

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 and parties,
handsonely illustrated with original engravings, and fur-
nishes the most practical, reliable and profitable informa-
tion for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-
makers, of any publication in Canada.

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For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents
per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions
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Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED),
LONDON, CANADA.

last summer. A house was built, also a dairy
and ice house, and a round cement water tank
for barn supply. An orchard of 350 trees was
planted; five hundred rods of woven-wire fencing
erected, and erected well; a couple of miles of
old fence were torn down, and the fence
bottoms cleaned up; eight acres of bindweed was
summer-fallowed, being cultivated eighteen times
to a depth of about four inches. Sundry minor
improvements were also effected. This meant
hard work, especially in a season such as last
year when it was difficult enough to dispose of
ordinary farm duties. Crops last year were
fair on the average. Hay was good, yielding
some eighty-five tons. Spring grain started
well, but grubs and wireworms played havoc
with some of it, the land having been plowed
the previous year out of old pasture. The
season was too wet for corn on close-bottomed
clay soil, such as most of ours. Still we had
a fair crop of ears, and, on part of the soil that
was warmer and better drained than the rest,
quite a heavy crop of both ears and stalks.
Live stock did pretty well last winter, and is
especially thrifty this spring. Quite a legacy
of weed and insect pests were obtained with the
farm and in addition an unusual combination of
seasonal and other difficulties were encountered
on the start. These have been surmounted one
by one, and the farm is being placed on a sat-
isfactory running basis. We know this will be
gratifying to our numerous friends. Fuller par-
ticulars later.

A Bank Manager's Will.

The will of the late Sir Edward Clouston,
president of the Bank of Montreal, should be
quite an encouraging document to branch-bank
managers with prospects of some day attaining
responsible positions at the head office. Born in
Moose Factory, Sir Edward managed to accumu-
late quite a fortune. His estate of \$2,672,005
included \$2,109,748.92 in stocks and shares, some

of the eighteen or twenty companies, including
Canada Cement Co., Canadian Salt Co., Mexico
Tramways Co., Mexican Light and Power
Kaministiquia Power Co., Consolidated Mining
and Smelting of Canada, Ltd., Canadian Pacific
Western Canada Power Co., Royal Trust Co.,
Laurentide Co., Canada Sugar Refining Co., West
India Electric Co., Ltd., Prince Rupert Hydro-
Electric, Dominion Textile Co., American Smelt-
ing and Refining, Canadian Cotton, and 500
shares in the bank of which he was president.
The number of companies in which the late Sir
Edward was interested not only indicates
industry in acquiring stocks, but illustrates how
far a leading banker's influence may, and fre-
quently does, extend.

Party System Getting Out of Date.

Pleading for an organized democracy to
supplement the old system of opposing political
parties, Frank Crane, in the June Forum, says
several things that are good enough to quote.

* * * *

"A political party is not an organization of
the whole people. It is composed of a part of
the people presumably united by common prin-
ciples. Experience has shown that these prin-
ciples under actual working flatten out into
platitudes, and that the main cohesive power is
that of public plunder. The change from Taft
to Wilson took place without a jolt to govern-
ment or a flutter in the stock market; because
the people had no definite conviction that the
transfer would result in anything beyond the
fact that in some way the change would do us
good."

* * * *

"The claim of the party to be a practical
organization of the people is deceptive; it is
due to a lack of organization. If the people
were organized, there would be no parties such
as we have."

* * * *

"The party system proposes to run a popular
government, to bring to pass the will of the
people, by organizing complete groups, by class
war and sectarian strife. It is the worn-out
principle of competition applied to government."

* * * *

"What we really have children in school for
is that they may be prepared for life. And to
this end it is vastly more important that they
develop a civic conscience, and that they be
schooled to get what they want in an organized
way, that they learn Caesar's Commentaries and
the integral calculus."

* * * *

"Look about you! The people everywhere
are swindled, browbeaten, preyed upon by
privileged men or companies. They don't know
how to get their rights. They are pushed about
like 'dumb, driven cattle.' They stand with
their mouths gaping open while the sons of
privilege go through their pockets. Will party
organizations remedy this? They never have
remedied it. They never will remedy it."

* * * *

To sum up, political parties have had their
day and ought to go, as being hollow, empty
shells. In their places put Organized Democracy.
Secure this by, first, making people see the need
and practicalness of it; then by developing
civic conscience by our educational system, and
drilling the children in self-government."

Nature's Diary.

By A. B. Klugh, M. A.

