

News and Information For the Busy Farmer

Elgin County was the leader in the Western Ontario district for the highest percentage of first grade cheese in 1935 with Oxford in second place. Oxford was first for the highest average score with Perth in second place, according to Frank Hens chief dairy inspector for Western Ontario.

The application of fertilizers to plants through the air instead of the soil is foreshadowed by Dr. Earl S. Johnston of the Smithsonian Institution. He had conducted an experiment in which he said wheat produced better by feeding it large quantities of carbon dioxide, a common constituent of air. The experiment showed wheat plants which received about four times as much carbon dioxide as is normally present in air produced more and heavier heads, more grains, and heavier straw than plants grown in air alone.

Market for Toronto

Hon. Duncan Marshall, Ontario Minister of Agriculture, has announced a committee headed by Paul Fisher of Burlington, an official of the Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association, is investigating his proposal for a \$1,000,000 wholesale fruit and vegetable market in Toronto.

Mr. Fisher has visited Montreal and Detroit to inspect similar markets, and presented the Minister with an interim report.

After a full report has been made Mr. Marshall will call a meeting of growers in the latter part of February to go further into the proposal. The plan is to have this market near the water-front in Toronto and provide under one roof facilities for growers disposing of vegetables and fruit.

Mr. Marshall said some time ago the main problem connected with the project was one of finance, and at that time he indicated the Provincial Government would not likely make a contribution.

The Plowing Match

Efforts are being made by organizations in Guelph to secure the International Plowing match for 1937. This event is to be held this year near Cornwall and the custom is to alternate between eastern and western Ontario.

There has been steady growth in the number of entries in the plowing match since it was organized in 1913. This growth in the number of entries has been paralleled by a corresponding increase in attendance. For the first two years, the match was held at Sunnybrook Farm, Toronto, with 32 and 29 entries, respectively. By 1919, when the contest was held at Chatham, and tractor competitions were introduced, the number had risen to 90, while two years later at Woodstock it jumped to 216.

When the competition was held at Stratford in 1930 there were 439 entrants, and last year at Haldimand County, near Caledonia, there were 544.

Clover and Grass Seeds

A fair demand continues for most items and prices have changed little during the past month. There is still available in eastern Ontario some 350,000 pounds of red clover, 250,000 of alfalfa, 50,000 of alsike, 300,000 of sweet clover and 2,000,000 pounds of timothy in principal production localities. Alsike is in particularly good demand at the present time with little available and timothy and red clover are in stronger demand at present than alfalfa and sweet clover.

Prices to growers based on cleaning to no. 1 grade range from 10c to 15c for red clover; 10c to 13c for alfalfa and 3½ to 5c for timothy. Most of the good alsike has already been sold and that remaining is selling at from 10c to 15c per pound.

In south-western Ontario timothy is plentiful but mostly of the lower grades due to off colour and hulling. Some 4,000,000 lbs. are estimated in this part of the province. The alfalfa and alsike has nearly all moved to the trade. Red clover is being threshed steadily and is in

cleaning to no. 1 grades range from

10c to 12c per pound for red clover; 14c to 16c for alfalfa; 12c to 15c for alsike; 3c to 4½c for sweet clover; 3c to 4½c for timothy and 3½c to 4c for country run Canadian blue grass.

There is still some seed in north-western Ontario in the Oxdrift and Emo districts, possibly 13,000 lbs of red clover, 55,000 lbs of alsike and some mixtures. A large quantity of timothy-alsike mixtures is reported in northern Ontario but a great deal of it is low grade owing to immaturity.

Breeding Troubles

Following long winters with deep snow, as this winter promises to be, a great deal of trouble is usually experienced with hairlessness in young pigs, goats in calves and lambs, and joint ill in foals. It is suggested that these troubles may be traced to a lack of iodine in the thyroid gland of the pregnant female, and losses from this cause may be avoided by feeding iodine, in the form of potassium iodide.

Potassium iodide has a generally stimulating effect, toning up the whole system, and exerts a particularly strong influence on the generative organs. Females which are apparently non-breeders will often become pregnant after this drug has been administered for a few months.

For cows, dissolve two ounces of potassium iodide in a cup of warm water; sprinkle this solution over 100 pounds of salt spread evenly and in a thin layer on a clean floor, and mix well. When the salt is dry, place it in a box where the animals have free access to it. For ewes, follow the same method as for cows.

For sows, dissolve one ounce of potassium iodide crystals in one gallon of water, and mix one tablespoonful per sow daily in the feed or drinking water. For mares, give each mare a half teaspoonful of potassium iodide in the feed grain or water on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Marriage is a case of give and take. I regret to admit that from the American woman's point of view it is often more take than give.—Ex.

In Days of Yore

(Continued from page six)

tained a number of her little friends last Thursday afternoon at a birthday party.

Miss E. Robertson spent Saturday and Sunday at her home at Meaford. Last Wednesday morning a quiet wedding took place at the home of Mr. David Brown, when his youngest daughter, Cressie, was united in marriage to Mr. T. Strain of Owen Sound. Rev. Mr. Lawrence performed the ceremony. They will reside in Toronto.

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Berkeley

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wiggins of Owen Sound are visiting friends in this locality.

Wm. Crawford, Jas. Gillespie, Geo. J. Ritchie, R. H. Lackey, Matt Dever, E. T. Walters and Robt. Williams drove over to Meaford on Tuesday to attend the County Orange Lodge.

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Traverston

"Old Tom", the 25-year-old horse of the late W. J. Edwards, passed in his checks since we last wrote.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hudson of Manitoba, who are spending the winter in Ontario, visited the former's sister, Mrs. J. J. Peart.

Beecher Jack had a party on Friday evening in honor of his 16th birthday. Beecher is about as manly and courteous a youth as we ever knew and knows how to work too.

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Harkaway

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McLeod and family have left this week for their new home in Ohio.

Miss Jennie Murdoch of Markdale was the guest of her cousin, Miss Annie Johnston, on Sunday last.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Taylor spent Sunday at Mr. J. A. Halbert's.

Mrs. Will Lyons and Master Lloyd are spending a week with the latter's sister, Mrs. John Beckett, of Owen Sound.

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Douglas of Cherry Grove visited at Mr. P. Lyons' recently.

Mrs. J. Dixon of Manitoba is visiting her father, Mr. Robert Snell, of this vicinity.

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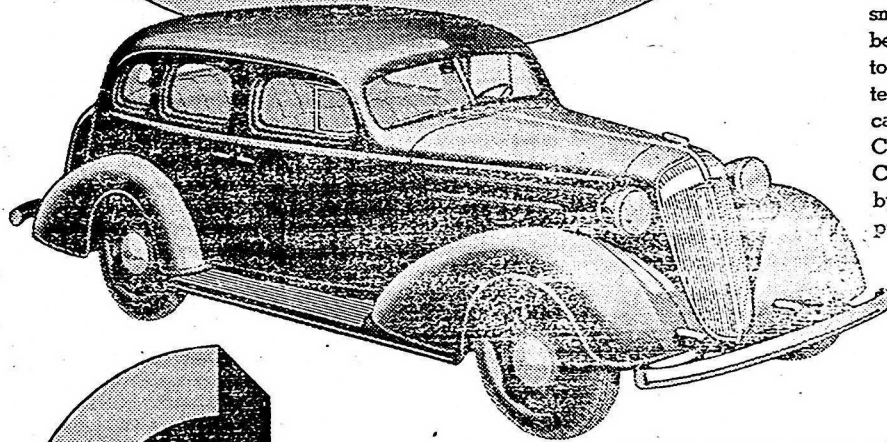
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