

and there isn't a country on earth where "the wife and children" enter so largely into the leading thought of the seat of government. Elsewhere in this issue the woman's part in the general house-keeping is dealt with; here are a few passages from the activities of the coming men and women who in the short space of a single

work of the Extension Service men. It puts new life into the judges and others connected with this work to note the interest taken in it by the children and their parents."

Another adds to his report: "Many farmers told me personally that they left their plowing and threshing to attend the

lads and lassies. The Neepawa manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce advanced the necessary money to the children, who wished to borrow so as to pay cash for the pigs last spring, which they intended to feed up for the pig raising contest. The Virden manager of the same bank also decided to promote as far as he could the local pig raising enterprise. After seeing the Extension Department, he enlarged the idea and used his energy in promoting the organization of Boys' and Girls' Clubs in connection with the various schools of the district. He visited all the schools once or more frequently to explain the objects of the club movement and to encourage teachers and pupils to do their best. This gentleman also wrote numerous letters and conducted a special department in the local newspaper—all of which did its part towards the success of the

appearance and weight were remarkable, showing what can be done 'even by children' through systematic care and feeding. Grace Hurley deserves the greatest credit for the way in which she had looked after her hog during the summer."

At Rathwell, "the strongest and most interesting feature of the fair was the pig and calf-raising contest. There were three (all really fine) entries for pigs, a girl winning with a pig six months and two days old, weighing 295 pounds. Four sturdy calves were put before the judges, this time a boy winning with a calf of four months and thirteen days and weighing 452 pounds.

Under the Baldur report we find: "It has often been urged that education as usually conducted is not practical enough. This is certainly an ultra practical system. Every pupil knew what he or she and all other



Some of the Potato Prize Winners at Dauphin sit in the front row

decade from now will have a preponderating weight in the common council of the state.

The archives of the Extension Department of Manitoba Agricultural College are loaded with wonderful records of the work of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs, but the mere tabulating of these on a printed page would never suffice to tell the story in such a way that it would hit home and accomplish its purpose. A few effective pictures will do more than miles of type to visualize the real spirit of the thing at work with its fine young energy of flesh and blood.

Can any man or woman look into the faces of those girls, those keen intelligent young daughters of Canada and remain unmoved or indifferent as to what his or her responsibility is towards the future of this country, beginning with the little platoon of the home circle? The spirit and the act of the living present is the determining factor. How are we handling our own boys and girls? The question has been asked again and again in these pages and we return to it because there can be nothing at home or abroad that so vitally concerns us.

It is more than refreshing to read some of the reports of the judges and others employed by the Extension Department to attend the Boys' and Girls' Annual Shows. One man writes, "The club fair is one of the bright spots in the yearly routine

young peoples' club fair, a sacrifice they would not have made for their own." While we would not encourage the slightest weakening towards the older institution, we recognize that nothing a man can do will more abundantly repay him in the fullest sense of the word than any thought or encouragement bestowed upon the boys and girls.

Manitoba leads our Western provinces in this fine work and the cumulative results are worth taking note of. Reports were not sent in from every exhibition held but casting up the figures from those that did reach headquarters, something like 22,250 entries of all sorts were made in 1916 in Manitoba and the aggregate attendance was conservatively estimated at over 30,000.

Here is a little touch of astute business with some heart in it and a proper appreciation of just what there "is to" all this excitement in the ranks of the school



The girls in the picture have won prizes in calf rearing

scheme in the splendid results shown at the local fair.

As specimen "reports," we take from under the heading of Gilbert Plains: "Potatoes, hogs, poultry were the chief subjects of competitive effort. The potatoes were the finest ever shown at any fair in this district. Hogs both in

pupils were doing and how they were doing it." Of necessity, this is a case where the Education Department and the purely agricultural function come in direct touch and have a common interest and business responsibility.

It seems that as the Department of Education has before it

(in the big open country, at all events) the business of giving these fine young people of the province an education which will make them the best equipped farmers and farmers' wives that can be made of such promising brawn and brain, this department should have as much to do in encouraging and fostering these stock and crop raising contests as its purely agricultural colleague.

The particular institution of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs in Manitoba is only four years old, yet



Gladstone Class at work—Articles made by them are displayed on the wall