

FARM AND DAIRY

AND RURAL HOME

Published by The Rural Publishing Company, Limited.



1. FARM AND DAIRY is published every Thursday. It is the official organ of the British Columbia, Manitoba, Eastern and Western Ontario, and Bedford District, Quebec, Dairyman's Associations, and of the Canadian Holstein and Jersey Cattle Breeders' Associations.

2. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, \$1.00 a year, strictly in advance. Great Britain, \$1.25 a year. For all countries, except Canada and Great Britain, add 50c for postage. A year's subscription free for a club of two new subscribers.

3. REMITTANCES should be made by Post Office or Money Order, or Registered Letter. Postage stamps accepted for amounts less than \$1.00. On all checks add 2 cents for exchange fee required at the banks.

4. CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—When a change of address is made, give both the old and new addresses must be given.

5. ADVERTISING RATES quoted on application. Copy received up to the Friday preceding the following week's issue.

6. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical advice.

CIRCULATION STATEMENT

The paid subscriptions to Farm and Dairy exceed \$5,800. The actual circulation of each issue, including copies of the paper sent to subscribers, but slight variations in arrears, and sample copies, varies from 8,500 to 12,000 copies. All subscriptions are accepted at less than the full subscription rates. Our mailing lists do not contain any duplicate names.

Signed detailed statements of the circulation of the paper, showing its distribution by countries and provinces, will be mailed free on request.

OUR PROTECTIVE POLICY

We want the readers of Farm and Dairy to feel that they can deal with our advertisers with our assurance of our advertisers' reliability. We try to admit to our columns only the most reliable advertisers. Should any subscriber have cause to be dissatisfied with the results he receives from any of our advertisers, we will investigate the circumstances fully. Should we find good cause to believe that any of our advertisers are unreliable, even in the slightest degree, we will immediately the publication of their advertisements. Should the circumstances warrant, we will even delete from the columns of the paper. Thus we will not only protect our readers, but we will enable advertisers as well. In order to be entitled to the benefits of our Protective Policy, our readers only need include in all letters to advertisers the words, "I saw your advertisement in Farm and Dairy." Complaints must be made to Farm and Dairy within one week from the date of any unsatisfactory transaction, with proofs thereof, and within one month from the date that the advertisement appears, in order to take advantage of the guarantee. We will not undertake to adjust trifling differences between readers and responsible advertisers.

FARM AND DAIRY

PETERBORO, ONT.

OUR STAND ON RECIPROCITY

For years leaders of the farmers and the agricultural press, have been telling us farmers that we should unite in securing recognition of our rights from the government and in the advancement of the interests of agriculture. At election times, however, we have invariably failed to follow this advice, and have divided on party lines. Farm papers that urge us to take independent action and then remain silent at election times, but prove their own inconsistency. We believe that the agricultural press should support the stand taken by the farmers' organizations in so far as their stand is in the best interests of agriculture, even when that stand is not in accordance with the stand of one or the other of the great political parties.

We believe the reciprocity question to be the greatest issue pertaining to the interests of the farmers that has ever been before the country. It is the issue above all others on which we should stand together because it affects us primarily. It is an issue which every farmers' organization that has been heard from, has endorsed.

The only farmers we know who are opposing it are those who are reading the straight party press, and who have never taken any part in an open discussion of the question at any farmers' meeting.

The farmers' organizations which so far have expressed themselves in favor of reciprocity, include: The Dominion Grange, The Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, The Eastern Ontario Dairyman's Association, The Grain Growers' Association of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and The United Farmers of Alberta. We have yet to hear of a farmers' organization with the exception of a small fruit growers' association, representing special interests in British Columbia, which has taken a stand on the other side. Farm and Dairy in supporting reciprocity is, therefore, but voicing the sentiment of Canadian farmers as expressed by practically all the leading farmers' organizations of the Dominion.

In endorsing the stand of the united farmers on this question, Farm and Dairy does not wish it to be understood that it is thoroughly satisfied with the action of the Dominion Government. We feel that the Government should have gone further in reducing the preference on goods imported from Great Britain, as was asked by the farmers' deputation at Ottawa last December. We feel that the expenditures on militia and defence are out of all right proportion to the expenditures on agriculture. We feel that the government might have made greater reductions in the tariff on such manufactured articles as agricultural implements, spraying machinery, mixed fertilizers, and cement also, as was requested by the farmers.

The Government, however, has taken a great step towards placing agriculture on an equal footing with other industries. It is offering to do more for the farmers in the matter of freer trade than the Conservative party is prepared to do. The opening up of the United States market to Canadian farm produce will be of incalculable benefit to us. Consumption in the United States is rapidly overtaking production, and as the years go by the United States market will become more and more valuable to Canadian farmers. In Canada, with the opening up of the vast agricultural regions of New Ontario and the Canadian west, the demand for wider markets for our farm produce will become ever more insistent. With our large exportable surplus of farm produce we should supply the growing demand in the United States for farm produce from outside sources.

Farmers who are lining up in opposition to free trade proposals will do well to ask themselves from what

source they are gathering their information, whether it can be relied on to give them both sides of the case, and why they are taking a stand in direct opposition to what has been requested by all the farmers' organizations in Canada.

