

BOOK REVIEW.

BOOK REVIEW—"The Riders of the Plains", \$1.00, the Calgary Herald publishers, is an interesting history of the organization and work of the North West Mounted Police by Capt. C. E. Denny. Capt. Denny was a member of the force from its inception in 1874 until 1881 but afterwards acted for the government on several occasions as Indian Commissioner. The narrative consists of some 225 pages and deals more particularly with incidents in the country in Southern Alberta and South Western Assinaboia, as the head quarters of the Police were for many years at Macleod and Fort Walsh in the Cypress Hills. There is nothing of literary merit or typography to commend the book, but there is no more interesting subject in the realm of adventure, than the work of Mounted Police, so that one soon becomes interested in what might otherwise become the dull history of an armed body of men. Reading this work of an author, who has spent the best part of his life upon our own prairies as policeman, Indian Commissioner and rancher, brings the early days quite close to us. When Capt. Denny first arrived in Western Canada 1874 the buffalo were still upon the plains in countless herds, in fact there appeared to be no end to their lives when they migrated south, yet in five years' time these immense herds had become annihilated and the buffalo was a thing of the past. From 1879 until 1881, the year in which cattle ranching began in Alberta, there was always a danger of a shortage of meat, but from 1881 until to-day cattle have increased probably as fast as the buffalo decreased. As a review of the development of the prairie country, particularly the ranching districts, Capt. Denny's book is well worth perusal. It furnishes an authentic account of a period in our history which might easily be overlooked, although the work done during that time by the R. N. W. M. P. will always stand a credit to the force and a glory to the Dominion.

DON'T LET TORONTO HAVE ALL THE GOOD THINGS

Newspaper readers will have noticed that an active scheme for beautifying the city of Toronto is now afoot, and has, in fact, gone so far that, at a banquet given recently by the Ontario Association of Artists, an elaborated plan for the aesthetic and structural improvement of the streets, parks and lake front was presented. Toronto people, as a rule, do not do things by halves, and before long, without doubt "Toronto the beautiful" will be a reality.

Now, it does seem as though this propaganda should not be confined to Toronto. Let it spread and spread, running out through the towns and villages, and thence overrunning the farms, until there will not be an ugly city, town, village, farm or garden in all Canada. Let our farmers take the matter up, and each beautify his own home. The influence of aesthetic surroundings on character itself, is one that cannot be too highly estimated. Start the good work this spring—now is the planning time for it—and see what an improvement you can make in your garden, at least, in the space of one short summer.

It is not enough to make up one's mind to improve things and go to work. One must plan and think out effects; study the thing up, and be sure that no glaring mistakes are made. A few other things, besides fancifully-clipping trees, white-washed stones, and conch shells around flower beds should be relegated to the dark ages. We should be glad to help the work on to the best of our ability, in any way which the readers of our paper can suggest. We shall also be glad to receive suggestions for publication from any correspondent. Remember in writing to "The Farmer's Advocate," you are addressing a vast audience, and you may help much in that way. Kindly address all communications, whether about lawns, backyards, flower gardens, or decorative trees or bushes, to

FLORIST.

"The Farmer's Advocate" Winnipeg,

The man who puts heart into his work will always get ahead of it.

DO NOT SPARE THE ROD.

A public school teacher gives the following experience: "This theory of governing children by appealing to their reason isn't all it's made out to be. I teach in a primary class, and it's my conviction that a youngster actually needs a good spanking once in a while for his health. It does cheer up a child as nothing else will. Here is an instance: "One of my boys had skipped his classes, deceived his mother, been found out and caused much unhappiness all around. I took him aside, and we had a heart-to-heart talk. Johnny sat still, looking at me intently and seeming to be deeply impressed. I thought I was making good headway, and that my little sermon was surely penetrating Johnny's brain. I never saw a child who seemed so absorbed, even fascinated by my line of argument.

"But you never can tell. Just as I had reached the climax in my appeal to his better self, a light of discovery broke over Johnny.

"Say, teacher," he said, eagerly, 'it's your lower jaw that moves, isn't it?'"

THE CREAM SEPARATOR AS AN AID TO GOOD FARMING.

Good farming necessitates returns to the land as well as withdrawals from it—the land is practically the bank of the farmer. To get returns both for the land and the farmer, a cream separator kept reasonably busy is one of the best machines to employ. A writer in Hoard's Dairyman says:

"It marks an advanced step in our history. when we can make a cow return one hundred per cent on her value in one year.

This can be done with the aid of the cream separator. I do not claim to be eminently successful in the operation of the separator. In the first place, we have only very ordinary cows—cows that will average, with ordinary care, two gallons of milk per day.

We will take ten cows that average two gallons of milk per day. This will give us twenty gallons of milk per day to work on. Ordinarily good milk will yield two and a half gallons of merchantable cream by the separator. This cream weighs 8½ pounds to the gallon; so we have twenty pounds of cream each day to sell. The cream is not sold on its gross weight, but the person buying it is equipped with what is known as a cream tester. This cream usually tests about 40 per cent butterfat, which will give us eight pounds of butterfat per day, worth on an average twenty cents per pound, or \$1.60 per day for ten cows.

Now, what about the calves? One naturally asks the question, can they be raised on the separated milk? I answer that they can most assuredly, provided they are started right. For the first three or four days after taking them from their mother, feed the little fellows the full milk, then for a few days about one-half of the separated milk, mixed in with the whole milk. Then they will grow right off, but care must be taken to carefully wash out the trough or vessel they are fed in, or the same will become sour during the hot weather. The calves should receive after the first three weeks a daily ration of chopped oats and bran, and when they are six months old, may be weaned from the milk entirely.

We consider two pigs for each cow the right number to use up the surplus milk to the best advantage; then with the regular assistance of chop we have an almost ideal pig feed. When the pigs outgrow the pen, which they will do in about six months, have another batch ready to put in their places. Two pounds per day is not an unusual gain for shoats on the above rations.

Last, but not least, is the labor saved in the handling of milk. In from thirty to forty minutes after the milk is taken from the cows, the calves and pigs each have their share of warm sweet milk, and the cream is in the shipping or cooling can, the separator parts are washed and drying in the sun.

All this is done by the men, usually, excepting the washing of the separator, which is not a difficult task. Of course, this reverses the old order of things, viz: According to the old song, which says, 'Let the women do the work while the men lay around,' but I verily believe the new order of things has come to stay."



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