

the child, so that school attendance is thrown off or left behind as having served a purpose when it has given a pupil some knowledge of the mere shells and forms of intelligence in the language and figures.

"The United States are leading the way in this better education in elementary schools; Germany is far ahead; England is following after, while the educational authorities in Canada have been so busy shouting about their advancement that they have neglected to join the procession of progress.

"There are some exceptions, particularly in this western country and in Nova Scotia. The teachers of Canada are progressive enough, most of them chafe under bookish restrictions. They have done splendid work in training the children as far as school systems would permit. These systems have been too much of the book, bookish, and information to pass examination has been the goal instead of a training of children into practical and personal ability,

"However, a better state of affairs in education is dawning and the school house is bound to become more and more a centre and source of the influences, methods and training, which make for intelligence, practical ability and the righteousness of good citizenship.

"I hope ere long to see a large number of rural schools each with a garden attached to train children into a knowledge of plant life and a love of managing plant life. At first that might be begun by having a competent itinerant instructor to visit ten schools giving half a day's time to each. A further need of Canada where teachers are actually engaged in teaching at rural schools is a place where they can be fixed for this work to give better class of education. Short courses in instruction are provided in Germany and in a few places in England. Such would be the most valuable help which education in rural schools

could have. Later on agricultural colleges would be the very greatest benefit for teachers in rural schools."

Winter Fair Programme.

The Executive of the Provincial Winter Fair, to be held in Guelph on the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th of next month, met at Toronto Tuesday afternoon and made the final arrangements for the programme. The order of events will be as follows:

Tuesday evening—F. W. Hodson, Ottawa, and Prof. G. E. Day, Guelph, on the rising of bacon hogs, illustrated by living specimens.

Wednesday afternoon—Prof. G. E. Day and Hon. John Dryden on beef cattle raising; Messrs. J. H. Grisdale, Ottawa; A. W. Smith, Maple Lodge; and John Campbell, Woodville, on mutton sheep raising.

Wednesday evening—Public meeting, with speeches by Hon. G. W. Ross, Hon. John Dryden, Hon. Sydney Fisher, and Dr. Jas. Mills.

Thursday forenoon—Poultry lectures and demonstrations by F. C. Hare, Ottawa; A. G. Gilbert, Ottawa; W. R. Graham, Guelph; L. Baldwin, Toronto; G. R. Cottrell, Milton; Sharp Butterfield, London; F. H. Smelt, Woodstock; I. G. Jarvis, Montreal, and Jas. Anderson, Guelph.

Thursday afternoon—Cattle carcasses, addresses by Prof. G. E. Day, Guelph; H. A. Foulds, Brantford; A. W. Tyson, Guelph.

Thursday evening—Swine carcasses, addresses by F. W. Hodson, Ottawa; J. W. Flavell, Toronto; C. F. Hodges, Brantford; C. C. L. Wilson, Ingersoll.

Friday forenoon—Dairy cattle, addresses by Hon. Sidney Fisher, Prof. H. H. Dean, Guelph, and Prof. J. W. Robertson, Ottawa. Sheep carcasses—Addresses by J. H. Grisdale, Ottawa; H. A. Foulds, Brantford; and A. W. Tyson, Guelph.