

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN
THE DOMINION.

PUBLISHED BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED),
LONDON, ONTARIO, AND WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on the first and fifteenth of each month.
- It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical, and reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 per year in advance; \$1.25 if in arrears; sample copy free. European subscription, 6s., or \$1.50. New subscriptions can commence with any month.
3. ADVERTISING RATES—Single insertion, 30 cents per line. Contract rates furnished on application.
4. DISCONTINUANCES—Remember that the publisher must be notified by letter or post-card when a subscriber wishes his paper stopped. All arrearsages must be paid. Returning your paper will not enable us to discontinue it, as we cannot find your name on our books unless your Post Office address is given.
5. THE ADVOCATE is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrearsages must be made as required by law.
6. THE LAW is, that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrearsages are paid and their paper ordered to be discontinued.
7. REMITTANCES should be made direct to this office, either by Registered Letter or Money Order, which will be at our risk. When made otherwise we cannot be responsible.
8. ALWAYS GIVE THE NAME of the Post Office to which your paper is sent. Your name cannot be found on our books unless this is done.
9. THE DATE ON YOUR LABEL shows to what time your subscription is paid.
10. SUBSCRIBERS failing to receive their paper promptly and regularly will confer a favor by reporting the fact at once.
11. NO ANONYMOUS communications or enquiries will receive attention.
12. LETTERS intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
13. ALL COMMUNICATIONS in reference to any matter connected with this paper should be addressed as below, and not to any individual connected with the paper.
14. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve the ADVOCATE, Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known, Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.
15. REPLIES to circulars and letters of enquiry sent from this office will be paid for as provided above.

Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
THE WILLIAM WELD CO.,
LONDON, ONTARIO, CANADA.

The Exhibition Circuit.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

On behalf of the directors of the Central Canada Exhibition Association, I wish to express their appreciation of the able assistance rendered our exhibition from time to time through the columns of your valuable journal, and also for publishing in your last issue the names and addresses of all live stock winners at our recent exhibition.

Following up the suggestion made by Mr. Stevenson, Manager of the Montreal Exposition Company, with reference to forming a circuit for next season, permit me to say that this is a good suggestion and worthy of careful consideration. In this connection, how would it do for Montreal to go back to their former dates, viz., come in after Toronto, and Ottawa after Montreal as usual? An arrangement of this kind would be offering some inducement to western exhibitors, as they do not care to come so far east as either Ottawa or Montreal for one exhibition only, but they would for two. They can get half rates to Montreal and Ottawa, and return free from the latter exhibition.

Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, and Quebec no doubt will arrange their dates in September, and previous to Montreal should the latter adopt their former dates. Therefore the exhibitors at the latter three exhibitions would, in all probability, wind up the circuit by taking in Montreal and Ottawa, returning from the latter free, according to the various railway arrangements for exhibition freight.

E. MCMAHON,

Secretary Central Canada Exh'n Ass'n.
Ottawa, 22nd Oct., 1897.

Is it Profitable to Fatten Worn-out Dairy Cows?

At a Farmers' Institute meeting in a Wisconsin town a discussion arose as to what was the best means of disposing of old cows that don't pay for their feed and care? The question was finally answered, says *Hoard's Dairyman*, by a practical man as follows:

"Sell her now for a canner, or for whatever they want to do with her, for what you can get, if it is not more than \$10, and not waste any food on her trying to fatten her up. You may put a little meat on her, if you feed her long enough, but it will be cheap meat, and at the same time the dearest meat a man ever made. Every dollar you add to her selling price by feeding will cost you more than two dollars in feed. Don't worry about being obliged to sell her so cheap. You have milked her for six years, and made enough clean profit from her to buy two good cows, and more too. She has been a profitable cow for you anyway, no matter how little you get for her. But you don't want to fool away any of the money you have made in keeping her by trying to make beef of her, something it is not in her nature to do."

Good Agents.

We want a good agent in every township to secure new subscribers to the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. Send for sample copies.

Mr. Robert Robertson, Superintendent of the Maritime Provinces Experimental Farm.

We present to our readers herewith a portrait of Mr. Robt. Robertson, formerly of Howick, Que., latterly of Compton, Que., the recently-appointed successor to Geo. W. Forest as Superintendent of the Maritime Provinces Experimental Farm at Nappan, Nova Scotia. Until moving to Compton, in 1893, Mr. Robertson has since his childhood lived on the farm at Howick, Que. His education has been largely obtained from observation, experience, and home reading, as he left school quite young, so that truly it may be said he is a "self-made man." He showed an ambitious tendency, good judgment, and an inborn love for good stock when a boy, by preparing and showing horses, cattle, and sheep at exhibitions, and invariably getting to the top in the various classes competed in. The beautiful Ayrshire cow seems to have been one of the objects of Mr. Robertson's first love, as his was one of the first and continued to be one of the foremost herds of that breed for which the Province of Quebec has become so famous. In 1893 he was appointed by the World's Fair Commissioner to superintend the selection of Ayrshires for the "Columbian," which appointment was heartily endorsed by breeders, who have ever since appreciated the wisdom of the choice by reason of the unqualified success, now historic, of the Canadian exhibit.

As a farmer, Mr. Robertson demonstrated his practical ability by winning the first prize in county



MR. ROBERT ROBERTSON.

competition, and the silver medal—the highest possible award—on his farm in Provincial competition in 1891, beating the farm that in 1896 won the gold medal, after Mr. Robertson had left Howick for Compton. He also conducted the Provincial Model Farm very successfully for a number of years; indeed, as a practical farmer and stockman he has had marked success, due more to perseverance and persistence of purpose than to scholastic training. His well-known skill as a plowman bears out the general impression that a successful and painstaking farmer is often indicated by his ability to "put up a good land." At fifteen years old we learn he began plowing at matches, and when twenty-six he could very seldom get a match open to him. His winnings are as follows: Twenty-six firsts, five seconds, and one third prize; and on one occasion was ruled out on time limit. During the last ten years he has trained many young plowmen, who are now the best plowmen in the Province of Quebec.

