

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL,
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1. **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, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
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12. **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 FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, 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.
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interests in both Dominion and Provincial houses. Local clubs should be taken advantage of by all, so that agriculturists may become proficient in debating.

The annual report of Farmers' Institutes in Ontario for the year 1908, just issued by the Department of Agriculture, through G. A. Putnam, Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes for the Province, deals comprehensively with Farmers' Institute Clubs, the objects, methods of organization, recommendations for the work, and matters of general value to those interested. In discussing the object of forming clubs, the report gives part of the constitution and by-laws, as follows: "The object of this organization shall be to encourage and maintain a deeper and more general and intelligent interest in all that pertains to agriculture in the broadest sense, by holding meetings at which farmers may receive and give information, suggestions and experiences, and study together how best to improve themselves and to help their fellow farmers; also, to afford an opportunity for debate and study to its members, that they may thus become accustomed to public speaking, and help to develop talent along those lines that might otherwise remain dormant; to have them present addresses upon subjects relating to farming, and dealing specially with the conditions existing in the locality; to increase the knowledge of and interest in the larger questions (not sectarian or political) of the nation, and which affect the social life and financial position of the farmer; to create and stimulate an ambition in our farmers, and especially the younger men, to be successful in the truest sense, and not only to raise the calling of the farmer to the place it should occupy, in keeping with its importance to the state, but also to make use of his successes, opportunities and power, to make Ontario a still more desirable Province to live in."

Already, there are many such clubs in Ontario. Every district should have one. Large conventions of the various organizations and associations are beneficial, but only a small percentage of farmers can afford the time or expense

connected with travelling to distant points. Expense and loss of time are reduced to a minimum when local meetings are held. Be loyal to agricultural interests, and become enthusiastic. Particulars regarding organization can be obtained by writing to Mr. Putnam, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

The Dairymen's Paper.

While seeking to maintain a judicious balance of matter in all departments, "The Farmer's Advocate" has steadily recognized the pre-eminent importance of the dairy industry in Canada by devoting ample space to practical discussion of dairy problems. Our policy has been to avoid sensation and profitless agitation, but to concentrate attention on fruitful efforts to assist and further the industry. The most eminent dairy authorities in Canada have contributed largely to our columns, two most excellent series of articles by Miss Laura Rose being particularly valuable to the farmer's wife. The campaign for breeding, weeding and feeding of dairy herds has been assiduously waged. Alfalfa-growing and silo-building have been widely encouraged, and much helpful information as to details given. Cooling of milk and cool-curing of cheese has received ample attention, while plans for safeguarding the pecuniary interests of cheese-factory patrons, and pasteurization of whey, have been other beneficent subjects kept well to the fore. Nor has the maker's end been neglected. A vast amount of practical information on cheese and butter making will be found in our files, together with many descriptions of up-to-date creameries and cheese factories. Ontario's present superb system of dairy instruction and sanitary inspection was first publicly advocated through our columns; while, in every respect we have been abreast of the times in suggestions for the advancement of the dairy industry. The best and fullest reports of the dairymen's conventions are published by "The Farmer's Advocate," and in every way our columns render patrons and makers a service that is unexcelled. Every dairymen in Canada should take "The Farmer's Advocate."

How Protection Hampers.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In your issue of Dec. 17th, 1908, there appears in the editorial columns a letter for higher protection, by "Pro Bono Publico."

It is well for the farmers of a country to have pluck enough to place their ideas on any subject before the public. The person writing may state some thoughts that might be beneficial to his fellows, and at the same time all may gain some ideas from the discussion that follows.

Now, suppose we take "P. B. P." to task. His first point is that, "An intelligent farmer in the United States and Canada cannot be convinced that high protective tariff is a delusion." As regards the farmers' position, I would refer "P. B. P." to the resolutions adopted by The Grange and Farmers' Association at their last convention, published in full in a recent issue of "The Farmer's Advocate." Many business men might be quoted. J. J. Hill, the great railway man, who possesses vast interests in both countries, states time and again that absolute free trade in all things would tend to the mutual advancement of both countries.

