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L. O. L.—Markdale L.O.L. No. 1045 meets in the Orange Hall, Markdale at 8 o'clock p.m. the first Thursday in each month. Visiting brethren cordially invited. A. E. Colgan, W.M.; Elgin McFadden, Rec.-Sec.

A. F. & A. M.—Hiram Lodge No. 490, G. E. C., Markdale, meets in the Masonic Hall, Reform Block, at 8 o'clock p.m. the second Thursday in each month. T. Stewart, Cooper, W.M.; A. E. Colgan, Secretary.

E. B. K.—Victoria Preceptory, No. 282 meets in the Orange Hall, Markdale, at 8 o'clock p.m., the third Thursday in each month. Visiting brethren always cordially welcomed. A. E. Colgan, W.P.; J. E. England, Registrar.

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**News and Information for the Busy Farmer**

Furnished by the Ontario Department of Agriculture

**Buy Canadian Cattle**

With the present rate of exchange prevailing, United States cattle buyers are coming north again to buy dairy and feeder stock. The advantage that the present depression in Canada funds affords just a little more than offsets the U.S. tariff barrier which has kept them at home for some time past. A buyer recently arrived looking for dairy cattle, presented a letter of credit for \$1500 and was given a deposit account of \$1650. Thus the present prospect is that a considerable demand for Canadian live stock will develop.

**Marketing Geese**

The time to prepare geese for market is when the weather turns cold in the fall. They should then be taken off pasture and those selected for market should be placed in small penned enclosures, provided with plenty of water and grit and kept clean. They should be fed heavily on whole corn, the best medium for the fattening of geese, and about two weeks' heavy feeding should fit them for market. Twenty-four hours before killing geese should be starved, but given plenty of water. Care should be used in plucking, the dry or steam methods being recommended, for the reason that the feathers are particularly valuable, bringing as much as 60 cents per pound. The dressed bird should be rubbed over with a damp cloth and set aside to cool. The twelve-bird box makes a desirable market package.

**Royal Birthday Cards for Farm Boys and Girls**

Every boy and girl in Canada whose tenth birthday falls between November 18th and 26th, inclusive, will receive a personal birthday card from the Royal Winter Fair, Toronto, if it is requested. This is because the Winter Fair on those dates also celebrates its tenth "birthday."

This year the fair is designated a "commemorative show" to recall the inspiring influence it was to Canadian agriculture when founded ten years ago. And it is to help in spreading a cheery outlook respecting agriculture that the birthday party is being held.

A birthday greeting, neatly engrossed with the child's name, will be sent if parents or guardians will write to the Royal Winter Fair offices, Toronto, giving clearly the child's full name and address, with the exact date of birth and year. In addition eligible children who are able to attend the Winter Fair will be given a complimentary ticket in their own name entitling them to free admission to every department of the fair.

**Use Home-Grown Seed**

At the Growers' Council Potato Meeting held recently in Toronto it was reported that Ontario farmers had bought 55,000 bushels of certified seed from outside the province last year. It was stated that we have an excellent crop of certified Cobblers, Dooleys and Green Mountains in Ontario this year and it was recommended that Ontario farmers should first make use of this seed before importing, owing to unusual market conditions. It was felt that farmers might order their supplies and save money by making their purchases now.

**Weekly Crop Report**

The weather continues to be very satisfactory to Ontario farmers. There has been enough rain to encourage the luxuriant growth of pastures and in many areas to increase the flow of underground streams and fill wells which have been very low or empty. Farm work is well advanced. Fall plowing will be finished in good time. Wheat is making wonderful growth and there is fear that in the more southern districts growth will be too rank. All classes of live stock are in good condition. Weather had permitted continued pasturage and there is a bountiful feed supply. The root crop is being harvested in good condition. Dairy production is above normal. The yield in Oxford County has been estimated at 20 to 30 per cent. higher than last year, while in Grenville a 40 per cent. increase has been reported. Farmers discouragement is confined almost wholly to market prices.

**Keep the Pullets Well Fed**

The time is at hand when pullets should be confined to their winter quarters, but the pens should first be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Birds will not do their best work if infested with lice or mites. It is during the winter months that the birds make their best profits, and for this reason they should be housed and fed in a manner that will keep them healthy and vigorous. They will require a full ration of suitable feed, besides plenty of clean water, green feed, shell and grit.

The change from the growing ration to the laying mash should be made gradually. Home-grown grains cannot be sold for much on the market, and while they may form a large proportion of the birds' ration they do not supply all necessary ingredients for the production of eggs. The use of a high protein commercial mash mixed with chopped home-grown grains will give much better results than the grains alone.

**Corn Borer Warning**

An inspection of the corn fields in Kent Counties shows that on an average there are at least fifty per cent more borers this year than last. This fact has caused the Provincial Entomologist to send out a warning message to all Ontario corn growers, urging upon them the necessity of cleaning up their corn fields more thoroughly than ever. Some growers have the idea that the borer has been beaten. They are wrong. The borer will never be beaten. The best that the farmer can do is to keep the borer so closely under control that the damage from this pest will be as small as possible. If there is the slightest let-up in the precautions taken by the growers to clean up their fields, the borer will take advantage of it and multiply at an alarming rate.

