

all the essays was that co-operation would make people more human—in short, foster the development of the spirit of the golden rule of doing unto others as we would have others do unto us. The economic value of co-operation in correcting abuses that have arisen through the formation of combines and trusts has also impressed itself upon the minds of many of the writers, though not by any means to the fullest extent.

Tax Gains is to be congratulated on the forward step it has taken by inviting these essays, and I trust it will continue in the future upon even a more comprehensive scale. They stimulate thought and discussion upon a phase of our commercial life that in more ways than one is trending strongly to crush and debase the best instincts of humanity.

Yours Sincerely,
T. A. CRERAR.

♦ ♦ ♦
JOHN COCHRANE SMITH

The land of the heather stands to the front on the honor roll in the GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE prize essay contest. The Cross of St. Andrews was upheld in the competition by a worthy representative in the person of John Cochrane Smith, a young man of twenty-five years, who is rapidly making good in his adopted land. December 14, 1885, was his natal day. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Smith, Corrie Lodge, Inverness, Scotland. He was educated at Inverness Royal Academy, Inverness College and Kimbolton College, Huntingdonshire, England. The lure of the Canadian west seized him in early life, and in the spring of 1903, he left his home and family, and crossed the water to carve his future in a new land. For over three years he worked out on farms at Cartwright, Man., and also in North Dakota. When the Manitoba Agricultural College opened for the first time in the fall of 1906 he enrolled from Cartwright, and has since been in steady attendance at the college. His summer months have been spent in farming, and he has also been associated with the college extension work at the agricultural fairs and institute meetings.

Mr. Smith says: "Both directly and indirectly, I derived a great deal of benefit from the writing of THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE essay on 'Co-operation.' Previously I had read a number of articles on co-operation and co-operative principles in different periodicals, American and British as well as in the GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE. I had not, however, studied the possibilities of the application of the co-operative principles to western conditions, and the advisability, or as investigation shows the necessity for co-operative organizations in the Canadian west. Practically speaking, my knowledge of the subject was very limited when I decided to write the essay, and even yet that knowledge is necessarily extremely rudimentary. I can truthfully say, however, that the study involved in the preparation of the essay has opened my eyes with regard to the possibilities of co-operation, not only in Canada, but in any agricultural country. It has also given me some slight insight into the methods employed and the magnitude of the work undertaken by those who are doing their best to foster agricultural co-operation in Western Canada. I hope to be able to pursue the study of co-operation and follow the advance of the co-operative movement in the west, and shall look at it with a renewed interest and from a different, and I trust, a more intelligent point of view. I have no hesitation in saying that I consider the same benefits will be derived by every student who undertakes to write such an essay. The subject is one which, I think, requires considerable study before an intelligent article can be produced. It is also of live interest at the present time, and I can see no better method by which the possibilities of co-operation can be brought before the farmers of the present generation, than through the efforts which are being made by THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE."

♦ ♦ ♦
PETER BLYTHE LOGAN

Peter Blythe Logan is another of our prize-winners who hails from the "Land o' Cakes," having been born in East Lothian, Scotland, on March 28, 1881. For five years he attended public school, and three years at secondary school. Although a young man he has a varied experience and has come to Canada

as the place of opportunity for young men. He was in the stationary business in Scotland for nine years, but owing to ill-health, he took up work on a Scotch farm where he remained for four years. In the spring of 1909 he started out alone from his home and struck work at once on a Saskatchewan farm. At the opening of the Manitoba Agricultural College last fall, he entered the first year and intends to complete the five year course and specialize in dairying, as he believes that industry has a great future in the west. During the summer vacation he is engaged at work with the Crescent Creamery Company of Winnipeg.

Mr. Logan, in speaking of his benefits says: "I derived considerable benefit from writing the essay on co-operation. It increased my knowledge to a great extent of the methods employed in the distribution of farm products. It has brought to me a clearer and fuller understanding of the great policy of co-operation and has confirmed my faith in the efficiency of this remedy for the present state of affairs. From a student's point of view I do not think a more advantageous policy could be pursued than the continuance of THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE essay contest along similar lines. Ranking next in importance to the crop itself, is the method of distribution and the sources of supply. A thorough and accurate knowledge of these is essential to successful farming. By writing on these subjects the student would increase his knowledge, would become more alive to their vital importance, and would be better able to judge whether existing conditions are the best obtainable, and in the case of faulty and inefficient service in these branches would be competent to see and apply an effective remedy."

♦ ♦ ♦
JOHN E. SIRETT

The only native Canadian to capture one of the prizes offered by THE GUIDE in the essay contest was John E. Sirett, a young man of twenty-two years of age who was born in the district of Glendale, near Neepawa, Manitoba, on January 7, 1888. He comes of good stock, his father being English, and his mother Scotch Canadian. As a boy he attended the Gordon public school near home, and later at the Minnedosa High school. A year ago he entered the Manitoba Agricultural College where he has done good work. At present he is engaged in work at the Saskatchewan Agricultural College at Saskatoon.

This young Canadian writes us: "The practice in writing and the information gleaned on the subject of co-operation was a great source of education to me. In tracing the history of co-operation in other countries, as well as in Canada, I found it to be not only a wide subject but one of vital importance to every farmer in Western Canada. In my opinion it would be a profitable subject for the students of Manitoba Agricultural College to write upon next year."

♦ ♦ ♦
JOHN F. McINTOSH

John F. McIntosh is a young man, twenty years of age, who has made a good start in the world, and has a bright future ahead of him. He was born at Maryhill, Glasgow, Scotland, in 1890, and was educated in the public schools of that city. With his parents he left Scotland and came to Canada in 1903. He decided to get into the commercial field at once, and took a job with the C. P. R. as office boy, which he held for about a year and a half. He then went into his father's store in Winnipeg. At sixteen-years of age, he set out to try his hand at farming at Neepawa. He had been at his work for about nine months, when his father bought the farm on which he is now living, at Stonewall, Man. For the last two years he has been an attendant at the Manitoba Agricultural College.

On the writing of the essay the prize-winner says:

"Up to the time I started to write the essay, I had thought very little about co-operation in relation to farming. When I began to study the subject, my eyes were opened to the benefits that could be derived from it, if taken up by the farmers of the west. I think it is a good subject for the students to write on. The boys who go to the agricultural college, are out to get the best ideas going, and co-operation, in my opinion, is in the first rank."

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