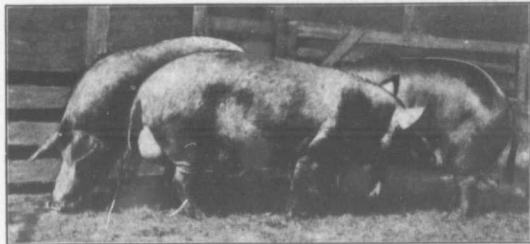


any who might need it should be assisted to determine the cost of production. If the results show that there is a profit in hogs under existing conditions they should be published broadcast through the press and through farmers' institute and other meetings. The reverse is true also.

In the second place, we would suggest that our Dominion government should arrange to have a commission composed of leading Canadian farmers, and hog raisers, visit Great Britain and Denmark to investigate conditions over there. If Danish far-

mers would bring the best returns? The same principal also applies to onions. Why not store them in a co-operative building and let them on to the market as the market demanded them, and thus eliminate the dealers and middlemen?

"Ontario is hampered by producing too many varieties of potatoes. As a result, it is difficult to procure a carlot or several carlots of one variety. Dealers recognizing this go past us to the Maritime provinces, where they can get carlots and trainloads of potatoes of uniform quality.



Prize Winners at the Canadian National, Toronto, 1908

These three hogs owned by D. Douglas & Sons, of Mitchell, Ont., constituted the first prize Tamworth herd. Note the light jaw, the smooth shoulder, the even, well-arched back, the excellent spring of rib, and the lengthy side of the hog in the foreground. Note also the nicely filled ham carried well down to the gamberg joint.

mers and pork packers are beating us in the production of bacon, and they are, we should find the reason. That can be done best by examining their conditions at first hand. Farmers from other countries, such as the Scottish commission which toured Canada this year, are constantly visiting this country to find what we are doing. It is time that we followed their example by sending some of our leading farmers to Denmark. The report of a commission of farmers would carry more weight than a report of a government official.

Our readers are invited to discuss this question thoroughly. It needs the most careful consideration. Let us have your views.

Co-operative Association in Ontario

"There is no better branch of farming in the Niagara District to-day than fruit growing," said W. L. Smith, of Toronto, at the recent annual meeting of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union. "This has been brought about almost wholly by co-operation among the fruit growers." The speaker referred to the magnificent exhibit made by Norfolk County at the recent horticultural exhibition in Toronto. The success of their effort had been due to co-operative spraying and pruning in the district noted. The great success of fruit growing in the Niagara District had been brought about by just such measures. They would hold good practically anywhere.

"Co-operation among the growers brought about better transportation. The telephone was instrumental in bringing about better distribution. Noting the beneficial results which have come from co-operation in fruit growing, why confine it there? Why not enlarge its scope and have other co-operative associations throughout the province?

"Why not have a co-operative corn-growing association in the western counties of Ontario? They have corn to sell and farmers throughout the middle and eastern parts of Ontario must have seed corn to plant. As they cannot mature it, they must buy it from those who can, thus a co-operative buying or selling association as the case might be, would prove of great service in this particular. The same applies to beans, which are largely grown in the county of Kent. Why should they not co-operate, and build their own storehouses so that they could hold their produce over and place them on the market when they

If farmers of a particular section would breed the same kind of fowl and sell a uniform product, they would increase their returns from this great line of industry by 15 to 20 per cent.

"The co-operative idea can be carried much farther. There is no reason why we should not have co-operation among consumers, such an organization as could buy from the farmers direct. In Denmark, all such commodities are handled co-operatively. They buy in a co-operative way. One-quarter of their total egg production is exported. Sixty-six per cent. of their bacon, and 80 per cent. of their dairy products are also exported. Practically all of this is handled in a co-operative way.

"In the United Kingdom, consumers buy from their co-operative stores, of which they are shareholders. The produce is sold at market prices, not below. The profits accruing are distributed quarterly. Surely it is possible to organize a buying association in Toronto. As it is now, the producer often gets but one-half of what the consumer pays."

