

THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS FAIR.

The annual exhibition of the Eastern Townships Agricultural Association took place at Sherbrooke, Que., from Sept. 5th to 10th, and, from reliable reports received, it was an immense success. In many respects it was the best ever held by the Association, and the management deserve considerable credit for the skill displayed in holding so successful a fair. The exhibits in all classes were more numerous than ever before, and the attendance very satisfactory.

The live stock classes were well filled. Some of the horses shown were of excellent quality, and would give a good account of themselves at more pretentious shows. The cattle entries were very numerous, there being far too many animals for the accommodation provided, extra stalls having to be put up. The swine and sheep departments were well filled, and the quality of the exhibits equal to that to be found at many larger fairs. The live stock display throughout was a very creditable one indeed, and visitors to the fair were not disappointed in the quality of the animals shown, or in the number on exhibition.

Among the exhibitors of live stock we notice the names of many who are familiar to the readers of FARMING. Those who figured prominently in the prize list, and who carried off a large number of the best awards, were R. Ness & Son, and Wm. Wylie, Howick, Que.; Isaleigh Grange Stock Farm, Danville, Que.; E. P. Ball, W. A. Reburn & Co., H. J. Elliott, and the Hillhurst Stock Farm, Compton, Que.

LEGISLATION THAT MISCARRIED.

HOW THE COST OF BINDER TWINE HAS BEEN DOUBLED TO THE FARMER IN THE LAST YEAR OR TWO.

From *London Free Press*, Sept. 12th.

All day yesterday the space around the exhibit of the Consumers' Cordage Company (limited), of Montreal, in the Agricultural Building, was thronged with interested farmers and visitors. This firm have departed from the conventional lines followed by exhibiting manufacturers, and not only show their finished product but give a comprehensive and practical insight into the various operations followed in transforming the raw material into the marketable article. The central feature of the exhibit is a binder twine manufacturing machine, which is kept busy day and night turning out bales of the company's celebrated binder twine. The firm manufactures all descriptions of string, twine, and rope, but have made binder twine a specialty in their exhibit this year.

PECULIAR LEGISLATION.

This company have been unfortunate, in common with other cordage concerns, in meeting with the reverse of encouragement from the legislators of the day. On the alleged plea that a reduction of duty would materially cheapen binder twine to the farmer, the Dominion Government permitted the surplus stock of foreign manufacturers to come into this country free of duty. A binder twine plant was also placed in the penitentiary at Kingston, and hundreds of convicts there were put to work competing with honest labor in the further effort to lessen the cost of the

farmers' twine. The Ontario Government seconded the effort by placing another such plant in the Central Prison.

THE RESULT.

What was the result? The past season the Canadian market has been flooded with this convict twine, as well as the foreign article; hundreds of honest Canadian workmen were left without employment, all the factories being obliged to either close down or run on short time, and the cost of binder twine has been doubled. The reverse of the result hoped for was achieved. Indeed, no legislation in this country in recent years has been a more lamentable failure.

Not only has the cost of binder twine doubled, but that supplied was of such an inferior grade that the farmers insisted on the Consumers' Cordage Company resuming its manufacture. For some months past they have been operating their plant at a loss in the hope the country's rulers would in the near future make an effort to remedy their unfortunate blunder. The Consumers' Company make an article that is vastly superior to the foreign and convict twine, nothing but the finest raw material being used and the demand for it this year has been enormous.

[ADV.]

THE ROMAINE AUTOMATIC AGRICULTURAL MACHINE.

