

Miscellaneous.

OWNERSHIP OF WELL.

A owns quarter-section of land, with road allowance on south side. A dam is put in by Government grant on road allowance. A digs well on north side of dam on road allowance, but adjoining his property. Well is 45 feet deep, and A has it curbed from top to bottom. The water in the well does not come from the dam, but is fed by a spring at the bottom. The dam is dry the greater part of the year. Can A claim the well, or is it public property? What procedure must be taken to prevent others taking water from it?

SUBSCRIBER.

N.-W. T.

Ans.—If the well is on the road allowance, it is public property, and A has no claim on it. He cannot prevent others from using water from it, and it is not likely that the Government would sell him the ground on which it is situated. He, "A," might apply to the Northwest Government for that right, but it is not likely to be granted.

ADDRESS OF FUR DEALER

In your next issue will you please give the address of a reliable fur company in Winnipeg? Lake de May, Alta. W. A. N.

Ans.—One of the most reliable fur dealing firms in Winnipeg is the F. Lightcap Hide and Fur Company. Write them, mentioning this paper.

Field Notes.

Timothy and Sugar Beets.

As the suitability of Alberta soil for growing timothy, and the splendid returns to be obtained therefrom, are becoming more generally known, the acreage continues to increase. The accompanying illustration shows hay from this nutritious grass being baled and made ready for sale on the farm of O. S. Moore, near Olds, Alta.

Mr. Moore has a 22-acre field on his farm seeded to this grass, which returns a very neat profit per acre every year. This season the "mat" was very close, and even harrowing did not accomplish much, but, notwithstanding this sod-bound condition, it yielded about 1½ tons to the acre.

When farming he also experimented with the sugar beets with good success during two succeeding seasons, raising most satisfactory crops of sugar beets, both in point of yield and percentage of richness in saccharine matter, as a sample of beets indicated when tested by the chemist of the Ottawa Experimental Farm. This occurred about eight years ago, and Mr. Moore at that time prophesied that beet-sugar factories would be seen growing up in Alberta, and that Olds district could, if she would, handle her share of this remunerative branch of farming. A well-subdued soil and as productive as we find it in the Olds district are the two main requisites in sugar-beet culture after we know that the climate is favorable. The climate feature, however, may be variable and yet a good rich beet produced, as it is one root which will stand considerable drought or moisture and yet grow, but it must have a well-pulverized soil and be kept entirely free from weeds. This latter necessity makes the beet culture a most formidable enemy to weeds, and beautiful clean crops of small grains will follow, if precaution is used in sowing clean seed.

One regrettable condition is noticeable, however, in the Olds district, and that is that insufficient care has been exercised with foul seeds. However, it is gratifying to learn that before this bane of successful farming had gone further, the farmers are now awake to a realization of the fact that a "no surrender" battle against weeds must be fought, and already good results are being realized. (See illustration on page 1167.)

Board of Trade Banquet at Calgary.

On the evening of Nov. 19th, the Calgary Board of Trade held their annual banquet. Members of the Board were entitled to issue invitations through the secretary; consequently a large gathering was the result. The menu was fully up to the high standard of such special occasions, and the decorations were very beautiful and patriotic.

President Cushing occupied the chair in a very efficient manner.

The toasts and speeches were numerous and ably delivered. The banquet was called for 7 p. m. sharp, by 9 o'clock the toast list had started, and from that hour until 1.30, eloquence and wit, well sprinkled with common sense, was the pleasing programme enjoyed by all who had the pleasure of attending the second annual banquet of the Calgary Board of Trade.

Live Stock and Dairymen Arrange Meetings.

On Tuesday, the 24th ultimo, the executive committee of the Manitoba live stock associations met, and laid plans for holding a sale of stock, and afterward waited on the Premier to obtain Government support to the scheme. The following day, the executive of the Dairymen's Association met, and planned for the annual meeting to be held on the Friday of the convention week.

The Manitoba poultrymen will hold their annual show this winter in Brandon, some time in January. Brandon will also have a winter fair.

Moose Jaw is now a city. May her progress continue.

The Carrot River Valley and Show.

More than twenty years ago settlers coming into Manitoba were told of the richness of the land in the Carrot River Valley, and quite a few of them passed over land around Portage la Prairie, which they could have had for a few dollars an acre, and went to the land of promise. Some of them even hurried in for fear the land would be all gone before they got there, and they wanted to be sure to get there before the railroad. A land of promise it certainly has been. The promise of a railroad has been dangled before the settlers all these years, and is still dangling, for, in spite of many assurances, there is no railroad yet. Nor will there be for a few years more. The patience of the early settler is about exhausted, and when a railroad does come, it will be the younger generation and the newcomers that will take up the work of wheat-growing with earnestness.

