

FARMING

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A Watch Free.

A gentleman's watch that we offer to any reader who will send us fifteen new yearly subscriptions to *Farming* is one that we can thoroughly recommend. It is guaranteed to be everything that the description calls for—an excellent time-keeper, solid silver, tasty looking. Read about it in our page premium advertisement elsewhere in this issue.

Farm Implement News

Special attention is directed to our farm implement department, which appears on page 320 of this number. We think everyone will agree with us that the matter it contains is practical and timely and will fill a long-felt want in the way of supplying up-to-date information on all farm machinery matters. Direct your neighbor's attention to this new feature of our paper and point out its advantages to every farmer.

Ontario's Agricultural Resources

The New Premier Announces His Policy for Their Development

There is certainly something very encouraging for the Ontario farmer in some of the remarks made by the new Premier, the Hon. Mr. Ross, in announcing his government's policy last week. We are glad indeed to note the strong position he takes in regard to the development of our agricultural resources and the importance of educating the farmer along the lines of improvement in the quality and quantity of Ontario farm products. While a great deal has been done in the past by the Local Government in developing the resources of the farm, yet there is room for more to be done along these and other lines. The farmer, to use a somewhat hackneyed phrase, "is the backbone of this country," and a new government or a new leader shows his sagacity and foresight in making the development of our agricultural resources one of the chief planks in his platform. We trust that the new premier's ardor and zeal for the farmer and his interests will not cool as the responsibilities of Government leadership grow upon him.

There was one remark of the new premier's to which we would like to direct special attention just here. He spoke of spending more money, if the finances of the province would allow it, on educational work through the farmers' institutes, the agricultural college, dairy schools, etc. In this list we think the agricultural college is deserving of first attention at the present time. This institution, existing as it does solely for the benefit of the Ontario farmer,

has now reached a position in which more money must be expended on it, and that very shortly, if it is to maintain its place and keep pace with the rapid progress that is being made in agricultural thought and teaching on this continent. The college has now reached a position of usefulness and popularity that it has never had before. During the present term there are more students in attendance than can be properly accommodated, many of them having to board at private houses in the city of Guelph and elsewhere. This condition of affairs is certainly very gratifying. But it has a serious side to it. This increased attendance and greater demand for knowledge along agricultural lines necessitates the enlargement of the college buildings and an increase in the staff and its teaching power. This is something we think that should occupy the attention of the new Government at the earliest opportunity.

It would certainly be a suicidal policy at this juncture, when there is such a demand for higher education along agricultural lines, to have the work of the college in any way hampered because of lack of accommodation for all students who may care to enter or of insufficient teaching equipment. The agricultural college must continue to be, and in a greater degree than ever before, the centre from which must go out those influences and teachings that should mould agricultural education in this province.

While on this topic we might point out the great advantages that would accrue to the home life on the farm if the teaching of domestic science were included in the college curriculum. The farmer will never be able to make the best use of the agricultural teaching he is now receiving or to practice successfully those principles that make for economy and progress in modern and up-to-date farming unless he is properly housed and fed. So we say, widen the scope of the college curriculum and make it possible for the farmer's daughter to receive a training that will enable her to manage the farm home as successfully as the farmer's son is trained to manage the farm lands.

With one or two exceptions we agree with all the Hon. Mr. Ross said in regard to the development of our agricultural resources and had we more space would like to go into the matter more fully. The establishment of cold storage chambers at central points of shipment, cheaper freight rates, and better transportation facilities in getting our products to the British market are certainly along the right line of progress and development. Give the Ontario farmer half a chance and a good market for what he produces and he will hold his own against any agriculturist the world over.

We must confess, however, to having some doubts as to the chilled meat scheme. At the present time this country is experiencing a dearth of prime export cattle and enough choice animals can hardly be found to supply the demand for that quality. There are plenty of an inferior grade but these are hardly suited for the development of a chilled meat trade. If we are to compete with Australia and especially with the Argentine in this trade we must be able to supply the finest quality of chilled or dressed meats. However, with the large importations of good breeding stock that have been made during the past year or two and the improvement that is now taking place in the quality of our home bred animals, we may look for better things in the way of good export cattle before very long. But until then we question the advisability of any enlarged effort to develop the dressed meat trade.