

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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DOMINION.

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AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL,
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It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
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turer of a high-class article suffers by the bad reputation resulting from the placing of inferior stuffs on the market under the same or similar designation. Hence the desire of many reliable firms for legislation which would protect their interests, as well as those of the consumers, by requiring each brand to be sold on its merits, with a minimum guarantee of analysis attached.

What Mr. Shutt suggested was a law providing for a systematic annual sampling and analysis of these concentrated commercial feeding stuffs, sold for over \$10.00 a ton, and compelling the manufacturers thereof to attach tags to every package or consignment, signifying the minimum percentages of protein and fat contained. Such legislation has been enacted in many states of the American Republic, where bulletins giving the results of the analyses are regularly issued by the State Experiment Stations.

At the conclusion of the evidence, a resolution was passed endorsing the views of the speaker, and emphasizing the desirability of such a law; while, furthermore, we are informed that J. A. Sexsmith, M. P. for Peterboro, has introduced into the House a motion respecting the amendment of the Adulteration Act, so that it would include the examination of feed stuffs. It is to be sincerely hoped that thoroughgoing action will be taken without delay.

Remains in Ontario.

In connection with the establishment of a branch Dominion Experimental Farm in Saskatchewan, it is understood that a tempting offer, financially, of the superintendency was made to A. McKenney, B. S. A., representative of the Ontario Department of Agriculture in Essex County. The proposition, however, was not entertained, Mr. McKenney concluding it to be his duty to continue in the new work of agricultural education in Essex, and the recently-inaugurated Ontario Corn-growers' Ass'n., a movement designed to be of decided advantage to the farming interests of the Province generally. In thus remaining at his post, Mr. McKenney is deserving of hearty commendation, just as his work in south-western Ontario is earning for him

Lime-and-sulphur Washes.

Fruitmen throughout the Niagara District, at their annual convention, agreed that lime-sulphur wash, properly prepared, had stood the test, and was the spraying material that could be relied upon for protection against many pests. Various growers testified to using it made in different ways—home-boiled, self-boiled, and as sold commercially. None reported disappointment. It was, however, impossible to get any definite particulars regarding the minimum strength at which it could be applied, and yet be effective in combating scale or fungi. The prevailing practice seems to be to use as strong solution as can be made, because no evil effects have been noticed. While this is right and proper from the one standpoint of efficiency, it is just possible that time and money could be saved in boiling and in quantities of materials used, and yet meet with as great success in fighting the pests.

Naturally, the growers wanted information regarding the commercial grades of lime-sulphur. Every man who has had experience with boiling lime-sulphur eagerly awaits something as good at as low or lower cost. The manufacturers of the commercial mixtures, in order to make the price approximate that entailed in home-boiling, recommend diluting their concentrated wash by using one part to eleven of water. Professor Harcourt was able to inform the practical men that this preparation was not as high in the pest-destroying materials, the higher sulphides of calcium, as the best of the home-boiled washes, but none of the growers complemented this information with an assurance that one was less satisfactory than the other.

Arrangements are being made for further tests to ascertain the strengths of the materials as they go on the trees in different parts of Ontario's fruit belt. This will be of great value to fruit-growers, if at the same time special note is made of the efficiency of each mixture. There is a special work here for the fruit organizations. Systematic work in different sections is demanded. Experiments are needed with the commercial washes applied with different dilutions, and also tests of the homemade washes prepared in different ways. The whole question can be solved in a season or two, if it is gone about systematically by competent men. When it is known how dilute the commercial grades can be used, the fruit men will not take long to figure out whether or not it pays to boil at home. The value of lime-sulphur wash is recognized, but fruit-growers want to know the minimum strength at which it is effective. The question should be solved at once. Will it be left for experiment stations to wrestle with, or will commercial growers undertake the task?

Theory Versus Practice.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Mony a lang year ago, when I was a wee ladie playing among the heather in bonnie Scotland, I mind o' gettin' into an awfu' scrape wi' ma faither for takin' a wee bit chew o' tobacco frae anither young scamp like mysel'. "Weel," says ma mither, "ye canna' say anything to the lad, Jeems, for ye ken ye use the dirty stuff yersel'." But it didna' save me frae gettin' a gude taste o' the cane.

Noo, wi' a' due respect to ma auld faither, who is deid an' gone this mony a year, I wad just like to tak' him as an example o' some men I ken in this country, an' at the present time, who seem to hae mony o' the same characteristics, especially the ane I mentioned—that is, criticising ithers for faults that they hae themselves, an' which they hae na' even time to think about. Na doot, Mr. Editor, ye hae had yer ain experience wi' individuals o' this species, who laud bare yer mony sins an' shortcomings, an' wad hae made ye yunner hoo sic a simmer as yersel' could be rinnin' loose in respectable society, gin ye didna' len what manner o' mon it was that was tryin' to trade characters wi' ye.

