

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

PUBLISHED BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).
LONDON, ONT., and WINNIPEG, MAN.

- The Farmer's Advocate is published on the fifth and twentieth of each month. It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.
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We offer our subscribers papers at the following rates:—

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE	
Winnipeg Weekly Tribune	\$1 75
Toronto Weekly Mail	1 50
Daily	6 00
Weekly Globe	1 50
Daily	6 00
Weekly Empire	1 75
Daily	6 00
London Weekly Free Press	1 75
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Remit by Post Office order or registered letter. Post Office order is cheapest and best.

We will give a prize of \$5.00 for the best essay on the subject of "Poultry Raising from a Farmer's Standpoint." All competing articles must reach us not later than February 15th.

Wanted! Seed Grain Correspondents.

We request our readers to send us reports concerning the varieties of spring wheat, oats, barley, corn, potatoes, turnips, mangolds and carrots that did best in their respective districts last season. If new varieties were tried, tell us what they were and how they succeeded. Send reports so that they will reach us not later than February 5th.

Tuberculosis in the Dairy Herd of the Agricultural College at Guelph.

The subject of tuberculosis at the College Farm is by no means a new one to the people of this country, but the facts concerning it are not so well known. Party organs have, as is their custom, tried to make a great deal of capital out of the matter. We have endeavored to learn all the facts concerning the late outbreak, as many of our contemporaries style the last trouble at Guelph.

As we all know, tuberculosis does exist in the dairy herd at the college. Almost a year ago an imported Guernsey cow was known to be diseased and slaughtered. Two more cows of the same breed began to show symptoms before spring and were isolated and ultimately slaughtered, along with a calf from one of them, which gave evidence of having contracted the disease from drinking the milk from a cow when in the advanced stages of the trouble, as the calf's intestines alone were badly diseased, the lungs being perfectly sound, so far as Professor McKenzie, the Bacteriologist of the Agricultural Department, could determine with the naked eye. This slaughter was made publicly and all the students were invited, and most were present to witness it and listen to Professor McKenzie's explanation of the tuberculin test. During the summer a Red Poll and an Ayrshire cow were noticed to be unhealthy, and were isolated to await development or cure. In July nine animals were tested with the Koch lymph, when four gave a reaction indicating the presence of tuberculosis, while the remaining five gave no rise in temperature. Three of the affected animals were destroyed, and the other, the imported Guernsey bull, was isolated for experimental purposes. One of the slaughtered cows, a healthy looking grade, was so slightly diseased that an unprofessional eye could not detect anything wrong with her, and, according to authorities, might have died of old age without harm to man or beast through tuberculosis. It was decided to test the whole herd, but lymph could not be obtained before October, when twenty-six quite healthy-looking animals were tested, seventeen of which gave a rise in temperature. Since that time they have been kept far enough from the healthy animals to insure no contagion. Their milk has been heated to a sufficient temperature to destroy any germs which might be present in it.

Now, as to the dairy stock offered at the last sale, seven calves were taken from the dairy stable to be sold, all of which were dropped a considerable time before the October test was made. They have never suckled their dams, and had not been fed with diseased milk. They have been kept in box stalls in the part of the stable farthest removed from the tubercular cows, and were considered by Prof. Dean and Dr. Reid, the college veterinarian, to be safe and sound. We contend that it was a gross mistake to offer any stock for sale out of such a stable. The Minister of Agriculture left the selection of stock to be sold to Prof. Dean and Dr. Reid, instructing them not to offer any animals that were in the least tainted with the disease. Should the Minister have personally supervised the selection of the stock? Some will say yes, but when a professional veterinarian and the professor of dairying, men who knew all about the dairy stock so far as could be known, were given charge of the selection, with strict instructions not to offer any animals that had come in contact with diseased ones, we cannot blame the Hon. Mr. Dryden for the mistake. Had Profs. Reid and Dean exercised reasonable judgment in the matter, no reasonable man would have thought of blaming any one. We contend that those who selected the stock, and perhaps President Mills to some extent, are the ones on whom public censure should fall.

