

of the work being handicapped for lack of finances. The farmers of the county had not asked that a department of agriculture be established in connection with the Essex High School and, though we met with no active opposition, in the greater number of cases we had to contend with indifference. This was, however, chiefly due to the fact that the work was not thoroughly understood.

"As it was necessary to open the schools in September, there was scarcely sufficient time to demonstrate clearly to the farmers exactly what it was intended to take up in the school. The course in agriculture was, however, explained as fully as possible through the medium of the local press and by means of printed advertising matter which was thoroughly circulated throughout the county. This, supplemented with a great deal of personal work, was the plan of our campaign conducted before the school opening. When the school opened, we had, as a result of our efforts, two students who registered for the work in agriculture. These boys spent four half days a week of their time upon agricultural subjects, the remainder being taken up with the regular obligatory subjects of the high school. The course so far has been very popular with these boys who

Essex, it has been more difficult for the Department of Agriculture and the college at Guelph to keep in touch with the farmers than perhaps any other part of the province and, for this reason, it is necessary for the Department of Agriculture to have a man on the spot to get acquainted with the conditions as they exist and, knowing the conditions, to put the farmers in touch with the solutions of the problems they are up against."

Fitting Dairy Cattle for Show

Each year one sees new faces in the show ring. As the judges perform their work, the eager look of expectancy on those faces proclaim them to be amateurs. The time to commence a little fitting being now at hand, a word as to "how" may not be amiss.

The first and perhaps the most expert work is selection. In these days of keen competition nothing but the very best need be taken into consideration. Indeed after the "very best" is selected there is danger of the prizes going to an inferior animal that has been better fitted. In speaking of fitting, we do not altogether mean fattening. A dairy animal need not necessarily be a very fat animal. On the other hand, the

not do this noble breed any credit. We hope to live long enough to see a judge with back-bone enough to give the red ribbon to an animal not so adorned, providing other things are right. However, for the present we must do "as they do in Rome" if we expect to receive any attention from the officiating judge.

Training our show animals is another feature of fitting that should not be neglected. They should all be well halter broken—trained to lead. Above all train them to stand still. Nothing taxes the patience of a judge more than to have to run all around the ring in order to get his hands on a wild creature. This may seem a useless waste of time, but when all the animals in a class are evenly matched, a very little turns the scale, and that "very little" may easily consist in some of the points above mentioned.—"Old Showman."

Just as Good with Less Work

John R. Philp, Grey Co., Ont.

Our method of handling clover, until late years, since help has been so hard to get, was to cut in forenoon after dew was off. We raked it the same evening, or as soon as the rake would gather it. Then we coiled it up and let it stand for a day or two.



THE WIND-UP OF THE HAY SEASON ON THE FARM OF MR. GEO. STEWART, DOWNSVIEW, ONT.

Though many oppose the Hay Loader, it soon becomes a favorite once it has been used, and its usefulness as a labor saver has been established. Seeing is not always believing. With the Hay Loader one must have used it in order to thoroughly appreciate its advantages. By making use of such labor saving machines, the main operations of the farm are gotten through more quickly, and more time is at one's disposal for the innumerable other things that always need doing.

have signified their intention of remaining for the two year's course and at the end of that time, entering upon a more extended course at the Ontario Agricultural College.

USED THE FALL FAIRS

"I have already mentioned the fact that we met with a great deal of indifference among the farmers when we first began to introduce the work in agriculture. In order to overcome this, it was decided to use the fall fairs as a medium through which to show them the practical nature of the course which we intended to give. At the county fair a judging competition for young men was instituted and suitable prizes were offered to induce them to enter into the different classes. Eighteen young men entered and the competition was in every way successful and did a great deal towards popularizing the work taken in the high school. As a supplement to this work we made at every fair in the county, except one, an attractive exhibit, each feature of the exhibit being such as to impress thoroughly some practical feature of the work taken up by us in the school.

"Another side to the work which we have been doing in the county is in connection with the local office of the Department of Agriculture. Through the work done in this office the agricultural department in the high school will eventually be made a success. Through this office, we are able to bring the farmers into more direct touch with the Department of Agriculture and the Ontario Agricultural College.

"Owing to the nature of the crops grown in

time has passed when a dairy animal, in order to be a good one, must be a skinny one. After we have selected the herd that we think are among the best, the next step is a little extra feed. A good pasture is essential with plenty of shade and running water. Bring the cattle along gradually, getting them accustomed to grain feed. Not too much at first. Bran and crushed oats and a little linseed meal or ground flax, a little at a time is all that could be desired. Bring the cattle up to a full ration by degrees.

The greatest difficulty the young showman has to contend with is the danger of over feeding and getting the cattle "off their feed." This can be avoided best by commencing to fit in time, and not feeding too much at first. Always see that plenty of succulent fodder is given along with the grain feed a month at least before the show season is on, the cattle should be inside most of the time, in cool well lighted and ventilated stables. If let out for exercise it should always be at night. Keep them in the stable in day time out of the heat and away from the annoyance of flies.

Thorough grooming every day, washing with soft warm water and an occasional sponging over with thick sour milk or buttermilk will give that mellowness of skin that adds so much to their handling qualities.

If we are showing Ayrshires, fashion decrees that the horns get a good deal of attention—scrapped with glass, rubbed with sand paper and oiled until they shine like a mantle ornament. We are old fashioned enough to think that this does

Of late, instead of coiling the hay we leave it in the windrow to cure. Then we use a hay-loader to load it. We find we can make hay just as good following this practice as we did by the former method; and we do it with a great deal less work. Of course this practice is good only in favorable hay weather. Sometimes we are obliged to coil a little. We cannot set any cast iron rule as regards haying without knowing just the kind of weather that is in store for us.

Sows Farrowing in August

Geo. Rice, Oxford County, Ont.

Convenience in feeding hogs is the great thing. In the summer we have water in every pen and feed all the chop dry. In that way a man is able to feed a couple of hundred pigs in about 20 minutes. A lot of rape is grown for summer feed, which keeps the pigs healthy and makes cheaper and better pork.

It is better to have the pigs come in during August or early in September, in order that they may get a good start before the winter comes on. They require lots of exercise when young and when born later in the year they have to take exercise on cold stormy days and consequently do not do so well. When the pigs come in August the sow has a pen to herself in one of the hog yards and she sleeps in a hut. The pigs, when about three weeks old are allowed to run out into the lane through a hole in the fence, and they are given a little feed by themselves. They soon get so that they will eat peas or corn.