

NOTES AND NEWS.

The steamer Admiral, plying between Montreal and the Gaspe Ports, has been burned, the loss being \$35,000.

The C. P. R. has ordered 40,000 tons of steel rails from the Consolidated Lake Superior Co. at Sault Ste Marie.

Mr. A. B. Aylesworth, K. C., of Toronto, has been called to the Dominion Cabinet, as Minister without portfolio.

The Hon. Donald MacKinnon has been appointed Lieut.-Governor of Prince Edward Island, succeeding Mr. P. A. McIntyre, who has occupied the position since May, 1899.

Now is the time for the farmer to look over his stock. Mark the animal that is not a money producer. A long cold winter will reduce its value if it is not working for you.—[Mass. Plowman.

The shareholders of the Grand Trunk Railway have approved the purchase by that company of the Canada Atlantic, recently announced in the "Farmer's Advocate."

The Burk's Falls Arrow, a wide-awake local paper, goes straight to the mark when it observes that "The Farmer's Advocate" is the best agricultural paper published."

The Massey-Harris Company have purchased the factory and plant of the Kemp Manure Spreader Co., of Stratford, Ont., and intend to continue the manufacture of the manure spreaders in the factory at that town.

The farmers of New York State are determined to prevent automobile road racing. They will occupy the prospective route with their wagons, and, if necessary, will arm themselves to defend their highway. Such racing should not be attempted on the highways, and the senseless practice should be discouraged.

Dr. J. M. Bell, who has been exploring the iron ore ranges of the Michipicoten mining division, reports the discovery of several new iron-bearing areas. The region, he says, is well wooded with spruce, maple, birch, poplar and pine. A considerable extent of agricultural land was discovered in the valley of the Pucawwa River.

How shall a farmer prevent himself from making the same mistake year after year? By keeping records of what he is doing. A man may have soil so illy adapted to a certain crop that he cannot make that crop pay. Yet if he does not keep a strict account with the crop he cannot know whether it pays or not.—[Farmers' Review.

From Berlin, Germany, comes the report that Dr. Koenig has solved the problem of color photography. By his method he claims that photographs showing every shade of color may be completed in a very short time, and at a very slight increase in expense over that of ordinary photography. Dr. Koenig is a chemist of the Color Works of Hoechst.

The inquest on the Eastwood disaster was concluded on October 4th. The evidence brought out the fact that the accident was due to neglect in putting up the semaphore. It was also shown that brakemen, firemen and engineer had been on continuous duty for 36 hours, and it was urged that more rest for the employees and a better signal-lights service might do much towards preventing the occurrence of such accidents in the future.

A. W. Grindly, agent for the Department of Agriculture at Liverpool, says that \$132,099 worth of poultry was shipped into Great Britain from Canada last year. He points out that it is a mistake to ship heavily for the Christmas markets when the market is glutted, but suggests the shipping of regular supplies of poultry over as long a season as possible. John Brown, of Glasgow, reports that all the shipments of butter from Montreal this season have been landed in excellent condition. The demand for Canadian bacon has been steadily increasing.

"OLD HOME" THOUGHTS.—Don't let your heart be troubled by the man who comes back and tells what wonderful success he has had as a result of leaving his home town. It is well enough for the sake of politeness to listen to his stories of immense business deals or fabulous salaries or wonderful offers which he was compelled to refuse because he was offered still more by someone else, but don't swallow the tales. The men who go away and succeed do not need to tell of their success. You hear of their success. It speaks for itself.—[Atchison Globe.

Cheese Factories Close November 1st.

The cheese boards of Kingston and Napanee last week passed resolutions, recommending the closing of all cheese factories on Nov. 1st, to remain closed until May 1st. Behind these resolutions is the desire of those in the trade to maintain the high quality of our cheese. Patrons should also approve of the scheme, not only for the sake of sustaining a good reputation, but also because this year the returns from the factory are none too remunerative anyhow. Factory men can scarcely be expected to encourage the shortening of the season, hence if anything is to be done to prevent the manufacture of fodder cheese the initiative rests with the patrons and dealers.

