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AND N.-W. T.

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THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED),
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

Fall Wheat in Alberta.

Thinking some of the readers of the "Farmer's Advocate" would like to hear of the success of fall-wheat growing in Southern Alberta, and as it has been mentioned several times in the "Advocate," I contribute the following, that the great success of the fall-wheat crop may be better known and understood:

Having lived some thirty years in one of the best fall-wheat counties in Ontario, and fall wheat being one of our main crops, I have had a good deal of experience in growing and cultivating this important cereal. I came to the Pincher Creek district with the expressed intention of seeing for myself what success fall-wheat growers were meeting with, and after having seen the crops of 1900 and 1901 threshed, I am pleased to state I never saw such splendid crops, yielding from 40 to 60 bushels of fine plump grain per acre, and under what we in Ontario would call very poor cultivation. One piece, containing six acres, I watched with particular interest, as it was situated in one of the most exposed places in the district, with no shelter except a barbed-wire fence.

The land was broken in June, 1900, and was very poorly cultivated, but it yielded 47 bushels of fine wheat per acre.

Had this piece of land been broken the year before and backset, the yield would have been much heavier.

At the present time of writing, January 16th, many fine pieces of wheat can be seen as fresh and green as the same crop would be in Ontario in November, although it has not had a particle of snow to protect it; the climate and soil being admirably adapted to its growth, the soil never heaving nor the wheat icing over, which are the main causes of failure in Ontario. I might add that fall wheat has been grown for eight or nine years in succession by one party without a single failure, and at no distant day the Pincher Creek district will be as noted for its millions of bushels of fall wheat as it has been in the past for its large production of prime beef cattle.

Pincher Creek, Alta. FARMER.

Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association.

The annual meeting of the above Association will be held in Winnipeg on Feb. 19, during the second week of the bouspiel. Several interesting papers will be presented, and the reunion of veterinarians promises to be an enjoyable one. As the American Veterinary Association will hold their annual meeting in Minneapolis next September, it might be possible for the Manitoba men to get a cheap rate on the railroads and take their wives to the educational and social gathering at the Flour City.

Training a Collie.

You can no more make a good farm dog out of a mongrel brute than you can "make a silk purse o'ot of a soo's lug." You can get a mongrel to hunt cattle while it is fun for him, but when it comes to work, he will step aside in your favor, as he does not want to work. Almost any kind of dog with a dash of collie blood in him can be trained to drive and herd cattle, but I have always found them to be useless for anything like work. You cannot force them, and after a short time cannot coax them either. The only exception to this I know of is a cross between the collie and the old Highland staghound, which make the best of sheep dogs, often superior to the pure-bred collie. I imagine our best sables are not free from the influence of that cross.

Now for a few hints on raising the puppy. Where possible, keep him, in his puppyhood, away from stock and from being made a plaything of by children, as you will find it easier to teach him ten new things than to break him of one habit once it is contracted. At from 10 to 12 months old is soon enough to begin his education. Make him used to lead on a string, as it may come in useful afterwards. Next teach him to come to heel and stay there. He is now ready for a run after the cattle or sheep, as the case may be; as a rule, they do enjoy a chase round them. After he has "let some steam off," call him to heel. Then start him off again, say on the right-hand side; make a motion with that hand at the same time. It is well to choose a set of words or orders, and having chosen, stick to them, as the dog has to learn to connect



"READY!"
Evan McIvor and his collie "Bell."

a certain sound with a certain action. Remember that is the main point in training a dog successfully. When he has gone half way round on the right side call him back; repeat the lesson two or three times, and then give similar lessons on the other side. With sheep it is best to let the pupil run right round, as in stopping him half way he is apt to come too close in on them.

For the next lesson have him run from right to left, passing without stopping behind the cattle and in front of you; with sheep, always behind you, as you want him to run wide with sheep, which is not necessary with cattle. Next get him to pass behind cattle, stopping him when nearly up to you and sending back again, keeping this up until the stock are moving towards you. In a few days you will be able to send him for cattle some distance off. In starting out, make a motion with the hand and issue an order to keep well out from the animals until he gets well behind them, then get him back on his former lessons. He will soon learn to bring cattle towards you. It takes a lot of time and patience even with the easiest-trained dogs before you can give them a diploma. Do not be discouraged if he won't even look at the herd when you begin his training. Some of the best working dogs I have known seemed quite hopeless cases at first. One I may mention, as an encouragement to any person who may have a hard one to start, was nearly two years old, and although nearly every day out with the sheep, could not be induced to go after them. One day, in shipping some sheep on board steamer, it was hard to get the first one on, as is usual in such cases. No sooner, however, had the first few jumped on board than the dog jumped on too, as if to prevent them going overboard on opposite side. When they got to land and the sheep were running down the gangway, the dog was about

the first to land and went to work rounding them up in fine style. An hour later, by the time they were in the sales-yard pens, he was a good dog. The same dog, shortly afterwards, was left on the road, on market night, twenty miles from home, with a mixed flock of black-faced sheep. He was home by morning, with not a sheep missing.

