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# THE CANADIAN THRESHERMAN AND FARMER

Page 29

### Annual Report of Manitoba Department of Agriculture

What looks pretty nearly like a record in the way of publishing a departmental report has been made in getting out the 1915 annual report of the Manitoba Department of Agriculture. The report was laid on the table for ac ceptance by the Legislature during the session recently closed. and it is now being mailed from the Publications Branch of the Department of Agriculture The report contains over 150 pages, and in addition to furnishing the usual departmental information it is liberally illustrated with appropriate pictures of agricultural interest. A free copy may be had on receipt of a postcard request in the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.

## More District Representatives

The work done during the past year by the district representatives who have been operating in certain parts of Manitoba has been so satisfactory that the number has just been increased by four new appointments. Mr. W. R. Roberts has been assigned to the Birtle district, J. H. Hudson to the Swan River Valley, J. R. Bell to the Portage la Prairie district and J. Sigfusson to Arborg, where he will succeed H. F. Danielson, who has enlisted.

These young men are all of this vear's graduating class at Manitoba Agricultural College, and all have had practical experience in Manitoba farm life before taking up their college studies. The district representatives are under the direction of the Extension Service of the Agricultural College.

Two of the other members of this year's graduating class have been given positions in the College service. These are M. F. F. Parkinson, of Roland, who will be assistant in the Extension Service, and Mr. F. H. Newcombe, of Deloraine, who is temporarily appointed as lecturer in animal husbandry.

One of the lines of work in which the Manitoba district representatives will be active this year is the encouragement of gopher destruction. Large quantities of gopher poison will be distributed through their offices to farmers with will use it.

Two new dairy demonstrators have been appointed to aid in the work among the Ruthenian farmers of Manitoba. These are Messrs. F. T. Boresky and A. Skorobobacz, both able to speak the Ruthenian language and both students at Manitoba Agricultural College. During the coming summer the Manitoba Agricultural College will give demonstrations in some of the towns of the province in spraying shade trees for the destruction of insect pests.

#### Winter Dairying Active in Manitoba

Never before in the history of Manitoba have the creameries done such a business during a winter as this year. Previously only a few of the creameries have operated for the full twelve months, but this season around 30 creameries out of 38 have made butter during the winter period. Last year the province exported over 50 carloads of butter, but almost all of it went out during the summer season. This year it has been exporting winter made butter, one carload going to Vancouver on April 6th, and another to Calgary on April 14th. The butter for these shipments was made at Belmont, Cartwright, Morden, Shoal Lake, Winnipeg and Souris. This butter was all graded, and Dairy Commissioner Mitchell and his assistants are enthusiastic over the confidence grading cream and butter is creating in outside markets.

At the last season of the Legislature some important amendments to the Dairy Act were passed. These refer to the regulation of skimming and cream receiving stations, and also to the licensing of factory butter and cheese makers. Copies of the Dairy Act and its amendments may be had by applying to the Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.

# Making Money in the Cellar

A woman in Virginia is making considerable money from mushrooms raised in her cellar. She advises all who think of trying to make money in this way, to begin on a small scale. But before beginning at all, she says, to be sure there is a market for the possible mushrooms.

In Manitoba, mushrooms have been grown in many cellars, but money has been made in such a large way in the West that the small sums made from mushroom beds, have not appealed strongly to those making larger amounts. Now that there is not so much easy money, it is possible that more people will be satisfied to take in smaller earnings.

The market for mushrooms is generally good in a large city, and very often the demand is much greater than the supply. In the winter when the mushrooms grow in the cellar, the market is the best. But those at a distance from a market are at a disadvantage, for mushrooms are better when fresh. However some of the eastern cities offer good prices for mushrooms shipped even from

