

THE FARM BULLETIN.

A SCOTTISH-AMERICAN DEFINES THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

With the help of improved machinery, the progressive individual farmer is producing much more than the average farmer did a generation ago, and men of this class are keeping up the productive qualities of their farms. They observe certain principles of farm management; they do not sell forage as roughage; they keep live stock, and grow feed for them; they sell animals and their products, fruits, vegetables, etc. As long as the pioneer on virgin soils grows wheat at prices that have been current, the progressive farmer grows little or none. He keeps improved stock that respond to their keeping and that put on the greatest per cent. of meat on the prime parts. He puts all manure promptly on the fields.

He rotates his crops.
He tile-drains his lands.
He keeps up good fences.
He has good pasture.
He has a good garden.
He breeds draft horses, and does farm work with brood mares and growing colts.
He has a library, with periodicals and standard works, and a musical instrument.
He helps his wife in the house when she needs it; has a spring vehicle for her to visit in, and goes to church with her himself.
He keeps dairy cows or mutton sheep, or both.—
Jas. Wilson, United States Secretary of Agriculture.

CANADA'S POSTAL BUSINESS GROWING.

The report of the Postmaster-General, for the fiscal period of nine months, ending March 31st last, shows a total revenue of \$6,535,093, and an expenditure of \$5,452,792, a surplus of \$1,082,301. The surplus for the whole twelve months of the preceding year was \$1,011,765. Of the total mail matter carried in Ontario during the nine months, nearly half was contributed by Ontario, while Toronto stands at the head of Canadian cities in revenue, which amounted to \$998,951. Montreal's revenue was \$660,217; Winnipeg's, \$374,020; Ottawa's, \$125,059; Hamilton's, \$125,711; London's, \$99,869; Vancouver's, \$111,975; Quebec's, \$87,077; Halifax's, \$77,691; St. John's, \$78,595; Brantford's, \$37,328; Guelph's, \$29,226; Kingston's, \$32,251; Peterboro's, \$26,172; Windsor's, \$25,194; Woodstock's, \$17,537; Toronto Junction's, \$11,643; Stratford's, \$16,243; Sarnia's, \$14,824; St. Catharines', \$19,335; St. Thomas', \$19,417; Galt's, \$17,033; Brockville's, \$23,970; Berlin's, \$20,490; Belleville's, \$15,637.

The total number of dead letters, etc., was 1,458,970, of which 14,700 contained articles of value, or were registered.

Some curious things which found their way to the D. L. O. were: One bark canoe, one bed tick, one bird, three bottles of whiskey, twelve cakes, one can of salmon, one football, numerous articles of jewellery, five packages of gum, one hair-brush, one hair switch, three kimono's, one lamp, one military busby, three mince pies, nineteen mortgages, seven napkin rings, thirty-six neckties, five night-dresses, one oil-cloth, four pawn tickets, two pedigrees, six packages of peanuts, forty-five pipes, twenty-one puddings, seventeen razors, six diamond rings, four rubbers, five pairs socks, thirteen stockings, one clergyman's stole, twenty-three summonses, five teeth, three pair trousers, fifty toys, one war medal, ten watches, two wigs, and one window cleaner.

Moral: Whether you send a diamond ring, a clergyman's stole or a "Farmer's Advocate" subscription, write the address clearly, and see that it is all on the envelope. Perhaps we should not be personal, but we are particularly anxious that no subscription money intended for "The Farmer's Advocate" shall find its way to the Dead Letter Office.

"HORSE SENSE" IN EDUCATION.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I am much obliged to you for sending me a copy of your magazine of the 17th instant. I have read the first article, and, to speak in agricultural language, "There is a good deal of horse sense in it." The Province of Ontario has been kept back in its educational development, because for thirty years or more we held the erroneous opinion that we were far ahead of all the rest of the world in educational affairs. However, there are many evidences that we are waking up. We are getting free from the examination craze, and we are beginning to realize that the boy's originality, and transforming power, and achieving tendency, should be developed by the schools. We are going to do more executive training and less knowledge cramming in the future.

JAMES L. HUGHES.

Chief Inspector's Office, Toronto.

Officers of the Wellington Field Naturalists' Club recently elected are as follows: Honorary President, W. E. Saunders, London, Ont.; President, J. W. Eastham, O. A. C., Guelph; Editor of Bulletin, T. D. Jarvis, O. A. C., Guelph; Secretary-treasurer, C. R. Klinck, O. A. C., Guelph.