**Grape Crop Moves**

While prices received by grape growers have not been entirely satisfactory, C. W. Bauer, secretary of the Growers' Markets Council, points out that they have disposed of the crop to the public this year without any great dependence on the wineries for an outlet. Growers who held back the cutting of their grapes were rewarded by a higher price. Mr. Bauer does not believe that there has been overplanting if the growers will continue to develop the fresh fruit market. In fact he predicts that there may not be a large enough crop to meet the demand for Ontario-grown grapes next year. The special efforts and advertising campaign to sell this fresh fruit east and west this year, undoubtedly brought good results.

**Boys' and Girls' Contests**

The year 1931 marks a new era in Boys' and Girls' Club work in Ontario. Early in the year new policies were issued in connection with the following club objects: Calf, swine, poultry, garden, grain, potato, and canning. As a result there were 220 boys' and girls' clubs with a total membership of 5068, carrying on active programs during the year. On October 19th teams representing the swine and cattle clubs took part in the contests and in each case a team was composed of two club members, between the ages of 16 and 20 years. The winning team in the swine department was from Lennox and Addington and scored 995 out of a possible 1200 points, while the runners-up from Durham scored 908. The competition consisted of judging of four classes of swine and answering questions on general management and marketing of swine. The Peel County Holstein Club was high team in the cattle competition, scoring 1061 out of a possible 1200 points. The Cattle Club teams judged four classes of cattle and answered questions on management and care of cattle. The winning teams from Lennox and Addington and Peel will represent Ontario in the national contests at the Royal Winter Fair.

**Burning Stubble**

When stubble has been burned off and the land again seeded, after a minimum amount of cultivation, the yields of grain have proven this method to be superior to any other stubble treatment. Objections to the burning of stubble are loss of nitrogen, loss of moisture, and some loss of soil fertility; while supporting the practice are weed control, clean crop, and convenience.

**O. A. C. Sale**

Very satisfactory prices were secured at the recent annual sale of surplus purebred stock held at the O.A.C., receipts totalling \$5,763.20. About 1,200 buyers from all parts of Ontario and points in the United States and Quebec attended, and with a fine quality of stock offered, bidding as a whole was brisk. The top price was \$225 for a Holstein bull, while in the sale of Shorthorns a bull calf brought \$210 and a heifer \$200. A total of \$2,082.50 was paid for 89 hogs and in the sheep division 26 ram lambs netted \$402.40. Ten head of Shorthorns brought \$1,315.

**British Apple Market**

Andrew Fulton, fruit growers representative in Great Britain, reports that unprecedented quantities of North American apples have been reaching the United Kingdom with the result that supplies are greatly in excess of demand. It would appear, he says, that with the large crop of apples in North America, and the poor domestic market, shippers will continue to export so long as they can get the price of the barrel back. He urges that Ontario growers should pay

greater attention to colour and in the case of Wealthies should ship only highly-coloured No. 1 grades. These later have been commanding prices from \$4.13 to \$5.10 a barrel. Scarlet Pippins have sold for \$5.52 to \$6.37 a barrel, principally because of their good firm condition and high colour. The grading of Ontario apples this season, Mr. Fulton declares, has been excellent and has been warmly commented upon by the buyers. "The Norfolk" and "Big O" brands are becoming well-known for their uniform quality and are standing the depressed market conditions well, as they are still commanding from \$4.47 to \$5.53 for good quality fruit, according to variety, as compared with other marks which are receiving less than \$4.25. This is a splendid opportunity to build up a reputation for our Ontario brands and to become well-established for another season.

**Movement of Limestone**

Since the railway freight reduction and Government subvention policy went into effect last April, a summary of the movement of agricultural limestone is as follows: Number of cars, 76; number of tons, 2511.92; total freight, \$3,297.67; government rebate, \$1,563.20; freight paid by farmers, \$1,734.47; average freight rate per ton, \$1.31; average freight per ton paid by subvention, .62; average freight per ton paid by farmer .69; estimated average freight rate had railways not co-operated, \$1.74; actual average paid by farmers, .69; estimated saving per ton, \$1.05; estimated total saving to farmers on the total shipments of limestone, \$2,637.51.

**Red Clover Seed**

For the first time in many years the 1931 crop assured a substantial surplus of domestic red clover seed. The annual consumption of this seed in Canada is about three million pounds, while the 1931 production will be between four and five million. Usually red clover has been relatively high in price, but owing to the heavy production this year and the weakness of export markets there appear good prospects for cheaper red clover seed next spring, and with cheaper seed it might be expected that consumption will be so stimulated as to make use of all the 1931 crop. Red clover is perhaps the most generally grown legume crop in Canada, and provides cheap protein feed for live stock, in addition to being a cheap source of nitrogen for soil enrichment.

