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## EDITORIAL

### Provide a Summer Feed

To maintain the milk flow of the cow herd during summer, one has to provide against a season of dried up pastures. This is most adequately done, by planting an acre or two near the pasture or barn, to corn, and having a supply of green fodder on hand, to feed the cows through the short pasture period. Corn for various reasons, is the best crop to grow for this purpose. In the first place, it is a crop that comes along fast. Sown about the middle of May there is a good cutting by the end of July. Cows relish it, and it does not taint or in any way effect the flavor of the milk. It is one of the easiest of crops to grow, and the heaviest producer of succulent milk-producing fodder. Certain sections of this country may never be cropped to corn to any extent, but in practically all districts where wheat raising is carried on, corn may be grown, at least as a crop to supplement dried up pastures. It has merits in this respect worth inquiring into. Every man who keeps cows owes it to himself to see that as much return as possible is made from those cows during summer, to see that their product is sufficient to pay him something on the money he has invested in the herd, as well as making some return for the labor required in caring for and milking them. To have her do that he has to put some milk-producing form of food into her. Something more than dried grass.

The average cow in this country does not pay very handsome profits to her owner. Sometimes it is the cow's fault and sometimes the owners. As a rule, the cow's owner is keeping her from habit, not as a source from which profit may be made. Consequently she

takes chances on her food supply both summer and winter. In summer she gets six weeks or two months of pasturage, and picks up a rather precarious existence from the time that fails till freeze up. After winter closes in the average cow has less to make milk from than she had towards the close of summer. The largest part of her return for food and keep for the year is a runty calf, but figuring in the value of that asset, along with the milk she gave, and the owner is fortunate if he makes an even break, if he gets out of the cow as much as she got out of him.

The man who is willing to let Nature do his cow feeding for him, should not be surprised if there is very little coming to him, when the books are balanced. Nature is all right in her way, but she can be beaten every time by human intelligence. The farmer who is into the cow business as he should be, for profit, not from habit, looks after the providing of a milk producing food supply for all seasons. In another column of this issue, correspondents, one from each of our prairie provinces, relate their experiences in growing summer cow feeds. Read them, they are well told, and the suggestions made worth considering.

### Good and Better Crops

Never in the history of our agriculture, has there been such an extensive, energetic and intelligent campaign of education waged, as that which is drawing to a close preparatory to seeding. Seed fairs, institute meetings, conventions, judging classes and the press, have endeavored to spread information upon this, the leading industry of the west, and although so much has been done, and is being done, there are scores who for some reason or other, fail to get all the advantage possible out of such a campaign. Many men think it is not worth while to attend meetings and read papers, and try to learn everything by experience. Such learning generally sticks, but it is too slow for this age, and a man goes through life only to find out when he gets old what he might have known in middle age, and have used to his advantage half a lifetime.

In this new land, we are making agricultural history and learning by experience, what methods and systems are best suited to conditions. As we get experience and read of other's, we are impressed with the fact that what is best under certain circumstances, is not best under all, and what gives good crops one year will not necessarily give good crops every season. In connection with the standing field grain competitions, and the prize winning grain at the seed fairs, it is striking how many winning fields were on new land, and how much of the seed was taken from the first or second crops. This illustrates that we are not keeping our land up to its virgin standard.

It emphasizes the fact that there is something to be learned about farming, that will enable us to make land better, rather than allow it to get poorer or dirtier. This is the supreme problem with which every one has to wrestle. The farm is practically the source of all our wealth, and is capable of infinite development. The need of intelligently handling the land, will be impressed by reading the experiences of farmers who tell, in this issue, how they won prizes on their grain.

### Use of Western Horticultural Society

A correspondent says: "What is the object of the Western Horticultural Society, and what benefit is it to its members? How long is the fee of \$1.00 good for?"

The membership of the Western Horticultural Society is made up of those men and women who are enthusiastic over trees, flowers, fruits, vegetables, and all plants. This membership is drawn from the three prairie provinces, but the greater number are residents of Manitoba.

The object of the society is to foster an interest in gardening, tree planting, and the growth of plants. For this purpose it holds an annual convention where members discuss different problems that confront them, and report experiences with different trees and plants. Each member may also receive, upon application, certain plants for experimental purposes, and a full report bound in book form, of the papers and discussions at the annual convention.

Then, the society conducts school garden competitions, and so interests teachers and children in horticulture. It also stands as a central organization for local horticultural societies and civic improvement clubs.

The society also conducts an exhibit of fruits, vegetables, plants, etc., in Winnipeg each year, sometime late in the summer.

These are the advantages that accrue to the individual members, and the relationship of the society to its members. Then the society stands as the recognized official organization of the horticultural interests of the West, and, as such, attends to public matters of horticultural interest and concern. The fee of one dollar covers a membership of one year.

That the society is doing good, and deserving of much credit, is generally conceded wherever its work has been observed. The influence of the work of each of its members spreads in the neighborhood where the member lives. Everyone, who is interested in plants, feels a desire to see others interested, and to get others to grow trees, plants, fruits and flowers to meet those who are so engaged.

The spread of interest in horticultural work depends practically altogether upon the enthusiasm of those already interested in such a

### and Garden seeds

Some Grass, Red-top, potatoes, etc. We deliver our supplies early.

RAIN—Wheat, Flax, etc., in exchange for farm produce, if you wish.

FLOUR, FEED, bought at any point, any point in the west, construction, lumbering centres.

S—Tamarac and cedar, at attractive prices.

AND VEGETABLES—phone for our prices, especially in these commodities.

and exchange anything produced on your farm to suit your business.

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