

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, dairy-
men, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication
in Canada.

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We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as
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FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, Descriptions of
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preserve the ensiled corn with a minimum of loss.

But, while some silos are better than others, one can make no great mistake in choosing any one of the six or seven kinds favorably mentioned. At least, it is better to build any of these than not to build at all. Corn is a wonderful crop, and, for cattle feeding, at all events, the silo is the best means of curing and housing it. Corn fodder may be all right up until Christmas, but after that silage has a decided advantage, because of its succulence and palatability. And, in spring, should there be some left over, it may be preserved for summer feeding, or held over a twelvemonth, if desired, whereas an excess of dried fodder is liable to waste in the field, or to be thrown into the barnyard. As for the man who has never grown corn at all, he will find that, by adopting a short rotation, growing plenty of corn, and ensiling it, the cattle-carrying capacity of his farm may be increased a quarter to a third, with a more than corresponding increase in profits.

Economic Astigmatism.

The cool indifference with which Canada observes the log-rolling manipulations in the United States Senate, which is making the new tariff against Canadian agricultural products even higher than the old, would be simply incredible to a reincarnated Canadian of fifteen or twenty years ago. The present Canadian attitude toward the United States tariff-makers is one of non-expectancy, hence cannot result in disappointment. The American attitude on the tariff question is one of economic blindness. Class interest and self-seeking obscure the large, comprehensive outlook which is necessary to a true appreciation of the economic effect of tariffs, and the American Senate is fully maintaining its reputation as the bulwark of class interests, and the instrument of popular oppression at the behest of the favored few. The joke of it all is that almost every class is happy in the belief that it is being protected, childishly innocent of the fact that, if everybody were equally benefited by protection,

the result would be no net advantage to anybody. Protection benefits one interest by taxing others. It can be justified, not as a permanent policy, but only as an expedient, and in most cases a doubtful expedient at that.

Express Company Rates.

Investigation by the Railway Commission into the express business seems to have brought out the fact that the express companies earn large profits in proportion to capital invested, and, in some cases, at least, pursue the policy of taxing, not according to the cost of the service rendered, but according to what they think the traffic will bear. For instance, the counsel for the Commission drew attention to the fact that the rates for sweet cream were double the rates for sour cream, though the one could be handled for practically the same as the other; hence, if the rate for sour cream was such as to recompense the company for handling it, the rate on sweet cream must be at least twice as high as it should be, which is probably the case. The discrepancy being pointed out, the representative of the Dominion Express Company explained that, through a mistake, sour cream had been carried at the lower rate charged for milk, instead of at the sweet-cream rate, and he would ask the Commission for power to rectify this error, by charging the higher rate for both kinds of cream.

The counsel for the Canadian Express Company took exception to percentage of profits as a basis for determining whether charges were reasonable or not, declaring that it should depend rather on the value of the service to the shipper. The companies further contend that the cost of their service is not to be measured by the capital invested, because they use the plant and rolling stock of the railway companies with which they are respectively allied. But, assuming that they pay due rental for these services, then the residual profits should certainly be a standard by which to fix rates. To claim that express rates should be based on the capitalization that would be necessary to duplicate railroads, would be as absurd as to argue that the cost of carrying a letter should be regulated by the charge that would be necessary if the post office had to run railroads. The fact is that we have the railroads; the express companies, in common with the post-office department, and other shippers, have the use of these public-service utilities at a rate based not on the probable cost of duplicating the railroads, but on the fair and reasonable cost of the service rendered by the railroad corporation to its patrons and subsidiary companies, such as the express company is. The express investigation, therefore, seems to have made pretty clear the need for thorough regulation, if not radical downward revision of express rates.

Macdonald Inaugural Notes.

