

A building somewhat after this style would do much to stimulate greater interest in these branches, which, notwithstanding the progress in other lines are in about the same position that they were ten years ago. Fruit and honey are among Ontario's most important products, and are deserving of more attention than they have received at the hands of the exhibition authorities.

There is need for a new poultry building. The present one, while it may, by tight squeezing, accommodate all the birds shown, is old, out of date, and difficult to keep in a sanitary condition either for birds or visitors. In the general plan for new buildings and improvement of the grounds the poultry department should not be overlooked. Poultry is of more practical value to the country than the cats and dogs, which appear to be better housed and cared for.

There are several other needs in the live stock and agricultural departments which should be considered in any rearrangement of the grounds and buildings that may take place. We understand that it is the intention to enlarge the grounds to the eastward and to move a number of the live stock stables east of the grand stand and large ring. While a change in this respect would provide more open space in the centre of the grounds, which is badly needed, care should be taken not to sidetrack the important live stock interests by placing them too far away from the regular route of the visitor and sightseer. The exhibition management will be well advised if they consult with representative stock men and others before any definite action is taken. It would be a pity if anything were done that would in any way alienate the present interest of the breeders in Toronto's great national live stock show.

Why not a Dominion Crop Report?

Canada has grown in recent years. Her producing power has greatly increased, and she is fast becoming an important factor in supplying the world's markets with food products.

The leading crop statisticians in Great Britain and other countries now take Canada into account in estimating the world's annual wheat and grain production. This being so, it becomes of first importance that something should be done to aid crop authorities abroad in obtaining an accurate estimate of what Canada produces each year. The most effectual way of doing this is to issue a Dominion crop report each month or less frequently as the necessities of the case may demand. Such a report would be looked upon as authoritative and would do much to advance Canada abroad, and to make known what our possibilities are as producers of agricultural products.

For a number of years the Department of Agriculture for Ontario has been issuing a regular crop report. Who will say that this has not been of material advantage in making Ontario grain and

live stock products better known at home and abroad. Manitoba and the North-West Territories are following in her footsteps to their great advantage and profit. The crop reports of these western provinces are looked forward to with the keenest interest, not only by agriculturists, but by business men in other countries as well as in our own. Little Prince Edward Island, down by the sea, issues a crop report, the one for August last just received, being comprehensive and complete. If these minor crop reports are of so much advantage to the producers and districts they represent, how much more beneficial would an authoritative crop report for the Dominion be to the whole country. Other countries with not half the agricultural resources that Canada possesses, issue crop reports, and by so doing effectively advertise their

country in the leading grain and food markets of the world.

We would commend this proposal to the careful consideration of the Minister of Agriculture. Looked at from every standpoint the advantages of such a report to the country would very much outweigh the cost of its preparation and compilation. It would give Canada a position and standing among the grain producing countries of the world that she has not at the present time.

Reception to Mr. Beith

On Sept. 12th the citizens of Bowmanville and district tendered Mr. Robt. Beith, M.P., a reception upon his return from his victories at the St. Louis Exposition and the Canadian National Exhibition. The welcome was most timely and well deserved. Not only his home district, but the whole province should honor one who has done so much to advertise Canada abroad.



A Successful Canadian

In last issue it was announced that beginning in October, Mr. J. J. Ferguson, of the Swift Packing Company, Chicago, would contribute a series of articles upon the dead meat trade, having special application to the development of the live stock industry of the Dominion. In order that our readers may the more fully appreciate the value of this series, we have pleasure herewith in presenting a brief sketch of Mr. Ferguson's life and work.

Like not a few of the successful citizens of the United States, Mr. Ferguson is by birth and education a Canadian. His early life was spent upon one of the finest farms in Leeds County, Ontario. The usual experiences of the country lad came his way. At an early age he entered high school, where his career was most successful. Later, he entered the Ontario Agricultural College, from which institution he was graduated with highest honors in 1894. After graduation, though offered a responsible government position, Mr. Ferguson decided to spend a few years in practical work, and returned to Maplehurst Farm to take up its management. A Jersey herd was established, and a modern creamery equipped to handle the product. There was added to this a splendid herd of Berkshire swine from which the foundation stock of many of the best herds in the Eastern counties was secured. While managing Maplehurst, Mr. Ferguson was in frequent demand for institute work both in Ontario and the Eastern provinces. And thus a splendid foundation for future work was laid.

In 1899, after five years practical farm work, Mr. Ferguson accepted

the position of Professor of Dairying at the Michigan State Agricultural College. A year later he took up animal husbandry work and the following year was placed in charge of this department. During this year (1901) there was fed and fitted under his direction, Elm Park Lad, a Canadian-bred Aberdeen-Angus steer, which won the grand championship at the International Exposition, Chicago. In September, 1902, he severed his connection with the Michigan College and began his present duties as manager of the animal foods department of the great packing house of Swift & Company. In this work, it is needless to say, he has been most successful, and has made himself master, not only of his own special branch, but of many of the various lines of work carried on by an up-to-date packing concern. Especially is this true of the commercial side of the business, of which Mr. Ferguson has an exact and comprehensive knowledge.

In a special way, therefore, Mr. Ferguson is splendidly equipped to take up the work of educating Canadians as to the value and importance of the dead meat industry. During the past ten years, his time has been devoted almost entirely to animal husbandry, either in a practical way on a Canadian stock farm, in instruction work in a well equipped agricultural college, or in active management of an important department of one of the largest packing concerns in the world. Having obtained a wide experience of practical animal husbandry, both on the farm and in his college work, Mr. Ferguson is now making a special study of the commercial side of the business. In this he is acquiring an experience that no other college man possesses, and in Chicago is the place to get it.

Though a resident of Uncle Sam's domains, Mr. Ferguson is still a Canadian in spirit, and looks forward to ending his days at Maplehurst Farm, which has been in the family for three generations. His interest in the prosperity of his native land continues. It was this, rather than the persuasive powers of the writer, that induced him to undertake the series as outlined for THE FARMING WORLD. He knows—no one better—the value of the dead meat trade to the live stock industry of the United States and is willing to aid in any way he can in securing similar advantages for the live stock interests of the Dominion. J. W. W.