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EDITORIAL.

With a lot of money invested in farm machinery, why is it not all under cover?

Young man on the farm, plan now to take in one of the agricultural college short courses this winter. It will do you good.

Not only do we need more labor on the farm to increase its product and its profit, but the labor must be skilled.

How many crops during the past season would show a net profit, above all expenses, of \$143.56 per acre, as was the case with "The Farmer's Advocate" demonstration apple orchard?

A season's watchful care and feeding of a herd of dairy cows and fattening cattle may be made an excellent "short course" for the young man in the stable, if accompanied by a study of ventilation, sanitation and nutrition.

One of the encouraging signs of the times for Ontario feeders is the strong demand and advancing prices of beef cattle on the Toronto market, good exporters being absorbed for home consumption.

Agriculture is a dull book to many because its covers are closed. If you would open the covers and delve into a study of the most fascinating, practical problems connected with any occupation, subscribe for "The Farmer's Advocate," procure a few books and bulletins, and read up. Read with an open though judicial mind, prepared to seize hold of that which is good, and, as rapidly as means permit, put it into practice. There is something lacking either in the brain or in the education of anyone who finds farming dull.

The potency of the epigram is all too little appreciated. Editors and writers frequently throw in epigrammatic pointers, expressing universally-conceded truisms. Such have a value, notwithstanding their familiarity. The logical article convinces, but its points are liable to be forgotten. An epigram epitomizes a truth and clinches it in the memory. It is difficult to say how many of the most famous successes have been made by men whose characters were influenced and whose purpose fixed by these emphatic truths, conveyed in forceful style by a writer or speaker, who simply expressed that which everybody knew, but might otherwise have forgotten or ignored. There is much virtue in reminders.

Notwithstanding the Fruit Marks Act, or, to be precise, the Inspection and Sale Act, dishonest packing of fruit is still too common. Some packers are so brazen as almost to ignore the law, winking at and encouraging all manner of departures from the legal standards. If the Act is to mean anything, and prove a reasonable advantage and protection to the honest grower, these acts of crookedness must be relentlessly hunted down. To this end, we welcome the several long lists of prosecutions under the Act given out to the press this fall. It is regrettable that they should be necessary, but, being necessary, it is encouraging to see them made. Protect the honest grower and packer, and build up a profitable industry. Honesty is the best and only worthy policy.

Fallacies in Support of Gambling.

An anti-gambling bill has been introduced into the Dominion House of Commons by H. H. Miller, M. P. for South Grey, one of the members of the House of Commons who seem to esteem it their duty to represent the agricultural community. The bill has been sent on to a special committee, where the old, exploded arguments are being brought up that bookmaking is necessary to maintain racing, and that racing is necessary to encourage horse-breeding. More absurd fallacies have rarely been offered for the public to swallow. In the first place, it is not true that racing is necessary to improve the breed of horses. On the contrary, it has probably done more to injure two breeds than it has done to improve them. It has converted the Standard-bred, or the stock from which it has sprung, into an attenuated racing machine, not nearly so valuable for utility purposes as though it had been bred with more regard to conformation and scale. Undoubtedly, racing focussed early attention upon the breeding of the blood horse, and perhaps helped to develop it by selection of the fittest, but here, again, has it not tended to produce a race of weedy, hot-tempered, and dubiously useful stock? What has racing done to improve the breed of Clydesdales, Shires, Hackneys, or, in fact, any of our most useful breeds? In short, racing is necessary only to improve the breed of race-horses—not to improve our utility stock at all. Even if racing were necessary to improve the breed of horses, and gambling were necessary to encourage racing, would we be justified in sanctioning a policy which required an abuse to maintain it? Candidly examined by anyone with his eye fixed upon the general good, and not upon a selfish privilege or a sordid, selfish gain, the whole miserable argument falls to pieces like a house of cards. Race-track gambling is a problem that must be grappled with in Canada. It was bad enough before; it is worse now, since the radical legislation in many neighboring States has driven the dissolute army of race-track followers over to Canada. It is scarcely conducive to our national pride to preserve, under the ægis of British majesty and law, resorts at Windsor and Fort Erie, serving as rendezvous for the debauched and sporting element of such cities as Buffalo and Detroit.

