

FARM AND DAIRY

AND RURAL HOME

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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, Ayrshire, and Jersey Cattle Breeders' Association.

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

CIRCULATION STATEMENT

The paid-in-advance subscriptions to Farm and Dairy exceed \$300. The actual circulation of this paper, including copies of the paper sent subscribers who are but slightly in arrears, and sample copies, varies from 600 to 1,000 copies, never being less than that to 15,000 copies. Subscriptions, when renewed from any of our advertisers, are not discontinued unless they expire. No subscriptions are accepted at less than the full subscription rates. Thus our mailing lists do not contain any dead circulation.

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ATTEND THE BREEDERS' MEETINGS

Members of the various breeders' associations, and others, will do well to keep in mind the annual meetings of their particular breeders' association which meets in Toronto next month. In the past these annual meetings have not been as well attended as their importance would warrant. Discussions of vital concern to all breeders of stock and to all interested in the different branches of live stock take place at these meetings.

Aside from the general business conducted at these meetings they have another value too frequently overlooked, especially by the smaller breeders and by younger men in the business, namely, the privilege of coming in personal contact with the best and most successful breeders

that our country affords. The information that one can pick up from these men old in the business, and the value of their personal acquaintance, cannot be lightly estimated. Time alone can tell what such men may mean to you individually. We urge all who have an interest in live stock to attend the annual meeting of the association that has to do with their particular breed.

DAIRY HERD COMPETITION

Not only the possibilities of what average cows can do but the actual returns of what cows have done are brought out in the results of the dairy herd competition as carried on by the Western Dairyman's Association during the season of 1908. The results of the competition are published elsewhere in this issue.

Factory returns per cow of 7,243 lbs. of milk, having a money value of \$68.50, for a period of only six months in a herd of eight cows should start many cow-owners thinking seriously of the returns they are getting. Those patrons who have furnished only from 2,500 to 3,000 lbs. of milk per cow to their factory in the past season, should sit up and take notice. The Western Dairyman's Association have acted wisely in conducting this dairy herd competition and thus bringing before the public the actual returns of some of our better herds.

There is no reason why others cannot obtain as good results as were secured by Mr. J. W. Cornish, of Hargettsville. The thing is to have good cows and then to give them good feed and plenty of it—in addition to good care. The Dominion Government has provided a means, in the cow-testing associations, whereby we may find out the good cows that are capable of paying their way throughout the year. The machinery thus provided is of little use unless we take advantage of it. It behooves us to adopt cow-testing and start in to make our herds equal to the best.

PROFITABLE CO-OPERATION

Not in all sections of our country has the principle of co-operation in connection with the breed of stock kept been considered. In most every locality are to be found representatives of many breeds of cattle. Practically every well-known breed of dairy cattle and several of the beef breeds as well are represented in most districts. Ask a man, in one of these communities, why this condition of affairs exists and we are told at once that he likes his particular breed of cattle. His next neighbor informs us that his preferences are for his special breed. These two have dairy cattle. The man on the next farm adjoining pins his faith to a beef breed giving as his reason, that he likes his stable filled with well-fed steers.

Why do we like any particular breed of stock? It is not because of their particular color but in most cases for the money that we see represented in the breed which we have adopted. The man, instanced above, who feeds the steers would not think they looked so well, were they each sinking him \$5. If they carried this

on long enough, he would soon change his preference for a more profitable line of the live stock industry. The same principle applies with the dairy cattle. A man chooses a particular breed, not so much for their color or for their fine looks as for the money which he is convinced they will produce for him.

The principle is well known and is supported by our best breeders that the more one's neighbors engage in the same line of breeding, the more profitable this whole business becomes to all. It is well enough in choosing a particular breed to suit one's fancy. One should, however, make sure first of all, that the conditions in his neighborhood will allow him to do so. If a particular breed of cattle predominates in your locality, and, provided they are a profitable breed, that is the breed for you to adopt.

Co-operation of this kind should be more largely practised. By having a large number of representatives of a particular breed as a centre, where such can be obtained. As a result, buyers will flock there, knowing that they can satisfy their wants with a minimum outlay for travelling and other expenses. Give heed to this principle of co-operation if you are about to adopt a new breed.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE CLUBS

Some general particulars as to the organization of Farmers' Institute Clubs and suggestions as to the work to be taken up are outlined in an appendix to the annual report of the Farmers' Institutes for Ontario. When we consider the great movement which is taking place towards organization among farmers, this treatise is particularly timely, as it deals with all questions pertaining to the successful organization and the running of Farmers' Institute Clubs.

The bulletin gives brief statements as to the benefits to be derived from the establishments of local clubs. A number of these clubs have already been formed. To meet the needs of those enquiring for information as to the methods of organization, lines of work to be taken up, etc., this bulletin has been especially prepared. It is believed that the work of the Farmers' Institute Clubs will appeal very strongly to the farmers of Ontario and that they shall prove a strong adjunct to the regular work of the Farmers' Institutes. Such cannot but result in much benefit to those who take an active interest in this work.

We commend the Farmers' Institute Clubs to our readers. If you are interested obtain a copy of this bulletin which may be had free from the Department of Agriculture at Toronto, place the matter before your neighbor farmers and if thought desirable, plan to organize a club at the next meeting of your Farmers' Institute, or at a specially called meeting. Those men who are desirous of doing a real service to their community, both from a financial and social standpoint, cannot do better than organize a Farmers' Institute Club.

\$50 LYING IN THE ROAD

An American exchange features an article in a recent issue under the above caption. It says:

"We were a little surprised a few days ago to find \$50 lying in the road beside the hedge at the corner of one of our prominent business farmer's homes, and the more so to find that it had lain there several months unclaimed, but beginning to look much the worse for the exposure. The money was in the shape of a corn planter that will have to be replaced by a new one before many years, unless cared for better than that."

Unfortunately, for their owners, many such finds as this are not uncommon on many of our farms. It is not always a corn planter, but often machinery and implements of a more expensive nature. Since winter has set in we have noticed much machinery that has been neglected and left out of doors. Such must surely bring joy to the heart of the implement agent as he contemplates a sale, if not this year, then surely the year following.

While perhaps the entire value of the implement is not lost through being exposed for one season, it is only the matter of a very few years at best until it is necessary to replace the neglected tool with a new one. Tools cared for in this way represent the loss of good, hard earned money. It is difficult to understand why people will continue to allow such serious leaks in their business. No other industry would stand such. How can the farmer afford them?

The question of sending a commission of leading farmers to the old land to investigate the bacon industry as it is carried on in Great Britain and in Denmark is of paramount importance. Danish farmers are beating us in the production of bacon for the English market, and it is said that they are doing this with feed that we have produced and which we think unprofitable to feed to our hogs. A commission to investigate this matter at first hand would be quite in keeping with the importance of the bacon industry to this country. If you are in favor of this suggestion, say so by writing us to that effect. Let us have your views upon this subject of vital concern to all dairymen and hog raisers.

The accommodation furnished for the dairy cattle at the recent Winter Fair at Guelph, was so poor that the management of the exhibition had no reason to wonder at the fact that the breeders of dairy cattle are thoroughly dissatisfied with the treatment that they have received at the fair. The buildings at Guelph should be enlarged, if only to provide larger and better accommodation for the cattle in the dairy test.

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