

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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AND N. W. T.

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that high christian character and undoubted integrity which above all should be possessed by the leading figure in such an institution.

The Professor of Animal Husbandry will also require to be a man well fitted to do good work. A graduate of some agricultural college, and specialist in live stock, he will require to be, and if he has taken post-graduate work and shown ability as a successful teacher of others, so much the better. In regard to being familiar with conditions in Manitoba, that, too, would be a valuable acquisition, and render his services in general as a member of the staff of much more value. He will, of course, be called out frequently to judge at shows and lecture on live stock at farmers' meetings, and, hence, cannot have too great a knowledge of the Province, the people and their ambitions.

The Professor of Dairying will, likewise, require to be well equipped in a scientific and practical way for the work. He, too, will require to have taken a complete course in some first-class institution, and carry papers that will show him qualified to rank with the best of his class on the continent. In horticulture and forestry the same qualifications will be necessary, and the appointment of these men should be carried out in such a manner that forever after quacks would know enough to not apply.

To get first-class lecturers, such as described, fair salaries will have to be paid, but it will be money well spent, and those who come under their teaching will return to the country's benefit one hundredfold.

Grain Insured on the Track.

The matter in dispute between the grain trade and the railway companies, as to the responsibility for grain on the track within one hundred feet of the company's elevators at Fort William and Port Arthur, has been settled as far as the C.P.R. is concerned. Official notification has been given that hereafter insurance will include the one-hundred foot limit. This provision was in force up to the time the railway companies undertook to insure the grain stored in their elevators, but of late doubt has existed in some quarters regarding the safety of grain in cars waiting to be unloaded.

Exhibition Reform and the Dominion Exhibition.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

It must be gratifying to your readers to see that the subject of the Dominion Exhibition for Winnipeg, first suggested in your columns, is now being so enthusiastically taken up, and it is to be hoped the matter will not be allowed to go to sleep. Whether it will be possible to carry out the scheme in 1905 remains to be seen, but the Exhibition Board, the Board of Trade, and the citizens generally, certainly have their work cut out for them if the result is to be worthy of the Prairie City and of the Dominion. What about accommodation for visitors? For the last two years all the fine promises of catching up with the demand for houses for permanent residents have utterly failed. We do not always ride when we don our spurs; and it would be fatal to Winnipeg if, through undue haste, its first Dominion Exhibition should prove a failure. Meantime, the matter is in good hands—may all success attend their efforts.

Regarding reforms in our annual fair, which we are all anxious to see taking the lead, it is satisfactory to find the subject is being considered by your readers. Whatever may be the nineteenth century prejudices of "L. D. H." in favor of antiquated roundabouts and un-questionable "attractions," the statements published in the city papers as to attendance and drawings at the 1903 exhibition show a distinct falling off, while individual expressions of opinion by regular attenders of previous years certainly did not go to show that the exhibition was keeping pace with the expansion of Western Canada. And we are not going to be content with a show "as good as the last"; we must and will have it better than ever.

There was no intention of "comparing" Winnipeg with Glasgow, the exhibition there being cited only as the latest example of an up-to-date and successful show; but in time even the Chicago of the Northwest will doubtless be able to give the Scottish commercial metropolis points on exhibition work—as in other things. Meantime, Winnipeg might safely take a leaf out of Glasgow's book, as to the best methods of organizing and of attracting public attention to the fair.

"L. D. H.'s" remarks anent the prize money offered for horse-racing, show that he is in favor of this particular form of "attraction," not in the spirit of the sportsman, but merely as a "draw" to attract crowds and horse owners, who come more for the purses than for the honors of the track. Our own contention was simply that a race-meeting would be more fitting apart from an "industrial" exhibition, and that prize money should have less attraction than awards for merit.