OFFICIAL TESTS

On this page in our last issue we published a clipping from Farm and Home, in which the following statement appeared:

"The seven-day test is not of great value to practical dairymen, 'who consider that it is no indication of either the profit or production that may be expected in a year. Holstein breeders are now the only ones to use the short test, and as it is made under official supervision of the experiment stations it is reliable so far as it goes. But the cows are forced to such abnormal production, both in total milk yield and per cent. of butter fat that seldom is their record maintained in a 30-day test. The week's test is all right, but it is about as accurate in testing the year's yield as would a three-furlong spurt to tell how far a horse could travel in a day."

The foregoing remarks do not do justice to this excellent test. The seven and thirty day tests are the most reliable and accurate tests of any kind that are made to-day. They are supervised at every milking by officials appointed by the government or dairy schools. These officials weigh and test every milking, and thus the tests are as accurate as they can well be made. This cannot be said of any other system of test now in use.

The statement that the cows are forced to such abnormal production in the seven day tests that their records are seldom maintained in a thirty days' test, is hardly borne out by facts. It not unfrequently happens that the total production for the thirty days is larger in proportion than for the first seven days. Cows holding the seven day records often hold the thirty day record also.

The Holstein men were the first to recognize that production is of more importance than show yard form, and to adopt an official test. Their seven day test is not only the first official test adopted by any breeders' association, but it is still the only strictly official test that is made of dairy cows. While there is truth in the statement that the seven day test immediately after freshening is not a true indication of either the profit or production that may be expected in a year, still the Holstein Association has not failed to recognize this fact, and has adopted the seven and thirty day official test eight months after calving for those who prefer it. This latter test offers probably the most accurate official test that can be obtained of a cow's possibilities as a persistent producer. Only a few breeders—these, as far as we know, being located across the border—have resorted as yet to unjustifiable methods to increase the milk and butter production of their cows in seven day tests immediately after calving. Still,

as the article in question shows, there is a tendency to discount some of these tests because of what these few men have done. For this reason we feel that the Holstein breeders will be acting wisely if they devote more attention to tests made eight months after calving. Were a number of breeders to do this and to draw attention to the fact that their tests were so made, they would soon reach the rewards of their foresight and enterprise.

It is hardly in order for any paper or organization to endeavor to cast discredit on the best official test that has yet been invented without offering something better in its place. This has not yet been attempted, as it is generally recognized that the expense involved in a yearly official test makes it impracticable. The seven day official tests have done more to advance the interests of dairy cattle than any other one factor, and they deserve to be encouraged, especially those made eight months after calving.

MUST WE PLOW DEEPER

There is an opinion among many of us farmers, and it has found wide spread belief, that it is the proper thing to plow shallow rather than deep. Undue pressure of work and a general shortage of labor have contributed to the ready acceptance and practice of shallow plowing. Then, too, the erroneous notion has gotten abroad that the sub-soil is deficient in fertility and some of us believe that if we plow deep and bring the sub-soil to the top we will get a poorer crop for some time.

Years of plowing of from four to six inches deep is having the untoward effect of decreasing yields. The land dries out more quickly than it formerly did when it was the common practice to plow more deeply, and the shallow plowed land is more quickly adversely affected by drought.

Where shallow plowing has been advocated it has been also advanced that it be followed by deep cultivation. When the soil has been plowed, however, the necessity for the deep cultivation is overlooked, and the consequence is a shallow root zone and a compact soil not capable of holding and retaining a maximum of soil moisture, which is so necessary for plant growth.

On our experimental farms greater attention than was the case some years ago is being given to the plowing and they are "going it" deep. Mr. John Fixter, Farm Superintendent of Macdonald College, as many Farm and Dairy readers know, is a strong advocate of very deep plowing, and the results he secures demonstrate his contentions to be well founded.

Evidence is continually cropping up that it will pay to plow deep, and it appears that we are about to enter another period when deep plowing shall be the general practice. Farm and Dairy readers will recall the illustration of a deep plowing implement published in our Special Farm Machinery Number, June 1st. One of these implements was made used last spring on the farm worked by Hoard's Dairyman. Writing editor-

ally of their experience "Dairyman," the

Last spring we something practical so we purchased a Deep Tilling machine which weighs 1,300 lbs. and has by the 24-inch wheel disk cuts a sired depth and completing the 24 inches. We about three-fourths of corn ground in balance of the year. The before about six inches was easily drawn. At the outset, we before before and thoroughly bottom soil was layers, the under whole depth was rather in a matter. This land was field. The far we are the deep plowed the best. The growth and much. It has stood much the best, which is no evidence of crop whatever. In the determining our arable land inches deep, and it is not

Farm and Dairy publication the editors on this important plowing. Have you to plow to a greater or six inches? —

"ADVERTISING"

The time has come when the Dominion Government must show much more vigor and policy in connection with the interests of New Ontario than it has taken. This is the time when we must have seventy-five hundred thousand in the clay belt. To plow the Ontario handle the situation in a capable manner for. The stronger should have charged. Settlers from the well as farmers in thinking of going to discover that the west are about to land there now on price for it. If from settlers are forced to settled sections, where the expense great as to involve itself. The lack of great drawback as and the need for stating this we are facts, and have no our great west.

In New Ontario more favorable. The entered by the Northern Ontario Transcontinental Road traverse it from ending completion. Still of the Canadian which will pass through best sections, will be. Thus, the clay belt