

# THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE  
DOMINION.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

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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.

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FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE. Descriptions of  
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THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED),  
LONDON, CANADA.

tion of waste, but makes farming far more inter-  
esting, and also helps to solve the labor problem  
by providing continuous employment throughout  
the year.

Besides the cattle and hogs, sheep should be  
accorded a place on nearly every farm. As weed-  
ers and soil improvers, a small flock easily earn  
their keep. Poultry, too, should receive more  
attention. Modern poultry-housing is inexpensive  
and modern directions for the care of poultry are  
less exacting than was formerly the case. Horse-  
breeding, again, opens an avenue of snug profit.  
A couple of good sound brood mares should be  
part of every farm stock.

Then, in addition to these staple lines, there  
are unexampled opportunities in up-to-date or-  
chard practice. Throughout Western Ontario the  
apple tree receives scant credit, yet here and  
there, as at Forest, Chatham, Simcoe, and other  
points, the business of apple-production has been  
revolutionized, and the orchard has become the  
best-paying asset on the farm. It should be so  
everywhere, and, eventually, bearing orchards of  
standard varieties will be commonly valued at  
\$500 to \$1,000 an acre, as they now are in Nova  
Scotia.

In many localities, strawberry-growing offers  
splendid opportunities to increase farm revenues,  
while, in the special fruit districts, prospects for  
peach, grape, plum and bush-fruit culture were  
never brighter. In the vicinity of cities, milk  
production for the retail trade has assumed the  
proportions of an extensive industry, while mar-  
ket-gardening, in its various phases, is another of  
rapidly-growing proportions. On the Island of  
Montreal is a musk-melon grower who produces  
cantaloupes which often sell for \$2.00 apiece. In  
fact, on every hand opportunities for adding to  
farm profits by new branches and specialties  
adapted to the locality are presenting themselves  
faster than we can perceive and grasp them. All  
it requires is enterprise and study. The modern

farmer must be a reader, a thinker, and a man-  
ager, above all else.

The young man now looking towards the farm  
may rest assured that he is choosing a select oc-  
cupation, a paying occupation, and one that will  
improve in standing and opportunities with each  
succeeding year. Let him not be alarmed if he  
cannot secure a two-hundred-acre ranch. Fifty  
acres, well worked by up-to-date methods, will  
furnish a better living than many a hundred-acre  
farm does to-day. Good soil and convenient lo-  
cation are more to be desired than vast area.

Farm values all over Canada are rising, but  
especially in the neighborhood of cities, and as  
the West fills up they will rise faster. The new  
agriculture will make far more out of the soil  
than did the old-time grain-and-hay system, and  
the diversified agriculture of fifty years hence will  
easily support double or treble the agricultural  
population now scattered over the broad expanse  
of Eastern Canada. It is a good time for the  
young man to strike root into the soil.

## THE MARCH OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

"Canadian Agriculture" was the subject of  
an incisive and informing address before the Cana-  
dian Institute, Toronto, by Prof. C. A. Zavitz,  
Experimentalist at the Ontario Agricultural Col-  
lege. Our readers will appreciate the synopsis  
published in this issue, for several reasons. Those  
engaged in the industry, and sometimes public  
men, appear to overlook its commanding mag-  
nitude, disclosed in the fact that agricultural prod-  
ucts surpass in value the combined total value of  
all the products of forest, mine, fisheries, wild  
animals, and of manufactured products, less cost  
of raw material. Here, then, is the basis of the  
country's material prosperity, and in this fact lies  
an irrefutable argument for a scheme of public  
education that will serve the interests of the  
agricultural population at least equally with  
professional and mercantile pursuits. We are  
obliged to Prof. Zavitz for calling public atten-  
tion, at this juncture in the discussion of the On-  
tario rural-school problem, to the widespread  
recognition of the paramount importance of agri-  
cultural instruction in the scholastic systems of  
other countries, from the lower grades in the rud-  
imentary schools, right up through the colleges  
and normal institutions. Canada cannot afford  
to lag behind.

## HOW "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE" STANDS IN

Many and quaint are the anecdotes that come  
to hand, illustrating the place which "The Farm-  
er's Advocate" holds in the estimation of Cana-  
dian husbandmen. It is said that one careful  
father, whose daughters were visiting at a city  
relative's home, noticing a leading magazine on  
the library table, picked it up, and, handing it to  
the hostess, requested her not to allow his daugh-  
ters to read it, as the only literature he sanctioned  
them to peruse was "The Farmer's Advocate"  
and the family Bible.

Another incident, vouched for by a reputable  
physician, comes from a hospital up in Muskoka.  
A woman patient, in the early convalescent stage,  
awoke from a sleep to ask the day of the week.  
"Thursday," replied the nurse. "Thursday, eh,  
that's the day 'The Farmer's Advocate' is pub-  
lished."

