

they talked of—farming! This, because Helen would have it so.

One night's reading of the poultry book, one good inspection of the nondescript flock of fowls in the hen-house, and the birds of uncertain ages and unknown pedigree, was quite enough to convince Helen. The next day every fowl, except twenty, which looked promising, were crated up and sent to market. These twenty hens would supply eggs for the table until a flock of pure bred Leghorns could be raised. She bought an incubator to assist in the spring hatching and ordered the eggs from a well-known poultry dealer. Several of the hens were also set on duck eggs, and by the beginning of the early summer she had a fine flock of chicks and ducklings. During the summer the old henhouse was cleaned, repaired and enlarged, so as to be ready for the fowls by early fall.

But why should I weary you with all the details of the hard work which Helen accomplished that summer and fall? True enough, she did no hard manual labor, but it is very trying on the nerves, to say the least, to manage a large farm and to inaugurate such changes and new systems and modern methods demand in the rejuvenation of a run-down farm. But, strange to say, from the moment Helen began to adopt new methods in farming, ill-luck was a stranger to Elam and his family. Elam rigidly maintained, with all due respect and pride in his daughter, that this change of luck was responsible for most of their new-found happiness and prosperity. He was able to walk around a bit, and he confessed that he hardly knew the old farm when he walked out for the first time and saw every building painted spick and span and the fields as clean as a hound's tooth.

Rome was not built in a day, and a run-down farm cannot be brought up to date in a season. It was fully two years before Helen could truthfully say that her home compared favorably with Brookside, and was quite as productive. In the meantime, she kept in touch with the fountains of information pertaining to agriculture, from the Department of Agriculture and the farm papers, and read everything that in any way applied to such branches of farming as she was interested in. Not that she rushed to try out everything new—no, indeed! Very carefully she watched for actual results and experimented only when she was certain of a profit on the investment. She learned to discriminate between "fads" and actual money-making systems which lighten labor and increase profits.

While John bided his time, understanding well enough what was at the bottom of Helen's work, and when the proper moment came she could no longer say him nay, and was not ashamed to whisper the sweet words which made the two farms as one.

Crops and Sidelines for the Dairy Farmer

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would be very glad of the chance to earn a few dollars in this way. And when picking time comes you will probably be surprised at the amount of good food you will get off a small bit of land.

Another crop that I must not fail to mention, and which we have grown in a small way and like very well, is onions. If properly cared for they are one of the best paying crops that Ontario produces. A patch of them will pay for the work of all the rest of a large garden and furnish you with one of the best foods.

If you will try to grow a good garden of all kinds of vegetables, keep a few hogs and raise a few good

heifer calves each year, also a good large flock of properly cared for hens, then you have only to add a few hives of bees to your list and you can truly say that you will be living in the land of milk and honey. Then why should you not be contented, for, if properly conducted, you have the

best paying, legitimate business on the face of God's good earth. And I am sure the high cost of living will not worry you in the least. And even when you read about unearned increment you will feel so pleased with your own prospects that you will only smile and turn over to the next page.

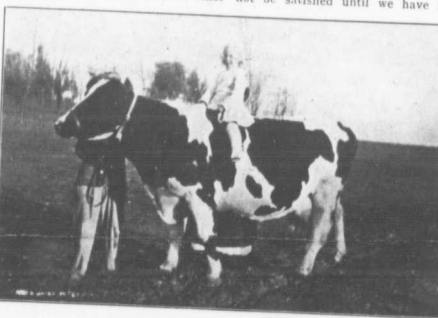
Cooperative Selling Methods in Quebec

Aug. Trauel, Manager, The Quebec Cheesemakers' Agricultural Cooperative Society, Montreal

THE Quebec Cheesemakers' Agricultural Cooperative Society organized at the Quebec Dairy-men's Convention held at Rigaud, in 1910. Several complaints were laid before this convention against products in this province. The largest quantity of cheese and butter was sold at the average price through local agents from different districts, who had no interest but the commission of so much for each box they brought from their district to the Montreal firm with which they were connected. Beside that, some exporters had the control of several other

as by the traders who had the advantage of handling the cheese and butter of the Society. Experts in dairy industry agree on this point that if and selling had been established at the origin of its dairy industry, the province of Quebec would have been better off not only for the quality of its cheese but also for its cheese.

