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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

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The Ontario Government Appoints a Commissioner to the World's Fair.

The Ontario Minister of Agriculture has appointed Mr. Nicholas Awrey, M. P. P., Binbrook, Ont., Commissioner for Ontario to the World's Fair to be held in Chicago in 1892. The Minister is to be congratulated on the wisdom of his choice. No fitter man could have been chosen, nor one who would have been a greater credit to the province, nor a harder worker in her interests. This year \$15,000 were included in the Ontario estimates to forward the interests of the province at Chicago, but as yet no decision has been arrived at as to how this money is to be spent. Mr. Dryden is surrounding himself by capable and practical men. No doubt the wisest course will be followed, but time is passing and decisive action should soon be taken.

The Dominion Parliament voted \$150,000 to forward the interests of Canada at the Columbian Exposition.

Mr. N. Awrey, Mr. R. Gibson and Mr. Henry Wade were appointed a deputation to wait on Hon. John Carling and Prof. Saunders to bring before these gentlemen the importance of the stock interests of the Dominion. The Minister, on behalf of the Dominion Government, promised transportation and maintenance of all Canadian stock from the time of leaving their respective homes until their return, and also has the matter of insurance under consideration. The other provinces should follow the example of Ontario and appoint commissioners at once to co-operate with the Dominion Commissioner.

Editorial.

The Prize Essays.

Never in the history of the *ADVOCATE* has so many good essays reached our office in one month as was received in reply to the prizes offered for essays on corn and potatoes. We publish two on corn which were considered by the judges the best. Over thirty excellent articles, every one of which were good enough to publish, were left unused for the present, though we will try to arrange with the writers to use them in a future issue. Nearly all of them were written by practical farmers, and with few exceptions, any one of them would have done credit to an agricultural professor. They were exceedingly practical, and the thoughts well expressed. We hope the writers will give our readers the benefit of their ripe experience by contributing to our columns articles on other agricultural subjects. We desire to make the *ADVOCATE* the best and most practical paper possible. We ask each of our readers to aid us. Send us notes of your experience with any farm subject that you think has been of benefit to you and will benefit others, who, seeing your remarks, may reply, and you will perhaps learn as well as impart. If the farmers will assist us in this respect, together we can make the *ADVOCATE* of incalculable benefit to the country at large—an organ in which is recorded the experience of practical men residing in all parts of Canada.

We have also to congratulate the writers on the very excellent class of essays received upon potato culture. Not only were these sent in large numbers, but also display thought and knowledge of the subject ably and fully expressed, which shows a laudable disposition to impart what they know for the benefit of their fellow farmers. "In a multitude of counsellors there is wisdom," and it is a consensus of experience that has most value in a practical sense. We only regret that our command of space forbids more of them being published in full.

The first prize essay will be found in our columns, together with extracts from several others.

The articles contributed by Mr. Thos. McMillan and Mr. W. C. Edwards, M. P., were not entered in competition, but written at the request of the editor, who desired to publish a statement of their experience and views.

Ladoga to be Further Tested.

In view of adverse reports regarding the milling qualities of Ladoga wheat, Prof. Wm. Saunders writes that arrangements have been completed with the Dominion milling Co., of Toronto, whereby a test is to be made that is expected to settle definitely the relative value to the miller of Ladoga and Red Fife wheat, a carload of the former, grown in the north for that purpose, being secured. Until the results of this trial are made known it would be well not to attach any great weight to the reported Minneapolis test.

The Co-operation of Farmers is Being Realized.

The outcome of the Grange, and the after co-operation of its members in handling all kinds of goods required by the farmer, has led to founding of what is known as the Grange Wholesale Supply Co., whose place of business is 35 Colborne St., Toronto. This company was organized, and is owned and controlled by the farmers for the purpose of procuring their supplies as nearly as possible as at first cost of production. The popularity of this institution is proved in the rapidly increasing trade that has developed in the last six months. It is also not surprising that the movement should have found enemies. Prominent among these are the retail druggists, who, through their association, have declared that they will not purchase goods from any firm that will sell to the Grange Wholesale Supply Co., and have thus determined to boycott the Grange in the drug line, and thus stop them from selling drugs. The result is that Lyman Bros., who heretofore have supplied the company with drugs for the past ten years, have recently refused to sell to them rather than lose their trade with the retail men. Fortunately the company have a large supply on hand, and will continue to give their patrons the benefit of securing the best drugs at the lowest possible figures.

A number of the members of the more newly formed association of Patrons of Industry, during their late convention held in Toronto, visited the company's store, and became so interested in the principles of co-operation carried out by the company that they appointed a special committee to investigate their mode of business, with the result that the following report was unanimously received:—"That this store deserves the patronage and support of every farmer who is loyal and true to his own best interests, and is daily receiving the co-operation of this thinking community."

Improved Farm Implements.

We are always glad to call the attention of our readers to firms that are engaged in manufacturing agricultural machinery or implements for farm work. Such is the Thoms Implement Works at Watford, in the county of Lambton. The proprietor, originally a farmer himself, has been engaged in building farm implements for over twenty years, therefore he claims that he should know what are practical tools required for farm work. He is the patentee of several valuable improvements in Canada and the United States, and is now making a specialty of building riding and walking ploughs and corn cultivators. A special feature is their two-furrow gang plough, which is now entirely superseding the three-furrow gang plough once in use. Another capital implement is their lever corn cultivator, by which the operator can perfectly control the depth, whether used in baked or mellow soil, and should prove just the thing for cultivating among small fruits, as well as roots and corn.