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A MILLION DOLLAR CHEQUE.

Commodore Aemilius Jarvis, President of the Navy League of Canada, has arrived in England, carrying with him a cheque for one million dollars, which he will personally present to the Navy League in London as Canada's contribution towards relieving the distress amongst the widows and orphans of merchant seamen who perished during the great war, and amongst maimed and disabled sailors of the Empire.

The money was subscribed during the Sailors' Week campaign which was recently held throughout Canada under the auspices of the Navy League, and the one million dollars were allocated at the annual meeting of the Dominion Council held at Victoria, British Columbia. Of this sum \$500,000 will be handed to King George's Fund for Sailors, and the remainder divided among deserving Seamen's Institutions. The campaign netted the largest sum ever raised in Canada to aid our seamen, and the one million dollar cheque is probably the largest ever carried by a patriotic worker from Canada to the Motherland.

OIL IN WESTERN CANADA.

The Imperial Oil Company is confident that large oilfields will be found in the Dominion, according to the late Hon. W. J. Hanna, formerly President of the concern. Over a quarter of a million dollars have been expended on explorations for this purpose in the last five years, and the company is prepared to spend another half million on searching for paying oilfields. The principal explorations in the coming year will be made in the West.

FARMS AND FARMING

Practical Advice on Reconstructing the Dairy Herd.—2.

[This is the second instalment upon this question. There will be several more. Look out for them.—ED.]

Buy Pure-Bred Calves to Gradually Replace Poor Cows.

Dear Sir,—I have yours of January 13th, with copy of letter from Oxford County Farmer. My advice to this man would be to start a culling process of his herd at once. The record of last summer should give him some idea as to the difference in the cows, and the plan that I would recommend would be to sell the poorer ones to as good advantage as possible. This would probably mean turning them into beef and might necessitate a little extra feed in order to have them sell readily and realise the most money in them. With the money obtained others of better quality could be purchased to replace them. This money will not purchase an equal number of good cows, but depending upon the possibility for purchase, the chances are that it would go further in buying promising heifers carrying calves.

If the purchaser cannot trust his judgment on the individuals, he will have to depend upon circumstantial evidence, if he expects to buy them himself. By circumstantial evidence I mean the character of the herd that produces the heifers and particularly the character of their parentage, the records available, and what general indication it might be possible for an amateur to observe. By making the change in this way it should be possible to still maintain a working herd and not lose very much, if any, in the immediate return.

In addition to this, some extra expenditure will be necessary in order to carry the herd as a whole to a still higher quality. There is only one way of doing this economically, and that is by the purchase of a good utility bull, or by arranging for the use of one which, in some cases, might be more economical where it is practicable.

In order to supplement the herd still further and without the outlay of too much money, a further possibility would be the purchase of a good heifer calf out of a real good cow from time to time. The only pure-bred necessarily involved in the whole process is the bull used on the herd. I know of a number of herds that have been reconstructed with wonderful rapidity and with wonderful improvement with the minimum outlay in cash through just this process or some slight modification of it.

Records are in order for all stages and every precaution should be taken to obtain stock from healthy herds.

PROF. H. BARTON,
Macdonald College, Quebec.

* * *

A Few Shepherd's Dont's.

1. Don't keep sheep on wet land.
2. Don't feed moldy or spoiled hay, roots, silage or grain.
3. Don't forget to keep salt and fresh water before the sheep.
4. Don't neglect the sheep in winter. Keep them in good condition.

5. Don't forget to tag the ewes before breeding and lambing time.
6. Don't forget exercising the bred ewe.
7. Don't let the lamb go too long without sucking.
8. Don't neglect to feed the lamb grain as soon as it starts eating.
9. Don't let parasites kill your lamb for lack of some fresh green pasture.
10. Don't shear the ewes until warm weather comes.
11. Don't tie your fleeces with anything but wool or paper twine.
12. Don't hesitate to ask any questions of the county representative.

—“The Canadian Farm.”

* * *

Corn for Manitoba.

“Will Manitoba ever be included in the corn belt,” asks Professor T. J. Harrison, of the Manitoba Agricultural College in the “Canadian Farm.” Evidently he has reason for hoping that before long his province will be noted for its corn. The College has for some years been experimenting to secure a fodder corn that will produce seed in the district where grown.

“Quebec 28” has given encouraging results—in 1918 yielding 101 bushels per acre and for the last four years an average of 11½ tons of fodder per acre. The “Gehu” has harvested 79 bushels per acre but being a dwarf variety is almost useless for fodder. “Free Press” gave 47 bushels per acre, while “North West Dent” gave only 23 bushels.

The performance of “Quebec 28” has given the Field Husbandry Department of the M.A.C. great encouragement in their effort to secure a local strain that will produce both fodder and grain in the short season.

—C.A.G.

* * *

Performance and Economy.

The following amounts of milk and butter fat were produced by two world's record cows and the amount of feed they consumed are also given. The champion 2-year-old gave 25,243.3 lbs. of milk containing 832.5 lbs. of fat, and consumed daily 24lbs. of beet pulp, 16lbs. of silage, and 18 lbs. of hay, at a cost of just over 225 dollars.

The second cow, a three-year-old, gave 27,068.5 lbs. of milk containing 936.9 lbs. of fat. She consumed daily on the average 26 lbs. of grain, 80 lbs. of beet pulp, 12 lbs. of silage, and 18 lbs. of alfalfa hay at a cost of approximately \$250. Figuring out the milk at \$300 per hundredweight, we find that the two-year-old produced \$759 worth of milk at a cost of \$225, and the three-year-old \$810 worth of milk at a cost of \$250 at market prices of feed to-day. Thus each cow produced a handsome sum to pay for labour and interest on investment besides a calf, whose value could hardly be placed at under \$1,000 when six months' old if a normal individual. Further, these cows produced certified milk which sells at very close to double the price of market milk. While the expense of producing certified milk is greater than ordinary milk, the expense is very materially reduced per 100 lbs. where high producing cows are kept.—F.B.C.