

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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is published every Thursday.

It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely
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men, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication
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FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, Descriptions of
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LONDON, CANADA.

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 tin-
plate manufacture in Ontario, a reflective subscrib-
er 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 con-
sumer or taxpayer a burden out of proportion to
the benefit that accrues from the addition of the
new industry. There are some lines of manufac-
ture 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 bon-
uses and burdensome protective duties, which the
country would be far better off without."

Herd Competition as Stimulant.

No feature of the educational campaign con-
ducted 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 sum-
mer 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 com-
munity in which he lives, and the dairy industry
at large.

This competition, along with the district
event, conducted under the auspices of the East-
ern 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 with-
in the scope of the law, but to the laymen it ap-
pears that the proposed Act is leaving more loop-
holes than it is closing. It is welcome, how-
ever, 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 him-
self with all enactments bearing upon his occupa-
tion 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 agricul-
tural legislation enacted at Toronto in the 1909
session, just closed, with explanations of its re-
lation 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 re-
moved 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 ques-
tion, even in Canada, the home of his best cus-
tomers. 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 criti-
cised 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 neg-
lect 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' aboot through
the enfluence 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 anything 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
onething 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 aboot the place
aifter comin' over a road like yon; but what ye
would see if ye survived the road wad compen-
sate ye for ye're trouble. The auld fellow used
tae say that there was mair siller in 'plantin'
tatoes an' corn an' such like aboot the hoose than
in wastin' time wi' floors an' lawns an' wee bit
trees oot o' the swamp, an' sic foolishness; but
frae a' anyone could see, he didna' waste muckle
time daein' either. He had a gran' crop o' bur-
docks, however, an' forbye, there was a bonny
patch o' thistles on each side o' the dure, wi'
sic ornaments lyin' aboot 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 complica-
tion o' wheat straw an' water. An auld rail
fence was built frae the barn up tae a corner o'
the hoose, and alongside 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 aboot twa yards frae the front
dure, wi' a pile o' ashes alongside, where they
wad be handy for the hens tae dust themselves in.
Noo an' again the auld mon wad tak' an indus-
trious 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 wum-
man 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
aboot 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