

FARM AND DAIRY

AND RURAL HOME

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CIRCULATION STATEMENT

The paid subscriptions to Farm and Dairy exceed 18,000. The actual circulation of each issue, including copies of the paper sent subscribers who are not slightly in arrears, and sample copies, varies from 15,000 to 35,000 copies. No subscriptions are accepted at less than the full subscription rate. Several detailed statements of circulation of the paper, showing its distribution by counties and provinces, will be mailed free on request.

OUR GUARANTEE

We guarantee that every advertisement in this issue is reliable. We are able to do this because the advertising columns of Farm and Dairy are as carefully edited as the reading columns, and because to protect our readers, we turn away all unscrupulous advertisers. Should any advertiser handle deal dishonestly with us as one of our paid-in-advance subscribers, we will make good the amount of your loss, provided such transaction occurs within one month from the date of this issue, that it is reported to us within a week of its occurrence, and that we find the advertiser in default. It is a condition of this contract that in writing to advertisers you state: "I saw your advertisement in Farm and Dairy."

Refuses shall not ply their trade at the expense of our subscribers who are our friends, through the medium of these columns. We do not attempt to adjust trifling disputes between subscribers and unscrupulous business men who advertise, nor pay the debts of honest bankrupts.

The Rural Publishing Company, Limited
PETERBORO, ONT.

"Read not to contradict and to confute, nor to believe and take for granted, but to weigh and consider."—Bacon.

Road Dragging in Saskatchewan

THE Saskatchewan Government is again this year conducting a road dragging competition. The object is to demonstrate in all parts of the province the merits of the split log drag. The end is attained by offering prizes sufficiently liberal to attract municipal councils to make entries of two miles of road or more. Roads dragged the previous year or roads recently completed are not eligible. To ensure maximum educational advantage, signs must be erected at both ends of the dragged portion, worded thus: "This road is entered in the 1915 road dragging competition." The prizes offered in order are \$150, \$125, \$100, \$75, and \$50, in each division of 10 or more municipalities. Finally there is a grand prize of \$250 for the best road in the province, and \$150 for the road counted second best.

The significant feature to us in this competition is not that the Government of Saskatchewan is conducting a road dragging contest, but that the experts in connection with the Highway Department are so impressed with the merits of the drag for the improvement of rural roads, that they have advised the Government to spend thousands of dollars annually in competitions to encourage its use. What is good for Saskatchewan roads is good for roads in the other provinces. Why should not municipal councils offer encouragement to farmers to drag the roads adjoining their farms? Some, we believe, are already doing so in Ontario by freeing farmers who drag from all or a portion of their road taxes.

Incomes of Dairy Farmers

FARM surveys, now so popular in the United States, have unearthed a mass of substantial data sufficient to more than justify the money spent on them. One of these surveys conducted by Prof. W. J. Fraser on 766 dairy farms in Kane and McHenry counties, Illinois, is of particular interest to those of us who live by the dairy cow. The figures secured by Prof. Fraser reveal a

close correlation between the amount of milk given per cow and the labor income of the farm. On an average of twelve farms, where the average milk production a cow was between 2,000 and 3,000 pounds a year, there was a loss of \$184 a year. Thirty-four farmers, whose cows had an average production of from 3,000 to 4,000 pounds of milk, made an average of \$50 a year; 64 farmers, whose cows were between 6,000 and 7,000 pounds a year, had labor incomes averaging \$809, while two farmers, whose cows had an average production of over 9,000 pounds, had labor incomes that averaged \$2,000.

Could we ask for stronger testimony in behalf of the long-standing contention that dairy profits are in almost direct proportion to dairy production per cow?

Influence of the Sire

THE survey conducted by Prof. Fraser, which substantiated so wonderfully the claims of the high producing cow, affords almost equally strong testimony to the correctness of another of our contentions—the value of the pure-bred sire. Labor incomes were found to be larger on those Illinois farms where pure-bred sires were used. Farmers with pure-bred animals had an average labor income of \$837. Where grade sires were used the income was \$489, and where scrub sires held forth, but \$173.

It would not be fair to attribute all of the difference in labor income to the sire alone, as the man who sees the advantages of a good bull is likely to have his eyes opened to other profitable practices. He will feed well, house well, and be more careful to discard the culls of his herd. It is the same commonsense, however, which leads to improvements in housing and feeding that also leads to improvements in breeding. No really wide-awake man nowadays would think of using a scrub sire. Surely the statistics that are being brought to light by farm surveys are sufficient to convince even the most unprogressive. The unfortunate feature is that the dairyman who most needs this information, does not read agricultural periodicals, such as Farm and Dairy, and is seldom seen at the Institutes. How are we to reach this class?

Swat the Fly

AT least fifty per cent. of all the time spent by the dairy cow on pasture is required to fight flies. Prof. Hugh G. Van Pelt, editor of Kimball's Dairy Farmer, is our authority for this statement. If the estimate is anything near correct, the fly is a source of tremendous economic loss to the dairyman and the "swat the fly" campaign takes on a new significance for those of us whose prosperity hinges on a well sustained milk flow.

