

Barron's Lady Sunshine was again second, but Brett had a good candidate for third in Rosebud, one of his own breeding.

With the Herefords there was very little competition for Robt. Sinton, E. A. Purdy of Lumsden having first for aged bull and second for cows. There was no opposition for McRae in Galloways, nor for Pope in Ayrshires.

SWINE.

There was practically nothing to the swine display but Yorkshires, and these were mostly contributed by W. H. English and Peter Horn. For pen of bacon hogs, E. Meadows, Regina, got first, and Peter Horn second, and for three finished hogs, M. Ross, Regina, got the honors.

A few sheep were shown by Wm. Colton, of Tregarva.

There is room for an increase in the display of agricultural products and also for dairy products. The poultry show was very slim, but of course it is not the time of year for poultry exhibiting, and besides it usually costs more to get a judge to satisfy the exhibitors than the prize money at an average fair amounts to.

In machinery, several firms who are manufacturing at Regina, and a large number of others with headquarters there, were out with displays. An agricultural gasoline motor was among the new machines that attracted considerable interest.

Suggestions Upon Settlement and Government Policy.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

In reply to your article of June 26th, "Is it wise to double the free land offer?" I think that we may safely conclude that it is not necessary to offer any greater inducements than have prevailed in the past; that is, a free homestead and an opportunity to secure the adjoining land at a low price, a condition that is rapidly changing.

It is generally admitted that a quarter section of 160 acres is not enough land to support a man's family and allow him to keep up a sufficient number of horses to operate the class of machinery now in use and pay expenses of hired help, which he must have in the harvest at least and if he only hires for a shorter term he must pay a higher rate of wages. With more land, say half a section, he can afford to keep his man eight months or perhaps the year round at a reasonable rate, and with advantage to himself and his man. For if the latter can only get

employment for part of the time he is forced to charge a price great enough to make up for his idle time, or the farmer will have to offer large enough wages to induce him to leave some other class of employment.

Again, the machinery required to properly operate a quarter section is sufficient for a half section and four to six horses are needed on a quarter section, while from six to eight horses are sufficient for the half, so that as far as equipment is concerned as well as other things, the half section is nearer the ideal farm than a single quarter.

Now, we are told that the giving of land grants to railroads is a thing of the past. Well, what are we going to do with the odd-numbered sections? Retain them for the political "friends," who will pass them on en bloc to the real estate man, who will retail it to the speculator by the section or township, who cares not whether it is close in or away back? The homesteader will come and then will come his chance.

Let me show you how that works out. Some time ago the Saskatchewan Valley Land Company secured a grant of land up in the millions of acres for the normal sum of about one dollar per acre. This land is now being retailed at from \$15 to \$20 per acre. Our best settlers come from the older provinces and the States. After bringing car-loads of stock and effects, by the time they get on the homestead they are not over-burdened with money, and these men know that a quarter is not enough, yet if they want more they must plunge in and buy more at \$15 to \$20 per acre, make a substantial cash payment to start with, carry interest and taxes and make probably two more payments on this land before they are in a position to make any use of it, as it generally keeps a man pretty fully occupied for the first two years to break up the homestead and put up buildings, or he can pay Mr. Speculator from \$20 to \$30 per acre for this adjoining land, because he has waited a couple of years until the pioneer settler got ready to use his land.

Now would it not be wise to cut these middlemen out altogether and sell this land direct to the actual settler under settlement conditions?

If three dollars per acre is thought too low, make the price four dollars or six per acre. The higher price would tend to keep the lands out of the hands of irresponsible people.

As to the fuel and transportation problems, to retard settlement of our public lands is no remedy. The Government should see that the railroads are fully equipped so as to furnish suitable and adequate service for all traffic offerings, and direct the settlement in the districts served or soon to be served by roads now under construction; by retaining the outlying lands until these districts are fully settled.

The Dominion Government might follow the example of Saskatchewan by opening up a number of coal mines in outlying parts for the benefit of settlers.

Sask.

H. D. DONEY.

The Threshing Problem.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Having read with interest [various opinions expressed by farmers and others in recent issues of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, I thought I would venture mine, gotten partly by my own experience and partly by observation. Now so much depends on circumstances and weather that it would be an impossibility to lay down any fast and hard rule as to whether the large travelling outfit or the medium or small sized one is going to give best satisfaction. Asking one thresherman why he invested in such a large outfit, requiring ten bundle wagons to keep it going, he remarked, "Oh I had a small outfit and we were too long at each place, and it took nearly as many men and teams, and we could not make her pay."

Asking a farmer who had purchased a small outfit what his idea was for so doing he said: "Oh, I used to hire a big outfit, and when things went broke, or bad weather came, we had to board twenty men and twelve teams for a week hanging around idle, so I thought I would get a small machine of my own and am well pleased so far." Asking another farmer what he thought of forming a syndicate and buying a small sized outfit and to thresh only for the company, he answered, "I was in just such a syndicate once before, and don't want to repeat former experiences. We were threshing all fall for our company of six, and did not get any plowing done." Another farmer having a share in a small outfit hired one of the big outfits to do his threshing, but they stayed with him seventeen days for three day's work owing to breaks and bad weather and now he is thinking of getting a small gasoline outfit of his own.

Now, Mr. Editor, after such experiences as these how is a man to know what is best? So much depends on the manager of a big outfit to make it pay, and so much depends on the weather from the farmer's point of view, and so much depends on the tact "to pull together" with the syndicate question, we all have to meekly admit that circumstances decide the question. Being asked myself how I like to have my own threshing done I say, give me the medium sized outfit with cook car attached if possible under a good manager, and trust the rest to luck.

Sask.

WHEAT HEAD.



WM. LITTLE'S NEW PEACH ORCHARD, PEACHLAND, B.C.