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NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR THE BUSY FARMER

Egg Production Up
In 1928 there were 34,022,511 egg-producing hens in Canada, a decline of 100,189 over the previous year. They accounted for 268,868,857 dozen eggs or 15,591,630 dozen more than in the previous year. Ontario was the leading egg-producing province and showed a very substantial increase over the preceding year. Quebec was the second highest egg-producing province.

Acid Phosphate is Superphosphate
Certain fertilizer salesmen in Ontario are selling superphosphate, claiming this to be a superior product to acid phosphate. The two names mean one and the same thing. This fertilizer has been on the market for years and ordinarily is guaranteed to contain 16 per cent. available phosphoric acid. It can be used alone on certain crops or in home mixed fertilizers. Large quantities are used in making up mixed fertilizers, as sold by many fertilizer companies.

The Calf to Retain
Good judges of cattle can tell, almost at once, whether a calf is worth rearing or not, and that soon after it is born. There are certain signs that cannot be neglected, and by which they are guided in making their selection. A small undersized calf is not one to be retained, for it will but rarely repay the trouble involved in feeding and rearing into a store beast, and thus it had better be taken to market as soon as possible. A lively calf jumping and playing around its dam is what one likes to see, for such a calf is strong on its legs, healthy and should be possessed of a strong constitution.

Borer Still a Menace
Provincial Entomologist, L. Caesar, who is in charge of the enforcement of the corn borer act, recently declared that the impression that the corn borer has been reduced in most counties and that the law will not be strictly enforced this year is fallacious. "The borer is just as dangerous an insect today as it ever was," he declared, "and all it needs is to be given a chance such as it would have if the Corn Borer Act had not been enforced. Corn growers in Ontario will have to become accustomed to the fact that cleaning up corn remnants each spring will be a regular part of farm operations. Non-enforcement of the act this year would be folly."

Potato Acreage
"Intention to plant" surveys in the United States suggest an increase of six per cent. in potato acreage. If this happens and a normal or heavy crop is harvested lower prices may be expected next marketing season. Ontario prices for potatoes have been satisfactory this year which may tempt growers to increase acreage. Poor and marginal potato land may come into production and result in an increase of low quality product. Farmers will be well advised to direct their energies toward an increased yield per acre of high-quality tubers rather than an increase in acreage.

Soils and Crops
Nature seems to have adapted some plants so that they can live better under conditions that other plants cannot tolerate. Watermelons, blackberries, strawberries and some other plants grow very satisfactorily in an acid soil providing it is otherwise fertile. Potatoes are sometimes said to grow better in an acid soil. This opinion, however, is based on the fact that lime in the soil encourages the growth of scab, which harms the potatoes. Lime really makes the soil better for potatoes when there is no scab although the benefit is never very marked. Better lime the soil after the potato crop than before it. Some grasses are very acid resistant, red top, tall meadow oat grass and bent grasses being very high in the list. Timothy does well, however, in many soils where clover will no longer grow.

Life of Farm Machinery
It has been found that the average life of a grain binder is sixteen years with a variation from five to thirty-three years. A spring-tooth harrow, under ordinary service condition, is good only about eight years, while a wagon will hold out for twenty-four years. A survey made recently indicated that the average cost of using a one-row cultivator was eight cents which was about the lowest for any implement. In some instances machines made almost entirely of metal and not housed seemed to last as long as those which were housed. However, other machines with many small parts or parts with wood, cloth or leather, badly need shelter. Binders fall in this class. Investigation reveals that binders which were sheltered required only 1.38 cents per acre for repairs as compared with 2.38c for those not housed.

Have Ewe in Condition
The best method of ensuring strong and vigorous lambs, which will do well from birth is to have the ewe in good condition for lambing. Plenty of exercise with a light grain mixture, two or three pounds of silage or roots per day and some good hay are what she needs. Mother's milk is all the new lambs need for the first two weeks but thereafter a little grain or hay should be available for them to nibble at.

A Praiseworthy Plan
The Boys' Potato Club formed in Caradoc Township, Middlesex County, last year is to be expanded into a still larger organization this year if plans of W. K. Riddell and M. F. Cook develop satisfactorily. The following scheme has been developed: Any boy between the ages of 12 and 20 years residing in selected townships in the county will be given a bag of certified potatoes by a member of the London Chamber of Commerce on the understanding that he return to the donor two bags of potatoes next fall. The member will keep account of labor and expenses and in the fall a potato fair will be held. In November the winners will be announced at a luncheon.

Fruit Crop Promising
A preliminary survey of conditions in fruit and vegetable areas announced last week showed that on the whole there has been very little winter-killing and most of the trees seem to have come through quite well. A crop of apples well up to the average of past years is predicted for 1930. Fruit budding is said to be quite below normal in quality but generally well developed. Niagara orchards wintered well and small fruits and grape vines are in excellent condition. A good supply of healthy fruit buds is apparent in the Burlington district but the outlook for the pear crop is not so promising. With the exception of the Leamington district, peaches generally have wintered well.

