

### NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR THE BUSY FARMER

(Furnished by the Ontario Department of Agriculture)

#### Increased Potato Crop

Notwithstanding dry weather conditions throughout most of the potato producing districts of Canada, and the development of late blight in certain sections, the final estimate indicates a total yield of over 47 million cwt. or an increase of ten per cent over last year's crop. Ontario's share will be 11,250,000 cwt.

#### Housewife is Interested

That an enthusiastic response is being given by the city buyer to the Ontario Government's "Use Ontario Products" campaign is shown by the flood of letters received from listeners-in to the daily broadcast by the Department of Agriculture from station CFRB Toronto. These short daily talks which are addressed to the city and town housewife discuss market conditions and prices, ways of utilizing Ontario farm produce, and in general aim at arousing interest in farm produce from Ontario farms.

#### Three Years Show Progress

Can good potatoes be grown in Ontario? The Central Ontario Potato Growers are showing that this province can produce potatoes which need not take second place to those from any other province. The association is demanding a premium for their "Tee-Pee" brand over New Brunswick's, and is securing a ready market that seems extremely pleased with the quality offered. The situation today stands out in decided contrast with the conditions of three years ago when eastern carload shipments invariably sold above locally grown stocks.

#### Royal Party for Girls

As in the case of the Royal 500 Party for farm boys in previous years, the chief object of the Royal Fair trip sponsored by the Department for representative girls from each county this year is to provide opportunities and privileges which would otherwise not be available. They will visit all sections of the Fair and witness interesting portions of ring programs. In addition visits will be made to educational institutions, manufacturing plants and retail centres which will be of particular interest and value to rural

girls. The Department hopes that the trip will establish ideals on the part of the girls concerned and enable them to return home and introduce improvements and methods which will add to the efficiency and comfort of the farm home. The Department is providing railway fare, lodging accommodation and meals.

#### Raised 2,000 Turkeys

In its effort to promote the profitable raising of turkeys, the Ontario Government established a turkey farm in the County of Norfolk. The object was to show that birds of this variety can be raised with profit. The experiment has proven quite successful. This year more than 2,000 turkeys were hatched and raised on the farm. A short time ago one thousand of them were sold at 30 cents per pound. What is possible on the Norfolk farm is equally so on other farms in the province. Turkeys can be raised and sold profitably at a much lower price than that demanded about Thanksgiving and Christmas.

#### Window Display of Ontario Products

The Ontario Department of Agriculture has a large program mapped out planned to extend the demand for Ontario farm products in the cities and towns of Ontario. A new feature of this program will be a window-dressing display for the retail merchants of Ontario cities. This display will consist of Ontario farm produce alone and is planned to interest the Ontario housewife as well as the retail merchant. Cash prizes and ribbons will be awarded. Local city organizations will assist the Government by looking after the details of the contest in each city. It is expected that judging of the window displays will take place on or about November 15. The Royal Winter Fair is co-operating with the Department in conducting this contest.

#### A Timely Address

Addressing the St. Thomas Kiwanis Club, W. R. Reek, superintendent of the Ridgeway Experimental Farm, predicted that when the present period of depression and reduced prices for farm products had passed, about ten per cent of those in the agricultural industry whom he described as "fair weather farmers" would be out of business, while the farmers who weather the storm would be thinking more seriously than they have in the past. He declared that it takes periods of depression to make farmers realize the importance of culling the unprofitable cows from their herds and the boarder hens from their flocks. He criticized the doctrine of reduced farm production, at the same time advising that the farmer should endeavor to produce just as much grain on a smaller acreage and devote the other land to production of roughage and pasture.

#### Preparing Turkeys

Turkey growers are now beginning to finish or fatten their birds for the Christmas holidays. It is customary to begin the process of preparing the luscious turkeys for the nation's festive dinner tables by feeding them small amounts of grain which gradually are increased until the birds are on full feed. Due to the large amount of wheat available, this grain should be used to advantage in fattening rations. Wheat has nearly the same fattening qualities as corn, but does not produce the rich yellow color of flesh that yellow corn does. It is important, however, that all grains be free from moldiness and they should be fed in hoppers to counteract certain diseases that cause heavy loss. Do not confine turkeys for fattening especially if they have been run on a range, for range birds cannot stand confinement.

### Winners of Trophy



ERNEST Houghton and Hilbert de Leeuw, 14 year old Kamloops lads, who recently outmatched all competitors in the annual Canadian Pacific Railway British Columbia Swine Club Contest held at Colony Farm, Essondale, B.C. Seen in the picture from left to right, George Baillie, assistant superintendent British Columbia District, Canadian Pacific, who presented the trophy and medals to the lucky lads, Ernest and Hilbert, who in addition receive a free trip to the Royal Winter Fair at Toronto.

#### Plans to Aid Farmers

Hon. Thomas L. Kennedy, Minister of Agriculture, announced in a recent address that the Ferguson Government through the Department proposes in the next few years to spend more money for the benefit of Ontario farmers than ever before in the province's history. He stated further that within five years it was hoped to dot the province with high schools teaching scientific and domestic science, similar to the one at Ridgeway. A survey would also be made of the province to determine what was grown for export and what was purchased, in order to increase the farmers' revenues. Another proposal to which effect had already been given, was the spending of more of the Department's appropriation on marketing, in discovering and holding direct markets for the produce of Ontario farmers.