Last week, in company with Mr. Wm. Ewing and Mr. R. J. Latimer, of Montreal, I had the pleasure of inspecting the latest development of the Romaine Automatic Agricultural Machine in operation on a field in the rear of Mr. Trenholm's farm at Long Point, Montreal. The machine at present weighs about 6,000 pounds, and is driven and operated by gasoline engines. It is arranged to work the land in four foot widths, and, while it will work any depth required in ordinary lands, it was being run but five inches deep. Anyone acquainted with the Long Point clay (which might be fairly described as equal to hard pan) will readily understand that five inches was a good deal there. The action of the machine can scarcely be called plowing, in the ordinary sense, as it is rotary. Nevertheless, as the knives travel around at the rate of about 100 turns per minute, they really act like a lot of small plows working in a circle. They are not forced down into the ground, but get their depth and hold it by a draft similar to that of the plowshare. The present machine has two of these revolving discs, with four plough knives on each, and, as the discs are two feet in diameter, a four-foot land is worked. The machine moves steadily along at the rate of ten inches to each revolution of the knives, and, there being four knives on each disc, each one takes about two and a-half inches' cut ahead. Travelling around in their circle, the knives again traverse or cut through the soil which has been loosened, and the result is a most complete pulverization of the soil, which is rarely attained, even in favorable soils, except by the spade. There is no doubt in the world as to the quality of work done by the machine, and as it can be done at a remarkably low price, it looks as if the problem of the cheap cultivation of large tracts of land has been solved. The advantage of such a machine in backsetting new lands can scarcely be estimated. The present machine can handle about five acres a day, but another is to be built with a capacity of fifteen acres daily. Mr. A. A. Barnhart, to whom the evolution of this machine from a crude idea to the present stage is due, has shown wonderful perseverance and high mechanical ability, and is deserving of the highest praise. I understand Mr. Alliston McKay, of Chatham, contemplates having his land prepared by Mr. Barnhart, and no doubt there is lots of land awaiting the coming of this promising labor-saver.

BASIC.

We know of no better investment than FARMING for 25c. till January, '99.

Publishers' Desk.

De Laval Cream Separator.—That there is a vast difference in cream separators has been effectually demonstrated from the splendid exhibit of the Canadian Dairy Supply Co., Montreal, as seen at the Industrial Exhibition here this week. The DE LAVAL has a number of improvements over others both in relative size and construction. Those who understand the principle of separator construction, and are not blind to their own interests, but are willing to give credit where is due, must at once recognize that the DE LAVAL does all that any other machine does—and considerably more—costing less in proportion to actual capacity. It embodies in its workmanship fully double the values in material and finish found in any other machine. It is sold subject to the guarantee of its superiority in every material respect over any other machine made. It is made solely from the standpoint of superior excellence, with fifteen years of experience and the best of every conceivable facility. It is safe to say that thousands of people visited the exhibit and went away satisfied and contented with what they seen. Little need be said here only to congratulate the manager, Mr. Clunnie, on the success of his exhibit at Toronto.

Hay Presses.—Attention is directed to the advertisement of Messrs. Boyd & Co. which appears in this issue. This is an old firm and known from one end of Canada to the other. Their specialty is the Dederick perpetual baling press, which has been on the market since 1890 and has had an immense sale. It has many advantages over others, chiefly that it is extremely light, though strongly and heavily built. It can be drawn easily by two horses from place to place, and it is claimed is a half ton lighter than the wooden sweep press. Orders have been pouring in so rapidly of late that the firm's capacity is taxed to the utmost and the men kept working day and night. Messrs. Boyd & Co. also manufacture a patent tread mill for 2 horses which is having a big sale. Their steel land roller is in much demand as well. They are general agents for the famous Waterous Engines of Brantford, and those who desire anything in this line would do well to keep this in mind. The firm are also agents for the Good Roads Machinery Co. of Hamilton. Messrs. Boyd & Co. have recently opened a branch of their business in Winnipeg, Man., this has been found necessary on account of the increasing demand for their presses in the Northwest.

The Leader Wind Mill.—Special attention is directed to the advertisement of the Leader Wind Mill, which appears in another column. Although but a short time on the market it has given splendid satisfaction and is highly endorsed by those who have purchased them. It is self-lubricating and warranted to outwear any other mill manufactured if the boxes are filled three times a year. It moves on two bearings, which fact alone is a great advantage over others. The "Leader" has certainly won popularity and is now being placed in a great many of the counties in the Dominion. At the Fair in London large numbers of farmers and stockmen expressed a high opinion of it, and a number of sales were made on the grounds.

Death of David Maxwell.—The death of David Maxwell, of St. Marys, Ont., removes one of the most prominent figures from the agricultural implement industry of the west. The great business of which the deceased was virtually the head was established in 1857 in the town of Paris, but for the past ten years has been located in St. Marys, where Mr. Maxwell died. The remains were conveyed by rail to Paris and interred in the Presbyterian cemetery there. Mr. Maxwell was an adherent of the Presbyterian Church and took an active interest in church matters of all kinds. In politics he was a staunch Liberal of the old school. He was universally respected and through his integrity and honest methods of business the phenomenal