

Scholarships for Teachers.

The Minister of Education for Ontario is prepared to grant 14 Scholarships, to the value of \$50 in the case of each woman, and \$75 in the case of each man, for teachers taking the three-months' courses at the Macdonald Institute, Guelph. Candidates are expected to hold at least Second-class Provincial Certificates, and to send a certificate of recommendation from the Public-school Inspector. Any information regarding the course and study of work of the Institute may be obtained from President Creelman of the O. A. C.

Bryan Should Make the Tariff an Issue.

We believe the following paragraph, from the Independent, New York, will appeal to the generality of Canadian readers:

"If Mr. Bryan really would like to be President of the United States, his best chance is to follow a piece of advice for which we shall present no bill. Let him drop all Southern questions, all Pacific Island questions, all railroad questions and all money questions, and ask the people of the United States what they propose to do about their beautiful and sacred tariff. We don't believe that he would be elected even then. But he might make an enviable record for himself as an educator."

According to T. C. Irving, Manager for Canada of Bradstreet's Commercial Agency, the 1906 Western wheat crop is good for 92,000,000 bushels. He thinks the damage done by the August hot spell has been overestimated.

The Inherent Producing Capacity of Soil.

In the results of some of the experiments carried out at Rothamsted, Eng., it is noticeable, as illustrative of the excellence of last year's wheat crop, that the yield of the plot not manured during sixty years' of continuous wheat-growing was 18 bushels per acre, as compared with an average of 12.7 bushels in the ten years ending with 1902. The highest yield was 40.7 bushels, on a plot which has received annually a very heavy dressing of ammonia salts and mineral manures. Farmyard manure, 14 tons per acre annually, gave 38.5 bushels, or only 1.8 bushels more than the dressing of 275 lbs. nitrate of soda, 392 lbs. superphosphate, 200 lbs. sulphate of potash, and 100 lbs. each of sulphates of soda and magnesia. The Rothamsted experiments are carefully conducted, and always interesting. The object in growing wheat on one plot for sixty consecutive years without manuring is to demonstrate the productive power of soil that is merely kept clean of weeds. While the yield of 18 bushels on this plot is rather remarkable, it is no argument for successive cereal cropping, as with the culture habitually practiced at Rothamsted, double or treble that yield could be obtained under a system of crop rotation.

Plucking Fowls.

The following is the Australian method of plucking fowls, which, says A. F. Kummer, of Pennsylvania, in Inland Poultry Journal, has been used with good results:

"As soon as the birds are dead plunge each into a pail of boiling water, into which a pint and a half of cold water has been thrown. One

minute's soaking is generally sufficient. Every feather can now be stripped off in the easiest manner possible—in fact, they can almost be brushed off. The skin never tears, and the insects that infest all chickens will have disappeared."

Canadian authorities generally advise sousing three or four times, instead of holding steadily immersed. For sale to shippers, dry-plucked birds are desired, though scalded ones are all right for the home trade.

It is announced in the Ottawa press that Mr. John Fixter, foreman of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, has resigned to accept a similar but more lucrative position with the Macdonald College of Agriculture at St. Anne de Bellevue, Que. Mr. Fixter has been foreman at the Experimental Farm since 1887, and is well known to many of our readers who have visited the institution, or who have heard him speak at agricultural meetings.

Do not overlook our editorial announcement about indexes for the 1906 volumes of "The Farmer's Advocate." A card addressed to us at once will ensure your index for both 1906 volumes. No indexes will be sent except to those who apply for them. Those who wish indexes will get them free of charge.

If the Huron Co. reader who sends a legal query re fencing will forward his post-office address, we will attend to his enquiry if his name is on our subscription lists. We have absolutely no means of locating names on our lists except by reference to the post-office address.

A PEERLESS NATIONAL SHOW.

Sir Wm. Mulock, in his inaugural address at the National Exhibition, Toronto, last week, rightly estimated it as one of the greatest triumphs of the arts of peace on this continent. It would be well within the mark to say that as an exhibition it is without a peer in America. No State exhibition approaches it in extent, variety and general excellence as an educational stimulus and representation of the substantial resources and industries of the country. It very fairly typifies or epitomizes the progress of the country in agriculture, manufacture and art; that is, so far as could fairly be expected of an annual event. As a discerning publicist, Sir William, having the Exposition in his mind, very naturally and properly went on to observe that Canada was the only country in the world worth living in, not burdened with great military debts handed down by previous generations. On the ground that preparation for war was one of the factors in bringing conflicts about, he cautioned his auditors against the propaganda and spirit of militarism.

Superb weather throughout the inaugural week seconded the efforts of Dr. Orr, his board and the exhibitors, who, in the final analysis, make the show, so that the attendance was decidedly in excess of corresponding days last year. As usual, our United States friends were greatly in evidence, and frankly conceded the superiority of the show as a whole, and the live stock and many lines of manufactured products in particular. The magnificent music of the 2nd Life Guards Band, from England, and leading entertainment features were very much appreciated. The management are to be congratulated on relegating the side-show element to its proper place—well down to the bottom of the list, and practically out of sight as a feature of the Fair. The advice of "The Farmer's Advocate" is to keep them eclipsed by displays and processes, which are the real function of the exhibition.

