

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN MANITOBA
AND N.-W. T.

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1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on the fifth and twentieth of each month. It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for farmers, dairy-men, gardeners, and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, United States, England Ireland and Scotland, \$1 per year in advance. All other countries, 8s.
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4. THE ADVOCATE is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrears must be made as required by law.
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7. THE DATE ON YOUR LABEL shows to what time your subscription is paid.
8. ANONYMOUS communications will receive no attention.
9. LETTERS intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
10. 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 ADVOCATE, 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 receipt of postage.
11. ALL COMMUNICATIONS in reference to any matter connected with this paper should be addressed as below, and not to any individual connected with the paper.

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Winnipeg Beats Chicago.

The figures of the Dominion Grain Inspector, of the grain inspected at Winnipeg for the year ended August 30th, are announced, and are as follows: Inspected in Winnipeg—Wheat, 51,833,000 bushels; oats, 3,054,000 bushels; barley, 565,200 bushels; flax, 655,000 bushels; spelt, 1,000 bushels; total, 56,117,200 bushels.

Figures of receipts at Fort William and Port Arthur for the year ended August 30th are also posted, and are: Wheat, 31,237,823 bushels; oats, 1,608,963 bushels; barley, 345,928 bushels; flax, 16,167 bushels. The difference between Winnipeg and Fort William figures indicate local consumption and all-rail shipments.

Referring to these figures, Secretary C. N. Bell, of the Grain Exchange, has issued a statement, in which he says he does not think the Canadians fully realize the volume of grain being shipped from Western Canada. The figures show that Winnipeg receipts of wheat greatly exceed those of Chicago or of Duluth. The figures are: Winnipeg, 51,833,000 bushels; Duluth, 42,046,923 bushels; Chicago, 37,940,953 bushels. Mr. Bell says: "It will now be in order, so far as relates to the grain arrivals at least, to abandon the trite saying, 'Winnipeg will some day be a second Chicago,' for Chicago makes but a poor show compared with this market in wheat handling."

Owing to a number of fairs occurring about the same date, and considerable distance apart, the "Advocate" regrets being unable to have a representative with every agricultural society on the day of its annual show. In several cases we have made strenuous efforts to overcome the difficulty, but were unable to accomplish our desire. We trust, however, that our numerous subscribers in these centers will bear with us, in the hope that some arrangement may be made whereby in future the shows in the different districts may follow each other in something like consecutive order.

From the far-away Peace River country, a friend of the "Farmer's Advocate" sends an interesting letter. Read it in another department.

Why Call it an Agricultural College?

A few months ago the news was flashed along the wire from Ottawa that one Prof. Coard, L.L.D., was about to leave for the West, and that upon his arrival he would establish in Regina nothing less than an agricultural college. After slowly wending his way westward, having stopped off, it was said several times along the north shore of Lake Superior in order to study Western conditions, although it was yet winter, he finally arrived at the Territorial capital, and at once announced that an institution to be known as the "Northwestern Agricultural College and Experiment Station" would be opened, where persons coming into the Northwest, whose chief characteristic was their absolute ignorance of agricultural ways and works, would receive the much needed enlightenment. In a short time an old church building with a seating capacity of 100 had been secured, and the Professor was in a position to receive applications for admission.

During an interview with a reliable Regina paper, this new agricultural benefactor is credited with saying that the course would be very practical; that the seven departments—farm, live stock, dairying, poultry, horticulture, agricultural mechanics and experiments—would be dealt with free from scientific or technical terms and in such a way that he who runs might read and he who reads might understand. After a few weeks, which allowed time for a trip to Ottawa, Prof. Coard returned, and amid the usual formality the institution was declared open. With one lecture per week this so-called agricultural college dragged on for three months, during which the student body, numbering upwards of seven, were favored with no "useless cramming," but real hard, matter-of-fact lectures, which, by the way, were generally read from manuscript. Once, or perhaps oftener, the practical part would seem to be emphasized when the little body of learners were invited to a near-by stock farm to go over a pure-bred herd, but, alas, even here that "useless cramming" had to be cut out and they were treated to a well-read lecture on an animal, which, unfortunately, it is said, was not always the one upon which this learned live-stock teacher had prepared his notes.

