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Winnipeg, Manitoba

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The Farmer a Social Reformer.

BY W. MIDDLEMASS BROWN.

Wherever agriculture is the prominent feature in a country, then it forms a basis for the development and progress of that country along other lines. Agriculture generally, in an eminent degree, occupies the attention of a hardy class of people. Where families are raised under the beneficial influences of Nature, fresh air and beautiful scenery, then a race of people may be produced, that by means of a proper educational system may become a great nation. The physical, mental and normal development of a rural population supply the backbone of a nation's progress. The cultivation of the land to best advantage may, in many instances, produce as much as will meet the necessary demands of the nation. Where the amount of produce essential to the nation's sustenance has been raised, then mills, factories and other buildings are erected for the manufacture of the other commodities for the use of the people. Villages and towns spring up in certain localities that are suitable for transportation of produce to other parts of the country or distant lands. Railways are laid and canals constructed as means of transfer. And as the commercial and industrial importance of the towns increase then they become cities, which draft away largely the young people from our rural districts. In the cities the life of the people becomes more complex, and the mental and moral qualities of the citizens are constantly in demand for the proper administration of civic affairs. It is observable that the men who have been prominently serviceable in this connection have frequently been reared in rural districts, and circumstances have conducted them to leave for city life. But the man who is a farmer wields a power in the nation which few

others possess. He has the means at his command for raising and lowering the prices of commodities necessary for the nation's maintenance. And by so administering his affairs wisely he can be of great service in advancing the material interests of the community and nation, and bringing forward those reforms that are conducive to a nation's welfare. The life of the farmer being much in the open field of Nature, he has the opportunity of having that quiet reflection which is beneficial to the consideration of important questions of national interest. Having generally a good deal of spare time during the winter months, he can devote himself to reading of all kinds, and the farming journals and newspapers of the country engage his attention. Agriculture and

politics are the chief subjects which call for study and discussion among the farmers of Canada. Agriculture being their vocation the political bias naturally leans towards the farming interests. Everything from a political point of view, that will advance the prosperity of the farmers is brought forward, debated, advocated and placed before their parliamentary representatives. The farmers, however, have not only their own interests at heart, but also the welfare of the country. It is the produce of the country that is bought by the people, and in many cases it is exported to foreign lands. The relationship that exists between these lands and our own country call for careful diplomacy. The social element we thus find is an important feature that engages the attention of the farmer. All that



Wheat yields from 72 to 75 % Flour.
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WHAT are wheat prospects for 1920-21? Here is some of the latest information:

France has made very little gain in wheat acreage. England and Wales have less wheat acreage than last year. U.S. farmers plowed up 11.9% of winter wheat sown last fall. Australia's crop is off 41%. South Africa's wheat is short 23%.

Make every acre of wheat sown count in 1920

Results obtained at 5 leading experiment stations show an average increase of 11 bus. of wheat per acre from the use of fertilizers.

Figure out what such an increase on your own wheat would buy.

For wheat on medium loam soil use 250 to 300 lbs. per acre of fertilizer carrying 2 to 4 % ammonia, 8 to 9 % phosphoric acid, and 2 to 4 % potash. Best application is made with the wheat drill with fertilizer sowing compartment.

For further information write

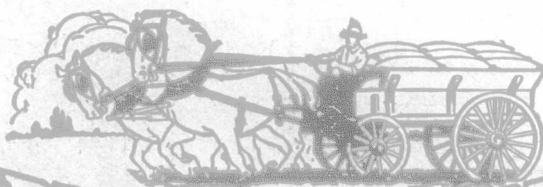
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interests him in the development of agriculture reacts upon the welfare of the people. Not only so, but he also takes an interest in the mental, moral, religious and educational advancement of the community where he resides.

The Provincial Governments have instituted district offices throughout several of the counties, where their representatives are stationed, and offer free information to the farmers and others, upon the various subjects connected with agriculture. Farmers' institutes are also organized where subjects connected with agriculture are freely discussed, and improvements introduced as to the raising of crops, rearing of cattle, cultivation of orchards, bee-keeping, etc. Women's Institutes are also formed in some of the districts where subjects particularly pertaining to the home and farm duties of the housewives are introduced and debated upon. Such institutions cannot but be of great assistance in advancing the status of agriculture along social reform lines, and place the farmer in a position far in advance of any other vocation, in being a benefactor to this vast Dominion and the world at large.

In a certain home-missionary movement every participant was to contribute 5s. that she had earned herself by hard work. The night of the collection came, and various and droll were the stories of earning the money. One woman had shampooed hair, another had made doughnuts, another had secured newspaper subscriptions, and so on.

"Now, madam, it is your turn," he said. "How did you earn your 5s.?"

"I got it from my husband," she answered.

"Oh!" said he. "From your husband? There was no hard work about that."

The woman smiled faintly.

"You don't know my husband," she said.