

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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THE DOMINION.

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### "Lest we Forget."

When our champion hockey players or our oarsmen wrest the laurels from the crack athletes of the cities of the effete East, all Manitobans glory in their victories, and when a select draft from the winning herd of Shorthorn cattle at the Winnipeg Industrial were sent to try conclusions in one of the greatest cattle strongholds on the American continent, all who were interested in the advancement of the live-stock interests of the West followed them with eager expectation. In undertaking the risk and expense of sending such a valuable consignment of choice stock to Toronto and Buffalo, Mr. Greenway must have been impelled as much by motives of patriotism as by hope of individual gain, for the benefit accruing would certainly be of greatest import to the Province as demonstrating the advancement of its cattle interests. There is nothing that so truly indicates the progress of a country as the quality of its live stock.

It is most gratifying that our cattle representation should have succeeded so well at the Toronto Industrial, where they came in competition with some of the very choicest stock on the continent, and yet that they did not win the highest honors furnishes us food for thought. The purity of our atmosphere and the exhilarating effects of the ozone makes us see things in a very rosy light at times, and we are a little apt to think that we have reached far greater perfection than is really the case.

That the very pick of our stock had to take third place at Toronto will serve as a stimulus to every breeder of pure-bred stock.

The writer had the privilege of attending the Minnesota State Fair during the first week of

September, and spent much time in the cattle-judging ring. The cattle there represented the pick of the best herds of the great cattle-feeding States of the Central West, Indiana, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois, and constituted such an aggregation of scale, quality and breed character as would delight the heart of any appreciative lover of live stock. All the leading breeds (especially beef breeds) were strongly represented, and the individuals were most perfectly fitted and trained, and, in many instances, skillfully shown. They were a better lot of cattle than we ever saw in Winnipeg, and in saying so it is no disparagement to our own exhibition or our Province, but should simply urge us on to greater effort. And lest we forget, we should constantly remind ourselves that we have not yet reached perfection in the breeding and feeding of pure-bred live stock.

### Farm Siftings.

Is there anything more provoking than to have a threshing gang and outfit at the farm for a week or more as a result of continual break-downs? What is the reason for such delays? As a result of the stoppages the women folk are harassed with the extra cooking, valuable time is forever lost, and in seasons with wet weather, grain spoiled. While not objecting to a thresher's union, is it not well to insist that the union should see that only competent men are employed? Unskilled labor proves very expensive at threshing time; in some cases resulting in loss of life, burning of crops and buildings, not to mention the great waste of money from lost time. Engineers and separator men should know the theory as well as the purely mechanical part, for which the term, practical, is so frequently misappropriated. An agricultural-college student I met recently, said he received instruction in farm engines at his college. What a boon such instruction would be to a farmer at threshing time.

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A discussion on threshing and the prices paid, etc., would not be out of place at the institute this winter.

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When buying a farm wagon this fall or next spring, insist on getting wheels with wide tires. This is a country of earth roads, and therefore the place where wide tires are absolutely necessary. The wide tire lessens the draft for the farm team when stacking or drawing grain from the threshing mill over the loose soil of the fields. A three-inch, or, better, four-inch tire should be used on farm wagons. The wide tire improves the country road—it acts as a roller.

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The brood sows might with profit go on the stubbles. The summer pigs should now be far enough along so that three or four weeks' heavy feeding will finish them for the market.

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House the cows at night now. The cold, frosty nights mean a loss in the milk flow, if the cows are out and exposed.

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Don't delay in stopping up holes in the buildings, through which cold drafts may come. A cool stable is better than a drafty one.

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Have the horse's teeth examined by your veterinarian and fixed up for chewing hard feed. Don't let the travelling dentist touch your horse's mouth; it's 10 to 1 that he is a quack.

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In Old Country stables it was the custom to give a physic ball to each horse before putting on winter feed. They thrived better, as among other things the ball drove out any worms infesting the horse.

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The wise farmer did not wait for the thresher; he went to stacking as soon as the grain was ready. Damp weather finds him with ground clear for plowing, and he will be that much ahead next spring. If wet weather comes he can thresh sooner than the man who did not stack.

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Before letting stock run on the stubbles, examine the settings and see that all the grain, weed seeds, etc., have been removed. By so doing, you will avoid sick cattle and the distribution of weed seeds over the farm.

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Farmers are often ailing because of lack of variety in their diet. What will the Western farmer do this year, when, in view of the poor apple crop East, the talk is of \$7 a barrel for apples? Some relief might be had from other fruit sources—peaches, pears, plums, etc., from the east, south and west—but for another combine. In Winnipeg, a combination controls the

fruit supply for the retail Manitoba trade, and the farmer has to help pay the rake-off these fellows get. It is to be hoped that the British Columbia fruit supply will be kept out of the combine's hands; \$720 is a pretty good rake-off from a car of fruit. INTER PRIMOS.