Hon. James Wilson, addressing Convocation, at Macdonald College recently, said he had been attracted here to-day by the effort being made to provide in a unique way for the future of the country, by educating boys and girls for country life. In his own country they were working towards the same object, but he had somehow got the impression that Canada was a step ahead in this matter. "We have to keep our eye on you to keep up." He could think of no man, but the founder of this College, who had had the foresight to provide for this particular kind of education. He referred to the immigration of some 60,000 young American farmers into the Canadian Northwest, bringing with them some \$60,000,000, but this he regarded as merely a payment on account, for Canada had contributed many able men to American Colleges and Experiment Stations, and he had just been reminded by our gracious Governor-General that in the days of stress of the Civil War, Canada had contributed 40,000 men to the Union Army. If all the British Provinces were as well governed as Canada, there need be no doubt about the future of the Empire. Dr. Wilson referred to the necessity for the scientific education of the farmer, and for such education for the farmer's daughter as would equip her to adorn the parlor, advise in the kitchen and know herself. He emphasized the importance of the pasture as the most economical provision for animal nutrition, and referred to the present scarcity

of horses, which is not only driving city people to the purchase of automobiles, but seriously hampering agriculture in the West. The political condition of the farmer in the United States was not what it should be. Although half the people tilled the soil, they contributed little to the governing class. "I do not know what the vocational distribution of your legislators may be, but if asked to name six farmers in the United States Congress on pain of instant death, I think I'd have to die."

In his address to Convocation, Dr. Robertson gave a brief statement of the history, aims and ideals of Macdonald College. It had grown out of a number of movements in which Sir William Macdonald's sagacity, devotion and wealth had employed themselves in the direction of the improvement of the conditions of rural life in Canada—in some measure out of each of the following: The Manual-training movement, the Seed-grain-improvement movement, the School-gardens movement, the Consolidated Macdonald Schools, and the Macdonald Institute of the Ontario Agricultural College. In its three schools of Agriculture, Household Science and Teaching, Macdonald College was trying to realize the mottoes of "Mastery for Service," and "Health, Happiness and Social Efficiency." Macdonald College stood for agricultural research, and for education which stood rather to impart power than mere knowledge. Its aim was to prepare country children not to leave the places of their birth, but to live happily and well in the places of their birth. This sort of education cost money, but we were all trustees of the human heritage, and no better use for wealth could be found than that of preparing the next generation to become worthy successors in this trusteeship.

Gifford Pinchot, Chief of the United States Forest Service, said: "Your Principal is one of the first to recognize that the rural problem is an eminently human problem. The growing of better crops is a fundamental necessity, just as learning to read is a fundamental necessity in acquiring an education. But more important than the growing of better crops is the development of better men and women." He had been struck with the statement of Dr. Robertson in a recent publication of the College, that "Co-operation is the habit of the College." This was significant, because co-operation was becoming a necessity to the farmers if they are to hold their own in the inevitable contact and competition with co-operating business interests."

SOME SENTENCES FROM THE CONVOCATION ADDRESSES.

Dr. Robertson—"Not so very many years ago a young Scottish boy was cracking the whip at the horses in the mill-ring of the threshing machine. Only this morning Mr. Wilson and I were trying to decide which felt the worst when pulled out of bed and sent to work at daybreak of a cold Ayrshire morning."

Mr. Wilson—"We in the United States are working towards the same ideals in agricultural education, but I have somehow got the impression that Canada is a step ahead in this matter. We have to keep our eye on you to keep up."

"I can think of no man but the founder of this College, who has had the foresight to make provision for this particular kind of education."

"The farmer's daughter should have such an education as will equip her to adorn the parlor, advise in the kitchen, and know herself."

"The scarcity of horses is not only driving the city people to the use of automobiles, but seriously hampering agriculture in the West."

Earl Grey—"I venture to predict that when the history of the early days of this century in Canada is written, the progress of the country will be largely ascribed to those forces which have been set in action under the guidance of Dr. Robertson and the munificence of Sir William Macdonald."

Stay with the Game.

Enough whey has been wasted at cheese factories this spring to feed sufficient hogs to run a packing plant, is the graphic way in which Chief Dairy Instructor Herus emphasizes a shameful waste of feed that has been taking place. And all because hog-feeders failed to stay with the game through a period of dear feed. Now, with live hogs commanding seven and a half dollars a hundredweight, and weanlings in keen request at six or seven dollars a pair, there will, no doubt, be another rush, followed by another crash of bacon values, succeeded by another bare market and tempting prices. The packer gets much blame for the fluctuation in prices, but is it not mostly due to the hog-raisers who go out of hogs in time to miss the good prices, and into them at a period that is bound to leave them loaded with porkers when the market is flat?

The United States Department of Agriculture sends out annually 18,000,000 pieces of printed matter.