For mysel', I hae a passing acquaintance wi' twa or three auld chaps o' the above species, an' wi' yer permission, I will be tellin' ye a thing or twa about them juist tae mak' ma point a wee bit clearer. An' as the auld wumman said, "Nanin' no names, nee names can be took, whatever." The first fellow I wad be tellin' ye about is ane o' those who are gey fond o' their drappie. An' so mair or less did he like it that he traded all a' he had, an' gin he had na' except

about a dozen auld moulty hens; an' when ane o' them wad accidentally lay an egg, he wad tak' it into the village, where eggs were dear an' whiskey was cheap, an' ask the boys, "What are we gaein' to hae, rain or snaw?" Weel, I heard this same iad talkin' about ane o' his neebors (a very respectable mon, too), an' says he, "Duncan He-thune's no gude," says he; "ye might as weel bury him the noo as wait for him to dee, for he's too lazy to dae that or onything else." He was great, too, at tellin' hoo tae bring up a family, an' hoo tae keep the laddies on the farm, an' a' that kin' o' thing. He didna' hae ony laddies o' his ain, not being a marrit man, but that didna' keep him frae expressin' his opeenions on things o' this nature; an, when he got drunk enuch ye wad think he was gaein' tae bring on a second Reformation. But I maunna' tak' up ony mair o' yet time wi' yon chap. There are ithers, an' some wha dinna' meddle wi' the whiskey, either, wha are juist as gude at findin' fault wi' their neebors as he was. They'll tell ye that the place is gettin' tae be a regular hornets' nest for gossip, an' then gae on to gie ye a sample of what they can dae in that line themselves. An' it's generally a vera gude sample of its kind, too. An' while they are in the moralizing humor, they'll tell ye how there was only four or five auld maids at the prayer-meeting last week, an' religion is gaein' tae the dogs, an' no wunner, for the meenister's as dry an' lang-winded as a whistle, an' so on an' so forth; an' a' the while ye ken that the maist they'll ever dae to help the prayer-meeting will be tae stay awa' frae it.

But there's anither class o' citizens in this country o' oors that I maunna' forget tae mention, wha will fit intae this subject we hae under discussion a'richt. I dinna ken but I'll mak' trouble for mysel' by meddlin' wi' them, but I'm gaein' tae tak' the risk. Did ye ever ken a chap that had been takin' a course in some agricultural college or ither, an' wha could string aff tae ye a' the points o' a typical dairy coo, or tell ye the constituents o' the various kind o' soil, an' who at the same time had a herd o' coos that looked as though the cares an' sorrows o' this auld warl' were gaein' tae be too mony for what constitution they had, and whase "points" were sae evident that a wee bit mair an' they wad show through the hide. An', as for the soil an' its "constitution," couldna' hae been muckle better than that o' the coos, judging by the grand crops o' daisy an' mustard it produced. This is the same laddie wha will be havin' a telescope set up on three legs, an' will be rinnin' all about his farm layin' oot underdrains an' takin' the level o' his fields, but wha never gets time tae mak' onything more than an open ditch along-side some fence, wi' the ground piled up near it tae keep the water frae getting intae it. An' he kens a' about these fertilizers, too, that ye can buy for about forty or fifty dollars a ton. Of coorse, there's a muckle heap o' a fertilizer o' anither kind in his barnyard, an' he kens the value o' it, but he canna' get the time always, ye ken, tae spread it on the land. An' he'll hae his little patch o' an experiment in aits, an' anither in wheat, an' anither in tatoes; an' I'm thinkin' if he ever gets tae ken it a', it will be at the expense o' the practical pairt o' his make-up, an' at the expense o' his pocketbook, as weel.

Noo, I'm not ane o' those wha rin doon oor agricultural colleges an' Farmers' Institutes, an' that sort o' thing. Ye ken that, Mr. Editor. My idea o' the matter is that it shouldna' be a case o' Theory versus Practice, but a case o' Theory and Practice. But I hae seen sae mony men wha seemed to hae got a bill o' divorcement for these twa, that I couldna' dae less than express my mind on the subject. The theory o' farming is a vera fine thing to hae, an' there's mair that dinna ken why they dae this or that on the farm than there are that can give a reason; but, at the same time, I dinna' want tae see the mon with the theory mak' sic a poor fist o' the business that oor farmers will be afraid to gie their laddies mair o' an education than they can be gettin' on their faither's ain farm. Tae the mon wi' the correct theory, I wad say juist this, "Wark it oot." For gin ye dinna' dae this, ye pit yersel' in the same posection as the mon I took for ma text. Ye are preachin' tae ithers, an' no' takin' a word o' the sermon tae yersel'. I hae tried it, an' it will na' wark.

SANDY FRASER.

Breeders of dairy cattle, and particularly of Holsteins, have grounds for hearty congratulations in the splendid success of Geo. Rice's dispersion sale, at Tillsonburg, when seventy-five head of registered Black and Whites, of all ages, from calldhood upwards, averaged \$181.14, thirty head going at \$200 or over; while a smaller, less noted, and more recently-acquired stock of 28 Ayrshires, including five-dollar calves, realized the creditable average of \$95, one cow bringing \$510. When it is remembered that these breeds are seldom or never kept as rich men's hobbies, but that the values are based upon intrinsic producing capacity and propotency, the figures are all the more gratifying.