Everyone who is a reader of these columns knows that the "Farmer's Advocate" is always ready to champion the cause of agricultural education, and we would be very sorry to hinder in any way a movement that had shown itself worthy of public support. We would like to ask, however, if what way can this concern lay claim to the name of an agricultural college? The only institution in Canada that has heretofore assumed that name has been the Ontario Agricultural College, situated at Guelph. In the principal States of the Union, too, there is an agricultural college, and in all these institutions each department is under the control of someone who has both a scientific and practical knowledge of the work he proposes to teach. Of course, we are expected to believe that this Regina school is as yet in its infancy, but has the man in charge a scientific or practical knowledge of Northwestern agriculture? If not, is he in a position to give to those entering the Province any valuable information that will repay them for the time spent in hearing what he has to say? Again, has he a practical knowledge of live stock? Is he competent to enter the show-ring and place a class of any kind of stock? Has he ever shown any ability to do so? If not, again we ask, should he set himself up as a teacher of others? We might go on and ask other questions concerning the ability of the Professor to teach the subjects announced in the curriculum, but let us turn for a moment to the circular announcing the opening of the fall term, which is, in its way, a gem. There we read that the college possesses a considerable acreage of land, but who in Regina knows where this is situated or anything else about it? Still, the circular says that it is possessed by "the College." Again, it is said that "thoroughbred, pedigreed stock only is owned by the institution," but has anyone ever seen any of these animals, and who knows to what breed they belong?

In a previous circular, we notice that the names of certain responsible persons were published, who gave, it is said, their approval to the new scheme. No doubt, when it was first mentioned, some of

these men were, as usual, ready to do anything to assist agriculture, but do we find them giving the same recognition of Prof. Coard's institution to-day? We were further told, among other things in that pamphlet, that chiefs of divisions in both the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture would periodically visit Regina and address the students, but may we not again ask, have these men yet delivered any lectures? Some of them, we know, have passed through Regina, but, to our knowledge, went on their way without even recognizing the so-called agricultural college. In conclusion, we would say that if Prof. Coard desires to spend his time talking once or twice a week to two or three who find it convenient to go over to his hall, why we certainly have no right to offer objection, but before recognizing it as an agricultural college, we trust our readers who are interested will see that the questions set forth in this article, are answered to their satisfaction. The day is not far distant when the Northwest Territories will require an agricultural college similar to those in other countries, and when that time arrives we trust that no one will be able to oppose it if any institution claiming the same name did not come up to their expectations.

Alberta Experimental Farm Endorsed.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—Regarding an experimental farm for Alberta, I am pleased to see the "Advocate" taking up the subject and asking for the opinion of its readers here. In this part of the Northwest it seems to me an institution of that kind would be of great benefit to the settlers. We have the published reports of the experimental farms along some lines in some of the agricultural journals, which are, or ought to be, a great help to those who are interested and take such papers and read and profit by these reports; but for one who reads there are many who do not.

It was the writer's privilege to live within a few miles of the Brandon Experimental Farm during the first years of its transformation from an early settler's claim to the commencement of what it is to-day; and in those early days of Manitoba, when its pioneers had everything to learn, the fields did not present the appearance of to-day. While they grew No. 1 hard wheat, it was quite a mixture with various kinds of weeds. The benefit of the Experimental Farm to the farmers of that part of the country cannot be estimated in dollars and cents. I am of the opinion that the help it has been to those farmers in its object lessons in growing the different varieties of grain, grasses, roots and fodders, finding out those most suited to their needs, and the feeding of different rations to cattle, all having been done with such neatness and a view to profit, has been enough to more than repay the cost of farm, buildings and running expenses, to say nothing of future benefit. Being as it is within easy reach of nearly all parts of Manitoba by rail, many thousands each year visit it and carry away very valuable information. The Indian Head farm, I expect, has been of the same benefit to those situated near it, both farms having as superintendents men who seem to deem it a pleasure to give all the information possible, even to the smallest detail.

What we need in Alberta is an experimental farm for this part of the West. The soil, climate and conditions here differ from Assiniboia to such an extent that what might be well suited for there would not do as well here with the same mode of cultivation. While the prairie sections of the Northwest are better adapted to the growing of wheat, this part of Alberta, it seems to me, is better for mixed farming. Here we can raise the different grains with good success; cattle, for either beef or dairy, do exceedingly well; roots of various kinds also do well, and make excellent feed for cattle during the colder months of the year, when fed with hay and grain. Native fruits of various kinds are abundant, and do so well when cultivated under natural shelter, that it would seem that apples, plums, etc., could be easily grown. Then the country is filling up so rapidly with people from all parts of the world, some used to farming under different conditions, some not having farmed at all, while they are learning what an advantage it would be to get

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