But the latest to hand is from A. E. Sherring-  
ton, who, in company with another delegate, was  
to speak at a fruit-institute meeting in Simcoe  
County. The only man who turned out was the  
one who had called the meeting. After a while  
he was seen to pick himself up and move towards  
the door. "What's the matter, you're not go-  
ing, too?" "Yes, my wife is over here visit-  
ing some of her folks, and I guess I'll go there.  
I take 'The Farmer's Advocate' and read it,  
and I don't think anyone can tell me much about  
co-operation or fruit-raising."

I have been a subscriber to your valuable  
paper only since last Christmas, and am always  
pleased to read the many articles, and also the  
Questions and Answers to correspondents, for they  
contain information of great value to farmers. A  
good number of our neighbors subscribe for it. I  
believe many more will this Christmas.  
Simcoe Co., Ont. CHAS. NORTHGRAVES.

## THE FARMER'S OWN FAIR.

The Ontario Winter Fair, at Guelph, to be held  
this year on the dates December 9th to 13th, a  
summary of the programme for which will be  
found on another page in this issue, has proved  
the proposition that a farmers' fair without fire-  
works or circus performances can be made a suc-  
cess in the best sense of the word. It is the  
rounding-up live-stock, poultry and seed show of  
the year, where time and opportunity is given for  
the study of breeds and types of pure-bred and  
commercial cattle, sheep, swine and fowl, alive  
and in the dressed carcass; of seeing these judged  
and placed in order of merit by competent ex-  
perts; of hearing helpful addresses and lectures  
by experienced farmers, breeders, feeders and  
scientists on the best methods of management,  
and the reason for certain results. And this year  
additional features of interest have been added to  
the programme, one of which is a discussion of  
the important question of improved roads, a  
question in which all are intimately interested,  
and none more than those in the great dairy  
districts of the Province, to be led by A. W.  
Campbell, C. E., Deputy Minister of Public Works,  
Toronto, and D. Ward King, of Missouri, the  
originator of the split-log drag, of which "Farm-  
er's Advocate" readers have heard so much dur-  
ing the passing year. Mr. King has a continental  
reputation as an authority on road construction  
and maintenance, and is an able exponent of his  
views and experience as a lecturer on the plat-  
form. This is a large subject, and needs all the  
light that can be thrown upon it.

The horse industry is another topic in which  
all farmers are personally interested, and its dis-  
cussion, in the light of the report of the Govern-  
ment Commission, as to the need of concerted ac-  
tion in the matter of improving the general horse  
stock of the Province, should interest every farmer  
who raises colts of any class.

The economical feeding of stock, a subject of  
special importance at the present time, is down  
for discussion, and should prove helpful to many  
who are short of supplies of fodder and other  
feedstuffs. The milking trials of dairy cows, the  
seed show, and the poultry display (the greatest  
of the year), the judging competition for young  
farmers, and the many other features of interest  
outlined in the programme, should prove attrac-  
tive to all classes of farmers.

It is safe to say that in no way can young  
farmers spend a week more profitably than by  
taking in this short course of practical education,  
commencing on Monday afternoon with the annual  
meeting of the Experimental Union at the Agri-  
cultural College, open to all, where questions es-  
pecially relating to the seeding and cultivation of  
farm crops will be discussed. Apart from the  
reports and discussions regarding the experimental  
work of the year, probably the outstanding fea-  
ture of the Union meetings will relate to agricul-  
tural instruction in the public-school system. In  
addition to addresses by Mr. C. C. James, Deputy  
Minister of Agriculture, and President G. C.  
Creelman, of the O. A. C., reports are expected  
from the teachers of the six new agricultural  
classes in High Schools.

The judging of live stock commences on Tues-  
day afternoon, and the lectures, commencing the  
same day, are continued for four days. In former  
years, too many have made the mistake of leav-  
ing on Thursday, thus missing the Friday lectures  
on the dressed carcasses, and their sale by auc-  
tion, which have generally been of special interest.  
This year, Mr. D. Ward King, who is an expert in  
horse-training, as well as on roads, will give a  
lecture on this subject and a practical demonstra-  
tion in the show-ring of the training of an un-  
broken colt on Friday morning. As many as  
possible should, therefore, plan to stay till the  
close of the show.

A feature of the week will be the creamery  
meeting at the O. A. C., beginning at 1 p. m. on  
Thursday, December 12th, when half a dozen of  
the foremost experts in the dairy industry will  
introduce topics bristling with interest at the  
present time. In conjunction with the dairy-  
cattle section at the show, the addresses will re-  
late to such live problems as cow-testing, co-  
operation between patrons and factorymen, and  
the sanitary handling of milk and milk products.