

# Farmer's Advocate

## and Home Journal

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### EDITORIAL

Turn weed roots up to the sun before the seeds are formed.

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A good day's work on the farm cannot be gotten by starting at nine a.m.

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Judges are not infallible, but generally speaking they do their best and do it conscientiously.

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If the homesteader would be comfortable during the short days of winter, he must needs hustle during the long days of summer.

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Explain to the children at the fairs the nature of the exhibits and combine education with pleasure.

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The properly plowed fireguard is the homesteader's best insurance against loss of home and chattels.

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Man alone on the prairie is at best a poor thing, incomplete and practically homeless as long as he is wifeless.

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With fast boats on the St. Lawrence route neither Canada or Great Britain need to send mail to and from each country via U. S. ports.

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A first-class opportunity to study Clydesdale character will be afforded in the horse ring at the Winnipeg Industrial about 10 a.m. on Tuesday July 24. Be there!

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'Beware of the deacon', does not refer to our blackcoated, church-going brother, but to the calf, who in a gaudy tin suit masquerades as potted chicken.

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Never before have we felt so sympathetic for the hen-men, the packers have been found guilty of substituting a bovine Jacob for a white meated Esau.

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If you can manage it let the pigs have the run of one part of the rape patch at a time, when eaten off, turn on to the unused portion, so that that used may have time to recuperate.

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The coming of so many well-brought-up old country people will likely have a leavening effect on the home life of the country. They have repose, good manners, a healthier dietary and better control of children than have many of the native born.

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A reduction in the British postal rates will give Canadians a chance to get a few magazines untainted with un-British sentiments. The majority of publications coming from the other side of the international boundary are so redolent of contradictions, as to be amusing were such not also pitiable. On one page we read a sentence to the effect that 'we are the greatest people under the sun,' which might be continued by reason of the subject matter on the next page, for trusts, graft and drugs. 'Save imperialism' might be applied to cheap postage between Canada and the motherland. It is not good sense to feed the younger minds of the community with the trash that finds its way across the border, and which quite frequently takes a fling at some of our cherished ideals, British institutions.

### Attach Yourself to the Soil.

It has been our privilege to observe very much of western life, character and habits, and there is one trait that stands out with very marked prominence which we regret. It has to do with the relationship of a man to his land. This relationship obtrudes itself upon one, for, every man we meet who is not aware of our mission in his particular community makes us an offer of the best half section in the best district of this glorious golden west. We have so many offers of this kind that we feel certain real estate companies could make good use of our services, if they could obtain them, as a sort of appendix to their regular efforts. Our complaint is not of the man who has too much land and wishes to reduce, nor of him who has accomplished his work and feels that he must relax his hold upon the land, nor of him who seeks a change of climate, but of the young, strong, intelligent man who would sell his farm chiefly because he can get so much more in cash than he considers it cost him in time and labor and would like to draw his wages so to speak.

Naturally this man might say to us that this is none of our business. Perhaps it is not, but journalists have come to usurp the offices formerly held by ministers and school teachers and have by custom become somewhat established as advisers to the general public, hence we say attach yourself to the farm. The one you are on may not suit your tastes, but get on to one and make it the monument of your life's work, something you can pass on to posterity with the pride of knowing you have given it your best effort and left upon it the deep imprint of your personal accomplishment.

### Recruits of the Stockmen's Fraternity.

Among the many hundreds of people who visit the fairs each year some few become seized of the idea of keeping purebred stock. This must be a fact, else why do breeders show and where do their new customers come from? Many of those who make the venture in purebred stock, keeping have had the benefit of a boyhood's experience in such work, others have passed their childhood days in the neighborhood of a farm where cattle, horses, sheep and pigs far above the average were kept and resolutely the determination to own some such stock took possession of the mind. That may have been many years ago and the time since then may have been shortened by the hope and knowledge that some day would witness the bringing home of an animal around which would be centered the hope of the family and owner. Other converts to the ranks of stock breeders come with no particular early training but find within themselves an affinity for the work and frequently a peculiar natural ability to succeed with the commercial end of the enterprise. Whatever be the source and ultimate end of the new breeder, the fact remains that he is a certain quantity and further, and this is something that concerns him personally, he comes into the fraternity very often against every influence, except his own wish to take part in what to him appears a fascinating, if not a remunerative field of work. Often his family ridicule him, unfortunate neighbors living in the dim light of ignorance of modern agricultural methods pass caustic comments calculated to prove his unbalance, his credit at the bank may be less cordial and all these things may have to be faced before the actual work of stock-breeding has begun.

For the breeder who began operations before the slump in prices, which have ruled over this western country the past few years and are only now disappearing, the experience has been hard. It has been one prolonged proof that the opinion of his friends and neighbors should have been

heeded and that if his own judgment is to be vindicated he must hold on longer. Older breeders have seen greater slumps and prices ascend again to a higher level and so are less disturbed by the markets, but rather go forward with greater faith and more patience. When the time arrives, which it surely will, when the product of the purebred flocks and herds sell for prices that will compensate for the periods of depression, there will not only be remuneration for the labor expended and the capital invested, but there will also be that mental satisfaction which comes of knowing that one has been in the fore front, that he has created and fostered standards in his community, and that as a result of his example the general average of the stock seen in his neighborhood has been raised in quality and enhanced in value.

### Law Needed to Regulate the Trade in Commercial Feeding Stuffs.

An important matter is brought before our readers in the article elsewhere on "Legislative Control of Concentrated Feeding Stuffs," by W. P. Gamble, B. S. A., Lecturer in Chemistry at the Ontario Agricultural College, and a member of the committee of three appointed by the Dominion Minister of Inland Revenue to enquire into the question. Each year we find on the market an increasing number of commercial feedstuffs of one kind and another, by-products from oatmeal mills, starch factories, breweries, distilleries, cottonseed oil and linseed-oil factories, etc. Many of these have rather high feeding value, but some few others are hardly better than hay. Samples of the same articles prepared by different firms, or even by the same firm, may vary widely, so that there can be no satisfactory general information given as to their value, and the experience a man gains in feeding one lot, is not always a reliable guide in purchasing another quantity of stuff under the same name. Even were each brand constant in composition, the number of these feeds is so great as to cause confusion in the minds of intending purchasers. Appearance is of little or no service in determining the quality of these feeds, nor is the price at which they are sold. Some are offered at much higher prices than are warranted by their composition, while others are obtainable at figures which make them very profitable to use. Usually, we believe, the most valuable ones are relatively cheaper to buy than are the poorer grades. The latter are purchased readily by the large class of people who fancy that with bulk must go value. But even if the seller knew precisely the composition of each brand, and fixed his price accordingly, the feeder would still be somewhat in the dark, for he would not know whether he was purchasing what he specially required to supplement his home-grown stuffs or not. He would not know whether he was buying a food rich in protein, and therefore adapted for growth and milk production, or one rich in carbohydrates and fat, and thus economical for fattening purposes. The composition of our staple grains and fodders is pretty well understood by intelligent farmers, but the trade in these newer mill by-products is enveloped in doubt, hence the need for special legislation to ensure that they be sold under guarantee, so the intelligent feeder may post himself as to their value. Such a law would enable us to use these feeds to better advantage; thus, in the end, it would help their sale, and go far to prevent fraud and disappointment. It would, in short, be an all-round advantage to the feeder, as well as to the honest manufacturer. In several States of the American Union the manufacturers are required by law to stamp on each packet a guaranteed analysis, giving the percentage of protein and of fat, so that anyone at all versed in the subject of feeding may readily estimate the approximate value for the purpose for which he pro-