



Items of Interest to the Local Farmer

OUR Farm Page



ALL PLANS COMPLETE FOR PLOWING MATCH

International at St. Thomas Expected To Draw 150,000 People During Four Day Match Oct. 15 to 18 Inclusive

Judging by advance enthusiasm, coupled with good hard work during the past six months, the International Plowing Match and Farm Machinery Demonstration being held on the Ontario Hospital and Hon. M. F. Hepburn farms south of St. Thomas from Oct. 15 to 18 inclusive, promises to be the most successful of the long list of International Matches sponsored by the Ontario Plowmen's Association.

The prize list totals \$7,000. Plans have been completed down to the last minute detail by Secretary J. A. Carroll, the Board of Directors, and the Elgin and St. Thomas Committees.

Provincial police will take over traffic direction to parking lots where attendants will smoothly handle up to 10,000 cars per day. There will be no inconvenience or delay in parking. The "Tented City" of some 15 acres will house over \$600,000 worth of farm machinery and home conveniences. The cream of Canadian and American plowmen will draw lots for the 175 sturdy plow teams being provided, while over 200 tractors will roar down the road each morning to the plowing fields. This in itself is a sight worth seeing.

There are valuable trophies and prizes in the Horseshoeing competitions which will attract the best blacksmiths in Canada. This feature has grown rapidly and arrangements have been made to accommodate large numbers of spectators. Interesting and educational demonstrations will be daily features of the match. They include farm drainage, cultural implements, row crop tractor, hybrid corn tests, pick-up baler, plow setting, multiple hitch, combine harvesting, seed cleaning and soil testing. There will also be exhibits by the Ont. Dept. of Health, Ont. Forestry Dept., grading of farm products, tripod hay, and farm products of Elgin.

The last day of the Match (Friday, Oct. 18) will see a parade of some 3,500 members of the R.C.A.F. through the grounds of the Tented City at 2 P.M. Premier M. F. Hepburn will take the salute. These Air Force men are in training at the largest technical air training school in Canada, having tra-

FARMERS' INCOME REPORTED HIGHER

Although farm prices generally have been only slightly higher in 1940 than in 1939 the cash income of farmers as a whole during the past seven months of 1940 has been 30 per cent higher than for the corresponding period of a year ago. This preliminary estimate of farm cash income has been made by the Agricultural Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Practically all sources of income showed increases. In the case of wheat, deliveries for the first seven months of 1940 were 85 per cent above those of the similar months of 1939 while the price remained approximately the same. Income from the sale of flax was nearly four times as great because of higher prices combined with much higher deliveries.

The cash received from the sale of meat animals was up 23 per cent for the period with hogs making the main contribution to this increase. Despite the fact that hog prices averaged slightly below those of 1939 the greatly increased marketings resulted in an increase of 41 per cent in farmers' cash income from this source. The decline in cattle marketings was offset by somewhat higher prices.

Dairy producers also received greater income from all classes of production. There was a rise of 30 per cent in receipts from cheese, 11 per cent from butterfat and from 5 to 10 per cent from fluid milk.

In discussing the outlook for the balance of 1940 the Dominion Bureau of Statistics report suggests that it is not likely that the increase in income during the last 5 months of 1940 will be so great as was the case earlier in

the year. While the increased marketings and higher prices for some products will tend to increase cash income, on the other hand restricted grain marketings will reduce income from that important source.

BURN WEED SEEDS AFTER THRESHING

John D. MacLeod, Ontario Department of Agriculture Outlines Safe Methods in Disposing of Weed Seeds.

The main objective in the control of noxious weeds should be to prevent their reproduction, states John D. MacLeod, Crops, Seeds and Weeds Branch, Ont. Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto. Immediately after the threshing operation has been completed all refuse containing weed seeds should be placed in tightly woven sacks and disposed of in such a manner as will destroy the germinating power of all seed. This may be accomplished by rotting, burning or chipping. A hole may be dug in the ground and all refuse buried deeply. A pit may be dug from 3 to 4 feet with a board inclosure around it 3 to 4 feet high. Weed seeds may be dumped into this pit which should be covered with chicken wire or screen to prevent birds from gaining an entrance. Weed seeds will be thoroughly soaked by fall rains and the heating and rotting which will take place will destroy all weed seeds.