A U. S. Farm Journal in Hysterics over the French Breeds of Drafters.

A journal recently to hand from the State of Washington, U. S., exhibits the most pronounced symptoms of hysteria (for which the M. D.'s consider a good spanking the most effectual, although perhaps radical, cure) we have seen for some time. Under a heading, "Incompetent Eastern Farm Papers," it acknowledges to clipping from the columns of the "Farmer's Advocate." Doubtless it has done so before, and forgot to mention it, but, after careful search for several years, no such paragraph could be found, and we believe it was fabricated for the occasion. We wrote the editor of the alleged sheet, demanding the date, but he has not responded. But let that pass. Because, he alleges, the Norman horse was spoken of, therefore, according to its judgment, we are dubbed "incompetent," a statement which, if it amuses our contemporary, does not hurt us. Unfortunately, our contemporary displays such remarkable ignorance regarding the breeds and studbooks both existing in and recognized by Canada, that we feel called upon to refer to the tirade, which we should otherwise have let pass. It shows, amongst other things, that although living in the land of the lotus-eaters, occasionally, some of the residents effervesce. For the benefit of our contemporary we might say that Sander's Book on Horse-breeding, p. 279-288, and Hayes' Points of the Horse (3rd Ed.), p. 497-508, should be read carefully. We might state also for the information of our critic that there is no general Canadian Studbook, but there are separate studbooks for Hackneys, Shires and Clydesdales, and that his assertion, "the Canadians do recognize such mongrel cross-bred stock in their studbooks," is not warranted by the facts. We might draw attention to the beautiful mix-up the registering of Percheron horses has been in for years in the U. S., and also state that the book in which three-fourths of the U. S. Percherons are recorded was repudiated only a short time ago by the U. S. authorities at Washington, D. C. Judging from our contemporary's article, it must be interested in a few Percherons or Suffolks, for which he finds slow sale. As a matter of fact, the statement that "for more than a third of a century the Norman has not been recognized as a breed," is ridiculous, inasmuch as practically the first importation of draft horses from France was in 1851, and it seems that the French Percheron Studbook was only opened in 1883. The importers of French draft horses, until quite recently, spoke of Percheron-Normans as Norman-Percherons, and the French Draft Book, of which an Iowa man is secretary, and which registers any of the French draft breeds or crosses between them, was formerly called the Norman studbook. The Suffolk is a very useful draft horse, but our critic is in error when he states such are as large as the other draft breeds. That Canada has no studbook for Suffolks is due to the fact that few horses of the breed are in Canada. There are as many pure-bred Suffolks at Steveston as in the whole of Canada. The bid for B. C. patronage and subscribers is so transparent to us, that we wonder at this omniscient journal throwing doubts on the reliability of our Canadian livestock records. Such a course is not likely to appeal to B. C. residents, who are as loyal to Canadian institutions as are residents in any other part of Canada.

A Fruit-growers' Trust.

A press report from Halifax, N. S., says: A fruit-growers' trust on a small scale has been organized by a group of Halifax capitalists, headed by Senator David MacKeen. It is known as the Annapolis Valley Fruit Estates, Limited, with a capital of \$350,000. The company propose to combine about thirty farms of over three thousand acres in the Cornwallis Valley. This district has long been famous in the English market as producing some of the finest apples in the Province. There are on the property about 12,000 trees bearing fruit, from which the estimated yield is about 16,000 barrels, and about 10,000 trees ranging from one to nine years, which have not yet come into bearing. The farms are all in a prosperous condition, with splendid houses and barns. In addition to apples the company will cultivate small fruits extensively, as well as potatoes and other vegetables, and erect a canning and vinegar plant. There will also be built a barrel and box factory for the making of their fruit packages, for which there is a great demand all over the Province. Hog-raising on a large scale will be another important branch of the company's work.

Fall Fairs.

Ridgetown	Oct. 12 to 14
East Nissouri, Thamesford	Oct. 13
Caledonia	Oct. 18 to 14
Oneida Indian Fair	Oct. 13 and 14
Thedford	Oct. 13 to 14
Norfolk Union, Simcoe	Oct. 18 to 20
Mumcay	Oct. 19 to 20
Erin	Oct. 19 and 20

The Repository Changes Hands.