#### Weekly Crop Report

According to the weekly reports of the agricultural representatives, fall work is well advanced in many parts of the province. In a few counties from 75 to 80 per cent of the fall plowing is completed while in others not over 50 per cent has been done. In Eastern Ontario there appears to be an increased interest in drainage. In several counties, it is reported, that many farmers are taking advantage of ideal weather conditions to clean out and open up satisfactory ditches.

The report deals for the greater part with the difficulty experienced by farmers in plowing, on account of the dry weather. Bruce County had a snow a short time ago which left the ground in good condition but the dryness has been a serious handicap. In Dundas the milk supply took a 30 per cent drop in one week. A yield of 87 tons per acre of sugar beets is reported from Essex while Lambton states that the crop is above the average of the past three years.

#### GOVERNMENT GRADES ARE NEW STANDARD

One of the most important developments in many years in the poultry industry, and one which means a really worthwhile opportunity for the individual farmer, is the announcement made last week by the Hon. Robert Weir, Federal Minister of Agriculture, of the acceptance by the "trade" as represented at the point of contact in the leading wholesale buyers, of the "Canadian Standards for Dressed Poultry", more popularly referred to as the "official government grades", as the standard for trading.

Equally important is the establishment of price differentials between the several grades which make up the Canadian Standards, which will ensure that the farmer who feeds and finishes his poultry in shape for the better grades will get direct and substantial financial benefit.

The story in a nutshell is that the wholesale buyer finds that the old flat rate system of purchase doesn't work out on the right side of the ledger, and that along with a comparatively few "milked" and "selected A" birds he gets a whole raft of poor low grade stuff which he can only work off at a loss, and in many instances during the past two or three years that loss has been written down in red ink to the tune of thousands and in some instances hundreds of thousands of dollars. The result of the situation is that the leading wholesale buyers are coming right out into the open, declaring that their success and success of the farmer who supplies them, alike, lies in a square deal for quality products. That is the reason they are now willingly accepting the official government grades as the basis for trading.

Just how important this is to the individual farmer can be readily appreciated in the light of information supplied by poultry experts of the Federal Department of Agriculture. In the first place, the average farm flock marketed without special fleshing would probably grade around "Selected B". By crate feeding from two to five weeks, depending on the type of bird, it should be possible to add around one pound in weight, and to raise grade classification from "Selected B" to

"Milked A or B"—in other words, to cash in on premium differentials on from two to five grades, or something around 50 to 75 cents per bird. In the second place, feeding experts state that it costs around 7 to 8 cents per pound to raise a bird to maturity, around five pounds, and only from 5 to 6 cents per pound to crate feed and properly finish that bird—in other words the last pound of weight costs less to put on. Consumer demand today is for a quality product in poultry. By the provision of a scale of adequate differentials controlled by current economic considerations, the direct benefit of the consumer price for the better grades of poultry is passed on to the producer. It means that it now pays the farmer to feed and finish his poultry before marketing, in fact unless he finished his poultry he is going to be rather disappointed in the net returns he receives, while if he crate feeds and finishes his market birds he stands to get substantially better returns than he would by selling his flock without special feeding on a flat rate basis as heretofore.

The way in which this benefit is passed on to the producer is through the medium of differentials in price between grades. The leading wholesale buyers have guaranteed the payment of a minimum differential premium of 3 cents per pound for poultry grading in the milked classes over the corresponding grades in the selected class. Supplementing this will be differentials between grades within classes, the differentials increasing substantially with each decrease in grade.

The really big feature in the agreement on the part of the leading wholesale buyers is that the farmer has a real incentive to make poultry raising an attractive business proposition for himself; he is now assured of getting adequate return for producing a quality product for the dressed poultry market.

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#### REVENUE DOLLAR COST

The Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa provides some interesting information with respect to the amount of capital investment in land, buildings, equipment and livestock it takes to earn a dollar of production revenue in Canada. Using the figures provided by the Bureau's estimates with respect to last year we find the investment cost of producing the revenue dollar by Provinces was: Prince Edward Island \$3.88; Nova Scotia \$3.87; New Brunswick \$4.50; Quebec \$4.55; Ontario \$4.47; Manitoba \$5.24; Saskatchewan \$5.56; Alberta \$4.80; British Columbia \$4.54; Dominion Average \$4.78.

It requires a larger capital investment to farm in Western Canada than in the East.—Dominion Department of Agriculture.

#### JAPAN BUYING ASBESTOS

The market in Japan for asbestos in lump, powder and fibre, as well as in packing and other forms, is increasing year by year, owing to the expansion of industrial plants using this material, and to the great variety of uses to which asbestos products are being put in every-day life, writes J. A. Langley, commercial secretary to Tokio, in the Commercial Intelligence Journal. About 80 per cent of the domestic imports of asbestos fibre come indirectly from Canada.

Applicant: "Can I get Clancey's Job? He's drowning in the lake." Employer: "You're too late. The man who pushed him in has got it."

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THE IRONY OF IT

—The Humorist, London.

### "GREAT GUNS! I FORGOT"



The afternoon was nearly over when he suddenly remembered — their wedding anniversary to-morrow and he had neglected to find out about that stone marten neckpiece. If only Betty were home to help him, instead of a hundred miles away at school.

His eye fell on the telephone — a happy inspiration. Two minutes later — while he held the line — Betty's voice came over the wire. Yes, certainly, she knew the fur her mother wanted. Moreover, she could tell him exactly where to go to get it.

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