

The Farming World

Devoted to Canadian Country Life

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A Merry Christmas

NOTE AND COMMENT

This number of The Farming World is the last that will be issued at the subscription price of 60c. a year or two years for one dollar. After January 1st the subscription price will be \$1.00 a year in advance. If your subscription expires before that date we trust that you will send in your renewal now and therefore profit by the present low price. Subscribers who have paid their subscriptions up to any time during the next year and who wish to take advantage of present prices may have their subscription extended from the time to which they have already paid by sending in their renewal before January 1st. Hundreds of our readers in all parts of Canada have renewed for several years in advance, and we feel confident that as many more will do so before the new price takes effect. During the past year you have been receiving a greatly improved and enlarged Farming World, and we promise you that during the year 1908 each issue will be more interesting, entertaining and instructive than the one which preceded it.

Why are the Agricultural Colleges of the United States allowed to compete with the private individual in the regular classes at the Chicago International Show? Such a thing would not be tolerated in Canada. The agricultural college is a public institution maintained by public money, and it is most unfair to have it competing with the private individual for a prize. The college has a better opportunity to pick up choice animals in the country, and as its feed bins are not stinted, has a much better chance of winning a prize. Let separate classes be arranged for the colleges and allow them to compete for the grand championships. This would give the show the benefit of a college skill in feeding and fitting animals for show purposes, and preserve the regular classes of the show for the private individual.

Some of the colleges to the south of the line have learned the trick of the show ring to perfection. At the recent show one professor tried to exhibit a pen of wethers in two sections, in which they were not eligible. Surely such scheming should be beneath the dignity of a college professor. He of all others should set a wholesome example in the

show ring. But from what we saw of the judging at Chicago a week ago, the average professor of the American Agricultural College is not above hitting below the belt if he can beat the private individual in the prize ring. Why the American people tolerate it is beyond the Canadian "ken".

Among the winnings of the O. A. C. judging team was the \$250 scholarship given to the team making the highest score in judging sheep. It seems, however, that this money is not to come north of the border.

For American competitors. The management might as well say that the O.A.C. team was not entitled to the trophy won by it for the third time. Let our American friends play fair. If there is prize money that Canadians are not eligible to win, let the prize list say so in plain words, and there will be no hard feelings. We do not believe the donor of the \$250 prize—Mr. Armour—would countenance such high-handed action on the part of the management.

The government should take action at once in regard to increasing the capacity of the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair. To remodel and enlarge the present building will take time. No hall-way measures will do. Whatever is done must be done on a sufficiently large scale to put the winter fair on a plane where its future growth will be in no way hampered. The people of the country demand it, and will be satisfied with nothing short of as good equipment as is possible to procure for this great exhibition.

Rural free mail delivery has received some attention at Ottawa during the past week. It does seem as if the time had arrived when a trial should be made. The expenditures for rural mail delivery are undoubtedly large, but they are offset in a large measure by receipts and the doing away with a lot of country post offices. In the more thickly populated rural districts of Canada, rural free mail delivery ought to pay its way. The government has millions to spend on other things, why not help the farmer by rural free delivery.

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for the reason that it was intended to be given only to American colleges. On the face of it, however, this is nothing more nor less than a "Yankee" trick. There is not a word in the prize list to show that this money was intended only

Echoes from the West

As we are practically at the close of navigation, it is possible to take stock to some extent of the crop movement up to the present time.

During the month of November over ten million bushels of wheat passed inspection at Winnipeg for the whole season, from Sept. 1st to Nov. 30th, a little over twenty-two millions as against twenty-eight and a half millions for the same period of last year. Of this amount thirteen and a quarter millions were of contract grades. Of this wheat, especially of the higher grades, a very large amount is retained for milling either at Keewatin by the Lake of the

Woods and the new Maple Leaf, or at Fort William by Ogilvie's.

The movement from the head of the lakes for the last two weeks of November was very heavy, and it is expected at this writing (Dec. 4th) that three millions more will be shipped before navigation closes. On Nov. 30th there was in store at the head of the lakes five and a half millions.

The financial situation has been relieved to a considerable extent, and exporters and elevator men both report it easier to obtain money.

The western market is a very strong one, and, though there may