

Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875

December 30, 1908

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

Vol. XLIV. No. 849

EDITORIAL

A Violated Principle

The Canadian Hereford Breeders' association does not look at things through a national eye, or if they do employ so large an optic, they do not act in the light of it. In Ontario last year there were 259 Hereford pedigrees registered and a very few from the other eastern provinces. In the four western provinces there were 227 pedigrees recorded, about 140 coming each from Manitoba and Alberta. Upon such a basis the grants to exhibitions to augment the prizes awarded to Herefords and thereby give encouragement to the showing and consequent popularizing of the breed, should be about equal between east and west. But such is not the case. Twenty-five dollars is voted to each of the exhibitions at Winnipeg, Brandon, Regina and Calgary, making a total of one hundred dollars. Then for Ontario exhibitions Toronto gets one hundred and London twenty-five. So far no injustice has been done, but the association has made each of its members a member of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' association by paying 50 cents a member out of the Hereford association's funds and this money, turned over to the Dominion Cattle Breeders' association, goes to augment the prizes for Herefords at the Ontario winter fair. In other words, the western members of the Hereford Breeders' association pay 50 cents each towards prizes for the Ontario winter fair, while nothing is returned to the winter fairs in the West. The money consideration involved is not of very serious consequence, but the principle at stake is.

The Cause of It

As an idle speculation, we sometimes wonder why the people who buy excursion tickets to the east, good for three months, invariably return long before the time limit has expired. Generally the ambiguous explanation given is that "it is too slow down there," sometimes the climate is blamed and often we have to suppose that fell disease known to the medical fraternity as nostalgia (home sickness) is responsible for the return of the visitors before winter's chilling winds have given place to April's balmy zephyrs. But in reading over that great work "The Wealth of Nations" by Scotland's splendid old industrial philosopher, Adam Smith, we come across the statement that it is in the progressive state when society is advancing to further acquisition that the condition of the great body of the people is the happiest and most comfortable. It is hard in the stationary and miserable in the declining. This we have all observed, but have often failed to attribute the reasons given by Adam Smith. Industry in Eastern Canada, of course,

is not stationary and life is not simply tolerable, but there is a distinct difference in the industrial atmosphere of Eastern and Western Canada due to the conditions in the West being in such an expanding and rapidly growing state.

Just why this state of industrial expansion should be so congenial to the social senses is a deep question which may be accepted without further analysis, except to say that the human instinct for self-preservation realizes in it a greater security.

Apples as an Export Commodity

The National apple show, reported in our last week's issue, is but an index of the development that is taking, and will take place in an

In the three prairie provinces there are about 80,000 farmers who are not readers of the Farmer's Advocate, and consequently, thousands of dollars are lost through misinformation and lack of knowledge. For this reason we want all our present readers to get up clubs of these non-readers.

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industry on the Pacific coast. The central plateau of the American continent is essentially adapted to the raising of grains and live stock, while nature evidently intended the valleys of the Pacific provinces and states to produce fruit, and above all other fruits, the apple.

Apple exporting as a branch of commerce is as yet quite insignificant in the annals of Canadian and American trade, but the production of apples has reached the stage that the home demand is completely satisfied and a surplus is sold abroad. Practically every country outside of North America imports apples. Apples are a more popular fruit in Europe than are oranges at the same price. People buy apples by the box or barrel, while they buy oranges by the dozen.

In the period between 1890 and 1900, the apple production in the state of Washington increased 768 per cent. and about that rate of increase is now taking place in British Columbia with many climatic and soil conditions in favor of the latter which the former can never know. In addition, there are the benefits of accumulated experience which British Columbia is getting without the necessity of paying the usual price.

About the time the orchards now planted in British Columbia come into full bearing, the Panama canal will be completed and a great obstacle to the marketing of Pacific coast fruit will be removed, nor will there be any necessity of "getting the crop out before the close of navigation."

Taft Defines Protection

President-elect Taft, of the United States, gives the following definition of the measure of protection called for by the platform of the Republican party:

"It will take the difference between the cost of production here and the cost of production abroad in the making of any product, whether of the farm, the factory, or the mine, and it will impose a customs duty equal to that difference in the cost of production. That cost of production is made up at least of three elements—the cost of material, the cost of labor, and the manufacturer's profit, or interest on capital. Taking that difference, you have the measure by which the Republican party has pledged itself to revise the tariff. In other words, it has pledged itself to protect every industry, and to give every industry that needs protection the same measure of it."

This sounds very well. The difference in the cost of production, plus the cost of transportation, will then be the measure of the American protection upon foreign products coming into competition with those of the Republic. The beauty of this definition is the latitude it allows in figuring out the cost of production, according to the ideas of the manufacturer of the home article, and the amount of "water" or wind in the capital stock upon which interest is to be reckoned. The making of a tariff in this way will afford perennial occupation for the statistical experts. The organized mercantile and manufacturing interests will be effectually put before the tariff-makers, but how about the case of the American farmer? Sir John A. MacDonald is credited with having once said "The farmer was the most patient and least troublesome of all classes. He never asked for anything, and he never got anything."

Moreover, in America, the farmer is for the most part a producer of products of which some considerable part is exported, and the price of which is accordingly regulated to a considerable extent by that of the exported surplus. For this reason, taken in conjunction with lack of