

News and Information for the Busy Farmer

(Furnished by the Ontario Department of Agriculture)

Canada Second

Canada is the second largest exporter of apples, ranking second only to the United States in this respect. In 1936 Canada exported a total of 96,000 tons of apples, consisting almost entirely of dessert and cooking apples.

Prize-Winning Essay

Among the many agricultural students in the United States and Canada, the medal essay competition of the Saddle and Siroim Club of Chicago at the International Hay and Grain Show and International Live Stock Exposition is regarded as a very important event, and to be one of the winners is considered a notably high honour. The contest is held every year by the Saddle and Siroim Club of Chicago for the purpose of encouraging writing on live stock topics and is open to all undergraduates of agricultural colleges in the United States and Canada. As in former years, there were many contestants in the 1937 competition.

The subject selected for this year's contest was "The Character Contributions of the Live Stock Club." In the best twenty essays selected by the judges, Robert S. Procnier, Ontario Agricultural College ranked third, and thereby gained the bronze medal. L. T. Sonley, also of Ontario Agricultural College, was placed ninth.

Departmental Changes

J. C. Steckley, Agricultural Representative in Brant County since 1934 has been appointed Superintendent of the Western Ontario Experimental Farm at Ridgetown, Hon. P. M. Dewan, Ontario Minister of Agriculture, announced recently. Mr. Steckley succeeds W. R. Reek, recently appointed Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario. Mr. Steckley took over his new duties Dec. 15th.

Other appointments announced by Mr. Dewan were as follows: A. D. Runions, Agricultural Representative for Peterboro County, appointed Instructor and Extension Specialist at Kemptonville Agricultural School; A. M. Barr, Agricultural representative for Grenville County since 1930, transferred to Brant County as representative; F. C. Patterson, Welland County Agricultural representative, transferred to Peterboro County as representative; Joseph Wilson, Hastings County representative, is transferred to Welland County and H. L. Fair, Kincardine, appointed to the Hastings position. H. G. MacLeod, of Dunvegan, Ont., acting as assistant Agricultural representative in Prince Edward County since Oct. 1 becomes Agricultural representative for Grenville County. All the above appointments take effect Jan. 1st.

How Long Should the

Breeding Hens Rest

Before attempting to say how long a breeding hen should be rested, it should be clearly understood what the term breeding hen implies. Although it is a common practice to mate pullets and use them for breeding purposes, most persons regard breeding hens as being at least one year old.

While there are many factors involved in determining the length of the rest period, condition of the birds after the laying year is over is one of the most important. With poultry as with other lines of live stock breeding, progress is the result of careful selection and proper feeding. It would be a shortsighted policy for poultrymen to consider the return of egg sales alone. In order to stay in the business and continue to make progress, one must keep the flock in a high state of vitality.

When eggs are selling at high prices poultrymen are reluctant to throw their hens in moult in order that the birds may have sufficient time to rest before the next laying year begins. There are, nevertheless, certain principles which cannot be ignored if type, vigour and high production are to be maintained in the flock from year to year. If hens are "all laid out" and thin in flesh, the rest period evidently should be longer than if they were well fleshed and heavy. Two to three months is the usual length of time required for the birds to be fit once again for another year's production. Weather conditions during the moult also affect the length of the rest period. If the weather is wet and cold, the birds eat less, consequently feather growth is slower. Many poultrymen also attach too little importance to feeding practices during this resting stage. The birds should have all the grain they can eat, to help them regain the loss in body weight. Water fountains should always be clean and never empty. A good mash will also help to rebuild the birds. When the new feathers are fully grown and the birds have reached their normal weight once again, then they are ready for another year. One gains no time in trying to force the birds back into laying before they are ready.

SELFISHNESS

The curse of selfishness is responsible for more unhappiness in domestic life than drink or disaster! Consideration for the happiness and welfare of the men and women with whom one is intimately associated, should be reckoned one of the cardinal virtues.

The Spirit of Christmas

Christmas, just one word, and yet in that one word there is a world-wide meaning and significance. Everywhere, for all time, Christmas has been, to people of varying creeds, a day of varying emotions. It is a day of gladness or one of bitterness. It is a day on which happy memories become glorified or hard thoughts sting like acid in an open wound. It is a day that banishes half-way measures—a day that may easily lift one to the heights of happiness—and just as easily plunge one to the depths of misery.