A well built box, large tile or other container with a screen over the top will also prove a satisfactory method. An open fire is not recommended, as it is dangerous to property. Certain weeds, such as mustard, ragweed etc. will burn slowly and the fire may smolder for several days during which time weed seeds may be scattered over a large area.

A home made incinerator may be constructed by removing the top from an old stove and providing a door and grate at the bottom. Waste oil poured on weed seeds and light bulky refuse will permit air to enter and help the burning process. A large tile, part of a smoke stack or any container which would stand lots of heat is suitable.

All weed seeds which will pass through a well screen with a perforation of one-fourteenth of an inch in diameter should be removed from the grain with the threshing and fanning mill before the grain is chopped, rolled or fed to stock. Many of the small weed seeds are harmful to livestock and difficult to chop and should be destroyed by a rotting or burning process as has been previously outlined. Weed seeds included in this group are Wild Mustard, Worm Seed Mustard, Small Seed of False Flax and prostrate Lamb Quarters, Bladder Campion, Chicory, White Cockle, Catch Fly, Cinquefoil, Ribwort, and Ox-eye Daisy.

Some of the larger weed seeds such as Wild Buckwheat, Wild Oats and Wild Fitches have a certain amount of food value and may be used for the feeding of livestock providing they are chopped fine. The plants of the chopper should be in good condition and set close. Choppers of the hammer mill type will make a more thorough job when chopping grains containing weed seeds.

The person who is careless about the disposal of weed seeds and refuse containing weed seeds is his own worst enemy, and a menace to the entire community, Mr. MacLeod states.

WHERE U.S. GETS ITS CHRISTMAS TREES

The number of Christmas trees imported into the United States in 1939 was 4,943,961, valued at \$536,692. All the shipments were credited to Canada. In 1938 the number was 4,220,426 valued at \$438,692. Newfoundland supplying 276,027 trees of the total shipments. Many of the Canadian trees are grown by farmers. The results obtained in the various Eastern United States markets was not uniform. Some markets, such as New York, Philadelphia were definitely over-supplied. Chicago and other cities, however, reported that on the whole business had been satisfactory to the dealers.

Some of the larger operators send buyers to Canada in the late summer to purchase the trees standing. These buyers or their representatives return later in the fall to hire workmen for cutting and bundling the trees. The cuts are required to be cut straight across and the bundles contain upwards of seven trees depending on the size. The most popular height is about five to six feet. Another practice is to arrange for the purchase of trees delivered at the railway siding. Some shippers also make contracts in advance for sale on an outright basis to responsible dealers in the United States.

Balsam fir is the most popular species in the East for the Christmas trade, with an apparent preference for trees from Nova Scotia, although New Brunswick and Quebec balsam also have a substantial sale. This species is preferred because of its quality and pyramidal shape. From the standpoint of the dealer, it can be more readily bundled for shipment. Spruce can also find an outlet, but is generally quoted at a discount, at least in so far as the New York market is concerned. There has been a certain movement in Scotch pine especially in the border cities adjoining Ontario, and for several years past Douglas fir trees from British Columbia have been growing in favour and are now moving eastward to central and eastern United States markets.

