

Farmers of To-morrow

A Department for Ambitious Farmers' Sons

Most of us want enough time for self-education. By the use of our spare moments we shape our destiny.—Selected.

Don't thou value life? Then do not squander time for that is the stuff life is made of.—Benjamin Franklin

KNOWLEDGE is power. The world is governed by men of ideas. In every line of human endeavor the men who lead are men who have a broad and comprehensive knowledge of the work in which they are engaged, as well as a thorough mastery of a vast fund of its detail. Did you ever hear a good lawyer arguing a case? What a grasp he has of every line of thought bearing upon it. Did you ever stop to think of the fund of information a business man must have in order to properly conduct one of our banks or other great business institutions? And the commander of an army at the front. How alert he must be! Not a detail must be overlooked or it might spell disaster to the hundreds of thousands of men under his command. He must be awake to take every advantage that offers and be ready to meet any contingency that may arise, in each case knowing just what to do and how best to do it. Otherwise he will have to step back while another is appointed whose knowledge and resourcefulness exceeds his own.

The same is true in no less a degree of the leaders in agriculture. The men who have made and are making the greatest success in agricultural pursuits are those who have brought the most brain power to bear upon their work. The men who carry off the prizes at our fairs and exhibitions are those who have made a systematic and progressive study of their specialty. In Saskatchewan there is a man named Seager Wheeler, who has three times in succession won the world's championship for wheat. Seager Wheeler leaves nothing to chance. He has a thorough knowledge of grain growing, from the cultivation of the land to systematic seed selection and scientific plant breeding. He is recognized throughout the prairie provinces as one of the leading authorities on every detail of grain production.

Our leading live stock breeders furnish good examples of the application of brain to their particular branch of agriculture. James Watt, of Elora, who carried off more prize money from Toronto exhibition this year than was ever won before by one breeder in a single year, did so because of his knowledge of Shorthorns. Show Jimmy Watt a Shorthorn calf running in the pasture field and he will tell you what its prospects will be in the show ring as a three-year-old. Examples could be quoted to any length proving that the men who are winning the most distinction in the lines of agricultural activity are those who have always been painstaking and thoughtful students of those branches in which they have most excelled.

The Position of the Average Farm Boy

The normal farm boy is ambitious. He has a keen desire to take his place amongst those who are taking a leading part in the world's business. In the past his ambition has too frequently led him away from the farm to the city, but what wonders he has accomplished there? In every line of urban endeavor he has achieved distinction. In legislative halls, on the bench, on the directorates of the largest banks and financial institutions, at the head of departmental stores, in every position of distinction and power you will find men who have warmed their bare feet on frosty autumn mornings where the cows laid over night. The success the farm boy has achieved in the city has dazzled the eyes of a great many. Until recently it was commonly thought, and is still thought to too great an extent, that only in

the city can a young man of ambition and action find a full outlet for his activity.

Of late years, however, and especially since the collapse of our last industrial boom, the opportunities which the farm offers to a young man of ambition are being more appreciated. It is now recognized that no matter how great his ability may be, he can find scope for its application in the business of farming. Should he have an aptitude for public life and a desire to win distinction in that line, he will find that the movements by which the organized farmers are endeavoring to win for themselves economic justice offers him a field for public service as alluring in its possibilities as any that ever existed.

The "Big Boy" Problem

But how is the average farm boy to acquire the knowledge that will equip him to take a leading part amongst his fellow-farmers later in life? In the majority of cases he has only a public school education, and not only are our rural schools very far from being above criticism in the preparation

Notice to Ambitious Farmers' Sons

WITH this issue we launch our correspondence course in agriculture.

This course is intended principally for farmers' sons over school age, who have not an opportunity for attending college, but who wish to continue their self-development. The article adjoining explains the course and how it can be obtained. Read it. It may start you on the road to success. If interested, write for information, using the coupon.

Farm and Dairy, Peterboro, Ont.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me full information regarding your Correspondence Course in Agriculture.

Name

Address

which they give a boy for making a success of life in the country, but they also have this defect, that they usually drop him at fourteen or sixteen years of age without a clue as to how he may proceed in completing his education by his own efforts. As a result the very period which should be productive of the greatest results in self-development and character building is the most barren of such desirable results. The small amount of progress that is being made by the average "big boy" in the matter of self-development is little less than tragic.

But the big boys are not to blame. Although many of them would not openly say so, in the secret hearts of most of them there is a deep-seated longing to make a mark in life. No healthy, normal, country boy is devoid of ambition. He is sport enough and man enough to have a desire to excel. He knows that he can achieve success only by great personal effort, but he is willing to make the effort. He has spare time—busy though he is—which could be utilized in self improvement. Why then does he not make more progress?

Directed Effort vs. Drifting

The reason that he does not make more progress is that he has no direction. Such efforts as he puts forth are without supervision. Although he may do considerable reading it is of a hit and miss, miscellaneous character and does not seem to get him anywhere. Systematic, progressive, intellectual development can never result from haphazard reading. It is truly aston-

ishing the tremendous amount of general reading which can be done without obtaining any genuine or lasting benefit. On the other hand it is quite as astonishing the great good that can be accomplished by even a small amount of reading, if it is systematic, thorough and directed with a definite end in view. Even with the small amount of time which the average farm boy has to spare for study, he can simply work wonders if his work is efficiently supervised. His greatest problem then is to secure such supervision in the use of his spare time that he will be able to dispose of it to the best possible advantage in making real progress in self-development.

A New Departure

Farm and Dairy realizes that every week this paper reaches thousands of ambitious big boys and young men who are anxious to improve their spare moments. It may be that some of them contemplated attending the Agricultural College this winter, but owing to the unsettled conditions resulting from the war, they have met with disappointment. Others again are so placed that an attendance at a college would be out of the question. In order to bring the advantages of a college course within the reach of every one of its readers, the editors have determined upon the establishment in connection with Farm and Dairy of a Correspondence Course in Agriculture.

The object of this course will be to give our "big boy" readers, the farmers of to-morrow, direction in the disposal of their spare time so that it may all be utilized for systematic and progressive self-development. It is assumed that they are determined to stay with the farming game and to make the most they can out of it. The course has, therefore, been designed to give practical and systematic instruction in the more important subjects relating to agriculture. It will also include a study of the great economic aspects of farming. In it will be offered the cream of a regular agricultural college course.

The details of the course will be more fully dealt with in subsequent issues of Farm and Dairy. We will, however, here state that the general divisions of agriculture with which it is proposed to deal are:

Field Husbandry—Soils—Cultivation, Drainage, Fertilizers, etc. Field Crops—Cereals, Grasses and Clovers, Roods.
Animal Husbandry—Feed, Care, Management of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Swine and Poultry.
Orchard and Garden—Fruits, Vegetables and Farm Forestry.
Farm Pests—Weeds, Insects, Smuts, Rusts, etc.
Agricultural Economics—Farm Management; Farm Credits; Cooperation.

How to Obtain the Course

In order to bring the course within the reach of every "farmer of to-morrow," arrangements have been made by which it can be procured without any cash outlay whatever, except for the one small item of postage. There are no tuition fees, and the course can be won by the expenditure of only a few hours' time by any energetic and intelligent farm boy. It will be given as a premium for a club of ten new subscribers to Farm and Dairy at \$1.00 each. As soon as the club is received the one securing it will be enrolled as a regular student in the Correspondence Course, and his first lesson will be immediately sent to him. His progress will then depend on the time and energy he will devote to the work and his aptitude as a student. Each student will receive individual attention and instruction, and will not be held back by others who are slower or more indifferent than himself.