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**News and Information for
the Busy Farmer**

Furnished by the
Ontario Department of Agriculture

Fifty-seven Ayrshire grade cows were shipped out of Glengarry and Stormont Counties during the third week of May to settlers in Northern Ontario. The selection of these cattle was supervised by L. E. O'Neill of the Ontario Live Stock Branch. Seventeen head went to settlers in the vicinity of the Hearst Demonstration Farm and the rest to other northern points.

Increasing Yields

The application of a definite scheme of crop rotation is being found an important factor in reducing feed costs. The chief advantages of such a practice are: (1) Maintaining and improving soil fertility, thus increasing yields; (2) Assisting in the control of insect and crop diseases by having various crops on fresh soil each year; and (3) Making a more even distribution of labor throughout the year possible. Increasing the yield per acre is one of the best ways of reducing cost of production, and in this respect crop rotation plays a real part.

Graded Beef Popular

A rapidly increasing demand for government graded beef is shown in Ontario. Indeed the Beef Grading Service inaugurated by the Federal Department is becoming more popular throughout Canada as indicated by an increase of over 70 per cent. in the volume of beef graded in the Dominion between April and May of this year. Only a little over a year in operation, the service graded and branded a total of 1,199,357 pounds of "red" and "blue" brand beef in April last and in May this total was raised to 1,983,022 pounds. Of the May total 1,323,247 pounds graded "good" for branding "blue" and 649,775 pounds "choice" for the "red" brand.

Cleanliness Needed

If Ontario live stock breeders are to maintain the lucrative market which obtains to-day it is not sufficient that they have plenty of good animals to sell. In order to keep outside buyers interested, the surroundings in which the cattle are kept should be attractive. One breeder who has had remarkable success in selling live stock, recently observed that next to the condition and quality of the animals for sale, the neatness and cleanliness around the barns were the most important factors in predisposing a man to buy. They indicate the farmer's pride in his business and give the impression of prosperity. When a buyer finds a breeder enthusiastic over his breed and proud of the success which herd is bringing him, it is not difficult to sell the cattle which are before him.

Turkeys Found Profitable

Turkey breeding is not the difficult undertaking that is generally supposed when the breeding stock and poults are properly handled. Essentials to success in turkey breeding are clean soil, mature stock for breeding, free range, and above all, the keeping of the turkey flock away from other barnyard fowls.

Butter Exports Up

Farmers and dairymen are taking a renewed interest in the export of butter overseas. Last year during the export period, May 1st to June 7th, Canada exported a total of 937 packages of butter; this year for the same period exports totalled 26,012 packages. Exports for the week ending June 6th totalled 14,672 packages, nearly all of which went to the British markets. Evidently butter production in this country has settled down to an export market basis, which may in the long run prove a real benefit to the Canadian farmer.

Weaning The Litter

Natural weaning gives the best results with a litter of young pigs, and to obtain this, feed suitable for young pigs should be provided in the creep. A good mixture for the purpose is a half and half combination of middlings and finely ground oats from which the hulls have been sifted. Young pigs will start to nibble at feed at about two to four weeks of age, and by the sixth or seventh week should be eating quite freely. Under such a procedure shock incidental to more abrupt methods is overcome and weaning develops as a natural event.

Borrowing to Save

A unique development in farming this year is the extent to which farmers are borrowing money from banks in order to pay cash for commodities such as fertilizer, and thereby effecting a material saving in interest payments, according to a statement issued by the Seed Branch, Ottawa.

The trend to economy is noted particularly in the purchase of fertilizers. Buying this year is practically all being done in cartlots and payments are being made largely in cash to take advantage of liberal discounts accruing from cash pay-

ments.

Both federal and provincial departments of Agriculture are giving active support to this movement toward practical farm economy.

In addition to being good business the practice is one which has a four-fold benefit. It makes fertilizer actually cheaper to the farmer; it benefits the fertilizer trade in making it possible to sell for cash, therefore at lower cost and in larger volume; it benefits the banks in providing a new field for loans for well secured purposes; and it benefits the railway companies through the larger volume of freight carried.

