

The Farmers Information

(From Dept. of Agriculture)

Farm Loans
The recently issued report of the Agricultural Development Board showed that since the board was established in 1922 over \$35,000,000 has been loaned, upwards of \$6,000,000 has been paid back on capital, and the total amount outstanding at the end of the fiscal year was \$29,1

454,834. A big increase in the demands made for services of the Board was noted in the fall of 1929 and has continued ever since. This was reflected in the report for the year ending October 31, 1930, which showed an increase of over two millions in the aggregate of loans granted. W. B. Roadhouse, chair-

man of the board, remarks that to some extent this reflects general economic conditions which have adversely affected agriculture, but that for the most part this is not new indebtedness, the bulk of it being made up of the transfer of mortgages held previously by corporations or individuals. Further, over fifty per cent. of the amount due was paid as due during the year, an evidence of the stability of Ontario agriculture even under the most trying conditions.

Attack Pasture Problems

Plans for extensive research on the pasture problems of Ontario were made at a conference of representatives of the various interested Departments of O.A.C. recently. The Deputy Minister of Agriculture attended and assisted in outlining the project. A committee of Departmental heads, was appointed to make a preliminary survey of pasture conditions in the Province. This party will start out shortly and will visit a number of sections throughout the Province.

Research projects will cover different phases of the problem such as grasses, fertilization, best utilization and management, the control of weeds, the elimination of insect parasites, diseases, etc.

A number of experiments on pastures are now under way at the College and in other parts of the Province. These will be supplemented and new phases of the work will be undertaken. It will be readily seen therefore, that every effort is being made to secure the best and most profitable development of the pasture lands of Ontario.

Fertilizer on Potatoes

Seed potatoes of pure variety and free from disease are the first requisite to a good quality crop. The soil must be well-tilled and friable, well supplied with plant fibre or organic matter so that air circulation may be at its best and water-holding capacity at its highest. Pointing out that the crop must have a large supply of suitable plant food, O.A.C. officials refer to potato fertilizer tests conducted in 1930 which gave an average increase of 53 bushels per acre where an adequate amount of fertilizer was used, over parallel sections without fertilizers. The best results were obtained with 2-12-6 with manure or clover plowed under and 4-8-10 where there was not a supply of green or barnyard manure. The amounts used were about 7.5 pounds per acre. The average yield from 37 tests of 4-8-10 fertilizer was 249.5 bushels per acre, as compared with 178.2 bushels per acre from check plots, or a gain of 71.3 bushels per acre from fertilizing. With potatoes sold at \$1.00 a bag, the net gain, after deduction of fertilizer costs, was \$30.13 per acre. Growers are cautioned not to drop the seed pieces of potatoes immediately upon fertilizers, or the latter will rob the seed potatoes of their moisture and injure their vitality. Fertilizer should be mixed with soil before



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dropping potato seed pieces.

Duties and powers of the newly appointed Ontario Marketing Board as defined in a special Act passed at the last legislative session, give an adequate picture of the aims and objects of the Board. Firstly, it will make a general survey of agricultural conditions and keep a tabulation of all information obtained; it will collect information regarding soil, climate, etc. to aid in determining the adaptability of the various countries for any particular class of farming; it will make recommendations as to packing, marketing and transporting of any agricultural product and will seek the best marketing facilities for this purpose; it will diffuse information regarding the best methods for increasing productivity of soil and the production of any particular class of produce; it will encourage proper methods of manufacture, preparation and packing of dairy products for marketing in Ontario and elsewhere; and generally it will promote the interests of the agricultural industry in Ontario as deemed expedient. The Marketing Board is a new departure, instituted in accordance with the desire of departmental officials to improve marketing practice in the agricultural industry. Hon. T. L. Kennedy has frequently stressed the fact that marketing of Ontario farm produce is one of the big problems today and he hopes that this Board will inaugurate a new era that will mean a tremendous saving to Ontario farmers.

REMINISCENCE

Oh the competition that entered into the young man's activities of those early days. The binding of the sheaves of grain, with sometimes whole days racing. The farm work in their different seasons, such as the cleaning up of the barn yards of the season's manure, when they vied with each other as to the number of loads handled in a day. Then there was the race to see who had the load of harvesting in the barn first, even running the horses with the last load to "beat" you know.

