

## New Ontario Demonstration Farm

Forty-one miles north of the height of land and 30 miles south of Cochrane and the traveller on the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railroad is surprised to see in the almost unbroken forest a comparatively large clearing with a comfortable house and good barn surrounded with fields of grain. He usually imagines that some settler more progressive than the rest has succeeded in hew- ing out for himself a home considerably more attractive than the home of the average Temiskaming settler. But on enquiry he will learn that this is the Northern Ontario Demonstration farm at Monteith.

The site for the farm was decided upon four years ago by a party consisting of Hon. Cochrane; Hon. N. Monteith; Com. Coombs of the Salvation Army; Col. Lamb, Immigration agent for the Salvation Army; Thos. Southworth; A. W. Campbell, Deputy Min-

ister of Public Works; H. G. Howie, Crown Timber Agent; Geo. W. Yates, Private Secretary to Hon. Cochrane; Dr. Clark, Chief Forester of Ontario; A. E. Stephenson, Editor of New Liskeard Speaker; from Charlton the party proceeded by a special train to the end of the line, 18 miles south of Matheson. From there they travelled on foot over a rough construction trail with the exception of Hon. Cochrane, who was suffering from a broken leg. He travelled on horse back.

### THE JOURNEY TO THE FARM

After a night's rest at Grant's Construction camp at Matheson, where the party was hospitably treated by Mrs. Grant and upwards of thirty of their comfort that a good woman could do, they embarked in canoes on the Black River. One canoe was in charge of two Indians named McDougall. The other was in charge of H. G. Howie and Robt. Reid, late of the Hudson Bay Co. The route taken was north down the Black River to

the Abitibi River, thence down it to Iroquois Falls. Hon. Monteith made the selection of what is now the Northern Demonstration Farm.

In Temiskaming, Hon. Monteith is considered as the first Minister of Agriculture to take an interest in the agricultural development of that country. During the time he was Minister he made annual visits in company with Hon. Cochrane and did everything in his power to further the interests of the settlers. The north country still a staunch friend when Hon. Monteith retired from office.

### THE FARM AT PRESENT

The farm consists of 800 acres. At the present time there are about 20 acres under crop and upwards of 100 acres of hay. The expectation is that next year a much larger area will be ready to sow as the work of clearing the farm is proceeding very rapidly. The house and barn were erected two years ago. The house is 20 by 26 feet and the barn 20 by 36 feet. The first plowing was done last year.

At the time of the writer's visit, the stock consisted of five horses and one cow. It is the intention to fully stock the farm before long. There is a complete equipment of farm machinery already in the barn.

As this year's crop is the first there is little or no possibility of gaining any very valuable knowledge as to the best varieties of grain, etc., to sow in the north. Mr. Whitton does not hesitate to state however, that the grains and vegetables do fully as well if not better in this new country than in Old Ontario. Despite the fact that the present crop is the first and that the early part of the season was very dry, Mr. Whitton has some magnificent grain and excellent turnips and mangels. The grain field extremely well and there is no rust whatever. As yet there are no potato bugs. Grubs cut off an odd cabbage here and there.

### GREAT CLOVER GROWTH

Here, as elsewhere in the Clay Belt, there is an almost phenomenal clover growth. The writer saw a plant at the farm, consisting of 180 stems all grown from a single seed.

In the vicinity of the Monteith farm and indeed all through the northern part of the agricultural country there are many settlers but little improvement are being made. The Government has not done what it should in the matter of building roads and the settler goes to and from his little shack on a narrow trail cut through the bush. Until roads are constructed and the settler given a little more encouragement he cannot be expected to do much in the way of clearing his farm.

The land here is equally as fertile and the climate just as pleasant as at New Liskeard, 105 miles south. The good crops grown on the Demonstration Farm are evidence of the possibilities of this section and it too will some day be a great agricultural country.—Colin W. Lees.

## Appointment Weed Inspectors

Editor, Farm and Dairy.—I notice in Farm and Dairy, Aug. 25, an editorial dealing with the noxious weed problem in which you advocate a change in the present law. This act has proved absolutely useless for the prevention and eradication of noxious weeds. Cooperation is a good thing to carry out some enterprises—but cannot be made to do effective work in this particular case. I quite agree with you when you say that there should be a stringent noxious weed law passed by our Provincial Legislature and rigidly enforced.

In order to enforce any weed law inspectors would have to be appointed, each one having his allotted district to superintend. The appointment and selection of inspectors might be left to the township councils. Their appointment, however, should be compulsory.

### LEGISLATION NECESSARY

The necessity for legislation of this character is apparent on all sides. If the farmer is not in a position to control the weeds he should be able to control the farmer who produces the weed seeds. Can there be anything more discouraging than having spent a whole summer cleaning a field to find the same field reseeded with sow thistle, Canada thistle and similar bad weeds through the carelessness of a neighbor.

The strict enforcement of such an act would necessitate to a considerable extent a change in the operations of the farm. A percentage of our farmers would have to get out of the old rut and adopt modern methods of farming. That in itself would be an advantage to all concerned.—J. Smithson, Peterboro Co., Ont.

## A Jewel of Great Value

Editor, Farm and Dairy.—The numerous readers of Farm and Dairy will no doubt experience a thrill of satisfaction as they read Mr. T. R. James' article in the issue of Aug. 27. As he says, it is a bit of a bother to convince cowmen from the pasture field, yet there is nothing so bad it might not be worse. In the first place, it is not splendid exercise for the hired man prior to breakfast? Then is it not restful for the poor dog? Sometimes it happens that the grass is wet and that the pasture field is 40 or 50 acres in extent. That however is a mere trifle, for is not dew a splendid leather preservative and what could be nicer than to be water-logged to the knees? Everyone knows how good that is for rheumatism.

Then, again, cows are active creatures and evince keen delight in hurrying home to be milked. Sometimes, they prefer to stay and "fill up" but is not the hunter armed with a long whip and perhaps "pen league" boots. Should some of the herd of 24 cows be obstinate and disliking it offers a magnificent opportunity to display that cheerful optimism and disregard for the stick and the spleen struggling within for an airing.

Yet withal, there may be some Farm and Dairy readers who would prefer to sit high and dry on a knoll and direct the operations of a dog of average intelligence. A well trained dog will not rush up and tear chunks off the cows, but will act far more considerably toward the herd, than the average hired man, armed with a whip. A good dog is a jewel of great value on the dairy farm and the degree of intelligence developed is usually commensurate with that of its master. Commending you upon the high ideals and general excellence of Farm and Dairy, I am, Sir, yours faithfully, Frank Hart, Northumberland Co., Ont.

Have you forgotten to renew your subscription to Farm and Dairy?

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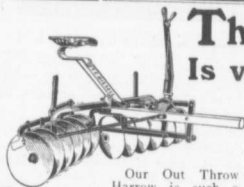
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**At the N**  
The follow hold conven Dairy Show, mentioned, in the Coliseo to International tion Monday Official Dairy tion, Monday American C Monday, Oct. American L tion, Tuesday National C Association, and Friday, C. Holstein day, Oct. 25th American A Butter Manu evening, Oct. American J nesday, Oct. National D Oct. 27th.