Good Stock Pays
"It is not greater total production that is being urged so much as great-

er production per animal, and hence cheaper and more profitable production" is the official explanation of the Dept. in urging the production campaign this spring. A case is cited where a young farmer began to realize that the twelve cows on his farm were a very ordinary bunch, producing just two cans of milk daily. A good bull was procured and soon an improvement was noted in the herd after the poorer cows were weeded out. In a short time the young man was shipping two cans of milk daily from six cows—half the number with a consequent cut in the cost of production.

MAPLE

Mr. R. A. Hassard a prominent speaker and worker on Social Reform will address the Sabbath School of the United Church on Mother's Day, May 11th. A programme under the direction of Dr. F. Routley will also be given. A cordial invitation is extended to all to attend the meeting.

A sale of Home Baking and other useful articles will be held in St. Stephen's Parish Hall on Saturday, May 3rd. Afternoon tea will be served from 4 to 6 p. m.

Miss Walkington and Mrs. McLean have been appointed delegates to the Presbyterian Provincial meeting of the W. M. S.

A play entitled "Civil Service" will be given in the Community Hall on Friday evening, May 2nd by the Windermere Dramatic Club, Toronto, under the auspices of the Ladies Aid of the Lutheran Church.

Mrs. A. S. Kerr and little daughter are spending a couple of weeks with friends in Belleville.

There was no school in the senior room of the public school on Monday as the principal Mr. Carter was away attending the funeral of an uncle.

A number of friends were entertained at a birthday party on Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Jennie Gunn.

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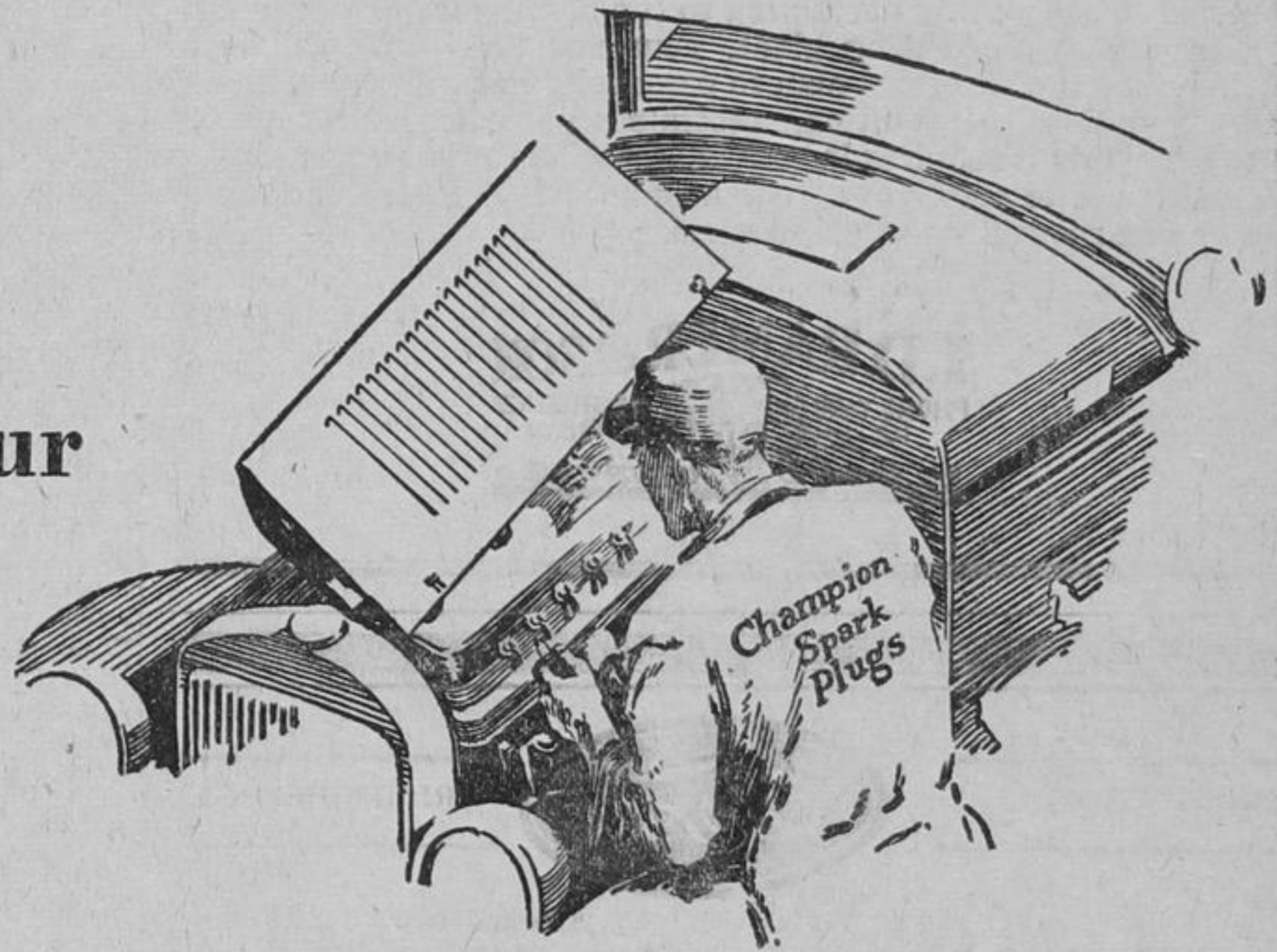
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