

# Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal

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## EDITORIAL

High tariffs are the wet-nurses of trusts.

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The hen house should be cleaned up and white-washed this month or next.

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Now watch out for Manitoba's new Winter Fair at Brandon.

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When is it to be queried the stockmen? Write to-morrow!

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There would be more No. 1 Hard if the fan-milling mill were kept busy at certain seasons.

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Now see the dairy cattle men prick up their ears over the mention of a milking competition at Brandon's winter show.

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It will soon be time to select a few barrows for the bacon contests also; let us have lots of competition.

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According to evidence before the G. C. at the lakes, the reason farmers were not allowed their screenings, was because they did not apply.

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The buyers of barley for malting like it stacked soon after it is cut, thus getting the best colored samples.

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Get the young poults (turkeys) into good roosting habits now, blustery weather is not far off.

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Stock raisers complain that the shorts or middlings they get nowadays are just ground-over bran.

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Would it not be well for the Grain Commission to look into the matter of flour tolls at mills in Western Canada?

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Referring to fraternal society insurance and the examination of the head of the I. O. F. the *Montreal Witness* pertinently remarks:

"Because friendly societies are in so many ways desirable, so much the more is it to be desired that they shall be stable."

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We were recently shown an outfit now being put on the market by an Old Country firm of a small flour mill complete, which would turn out one hundred forty pounds of flour an hour and can be driven by a six horse-power engine. The cost would not be very heavy, to say, ten farmers, for building gas engine and mill complete.

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The results of the investigations of the twelve dollar a day men on the Grain Commission should make interesting reading—probably that report will reveal the duties of the secretary thereon; from a cursory inspection at one of the sittings, there was as much need for a secretary, as a fifth wheel to a coach—he didn't even say 'Corby'!

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In the report of the agricultural societies for Ontario, the statement is made that the best class of judges cannot be had for three dollars a day. A man who is well enough posted to be entrusted with the judging at a fair is worth more than the figure mentioned; an ordinary bricklayer can get four to five dollars a day and a competent judge of live stock is worth more to the country than a bricklayer.

### An Epoch in Beef Raising.

Watching the men at the stock market at Winnipeg ride into a yard, "cut out" sixteen steers, hurry them down the long alleyway with the cattlemen's hay ho! lashing them with a short whip as they slacken pace or shy at the spectators lined up on the rails above, and then to see these cattle run into a funnel-shaped corral whose small opening ends in a car headed for the east, poked with goads by men on the fence above, one naturally wonders what the poor steer would think of it all if he were gifted with the faculties of reason or imagination.

Some of these steers were born far south "in Texas down by the Rio Grande" and after two years of contented grazing, with no other vicissitudes than the branding iron and the intensity of the southern sun were trekked north to the invigorating climate and luxuriant grasses of the Canadian foothills, where a souce in a big vat full of water and lime and sulphur reminded them of the hot iron, and the occasional nor'western blizzard recalled by its very antithesis, the blistering sun of the south.

Others of these steers are Canadian bred, and born either upon Manitoba farms or ranches, and have grown, and grazed, and sweltered, and shivered as other animate objects have done and will continue to do to the end of time.

All these cattle as they come in their three or four year old form, are the product of the range. Only the range, that great bounty of nature next in immensity to the forests, the mountains and the wheat belt, could produce them, for they are the sunshine and the green grass animated and crystalized.

Meat, the crowded European cities must have, but a steer to them is no more than live beef. To the rancher it is more. If he is sordid the steer is thirty or forty or fifty dollars, and should be more, but if he is imaginative also, he sees in him as well Nature's wonderful plan of providing for her highest final creatures.

The sun above comes out warm, the grass grows the cattle mate, the young calves bask in the sun and drink their mother's warm milk and steers are produced and fattened which is the method of producing sustenance for man with the minimum of his efforts or interference.