**Weekly Crop Report**

Fine fall weather benefited the live stock men in that their cattle continued on pasture longer than usual and will go into winter quarters in good condition. Prices for fresh eggs and poultry are quite satisfactory but many farmers are having difficulty in getting their pullets started to lay. An excellent crop of roots and potatoes has been harvested but farmers are experiencing very discouraging prices. Apple crops have been better than was anticipated and are finding a fairly ready market. There is a greater make of cheese and butter this fall than has been manufactured for a number of years, due largely to the excellent pastures. Many farmers have a quantity of small seeds this year and from present indications it would appear that there is a considerable supply of alfalfa, red clover, alsike and mixed seeds for disposal.

**Western Cattle For Ontario**

As a result of the recent visit of Hon. Robert Weir and Hon. Thos. L. Kennedy to the beef cattle raisers of the western provinces, arrangements are under way for ensuring a plentiful supply of feeder cattle for Junior Farmer Clubs in Ontario. Arrangements have also been made for a system of standardization of feeder cattle, which will result in the establishment of a mail order cattle business for farmers, who will be able to purchase cattle without having the expense, as at present, of having to go and view the stock first. By the use of strict grading of feeder stock at the farms and ranches by inspectors of the Council, any desired type and age can be ordered with confidence.

**Purchasing Feed Stuffs**

The advantage of co-operative purchase of feed stuffs is sometimes lost through the feeding of those feeds which can be purchased in carlot quantities without regard to balance or suitability of rations. Carlot purchase of feeding stuffs should be undertaken from the standpoint of both economy and efficiency. Dollars per ton is not the all-important angle. The cost per pound of food nutrients is more important and, better still, the price per unit of feeding value and the suitability for balancing home-grown or other feeds are the important factors to consider. There are several steps to follow in the purchase of supplementary feeds. They are: (1) Know what is on hand in the form of home-grown feeds. (2) Know what best balances the feeds on hand, taking into consideration both quality and cost.

(3) Purchase supplementary feeds in quantity sufficient to take advantage of the best prices and lowest freight rates. (4) Know the production records of the livestock fed.

**New Weed Slides**

A set of 55 colored slides on Farm Weeds has recently been prepared by the Department of Agriculture with the co-operation of the Motion Picture Bureau. These slides illustrate all the bad weeds growing in Ontario as well as many

of the common but less harmful weeds. Suitable comments on each slide is furnished with the set.

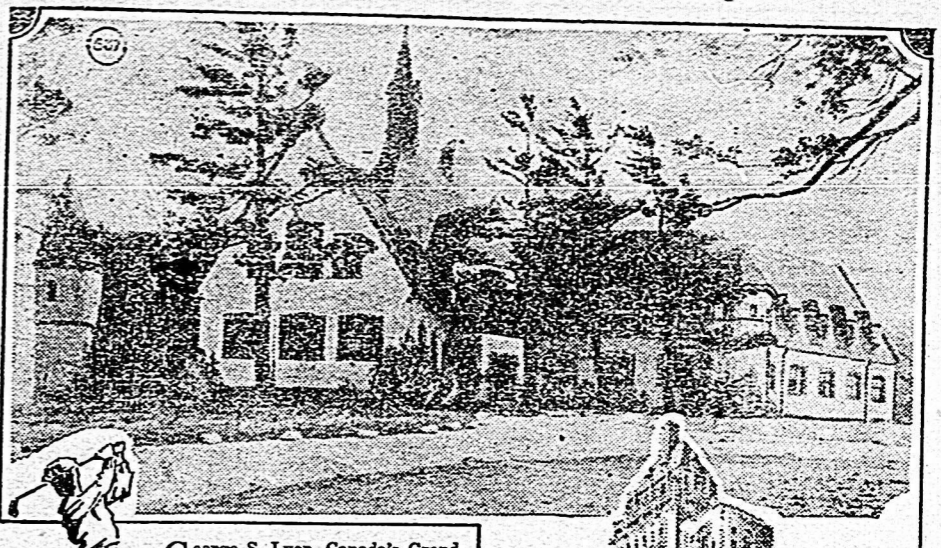
This set is available for use by teachers, agricultural representatives, weed inspectors and any organizations interested in Farm Weeds. The set is loaned free of express charges one way. Applications should be addressed to Slide Department, Motion Picture Bureau, Parliament Buildings, Toronto. Where Projection Lanterns are not available these can be rented from the Slide Department for a nominal fee.

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**New Championship Golf Course**



George S. Lyon, Canada's Grand Old Man of Golf, split the fairway with the first ball driven from No. 1 tee of the Royal York Golf course recently when this new championship course, built by the Canadian Pacific Railway for the benefit of guests of Canada's premier hotel, was formally opened in the presence of Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon. This 18-hole course, claimed by players to be one of the best on the continent, has a par of 72 with a length of 6,510 yards. All Toronto golf clubs were represented at the opening and prominent golfers of the Dominion came together here for the occasion. This course has been selected as the scene of the annual interprovincial team match on August 2, and many tournaments in connection with conventions, including the monster one of the Shriner's, will be staged there. Lay-out shows the \$100,000 Club-house of the course with a view of the Royal York Hotel.

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