THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

PURLISHED WEEKLY BY THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED)

JOHN WELD, MANAGER

AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL, WINNIPEG, MAN.

8. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE is published every Thursday. It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairy-men, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada,

 TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, Newfoundland and New Zealand, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 per year when not paid in advance. United States, \$2.50 per year; all other countries 125.; in advance. ADVERTISING RATES.—Single insertion, 25 cents per line, agate. Contract rates furnished on application.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrearages must be made as required by law.

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WHEN A REPLY BY MAIL IS REQUIRED to Urgent Veterinary or Legal Enquiries, \$1 must be enclosed. I. LETTERS intended for publication should be written on one

side of the paper only. **CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—Subscribers when ordering a change of address should give the old as well as the new P. O. address.

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WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic.
We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve The FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known.
Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on. appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.

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adopt and perseveringly follow a well-thought-out system of rotation and fertilizing that will require the purchase only or chiefly of the two mineral elements of fertility, namely, potassium and phosphorus, relying on legumes to entrap from the atmosphere the third and most expensive element, nitrogen. The one difficulty foreseen opposing the general adoption of this rational practice is that results will be slow to appear, for not until the second round of the rotation, and possibly not until the third, could they be expected to be very pronounced. Few people have the faith and patience to wait that long. Nevertheless, the time when an increasing number of Canadian farmers will be glad to wait for returns from just such a system. One thing certain is that, for best results in producing crops, a balanced ration of plant food must be provided, either naturally or artificially. Of course, a plant which finds an insufficiency of one element, but plenty of the others, is rather better off than one stinted for all three, just as a person can endure hunger better than hunger. thirst and cold together. But the great principle is that nitrogen cannot substitute for potash, potash for phosphorus, or phosphorus for nitrogen, any more than water can substitute for food. And a similar principle applies, though not nearly so rigidly, to the substitution of one element of nutrition for another in the food of man and beast.

heartily recommended to do so.

Prizes for Building Plans.

Now is the time to prepare plans and do heavy teaming for the barn or house building of 1910. In many localities 1909 was a record year in the improvement of home and farm buildings, but the approaching season will probably surpass it, because of the general prosperity of the country. The new and reconstructed barns of 1909 contain many valuable features, the product of past experience and fuller knowledge in regard to the economy of labor, and more healthful methods of handling live stock. From his own experience and observation, every man gains certain well-defined ideas on the subject of general cleanliness, light, fresh air, exercise, water supply, handy contrivances. and the saving and handling of foods and manures. Building is, therefore, progressive, and, for the general good, "The Farmer's Advocate" desires to publish, at an early date, the best information from the construction of 1909. For the encouragement of readers who contribute plans and detailed descriptions covering the points noted above, and others which the writers consider valuable, we offer three sets of two prizes each. The first in each case will consist of ten dollars' worth of agricultural books (see list published elsewhere in this issue). The second prize in each set will be \$5.00 in cash, or, if preferred, five dollars' worth of agricultural books.

 Λ .-General barn, including storage for crops, and housing for dairy, fattening or other stock. B.-Horse barn, including space for rigs, harness, etc.

C.-Farm dwelling-house, with special attention to modern improvements and domestic conveniences

The plans may be submitted in ink or pencil, and likewise the descriptive matter, but both must be on one side only of the paper, and, in making the awards, consideration will be given to clearness and conciseness, and merit from a practical and economical point of view; in other words, evident usefulness to the greatest possible number. The manuscripts and plans must be in this office by February 3rd, and those who desire their plans returned after the awards are made will kindly enclose the necessary postage stamps. Plans and articles other than those receiving prizes containing points of special merit will be used and paid for at regular rates for accepted matter. Mark the plans " A," "B" or "C" Competition, as the case may be. The same person may compete in all three, providing the description covers building done by the same proprietor in the year 1909

the barn and back, three times starting and fin- er's Advocate " a matchless advertising medium. ishing the chores, takes longer time than twice. Not to dwell further upon the subject, we append Any that are so situated that they can try the an unsolicited comment, lately received from an experiment of twice a day feeding of cattle are advertiser of real estate. Enclosing check, he says :

"Your journal was referred to five times as often as were the other papers " (mentioning twoagricultural weeklies published in Ontario). "Indeed, I was amazed that only one applicant mentioned the -

This letter is typical of dozens. Form your own opinion.

The Battle and Bounty of Nature.

