

# FARMING

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## Poultrymen Fall into Line

At the live stock meetings held recently in this city it was announced that the next Ontario Poultry Show would take place at Guelph in conjunction with the Provincial Fat Stock and Dairy Show, and also that Mr. A. P. Westervelt, Secretary of the Dominion Cattle, Sheep and Swine Breeders' Associations would also act as Secretary of the Ontario Poultry Association, with head office in this city. These changes in the secretaryship of the association and also in the location for the next Ontario Show were not made public during the meetings, because definite arrangements regarding them were not completed. Since then we have learned that everything has been satisfactorily arranged and that the next Ontario Show will be made one of the educational features of the Provincial Winter Show, which, as previously announced, is to be located permanently at Guelph.

This change of policy on the part of the management of the Ontario Poultry Association will come as somewhat of a surprise to many poultrymen and farmers throughout the Province. The association had undoubtedly gotten into a rut and the benefits which the farmer derived from the public moneys which it received were practically nil. It is very gratifying, therefore, to know that henceforth the association and the annual show will be run upon different lines and will be made a great educational factor in building up the poultry industry of this country along practical and profitable lines. There is a great work to be done in this regard and with a secretary so directly in touch with our live stock and farming interests as Mr. Westervelt is, the association is capable of doing excellent work for the poultry branch of the farm. The complaint most frequently heard in regard to the association and its shows was its great lack as an educational institution. Of course, all shows, of whatever kind, have an educational character, but we think we are safe in stating that formerly with the "Ontario" the educational features were only secondary. We therefore congratulate the present management on the change of policy in this regard and can assure them of our hearty support and co-operation in making the association and the show potent factors in the educational work that must be done in building up the poultry industry of this country.

The influences that have tended to bring about these changes, which mean the permanent location of the Ontario Poultry Show and the direction of the work of the association more along educational lines are, no doubt, many and have been at work for some time. But be this as it may, we feel like taking some credit to ourselves for this important turn in the affairs of the Ontario Poultry Association. The discussion upon "Government Assistance to the Poultry Industry," which began in FARMING a few months back, has undoubtedly been a very strong factor in bringing about this change for the better in its management. Our only desire was for the benefit of the organization and we are glad to know that thus far our efforts have borne such good fruit.

## Canadian Cattle at Chicago

Under the above heading appears an article in the *Chicago Live Stock Report* of April 5th, from which we take the following;

"The high prices paid for western range cattle at Chicago

last season caused many a cattleman across the Canadian border to turn his thoughts toward this market and seriously consider the proposition of sending his shipments hither.

The great demand for cattle at Chicago, the head and centre of the dressed beef trade, is very attractive to our Canadian friends, who fail to find in their local or shipping and export buyers the strong, unfailing competition necessary to maintain profitable prices. Hence, in spite of distance and the import duty imposed upon beef cattle brought into this country, we should not be at all surprised to see considerable numbers of North-West Territory cattle included in the range receipts at Chicago the coming season. We believe that, in many cases, Canadian ranchmen will realize more from their cattle by sending them to this market than by disposing of them in any other way."

The same journal quotes from a letter received from a ranching company at Crane Lake, N.W.T., as follows:

"Regarding the Chicago market for Canadian beef, our company recently received a check from the Montana Stock Growers' Association (of which we are a paid member) for \$49.38, being net proceeds of one estray '76' steer sold in Chicago. The gross amount was \$70.65, and freight, duty and other charges amounted to \$21.27, leaving a net balance as above. This is beginning to open our eyes up here."

From the above it would seem that some effort is being made to divert the cattle trade of Western Canada to Chicago. It is in the interests of every one who raises cattle to get the very highest prices for them obtainable, but whether it is possible, considering the heavy duty put upon cattle shipped into the United States, to develop a trade with Chicago that would be permanently profitable, to even Western ranches, is another matter. The goal for all the surplus cattle on this continent, whether shipped alive or as dressed meat, is Great Britain; and whether it will pay our ranchers or cattle raisers better to develop this trade through Chicago or our own shipping centres is worth considering. If this country is to grow and develop as it should, our export trade with the Mother Land should be diverted as much as possible through Canadian channels. In doing this, however, the question of freight rates must be considered, and it is only too true that Canadian shippers have not the advantages that American shippers have in this regard. If the carrying charges were the same on both sides of the line, we fail to see where the advantage would come in of Western cattlemen making their shipments through an American rather than a Canadian channel. However, this whole question is worth looking into, and, if Canadians are hampered by excessive freight rates, some effective remedy should be applied.

## Prizes for Seed Grain Competition

Mr. G. H. Clark, B.S.A., has been appointed to take direct charge of the work in connection with the sum of ten thousand dollars donated by Sir William C. Macdonald to promote "progressive agriculture" by encouraging boys and girls to select seed grain on the farms on which they live. Mr. Clark has been for three years assistant to Mr. C. A. Zavitz, experimentalist at the Ontario Agricultural College. His training there in that capacity has given him particular fitness for carrying on the work, and the boys