

ONTARIO FARMERS LOSE HEAVILY

Degrading of Wheat by Smut Calls for Proper Treatment of Seed Grain to Eradicate Evil—Ontario Agricultural College Issues Statement.

Fully \$700,000 has been lost to Ontario farmers owing to the presence of smut in last season's No. 2 winter wheat. This estimate has been arrived at after an inspection of the samples of grain collected from all parts of the Province for use in setting the Standards for Commercial Grades of Grain for the last season, when it was shown that a large percentage of the grain would grade below the Standard Grades.

Records of official inspections in the Eastern Division indicated that over thirty per cent of the grain had been excluded from the standard grades, while it was expected the percentage of the total crop would be larger. The estimate was that the presence of smut would mean a decreased return to the farmers of the province of from five to fifteen cents a bushel below the normal price of No. 2 winter wheat, or a total loss as stated above.

An Avoidable Loss

Deterioration in the quality of Ontario wheat from smut became so pronounced last year that the Grain Standards Board for the Toronto District of the Eastern Inspection Division directed the attention of the Hon. J. S. Martin, Minister of Agriculture, to the great importance of farmers treating their seed grain for smut if they are to produce crops to yield the largest monetary returns. Such treatment will easily remove the heavy annual loss, and to indicate what line of procedure must be followed, the Ontario Agricultural College, which has done some experimenting along this line, recently issued a statement.

Two Kinds of Smut

There are two kinds of wheat smut in Ontario, namely, Stinking Smut or Bunt and Loose Smut of Wheat. The stinking smut or bunt was very prevalent last year, and I expect to hear that it is prevalent again this year, judging by the amount that has developed in our check plots in our experimental work.

Experimenting conducted in the United States during the past few years and this year in Ontario, demonstrated that copper carbonate dust is the most satisfactory seed disinfectant for the prevention of stinking smut or bunt of wheat.

Directions for the copper carbonate dust treatment: The dust should be applied at the rate of 2 ounces per bushel of wheat. Place the grain to be treated in a barrel or churn about a bushel at a time. Add the required amount of copper carbonate dust and then revolve the barrel or churn until the dust is thoroughly mixed with the grain. After this treatment the grain may be bagged and sown at once. This method of applying the dust involves much time and labor if large quantities of grain are treated. Machines are now on the market, however, for applying dust rapidly to large quantities of seed.

Another Method

"Stinking smut or bunt can also be prevented by sprinkling with a diluted formalin solution. The directions for sprinkling with a formalin solution are as follows:

"Mix one pint of formalin with forty gallons of water. Place the grain to be treated in a heap on a clean floor. Sprinkle the formalin solution over the grain, then shovel the grain into another pile so as to mix it thoroughly; then sprinkle and shovel again. Repeat this operation until every grain is moistened by the solution. Just enough of the solution should be applied to thoroughly wet every grain, but not enough to make the grain wet and soapy. In treating small quantities, use proportional amounts of the formalin solution. After the grain has been thoroughly sprinkled, cover the pile with bags or sackings that have been sprinkled with or soaked in a formalin solution and leave for three or four hours. At the end of this time, spread the grain out thinly to dry. Shovel it over three or four times to hasten the drying. Forty gallons of the formalin solution is sufficient to sprinkle between fifty and sixty bushels of grain.

Avoid Wet, Sappy Grain

"The objection to treating with formalin solution is that there is great danger of injuring the vitality of the seed. It is not wise to use formalin solution stronger than 1 pint to 40 gallons, and care must be taken not to apply too much of it to the grain. To secure satisfactory results, just enough of the formalin solution should be applied to moisten every grain, but not enough to make it wet and soapy.

"Loose smut of wheat cannot be prevented by treating the seed with bluestone or copper carbonate dust. The easiest way of avoiding loss from this smut is to secure seed from a field or district where loose smut is not present. Such seed would produce a crop free from this smut.

Miss Macphail's Official Majority 1,728

Returning Officer J. N. Perdue of Holland has officially declared Miss Agnes C. Macphail, Progressive candidate in South-East Grey, elected with 1,728 majority. Miss Macphail's majority in the election last October was 1,407, and while her actual majority on the 14th inst. is 321 in excess of the 1925 vote, the larger

number of ballots cast may have had considerable to do with it. In the election just past, there were 2,153 more votes cast than in the previous contest. The total vote in 1925 for both candidates was 11,897; this year there was a total of 14,050. There was a total number of 14,078 votes cast, but of these 28 were rejected as spoiled ballots,

and the actual number of votes allowed was 14,050. In the official list given below, for the sake of comparison, we give the results in last October's election as well, and our readers can therefore make their own comparisons and form their own conclusions. In the 1921 election, the total number of ballots cast was 13,956.

Table showing election results for Miss Macphail vs. Edwards in 1925 and 1926 across various wards and townships. Includes sections for Artemesia, Holland, Markdale, Neustadt, Normanby, Osprey, Proton, Sullivan, and a Summary of Majorities for 1925 and 1926.

If loose smut is bad, and it is impossible to secure seed free from infection, it may be necessary to establish a seed plot and treat the seed with Jensen's Modified Hot Water Treatment.

AIR TRAFFIC IS NOT DANGEROUS

Contrary to the popular opinion that air-transportation is extremely perilous comes statistics which are remarkable inasmuch as they state that only one death in a million miles is the official record in forty-seven months preceding June 1.

During that period, 1,197 passengers and 61,412 pounds of express were carried a total distance of 1,098,373 miles in 14,644 flying hours. Flights started totalled 691, of which 662 were completed. There were twenty-six crashes with but two accidents to personnel. These figures were compiled at the United States airway control office at Fairfield, Ohio, and refer to operations of government planes, which are now extensively used for carrying officers, messages and parcels of importance.

It is wise to know when to let go before you take hold.

You can't estimate a woman's weight by her sighs.

"They are a well-matched pair." "Indeed!" "Yes; he snores and she's deaf." Let me live in a house by the side of the road and fix balloon tires for men.

Durham Buying Station

Poultry Wanted

We pay the highest market price for Live Poultry delivered to our Warehouse at the C. P. R. Freight Sheds, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each week.

A. C. Clements EGG AND POULTRY DEALER Phone 38 W Durham, Ontario

Pat: Oi was thinkin', Moike, it would be a foine thing if a man could know the toime an' place he was goin' to doi.

Mike: An' phwat good would that do ytz. Pat: Faith Oi wouldn't tur-r-n up.

The Royal Bank of Canada advertisement featuring a globe, branch locations (London, Toronto, Montreal, etc.), and contact information for the Durham Branch.

Harvest Time Brings A Good Crop of Savings advertisement for Radio Batteries and Tools, listing various battery models and prices.

QUEBEC HEATERS advertisement for A. S. Hunter & Co., Durham, featuring descriptions of different heater models and prices.

Fall and Winter Goods Now On Display advertisement for Borsalino Hats, Windbreakers & Sweater Coats, and Overcoats, including contact information for D. M. Saunders.

Classified section containing various notices, including a Dental Directory, a Licensed Auctioneer, and several farm listings for sale.