The immense crowds that thronged the Process, Manufacturers', Natural History and Dairy Buildings were ample evidence that the heart of the people is sound and ready to make an appreciative response when educated in the proper direction—up, not down.

The multitudes love to see something doing. In the Process Building—every show in the land should have one of these as its big feature—how they thronged about the cut-glass workers, the weaving, our old and irrepressible friend with the indestructible pen, the knitting machines, candy-making, the manufacture of grain bags, envelopes, printing, bread-making, the preparation of shredded wheat, wire mattress weaving, thread-making, and so on.

The Manufacturers' Building was well filled and very popular with visitors. The overcrowding of the Natural History Building, where numerous educational displays of plant and animal life were made, indicates that more space and attention might very wisely be devoted in this direction, particularly for the interest of the young folk.



Sir Wm. Mulock, K. C. M. C.

Chief Justice of Ontario.

When we take into consideration the excellence of the season's crops, and the proximity of the farming and gardening country to Toronto, the agricultural products seemed to us not as numerous as they might have been, but there was no discounting the quality. For such a show, the grain display was limited. Many people are careless, or else shy of competition. In this department something might be done to awaken more general interest by arranging county or district competition, say from the agricultural societies.

The fine fruit exhibit was not in position till the second week. The honey display was good, but not large. Next season new buildings will probably greet these three departments. The provision is needed, and will be appreciated.

The Transportation, or what used to be called the Carriage Department, now occupies the old main building, which was filled with a wonderfully fine display of carriages and sleighs—in itself a good index of Canadian prosperity. Nearly 400 beautiful outfits were in evidence. The regular "top-buggy" is still the standard rig for the farmer, but townspeople have lately gone in for more lofty and trappy rigs, which, however, are far from being so comfortable or serviceable as the old-fashioned rig of phaeton style. The rubber tire gives a lot of trouble because of the villainously bad condition of city streets and rural roads. The larger lines of agricultural implements are still absent from the show. In former years, competitive displays of binders, plows, etc., exceeded all reasonable bounds, and, without acres of new buildings, could not now be handled. The trade that was once done through the exhibition is now developed in other ways, and different lines of manufactures fill the building. The old features are missed all the same.

The exhibits of dairy apparatus, cheese, butter and

the buttermaking contests were, as ever, a most attractive feature. The hand cream separator was strongly in evidence, and is not losing, but rather strengthening, its hold as a factor on the dairy farm. It is here to stay, and those who complain of its effect on factory butter had as well decide on a policy of making the best of it. Mr. J. W. Steinhoff judged the butter, and Mr. James Stonehouse judged the buttermaking contests. There was a large display of butter, both creamery and dairy, and Quebec practically swept the boards, a victory which the Ontario dairymen thoughtfully attributes to better water, grass, air, or something of that sort, in the sister Province. There were fewer cheese than last year, probably because of hot weather. In twenty-nine entries no exhibits were forthcoming. The display made a very fine appearance, though in many cases lacking in flavor and texture. Messrs. Muir and Brenton awarded the prizes. For the second time, Miss Mary Morrison captured the big silver trophy. The cold-storage provision for the cheese is now admirable, and hereafter makers need not fear to send in their best product; it was not run into oil. The front of the "riser" in each step, on which successive rows of cheese stand, is hinged, and the boxes are slipped out of sight behind the cheese. Supt. Paget planned this provision, which the fair association wisely adopted, and had ready for the show. It is admirable. A novel feature of the department was a fine display of Swiss cheese, made at Wellesley, Ont.

The poultry show was immense, there being nearly 3,000 exhibits entered. The Women's Building was an attractive resort. The exhibits here, and in other departments, will be reviewed in detail in a subsequent issue.

THE LIVE STOCK.

The Live-stock Division of the Toronto Exhibition, always extensive and varied, is this year notable more for superexcellence of quality, in many classes, than for numerical increase over the entries of recent years. Indeed, in several of the breeds of cattle, notably the beef breeds, the entries are fewer than those of last year, but the animals are apparently of higher average excellence and more uniform in character. The horse department is decidedly the strongest feature of this division, and the Clydesdales the outstanding class, the stables of nearly all the principal importers and breeders in Ontario and Quebec being strongly represented, and the competition in the show-ring of the keenest character. The judges in this department had an arduous task, and could hardly hope to satisfy all the exhibitors, however impartially they might perform their work. The entries in the aged stallion section, for instance, numbered thirty, and in the two-year-old section thirty-three, and are decidedly the strongest, both in numbers and quality, ever shown here. The Hackneys also make an exceptionally strong class, while the English Shires from the studs of His Majesty the King and Lord Rothschild are a center of attraction, and greatly admired for their substance and conformation, as well as for their brisk and true action, considering their great weight. The swine division is well sustained, the Yorkshire class being exceptionally strong, while the Berkshires and Tamworths are well represented. The sheep department is well filled with individuals of high-class excellence in all the leading breeds, while the poultry division is uncommonly well filled. A detailed report of the judging and the results in the various classes will appear in next week's issue.