

# THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE

\* AGRICULTURE, STOCK, DAIRY, POULTRY, HORTICULTURE, VETERINARY, HOME CIRCLE.\*

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875.

VOL. XXXIV.

LONDON, ONT., AND WINNIPEG, MAN., JULY 20, 1899.

No. 482

## The Winnipeg Industrial a Great Success.

The Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition has come to be looked upon not only as the "great annual carnival," but in a business point of view, as an index of the productions, progress, and prosperity of Western Canada; and the directorate, ever watchful to further the country's interests, while making the show itself a success, has succeeded, from an immigration standpoint, far better than they know. The Industrial now attracts hosts of visitors, not only from our Canadian Provinces, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, but thousands come every year from the States to the south of us. We welcome our American cousins, and believe we can offer them great advantages to settle on our cheap and fertile lands. Although during the fore part of the week the outlook was threatening and changeful, by Wednesday it settled to our usual clear, cloudless summer weather. We in this western land glory in our sunshine, and while at times it "warms us up," we submit, because, after all, this is what makes our world-famed wheat and grass, and compensates for our northern latitude. On the whole, the weather could not have been better, and the attendance surpassed all previous records. The grounds were simply thronged with delighted thousands.

In some of the live stock departments there was a considerable falling-off numerically, although the quality of the exhibits was fully up to the average. In our review of the stock we have tried to give credit where credit was due, but have not foreborne to criticise, always aiming to assist in the educational objects of the fair. In the horse barns there was a marked decline in exhibits, particularly in the heavy classes. The beef breeds of cattle were fully up to the average, Shorthorns, of course, making the show. In sheep the exhibit was about average, with lots of room for improvement. The lack of interest here is undoubtedly due in large measure to the depredations of the prairie wolf. The swine pens were well filled with good exhibits. The poultry exhibit was the largest and best ever made. The exhibit in the dairy building was large and particularly good, and with few exceptions the average was well maintained throughout all departments. There were also grand exhibits of agricultural products and machinery.

The attractions were of a somewhat different character from the usual run, and were not, perhaps, as much appreciated as performances of a more thrilling nature. The horse races were fast—lots of entries and hot competition.

Among the many distinguished visitors to the fair were: H. F. Brown, the well-known Shorthorn breeder and exhibitor, of Minneapolis; Capt. Thomas Robson, of Iderton, Ont., breeder of Shorthorns and Lincoln sheep; Wm. Graham, the celebrated horseman, of Claremont; Henry Wade, Registrar of Dominion Live Stock Records; Dr. Jas. Fletcher, Dominion Botanist; J. X. Perrault, Dominion Commissioner to the Paris Exhibition; and the stock judges, Messrs. John Davidson, Ashburn; Wm. Hendrie, Jr., Hamilton; Dr. Willoughby; D. B. Charles, Galt; Wm. Watt, Salem; Wm. Stewart, Menie; J. C. Snell, London; Sharp Butterfield, London; and Prof. Haecker, of the Minnesota Agricultural College.

On succeeding pages we give complete reviews of the leading departments of the show.

## Kildonan Farmers' Institute.

[Address by Prof. Geo. Day, O. A. C., Guelph.]

The annual meeting of the Kildonan Farmers' Institute, held on July 3rd, was addressed by G. E. Day, Professor of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, and Mr. D. A. Stewart, of Pilot Mound. The meeting was not largely attended. The officers of the preceding year were all re-elected. Prof. Day spoke briefly on the "Selection and Feeding of Live Stock." From what he had seen of Manitoba, he had not any doubt but that Manitoba would yet be a large producer of live stock. In Ontario the breeding and feeding of live stock had become an absolute essential to successful farming. They had to raise stock to be able to raise grain, and to raise grain, to be able to raise stock. The sooner Manitobans take up stock-raising, the better it would be for the country, as it was not only much safer than exclusive grain-raising, but gave profitable employment throughout the year, and would keep the young men out of mischief during the winter months. He had heard people in this country remark that they did not intend to go in for stock-raising on account of the *drudgery* necessitated in feeding and caring for stock during the long months of winter. Whether stock-feeding is *drudgery* or not depends largely upon how you look at it. Given good stock, in which the feeder can take a pride, and there is no *drudgery* in caring and feeding such; and once get the boys of the farm interested and proud of the live stock that they have to work with, and there will no longer be the complaint that the boys leave the farm for other occupations.

