

FARM AND DAIRY

AND RURAL HOME

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FARM AND DAIRY is published every Thursday. It is the official organ of the British Columbia, Manitoba, Eastern and Western Ontario, and Bedford Districts, Quebec, Dairyman, and of the Canadian Holstein, Ayrshire, and Jersey Cattle Breeders' Associations.

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The paid subscriptions to *Farm and Dairy* exceed 100,000. The actual circulation of each issue, including copies of the paper sent to subscribers who are but slightly in arrears, and sample copies sent to 5,000 to 12,000 copies. No subscriptions are accepted at less than the full subscription rates. Thus our mailing lists do not contain any dead circulation.

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We want the readers of *Farm and Dairy* to feel that they can deal with our advertisers with the assurance of our advertisers' reliability. We try to admit to our columns only the most reliable advertisers. Should any subscriber have cause to be dissatisfied with the treatment he receives from any of our advertisers, fully. Should we find reason to believe that any of our advertisers are un- reliable, even in the slightest degree, we will discontinue immediately the exposure through the columns of the paper. We will not only protect our readers, but our reputable advertisers as well. All that is necessary to entitle you to the benefits of this Protective Policy is that you include in all your letters to *Farm and Dairy*, "I saw your ad in *Farm and Dairy*." Complaints should be sent to us as soon as possible after reason for dissatisfaction has been found.

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THE DANGER OF LARGE RECORDS

Elsewhere in this issue appears a letter from a correspondent in Quebec, who is a Holstein breeder and who, while admitting that *Farm and Dairy* is right in its contention that dairymen should watch the net profit per cow, as well as the quantity of milk produced, contends that our stand is really a trap to assist the sale of animals incapable of giving large quantities of milk. His own admission shows the stand he has taken to be inconsistent.

Dairy farmers keep cows with the main object of making a profit from them. Record of Merit and Record of Performance tests have always been encouraged by *Farm and Dairy* because they serve to show the great possibilities of the dairy cow, and of course improvement. There is grave danger, however, that what is becoming a craze for the large records, may lead breeders to go to extremes. Should this occur, the reaction that would follow might work great in-

jury. Already, we see signs of the effect of the popular pursuit for large records. While no exception can well be taken to the record made by the Holstein cow at the Guelph College, or to that of Netherland Aagie De Kol, reported exclusively in the May 20th issue of *Farm and Dairy*, breeders have allowed their cows to go dry for a year before the test, and have adopted other means of obtaining the records they sought that would be condemned by dairymen generally were they commonly known.

While *Farm and Dairy* approves thoroughly of official tests, it believes that the cost of producing the milk and other important particulars connected therewith should be recorded with the record. In such tests as that of the Record of Performance, there is no serious difficulty in the way of this being done. In Scotland, Sweden, Holland, Finland and Denmark, the cow testing associations all keep careful record of not only the amount of milk produced, but the cost of producing it, and the net profit per cow. We need an extension of this work in Canada. Leading Holstein breeders who have discussed this matter with *Farm and Dairy* are in thorough accord with the suggestion. The sooner our dairymen and our breeders realize the danger that lurks in the attempt to secure large records without consideration of the means employed, the sooner will the development of our dairy cattle be conducted on a sound basis.

THIS SPRING'S LESSON

Grain crops sown as late as the first week in June, have been known to mature. Those so situated that they were forced to sow in June deserve sympathy. Not in years have they been benefited by under-drainage so beneficial as of late. The past few weeks. In many districts the seed was far from completed by the end of May. Indeed, the situation in some localities, and in isolated places, was such, it was doubtful if seeding could be completed by the first week in June, if at all. It is in times such as we have just come through that we are forced to take notice of the advantages of drainage. Professor Wm. H. Day, who has charge of the drainage survey work conducted by the Ontario Agricultural College, informed us recently that the fringe only of drainage work in Ontario had been touched. Far more is yet to be, than has been done.

Many drains established in olden times are lacking in efficiency. Tile of small diameter was largely used, and many drains are too shallow. Deeper drainage is now being advocated. Men of practical experience are coming forward in favor of the deeper drains. Mr. Jas. Marshall, of Wentworth Co., Ontario, has put in upwards of 100,000 tile during the past twenty years. He says, "put the drains in three feet deep or over, even in heavy clay." Commenting upon his experience, Mr. Marshall says, like many others, "that his only regret in regard to underdrainage is that he has not done more."

