

Newsy Notes from British Columbia

(By Our Own Correspondent)

N Five-Mile Valley, east of Princeton, thousands of acres of hay were destroyed by grasshoppers in 1914.

Poultrymen at Langley Fort are organizing an egg circle. The poultry association at Pentiction is now filling regularly a thirty-case egg contract. Orchard in full bearing on Okanagan Lake for real. Terms—One-fourth of proceeds. This reads a newspaper advertisement.

D. E. Gellaiu, who has a large ranch near Kelowna, has eighty acres of potatoes. Not many Canadian farmers can beat this.

The new Dominion Experimental farm at Summerland is being equipped this spring with buildings and irrigation facilities. A few apple trees will be set out this year and hay will be in. Experimental work will not begin in earnest until next year.

In British Columbia, it has been estimated, there are 1,000 head of purebred dairy cows, fifty per cent. of which are Holstein. Purebred Jerseys, Ayrshires, and Guernseys, in the order named, are the principal other breeds represented. The Holstein predominates on the Lower Mainland, the Ayrshire in the Interior, and Jerseys and Guernseys on Vancouver Island.

One of the Vancouver newspapers has been urging its readers to buy British Columbia butter in preference to New Zealand butter, large quantities of which are sold in Western Canada. One reason why New Zealand butter has been so successfully marketed here is because it is Government graded and almost invariably of excellent quality.

One Kind of Advertising
Percy Welch, a poultryman on Okanagan Lake, is a man from whom some poultry breeders could learn

lessons in advertising. Welch has a place of two acres or so extending from the Shuswap and Okanagan Railroad to the Lake. His principal crops are near the lake shore on a slope. Almost in his front yard, however, and in good view of the railroad he has a spic and span green-painted henhouse and a newly wired run, with white posts. A sign across the henhouse reads: "The Poplars Poultry Ranch, P. W. Welch, Prop., Eggs and Stock for Sale. Inspection Invited." In this pen, which, like his entire plant, is kept clean and wholesome, he has some of his best stock.

The Welch home is of modest size and its architecture is not ultra-modern; but it is always trim and attractive in new paint. Shade trees are about, and the lawn is well kept. The passengers on the S. and O. R. R., and their number is large, coming from all towns in the Okanagan Valley and from many places outside, see this well-managed poultry ranch and carry away the impression that it would be a good place to deal with. Welch is a progressive poultryman, and is president of the Vernon Poultry Association.

Advertisers in agricultural periodicals is admitted by most breeders of poultry to be a necessary adjunct of their business. A good many of those who do advertise, however, neglect to keep things even decently ship-shape about their yards, and the visitor carries away anything but a favorable impression.

Increasing Production

British Columbia farmers start plowing and, later, seeding, days before their brethren in Ontario and the Maritime Provinces. This it happens that at this writing crop prospects for the present year assume a more or less tangible form. The

acreage plowed represents a phenomenal increase. In the Okanagan Valley it is estimated that 50 per cent. more land is in wheat and vegetables than last year. A correspondent at Chilliwack, an old resident, informs me the area in crop there is the greatest within his recollection. Granted favorable weather conditions in British Columbia this year, the crop of vegetables and cereals will be vastly in excess of any previous year, and every section of the province is participating in the increase.

Fruit prospects also indicate a record crop. Every year, the number of bearing apple trees increases considerably. In the Okanagan, our greatest fruit district, the spring has been ideal. The Southern Okanagan expects a crop 33 1/3 per cent. above last year. The strawberry growers of Vancouver Island approach the bearing season with the vines in good shape. They estimate the probable production at 40,000 crates. The small-fruit growers at Mission, Maple Ridge, and other places in the Fraser Valley are also preparing for the greatest year in their experience.

Price prospects are harder to gauge. With potatoes in this province, large crops almost invariably mean low prices. The large wheat crop will undoubtedly be profitable because of the war. The fruit growers have improved their cooperative facilities, and with a lighter crop predicted for the Northwest States are optimistic, believing that returns will be greater than in 1913 and 1914.

Two market commissioners, J. Forsythe Smythe, with headquarters at Calgary, and R. C. Abbott, stationed at Vancouver, will prepare weekly market reports. They will give individual assistance to farmers when applied for.

Most farmers are having no trouble securing labor. In most localities \$25 a month and board secures an experienced man.



An Old Dutch Windmill.

This is a Dutch windmill, but it is not in Holland. The photo was taken near Kaituma, Illinois. Dutch immigrants found the prairie winds of the western states just as efficient power producers as the sea breezes of their native land, and mills of this type are frequently found in Dutch settlements in America.

I have just been reading "North of Boston," a book of rural dramatic poems by Robert Frost. Too many of our farm and nature poets are affected snobs, but Frost is not such. "Good fences make good neighbors," he says in the opening poem, "Mending Wall." He tells of a housekeeper who went away and married another man; of a farm wife, with insanity in her blood, driven to ravings by drudgery; of an amateur botanist and what he meant when he lost the use of his feet; of the dreams which come after the handling of many apples in the fall. In dramatic interest "North of Boston" beats a novel. It is real poetry by a real farmer.



"IDEAL" Helpers For Your Farm

and we are making them yet. We don't mean to boast when we say that we are the oldest and largest manufacturers of gas and gasoline engines in Canada and build a line of engines, which cannot be surpassed. We have an up-to-date factory fitted with the latest improved machinery, use the very best materials obtainable, and every engine is thoroughly and severely tested and run under a heavy load

We made gasoline engines over fifteen years ago, before their brethren in Ontario and the Maritime Provinces. This it happens that at this writing crop prospects for the present year assume a more or less tangible form. The

before it leaves the works, and is guaranteed to develop the horse power for which it is rated. The engines we built fifteen years ago are still in use. Many on the market to-day will not be worth a five dollar bill at the end of ten years, let alone fifteen. The reason why our Brantford "Ideal" engine keeps working after years of service is because they are made with a conscience. We have a big pride in our history and in our product. Our engines are made in sizes from one and a half to sixty horse power. Send for our catalogue if you want an engine that you won't have to "scrap" in two or three years.

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Backed by twenty-three years of good hard experience and honest dealing. Our windmills are to be found in every civilized country on earth. They have every good feature that experience and invention have provided. In 1903 the Royal Agricultural of England held a two months trial of windmills in which twenty-three competitive windmills from all over the world were entered. Our mill clearly outdistanced all others, having pumped 90 per cent. more water than its nearest competitor, without showing the least signs of wear. If you want a windmill that will last a lifetime and longer, buy an "Ideal." Send for our windmill catalogue.

We also make full lines of Pumps, Tanks, Steel Saw Frames, Water Supply Coods, etc.

GOOLD, SHAPLEY & MUIR, LTD., BRANTFORD, Ont.

Branches at WINNIPEG, REGINA and CALGARY.



Brantford "Maple Leaf" Grain Grinders

We started making grinders over twenty years ago with the result that to-day we have on the market a grinder designed and developed in our own shop, containing a great many valuable features essential in a good machine, and which are to be found in our grinder alone. These features are strongly protected by patents. Every grinder is run and thoroughly inspected before it leaves our factory. It pays to chop at home. Get a "Maple Leaf," thirty-five thousand of which are in use to-day. Send for our grinder catalogue.

