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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 conditions 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 seeding and in both these countries it is expected that increased spring sowings will make good the

shortage in fall seeding. In the United Kingdom the late fall crops reported as in a precarious condition early in 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 last year and the collection of wheat in January was 75, as compared with 77 at the same dates 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 of it. In Austria and Hungary the condition of the growing crop is reported as being very good.

It is too early yet to speak definitely of crop conditions here in Canada. In crop in the United States and Canada. In Ontario, where fall wheat is the chief cereal crop, conditions have been favorable 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 forming than anything else. Where water accumulates in a field and freezes over, there is danger of the crop being smothered underneath.

#### COSIP

The Ontario Agricultural College has purchased a fine 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 19th, 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 \$20. Not many females were sold.

One Clydesdale stallion sold for \$610. 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 Clydesdales. The entries were W. H. Brown's Perpetual Motion; Sir Wm. Van Horne's Lord Ardwell; Bryce's Baron of Arcadia and McKirdy'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 the vicinity of Toronto by The Canadian Dairyman was a most successful conclusion Thursday of last week when the prizes were presented to the successful competitors at a banquet held at Thornhill. Hon. 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. Geo. McKinnon, of the prize list by Mr. D. J. McGure, M.L.A., the President of the Eastern Ontario Dairyman's Association. The second prize of \$75, won by Mr. D. D. Dunaway of the Don, was presented by Mr. W. H. Shapley, Vice-president of the Council, Shapley & Muir Co., of Brantford, one of the contributors to the prize list. Rev. George Henry, of York township, presented the third prize of \$50. Mr. G. B. McCune, of Churchville; Mr. Alex. Macoun, M.L.A., the fourth prize of \$30 to Mr. R. M. Lovell, 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. F. Slack, of that Company. One of these prizes worth \$25 was won by Mr. D. J. McGure, 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 willing to contribute \$80 each year to have such competitors as they desired to enter the contest agree to pay the successful competitors five cents a can more for their milk and to have the City Dairy derive benefit from 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. S. E. Chapman, vice-president of the Ontario Wind Engine and Pump Co., which contributed to the prize list; H. B. Cowan, secretary of the Canadian Dairyman and Farming World; and Mr. L. E. Annis, of Scarborough. All the speakers were very willing to contribute to the prize list. The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World, having contributed to the prize list, and declared it to have been a great success.

Various competitors were testimony to the success of the contest through taking part. Hon. Mr. Monteth was urged by some of the speakers to

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hold a provincial competition. It was suggested that four or five thousand dollars should be voted for this purpose. A free banquet, a large number of people visited the farm at Thornhill of Mr. Geo. McKinnon, the first prize winner. Later a meeting was held in the hall at Thornhill. At the meeting, Mr. D. Drummond, of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, one of the judges in the competition, described the main points

that the judges looked for in the farms they inspected. All the prize winning competitors were present and spoke. An outline of some of these addresses will be given in next week's issue of The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World. 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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To make 5 %, what sum 3 1/2 % cost? A. 700 or 8.

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Simple and Compound Interest on \$1, at 6 %. (p. 100).

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