

Boys' and Girls' Clubs

Letters describing the success of this work written by farm boys' and girls' club members

MY OWN EXPERIENCE

(First Prize Letter)

In 1914 a pig club was organized at Stonewall. Each boy that entered was given a pair of pigs on the grounds that the sum of money they were worth then be paid to the club when the pigs were sold. Boys who had pigs of their own could take them to feed. The age of the pigs was to be between four and six weeks.

I got my pigs in a separate pen from the others on June 15. I fed them chopped oats and barley and slops from the house. One pig weighed eleven pounds and the other, one twenty-one. Later in the season I fed them turnip tops and sugar beet tops. In August my pigs weighed one hundred and eighty and one hundred and forty. I was not successful enough to win a prize but I made up my mind to try again the next year. In 1915 I got my pigs ready to start the contest in June, somewhere near the 20th. I fed some chopped corn but mostly oats and barley chop. I fed no milk to them. When fair time came my pigs weighed one hundred and eighty-five and two hundred and twenty pounds. I won the fourth prize of two dollars. I would have been more successful both times if I had had milk for them. We ship the milk and do not separate it, so I cannot feed any to my pigs.

Next year I expect to try again to see if I can do better. The last pair of pigs I had gained about one and one-quarter pounds each day. Next year I think I can make them gain two pounds per day.

BERT PULFER,

Balmora, Man.

VARYING SUCCESS WITH CONTESTS

(Second Prize Letter)

There being a branch Boys' and Girls' Club at Durban I joined in 1915 and took four of the contests for that year, namely, poultry raising, fodder corn growing, potato growing and farm mechanics.

It was in May when I received the eggs, corn and potatoes. When I received the eggs I set them under a hen, all by herself, in a dark house, carefully feeding and looking after her. In about three weeks' time one egg was chipped, but when the chicken came out it was so weak that it died. All the rest of the eggs were rotten and infertile. This was bad luck for the first time, but I will try again.

For the fodder corn growing contest I received three kinds of corn, Minnesota 13, Longfellow and North-western Dent. I planted the three kinds on May 24. When it came up I kept loosening the dirt around it once a week. The first time it got frozen was on July 24. It just touched the leaves a little bit but a few weeks later it was frozen right to the ground. I never expected to see it grow again, but in a few weeks' time it was getting greener. I loosened the dirt around it and it soon became as good as ever. The corn grew to be about six feet high. It was slightly frozen several times. I cut it and fed it to the cows.

I received ten pounds of Early German potatoes for the potato contest. I cut them in halves and planted them on May 15. It took them three weeks to come up. I kept constantly hoeing them. They were slightly touched with frost several times, but not enough to hurt them. When I dug them I had two hundred and ninety-two pounds out of the ten. They were white as snow. I exhibited some at the fair for which I took third prize.

The farm mechanics contest was to make a milking stool, farm gate, poultry feed hopper, etc. I made the milking stool, for which I took first prize at the fair. Next year I am going to take the following contests: Poultry raising, potato growing and farm mechanics. On the whole I think the Boys' and Girls' club work is very interesting.

MILTON HARVEY, Age 13.
Durban, Manitoba.

A PRIZE GATE

(Third Prize Letter)

Last year I joined the Crocus Hill Boys' and Girls' club. I chose to enter the farm mechanics contest. I got some patterns from the school of farm carpentering and picked out a gate. I got some lumber and ripped it up to the right width and lengths. I got some scantlings to make the frame. And then I planed the lumber to the right thickness. The height of the gate was 44 inches and the width was 40 inches. The slats were three-quarters of an inch wide and two and a half inches wide. I put wooden pegs in the gate, because I thought it would be nicer, for if I used nails, when it rained it would make black marks down the gate, so I thought the wooden pegs would be better. I shaped the slats after I got the frame made.

When the fair came, I did not have time to go myself, so I got someone to take the gate down for me. That night when I came in from work one of the boys who goes to the same school that I go to phoned to me and told me that I had got the first prize. I was glad to hear that for I did not think that I would get the first prize. I got the gate back again and I am going to paint it and use it at home. If anyone wanted the gate I might sell it or give it to them. The first prize was two dollars and the second was one dollar. I do not know if I will take anything next year. I might not have time to look after the things.

ERNEST GUSTAFSON, Age 14.
Clanwilliam, Man.

OUR OWN CLUB

(First Prize Letter)

Our club was organized about the first of April, 1915, so is still a club in its infancy, tho prospering well. The Manitoba Agricultural College was a notable assistant in our preliminary work and perhaps devoted to us special attention. There was reason for this, for we had as club organizer Mr. —, who was a third-year student of the college as well as an interested resident of the district.

Boys and girls of the community were notified thru our local paper that a meeting for the organization of a Farm Boys' and Girls' club would be held in the schoolhouse at 8 —, and that all boys and girls between the ages of ten and eighteen would be eligible to become members, village children were not to be exempted.

