The Ontario Agricultural Gazette

The Official Bulletin of the Dominion Cattle, Sheep, and Swine Breeders' Associations, and of the Farmers' Institute System of the Province of Ontario.

THE DOMINION CATTLE, SHEEP, AND SWINE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

Annual Membership Fees . . Cattle Breeders', \$1; Sheep Breeders', \$1; Swine Breeders', \$2 BENEFITS OF MEMEERSHIP.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP. Fach usenber receives a free copy of each publication issued by the Association to which he belongs, during the year in which he is a member. In the case of the Swine Breeders' Association this includes a copy of the Swine Record. A member of the Swine Breeders' Association is allowed to register pigs at 500, per head, non-members are charged \$1.00 per head. A member of the Sheep Breeders' Association is allowed to register sheep at 500, per head, while non-members are charged \$1.00. The name and address of each member, and the stock he has for sale, are published once a month. Over rooson copies of this directory are mailed monthly. Copies are sent to each Agricultural College and each Experiment Station in Canada and the United States, also to prominent breeders and probable buyers revient in Canada, the United States and elsewhere. A member of an Association will only be allowed to advertise stock corresponding to the Association at the Dominion Swite Breeders' Association. The list of Cattle Breeders will be published in the first issue of each month, of Sheep Breeders in the second issue, and of Swine Breeders in the third issue. Members having stock for sale, in order that it may be included in the ButtErrs, are required to notify the undersigned, by letter, at least seven days before the date of rssue, of the number, breed, age and sex of the ammals. Should a member fail to do this, only his name and address will appear in the next monthly issue. The data will be published in. F. W. HONNON, Secretary.

F. W. Honson, Secretary. Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ont.

THE DOMINION SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

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By W. R. GRAHAM, B.S.A.

When you ask the majority of farmers if poultry pays, you are told very emphatically "No." You may say that eggs in winter yield a handsome profit, but you will be told that hens do not usually lay at that season of the

eggs in winter. There are three chief reasons why hens do not lay in winter -improper food, a poor house, and an unsuitable class of fowls. Why improper food? The question is often asked, What kind of grain is best for egg production? If hens are fed on grain alone they are almost sure to eat

these days of keen competition we serk to produce a good wholesome article at the least possible expense. If eggs are to be produced in winter in large quantities we must imitate summer food. If you watch a hen feeding during a summer day you will observe that she eats a quantity of grass, in sects, vegetables, and picks up bits of grit, such as gravel and old mortar, in addition to her daily ration of grain. This is what you must feed her during the winter to get the best returns. Grass can be best replaced by clover hay, cut fine. You must feed either meat or ground bone to replace the insects, and vegetables, as mangolds, carrots, turnips, and cabbage as a substitute for grass. These foods are cheaper than grain, and much more desirable. The method of feeding practised by the writer is, equal parts by measure of clover hay, cooked vegeables, bran, ground oats, peas, and barley, all thoroughly mixed and scalded some hours before feeding, and fed warm at sunrise. This is fed in roughs, and no more given than they will readily eat up clean. At noon a handful or so of barley is scattered in he litter to give the hens exercise. At bout two o'clock give one pound of meat or cut green bone for every fifeen hens; after this is eaten give buckwheat or other grain well scat-tered in the litter. Before roosting time give in troughs all the whole grain, either wheat or buckwheat, they will eat, being very careful to remove all that may be left, so that in the morning they are ready for their feed.

What is required in a good house? It should be dry, warm, and light; it should face the south or southwest, and should open into a barnyard, so that the hens may get out in the fresh air on sunny days. The front should have plenty of light, but not too much, as too much glass makes a house cold at night. One-third of the front is plenty of light. Every fowl should have at least four square feet of scratching floor. Plenty of exercise is necessary to promote warmth and health. The house should at least be warm enough not to freeze their combs; it also should be clean, and all manure should be removed once or twice a week.

Hens not through moulting by the middle of November, or hens over two years old, or very late hatched immature pullets, will not lay in winter, and are only a bill of expense, as are also all unnecessary male birds. To get the best results select the best layers, those having strong, vigorous constitutions, and rear their offspring, using a purebred male. Nev. r fail to have a plentiful supply of water and grit within easy access.

Ontario Agricultural College. Announcements concerning the College work will be published weekly under this head.

THE PROVINCIAL DAIRY SCHOOL AT GUELPH.

Readers of the Gazette will do well year. Then if we are going to make the largest share of the profits. In to remember that the sixth annual wise men.

session of the Provincial Dairy School opens at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, on January 4th, 1898. No pains or expense have been spared by the honorable Minister of Agricul-ture and Dr. Mills to make this the first and foremost dairy school on the continent. A lady instructor has been added to the staff for 1898, and farmers' wives and daughters are especially invited to attend the Home Dairy Course for two weeks, a month, or longer, as they think best. The only expense is railway fare and board. Board costs \$2.50 to \$3 per week, which is about as cheap as one can board at home. For full information apply to the Dairy Department, O.A.C., Guelph, when circulars will be sent to all who apply. There is a great deal of dairy butter made in Ontario which sells at from 12c. to 16c. per pound, whereas, if a little more skill were applied, from 2c. to 4c. per pound might easily be added to the value of the butter. This extra value would go a long way toward meeting the expenses of a short course at the Home Dairy.

Besides the Home Dairy course a Factory course is open to all cheese and butter makers. In order to keep up the quality of dairy goods, the latest and most approved methods and machinery must be used. A com bined churn and worker has been a ided to the equipment of the butter department. A Gerber milk-tester has been ordered for the milk-testing room. This tester is said to be a great improvement over the Babcock tester for determining the fat in milk. Three new separators will be placed in the separator room, while the cheese-room has been repainted, and made bright and cheerful. The session of 1898 ought to be one of the best on record, as the last season has been a very profitable one for all branches of the dairy.

The graduates of the Provincial School are filling responsible positions in Canada and the United States. One graduate has recently been appointed to the staff at Wisconsin, the pioneer, in this work. Another is now in Ireland, organizing co-operative creamcries, while one of the boys of last year is taking a prominent part in Minnesota dairying. While the man-agement of the school do not guarantee positions to all who pass the examinations, in past years all who were capable have been placed in paying and worthy places of trust. Each year an increasing number of factory owners are requiring that the makers shall have a dairy school certificate. One of the surest passports to secure a comfortable living is a certificate from a dairy school.

Do you want to keep up with the times? Are you studying the signs of the times, and preparing for the changes which come over Canadian dairying with such suddenness that the behindhand men are not in the race? If so, act in a manner which becomes