There is at the present time a little denizen of
our woods which draws the attention of every
rambler, whether he be a nature student or not.
However little we are inclined to observe him
we are forced to do so. I refer to the mosquito.

The abundance of this little pest varies a good
deal in different parts of the Dominion. In the
woods along the Atlantic coast it is present in
comparatively small numbers, in the bush of
Northern Ontario it swarms in such multitudes
as to render life almost unendurable.

The adult mosquito passes the winter in some
sheltered location, and in the spring the female
deposits her eggs in the form of little boat-
shaped rafts on the surface of stagnant water.
These eggs hatch in a few days, the exact time
depending upon the temperature, the hatching
being quicker in warm weather.

The young mosquito, now termed the "larva,"
escapes from the bottom of the egg into the
water. It is a small, rather elongated, creature,
which lives with its head downwards and breathes
through a tube at its tail end. After a few days
it changes to a "pupa," a peculiar, "bull-headed"
form, with breathing tubes at the sides of its
immense head. It usually lies at the surface of
the water, but if alarmed it wriggles downwards.
The pupa soon changes to the adult mosquito,

and flies away, "seeking what it may devour."
The normal food of the mosquito is the juice of
plants, and all those people who frequent the
woods during the early summer wish to good-
ness it would stick to its normal food. The
males are quite content with their diet of plant
juices, but the ferocious females add a feast of
blood to their menu whenever possible. The
mouth parts are differently formed in the two
sexes, only those of the female being adapted
for puncturing so tough a substance as the
human skin. It is easy to tell the males from
the females as the former have plume-like anten-
nae, or "feelers," while the latter have only hair-
like antennae.

The irritation resulting from a mosquito
"bite" is due to a liquid which is injected into
the puncture, the function of which is to keep
the albumins in the juices upon which it feeds
from coagulating or clotting, and thus blocking
up the fine tube through which it draws up the
juices.

The effect of this fluid upon different people
varies a great deal; in some it only causes a
slight irritation; in others it causes great in-
flammation and a large swelling. Some people are
even rendered seriously ill if they receive many
bites. Residents of regions where mosquitoes
abound, get more or less inoculated by the con-
stant injection of the fluid so that the bites cause
them very little inconvenience.

The mosquitoes in the interior and on the
coast belong to a different species; a common
form on the coast being the salt-marsh mosquito.
It is a peculiar fact that a person who is prac-
tically immune from the effects of the one species
may be seriously affected by the bite of the other.

Those of us who love the woods at all seasons
have to find a way to prevent our lives being made
miserable, while in our favourite haunts, by the
mosquito, and the most effective protection I
have found to be the application of a "dope"
made up as follows:

Oil of Pennyroyal.....	1 part
Castor oil.....	2 parts
Oil of tar.....	3 parts

This "dope" is not the cleanest preparation
imaginable to use, but it is mighty effective, and
washes off readily with soap and hot water.
There are many other preparations which I have
tried, and a very pleasant one to use, and quite
effective when the mosquitoes are not very
numerous or ferocious, is Oil of Citronella.

There are many things which may be used to
allay the irritation of the bites, probably the
best being liquid ammonia. Some find that the
juice of an onion rubbed over the bites brings
relief, and baking soda is often useful.

From what we have seen of the life-history of
the mosquito we know that it cannot breed
except where there is stagnant water. This
gives us a hint as to how to reduce the number
of these pests; that is, to get rid of all the stand-
ing water possible by the draining of ponds, etc.
The rain-water barrel is a great breeding place
for mosquitoes, and should be kept covered with
wire netting.

In parts of New Jersey the mosquitoes were at
one time so bad as to render these regions prac-
tically uninhabitable; but now these same places
are summer resorts. This result has been
obtained by draining of pools and by pouring
crude petroleum on the marshes which could not
be drained. The crude oil spreads out in a thin
film over the water and prevents the larvae and
pupae of the mosquito from breathing.

HORSES.

Don't forget the oats for the sucking colt.

Keep the mare's milk flow up by liberal feed-
ing.

A day's work for the gelding is often a day
and a half for the mare suckling a foal. She
should not be over-heated or fatigued.

There are those who believe that a six or
seven-hour work day is enough for the mare with
a colt, and that more than this will prove a
loss in that it will injure both mare and foal.

Many farms could well afford to sell the high-
priced geldings and fill their places with big,
sound brood mares. These mares will do the
work and raise colts as well.

In a decade of draft-horse-breeding success a
western horseman writes: "I have found though
that in horse breeding, feeding and management
is not the only and big feature. Getting the
right sire and sticking to one breed and even