Better Farm Contest

The Richmond Hill Agricultural Society recently staged a Better Farm Contest. Each contestant had to be a bona fide farmer residing within ten miles of Richmond Hill. Ten entries were secured. The judges in making the awards took into consideration the Condition of Soil and Crops, Freedom from Weeds, Buildings, Live Stock, Fences, Fences, Implements and General Appearance.

Mr. W. E. Watson, R. R. 2, Woodbridge, was awarded the sterling silver tea service which was offered to the society for this purpose by John Patterson, a prominent farmer in York County.

Mr. Watson has for upwards of 20 years conducted his farm as a dairy farm. He has on the farm at present 13 purebred accredited Holstein cows, all of which are on the O. P. test. Mr. Watson can show from his milk records the amount of milk given by each cow kept on the farm each day for the last 20 years.

The farm consisting of 132 acres is beautifully situated, sloping gradually toward the buildings. The crops, consisting of fall wheat, alfalfa, silage for seed and spring grains, were in excellent condition. The cows were in alfalfa pasture to their knees. All fences were straight and are in excellent state of repair. Fence rows were kept free of brush and weeds. The farm house was of brick construction, fully equipped with waterworks, electric light, and all modern conveniences, and was surrounded with well kept lawns and flower beds. The barn and outbuildings were all painted and in a splendid state of repair.

There were four other winners of cash prizes in the contest. All the farms visited were in excellent condition and a real credit to the owners. It is interesting to note that all the farms in the contest had from 12 to 30 acres of summer fallow. Tractors were found on eight of the ten farms. The farms were about equally divided in the use of corn and sweet clover as an ensilage crop. Dairy cattle and Percheron horses seemed to be the most popular classes of live stock. All pigs on these farms were of the Yorkshire breed. Only one contestant kept sheep. Bad weeds were a problem on all farms but by a short rotation of crops, summer fallow and careful clean-up methods, were kept under control. Clover and alfalfa crops on all farms were shorter than usual.

Miss Maephail's Letter

On Dominion Day the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. H. B. Bennett, made a statement in the house regarding the seriousness of conditions in Western Canada. "Canada at this moment is passing through a crisis, one of the most serious in her history. In common with the rest of the world she is meeting a great depression, going through a period of severe liquidation, out on the prairie to-day Canadians, unquestionably face serious conditions, encountering crop failures, the virtual collapse of the wheat market and on top of all that the tribulations of an unprecedented drought. Their position is one that challenges the sympathy and assistance of the whole nation." He stated that 5 million acres had been adversely affected and that a hundred thousand people are destitute on the farms of Southern Saskatchewan and Manitoba. "Canada is confronted with a national emergency and that being true, the duty of the hour is to meet that emergency with emergent measures, to support whatever the government in its wisdom believes to be required. This land is one and indivisible, interdependent in its interests and aims and whatever is done to avert grave injury to one portion of it is bound to be for the good of the whole." No one is saying anything about the farm members from the west being calamity howlers now. With the severe unemployment in industrial centres

and the serious conditions in western Canada. Parliament will undoubtedly be asked to vote a large sum of money for relief. Wouldn't it be a good idea to put the unemployed to work at the building of a national highway, public buildings, and at anything that needs to be done. They could live in camps, very carefully regulated and disciplined. It would seem to me much better for the men themselves and for the country.

A Tariff Board is to be established. It is to be a fact-finding body and will devote its energies to finding the difference in cost of production in Canada and other countries—other countries meaning, I suppose, those from which we import the particular article. The chairman of the board will get \$12,000 a year and the other two members \$10,000. They will hold the position for a period of ten years. Members of the board are to be men of independent judicial mind. They are to be men of vision—but they will be appointed by the government.

The heat in the House of Commons has been excessive. The ventilation system is not good and the chamber has no electric fans. On the very hottest day, Mr. Garland, the member for Bow River, asked the Speaker if members would be allowed to remove their coats, but the Speaker was against it because the decorum must be observed. Mr. Spencer, the member for Battle River, then asked why the speaker did not wear a wig as is done in the British House. On the Prime Minister's 61st birthday, July 3rd, his supporters presented him with two solid silver side dishes and on his desk at three o'clock a beautiful golden basket of pink roses was placed. The Prime Minister, notwithstanding his very strenuous work since becoming Prime Minister, looks well and more youthful than his years.