IMPORTATION OF HORSES, ASSES AND MULES INTO GREAT BRITAIN.

The British Board of Agriculture and Fisheries desire to call the attention of all concerned to the following provision contained in Article 2 of the Glanders or Farcy Order of 1907, which comes into force on the 1st of January, 1908:

No horse, ass, or mule, brought to Great Britain from any other country, except Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, shall be landed in Great Britain, unless it is accompanied by a certificate of a veterinary surgeon to the effect that he examined the animal immediately before it was embarked, or whilst it was on board the vessel, as the case may be, and that he found that the animal did not show symptoms of glanders or farcy.

THE GUELPH COMBINATION SALE.

The auction sale, at Guelph, Ont., Oct. 23rd, of Shorthorn cattle, from the herds of Geo. Amos & Son, Moffat, and W. R. Elliott & Son, and A. E. Meyer, of Guelph, was largely attended by breeders from considerable distances. The stock offered included a number of very good things, and they were of a creditable class, as a whole, and were in excellent condition. The best things brought fair prices. A few of the animals were withdrawn, owing to the bids not being considered by the sellers fair value for them. The shortage and high price of feed seemed to render breeders cautious about investing, but the buyers certainly got good bargains, and by good management the feed problem may be solved more satisfactorily than is

RAISE THE STANDARD OF RURAL SCHOOLS.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Several months ago I submitted for publication in your paper an article on "Rural Public Schools," which article was inserted in your issue of February 28th, and contained a true picture of the condition of things as they exist in our Province at the present time. In the latter part of my letter, I ventured to suggest, as a remedy to this faulty system of education, that the standard of education in our rural public schools should be raised; in reply to which, someone writing under the assumed name of "Mac," attempted to take me to task, and, by the way, just here let me ask what has become of "Mac." During the months that have elapsed since my reply to "Mac," I have read, with much interest, the various editorials in your paper on the subject, as well as letters from many others along the same line, reminding me of the saying of the Apostle Paul: "A little leaven, leaveneth the whole lump."

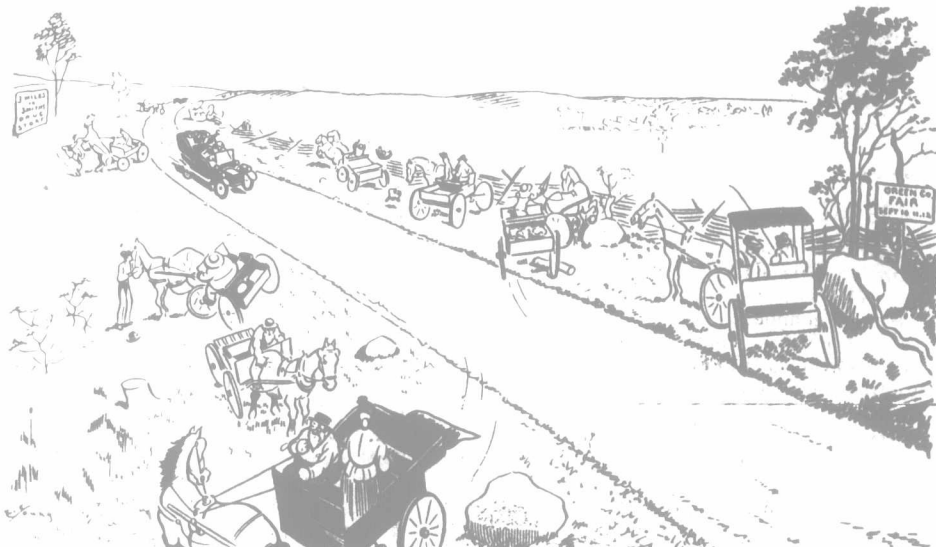
Many of these letters appear to agree in the main with the ideas advanced by me that our "rural-school system" is faulty, and, secondly, that the standard of education in our rural schools should be raised.

