

# The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

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Succeed."

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## EDITORIAL.

The price of timothy seed has nearly doubled during the past three months, outrunning the advance in clover seed.

The nations of Continental Europe, it seems, are scouring Ireland for cavalry horses, paying whatever is demanded. It is to be hoped they will not deplete her splendid breeding stock.

Roosevelt esteems it of vital consequence that the United States should always be on terms of the highest friendship and goodwill with her "great and growing neighbor in the North," and his influence counts.

A little less of the military and naval, with considerably more stress and originality in the agricultural, would improve Toronto's Exhibition as an exponent of Canadian thought and progress, and contribute more valuably thereto.

Earl Grey must have been quite favorably impressed with Hudson's Bay as a route of navigation. It seems difficult to reconcile the conflicting data concerning "the Mediterranean of Canada" an economical channel for the export of Western grain. We still incline to the Scotch verdict—not proven.

Winnipeg, they tell us, having outstripped Minneapolis, is now the greatest actual wheat-marketing center on the North American Continent. Looks as though, following the tide of immigration, some of the world's biggest things were preparing for an exodus into Canada.

Exceptionally entertaining, even if not wholly encouraging, is our Scottish correspondent's discourse this week on the British light-horse breeding situation. That the breeding of harness horses as a stable commercial proposition has been hard hit by the taxicab, despite the fancy prices which Wealth is still willing to pay for the top-notchers, is one of his conclusions. The motor car must be making greater inroads into this business in England than in America.

The Canadian National has been usually favored with so fair a brand of exhibition weather that the need for a large, covered judging amphitheatre has not been acutely felt. Of course, flies and heat were often troublesome, but not too bad for the judging to proceed. An experience like that of the present season, when the judging was repeatedly interfered with by a torrential deluge of rain, will help to impress the desirability of such provision. It is already promised.

Insurgency is the fashion these days. Across the line, it bids fair to turn the Republican party inside out. In our own country, Sir Wilfrid Laurier had a hearty sample of it on his Western tour. Insurgency, as applied to politics in democratic countries, signifies the right to think and speak frankly, and vote independently, according to convictions, with regard solely to the country's interest, and in polite disregard to the party whip. Party rigidity that smothers convictions for the sake of solidarity, is pernicious and baneful. This it is which gives such vast and mischievous power to the political boss, and through him to the corrupt organizations with which he is in league. Independent is wholesome.

A strong movement in protest against high prices of meat, the Associated Press informs us, has begun in many German cities, especially in the western part of the country. Sharp criticism is directed against the Government's policy in restricting the importation of live stock and the maintenance of high meat and animal duties in the interest of the agrarian class. The protest seems not likely to be effective at present, but is significant. Staples cannot be made dear without imposing burdens.

Canada's flour-milling industry is developing, but is yet in comparative infancy. Flour mills between Fort William and the Rockies have capacity for 45,619 barrels a day. The milling industry in both Ontario and Western Canada is increasing rapidly. Our illimitably-expanding production of wheat, together with vast resources in water-power for grinding it, should enable in us, in time, to mill practically all our wheat, exporting flour and retaining the valuable by-products as feed for stock.

Because we have been harping somewhat of late upon neglected opportunities in hog-raising, we refuse to assume responsibility for the results of a tardy stampede into hog-raising. Those who have been making money out of the recent phenomenal prices are the ones who stuck steadily to the game. The continuance of an 8-cent market in Chicago, we read, is not considered probable. Similarly here, while there is no immediate prospect of five-cent hogs, neither is there reason to expect maintenance of recent fancy values. Such a condition is abnormal, and bound to be, sooner or later, terminated by increased production. There are signs of it already.

It is profit, not volume of business, that measures a man's financial success. "I have been making more money off my eighty-acre farm than I did with a half interest in a milling business having a turnover of fifty-five to sixty thousand dollars a year," said a man lately who had left the farm for the mill, but subsequently quit it and went back to the land. "I lost money in the mill," he added. "At farming I have been making fair, though not fabulous, profits. I take three agricultural papers, and try to improve upon past methods. Unfortunately, my wife's illness, and the difficulty of securing competent help, have decided me to give up the farm, but I shall secure a smaller piece of land and go in for bees and poultry."

The International Harvester Company of America has decided to discharge "a small part of the long over-due debt every man owes to the inventor of the reaper," by establishing a free Service Bureau to investigate, experiment, and diffuse agricultural information widely and freely, co-operating to this end with the United States Department of Agriculture, the Government Experiment Stations, and the Agricultural Colleges. Free information, fresh and accurate, is to be always on tap. From the way our own inquiry correspondence is rolling up from year to year, we judge the I. H. C. Service staff of experts will not lack for occupation. Of course, there may be those who would prefer to see the price of implements shaded a per cent. or two, but there is an old saw which reflects cuttingly upon the "form" of looking a gift-horse in the mouth.

## The Story of the Pioneers.

We want a story of the past for the Christmas "Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine" of 1910. It is to be an account of old times, when the farm was hewn out of the wilderness, before inventors even dreamed of radial roads and electric-power automobiles and flying machines, long-distance 'phones or wireless telegraphy, two-furrow plows and milking machines. There are in the Maritime Provinces, in Quebec, Ontario and other Provinces of Canada and adjacent States, scores of men and women, alive, alert, and well able, from their own recollections, to tell the story of how they came into the roadless wilderness; where and when; what they brought with them; how they felt the first night in the woods; what trials and hazards from wild beasts they endured; what the first home was like, and how it was builded; the oxen (or horses) used; the loggings; the first cow; how the supplies of food and clothing were obtained; first trip to the first store or mill; tools and implements used, like the ox yokes, plows, drags, potash kettles; how the first cash was secured, and what was done with it; how the land was obtained and surveyed; the visits of the saddle-bag preacher or missionary, and the opening of the old log school; the first crops; the privations and rewards of those days, incorporating any incident or personal experience of an especially adventurous or trying nature. The actors in these old scenes are rapidly passing away, and the records are likely to be lost if not now written out. We wish to see them preserved. To read them will also be an encouragement to people disposed to grumble about the little troubles of the present time. The events of the sketch must have occurred at a period of 50 or more years ago, and must be described in an article not exceeding 2,000 words, accompanied by a photograph of the writer—man, woman, or both, if the article be a joint production. For the best article, a prize of \$15 will be given, and for the second, \$10. All manuscript to be marked "Pioneer Story," and be in this office by Nov. 1st, 1910.

## Show that Sheep-raising Pays.

The initiation of an aggressive policy for the furtherance of the sheep industry in Canada by the Live-stock Branch of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa announced last week in "The Farmer's Advocate" will commend itself to the public. The plan of campaign is to secure and diffuse an ample fund of reliable information, particularly in relation to the wool industry. The sources of this data will be chiefly Great Britain and the United States. The marketing problem appears to be considered the crux of the situation. Mutton-raising will, of course, not be overlooked, and when the Commissioners have digested their material in its application to Canadian conditions, a programme of meetings throughout sections of the country where the industry can with advantage be promoted are likely to be held. Official reports are well enough as far as they go, but the departmental officers will find it desirable to discuss this question at close range with the men who are to be encouraged to take up or increase their interest in sheep husbandry. Canada is well adapted for sheep-raising, but the industry here is insignificant compared with that of other lands. In 1909, according to agricultural returns, there were in the United Kingdom 31,838,833 head of sheep; in the Argentine, 67,211,754 head; in Australia, 87,043,266 head; in New Zealand, 23,480,707 head; while the latest returns for Canada place the number at not more than 2,705,390 head. An easily-kept and useful ally of good farming the