

The Farming World

And Canadian Farm and Home

VOL. XXIII

TORONTO, 15 AUGUST 1904

No. 16

The West

IT is only by a personal visit that one can understand and appreciate the clear spirit of the west. That rarified, clear atmosphere of which western Canada may justly boast, seems to permeate every citizen. Hope is in the air as well as in the man. The people have the fullest confidence in the future of their adopted country. From no source or from no citizen comes a despondent note. Hope and faith in the land assert themselves on every hand.

It would indeed be a poor country that did not respond to such confidence and faith in its people. But such a land is not the Canadian west. It is a great country, with a great people at its back. This in itself means success. But the people are great because they are active and pushing. There is no lagging behind. The newcomer is at once imbued with the aggressive spirit of the country and sets to work immediately to do his share towards developing its resources and making a competence for himself. Some few there are who, seemingly, cannot harmonize their own individuality with the new conditions. Their sojourn is short. They are not wanted, and if they remain are only as a millstone about the necks of those who are pushing forward to greater achievements in their country's development.

Such is the west. Its progress during the past few years has been marvelous. Beyond Manitoba, in the Territories far to the north, the south, the east and the west, appears the settler. He is going on the land, bringing new areas under cultivation and increasing at an enormous rate the country's wheat producing possibilities. Not only that, the older settled portions of Manitoba and the Territories are increasing their herds and flocks. Perhaps no other country of its age in the world could put up as fine a show of stock as was to be seen at the Dominion Fair a week ago. With these magnificent herds to draw from, the live stock interests of the west are destined to take no second place among its industries. But the country is big and the uncultivated areas large, and for years to come wheat will be the staple article of commerce. To produce No. 1 hard will be the goal of the ambitious westerner for many a day. In this we wish him success. The more of this quality he can produce the better for Canada and for her citizens in whatever calling they may be engaged.

1904 promises to be one of abundance for the west. If the present stand of wheat matures and is properly gathered in many millions of dollars will be added to the wealth of the country. Reports so far are on the whole favorable. From a few sections come the news of too

much rain or too much dry weather. But the area in crop is large, and even with a few isolated cases of this kind, there is bound to be a large surplus wheat crop no matter what comes. However this may be we can only hope that present indications may be fully realized. But whether they are or not will make little difference with the progressive spirit of the west. The people are there to stay and with the large increase in numbers which each year's influx of settlers brings, will make the great prairie lands of the Dominion the granary of the Empire.

Our Big Number

Next issue will be our Annual Exhibition Number, and we can promise our readers something of real merit. An important feature will be a series of articles showing the outlook and trend of agriculture in each of the provinces of the Dominion, prepared by experts. Mr. A. Blue, chief of the Census Division, Ottawa, will contribute a valuable article on the farming industry of Canada. There will be several other notable features which we have not space to enumerate here. A number of original and suitable illustrations are being prepared.

We are sure you will like it. Let your friends and neighbors know, and have a copy sent to them. Copies will be mailed free to all names and addresses received before Sept. 1st.

The Dominion Fair

The city of Winnipeg is to be congratulated upon the successful outcome of the second Dominion of Canada Exposition. When the big city of the west was selected as the place for holding Canada's second national fair, there were doubts in the minds of not a few as to the outcome. But Winnipeg and the west have measured up to the occasion in a way that is most creditable. While the accommodation for exhibitors and visitors was not all that could be desired, a marked improvement in the grounds and buildings was noticeable as compared with a few years ago. However, the exhibition was a success and will pass into history as one of Canada's great displays of live stock and manufactured products.

The Farmer's Boy at the Fall Fair

Harvest is nearly over, and the time of the fall shows is again at hand. Every farmer's boy should be encouraged to try and land one or more of the numerous prizes offered for competition. Encourage him to prepare something for the show, and show it himself. There is an opportunity to win honors in ne-

ly everything raised or grown on the farm. To the fall show is due in a great measure the advancement in the quality of live stock, cereals, roots and all farm produce that has characterized the past decade. It has been the great educator of better methods and their advantages, and the time spent attending it is never lost, if one considers what he sees, and it is a commendable enterprise for any boy to try and fit or prepare something to take along and compete for honors. To win a prize with some pet that he has tended is at once a satisfaction and an inspiration to do better next time, and just such a beginning as this has been the starting point of many a successful stock farmer, on his future road to fame. Every farmer who wishes to have his son remain on the farm should be a liberal patron of the local fair.

The Dead Meat Trade Urgently Needed

Each successive month brings with it additional reasons why there should be no delay in establishing the dead meat trade in Canada on a large and permanent basis. The need is more urgent, perhaps, for the ranching country of the west. Situated as these ranches are at a great distance from the seaboard, a large share of the profits of the rancher are eaten up in exporting the live animals. This could be saved to a large extent by the establishment of Abattoirs near the source of supply. A little additional feeding would put the ranch cattle in good shape for the mock and enable the producer to get more out of the business than he is doing at the present time. Not only does the long journey necessary to get the live animals to the consumer eat up the profits in freight charges, but the animal itself depreciates in value and when landed in Great Britain is intrinsically worth very much less for beef than when he left the ranch. The long haul thus cuts in both ways, and of course the producer suffers.

The need, while, perhaps, not so urgent, is just as great for Ontario. In this province the production of beef cattle, while it has grown somewhat, is not nearly what it ought to be, considering our facilities. In our opinion the chief reason for this condition of things is because the market is more or less circumscribed. With only one way of exporting cattle, that of having them slaughtered within ten days after landing in Great Britain, there is no room for expansion and no incentive to the producer to increase his output. The dressed meat trade, established at a central point in this province and on a sufficiently large scale to make its influence felt on the market, would greatly stimulate the beef cattle trade and make it possible for our farmers to engage in the business with greater assurance of success. If we were given to pro-