It will be a surprise to many of our readers to know that these hardy settlers held at Kinistino, this year, their eighteenth annual exhibition, under the auspices of the Carrot River District Agricultural Society. It is something to be very proud of, and all honor should be extended to these hardy farmers for their continued efforts toward improvement. This is seen mostly in their cattle. While the land is exceptionally fertile, the distance grain has to be hauled to Prince Albert makes the raising of it in any quantity out of the question. Consequently, attention has been turned to live stock, and especially to cattle. The rich, abundant grass seen on every hand testifies to the wisdom of this choice, and indicates that the whole district is capable of carrying an enormous number of cattle during the summer, while the abundance of hay that could be cut for winter feed solves that part of the question. Timber, heavy enough for building purposes is plentiful within easy reach, so that there is no trouble about material for stabling or heavy timber for houses. Under such conditions, it is no wonder that the settlers have been successful.

The showing of cattle at the fair was quite large, though not quite as large as in past years, owing to the lateness of the harvest. The general high quality of the stock exhibited was very noticeable, and showed that good sires had been used. The Robinson brothers were large exhibitors of cattle, both grade and pure-bred. In the pure-bred class, the best animals were the aged bulls. They made a strong ring of well-grown animals. First place went to a well-brought-out entry, Stanley's Pride, bred by J. G. Barron, of Carberry, showing the thick-fleshing qualities of the Top-mountain blood, and especially the well-covered loin. This bull is owned by James Robertson, and as he has won this position for two years, he wins a special silver cup offered for the best bull brought into the district that wins two years out of three. The other bulls in the ring were good ones, but not in such high condition. The pure-bred females were not so good as the males; in fact, many of the grades were better. It is a mistake to keep pure-bred cattle in such low condition, or of a quality inferior to grade cattle. It only brings pure-bred cattle into disrepute, and does the live-stock interests of any section of country untold harm.

The grade class was well filled with animals of high average quality. Some of the aged cows were grand specimens. The yearlings were a particularly strong ring, and the ring of spring calves was one hard to beat. Jas. Robertson, Jno. Robertson, C. S. Lowrie, J. C. Lowrie and W. J. Plant were the chief exhibitors. The last named won the herd prize, composed of a pure-bred bull and four females, pure-bred or grade.

The horse classes were not well filled. There were no heavy draft animals, and the general-purpose and roadster classes were only sparsely filled. Competition was not keen nor entries, as a rule, well fitted. Team in harness brought out five entries. One team was heavy draft and another lame, so competition lay between three. First went to C. S. Lowrie, and second to F. & W. Thompson. The roadster class was fairly well filled, but with only average horses. The leading winners were J. Cairns, C. Robertson, C. S. Lowrie and W. J. Plant. The district is greatly in need of a number of real good heavy draft stallions.

W. J. Plant was the best exhibitor of sheep, while R. Paynter and Jas. Robertson showed pure-bred Berkshires, and C. Robertson pure-bred Yorkshires. The pigs were, perhaps, the highest quality stock shown. Mr. J. G. Washington, of Ninga, Man., placed the awards in the live-stock classes in a manner satisfactory to all.

There was a nice exhibit of poultry, but perhaps the best exhibit of the show was that of vegetables. These were simply wonderful. The size, quality and the number of exhibits was very gratifying, and shows what a very fertile soil the Carrot River Valley has. A little more attention could be given to preparing the exhibits for a show, in the way of trimming the roots and washing off the fertile soil—the soil is all right, but not on the roots at an exhibition.

Dairy products made a fair exhibit, and the quality was well up to the mark. The home-cured meats made a good show, establishing the fact that these people can cure a good quality of bacon.

Grains did not make a very large showing, perhaps for the reason that most of the grain was still in stock at the time, very little threshing being done. The samples shown, however, were of more than average quality, and the advent of a railway would give these people a chance to show what their fertile soil would do.

In the evening there was a concert and dance in the hall. The programme consisted of songs and recitations by local talent, and there is plenty of it, and a short address by Mr. George Harcourt, the Territorial Superintendent of Fairs and Institutes, in which he pointed out ways in which the agricultural societies could work for the advancement of the interests of the farming community. After the concert, the young folks from as far as eighteen miles away held the floor until morning. The dancing, however, was not left to the young folks. Many an old couple renewed their youth, and showed that they were not one bit behind their sons and daughters. A good dance after a concert can be made a successful feature of many an agricultural society.

Settlement is flowing into the famous Carrot River Valley at a rapid rate, but it is a big country and will yet take many thousands of people to occupy the land. Once the railroad reaches the district, there will be a transformation that will astonish the older-settled portions, and not till then will the superior qualities of this district be appreciated as they ought.

Hamiota Grain Blockade.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—In regard to the boast of the railway magnates, that there would be no shortage of cars this season, reference has been made to the question by the Deloraine Times, and also by T. McGubbin, Nesbit, in a recent issue of the Free Press: "While we are not so bad as Mr. McGubbin reports they are at Nesbit, yet we are up against the same old snag as in former years. Cars got scarce about the last week in October, although threshing was not more than half through. Elevators drop prices because they don't know when they will get the wheat out. Special bin privileges are refused as soon as cars get scarce. Prices drop. Grade standards are raised by local buyers. No storage room is allowed, that a man might store his wheat, and be able to realize on storage tickets to meet liabilities. Paper nearly always matures Nov. 1. Creditors say: 'First there best served.' Consequently, the small farmer whose credit is insufficient to borrow from the bank is, in a great many cases, obliged to sacrifice his wheat to the elevator companies at from 5 to 20 cents below what he could readily obtain, could he only get a car to load and ship. This is neither misrepresentation nor exaggeration, but bold facts, which can be vouched for by large numbers of our farming community. Being anxious to meet payments at maturity, and seeing no prospects of cars to ship, they take what they are offered, pay as far as it goes, and crave forbearance for the rest for another year, which the creditor, in turn, is obliged to give very reluctantly, and often after much threatening and abuse. These troubles (according to your reasoning last season) are all attributable to the railways' inability or incapacity to furnish shipping facilities.

