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Toronto Junction Best Place for Winter Fair

Ed. The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World.—Were the winter Fair moved from Guelph to Toronto Junction I think that the accommodation would be improved. The buildings at Toronto Junction are ahead of those at Guelph. As to loading and unloading stock, the Junction has both the G.T.R. and the C.P.R. at hand, while at Guelph the G.T.R. does not give the accommodation to exhibitors it should.

I favor Toronto Junction as the place for the Winter Fair. It could take in all classes of live stock and seed grain. A show located there could be made equal to Chicago, if not better.

D. DeCoursey.

Bornholm, Ont.

FAVORS TORONTO JUNCTION

Editor, The Dairyman and Farming World.—I have always been surprised to see such a show as the Winter Fair kept in the background as it is at Guelph, because of the improper accommodation at that point. I heartily endorse what Mr. Peter White said at the Union Stock Yards' banquet recently, viz.: "If Canada wants to come to the front, she must display her best goods in her front window."

Toronto Junction is the place for the winter fair, have thought so for years. I hope the day is not far distant when we shall see it there.—A. A. Colwill, Durham Co., Ont.

Tuberculosis Among Cows at Winnipeg

Investigations by authorities and interested persons show that infected meat and milk have been sold in Winnipeg almost indiscriminately, and that about 70 per cent. of the dairy cows are afflicted with tuberculosis. No official inspection by a qualified veterinarian has been made for 10 years. The condition of the cattle is so bad that abattoir firms have refused to buy dairy cattle for slaughtering purposes. Prompt action will be taken to remedy the present state of affairs, and the tuberculin test will be administered to dairy cows at once. Meat coming from the outside will also be closely inspected.

The cattle of the west, particularly on the ranges, fortunately are peculiarly free from tuberculosis, and it seems to have attacked only the confined herds.

Farm Help Supply

The demand for farm help this spring is likely to be as keen as ever. It has set in already. The immigration agencies are being besieged with applications from farmers. A few years ago the demand for help did not set in until about seeding time. The scarcity of suitable help has changed this, and now hiring begins a month or two earlier.

The Dominion Department of Immigration has charge of the distribution of farm help in Ontario, outside of what may be done by the Salvation Army and other agencies. There are 170 sub-agents distributed through all the leading towns and cities of Ontario. The Toronto agency, which is in charge of Mr. Stewart, is largely a forwarding office, from which men are sent to the various districts. This agency places a number of men in the vicinity of Toronto. Since Jan. 15, over 900 have been placed on farms, chiefly from the Toronto unemployed. Mr. Stewart has 200 applications for men on hand, and for 50 servants.

It is the aim of the Department to bring the local agent in touch with

the booking agents in Great Britain. Immigrants are booked direct to the local agent, and within easy reach of the farms where help is wanted. The Dominion Department does not pay the railway fare of the immigrants, as was done by the Ontario Department. A ticket at two cents a mile is secured, but the immigrant has to pay this, or the farmer, who keeps it out of his wages.

There are some advantages in this. The immigrant, when leaving England, will try and get booked direct to the nearest point where work is obtainable. The local agent usually has pieces for the men on arrival, so there is no delay or extra expense in getting to work. A plan, which is being largely followed, and which is working well is to have men placed before leaving the old country. The booking agent sends in advance a paper, describing the man, and when he will arrive. The immigrant has a duplicate of this, which he presents to the agent on arrival. Formerly the bulk of the immigrants were booked direct to Toronto. Here many of them remained, and refused to go on farms, eventually becoming subjects for charity during the winter.

Compelling each one to pay his own fare to his destination, has the effect of procuring a better class of help. The fellow who has enough, or who can earn enough to pay his way, is more likely to stay at work, and to give better service, than the one who gets everything for nothing. The aim is to procure the best class of men obtainable.

WAGES BEING PAID

The wages paid are about \$10 a month and board for inexperienced, and \$12 to \$15 a month and board for partially experienced men. Men having farm experience in Great Britain get about \$20 a month and board and those with experience on Canadian farms from \$23 to \$26 a month with board. The bulk of the help that has come to this country from the old land is inexperienced. It is difficult to get experienced men. The true situation in this way has not set in this season, but it will begin very shortly.

A great many married men with families come to Canada. These are hard to place, as comparatively few farmers have a second house for them to live in. If there were more extra houses, reliable men could be secured who would remain longer than the single men, and would not break into the family circle, as the latter do. Many farmers are adopting the extra house plan, and are finding it successful.

Leave for Europe

President Creelman, and Prof. Harcourt, of the Ontario Agricultural College, leave on March 25th, for Europe, to investigate agricultural methods prevailing on the Continent, and in Great Britain. President Creelman will spend some time in Italy, and France, looking into some recent valuable agricultural experimental work that is being conducted there. Prof. Harcourt will be absent a year, and will make a special study of the methods followed in agricultural chemistry, in dealing with the adulteration of food products. In Germany, where he will spend most of his time, his time will be devoted to a study of the chemistry of foods.

The Winnipeg Industrial at its coming exhibition, will hold a competition in light agricultural motors, the first ever held in America. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be given for the best motor for general farm purposes. This should prove of interest to the big farmers of the west.