

often as not—not so much as the result of his own industry, as his ability to use the industry of others. As the Hon. John Dryden once said of himself, they "earn their bread by the sweat of the hired man's brow." Who has not seen instances like this? Two young farmers settle on adjoining farms, prospects apparently equal, yet little by little one forges ahead, extends his operations, needs help, gets it from his neighbor, until at middle-age their relations have become almost constantly that of employer and employee, their properties a perfect example of the two individuals you specified at the opening of the question, the labor of both going to build up the property of the one. Yet, the Editor and Mr. Good would, in the name of justice, ask that they be taxed equally!

All those qualities, or attributes—industry, intelligence, enterprise, sagacity, etc., even the immunity from "hookworm,"—that co-operate in the interests of the successful man, are just so many God-given assets, the very best that a man can be possessed of. Why should he not be assessed on the full fruits of them, in the interest of the public utilities that from these very qualities are more to him than to the man not so endowed?

The free trade vs. protection question occasionally hobs up in your columns. The Editor is apparently a free-trader, and perhaps he is right; yet, twenty years ago, in the palmy Conservative days, I was an ardent protectionist; and there seemed to be some reason. I have seen the price of a mowing machine drop from \$80 to \$50, a rake from \$32 to \$18, and other farm machinery and implements, from a threshing machine to a pitchfork, much in the same ratio. At the same time, I have seen the price of farm products advance from 20 to 50 per cent. So I have some reason not to take serious stock in the old wail of the combines crushing the life out of the farmer. Yet, with the more judicial view of middle-age, I can see that those things are under influences largely outside of tariffs or legislation. One objection to protection that I have never seen mentioned by any of your correspondents is that it certainly makes for the using up of the natural resources of a country. Witness the U. S. As for protection for farm products, I want none of it. Naturally, I like to see farm products a good price, yet I do not want to see the price of a poor man's dinner artificially enhanced in my interest. I was fully in accord with Sir Wilfred, when, to the woollen manufacturers, he refused to enhance the cost of the poor man's clothing; and have fully agreed with "The Farmer's Advocate" this fall in its opposition to an increased duty on pork. I believe the time has come when the trend should be towards lower tariffs, and that the Canadian farmer is overwhelmingly of the same opinion. Is there no way we can make that opinion felt. I fear my communications grow too lengthy. I must write oftener. J. H. COLPITTS.

Albert Co., N. B.

[Note.—We are assured that the red-leaf spoken of is the same as the oat blight which caused such extensive injury in Ontario, in 1907, and proved very puzzling to our biologists. It is not yet known, so far as we are aware, whether it is due to a destructive bacterium such as that causing pear blight, or whether it is caused by a certain fungus identified on the leaves, or whether this fungus is merely a concomitant of a condition induced primarily by some adverse climatic cause. Mr. Colpitts is hardly warranted in drawing the inference that the Editor of "The Farmer's Advocate" is a free-trader. We should, of course, very much like to see world-wide free trade, but, under present conditions, a moderate tariff is probably in Canada's best interest. We believe, however, that it should be progressively reduced. Mr. Colpitts is quite right, however, in his view that there are other influences besides tariffs which affect a country's commercial and industrial developments. As to land taxation, here again we have not been quite truly represented. Undoubtedly, there is much force in what Mr. Colpitts urges about difference in natural capabilities and in relative ability to pay taxes. On the other hand, there is much force in the single taxer's argument as to the effect of taxation of improvements in discouraging enterprise and encouraging wasteful land speculation. The force of this argument is perhaps most apparent in new districts and in cities. The general question of land taxation is a big one, and, like most questions, has two sides. Our only motive was to point two or three valid arguments touched upon by Mr. Good.

More Prosecutions of Apple Packers.

The following persons have been convicted for illegal marking and packing of apples, as a result of prosecutions by the Dominion Fruit Inspectors, since the first of December: J. H. Fleming, Kincardine, Ont. (second offence), fine \$25; Stewart Bros., Kincardine, Ont. (second offence), \$25; G. A. Morris, Gore Bay, Ont., \$10; Prentice & Sproule, Collingwood, Ont., \$10; T. E. Cain, Lucknow, Ont., \$10; John Joynt, Lucknow, Ont.,

(second offence), \$25; Wm. Stanley, Holmesville, Ont., \$10; H. Williams, Clinton, Ont., \$10; John McGuire, Porter's Hill, Ont., \$10.

P. E. I. Notes.

At present writing, Dec. 21st, it looks as though winter has come to stay. It is quite unusual for a foot of snow to fall with the wind from the north-west; this should make excellent sleighing for the holiday season.

Trade of all kinds is brisk, and prices good for the products of the farm. Truly, the farmers of this Province have had a prosperous year. The crops were good all round. Wheat filled pretty well. The jointworm, which was quite troublesome in some sections in former years, has almost entirely disappeared this year, probably due to later sowing. Oats, although a good crop of straw, are not quite as well filled as in the previous year. Potatoes were a good crop, but dry-rot is taking some lots almost entirely, while many others are remarkably free from disease. We consider the early planting much more liable to disease than the late. The first week in June is perhaps the best time to plant potatoes on our dry island soil.

No less than 150 P. E. I. young men applied for scholarships to attend the short course at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College this winter, and as the Provincial Government is granting only 70, a lot of our boys are going to be disappointed, or go at their own expense. It is encouraging to see so many of our young farmers taking an interest in this course. It is proof that our boys, instead of deserting us, are taking a great interest in farming, and intend to stick to it, and, in order to compete with other men, they feel the need of education along the line of their profession. What we need on the farm is brains, brainy men, men educated along their own line, and until we have such, farming will not be carried on in a business way, as are the other occupations. And a few weeks spent at Truro College with Prof. Cumming and his assistants is sure to imbue us with love for the farm. The man who puts as much energy, life and brains into his work as Prof. Cumming is sure to make a success; and I speak from experience that there is something good in store for those who attend the short course this winter.

