grey Co., Ont.

Dairying in New Ontario.

I organized two Live Stock Improvement Associations. The first association has 15 members to start with, all of whom signed up at the meeting. These 15 members have 50 cows at the present time, and expect to have 10 more by the end of April. This association is going in for the production of milk for the Hymera Cheese Factory, and therefore selected a Holstein. I may say that while the vote was unanimous for a Holstein, the second choice was dual purpose, largely because of the splendid record made by this strain of cows around Hymera last year in producing milk that required less than 10 pounds to make one pound of cheese. This association means more that improving the cow, which is very important; it means another milk route for the Hymera Cheese Factory with the production of 50 cows added to the factory's supply.

At Nolaqu 20 members signed up and selected a dual purpose sire. These people are all Plains, and they want a strain of cow which will be good for buttermaking. At first they wanted a Jersey sire, but after I made a comparison of the Jersey and dual purpose, considering both the milk and beef production, they selected the dual purpose. The 20 members who belong to this association have 64 cows at the present time, and the off-ers think they will have no trouble in securing at least 10 more members with an additional 20 or 25 cows. The majority of these cows have Shorthorn and Ayrshire blood in them, and with a good sire and proper selection of the females, I expect to see many good animals of the dual purpose strain produced in this section of our district.—G. W. Collins, Thunder Bay, Ont.

A Prosperous Egg Circle.

On Tuesday we attended the annual meeting of the Millbrook Egg Circle. This Circle has increased its membership from 45 to 86 and disposed of 30,000 dozen eggs as against 12,000 dozen last year. The price paid over and above the local price varied from 2c to 3 per dozen. The Circle netted its members over \$700 for the eggs handled. Mr. Stuart's address was much appreciated, and dealt with the future opportunities of Egg Circles, and recommended the Circle to consider community breeding and crate fattening of poultry. Many expressed themselves in favor of the community system preparatory to the crate fattening scheme.—G. A. Williams, Durham Co., Ont.

White Wyandottes That Lay.

On Friday I visited the farm of Mr. Chas. Calvert near Reaboro. This man has the largest flock of White Wyandottes in the county. Last year he built an up-to-date poultry house, 25x50, which is one of the best I have seen. He has 100 pullets and 100 yearling hens, and during the months of January and February he sold about \$85 worth of eggs. At the present time he gets about one case a week. The pullets have been doing most of the laying up to the present time.—A. A. Knight, Victoria Co., Ont.

Annual Meeting of the P.E.I. Dairymen's Association

PROBABLY never so enthusiastic and interested as before in the meeting of the P.E.I. Dairymen's Association, at Charlottetown, on Wednesday last. The reason for the overflow of spirits was the great increase in the dairy output of the little Island Province over the preceding year, which amounted to 25 per cent, the figures comprising the increase being \$116,000 over 1915. Talk about new industries (and our people are all the time talking about starting new industries) is all very well. But let us, in the meantime, endeavor to enlarge and develop the great dairy industry which we now have running at such a tremendous pace. 25 per cent increase in 1916. This dairy industry brought into our Province last year, with little outlay except labor, \$180,000 for butter and \$361,000 for cheese, or a total of \$541,000, about 46 per head of the total population of the Province, or, in other words, \$36 for each of the 15,000 farmers in the Province.

If we look at the districts that are the most prosperous in the "Light and Island" they will be found to be those in which dairying is carried on in an up-to-date manner. New Perth, Gowrie, an Bras, Kensington, Hamilton, Bedouque, Crapaud, Marshfield, Lunenburg, and others that might be mentioned—these are some of the towns added to the factory's supply. (Continued on page 3.)