

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).

TWO DISTINCT PUBLICATIONS—EASTERN AND WESTERN

EASTERN OFFICE:
CARLING STREET, LONDON, ONT.

WESTERN OFFICE:
IMPERIAL BANK BLOCK, CORNER BANNATYNE AVE. AND MAIN ST.,
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

BRANCH OFFICE: CALGARY, ALBERTA, N.-W. T.

LONDON (ENGLAND) OFFICE:
W. W. CHAPMAN, Agent, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street,
London, W. C., England.

JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published every Thursday (52 issues per year). It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical, reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, United States England, Ireland and Scotland, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 when not paid in advance. All other countries, 12s.
3. ADVERTISING RATES.—Single insertion, 50 cents per line agate. Contract rates furnished on application.
4. THE ADVOCATE is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrearages must be made as required by law.
5. THE LAW IS, that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrearages are paid and their paper ordered to be discontinued.
6. REMITTANCES should be made direct to this office, either by Money Order or Registered Letter, which will be at our risk. When made otherwise we will not be responsible.
7. THE DATE ON YOUR LABEL shows to what time your subscription is paid.
8. ANONYMOUS communications will receive no attention.
9. LETTERS intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
10. CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Subscribers when ordering a change of address should give the old as well as the new P. O. address.
11. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve the ADVOCATE, Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known, Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.
12. ALL COMMUNICATIONS in reference to any matter connected with this paper should be addressed as below, and not to any individual connected with the paper.

Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED),
LONDON, CANADA.

million dollars. If so, it is argued, the interest would not amount to more than the cost of the present expensive and entirely inefficient service, while the capital would be more than recouped by the increment in real-estate value. Whether the work could be actually completed for the sum estimated is open to question, but the demand for official engineers to examine and report upon the feasibility and cost of the project should commend itself to the sympathy of the country. The Government of Canada is spending money freely in developing the West, and no Eastern voice is raised in remonstrance. The Government cannot confer any substantial benefit by promoting immigration to the Maritime Provinces, but may do much to prevent emigration by well-calculated public works of this kind, and in thus promoting their commerce, rendering conditions favorable to the exploitation of their excellent natural resources, we will be not only fulfilling our national obligations, but contributing in a rational way to the prosperity of the whole Dominion, of which these Provinces are a component part.

Not Farming, But—!!!

Your "Farmer's Advocate" is well worth the subscription price, and although not doing much in the farming line, and taking more periodicals than I can profitably read, I do not like being without it.

G. A. DEACHMAN.
Huron Co., Ont.

Am well pleased with your paper, and just as anxious to see the "Farmer's Advocate" come in the house as the Toronto morning paper.

JOHN W. RYMAL.
Sherbrooke St., Toronto, Ont.

I am a subscriber for your excellent weekly. I must say it far surpasses my most sanguine expectations. I feel delighted that Canada can furnish such a journal, rich and refreshing in all that pertains to the welfare of the up-to-date farmer. Success to your peerless weekly.

JOHN WALTER BRODIE.
Glengarry, Ont.

Organization in Agriculture.

We begin in this issue of the "Farmer's Advocate" a series of articles from the pen of Mr. A. L. McCredie on the subject of co-operation among farmers. When we consider the successful and gratifying results that are commonly believed to have attended co-operation in such countries as Denmark, and, in certain cases, on this continent, there are admittedly great advantages for the farmer wrapped up in the principle of co-operation, and any helpful contributions from one who has given the subject special study will be welcomed by our readers. It is well that we get clearly in mind the proper objects and scope of co-operation, the reasons why a great many attempts have resulted in failure, the conditions of success, and the directions in which it might be advantageously applied in this country in order that the net return to the farmer for his investment of capital, labor and intelligence be enhanced and his life conditions improved. We have thought that there is probably something in the environment and inborn mental characteristics and habits of the European peasant farmer that enable him to fall in line with the co-operative system more readily than is the case with the more restless spirit of the English-speaking farmer under the less circumscribed conditions prevailing on this continent. But the farmer here is also not so wedded to old methods as the European, and he is, presumably, quick to perceive and ready to adopt plans that commend themselves to his judgment as workable and likely to improve the returns from his farming operations. We trust that Mr. McCredie's articles will be closely followed, and believe that a discriminating consideration will result in a discussion at once enlightening and stimulating, particularly at this time, when Canadian fruit-growers and others are putting the principles of co-operation to the test.

Sugar-beet Pulp Feeding Essay Competition.