Our present school system has been in vogue for so long a time that it will require persistent and united effort so to adjust matters as to bring about the desired results. Mr. Darling speaks truly, when he says, in your issue of October 17th: "It is time our rural residents were taking a little interest in educational matters." For is it not a fact that we have too long been content to leave these matters in the hands of our so-called experienced inspectors and professional educationists? There appears to be a growing conviction amongst rural residents that these officials are

not rendering a very efficient service in return for the salaries received. It seems quite natural that these inspectors and educationists should believe that our educational system is improving, and that better work is being done by our public-school teachers than in years gone by, for, from their view-point, such may appear to be the case. Living, as most of them do, in towns or cities, they see only one side of the question, and apparently know very little about how our school system is affecting the rural districts. We would just here beg leave to suggest that it might also be in order for our inspectors and educationists to take a

"little interest" in educational matters, as they are affecting the rural districts. Mr. Darling says in his article that the day when a pupil may secure a high-school training, without going to the town, is rather a distant prospect, and, we believe, he is again correct, and we are glad of it, for we do not want any high schools in the country. The towns and cities are not begrudged the high schools. Indeed, they are welcome to have them. What we do object to, however, is to have the standard of our rural public schools lowered, as it has been, until they are only mere stepping-stones by which to gain an entrance into the high schools, or pass on into the responsibilities of citizenship with a tremendous lack of preparation for life's duties. Allow me, Mr. Editor, to say right here that I prize your valuable paper very much, having read it with interest for years, and find the discussions on various topics very beneficial, and think it should be in every farmer's home. Many of your editorials are very helpful, although I do not at all times agree with your ideas. For instance, a few weeks ago you were loud in your praises of our high schools having special teachers appointed to organize agricultural classes, and urged the various districts to co-operate with the teachers and make liberal grants to aid them. Some of them, however, were inclined to hesitate, and move along these new lines slowly and carefully, which, I think, was commendable on their part. I am of the opinion that we do not want these special agricultural teachers in our high schools at all. It looks to me like another false move on the part of the Minister of Education. If any of our boys in the towns or cities want to study agriculture, let them go out and engage to work for some practical farmer for a year, and they will learn practical lessons in agriculture, such as they would never dream of in studying in a high school; and, if after a few years on the farm, they want to become specialists, they can then get what they want at the Agricultural College, at Guelph. Mr. Darling advises us to take plenty of salt with the indignant charges made by Mr. Rice. We know, by experience, that many of the assertions made by Mr. Rice are too true, and shall reserve the salt to be taken along with the advocacy of special agricultural classes and other such child's play.

In one of your editorials, you quoted from the sayings of several eminent men to show that "No country



And the Farmer Pays the Road Tax.

(With acknowledgments to "Puck.")

feared. The situation in that regard is not more serious than has been overcome many times in the past, and the prospect for beef cattle is by no means discouraging.

Following is the sale list:

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Village Lassie 6th; born Sept., 1906; John Dryden & Son, Brooklin	\$200
Golden Bud; April, 1901; John McLean, Ballinafad	160
Scotch Lass 2nd; Dec., 1906; A. F. & G. Auld, Eden Mills	155
Scotch Lass; Dec., 1905; Arthur Johnston, Pickering	115
Victoria Lady; Dec., 1905; James Simpson, Moffat	100
Violet of Maple Hill; Nov., 1903; A. F. & G. Auld	105
Duchess of Sunny Slope 2nd; January, 1905; Dr. Bowman, Amherstburg	100
Village Lassie 2nd; Oct., 1904; John Dryden & Son	95
Bonnie Jean 2nd; Sept., 1904; W. J. Shean & Son, Owen Sound	85
Ella Buckingham; Sept., 1905; A. E. Shuttleworth, Hespeler	90
Mysie Lily; Dec., 1906; W. H. Easterbrook, Freeman	80
Fashion's Royal; Jan., 1900; A. E. Shuttleworth	75
Village Lassie 7th; Nov., 1906; John Dryden & Son	75
Village Lassie 4th; Oct., 1905; J. Dedles, Kossuth	75
Ivy 3rd; Sept., 1905; Thos. Ellis, Clifford	65
Cecelia Miss; Jan., 1907; A. F. & G. Auld	55
Fashion's Star; January, 1906; Dr. Bowman	50

BULLS.

Brawth Hero; January, 1907; Prof. G. E. Day, Guelph	\$120
Ury's Hero; February, 1907; T. W. Ellis, Clifford	105
Fashion's Rex; October, 1902; Geo. Hillebracht, Brodhagen	90
Verbena Victor; October, 1906; W. J. Shean & Son	65

Twenty-one head sold averaged \$98.