

THE FARMER

NEW LEGAL WEIGHTS FOR POTATO BAGS

Since July 1, 1939, when important alterations were made in the standard size of bags in which potatoes are packed for sale, the adoption of the new legal weights has been proceeding smoothly. These new weights are now the only legal standards for potatoes packed in cotton, jute, or mesh bags for sale. They are 100 lb., 50 lb., 25 lb., and 15 lb. The weights for potatoes pre-packed in paper bags are 10 lb. and 15 lb. The Regulations under the Fruit, Vegetables, and Honey Act which legalized the new weights on July 1, abolished the 80 lb. and the 90 lb. bags which were extensively used in the Dominion, particularly in Eastern Canada.

The abolition of the 80 lb. and the 90 lb. bags, together with the new computation of weights, has brought about many advantages both to the buyer and to the seller. The new bag weights are computed in quarters of the hundredweight, and it will be easy to recognize on sight the differences in weight when the bags are on display. For example, the difference between the 100 lb. and the 75 lb. bag, and between the 75 lb. and the 50 lb. will be readily apparent. The 50 lb. bag should not be mistaken for a bushel as the legal weight for a bushel of potatoes is 60 lb. Under the old system it was not so easy to distinguish between the 80 lb. and 90 lb. bags. When these bags were offered for sale simultaneously, the buyer was likely to be confused. In the interest of fair dealing and uniformity of business, the abolition of the 80 and 90 lb. bags is beneficial all round. It will also tend to decrease the number of different sizes of bags the shipper will have to stock, and it will encourage the use of new bags instead of second-hand ones.

Especially in Western Canada, the 100 lb. bag has been in extensive use throughout Canada, and because it is also the principal bag container for potatoes in the United States, it is regarded as the import and export trade bag.

The bags in which potatoes are sold must carry a tag on which the name and address of the grower or packer is clearly marked, together with the correct grade and weight of the contents.

PREPARING WINTER QUARTERS FOR LAYERS

Sanitation—cleanliness—of the laying house and stock is an important factor in the successful management of any laying flock. The presence of dirt and filth in a laying house or pen harbours those parasites and diseases which prevent economical production.

The season for the cleaning of the house is usually at the time when the older birds are culled out, and before the pullets are brought in from range. The months most suitable are August and September. This period of the year allows the house to dry thoroughly.

The procedure in the cleaning of the house is the Poultry Division of the Experimental Farm, Nappan, states M. H. Jenkins, Poultryman at the Farm, is as follows:—

1. Remove all feeding, nesting and roosting equipment.
2. Brush ceiling and walls and remove dirt from the floor.
3. Hose the walls and floor to soften any dirt that is stuck thereon.
4. Scrape all corners and crevices with a three-cornered scraper.
5. The walls and floor are scrubbed with a scrubbing brush and solution of old kerosene, using a good coal tar disinfectant in either warm or cold water. One pint of the disinfectant to four gallons of water is used at Nappan.
6. After the house has been thoroughly gone over with the disinfectant it is hosed again, the solution removed and the house allowed to thoroughly dry and air out.
7. After the house is completed, all the equipment is gone over with the same solution and in the same manner.
8. After a thorough drying out it is affected by sunshine and wind, the equipment is hung up and placed in position.
9. The final step is to put in clean, fresh litter and fill the feed hoppers. Thus the house is ready for the young stock from a new age.

THE HANDS SET BACK

It is being said once more that the war now being fought will "ruin civilization." War itself is uncivilized, but its presence in the world even on a large scale will not wreck civilization. It will not stop the clock of human progress; it will simply set back the hands.

DRUG SUPPLIES ADEQUATE

Commenting on increased cost of medical and surgical supplies R. O. Hurst, dean of the Ontario College of Pharmacy said today that the cost of drugs was affected in two ways, but that shortage would not be so acute as during the last war.

"In wartime prices of crude drugs imported from China, Italy, Spain and other countries increase because people employed in collecting or harvesting are assigned to other, higher-paying employment. While the chemicals imported from England and continental countries the difficulty of obtaining shipment is added to the excessive demands in the country of origin," he said.