With the following eloquent peroration, W. A. Mackinnon, formerly Chief of the Fruit Division, Ottawa, now Dominion Trade Commissioner at Birmingham, England, concluded an illuminative, lantern-slide paper on the Canadian Fruit Industry, before the Royal Colonial Institute

In conclusion, may I ask you to think of the miracle that has been wrought upon the North American Continent? Remember how British hearts and French battled their way to it in wretched sailing ships, across an Atlantic that was seldom merely 'mournful and misty'; how they seized a foothold on her rocky and forbidding coasts when the cruel north wind bared his fangs, even as the Indian his tomahawk; how they fought the Red Man, and famine and snow and ice, held doggedly on though supplies failed and crops were destroyed, and at last drove back their enemies, subdued the forest, and tamed even the climate itself; how they fought the battle of race supremacy, and settled it finally by equality under the British flag; how, loyal to that flag, thousands of them left their homes in the settled but revolted States, and, taking up once more the burden of the pioneer, carved new homes out of the forests of Upper Canada, fought for those homes in 1812, and again for their liberties in 1837; how their sons forced a path through the wilderness to the great prairie beyond the lakes; how, with such leaders as our honored Chairman, the wild Northwest was stormed, and the eternal mountains, the giant Rockies, conquered, till Pacific was linked with Atlantic, and the British Crown had in very truth dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.' Have you realized how every step has been a struggle, every acre occupied a battle, every Province wrested from the Great Unknown a campaign, sometimes against human enemies, more often against the forces of Nature ? But how generous a foe has Nature proved ! How gracefully does she admit defeat, and how lavish the spoils she hands over to the victor ! Every summer, where once stood ' the forest primeval,' the fruits of the earth are multiplied : every autumn thousand of orchards bend beneath the weight of their crops. But let us realize that a Canadian apple is not merely the truit of the tree upon which it grew; it is the fruit of history, of men's lives, of generations of patient effort and silent achievement, which we do well to remember with honor. Nor are these the only trophies of man's triumph. Think of the limitless treasures of the mine; think how nature S to-day vielding

Feeding Twice a Day.

A cow will do just as well on two feeds a day as three, said Professor Dean, in his lecture at the Guelph Winter Fair. Many who have tried who want it, and are willing to pay \$1.50 a year feeding cattle twice a day are pronounced in its for a first-class agricultural journal. These are favor. The practice has certain advantages, sure to be the best farmers in the country. Feeding operations need not be begun so early in the morning and may be finished earlier in the attracts readers to its columns. Advertisements, evening, a point of some importance when the days as well as illustrations and reading matter, appear are short. The freedom from chores at noon, to advantage on its well-printed pages, while the especially where there is only one to do them, al- binding, annual index, and general usefulness, inlows greater liberty to visit friends, to accept in- sure its preservation in the household, where it vitations to dinner, or to drive to town. Labor, may be seen by many besides subscribers. or, at least, time is saved. Three times going to

state size of farm and class of farming carried on.

Matchless Advertising Medium.

Each successive test clinches yet more convincingly the drawing power of "The Farmer's Advocate " as an advertising medium. Time and again we have been astonished ourselves at the results reported. More inquiries through "The Farmer's Advocate " than through all other Canadian agricultural papers combined, is a not infrequent experience.

"The Farmer's Advocate" has been long in the field, and is known by advertisers and their patrons as a reliable medium. What more natural than for anyone wanting pure-bred stock, implements or other articles, to look over its ad-

" The Farmer's Advocate " stands for quality. Its wide circulation is strictly bona fide. Its mailing lists are not padded with names of dead men or "deadheads" It goes only to people

The paper is filled with first-class matter which

All these things conspire to make " The Farm-

intoid wealth of forest and stream : think of the water-powers she reyeals in endless succession, and of the millions of acres she covers year by year with waving gold, gold indeed to the grower, and food, more precious than gold, to the dwellers in cities ! Such is the bounty of Nature to those who prevail."

" That great back log of all the country's interests-agriculture-prospered as never before, not so much in the matter of quantity, but in the matter of financial returns, which, indeed, placed farmers in a class by themselves." With this somewhat incongruous but impressive figure of speech, Bradstreet's Trade Review describes the American farmer's enviable position during the season of 1909. "It is true," we are told further, "that the price advances bore hardly on the consuming classes, and there was shown in the utterances of public men and journals a disposition to question the reality of all the apparent benefits that flowed from high prices. But the farmer's position is most favorable, and with a predicted excellent if not record-making trade for 1910, should be fully maintained if not improved. Good times for the

"Shum conditions" is the graphic term used by Prof. W. R. Graham to indicate the conditions where large numbers of birds are kept on the continuous-house restricted-range plan. The portable colony house, enabling the rearing of birds on fresh ground, and distributed all over the farm, is the modern idea in poultry-keeping. And the underlying principle has its application to other stock as well. Several classes of stock, with not too many head of any one kind on a given area. is the wiser plan.