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THE SIMPLEX LINK-BLADE

Is said by thousands of users to be the best.

WHY The Simplex?

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WHY The Simplex?

Because it is the only Cream Separator that has a SELF-BALANCING BOWL with the Link-Blade device. You, who have had troubles with sprung spindles and bowls getting out of balance, will know just what amount of trouble it overcomes to have the bowl Self-Balancing.

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Agricultural Improvement in Ontario

An outline of what the Ontario Department of Agriculture is doing, to improve agricultural conditions in Ontario, was given by Mr. C. C. James, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, at the last convention of the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association, held in Prescott. In New Ontario, an immense section of country is being opened up for settlement that is just as well adapted for agricultural purposes as most of the farm land in old Ontario.

On many farms in older portions of the province, there are sections of land that are now worthless on account of not being drained. The Department has evolved a simple system of drainage by which farmers are being aided in reclaiming these waste areas. Where this land has been reclaimed it has often been found to be the richest land on the farm. The Department has commenced setting aside waste sections of land that can be used only for the growth of timber, with the object of planting them with trees.

INCREASING THE YIELD

Besides endeavoring to increase the available areas of land, the department is endeavoring to assist the farmers to increase the yield per acre. We are not producing as large crops as the farmers in Denmark and other European countries, and we should endeavor to find the reason. If we could raise only one more kernel of grain on each stalk, on every acre of land in the province, it would mean an increase of millions of bushels in a year in our grain production. Experiments that have been conducted at the Guelph Agricultural College, have shown that it is possible to increase the yield by not only one more grain per stalk, but by many grains. The government now knows varieties that are infinitely better than varieties that have been commonly used in the past. It now rests with our farmers to take advantage of this information and to grow improved varieties of grain. If Ontario farmers would take advantage of this information that is furnished to them free of cost, they could increase the yields of their farms by 20, 30, 40 and even 50 per cent.

IMPROVE THE COW

Mr. James pointed out that manufacturers are quick to purchase the latest improved machinery, even when to do so, they have to discard other machinery that is still in good condition. They are forced to keep themselves supplied with the latest machinery in order that they may hold their own with their competitors. If Ontario farmers are to hold their own with the farmers of other countries, who have been improving the productiveness of their cows, they must discard their poor milkers. This can be done only by testing their milks, and watching them. This is something that neither the government nor the dairymen's associations can do for our farmers. It is something that our farmers must do for themselves. It will be better for them to do it now than for them to wait until they are forced to do it by the competition of other countries.

HOME LIFE IMPORTANT

Mr. James was applauded when he stated that while it is important that our farmers should increase the productiveness of their farms, still, desire to make money is one of the lowest motives that can actuate a man. In their desire to make money, farmers should not overlook the importance of seeing that their home life is pleasant and attractive. One of the greatest questions with which we are struggling is that of keeping the boys and girls on the farm. If we

are to do this, instead of having the places of our boys and girls taken by foreigners, each of us must do our best individually, to make our home life happy and pleasant. This, also, is something which the government cannot do for our farmers, and which we will have to do for ourselves.

What Constitutes a Prize Farm Simpson Rennie, York Co., Ont.

What should be expected of a first-prize farm? All obstructions to cultivation such as stumps and stones should be removed, the stumps either burned or made into wood and the stones placed in neat piles where convenient if required for building purposes, but in no cases should any be thrown along the fence sides.

Where the land in its natural state is or would be wet, it must be tiled drained, for money cannot be made out of growing grain on wet land.

The fences should principally be what is called the straight rail, or wire. In the older parts of Ontario, at least where fences are to be built, the decay of the old crooked rail fence is past. Where a farm is laid out into fields, each field should be supplied with a well painted gate and well hung on hinges so that it will swing clear back without dragging on the ground. If possible, for convenience in working, no field should have any gore. The plowing should be straight and even; done, no high beginning, nor unsightly finishes. The grain should be evenly sown and well put in. When it grows up the crops throughout the farm should show a strong even growth, which indicates careful manuring.

Very few weeds should be seen throughout the farm, especially in the grain fields. The weed problem of late has become a very important factor in good farming. Just show me a man who knows how and keeps down the weeds and I will show you a prosperous farmer. The orchard should be carefully planted in straight rows and the trees should be well pruned, but not to excess. Many orchards are ruined by being pruned too severely. Again, the small fruit and vegetable garden should contain at least sufficient to supply the household. The vegetables should be grown in straight rows so that the cultivation can be done with a horse. Labor is too costly to do this work by hand on the ordinary farm.

All buildings should be conveniently situated to accommodate the whole farm, and the outside woodwork should be painted. The interior of the barn buildings should be neatly kept and convenient for the certain line of farming followed. The house should be neat and convenient but not unreasonably large. A large house is not only costly to build, but is costly to keep up in the way of heating, furnishing, cleaning, etc. All that should be desired, would be a house large enough to suit every convenience of the farm. The front lawn should not be very large either, but should not be without a few ornamental trees. The average farmer can't afford the time to keep a large lawn in trim condition; so it is better to have a small lawn well kept than to have a large lawn partially neglected.

Implement and vehicles should be kept under cover and in good repair. A few implements in good repair are far better than a whole building full of implements that are out of repair. I have been on farms where there was such an accumulation of old broken down implements and vehicles that there was scarcely room inside for the new. Would it not be better to dispose of the old and make sufficient room inside for the new which on no account should stand outside exposed?

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