

## News and Information FOR THE BUSY FARMER

[Furnished by the Ontario Department of Agriculture]

### Current Crop Report

Cutting of grain nears completion and threshing is general. Fall wheat is an average crop of good quality. Barley and oats ripened prematurely, resulting in light yields of only fair quality. Canning peas suffered from unfavourable weather resulting in a curtailed pack. Sweet corn is well below normal. Yields of small fruits were below average. Harvesting of late tomatoes is under way, with expectations of below-average production. Early varieties were scalded by intense heat, reducing the yields. Field corn and roots have benefited from recent rains but indicate below-average yields. Hay of good quality was stored under favourable conditions. Second growth has shown no progress and pastures are in poor condition, necessitating continued supplementary feeding. The peaches are above early expectations and marketing has commenced. Grapes are expected to be 50-75% of average. Late varieties of apples continue to progress. Tobacco has suffered from prolonged drought which has affected yield and quality.

### Give Good Measure in Binder Twine

There has been little complaint as to the quality of binder twine sold in Canada in recent years. The law requires that each ball of binder twine sold, whether Canadian made or imported, bears a label showing the number of feet per pound in the ball. These statements as to length, for example 500, 550, 600 or 650 feet to the pound, are checked by inspectors of the Seed Branch.

A certain tolerance is allowed under the Act in consideration of variations which naturally must occur. However, of the three hundred samples or more tested annually, more than half have shown a greater length to the pound than the label called for. In samples which did not meet the guarantee, the deficiencies in length per pound were inconsiderable, and only in occasional cases did the deficiency exceed the limit allowed. Since 1933, the proportion of samples found to have shortages has not amounted to three per cent. of the total number of samples tested, the proportion in 1935 being less than half of one per cent.

### Crate Feed Poultry and Increase Income

A substantial amount of money in the aggregate is lost by farmers every year due to sending their poultry to market not properly finished. Far too much of the poultry offered on both the domestic and export markets is below the Milkfed A and Milkfed B classes for which a premium up to as high as three cents per pound is paid over the lower grades.

The sure and certain way to raise the grade is by the comparatively simple process of crate feeding the birds on a ration of finely-ground home grains, potatoes and sour milk.

There are various fattening mixtures that give good results, but the point is to make use of the feed produced and available on the farm. The best results will be obtained if the birds are put in disinfected crates two or three weeks before marketing. The crates should be put in reasonably warm quarters free from draughts and the birds should be fed morning and evening. The following ration is recommended: Equal parts of oats and wheat, with barley or buckwheat; add potatoes at the rate of one-third of the total weight of the meal mixture; mix with sour milk so that the mixture will pour easily.

The beginning of the feeding period is most important. If the birds placed in the feeding crates have food in their crops they should miss a meal and should be fed sparingly for about two days. Immediately on being placed in feeding crates birds should be given a purgative in the form of Epsom salts in the first feed, the dosage being at the rate of one pound of Epsom salts to one hundred birds. The salts should be dissolved in water and the solution used for mixing the first feed.

Feeding the birds all they will eat the first day results in loss of appe-

tite and weight. It is better to leave the birds without feed for the first twenty-four hours after putting them in the crates than to overfeed them. The first few days the birds should be kept fairly hungry and never satisfied until they become used to their confined quarters. After that as much feed as they will take may be given two or three times a day. After every feed, however, the troughs should be cleaned, and a supply of grit should be available two or three times a week.

### Fruit Crop Conditions

In both Central and Eastern Ontario apple production will be larger than last year, but, of course, much smaller than the years preceding 1933 when frost killing was severe and extensive.

In Western Ontario moisture conditions have continued unfavourable and sizing of apples has been adversely affected in practically all districts. Scald damage was more pronounced on early and fall varieties than on the winter varieties. Temperatures have been unsatisfactory for good colouring, particularly in the case of early varieties. Fungus is less prevalent than usual, but sideworm injury is becoming noticeable. The apple crop in Western and Southern Ontario is estimated at 25 per cent. below last year.

At August 15th, the apple crop for the entire Province was placed at 80 per cent. of the 1935 output, with varieties showing the following prospects, expressed as a percentage of a year ago—early varieties 83%; Wealthy 87%; Baldwin 90%; Spr 125%; Greening 100%; McIntosh 63%; Stark 108%; Snow 60%; and other varieties 95%.

Pears have not been affected as greatly as expected by the drought and the fruit is sizing slightly below normal. Unless early precipitation is received, however, Bartlett and later varieties will be undersized. Pest injury so far is very slight. The 1936 yield of pears will approximate about 70 per cent. of last year's crop.