The result of the intimation thru our local newspaper was indeed encouraging to the club organizer, a meeting of about 40 children being assembled at the appointed place on Saturday afternoon. After having explained the object and the various phases of the organization the club organizer in the chair at once put the meeting in the hands of the boys and girls themselves. Officers were nominated and elected by an open vote of the boys and girls. The executive power was to rest with the officers elected, namely: President, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and an assistant executive of five members.

It was arranged that the members were to have a choice of any four out of a number of competitions. The competitions were as follows: Farm mechanics, pig raising, fodder corn growing, potato growing, plucking contest, sewing, canning and preserving, baking, essay writing. Each member then chose his competition, notified the club organizer and received the necessary material.

The executive decided to have a membership fee of 10 cents to defray the expenses of opening a club, for there were expenses on a small scale such as postage and stationery. They also decided that the club should have regular meetings on the first Saturday of each month during the summer season, for the purpose of instructing any member as to any problem that might arise in respect to his or her competition.

After many days of careful work and anxious waiting for it, the fair day

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Pure Bred Poultry FREE For Boys and Girls

BABY CHICKS



Every boy and girl who would like to have a flock of chickens of their very own, can get them from The Guide free. There is nothing that will give a boy or girl more delight than watching chickens grow—if they are their own. By feeding and caring for these chickens they will be worth quite a lot of money in the fall and will help to start a bank account. Any boy or girl who gets one of our flocks of chickens will be able to enter their birds in all the poultry club competitions held at the school fairs and will have a splendid chance of capturing the first prize. These chickens which The Guide will give to the boys and girls will all be pure bred and of the very best breeds. They will be hatched just as soon as the cold weather is over. When the chickens are one day old we will take a dozen of them and pack them carefully in a special box so that they will get plenty of air.

Shipped by Express We will ship them by express with all charges paid to the nearest express office where the boy or girl lives. At the same time we will send a letter telling that the chickens are coming so that you can get them at the train and take them home at once. Baby chicks can safely be shipped for 1,500 miles in this way so that they will be sure to be bright and lively and all ready for something to eat when they come to you. These chickens are worth \$4.00 per dozen.

FOR "GROWN UPS" TOO

While these offers are made specially to the young folks, we do not bar the grown-ups. In fact, this is a splendid opportunity for any person who is planning on a flock of pure bred poultry. Poultry raising is a branch of farm industry, which if given proper attention will yield high returns for the amount of money and time expended. There are many farmers' wives in Western Canada who are making a good round sum of money each year by specializing in this particular branch of farm work, and it is not only a profitable enterprise, but a very interesting one. You are not limited to one dozen baby chicks. There is no limit to the number you may earn. If you are willing to work for us you may have a flock of 48 or 60 baby chicks shipped to you at one time.



FULL GROWN BIRDS



Lots of boys and girls would like to have some full grown birds as well as the baby chicks. The Guide has also arranged to give any boy or girl a cockerel and two pullets one year old and to ship them to the nearest express office with all charges paid. With these three birds any boy or girl, by feeding them properly and taking good care of them could soon have a dandy flock of chickens that would bring a lot of pocket money and win the best prizes at the school fair or any other poultry show. All these birds are pure bred and will bring high prices. They are worth \$8.00 per set of three but we have arranged to give them absolutely free to any boy or girl who will do a little work for us. Every boy and girl thinks more of something they have really earned than of something that has been given to them.

Choice of Seven Breeds The breeds of poultry which may be selected are as follows: Barred Rocks, White Rocks, Buff Rocks, White Wyandottes, White Leghorns, Buff Orpingtons, Rosecomb Rhode Island Reds. These breeds offer a wide range for selection. They are all selected from good flocks and The Guide guarantees that every boy and girl who gets them will be proud of their baby chicks or their full grown birds. We can ship these baby chicks to any point where there is a daily train service in Alberta, Saskatchewan or Manitoba.

HOW TO EARN THEM

It is an easy matter to earn these birds. Every day we are receiving orders from boys and girls as well as grown-ups. If you would like one dozen baby chicks all we ask is that you send us four new subscriptions to The Guide at \$1.50 per year. Collect the four subscriptions and mail us the names together with the \$6.00, and the dozen baby chicks are yours, with all charges paid to your nearest express station.

The breeding pens of the three full grown birds are worth twice as much as the baby chicks, and we have to ask twice as much work to earn them. Any one sending us a new subscription to The Guide at \$1.50 each will be given free and all charges paid to their nearest express office, a breeding pen consisting of a cockerel and two pullets of the breed they choose.

In practically every neighborhood there is a good opportunity for boys and girls, men and women to earn poultry prizes. They are doing it every day. Why shouldn't you? Start today. Collect the subscriptions and give a receipt. Forward the money to us and these choice birds are yours. Don't hold any subscriptions more than a week. Send what you have and they will be credited to you until you get the rest of them. Address your letters —



Subscription Department
Grain Growers' Guide - Winnipeg, Man.