

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).

TWO DISTINCT PUBLICATIONS—EASTERN AND WESTERN.

EASTERN OFFICE:
CARLING STREET, LONDON, ONT.

WESTERN OFFICE:
IMPERIAL BANK BLOCK, CORNER BARNATTYNE AVE. AND MAIN ST.,
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

LONDON (ENGLAND) OFFICE:
W. W. CHAPMAN, Agent, Fitzalan House, Strand,
London, W. C., England.

JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on the first and fifteenth of each month. It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 per year in advance; \$1.50 if in arrears; sample copy free. European subscriptions, 6s. 6d., or \$1.50. New subscriptions can commence with any month.
3. ADVERTISING RATES—Single insertion, 20 cents per line, agate. Contract rates furnished on application.
4. THE ADVOCATE is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrears must be paid as required by law.
5. THE LAW IS, that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrears are paid and their paper ordered to be discontinued.
6. REMITTANCES should be made direct to this office, either by Money Order or Registered Letter, which will be at our risk. When made otherwise we will not be responsible.
7. THE DATE ON YOUR LABEL shows to what time your subscription is paid.
8. ANONYMOUS communications will receive no attention.
9. LETTERS intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
10. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve the ADVOCATE, Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known, Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.
11. ALL COMMUNICATIONS in reference to any matter connected with this paper should be addressed as below, and not to any individual connected with the paper.

Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED),
LONDON, CANADA.

Camera Competition.

Last year the "Farmer's Advocate" conducted a camera competition, which proved decidedly popular. The large number of amateur photographers who sent in samples of their work and the artistic excellence of the photographs indicated in a surprising degree the progress that has been made in that direction. Many of the photos were quite equal in artistic excellence and execution to the work of professionals, the subjects selected showing great variety and interest. So encouraging were the results, that we have decided to announce another competition open to amateurs, and to offer much larger prizes than we did in the competition of 1901. We now offer eight prizes, as follows: 1st, \$10; 2nd, \$7; 3rd, \$5; 4th, \$3; 5th, \$2; 6th, \$1; 7th, \$1; and 8th, \$1; for the best photographs of country homes, individual animals or groups, gardens, field scenes, orchards or fruit trees, bits of scenery or anything of that nature, subject to the subjoined rules:

All photographs must be not less than 4 x 5 inches in size, mounted, and be the work of amateurs.

All photographs must be clear and distinct in detail and well finished.

They must reach the "Farmer's Advocate" office, London, Ont., not later than October 1st, 1902.

The name of the competing photographer and post-office address, and the name and location of the scene, must be marked on the back of each photo.

Any person competing is at liberty to send more than one photograph if desired, but only one prize will be awarded to the same individual.

All the prizewinning photographs will become the property of the "Farmer's Advocate" for the purpose of illustration. We reserve the right to purchase, at 25 cents or 35 cents each, according to size, any photographs that do not win a prize.

No photograph is eligible to competition from which an engraving has previously been made, and photographs must be the work of competitors.

The Benefits of Exhibitions.

In the light of the history of agricultural and industrial exhibitions, no thoughtful and unbiased person can, we think, dispute the beneficial influence of these institutions in stimulating to improvement in methods of farming, in the character and quality of agricultural and dairy products, in types of live stock, and in the production of efficient labor-saving implements and machinery. The question, "Have they been worth what they have cost?" is, to our mind, fully answered in the affirmative by the great improvement made in the various breeds of live stock, through the healthy rivalry incited by competition for the prizes and honors held out for the production of the best in all classes. How otherwise is it possible to determine that improvement is being made or has been effected? Advancement can only be made by bringing together for comparison the best specimens of the different breeds, the choicest of agricultural and dairy products, and the latest and best devices for effective and economical cultivation of the soil and harvesting crops. In no country has the fairs system been so long and successfully tried as in Great Britain, in no country has equal advancement been made in live-stock improvement as a consequence, and in no other country is more interest taken by all classes of the community in the encouragement of fairs, wealthy people contributing liberally of their means to the prize list, and the common people by their presence, both classes in large numbers attending purely agricultural and industrial exhibitions, with no extraneous attractions of any description. The prominent position taken by Canadian products at international exhibitions in recent years has undoubtedly proved one of the most efficient methods that has yet been devised for advertising the resources and capabilities of the country and its suitability as a field for immigration, its productions comparing well with those of the other favored nations of the earth and finding favor and preference in the world's best markets.

It is not only the larger and more pretentious exhibitions, either, that have thus exerted a progressive influence. The smaller and local fairs have also played an important part in the encouragement of young farmers and new beginners in various lines of breeding, in the cultivation of new and improved varieties of grains and grasses and the production of a better class of dairy products. These have acted as feeders to the larger shows, new exhibitors coming up from year to year from the township and county shows to the larger field of the provincial and national exhibitions.

