

roots, fruits, dairy, and implements can often be seen and their advanced productions studied and carefully compared to good advantage early in the morning or late in the evening when the live stock is not in the ring, and when the buildings are less crowded than at other times. Those more intent on the lighter lines of entertainment will readily find their way to the grand stand in the day time, where their curiosity will be catered to, but visitors who go to learn and profit by careful observation will do well to devote the day to the solid spheres of practical work, and if they are disposed to combine amusement and entertainment they can find it in the programme for the evening sessions. The farmers and their wives and sons and daughters are well entitled to a few holidays after the toil of the summer days, and there is no place where they can better combine pleasure and profit than at the fair, and that at a comparatively small expense, since transportation is furnished at a very moderate rate by the terms of the excursion trains and boats which are run during the days of the fairs.

### Toronto Industrial Exhibition.

The virtue of Canada's great fair and Toronto Industrial Exhibition, which will be held this year from August 29th to September 10th, is that it is never permitted to get into a rut. Each year something novel is forthcoming, and something that can be seen at no other annual fair. Toronto Fair, in fact, is unique in itself. Its fame is far-spread and its enterprise and resource warrant its fame. This year there will be an unusual number of new features in the Exhibition proper. For the first time French and English firms will make classified exhibits, for which special agents are now in Toronto completing the necessary arrangements. There will be fully twenty-five English firms represented by several carloads of goods, and a score of French establishments. An exhibit that will command attention will be that of automobile or horseless carriages, four of which will be shown in action. Another interesting display will be made by Mr. C. F. Holtermann, apiary lecturer at the Ontario Agricultural College, who under a large gazebo tent will show bees making honey. He will deliver addresses explaining the methods of beekeeping, ancient and modern, and by way of illustrating how little experts have to fear from the sting of those busy little creatures, Mr. Holtermann will allow them to swarm upon his arms. The experimental farms of the Province and country will contribute their usual quota, and will each be represented by one or more professors who will deliver explanatory addresses. In every department, almost without exception, there is a marked improvement, both in the quality and quantity of entries. More manufacturers are showing and more inventions will be on view than ever, while the exhibit of electricity and electrical appliances will be of a nature to attract world-wide attention. Upwards of 1,000 horses, 700 cattle, 650 sheep, and 500 swine will be on the grounds. One of the prime features, and the prime attraction to many, will be the grand scenic spectacles, one of which will be presented by day and the other by night. By day will be given in the lake off the grounds an illustration of real warfare, and the chief incident that led to the Spanish-American conflict. Submarine mines will be laid and exploded by a detachment of the Royal Engineers, under Lieutenant Dumble, from Halifax, N. S.; ships will be blown up; craft will be fixed up to represent battleships, and a fort will be erected in the lake, that will be stormed at with shot and shell, quick-firing and Maxim machine guns being operated by the Royal Canadian Artillery. At night a representation will be given of the siege of Santiago, the sinking of the Merrimac, and the destruction of Admiral Cervera's fleet, a captive balloon and hundreds of soldiers being employed, and a troupe of dancing girls to take part in the celebration of the American victory, which will be the closing number. The usual international dog show will be held, and \$2,500 given in premiums and prizes in kind. There will also be horse racing every afternoon, the purses for which average nearly a thousand dollars a day. Entries for poultry close on Saturday, August 20th, and for dogs on Thursday, August 25th. Single fare tickets will be on sale everywhere.

### A Silver Jubilee Show.

This year the Western Fair celebrates its Silver Jubilee. As an exhibition it does not need to put on additional frills, but it will, nevertheless, in honor of the occasion, and for the greater gratification of its tens of thousands of annually delighted patrons. London, Ont., has had a phenomenal record as an agricultural show center as far back as 1854, the regularly organized Western itself dating back to 1868. This is partly due to the superb farming and live stock country which it specially represents, and to the enterprise and integrity with which its affairs have been managed, and to the wholeheartedness with which leading citizens and agriculturists have devoted themselves to promoting its interests. Its record has been one of steady progress. The FARMER'S ADVOCATE has taken occasion a few times to point out where we thought improvements were needed, and must acknowledge that the administration of the fair has always shown itself more than anxious to do the very best possible for its patrons. The grounds on Queen's Park are naturally the most beautiful fair site in many respects we know of, either in America or Great Britain, and the magnificent buildings of recent erection stand in evidence of a liberal policy. Could some Rip Van Winkle of the old Lake Horn Show days suddenly wake up amidst the show of 1898 he would find himself amazed in a new world, and this season's visitors will find numerous and unexpected improvements, even compared with 1897. During the past few years nearly \$31,000 has been spent in permanent improvements, and still the board has a cash balance on hand of over \$3,150. Good management has enabled them to put up a handsome cash prize list, and to make an increase for the approaching show, which will be held from Sept. 8th to 17th inclusive. It will particularly interest breeders of live stock to learn that there have been additions to the premiums in that department instead of trimming down. As our readers will remember, only two years ago the

