

ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL AND
EXPERIMENTAL UNION. CO-
OPERATIVE EXPERIMENTS
IN AGRICULTURE.

Upwards of 1000 varieties of farm crops have been tested in the Experimental Department of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, within the past eleven years, and six hundred of them have been grown for at least five years in succession. Nearly all the Canadian sorts and several hundred new varieties imported by the Experimental Department from different parts of Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and the United States have been included in these carefully conducted experiments. Some of the new varieties have done exceptionally well and have already been distributed over Ontario, through the medium of the Experimental Union, with very gratifying results. The Siberian Oats, Mandsehuri Barley, Herison Bearded Spring Wheat, and the Cloud's Early Yellow Dent, Mammoth Cuban, Wisconsin Earliest White Dent, and Salzer's North Dakota varieties of corn, which are now becoming so popular in Ontario, were imported by the Experimental Department and after being thoroughly tested were distributed in small quantities.

The present system of co-operative experimental work in agriculture was started in 1886 with 60 plots, which were situated on twelve different farms in Ontario. Since that date, however, the work has increased from year to year and in 1896 there were 11,124 plots, which were situated on 2,360 farms. We are again prepared to distribute material for co-operative experiments with fertilizers, fodder crops, roots, grains, grasses, and clovers.

Interested persons in Ontario who wish to join in the work, may select any one of the experiments for 1897 and inform the director at once of the choice made. All material will be furnished entirely free of charge to each applicant, but he will be expected to conduct the test according to the instructions sent with the seeds, and to report the results of his tests as soon as possible after harvest.

List of experiments for 1897.

- 1.—Testing nitrate of soda, superphosphate, muriate of potash, mixture, and no manure with Corn.
- 2.—Testing nitrate of soda, superphosphate, muriate of potash, mixture and no manure with Mangels.
- 3.—Testing six leading varieties of Fodder Corn.
- 4.—Growing three Leguminous crops for Green Fodder.
- 5.—Growing three mixtures of grain for Green Fodder.
- 6.—Testing four varieties of Grasses for Hay.
- 7.—Testing four varieties of Clovers for Hay.
- 8.—Testing three varieties of Buckwheat.
- 9.—Testing four varieties of Spring Wheat.

- 10.—Testing four varieties of Barley.
- 11.—Testing five varieties of Oats.
- 12.—Testing four varieties of Peas.
- 13.—Testing three varieties of Beans.
- 14.—Testing five varieties of Carrots.
- 15.—Testing five varieties of Mangels.
- 16.—Testing four varieties of Turnips.

Material for either No. 1 or 2. experiment will be sent by express, and for each of the others it will be forwarded by mail. All fertilizers and seeds will be sent in good time for the spring seeding, providing the applications are received at an early date. The supply of material being limited, those who apply first will be surest of obtaining the desired outfit. It might be well for each applicant to make a second choice for fear the first could not be granted.

Particular varieties need not be mentioned as all the kinds to be distributed are those which have done exceptionally well upon the trial plots in the Experimental Department.

C. A. ZAVITZ Director.
March 22 '97. Agricultural College.

SCHOOL REPORTS.

S. S. No. 10 Bentinck, for Jan. Feb. and Mar. based on the result of examinations, review exercises and attendance. Only those of highest standing reported. Names in order of merit. 5th class—Dougald Campbell, Chas. Lunny. 4th.—Ellen Puterbough, Lorn Clark, Maggie Caton, Jas. Ewens. 3rd. Sr.—Bessie Smith, Jessie Ewens, Tena McLean, Tena McCormick. 3rd. Jr.—Dougald Clark, Walter Clark, Archie McLean, May Clark. 2nd. Sr.—Alex Dalglish, Spurgeon McLean, Aggie Morton, Ida Brown. 2nd. Jr.—Hugh McDonald, Bell Caton, Willie Brown, Nessie Collinson. 2nd. pt.—Jessie McDonald, Neil McLean, Tena Dalglish, Mary Morton. 1st. pt.—Lizzie Dalglish Lizzie Grierson. A. D. Galbraith. Teacher.

S. S. No. 14 Normanby Mar. 1897. class 4—Ida Blyth, Mary Blyth, Mary Cornish. 3rd—Georgina Halliday, Albert Weltz, Clark Torry. 2nd. Sr.—Willie Keller, John Blyth, Clara Weltz. 2nd. Jr.—Martha Weltz, Victoria Cornish, Bertha Koch. Sr. pt. 2nd. James Blyth, Otto Keller, Willie Halliday. Jr. pt 2nd.—John Travis. Sr. 1st. Aggie Marshall. Average attendance 17. Miss May Hopkins, Teacher.

THE MERRITT POST-OFFICE.

The people of Merritt are justly indignant over the loss of their post-office. Investigation shows that for the past eighteen years the people have enjoyed a bi-weekly mail service, that the office has always been satisfactorily conducted, and that it was centrally located where the school children could get their mails regularly. It was five miles from Varney and Dromore and seven mile from Durham where most of the people will henceforth get their mail as very little business is done by them in either of the previously mentioned places.

Why this office should be discontinued is a mystery, but as the neighborhood is strongly Conservative, political antipathy to the people there, is assigned by some of them as the probable cause. We can only believe that the government will be so weak as to exercise such a policy, and it is more than probable that the postmaster-general knows nothing of the political complexion of the vicinity.

The people may not have been paying a great revenue, and has been cut off without considering the circumstances of the case nor the requirements of the people. Mr. Mulock boasts a determination to make his department proud and actuated by the spirit of an ambitious autocrat he seems unwilling to be advised.

We think it the duty of the representative of the constituency, to exercise every just influence to restore to the people a mail that has been enjoyed by them and appreciated too, for the past eighteen years. Our columns are open for an explanative from Dr. Mulock, or any one else who will enter into a calm, considerate discussion of the question.

ORCHARDVILLE.

Miss Emma Brown has gone to Mt. Forest to live.

Miss Annie McEwen, who has been living in Mt. Forest for some time, returned home last week, and intends leaving for Brampton this week.

Mr. Thos. Queen and sister, Theresa, of Woodland, were the guests of Mr. John Queen last Sunday.

Mr. John Collins left last week for Brandon, Man.

Miss Una Reid returned from Detroit last week and is the guest of Mrs. A. Schram at present.

The boys they have departed
For lands that's far away.

The girls are broken hearted
And don't know what to say.

It wouldn't do to tell their names
Although we all may know it,

Em, Hat and also the Mats feel
Very bad

But do not like to show it.

The sun always shines behind the
clouds,

There'll be wedding dresses instead of
shrouds,

For each will claim his own some
day,

But we hope they wont take you
far away.

Cheer up girls! let your sorrow
cease,

Wipe away your tears and live
in peace.

When the boys have returned from
making their gold,

The Old, Old Story will soon be
told.

Bull for Service.

A THOROUGH BRED HEREFORD
Bull for Service at lot 68, con. 3,
Bentinck.

PICKEN BROS.
March 23rd. 3m.