For those who do not feel it at all, for those whose feelings are different, something in life has gone wrong.

Christmas is what we make it. To many, it is the day of greatest happiness. Those who recognize the opportunities it offers of taking a little bit of joy to the lonely, sick and poor, know that Christmas is the best day of the year—and there is no question in their mind as to why they do the very same things Christmas after Christmas. They know definitely why they hang stockings for the kiddies, light Christmas trees, decorate their homes, and spend endless hours in surging, struggling Christmas crowds to secure a tiny token for some friend. Certainly, they know the joy of Christmas Day is only for those who lose themselves in remembering others.

In the National magazine some time ago, there appeared an article by Anna Farquhar, in which she said:

"Santa Claus totters under his pack, wearing a long, old face these days. Probably in his youth he had no idea of growing old or departing this life. Nowadays, he creeps down the chimney stealthily as if somewhat ashamed of his mission, like a polar burglar, and his eighty tiny reindeer make small clatter on the lawn, for many of their joy-bells have been lost. When Santa lays a finger aside his nose reflectively in our times, he exclaims without a bit of jolly shake below the waist, 'Degenerates! Degenerates! Has my world come to such a pass that people wish to pay me for my presents? Can it be that little children are so surfeited with toys that they stop to ask how much they cost be-

fore accepting them? There was little Willie, last year, who said to his mamma, when he first saw the beautiful woolly dog, 'What's it got inside? Candy or money? Don't want a dog unless it's got something inside!'"

And undoubtedly, there are many ready to agree with Miss Farquhar that the true Christmas is what we —as individuals— make it.

Nothing in life is without alloy—even Christmas must have its flaws. There are some few people to whom Christmas is a day of giving and taking—of expectancy, disappointment and pain; a day, in fact, of great worry, distress, sorrow and ill-will. To those people, Christmas is merely a day on which to pay social debts. Those are the people whom you hear say that the modern Christmas is losing its spirit and meaning—and that it is now viciously commercialized by dollar-mad business men.

Gifts in themselves are of little value—they are symbols of something else—and behind the gift is the sentiment that is the real significance of Christmas. It is the spirit of love and good-fellowship—of peace and good-will.

Believe in Christmas yourself and make it what it should be rather than leave it to others to make it what you would like it to be. Make a spirited and determined effort this Christmas to brighten this world and its homes, and bring to an actual reality the greatest message ever heard—that message of hope and possibility—PEACE ON EARTH—GOODWILL toward men.

Peace and good-will—not for a day or for a year—but for all time. Give the spirit of Christmas a permanent place in your homes and in your hearts that it may grow so strong that nothing can destroy it. A Merry, Merry Christmas to you. The best we could wish for any one of you is a true and warm understanding of Christmas!

Charles Dunn, driving at night along a Tennessee road, decided to have a cigarette. When he lit it two teeth and a part of his lip disappeared in the explosion. He had forgotten that in the pocket with loose cigarettes he also carried some Christmas firecrackers.

MARVELVILLE

The L.T.B. held their annual meeting in the Orange Hall, Dec. 15th. The W.M. Sister Edna Warren was in the chair for the meeting. After the general order of business the election of officers took place. District Master Bro. Gerald Hill occupied the chair for the election of officers and installation of officers, Sister Verna Fader acting as Director of Ceremonies.

Officers were as follows:—W.M. Bro. Alex. MacEwen; D.M. Bro. Russell McNab; Rec. Sec., Bro. Elwin Hill re-elected; Fin. Sec., Bro. Norman McCormick re-elected; Treas., Bro. Earl Hill; Chap., Bro. Ernie Warren re-elected Dir. of Cer., Sister Verna Fader re-elected; Conductor, Sis. Pearl MacEwen re-elected; 1st com., Bro. Leslie Robinson; 2nd com., Bro. L. M. Brunton; 3rd com., Sis. Florence McCormick; 4th com., Bro. Wm. Loney; 5th com., Sister Edna Warren; inside tyler, Bro. G. Hill; outside tyler, Bro. Willard McCormick.

Short addresses were given by all newly elected officers. The hall was beautifully decorated for the occasion with Christmas bells and streamers and a Christmas tree carried a present for each member.

The meeting was brought to a close and a chicken supper was enjoyed by all.

Wedding bells are ringing in this vicinity.