"In the meantime," he said, "Canada and the United States are very much less dependent on imported chemicals, especially dyes and other common chemicals, including phenol, for which there was such insistent demand during the last war. During the years 1914-18 North American chemists expanded their field of production to include most of the essential raw materials of the chemical industry of wartime economy so that we are now in a position to export many substances which we had to import in 1914."

LORD TWEEDSMUIR TO VISIT PLOWMEN

Governor-General of Canada to attend International Plowing Match and Farm Machinery Demonstration at Brockville Oct. 12.

Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada, will visit the famous International Plowing Match and Farm Machinery Demonstration at Brockville on October 12th, James R. Henderson, President of the International announced today.

The plowing match, the largest of its kind in the British Empire, will be held at Brockville, Oct. 10 to 13 inclusive. The cream of Canadian plowmen in addition to competitors from other countries will compete for over \$8000 in prizes.

The outstanding importance of this event to Canadian Agriculture and to Great Britain is seen in the attendance of the King's representative at the International. Good plowing is the basis of good crops, and good crops must be the rule if Canada is to do her agricultural duty to the Motherland during the war.

It is expected that the attendance at the four day match will exceed 100,000. The largest exhibit in the history of the Match will be housed in the "tent city" over a mile long. With impetus being given to agriculture, farmers will be more than keenly interested in the modern equipment on display.

The horseshoeing competition is unique no other similar contest is held in Canada. Over 40 entries are expected.

At such large matches, it is sometimes difficult to have access to sufficient land to concentrate activities in a small area. The Ontario Hospital Farm and adjoining properties at Brockville comprise a compact and otherwise ideal site. All competitive classes and other features may be seen with a minimum of walking.

The Horse Show, Friday, Oct. 13th, will be larger than formerly, as 30 prizes are being offered, totalling \$500. There has also been a marked increase in the number and value of prizes for plow classes.

Special features this year include an increased number of educational demonstrations and exhibits; a new Inter-County Tractor Competition for young men; the Champion Plowmen from the British Isles; and the Trans-Canada Class.

The plowing match is but a short distance off No. 2 Highway. Adequate parking arrangements have been made.

Every farmer owes himself a visit to this greatest of outdoor farming competitions.

Annual Short Courses in Agriculture and Home Economics May be Held at Nelson

As a result of the interest and activity of the Nelson Women's Institute, Nelson and vicinity will have the opportunity of having the annual winter Short Courses conducted by the local branch of the Ont. Dept. of Agriculture. It has been suggested that the Courses, one in Home Economics for the young ladies and the other in Agriculture for the young men, will be held at Nelson during January of 1940. An organization meeting held at the Township Hall recently, members of the Tp. Council, officers and members of the W. I., and other interested leaders were unanimously in favour of the courses being held providing a sufficient number of young people are interested. To this end a canvassing committee composed of Muriel Freeman, Jack Hamilton, Donald Peir, Albert Hunter, Marion Galbraith, John VanSickle, Jean Harrison, Jean Alderson, Geo. McCormack, Logan Heslop, Mary Breckon and Elsie Bowen, were appointed to make an immediate survey of the district. Those interested should immediately contact one of the above committee or send their names to Mrs. Morley Watson, Tansley, Secretary of the Nelson Women's Institute or to Agricultural Representative J. E. Whitelock at Milton.

WINNING PLOWMEN TO VISIT OLD LAMB SALADA TEA DONATES

A new feature of the International Plowing Match which will be held at Brockville this year is the Trans-Atlantic Class, sponsored by Salada Tea Company. As a result of the generous contribution of that company the Plowmen's Association plans for the first time in its history, to send Canadian representatives overseas to compete in matches in the British Isles. Consequently, much new interest has been aroused among farmers throughout the Province. In addition to the trip and Gold and Silver medals to the two Trans-Atlantic winners, Salada is donating twelve cash prizes for this event totalling \$150.00. Furthermore, branches throughout the Province, will each have a Salada Special event, the first prize being \$10.00 in cash and the right to compete at the subsequent International Match.

