

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE

* AGRICULTURE, STOCK, DAIRY, POULTRY, HORTICULTURE, VETERINARY, HOME CIRCLE. *

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Avoid Provincialism in the Record Associations.

ONTARIO IS NOT THE DOMINION.

An editorial under the heading, "A plea for fair play," in the March 20th issue, made reference to the anomalous position in which the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association is posing as a Dominion institution, when it is virtually an Ontario one.

The 16th annual report of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association contains further proof of our contention, and shows the lack of recognition accorded the men living west of the great lakes, who breed the grand old reds, whites and roans.

At the present time the Westerner has absolutely no voice in the direction of Shorthorn affairs, not being represented on the board of directors. True, a few positions (figurehead ones) are doled out in the office of vice-presidents for the Provinces, of which one has been awarded to Manitoba and two to the Territories. The total membership is 1,565, out of which Ontario contributes 1,066 and supplies all the directors, the finance and other committees.

The Association has not had the good grace to even ask the breeders in the West to send delegates, but perseveringly hoards up what remains over after working expenditures, except 50 cents to make each Ontario member a member of the misnamed Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association, money from which is used to supplement the prize of the Ontario Winter Fair for the benefit of Ontario breeders.

When Western breeders, at the last annual convention, drew attention to this state of affairs, they were promptly told they got more than was due them in proportion to their contributions to the Association. For the year 1901, the 16th annual report shows that Manitoba contributed \$1,670, the Territories \$744—a total from the West of \$2,414. The same Provinces got back for prizes, \$6,688, of which \$500 went to Winnipeg Fair, \$1,000 to Brandon, and \$25 to Calgary.

Nova Scotia contributed \$117.50, and got \$100 for the Halifax Fair; Quebec contributed \$191.75, and got \$200 for the Sherbrooke and Quebec Fairs; British Columbia contributed \$82.75, and got \$100 for the New Westminster Fair.

It may be urged by the Ontario directors that the Manitoba and Territorial breeders do not need the stimulus to get them to buy Shorthorns, Ontario that Eastern Canadians do, and that therefore the infant industry should be bolstered up. We can see no other excuse for such an unequal division of prize money, of which the equally \$225 to Calgary Fair, as representing the Northwest Territories, is a glaring illustration.

An association purporting to be Dominion, and which cannot afford to be provincial in its policies, at the present time a move is afoot to form a Western Shorthorn Breeders' Association, which, if accomplished, would be unfortunate, as it would undoubtedly tend to split and weaken the breeding interests in Canada in this unrivalled breed, the control of which has entirely in the hands of the Ontario members, who could give representation to their board of directors and arrange for the prize money, whose expenses would be paid to the Ontario breeders, who do not reside in the West.

Some protests have been entered to the railway commission, which will take action, and we shall probably find out to what extent the railway pays through the nose for the cattle transported to market.

Farm Siftings.

The garden will be given a passing notice by the farmer during the next few weeks, and his wife will do the gardening. Vegetables, small fruits and other staple products of the kitchen garden make a pleasing variety to the summer diet, and are of value beyond estimate. Gardening is like other branches of agriculture, in that up-to-date tools are needed in order to do the work at a profit. A combination garden implement can now be got at a reasonable price which will plow, cultivate and sow, and save the back-breaking dibbling in of seed, and prevent in a great measure the use of the long-handled hoe.

One of the useful things that should be included in the list of garden stuff is the herbs. Sage is always in demand, especially when fowl are being used at Thanksgiving and Christmas time. Our grandmothers knew the value of horseradish, lavender, horehound, thyme, etc., the aroma from which, suspended in the kitchens and clothes closets, is one of the fragrant reminiscences of our youthful days.

"IMMIGRATION NUMBER" OF THE "FARMER'S ADVOCATE."

The May 20th issue of the "Farmer's Advocate" will be a special number, known as the "Immigration Edition." It will contain articles by prominent agriculturists and stockmen, and will be profusely illustrated with Western scenes. The cover, which will be run in two colors, will enclose valuable information on many subjects of importance to intending settlers. If you have a friend who is coming west, or who would be advantaged by so doing, send us his name, and we will be pleased to mail him a copy of the "Immigration Number" of the "Farmer's Advocate."

Not a few farmers have windmills and elevated water tanks, and it would be an easy matter, and not a very expensive one either, to install a bathroom in the commodious residences which many of our farmers now possess. Cleanliness is next to godliness, and the additional process needs to be gone through more frequently than heretofore. At the modern dairy school, creamery, and cheese factory, a bathroom is now provided for the operatives.

Plowing matches will be held the coming summer by Farmers' Institutes, and it is to be hoped that they will be plowing matches for farmer and bona fide competitors, not mere demonstrators of their wares, but rival implement firms who make professional plowing a part of their country. Such professional plowing is done at little cost, and they carry too heavy a load of back-land to compete and to be taken by the plow. The quantity of the plow is improving, but there is too much of it. We must do more with the plow, and we must do it better. The plow is a wonderful machine, and we must do it better. The plow is a wonderful machine, and we must do it better. The plow is a wonderful machine, and we must do it better.

INTER PRIMES

Road Work and Culverts.

The present spring has demonstrated to railroad companies and municipal officers, beyond all cavil, that culverts and grades need to be constructed with a view to meeting high water and torrential floods. The railroad companies maintain a staff of civil engineers for the purpose of roadbed construction, and it is just as imperative for the municipalities to have expert advice, or occasionally, at least, from a competent man.

A good investment for any municipality is a pile driver, to be used in the construction of culverts of any importance.

The frequent loss to municipal bodies by wash-outs, the isolation of the farmer from market during such periods, and his probable losses thereby, all warrant well-landed-out expenditures on roads, bridges, and culverts.

The statute-labor system of road work is distinctly opposed to good roads, and therefore should be abolished without further ceremony. The contract system of doing road work, and the appointment of a competent man as road commissioner, who will insist on the work being well done, will solve the question of the maintenance of country roads, and will result in the saving of money to all concerned.

The Law Demands Accuracy!

A decision recently handed down in a court of law, in a dispute between a farmer and a thrasher man, shows plainly that accuracy in weights, records, etc., are the only data that count in the business world.

The decision, while good law, will undoubtedly be considered poor justice by the thrasher, who is rendered incapable of collecting from the farmer for threshing done because no accurate account by means of a weigher was kept of the work.

One of the results is easy to foresee. Weighers (machines) will be attached to each threshing mill and the cost of threshing probably increased, and at the latter the farmer will undoubtedly, as is his well-known privilege, kick. The trials and tribulations of the thrasher are now many, and in order to head off additional ones, he will need to study the situation. Less costly outfits (the manufacturer to charge less), more skilled help in the way of engineers and separator men, thus adding to increase the life of an outfit, and a more prompt settlement for work done, will be part of the future policy of the thrasher, and if he could induce some way of getting at men who will under-shelter of a technicality, endeavor to beat him out of earned wages, the business would be a more satisfactory one to engage in than it is at present.

George Green, of Moose Jaw, has built a portable pile driver on a mule scale for the purpose of driving fence posts. The hammer is a 325-pound one, with a 10-foot drop. Very few strokes suffice to drive any ordinary fence posts, and the work can be done rapidly by two men and a team. Mr. Green charges \$3.50 per day for machine and operator. While of course, this is only a local item, the idea is worthy of being followed in other localities, where there is considerable scope to be done.

Several Menacees, A. A. March 14, 1902. I have agreed with a separator man to get the work done for a fixed price, and I have got a great deal of satisfaction out of it. At the same time, the most accurate and best of the work is done.