

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL  
IN THE DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

Agents for "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal,"  
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mission have it on their working programme in regard to Canadian farming. Dr. Bailey entertains the hope that the result of this survey work will be to tie the local community together, develop local patriotism, and promote prosperity.

Now, we believe it quite conceivable that farmers in a given district may be very successful financially, and yet lacking in community spirit, and the young people so devoid of appreciation of country life that they will dream of flocking to the town. It is only in part a matter of money return from the business of the farm. In fact, if that be supreme, the home life will likely resolve itself into drudgery and failure. The true spirit is not to be handed out in chunks by any one institution or commission or individual. It is a thing of growth, culture, nurture, education. No youth or adult can put it on like a ready-made suit. The home, the church and the school must co-operate to idealize the country and to see therein the world's best beauties and most wholesome life. We must believe in it, and act as though we believed in it. Appreciation will become the nexus that holds us to the rural home. There is no quick and easy short-cut to it. If we are not willing to do our share towards its realization by the farm fireside, and to have it engrained upon the tablets of the rural schools, which have for generations been misdirected in other channels, our hopes for a regenerated country life will be long in coming to flower and to fruit.

### United States Farmers' Institutes

A special report, by John Hamilton, Department of Agriculture, Washington, shows that during 1910 there were held in the United States 5,651 regular Farmers' Institutes, and some 423 special Institutes, 444 Women's Institutes, 160 Young People's Institutes; 29 railway construction trains were run, and 69 field demonstrations held, in addition to picnics, boys' camps, instructional harvest-home rallies, and meetings of teachers. To get information into the practice of the people is stated to be the main purpose for which the Institutes are organized, and the Connecticut director says that what is now needed is less talk and more demonstration. "I would like to see," he writes, "a demonstration farm in every county in the State." The New York State Institutes have introduced field demonstrations and employed one man on that work who installed

100 fields of alfalfa. Agricultural education in the public schools was discussed at every institute meeting held in Vermont, and in Wisconsin the State Farmers' Institute report is placed in every district school library. The instruction trains continue to be more or less popular, and carry a great variety of equipment, such as live stock, field, orchard and tillage machinery, pruning tools, spraying machines, dairy outfits, milking machines, farm electric-light plants, cement demonstration equipments, horticultural, entomological, grain, forage crop and grass exhibits. The implement outfits are usually loaned by manufacturers. The agricultural colleges aid materially in the Institute work, and are rapidly developing the "extension work," especially as it relates to the rural schools. During 1910 the appropriations from all sources for Institute work in the United States was \$432,374, or \$86,707 more than in 1909.

### Only Prompt Spraying Gave Results.

Some remarkable contrasts are observable this year in the results of spraying in neighboring orchards. It will be recalled how mysteriously the petals disappeared last spring, seeming to shrivel up and vanish almost as if by magic. The hot, dry weather at blooming time, supplemented possibly by the work of the June bugs, which were incredibly numerous in certain sections of Western Ontario, was probably accountable. At all events the blossoms came on rapidly, matured, and fell, and the calyces closed up much more promptly than usual. It was remarked at the time that in all probability a great many fruit-growers would find that they had failed to spray the whole of their orchards early enough to combat effectively the codling moth. The prediction has been abundantly vindicated in our own work and in that of others. Notwithstanding that we rushed the work at the earliest opportunity, we succeeded in spraying only one orchard in time to control the codling moth at all thoroughly. In this three-acre orchard, the third spraying was commenced on May 24th, and finished on May 26th, twenty-seven forty-gallon barrels of diluted lime-sulphur and arsenate of lead being used for this application, or about one barrel to five and a half trees. On the afternoon of that day, orchard No. 2 was sprayed with the same material, same outfit, and by the same men; and on the following day, May 27th, the small orchard at "Weldwood" was sprayed, and also a few trees for a neighbor. Our farm foreman, a thoroughly competent orchardist, had charge all through, and the work was well done. A double-acting hand pump was used, and two lines of hose operated, one of them from the ground, and one from a tower erected on the wagon.