The sizing of peaches has been fairly good to date and pest injury has been generally negligible. Drought has increased to some extent tree mortality throughout the Niagara Peninsula. With early rainfall peaches are expected to be a fair crop of excellent quality, and only about 35 per cent. below the heavy yield of 1935.

The grape crop is considerably reduced this year and is now estimated at 60 per cent. of last year. The drought is causing serious vine mortality in many vineyards and the fruit is somewhat smaller than normal at this time of year, particularly on vines located on poor moisture retentive soils. Blues and Whites are mainly a two-bunch crop, with Reds showing heavier. Hopper injury has been very light. First shipments of early Champions, Portlands and Fredonias are expected about August 25th, with commercial mixed carlots, together with Worens, by September 1st.

### TEMPLE HILL

(Held over from last week.)

Miss Mildred Johnston has returned to her home in Owen Sound after spending the past few weeks with her aunt, Miss Nettie Johnston. Mr. W. Hall of Epping had charge of the service here in the absence of the minister, who is on vacation. Mr. Horning of Meaford will be the speaker next Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Erskine and family spent a day in Owen Sound last week.

Miss Irene Menary has returned to her home in Duntroon after spending the past few weeks with friends here.

A number from here attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Earl Semple on Thursday afternoon. We extend our sympathy to Mr. Semple and family. Mrs. Semple (Pearl Miller) before her marriage lived in this vicinity and attended school here.

Keep in mind the evening service here next Sunday at 7.30 under the leadership of the Young People.

### IN DAYS OF YORE

[Continued from page three.]

wedded in Strathcona on Wednesday, August 22nd. Mr. James C. Noble is the man of her choice. He was formerly a Dufferin county boy and has been successful in the West. Mr. Chas. Arnet of Glenelg gallantly gave the bride away.

### Beaverdale

Miss M. Wilson returned home last week after spending a month with friends at Alliston, Beeton and other points.

Messrs. Chas. Fothergill and Tommy Brett attended divine service at Victoria on Sunday evening.

Miss Ormie Brett returned to Toronto last week.

Hodgkinson Bros. are coming back on the farm again. Mr. Alex. Haney, who has been working their place, is going to Mr. R. J. McAfee's farm.

### Orange Valley

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. White and two children are visiting this week with friends in St. Thomas.

Miss Della Beattie went to Toronto last Thursday. She is spending a week with her sisters, Misses Louella and Jean Beattie.

Mr. John E. Montgomery took in the exhibition at Toronto last week.

### Flesherton

Mr. F. G. Karstedt and daughter, Ella, attended the millinery openings in Toronto last week. Miss Durant of Mitchell was engaged and has taken charge of Mr. Karstedt's millinery.

Mr. Wm. Gayton returned on Saturday from visiting his son in Lang, Sask.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Irwin of Stockport, Ont., are on a holiday trip and visiting the former's father, Mr. Chas. Irwin, of the suburbs.

Miss Celia VanDusen is visiting friends at Chatsworth.

Miss May Jamieson has returned to Toronto to take a position.

Mr. Barnes of Kansas is visiting his uncle, Mr. Jos. Cornfield.

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The Standard and The Toronto Mail and Empire .....	6.00
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## New Government Regulations ON GRADING OF BUTTER

To avoid friction between the Creamery and the Producer over the grade of cream, we are outlining here the New Government regulations, which will no doubt call for closer grading of cream. The new regulations call for the Grade of the Butter to be stamped on the pound prints designating the Grade of the Butter that is in the wrapper. This will, no doubt, have an effect on the sale of Second Grade Butter. This is why we are strongly asking for your co-operation. We will outline a few points for the producers to follow which will, we think, help make the required quality of butter.

1. In feeding your milch cows always feed after milking.
2. Clean flanks and udders and milk with dry, clean hands.
3. Get milk out of the stable as soon as possible after milking.
4. Strain milk thoroughly through a new filter pad and cool cream immediately after separating.
5. For washing your utensils and separator use a brush with hot water instead of cloth.
6. Make sure the separator is washed after each time it is used.
7. Market your cream often, not allowing it to get stale.

FOLLOW THE ABOVE RULES AND WE FEEL SURE THAT YOU WILL HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN PRODUCING GOOD CREAM FOR US TO MAKE GOOD BUTTER.

**Markdale Creamery & Produce Co.**

PHONE 66, MARKDALE