NOT STUMFED

There's no stumping the post office officials. A letter addressed to "the lady in the pink knit suit," Lakeshore Infirmary, Toronto, was delivered promptly — and correctly — to Miss Barbara Brennan. It was from Mrs. D. F. Fraser of Asheville, N.C., thanking Miss Brennan for aid she gave Mrs. Fraser and her party during a visit to the Queen City.

New Television Tube Can Pierce Fog, Haze

A television transmitting tube that can pierce fog and haze to pick up scenes for transmission through the ether has been developed in the laboratories of the Radio Corporation of America.

The screen of the new tube picks up scenes by the heat waves given off by objects in the scene. Technically, these are known as infra-red rays and unlike light waves, they pierce fog and haze. Thus, what is primarily projected on the screen is not a light image of the scene but a "heat" or infra-red image.

Instead of being photo-electric as the ordinary "tele-eye" or Iconoscope of the television pick-up cameras, the screen is thermo-electric, that is, electric potentials are generated in it when heat waves strike it. The thermo-electric sensitive screen is disclosed as being a fine film of germanium, a rare earth metal, mounted on a thin sheet of mica.

When the heat image is projected on it localized potential differences appear in the film as a result of temperature differences in different elemental areas of the heat image. These correspond to lights and shadows of the scene. Now when the image on the screen is scanned by a pencil beam of electrons, electrical currents are released from the film corresponding with the lights and shadows of the scene. These impulses are amplified and converted into a visible image corresponding to that broadcast.

With the new tube it would be possible, for example, to televise a hot electric iron or a stove in a dark room.

Turkish Slave Ruled As Queen Over Egypt

In all of Egypt no woman was so beautiful as Shagru-Durr. Although she was but a Turkish slave girl, the mighty Sultan Salih fell in love at his first glimpse of her and made her his favorite wife. The sultan died, and his son, too, so the slave girl became the queen of Egypt and ruled in a lavish fashion.

Like every faithful Moslem, the queen desired to go to Mecca to purify herself and to win peace of soul, writes Walter Monfried in the Milwaukee Journal. One who has made that journey is called "hadji" and for the rest of his or her life is venerated by all of the faith.

She traveled from Cairo to Mecca in a gorgeous litter borne by camels. With her went a splendid procession. The trip was long and difficult, but the queen went with full consolation which her faith afforded.

In the years that followed, the beautiful Shagru could not go to Mecca again, but she paid her tribute to Islam by sending handsome litters filled with royal gifts. After she died her pious survivors kept up the custom and each year sent a company of pilgrims with presents. The load of gifts was called mahmal, which means something that carries or supports.

Treating Fungus Infections

Fungus infections of the skin which produce eruptions resistant to ordinary treatments, of which severe cases of athlete's foot are typical, have been caused to subside by an electrical treatment devised by Professor Howard W. Haggard and Dr. Maurice J. Strauss and Leon A. Greenberg, of Yale university. These infections are resistant to treatment because the fungi that cause them become imbedded deep in the skin tissues where fungicides, applied to the skin, cannot reach them. The Yale scientists devise a method of getting copper, as a fungicide, deep into the skin by iontophoresis, or transporting it through the tissues by an electric current. Treatment lasted from two weeks to six weeks, and the average number of treatments was six. The eruptions turn blue, and healing takes place under this surface.

Insects Have Thousand Eyes

Although we possess only two eyes, each of which co-ordinates with the other so that we see a single image, our eyes see with many millions of individual light-catching cells, called rods and cones, states the Better Vision Institute. The retina or image screen, of the human eye is made up of approximately 130,000,000 rods and cones, representing the individual sensitive nerve fibres, or groups of nerves which carry sight messages to the brain. The human eye has only one lens. The common house-fly, however, sees everything as a mosaic, or jig-saw puzzle, because each of its 3,000 eye units acts as an independent lens, or light-catching apparatus. Thus the fly, and other insects, really have thousands of eyes.

Week-Ends in Jail

New Zealand is to adopt the American method of punishing intoxicated motorists with jail sentences served at week-ends. Originally magistrates imposed fines, but when such action did not appear to be meeting the case, terms of imprisonment were imposed. Ordinarily imprisonment, however, meant that the offender lost pay and possibly his position, which imposed a hardship on his wife and children. Under the American system the offender is put in prison at the week-end only.



