

The Farming World

And Canadian Farm and Home

VOL. XXIV

TORONTO, 2 OCTOBER, 1905

No. 19

The Plowing Match

OF late years more interest has been taken in the plowing match as a means of educating the young men on the farm in better methods of farming. The young man who can plow well can usually farm well. A shiftless, careless plowman will in nearly every case be a shiftless, careless farmer. For these and other reasons the plowing match should be encouraged more than it is. There should be at least one held in every township in the fall.

Mr. John Clay, of Chicago, said recently in addressing a gathering of agricultural students:

"The American farmer is slovenly in his treatment of the soil. Nature has been lavish, and there has been a want of thoroughness. Look at the fields of England, the gardens of France, or the prolific intensity of the Scottish lowlands, and see what can be done."

This statement will apply as much to Canada as to the United States. The average farmer of this country knows comparatively little about the soil. He plows, harrows and sows the seed in a mechanical sort of way, very often giving little thought to the needs of the soil and the treatment required to bring forth the best results.

The plowing match, though only directly affecting the mechanical part of soil culture, could, if properly managed and controlled, be utilized to create more interest in the soil and its treatment. If controlled by some responsible body, such as the farmer's institute, the occasion could be made of practical value to the district by having soil experts present to give information on soil culture, the nature of different soils and the kinds of crops they are best adapted for. The plowing match, if well advertised, would bring the crowd together and advantage could be taken of the opportunity thus afforded to give valuable demonstrations upon the soil and its requirements. Will not some Institute make a trial of this fall?

The plowing match is not a new thing, and information as to how it is managed is readily obtainable.

Canada at Pittsburg

One of the chief features of the Western Pennsylvania Exposition, which opened at Pittsburg on August 30th and will continue until Oct. 21st, is the Canadian exhibit. It is an exhibit of agricultural products made by the Government at Ottawa. The object of the exhibition is to demonstrate to visitors the many advantages offered settlers in Western Canada. The whole foyer of the building, a space 85 x 45 feet, with walls 22 feet high and nicely finished ceiling, is given up to this important exhibit. The exhibit was designed by Mr. W. H. Hay, of the Exposition De-

partment, Ottawa, and is in charge of Mr. Wm. A. Burns.

Cattle Breeding

The second of the series of articles on cattle breeding by Mr. Nash began in our exhibition number will appear next issue. Owing to this number being crowded with fair reports we have been unable to continue them in this issue as intended. After October 15th issue these articles will appear regularly, till the series is completed.

EDITORIAL NOTES

On Sept. 1st the condition of the corn crop in the United States was far above the ten-year average. This means a big yield and plenty of cattle feed in

BEGIN NOW

to canvass for new subscribers. Present readers are of one opinion regarding the high standing of THE FARMING WORLD as a reliable authority on agriculture and live stock. It is the paper that gives honest advice for an honest price. The contributors to THE FARMING WORLD are experienced and successful agriculturists and stockmen and their opinions will be found a timely word at all seasons of the year.

We will send THE FARMING WORLD from now until the end of 1906 for 60 cents, or until the end of 1907 for \$1.00. Our commissions to agents are most liberal. Write for full particulars to-day.

the west. The 1904 corn crop totalled 2,467,480,934 bushels, and was valued at \$1,087,461,440.

The Montreal Bankers' Association on Sept. 15th notified the cheese trade that further guarantee of credits for the purchase of cheese and butter will not be given from that date. The trade at Montreal looks upon this action favorably, as it will put a stop to speculation in cheese, which has been too common this season.

Some fruit buyers in Toronto have been deceived recently by dishonestly packed fruit and have handed the case over to the inspector. In one case the name of a lady packer near Oakville appeared on a basket of apples that had beautiful specimens of the Duchess variety on top and scrub Greenings underneath. Such villainy ought to be punished severely.

The Canadian Manufacturers, at their annual meeting in Quebec a week ago, again sounded the call for more tariff. With the farmer of the west crying for less tariff and the manufacturers of the east crying for more, the government will find it difficult to strike a happy medium that will please all parties.

The Transportation Commission met in Regina recently. The Hon. Mr. Motherwell, the new Minister of Agriculture, took advantage of the opportunity to make a strong plea for the opening up of the Hudson's Bay route. It would be of the greatest importance to the farmers of the west in enabling them to get their grain out before navigation closed, which meant a difference of five cents a bushel in price.

The farmers in the Stratford district are forming a weather insurance society. A committee was appointed to canvass for the amount of insurance required to be subscribed by law, 75 shares of \$1,000 each. The object is no doubt a good one, but as weather conditions usually affect a whole district in the same way it is hard to see how insurance against it can be satisfactorily worked out.

The fruit inspectors at Montreal have in several cases found apples standing at 75 to 80 degrees in the barrel, when the outside temperature is between 50 and 60 degrees. This is evidence that the fruit was not put into the barrels cold. Unless this is done the apples will be materially affected before reaching the English market. A barrel of apples even in a cold storage chamber cannot be cooled thoroughly in less than a week or ten days.

Some enthusiastic reformers of the fall fair are urging that an effort be made to close the bars of all hotels within five miles of the place where an exhibition is being held on fair day. Better go slow on a thing of this kind. People attending the fair need accommodation, and where will they get it if the hotels close their places of business, which they will undoubtedly do if privilege of selling show day is cut off.

The number of accidental deaths to farmers seems to be increasing, at any rate they have been more numerous this fall than for some time back. While the liability to accidents in the country is not great, yet there are times when great care should be exercised.

Up to Sept. 15th the amount of western wheat received by the C.P.R. was 1,981,000 as compared with 173,000 bushels for the corresponding period of last year. This is a most satisfactory showing.