Ox-eye Daisy

T. G. Raynor, B. S. A., Seed Branch, Ottawa

One of the commonest weeds to be seen during late June and throughout July is the Ox-eye daisy, the flower of which is much sought after for bouquets. It is one of the worst weed seeds we have. It infests other crops as well. The extent depends upon the method and thoroughness of the cultivation. It is also very much in evidence along roadsides and in broken land pastures. The presence of this weed in the hay deteriorates the value of the hay for sale or for feed. One of the methods of its distribution is by importing hay containing it. The seed is quite small and has a striped-like appearance.

When the plant seeds and the wind is blowing hard it will be carried some distance. It is frequently found as a weed seed impurity in timothy and alsike, and but rarely is it found in red clover. From a thick heavy underground rootstock growing near the surface a number of flower stems are shot up and single flowers with white outside and yellow centre develop.

It spreads most rapidly in those sections of the country where hay is grown extensively and where meadows are left a number of years before being plowed or where the pastures are too rough

for plowing. As it cannot stand good cultivation, the best remedy where it has got a foothold is to plow up the meadow and follow it with a live crop of some kind. The bare fallow of course will do the trick all right, especially where the ground is frequently cultivated, with the broad shared cultivator. A short rotation of three or four years' duration where it would be seeded down to clover one year, and followed with a hoe crop, is among the best methods adopted for its speedy eradication.

If one wishes to keep clear from it they must not only watch for its presence in the small seeds and hay they buy, but they must see that the plant does not go to seed on the roadsides or waste lands near them.

A little vigilance on the part of the farmers in this way would help them very materially where the plant is being introduced.

In a locality north of Lindsay, Ont., a few years ago, this weed made its appearance in a field meadow. Evidently the seed had come in some timothy seed used in seeding the field down. Gradually the weed crept towards the roadside. It found the fence no great barrier and it began to occupy first one side of the road and then the other. Along the road it spread until it came to quite a large creek. Here it was thought the bridge would check its spread in that direction; but recently neither stream nor bridge could effectually stop it and now it is found working its way along the roadside on the other side of the stream. Nor is this all. It has been spreading to the adjoining fields and unless very carefully watched there will be hundreds of acres in that locality more or less overrun with it and all from a small beginning.

The Dehorning Question

A. E. Caban, Prince Edward Co., Ont.

Now that the man with the clippers is making his annual round, the dehorning question again becomes a live one. While the practice of dehorning is not as prevalent as formerly, especially among milch cows, yet there are in all probability today in the yards and stables of the farmers of this country, many milch cows that have shrunk in their milk flow and lost in condition, as well as thousands of young cattle that have lost in flesh very seriously, owing to the ill effects of this operation.

That the practice of dehorning is desirable, except perhaps in the case of the pure breeds, is to-day a generally accepted fact by our dairy men and feeders. Granting this, the question arises, is there a satisfactory method of dehorning that will avoid the serious losses entailed by the ordinary process. The answer is decidedly, "yes," by dehorning the young calves with caustic just as the horn is starting.

We find many writers condemning this practice. They say that calves dehorned in this way are when grown, "frequently very rough with their heads." Now these men are simply accepting a common theory that, like many other theories, is found upon close examination to have very little fact to sustain it. It has been proven by many years' experience, that calves dehorned with caustic do not develop the objectionable trait referred to. There are herds of dairy cattle in this country that have never grown a horn, and yet are just as quiet and peaceable as could be wished; and these cows were all dehorned with caustic when they were young calves. So much for theory.

Then again, these writers say: "They prefer dehorning with the clippers, because once having known the use of horns, they become more docile to lose them in this way." To follow the same line of argument I suppose they would say, "Don't bother with your young colts until you want to use them, and then break them by force, they will have to be conquered then, and that