

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE

* AGRICULTURE, STOCK, DAIRY, POULTRY, HORTICULTURE, VETERINARY, HOME CIRCLE. *

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875

VOL. XXXV.

LONDON, ONT., AND WINNIPEG, MAN., AUGUST 15, 1900.

No. 508

EDITORIAL.

The Influence of the Fairs.

The part which agricultural and industrial exhibitions have played in advertising Canada, and the influence they have had in the improvement of her live stock and methods of farming, we believe bulks more largely than many of our people realize. Only those who are old enough to remember, and who were associated with the work of the pioneers in the establishment of competitive examinations in live stock and other farm products in the older provinces a little more than half a century ago, have any true conception of the immense benefits which have accrued to the country as the result of their efforts in this line. The educational influence and stimulus to improvement exercised by these enterprises has been grandly demonstrated in the last decade in the prominent place Canada has filled in the International Exhibition at Chicago in 1893, where our live stock took the lead, and in Paris in the present year, where our agricultural and dairy products, fruit and farm machinery are eliciting the admiration and wonder of the world, and are advertising the Dominion as a field for immigration and investment in the best possible manner. It is gratifying to know that the spirit of the fathers in this regard is present with their sons of the present day, and that the good work is being carried on with undiminished zeal and energy; that where in the Province of Ontario a quarter of a century ago one large provincial fair was held, we have now at least three that are worthy of that appellation, since they are patronized by exhibitors and visitors from all sections of the Province, while each of the other provinces has its one or more strong, vigorous and successful exhibitions which are doing good work in their several spheres.

The Winnipeg Industrial, the first of the summer shows, as will be seen by the extended report published in this issue, has auspiciously opened the campaign for the closing year of the century by scoring a record in its short but successful career, and demonstrating by the magnificent display of high-class stock brought out that the Prairie Province is no longer wholly dependent upon wheat for its revenues, but has more than two strings to its bow, and, thanks to the wise foresight of its leading men in instituting the exhibition, and of no small number of its farmers in turning their attention to live stock, is happily prepared to tide over the effects of a season of drought, a contingency to which any and every country is liable. The Toronto Industrial, by common consent the greatest exhibition on the continent, continues to prosper, and promises this year to far excel its past record in the quality, extent and variety of its educational and business features, as well as its special attractions and the beauty of its splendid grounds by the lake shore.

The Western Fair at London, the pride of the farmers of Western Ontario, annually draws from all over the Province hundreds of exhibitors and thousands of visitors who are delighted with the city and the show, the latter being made up largely of the cream of the Toronto exhibits, supplemented by a large contingent of western stock reserved for the home show, which, fresh from the fields, not infrequently wins over the Toronto victors on the parklike exhibition grounds of the Forest City.

The Canada Central Exhibition at Ottawa, the capital of the Dominion, grows in popularity and excellence with the years. Its grounds are picturesque, its live stock buildings the most complete and comfortable, alike for exhibitors, visitors and stock, in all the list of fairs, while the best of the winners in the west are met by the elite of the studs, herds and flocks of Eastern Ontario and the sister Province of Québec, while the favorable excursion rates make it easy for thousands of visitors

from both east and west to avail themselves of the opportunity to visit the capital. There is, perhaps, no city in the Dominion more full of interest to visitors than Ottawa. The education of no young Canadian is complete who has not seen the capitol and from Parliament Hill looked out upon the Chaudiere Falls and the beauty of the far-reaching landscape view on either side of the Ottawa.

The Maritime Provinces each have their own provincial exhibition, all well equipped, growing in interest and popularity, and exerting an excellent influence on the conditions of the agricultural community. To business men, and to pleasure-seekers as well, a profitable circuit is afforded by the exhibition fixtures at St. John, Halifax, and Charlottetown. For a healthful trip and wholesome associations, for charming scenery and the inhalation of ozone, commend us to a tour of the Maritime Provinces. To those whose preferences lead them to long for a look into the newer and ambitious West and its immense possibilities, the fair fixtures at Calgary, Kamloops and New Westminster are open, and a trip over the trans-continental Canada Pacific is an education in itself. The dates for the holding of the fairs mentioned, and many more, will be found in the list on another page, and we commend them all to the liberal patronage of our people, who in these times of prosperity can well afford to take a few holidays, and have every reason to be thankful that the lines have fallen to them in pleasant places.

For the Lumber and Mining Camps.

