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OF THE
FARMER'S ADVOCATE
AND HOME
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MAGAZINE

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

PUBLISHED BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).
LONDON, ONT., and WINNIPEG, MAN.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the first of each month. 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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The Advocate is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance, and all payments of arrears are made as required by law.

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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.

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.

Address—
THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
THE WILLIAM WELD CO.,
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.
- 3.—Should any of the other essays contain valuable matter, not fully covered by the one awarded the first prize, or should any present different views of the same topic, and we consider such views meritorious, we will publish such essays in full, or extracts from them as we may deem best, and allow the writer ten cents per inch (one dollar per column) printed matter for as much of such articles as we publish. By this rule each writer who sends us valuable matter will receive remuneration for his labor, whether he be the winner of the first prize or not.
- 4.—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 (one dollar per column) 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.
- 5.—Replies to circulars and letters of enquiry sent from this office will not be paid for as provided by rule 4.
- 6.—No anonymous communications or enquiries will receive attention.
- 7.—Letters intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best essay stating the conditions that render summer-fallowing desirable, its advantages, and describing in detail the best system based on writer's experience and observation. Essay to be in this office not later than April 15th.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best essay on "The Profits of Beef Production in Manitoba and the Northwest;" writer to give a detailed statement of the cost of production. Essay to be in this office not later than May 15th.

Our prize of \$5 has been awarded to Mr. Thos. Copland, of Saskatoon, N. W. T., for the best essay on "Potato Culture, and Six Most Promising Varieties in Writer's Locality."

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Executive Committees Meet.

Canadian Hackney Breeders' Association met at a recent date, and formulated a set of rules governing the Hackney Stud Book now established in Toronto. The Editor is Mr. Henry Wade, Toronto.

The directors of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association met in the board room of the Agriculture and Arts Association Toronto, and accepted rules governing the various swine records now established in Canada. Full particulars will be given concerning each of these meetings in our next issue. In the meantime those desiring fuller information will be furnished with particulars by writing Mr. Henry Wade, Toronto.

Canadian Pacific Railway Lands.

The general reduction in the prices of C. P. R. lands, to which reference was made in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE for March, has had a most stimulating effect upon sales, no less than \$100,000 worth being disposed of in February. This cut in prices was made to afford Ontario and other eastern farmers who are arriving in such large numbers an opportunity of locating near their friends in the older settled parts of Manitoba. They are thus enabled to secure land at a low price where they will not be isolated from friends, and have the full advantage of railway facilities, schools, churches, etc., that they enjoyed in their old homes.

By the adoption of the uniform price of \$3.00 an acre in the west the lands heretofore selling in the Calgary district at \$5.00 an acre can be purchased at the lower figure. This is an advantage to the farmers settling in that country, as it enables them to secure additional pasture land for their rapidly increasing herds. The live stock interests of the Territories are developing rapidly, last season being highly encouraging, and are destined to prove ere long a source of untold wealth to Northwestern Canada.

In the Saskatchewan Valley free homesteads of one hundred and sixty acres can be obtained, but as the settlers who move into that country have stock, they require more than one hundred and sixty acres, hence the company have placed their lands at the low figure of \$3.00 an acre to enable the farmer to secure the additional ground for pasturage, etc., on a small outlay.

The principle adopted is first come, first served; it is an advantage, therefore, to be early in the field before the best locations are picked up.

Farmers, merchants and others, who have sons growing up with a liking for farm life can by the small payment of \$48.00 a year secure a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres for their boys. This annual payment will hardly be felt and it enables a father to place his son when he is ready to go out into the world on a valuable farm, where the climatic and other conditions are highly favorable. Any additional information desired can be obtained by calling upon or writing Mr. L. A. Hamilton, the Land Commissioner at Winnipeg. We understand a sale of Edmonton district lands is to occur in Edmonton on May 3rd, and will doubtless attract the attention of many prospective settlers in that fine locality.

Cattle Disease and Treasury Rulings.

Each English mail brings further news of the dreaded foot and mouth disease until upwards of thirty outbreaks have been reported. It is claimed the pest first broke out among a lot of inferior Danish cattle brought to London Metropolitan Market on the 30th of January. It developed among them as well as the cattle with which they came in contact, since which it has spread with alarming rapidity, principally through Kent and the metropolis, and now another outbreak is reported as far north as Westmoreland. The fact that the cattle from the above market were shipped to many outside points shows the imminent danger to which the live stock of England was thereby exposed. Cattle, sheep and swine are alike subject to it. In England it spreads with great rapidity, as dogs, rats and men are all agents that may transmit the plague from one stable to another. If not speedily stamped out it will be necessary for our Government to prevent the further importation of sheep, swine or cattle that we may still retain the absolute immunity from disease that we have so long enjoyed. Just now the agricultural press, as well as the political organs of England, are aflame with articles bearing the strongest contention favoring the prohibition of all live stock importation, and also argue that they may not discriminate between the different countries that have been supplying them. These on the eve of the general election may carry more weight than the previous arguments on the same question. Just why Canada should be brought within this category it is difficult to surmise. Canada is annually taking a large share of England's exportation of pure-bred stock, and is sending her in return live cattle and sheep from which there is no shadow or possibility of infection. The day is close at hand when Canada will be able to supply all that England requires in the line of live cattle and sheep. By prohibiting the importation of such from infected countries she will assure safety to her own farmers and graziers, while it would assist in building up a trade in which Canada has the greatest possible resources. The colonies are standing alone in displaying a wish for closer connection and greater freedom of trade with Great Britain. In these particulars Canada has lately given no uncertain sound, for which the odious McKinley Bill deserves its share of credit. Just now it looks as though Canada is in danger of occupying the unfortunate position of being between the proverbial two stools. The late ruling of the Treasury Department of Washington relating to pure-bred horses, cattle and sheep, and the proposed measure in England relative to our export of live cattle, are measures that will not only materially affect these branches of our live stock industry, but may force an ultimatum that may affect our future social and political intercourse with the mother country.