The very high price of eggs and poultry the past season have induced many to go into the business on a large scale, and this very profitable branch of the farm will in the future add much to the revenue of the same. Already, many farms are turning in from two to three hundred dollars annually from this source alone.

The Co-operative Fruit Co., organized in Charlottetown this summer, have packed and shipped considerable fruit, but cannot say at present how profitable the venture has been. The same company are going to pack and ship to England in March all the Ben Davis apples they can get. This business is just in its infancy here in Prince Edward Island, but we hope and expect, in a few years' time, to look upon this as one of the principal sources of revenue to our Province. We have a suitable soil and climate, and we can, without doubt, produce the fruit, but education along this line is needed.

Pork has passed the ten-cent mark, the highest ever known on this Island, and yet the quantity is decreasing.

The mild, open fall has enabled farmers to get all the plowing done and everything in good shape for winter, and we are now busy getting out the year's supply of fuel. COLIN C. CRAIG.

East Prince, P. E. I.

Another Great Winter Show to be Held at Ottawa.

Prospects are very bright for a magnificent exhibition of live stock and poultry in connection with the Eastern Ontario Live-stock and Poultry Show, which will be held in Ottawa on January 17th to 21st, 1910. Although several thousand copies of the prize-list were distributed in September, nearly every mail since has brought a number of applications for lists. The recipients of these lists will find, in the large prizes offered, a strong inducement to prepare and make exhibits.

A total of \$8,000 is offered in cash prizes for horses, dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, swine, seeds and poultry. The classification provides for animals of all the principal breeds and the different ages. Breeders who have stock that they could show should make arrangements at an early date, as entries for poultry close January 3rd, and live-stock entries close January 8th. Prize lists may be secured on application to D. T. Elderkin, Secretary, 21 Sparks St., Ottawa.

Renew promptly. The easiest time to pay a bill is when it falls due. And it is the most satisfactory for everyone concerned.

A Few Bouquets.

One of the most successful newspaper enterprises in Canada is that of "The Farmer's Advocate," of London. Half a century ago, the late William Weld launched his diminutive agricultural paper on the farming community of this district. For many years, keeping the breath of life in it was a heroic struggle. The farmers were, as a rule, men who had to husband every dollar that they might build for the future of their families, but as time went on fortune began to smile upon Wm. Weld, and now the paper he has given his children ranks with the very best on the continent of America. We are led to these reflections because of the magnificent Christmas Number which is this year presented to its readers. Our best wishes go out to our contemporary. Industry, frugality, integrity and enterprise were the cornerstones of its foundation, and the superstructure presents, in consequence, a mass of literature which to the farmer will prove to be a liberal education in that handicraft of his which stands above and beyond all others as a factor in the progress of our country.—[Catholic Record.]

Your premium set of dishes arrived safe and sound, and I must say that we are well pleased with them. I have taken your paper a good many years, and still find it as interesting and instructive as ever, and its arrival is looked forward to every week by the whole family. Wishing "The Farmer's Advocate" every success, and all the staff the compliments of the season.

Stanstead Co., Que. WM. PARTINGTON.

You will find enclosed \$2.50, for which you will please continue sending your splendid agricultural journal, and a copy to Geo. Sutherland, who has been working for me during the past two years, and now intends renting a farm near here, and making a start for himself. I feel that the fulfilment of my best wishes for his success has begun when he is becoming an "Advocate" subscriber. The Christmas number is being closely read at our house this week, and is certainly a highly creditable production. D. PATTON.

Brant Co., Ont.

It is a pleasure for me to renew my subscription to "The Farmer's Advocate," as I know I am getting good value for the money.

JOHN C. CHISHOLM.

Antigonish Co., N. S.

It seems to me that every succeeding year the Christmas Number is better than the last. Certainly, this number is one that you may well be proud of. JNO. G. ORMSBY.

Toronto.

In renewing my subscription to "The Farmer's Advocate," and also my cousin's, of England, I may say he thinks it a very good paper, and, as for myself, I think it excellent. It should be a weekly visitor to every farm home in Canada, and any person having friends living in the British Isles could not do better than send "The Farmer's Advocate" to them as a present. I am sure they would appreciate it. JOHN T. MUXLOW.

Lambton Co., Ont.

We wish to congratulate you on the fine appearance and composition of the Christmas Number. I can assure you that this edition will commend itself to your readers, and also will be a valuable number for your advertisers.

London, Ont. HENRY POCKOCK.

Writes a Middlesex Co. postmaster: "The editorials are clear and to the point; the practical experience of farmers is invaluable, and the Quiet Hour and Ingle Nook chats just what the busy farmer and his family need. The questions and answers are often helpful to many others besides those asking help; in fact, we read it all, and feel we could not farm without it."

The Christmas Number of "The Farmer's Advocate" is certainly a very great credit to the publishers of this leading farm weekly. Both in the matter contained, and in the extra fine presswork, the issue shows the greatest thought and care lavished on it by its originators. . . . The special feature which will attract most attention in Prince Edward County is the article on James R. Anderson and his magnificent farm at Mountain View. This article has two fine illustrations, one of the farmhouse and outbuildings, and the other of Mr. Anderson's improved milk-stand. It is no exaggeration to say that this issue is the best yet, and for many farmers it will take the place of the older Christmas annuals.—[Picton Times.]

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