

The Farming World

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A Tribute to Canadian Agriculture

AMONG the names on the list of honors to be bestowed on the King's birthday, none stand out more prominently than that of Prof. J. W. Robertson, late Commissioner of Agriculture for Canada. His Majesty the King has been pleased to make him a Companion of St. Michael and St. George, an honor which he richly deserves. It is a striking testimony to Prof. Robertson's personal worth and at the same time a splendid tribute to Canadian agriculture. At no previous period in our history has such an honor been bestowed upon anyone closely identified with Canadian agriculture. It is gratifying, therefore, to know that Canada's greatest industry has been so recognized and that a man so worthy in every way as Prof. Robertson is, has been selected for the honor.

It is nearly twenty years since Prof. Robertson entered upon his public career. Canadian dairying was his first love. But as the years passed his field of usefulness widened and agriculture in nearly all its branches came under the influence of that indomitable energy and faculty of his for doing things and doing them well. Movements initiated by him are now strong factors in moulding the agriculture of Canada.

He aimed at some new movement for the betterment of the farmer's calling being set on foot every year. That his ideal was nearly if not altogether realized, a glance over the busy years since 1890 will show. His recent retirement from government service and his entrance upon his duties at the Macdonald Agricultural College at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, marks an important division in his life. But if a man's past is any indication of what he will accomplish in the future, Prof. Robertson's work in this new sphere of activity will be both effective and lasting. He deserves well of his

King and country. Every Canadian farmer will join with us in extending to Dr. James W. Robertson, C.M.G., our heartiest congratulations.

The Cattle Embargo Again

The Toronto Globe of Saturday last attacks THE FARMING WORLD for its attitude on the embargo question. It is, to say the least, funny to have a journal, that has in recent months fathered the "straw-stack," steer to be reading THE FARMING WORLD a lecture on the cattle business. In-

making cattle breeding and feeding a success.

But be that as it may, the chief reason advanced by "The Globe" for the removal of the embargo is because of the great difficulty which farmers have in obtaining farm help. It says:

"The outstanding obstacle in their way is the scarcity and high price of labor, and they are forced to content themselves with raising young cattle for others to feed, instead of feeding their own until they are fit to kill."

It is quite evident that "The Globe" is about as far astray on the farm help problem as it is on the cattle question. The majority of our farmers engage help for the summer months only, a practice that is neither conducive to permanency nor efficiency in farm help. If farmers would do more feeding and fitting cattle for market in winter they would be enabled to keep their help all the year round and would not be compelled to scurry about every spring for men, as many have to do today. Besides, there are the rough feeds, which are grown in abundance on nearly every farm, especially in Ontario. What is the farmer to do with these if he does not feed them to live stock? By engaging men by the year



Dr. James W. Robertson, C.M.G.

and utilizing their time in winter in converting this rough feed into finished beef products, the farmer serves the two-fold purpose of finding an excellent market for his coarse grains, etc., and securing steady help to work his land. There are hundreds of farmers today who are not suffering for want of help because they make yearly engagements with their men and find profitable employment for them during the winter in feeding and fitting cattle for market, and there are many others who could do the same thing if they tried.

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