The announcement of Mr. Walter Harland Smith, that he has about completed negotiations for the sale of "The Repository," Toronto, comes as a surprise, and causes with it just a slight twinge of regret to those who have associated with him in any way in the horse business. Grand's Repository has long been known as the leading horse mart in Canada. It was founded in 1856 by Mr. Joseph Grand, who was succeeded in business by his son, W. D. Grand, who in '93 sold out to Mr. Smith, and opened the celebrated Grand's Repository in New York City, which in the short time Mr. Grand has been there has become one of the most popular horse-dealing centers in the world. During the eleven years in which Mr. Smith has had charge of the Repository, he has effected many improvements, not the least of which was the erection of the splendid new building for stabling, sale-ring, supply-room and offices at the corner of Simcoe and Nelson streets. In addition to the esteem Mr. Smith has evoked, by reason of his integrity and unerring rectitude, from those with whom he has dealt, he has also earned the lasting obligation of all the horse fraternity for the very liberal treatment he accorded the Spring Stallion Shows of the past two years. In his retirement from the business he carries with him the highest regard of all classes who have dealt with him, and he will be greatly missed when he finally gives up the management of the Repository about December 1st. The purchasers of the business, including the property, stock and goodwill, are Messrs. C. A. Burns and T. H. Sheppard, two well known and experienced Toronto business men, and the price aggregates \$115,000. The new proprietors take possession this week, and will continue the business, with enlargements and expansions as conditions warrant. Among their first large sales will be the consignment of 33 imported Clydesdale fillies, on Oct. 27th, selected by Mr. T. H. Harsard, of Millbrook, Ont. To Messrs. Burns & Sheppard the trade extends its best wishes for success, and they can be assured that the horsemen are anxious to continue the satisfactory business relations established with Messrs. Grand and Smith.

Municipal Insurance.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

At a recent convention of municipal officers, held in London, Ont., the question of the municipal council carrying on a system of fire insurance within its limits was mooted, and quite favorably received. When one begins to figure upon the amount of money expended in a given municipality for fire insurance, he is generally struck with the large amount that is turned over to the companies in a given time, as compared with the much less amount received for fire losses, and, therefore, the idea of developing some kind of system that will keep the money used for insurance at home catches on. Such a system of municipal insurance would resemble very much those systems of local mutual insurance societies now quite common in many townships or counties. In such cases, those desiring insurance simply agree to pay their share of the loss from fire of any other party whose name is upon the list. Such a system, of course, is conducted with a minimum of expense, but, from the very nature of it, the reserve in case of a large fire is small. The idea of municipal insurance is good, but the system would require to be extended to include several municipalities, or all such within a given territory, so that if any one township, village, town or city suffered from a large conflagration, the burden of the loss would be shared by others more fortunate. By such a system, municipal corporations would simply be substituted for insurance companies, the accumulated funds of the system would be controlled by councils, and the profits returned in some form to the people who would create them, namely, the ratepayers. Among rural communities, perhaps, more than in urban, the practice of municipal insurance would work to best advantage, as fire in such localities is less liable to occur on more than one premises at once, and the whole municipality is seldom, if ever, visited by an enormous blaze. The question is one in economics that might well engage the minds of public-spirited men, and should they take it up in earnest, the day of municipal insurance would soon arrive.

ECONOMY.

[Editorial Note.—The suggestion of our correspondent regarding the desirability, or otherwise, of municipal insurance, is given a place in our columns, in order that its claims may be discussed, and light thrown upon the question whether its adoption is a necessity or would probably be an improvement upon existing organizations for the same purpose.]

The Toronto Show.

The total receipts at the recent Toronto Exhibition were \$172,838.66; expenses, \$132,630.10; balance, profit, \$40,208.56. The dates of next year's exhibition were fixed from Saturday, August 26th to Sept. 11th. The name applied to this year's exhibition will be retained for next year, viz., Canadian National Exhibition of Toronto.