

The Farming World

For Farmers and Stockmen

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The Farmer's University.

AN institution that has advanced rapidly in popular favor since the opening of the century is the Ontario Agricultural College. The splendid gifts of the Massey estate and Sir Wm. C. Macdonald have done much to arouse this popular esteem, but they have not done all. The steady effective and practical work during the past decade both in the class room and in the experimental field counts for a great deal. Its value to agriculture is just beginning to dawn upon the farmers of this country and they are rallying around their own college and their own peculiar institutions as never before. This is as it should be.

On Saturday last we spent a day at the College chiefly for the purpose of visiting the classes in live stock judging. The success which has attended this special course is nothing but remarkable. In the first course there was an attendance of 120, and for the second course which began on January 22nd, there are just as many in attendance. Elsewhere we publish a card of thanks from the members of the first course and from what we learned from those in the second course they are just as well pleased.

Though confined to two weeks the course is a comprehensive one, all the different kinds of stock being dealt with. The first hour each morning the class is with Mr. Zavitz inspecting and handling grains. Then comes the live stock work, a couple of days being devoted to one class, such as beef cattle, swine, etc. On Thursday last the class were looking after the sheep, and very well they did it too. Prof. Day had provided a number of specimens of the different breeds for inspection. These, when in the arena, were examined thoroughly by the students, who were requested to place the individuals of each breed in the order of merit. Then followed a criticism of the animals by Prof. Day or some other expert. On that day the vis-

iting expert was Mr. A. W. Smith, Maple Lodge, whose criticisms and remarks on the different animals in the ring were most valuable and greatly appreciated by the class. Mr. Smith addressed the class on the care and management of sheep on the average farm, which, owing to lack of space this week, we will deal with next issue.

W. R. Graham is dealing out the practical feeding and rearing of poultry to a special class of 30 interested parties, two of whom are ladies. Mr. Graham is no theorist. He does not tell his class that a certain breed of chickens has certain characteristics, but he has the live birds in the class room so that he can demonstrate to a certainty

the good and bad points of each individual bird. On Thursday he discussed with the class the merits and demerits of the Buff colored varieties of the various breeds. This is a most valuable course and of great benefit to the poultry industry of the country.

And thus the College is branching out on new and valuable lines. These short courses are of a kind that any farmer, young or old, can take during the winter months without interfering at all with his own work. While the larger number of those in the special live stock and poultry classes were young men, there were not a few with gray hairs and long experience in farm work. And not all the students are confined to Ontario. In the live stock course there were students from Manitoba. But the dairy class of 1902 is the most notable in this regard. Prof. Dean has under his tuition students from Quebec, the Maritime Provinces and from the State of Vermont. Thus the influence of

the College is reaching out beyond provincial and even national lines. Truly it is a great institution and the five hundred odd students who are attending the various courses this winter show a widening out of its possibilities that its strongest admirers of a few years ago never dreamed of.

Dr. McEachran Resigns.

Dr. McEachran, for a number of years Dominion Veterinarian, and in charge of the Quarantine Stations in Canada, has resigned, and Dr. Rutherford, who spent last summer in Great Britain testing for tuberculosis, cattle intended for shipment to Canada, has been ap-

E. D. TILLSON DEAD

The readers of *The Farming World* will regret to learn of the death of Mr. E. D. Tillson, of Tilsonburg, Ont., who passed away after a short illness, on Friday last. His father, Mr. George Tillson, was the founder of the town of Tilsonburg, settling there in 1825, in which year the deceased was born. The large saw mill business started by the father was continued by the son with marked success. The latter was the founder of the present flour and oat meal milling business, which has developed into one of the largest milling industries in the province.

Besides looking after his large milling interests, Mr. Tillson for many years devoted much time to agriculture, and more particularly to the dairying side of it. His herd of Holsteins were among the very best in the province, and under his care and skill had established a record for milk production equal to, if not ahead of, anything in America. Mr. Tillson took particular pride in his farming operations, and being a keen observer and a practical workman, had obtained a fund of valuable information from his own experience. This he was always willing to give to others, and very frequently has contributed to the columns of this paper. His contributions were always read with the keenest interest, and were practical and to the point.

Mr. Tillson was a man of the most sterling honesty and integrity. His unassuming and kindly manner made him beloved by all who had the privilege of his friendship. To meet him and chat with him about his agricultural pursuits was a privilege that many of us will have the most pleasant recollection of. He interested himself in every movement that had for its object the welfare and progress of the country at large and more particularly the district in which he lived. His native town, in which he has held all the offices in the gift of the people, will miss his wise counsel and sound advice on all matters of public interest.

Mr. Tillson married in 1850 Mary Ann Van Norman, and their golden wedding was celebrated on July 4th, 1900. He leaves a family, George W., overseer of the mills; Edwin V., manager of the business; Mrs. Dr. L. C. Sinclair and Mrs. H. A. Harrison, all of Tilsonburg. Mr. Tillson was a member of the Methodist Church, of which he was a liberal supporter.

But the live stock classes do not comprise all the interesting and valuable features of the work of the College. In the dairy building Prof. Dean has a most interesting class of seventy, about one-fifth of whom are ladies, taking the regular and special courses in dairying. A most valuable addition to the dairy course this year is the series of lectures in domestic science by Mrs. Joy. These, as previously announced, are reported regularly for *The Farming World* by Miss Rose. On Thursday Mrs. Joy delivered her fourth lecture to a class of over one hundred ladies.

Quite near the dairy building is the poultry department, where Mr.