

THE FARM.

Harvesting Sweet Clover.

Sweet clover has come into favor during the past few years and the plant which was considered by many to be a noxious weed has proven to be a valuable fodder plant. The middle of June finds a good many in the midst of harvesting the crop for hay. If it is not cut at the proper time there is tendency for the stems to become woody and thus a poor quality hay is made. It should be cut about the time the first blossoms are ready to appear. Two crops can usually be secured, provided, however, that the cutting bar is raised sufficiently high to leave fresh growth on the stubble. Many have completely destroyed the plants through leaving no lower branches to start the new growth. Owing to cutting early, sweet clover is rather hard to cure. Furthermore, there is always the danger of losing a portion of the leaves, which are really the best part of the hay. Tedding and raking before the dew has completely gone, or in the evening when the dew is settling, is recommended. As a rule, the crop must be cured in the coil.

When the sweet clover is grown for seed production, the first crop can be allowed to go to maturity, although there will be a greater revenue from the field if the first crop is taken off for hay and the second crop allowed to mature for seed. There is always the danger, however, that the crop may be cut too low and but a thin stand come on for seed. When harvesting it for seed, cutting should be done when three-quarters of the seed pods become dark. It is cut and handled very much like the grain crop but care must be taken when the straw is very dry, else there will be a loss of seed.

Sweet clover is used extensively for pasture and if some of the plants are allowed to seed there is more or less of a permanent pasture obtained. Cattle do well on it. Our experience at Weldwood has been that young stuff fattens up quite readily and cows maintain a good flow of milk and keep in flesh better on sweet clover pasture than on red clover and the ordinary grasses. It also has value as a green manure. It adds nitrogen and humus to the soil and has been found valuable in the building up of both sand and clay soils. It does not quite take the place of alfalfa as a fodder, but it can be grown in districts where alfalfa does not seem to stand up under the climatic conditions. If the plant is prevented from going to seed there should not be much difficulty in keeping it from spreading. We have found that cutting it close to the ground kills the plant.

Corn Cultivation.

Already many fields of corn have received the first stroke of the cultivator, and some of them have been gone over two or three times. Corn is a hot-weather plant and seems to thrive best when the mercury is high even though there is little rainfall. It is important that the cultivator be kept going at regular intervals. One week is not too often. The crop depends a good deal on the amount and kind of cultivation given. It is advisable to work the soil deep at first, and close to the plant, then as the season advances gradually lessen the depth of cultivation. To go shallow one time and deep the next is not a good practice; in fact, we have seen crops given a severe setback owing to the fact that the cultivator, going deeper than the time previous cuts off many of the roots, thus lessening the number of feeders for the corn plant. The cultivator points should be kept reasonably sharp and set so that they will cut the weeds and grass properly. On most farms there is little or no time for hoeing the corn. However, the field can be kept reasonably clean with the horse cultivator.

After the corn gets up a few feet there may be signs of smut developing. If there is much of this in the field it causes a decided loss. The only practicable method of eliminating this disease from the field is to cut off the infected parts and burn them. This can be done when going through the field with the cultivator. Care should be taken not to leave the diseased stalks lying on the field, or where they will reach the manure to be carried to the field again. It is important that these smut masses be cut off and destroyed before they have broken open. Once open the spores are spread and may infect the crop the following year.

CANADA'S YOUNG FARMERS AND FUTURE LEADERS.

The Spirit of Co-operation.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Recently, a passing shower was the cause of half a dozen men gathering in a barn, the writer being one of the group. We, being normal human beings, discussed other people's affairs and settled a few of the more knotty problems of state. Finally, the conversation turned to that ever fruitful subject for conversation—the present farm situation—a full discussion of which includes the shortage of help, the long hours, the high cost of production, and the comparative inadequacy of financial returns. The writer expressed it as his opinion that the present situation which farmers complain of will never be righted unless they take the problem in hand themselves, and by co-operative methods and united effort secure that which they consider to be theirs

by right. One farmer replied,—who by the way, works his hundred acres alone,—that farmers could never make a success of co-operation, and that so far as he was concerned he could make a living and get along somehow, and he didn't need to care for anyone else. There was a general chorus of "hear, hears!" and "amens!"

I mention the above incident because it is an altogether too prevalent attitude on the part of Ontario farmers toward co-operation. This attitude is directly opposite to the true spirit of co-operation, which is a willingness to pool certain of one's interests along with similar interests of others, and to be willing to abide by the consequences. The aim of co-operation is that the financial condition of the co-operators may be improved. The motive then is chiefly self-interest, but looking out for ourselves is one of the first of all laws, and in doing so we should not interfere with the rights of others.

