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MANITOBA AND WESTERN EDITION

# OF THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

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**THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE**

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL PUBLISHED IN THE DOMINION.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the first of each month. 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.

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THOMAS WELD,  
Manager "Farmer's Advocate,"  
WINNIPEG, MAN., CANADA.

**Our Monthly Prize Essays.**

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

1.—No award will be made unless one essay at least comes up to the standard for publication.

2.—The essays will be judged by the ideas, arguments, conciseness and conformity with the subject, and not by the grammar, punctuation or spelling, our object being to encourage farmers who have enjoyed few educational advantages.

3.—Should one or more essays, in addition to the one receiving the first prize, present a different view of the question, a second prize will be awarded, but the payment will be in agricultural books. First prize essayists may choose books or money, or part of both. Selections of books from our advertised list must be sent in not later than the 15th of the month in which the essays appear. Second prize essayists may order books for any amount not exceeding \$3.00, but no balance will be remitted in cash. When first prize essayists mention nothing about books, we will remit the money.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best essay on "The Profits of Sheep Husbandry in Manitoba and the Northwest". Essays to be in this office not later than the 15th of May.

We want Good, Live AGENTS to Canvass for the "Farmer's Advocate" in every locality in the Dominion and United States. Sample copies and subscription blanks free to canvassers who mean business.

**Farmers' Associations.**

In this issue will be found articles concerning Dominion Grange, the Patrons of Industry, and the history of the Farmers' Alliance. We advise all our readers to carefully study all these articles. Co-operation and unity of action is a necessity for the farmers of the Dominion. The great trade and labor unions are controlling or harrassing the world to-day. If it were not for these unions, capitalists and mighty combines would soon reduce the common people to a state of serfdom. Throughout the United States the condition of the farmers is deplorable. There are a few who are doing fairly, but none who are receiving in return for their labor and capital invested a just return. This state of things ought not to exist. No country can advance as it ought while things continue as they are. What is the immediate cause of the depression, and how can we as a nation rise above our present difficulties? As set forth in the article on the Farmers' Alliance, cheap money is a present necessity. The agricultural class throughout the Dominion are carrying a load of mortgages and other indebtednesses. Few indeed are relieving themselves of their burdens, but thousands are yearly increasing them. Unless help is given these struggling masses in some way or other, times will grow worse and worse each year. The party politicians assert that Canadian farmers are yearly growing richer, and that they are a prosperous class. The farmers themselves know that this is not the case. The time has come when Canadian farmers must forsake all party politics, and join in one mighty national organization and discuss fully the situation and determine the course to take. In this they must work together, as do the Knights of Labor. Only by thus uniting can they ever hope to obtain their rights. Divided as farmers are now as a class, honest politicians who wish to serve them either do not know what they really require, or receive so little support from the farmers themselves that they are rendered helpless. We were recently told by a leading politician that cheap money for the farmers is out of the question. Yet Canadian farmers should remember that upwards of \$20,000,000 was obtained for the C. P. R. by the Dominion Government, and that this same government now has upwards of \$50,000,000 in the post-office savings banks, for which they pay 3½ per cent. If the farmers of the Dominion could obtain money at 4½ or even 5 per cent. for the next twenty years the Dominion would prosper as it has never prospered. Though wise and well-meaning politicians may render valuable assistance by opening up foreign markets, yet the salvation of our people is to be obtained by thorough organization.

We wish correspondence on all the subjects referred to in this article, and also concerning the questions discussed by the articles previously referred to. We will be pleased to receive reports from the Grange meetings, from the Farmers' Alliance, the Patrons of Industry, or any other farmers' associations. Tell us how you prosper and what you think, and we will tell 20,000 farmers each month.

**Fine Sporting Goods.**

The Hingston-Smith Arms Co., of Winnipeg, have got out an illustrated catalogue of guns, ammunition and sporting goods that does credit to Manitoba. We have seen nothing like it in Canada, for beauty of design and completeness. The illustrations, of which there are between two and three hundred, are from the finest electrotypes, making it an interesting book to all lovers of sport. This firm acts as Manitoba and N. W. T. agents for the great firearms manufactories of Winchester, Marlin, and Colts. In base ball goods, they act for Messrs. A. G. Spalding Bros., of Chicago. In lawn tennis supplies, for Messrs. Wright & Ditson, of Boston. The English kings of cricket, Messrs. Lillywhite, Trowd & Co., and Cobbett & Co. send them their cricket goods. F. H. Ayres & Co. supply them with English lawn tennis, rackets, etc., in fact, the best makers in the world of sporting goods reach the public through their energy. Write them for their catalogue, which is sent free on application.

**The Canadian Cattle Trade.**

Copies of a Blue Book containing the evidence taken during the enquiry ordered by the Canadian Government into the export cattle trade have been forwarded to the Imperial Board of Trade. It is to be hoped that in the next session of the Dominion Parliament legislation will be introduced authorizing the government to frame rules and regulations for governing the cattle export industry, and ordering the appointment of an inspector to examine vessels with regard to their seaworthiness, to see that they are properly equipped and ventilated and provided with fittings of a permanent character, to ensure a sufficient number of men being carried to properly attend the animals, and to take care that the animals are plentifully supplied with food and water and have ample space. It is thought that these proposals will meet the views of the most ardent humanitarian.

Messrs. Gordon, of Pilot Mound, and Ironsides, of Manitou, leave early in May with 600 Manitoba cattle for the Liverpool market. This is the first time these gentlemen have gone across with their own cattle, although they have sold great numbers to Montreal exporters. They have paid the farmers of Southern Manitoba about \$35,000 for this lot.