Three events outside parliament were of outstanding interest to me this last week. Some months ago I was asked to speak on 'The Changing British Empire as a Factor in World Peace' at an Institute on International Relations at Haverford College, Pennsylvania. The trip was disagreeable on account of the great heat. Travelling on the Ottawa-Washington express we were given a bit better than two hours for dinner in Montreal and had time to take a caiche, a small open carriage drawn by one horse, to the top of Mount Royal. The ascent is made slowly and by a very winding road, which brings one finally to the lookout. From this vantage point Montreal is seen to great advantage. The island, with its skyscrapers, the distant country, the river with its two wonderful bridges, seem to lie just beneath one's feet. It was late evening which gave us the added pleasure of the sunset.

Though only twenty minutes from Philadelphia, with its rush and roar, the seclusion and beauty of Haverford College has an old English flavour. A square of very green lawn is beautifully shaded with spreading trees and around this and opening into it are the college buildings. The twelve day Institute on International Relations was held under the joint auspices of the Haverford College and the American Friends Service Committee. It was primarily for teachers, principals, superintendents and others interested in education. The registered body lived in the college at a cost, per person, of \$35, and a limited number of day students registered at \$10 for the period. The lectures and discussions covered a wide range of sub-

jects, including Germany, Reparations, and the Versailles Treaty, Disarmament, Plan Production and Distribution, Russia, Cancellation of War Debts and many others. I feel keenly the need of some such institute in Canada. This last few weeks at least half a dozen people have asked me if there is any place in Canada where they can take a summer course in International Relations, not for credits but for knowledge and the enjoyment of fellowship.

On my way from Philadelphia home, I developed laryngitis and it was with the utmost effort I was able to speak at our big picnic at Leaver's Grove, Fiesherston, on July 1st. It was quite the hottest day of July that anyone could recall and enjoyable as the picnic was, it like everything else on that day, was marred by the heat. The sports program was excellent if the weather had been endurable and the concert company of the afternoon and evening was the best we have had in the

house did not sit on Saturday which left me free to meet, on Saturday evening, the Professional

and Business women of Canada in their second annual convention in the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal. Quite an international flavour was given the closing banquet by the presence of representatives of the Professional and Business women of France, Italy and United States, each of whom spoke briefly. The Owen Sound Club was represented by a strong delegation. It was a joy to meet the Grey County women in Montreal.

July 25th seems to be the date set for the wind-up. In ten years we have never sat later than July 15th and that only in the famous session of 1926.

Berkeley

Mr. Oswald Crawford visited with his brother and family. Mrs. Jos. Gawley and sons of Toronto visited relatives here on Sunday.

The family of Toronto visited over Sunday with the former's sister, Mrs. Thos. Mitchell and family. Miss Mamie Mitchell accompanied them

here and visited with her parents. Mr. Richard Walters and friend of Detroit are holidaying with the former's parents.

Mr. Robt. Stout of Owen Sound was renewing acquaintances here recently.

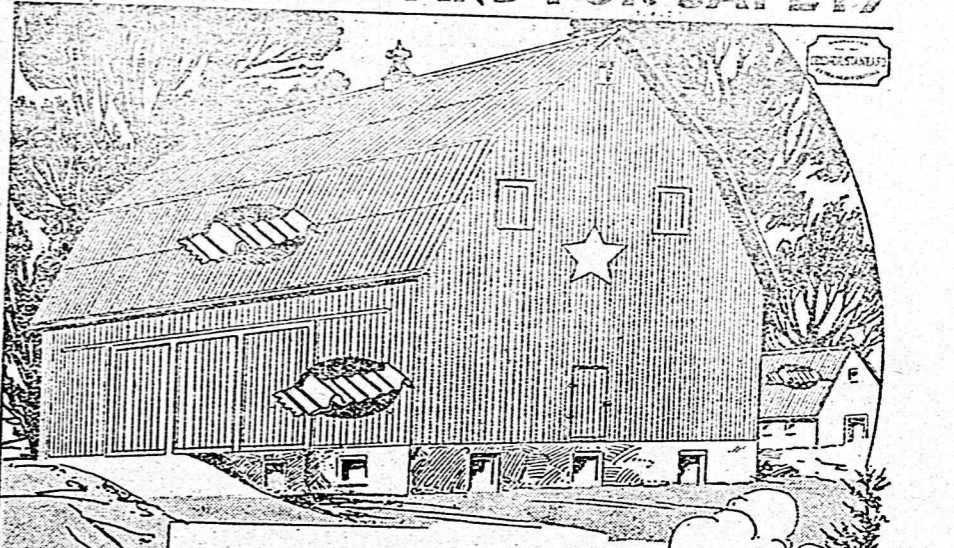
Mr. Bert Foster visited on Sunday with his sister, Mrs. Morrell Crawford.

