

by practising this system. It would ruin him. Extra help is needed and the labor question is such as to block him in the enterprise.

But notwithstanding these facts, it must be fully realized that the struggle for the most part must ever be largely individual. Much can be accomplished by taking ordinary precautions, and by supplying abundance of fresh air and sunshine. These latter should receive every attention. They cost little to supply and need to be supplied freely.

OUR CANADIAN WINTER FAIRS

Fortunately the winter fairs as we know them in Canada are free from the adverse criticism, as to the management or mismanagement, which applies so generally to fall fairs. The winter fairs provide a real education. A farmer may attend one of them and profit greatly thereby. The prize list and the educational features are of direct benefit, there being not a portion of the time or of the prize money given to features of so little benefit as the race horse, which of late years has characterized the fall fairs throughout Canada.

The winter fairs are worthy of the most ardent support. A day or days spent at one of these can be made of great profit. The farmers of this country in the way they have patronized the winter fairs in previous years show that they appreciate them and there is every probability that the winter fairs this season will go down into history as being the best yet.

PRICE QUOTATIONS FOR HOGS

The old problem of how to improve the Canadian hog market is approached by Professor Day in his article on page three from a different angle. His suggestions appear to be workable.

For years there has been much talk to the effect that packers should discriminate in the prices they pay for the various classes of hogs. Discrimination has not been possible heretofore because there has been no discrimination in quotations offered for the various classes of swine. There can be no paying discriminatingly if there is no discrimination in the prices quoted. There can be discrimination in prices quoted, and, if those who buy the hogs still will it, they need not pay discriminatingly.

The point of the matter as we see it is that if one grade of hogs is worth more to the packers than another, the farmers should know it even if there be no difference in the price paid. Now that local markets have become a greater factor in the bacon trade than the English export market, there is perhaps not the same difference in the value of the various grades of hogs to the packer, the one being worth about as much as the other, although even in Canada the market shows a growing preference for the leaner bacon rather than for pork of the fat heavy type.

At any rate what may prove a workable suggestion is advanced by Professor Day. What will the packers do about it? What do you think they ought to do about it? The col-

lums of Farm and Dairy are open for a full and free discussion of this important question.

THE PROTECTION OF SHEEP

The revised Act for The Protection of Sheep and Taxes on Dogs will be discussed on Wednesday afternoon next week at the Winter Fair, Guelph. Something has been dead wrong with the sheep industry for some years back and in this connection the great decline in the number of sheep on Ontario farms has been attributed most generally to the real nuisance caused by dogs. Heretofore municipalities have had the privilege of collecting or not collecting the dog tax. This privilege is to be taken away this coming year and all municipalities must tax dogs and the tax will be much higher than formerly.

Provision was made under the old Act for a tax on dogs, and out of the money collected in this way, two-thirds of the value of any sheep killed by dogs was to be paid. In the case of those municipalities, which did not collect the tax and there were sheep killed by dogs, an awkward situation arose. The law stated that sheep killed by dogs were to be paid for to the extent of two-thirds of their value, but in case a municipality had not collected the tax what was to be done? Where was the money to come from to pay for sheep?

It will be welcome news to sheep men and those who would keep sheep but for the dogs, to learn that their grievance is about to be alleviated to some extent.

The awakening interest in good seed and the demand that has sprung up in recent years for

Interest in seed of best quality
Good Seed of the various farm crops

have made the production of these a remunerative line of farming to those who are so fortunately situated as to be able to grow them. Clean fields are an essential at the outset. Then if one has an appreciation of the possibilities for improvement that lie in plants of the various farm crops, if he studies the situation, and ultimately places reliable seed upon the market, that man is sure of reward. There is room for many more to enter into the work of producing high class seed.

A Strange Argument

(Hoard's Dairyman)

One of the stock arguments in favor of dual-purpose cattle is that they are better fitted for the service of the average farmer. Some go as far as to say that such cattle are best for farmers who do not know enough to handle dairy bred cattle as they ought to be handled. Now that is not an argument in favor of the cattle but rather it is an argument in favor of ignorance. It is the same as saying that a poor, unfit tool is the best for an ignorant man. Will such a tool ever lead him out of his ignorance? No. Nor will unfit cattle ever lead the average farmer to be anything more than average.

There is an education that comes from associating with good cattle, that are most profitable to their purpose. Also there is a tendency to promote skill if we use good tools. But poor cattle and poor tools educate the farmer down and not up.



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