

The Ontario Agricultural Gazette

The Official Bulletin of the Dominion Cattle, Sheep, and Swine Breeders' Associations, and of the Farmers' Institute System of the Province of Ontario.

THE DOMINION CATTLE, SHEEP, AND SWINE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

Annual Membership Fees—Cattle Breeders' \$1, Sheep Breeders', \$1, Swine Breeders', \$1.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP.

Each member receives a free copy of each publication issued by the Association to which he belongs, during the year in which he is a member. In the case of the Swine Breeders' Association this includes a copy of the Swine Record.

A member of the Swine Breeders' Association is allowed to register pigs at 50c. per head; non-members are charged \$1.00 per head.

A member of the Sheep Breeders' Association is allowed to register sheep at 50c. per head, while non-members are charged \$1.00.

The name and address of each member, and the stock he has for sale, are published once a month. Over 10,000 copies of this directory are mailed monthly. Copies are sent to each Agricultural College and each Experiment Station in Canada and the United States, also to prominent breeders and probable buyers resident in Canada, the United States and elsewhere.

A member of an Association will only be allowed to advertise stock corresponding to the Association to which he belongs; that is, to advertise cattle he must be a member of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association, to advertise sheep he must be a member of the Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association, and to advertise swine he must be a member of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association.

The list of cattle, sheep, and swine for sale will be published in the third issue of each month. Members having stock for sale, in order that they may be included in the Gazette, are required to notify the undersigned by letter on or before the 9th of each month, of the number, breed, age, and sex of the animals. Should a member fail to do this his name will not appear in that issue. The data will be published in the most condensed form.

F. W. Hodson, Secretary.
Parliament Buildings Toronto, Ont.

STOCK FOR MANITOBA.

The live stock associations will forward a carload of pure bred live stock to Manitoba the end of this month. Buyers wishing to have stock shipped to the West should write to F. W. Hodson, Toronto, Secretary of the Dominion Live Stock Associations, for full particulars regarding rates, etc.

NOTICE TO SECRETARIES OF FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

According to the rules and regulations governing Farmers' Institutes, each secretary is expected to send a report of each meeting on Form A within one week after the close of each meeting or series of meetings; a list of members on or before the 10th of January of each year, and on the 10th of each month thereafter, and at least two papers prepared by local talent. See clauses 48, 49, and 50 on page 5 of the secretary's minute book.

Hereafter the acknowledgment of lists of members will be published each week in FARMING. Secretaries of Farmers' Institutes are respectfully requested to take note of this and at once report to the superintendent any neglect to promptly publish the acknowledgment of lists of members sent in by them.

The following is a list of members received since last issue:

Brockville.....	73
Bruce, North.....	90
Bruce, South.....	19
Bruce, West.....	84
Carleton.....	49
Cornwall.....	3
Dufferin.....	53
Durham, West.....	54
Essex, North.....	43
Essex, South.....	52
Grey, North.....	99
Hastings, West.....	109
Lambton, East.....	41

Lambton, West.....	112
Muskoka, South.....	46
Middlesex, North.....	41
Northumberland, West.....	72
Ontario, South.....	47
Prescott.....	7
Prince Edward.....	100
Port Carling.....	20
Simcoe, West.....	42
Stormont.....	30
Victoria, West.....	65
Wellington, Centre.....	55
York, West.....	124

The following is the average attendance at meetings, reports of which have been received since the last list published:

Brockville.....	60
Bruce, South.....	198
Bruce, West.....	135
Dufferin.....	55
Durham, West.....	55
Essex, South.....	138
Frontenac.....	47
Haldon.....	294
Hastings, West.....	90
Huron, West.....	87
Kent, West.....	78
Lambton, East.....	65
Lambton, West.....	78
Leeds N. and Grenville N.....	63
Middlesex, North.....	213
Muskoka, South.....	31
Northumberland, East.....	113
Northumberland, West.....	177
Port Carling and Bal.....	145
Prescott.....	55
Russell.....	131
Stormont.....	70
Simcoe.....	113

AN ABRIDGED REPORT OF AMERICAN EXPERIMENTS WHICH ARE OF VALUE TO CANADIAN FARMERS.

(Continued from last issue.)

SEED SELECTION.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 73, issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, contains some timely remarks on seed selection, which has such an important

bearing not only on the immediate crop but frequently on many subsequent ones. All seeds should be carefully examined before planting in order to test their purity and vitality. The introduction of foul weeds and disappointment from sowing seeds of low vitality are thus avoided.

The vitality of seed is influenced by a number of factors, among which are the kind of seed, degree of maturity at harvesting, methods of handling, water content, and temperature at which germination takes place. If thoroughly dried, seed will stand almost any degree of cold, and may for a few minutes be subjected to dry heat equaling that of boiling water without injury.

When immature seed is sown the tendency is to produce an earlier and more prolific product, as has frequently been done with tomatoes, but this is carried out at the expense of the ultimate vitality of the stock.

The age of seed is an important factor in their vitality. A very few seeds, such as those of cucumbers and melons, are supposed to increase in value till they are three years old. On the other hand some seeds become worthless in a short time. In an experiment it was found that barley and oats retained their vitality for ten years, wheat fell off nearly one-half, rye became practically worthless in that length of time. Tests of forage plants in England showed a depreciation in vitality during two and one-half years amounting to from 11 to 100 per cent.

Experiments show almost without exception that the largest and heaviest seed tend to produce the largest and most vigorous plants. For this reason, the too common practice of selling the best clover and grass seed and saving the screenings for the farm cannot be justified in any way. Not only do there contain many weed seeds, but what pure seed is in them is generally small and inferior.

It was found in some investigations in France that sulphate of ammonia, chlorid and sulphate of potash, nitrate of soda, and ammoniated superphosphates, when in contact with the seed, injuriously affected their germination. The amount of the different chemicals used was, it is true, considerably in excess of the quantity ordinarily applied to the soil, but, at the same time, this fact should be borne in mind by those using such fertilizers at the time of seeding.

The bulletin refers to the advantageous results obtained from sowing seed grown on soils of a certain char-