

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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DOMINION.

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of the more noxious weeds that a corn crop is useful, but also the destruction of those not classed as such, for instance, pigweed, foxtail and other annuals which occur at the same season, ought not to be overlooked. These, though comparatively innocuous, are often in such numbers as to form a mat about the stalks of grain, and seriously lessen the yield. The preparation of land before corn is planted brings the soil into fine condition for starting seeds, and during that time, and at each succeeding cultivation, the tiny plantlets of these weed annuals are annihilated in countless myriads. A very important point in regard to the cleaning of land by means of a crop of corn or roots, is the fact that the cost of the repeated cultivations by which weeds are destroyed is more than made up in the increase of the crop which results from such attention.

A WORD TO THE WISE.

Several people have written to thank us for publishing the index and sending every subscriber a copy. They think it will be much appreciated. It is a pleasure to furnish the index when we know it is of value, but we take this occasion to remind our friends that, to make the index useful, they should be careful to preserve every copy of the paper complete. It is our intention to continue publishing the index at the conclusion of each half-year's volume, in the hope that it will not only save money for our subscribers, but save us the necessity of answering the same questions several times a year, as we have often had to do in the past.

GOOD VALUE IN EVERYTHING.

The receipt of your splendid brochure, *Knowledge to-day, strengthens my belief that a knowledge of the value of things is the best basis for your office.* Accept best wishes for the success of your enterprise. R. J. MESSING, Annapolis Co., N. S.

OUR MARITIME LETTER.

The Provincial Conference in New Brunswick, on the question of Forestry, called for the month of February, and duly convened in the capital of the Province, Fredericton, should, even if all desirous of attending it or invited so to do, could not participate, be productive of some substantial good to the important cause represented. The Government of New Brunswick, at the request, no doubt, of the progressive Surveyor-General, who attended the National Council at Ottawa last year, gave the Conference full recognition, and the Premier and his colleagues were in constant attendance. Supt. Stewart, President of the Canadian Forestry Association for over a year, who has recently resigned the high position of Dominion Forester to take up new and better-paying duties with some Western Lumber concern, represented official forestry there. Several professors and lumbermen from the neighboring Republic also attended; and New Brunswick was well to the front in all the work undertaken.

Forestry should be a great concern to New Brunswick, entering so largely as it does into her revenue-bringing resources. Without the taxes of one sort or another flowing from it, and collected most assiduously, it would have been exceedingly difficult long ago to make ends approach each other at all in the Province. Still, it must be said that, unlike some other Governments, that of New Brunswick early awakened to some concern for the better perpetuation of this source of public wealth. Acts were passed long years ago to effect this, but they were more or less speculative; the practical only reached the statute-book in these latter days. At the last session of the Provincial Parliament, but one, a public return, stated that the Crown Lands of the Province amounted to ten thousand square miles, and that their value was steadily advancing on account of the scarcity of lumber everywhere and the increasing demand for it, and a committee of the Executive Council was appointed to examine into and report, under the direction of the Surveyor-General, on the surveying and classification of these lands; also to describe the character of the lumber upon them; to report upon the growing capabilities of the different species of timber, and its accessibility to streams; to examine the water sources, and declare what might be necessary to their continual flow in dry seasons; to describe the character of the lands, with a view to their adaptability or non-adaptability to culture, and also to examine and report upon all the licenses already issued to lumbermen. The report of this Committee has not yet come to hand, but it will, no doubt, greatly influence the course of Governmental action in the Province; for, as we said above, not only is this interest of great public value, because of the immense cut of lumber required yearly for Maritime purposes, but the lumber and wood products exported to Great Britain and the southern Republics yearly has long brought into local coffers a fabulous sum of money. Of course, the forest of our sister Province, like all the other Provinces, is gradually diminishing, and this by fires, notwithstanding legal enactments, as well as private exploitation. The great Miramichi fire of '27 consumed more timber at one stroke than all the other vandal axes of the century put together.

