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THOUGHTS ON THE NEW-YEAR.

Time rolls on, and when this reaches the eyes of the readers of the "Journal" another year will have gone, and soon another Century will be numbered with the past. And what a glorious epoch the century just ending has been. What a privilege to have lived in it. Never in the world's history has such progress been made in all that concerns the amelioration of the condition of mankind religiously, morally and socially.

The arts and sciences have been developed in an extraordinary degree. Education and literature have become popular, and have by their improved moral tone and tendency revolutionized society. But what concerns the readers of this paper most is the fact that Agriculture has kept pace with improvements in other respects; and from being a mere muscular occupation of drudgery and guess-work, successful farming has been elevated to a place amongst the sciences, the principles of which are capable of demonstration and adaptation in all our daily practice. I do not aver that every farmer must be able to define all the abstruse theories of his calling, but the more he knows of them, the more likely he will be to make his work remunerative, and even if he has not had the advantages of education to enable him to study them closely, he can, at least, observe the practice of his neighbours, who have done so, and copy, when he sees good results have been achieved.

The opening of the New Year seems full of promise of encouragement for the Canadian farmer. When we take a retrospect of the last year we find that, generally speaking, the crops have been fairly good, and the demand for most kinds of farm produce, although at low prices, has been steadily improving; and we must remember too that although our products are cheap almost everything which we have to buy is equally cheap. Again, the proposition to place our Dairy, Orchard, and others products upon the markets of the old world in good condition, by means of quick transit and cold storage, is being adopted and is most encouraging.

The action of the Federal and all the Provincial Executives, backed by the home authority, is in favor of giving Agriculture in Canada a fair chance to develop itself. This is not a question of party, but of such general and wide spread importance that no party can ignore its claims or neglect them. All well know that the future of what will soon be a great country depends, at the present moment, on the successful development of its agricultural resources, notwithstanding the querulous outcry of some who allow party prejudice to induce them to find fault with the action of their opponents, be it good or bad, and to look upon all money, spent upon farm education as a waste of the public funds.

Neither would these gentlemen have to find fault with the amount expended for Farmer's clubs, could they witness the advance made where these clubs exist. What has increased the volume

of our farm exports and thus brought money to our shores? What has caused the farmer to be more contented, more persevering, more energetic, and therefore a more useful member of the body politic? What but the encouragement given and the newer impulse awakened by the means above alluded to? Yes, the Canadian farmer is working with more zeal, more determination, and better success, and will continue to do so the more he is urged and encouraged.

Another encouragement to the Canadian farmer is that our products are looked upon with a greater degree of favour in the Mother Country and there is a growing disposition to receive them. The public discriminate in our behalf (1) and are anxious that we should keep up the standard of excellence so as to be able to compete successfully with other colonies, and outstrip the importations from foreigners, thus maintaining the unity of the Empire, and remembering that although toiling in a comparatively new country we are "bone of their bone and flesh of their flesh."

The outlook for us this glad New Year's tide is bright according to all signs, let us brighten it still more by trust in Providence, and faithful discharge of duties as they present themselves, let us begin the year with a renewed effort, commence keeping a strict record of all our transactions both financially and with regard to all operations. Plan our work ahead and perform it methodically, see that our buildings are well constructed to insure the comfort of the stock, and attend to the economical preservation and accumulation of the manure, a point more neglected than any other, be careful and thorough in the tilling of our land, the destruction of weeds, noxious insects and fungous diseases, selection of suitable seeds; ever remembering that time lost can never be recalled, and that whatsoever our hands find to do we must do it with our might. Let business be our first earthly consideration; not however to the exclusion of proper recreation: "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

Let the old be not content to walk in the old rut, and say: "Oh what was right for my Grandfather is right for me", but let him adopt all that he finds good in modern methods. Above all let us give all the encouragement we can to our youths, who propose to adopt farming as a profession, to study well and use all the opportunities they enjoy, making up their minds to be proficient when the time comes for them to practise, just as they would if they had learned any other trade or profession. Teaching them, that, if well prosecuted, farming is as honorable, lucrative and worthy a calling as they can follow, and more conducive to domestic happiness than many others.