We cannot but feel that a very wise choice has been made by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Fisher) in appointing so practical and successful a man in general agriculture and stock raising as Mr. Robertson to this position, to whom it must be a satisfaction to realize that in the various preferments that have fallen to his lot, irrespective of political proclivities, the position has invariably sought the man.

Putting Away the Binder.

Speaking about laying aside self-binders for the season, we would advise our friends who use them to take off all the canvas webs, and have them carefully cleaned, dried, and repaired, if necessary, before storing. All dirt and grease should also be wiped from about the bearings when soft. This is also a good time for those using binders the first year to see the troublesome places, as, owing to the broken weather when cutting, grass and straw find their way round the rollers and roller ends. This, if it has not already shown itself by preventing the canvas from moving at all, is now laid bare by the removal of the canvas. The only place where this troubles to any extent is the front roller on platform next the divider. Grass round the roller ends, especially those driven by the canvas, should be carefully watched and cleaned out, as it makes a binder more difficult to draw, and wears out the canvas much earlier.—S.

STOCK.

The Provincial Exhibition of British Columbia.

(EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

The annual exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society of British Columbia, held at New Westminster, Oct. 5th to 8th, was favored with queen's weather, and was the most successful meeting of the kind the Society has ever had. The exhibition grounds are large and beautifully situated, overlooking the noble Fraser river, and commanding a fine view of the mountains beyond. The main exhibition building is large and of handsome design, and the stock buildings, though not up to the standard of those of the leading Eastern fairs, are yet comfortable and well-arranged. The cattle, sheep and swine were judged by Mr. J. C. Snell, Snelgrove, Ontario, and the exhibitors were well satisfied with his rulings. The show of stock, while not equal in extent to what we are used to seeing at the principal exhibitions in the East, and not of as high an average of merit or brought out in as fine condition, was quite in excess of our anticipations of so young a Province, and included many high-class animals, fairly well prepared for exhibition. The classes of dairy breeds of cattle were particularly good, and comprised a large proportion of first-class animals. This is especially true of the Jerseys and Holsteins, which were largely and well represented, dairying being the leading industry in the portions of the Province more nearly tributary to the point at which the exhibition is held.

CATTLE.

The beef breeds were not well represented, there being but few Shorthorns shown, and the bulls in this class not up to a high standard of quality, though the class of cows was very creditable, Mr. W. H. Ladner, of Ladner, winning first prize with a lowset, blocky, thick-fleshed cow, and J. A. Evans, Chilliwack, second premium with a lengthy, level cow of good type. Mr. Ladner carried off the bulk of the prizes in this class, including the sweepstakes for best bull and the herd prize.

An excellent herd of *Herefords* was shown by Mr. Frank Kirkland, Ladner, for the Kirkland estate, including a bull from the herd of Senator Cochrane, which would have stood high in the competition at the best of the Eastern shows, having much of the quality and appearance of his paternal ancestor Cassio, the sweepstakes winner for years at the Provincial fairs. The cows bred from the herd of the late Mr. Stone, of Guelph, were also of first-class quality, while the heifers bred from these and the bull referred to showed much sweetness of quality and strong breed type.

A trio of *Polled Angus*, shown by Mr. Alex. Ewen, New Westminster, bred by Mr. McGregor, Brandon, were well up to the standard, and constitute an excellent foundation for a herd.

The three groups of *Jerseys* in competition for the herd prize would have compared very favorably with any three herds shown at the Toronto Exhibition. And we are not sure but that the first prize herd here, shown by A. J. Street, Chilliwack, would have stood second at Toronto, where the crack show herd of the United States was also in competition. Mr. Street's herd was headed by the 12 year-old bull, Belle's Rioter, bred by Mrs. E. M. Jones, Brockville, and sired by Rioter's Pride, son of imported Pride of Windsor and the Great Stoke Pogis 3rd. He is a grand old bull, with strong constitution and excellent dairy points, but has seen his best days, and but for this would probably have topped his class. The first prize in the class for bulls over 3 years went to Liverpool Boy, shown by T. Shannon & Sons, Cloverdale, a typical Jersey bull in dairy conformation, the second prize going to a very richly colored bull of fine quality, shown by A. C. Wells & Son, Chilliwack. The first prize 2 year-old bull, Ella's Dick St. Helier, owned by J. S. Smith, Chilliwack, was also awarded the sweepstakes prize as best bull in the class. He is very rich in his skin secretions, and is a fine representative of the combination of the blood of the two great families, Rioter and St. Helier. Mr. J. A. Evans had the first prize yearling bull, a deep-ribbed son of Belle's Rioter (bred by Mr. Street), with fine dairy points; and Mr. Street won second with Premier Laurier (another son of the same sire and of the first prize cow), a rich-skinned bull, with much quality. He has been sold to T. Shannon & Sons, Cloverdale, in whose hands we predict he will make his mark high in the future. The first prize cow, Essie Gay, shown by Mr. Street, is one of the good, big sort, showing indications of strong constitution, with great capacity for work, combined with good quality and fine dairy conformation. J. S. Smith, Chilliwack, showed a good herd, and won a number of prizes on his young stock, as well as the first and second premiums in the milking test, showing the largest percentage of butter-fat by the Babcock test. J. A. Evans, Chilliwack, and E. Goudy, Ladner, were also successful exhibitors in this class, and showed good stock.

Holsteins were well represented by selections from the herds of H. F. Page, Mission City; J. Resce, Chilliwack; Wm. Newlands, Eburne; R.