

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

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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.
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sity. It was so in Denmark, it was true in the case of our co-operative fruit-shipping associations, it was so with the bean-growers at Chatham. Co-operation is a good thing, but it is no panacea. Work for it, but work for it with a full realization of its limitations and the causes of past failures. Thus sensibly promoted, it will be more likely to succeed. Meantime, let every man make the best of the marketing situation as it is. There is room for most of us to expand our profits steadily by larger production of a first-class quality of produce, while, by enterprising business methods, many of us may improve our marketing conditions appreciably, even without co-operation or other organized effort. Make the best of the present, and work for co-operation.

The Winter Fairs.

The fall fairs of another year having had their day, farmers, feeders and stockmen generally are looking forward with interest to the coming winter exhibitions which round up the show circuit of the year. While the summer and autumn shows have their place, and serve a useful purpose in bringing out for competition the cream of the products of the farm in breeding stock, cereals, roots, fruit, etc., the winter fair displays the results of judicious breeding and feeding of commercial stock prepared for the meat market, and showing the most desirable types for profitable production; and the dressed-carass competition gives an opportunity for comparison of the quality of the living animal with that of its flesh when ready for the shambles, an educational feature the design and character of which should prove helpful to the breeder and feeder, and of interest to all concerned. It is gratifying to observe that the tendency of the times is to encourage the adoption at agricultural exhibitions of practical demonstrations of the work and products of the farm.

The milking trial for dairy cows, which is one of the features of the winter fair, grows in interest from year to year, as does the dairy business

throughout the country, it being now one of the most profitable branches of farming. The test at the winter fair covers quantity and quality of product combined, for a short period, while the Record of Performance adopted by the breed societies affords opportunity for tests for longer periods on the farm throughout the year, and settles the question of the profitability of individual cows and of the herd. The poultry show at the winter fair brings out the birds at a season when they are at their best in appearance, and this branch of the business of the farmer has grown in importance until it ranks among the most profitable in returns, considering cost of production. The poultry show at Guelph is certainly one of the very best of its class in America in numbers, variety and quality, and is in itself well worth the cost of a visit from any reasonable distance; over 4,700 exhibits competed at Guelph last year. Last, but by no means least in importance, is the Horse Show, a feature in which farmers of every class are more or less interested, and which was added to the Guelph show last year, and is continued this year, with an enlarged classification and more liberal prizes, which will, no doubt, bring out stronger competition and a superior show of both heavy and light horses. The farm-seed section of this show is also growing in extent and interest from year to year, and is an important branch of the exhibition. Added to all the features above named, are the lectures by prominent practical farmers, breeders and scientists, which furnish much useful and helpful information. Considering the small admission fee of twenty-five cents, the single railway fare, and the fact that the season is not a busy one on the farm, the attendance at the fair this year, at the Ontario Winter Fair, at Guelph, December 5th to 9th, should be a record one. The programme of events will be published in these columns at an early date.

The Maritime Winter Fair, at Amherst, Nova Scotia, is slated for the date December 5th to 8th, and the dates for the Eastern Ontario Livestock and Poultry Show are January 16th to 20th. These are conducted largely on the same lines as the Guelph show.

Danish Encouragement of Agriculture.

How liberal Denmark is to her agriculture is shown in a report by a British vice-consul to the Foreign Office. The sum granted this year for the encouragement of agriculture was \$283,313, or one-twentieth of the whole national expenditure. If the United Kingdom gave grants on the same scale as Denmark, the amount in this country would be £8,000,000. In Denmark there are 115 local agricultural societies, with 84,500 members, and the grant to these is £10,900. In addition, the state pays considerable sums for lectures, provides prizes for local shows, and certain travelling expenses.

There are 260 horse-breeding, 1,310 cattle-breeding, 250 pig-breeding, and 90 sheep-breeding associations, and these all receive aid towards the improvement of stock. There are 1,500 creameries which do not receive direct aid, and practically all are co-operative concerns. Indirectly, aid is given through control societies, the sum of £6,666 being spent in experimental and educational work in dairying. The largest sum of all, £222,222, is at the disposal of the parish councils, through the district commission, for five years, for the purpose of assisting peasants to purchase farms. For forestry work, £30,355 is appropriated, and many educational institutions connected with agriculture receive state grants. With this well-directed national assistance, is it any wonder that Danish farmers are prosperous, and their country renowned for the excellence of its produce?