If we begin the year with these resolves and carry them out with an earnest purpose, we shall reap the reward of those who have done their duty, however humble that duty may be in the satisfaction, that we, while earning an honest living, have contributed to the good of others, and in some small degree to the progress and happiness of those who shall take our places in the century which is dawning upon us.

GEO. MOORE.

(1) Very doubtful indeed!—Ed.

The Dairy.

THE LONDON DAIRY SHOW.

Mr. J. McLean Smith makes the following summary of the more salient points in the voluminous reports in our English exchanges:

The recent London Dairy show was the largest and most successful ever held. There were 108 entries in the milk and butter tests, but these are largely duplicates. The regular tests of the association are decided by chemical analysis; but in addition to these there are special tests for Shorthorns, Jerseys and mixed breeds in which the churn is used and commercial butter made.

The chemical tests are not yet to hand, but in the special tests, decided by the churn, there were 17 Shorthorns tested, 30 Jerseys, and 14 of other breeds—4 Guernseys, 3 Red Polls, 5 Ayrshires, 2 Holsteins, and 3 Cross-bred. As usual the Shorthorns far excel in yield and is the only breed that shows over 3 pounds of butter from 24 hours milk. (1) Two of the Shorthorns do this; one with a yield of 3 pounds, 2 ounces from 46 pounds, 14 ounces of milk; (2) the other with 3 pounds, 1 ounce butter from 55 pounds, 12 ounces of milk. Of the 17 Shorthorns tested, all but one gave over 40 pounds of milk in one day; 14 gave over 15 pounds; 11 gave 50 pounds, or over; and one exceeded 70 pounds. In butter, 7 made over 2 pounds each; 14 made over 1½ pounds each; and the lowest was 1 pound, 7 ounces.

Of the 30 Jerseys the largest yield of milk was 47 pounds, 10½ ounces and it also made the largest yield of butter—2 pounds, 10½ ounces. Only 3 Jerseys exceeded 40 pounds in yield of milk; and only 7 exceeded 2 pounds in yield of butter; 5 of the Jerseys, however, were 2 years old and all of the Shorthorns were mature cows. Confining comparisons to mature cows—4 years old or over—there were 21 Jerseys. Of these 6 made over 2 pounds of butter each; 13 made over 1½ pounds and 2 less than 1 pound.

It is odd, but the richest milk of all the 61 cows tested, was from a Red Poll. She gave an insignificant quantity, only 9 pounds, 6 ounces, but it made 12¾ ounces of butter—a pound of butter to 11.76 pounds of milk. The only other cow in the test making a pound of butter from less than 15 pounds of milk was a Jersey, showing a pound of butter to 14.88 pounds of milk. The Red Poll was 127 days in milk and the Jersey 172 days.

Leaving out this nearly dry Red Poll, I find the 4 Guernseys tested, averaged 22½ days in milk and gave an average of 31 pounds, 14½ ounces, which made 1 pound, 4¼ ounces of butter. Two Red Polls, milking 66½ days, averaged 10 pounds, ¾ ounce, which made 1 pound 11½ ounces of butter. Two Ayrshires, milking 23½ days, averaged 48 pounds 2¼ ounces of milk and 2 pounds, 3¾ ounces of butter. Two Holsteins milking 77 days, averaged 54 pounds, 11¾ ounces milk and 1 pound, 4¾ ounces of butter.

Mr. Smith omits to comment, as do all the writers on the other side, so far

(1) The udder of the Dairy Short-horn, in the Nov. number, comes out badly in the original. A glance at her portrait will at once show any one how very much this kind differ from the "Booth and Bates Shorthorns.—Ed.

(2) About 1 lb. butter from 16 lbs. milk.—Ed.