

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL
IN THE DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

Agents for "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal,"
Winnipeg, Man.

1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE is published every Thursday. It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, Newfoundland and New Zealand, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 per year when not paid in advance. United States, \$2.50 per year; all other countries 12s.; in advance.
3. ADVERTISING RATES.—Single insertion, 25 cents per line, agate. Contract rates furnished on application.
4. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrearsages must be made as required by law.
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8. ANONYMOUS communications will receive no attention. In every case the "Full Name and Post-office Address Must be Given."
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11. CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Subscribers when ordering a change of address should give the old as well as the new P.O. address.
12. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine," Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known, Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.
13. ALL COMMUNICATIONS in reference to any matter connected with this paper should be addressed as below, and not to any individual connected with the paper.

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inflates the value of certain investments upon which profits are expected to be earned, and the greater the inflation of capital value, the more insistent the demand of "vested interests" for maintenance of the artificial conditions, so that profits may continue to be earned upon the inflated capitalization. And to this kind of inflation there is literally no end. So far as the fruit-growers are concerned, there is good reason to believe that they have not fully weighed against American competition in the Canadian market the value of access to the markets of United States cities during the period following the supply from home sources. Indeed, reciprocity in apples promises to benefit both consumer and producer, as Jas. E. Johnson declared in his tariff memorial at Ottawa, and we should not be at all surprised if this proved true in the case of tender fruits. We have used the fruit industry freely as an illustration of how alarm may be unduly excited by examining the cons. without full regard to the pros.

Certainly, no one can effectively dispute the advantage to Canadian agriculture of the American market for lambs, cattle, dairy produce, and many other staple lines. The effect will be not wholly to turn commerce southwards, instead of eastward, but to enlarge agricultural production, especially in Eastern Canada, raise the price of farm land, and enhance the well-deserved earnings of Canadian farmers.

Denmark Highly Organized.

Denmark, in addition to 115 agricultural societies, has 200 horse-breeding associations, 1,310 cattle-breeding associations, 250 pig-breeding associations, 90 sheep-breeding associations—all receiving state aid, with the design of improving the stock of their respective localities. There are also 1,500 dairies, 1,200 of which are co-operative, without direct state aid. There are some 508 Control Societies, supported by the state, which also contributes aid toward the education of dairy managers, conducting dairy experiments and exhibitions. The chief business of the Control Societies is the keeping of milk-production records, cost of feeding cows, and other means of improvement.

An Age of Specialists.

This is an age of specialists, and agriculture is no exception to the rule. The development of farming along business and scientific lines makes demand upon knowledge and experience far beyond the capacity of any one man to thoroughly master. Wise is he who recognizes this fact and avails himself, wherever possible, of the services of scientists who devote their whole time to studying particular phases of his problems.

In stating this, we are advising only what we purpose practicing ourselves upon "The Farmer's Advocate" farm.

Take, for example, the matter of drainage. The editors of "The Farmer's Advocate" have all given a good deal of earnest study to this question, both theoretically and practically, and have themselves mapped out and laid many thousand feet of tile. It would be possible for us to lay out a system of drains upon the farm referred to, and lay them in a way which would give quite satisfactory results. At the same time, we realize that we do not know as much about tile draining as experts who have devoted a large share of their time to a scientific and practical study of this question; and, therefore, we have applied to the Physics Department of the Ontario Agricultural College to make a drainage survey for us upon the usual terms, namely, board and traveling expenses (one cent a mile each way) for the surveyor who does the work. There is good reason to suppose that such an expert will be able to map out a system to better advantage than we could expect to do it, recommending, perhaps, four-inch tile in places where a layman might be tempted to use three-inch, and vice versa. It stands to reason that years of study and experience in this work should count for something.

Take, again, the question of home adornment. This we have often discussed and studied, having some definite ideas on the subject; still, we recognize that an expert in landscape gardening will know better what to suggest in the way of planting and improvements than any member of our staff, whose attention is divided among so many matters. Consequently, we have accepted the offer of H. L. Hutt, Provincial expert in landscape gardening, to inspect our farm and offer suggestions for the planting of trees, shrubs and vines, with a view to making not a park, but a modest, neatly-planted, ideal country home.

