



# Farmer's Advocate

## and Home Journal

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### EDITORIAL

Sour milk at irregular intervals results in the pot-bellied ugly calf.

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Watch the horses' shoulders, a little salt and water applied to the shoulders will help toughen them to the collar.

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In the rush of seeding, do not forget that thoroughness in bluestoning is essential if smut is to be avoided.

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A few hours extra at the fanning mill with the grain intended for seed, will result in pleasurable feelings when one views the growing crop and the thrasher's returns.

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Saskatchewan men are after an agricultural college; a most encouraging sign that this province recognises the importance of high class agricultural education.

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Provincial hail insurance is not yet looked upon favorably by the majority of the farmers. Deficits in government attempts at hail insurance do not invite others to try the experiment.

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Canadian wheat has been about at an exportable basis all the last shipping; not so the wheat south of the line, hence, no comparison of prices are obtained on the Old Country corn exchange.

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Insurance investigations are causing considerable interest, policy holders will be foolish who drop out on account of the testimony so far offered, the investigation has not gone far enough to warrant conclusions. In the meantime, we are glad to note that fraternal society insurance will also receive attention.

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Some hesitate to invest in a manure spreader owing to the amount of money needed. The question is rather can you be certain of getting the right amount taken to the land and applied properly, in any other way? Generally speaking, the answer is, No. Eight to ten loads per acre is sufficient to apply.

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That farmers believe there is a combine among the live stock dealers is evident by the daily press. An investigation might reveal some interesting things. It is well to remember that the total annual output of live stock from Western Canada does not amount to one week's receipts at Chicago.

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Opinions as to the sample market and order point differ materially. Those opposed, do so mainly on the following points: first, the delay that would occur in getting the wheat out; second, lack of milling demand in Western Canada; third, that the move would be one playing into the hands of the big elevator companies; fourth, that mixing and the impairment of the reputation of our wheat would result.

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Farmer's bulletin 239 treats of corrosion (eating away) of iron wire, and gives the following as the result of investigation:—Iron wire when it can be obtained, even at a large increase in price, is by far the cheapest. The life of a steel wire nail is six years. The life of the old-fashioned iron nail (and these can be had if the farmer will demand them) is forty years. The life of iron wire is from twenty to thirty years; the life of ordinary steel wire from six to ten years.

### Equal Rights for All in Live Stock Associations.

The handicap that Quebec is, to progress along some lines in Canada, is illustrated by a despatch which recently appeared in an Eastern newspaper. The Quebecers were hard to bring into the National Records ranks, especially with their own cattle and horses, dubbed French Canadian. No objection can be urged to the habitant starting new breeds, provided he is not allowed to palm off grade stock as pure bred, with certificates endorsed by the government. In order to further enlist the sympathy of the sheep and swine men of that province, they are given membership in the Dominion association, something not accorded to those in the other provinces, except Ontario, which presumably, has not a provincial association, although the officers, executives, etc. of the Dominion Sheep and Swine Breeders' Associations are all Ontario men. The Dominion associations mentioned have followed out the idea of the national records associations in allotting monies to the various provinces, according to the business done by each with the association. If the breeders of one part of Canada are entitled to such consideration, surely others are. As an instance of the disinclination to be fair on the part of some easterners, some Angus breeders east of Lake Superior, would not hear to the head office of the proposed association, made up of men from all over Canada, the majority, however, from the west of the great lakes, being placed at Winnipeg. The principle of national records, to be an acceptable one, must include keeping all records up to a high standard and equal rights to all the provinces. The West is growing apace in population, wealth and voting power; statesmanship will be best shown in the matter of record and breeders' associations by recognising the trend of national development and preparing for it.