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Destroy Weed Seeds Following Threshing

Should be Placed in Pit to Rot, declares J. D. MacLeod, Weed Expert of Ontario Dept. of Agriculture.

"At this particular time of the year, after threshing has been completed, there is a tendency on the part of many farmers to give little thought to the disposal of weed seeds," says J. D. MacLeod, Weed Expert of the Ontario Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto. The main objective in the control of weeds is to prevent reinfestation. It is, therefore, of vital importance that all refuse containing weed seeds be placed in tightly woven sacks immediately after threshing, and disposed of in such manner as will destroy the germinating power of all seeds.

It is a known fact that weed seeds will pass through the digestive tract of live stock without the germinating power being destroyed. Therefore, if the threshing machine does not remove small weed seeds and if they are not removed by the fanning mill before the grain is fed whole, chopped or rolled, there is a possibility of the soil being reinfested from this source. This is true particularly in the case of the smaller weed seeds such as Wild Mustard, Worm seed, Mustard, Small Seeded False Flax, Pigweed, Lambs Quarters, Bladder Campion, Chicory, White Cockle, Plantain, Cinquefoil, Ribgrass, Ox-eye Daisy, etc. It is therefore important that a maximum of weed seeds be removed from the grain before it is fed to live stock and that these seeds be disposed of immediately.

Rotting of weed seeds has proven a satisfactory method of disposal. A pit may be dug in the ground, the size depending on the quantity of

seeds to be disposed of. After weed seeds have been placed in this pit, it should be covered with chicken wire or a screen to prevent birds from gaining entrance. A heating and rotting process will take place and after two to three months the totality of all seeds will have been destroyed.

A home made incinerator may be constructed by removing the top from an oil drum and providing a draught door and grate at the bottom. Waste oil poured on weed seeds and light bulky refuse among the seeds will permit air to enter and will help the burning. A large tile, part of a smoke stack or any container which will stand lots of heat could be used. Some of the larger weed seeds, such as Wild Buckwheat, Wild Oats, Wild Vetches, etc. have a certain amount of food value. If these are being chopped in grains, the plates of the chopper should be in good condition and set very close. Choppers of the hammer mill type fitted with a 120 mesh screen will make a more thorough job when chopping grains containing weed seeds, Mr. MacLeod states.

HELPFUL ADVICE

The husband drew up his chair beside his wife's sewing machine. Don't you think it's running too fast?" he said. "Look out! you'll sew that seam wrong! Mind that corner now! Steady, slow down; mind your fingers!" "What's the matter with you, John?" said his wife, alarmed. "I've been running this machine for years!" "Well, dear, I was only trying to help you, just as you help me drive the car."—Parade.

Nifty letterheads and other stationery printed at this office. Phone No. 8 for your next order.

IMPORTS FROM GERMANY HAVE BEEN UNIMPORTANT

Normally Canada imports from Germany about \$11,000,000 worth of goods annually, of which about 84 per cent are manufactured or partly manufactured goods. To this total should be added imports valued at approximately \$2,000,000 from Czechoslovakia, also many manufactured goods. Automatic cessation of trade between Canada and Germany due to the war is thus unlikely to be a serious factor in this country's economic position, as the total imports of German goods account for only between one and two per cent of Canada's annual purchases. Canada and Germany certain tariff concessions were made by each country with the object, as far as Canada was concerned, of increasing Canada's exports of wheat and other raw materials. In the year following the signing of the agreement, Canadian exports to Germany increased from \$4,559,594 to \$7,828,225. Imports from Germany increased from \$9,907,685 to \$11,083,228 in the same period.

While German goods will be barred from Canada until the conclusion of hostilities, it is obvious that boycotting of such goods now in Canadian wholesale or retail establishments would be a futile gesture. These goods have already been paid for and their purchase has assisted the Canadian producers of primary products. To boycott them would be merely to injure the Canadian distributor whose purchases of German products have been in accordance with the Canadian government's policy of increasing Canadian foreign trade.

The quickest way to cut new bread is to dip your knife in boiling water every few minutes. Wipe it dry before cutting.

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