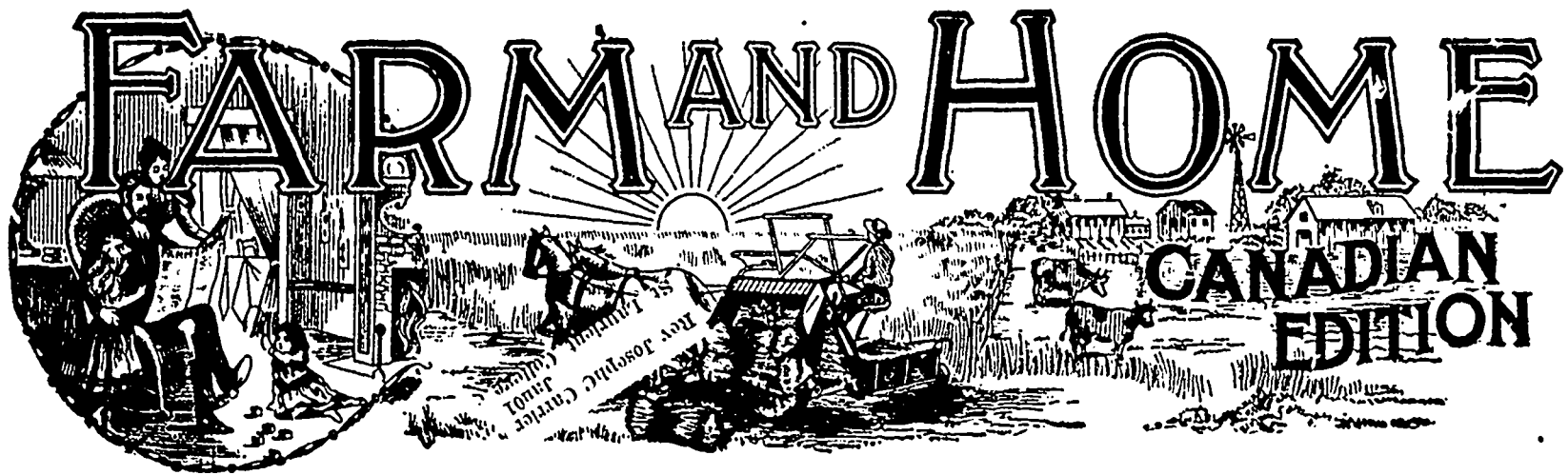


# FARM AND HOME



CANADIAN EDITION

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## To Control a Province.

### A COMMERCIAL PROMOTER FOILED.

Practical extinction as a popular government was threatened the province of Newfoundland, if the big plans of a Scotch plutocrat had been indorsed at the election last month. Newfoundland's present troubles began in 1880 when a period of railroad building set in. An American firm and also the colonial government became involved and finally a Scotch contractor, R. G. Reid, a successful C P R R bridge builder, took hold. In three years he pushed the Newfoundland transinsular line 280 miles inland and under a second contract completed the road clear through to the east coast. He received \$15,600 a mile, payable in 4 per cent 40-year colonial bonds, for constructing the line, and these he easily marketed at about par in London. When completed, the system was 630 miles long and cost \$10,000,000.

The operation of the system became a serious problem for the colonial government, as it could not be done on a paying basis. The wily Scotchman offered to operate it for 10 years for a grant of 5000 acres land to each mile of road, and the offer was accepted. But his schemes of land and mineral development came slow, so he proposed to operate it 20 years more for an extra 2500 acres to each mile. But popular suspicions were aroused and at the election the conservatives succeeded the liberals. But Mr Reid was cunning. The minister of finance co-operated in his behalf.

At this point one of the most audacious moves ever made by a private capitalist among a self-governing people was quickly executed. Then Reid elaborated a scheme by which he was to take over the whole productive assets of the colony and administer them as a private business enterprise.

"Reid was to take over and operate the railway for 50 years for an extra 2500 acres of land to a mile, and to pay a million dollars, cash down, for the reversion of the ownership at the end of that period. If he failed in the operation at any time during the 50 years he was to lose his money and the line revert to the colony. The dry dock in St John's, built by the government to accommodate and repair the host of disabled steamers which make the port every year, he was to buy for \$325,000, little more than half its cost. Telegraph lines, 1000 miles in all, which cost \$200,000, he was to buy for \$125,000. He was to provide eight steamers to ply around the different sections of the coast, to carry mails, passengers and freight for 30 years, for \$150,000 a year in subsidies. His land grants were to aggregate over 4,000,000 acres of the choicest arable, mineral and timber areas in the island."

This contract, by which Reid secured the railway at a tenth its cost, telegraph lines and dry dock at half their cost, the government and legislature indorsed. When the minister's secret connection with Reid became known

the governor dismissed him on an hour's notice. Then began an agitation of great violence. But Reid would not down. He proposed a limited stock liability company, to be capitalized at \$25,000,000, but which was refused. Then began a war in earnest. Reid organized a new political party, with the ex-minister at its head, and last month the great struggle was to elect him. But the people took up the liberty issue and the Reid party was completely buried out of sight, securing only six of the 36 seats in the legislature. People are now wondering what the next move of both the government and Mr Reid will be.

