

Farmer's Advocate

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EDITORIAL

"I find the railroad companies reasonable in the making of adjustments."—Campbell.

"Why should steps be taken to force the farmer to protect himself?"—Goldie.

"Do not let yourself think or act politically, or in other words avoid devious trails and go straight to the point.

"I consider the railroads get a big rake off in the over and under weights (maximum and minimum weights) of cars."—McNair.

"Shortage of wheat in farmers' cars originated at the loading end, in cases where such are loaded through the country elevators."—D. D. Campbell to the Grain Commission.

Bachelor farmers might do worse than spend the winter in securing wives and handpicking enough wheat to show in the twenty-five bushel class at Winnipeg next year.

How does the proposition strike you, to have the Industrial moved forward a week in 1907? The directors have the matter under consideration, which would mean the fair a week earlier.

There seems to be different ways by which the farmer may lose some of his wheat en route to market; first, through the local elevator, and second, leaking cars en route.

Senator McMullen has the Western bee in his bonnet. Nothing should revive him so quickly as the statement of one of the leading Manitoba stockmen to the effect that for work on his farm, in harvest time he preferred one Galician to three Eastern excursionists.

"Tis said that a woman is as old as she looks and a man as old as he feels. Judging by the Senator's plaintive cries, Ontario is beginning to feel and look old.

The Eastern spirits should revive however at the following suggestion, viz., that we believe it would be in the interests of the Clydesdale, Shorthorn and Dominion Swine Breeders' Association to alternate their annual meetings between Toronto and Winnipeg!

"Does it not hurt the reputation of our wheat to readjust grades, say as follows: to lower from a No. 1 Northern with a six per cent dockage, to a No. 2 Northern with a one per cent dockage; would it not be better to clean up the wheat and sell it as it actually is?"—McNair.

The following might be rated as the grain growers' protectors, viz., C. C. Castle, the Warehouse Commissioner; Mr. Snow, the Deputy Warehouse Commissioner; D. D. Campbell; Chief Inspector, D. Horn; the Grain Standards Board; the Grain Act; the Inspection act; the agricultural press; the loading platform and the commission man.

If it was permissible to hold a special meeting of directors at the Dominion fair in Winnipeg two years ago, and pay the expenses of those who came from the East to that meeting, why not hold an occasional annual meeting out West? There's a welcome awaiting the associations.

Elevators usually ship out less than weighed in by the farmer. Four out of five elevators as built at present, have no facilities for weighing out.—D. D. Campbell.

It would appear, from some of the evidence elicited at the Grain Commission by Mr. Goldie, that the legislation available is well devised in the matter of protecting the farmer. The trouble seems to be that he will not avail himself to the full of that protection.

If those Grenfell mothers only teach their daughters to make as good bread as themselves, the hegira of bachelors towards that part of the country can be expected to begin soon after the geese have gone south.

At the British Medical Associations' convention held in Toronto recently, the pertinent question was asked, "Could not the millions used for the slaughter of cattle for the preventing of the spread of tuberculosis to humanity been better spent in some other manner?"

It certainly seems strange, that while an Ontario trained farmer hand is welcomed by everybody when the harvest presses, that it is considered necessary to train the Ontario teacher after arrival, and that the Ontario medico is only a medical student and therefore made to take further training here. It savors of the acme of provincialism and the height of selfishness.

Crystallized Optimism.

There is a certain characteristic about our American neighbors that commands regard. Twice we had it illustrated in looking over one of their daily papers. One instance was the attitude of one of the partners of a large New York packing house toward the meat investigation and its outcome. Instead of complaining of the unnecessary hardships that would be imposed upon the packing industry by reason of rigid investigation, this packer found plenty of cause to jubilate over the increased value such inspection would give American meats, and the higher estimation in which the rigidly inspected meat of the United States would stand in the world's market.

