

know what is best for the general weal. They do not care to aspire to offices considered by many to be offices of honor and trust. However, they can do their part by way of suggestion to those who have been elected.

See that the delegate representing your municipality is properly acquainted with the needs of the district before he goes to the convention, so that he can take part in the discussion and vote intelligently when big problems are being considered.

MY OPINION ON SOME MATTERS NUMBER 23

I DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF SUITABLE AGRICULTURAL PAPERS FOR THE WESTERNER

The other day I asked an old friend what papers he read. He mentioned a local paper, one from across the line, one from the East and one that circulates largely over the prairies and lays some claim to being a farmer's paper. Naturally I asked why he did not read *THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE*. I'll not tell just what he said, but it was evident that this man, whom I had credited with being possessed of at least average intelligence, had a preference for papers that bulked large. He did not wait to consider that your paper is issued once every week, or fifty-two times in a year. He seemed to consider that every paper he got his hands on should be as big as your exhibition and Christmas numbers before they would lure him to parting with any cash.

I always have been in favor of every man reading as much as he can. In fact, I think there are few of us who read half enough. There now is so much reading matter at hand that we must select that which is best. If farmers had time to wade through books, bulletins and reports there would be little need for an agricultural paper—but they haven't. For this reason agricultural papers are published. The editors know that the agricultural public should be informed as to what is going on in agricultural work, and what is approved in general practice. In order to get this information he does not want bulky sheets, containing details that are not necessary. He wants the particulars nicely boiled down.

Of course I tried to tell him how well this was done in *THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE*. I also impressed upon him the fact that your paper comes out every week, whereas these larger papers appeared once or twice a month. He hadn't known these facts. He hadn't waited to find out. He simply judged the papers by their size and took the biggest.

Now, reader, take my advice. Don't spend your money on things that are large. Don't buy papers that contain columns of stuff that no member of your household wants to read. Every publisher is willing and anxious to send out sample copies. When you have studied several that you feel should fill the bill make a choice according to *quality, not quantity*.

One thing that always has struck me is that neighbors do not do enough to help each other. In every community there are men who get wise to something worth while in farming practice. They realize great benefits, but fail to let their neighbors know the particulars. The same in regard to papers. You find a journal that strikes you as being ideal—but you never think to tell your neighbor that he also should have it on his list. Such neglects are unpardonable. You always should be anxious to help your neighbor. In the matter of books or papers loan him a copy if you cannot do better.

The longer I live the more I am convinced that the farming industry will advance in proportion to the reading and study given by those engaged in it. Almost every really prosperous farmer I meet has a long list of papers and magazines coming into his home. No one imagines he reads them all from cover to cover. But he or some member of his family gets some-

thing out of some of them every week that can be put into practice to advantage.

Consider what I have said. Tell your neighbor what you find best. He will thank you for it later.

"AIRCHIE McCCLURE."

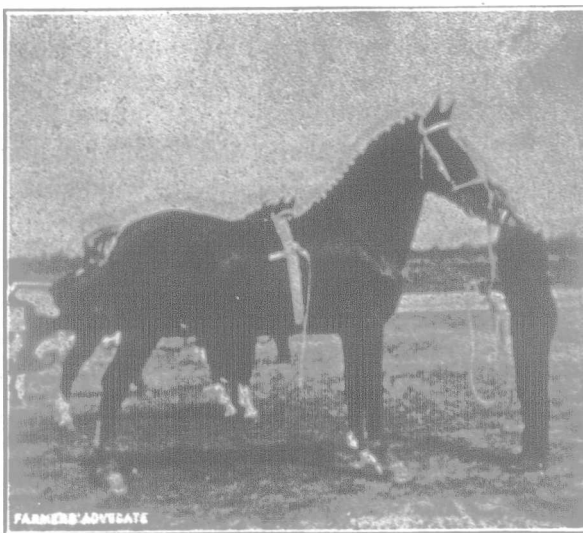
Some Agricultural Statistics

(OUR ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE)

Geo. Broomhall, the statistician of the Liverpool Grain Trade Association, in his annual report of the wheat market outlook states that he believes that both the demand and supply during the current season are likely to beat all records. The demand from France is already unprecedented, and that country may need ten million quarters by the end of next July. The import needs of other countries are about the same as last season, so the French demand will be the great factor in determining prices.

The estimated world's import requirements for 1910-1911 is 76,600,000 quarters, against an actual importation last season of 71,462,000 quarters, and of 59,058,058 quarters two seasons ago.