Your correspondent states that Great Britain owes her prosperity to high protection. Great Britain's material progress took place during the reigns of the Georges. At the same time, it is to be noted that the great masses of the people were suffering from the protective tariff. This condition was removed when her markets were thrown open to all countries of the world.

Great Britain owes her manufacturing prosperity chiefly to the presence of iron and coal within her borders. The prosperity of the United States manufacturing also depends on the large amounts of iron and coal, which are more easily obtained at the present time than those of Eng-

land, so that, if a free-trade policy were instituted at the present time she could undersell all other great manufacturing countries of the world. Some might maintain that the high wages would be a detriment, but cheaper means of living would reduce the wage scale to the proper basis.

Canada has iron in immense quantities, but coal is scarce, Ontario possessing none. However, we believe, in the future, that electricity, or possibly some other agency yet uninvited, will be used for smelting purposes. British capital is finding its way to the Dominion. Such occasions as the Tercentenary at Quebec last year, and the tour of Lord Milner, should go a long way toward placing our position in a clear light before the British investor. Our waterways, leading to the heart of the country; our grand, undeveloped system of water-power, and great quantities of iron, should be a strong stimulant to the king of the manufacturing industry.

Protection, at first sight, would appear to stimulate the iron industry, and it would if the country developed to be a sufficient market for the product. Such is not likely to be the case for some time to come, if ever; therefore, the iron industry would require all the markets of the world. In order to compete in these markets, the cost of production would have to be reduced to a minimum. This could be obtained by a reduced cost of living, and this reduced cost can only be secured by free trade.

Take, for instance, the Dominion Iron and Steel Works, of Sydney, Cape Breton. Most people are aware of the aid given to any new industry entering a town, so that it will be unnecessary to enumerate these advantages enjoyed by the aforesaid company. Besides these things, they receive aid from the Dominion Government. This company recently sold steel rails in India for at least \$10 per ton less than they charge the Dominion of Canada, and still they claim these rails were sold at a profit.

Manufacturers claim that they should receive 6 per cent. interest on money invested, over and above cost of production. Now, your writer would personally like to see the farmer who, after meeting all running expenses, and paying himself and family a reasonable salary, could show 6 per cent. interest on money invested at the end of each year. There is no doubt that it would be the proper condition of things. If it were, the young people wouldn't be so anxious to drift to the cities.

NOTTAWASAGA FARMER.

A Reactionary Proposal.

The suggested reintroduction, by the Ontario Education Department, of the "u" into such words as labor, favor, etc., is a reactionary proposal scarcely justified by the reasons advanced for the action. All this reasoning about preserving the evidence of the original introduction of such words through the French channel is about as sensible as to insist that a bit of bark should be left on the woodsman's ax-handle so that he may be reminded, when he uses the tool, what kind of wood it was made of. The fact that it blistered his hands would, of course, make him appreciate it all the more! Not less absurd is the argument that we should prefer the British to the American spelling of the word. Flattery that apes for the sake of imitation is poor compliment. The fact is, the "or" ending is as much Canadian as American. To propose a change now is only to return one more excrescence and anomaly to a language the spelling of which is already a laughing-stock. Without doubt, the British themselves, whose progressive educationists have long ago evinced a desire for spelling reform, will soon be discarding the "u," as well as many other superfluities, such as "e" from axe, "me" from programme, etc.

Let us lead the way, instead of lagging behind. When improvement in spelling can be made, without entailing unnecessary inconvenience, by all means let us make it. The fact of the matter is, it will be impossible to revert to the antiquated "our" ending, even though the Ontario Department of Education should adopt it. The spelling-reform movement is bound to grow, and those who do not climb on the band-wagon will be left behind.

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