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# Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal

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## FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL

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## EDITORIAL

### Handsome Xmas Number

Determined efforts are being made to make this year's Christmas number of THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL the best that ever has been sent to readers in Western Canada by any publishing house. Articles by recognized authorities and elegant illustrations will combine to form a large volume that should be in every home in the great Canadian West.

### Use all Available Shelter

On nearly every farm in the older parts of the country there is shelter of some kind, under which the farm implements or some of them can be stored during the winter months. Make use of what shelter there is, whether it is the drive floor or an empty corner in the barn, a lean-to that may not be used now for the purposes for which it was built; any roof in fact that will protect machinery from the effects of sun, wind, snow and rain, which shorten its working life more than all the use it is ever put to on the farm.

### Corn Belt Moving Northward

The northern extension of the corn belt has been the most significant movement in agriculture in America during the past decade. Ten years ago the northern boundary of the corn belt coincided with the northern line of Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois and Indiana. Corn was grown to some extent in Southern Wisconsin, in Michigan, Minnesota and South Dakota. But these states were not thought of as being adapted climatically for the production of Zea Mays.

This year the corn crop of the two Dakotas and Minnesota bulks to a tremendous volume. The Crop Reporter makes it the largest on

record. Steers and hogs fed on native grown corn are being shipped from these states to the live-stock markets. Corn has become a staple crop in the tier of American states bordering on the Canadian boundary. In ten years the limits of the corn belt have been moved northward from two hundred to four hundred miles. If the same progress in the developing of early maturing, hardy varieties is maintained during the next decade we may expect to find the great American cereal flourishing on the shores of Lake Winnipeg. Stranger things have come to pass. Corn is of tropical origin, but for that matter so are all cereals, and some of them are now growing as far north as the Arctic Circle.

### Local Option Campaign

Manitoba's local option fight is developing into a campaign of more than ordinary interest. Energetic work by enthusiastic temperance advocates has resulted in great progress during the past few years. Gradually the province is being won by the temperance forces.

For months past organized efforts have been made to have the question submitted to a vote in numerous districts at the coming municipal elections. In some cases the necessary petitions have been filed in accordance with the provincial statute, but it is reported that these petitions have disappeared. Interested parties must have degenerated to a low level when they adopt such means of preventing any locality from voicing its opinion on any important question. Such action indicates that one side is putting up a hopeless fight.

### British Forecast of Wheat Supply

In another column we reproduce the forecast of George Broomhall, the well-known British market authority, on the probable supply of wheat during the cereal year from August 1, 1909, to July 31, 1910. It is estimated that exporting countries will be able to supply world markets with over eighty million bushels more wheat this year than last; in fact, the outlook for supplies are better than in any of the past ten years. The forecast is rather bearish.

For that matter, however, every report on the wheat situation, and every estimate of probable supply this season seems to have been the work of bears. If the world has reaped so ample a harvest, and every prospect is as pleasing as it is, wheat, by all the rules of demand and supply, should long ago have sold cheaper. But it doesn't seem to get much weaker. There seems no reason yet to doubt that those holding wheat have seriously blundered. Supplies appear abundant, but so long as the cereal is marketed in volume, nearly equal to demand, there seems little danger of any serious slump in values.

### New Attraction to the West

For decades past agriculturists and others have been lured to the western provinces of Canada because of the fact that it was acknowledged to be the greatest wheat producing area in the world. Capability to produce this high grade cereal was deemed sufficient to make the country a desirable place to locate. This year, however, Canada's prairie country offers a new attraction. During the late summer, Manitoba grown apples of rare quality were displayed in different parts of the United States. Recently several boxes of this choice fruit have been sent to Lord Strathcona in England, so that Britishers may be shown that the soil and climate of Western Canada are congenial to the production of luscious fruit as well as of the choicest grain in the world.

This new attraction is only a slight evidence of what the future holds for the wide territory in Canada west of the Great Lakes. A variety of crops, particularly when home luxuries are included, is sure to make immigration jump by leaps and bounds.

### What is Your Age?

"A man's age should not be counted by calendar years; it should be figured out by his experience as the days roll by. By calendar years I am 60, but by the fun I have had I am 927." This is an opinion overheard on a railway train a few days ago and expressed by a robust, blustering man in such tone as to indicate that he meant every word he said. And is there not a great deal of truth in his words? Some people borrow trouble so lavishly as to make life miserable. The weeks wander by into so many calendar years. When the dozen months have gone by sixty times the age is sixty years, and appearances give the impression that it is considerably more. But there are other individuals who labor hard, always doing the right and always making the best of things, even in adversity. They enjoy life, they always are happy, their company is acceptable to all who know them. When a twelve-month has rolled by sixty times they consider they have had as much enjoyment as individuals they know could have in many times sixty years—and they feel good for several years more.

On the farm it rests largely with the individual as to whether or not life is so miserable as to make the years drag wearily. The man who has good health and plenty to do, with enough cash to provide a comfortable home, should not grumble. Where are conditions more congenial for providing such surroundings? Be happy in your work. How old are you when you consider the enjoyment you have had at your life's work and the good you have done?