We understand that Mr. Dryden, on learning that some of the calves being sold were from condemned cows, was horrified to think such a blunder had been made, and immediately instructed Prof. Dean to make the facts known to those who had purchased calves. This was done, and what might have been a source of danger to the country was avoided.

A short time ago a wholesale slaughter was made; a number of healthy-looking animals were destroyed; some of them were so slightly affected that only the most careful examination could detect disease. In one or two only a mere speck was found on dissecting the liver, which goes to show the value of the tuberculin test, as even the smallest trace of disease is shown long before it could possibly interfere with the health of the animal or other animals drinking their milk.

We wish to correct a statement which some of the party papers have circulated, that is, that the disease in the College dairy herd is pleuropneumonia. Why such a statement has been made is not known, except the desire to make a bad matter as much worse as possible. It has been clearly demonstrated during the last year that no pleuro-pneumonia exists in Canada. The most careful examination by skilled veterinarians, wherever the slightest suspicion presented itself, has proven conclusively that Canadian cattle are entirely free from that dread disease.

Several writers in Reform papers have justified the college authorities by stating that the herd at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, had suffered very much from tuberculosis, and that a number of animals were killed, which is true. The officers of neither of these stations are at fault because the disease exists in their herds. It is their misfortune, not their fault. The same trouble may overtake any breeder. The disease may appear and does appear in the best managed herds, both pure-bred and grade. The difference between the two stations is this:—At Ottawa the officials offered no animals for sale; at Guelph animals were put up and sold at public auction that were a menace to the public health. The Ontario Minister discovered the error in time to check it. No harm in reality has been done, but a severe lesson has been taught the officers at Guelph which will prove valuable to the country.

Death of Mr. John Hope, of Bow Park.

We regret to be called on to chronicle the death of one of Canada's agricultural leaders. On the evening of January 3rd, Mr. John Hope, who had been suffering from a severe attack of la grippe and neuralgia, asked one of his men for a bottle of laudanum, from which he had been in the habit of taking doses for neuralgia. It was given him, and in a short time afterwards he was found lying unconscious at one of the stable doors. Medical aid was summoned, but consciousness could not be restored. He soon passed peacefully away, without being able to recognize those about him.

Mr. Hope was born near Aspatria, in Cumberland, England, Jan. 5th, 1844. He, along with the other members of the family, were left fatherless while quite young, which circumstance caused them to separate shortly afterwards, the deceased coming to Markham, Ont., where he was engaged in the cattle trade for a number of years. He afterwards went to Missouri, U. S., and finally came to Bow Park Farm, where he has been for twenty-three years, acting first as manager under the Hon. George Brown, and latterly sole manager for the company owning the estate. He has long been regarded as perhaps the best authority on Shorthorns in America. His opinions have frequently been sought by persons in all quarters of the continent with regard to matters pertaining to livestock breeding and management. The fame gained by this farm and herd is due almost solely to the capabilities and untiring zeal of John Hope. He has occupied a position in the pure-bred stock industry of America which will be exceedingly difficult to fill. Very few men are capable of managing so large a business successfully, while every detail connected with this great enterprise has been carefully looked after. Although Mr. Hope will be greatly missed in agricultural circles, his decease will be most keenly felt in his own family circle and among those with whom he came into daily contact. Although he was frequently called away from home on matters of business, his own family circle and neighborhood was by far the dearest spot to him. He was honored by all classes of men, and esteemed as an upright gentleman in all matters of business. He was a man of action under any circumstances, and was always ready to help deserving causes which came under his notice.

The funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Cochrane, who spoke very touchingly of the excellent qualities of a man with whom he had been in intimate acquaintance for seven years. Notwithstanding the inclemency of a very rough day, a large number of friends from the city and other places throughout the Province and adjoining States congregated to pay their last respects to their departed friend. He was buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Brantford, Ont.