

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE  
DOMINION.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED)

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AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL,  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

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ince can afford it, and whether, if carried out, the results would be in proportion, are questions we raise, but shall not attempt to settle. If half the policy is adopted, and efficiently carried out, it will make a pretty large order.

### Disadvantageous Industries.

Commending the editorial objecting to the proposition to protect the exotic industry of tinplate manufacture in Ontario, a reflective subscriber adds: "I believe if the whole matter could be similarly sifted down, it would be found that most protective measures are open to the same objection, namely, that they impose on the consumer or taxpayer a burden out of proportion to the benefit that accrues from the addition of the new industry. There are some lines of manufacture which would develop in Canada without any protection whatever. There are some few others that might, perhaps, with advantage, be fostered in their initial or struggling stages. There are many others, introduced on the strength of bonuses and burdensome protective duties, which the country would be far better off without."

### Herd Competition as Stimulant.

No feature of the educational campaign conducted in the interests of Ontario dairying has been of greater benefit to the producers than the dairy-herd competitions, under the auspices of the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association, held during the past three summers. The friendly rivalry aroused has led to special attention being given to a supply of suitable feed for late summer and fall. Those in the competition have realized that, without some fodder to supplement the pasture, they cannot hope to win the coveted prize. This illustrates the value of soiling crops.

This year the contest will be conducted along lines similar to those of 1908. Five prizes are offered to patrons of cheese factories, and five to those who send milk or cream to creameries. The value of such contests increases with the number of individuals who manifest an interest in the work. The number of entries should be large.

Benefit will be derived by the contestant, the community in which he lives, and the dairy industry at large.

This competition, along with the district event, conducted under the auspices of the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association, will prove of great value to dairying. The patrons should rise to the occasion in all parts of the Province.

### Too Many Feedstuffs Excepted.

At last the Dominion Government has fallen into line with the legislatures of a good many of the American States, by introducing a bill to regulate the trade in concentrated commercial feeding stuffs, by compelling the manufacturers thereof to register each brand with the Minister of Inland Revenue, at Ottawa, and guarantee with each package sold the minimum percentage content of protein and fat, and the maximum of crude fiber. The definition of commercial feeding stuffs designated by the Act is not as broad as might be wished, exception being made in the case of bran or shorts or middlings from wheat, rye, oats, peas or buckwheat sold separately and not mixed with other substances. This exempts quite a number of products which it seems to us should be covered by the law. For example, we have pea bran, which O. A. C. analyses showed to vary in protein content from seven to thirteen per cent. Why should such a feed not be sold on guarantee analysis, just as much as gluten meal? Doubtless there are reasons that millers could advance why this product should not come within the scope of the law, but to the laymen it appears that the proposed Act is leaving more loopholes than it is closing. It is welcome, however, as a step in the right direction.

### Legislation in a Nutshell.

Every citizen should endeavor to keep himself informed as to the legislation passed by Federal and Provincial Parliaments. Every farmer should make a special point of acquainting himself with all enactments bearing upon his occupation and interests. To scrutinize every bill that comes up and is passed is impracticable for the average man, but "The Farmer's Advocate," at the conclusion of each session, puts the whole matter in a nutshell. On another page of this issue will be found a lucid account of agricultural legislation enacted at Toronto in the 1909 session, just closed, with explanations of its relation to legislation and conditions hitherto in vogue. Ontario subscribers, in particular, should read it carefully.

### The Seed-corn Plot.

From an article published last fall in "The Farmer's Advocate," entitled, "Select Seed Corn on the Stalk," we reproduce this timely reminder:

"Every corn-growing farmer in a region where corn occasionally matures should grow every year on the best part of his farm, and entirely removed from the main corn crop, a seed-corn patch."

The corn with which to plant this small plot should have been selected last fall on the stalk; but if one can obtain from a neighbor, or even from a distance, a sample of improved seed corn, he may use this to commence now a system of seed-corn-plot selection. There is money, interest and education in this work. Get the boys at it.

### Improve a Good Breed.

At last the Scotchman's position as the arbiter of draft-horse excellence has been called into question, even in Canada, the home of his best customers. For generations his maxim has been, "No foot, no horse." It is a good principle, but can be pressed too far. When, for instance, it leads to the preferment of a well-bottomed, but wasp-waisted specimen over a horse with not quite such perfect feet and legs, but with a bread-basket large enough to hold a full feed of hay and oats, well-muscled and symmetrically built, it is going too far. "Feather" is being criticised as a superfluity and nuisance, which should be eliminated, rather than encouraged.

