

The Farmer's Advocate AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

Published weekly by
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (Limited).

JOHN WELD, Manager.

Agents for "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal,"
Winnipeg, Man.

1. **THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE** is published every Thursday.
It is impartial and independent of all cliques and parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
2. **TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.**—In Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, Newfoundland and New Zealand, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 per year when not paid in advance. United States, \$2.50 per year; all other countries, 12s. in advance.
3. **ADVERTISING RATES.**—Single insertion, 25 cents per line, agate. Contract rates furnished on application.
4. **THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE** is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrears must be made as required by law.
5. **THE LAW IS,** that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrears are paid, and their paper ordered to be discontinued.
6. **REMITTANCES** should be made direct to us, either by Money Order, Postal Note, Express Order or Registered Letter, which will be at our risk. When made otherwise we will not be responsible.
7. **THE DATE ON YOUR LABEL** shows to what time your subscription is paid.
8. **ANONYMOUS** communications will receive no attention. In every case the "Full Name and Post-office Address Must be Given."
9. **WHEN A REPLY BY MAIL IS REQUIRED** to Urgent Veterinary or Legal Enquiries, \$1.00 must be enclosed.
10. **LETTERS** intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
11. **CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—Subscribers when ordering a change of address should give the old as well as the new P. O. address.
12. **WE INVITE FARMERS** to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine," Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known, Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.
13. **ADDRESSES OF CORRESPONDENTS ARE CONSIDERED AS CONFIDENTIAL** and will not be forwarded.
14. **ALL COMMUNICATIONS** in reference to any matter connected with this paper should be addressed as below, and not to any individual connected with the paper.
Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (Limited),
London, Canada.

thing up afterwards. Let us get down to one county, Middlesex, which this year had nine of the Fairs comprising seventy-four schools with children who had between 1,700 and 1,800 plots to inspect. Imagine the number of days required to send out material for these plots, eggs for hatching and to organize the work in the spring. Then think of the days and days required to inspect over 1,700 plots in school sections, some groups of which are far remote from other groups and then add the work required to get out prize lists and hold the Fairs and put everything in order afterwards. It means a good part of the spring, summer and fall seasons in School Fair work.

Next year the three counties mentioned are planning to hold thirty-two Fairs instead of twenty-one. This is over a fifty per cent. increase. How can it be done? It can be done and no doubt the head of the work, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture, C. F. Bailey, with the help of his staff of Representatives will find a way, but can all this School Fair work be accomplished without slighting some other important phases of the District Representative's many-sided task?

We would not for one minute have the reader think we are not in sympathy with interesting the children through School Fairs. Undoubtedly they have been a step in the direction of better agriculture but we would not care to see the District Representatives become nothing more than School Fair directors. It becomes a question of whether the District Representative can do better work with the tots in the schools or with the young men who have left school and are just at the age where they need guidance toward agriculture. Coming back to Middlesex county again, there is one district in that county in which there is a class of young men which have been interested in agriculture through Short

Courses and special work put on by the District Representative to such an extent that the influence is apparent on the entire community. The young men are coming farmers of the first order. They are interested, and we hold that the work with these alone is more far reaching and valuable than all the School Fairs in the county valuable as the latter are.

Then again the Representative must have time to get out and visit the farmer on his farm, there to discuss the problems with him. He can do the best work through underdrainage, spraying, pruning, talks on weeds and cultivation, talks on varieties and seed selection, in a hundred ways which mean dollars to the farmer. The present-day requirements of agriculture make this imperative. If the Representative has all the time he requires for these things, for his Short Courses, for his Demonstrations and for his office work then let him keep on increasing School Fairs. If not, then other arrangements should be made for the School Fairs. We may be wrong, but at present it appears as though the School Fair work will outgrow itself. Far better would it be if the teacher in each rural school had agricultural knowledge enough to carry on a little Fair each year in his or her own school and then have various schools in the district, or township if you choose, meet in a championship affair at the close, the winners at the local Fairs competing. The District Representative might help out with his advice and might help with the judging at the big Fair, and possibly at the smaller, but he would be relieved of the work of plot inspection and the sending out of samples, etc. By all means keep the children interested but do not neglect the bigger boys.

One fault we would find with the average School Fair is that it is just a Fair. It is too big for the judges to complete their work and explain why placings are made. The children would learn more if they had the reasons pointed out to them with the exhibits right there. With one school, only, in each small Fair this time could be taken. With ten schools and 700 entries it is impossible. It is not a matter of winning the prize but why was it won. Giving reasons would make the judge even more careful in his work.

Here is a problem for the Department of Agriculture, and not for them alone, but also for the Department of Education. Good work has been and is being done in the School Fair but a change seems necessary. Let no one think these changes are easy to handle. Those at the head of the School Fair work, toil hard and laboriously but a change must come. Counties do not want too many assistants to the Representatives. They prefer a few first-class men as leaders and they must work where most good can be done. The District Representative is essentially an organizer. After he has organized the School Fair some other means might be found for carrying it on.

Is Country Life Contracted?

"The most serious reason (for rural Canadian depopulation) was the contracted life of the country. For the farmer, his wife and family, life was very much of a treadmill unless relieved by social activities and other diversion, and the places were few in which were to be found wholesome societies or organizations for such purposes." James Ryrie, Toronto Jeweler, before the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec.