Industrial Education.

Industrial and technical education has the great merit, not merely of not alienating young men from manual labor, but of keeping them in constant touch and sympathy with it, requiring them to practice the simpler mechanical operations as a part of their curriculum, and training them, meanwhile, to take up more complex varieties as a life-work after graduation. There can be no manner of doubt that practical and technical education, while giving the individual student an excellent mental discipline, has also stimulated the agricultural and manufacturing industries of the country. And, at the same time, by binding together the skilled hand and the educated brain, it has wrought powerfully for the maintenance and diffusion of the spirit of social and political democracy.—[President Schurman, of Cornell University.]

Newfoundland Promoting Agriculture.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Having returned from judging in Newfoundland, and knowing vague ideas prevail in the minds of many in Ontario and other places regarding that colony, I decided to write you a few notes concerning my observations and impressions. I landed at Port Aux Basque, a well-protected, rock-bound harbor, then travelled by train to St. John's, a 28 hours' ride through an interesting country. Beautiful bays, lakes and streams teem with fish; the valleys in places are dotted with comfortable homes and productive fields; then, there are long stretches of peat bog, and some rocky stretches. Extensive manufacturing plants are to be seen, as well as several railway junctions, with considerable hustle, evidencing business activity along the branch lines. Finally arrived at St. John's, we found a hustling city, built on the shore of a beautiful bay that accommodates all kinds of vessels from Atlantic liners down. The city has many fine churches and schools; large, well-stocked stores; fine residences; beautiful, commodious Government buildings, and is surrounded by some beautiful, productive farm lands. The Government is anxious to improve agriculture, and this year held an exhibition which was so good that it surprised themselves, as well as the visitors. In the agricultural hall were to be seen many excellent exhibits of potatoes, turnips, cabbage, celery, tomatoes, wheat, oats, barley, rye, clover, dairy products; ladies' work, such as paintings, drawings, wearing apparel, and bedding—one quilt was insured for five hundred dollars; it certainly was beautiful. And the decorations and arrangement of the hall would be a credit to any management. The manufacturers' exhibit was splendid. There was a large hall artistically decorated, and a great variety of articles well made and attractively displayed. Outside, a threshing machine was in operation, driven by a gasoline engine, and the straw pressed in bundles as it came from the machine. Amongst the live stock were fine specimens of beef and dairy cattle, sheep and swine. There were many fine horses, especially in the carriage and truck sections; also a great variety of ponies, from stout, useful ones to children's playthings. The exhibition was managed by the members of the Government, one and all of whom are enthusiastic over the agricultural possibilities in Newfoundland, and doing all they can to encourage it. They are importing breeding stock and seeds, securing agricultural teachers, and contemplating a school of agriculture; and this exhibition has been a revelation to many as to what is being done along that line.

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HORSES

The breeder expects the progeny will inherit the attributes of their parents, and should, therefore, carefully select the best type of animals for breeding purposes.

* * *

Both sire and dam should be fine specimens of the breed they represent, in order to produce the best grade of market horses. Defects in conformation of the dam are not eliminated with certainty in the offspring by perfect qualities in the sire.

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The law of heredity insures the transmission of unsoundness and imperfections of ancestors. Breeding animals should be free from abnormal development in any part of their conformation, as such developments are imperfections sure to be transmitted to their progeny.

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When tying colts up, use good strong halters. A good halter, properly tied, not too long, will give a colt a respect for rope and leather that will prevent him from ever becoming a halter-breaker. Don't allow them too much rope, or they may become suicides, a not infrequent happening.

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The small amount of oats and clean hay that a weanling colt will eat the first winter does not cost much money, but will pay more interest on the investment than the same amount of feed given to almost any other animal on the farm. The reason is that the gains made the first winter are permanent, and decide the future scale and weight of that colt when matured. The way to grow big horses is to keep the colt growing every day of its life, especially the first winter.

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At this season of the year, when most of the fall work is done, one is tempted to overfeed and under-exercise the work team. While it pays to tone up the horses that have worked hard all summer, there is danger in overfeeding, unless