So in all other lines. We intend, in the management of this farm, as we have long been doing in the editing of the paper, to utilize at every turn the best ideas of all the specialists whose services we can enlist. We consider that in thus obtaining the benefit of a specialist's advice, we shall be exercising the soundest kind of good judgment. Not what a man knows, but what he can find out, is the measure of his value, whether to himself or to an employer. The longer we study agriculture, the less we know about it; that is, the less we are inclined to depend upon the sufficiency of our own knowledge. A man shows his wisdom by seeking the knowledge of others.

52 Treats in the Year.

We would not like to miss even one of the fifty-two treats you send us in the year. Like "The Farmer's Advocate" better than ever. GEO. GODFREY.
Queen's Co., P. E. I.

You may have your choice of a complete Kitchen Equipment (six articles) or a set of Scissors (three pairs) for sending in only one new subscription to "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine" and \$1.50. These premiums are excellent value, and we are sending out a great many daily.

The Old-fashioned Singing School.

One wonders why, in these days, when so many things are being put forward for making rural life more attractive, more is not being done to revive the old-fashioned singing school. Fifty years ago, every neighborhood had such an organization, and those who attended found the exercises delightful and helpful in many ways. It was a social center, for one thing. Old and young, rich and poor, met on a common level. The one thing that gave anyone pre-eminence at such gatherings was his ability to sing and his power of making himself agreeable. Best of all, the young people were made familiar with the rudiments of one of the arts that is capable of rendering a deal of happiness to others. Indirectly, the singing school did more for law and order than anyone knows, for, as a rule, only the finest songs, sacred and sentimental, were studied, and has not some wise man said, "Let me write a nation's songs, and I care not who makes its laws."

There is a delight in singing in concert, to be had in no other way. The fine harmony has a way of making the participants forget all their troubles.

Perhaps the advent of musical instruments has lessened the immediate need of the singing-school. At the same time, it is always best to be able to sing at sight, without the aid of the musical instrument. Pianos or organs always do their best work when they accompany the singer, rather than lead. The average church-organ or piano has a deal to answer for in this particular. Indeed, the average church choir might do worse than organize itself into the nucleus for a singing-school. Being trained to sing at sight, without an instrument to cover up or drown out their defects, they would on Sunday enter upon their leadership in the service of praise with a zest and a power they never knew before. It is worth trying to revive the singing-school. There is culture in it. There is enjoyment in it.

O. C.

The Borrower.

"The wicked borroweth and payeth not again," complained the good man long ago, and his lament has been the complaint of decent people ever since.

Most people are willing to lend, for there are occasions when the best foresight proves unequal to emergencies; yet nearly everyone who has relieved a neighbor's necessity by making him a loan of an article has had occasion for bitter repentance. Very few borrowers are careful promptly to return the article loaned them. If the borrowed article be broken, many borrowers are not careful to replace the broken part with a new part, but, if any amendment is made, it is often a cheap and imperfect repair. When the good-natured but unfortunate victim of the lending habit seeks redress for any injury sustained, he may count himself fortunate if he does not incur the last displeasure of the person he has sought to help.

The best farmers seek to reduce borrowing to a minimum. In the end, nothing is gained by the habit, while loss of time, labor, money and temper are almost inevitably involved in the process. The article to be borrowed must be gone after. It usually is not the tool that exactly meets the user's needs. It must be handled with caution. Its breakage means at least a trip to the repair shop. Last of all, there is the necessity of its being returned, and the sense that one is under an obligation to the lender that only can be discharged with the payment of interest. By far the manlier course is to pay for what service is required, either in horses, tools, machinery or labor. Borrowing comes to this in the end. The cash basis is the business way, and results in a better neighborly feeling, because there is mutual respect. Borrowing should be resorted to only in serious emergencies, and when one's necessity has been relieved, the article borrowed should be returned promptly in a state of good repair. To do less than this is to prove oneself unworthy of such neighborly kindness. When tempted to borrow, think of Punch's advice to those about to marry—don't. J. C.

8-months' Credit Offer.

To our present subscribers: For each new yearly subscription to "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine" that you send in to us, accompanied by \$1.50, we will credit you with 8-months' renewal of your own subscription FREE. Or, if preferred, you may send in the new names, accompanied by the full subscription price of \$1.50 each (United States subscriptions, \$2.50 per year), and have your choice of some of our splendid premiums.