



Items and Articles of Special Interest to Our Farmers

IT PAYS TO FINISH POULTRY
(Experimental Farm Note.)

Even with the present high price of feed no one can afford to sell birds and especially cockerels, in a thin condition. The good prices received for poultry meat more than pay for the extra feed, and if there ever was a time when birds should be finished, it is now.

The marketing of thin chickens should be prohibited. The most expensive part of the bird to produce and that which is of the least value for food is the frame. The cheapest weight for the feed is the flesh as it is all edible; the necessity of putting this flesh on is evident.

The most profitable weight at which to finish cockerels is when they weigh about four pounds, but even earlier birds may be fed with profit, as several experiments conducted at the Experimental farm this summer go to prove.

Poultry meat of all kinds has been a good price. Hens have been selling as high as roasters and broilers have paid well. Leghorn cockerels at the Experimental farm have been sold at about two pounds each, and because of being specially finished on milk, brought good returns and paid well for extra feed.

Four different lots marketed in August, 152 birds, weighed 280 pounds; they were fed for about ten days, during which time they gained 60 pounds, weighing at the end of the feeding period 340 pounds. They consumed 180 pounds of mash and 24 gallons of butter-milk. The mash was composed of two parts cornmeal, one part middlings and one part buckwheat screenings.

The cost of feed was: 180 lbs. at 4c. per lb., \$7.20; 24 gallons milk at 5c. per gallon, \$1.20, making a total of \$8.40 for feed and milk. Add to this the value of the birds at the start: 280 lbs. of thin chickens that would bring 35c. per lb., \$98.00, and it makes a total cost for thin chickens and feed of \$116.40.

The weight of the finished chicks was 340 lbs., having gained 60 lbs. in the ten days feeding. The value per pound was increased because of the quality of the flesh to 50c. per lb., making the total value of the birds \$170.00.

This meant a revenue of \$54.00 for the care of 152 birds for less than two weeks. It also showed

that for every pound increase on the birds it took 3 lbs. of mash and 4 lbs. of milk, an average cost of 14c. per lb. of gain.

GRADES OF WHEAT AND OTHER GRAINS.

It is well known that owing to the varied climatic conditions throughout the Province of Saskatchewan during the past season, the grain coming to market is not easily graded. Only experts are competent to grade the same. Drought, high winds and frost in scattered districts were elements that caused variations in ripening. In some districts and even in the same field may be found No. 1 Northern, frosted and rejected or a very low grade on account of being cut too green. Again, after a rain storm the owners of threshing machines being anxious to get on with the work and continue earning money for themselves and their hired help actually induced farmers to thresh before the grain was fit.

This grain when marketed, being damp or tough, in some cases, became binburnt, and although weighing 60 pounds or over to the bushel, is now only fit for feed.

There is considerable dissatisfaction, therefore, in grading when farmers sell direct to elevator companies. We advise farmers to ship ear loads consigned to old established commission merchants that take personal interest in looking after the grading and weighing of all ears shipped to them.

Similar difficulties occur in handling barley and flax. One farmer has asked for advice re his flax. Part of the field had ripened in the regular way, giving a perfect grade, and he was selling it at \$4.00 a bushel to his neighbors for seed. Half of the field, however, was blown, checked in growth, but afterwards recovered, some of the late plants being touched with frost before cutting. It was a mixed sample. He was offered \$2.80 a bushel for this mixture and he believed that the elevator man was robbing him of 25 to 30 cents a bushel. We advised him that it was quite possible that the elevator man was offering all it was worth, but that in shipping it, consigned to a commission merchant, he would be satisfied that he had received full value for his flax.

SAVE WOOD ASHES; FINE FERTILIZERS.

The experience of many generations of farmers and gardeners has proven the high value of unleached wood-ashes as a fertilizer, especially for clover, corn, farm roots and vegetables and fruit crops generally. Wood-ashes contain no nitrogen and supply no humus, but as far as mineral plant food is concerned there is probably no compounded mineral fertilizer on the market that is more effective and more lasting. They furnish potash, lime, phosphoric acid—the very elements taken from the soil by the forest trees, and, returned to the soil they will supply, in the very best form and combinations, the mineral plant food required by our crops.