### The Foreign Element.

It is said that one of our largest implement manufacturing establishments, in order to secure the trade of the foreigners in a certain district in the west, trained an intelligent young Galician in the implement business and sent him out among the people, with results that were very gratifying to the firm. Is there not in this a lesson for us? Would it not be possible to train a foreigner as an Institute worker, and let him travel among some of our untaught brethren from Central Europe. Think what a work he might do; these people will not come to seed trains and agricultural meetings; they will not be readers of the agricultural press, not, at least for some time. It is not enough that we give them homes. If we are to take up 'the white man's burden,' there is still more to be done. To enable these people to increase their wealth and prosperity makes for our own progress, and for the advancement of the Dominion.

### Things Look Good for the Next Industrial Fair!

The enthusiasm manifested by the president, manager, and board of directors of the Winnipeg Industrial and the city council regarding the coming exhibition the latter part of July is a most encouraging sign. Many improvements are to be made, the grounds drained, some block-paved and macadam roads laid down, so that all parts of the grounds may be accessible even in moist weather. In addition, a road will be built from the unloading platforms to the barns and will be continued through a thirty foot avenue which will run at right angles to the stables at a point midway between their ends, this having the effect of cutting the long stables in two, besides affording better means of egress in case of fire. The favoritism shown in the allotment of stables in previous years will not be allowed, and it is hoped that the swipes and

personnel of the racing fraternity will be segregated in quarters set apart for them, the stock men have been much annoyed in the past by the pilfering of feed and small articles from their stalls by some of the hangers-on of the racing brigade. Strenuous efforts will be made also to improve the Midway, by relegating it to a less conspicuous place in the grounds, and by eliminating disgusting shows. The prize list, we believe, will show as much, if not more cash offered than last year, and in classes where competition is keenest, such as in Shorthorns and Clydesdales a larger number of prizes will be offered. The time to prepare is right now, so select your exhibits and get ready.

### Blanketing of Homesteads to Cease.

On and after the 15th inst., personal application will have to be made for homesteads in western Canada. The Dept. of the Interior, recognising the abuses that have crept in through the old system has been quick to make a change with a view of remedying matters. The change will have several good effects, and is made in the interest of the actual settler. Another beneficial effect will be that it will tend to induce more careful selection by the new settler, and, as a result of that selection will result in greater satisfaction on his part. The idea of a system of purchase, with settlement duties, recently suggested in the Winnipeg Free Press is, we think, modern, just, and in the interest of the country as a whole.

### Feeding for Work and Health.

The feeding of horses is something of which everyone pretends to know something, yet, in actual practise, it is one of the most imperfectly performed chores about the farm. The most common error is to feed in the morning before watering, and, another fallacy is to indulge the horse in a change of diet. In feeding horses one should remember that the stomach is not large enough to hold sufficient hay, oats and water to last for four or five hours, and that the hay and water are best taken care of in the bowels. The system of feeding then should be, to water first thing in the morning, then feed hay and lastly the grain; so that the horse will have time to finish it before going to the field. If the oats are fed before watering a large proportion of them is washed back into the bowels where they cause colic and indigestion and are undigested. The place for assimilating the oats is in the stomach and in order to keep them there the horse should be watered before they are fed or not until two hours after feeding. The excuse that horses will not drink in the morning before feeding cannot be taken seriously, for any horse can be educated to take his food and water at the proper time.

At noon the same procedure should be followed unless the team is very warm, and then only a little drink should be allowed, but before the grain is fed the thirst should be satisfied. Horses are peculiar in their food requirements in that they do not respond favorably to changes or to variety. The nearer a horse can be kept to hay and oats and bran diet, the better it is for him. Hot bran mash or boiled oats are good after a hard trip, to cool out the system, but other condiments and mixtures are not appreciated and frequently cause colic. Bran fed with oats (and oats should always be fed whole to horses with sound teeth) in the proportion of two quarts of bran to four quarts of oats will tend to prevent gorging and will assist digestion. This amount of grain is also found to be sufficient for horses doing ordinarily heavy work but should be reduced upon idle days, or the cessation of work. Flax seed fed in small quantities to idle horses may be useful to cool the system and improve the coat but should not be continued for any length of time. Oat straw and oat sheaves are fairly good fodder if carefully fed, and may take the place of wild hay