The United Kingdom will need 26,500,000 quarters, and France is estimated to require 10,000,000 quarters (some authorities place the French needs as high as 14,000,000 quarters), and Germany, 9,000,000 quarters. The wheat export countries are estimated to have a supply for export totalling 75,500,000 quarters this year,



SILPHO SENSATION, FIRST PRIZE HACKNEY STALLION
AT NEW WESTMINSTER SHOW—OWNED BY CAPT.
WATSON

against 70,586,000 quarters last year, and 61,662,000 quarters two years ago. Russia's share is placed at 23,000,000 quarters, Argentina and Uruguay stand at 13,000,000 quarters, the Balkan states at 11,000,000 quarters, while the United States will probably have 10,000,000 quarters, and Canada 5,000,000 quarters to spare. Canada's surplus for export compares with 8,570,000 quarters a year ago. Of your wheat Mr. Broomhall estimates that two-fifths will come out in a manufactured form.

All authorities agree that the French demand will be the pivot on which prices will depend. Only once in the last nineteen years has France needed so large a quantity of foreign wheat, and that was in the Leiter year, when her imports reached 10,700,000 quarters.

BEST COUNTY FOR WHEAT

According to the Board of Agriculture Lincoln is the premier county in England for wheat growing, with an acreage of 171,767. Yorkshire has 134,000 acres, and is followed by Norfolk, with 131,307 acres. Essex, Suffolk and Cambridge all have over 100,000 acres. The tendency is for the area under wheat to increase in the southern half of England, and to decrease in the north. The decrease is probably accounted for by the greater profit derived from oats and livestock near the great northern industrial centres.

For barley growing Lincoln is again first with 208,742 acres, and farmers there are inclined to increase the barley acreage of the county.

Yorkshire is easily first in oat acreage, with 240,000 acres in the three ridings, and is followed

by Devon and Lincoln. The kingdom shows a slight increase in oats area, notwithstanding the motor development of late years.

Lincoln, which stands so high in cereals, is also first in potato growing, with 64,433 acres. The area devoted to potatoes in England shows a big decrease this year.

ELECTRICAL TREATMENT

Some attention has been devoted lately by the English press to what is termed a new departure in wheat production. No particulars are available as to the process, but the seed is treated in some manner electrically, and becomes what is termed "hyper-germinant."

A field near Creeksea, Essex, was sown with treated seed on July 19th, and five days after seeding the rows appeared, and by the thirteenth day the plant was so forward as to require rolling. The first ears appeared in a little over eight weeks, and at the end of twelve weeks the wheat was in full ear, and looking very well.

This is rapid growth under English conditions, especially considering the lack of sunshine this year, and further particulars will be awaited with considerable interest by wheat growers.

SOJA BEANS FOR FEED

The British farmer gets his feeding stuffs from all over the world, and one of the latest products to be used in quantity is soja bean cake. The new cake is a prominent feature on the feeding stuffs stands at all the leading shows, and the manufacturers make great claims for it. The Midland Dairy College has been conducting experiments to test its value for dairy cow feeding. The cake is very rich, and care is needed in using—not more than five pounds per day being advised. The college authorities fed three pounds of soja bean cake daily in comparison with a similar quantity of linseed cake. The soja proved better for milk production, but the linseed was superior in the production of live weight. The quality of the milk was not materially different.

Taking everything into account the relative value of the two cakes was about the same as their actual cost. There is no question that English farmers are increasingly using soja bean cake, and it is a valuable addition to the supply of feeding stuffs.

It is often a source of wonder to Canadian farmers, who in most cases own their own farms, that British farmers should in the bulk of cases prefer tenancy. It is largely a question of working capital, and few British farmers possess enough to purchase their holdings and then leave sufficient capital to stock them adequately.

For instance, a farmer with £2,000 could purchase 60 acres at £25 an acre, and have £500 left as working capital. This with good farming would produce an income of £110 per annum. But the £2,000 used as working capital on a rented farm of 250 acres would produce an income of £250 a year. This greater return is the reason why few farmers purchase their holdings. As their capital increases farmers generally extend the area rented, and there are many instances of farmers who started with small farms who now rent very large areas.

Farmers desire security of tenure much more than the opportunity to purchase under British conditions, and this security is one of the strong arguments used by those statesmen who are in favor of the acquisition of lands by county councils. Such lands are subsequently let to tenants, and the small holdings system is based on this idea.

The Times has recently published a most interesting series of articles from an agricultural correspondent who has been inspecting various parts of Britain, and noting the present condition of agriculture. The correspondent confirms the widespread opinion regarding the improved condition of those engaged in tilling the soil in recent years, and in a summary states: "One cannot but conclude that the industry as a whole is in a prosperous condition, and has healthily and stably recovered from the great depression."

We concluded that farming as a whole is prosperous, and is yielding a fair return on the capital invested in it, though it is never likely to lead to a fortune."

F. DEWHIRST.