new stock, machinery, and other buildings were erected, and yet this year over 5,000 square feet had to be added to the carriage building, 79 box stalls erected in the horse buildings, a beautiful new art gallery added to the main buildings, which will be greatly appreciated by lovers of paintings and other fine arts. An examination of the entry books and space plans afford an idea of what the coming show will be. The revival in the live stock trade naturally brings out more and better exhibits in all classes, and numerically this is the case this season. The occupants of the stalls and judging arenas will speak for themselves later on. We were pleased to note among the new exhibitors in the horse department Messrs. D. & O. Sorby, of Guelph, Ont., who will be forward with a string of 21 animals, which will be a show in itself; while in the cattle department Mr. W. E. H. Massey, of Toronto, one of the heads of the great Massey manufacturing establishment, who is devoting attention to agriculture, will be out with a herd of about 30 Jerseys, including the famous importation brought out this year from the native home of this great butter breed in the Channel Islands. Western Ontario dairy and stock men will be glad of the opportunity to view the select contingent from Mr. Massey's great herd, now one of the finest in Canada. The boom in swine raising will likely bring out big exhibits in that department.

Turning to the agricultural machinery department we find that every foot of space in that immense building was allotted some time ago, and extra provision is being made for others. The implement men are in high fettle this year, and we have no hesitation in predicting that the exhibit will eclipse anything ever before witnessed on a London show ground.

The Secretary, Mr. Thos. A. Browne, assures us that it will tax to the utmost their resources to accommodate completely the exhibits coming forward, and they are fixing the space for animals, etc., as the entries are made, and it has been decided that late comers with entries will not be allowed to crowd and inconvenience those who live up to the rules. Those concerned will do well to take the hint in time, or else suffer the consequences.

In the way of entertainment before the grand stand and on the speeding track the Attractions Committee have prepared a programme extending from Saturday afternoon till the following Friday, sparing neither trouble nor outlay to get the best in that line. Lack of space prevents our going into details, all of which will be found in the official programme. One novel feature of the evening fireworks display will be a realistic representation of the battle of Manila Bay, where Admiral Dewey's fleet annihilated the Spanish squadron.

In the way of distinguished official visitors, the Western Fair's ways secure the best, and this year will be no exception. On Tuesday, 13th Sept., we are pleased to learn the show will be honored with the presence of Sir Oliver Mowat, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the unbeaten Premier and champion statesman of that banner Province. Western Ontario readers, you may miss some good things in 1898, but you cannot afford to miss the Silver Jubilee of the Western Fair.

### Ottawa Central Exhibition.

"The Siege of Delhi," the spectacular to be presented at the night entertainments of the Central Canada Fair next month, was the first victory of the British in the great Indian mutiny just at the close of the Crimean War, in which Sir Henry Havelock distinguished himself. The thrilling spectacle will be presented by means of pyrotechnics in the hands of special artists, who will be assisted by five hundred soldiers of the Capital. The Fair directors are up to date in every respect. Their latest move, and it is a most excellent one, is to issue a '98 Fair souvenir. The book is a creditable specimen of the printer's art and contains pretty nearly everything one wants to know about the exhibition, including the daily programme. The places of interest in the city, hotel rates, and a fund of other information are also to be found in the book.

A number of prominent English firms are to exhibit at the Central Canada Exhibition next month, as they have come to the conclusion that it is to their best interests to exhibit in the Confederation's Capital.

## MARKETS.

### FARM GOSSIP.

#### Still Another Pork Packing Establishment.

The corner-stone of a new co-operative pork packing establishment at Palmerston, Ont., with a capacity for 1,000 to 1,500 hogs per week, was laid on August 3rd by Mr. Joseph Stratford, of Brantford, manager of the Farmers' Binder Twine Co. The company has a capital of \$90,000. Mr. W. J. Falconer is president; Mr. John Burns, vice-president; Mr. Wm. Lynch, treasurer; and Mr. John Oliver, secretary. The other directors are Messrs. A. Meyer, G. V. Poole, Jacob Ankenman, Scott Cowan, John Seiler, Alex. Hamilton, Joe Ballamy, and Wm. Grose. There are already some 400 shareholders on the books. About 1,500 farmers from the adjacent townships, besides all the leading townsmen, were present.

It was the town civic holiday, and the citizens entertained all comers to lunch in the agricultural hall, after which President Falconer took the chair, introducing the various speakers of the day, among whom were Rev. E. Marshall and Mr. Duncan McKewen (of Brantford), who advised farmers to feed all their coarse grains on the farm, and advocated hogs instead of horses. Mr. James McMullen, M. P., congratulated the people of Palmerston and vicinity on their enterprise, and after a trip to the States he concluded that the Canadian farmer was ahead of anything seen there in appearance, intelligence and enterprise. Mr. Joseph Stratford, the speaker of the day, recounted the battle of the Farmers' Binder Twine Co., and stimulated the promoters of the new Palmerston enterprise to renewed zeal.