One of the great difficulties is that men do not possess the dogged perseverance necessary to success in stock-raising. Men are not satisfied to start at the bottom, or according to their means, and stick to it with unwavering perseverance until they reach the top. In starting a herd or flock it is not necessary to have pure-bred females, but it is necessary to have an *ideal* in one's mind in order that an intelligent and persistent effort be made to attain a high standard. A man must *know* a good animal, and knowledge must be the basis upon which success is founded. In stock-breeding, of whatever breed is decided upon, the best individuals only should be retained, culling out those that are inferior. In common practice it is generally the best that are sold, simply because they bring the most money at the time; and in consequence the herds and flocks are continually degenerating. Then, for lack of a fixed purpose, people switch off from one breed to another. This practice he could not too strongly condemn, and believed that whatever breed a man selected he should stick to that breed, using the best sires obtainable.

In addition to careful selection, it was most essential to feed, and to feed properly. He was often asked, "What is the best ration for dairy cattle or for beef cattle?" He did not think there was any best ration. It depended very largely upon what feed was at hand. It was important, however, if it was necessary to buy feed, to understand the composition of a proper ration in order that the most economical feed might be bought. The fact is frequently overlooked that an animal can only return a profit in milk or beef out of the feed consumed above what is required for the maintenance of the body. An animal that will not pay for good feed cannot be made to pay at all. Nowadays more attention is given, in feeding stock, to the cheaper part of the ration—the coarse fodders. By careful study along this line, together with experience, it was found that considerable saving can be made in the amount of grain fed by making the fodder ration so palatable that the animals will eat a large amount of it. If cattle are fed good hay one meal and straw the next, they

will not eat the straw, but wait for the next feed of hay; but if the hay and straw are cut and mixed together, along with ensilage or roots, or both, the cattle will eat all clean, and thus get the benefit of whatever nutriment there is in the straw. In this way meal rations for stall-fed cattle have been reduced within the past few years about one half. He cited a number of tests that have been made at the Agricultural College in feeding cattle. He strongly recommended roots, and was sure they can be grown in any part of this country with satisfactory results. Roots are also particularly useful in hog-feeding, and where they are fed during the winter months in suitable proportion there is much less trouble from crippling, and the hogs are in much better shape to be finished off with a heavy grain ration.

Mr. Stewart exhibited samples of Brome grass, which, he said, was doing exceedingly well wherever tested in the Pilot Mound district. He strongly recommended it for pasture and for hay, for renewing old land by supplying humus or root fiber to the soil, to prevent drifting of light soil or baking of heavy soil, and also pointed to its usefulness on dirty land to hold weeds in check. He had found that seven pounds of seed per acre of home-grown seed was sufficient in his district, and thought likely that quantity would be suitable anywhere on the heavy lands of the Red River Valley.

## The N.-W.T. Government and Agriculture.

C. W. Peterson, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture, Regina, in speaking at some Institute meetings in the Territories lately, referred to the great good that would result from the holding of Institute meetings and the discussion of practical subjects by the farmers. The Territorial Government would do everything they could to assist such meetings, and suggested that the agricultural societies should take up this work. He also pointed out the advisability of a number of adjoining societies uniting for the purpose of holding one good show, which would bring about keener competition than now existed by the holding of small shows by each society. An amalgamation of societies would enable liberal prizes to be offered, which would induce outside breeders to enter into competition, and thus the stock of particular districts could be compared with animals having a show record. Plowing matches might also be held with advantage, and he said it was intended to offer prizes for plowing in connection with the coming Regina Fair. He also stated that the Commissioner of the Department had expressed his willingness to supply judges for all agricultural shows in the Territories if satisfactory arrangements could be made. Unless the directors of fairs co-operate to some extent in respect to times of holding them, a scheme such as he had indicated would not be practicable, and it would be necessary for the Department at Regina to be consulted as to the dates. If convenient dates could be arranged, there was no doubt whatever but that the Government could see its way to take entire charge of the judging, at least in the cattle and horse classes.

## Nelson Farmers' Institute.

The annual meeting of the Nelson Farmers' Institute was held on July 1st. There was a good representation of the farmers of the district present. The election of officers resulted as follows: Duncan Stewart, President; Harold Elliott, Vice-President; Lin Watson, Secretary-Treasurer; Thos. Boulton, Auditor. Directors—Jas. Nelson, H. Laycock, W. Kendall, T. Boulton, T. Sandercock, Jas. Godkin. The President then called upon Mr. D. A. Stewart, of Pilot Mound, who spoke on "Rotation of Crops and Brome Grass," and Prof. Geo. E. Day on "Selection and Feeding of Stock." Much information was given by the Professor in answer to questions.

[The addresses were along similar lines as reported from Kildonan Farmers' Institute. Ed.]