From the great number of appli-

cations for survey work being received by the Physical Department of the College, from Ontario farmers, it is clear that our farmers are becoming more and more alert to the advantages of under-drainage. It is but fair to hope that within the next few years, a repetition of the conditions that prevail this spring will not find our farmers generally so wholly unprepared to meet them.

CAREFUL HORSE-BREEDING PAYS

Certain counties are noted for the superior quality of their draught horses. They include Ontario, Huron and Perth. This is the result of careful and intelligent breeding. Pure bred sires, that were sound and of good weight and quality have been used for the last forty years. The farmers of these sections are now enjoying the reward of the intelligence and forethought they have put into business. Dealers who purchase horses by the carload, know that they can secure the right kind in large numbers in these counties and they are willing to pay a higher price for them than where the distance to be travelled in their purchase is greater, as it costs less for buying them.

The good quality of the sires used has had much to do in bringing about such satisfactory results. The farmers, also, for the most part have been consistent in their chosen line of breeding. They have stayed with the Clydesdale through all these years and the result is that many of the mares are registered and bring an enhanced price for breeding purposes.

This is in marked contrast with some other sections where a look at the average horses of the neighborhood will reveal to the expert judge a mixture of nearly all the known breeds that go to produce the general purpose horse. Although a very useful animal for such work, the general purpose horse seldom brings a fancy price on account of the market being overstocked with them.

The chief mistake that is made consists in raising a filly from a sire of one breed and then using the sire of another breed on that filly. When such a course of breeding is followed, little is accomplished.

FOLLOW THE SUCCESSFUL ONES

Some of our acquaintances have been phenomenally successful. It is worth while considering the reasons. Followed out to the last analysis it will be found, invariably, that that particular person has simply put into practice the information that was available concerning his business. A great fund of information is within our grasp. In fact most of us have been in touch with it, but we have failed to apply it in our business. A great increase in production from farms is possible were this information applied.

One or two outstanding, successful farmers will be found in every section. These are the men on whom to rivet attention. Their farms may well be to others, in a sense, illustrations of farms. These men, as a rule, are only too willing to part with any information concerning their methods to those who would seek them. Good farms

competitions, such as *Farm and Dairy* is holding this year in Ontario, are beneficial because they call attention to these farms. Present day conditions and the elevated standard of living, demand that production be raised to the highest point possible. Let us hunt out and follow closely after those who have been successful.

BE ALERT TO CHECK PESTS

Past experience has shown the great necessity of our being ever on the alert to check the inroads of plant diseases and insect pests. Fungus and bacterial diseases and destructive insects frequently obtain a foothold in new sections without those living in the locality being aware of them. Once fairly established, these are often difficult to eradicate or even to hold in check.

Should unknown plant diseases, insects, and even weeds, be discovered in your section, steps should be taken without delay to find out their exact nature. Specimens should be forwarded to one's nearest agricultural college or to the Dominion Biological Department at Ottawa where such will be identified, and remedies, if any are known, cheerfully suggested. By taking advantage of this source of information that has been provided by our Government, pests of various kinds and plant diseases may be kept under control.

Warning to Motorists

(Toronto Saturday Night)

Take warning, ye motorists. Get rid of the excessive speed habit. Belong to the rights of the other fellow. Put yourself in the place of the farmer for a few moments. Look the problem square in the face from his viewpoint, and then see if you do not curse the automobile speed fiend, as the farmer now curses him. There are several things which the auto driver journeying into the country should remember. The farmer is a powerful factor in this land, and once he gets his mind thoroughly imbued with the idea that the average motorist doesn't care a tinker whether he drives over him or not, it's going hard with the auto man. Then again, think of the timid women and the babies met with continually on the highways. A good half of the horses behind which they drive are as yet unaccustomed to the automobile. The beasts back, plunge, kick, and tear around as if possessed whenever an auto comes in sight. If all fairness there is but one thing to do in such a case, and that is STOP. Give the farmer's wife and baby a chance. If necessary, lead the beast past the machine. Let him see it. Don't whip him and the next time he meets an auto the probabilities are that the horse will behave himself. The farmer will thank you for the trifling courtesy, and everyone will feel better. It may interfere somewhat with your record between points, but what of that? You are out for pleasure and a few minutes more or less will not inconvenience you in the day's run. A little care will make the farmer your friend, and remember you need him far more than he needs you.

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