

The Canadian Courier

A National Weekly

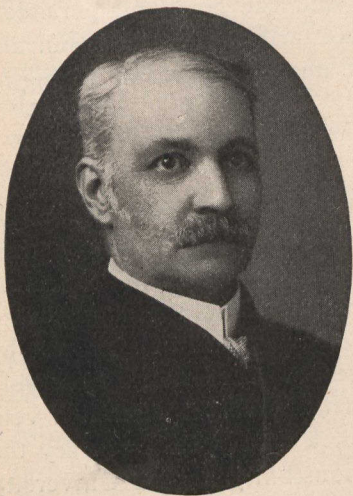
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IN THE PUBLIC VIEW



Mr. E. A. Grange,
Principal of Ontario Veterinary College.

THE history of the horse in Canada is the story of progress, not only in agriculture but in methods of transportation. More than twenty years ago Rev. Mr. Baird, then a preacher in Edmonton, wrote an editorial for the *Edmonton Bulletin* on the cayuse, in which he pointed out the inestimable value that primitive plains horse had been to the development of Western Canada. Now the west has as good horses as the east; importations of thoroughbred stock have produced a class of native western horse that for general purpose work is hard to beat anywhere. Much of the credit for the general development of horse culture in Canada is due the Ontario Veterinary College, whose new building is now being erected in Toronto. This college has been a valuable contributor to the cause of practical education in Canada; and a few days ago there took place at the college a ceremony somewhat unique in the history of educational institutions, the valedictory of one principal and the inauguration of his successor. Fifty years ago the direction of agricultural matters in Ontario was in the hands of the Board of Agriculture, composed of representatives from the agricultural societies of the province. Mr. George Buckland held the chair of Professor of Agriculture in the university. Importations of valuable pure-bred stock were becoming somewhat extensive. It was felt that training should be provided in veterinary science. The Board sent Professor Buckland to Edinburgh, and Professor Dick recommended a young man named Andrew Smith for the work. In 1862, classes were organised in the old building at the northwest corner of Yonge and Queen Streets, with Professors Smith and Buckland as instructors. From that year up to July 1st of the present year, the Veterinary College has been under the direction of Dr. Smith.

In 1873 a young man named Grange, son of Sheriff Grange of Guelph, graduated from the college. Dr. Grange was instructor for a time, thence he went to the Agricultural College as Professor, later to the State of Michigan. Now, in the year 1908, the veteran of forty-six years' experience retires and his former pupil of thirty-five years ago takes up his work. The opening ceremonies were full of reminiscences of the past and apparently inaugurated a new era of enlarged work and increasing usefulness. The new college is now entirely under the direction of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and is in affiliation with the University of Toronto, lectures in physiology, chemistry and botany being given by members of the university staff.

MANITOBA Agricultural College is making headway; somewhat of a paradox that in the land where a generation ago scarcely a farm was to be seen there is now a college devoted to the science of agriculture. A new instructor has just been appointed in the engineering and mechanical department—Mr. W. Brandon of Winnipeg. Mr. Brandon's business will be to see that the farm youth of Manitoba turn out to be handy youths that can not possibly be stuck on any ordinary contraption about the farm; boys that will know how to tinker anything from a self-binder to a

sewing-machine; just such resourceful chaps as used to make farming in Ontario one of the great practical fine arts—for the Ontario farmer of twenty years ago was a hard man to tie up on any sort of mechanical contrivance, and he could do anything with land implements up to nineteen sorts of jobs in a day, and tinker to the king's taste any rig about the place. There are a few wrinkles in modern farming that he might not have known; running a gasoline engine, for instance. But the Manitoba college of husbandry intends to see that no youth leaves its precincts who is likely to be downed by any modern device. Mr. Brandon has had a good training for this sort of thing. He is an Orillia boy who has spent his life in mechanical work in Toronto, Grand Rapids and Muskegon; later in the C. P. R. shops at Winnipeg, where for six years he has been tool-maker.

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MR. ARTHUR STRINGER

pays his disrespects to the folk whom in an article in "Canada-West" he terms "Canada Fakers." By this opprobrious epithet he means all those quill-driving gentlemen who for the past decade or so have been busy discovering Canada in the imagination. He makes examples of Jack London, Rex Beach, Stewart Edward White and even Sir Gilbert Parker, besides half a dozen others. These gentlemen he says have been painting Canada as she is not; they have made of a great, sensible and sober country a hectic delirium in which melodrama and vaudeville have usurped the true drama. "For this relief much thanks" to Mr. Stringer. He is the first writer who has had the courage to expose this kind of sensational chicanery in dealing with the material of our native art. He has, however, missed one of the worst offenders, Mr. Lawrence Mott, who in a mounted police story has his hero do a day's journey from Fort Graham to Hazelton, British Columbia, in pursuit of a desperado—and the distance is about six hundred miles. This is what they term "good going." However, Mr. Stringer has impaled most of the offenders very effectively and in so doing he has done Canada a service. In some minor incidentals he may have been a trifle rash; but if what he has said will induce these literary exploiters to begin telling the whole truth about this young country he will have performed a public service to Canada.

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MR. WILLIAM WHYTE, second vice-president of the C. P. R., has recently figured in two public functions at Winnipeg; one being a banquet given by the C. P. R. officials to Sir Thos. Shaughnessy; the other as chairman of the dinner tendered to Lord Milner when the latter made perhaps the best speech he has delivered in Canada. Mr. Whyte is one of those forceful men who on occasions of this kind say things that carry the weight of experience. In his few remarks at the Shaughnessy dinner he alluded to the C. P. R. as "the greatest transportation company the world has ever known."

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THE man of the moment in Calgary and the West just now is Mr. Dan. McGillicuddy, who has been a journalistic figure for a large number of years. The *Huron Signal* was just about created by McGillicuddy, who for many years has had a reputation among his fellow-editors for ready wit. He has gone after a brother editor, alleging things that overtop all other personalities in this campaign.



Mr. William Whyte,
Second Vice-President C. P. R.