According to analyses made by the division of chemistry, Dominion experimental farms, unleached hardwood ashes, free from sand, will contain between 5 and 6 per cent. of potash, about 2 per cent. of phosphoric acid and from 20 to 30 per cent. of lime. Before the war Germany supplied all the potash used for fertilizing purposes; since that supply has been cut off, potash has tremendously increased in price so that now it is worth almost ten times what it was in the early part of 1914, and as a consequence it has practically disappeared from commercial fertilizers. The potash in 100 pounds of good quality in wood-ashes is now worth from \$1.00 to \$1.50.

Owing to the scarcity and high price of coal, farmers will be burning more wood this winter than has been customary for many years. They should save carefully the ashes from their stoves, storing them in a dry place protected from the rain. Leached ashes contain very little potash, for this element is readily soluble in water.

The soils most benefited by wood-ashes are light sandy and gravelly loams, and mucks and peaty soils. They are also especially valuable for sour soils deficient in lime. The application may be from 600 to 2,000 pounds per acre, preferably broadcasted in the spring on the prepared land before seeding and harrowed in.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

OUR ORGANISED GRAIN GROWERS



Articles and items under this heading are edited by officials at the Central office of the "Sask. Grain Growers' Ass'n." "The Courier" gladly gives publicity to these articles, as this paper always has been and still is a strong believer in the cause of the organized farmers of the west.

LEGAL BUREAU OF ASSOCIATION OF GREAT VALUE.

Very Satisfactory Settlements Made on Behalf of Members.

Several very satisfactory settlements have been made recently on behalf of members of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association by the Legal Bureau of the Association. These illustrate very well the great value of the Bureau in bringing about settlements of cases which otherwise might have ended in the law courts, to the loss of both parties to the suits.

Two of these cases were implemented deals, one of which had occupied the attention of the department for a very considerable time. The latter was a case in which a member of the Association had purchased an engine and a separator for the sum of \$4,632.00 on which a cash payment of \$500.00 was made at the time of the purchase, and a further payment of \$207.95 at a later date. From that time on, he was totally unable to make any further payments towards his indebtedness, and in the year 1915, the Company, at his own request, repossessed the machine. The Company claimed a sum of \$4,000.00 but by correspondence and personal interview, the Association succeeded in securing a settlement by a cash payment of \$500.00. This settlement not only relieved the member in question of a very heavy load of debt, but also enabled him to continue his farming operations, which, but for this, would have been brought to an abrupt close.

The second case referred to was one in which a member of the Association purchased a 27-50 tractor, which he claimed was incapable of doing the work which it was guaranteed to perform. He requested the Company to take back the machine on that account. The Company, on the other hand, insisted on the purchaser carrying through his contract, and threatened a law suit to compel him to do this. At the request of the purchaser's solicitors, the case was taken up by the Association, with the result that the Company consented to take back the machine, pay all expenses in connection with its loading and transportation, return all notes, and also to return three-fifths of the cash payment made by the purchaser at the time of purchase. While this was not all to which the purchaser considered himself entitled, he regarded it under the circumstances as on the whole a very satisfactory settlement, while at the same time it saved him from an expensive law suit.

Two other cases brought before the Association were claims for the return of sums of money paid for goods which had not been delivered. The Company against whom the claim was made was a Winnipeg firm, and repeated communications both by the members concerned and the Association failed to bring any response. Eventually however, the Association brought the matter to the attention of the Bank with which the Firm in question did business, through whose efforts a refund of the money was made in each case.

These are only a few of the difficult cases which have been disposed of within the last few weeks. Many others have been dealt with during the same period, while a considerable number are still pending, including a refund for shortage on a car load of oats, payment of which has recently been promised. These cases are of a most varied character, and illustrate very forcibly the use that this department can be to the local Association and to the members in general.

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tion and to the members in general. These alone present more than sufficient ground to justify the appeal which the Association has recently made for support of the Legal Bureau, which Locals were pledged at the last convention to support to the amount of \$5.00 each. At the same time, they are but a small proportion of the cases which are brought to the attention of the Bureau, considerably over a hundred having been dealt with during the last two months.

—Those who refuse to co-operate are no use to themselves or anyone else.

—Rather than bragging about your ancestors live so that your children will want to brag about you.

—The greatest campaign managers are those mothers who are trying to raise five or six kids with prices as high as they are now.

IT COULDN'T BE DONE

Somebody said that "It couldn't be done,"
But he, with a chuckle, replied: "That maybe it couldn't, but he would be one Who wouldn't say so 'til he tried."
So he buckled right in, with a trace of a grin
On his face. If he worried he did it.
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done—and he did it.
—Inland Printer.