We have been requested by Mrs. May R. Thornley, President of the Ontario Women's Christian Temperance Union, to bring before the attention of our readers the good work which that organization is carrying on among the men in the lumber and mining camps of what is called the New Ontario. Many of those who have drifted into these regions came from farm homes, and do not now enjoy the comforts, privileges and restraints of their earlier days. The Union has been sending them "comfort bags," containing many articles not otherwise obtainable, however highly enjoyed, in these camps, together with wholesome books and other literature. The territory covered includes Algoma, Muskoka, Nipissing, Thunder Bay and Rainy River Districts, where two workers or missionaries are engaged, Miss Sproul, of Ft. William, and Mr. Leckie, of Huntsville, though there is ample scope for a dozen. Thousands of miles of rough country are traversed in order to personally visit the camps, where the comforts are distributed and meetings held among the men. The good counsel given them on these occasions, backed up by practical sympathy, has been the means of untold good. The work is supported voluntarily, and the Union being composed of women, the large proportion of whom do not carry the purse, the outlay for the work, which is undenominational, gets beyond their slender means. The object is a worthy one, which we gladly bring before the notice, especially, of our Ontario readers. Any sums, large or small, donated should be sent to Mrs. Jennie Walters, Treasurer Ontario Provincial W. C. T. U., 57 West Avenue, North Hamilton, Ont.

The magnificent average of \$836, made by the fifty-six Shorthorn cattle sold at the Flatt sale at Chicago last week, in which statement is included four calves, coupled with their dams, though sold separately, may be taken as a pretty good index of the outlook for the beef trade, in which the demand, present and prospective, is greater than ever before. A look through the Chicago packing houses, with their immense capabilities and gigantic operations, serves to strengthen the confidence of breeders and feeders in the solidity of the business and the safety of its future, while the enormous transactions in cattle at the Union Stock Yards there still confirms the confidence entertained.

Opportunities for the College of Agriculture Graduate.

We are frequently asked by prospective students, "What are the opportunities of the Agricultural graduate compared with those of Colleges of Science, Literature and Engineering?" It is not the writer's intention to make any comparison whatever, but merely to call the attention of the reader to a few of the many chances for a young man along the line of agriculture.

No agricultural college claims to be able to place all of her graduates in good remunerative positions as soon as they graduate. In the past it would have been folly for them to think of doing so, but the tide has turned, and the importance of education in agriculture has come to be generally recognized. This change is mainly due to the more exacting conditions, and to the influence of the agricultural press, the Farmers' Institutes, the various live stock and dairy associations, and the Experiment Stations and Agricultural Colleges.

It is not the main object of the college of agriculture of the present day to train men for salaried positions. Its main object is the training of students not only to be good farmers, but good citizens and successful men. In this connection I might mention the fact that all of our College of Agriculture graduates during the past two years have returned to manage their fathers' farms, notwithstanding the fact that many tempting offers were made them to accept other positions. But there is another class of young men who are intensely interested in agriculture, that have no farm or capital of their own to start them in life; thus they must of necessity become salaried men, for awhile at least. It is for these young men that this article is written.

During the past few months we have had a great many inquiries from the various States of the Union asking us to furnish trained men along the following lines: herdsmen, farm managers, managers of special dairy farms, creamery experts, specially trained men along crop lines, nursery managers, landscape gardeners, agricultural editors, and requests from seven State colleges and experiment stations asking us to furnish them men in rank from the position of instructor to that of full professor.

The question quite naturally arises, what remuneration do such positions offer to the right kind of a man? The best answer to such a question is to quote from a few of the enquiries along the different lines of work. Just a few days ago we received a letter from one of the leading physicians in good old York State asking us to furnish him a superintendent for his large dairy and stock farm, where pure milk is bottled and sent to New York City for infants' use at fifteen cents per quart. "The man for such a position must be well versed in live-stock breeding, feeding, pedigrees, etc.; he must also understand the care and management of dairy machinery, the care of milk, and superintend eighteen men that work on the farm." The proprietor wrote us as follows: "You know the kind of man I need; if you have such send him along at once, and I will pay him a salary equal to that of your highest university professor, and should he turn out first-class I can pay him much more."

A large land owner in the central part of the State wishes us to furnish him a young man well up in farm crops and live stock, to superintend his farms, and instruct his tenants as to how to increase their yields of grain without having to increase their acreage. This gentleman informed me recently that he would pay such a man \$100 per month and expenses to start on, with good prospects for an increase later. One of our best young men is fitting himself especially for this line of work.

One of the far south States recently wrote us asking if we could recommend them a good man for the position of agriculturist and horticulturist for their college and experiment station, salary \$1,800 a year to start with.

Within the last few months we have had a dozen or more applications for trained men along dairy and live stock lines at salaries ranging from \$25 to \$50 per month to start on.

I might say that this demand is steadily increasing from month to month, and it has been 100 per cent. greater this year than any previous year. I might also mention that the most remunerative positions open to any of the university students during the past year were along the line of agriculture.

W. J. KENNEDY,
College of Agriculture, University of Illinois.