

## Get into Shape Now FOR THE DAIRY Season



There is no better time than the present when work has "eased off" a little to get things prepared and be ready for the next season. It is the man who is prepared—and well prepared—who finds the machinery of his business a move smoothly and the dollars roll in. There never was a time in the history of the dairy industry when prices were so high or prospects so rosy as now; but the "plums" fall to the man with the best equipment. Hundreds of dairymen are losing good money every day trying to get along without a separator, or working away with a poor one. When you buy a

The favorite everywhere it goes. Note its beauty and heavy compact construction, with low-down, handy supply can only 3/8" ft. from the floor.

equipment. Hundreds of dairymen are losing good money every day trying to get along without a separator, or working away with a poor one. When you buy a

## Simplex Cream Separator

you get a machine that has stood the test of time; that is noted for its labor saving devices; that skims to a nicety and saves its owner work, worry and money every day of the year. The SIMPLEX is beautiful in construction, with an extra heavy base and heavy rigid frame. The 11,000 sibs, when at speed and skimming milk takes no more power than an ordinary 5,000 lb. separator of other makes. You have here a direct saving of time, labor and money.

Of the many other interesting features of the SIMPLEX we will be glad to tell you if you write us. Drop us a line to-night, asking us for information on the SIMPLEX and on our B L K MECHANICAL MILKER. You will get some interesting and useful information and be under no obligation whatever.

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## Agricultural Societies Have Had Banner Year

Successful Convention Held—Short Courses Discussed—Andrew Broder, M.F. Recommended for Senate

**E**XCELLENT weather conditions during fair time, resulting in the largest crowds in their history, helped to make 1916 the banner year for the fairs and exhibitions of the Province of Ontario, according to the report of Superintendent J. Lockie Wilson at the 17th annual convention and Exhibitions, held in Toronto on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. About the only unfavorable feature of the year's work appeared to be the dropping of the short courses for live stock and field crop judges. "The work of our judges, both in live stock and field crops, has not been up to as high a standard as previous years, owing to the fact that we did not hold our judging courses as usual," said Mr. Wilson in his report. "It is almost an impossibility to continue uniformly in judging, particularly by score cards, without at least once a year bringing our judges together and with selected live stock going over the score cards, point by point."

Mr. E. S. Archibald, of the Central Experimental Farm, was also of the opinion that the courses should be resumed. "If the judges are to perform properly the work of educating exhibitors and spectators at fairs," he said, "they must first be trained so as to secure uniformity in their judging. Such courses help to secure the placing of the best work and to eliminate the unit altogether."

Prof. Squirell, in a paper entitled "The Benefits of Short Courses for Field Crop Judging," stated that the most important phase of short course work was the discussion of the meaning of each of the individual points included in a score card, and seeing that each judge clearly understood the definition of the different points considered, and gave the same valuation to them. Since many farmers who buy seed are influenced in their selection by the total score which a field has obtained in the competition, it is necessary and as far as possible put the same valuation on the individual points which make up this total score. Another point emphasized at the short courses was the identification of weeds and weed seeds, and as a result of their training a great many more weeds are now being mentioned and identified than formerly in the judges' reports. The judges are also in a position to tell the farmer what impurities are in his crop, and how he can best get rid of them. The course also enabled the judges to study different variety characteristics and special facilities existed at the college, and at Ottawa for giving this information, owing to the number of varieties grown on the experimental plots.

### Improving the Competitions.

Prof. Zavitz, in discussing improvements that could be made in the field crop competitions, emphasized the necessity of reducing the number of varieties of farm crops and the proper placing before the people as early in the winter as possible, information as to the amount of seed each competitor had for sale, and as to the freedom from certain weeds of a noxious character in the field crop of each competitor. Giving this information should not injure the competitors, for there would not be great objection to buying grain containing them by men who had the same kind of weeds on their own farms. Surely, he said, out of the 70,000,000 bushels of oats produced in Ontario in 1916, we would be able to get the 5,000,000 bushels of

good seed oats necessary for putting in the 1917 crop.

Some of the features which have contributed much to the success of the Peleton Fair, now recognized as one of the best county fairs in the province, were, according to Mr. A. P. MacVannell, district representative for the county. Plenty of room; good housing for exhibitors, including a refrigerator for perishable products; special care of the exhibits; a rest room for women; music costing \$750, by the Highland band of Toronto, as the chief attraction; a children's parade, headed by the band and a baby show, in which every baby gets a prize, were some of the points mentioned by Mr. MacVannell. The receipts for the year from local sources were \$2,671, and the fair was almost self sustaining.

### How the School Fair Helps.

An instance in which out of 25 students attending one of the short courses held by a district representative, nine were young men who had their zeal for agricultural knowledge first stimulated by the school fair, was given by Mr. W. Bert Roadhouse, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, who also stated that in a number of cases in 1916 young fellows who had won at school fairs showed up at the larger exhibitions and carried off some of the prizes. The object was to have the school fair and the larger fairs cooperate, and not to compete.

A spirited discussion as to how the competing area of a field should be marked off took place. President Scarf expressed the opinion that whole fields should be covered in each of such competitions. In one case, he said, a man had 15 acres in wheat. The five acres in the corner were kept free from weeds, while the other 10 were not, and the man got first prize on the five acres. At harvest, the farmers who bought seed from the first prize wheat got foul seeds. One delegate suggested that a swath be mowed around the competing acreage, and another that a scuffle be run up the lines. These suggestions were rejected as too wasteful. Superintendent Wilson stated that 180 societies did not now compete in the competition, and that it would be best not to hedge the competition around with too many restrictions until more of them took part. It was necessary to trust in some measure in men's honesty.

It came to light that some societies had forwarded war tax on tickets sold, whereas no tax is imposed on such tickets. They were requested to communicate with the Provincial Secretary's department to get a refund. Horse racing, or "speed trials," was discussed. It apparently being the feeling of some that stock raisers are individually responsible for accidents that might occur in connection with them, there should be a clear definition of the law on the point. No action on this matter was taken. The fair board at Mitchell asked that since their building was burned down the day of the fair, the loss being \$1,600, and since the receipts there were cut in two, that the convention endorse their request for the same insurance as they would have received in case of a wet day. This was heartily concurred in. The giving of the score card to each competitor was discussed, but Mr. Wilson showed how three competitors in a district might each have, say 87 points, and it would be necessary for the judge to refer to his field notes in order to decide where an extra half point would go in order to break the tie. Not all judges were

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