Founded 1866

ıe customer looked
, to the amazement
, burst into hyster-
ıuit the shop.
say to you?" demand-
of the clerk.
had any rain lately.'"
y.

* *

was a very sensitive
once at a harsh word
profitable work and
ympathy to his wife
en started out to help
o had bought a new
achine and was pre-
field. Toward noon
Mrs. Mudge sighed
pathetically for the

stand it,' said Owen.
'When I see that
t them roots out, it
f the times I went to
back teeth extracted
knew I was limp as a
d all over and had to

* *

ıptain Dugge of the
an liner 'Prince Oscar'
g with a seasick pas-

, said the captain, 'is
ning. Some people's
are far more atrocious
nce carried a Phila-
red dreadfully.
of his seasickness this
beckoned his wife to
id in a weak voice:
is in the Commercial
care. Everything is
My various stocks
safe deposit box."
d and sighed. Then

bury me on the other
d this trip again, alive
ee Advertiser.

ECONOMY.

De Winton Brown
awing-room in town.
t of softest hue,
lestial blue.
vas said to be
mahoganee.
was of facture rare
uty in every chair.

berth the family
-room—to save it.

as a splendid place.
f surpassing grace
sideboard, wide and

ntranced the eye—
rnished with leather

ly wooed the feet.
Winton Brown
ing-room in town.

erth the family gave
llery—to save it.

e Browns possessed
ual to every test.
as it could be,
y to see.
vere of nickel plate,
e was up-to-date.
ing could be found.
stayed there, I'll

berth the Mistress
woodshed—just to

ed—its living green
and exceedingly

by the fences high
l and joy the eye.
hite as the driven

that soil did grow.
de Winton Brown
sweetest yard in

berth the children
muddy street—to

Farmer's Advocate
and Home Journal

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EDITORIAL

The Alberta Farmers' Chance

It has been pretty thoroughly demonstrated that alfalfa can be grown over a great part of Southern Alberta and it is further known that the soil is benefitted by the crop. The gospel of alfalfa has been preached for some time, but unlike many another gospel, it has had numerous demonstrations of the practicability of its use. With alfalfa grown occasionally to rest and revive the land, the enervating effects of winter wheat growing will hardly be noticed, but if the Southern Alberta farmers persist in using their land exclusively for wheat and oats, they will shortly be met with crops of weeds and exhausted soils. It is a rare advantage for any district that the possibility of growing legumes is discovered early in its settlement, but there also goes with the discovery a responsibility of making use of the opportunity. There is no more urgent advice to be offered than that given by Mr. Woolford in our December 30th number: "to prepare, plant and care for a plot of alfalfa."

A Nation's Problem

Enquiry into the workings of the tariff in the United States is setting people to analyze the sources from which the Republic has derived its great wealth. The commercial progress of the country is reviewed by advocates of high protection and the inference drawn that protection is the cause of it, when in reality high tariff is but a coincidence probably affecting the wealth of the country less than the circumstance of there being negroes in the South or hot springs in Wyoming.

President Roosevelt, the leader of the high tariff party, is on the right scent when he insists that the country must conserve its resources. Both the United States and Canada are countries that were blessed in their infancy with a fabulous wealth of natural resources. By a frugal, judicious handling of these resources, either of these nations might have secured a continuous source of sustenance for an indefinite period without any decrease in the supply.

But we were unable to see the limits of our natural wealth and dissipated it as though there was no limit, with the result that, while a large number of people have secured a liberal share of property and money, posterity is left with much less to live upon than its ancestors began with. Every one knows this is not a happy or desirable state of affairs. Our average crop yields are on the decrease, our forests are on the verge of exhaustion, our supplies of coal and steel are nearing extinction, we are already importing hardwood from the States, and Americans are scrambling over each other to get control of our forests of soft woods. The people of the North American continent have been spending their capital and have not made the slightest effort to live within the annual increment of this national wealth, while we have nursed fallacious ideas that, so long as we had a protective tariff, we would be able to count upon the continuous incomes. True, wealth has not been completely destroyed, the fertility of the fields, the products of the forests, the contents of mines and the food supply of the lakes have in some measure, been converted into money and agents for the distribution of wealth,which, though useful, they represent a conversion of productive into non-productive agencies.

The Incentive to Improve

The reasons offered sometimes to urge men to farm better are rather more amusing than practicable. Not long since we heard an agricultural orator imploring an audience of farmers to forsake their unprogressive ways and adopt better farming methods because by so doing they would take pride in their labors, in their broad, clean farms and would hold up their heads among men. A good deal of talk such as this is indulged in every time a few farmers gather together to be harangued by an agricultural educationist. About every reason for better work except the basic one is urged.

Progress in agriculture is stimulated by the same force that makes for progress in other industries. Money is the incentive back of most human aspirations. To win the almighty dollar:—that incites activity, fires ambition and impels men to better and greater things. It is the money-making possibilities of a business that attracts men to it, holds them, and draws from them the best they have to give. The incentive may be rather sordid, but in modern business it is the all powerful one. Men respond most energetically where the wealth accumulating possibilities are greatest. Industries progress most rapidly on those lines where returns are most readily earned. Money is still in these modern days the root of evil, of more evil than it ever was of old, but it is also the greatest stimulant to progress in the universe. It is to gain it that most men labor. It is the desire to gain it in ever increasing volume that is making this world so good a place to live in. Money is about the only argument that talks in business, in farming as well as in the rest.

The man who would be successful in introducing better methods in agriculture has got to present his argument in the language of the dollar. If he cannot demonstrate that more money is to be made by careful than haphazard farming, he had better leave the uplifting of the agriculturists to somebody else who can. And he had better have a sure proposition, too, before he attempts demonstrating. We all live west of the Mississippi in this country. We have to be shown.

Our Live Stock Markets

In this issue Mr. Iverach makes the statement which will be concurred in by practically every farmer, that the great need of the province of Manitoba is an active, open,satisfactory market for live stock and live stock products. It need not be reiterated here that the artificially low prices for cattle at Winnipeg are responsible for much of the wasteful methods of farming throughout the West. The producers of live stock have chafed under the jewing system of marketing, and consumers have patiently paid monopoly prices until there is no confidence left in the trade, which, however, does not seem to worry those responsible for existing conditions, since the total receipts continue to increase.

It is idle to complain of conditions without suggesting some feasible remedy, or probably the publicity given to them might have attracted more dealers to the West. But it would seem to be the part of the stock breeders' associations to devote more of their time and energies to the solution of the market problem. Probably it would not be impossible to get one or more of the abattoir men or a drover at the live stock conventions who could tell producers just why prices are so low and how they should set about improving them.

As a class, stockmen show a commendable disposition to avoid controversial discussions, and attend strictly to their own side of the live stock business, but there are times when it is necessary to take some notice of how the other end of the trade is going. The country cannot afford to let a small coterie of men work irremediable injury to its agricultural interests by throttling the live stock industry. The conviction holds that legislation, or the action of the railway companies, can, in some measure, alleviate existing conditions. No definite statement has been made that satisfactorily or completely diagnoses the case. The meat commission reported that they found an average profit of $31 per head on handling the cattle slaughtered at Winnipeg, and the commercial editor of the *Free Press* determined that there were 63,964 cattle consumed locally in 1908. When the situation is thus analysed, the next step is for the live stock associations to take an active interest in securing better conditions. As it now exists, the trade can be said to be eminently satisfactory to the wholesalers.

I enclose $1.50 for the "Farmer's Advocate," it is an excellent paper and every farmer and stockman in the West ought to take it.

Puffier, Alta. S. W. BLACK.