And then do you remember when the Colorado Beetle, (Potato Bug) made its first appearance, and oh what a scare. Why? Because they were said to be very poisonous. Even an old woman, it was said had been bitten, and was likely to die. But later children were known to help themselves to the juicy bug, without any serious results.

4th LINE UXBRIDGE

Mr. Fred Lyons spent Sunday with Roy Coppins.

Mr. R. Feasby and family were in Toronto one day last week.

Mr. R. Faulkner's spent an evening with J. Collins' last week.

R. Dawson and family spent Sunday with their parents Mr. and Mrs. Mairdonald.

This warm weather will help some of the farmers who are not finished seeding.

Mr. Mose Norton Jr., also Maud Norton and Margaret Wilson were in Greenwood on Sunday.

The Wm. Hill family spent Sunday with their daughter Mrs. H. Dickinson.

The Goodwood Baptist young people held a practise, (for their play) last Friday evening at Wm. Maye's.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Norton spent Sunday evening with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Brown, on the 5th.

Sorry to hear Teddy Kidd had the misfortune of falling through a hole in the Norman Maye barn, sustaining a broken leg.

We guess there is not many old folks now that haven't seen a picture show after the McCormick demonstration held in Claremont last week. We should wonder if they bought a ticket for the radio too.

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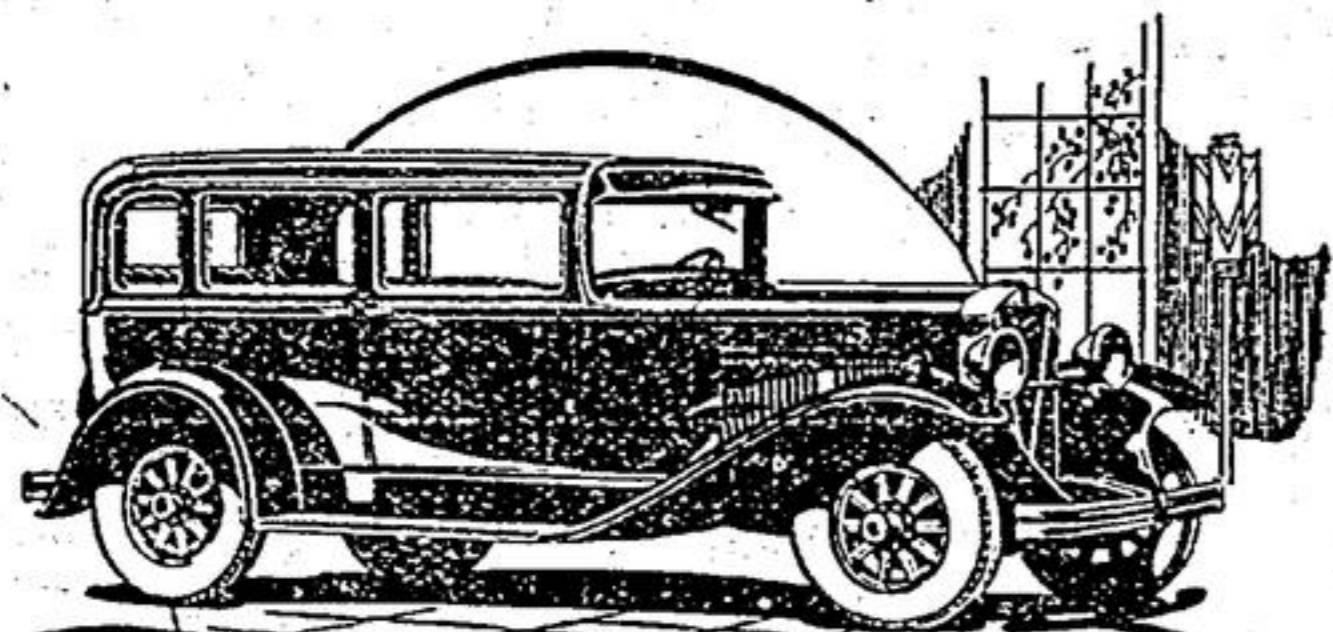
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