### Prof. Ruddick in the West.

Prof. J. A. Ruddick, Chief of the Dominion Government Dairy Department, called on the "Farmer's Advocate" recently, while on his way to British Columbia, where he goes to superintend the introduction of a series of travelling dairy meetings. Mr. Ruddick reports an all-round improvement in Canadian dairy products and in the methods of handling them in transit, both by rail and water. Regarding the creamery business in the West, he thinks that a concentration of the creameries would be beneficial. Reducing the number and increasing the size of creameries would tend to reduce the cost of making and encourage the employment of the highest-skilled labor, and just as the creamery system makes for uniformity of quality of product as compared with farm dairying, so the concentration of a number of small creameries into one large one would further tend toward uniformity of quality.

### Provincial Co-operation in Agricultural Education.

An arrangement has been made between the Local Governments of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick with regard to the agricultural college about to be established by the former Government. Nova Scotia is to provide \$50,000 to purchase a farm and erect suitable buildings for an agricultural college, and then the two Provinces will assume the expense of management on the basis of population. In this way the pupils from the two Provinces will have equal privileges. The Ontario Agricultural charges double tuition fees to students from other Provinces. The Maritime Province plan might form the basis for an arrangement between Manitoba and the Territories.

### The Compass Cherry.

In the orchard of Mr. A. P. Stevenson, Nelson, Manitoba, the writer saw in the month of August specimen trees of this new fruit in bearing. The trees had made vigorous growth and looked clean and healthy. The fruit very closely resembles a cherry. Mr. Stevenson thinks highly of it, as it is perfectly hardy and a good yielder, and the fruit is a good substitute for the cherry. In the Minnesota Horticulturist, Mr. O. W. Moore has the following to say regarding this new introduction:

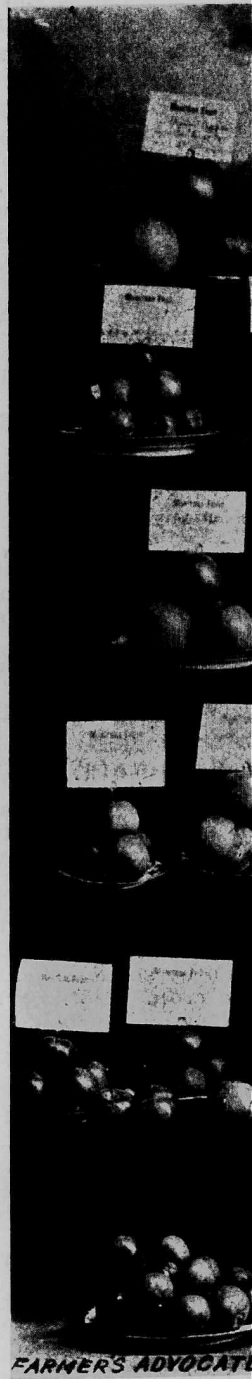
"I find that the Compass cherry is comparatively a new fruit, and is but little known in the southern part of the State. It is a hybrid of the sand cherry and the Miner plum. Its habit of growth is of the medium, between the upright and spreading form, and it is perfectly hardy in every respect. Those that I have had no root protection whatever, and have withstood the winters of 1897-8 and 1898-9 without injury. They bore fruit the past season, being the second year after planting, and the quantity of fruit was surprising for trees of their age. For home use and canning purposes they fill a long-felt want in the cherry line. It is true that they are not the real cherry, but, in my estimation, they are the next best fruit pertaining to the cherry yet found. In my opinion they are not a fruit that will bear shipping, as the skin is very thin and easily broken, and the fruit perishable. The tree has a habit of making wood very rapidly after the fruit is gathered, and in time also for it to get well ripened before cold weather. It is the only fruit with me thus far that some bug or insect is not lying in wait to get in its work on as soon as opportunity offers. It is not troubled by the curculio or the birds or anything else, unless it might be that ever-prevailing danger, the boys. As to its drought-resisting qualifications, there is no doubt as to their effectiveness. During the severe drought of about three months in the fore part of the past summer my Compass cherry trees stood the ordeal in a remarkable manner. Their staunch, sprightly vigor in leaf, wood and fruit, told a tale of drought-resisting power that must be seen to be appreciated."

Wm. Stothers, of Graburn, died on Sept. 7th, after a brief illness. He had a good herd of ranch cattle, and had laid the foundation for a Shorthorn herd, representatives of which he exhibited at the Calgary fair last fall, and it was there he took cold, which resulted finally in his death.

### Small Agricultural Farms.

Prof. Hays, of the Station, writing in reply to a correspondent deprecates the idea of running by salaried super practical conditions, a work they have to do, from practical conditions the work and example State would be of far munities if it could be State at their backs."

He considers that the most magnificent system upon practical farms of the graduate Agriculture. Prof. Hays local schools of agriculture says:



"Small schools of agriculture are generally successful. Only a few tend them. The students and the well-developed American farm homes and a strong faculty the larger agricultural in favor more than that of the rural school can across the State and agriculture than to a cultural school, or a course in agriculture."

"A small local agricultural school can do for the student equipped school can, at the present in building up to the limit of a thousand mark. If the graduates into each county soon see the model farms forward in every neighborhood."

"Visions of small model farms, and dim