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GEARING OF THE "SIMPLEX"

SIMPLEX

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The Hog Question in Parliament

As announced on page three of this issue, Farm and Dairy's suggestion that a commission of Canadian farmers be sent to Denmark and Ireland to study the hog question has been adopted by Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion and such a commission will shortly be appointed. When the matter was under discussion in the House of Commons, Hon. Mr. Fisher was being criticised for not having increased the duty on hog products imported from the United States from two cents to four cents as urged by the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association had requested should be done. In reply to this criticism Hon. Mr. Fisher said in part: "I believe that the best profits in every industry are made by cheapening the cost of production rather than by raising the cost of the article. When you raise the cost of the article, you hurt the consumer of the article, though you may possibly for the moment increase the profits of the producer, but when you lower the cost of production, you give the producer his profits without raising the cost to the consumer and therefore the consumer is not hurt."

"In this particular industry of swine breeding and pork production, our greatest rivals are the Danes and the Irish. They have beaten us in the English market in the sale of pork products. Now, instead of raising the prices of pork products to the people of Canada, who have to buy them, I wish to find out how the Danes and Irish succeed in beating our people in the British market and for that purpose I have asked and have obtained permission from my colleagues to bring down a vote of \$10,000 in the supplementary estimates for the purpose of sending a special commission of farmers interested in the swine breeding industry of Canada, to Ireland and Denmark to investigate the methods of production in those countries."

"My hon. friend seems to think that I am not taking care of the interests of the swine breeders in Canada because we do not bring down a higher tariff. I believe I am doing what is better—better for the swine breeders themselves, and certainly better for the whole consuming public of Canada; and I believe it is better than my hon. friend's sole panacea for all the commercial troubles of the country, higher and better protection."

"It is for the purpose of finding out whether there are methods of production in Denmark and Ireland which are more economical than our own that I propose to send this commission to these countries. If we can get any hints which will help our industry it will be well worth the expenditure."

Milk Commission Named

It is understood that the personnel of the Provincial Commission to investigate the whole milk question in Ontario is practically determined. The commission will consist of four members, the chairman being Dr. O. R. Pyne of Toronto, an expert analyst and brother of Hon. Dr. Pyne. The other three members of the Legislature, who will serve without remuneration, are Mr. J. R. Dargavel of Leos, ex-President of the Dairyman's Association; Mr. Finlay G. Macdunnachie of West Elgin, and Mr. W. F. Nickle of Kingston, where the milk problem has assumed important proportions. The Secretary of the commission has not yet been appointed, but it is expected that he will be named at the next meeting of the Cabinet.

The decision to appoint the commission was made by the Legislature on the resolution of Mr. W. K. McNaught, North Toronto. The scope of the work to be comprehensive and will cover the whole Province. It is anticipated that the commission will

inaugurate its work before the end of the present month.

Another Remarkable Milk Record

A most remarkable milk record has just been completed by the Holstein cow "Netherland Aggie De Kol," 6439 owned by J. Van Patter & Sons, Elgin Co., Ont. She was 7 years, 21 days of age when she commenced her test. She is sired by Victor De Kol Pieterje, No. 1456, her dam is Netherland Aggie No. 2478, sired by Stratford's Blackbird Aggie, No. 771. The following is an account of what she has done during the past year. She was under test 365 days and gave as follows:

She calved May 6th, 1908, commenced test on 7th.
In May she gave 1380 lbs. at \$1.15 a cwt. at Aymer, Condenser \$22.10
In June she gave 2503½ lbs. at \$1.03 a cwt. \$25.03
In July she gave 2304¼ lbs. at \$1.10 a cwt. \$25.34
In August she gave 2190¼ lbs. at \$1.15 a cwt. \$25.18
In September she gave 245 lbs. at \$1.30 a cwt. \$32.54
In October she gave 1581¼ lbs. at \$1.40 a cwt. \$22.13
In November she gave 1450¼ lbs. at \$1.40 a cwt. \$21.75
In December she gave 1570¼ lbs. at \$1.50 a cwt. \$23.55
1909.
In January she gave 1028 lbs. at \$1.50 a cwt. \$24.42
In February she gave 1458 lbs. at \$1.50 a cwt. \$21.87
In March she gave 1586 lbs. at \$1.50 a cwt. \$22.20
In April she gave 1378 lbs. at \$1.25 a cwt. \$17.37
In May she gave 275 lbs. at \$1.05 a cwt. \$2.88

Yearly record 21,666 lbs. milk, \$277.45
Her highest day's milk was 96 lbs., her best 30 consecutive days 2628½ lbs. Official returns have not yet been received from Ottawa, but we figure her butter fat at a little better than 700 pounds.

In regard to feed her average daily ration was 7 lbs. bran, 7 lbs. oats and peas, 3 lbs. oil cake, from 30 to 40 lbs. ensilage and all the clover and alfalfa hay that she wanted. She was milked three times daily during the entire year.

Items of Interest

Bees do best, and brood earlier in the spring when the outer cases are left about the hives, and there is less danger of chilled brood. The outer cases should be left on until the colony needs a super in the spring—probably about the first of June or a little earlier.—R. J. Holtermann, Brant Co., Ont.

Alberta shipped during 1908 11,415 horses, valued at \$1,255,700, 53,720 cattle, 34,469 head of cattle, and 5,570 feed cattle, valued at \$4,230,000. There are at present in the province 175,000 range horses, 750,000 cattle, 45,000 sheep, while 25,000 cattle are on feed at the present time waiting for shipment. During the year, 25,802 sheep, valued at \$129,000, and 48,163 hogs, valued at \$433,467, were shipped. The average yield of wheat per acre was the highest of any province in the Dominion.

A comprehensive plan for the re-organization of Provincial Police in Ontario upon which the Attorney-General has been engaged for some time is practically completed. Hon. Mr. Foy expects to make the official announcement shortly. The system upon which it is hoped to operate will embrace work by the departments of the liquor license law, the observance of the fish and game regulations and the maintaining of law and order in the unsettled districts of the north.

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