

MANITOBA AND WESTERN
OF THE
FARMER'S ADVOCATE
AND HOME
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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL PUBLISHED
IN THE DOMINION.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the first 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.

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THOMAS WELD,
Manager "Farmer's Advocate,"
WINNIPEG, MAN., CANADA.

Our Monthly Prize Essays.

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

1.—No award will be made unless one essay at least comes up to the standard for publication.
2.—The essays will be judged by the ideas, arguments, conciseness and conformity with the subject, and not by the grammar, punctuation or spelling, our object being to encourage farmers who have enjoyed few educational advantages.

3.—Should one or more essays, in addition to the one receiving the first prize, present a different view of the question, a second prize will be awarded, but the payment will be in agricultural books. First prize essayists may choose books or money, or part of both. Selections of books from our advertised list must be sent in not later than the 15th of the month in which the essays appear. Second prize essayists may order books for any amount not exceeding \$3.00, but no balance will be remitted in cash. When first prize essayists mention nothing about books, we will remit the money.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best essay on "The Profits of Hog Raising in Manitoba and the Northwest". Essays to be in this office not later than the 15th of July.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best essay on "The Profits of Sheep Husbandry in Manitoba and the Northwest". Essay to be in this office not later than the 15th of June.

Manitoba Cauliflowers.

Last fall Mr. James Stein, editor and proprietor of the Winnipeg Commercial, having become possessed of an idea that cauliflowers could be shipped from Winnipeg to Montreal and delivered in good condition, sent a trial barrel, and as a result the firm of Michael Lefebvre & Co. have ordered three hundred barrels. These people are extensive manufacturers of pickles, and there is good reason to expect larger orders in the future. Mr. Stein is one of the men with an eye open for opportunities.

Cast Your Eye Upon the Address Label of Your Paper.

Any of our subscribers can tell if their paper is paid in advance or not, as well as we can in this office, by looking at the label upon first page of cover. If you find your paper is not paid for '91, be good enough to remit at once. Be sure and remit either by post-office order or registered letter. We cannot be held responsible for money sent unregistered, as many of our subscribers are well aware that losses have occurred through the dishonest practices of clerks in the post office department. See adjoining column how remittances should be sent in.

Fine Sporting Goods.

The Hingston-Smith Arms Co., of Winnipeg, whose advertisement we printed on our back cover last issue, complain that we misprinted the name of one of their most important agencies, that of the (as we put it) "Martin," when it should have been Marlin Fire Arms Co., the celebrated rifle makers. We make this correction with pleasure. Having been shown over the Hingston-Smith Arms Co.'s establishment, which is situated at 492 Main St., Winnipeg, we can assure our friends if they are interested in cricket, lawn tennis or any of the field sports, they will find it worth while to send for one of this firm's catalogues, which is sent free to all who apply, and is certainly the finest work of the kind issued by any Canadian firm. We heartily recommend these gentlemen and their goods to all our readers.

Successful Experiment.

The teaching staff of the Central School are gratified at the success that promises to attend the sowing of tree seed last year. Two pounds of Red River maple seed was sown in a plot located in the northeast corner of the Central grounds, and this spring over 1,000 seedlings are alive and showing vigorous growth. The plants average about ten inches in height, though several are much taller, and only a few less. New ground is being prepared, and Arbor day will be taken advantage of to transplant some, and add to the area sown. The board of school trustees encourage the work, and it will not be many years ere the city school sites will be improved by the transplanting of healthy trees, secured at a minimum cost to the ratepayers. The success that has attended the sowing of seed in the Central School grounds should stimulate citizens generally to enter on the work of ornamenting their premises with shade trees.—[Winnipeg Tribune.]

The teachers of the Central School have set an excellent example in this matter, and it is to be hoped, not only as the Tribune says, that it will stimulate the citizens generally to enter upon such work, but teachers and others throughout the province having charge of public grounds, to render them "a thing of beauty." It is to be regretted that with all the information available on this subject through the columns of the agricultural papers and reports of the experimental farms, that more interest is not taken in this matter by the general public. There are many kinds of hardy rapid growing trees that in a very short time make a good shelter, and in a very few years attain a size suitable for fencing, building and many other purposes about the farm. There are few, if any, surroundings of our old homes in the east that our hearts cling to or our eyes miss as much as the trees, and there is nothing in any country that adds more to the attractiveness and value of the farm in proportion to the cost.

The Number of Judges Required.

In another column will be found an article by Mr. John Jackson, who has had many years' experience as an exhibitor, in which he gives his ideas upon the above question. He reiterates the remark that "the picked-up committee of three must go." This is pretty near the feeling of those who have watched this question closely for years. At the swine breeders' meeting held in Toronto this subject was thoroughly discussed and carried by at least a two-thirds vote in favor of one expert judge. The only exception taken was the fear that an expert could not be found. We contend that if a man is capable of acting in this capacity with two others, he should be quite as able to act alone. There would then be a chance of a man showing how consistent he is in his judgment, and that however he differed from others in judgment on certain animals that in the judging ring he always placed a certain value on certain well-developed points. Under the present system men never know what are the required qualities that they should aim to produce. One thing is certain, that we hear far more dissatisfaction over the work of three judges than where one alone is employed. It is only too often the case that a judge gets the blame for what his colleagues have in reality done against his opinion; therefore there are few men qualified to act as judge and desirous of doing honest work that would not rather act alone. The work can be done with more dispatch, and if asked why a certain award was given the judge can tell the reason and thus satisfy any reasonable exhibitor. Breeders have too much at stake to allow men of no reputation or perhaps twenty years behind the times to decide on stock they have no capacity to pass sentence upon.