If you have to punish a dog (and the least done in that line the better), be sure you have a secure hold of him and do not allow him to get away from you for some time after. If he is of a shy, nervous temperament, you must be very careful with him—you must get his confidence first before you can do anything with him. If carefully handled, they make very nice working dogs, and as a rule are trustworthy.

The easiest dog for an amateur to handle is the bold, courageous, won't-take-offence kind of dog. A good whack now and then just seems to suit some of them; at least, it does not spoil them much. Of course, you will have your dog trained to whistle calls, such as one long one "down," one long whistle, following with a short one "come to heel," a series of short, sharp notes meaning "hurry up," etc. I always think that puppies from trained parents are somehow easier trained, but would not like to give it as a fact.

By following the foregoing hints, and remembering that the well-bred collie, like his master, is always, to the end of the chapter, learning something, any person having the right material to begin with cannot fail in having a great and invaluable help in handling stock at the price of his board.

Where there are plenty of kitchen scraps, dogs do well on it. I feed mine on wheat chop run twice through the chopper, boiled into a porridge, with some milk or fat on it; a turnip boiled and mashed up with it once a week or so is beneficial. Dogs, like mostly all other animals, seem to do all right in Manitoba if they get plenty of feed.

EVAN MCIVOR.

Sifton Municipality, Man.

Last Call for the Conventions.

A few changes will be noted in the programme of the live-stock conventions which are to be held in Winnipeg on Feb. 18, 19, 20. Prof. Curtiss, as has been announced, takes charge of the demonstration of beef cattle. Prof. Carlyle has found it impossible, owing to stress of work at the Wisconsin Agricultural College, to be present.

Prof. Jno. J. Ferguson, of the Michigan Agricultural College, has been secured to take the work of judging swine and dairy cattle, and will deliver addresses on kindred subjects. Prof. Ferguson is a Canadian, a graduate of the O. A. C., and a successful breeder of pure-bred swine, and for the past two years has been instructor in animal husbandry and dairying at the Michigan Agricultural College. A number of local breeders will also contribute. It is expected that Dr. Curryer, of the Minnesota Farmers' Institute staff, will be on hand to take horse training, and one of the local veterinarians will probably take up the examination of horses for soundness.

DAIRY ASSOCIATION.

This association has prepared a full programme, which, in addition to papers by local men, will include addresses from Prof. Farrington, the noted head of the Wisconsin Dairy School, whose work as a dairy chemist and as author of testing milk, together with his invention of an alkaline test, has made him one of the shining lights of the dairy world. W. A. Wilson, Dominion Superintendent of Dairying for Assiniboia and Saskatchewan, will contribute a paper on "The making of high-class butter." J. E. Hopkins, for some time in charge of the Moose Jaw creamery, and travelling dairy expert in British Columbia, is to talk on "The dairy cow and supply of milk in the West."

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

In addition to the speakers mentioned in our issue of Jan. 20th, Prof. Macoun, Horticulturist of the C. E. F., Ottawa, will deliver two addresses: "What the experimental farms are doing for horticulture," and "Dairying for profit." Don't forget the judging of grains and vegetables by Supt. S. A. Bedford, which takes place at the afternoon session.

THE POULTRY SHOW.

The annual show of the M. P. A. will be held in Winnipeg during convention week, Feb. 17-21, which promises to be more successful than ever. An innovation is the addition of a cat show. Besides local exhibits, Mrs. Beson, of St. Paul, is to exhibit a carload of cats. Judge Holden, of St. Paul, will place the awards on all classes of poultry, and will speak at the public meeting. Prof. A. G. Gilbert, of the C. E. F., Ottawa, will give several talks and demonstrations on "The cramming of poultry" and "Dressed poultry for the market."

A wide-awake American exchange says: "Go slow on hedge plants; but 'twill do no harm to go fast for the sellers of them."