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EDITORIAL.

"Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon 'em."

It may cost us something to enjoy winter, but it is one of the most valuable assets of Canada.

As a daily viewing-point, it is better to be on the lookout for things to commend, rather than for things to criticise.

Get rid of the barbarous barb wire. At Weldwood we are burying several hundred pounds of rusty strands under the filling of the barn approach.

A Middlesex farmer, with a cement silo, who has had experience of its use without and with a roof, comes to the conclusion that the roof will pay for itself in one year. The silo is more comfortable, and the silage keeps better in winter, and also in summer. A roof excludes sparrows and snow.

The true patriot is one who is neither a sycophant to the government nor a tyrant to the people, but one who will manfully oppose either when they are wrong, who regards what's right, as a minister said to me, and not what is popular; who supports institutions as a whole, but is willin' to mend or repair any part that is defective. —[Sam Slick.

Correspondence received by "The Farmer's Advocate" shows a favorable reception to the suggestion recently made in these columns, that the present helter-skelter assortment of offices for the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa should be replaced by one commodious building capable of housing the Deputy Minister, the various branches or divisions, auditoriums for national gatherings in the interest of agriculture, and museums of agricultural products or appliances of national interest.

Upon the strength of information from an Ottawa correspondent, "The Farmer's Advocate," in last week's (Christmas Number) issue, stated that Andrew Broder, M. P. had been selected as chairman of the House of Commons Committee on Agriculture and Colonization. Whatever the "slate" may have contained, a later message announced a change of programme in the bestowal of the honor upon Jas. A. Sexsmith, M. P. for East Peterboro, Ont., to whom our congratulations are duly extended, with the hope that he will even surpass anticipations of what his fellow parliamentarian might have been able to achieve in directing the deliberations of the Committee.

The appointment of R. S. Hamer, B. S. A., to a position in the Live-stock Branch at Ottawa indicates determination to extend the scope of work under the Dominion Department of Agriculture. As one of the County Representatives under the Ontario Department of Agriculture, Mr. Hamer acquired useful experience, which will be put to good account in his new sphere. For some time Dr. Rutherford, Live-stock Commissioner, and H. S. Arkell, Assistant, have been restricted in their outside work by the multiplying routine of office duties. To be of real service in promoting live-stock husbandry, leading members of the Branch find it imperative to keep in close touch with what is going on in actual live-stock circles, and by personal study of actual conditions,

A Dangerous Victim.

The level-crossing Juggernaut should be careful in selecting his victims. A few weeks ago Peter McArthur had a narrow escape at a treacherous level crossing which was supposed to be protected, but which, it seems, was protected only at certain hours. He wrote about his experience in the Toronto Globe, with the surprisingly satisfactory result of a prompt letter from Hon. J. P. Mabee, Chairman of the Railway Commission, who agreed that a crossing protected with gates part of the day was worse than a crossing not protected at all. Better still, an order was issued requiring that this particular crossing be protected continuously. Naturally jubilant at the results of publicity, Mr. McArthur wrote another letter telling about it all, and extolling the methods of the Railway Commission. By a peculiar irony of fate, the issue of the newspaper containing this letter contained also a despatch telling of Mr. McArthur's vehicle having been struck by a train and cut in two on another level crossing east of Glencoe, the author escaping miraculously with bruises and a bad shaking-up. He is positive that he took all the usual precautions, but saw no light nor heard any sound until the horse jumped.

The article under his name in this issue of "The Farmer's Advocate" was composed before the accident occurred. He hopes, after recovering from the shock, to resume the writing which is being so eagerly followed by a wide circle of admirers. If the accident enlists more persistently the service of his effective pen in the cause of abolishing and protecting these deadly railroad traps, it will have been well worth the pain and loss of time. have been well worth the pain and loss of time. The railway was surely ill-advised in running over a man like Peter McArthur.

Demonstration the Order of the Day.

Precisely in line with the purpose of "The Farmer's Advocate" orchard and farm enterprises is a suggestion we noticed the other day in the annual report of L. H. Bailey, Director of the New York State College of Agriculture, whose portrait adorns the first page of reading matter in our 1911 Christmas Number. The time has now fairly come, says Prof. Bailey, when a college of agriculture cannot expect to ask public confidence unless it is able to give actual demonstration and proof in farm management. It is impossible, he asserts, to give such proof on a college farm, because a college farm is not a normal business enterprise. In equipment and function it differs radically from an ordinary farm proposition. College farms are exceedingly valuable as laboratories for demonstration areas and for experimental grounds. It would be impossible to have a first-class college of agriculture without such areas, but, in addition to this, there is needed at least one good farm where some of the different elements can be actually brought together on a strict business basis. Such a farm should be far enough from the college so that it will not be interfered with by all kinds of enterprises that do not belong to actual, practical farming.

"Such farm," he goes on to say, "is necessary for the effective teaching of farm management. Complete records and cost accounts should be kept. The records of the cost of producing crops, of milk, of live stock, of timber, and the like, and the profits from them, should furnish

the basis of our practice work in teaching the business of farming. Each student should make plans for the future management of the farm, based on these records. The whole subject of cost accounting on farms needs to be studied in a new way; and, of course, it must be based on the work of farms organized in a regular business system. To a certain extent we can use the figures and results of farmers' farms, but, of course, we cannot secure complete records of any private farm, nor could we lay out new plans of farming based on actual cost accounting.

"My suggestion is, therefore, that as soon as possible the University (Cornell) acquire a good farm of such size and location that it will constitute a good business farm enterprise of the average or better sort. Each year the business accounts should be published in bulletin form, together with full discussion of the results. Such publications would be the best possible means of showing how to keep similar records, and how to project a farming scheme founded on such records."

United States Agriculture.

Here are some points of special interest from the annual report of the United States Secretary of Agriculture, Hon. James Wilson, made public last week:

The universities are asked to educate more plant pathologists and road engineers. The demand for their services exceeds the supply.

The poultry products of the United States are estimated at \$750,000,000 for the current year.

The various bureaus of the Department are proceeding upon two main lines, scientific research and practical demonstration, and, for the work, the Government is enlisting the most capable available.

For the benefit of both, one of the greatest needs of the country is good roads from producer to consumer.

When a foreign insect invades the plant or animal life of the country, the best trained experts available are despatched to seek its natural enemy or parasite where it came from.

The consumer pays a dollar for food; the farmer gets less than fifty cents for it. Who takes the balance?

All Government agencies that conserve public health should be grouped in one bureau.

The United States grows three-fourths of the world's corn crop.

The farmer's son is to be educated to a more valuable life on the farm.

Uplift the farm home by educating the farmer's daughter towards greater usefulness and attractiveness in the farm home.

The waste of liquid fertilizers is the greatest farm waste of the times.

There is great promise in the fact that whole classes of graduates of agricultural colleges go back to the farms having learned how to make them more profitable.

The public should, by monthly reports to the Government, know what foods are being withheld from consumption in cold storage.

The past year was the greatest year in the history of American agricultural colleges.

Good progress is reported in the breeding of carriage horses at the Colorado Government Farm, Morgan horses in Vermont, and gray draft horses (Clydesdale and Shire blood) in Iowa.

The Department of Agriculture has been unable