Final Crop Report is Issued by the Bank of Montreal

REPORT COVERS ALL PROVINCES

GENERAL

The year 1940 goes upon record as a year of good crops in Canada as a whole and as a year of extraordinarily good crops in the Prairie Provinces, where the wheat yield is the second largest in history and may prove, when returns are complete, to be actually the largest. To this general picture there have been local exceptions, certain crops in Ontario having been adversely affected by cold, wet weather and certain crops in British Columbia by shortage of moisture during the growing season. For the Prairie Provinces preliminary estimates place this year's total wheat crop as slightly below that of the record production of 1928. Grain is generally of high grade and quality. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics, estimates wheat production of the three Prairie Provinces at 534,000,000 bushels, which is 71,481,000 bushels larger than the third estimate of last year's crop and compares with a ten-year average of 397,013,900 bushels. The estimated average wheat yields by Provinces follow: Manitoba, 20.2 bushels; Saskatchewan, 16.7 bushels; Alberta, 23.4 bushels. The 1940 wheat acreage in the Prairie Provinces officially estimated at 27,750,000 acres, is the largest on record and is more than 1,900,000 acres in excess of last year. Production of coarse grains is slightly higher than in 1939 and winter feed supplies are generally sufficient. Production of oats is estimated at 251,500,000 bushels and of barley at 89,000,000 bushels. Tires and hay crops finished in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. In Alberta operations have been delayed by frequent rains, but threshing is now about 75 per cent completed. Wheat marketings have been affected by Governmental restrictions, but from August 1 to October 2 deliveries by farmers to country elevators totalled 156,724,000 bushels, compared with 259,198,000 bushels in the same period last year. In Quebec province yield up to average yields are expected of hay, grain, roots, apples, small fruits, tobacco and maple products. In Ontario the hay crop was heavy. Fall wheat a good yield, and late roots, except potatoes, are promising, but Spring grains were damaged by wet weather at harvesting. Small fruits were plentiful, but the yields of most were substantially below average. In the Maritime Provinces a fair to average harvest of all the main staples is generally indicated, with the exception that apples will be a light crop. In British Columbia the hay crop was heavy, yields of tree fruits good and the crop of tomatoes a record one, slightly below average were the grain, root and vegetable crops.

PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Seedling commenced about mid-April, but slow and rains delayed the completion of operations until the end of May. The season opened with sufficient moisture to ensure germination, but subsoil reserves were low over most of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. A period of cool weather in early June, accompanied by generous rains, promoted a rapid start. By the end of the month most districts showed normal development. Rising temperatures in July stimulated growth and by the first week of the month a large percentage of the wheat was in the shot blade. Excessive temperatures were followed by rains and showers which modified the damaging effects of the extreme heat. In several sections the July rains were the best in many years. In Northern and Western Manitoba, East Central, Central and parts of Southern and Northern Saskatchewan moisture was deficient from June but crops suffered severely from heat and crops on summer-fallowed land stood up well. Rainfall in August followed by a heat wave, hastened ripening and materially assisted the development of backward crops. At this period prospecting for the expectation of a crop of large proportions. Greenhouse crops caused severe damage in the Southwest corner of Saskatchewan and adjacent Alberta areas, but elsewhere losses were light. The toll from rust the year proved negligible. Light to heavy hail losses occurred in several localities. Harvesting of a satisfactory bred crop is in progress in Alberta, with production estimated at 300,000 tons, a slight increase over that of last year. Digging of sugar beets is under way in Manitoba and production is estimated at approximately

MARITIME PROVINCES

In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick grain made good progress until late in the season when excessive moisture and storms did heavy damage. Harvesting is not completed in some sections. On the whole only fair yields are indicated. An average hay crop was stored. Pastures, which suffered from drought during the mid-season, were improved later by the heavy rains and are in fair condition. Digging of potatoes is still in progress and, while the early varieties were affected by the dry weather, the crop generally is satisfactory and yields are expected to be fairly heavy. Other root crops have not suffered and an average yield is indicated. Apples made good progress but sized slowly, owing to dry weather during the summer. Late rains were

