

Book Review.

"MOST EVERYTHING."

"The Call of the Land" is the somewhat vague title of a miscellaneous collection of chapters, lacking continuity, on topics of interest to farmers, ranging all the way from "The Farmstead Beautiful" to "Medicine and Morals," with "Socialism," "The Country School," "The Beef Supply," etc., sandwiched between. Several of them had appeared previously in various American periodicals. Anecdotes and quotations are freely used, giving a popular turn to serious subjects on which naturally the author, E. B. Andrews, Chancellor Emeritus of the University of Nebraska, being a Ph. D., D. D., and LL. D., of observation and experience, contrives to say a good many sensible things, but occasionally in rather sententious, slap-dash style. The illustrations, some of which are admirably executed, sustain the miscellaneous character of the book by varying from Hereford cattle to college professors. It is published in the usual good form of the Orange Judd Co. Price \$1.65, postage prepaid.

A NEW CATECHISM.

"A Catechism of Agriculture" is a commendable variation from the usual type of books dealing with the science and practice of farming. Originally prepared for a school journal, many thousand copies were subsequently issued in pamphlet form for teachers and others, and, being revised and improved for the more permanent book form of nearly 100 pages, will still be popular. Persons unfamiliar with the terminology of agriculture will find it most helpful; and busy farmers will like its terseness. By thirteen questions and answers, in the first chapter, agriculture as an art, science and business is defined, and its relationship, stated. Later chapters cover soil, plant, crop, animal, dairy, and farm management in the same way. The most important thing a farmer can do is defined in two words—"keep books." How many are doing that? There are some bright illustrations, but Canadians will smile at an old-time two-horse walking plow being labelled "Fall plowing on an up-to-date grain farm," or at seeing a showy Ayrshire cow described as a "handsome Holstein." Prof. T. C. Atkeson, animal husbandry department, West Virginia University, and D. W. Working, U. S. Department Agriculture, are the authors, and the Orange Judd Co. the publishers. Price, postage prepaid through this office, 55 cents.

MANURING.

About thirty years ago the Orange Judd Co. published a book called "Talks on Manures," by Jacob Harris, of "Moreton Farm," Rochester, N. Y. This year they have issued another "Farm Manures," by Chas. E. Thorne, director of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station. In view of all the research and experiment of the three decades, there is ample warrant for the new work, and Prof. Thorne has done his work well. Farmers and students have now before them accumulating knowledge of thirty years. We have a copy of the old book at hand, and must say, while there has been great gain in information and accuracy of statement, we certainly miss the entertaining style of the Joseph Harris conversation with "The Deacon" and other real, progressive farmers of that day. And the chapter by Sir J. B. Lawes, of Rothamstead, Eng., on "Restoring Fertility to the Soil," is good to re-read. The old book laid stress on the importance of rotting or fermenting manure for a few months, but a better way of conserving it is now taught. The new book adds—"Of all the ways in which manure is handled, the old way of piling it in small heaps in the field is the most wasteful." The manure spreader is praised for its convenience, perfection and the economy of its work, and it ranked "next to the automatic harvester in importance as a farm implement." The author has drawn freely on the result of the valuable work done by F. T. Shutt, at the Central Experiment Farm, Ottawa, and the conclusions in the later chapter of the book we believe reflect the best practice of America as

well as the scientific research up to the present time; but there are problems yet unsolved regarding the full, immediate and residual value of manures, and their action in the soil. The book does not undertake to deal comprehensively with commercial fertilizers. Price, postage prepaid, \$1.65.

Gossip.

SOMETHING NICE IN SHORTHORNS.

At Toronto Exhibition parties interested in high-class Shorthorns will be well repaid in looking up the exhibit of Jas. A. Watt, of Salem, Ont., as several of the entries are the get of the renowned champion, Imp. Gainford Marquis, and certainly are of a quality to stamp him as one of the greatest sires ever imported to Canada. Among the lot will be a pair of young bulls, one a roan ten months old, a Marr Roan Lady. Another is a roan seven months old, a Mildred. They are a pair of thick, smooth young bulls, beautifully fleshed. Then there will be several heifers of superior quality and finish that will certainly be pleasing to look over. The exhibit will be headed by the present stock bull, Imp. Gainford Victory, whose vast improvement since coming to the country will surely surprise the critics. Mr. Watt will be pleased to see all interested in Shorthorns. Look up his exhibit.

Charles E. Thorne, director of the Ohio Experiment Station, in concluding a discussion on "Planning for fertility, maintenance," says:—

"It is very true that the successful management of live stock requires ability of a much higher order than is necessary for fertilizer farming; to know how to buy and how to feed involves judgment, training and practical experience, and even the most skillful stockman would sometimes find that he would have done temporarily better if he had sold his crops instead of feeding them; but, in the long run, there can be no question that the farmer who understands and practices the keeping of live stock, and the production, preservation and the use of manure, will secure a very much better income from the land, whether he owns it or rents it, than the one who depends upon chemical fertilizers alone for the maintenance of the fertility of the soil; while, as for the farmer who undertakes to take everything from the land without making any restitution, his liberty will eventually be taken from him, and he will become the servant of wiser men, either on the farm or elsewhere."

TOPPERS IN "DODDIES" AND OXFORD DOWNS.

Breeding from a herd of females, practically every one of which was a prize-winner at either Toronto, London, Ottawa or Guelph, and from a sire that won first at Denver, Nebraska, Chicago and London, and second at Toronto, the high standard of excellence, quality and remarkable uniformity of the herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, owned by T. B. Broadfoot, of Fergus, Ont., is certain proof of the adage, "Like begets Like," and that in live stock breeding the top can only be gained by the use of toppers for breeding operations. This is certainly one of the nicest little herds in Ontario. On blood lines they represent the Mayflowers, Corskies, Keepsake, Favorite and Prides, and, taking cognizance of numbers, it is probably the strongest in prize-winners of any herd in the country. Just now on hand are four young bulls about ten months old as near alike as four peas, and every one a right good one, evenly fleshed, deep, level and full of quality. Just so in heifers from three years old down to as many months. Parties looking for the choicest kind of breeding or show stock, will find something to please them in the herd. A representative exhibit will be at Toronto exhibition, where interested parties will be welcome. In Oxford Downs there are for sale, ram lambs, shearling and ewe lambs.

Moulton College, Toronto, Ont., will open for the fall term September 10th instead of September 11th, as has been advertised.



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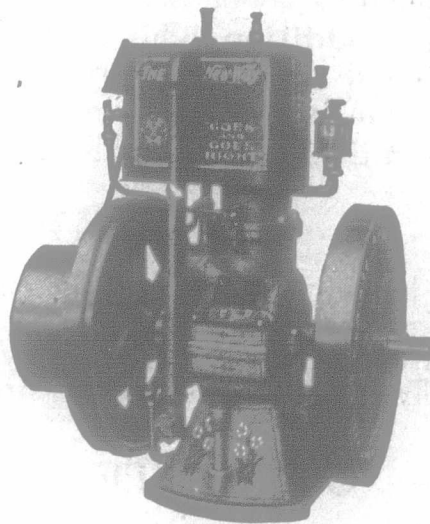
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