

THE FARM BULLETIN

Wealth and Brains.

By Peter McArthur.

They say that Sir Jingo McBore
Is worth fifty millions or more,
And he made it by slaving
And scrimping and saving,
And selling his eggs at the store.

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Canada is surely a favored country. Besides having a bracing and invigorating climate, unlimited natural resources, and an industrious population, we are blessed with a lot of rich men of whom any country might well be proud. If you doubt it, just read the papers. They are all the time bubbling over with pleasant anecdotes about our belted knights and their public-spirited doings, and there does not seem to be one of them who is not a shining example for the youth of the country to follow. In the United States it is so different. Their rich men are known to be greedy and unscrupulous, and "Morgan" and "Rockefeller" are simply popular names for the money-devil. Their operations in the field of High Finance are exposed by the muck-rakers of the Press, and their methods of robbing the patient people are held up to execration. Our rich men apparently get rich by exercising the homely virtues of thrift and economy and foresight, and when they put through mergers and issue watered stock, we all rejoice and are glad; and whenever a new batch of them is knighted we practice speaking their titled names with reverential awe. This is a beautiful state of affairs, and Canadian mothers are not to be blamed if they tell their children about the good deeds of Sir William This and Sir Edmund That, and cherish the hope that their dear ones may grow up to be knights, or even Lords.

Wouldn't it be terrible if some bold man should undertake to show that some of the things done in Canada are no better than they should be, and that the plain people are being robbed even more systematically than they are in the wicked States. Perish the thought. Our rich men are all good and great, and differ from the rest of us only in having more "brains" and being a lot "slicker" than we are. They are interested only in "moving the crops" and "developing the resources of the country," and if millions stick to their fingers, they cannot help that. Money has a way of sticking to some people. I have been told that some of our rich men cannot even go for a walk without having lost coins stick to their shoes, and every time they clean off the mud they get enough stray quarters to pay for their lunches. Most of them began life as country boys, like the rest of us, and made their fortunes simply by doing the same things we do on a bigger scale. By that I mean such things as salting the cattle before selling them, and putting small potatoes in the middle of the bag, and selling balky horses to the minister, and other perfectly legitimate business transactions.

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Sir Jingo McBore, they avow,
Had no equal at milking a cow;
He never would stop
Till he milked the last drop,
And he's milking the Government now.

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A rainy afternoon is a good thing, even in the harvest time. It gives us a chance to think things over and to meditate on the growth and prosperity of the country. The bountiful harvest we are gathering in will enable us to pay dividends on all the watered stock in the country without feeling it—able statisticians estimate that there is now over \$600,000,000 in existence. It will also make it possible for all the monopolistic mergers and trusts to prosper, and perhaps to force up the cost of living a little higher, so that Canada will rank with the most expensive and civilized countries in the world. It is true that the only justification for the existence of watered stock is that it enables a few more people to make millions and buy titles, and move in automobile society. But there have been rich men since the beginning, and we cannot hope to change a state of affairs that is so ancient and respectable. As Voltaire says: "There is nothing so respectable as a venerable wrong." There will always be rich men, and people will admire them, no matter how they get their wealth. But there has been a change in the method of getting wealth during the past few centuries, and I am inclined to think that is a sign of progress. The "Robber Barons," the knights of other days, were fighting men who took what they wanted by brute force. They raided their neighbors whenever they were powerful enough to do it, and robbed them of their property, and became very rich. But in time people became weary of that type of rich man, and they enacted laws and enforced them; that put an end

to this kind of robbery. But they no sooner did this than cunning men saw what a powerful instrument unjust laws might be made in securing wealth. By securing law-protected monopolies, they accumulated riches, but in time they became intolerable, and monopolies were abolished. Governments were forbidden to grant them. But that did not give permanent relief. Another lot of rich men developed, who amassed fortunes by evading the law. They secured monopolies by organizing business so as to stifle competition. By controlling Governments through contributions to party campaign funds, they were able to shape the laws so that they can tax the plain people at will. They are the kind we have to contend with, and surely we shall be as able to grapple with them as our fathers were with the other types. The strong men and the court favorites have been put in their place, and now we must deal with the corruptionists and promoters of Big Business. It should not be so very difficult a task to a people who are enjoying the advantages of popular education. But it is time we were making a beginning.

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Sir Jingo McBore as a child
Was honest and truthful and mild;
He was willing and handy,
And never bought candy,
And see how his millions have piled.

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If I have been told once, I have been told a hundred times during the past few years, that "Men of brains can't be kept from making money. They will always find a way." And yet I am not convinced. While knocking around the world I have met a good many very rich men, and few of them impressed me as having any brains beyond the faculties of Pride, Greed and Cunning. As for the kind of brains that we find in statesmen and men of learning and culture, the rich men I met might as well have had their skulls filled with Myonnaise dressing. It does not require brains to enable a man to give a contribution to a political party's campaign fund in return for lavish charters or legislation that will give special privileges. It does not require brains to hold up a business man who is in need of money, and make him give up a large block of stock in his enterprises before accommodating him with a loan of the people's money. Circumstantial stories have reached me of such things being done, and at the present it does not matter very much whether they are true or not. It is enough to know that, with a financial system free from Government inspection, such things are possible. Even if it has not been done, the opportunity is there, and is a constant source of temptation. It will not require very much brains to correct that state of affairs. It is undoubtedly true that many rich men laid foundations of their fortunes by the use of brains and the exercise of the ordinary virtues, but in their big operations they have been noted chiefly for lack of conscience. If they needed brains, they could always hire it—the "hired cunning" of the legal profession, for instance. No, I do not think we need worry much about the opposition we shall meet from "brains" in the coming fight for human rights. What we have to fear is cunning and unscrupulousness.