It is a little difficult to understand the attitude of "L. D. H." as he demurs to the mere fact of the totally inadequate accommodations of the present exhibition being mentioned by another, while he himself admits the truth of the statement. The surest way to improve our exhibition is to frankly face our shortcomings, while the worst possible thing we can do is to shut our eyes to obvious deficiencies, and, ostrich-like, bury our heads in the sands of prejudice. We are all anxious to see the Winnipeg Exhibition go on and flourish, and it is difficult to imagine that there are many like "L. D. H." in love with the antiquated side-shows and glorified barrel-organs, even if they are supposed to be engaged at an extravagant cost. And does "L. D. H." really believe we would curtail the pleasure of the children? Not for a Dominion! What we want is a bigger roundabout, and a very much better roundabout—one worth a dozen of the wretched rattletrap and the ill-greased hurdy-gurdy we generally see. The children! Yes, by all means, let us cater for them, if we should please nobody else! It is the children of the present generation who are to benefit by the exhibitions of to-day. Your correspondent has either read very carelessly, or we have expressed our views very badly indeed, if he has failed to gather that all the points raised were only a few on which suggestions for improvements might be afforded, and he would much better serve the association by pointing out other and better means of attracting

visitors to the show. Because the exhibition has been successful in the past—thanks to good management and liberal support—that, surely, is no reason for allowing it to drift astern while other shows are forging ahead.

As to the classes of exhibits available; it sounds like nonsense to say that the management cannot secure whatever they desire. The offers of the Manufacturers' Association, if they mean anything at all, indicate that exhibits of the highest educational value are at the service of the Winnipeg Industrial, and the board can have anything they wish by offering the necessary facilities and encouragement to producers. The idea of having the exhibition in connection with the proposed suburban park is an excellent one, if it can be accomplished—which is certainly doubtful.

L. S. L.

Cultivated Grasses for the Range.

The cultivated grasses are gradually beginning to find a place on the range. This is largely the result of immigration, which is limiting the once almost boundless grazing grounds of the ranchman. Brome grass, Western rye grass, and timothy, wherever conditions are passably favorable, give a much heavier yield both of hay and pasture per acre than the natural prairie covering. The "passing of the range" is not altogether a curse, although many would lead us to believe such to be the case.

Where the soil is very gravelly, the land rolling, and the rainfall light, the natural prairie grass can scarcely be excelled, and under these conditions much larger areas are required to maintain a given herd. Then it is that crowding begins, with its ruinous effects, alike to the original ranchmen and to the newcomer, who, seeing his predecessor's prosperity, thought that by locating near him, and following his methods, like results necessarily would become his portion. Where cultivated grasses can be grown successfully, whether through irrigation or otherwise, the same amount of crowding is not injurious. In most cases of this kind considerable grain growing forms part of the system, and this again makes it possible for a larger number of stock to be kept per acre. Many of the large ranchers say that a reasonable number of homesteaders are welcomed by them, instead of the reverse, which is commonly believed. With the influx of population, a greater abundance of well-saved winter fodder is assured, and as long as summer pasturage can be had within 20 or 30 miles their business is not hampered, and the country, as a whole, is greatly benefited.

Ranchmen require to put up hay as a safeguard against the storms of winter, and formerly this was done only on a very limited scale; the broad prairie, with its "dried winter fodder," being chiefly depended upon, and not the nourishing, savory hay from a stack put up at the proper time. Former conditions are gradually being abandoned, however, but not always through choice, yet in some cases where the change made is partially compulsory, direct gains are realized, and the same can be said, we believe, where the cultivated grasses have been introduced.

Poultry Raising Should be Encouraged.

"We have the very finest poultry-raising country in the world," writes a prominent Manitoba poultryman, "and the Provincial Government ought to give the industry every encouragement. Through it waste material of the farm, which now produces nothing, can be made to bring a large revenue. Farmers are all anxious to make money, and all that is needed is a competent instructor to attend the various Institute meetings and demonstrate the profits from poultry. If no such instructor is available locally, one should be brought in; by all means a good man should be obtained. Throughout the United States last year the amount realized for poultry aggregated \$400,000,000.00."

The Secretary of the Northwest Grain-dealers' Association, according to his last report, estimates the wheat crop of this country for the present year at 50,000,000 bushels; oats, 40,198,500; barley, 11,319,700; and flax, 581,750.

The Lumber

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