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**CROP CONDITIONS**

In the crop reports for March, just issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, some information is given in regard to crop conditions and seeding operation in other countries, that may be of interest to Canadian Dairyman and Farming World readers.

In Europe no exceptional severity of temperature had been experienced during the winter up to the beginning of March. The lack of snow covering more particularly in South Eastern Europe, has exposed the growing crops to danger that cannot yet be adequately estimated, and a recurrence of severe cold might still prove of great injury. The generally unsatisfactory condition in which Russian and Hungarian fall wheat entered the winter, renders the outlook somewhat unpromising. The smaller acreage sown in France and South Eastern Europe, reported some months back has been confirmed. The very mild weather of February in the United Kingdom and in France has facilitated the preparation of the land for spring seedings and in both these countries it is expected that increased spring sowings will make good the

shortage in fall seedings. In the United Kingdom the late fall crops reported as a general consequence of the February, have improved considerably while the early sown wheat is in splendid condition. French and Italian winter crops as being in a less favorable condition than the year ago. The continuance of wheat in January was 75, as compared with 77 at the same date in 1907. The continuance of mild and rainy weather has caused a rapid growth of crops in Spain. The same conditions have prevailed in Italy, though late frosts may injure the very forward plants. In Germany the condition of the growing crop is generally favorable though it is too soon yet to speak definitely in regard to the condition of the growing crop is reported as being in a less favorable condition than the year ago. The continuance of wheat in January was 75, as compared with 77 at the same date in 1907. The continuance of mild and rainy weather has caused a rapid growth of crops in Spain. The same conditions have prevailed in Italy, though late frosts may injure the very forward plants. In Germany the condition of the growing crop is generally favorable though it is too soon yet to speak definitely in regard to the condition of the growing crop is reported as being in a less favorable condition than the year ago.

It is too early yet to speak definitely in regard to the condition of the growing crop in the United States and Canada. In Ontario, where fall wheat is the chief crop in the spring, the condition of the wheat is so far. There has been a good body of snow. Much, however, will depend upon conditions during the next few weeks. Fall wheat suffers more from continued thawing and freezing and ice formation than anything else. Where water accumulates in a field and freezes over, there is danger of the crop being smothered underneath.

**COSPIP**

The Ontario Agricultural College has purchased five young team of Clydesdale geldings from Messrs. Smith & Richardson, Columbus, Ont.

**THE MYRTLE SALE**

The sale of pure bred stock at Myrtle, Ont., on March 15th, was not so successful as former ones held at that point. Several Shorthorn bulls from the herds of well-known breeders in the district were sold averaging about \$70. Not many females were sold. One champion stallion sold for \$625. From \$20 to \$24 a pair was paid for Shropshire and Cotswold sheep. The attendance was large.

**BRANDON WINTER FAIR**

The display of horses at the Brandon Winter Fair, held in the New Arena, was of the best. Each class was well represented and competition was keen. The great event of the show was the contest for the championship in Clydesdale. The entries were W. H. Shapley and J. P. Bagwell; Sir Wm. Van Horne's Lord Ardwell; Bryce's Baron of Arcola and McKirby's Lord d'Arby. The real contest was between the first two, Van Horne's Lord Ardwell finally winning out.

**Presentation of the Prizes in the Dairy Farms' Competition**

The Dairy Farms' Competition organized last summer in Ontario, Toronto by the Canadian Dairyman was brought to a successful conclusion Thursday of last week when the prizes were presented to the successful competitors at a banquet held at the Thornhill Hotel. Nelson Monteth, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario acted as chairman and kept everything moving with a swing. The first prize of \$100 was presented to Mr. Leo McKinnis, of Toronto, by John H. Dargavel, M.L.A., the President of the Eastern Ontario Dairyman's Association. The second prize of \$75, won by Mr. D. Dunsmuir, of the Dor, was presented by Mr. W. H. Shapley, president of the Good Shapley & Muir Co., of Brantford, one of the contributors to the prize list. Revue George Henry, of York township, presented the third prize of \$50 to Mr. J. G. Paterson, of Churchville; Mr. Alex. Macoun, M.L.A., the fourth prize of \$30 to Mr. R. M. Lovelace, of Agincourt, and Mr. A. J. Reynolds, the secretary of the Toronto Milk Producers' Association, the fifth prize of \$15 to Mr. J. G. Paterson, of Agincourt. The special prizes offered by the City of Toronto, were presented by Mr. P. Slack, of that Company. One of these prizes, worth \$25, was won by J. J. McClure, and the second prize of \$15 by Mr. Theo. Hartley.

On behalf of the City Dairy, Mr. Slack made the important announcement that the City Dairy would be pleased to contribute \$50 each year to have such competition as a contest for the best milk cream to pay the successful competitors five cents a can more for their milk and two cents a pound extra fat more for their cream than their regular price. This announcement was greeted with applause.

Although the tickets for the banquet cost 75 cents, the large hall in which the banquet was held was almost filled by farmers and others interested in the competition. Among the speakers, besides those mentioned above, were Mr. B. Chapman, vice-president of the Ontario Wind Engine and Pump Co., which contributed to the prize list, H. B. Cowan, Editor-in-chief of The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World, and Mr. D. Dunsmuir, President of the Toronto Milk Producers' Association, and L. E. Annis, of Scarborough. All the speakers were warmly greeted by the Canadian Dairyman and Farming World and declared it to have been a great success. The various competitors bore testimony to the fact that they had derived through taking part. Hon. Mr. Monteth was urged by some of the speakers to

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held a provincial competition. It was suggested that four or five thousand dollars should be voted for this purpose. Preceding the banquet, a large number of people visited the farm at Thornhill of Mr. Geo. McKinnis, the first prize winner. The competition proved such a success that it is probable that a similar competition will be held this year in the county of Peterboro and possibly in some of the adjoining counties.



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