

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR THE BUSY FARMER

(Furnished by the Ontario Department of Agriculture)

New Appointee

The increasing demand for marketing service and the general work in connection with the crops Co-operation and Markets Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture have resulted in the Minister of Agriculture appointing an assistant director to this branch, A. H. Martin of Renfrew. Mr. Martin has been Agricultural representative for Renfrew County since 1926 and previous to that time was assistant representative in Wellington County, having graduated from the Ontario Agricultural College in 1924.

Cull Them Out

As soon as the spring spurt in egg production commences to lessen there are certain hens in every flock that should be culled out and marketed. The sooner they are gotten rid of, the bigger will be the flock profits. Labor is reduced, feed costs are lowered and the profitable birds are given more room in the laying house and on the range. Poultry, also should sell for more money per pound in the early part of the summer than later, so there is a material gain in disposing of the non-productive birds. One of the simplest ways to cull the flock is to go over the birds when they roost at night. Pick out those with shriveled, rough combs and strunken, hard abdomens. A bird with a large amount of hard fat around the abdomen is not in laying condition.

Watch Effect of Fertilizer

If you have applied any fertilizer to your lands this spring, much can be learned by watching their effect on growing crops during the next few weeks. Experience has shown that properly chosen fertilizers produce six important results: (1) They increase stalk or straw growth. (2) They strengthen the crop to resist disease. (3) They hasten the growth of the crop so that it ripens days earlier. (4) They increase yield. (5) They improve the quality of the product. (6) They improve the catch of grasses and clovers. Whether these results be obtained depends upon the condition of the soil as to drainage, soil reaction, supply of organic matter and wisdom in choice of fertilizers. They must be chosen to suit the special needs of the crop and make up for soil deficiencies. Here are some things to watch as the season advances: Is there a stronger growth of crop on the fertilized than on the unfertilized land; has the fertilized crop ripened earlier; has there been more or less disease in the fertilized crop; has there been more or less insect injury; what was the comparative yield per acre; what difference in the quality of product do you note. Assistance in your troublesome fertilizer problems will be gladly given by your agricultural representative or by the O. A. C.

Farmers' Week at O. A. C.

The Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph will be thrown open to inspection by the farmers of the province on four days of this month, June 16, 17, 18 and 19. The visitors are advised to arrive early in order to have time to see the big institution and are requested to bring a basket lunch and to assemble picnic style, under the shade trees by the gymnasium by noon. The college has made provision to supply hot tea, milk and ice cream. After lunch the men will be shown over the crop experiment plots and will have an opportunity to inspect the live-stock. The ladies will be at liberty to visit Macdonald Hall, the various buildings on the campus and any other department of the college they desire to see. About four o'clock the campus will be available for baseball games, horseshoe pitching or any other sports.

Treating Seed Potatoes

Naturally, the aim of the potato grower is to produce the biggest and best crop at the lowest possible cost. This is dependent upon the number of factors such as good soil, quality of seed, spraying and cultivation. While the importance of these features is unquestioned, very often the prospect of a good crop is ruined through neglect to practise seed treatment which is aimed to reduce the enormous losses and in-

convenience caused by scab, black leg and rhizoctonia, all of which occur in every province in Canada. The commonest method used to treat seed potatoes is the Formalin treatment. A solution of 1 lb. of formalin to 40 gallons of water is made up and placed in a barrel. The seed potatoes, uncut, are placed in a sack and suspended in the liquid for two hours when the bag is pulled up and the solution allowed to drain back into the barrel. Then the seed may be cut and planted.

Make the Meadows Pay

Ontario usually has about four and one half million acres of hay crops each year. In passing across the province just before haying one cannot help feeling that many of these acres are not paying the taxes and the cost of handling the crop. Statistical reports indicate an average yield of only one and one-half tons to the acre and this can certainly be much improved upon. For the meadows, good drainage and sweet soil are very important. Roots of grasses and clovers are slow to penetrate wet soils and wherever there is a surplus of water on the soil, air is shut out and hence the bacterial life is either weakened or killed. Another point in meadow improvement is the use of high quality seed. If poor seed is used the meadow starts out with a handicap. Good drainage, good seed, and a liberal supply of suitable fertilizer make profitable meadows.

Northern Ontario Leads

Returns to the Provincial Apiarist indicate that the northern parts of Ontario give the highest yields of honey. For 1928 the average per colony was 160 pounds in Kenora, 137 in Bruce and Renfrew, 116 in Northumberland and 109 in Algoma. One southern county, Elgin, has the high average of 143 pounds while the adjoining counties, Kent and Norfolk have 88 and 80 pounds respectively. In total quantity, Bruce, Grey, Simcoe and York take the lead, partly due to their large area but also due to the fact that clover and alsike are grown abundantly. The honey crop for the province for the season of 1928 was 13,859,969 pounds, three-fourths of which was classed white. The estimated value was over a million dollars.

Crop Report

The first crop report for the month of June shows that despite frosts in many parts of the province which caused considerable damage, the crops are coming along in fine style. For instance the Counties of Carleton, Gengarry, Dufferin, Dundas and Durham all report fall wheat, clover, alfalfa and hay crops in excellent condition. Such tender plants as strawberries, tomatoes, beans, potatoes, early corn and tobacco suffered injury in many localities, but cost counties report no serious damage. Milk production is reported to be above average in Dufferin and Leeds Counties. Pastures are reported to be in splendid condition without exception. With the coming of warmer weather all crops have shown rapid improvement.