## Interesting Reading for Fruit Growers

Is the article on our fruit page from the secretary of the Ontario fruit growers' association. The English people import large quantities of fruit annually, and with a little well-directed effort, as is now being done, a good trade can be built up with Canada, just as has been done with our export egg and cheese trade, as referred to elsewhere in this issue. An extensive trade of this kind must be begun slowly and worked up gradually along lines indicated by the experience gained. It is right that both the Dominion and provincial governments assist in the introduction of our fruit abroad. No better qualified man can be found in the Dominion to prepare the fruit for shipment than the able secretary of the Ontario fruit growers' association.

## Counting Noses.

Preparations are now being made for the next Dominion census. Mr Archibald Blue of the Ontario civil service having been made chief commissioner. This census is taken every 10 years, the last being in 1891, by Commissioner Johnson, who introduced several wholesome changes which should be conformed to in taking the census next year.

## New Ideas in Farming.

Only the big specialists, large commission merchants and managers of railroads fully comprehend the enormous development of diversified agriculture, especially during the past ten or fifteen years. The peach industry alone is extending at a remarkable rate, especially throughout the middle south. The increase in the area devoted to large and small fruits, not only in the United States but in Canada, is one of the striking phenomena of the times. Other specialties are being developed on a smaller scale. I expect to see 100 millions of dollars invested in sugar beet culture and manufacture during the next four years. New crops and new uses for old crops, are the order of the day. Progress is in the air. Science and practice are uniting to help the American farmer. The younger farmers, and the older ones who are up with the times, are not

## "NICHOLAS OF DEERBROOK,"

A powerful story of Adventure, Love and Mystery, dealing with an inheritance wrongfully withheld, will open in the Dec. 15 number of Farm and Home. It is by Florence McCallen, whose stories of the Mississippi valley and Texas are immensely popular. The scene is laid in the Mississippi valley, and the tale is of absorbing interest. Watch out for "NICHOLAS OF DEERBROOK."

complaining about their business. They are making money and having fun, too. If one thing doesn't pay they turn to another—they do not stand still. I know many of these men whose plans for next year are already perfected. On the contrary, millions of other farmers are not yet done thinking about this year, much less considering plans for next season. Let's wake up and get a move on.

## Give Our Farmers Equal Prices.

The three or four large agricultural implement-making concerns of Canada, by having an understanding with each other, and with the aid of a high protective tariff which keeps out American machines, are able to keep up prices at home to a high figure. In the broader markets of the world they not only compete with each other, but also with manufacturers across the line. The largest Canadian firm making farm implements, managed to sell abroad over \$1,000,000 worth of machinery last year.

## The Short Cut.

The P E I legislature has been dissolved and Dec 12 appointed as election day. The dissolution announcement was generally received as a surprise.

Great is the influence of the old grange in the states. In 34th annual session at Washington, last week, President McKinley called its legislative committee in for a conference on agricultural affairs. Great is the power of organized agriculture.

Every stockman who can possibly find the time and money to attend the International live stock exposition at Chicago, Ill. next week, to Dec 8, should do so. As we go to press it

bids fair to be one of the greatest and finest aggregations of live stock of all kinds ever brought together in this country. Liberal premiums have made it so.

Although the present Quebec legislature does not expire until May 11, '02, the change in the premiership is taken as an excuse, and an appeal to the people has been made, elections to occur throughout the province Dec 11.

The cold north not only eats plenty of meat to keep warm, but indulges in plenty of corn, which is entered duty free. This fiscal year, Canada exchanged \$2,882,255 for American corn and \$2,405,890 the year before. The corn plant thrives only in favored sections of the Dominion.

If you don't know, ask Farm and Home. No excuse for ignorance on any matter pertaining to the farm or the home. No one too poor to take this paper and thus acquire the priceless privilege of obtaining through its columns any advice or help you need.

## Where to Buy.

What a wonderful business directory Farm and Home is! You find in the advertisements almost everything that can be of use on the farm or in the home. And our advertisers are reliable, too. You can safely do business with them. The best way in which one can keep up with the times and keep posted on labor-saving and profit-earning improvements, is by answering the ads in our columns. State that you saw the ad in F & H, so as to insure the best attention. A few postals or stamps used in answering the ads in each issue of F & H will pay big.

## Those Liberal Prize Offers.

Do not forget the liberal prizes offered for experiences of farmers' organizations in co-operative buying and selling. Thousands of such organizations in various forms are doing and have done good work. To write out the details of this work so as to show the benefits of co-operative effort is the object in offering the prizes. Fifty-five dollars cash, divided into 18 prizes, was offered in F & H, Oct 15. The best prize is \$15, smallest 1. If more than 18 especially valuable articles are submitted, the writers will receive a special premium, to be announced later. Let all try. Farmers' clubs, granges, alliances and unions are doing good work. It is the details as to how the work is done I am after. Announcement as to the articles in the contest will not be printed until next month. While there is yet plenty of time, it is best to get the experience of your club in early. Wherever possible, send pictures to accompany the article, writing your name on back of each.