"There is another matter to which I would like to draw your attention, Mr. Editor, as well as the attention of the general public, viz., the present grain standards, fixing the different grades of wheat for this particular year. It is a recognized fact that rarely, if ever before, was there such a variation in the grades of wheat as there are this year. Yet the grain standards board were either not aware of it, or else were unwilling to meet the requirements by increasing the number of grades as they are empowered to do when conditions call for such action. Probably this arises from the fact that it makes very little difference to the elevator companies and big milling firms how cars grade coming into Winnipeg (except to check up their local buyers), as the wheat all passes through another elevator and is mixed by a competent judge just up to the proper standard, and no more, before being shipped east. This is a case where the producer who is fortunate enough to get a car and ships direct often loses 8 to 10 cents per bushel, by having wheat just a little too low for one grade, so has to be thrown by the inspector into the next lowest, which, in the case of wheat not quite good enough to grade No. 3 northern, must go into four, which reduces it in price 8 to 10 cents per bushel, or from 12 to 15 per cent., when the wheat may only be 2 or 3 per cent. below the standard. The same or a greater drop occurs between the next two grades, 4 and feed, as the market reports all show from 10c. to 12c. of a spread between these two grades.

"The local buyer also has the same excuse, and justly, too; for if he misses a grade, he is called down by his employers, and runs a chance of losing his situation, which fear makes him doubly careful to grade the wheat low enough in any event.

"Don't you think, Mr. Editor, this last difficulty might be solved, to a large extent, at least, by having more grades? I think there should be a grade between 3 and 4 northern, and between 4 northern and feed. I don't see how this would injure anyone in particular, and it would certainly be a great benefit to the producer of low-grade wheat, a considerable quantity of which is still in the hands of the producers. If I have not encroached too much on your valuable space, I would beg to suggest that the Grain Growers' Association take this matter up as soon as possible and try to have it rectified."

H. A. FRASER.

Hamiota, Nov. 19.

Regina Gets a Supply of Cars.

Hon. Dr. Elliott visited Winnipeg on the 26th of November for the purpose of obtaining a supply of cars for wheat-shippers on the main line from Regina east. As a result of an interview with the railway authorities, one hundred and fifty cars per day have been promised to points between Regina and Brandon.

Opening of the

SHEPHERD

The beet-sugar factory, November 9th, owing to the scarcity of labor, ready to slice as early as possible. As the mill begins, it is necessary to begin with the hand to begin with.

Intendant Hotchkiss, who in the sheds. The cotton days before, and the Sugar Company by Co.

The whole crop the thousand tons, or probably are testing out well, and million pounds of refined twice as much next year. Pounds in any subsequent.

The Sugar Company amalgamated with the Bar K 2 outfit, with dollars. The amalgamation tended to help all of the ranches will facilitate the Sugar Company's factory will be available cattle. The ease with other means economy concern will be called the.

Mr. J. L. Gray and have contracted for a to finish 3,000 two-a will feed along with the a day, besides sheaf of be used for local consumption have already been disposing enterprise of any the district, and the rest. With as complete should be possible to make them a first-rate summer would appreciate in the mutton line, in no danger of running of stuff, and it would & Ackers would combine of lambs, to see what to and at what profit, ness of United States natural to expect that secured where it is bone and fat together alone, as it is in the extra profit to be had depend on how near to bought for feeding purposes, of course, the in favor of the lambs they can be bought two- and three-year-old.

Territorial Swi

As reported in a Government, early in to breeders of pure-bred stating that a number bought for the purpose C. & E. Railway Ltd. the improvement of s reported to the Depa was necessary to have they were up to the the Department for in officer of the Depar selected 116 of this a larger number tak but quite a few hogs of the lack of grain been made two or th been more accepted, a nearly completed and

The car taking on October 27th, Yorkshires from the Griffin and A. P. Cr B. Smith. Twenty Wapella from A. T. Yorkshires from A. bunch of ten pigs we of one litter from a at Grenfell last fall were well fed. Mr enough feed to carry so bought what w turned off a lot of st were a great credit pound, and the light \$213. His work is of the value of feed His hogs were just loaded. Two Berks Wolsely, and 12 Yorkshires of J. Miller, of Knapawa. C. G. at Gr Appelle station load at Regina. shires, thrifty, grow that saved ready se from K. McInnis, Pens. Eight more and W. V. Hans, of