All our apples are quite free from scab, thanks in part to the season and in part to good spraying, but orchard No. 1 is the only one that is not badly infested with codling moth (worms). Even here there are some side worms, but end worms (that is, those which enter the calyx or snuff end of the apple) are extraordinarily rare. In one day's picking, chiefly forefalls, in this orchard, some weeks ago, our foreman reports that he found only one scab and one end-worm. There were some side-worms, and possibly a few end-worms escaped his attention, but there could not have been many. In orchard No. 2 there are quite a few end-worms and many side-worms, considerably over half the crop being affected. In the farm orchard, sprayed last, just a little too late for effective work, an apple without a worm is almost an exception. A similar experience is reported to us by Mr. Caesar, Lecturer in Entomology in the Ontario Agricultural College. Mr. Caesar writes that he was one day later than he should have been in commencing to spray for the codling moth, but that, by working long hours, and as rapidly as he could, with a double-acting hand-pump, he succeeded in getting six acres done thoroughly. These six acres, he is told, are exceptionally clean. Immediately afterwards he sprayed four acres in a neighboring orchard, but warned the owner not to expect the best results, as the calyces had by this time closed to a very large extent. Though he did his best to make a thorough spraying, he does not believe that he was able to force the material down

in the calyx cavity. He has heard that this orchard is not nearly so clean as the first one sprayed. In another orchard, where last year by spraying he had over 85 per cent. of clean fruit, he again sprayed, but not in time to get the material into the calyx end while it was still open. The result is that there are nearly 50 per cent. of worms in this orchard, the only perceivable explanation being that the work was not done soon enough.

Mr. Caesar does not believe that the eggs of the codling moth were laid this year much earlier than usual, compared with the time of the falling of the blossoms. In a number of observations he found that about the ordinary state of affairs existed, for, while worms were found fully ten days earlier than last year, the blossoming had also taken place at least that much earlier. He thinks there were almost no codling moth larvae in any of the fruits earlier than ten days after the blossoms fell, and very few earlier than twenty days. The whole explanation of the contrast in results of spraying lies in the fact that the calyx cup closed up much more promptly than usual after the blossoms fell, thus reducing by several days the period during which effective spraying might be done. By effective spraying for the Codling moth, we imply that the poisonous spraying material must be driven down into the calyx cavity before it closes up, so that the larva entering here will receive a dose that will put it out of business before it can enter the flesh of the apple.

It is easy to see how a farmer who had little experience with spraying, and who sprayed this year for the first time, starting just a little too late for best results, would come to the conclusion that spraying was of little use in controlling worms; whereas, the facts are that spraying has seldom proved much more profitable than this year, but only very prompt application was effective, so far as the codling moth (the principal pest this year) was concerned.

### Farmers' Party Proposed.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In connection with the farmer being represented in Parliament, it seems to me that there ought to be some good come out of the late election. The farmer has voted party, the same as at other times, and the manufacturers, railroads and trusts have swung the election. Now, I am not in a position to say whether it was or was not in his interest, nor am I going to blame the farmer, for he had both sides confusingly talked into him, and voted on old party lines. But I think the time is at hand when we should start a farmers' party. If we had in each polling division of every rural constituency a meeting held, and delegates sent to a final convention to nominate our own men to represent us in Parliament, surely, with the education that farmers have, their municipal experience, and help from the Farmers' Institute, etc., we need not hunt a lawyer. What we want is representatives backed by the farmers, and not by the Liberal or Conservative parties. I believe that farmers will drop their old party and follow such a movement, and I believe it will be the only way they will have their interests looked after. I can see that it will be better for our municipal interest, for there will be no voting for the man because he is a Grit or Tory, but it will be supporting the best man.

York Co., Ont.

FARMER.

[Note.—Even the ranks of labor congregated in towns, with unions fighting for specific objects, are far from being an organized unit. A large proportion of the laboring masses of England, for instance, are outside the unions and the voting control of the Labor party. To organize the farm vote is still more difficult, for it is composed of isolated individuals, not swayed like the vote of cities and towns by sudden waves of excitement or self-interest. The history of rural organizations has shown them to be most difficult to sustain. In addition to isolation, rural interests are so diverse, and in some cases they appear conflicting. The American Grange has persisted, but it is largely social and locally economic in its objects. One rural organization after another, with political objects in view, has come and gone in Canada and the United States. The Patrons of Industry dissolved under the disintegrating influence of politics. Even co-operative societies thrive best when they stick to specific constructive objects. There is in Ontario now the nucleus of just such a party as "Farmer" suggests, the Dominion Grange, which embraces the old political Farmers' Association. It is under capable leadership, and it is difficult to see how any fresh or-