That co-operation is not more widespread in Ontario to-day than it is, is due for one reason to a lack of faith in its power and possibilities. There are too many farmers like the one mentioned above, who think that because of the nature of the farmers' business, and the independent lives they lead, there is little possibility of co-operation being successful. Where there is no faith there is no enthusiasm, and an enterprise not backed by enthusiasm hasn't the possibility of success. This attitude can only be overcome by education and example. Those who do believe in the efficacy of co-operation should use the means at their disposal to cause others to believe likewise. These consist of the press, the public platform, and private conversation. Also, believers, by making an actual success of co-operation, will do more than anything else to convince others of its efficacy; and these others, once believing, will also participate.

Another check on co-operation is that short-sighted selfishness, too often displayed by farmers. There are those who will desert a co-operative association the minute they can make a few extra dollars elsewhere. By so doing they gain a little at the time, but will probably lose what they gain, and much more besides, ultimately. Such farmers as these not only hurt themselves, but are detrimental to the general farming interest. When a co-operative association is being combatted by middlemen, whose object is to break it up, then is the time to stick closest together; numbers are on the co-operators' side and they are sure to win out in the long run.

Co-operation in the form of the U. F. O. is off to a good start in Ontario, but as yet we have only touched on the fringe of the possibilities in this line. As the activities of the U. F. O. increase, and as those greater enterprises now under private control and which are chiefly responsible for diverting so much money from the farmer's pocket, are brought under the control of farmers, then the benefits of co-operation will be more apparent. On those who are the young people on Ontario farms and who will be the farmers of to-morrow will devolve the opportunity and responsibility of carrying on with co-operative work, making it the success it can and ought to be. We who are the coming farmers would do well to get a thorough understanding of the workings and the possibilities of co-operation, so that we may have that knowledge, that faith and enthusiasm, which are necessary to make a success of anything.

Oxford County.

OXFORDITE.

THE DAIRY.

The National Sale at St. Paul.

The National Sale of Holsteins which followed the annual meeting of the American Holstein-Friesian Association at St. Paul, Minnesota, on June 2nd, was in many respects the most successful sale of the breed ever held in America. In all, there were 258 head catalogued for the sale, 235 of which came forward. These consisted of entries drawn from practically every State in the Union, as well as the Provinces of Ontario and British Columbia in Canada. As announced in last week's issue, the 235 head sold for just a little over three-quarters of a million dollars, making an average throughout of \$2,075 per head, a figure which is far above any previous averages for the breed on this continent, at least. Contrary to former national sales, there were this year no one hundred thousand dollar tops, but the two-months' son of the great long distance producer, Tilly Alcartra, and went, as has been previously announced, to A. C. Hardy, of Avondale Farm, Brockville, Ont., and W. L. Shaw, Roycroft Farms, Newmarket, Ont., at \$50,000. At two months of age he is as yet too young to be at all accurately summed up as regards individuality but it is certain that he has plenty of length, and, if we can go at all by pedigree, with these two great world's record cows, Tilly Alcartra and May Echo Sylvia as his first two dams, there should be but few question his right as the most outstanding bred calf of the breed. King Korndyke Pontiac Acme, another calf, however, consigned by the Morris Corporation, went at fast bidding to \$41,000, and at one time almost looked as if he was going to equal the price paid for his pen mate, sold the previous day. This calf was an eight months' youngster sired by a 36.81-lb. bred grandson of King of the Pontiacs, while on the dam's side, he was from a 26.18-lb. two-year-old, who had 24,308 lbs. of milk and 1,034 lbs. of butter in 365 days. As this calf was older one could be a little more certain as to how he was developing, but as no one could say he had any great amount of individuality, it must have been the yearly record of his two-year-old dam, which was instrumental in bringing the price at which he was sold. Here we might add

that throughout the three days it was almost confusing to sit in the sale pavilion and try and figure out, with any accuracy whatever, as to why and when some one animal should be selling well up in the thousands.

A summary of the sales shows three bulls above \$16,000, 7 females above \$10,000, and one female at \$3,000. The bulls all had a combination of both long and short-time records, but the high-priced females varied from high to low, to almost the extreme. It was certain, however, that individuality brought more dollars in the way of consideration than any other one feature, if they had a combination of individuality and long distance backing, it is also just as certain that it doubled and, in many cases, trebled their value. For instance, fifteen 1,000-lb. butter cows, or daughters of 1,000-lb. butter cows, made an average of \$8,113, while 41 cows with records from 30 to 38 lbs. made an average only of \$3,760. As would be expected, there were among the latter many cases where there was plenty of individuality, but only twice did they run very much above \$5,000. Speaking of the 7-day record cows, it was also noticeable that of the 41 listed in the catalogue, 22 had less than 600 lbs. of milk in seven days. In fact, two of the highest record cows, Changeling Queen, a 38.9-lb. four-year-old, and Ruby Karen Mercedes, a 35-lb. cow, both had less than 570 lbs. of milk.