Such is the range and its product, and those of us who know it now and have through it been drawn closer to nature will regret that it and its associations are passing. Immigration literature, dry-farming science, transportation facilities, over crowding in cities and the fascination of the range itself are forces that are operating to dot the range with homesteads, and the raising of beef must again revert to the humdrum system of chores.

### A Winter Fair Assured for Manitoba.

From time to time this paper has expressed the opinion that one of the great needs of the live stock industry in Manitoba was a properly constituted winter fair, which would include a fat stock show, seed grain fair, and live stock judging demonstrations, the two former being most important at the present time. It is well known that many a well bred stocker goes East or West from Manitoba to receive its final covering of flesh before being driven to the block, a work that would be of benefit to Manitoba agriculture if more often performed in the province. A meeting was recently held at Brandon and an organization perfected looking to the creation of a permanent winter stock show, and it is to be hoped that success will attend their efforts. The organization will do well at the start to avoid making it a show of breeding cattle, the need is for exhibitions of the finished product in steer, wether, barrow or fowl. Up to the present time there has not been a successful all round fat stock show in the West, owing to many things, the season, lack of suitable buildings financial

aid, etc. The Brandon people seem to appreciate the fact that an annual gathering there of stockmen is worth something to their city and are taking steps to make such a gathering a permanent one. May success attend their efforts to put a winter fat stock show for Manitoba on a good footing. At such a show provision should also be made for dairy tests and a show of dairy product, even butter-making competitions. The success of the show once started will in a great measure depend on the directors and the manager they may select.

### New Zealand and Land Ownership.

This southern offspring of Great Britain is seeking by legal enactment to carry out in a measure what practical farmers have found by experience, namely, that the small farm is more desirable than the bonanza farm, and that a high standard of agriculture is not possible in a land of large farms, although she is making the move from an altogether different motive. The idea of having limitation laws as to the amount of land each man may own, is novel and will not be accepted very readily, although the idea seems to be sound in some of its features. Judged purely from the standpoint of agriculture as we see it to-day, a regulation which permitted ownership of a certain area only with the proviso that such must be worked by the owner would not be an unmixed evil; it would stop rampant speculation and would make for better farming. It is well known that for years the environs of Winnipeg have been held by speculators and kept out of cultivation, to the detriment of both town and country. With such a law in force, it would seem impossible for a government to go in for land grants to corporations, which certainly would be a good thing and somewhat in line with the warnings of Jas. J. Hill, that seer of modern times re agriculture.

### Are Farmers High Protectionists?

As far as people outside of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association are concerned the annual convention of this association simply means that the manufacturers get together for the purpose of passing resolutions to the effect that the tariff on all and sundry goods be raised. The situation is thoroughly canvassed and a strong committee is appointed to frame the tariff resolutions. Nothing is omitted to make out a strong case for greater protection and, if it were not for the fact that the individuals serving on this committee at the recent Winnipeg convention are all honorable men, the charge of misrepresenting the facts might be preferred against them. The president of the association whose annual address we commented upon last week, tendered the agricultural community the advice of the manufacturers that they ask for higher protection on farm produce, such as flax, eggs, butter, etc., but the tariff committee, whose report will go to the cabinet as a valuable suggestion to our government in framing the new tariff regulations which are promised at the next session of parliament, step out of the position of advisers of the farming population and assume the role of sponsors, only to misstate or misrepresent the real situation.

In this report of the tariff committee, which was adopted with practically no discussion by the convention, the statement is made that, "the farmers from one end of the country to the other have requested increases of the tariff on their own products." This, to be sure, is a part truth for a few market gardeners near some of the cities and a high tariff advocate representing a few sheep ranchers about Medicine Hat requested the tariff commission to protect their interests, but the voice of the great mass of "farmers from one end of the country to the other," to use a phrase out of the C. M. A.'s tariff resolution, put on record their attitude toward tariff regulations, through resolutions passed by representative organizations, throughout the different provinces,