

and girls will find him a most helpful and sympathetic co-worker.

As has already been said, the sum of ten thousand dollars in cash is to be paid in prizes during the three years. One set of prizes is to be awarded for the largest yield per acre of oats, counting also the quality of the grain. The basis for awarding the prizes is one mark for every pound in weight of grain of good quality per acre in the first year; two marks for every pound in weight of grain of good quality in the second year; and three marks for every pound in weight of grain of good quality in the third year. Other sets of prizes are to be awarded for wheat. Any acre of oats or wheat on the farm on which the competitor lives may be selected for 1900, and the particular acre need not be chosen until just before the grain is ready to harvest.

1. (a) The competitor who obtains the largest number of marks in the total of the three years will receive the first prize in the province; the competitor who obtains the second largest number of marks, the second prize; and so on for ten prizes in every province.

(b) There will be also prizes for wheat on the same plan

(c) The following show the prizes for one province :

1st Prize	Oats, \$100	Wheat, \$100
2nd	75	75
3rd	50	50
4th	25	25
5th	15	15
6th	10	10
7th	5	5
8th	5	5
9th	5	5
10th	5	5
	\$215	\$295

(d) There will be sets of prizes as above for Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, the North West Territories, and British Columbia respectively.

2. (a) There will be also sets of prizes annually for the hundred heads of grains which contain the largest number of seeds of the best quality picked out of those selected from the acre each year.

(b) Any one hundred heads from the acre entered for competition may be picked; one mark will be awarded for every seed on the one hundred heads and two marks for every grain (in weight) which those seeds weigh.

(c) The competitor who receives the largest number of marks will receive the first prize in the province; the competitor who obtains the second largest number of marks, the second prize; and so on for the ten prizes in every province.

(d) The following show the prizes for one province for 1900 :

1st Prize	Oats, \$25	Wheat, \$25
2nd	20	20
3rd	15	15
4th	12	12
5th	10	10
6th	8	8
7th	5	5
8th	5	5
9th	5	5
10th	5	5
	\$110	\$110

There will be sets of prizes as above, for Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, North West Territories and British Columbia, respectively, in 1900 and also in 1901 and 1902.

SUMMARY.	100 LARGE HEADS.
1900	Oats, \$110 Wheat, 110
	\$220 × 8 = \$1,760
1901	" 1,760
1902	" 1,760
	\$5,280

Three year lb. grain per acre competition :

Oats, \$295
Wheat, 295
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\$590 × 8 = \$4,720
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\$10,000

The seed grain for this competition is not supplied by Prof. Robertson, and it is not necessary to choose any particular variety of seed for sowing this year, but whatever variety of seed is sown this year will be continued during the three years of the competition on each farm.

Teachers in rural districts are invited to join in helping to forward this educational movement. Any teacher may send in a list of not more than six pupils in the school district for competition.

Professor Robertson, through whom this donation was given by Sir William C. Macdonald, says :

"All those who desire to enter the competition should send their names and addresses to Professor Robertson, Ottawa, before the 1st June, 1900. These communications should contain only the words 'Entry for seed grain competition,' and the full name and address. They will be carried by mail free of postage.

"I particularly request that no questions be asked on these entry applications. Full particulars will be mailed in good time to everyone whose entry is received; and I am sure the newspapers will accord their much-prized courtesy and help in giving publicity to any further announcements. The competitors will doubtless number many thousands, and it will not be practicable to write letters to them individually. The plan provides for 640 prizes, of which 16 are \$100 each, 16 are \$75 each, 16 are \$50 each, and 64 are \$25 each."

It will not be necessary for any of the boys or girls entering this competition to receive any further directions concerning this movement until some time in June, when full particulars will be sent to each competitor intimating how to choose the particular acre and how to go about selecting the large heads from it for seed grain for sowing next year. As mentioned above, entries should be addressed to Professor Robertson, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, and should contain only the words "Entry for Seed Grain Competition" and the full name and address of the competitor. These applications will be carried by mail free of postage. They will be received until the first day of June, 1900. Already there are many hundreds of entries from every province in the Dominion.

## Utility Poultry

A great many farmers and others are asking what is meant by utility breeds of poultry. This may be a somewhat difficult term to explain satisfactorily. From the farmer's point of view we would say that the utility bird is the one that will give him the best returns in eggs and edible poultry for his feed and care. In this class a great many breeds might be included that would render the farmer a good return for feed and labor expended upon them. The following report of an egg laying competition conducted by a member of the Utility Poultry Club of England, will be found interesting, and may serve to give some idea as to which are the utility breeds in so far as egg laying is concerned :

"I have pleasure in submitting my report of the laying competition I have had the honor to conduct on behalf of the club at this farm. The birds arrived on an average four days before the competition began (October 25th), and were placed in large runs I had specially erected, which measure seven yards by thirty-two, and the houses, which are without bottoms, are 5 ft. by 3 ft. and 4 ft. high, with shelters 3 ft. by 4 ft.

"The site selected is a well-drained meadow of nice loamy soil, sloping to the west, and has not previously been used for poultry. On the north and east sides the runs are well protected with high prick thorn hedges, and it