By a young Toronto man travelling the foregoing idea was expressed in another way. It was to escape from the restraint of rural home life that young people were flocking to the towns. These are prevailing conceptions in town circles, but they do not present the fundamental and most general reason for rural drift. Put very pointedly in few words, the rural youth have been heading cityward chiefly for economic reasons. Young men and young women of the farm home and perhaps more so of the rural village home, see in the opportunities of cities and towns the expectation of more speedily maintaining themselves or securing homes of their own. There is an important sense in which town life is more "contracted" than rural life, and the toilers (whose illusions have been dispelled) in factories, shops and offices

know it, but they are immeshed in conditions from which they cannot easily escape "back to the land." It may not be quite so handy to the perpetual "movie" show, but the average rural home for which "The Farmer's Advocate" speaks is as well equipped with the means of culture, sane social improvement and recreation as the thousand-home-rows of the city. In so far as Canada is concerned the most to be dreaded outcome of rural depopulation is that it dries up the wholesome supplies of virile young manhood and womanhood upon which for its work and leadership the nation so greatly depends. Very properly Mr. Ryrie censured the church itself and educationists for dereliction and misdirection of effort in relation to rural life and affairs, and he need not be chary about going a step farther and insisting upon conditions in the fiscal, political and commercial affairs of this country that will tend to give the business end of farming a relatively equal chance with the powerful interests which centre in the cities. If rural life be "contracted" it can be expanded by the people of the farm about as rapidly as conditions are made favorable.

Prussianized Poland.

History presents no more shameful chapter than that recording the downfall and dismemberment by greedy adjoining monarchies of Poland, once an independent nation of 25,000,000 high-spirited people of noble traditions. Rent and robbed by those who should have been her neighbors this year of blood witnesses more than half a million Poles fighting not against a common foe but against each other. Anxious only to live and let live she has been outraged by Russians, Austrians and Prussians. The average reader probably regards Russia as the traditional foe of Polish liberty, but a half century of silence is now broken to disclose Germany as her most insidious and remorseless enemy. By the treaty of Vienna, the conditions of which were shamefully violated, Prussia seized the Western portion of Poland, and began a policy of intellectual cunning conceived by Treitschke and others designed to exterminate the Poles as a "nation of inferior quality." In the historical account of Poland by F. D. Little, it is shown that they were by degrees ousted from government positions, their language banned and they were subjected to every provocation, hardship and annoyance possible within the pale of apparent legality. Under Laws of Exceptions, 30,000 men, women and children were under a decree of March 25th, 1885, driven out of Posnania before the year's end with orders never to return and some 10,000 followed later. Their possessions were looted. In 1886 the Prussian Diet, which did not represent the unhappy country, passed a Colonization Bill and empowered a Royal Commission to convert the Polish lands into German settlements, which they did ruthlessly by pre-emption and entail. As late as June 30th, 1907, a new Law of Exception was voted to still further facilitate driving out the tenacious Polish peasant from his land but he seemed unconquerable, and after consultation with political economists Prince Bulow introduced the Expropriation Bill which was passed to uproot them by brute force if necessary. Dictated by hatred and greed it practically defied the laws of nations. Passing over religious persecutions and expulsions, the author quoted refers to the Germanization of Polish schools which was taken in hand. First from the secondary Posnania schools and in 1887 from the elementary schools the Polish language was banished. Since 1905 the sound of Polish language has not been heard in their schools. Even the catechism was taught in a strange, unintelligible tongue. A children's strike followed, 100,000 refusing to be so taught. A government circular commanded their punishment. Parents were fined and children unmercifully flogged, some of them crippled for life and others killed outright in the name of "Kultur." Absorbed in selfish local affairs, be-devilled by partizan politics, or muzzled the European Press which should have stirred the world to active indignation made but a passing protest "and then—forgot." German officials were encouraged in the task of Pole-worrying by receiv-

ing extra
ters. cou
wearing
tongue t
shops on
played b
the foreg
the prese
well-know
singularl
Speaking
and mos
istence s
of a pr
stretched
snatching
be an en
be put ou
has Prus
understan
freedom."

The so
on, and
flocks at
in Canad
and each
by which
of the co
ganser is
drake, Fi
is also c
Sharp-tai
Duck, Pie
Pheasant

Our du
really bel
Family.
Ducks or
and narrow
sides. Th
a broad l
they are
group, wi
the bill
but the h

All the
waters in
groups, v
Sea and
Ducks, ar
the shoot
which are
or Merg
which hav
on the Se
many of t
often spe
on stream

An ani
on the b
shore is th
large repr
have in o
species, w
size and
animals,
Shrimps,
to the ins
is, the su
of being i
brates. (ar
ed outside
the inspec
(pronounc
chitin is
(limestone
the integu

The C
antennae
"piners"
itself, mo
fin which i
of progress
tips of its
wards in
power bei
alternately
and exten
These mus
its body.
larger Cra
these form
are those

The Cra
has a very
gill-scoop
circulating
These a
claw, an
stones, th
They are
thing edit
food. The
animals, s
Black Bas
haunting h