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PRIZE WINNERS IN THE DAIRY FARMS' COMPETITION

First Prize, \$100—George McKenzie, Thornhill, Ont., 704 Points.

Second Prize, \$75—D. Duncan, Don, Ont., 698 Points.

Third Prize, \$50—D. J. McClure, Churchville, Ont., 693 Points.

Fourth Prize, \$25—R. M. Loveless, Agincourt, 668 Points.

Fifth Prize, \$15—J. G. Paterson, Agincourt, 651 Points.

LAST year The Canadian Dairyman arranged for the holding of a dairy farms competition open to dairy farmers living within thirty miles of Toronto. Twenty-two of the best farmers around Toronto competed. The results have just been made known. The prize winner names are given above. A table, showing the standing of the 15 leading competitors is published on page five.

The competition has proved a great success. It created much interest, not only among the competitors, but also among their neighbors. On a number of the farms, various improvements were made by the competitors. In some cases, so we are informed, these improvements have been copied already by neighbors, and the whole community has thus been benefited.

The judges were Messrs. D. Drummond of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, and J. H. Grisdale, Agriculturist of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. Two better qualified men for this work could not have been secured. Both are farmers by training. Both have traveled extensively, visiting most of the best farms in this country. Mr. Drummond has had experience both as a competitor and as a judge in good farms competitions held in the province of Quebec.

The judges visited the competing farms twice; once last July and the second time during the months of December and January. On the occasion of their last visit the competitors were given no warning. Some were caught completely off their guard and lost points in consequence. The judges will furnish a statement shortly about the competition, which will be both interesting and instructive. In the meantime, the following general information about the competition is given.

POINTS ALLOWED

The total number of points was 1,000, divided as shown in the table on page five. Some of the competitors would have stood much higher but for the fact that they were not, strictly speaking,

dairy farmers. A number of them were more in general farming than in dairy farming. This told against them.

In awarding the points the judges took the general conditions of the farm into consideration. For instance, where the farm was small, if the houses of the competitors were neat, well lighted and ventilated, well kept and laid out in a manner that would enable the housewife to work to advantage, and provided the surroundings were

their crops were weedy or their system of farm management not up to the standard of other competitors. Quite a few of the competitors lost heavily because they did not appear to be managing their farms with any definite object in view. They could not tell the judges what they had done or were going to do to increase the fertility of their farms. A number did not have any system of crop rotation.

One of the points to which the judges paid considerable attention was neatness. Some of the competitors who were excellent farmers in every other respect, fell down badly on this point. In some cases the manure was found stacked in the barn yards in great heaps. The cows had to wade through this manure when entering and leaving the stables. In other cases the stables and often the hog pens, were found in an untidy condition. A number of the stables were not well lighted and but few of them had any form of ventilation. In other cases, stacks of rubbish were found in odd

corners that should have been burned up or removed. Points were lost by many competitors because they did not have any complete or systematic system of farm book-keeping. It will be noticed that if Mr. Duncan had scored as many points on book-keeping as Mr. McKenzie did he would have won the competition.

THE WINNER

The winner, Mr. Geo. McKenzie, won because he was strong in almost every department of his farm operations. His average was high and he won on that account. It will be noticed that various of the competitors scored more than Mr. McKenzie did on some department but none of them did as well in all the departments as he did. As Mr. McKenzie is a young man, his victory



THE HOME OF MR. GEORGE MCKENZIE, OF THORNHILL, THE WINNER IN THE DAIRY FARMS' COMPETITION

Note the neat fence, the nice but not too elaborate hedge, the walk and the driveway. There is a lawn in front of the house and to the right of the driveway an excellent vegetable garden. On the left of the house is an orchard, in which the trees are in good condition. One of the strong points about the farm is the neatness and order apparent everywhere.

also attractive, they were awarded as many points as larger houses on larger farms that were no better arranged and kept. The same principle was followed in awarding the points for the farms. The idea of the judges was to take things as they found them and to give the small farmers an equal chance with the large farmers.

In the case of tenant farmers, of which there were several in the competition, they were allowed more points for permanent improvements than were those competitors who owned their farms.

RESULTS A SURPRISE

In some cases the results will be a surprise and in others not. Some of the competitors who had fine houses and barns lost heavily because their live stock were not equally good or because

is a very creditable one.

The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World has been informed that there are farmers who would like to visit Mr. McKenzie's farm. They can do this very readily any time they are in Toronto, as the electric cars running between Toronto and Newmarket pass his doors. Mr. Duncan's farm is a little more difficult to reach. It adjoins the Don station on the Canadian Northern Railway running out of Toronto. It is about eight miles from Toronto, and about two miles from the Yonge street electric cars. Mr. McClure's farm is near Churchville, on the Canadian Pacific Railway and about four miles from Brampton. The farms of Messrs. Loveless and Paterson almost adjoin each other and are near Agincourt station, fourteen miles from Toronto, on the Canadian