beneficial, but the severe gale in mid-September caused heavy damage to trees and the loss from blowing-off and bruising was extensive. The yield will be light. In Prince Edward Island conditions were favourable for seeding and germination was rapid. Although crops suffered from the dry weather in July and August and harvesting was delayed by heavy rains, the grain yield is estimated to be average but of inferior quality. A good hay crop was saved. Pastures have been in good condition all season. Digging of root crops is beginning and an average yield is anticipated.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Winter damage to fruit trees, strawberry plants and berry-canes was negligible. Spring farming operations were completed early under favourable moisture conditions, but continued dry weather during the Summer months made crops mature early, resulting in slightly below-average yields of grains, roots and vegetables. Harvesting weather was satisfactory. A heavy crop of good quality hay has been safely stored. There was a slight increase in the acreage planted to potatoes and tomatoes. Potatoes are of good quality, but the yield generally is 10 per cent below average. A record crop of good quality tomatoes is being picked. Other roots and vegetables were fairly satisfactory. Hops of good quality yielded only 75% of average, due to lack of moisture. Berries yielded fair to good crops. Apricots, peaches, and plums yielded better than average crops, while cherries and prunes were below average. All stone fruits were of good quality. The Okanagan apple crop is estimated at approximately 5,600,000 boxes—a normal yield and about the same as that of last year. Apples generally are below average in size and colour, due to lack of moisture. Hail losses were negligible. Pests were normal, with the exception of codling moth, which was more prevalent than in recent years and caused a large percentage of cull apples. Pasturage was fair in the Spring and Autumn months but poor during mid-Summer, due to dry weather.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Seeding operations, owing to inclement weather, were late in getting under way and were not completed until the middle of June. During the early Summer, conditions were favourable to growth and vegetation made excellent progress. As the season advanced rainstorms caused some lodging of grains, while continued cool, wet weather adversely affected the development of growing crops and interfered with the harvest. Fall wheat wintered well and an average crop of good quality was garnered. Heavy stands of Spring grains were cut, but a considerable portion weathered in the stack and is only of feeding quality. An above-average crop of hay was stored, but the quality suffered in some areas from excessive moisture. Pasturage had been abundant throughout the season, except in Eastern sections where the absence of rain was felt in late Summer. Beans and tomatoes were light crops. Mangolds and turnips give promise while sugar beets indicate a good crop but low in sugar content. Potatoes, especially late varieties, are affected by rot. Peas yielded satisfactory crops, not having over-early setbacks, but considerably below normal and the corn-borer was prevalent. Strawberries, raspberries and most other small fruits were plentiful. Below-average returns are reported for peaches, pears and grapes. Tobacco made marked recovery during the first three weeks in August after having been retarded by late planting and unsuitable growing conditions, but on August 24 the flue-cured crop in the Norfolk area suffered extensive frost damage. Present estimates place the flue-cured yield at around 24,000,000 lbs. from 42,300 acres, as compared with 75,000,000 pounds from an acreage of 62,800 last year, and the burley yield at 11,000,000 pounds from 8,800 acres as against 14,500,000 pounds from 11,200 acres in 1939.

THE WORLD'S FINEST FRUIT

RIPE, rosy Canadian Apples are one of the finest foods that can be bought. They're plump and wholesome, heavy with delicious juice. Eat two or three of these apples every day—they're good for you! And be sure to serve plenty of tasty apple desserts—apple pie, baked apples, apple dumplings and applesauce.

Canadian Apples are in your neighbourhood store. Buy them NOW. Marketing Service DOMINION DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, OTTAWA. Honourable James G. Gardiner, Minister.

They're GOOD AND GOOD FOR YOU

The SNAPSHOT GUILD MAKE YOUR PICTURES POINTED



Make your pictures pointed. In this shot, the sign helps tell the story. Such details often "make" a picture.

WHEN you see an opportunity for a picture, shoot it—but don't always stop there. Think a bit, and see if there isn't a way to improve the shot and make it more pointed. Every good picture has a point—it tells you something when you look at it. The more definite you can make the idea, or "story," the better the picture. And often little added details, things that don't occur to you at first glance, yield a much-improved shot. For example, consider the boys and their wagon-work, as shown above. Chances are, Dad supplied the tools and the idea, and shot a first picture in the backyard. Then, very likely, the "men working" sign down the street suggested a better background—one that would make the picture more effective—so the scene was changed for a second shot. Incidentally, this shot might have been even better if it included the whole sign. That's the way a lot of good pictures are made. The first picture doesn't have to be the final one. If an idea is good, it's worth repeating later—in a different location, or with different subjects. Oftentimes,

In examining a print, you can see points where the picture might be improved—and in a great many cases, it's easy enough to get a second shot. To make your pictures more pointed, here are some tips. First, show the action clearly, so anybody can tell what is going on. The camera position has a lot to do with this, and sometimes a shift of a foot or so to one side will make a world of difference. Holding the camera higher or lower makes a difference, too. Second, eliminate things that don't contribute to the picture idea. If there are objects that have no part in telling the story, move them aside, or choose a viewpoint that leaves them out of the picture. Third, keep the interest within the picture. Let the subjects look at what they're doing. Few pictures demand that the subject look at the camera, or even appear aware of it. Try these hints, when you're shooting pictures—and when the first shot isn't perfect, get a second one. It's a poor idea that isn't worth two or more pictures.

John van Galder

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In many communities you can save up to 20% on fire insurance premiums if you specify Brantford Asphalt Slaters for your home. This saving is made possible because Brantford Roofing materials provide extra fire protection.

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