It is to be hoped that too much time will not be consumed in the preliminaries to a proper preservation policy. We had a great Conference at Ottawa a year ago; everybody brought his most serious consideration to bear on this great national subject. Resolutions which registered the findings of that august body were passed and handed in to the Government. Indeed, Sir Wilfrid and Earl Grey were present, and more deeply interested than any. It was thought that a policy as to our forests, based on these resolutions, would have been brought quickly forward. Nothing but the extension of reserves in the West has followed, and it looks not a little as if the powers imagine that their work is done. We really have no forestry policy. It is not necessary to iterate the many vital interests which cry out for it without delay. Canada requires a man at the head of a departmental division who understands every phase of this great work from its Alpha to its Omega—some one who, from the watch-towers of the nation, can see the whole field of our national

opportunities, not merely in a Federal sense, but also as they affect the divisions of the Federation, and who knows how to put his ideas of development and perfectionment into practice. We want a National Forester without delay, and the fact that the present Superintendent has thought fit to seek in private service the emoluments which the public refused, should be the golden opportunity offered to the Administration of establishing and equipping a forestry system for Canada, the equal if not the superior of any in the world. We have had enough talk; all affect interest and conviction on this point; let us have the work before it is too late. A. E. BURKE.

MORE PLEASURE IN EARNING THAN IN POSSESSION.

Material welfare consists not in having what we want, or think we want, but in the getting of it. The humble home, which, in its possession, its outward embellishment and its interior furnishing, represents the thought, interest and effort of its inmates, means far more joy and happiness to them than the costliest palace thrust upon a prince. The man who builds and furnishes a home step by step, adding a carpet now, and then a mantel, and later on a piano, builds a home that is a creation of his ambition, an object of his pride. With each new touch comes a new thrill of satisfaction. Millionaires delight more in the acquisition than in the possession of wealth, as evidenced by the efforts they put forth to get rid of it. The millionaire is an example to us—also a warning. His wealth is often due to the fact that he pursues money with an intensity of purpose that fastens itself upon him as an incurable disease. It is a mania from which he cannot escape. Seeking to do so, he finds that, during the years of youth, maturity and age, his finer sensibilities have remained dormant for want of use. His ambition, his appreciation, his efficiency, have centered on money-making, to the partial or total sacrifice of the other faculties of his nature. Late in life, perhaps, he tries to broaden out, but finds it very hard. The enthusiasm of youth is gone. He can take interest only in the making of money, and when he gets it, his greatest care is to dispose of it. What monumental folly! How much better to be content with less possessions, but store up treasure in the mind and soul, to do some good in the world, and to live a full-orbed life. Millionaires are missionaries, who, by example, teach us the misery of striving after riches and the wisdom of enjoying what we have, seeing that more pleasure comes from the culture of a cherished flower-bed or a tree than from the mere ownership of a conservatory or a park.

TIMBER SUPPLIES MEASURABLY NEAR EXHAUSTION.

It is estimated by the authorities at Washington that, of all kinds of timber, there are cut annually forty billions of board feet, and that at the present rate of going the available timber supply in the United States will be exhausted in fifty years. Already American lumbermen and experts are casting calculating glances at Canada's supply. All this has its lesson for us. Not only should every Canadian Province adopt a careful and farsighted timber policy to conserve our standing forests and provide for their renewal when cut, but the farmer with a wood-lot will do well to give heed, for the day is coming when every acre of useful hardwood, and even the softer timber, will be valued not only by the dollar but by the hundreds of dollars. Farm forestry is going to prove a better investment than the shrewdest of us realize to-day. Those who have wood-lots on their farms will do well to fence them off and keep stock out of them for ten or twelve years at least, till the young growth gets a start. Those who have no bush, but some acres of light or hilly land, may well consider the advisability of planting it to wood crops. To encourage to assist in reforestation such lands, which in many cases should never have been cleared, the Ontario Government has established a tree nursery, in charge of the Forestry Department, at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. The Government offers to supply the trees and expert advice free, the applicant paying