At the close of his address \$1,000 was added to the stock list. At the close of the speechmaking there was a procession, headed by the band, to the site of the packing-house, where the stone-laying ceremonies took place. Rev. A. K. Caswell, of Philadelphia, Pa., advised the farmers to start right by using the best bred hogs, and feeding them on the best foods. Mr. Stratford poured upon the stone small quantities of corn, wine, and oil as emblems of plenty, cheerfulness, comfort and consolation. Mr. John Oliver, the energetic secretary of the company, read an interesting historic sketch of the movement, the conception of which, he said, was due to Mr. Stratford, who had seen the results attained by the twine company, and noting the excellent railway and other facilities of Palmerston, and the excellent class of hogs raised and shipped from that locality. The matter was introduced last March, during the spring show, and subsequently it was encouraged by the town council, which sent delegations to Ingersoll and Collingwood, Ont., to look into the establishments at those places, and which reported in favor of going ahead. Mr. Wilson, architect, of Collingwood, was selected to draw the plans. The stone basement was now completed, and by August 15th it was expected the brickwork would be well under way. Mr. Oliver said this was the first co-operative pork packing establishment projected in Canada. They felt sure there was an almost unlimited demand in the British market for the best brands of Canadian bacon, and further that there was a good profit in the manufacture and sale of such produce. In six months they expected to have in operation one of the best equipped factories in the Dominion, backed up by a thousand of our very best farmers, who have made swine husbandry a special study. He trusted that in years to come they would be able to look back to this occasion as a red-letter day, not only in the history of Palmerston and adjacent townships, and the counties of Wellington, Perth, and Huron, but of the Dominion itself.

#### Co-operative Pork Packing at Harriston, Ontario.

Announcement is made of the incorporation of a new enterprise, viz., the Harriston Pork Packing Co. (Limited), with a capital of \$100,000. The chief promoters are Messrs. Robert Fallis, W. D. McLellan, Miles Bateman, John Copland, Wm. Douglas, Joshua Homes, Richard Wilkin, Geo. Fulton, and Joseph Lavery, of the Township of Minto, Wellington Co.; Richard Dowling, Dr. S. M. Henry, J. W. Wilson, John Meiklejohn, J. L. Eddy, Geo. Leighton, and James Bailey, of Harriston, Ont.; and Aaron Wenger, of Ayrton, the latter being the well-known creamery-man. Harriston is a thriving town, having connection both with the C. P. R. and G. T. R., and is located a few miles north of Palmerston, where the corner-stone of another packing enterprise is under way, as reported above. These two establishments will draw their supplies of hogs largely from the counties of Wellington, Huron, Bruce, Grey, North Perth, and Waterloo, and probably part of Dufferin, in which fine district they should give an immense impetus to swine husbandry.

On Saturday, August 6th, there was a monster general meeting of the stockholders interested in the new factory, and much enthusiasm was shown. Secretary W. D. McLellan reported that the concern had secured Government incorporation with a subscribed capital of \$100,000, and work was being rushed on the erection of the building at Harriston in a position favorable to both railways. When the meeting was called to order at five o'clock there was not even standing-room to be had in the Harriston council-chamber, where the gathering was held. The farmers were enthusiastic, and much business of importance was finished. Harriston has shipped this year to Ingersoll and Toronto an immense number of fine bacon hogs, and the promoters feel that this co-operative pork-packing establishment has not been undertaken by the farmers and the citizens of Harriston any too soon.

#### Nova Scotia Crops.

Mr. B. W. Chipman, Secretary for Agriculture, Nova Scotia, summarizes as follows the crop conditions in that Province: "The outlook for the agricultural year 1898 in this Province is, upon the whole, satisfactory. The crop bulletins for this year were made returnable to the Office of Agriculture on July 4th, and the probabilities of the various crops are estimated on information received up to that date. Eighty-four returns were received from the counties of Nova Scotia proper, and twenty-four from the Island of Cape Breton. All the principal agricultural districts of the Province are represented in these returns and a careful analysis of them has been made. These show that the hay crop is an abundant one, being eight per cent. above a full average crop on uplands, six per cent. on improved dykeland, and four per cent. on intervals. Owing to the excessive crop of last year there is a greater supply of old hay still in the country than has been the case at this time of the year in many years. The big crop of this season, coming on top of that, assures a great supply of fodder, which ought to tell in the shape of a large increase of stock for beef and dairy purposes. The large hay crop of last year has told already, as the returns show that in many districts there has been an increase in beef and dairy stock. The potato crop promises to be slightly above a full average, and roots generally promise well. With suitable weather the oat and other grain crops will be better than usual. There is quite a notable increase in the acreage devoted to wheat in recent years. This is due to two causes, namely: (1) The yield of last season was extra large wherever sown, and gave great encouragement to increased cultivation. (2) The great jump in the price of flour in the early spring, caused by the outbreak of the Spanish-American war, made the growth of wheat a leading feature among farmers generally in favorable localities. Lack of warmth and sunshine during the month of June retarded the growth of Indian corn for ensilage and the crop will therefore be considerably below the average. This is to be regretted, as no more valuable and profitable fodder can be raised for beef and dairy cattle when used judiciously with other nutritious food.

"The fruit crop, which promised to be exceedingly