Earl and Elwin Hill attended the scarlet meeting in Vernon Thursday evening.

Mrs. Jack Stewart and son Hugh were the guests of Mrs. Barber on Sunday.

Mr. Oscar Hill is now employed by Mr. E. Park, Echo Valley.

Mrs. C. Fader spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Mitchell of Edwards.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Brunton made a trip to the Capital on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Dempsey, of Kenmore, called on friends here on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Brunton visited Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Hay on Sunday night.

Mrs. Isaac Griffith called on friends here on Sunday.

Don't forget the S.S. concert in the church on Friday night, Dec. 24. Come and enjoy yourself.

Marvelville Y. P. S.

Annual Meeting

The Marvelville Y.P.S. held their annual meeting Friday, Dec. 17th, at 8 p.m. when the following officers were elected:—Hon. President, Rev. A. M. Warton; Pres., Margaret Little re-elected; Vice-Pres., Harold Brunton; Sec.-Treas., Robert Hill; pianist, Agnes Barker; Press Sec., Anne Wood; Conveners—Christian Fellowship, Vera Brunton; Christian Citizenship, Oscar Hill; Christian Culture, Anne Wood; Missionary, Verna Fader.

A Christmas program under the direction of the Christian Culture convener followed the business period and opened by all singing some Christmas carols. After the Scripture reading by Harold Brunton, a solo, "There's a Song in the Air" was sung by Agnes Barker.

The account of H. V. Morton's pilgrimage to Bethlehem when he visited the place of Christ's birth was read by Anne Wood from his book "In the Steps of the Master."

Oscar Hill read the world-famous editorial in answering the small girls question "Is There a Santa Claus."

The convener presented a few thoughts on the Christmas message and what it means to the world and the program closed with prayer and the singing of "Silent Night."

A short period of recreation led by Russell Paul and Robert Hill followed.

Quiet music and the Mizpah benediction completed the evening's programme.

KENMORE

Miss Phyllis Sheldrick, of Russell, spent a few days last week with her sister, Mrs. Laurence Cooper, here.

Miss Norma Carkner made a business trip to the city on Monday.

Miss Muriel Curgy, of Ottawa, spent Sunday here with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Whitteker and sons spent Sunday with the latter's sister, Mrs. Earl VanAllen and Mr. VanAllen.

The Kenmore Baptist Church held their Christmas concert at the church on Friday evening last.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Wallen and son spent Sunday with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Watson.

Miss Anne MacKinkade spent Tuesday afternoon at the Capitol.

Mr. Morgan Park, of Hogsback, spent Sunday at his home here.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Watson are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Tuesday, Dec. 28th, and will be at home to friends and neighbors on Tuesday afternoon and evening.

Miss Lyla Warren, of Metcalfe, spent Sunday with her parents here.

Mr. and Mrs. George Eastman and family, of Russell, spent Sunday evening with Mrs. Bertha Hume.

PREPARATION

Be thou prepared for the fight, if thou wilt win the victory.—A Kempis.

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North Russell

Y. P. S. Annual

The North Russell Y.P.S. held their annual meeting on Friday evening, Dec. 17th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hamilton with the president Walter Henderson in the chair.

The meeting opened by singing "Breathe on me (Breath of God)" and repeating the Lord's Prayer in unison. The Scripture was read by Ruby Buckingham.

The election of officers was conducted by Mr. Richard Morrow assisted by Mrs. Lloyd Morrow and Miss Mabel Buckingham. The officers for the coming year are as follows:—President, Clelland Hamilton; Vice President, Lloyd Hay; Secretary, Carman James; Treas., Thomas Buckingham; Missionary convener, Eldon Paul; Citizenship convener, Beulah Shelp; Literary convener, Jean Allison; Recreation committee, Ruby Buckingham and Ruby James; refreshments, Belle Beckstead and Ed. Smith; Secretary Press, Ruby James.

At the close of the meeting lunch was served by the hostess and some of the members.

Vernon L. O. L.

Annual Meeting

The Vernon L.O.L. No. 1095 held its annual meeting on Thursday, Dec. 15th. Visitors were present from Marvelville, Metcalfe and North Russell. District Master John Warren and Past County Master H. C. Robinson conducted the nomination and installation which resulted as follows:

W.M.—S. A. Kinnaird.
D.M.—Elwood Dockstrader.
Chaplain—Fred Stoodley.
Rec.-Sec.—George Rixon.
Fin. Sec.—Geo. W. Acres.
Lecturers—Thos. Genoe and Mac Bowen.