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Sir Jingo McBore making hay
Works like anyone else, so they say.
He fumes and he sweats,
And he fusses and frets,
And on Sunday he sleeps all the day.

Relative Profits of Corn and Alfalfa.

Prof. W. J. Spillman, of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., gives through Hoard's Dairyman a few interesting figures brought to light in the cost-accounting work carried on by that Department. They have detailed records of the labor, cost and income from 34 crops of corn. The average profit on these crops is \$9.88 per acre. The average profit on eight crops in Iowa is \$13.22; thirteen crops in Wisconsin, \$12.06; six crops in Indiana, \$9.10; and seven crops in New York and New England, \$2.94. They have similar records for eleven crops of alfalfa, mostly in New York and the North Central States. The average profit per acre on these eleven crops is calculated as \$21.79. This is a very good showing for alfalfa.

"Since one team can manage as many acres of alfalfa as it can of corn, if not more, it is seen that, where alfalfa does well a man can make more, on the average, by devoting his time to alfalfa than he can by devoting it to corn; but he can make more than a combination of the two, if he has land enough, than he can from either alone. Suppose, for instance, he has 40 acres of alfalfa. Now, he can grow some corn in addition to the alfalfa, but just how much is not known. Let us suppose it is 25 acres. The 40 acres of alfalfa, at an average profit of \$21 per

acre, gives a total profit of \$840. The 25 acres of corn at \$10 an acre gives a profit of \$250. I think, under ordinary circumstances, on land where alfalfa thrives, the greatest profit will come from growing all the alfalfa the situation permits, and then growing all the corn in addition that can be taken care of properly in connection with the alfalfa."

The 1912 Winnipeg Industrial.

Although, on account of somewhat unfavorable weather and cramped quarters, the Winnipeg Exhibition of 1912 was not the great success it might have been, it was easily good enough to rank among the successful yearly shows of the West. The Canadian Industrial Exhibition has clearly outgrown its present grounds and its present buildings, and as long as it must occupy these premises it can at the best but mark time. More suitable quarters are urgently needed. With a suitable home, the Canadian Industrial is ensured a continued expansion. As it is, the cramped and old quarters magnify every fault and inconvenience that may be apparent.

There was nothing lacking in the display from live stock and poultry to machinery and arts. In every section it was good; some sections were superior to last year, while some were hardly on a par with the exhibits of 1911.

A feature of the exhibition was the large display of machinery. Especial interest was manifested in the test of the huge tractors breaking virgin prairie to the north-west of the city.

On the whole, there was little change in the numbers out in the live-stock sections. Horses did not make the display of a year ago, although in several sections there were outstanding animals of merit. Cattle hardly held their own, but, for quality and close competition, it is doubtful if any show has been ahead of that of 1912 in most breeds. The herds from the stables of J. G. Barron, of Carberry and the Van Horne Farm were missed in the Shorthorn classes. Sheep and hogs were out strong, and had their allotted space crowded with quality stock, and made up in numbers what had been lost in other sections.

Stockmen and farmers this year had the honor of being tendered a luncheon by Royalty. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, who, with his daughter, Princess Patricia, was present throughout the exhibition, had farmers as guests in the directors' quarters on Wednesday of the second week.

HORSES.

Horses, on the whole, were not out in as large numbers as in previous years. Evidence of this was given in a number of the heavy-draft classes, in which keen competition was lacking. However, there were many line-ups that tested the judge's ability to the utmost, and the winners in the various classes invariably were real top-notchers.

Clydesdales.—The Scotch breed predominated in draft horses, and in many cases furnished some excellent line-ups both for numbers and quality. Competition was quite keen, and honors were fairly evenly distributed. In most of the classes the horses that secured first honors would be contenders at the largest shows in Canada.

The exhibitors were: W. I. Elder, Wm. Grant, Regina; J. Graham, Carberry; Carruth & Brown, Portage la Prairie; A. Graham, Pomeroy; John Bowler, Manitou; J. McNab, Thornhill; Colquhoun & Beattie, Brandon; McKirdy Bros., Napinka; J. M. Webster, Cartwright; Matt Gibb, Morden; D. McLean, Froisher, Sask.; H. O. Wright, Winnipeg; John Wishart, Portage la Prairie; and M. C. Weightman, Morden.

In aged stallions, the judge spent considerable time before making the awards. They were a classy bunch, the winner being J. Fowler, on Baron Sprout, sired by Baron's Pride; John Graham, on Queen Royal, took second, with Wm. Grant third on Warlabay. Baron Sprout was the most symmetrical animal, with good quality, and was later made reserve champion.

The three-year-old stallions, although not out in numbers, must be given credit for their excellence. Colquhoun & Beattie secured first prize on Critic, sired by Everlasting. This horse was made champion of the breed, and afterwards cleaned up the stallions of all the draft breeds for highest honors. He was a top-notcher in Great Britain, having won first at the Royal, and, owing to his draftiness, his wealth and quality of bone, and his extreme action, is sure to be a serious contender in the best American competition. The second prize went to Wm. Elder on Kirktown Squire, a typey horse, but lacking a little in action.

In the two-year-old stallions, McKirdy Bros., on Crown King, by Gartley Bonus, took first. He is a great quality animal, as was also their second-prize horse, Gartley's King.

Andrew Graham, on an excellent bunch of youngsters, made a clean sweep in the yearlings.

In the brood mares, with foal by side, A. Graham took first on Miss Banks, and also was