The society expects to control this year 300 cheese and butter factories. All the powers at its disposal will be employed in order to obtain from the products of the best quality and of an absolute uniformity. We will not be satisfied until we have real-



An Unusual Mount at Lakeview Farm

—Photo courtesy E. F. Osler, Proprietor Lakeview Farm, Bronte, Ont.

districts through direct consignment, and in order to keep this control, they used to pay the same price for all the products of the same district, making no appreciable destruction as to the quality.

Among the rules of the Society concerning the sale, the most important is the following: "All the cheese and butter must be graded before the sale by independent men appointed by the Government." The general inspection of the cheese and butter for the province did the work in the past, to the entire satisfaction of all the parties, buyers and sellers. After this classification the products are sold by auction, each quality being sold separately. A report is made to every maker, mentioning the defects of his produce, and the ways to remedy them. If there is no improvement an inspector visits the factory and stays there until the defects have disappeared.

From the beginning this organization proved to be advantageous to the dairymen and an improvement over the old system of selling cheese and butter. The results have showed the profits the farmers may obtain from cooperation.

SUCCESS FROM THE FIRST

In its first year of operation the price of the Ontario cheese; a result that had never been obtained during the 35 previous years of cheese-making in this province. Also the knowledge by the quality was acknowledged by all the parties interested—cheese-makers, inspectors, as well

ized for the cheese and butter of the society the highest prices in this country.

FARMERS' MONEY BEHIND IT

To this end we have succeeded in interesting more than 1,000 farmers each to have subscribed shares of \$10 farmers bring the most interested in its success, as the improvement in quality will first benefit them and the rise of the prices go direct to them. We are canvassing earnestly among the farmers to have their support in order that they induce their factories to sell through the society, which is just beginning in this country with our society, will render the same services as similar organizations did in Denmark and other countries where the idea was developed long ago.

It would be a great help for the advancement of the idea in this country if similar organizations were started in Ontario. A similar grading of dairy produce would avoid the trouble the cheese and butter makers are subject to when this classification is done by merchants who are influenced by market fluctuations or regions other than the real value of goods.

The society receives strong assistance from the Department of Agriculture of Quebec, to whom it is indebted, and the future will testify that by doing so the Government has rendered a most appreciable service to the farmers of this province.

Dairy Industry in Nova Scotia

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Prospects are also bright for a still further increased production during 1914. At the present time there are three very important organizations under way. The Pictou County Dairy Company, Ltd., capital \$20,000, with a head office at Stellarton, is erecting an up-to-date dairy and creamery plant to serve cooperatively the county of Pictou and the surrounding territory between Truro and Mulgrave, the Sunny Brae Dairy and Creamery of the I.C.R., and the large branches of the territory. The territory is this ought to be a large business in a very few years.

The La Have Creamery Company at Bridgewater is incorporated much along the same lines to serve that section of country from Lunenburg to Caledonia, up to Middleton, and up and down the South Shore for a distance of probably 100 or 60 miles on the H. and S. V. Railway, and down to the mouth of the La Have River by boat.

GOVERNMENT TAKES A LEAD
An important move towards encouraging the industry in Cape Breton has also been made. The Department of Agriculture, realizing that there are immense opportunities in that section of Nova Scotia for the development of cooperative dairying, and in view of the fact that up to the present time the business has not been made a success there, it was thought that it was the duty of the people there to ask them to organize as they are doing in the other parts of the province and to build up one creamery. The Department one demonstration creamery in the Island to show the possibilities of the business. With this end in view, an offer was made to the farmers surrounding the Little Bras d'Or lakes, that if they would promise the support of 500 cows and guarantee to take the business out of the Department's hands when it was made a financial success from a manufacturing standpoint, the Department would establish and operate at least one such creamery. This offer was readily taken up by about 100 farmers, and the construction of the plant is now well under way, and all arrangements being made to commence operations in the spring. When this proves a success, possibly it will be found wise to extend the work further in the Island.

The policy of the Department in this as in other parts of the province will be to centralize the work as much as possible, gathering the raw material for a distance as can be done economically, thus making the assurance of success much greater.

THE WEAK END OF DAIRYING

From the foregoing perhaps it would appear to some that the dairy business is in a very healthy condition at the present time. As far as the manufacturing end is concerned, no doubt it is, but there never was a time in the history of Nova Scotia when the dairy business was in a more critical position than it is to-day; not from a manufacturing and good, but from a production standpoint. The average production of milk and butter fat per cow in the province is not enough to pay annually for the food she consumes, figuring all the feed and the market value, and just as long as this condition exists the farmer with the average cow is not going to get very enthusiastic about the business for the simple reason that he does not see the necessary change to make it profitable is right up to the farmer himself.