

EDUCATION FOR FARMERS.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Never in the history of the world has the need of education been so apparent as at the present time, and perhaps never before has our fair Dominion made such great strides of progress in the lines of education as in the last ten or twenty years.

But it is only in recent years that the farmer has opened his eyes to the fact that he, above all others, should have a good sound education. We will not have to look back so very many years to see the time when an educated farmer was not to be found. There were High Schools, Colleges and Universities then as well as now, but, as a rule, only town boys and girls took advantage of them, and perhaps a few farmers' sons who intended leaving the farm and going into business or commercial life, or following one of the many occupations aside of agriculture, while the great mass of young farmers were doomed to go through life with barely a good public-school education. Such as were fortunate enough to see the inside of a High School were few indeed, and to look for a college graduate on the farm was like hunting a needle in a haystack.

Agriculture is certainly the grandest and noblest occupation on the face of the earth. When we consider the fact that the farms in Canada produce more marketable produce every year than all our mines, forests, factories and fisheries combined, we can get a slight idea of the fertility of Canadian soil, and a conception of the magnitude of Canada's grandest occupation. Judging from the past, we at once see that Canada's future progress and advancement depends largely, if not altogether, on the intelligence of her farmers. In this advanced age, the successful farmer must put, not only brawn, but also brains, into his work. He should know not only the how, but also the why of things.

President Roosevelt says: "A country is no greater than her rural population." Is this not another proof that true national greatness must come through the agriculturist, and through the agriculturist only?

Observation tells us that at least ninety per cent. of our successful business men, such as manufacturers, merchants and mechanics, are born on the farm; while, in professional life, as teachers, doctors and lawyers, we can claim even a higher percentage. Why is it? It is because the farmer's son is blessed with the best heritage on earth, namely, strong arms, sound brains, and plenty of ambition and energy to insure a successful termination to any undertaking. The question might be asked, Why do these industrious and ambitious young men leave the farm? The answer is plain and simple: Because their ambitious nature is not satisfied with the quiet routine of farm life. They long for higher things, and thirst for deeper knowledge. How, then, can we keep these fiery sons of the soil at home? First, by beautifying the home, and making the farm life as pleasant and interesting as possible. Second, by giving the aspiring young man a good, practical education at some college which presents the great occupation in its true light and proves to the young student that agriculture is beyond a doubt one of the noblest of callings, one of the latest of sciences, and to enter its domains means to enter one of the broadest fields for scientific research on the face of the earth.

The young farmer of to-day certainly has glorious opportunities, when compared with those of the past. Think of literary societies, Farmers' Institutes, farmers' clubs, agricultural courses at our High Schools, agricultural colleges, etc. Perhaps, of all these, the literary societies or debating clubs are doing the most good, because they are within the reach of all. They are a social blessing to Canada's young people, drawing them together in closer bonds of love, confidence and unity. They break the monotony of farm life by changing the every-day routine of hard labor to a little brain exercise, even if there is a little fun and nonsense sometimes. The wise old saying has followed down through the ages, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." But it does a greater and nobler work than this. It develops the talent of song and public speech, and, by practice, the enthusiastic members often unearth such talent as would leave some of our practiced and experienced public speakers in the background. In this way, literary societies in rural districts have produced some of the nation's deepest thinkers, noblest writers and finest orators. And what, in reality, are a nation's greatest men? Are they not such who, by their eloquence, can sway an audience at will; such, who, by their tact and ability on the public platform, can express their opinion on different subjects in such a way as will be appreciated by all hearers? Such, who, by their enthusiasm, can inspire the nation to higher ideals, loftier thought and nobler aspirations? Knowing this, let us, then, young and old, give due credit to literary societies, and show our appreciation by taking hold of the work with strong hands and willing hearts, as it is only by co-operation that these societies can ever rise to the height of their

possibilities. And, by so doing, there is no doubt we will yet see results that will go even far beyond our wildest expectations.

Taking everything into consideration, we cannot fail to see that there are brighter days dawning for the Canadian farmer, and it is to be hoped that the days are gone, never to return, when men, through blind ignorance, will say, "I am only a farmer." How can we expect others to respect us and our occupation if we fail to show to the world that we have a high opinion of our life's work. Let us, then, as true men and fellow agriculturists, join hands, and stand firm for agriculture, education and prosperity, and in ten years from now we will see more college graduates and more public speakers, more intelligent farmers, truer men, and better citizens.

S. S. LAUTENSCHLAGER.

Waterloo Co., Ont.

A BRITISH COLUMBIAN'S OPINION OF OUR PREMIUMS.