A large number of excellent essays were received in the competition for prizes recently offered in the "Farmer's Advocate" for statements of experience in feeding sugar-beet pulp. About twenty-five of them were entitled to rank as possessing pronounced merit. They were, as a rule, concise and practical, and written by men who evidently knew what they were talking about. Beet pulp is a new stock food in Canada, but these articles show clearly that it is one of very decided value. Most of the experience covered but the one season, though some had used it longer, one of them, a Michigan farmer, for five years. There appears to be no serious difficulty about keeping the pulp when received from the factory. Piled in bulk inside a building it heats and ferments slightly, something like ensilage, for about three weeks or a month. Cattle like it better when fresh, but several writers consider that it improves the quality by this "curing" process, as it might be termed. At that stage, if excessively fed, stock may be given a dislike for it, but with reasonable feeding, and particularly when fresh, the animals relish it keenly. It appears to have been fed to all classes of stock, including chickens, but mostly to cattle and pigs. For milking cows and fattening steers it is highly prized. For milk production it is reported as giving a gain compared with mangels, and most of the writers valued it about equal with corn ensilage, or roots, though a few more conservative feeders put it at about one-third less. About forty pounds per day in two or three feeds appears to be about the quantity recommended for a mature cow or steer. Out of the entire list of articles, there was but one unfavorable opinion regarding the use of pulp. Summed up, the verdict must be "IT'S ALL RIGHT," as one lad (Mr. Harvey Eby, Esq.), who told of pulp-feeding on his father's farm, tersely declared. It is valued at about \$2.00 per ton in the barn, though some put it higher, and some a trifle lower. The successful competitors are as follows, two additional ones being mentioned by the judge as "highly commended," being considered almost equal to the fourth-prize award:

- 1st—Oscar Dressler, Waterloo Co., Ont.
- 2nd—James Early, Peel Co., Ont.
- 3rd—James Wilcox, Bay Co., Mich.

4th—Arthur L. Currah, Oxford Co., Ont.
H. C.—Alfred Hutchinson, Wellington Co., Ont.
H. C.—J. G. Hurst, Waterloo Co., Ont.

A Huron Co., Ont., contributor became so enthusiastic on the subject that ordinary prose ceased to be sufficiently expressive, and he boldly launched into poetry, which helped him in some ways, but probably hindered him in others, from landing a prize.

The Organization of Agriculture.

This is an age of combinations. Artizans form powerful unions. Capitalists form trusts. Manufacturers have their aggressive associations. Intelligent organization for the sake of economy and profit is characteristic of every industry, except the greatest—agriculture.

Even the farmers have organized to some extent in nearly all advanced countries, and in some their organization is more complete and efficient than that of any other. This is true only of European farmers, however, the Danes, the Germans, the Belgians and the French especially. Strangely enough, the farmers of Canada and the United States are far behind these peasants in this, perhaps the greatest factor of profit-getting.

Co-operation has been repeatedly tried in Canada, nevertheless. We have co-operative cheese factories, and our cheese industry is the greatest of its kind in the world. We have tried so-called co-operative bacon-curing, and failed. By co-operative combination the farmers broke down monopolies in binder twine, salt, etc. They have overlooked all the other directions in which railways, manufacturers and others take the lion's share of the profits of agriculture. We have witnessed the rise and decline of the Grangers and the Patrons of Industry. The Patrons of Husbandry and the Farmers' Association we still have with us. The Farmers' Institute, a modest but effective institution, the dairymen's associations, the breeders' associations, the fruit-growers' associations, are all alive and working, and will live permanently. We must admit that Canadian farmers are capable of working together where anything may be gained thereby. But we must admit that there are right and wrong ways of going about the serious business of co-operation, that must be carefully considered by those who contemplate improving matters by forming various organizations. There are so many directions in which this principle of "each for all, and all for each" may be applied with great benefit, to say nothing of those problems that can be solved in no other way, that it is worth looking at the facts of experience, at home and abroad, in order to learn what are the methods of organization that are likely to prove effective, and in order to see just where and how the farmers of Canada may profitably organize themselves, having so studied the question.

I.—THE SCOPE AND OBJECTS OF CO-OPERATION.

Briefly, the scope of co-operative organization is limited only by the widest range of the farmers' business activities. Co-operation, properly carried out, may be applied to nearly every "operation" similarly engaged in by any number of farmers, from the buying of supplies to the sale of the finished product; as, briefly, the object of co-operation is to secure the greatest profits to the farmers, by increasing production, by reducing the relative costs of production, by reducing the expenses of putting farm products in the hands of consumers, and by ensuring that the farmers shall get every possible cent of what is paid by the consumers for those products. Profits are the object—first, last, and all the time.

It may be said at once that in every possible direction in which one might say co-operation could be adopted by Canadian farmers, it has already been experimented with, and successfully, either in Canada or abroad. This will be clearly shown later. It is not mere theorizing, therefore, to outline some of those directions, and state some at least of the purposes which would be best served by co-operative organization of the farmers. These purposes are somewhat as follows:

1.—The improvement of agricultural methods by the spread of practical scientific knowledge. This is being undertaken, and with encouraging results, by the Farmers' Institutes, the Dairymen's and Fruit-growers' Associations, and others, beside being well served by the various splendid agricultural periodicals. There is little to be done in furthering this work, unless, perhaps, by increasing the membership of the institutes and associations, and the subscription lists of the periodicals.

2.—The purchase of supplies, such as implements, machinery, fertilizers, seed grains, etc. This is one of the most important objects for which the farmers could organize, as is proven by the experience of the farmers' organizations of the various European countries. Where the Canadian farmers have co-operated for this purpose, even though their system has been imperfect of method, they have benefited largely—and "a penny saved is a