

FARM AND DAIRY

&

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Vol. XXXI.

FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 25, 1912.

No. 30

QUEBEC PROVINCE WINS THE FIRST AWARD IN THE INTERPROVINCIAL PRIZE FARMS CONTEST

R. R. Ness the Winner—The Judges in the Inter-Provincial Dairy Farms Competition Conducted by Farm and Dairy Announce the Awards—Some Factors that Account for the Success of the Competitors as Dairy Farmers.

1. R. R. Ness, Howick, Que.
2. J. W. Richardson, Caledonia, Ont.
3. W. A. Paterson, Agincourt, Ont.
4. R. E. Gunn, Beaverton, Ont.
5. S. A. Northcott, Taunton, Ont.
6. A. Younnie, Howick, Que.
7. J. W. Logan, Howick, Que.
8. C. Howson, Keene, Ont.
9. W. A. Oswald, Petite Brule, Que.

have even only four farms that have been able to hold their own with them.

The winning farm of Mr. R. R. Ness is most complete. It would be difficult to find a farm, owned by a practical farmer, on the continent that would outscore it. We have a treat in store for our readers in the description of this farm—as well as of the others—that we purpose publishing during the next few months. The outstanding feature of Mr. Ness's farm is the fact that Mr. Ness, who is still in the thirties, started out for himself 20 years ago, by working for his cousin. He has bought and built up the farm

judges as they visited and scored each farm. Our editor secured over 90 photographs on the different farms. His description of the competing farms and of their strongest points will prove an outstanding feature of Farm and Dairy during the next few months.

Farm and Dairy realizes of course that these contests do good in many other ways. They are a great benefit to the competitors who take part and, by the way, only practical farmers, who make their living on their farms, are allowed to enter. These men receive the most benefit of anybody. Then, also, the farmers who live in the sections where the competing farms are located, are benefited. They partake of the stimulus created by the contest, and consciously or unconsciously are led to follow, more or less, the example of their neighbors. In this way many who do not actually take part themselves are helped, and nothing but good results.

Now what about the farms that took part? They were all farms that had won prizes in previous competitions? In fact, nothing but the leading prize-winning farms in other contests were eligible to take part. According to the rules, only 17 farms could have taken part from the two provinces had all entered. These were the leading farms out of some 80 farms located in almost all parts of old Ontario and western Quebec that have competed in the Good Farms Competitions conducted by Farm and Dairy during the past four years. They were, therefore, the cream of the dairy farms of the two provinces.

FACTORS THAT MAKE FOR SUCCESS

Now what lessons do these farms contain for the average farmer—for those of us whose farms, at any rate as yet, are not in the prize-winning class? Let us see. In the first place the judges and our editor discovered that every competitor practiced a rotation of crops.

The crops grown were particularly suitable for milk production. Corn, clover and alfalfa were found almost universally. Two of the competitors, who stood high up on the list, had over one-quarter of their farms in alfalfa, and were so well pleased with the crop that they were still rapidly increasing their acreage.

On every farm was found a good acreage of corn. The advantages of the corn crop in putting the land in the very best physical condition, in combating weeds and in supplying a great bulk of nutritious forage were appreciated. And the right provision was made for the storage of this crop. A silo was found on almost every farm and two on some of them.

The raw products of the farm were being marketed on the farm, and thus the fertility of the soil was being conserved and increased.

Every competitor had a pure bred bull of one

Where Credit is Due

The final of the Interprovincial Competition this year completes the second great farms competition conducted by Farm and Dairy. Much of the success of these competitions was due to the efforts of the Independent Committee of Management, of which Mr. Henry Glendinning, of Manilla, Ont., is chairman. Among the directors who aided in making the competitions a success were D. A. Demsey, of Stratford, and S. R. Wallace, of Burgessville, representing the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association; Mr. Geo. A. Gillespie, Peterboro, who, along with Mr. Glendinning, represented the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association; W. G. Ellis, Toronto, and R. F. Hicks, Newtonbrook, representing the Canadian Holstein-Friesian Cattle Breeders' Association, and Simpson Rennie, Toronto, and Geo. MacKenzie, Thorndale. The competitions would hardly have been possible had it not been for their assistance as well as for the generous contributions of the De Laval Separator Co., The Empire Cream Separator Co., R. A. Lister & Co., Ltd., of Toronto, E. G. Henderson, of the Canadian Salt Co., Windsor, Ont., The Good, Shapley & Muir Co., of Brantford, and Dr. Jas. W. Robertson, of Ottawa.

with which he has won this great award in the interval.

OBJECT OF THE CONTESTS

Why does Farm and Dairy hold these prize farms contests? Primarily to benefit the readers of Farm and Dairy. We desire to find at first hand, for the advantage of our readers, the methods that are being followed on their farms by the most successful, practical dairy farmers in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. The methods that these men have proved to be practicable and profitable should—other things being equal—prove practicable and profitable on thousands of other dairy farms in the two provinces. We want the readers of Farm and Dairy to hear about them. These contests enable us to describe their main features for you. For this reason we had an editor of Farm and Dairy accompany the

Such is the standing of the farms entered in the final round of the Interprovincial Prize Farms Competition that Farm and Dairy has been conducting for the past two years. The judges in the competition, Mr. E. Terrill, of Wooler, Ont., himself a prize-winning farmer in two previous contests, and Prof. H. Barton, of Macdonald College, Quebec, were unanimous in their decision that Quebec had won. But Ontario also won. She captured the four next awards. This means more than most people would imagine.

In Quebec province the provincial government has been holding prize farms competitions for years. All four of the farms entered from the province of Quebec had been through several of these competitions. The farms of Mr. Ness and Mr. Oswald are both gold medal farms, while the farms of Mr. Younnie and Mr. Logan have also won numerous prizes, including silver medals. As a result of the contests they have been through they have been able to strengthen their weak points. Thus they were well prepared for Farm and Dairy's interprovincial contest.

THE ONTARIO FARMS

The farms in Ontario lacked this advantage. Until Farm and Dairy started its first prize farms contest four years ago, there had not been a prize farms contest in Ontario for 25 years. Thus Farm and Dairy has undertaken to do in Ontario what in other provinces, such as Quebec and Manitoba, is being done by the provincial governments. The result has been that most of the Ontario farms that competed in this year's contest, in fact all but Mr. Richardson's, had been through only one previous contest—the one held last year. Mr. Richardson had had the benefit derived from competing in the contests held during 1909 and 1910. Thus it will be seen that, under the circumstances, the Ontario farms that took part did exceedingly well.

What has here been said is no reflection on the Quebec farms that did not win first place. They were competing against the best dairy farms that the province of Ontario could produce. In one or two instances at least, particularly in the case of Mr. Oswald, who had done wonders with his farm, which is naturally stony, they have had great difficulties to overcome. They have overcome them and have transformed their farms to such an extent that the people of the great and rich province of Ontario may well feel proud to