Mr. C. Swigger returned to Toronto on Saturday after visiting with his sister, Mrs. Wm. Kirk. Misses Sarah and Grace Walters of Owen Sound were Sunday visitors with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Beatty and son John of Toronto visited with relatives here over the week-end. Mr. Robt. Lackey of Peversham was a Sunday visitor with Mr. E. T. Walters.

Mrs. A. C. Muir of Cayton visited the first of the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kirk. The United Church choir went to Harkaway on Sunday, July 22nd, where they had charge of the music. The members of the Orange Lodge will attend Divine Service in the Anglican Church on Sunday, July 12th, at 3 o'clock.

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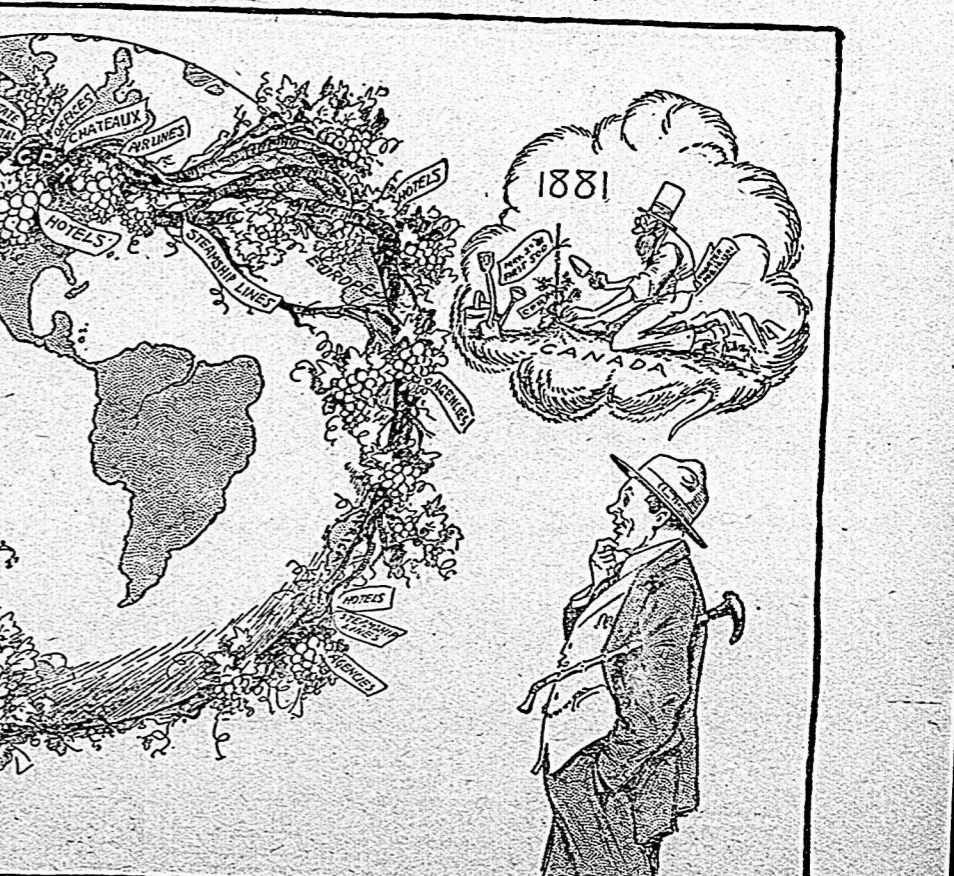
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CANADA—Well, well! Who would have thought that the little vine root I saw planted fifty years ago would cover the world in that time.

[Reprinted from Montreal Daily Star, March 3, 1931, by courtesy of Mr. A. G. Rasmussen.]