Marshall—Stuart Hill.
Committeemen—Clifford Acres, Milton McCaul, Garfield McCaul, Harold Kennedy and C. Wilks.

After the L.O.L. meeting the Scarlet Chapter of Russell No. 2 held its election of officers, having opened the Lodge at Metcalfe on Dec. 14. A hearty vote of thanks was given to L.O.L. 1095 by the visitors for the pleasant evening and refreshments.

North Russell

Women's Institute

The December meeting of the North Russell Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Richard Buckingham on Wednesday afternoon Dec. 15th, with the president, Mrs. R. Whitley presiding, assisted by the secretary, Mrs. Hitsman. The meeting opened with the Institute Ode followed by the Lord's Prayer. The roll call was answered by a recipe for Christmas pudding.

A cash donation was sent to the Cripple Children's Hospital Toronto.

Mrs. Russell Hay was appointed to get Christmas cards and mail them to the aged and shut-ins.

A card of thanks was read from the Wm. Boothe Family.

Mrs. Thos. Herrington gave us a talk on the Buymanship course she attended at Vars.

Mrs. John Buckingham, convener for December then took charge of the meeting. A paper prepared by Miss Mable Buckingham on "The value of the rural school concert" was read by Mrs. Fred Scott.

Miss Velma Buckingham then had a "Life Saver" contest and sides were chosen with Mrs. Robert Whitley's side being the winners.

Tea was then served by the hostess assisted by Miss Margaret James. Fourteen members and six visitors were present. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Russell Hay on January 19th and roll call is to be answered by "A Canadian Author." Convener, Mrs. Percy Graham for Canadianization.

North Russell W.M.S.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the North Russell Women's Missionary Society was held at the home of Mrs. Fred Shelp on December 8th.

The president, Miss Margaret James, presided during the business and worship period. Mrs. Ernest Hamilton then presided for nomination and installation of officers as follows:

President—Miss Margaret James.
1st Vice Pres.—Mrs. George Hay.
2nd Vice Pres.—Mrs. Wm. Burton
Secretary—Miss Matilda Hitsman.
Treasurer—Mrs. Ernest Hamilton.
M. M. Sec.—Mrs. Russell Hay.
The hostess then served tea and a social half hour was spent.

PRESERVE YOUR HEALTH
In "Gone With the Wind," the spirited heroine, Scarlett, when confronted with a serious problem would remark: "I won't think of it now; I'll think of it tomorrow. After all, tomorrow is another day." A great percentage of this world's ills is brought on by worry. If the bogey "worry" attacks you mercilessly, put it off until the morrow; and with the new day you will be surprised at the renewed courage and optimism it will bring.

All of us know that the way to keep well and fit is to eat moderately, take exercise, sleep plenty, get as much fresh air and sunshine as possible, and keep from worrying. Then why do we use this common-sense way of preserving our precious health?

GREAT THINGS

By Mrs. Wm. A. Gamble, Ventnor

Only a pat on a stray dog's head,
And a word of kindness spoken,
Made him lift his head with joy—not dread—
And mended a heart almost broken.

Only a pat on a wee tot's head,
When its lips begin to quiver,
And a flow of love from the source above—
Brings joy unto the giver.

Only a babe in a manger laid,
And the bells of heaven are ringing;
Why such joy and gladness made?
List—to the angels singing.

Peace on earth—Good will to men,
Is sounding the world around;
Open your hearts—take the message in—
And with His adorers be found.

Why should bells at Christmas ring?
Why should little children sing?
Hail our Saviour, Lord and King.
Let us give thanks and adore Him.

THE PIPER

He has no home and little of th's world's gear, but he smiles; His corduroys are built for wear, not for holding coin, but he smiles; He worries not if stocks are twelve or six, Or money's based on gold or politics, So long as folk are open hearted, then he smiles.

COMPARISON

Those who compare the age on which their lot has fallen with a golden age which exists only in their imagination, may talk of degeneracy and decay; but no man who is correctly informed as to the past, will be disposed to take a morose or desponding view of the present.—Lord Macaulay.

Christmas Greeting 1937—

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A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

A. LATREMOUILLE

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