If the exhibition system has not in every respect met the expectations and wishes of its friends, if there has been a decadence in some of its most useful features in some quarters, it is a hopeful and encouraging sign that fair managers are amenable to faithful criticism on the part of their friends among the press and the people, and that an honest effort is evidently being made to raise the standard of attractions and to introduce more of practical and educative features into their programme of events. These efforts, we are confident, will be appreciated and encouraged by the public, and will redound to the credit and satisfaction of all concerned. Patience and consideration will need to be exercised by the public with the management of fairs in introducing these improvements, for it is certainly much easier to criticise and find fault or even to suggest a remedy than to successfully introduce and carry out these suggestions, however reasonable and desirable they may seem to be.

We predict an unusually successful fairs season in all the Canadian Provinces the present year. Prosperity marks nearly every branch of the agricultural and industrial life of the Dominion. The seasons have, on the whole, been favorable to a bountiful harvest and for the condition of live stock, and we may reasonably expect a larger and better display in all lines of the usual exhibits, besides a fair share of new and improved features.

The leading provincial fixtures in all the Provinces have been strengthened both financially and by the increased zeal and energy of their boards of management, and they are confidently expecting the patronage and support of the public in effecting a successful issue. The Winnipeg and

Brandon shows have opened the season auspiciously, scoring splendidly. The Central Canada Exhibition, at Ottawa, opens the campaign in the Eastern Provinces this year, the show commencing on the 22nd of August, the principal events being set for the second week, or from the 25th to 30th. An earlier date than usual has been chosen in the hope of falling upon finer weather than has been its lot in the last few years, and every effort has been and is being put forth to maintain its good reputation for efficient management and the placing of a good representation in all lines of live stock and farm products, as well as affording a pleasurable holiday outing for the people of the large constituency of which it is the "hub," and whose circumference is scarcely within the boundary lines of the Dominion. The Toronto Industrial, the Western Fair at London, and the Quebec and Maritime Provincial Shows, the dates of which are given in our list of fairs in this issue, follow in perhaps as satisfactory order as could reasonably be arranged.

HORSES

Care of Mare and Foal when the Dam has to Work.

A brood mare that is not required to perform work while rearing her foal should, other things being equal, rear a better foal than one that has to work. It is claimed that it does not pay to keep a mare for the sole purpose of raising foals; and, unless she be a high-class mare, there is doubtless a great deal of truth in the assumption. Be that as it may, the fact remains that many farmers who breed one or more mares depend upon them to do the ordinary farm work, and a few hints as to the better manner of treating such mares and foals is the object of this article. At all events, a mare should be allowed a few days' rest before parturition and at least a week after delivery. It is probably as great a strain on the physical abilities of a mare to suckle a foal as it is on those of the non-breeding animal to perform farm work. Hence, we can readily understand that when the double functions are exercised, the mare will require extra care and food. She should be given a liberal supply of easily-digested food that will produce bone and muscle and at the same time stimulate the secretion of milk. Chopped or crushed oats and bran along with good hay or grass has proved the best ration for these purposes. Provided she is doing regular work, her allowance of grain should be greater than for an animal that is not breeding. If practicable, it is good practice to feed four times daily. The colt can be taught to eat grain at a few days old, if care be taken, and while the dam will, in most cases, allow her foal to eat out of her box, it is better to feed it in a separate place, having its box fastened at such a height that it can readily reach the food. It is better to have the mare tied so that she cannot rob the foal after she has eaten her own ration. Finely-chopped oats is the best food for the little fellow and it is safe to allow it all it will eat. While the mare is at work, I consider it better to have the colt shut up in the stable. If it be allowed to follow the dam it will take more exercise than is desirable, and, consequently, will not thrive so well; it will also be a greater or less nuisance to the driver, and there is danger of it becoming tangled in the traces or the implement to which the dam is hitched, and thereby injuring itself. The box in which it is fastened in the stable should be such that there is no danger of it getting into trouble in its attempts to follow the mother. The walls and door should be so high that it cannot get its fore feet over them, and there should be no holes through which it can get its head. After a few days it will remain quite contented in the stall, and if supplied with a little chop and grass will not suffer from hunger between meals. In fly time the stall should be partially darkened. If the mare be a good milker, it is wise for a time after this mode of treatment is adopted for the driver to milk her a little occasionally to ease the congestion of the mammary gland, but it will not be necessary to continue this long, as the lacteal apparatus soon adapts itself to existing conditions. If the weather be cool, and the mare performing only ordinary work and not perspiring freely when taken to the stable, it is quite safe to allow the colt to suckle at once, but should it be warm weather or the mare performing very hard work, or from any cause be quite warm, it is dangerous to allow the colt to her immediately. In cases of this kind the milk becomes overheated and is very liable to cause diarrhoea in the young animal. When the milk is in this state the attendant should draw a little off and allow a few minutes, say 15 to 20, to elapse before turning her in the stall with the colt. After a time there will not be so much danger in allowing the colt to take milk under