

One thing more. Not all members of the *gramineæ* are equally tolerant of delay in harvesting. Timothy and corn will make passable feed (for horses and cattle, at least) if allowed to stand until the seed is ripe and hard, almost ready to fall to the ground. But orchard grass, June grass, wheat, barley, rye and some others, if permitted to stand until this stage is reached, make nearly as worthless feed as can well be imagined. This seems to be due to the greater amount of sugar in the culms of the former.

The above briefly-recited facts present a cogent reason why the farmer who cuts anything more than the most inconsiderable amount of grass, should seek to have succession in his meadows and not sow them all to the same grass. By reference to my farm diary, I find that I began on my orchard grass this year June 4, on my clover June 12, timothy June 23, while I have to-day (July 3) just finished some late timothy, grown on very low overflowed bottoms from March sowings. Thus I was enabled to cut some before wheat harvest and some after, and yet secure each kind at its best. Before harvest, hands are plenty and cheap; after harvest, everybody else is cutting grass.

Succession in meadows gives variety of feed, which is less perfectly secured by mixing the grasses. I do not like this plan. It gives perfection of pasture, but, for meadow, the different grasses had better grow by themselves. Clover needs a stiff grass to hold it up, it is true, but it is not suitable for mixture with timothy on account of the difference in their times of ripening. It does well enough with orchard grass in this respect, but the orchard grass exterminates it. White clover gives a good bottom and thickening to timothy, but tends to smother it out; but it will come in, and I do not mind re-seeding a timothy meadow once in a while, for white clover makes excellent hay. Otherwise I prefer not to have my grasses mixed in the meadow. I would rather feed to stock alternately from different mows.

Whether the farmer advocates early or late cutting, he should have a succession in meadows. The period when grass is at the perfect stage for hay, often in the hot weather of summer, embraces but a few days. The meridian of value is quickly passed, the bloom is soon gone, and orchard grass, especially, makes rapid strides in growth, and brooks no delay.

This paper has already grown to sufficient length, and I must defer to another some opinions as to the practical feeding value of the more common hay grasses, and my methods of handling them.

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THE CANADIAN DAIRYMAN. (1)

What its object is

To develop our dairy industry. It is a new and growing industry. Those engaged in it, if they would succeed in this day of fast progress and stiff competition, must make themselves masters of the situation. To do this it will be necessary to improve the quality of product, cheapen cost of production, and perfect the marketing system. A good dairy Journal will be a great help towards accomplishing this object. The field of enquiry and instruction will be large, and will cover, principally, the following ground:—

1. Dairy stock:—Selection and breeding, feeding, shelter, care.

2. Food production.—Preparation of land, fertilizing, seeding, management of pastures, harvesting, preserving.

3. Milk production.

4. Manufacturing milk products.—Handling milk and cream, discussion of methods, machinery, private and co-operative dairying, etc.

5. Marketing:—Trade reports, local and foreign news, bearing on the dairy interests.

6. For the household.—Limited space devoted to current events, useful topics and pure literature.

DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS.

The dairymen's associations in Canada to-day are six in number, as follows: two in Ontario—"Eastern" and "Western"; three in Quebec—one provincial, and two local; and one in Nova Scotia, provincial. The combined membership of these associations will be considerably under one thousand. The number of Canadian dairymen who have ever attended a convention of one of these associations is less than five thousand, and of those who have ever attended one more than a single time, perhaps less than one thousand.

The good results flowing from these associations and their annual conventions, especially in Ontario where they have been longest established, are not easily estimated. Our cheese exports have grown in a little over ten years from almost nothing to nearly seven millions dollars. It would be difficult to convince men who know most about our cheese trade, and have attended the most conventions, that without the associations we would have our present foreign cheese trade.

While we have reason to congratulate ourselves upon the development of so important a trade, there is yet much room for further progress, even in cheese dairying; and if in cheese much more in butter dairying.

It is a common experience to hear those who attend a convention for the first time say that they had formed no adequate idea of what such a gathering would be, and could not have believed it so excellent an opportunity for obtaining valuable information.

Those who have not attended a convention are not the ones most likely to appreciate their value and make a demand for them, yet they are the ones who most need these advantages.

Conventions, in Canada at least, so far have been organized by individual enterprise, or Government assistance, or both. Individual enterprise cannot always be counted upon to do alone all that is required. Enterprise would be encouraged by judicious Government help.

Government by a comparatively small outlay might do agriculture immense good, and the results of past expenditure are sufficient warrant for a far larger outlay.

The CANADIAN DAIRYMAN will advocate an intelligent, far-sighted policy, on the part of the Dominion Government, and if it can be the means of laying before the Canadian public as scheme of assisting agricultural associations, and create a public sentiment to successfully carry it out, it will have sufficient reason to justify its existence.

A word on this subject from the intelligent farmer and dairyman is in order, and these columns are open for that purpose.

TRIAL OF SHEAF-BINDING REAPERS.

With a view of testing how far the inventors may have

(1) We welcome our new brother to the ranks of agricultural athletes. There is plenty of room