The other instance is exactly similar and was taken from the sporting page. This year the Americans have been compelled to adopt new rules to govern their football games or cease playing. As a result a style of play that gives less scope for brutality, and very much resembling that adopted in Ontario some three or four years ago, has been agreed upon by most of the large teams. The whole football fabric therefore goes under experiment this year, and instead of a sigh for the good old days we hear nothing but praise of the new rules from men who have never played them.

These two instances illustrate a trait of character that might well be emulated by every one. It is philosophic, it practically makes an experiment an assured success, it eliminates a disagreeable condition from work and sport, it is crystallized optimism, it is good to have and it pays.

Mind and Muscle.

There seems to be a complete divorce of mind from muscle in many sections of the West. There appears to be nearing a stage when the thinker will cease to work and the worker will neglect to think. Some men refuse to mix brains with toil, or having the knowledge, do not apply it to the conditions of life around them. Education is a very important factor in national life, but a truly great people must be not only educated to know but also inspired to do. It is a good thing for the nation to have "Scholars that shall shape the doubtful destinies of dubious years," but it is just as necessary to have leaders in work and action.

Too frequently we meet the man who knows and yet fails to do. One case rises up before us: A farmer was cutting a crop of oats for green feed

when we inquired as to the cultivation of the ground. "This is just a volunteer crop," he replied, "we intended to summer fallow it, but it grew up and now we are cutting it green to kill the weeds. It isn't hardly the right way to do, but 'twas rather neglected."

"Rather neglected" forms the text for many a farmer this summer. Neglect to attend to everything that makes for success is criminal. Knowing what to do and failing to do it is the curse of the west. The man who fails to live up to his light is not paying his way through life. We want to preach everywhere the gospel of action over the wasted fields of opportunity in Canadian agriculture.

Was the Winnipeg Industrial a Success?

It is rather remarkable that this question should be asked, but for the sake of those unable to visit the fair or who were doubtful as to whether there would be improvement over previous years, we have no hesitation in saying that, it was successful.

Success is too frequently measured nowadays by the standard of financial success, and while, as already hinted at, that is not a true standard, yet even by it the 1906 Industrial was more successful than in previous years. The office expenses were reduced two hundred dollars; and while the 1905 show started with a surplus of thirty-five hundred and finished with a deficit of seventy-five hundred, a total loss of eleven thousand dollars, the show of 1906 under new management made a profit of six thousand two hundred, or in point of fact beat the 1905 fair by over seventeen thousand dollars. The show can yet be improved; we do not believe that the management claims to be perfect, but there is a good lesson to be learned from the change which other shows might profit by.

Imprimis, the show was clean and for the first time showed a surplus by earnings. Next the prize winners were able to get their money before leaving the grounds. While the attractions cost \$23,000 in Winnipeg in 1905, the Minnesota State fair, a bigger show got off for three thousand less. Other years the exhibition management ran after the racehorse men, practically gave them free entry to the races, charging only the winners the customary five per cent, whereas this year all paid five per cent, and the winners five per cent extra, and we believe such a course right and that it ensured better races. The success of the fair then means larger and better prizes for exhibitors, better entertainment for visitors and a better brand of music. Under the present management continued improvement can be expected despite even the attempts to vilify by some few local papers, whose editors have openly expressed themselves as being anxious to down the present management, because a few timely economies were introduced. A proper sense of decency and patriotism ought to tell such misguided chaps that a clean successful fair is better for the country than the reverse. Fortunately the bulk of our local confreres are above such tactics and stand for the best traditions of the fourth estate.

Wanted—A Demonstration of Farm Architecture.

If there is one thing more than another that has been pursued in a sort of haphazard way it is—Farm Architecture—dealing with the construction of farm houses, stables, barns and other outbuildings necessary to a modern farm. Some of the agricultural colleges have attempted the work in a sort of perfunctory manner, but up to date there cannot be said to be any good authority or work on the subject, the best work has been done by the agricultural press in collecting plans and estimates. This doubtless is due in part to the changing ideas re lighting and ventilation of houses and stables.

In recent years as people became acquainted