

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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AND N.-W. T.

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their support. Instances of this kind are not uncommon, yet to say that the majority of mavericks hail from such a source is a horse of another color.

The large ranchers have stated periods for branding, and one with but little knowledge of the situation can understand how occasionally a cow with her young calf will escape being corralled when the bunch are being collected for branding. Instinctively, when the calves are small, cows prefer feeding in the most secluded portions within reach, and it is not uncommon to overlook one in some deep, tortuous coulee, then ere the next branding period comes, should that cow die, her calf is a maverick, for without the branded cow to identify the calf there is no possible means of claiming ownership.

It will hence be seen that the amendment, as above outlined, deserves consideration from all interested in Territorial live stock. At present the maverick question demands attention, and as there is no means whereby the rightful owner can be identified, the live-stock associations should be enriched to that extent, since the money would be expended by them in furthering the general interests of the stockmen better than through any other channel.

Care for the Brood Sow.

If the breeding sow be due to pig, see that a nice warm part of the stable is securely partitioned off for her. If possible, have a window facing the south lighting the pen. If there is not an earth floor, give a little earth every day, and do not overload with bedding. It is sometimes argued that litters have come to maturity strong and healthy in the shelter related to their dams in the straw stacks. Yes, the former inhabitants of Western Canada were born in tents, but they have evolved into an obscure remnant, and we who dwell in houses cumbered with hands occupy their land.

The Dominion Exhibition for Winnipeg.

The announcement that a Dominion Exhibition will be held in Winnipeg during the present year comes as a surprise to most people, owing to the general opinion that a show sufficiently comprehensive in character to illustrate the possibilities of this country could not be prepared for before 1905. As pointed out at the institution of the campaign for a Dominion Fair in the April "Farmer's Advocate," there are great advantages to be had by successfully conducting an exhibition of this kind in the West, and while there is reason for gratification over the decision of the Federal Government in granting \$50,000 in support of the proposition, in the short time at the disposal of the Exhibition Board, it becomes the duty of every Canadian, and every Westerner in particular, to bend every energy in the direction of making the exhibition this year a greater success than ever, and as fully representative of Canada as is possible. The Dominion grant will be applied to the erection of new buildings, including a large manufacturers' building; the augmentation of the prize money; payment of freights on shipments, and advertising the Exhibition, especially in connection with the propaganda of the Immigration Department for attracting immigrants to the West.

The Canadian Manufacturers' Association is giving the Exhibition its hearty and active support, and is directing its efforts to making the exhibition of manufactured goods as complete as possible, by impressing upon its members the importance of sending their exhibits to Winnipeg. This was very clearly impressed upon the manufacturers during their Western tour last autumn.

The Season's Yield at Agassiz, B. C.

The advantages to the newcomer to the lands of the Coast Province in having the records of an Experimental Farm to consult cannot be overestimated; in fact, the old-timer can consult with interest and profit to himself the results of trials with new and old varieties of grains, roots and fruits. The results from this farm are very good, when one takes into consideration the character of the soil, which in its natural state, with big outcroppings of gravel, is as poor as can be imagined. The soil here calls for the practice of an up-to-date agriculture, in which clover, live stock, and the use of manure by top-dressing, and the use of slag, have prominent places.

A perusal of the yields and remarks on the grains will be valuable to the farmers in any part of B.C. The early publication of such allows him to get seed in time for the 1904 seeding. As has often been mentioned in the "Advocate," when discussing editorially the work of the experimental farms, the abandonment of the testing of so many varieties year after year would be an advantage. In the list of yields for 1903, a large number of the poorer-producing varieties have been omitted, yet the reports issued year after year show that such comparatively valueless croppers have not been dropped. In the matter of fruit trees, several varieties have shown that they are worthless from the market standpoint, owing to the ease with which they fall a prey to the attacks of parasitic and fungoid pests, in spite of spraying and other attempts to suppress such pests. Yet there seems to be no cessation in the tests with such varieties. The work of the farm would be far more valuable than it is now, if to such varieties were meted out the punishment accorded to unfruitful trees in Holy Writ, and in the place of them an orchard planted with varieties whose worth is based on their commercial and pest-resisting values. Grains weigh well at this farm, as far as can be judged by the hand. If a standard weigher for estimating weight per bushel, such as is to be found at every country elevator on the prairie, were provided, the reports issued by the superintendent would be still more valuable. The past season was peculiar, inasmuch as owing to the lack of sunshine, and frequent showers at the beginning of the ripening period, the earlier-maturing varieties were held back, while later varieties, not as far advanced, were enabled to catch up during the

cloudy, damp weather, thus bringing the different varieties in almost at the same time.

Improvements in the way of clearing are being steadily made, such involving a lot of heavy work. Some stumps were seen, the roots from which extended over half an acre; all must be gotten out before the plow can do satisfactory work. The orchards on the ledges are demonstrating that these semi-inaccessible areas can be put to profitable use.

Domestic Servants on the Farm.

The question of hired help on the farm is one which, according to paragraphs appearing from time to time in the daily press, is always just on the eve of solution. The announcement is made that communities have been discovered—it may be in the "thickly populated glens" of the west coast of Scotland; in the fastnesses of the mountains of Wales, or surrounding a heretofore undiscovered Irish bog—in every case the intelligence is offered as a solution of the problem of the scarcity of domestic servants in Canada. It is pointed out that these populations are composed of a great predominance of girls; that these girls are all about the right age to make good servants, and that nothing but the lack of transportation keeps them from emigrating to Canada, or some such place, where they are dying to find the very occupation we have to offer them. Sometimes the paragraph goes the length of saying that the Immigration Department has made arrangements to bring drafts of those highly desirable immigrants out to the country, and a regular piecemeal immigration is looked forward to by those in the unfortunate position of requiring help.

The facts are that the scarcity of girls to do domestic work on the farms is just as keenly felt in Great Britain as it is here, and every girl who can be induced to engage in that occupation is being picked up readily. True, the inducements of superior social status offered by Canada has succeeded in bringing many girls to our farms, but only a short time elapses when some lonely bachelor on matrimony bent, comes and brings the neighbor's treasure to his own fireside, and the last state of the house she has left is worse than the first. While this condition exists, the life of the farmer's wife is far from being one of ease or comfort. The women on our farms are in many instances living the life of slaves. It is one monotonous round of hard work and uncongenial drudgery from early morn till late night, and from one year's end to the other. Women have ever been known to endure hardships with more fortitude and less complaint than men, and hence it is that so little is heard of their difficulties and discomforts in the farmhouse. It is a circumstance in the social aspect of our farm life, however, not only that is to be deplored, but which everyone connected with rural industries should strive to remedy. In the meantime, it is useless to look for a remedy in the way of a sufficient supply of servant girls. The number wanted is far too great to get supplied all at once, or in the immediate future, either by immigration or any other means; and it would be equally useless to hold meetings and pass resolutions on the subject as men do when they have a grievance, or imagine they have one. The only available remedy in sight lies with the individual, and each individual can do his share in making the life of the wearied housewife more comfortable. Little acts done at meal times and little self-denials during the day by every individual amount to a great aggregate in the day's work of the house, and a give-and-take spirit, with kind words and no grumbings, will work wonders in the arrangement of the household, and in the spirit of tranquility which such will be found to induce.

Clean the cream separator every time it is used. No matter what type of separator be in use it requires cleaning with hot and cold water every time it is used. Some agents claim for the machine they handle that their particular separator requires little or no cleaning. Some separators are more easily cleaned than others, but every one of them requires to be cleaned every time it is operated.