Teaching Agriculture

Interest is being evinced by educational authorities in many parts of Ontario in the Vocational Agricultural School at Ridgetown in Kent County, an institution unique among the schools of Ontario. Established four years ago by the Ontario Government, in co-operation with local school authorities, it has become increasingly popular with the rural youth of Kent, having an enrolment of 73 pupils during the past term. Operated in conjunction with the Ridgetown high school, the students receive a thorough academic training and in addition a complete course in such practical subjects as farm mechanics, wood-working, agricultural engineering and motor mechanics, and instruction in livestock judging, field crops and horticulture. Biology and chemistry are two important subjects on the curriculum. At the end of a four-year course, graduates are entitled to enter O.A.C. A second building has just been completed at Ridgetown to take care of the increasing attendance. It is not unnaturally anticipated that this school will have

Our Ottawa Letter

As the hustings campaign develops throughout the country the political craftiness of Mackenzie King in holding the liberal party in power since 1921 is coming under close scrutiny.

The issue is made by Liberal speakers that he was elected leader in 1919 and has carried the party successfully through three elections. The fact is being stressed as a basis of confidence in his leadership in the present campaign.

The facts, however, as now being asserted are that his success has been founded on two things. They are: his willingness to isolate the Province of Quebec from the rest of Canada on grounds of race and prejudice and his readiness to compromise his creed in order to gain the voting support of unattached members of parliament and hold the balance of power.

The first point which is being stressed, while perhaps of the lesser national importance, is that Mr. King has never secured a majority of the votes of the Canadian electorate. Twice the popular vote has been entirely out of proportion to the number of members as between the two older parties. Conservatives have had the larger vote and but a fraction of the house representation.

But the major charge is that Mr. King, through his Quebec affiliations, has effectively set that province against the rest of Canada.

Quebec is fundamentally, of all provinces, welded to Conservative doctrine. Yet trafficking in the great 1914-18 tragedy the Liberal party in 1921 brought a solid 65 seats out of Quebec. In 1925 the Liberal party took 61 out of 65 seats from that province, the only four seats to go to the opposition being overwhelmingly English-speaking. The same result followed in 1926.

Prejudice of race and patronage by King Government adherents have accomplished that result according to the early campaign speeches, not by party orators, but by unattached individuals who have thrown themselves into the campaign, protesting that such conduct, together with the loudly proclaimed loosening of the bonds of Canada to the Empire by Liberal Leaders, constitutes a very distinct menace to the future of Canada as a unit within the Empire.

This achievement, they contend, is Mr. King's major contribution either as a leader or as a statesman to public life.

VALUE OF GREEN FEED (Experimental Farms Note)

That green feed has a distinct value in the economical feeding of bacon hogs is apparent from experiments conducted at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Nappan, Nova Scotia. Over a period of four years, six experiments have been conducted to determine the value, (if any), of green feed was supplied, namely, in 1923, when the lot receiving green feed showed an average feed cost per pound of 6.68 cents versus 6.58 cents for the check pen. The average of the six experiments showed that lot 1, consisting of thirty-seven hogs that were fed green feed, made an average gain of 158.2 pounds in 135 days. The average feed cost per pound gain was 7.71 cents. Thirty-six hogs in lot 2 that received the same rations, without green feed, made an average gain of 148.2 pounds in 134 days and the cost per pound gain was 8.42 cents. Lot 1 consumer an average of 131 pounds of green feed and made an average gain of 10 pounds more than did lot 2. Assuming that this increase in gain is due to the influence of the green feed added to the ration, it would give the green feed a value of \$18.32 per ton with pork selling at 12 cents per pound live weight.

During the winter of 1925-26 an experiment was conducted to determine the value of small potatoes as a green feed during the winter months. Seven hogs, fed an average of 220 pounds of potatoes each over a period of 140 days, made an average gain of 154.8 pounds, costing 7.81 cents per pound. Six hogs not receiving green feed of any sort averaged 136.8 pounds gain during the same period, costing 8.58 cents per pound gain. The value of the potatoes in this test, computed on the same basis as above, would be \$19.64 per ton or 59 cents per bushel.

It was noted during all the tests that the hogs receiving green feed were longer and of a more desirable bacon type, while those in the check lots frequently became crippled and were seldom as thrifty in appearance.

counterparts in other sections of Ontario before many years, particularly since the Government pays half of the cost of building and half the tuition costs. The most impressive feature about the Ridgetown institution is the keen interest exhibited by the students in their work. This is inevitable when they are engaged in studies which bring out their own special talents. Many farmers in the district declare that the school has been a wonderful thing for their boys.

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Table with 4 columns: Model, New Price, Old Price, Reduction. Includes models like Roadster, Phaeton, Coupe, Sport Coupe, De Luxe Coupe, Cabriolet, Tudor Sedan, Fordor Sedan, Town Sedan, Light Delivery, Model 'A' Commercial Chassis, Model 'AA' 1 1/2 ton Truck Chassis.

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