The Scotchmen are certainly rare good stock-breeders, and have produced a splendid breed of draft horses, but even the Scot, hard-headed and

judicious as he is universally acknowledged to be, has not succeeded in holding himself entirely aloof from fads and extremes. Feather is a fad; emphasis upon underpinning, to the partial neglect of other important considerations, is an extreme. For all that, the Clydesdale is a bonny draft horse; and where he can be excelled for all-round utility purposes we know not. But that is no reason why he should not be improved.

### A Silent Missionary.

"Ye're livin' in a vera prosperous farmin' community, Sandy," says a city frien' o' mine wha had cam' oot tae the country tae spend a few days wi' me, an' to save a few dollars that he wad hae tae pay oot for board while his wife was awa' at the seaside. "Aye, we are that," says I, "but gin ye had been here ten or a dozen years back, ye would na' hae been likely tae gie sic a favorable opeenion o' the place as ye hae juist expressed."

"Hoo's that?" says ma frien'.

"Weel," I says, "it all cam' about through the eenufluence o' ane man, wha's hoose ye can see through the trees beyant the wee loch there. He's no' the mon ye wad tak' tae be warkin' reforms in society, an' changin' the face o' nature, as I'm tellin' ye he has done, for he's a canny goin' lad, an' willna' be sayin' twa words in the day, gin ye don't gie him good encouragement. It wisna' by preachin' that he got in his missionary wark in this part o' darkest Canada."

"When he cam' here first an' bocht that farm he's on the noo, every auld gossip in the place, mon an' wumman, set him doon for bein' a wee bit aff his trolley, as ye say in the city, for the farm was that rin oot that even the weeds were beginnin' to hae a kind o' sick luke, an' the hoose an' the barns, what there was o' them, was a sicht that couldna' be surpassed by onything that hadna' bin in the track o' a cyclone. The rest o' the surroundings were quite in keepin' wi' the architectural features o' the place, an' the feelin' o' harmony an' 'eternal fitness o' things' that it wad gie tae ye, was na mair than natural, an' wad na doot appeal vera strongly to a mon like Professor Hutt, o' oor Guelph College."

"The road frae the highway tae the hoose was o' the gude old-fashioned blue-clay description, an' wad stick tae ye, as the wee laddies used tae say, 'like a pup tae a root.' The auld chap that used tae own the place never pit stane or onything on tae it, for, as he said, it was 'never juist in shape for it.' Naturally, ye wouldna' be expectin' tae see vera wunnerful floor gardens an' lawns an' hedges an' sic like about the place aifter comin' over a road like yon; but what ye would see if ye survived the road wad compensate ye for ye're trouble. The auld fellow used tae say that there was mair siller in plantin' tatoes an' corn an' such like about the hoose than in wastin' time wi' floors an' lawns an' wee bit trees oot o' the swamp, an' sic foolishness; but frae a' onyone could see, he didna' waste muckle time daein' either. He had a gran' crop o' burdocks, however, an' forbye, there was a bonny patch o' thistles on each side o' the dure, wi' sic ornaments lyin' about as auld tin pails an' top-boots, wi' here an' there a leg o' a coo that had died maybe a year or twa back o' a complication o' wheat straw an' water. An auld rail fence was built frae the barn up tae a corner o' the hoose, and alangside o' this he used to raise mony varieties o' fruit, wi' particular attention paid tae choke-cherries an' wild raspberries. His auld wumman used to mak' soap a couple o' times in the year, (though what the family did wi' it, no one seemed to ken), an' the ash-barrel they used for gettin' the lye wad aye hae the place o' honor about twa yards frae the front dure, wi' a pile o' ashes alangside, where they wad be handy for the hens tae dust themselves in. Noo an' again the auld mon wad tak' an industrious turn, an' gae tae splittin' wood for the kitchen stove, an' he wad aye pile it oop juist where the wife was in the habit o' throwin' her dishwater an' scraps frae the kitchen. Their backyard in the winter was a bonny sight, I can tell ye. It was what you fellows in the city wad call a general warehouse. The auld wumman wasna' a'thegither to blame, I suppose, for she had an idea that so lang as she got the dirt outside the dure, her part o' the wark was done."

"I willna' be wearyin' ye by gain' intae ither details, sic as the way the farm machinery was disposed o' aifter the season's wark, by backin' it up tae the fence or pittin' it under a tree tae mak' a roost for the hens, an' sae on. I'll juist mak' a short story o' it by tellin' ye that the mon had tae get oot, for he couldna', wi' a' his savin' ways, an' his wife's domestic economy, mak' the last an' the first o' the year meet. He didna' lose ony time keepin' the place fixed up fancy, like ye see, but he lost the place."

"Weel, this ither chap I hae been tellin' ye about took the farm, an' things began tae happen pretty quick. I hae tauld ye what the place was, an' ye see for yersel' what it is the noo."

"Weel," says ma frien', "it's wunnerful what