I am slow of sending in my subscription, but, all the same, I could not do without "The Farmer's Advocate." The first premium that I got from you was a watch, for 21 names, and I sold the watch for \$20. The second was a lady's watch, which I gave to my wife, and it is a dandy; money could not buy it; it keeps fine time. And the reading-glass—well, I have prospectors using it, and they said they paid \$3.50 for a glass not as good as mine. Now you know what I think of the premiums I have got of you. People say that you send out first-class goods. Mrs. Martin would like to get the lady's handbag as a premium. Excuse an old man writing a long letter to you, but I thought, in justice to you, that the least I could do was to thank you for your kindness in sending such good premiums as you do. With best wishes to "The Farmer's Advocate" and staff.

WM. M. MARTIN.

Yale & Cariboo, B. C.

include stallions registered in the American Stud-book, published by the Jockey Club, New York, U. S. A. The revised offer is now announced in our advertising columns, and owners of Thoroughbred stallions recorded in either the Canadian or American books are advised to make early application to W. P. Fraser, Secretary the Ontario Jockey Club, Toronto, Ont.

BREAKING COLTS.

By M. R. W., Montreal, commended in Horsemen's Experience Competition.

These remarks are intended to apply to draft or general-purpose horses, but may be applied to any breed with good results. After many years of observation and experience, I am led to believe the best time to begin a colt's education is when he is quite young, even at three or four days old, provided he is strong and healthy. It is much easier then, is often convenient, and is lasting, when followed up with a little care and attention. The young foal should be at no great distance from the buildings until he is at least two or three weeks old, so that he may be sheltered from chilly nights and rains, so that there should be no trouble to give him the little teaching he requires at that age. When I had a foal born in a box stall, as soon as he began to run around the stall, I used to catch him in my arms and hold him until he ceased struggling, then allow him to walk away towards his dam. After this was repeated a few times, I put a sort of halter on him, by taking a strap about three feet long, putting one end over his neck and back under his throat and around his muzzle, and up to his throat again, taking both ends in the right hand, and, by this, guiding him towards his dam before letting him go. In this way I have learned foals to lead very nicely in two or three weeks, without a struggle. It is true it may be done in much less time than this by being a little harsh, but taking time is often the fastest way to teach either horses or colts. When the foal has been learned to lead, it is good practice to lift his feet for a second at a time at first, each foot in turn, a little longer each time, until he allows his

feet being lifted, as desired. This is especially desirable, as some colts give a great deal of trouble at first shoeing. At this stage the foal may be allowed to run with his dam until weaning time. All that is necessary is to try to keep him from getting wild by caressing occasionally, but do not fool with him, or allow anyone else to do so. Attend to his health and education—nothing else. A few days before weaning, it is well to put on a proper halter, give him another lesson at leading, and learn him to stand tied. He may have become wild by this time; if he has, corner him up in the stable and halter him. The best way to learn him to stand tied is to put a rope as a surcingle, fasten it between his fore legs, put the other end up through the ring of the halter,

and tie about as high as his nose; he will not pull much, and if he does he cannot hurt himself. This is especially a good way to tie a colt three or four years old that has never been handled, as a big, young horse, weighing about thirteen hundred, can break almost any halter. It is good to put something under the rope to prevent it cutting back of the withers. Colts should not be left alone until they are accustomed to stand quietly, as at first they are liable to become cast in various ways. When the colt has been weaned, and will lead and stand tied properly, he should be allowed all the exercise he requires in the paddock, or else, where out, if there are others to play around with, all the better. He may now be allowed to run for a couple of years. All that he will need is attention to his health, and a little caressing occasionally. At two years and a half, if a big, strong colt, he should be broken to harness. If the colt is undersized, it is well to let him run longer. It is good prac-



Perfect Motion (13123).

Clydesdale stallion; bay; foaled May, 1904. Sire Baron of Buchlyvie, by Baron's Pride. First in open aged class, and winner of Brydon Shield, Glasgow Stallion Show, 1908.

HORSES.

ONTARIO JOCKEY CLUB'S PREMIUM OFFER REVISED.

In the Horse Department of "The Farmer's Advocate" of February 27th, notice appeared of the decision of the directors of the Ontario Jockey Club to offer the sum of \$1,000 in premiums for Thoroughbred stallions, with the hope of improving the quality of the half-bred horses in the Province, and to further induce the breeding of half-bred mares to Thoroughbred stallions.

Since the original notice was sent out, a few slight changes have been made in the rules. As first announced, a stallion, to be eligible for these premiums had to be registered in the stud-book of the Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society, Ottawa. The offer is now broadened to