Canada was represented by 11 head only, six of which were consigned by Avondale Farms, Brockville, Ont., while the other five came from the herds of J. M. Steves, Colony farm, and the Dominion Government Farms at Agassiz, all of British Columbia. In contrast to the sale held in connection with the annual meeting last year in Philadelphia, the averages made by Canadian breeders fell somewhat below the general average of the sale. Mr. Hardy kept his average up to \$3,413 for the six head, while the British Columbia stuff made an average of \$2,280. We would not like to say there was any discrimination shown by the management with regard to the Canadian cattle, but there were plenty of the eastern states' breeders emphatic in their statements that the middle west breeders had jockeyed more or less for position all the way through the sale. In all fairness, however, to these breeders from Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Dakotas, we might say that while they are out to boost their semi-official yearly records, they came across in grand style and paid "real money" for long distance stuff if it had any individuality whatever. Wisconsin breeders alone made purchases to the value of \$250,000, or, in other words, paid in a third of the total receipts of the sale. The following is a list of the Canadian cattle together with the prices for which they sold and below these again are a few of the higher-priced cattle which passed through the ring on one or the other of the three days' selling:

Canadian Entries.

Consigned by A. C. Hardy:	
King Waldorf Sylvia, Brentwood Farms, Penn.	\$ 5,250
Winterthur Ormston, Otfest & Bushall, Ind.	7,200
Queen Fulton Sylvia, Mrs. M. E. Penrose, Col.	2,150
C. E. S. P. Tensen, John Hallet, Ill.	1,200
Echo Sylvia Snowball, Carnation Stock Farms, Wash.	2,550
Lady Sylvia Tensen, Carnation Stock Farms.	1,700
Consigned by J. M. Steves:	
S. O. C. B. Methilde Canary, A. P. Thom, Conn.	450
S. C. J. P. Nora, Carnation Stock Farms.	1,150
Consigned by Colony Farm:	
C. Netherland Segis Newman, A. E. Smith, Wash.	1,050
C. Segis McKinley, A. E. Smith.	2,000
Consigned by Dominion Exp. Farm:	
Agassiz May Echo Segis, Carnation Stock Farms.	950

Other Sales of Note.

MALES.

Alcartra King Sylvia, A. C. Hardy & W. L. Shaw, Canada.	50,000
King Korndyke Pontiac Acme, Mrs. A. M. Baldwin, California.	41,000
King Pietertje Ormsby Pieve, Wm. Miller, Wis.	15,000
Dutchland Quality, Brentwood Farms.	7,750

FEMALES.

Moxee Johanna K. Pieve, Long Lake Stock Farm, Minn.	10,000
Ruby Pietertje Forest Hill 2nd, Harvest Farms, Wisconsin.	10,500
Western Asclon, Rancocas Stock Farm, N. J.	5,500
Chloe Pietertje Ormsby, Hugo Schroeder, Minn.	10,100
Aaggie Wayne Peep 2nd, Carnation Stock Farms	7,900
Colantha May Ormsby, John Pulls, Wis.	7,000
Colantha May Ormsby 2nd, Hollyhock Farms, Wis.	7,600
Juanita Segis Pontiac, E. M. Murphy, Wis.	5,000
Veeman Grace Pieve, E. M. Murphy.	6,500
Ruby Caren Mercedes, Mankato Holstein Co., Minn.	9,100
Ormsby Korndyke P. Mooie, Schroeder & Boeckmann, Minn.	10,500
B. K. P. Dawn, Gustave Papst, Wis.	5,300
Maple Side Adelaide Walker, Rancocas Farms.	5,000
Meadow Home O. Wayne Belle, Carnation Stock Farms.	10,000
Papst Korndyke Cornflower, Hollyhock Farms.	30,000
Hazel Pontiac, E. M. Murphy.	5,400
Daisy Colantha Girl 3rd, W. E. Tirsch, Wis.	9,000
Hollywood Lilith Mercena, Carnation Stock Farms.	6,000
Countess Sunnyside De Kol, Belle Farms, Pa.	5,000

In addition to the above bulls, four others sold above \$5,000. It will be interesting to Canadian breeders to know that with a half dozen exceptions, the bids never ran below \$50, and the smallest bid made throughout the sale was \$25.

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