United States

MILITARY TRAINING UNDER COMPULSION IN NEW YORK STATE

New York. — New York state youths, between the ages of 16 and 18 inclusive, were summoned by Governor Whitman, in a formal proclamation issued, to enroll on December 3 for military training under the state military law. The enrollment will be carried out with the co-operation of the state education department and will be conducted by school teachers at all public school houses.

Unless the youths of the ages mentioned enroll, they will not be permitted to attend school nor to obtain employment certificates.

TRAIN ROBBERS SHOT ON STREET.

LOS ANGELES. — Charles Forbes, alias Dale Jones, said to have been implicated in numerous train robberies and murders in various parts of the country, and his wife, were shot and killed when Deputy Sheriff George Van Vliet and Wm. J. Anderson attempted to arrest the couple on the main street of Arcadia, a town located about twenty miles from here. Deputy Sheriff Van Vliet was shot above the heart and is in a precarious condition. Deputy Sheriff Anderson received several bullets through his clothes but was uninjured.

DEMAND NEW TRIAL FOR MOONEY

SEATTLE. — With an unanimous vote the Seattle Central Labor council tonight voted to strike on Dec. 9 unless prior to that time Thos. J. Mooney, convicted of murder in connection with a San Francisco bomb explosion, has been granted a new trial or given his freedom. Immediate referendum vote on the strike resolution was asked of all labor unions affiliated with the council.

WAR CONTRACT LOSSES

WASHINGTON. — Cancellation of war contracts involving more than one billion, three hundred and thirty-six million dollars, since the signing of the armistice, is announced in a letter from Secretary Baker read to the senate today by Senator Martin, of Virginia, chairman of the appropriations committee.

UNION BANK OF CANADA

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Each maturing son and daughter should have a personal Savings Account in the UNION BANK OF CANADA, with opportunities to save regularly, and training in how to expend money wisely. Such an education in thrift and saving will prove invaluable in later life.

REGINA BRANCH
O. F. Seeber, Manager

To the Farmers of Western Canada

There is considerable low grade grain throughout the West this year and farmers who have this class of grain as well as those who have oats, barley or flax to ship should bear in mind that it will be to their advantage to ship to us as our long experience in the grain business and special connections enable us to get for the shipper the very highest possible price for his grain and the best premiums that are being paid. Grain can also be sold on sample and, if the shipper wishes it, we are well equipped to handle it in this way. While we are not infallible, we feel that we are in a position to give our customers the best advice as to when to sell and all their grain will be wanted, and wanted badly this year, therefore don't sell on street, but ship your own grain. Do not let the fact of your having to load through an elevator stop you from shipping to us. The Grain Act distinctly states that the Elevator Companies must ship grain to whom they are ordered. (See Grain Act Sec. 160).

McBEAN BROS.

GRAIN EXCHANGE, WINNIPEG. 25th September, 1918.

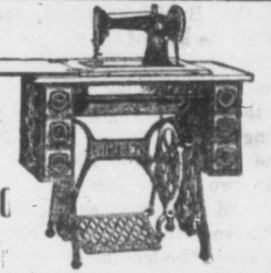
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RIOT FOLLOWED ATTEMPTED LYNCHING

WINSTON SALEM, N. C. — Order was restored here after a night of rioting in which four persons were killed and a score injured when a mob attempted to lynch Russel High, a negro, held in the city jail on charges of shooting a farmer, the county sheriff, and attacking the farmer's wife. The negro, who was not positively identified, is believed to have been removed elsewhere for safe keeping.

QUAKE IN CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES. — An earthquake sharp enough to rattle windows and doors and jar dishes from shelves was felt Tuesday of last week in the southwestern part of the city and along the ocean front west of here from Redondo Beach to Santa Monica, a distance of more than fifteen miles. The tremors lasted more than half a minute.

NO U. S. CENSORSHIP.

WASHINGTON. — Discontinuance of press censorship in connection with cable, postal and land telegraph lines, effective at once, was announced last week by the government censorship board.

PROHIBITION ALMOST CARRIED

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Minnesota will remain "wet," complete official returns announced by Secretary of State Julius A. Schuchel showing that the proposed dry amendment to the state constitution failed by only 756 votes at the general election on Nov. 5. The dry votes totaled 189,547 and wet voted 173,615. This gives the drys a lead of nearly 16,000. The adoption of the proposed amendment, however, required 190,303 votes so it was lost by margin of 756.

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