Better Methods of Training Colts.

Almost every farmer is interested in the subject of training colts. Nearly every one has done something at it, and each is satisfied in his own mind that he has a pretty good way of handling young horses at this interesting and important stage. It was, therefore, rather a delicate task imposed on "Whip," of deciding which competitors were entitled to the prizes in the colt-training-essay competition. However, his own well-established reputation as a horseman and writer will be generally accepted as *prima facie* evidence of just judgment. Certainly, the winning essay, published in this issue, details a rational, systematic and humane method of initiating colts into the gentle art of human service. If more of them were "broken" or trained in that way, there would be fewer vicious horses. Mr. Hamilton's essay will be succeeded by excellent articles of other essayists, all of which will be followed with keen interest by tens of thousands of appreciative readers. We need not recommend reading these articles. They will certainly be read, and read widely. We shall, however, be pleased to publish instructive and pertinent comments either upon the methods or the articles describing them. A more practical and popular feature has rarely if ever been taken up in the agricultural press.

Scientific Education for the Farmer.

Last month, Archibald MacNeilage delivered an address to the West of Scotland Agricultural College Society, on "Scientific Education for the Farmer."

A mere list of the scientific problems enumerated, which the man who pursues mixed farming, all the world over, has to face, would nearly fill a page. His success and profit are in direct ratio to his scientific knowledge, however gained, and the skill with which he applies it.

He laid down and defended the propositions that:

This kind of education must begin in the day school. The child must be familiarized with nature. The rural school need not have a garden; if things are right, there will be a garden at home. The prime necessity is not a department-drafted scheme, but a teacher in love with the work. The appointment of a town-bred man or woman as teacher in such school is only possible where the aim is to turn out clerks and typists.

The student who comes to the agricultural college, without having been on the farm, is a hindrance. The details of farm practice should be taught on the farm.

An agricultural college in a city is an incongruity. It should certainly be planted in the country, and the students should be made familiar daily with the routine of farm work.

The Young Man and the Farm.

Upon the attitude to his work of the young man, whether son or hired help, on the farm, will largely depend his satisfaction and success. Speaking from a lengthy and exemplary experience, and wider opportunities of observation than fall to the lot of many, John Campbell, in his wholesome article on the boy and the farm, in the Christmas "Farmer's Advocate," brought to bear on the subject a fulness of knowledge that makes his counsel of great value. Indeed, one has but to consider fairly the advantages of country life and the present outlook to realize that Mr. Campbell's advice to remain on the farm is sound, for the prospects are good, and growing better. He is well aware how the allurements of town life or speculative change work out. He knows how many dreams are unrealized. To farm well is a matter of knowledge and skilled application. It is not picked up in a day or a year, but every season spent aright on a farm adds so much value to the young man's capital of experience under those conditions, as well as what he earns. The father or the employer does well to encourage the young man by consultation with him, and by liberal dealings, if he desire faithful and efficient work. The latter, if he wishes to advance and win commendation, should make it his daily aim to promote the best interests of the farm. Not with how little can I manage to get through the day, but rather how well and how much can I accomplish. Entrusted with the care of stock or property, it becomes, in a sense, that of the young man himself, for the time being. How can I best care for it? should be his question. He should determine that the horses and harness will be in spick, span order when they go upon the road. If he is caring for a herd of dairy cows, or fattening a bunch of cattle, his ambition should be to make them the best on the line or in the township. Under his charge, cobwebs will not accumulate about the walls or windows of the stable, nor the floors be littered with dirt. Tools and appliances he will keep in their proper places, and so plan his work as not only to do it well, but to save unnecessary steps and loss of time. It