The time to start "swatting" is now; not in July when the flies begin to get very troublesome. Dr. Courshoun, of Sioux City, Iowa, has figured that 4,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 is the number of flies that in four months' time trace their ancestry to a single fly, and this allowing an equal number of infertile eggs and accidents before maturity. What a pleasure it should give us in swatting the fly now to realize that to do so a good stroke of work four months from now we would have to swat 4,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 flies.

The most effective fly "swatting" around the farm is the cleaning up of barnyards early and keeping them clean throughout the season. Don't permit accumulations anywhere, as it is in these that flies breed. Let us institute housekeepers' perfection in cleaning up around the stables, removing manure from the gutters at least every day and getting to the field as quickly as possible, or if this cannot be done, keeping stored in a tightly closed receptacle. One Illinois dairyman has solved the summer manure problem by closing in the manure shed with tight fly netting; a very good method, too.

The Community Beautiful

"THE time is not far off when the cities will actually be more beautiful than the country," frankly confessed a farmer friend when visiting with an editor of Farm and Dairy recently. The idea came as a shock to us, but the truth of the remark has become more apparent the more we have thought on the matter. In spite of natural disadvantages, city people are making their homes beautiful. In the city in which Farm and Dairy is published, there are few residential streets that are not lined with trees. Lawns are well kept, and here and there a shrub or clump of flowers adds a touch of beauty. Vine-clad porches are the rule.

In spite of great natural advantages, many country homes are an eyesore. And yet the city at its best makes but a poor comparison with the country at its best. The park-like effects that are possible in the surroundings of a well-planned country home cannot be imitated in the circumscribed area of the city lot. We farmers can well congratulate ourselves that our natural opportunities for beautifying our homes are so great. Then why not rural improvement societies to make the best of our opportunities. One man can do much in beautifying his own home, or his own farm, but the beautiful home in the beautiful community is by far the most attractive place in which to live.

Cooperative Marketing

STATISTICS recently compiled by the Office of Markets of the United States Department of Agriculture, led conclusive proof to the statement that there is a growing desire among farmers to do their business cooperatively. In the United States there are more than 8,500 market associations, 3,700 cooperative and farmers' elevators, 2,500 cooperative and farmers' creameries, and more than a thousand cooperative fruit and produce associations. These associations combined do more than a billion dollars worth of selling business each year.

Similar statistics are not available for Canada, but if they were to be elaborated there would be another support knocked from beneath the old fallacy that farm men cannot and will not recuperate. Already we in Canada have the distinction of having the largest cooperative farmers' company in the world—The Grain Growers' Grain Company of Western Canada. The very satisfactory growth that is being made by the United Farmers' Cooperative Company, Limited, in Ontario, shows that the movement is progressing in Eastern Canada, and that the day is rapidly coming nearer when the extensive individualism of the farmer will yield to the spirit of cooperation. And real cooperation is the highest expression of intelligent individualism.

Farm Furrows

TWO good kernels in a hill are better than a half-dozen low in vitality and germinating power.

"Pay the mortgage first," was the advice given by a Western Ontario Holstein breeder to a neighbor who was thinking of buying an automobile. Incidentally we would suggest that it is much easier to mortgage a farm to buy it auto than to mortgage an auto to buy a farm.

Don't forget when writing advertisers that we guarantee the honesty of every advertiser in Farm and Dairy. So confident are we of our advertisers that we will refund you every cent you may lose through dealing with them if Farm and Dairy is mentioned when writing them.

A spiked tooth harrow with dull teeth is as poor a tool as a dull hoe. Knock the teeth out and have the blacksmith sharpen them.

A well-trained dog may make himself useful in the pasture field. We have observed, however, that most dogs come in the fool class, and they have no business around cows.

Cooper

THE Grand Centre, Ontario, on July 2 of the seed called by H. M. sentative for H. L. H. Newman, adian Seed Gro present and explaining h county containe of the various variety has prov hardness, acco the Experiment The soil of heavy clay loam growing alfalfa there for 50 or every reason seed sown was dry, and this throughout the circumstances, an ideal place alfalfa seed cent

The main obje be understood by list of by-laws, the production alfalfa seed am by means of co the same to the order that we strain a bushel sown about July seed was procu Zavits from Lym we are pleased acres of this seed start and we expa for distribution from these plots The total men bers numbers 12, given to us by experience in gring centres, we ship to this num

Results O

I COMMENCED 1909, when a cobbley potato best roots for plant by digging carter's root separate. I plot and picked ductive roots of These I stored in cellar, to be plant 1910 as a special

I selected again plot in the fall manner, but during 1911 I saw the Canadian Seed and I found that much better system sent for full plant when digging in selected 23 of the roots and stored compartments in a

In the spring of piece of land throughout, using planted whole, eight of each of the state row, number course I expected movement, but I improvement would. digging in 1912 I root separate and the potatoes found tive rows. The be age of 21 potatoes row only thirteen where the advan product of each row is found. One van the best pedigree