

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE
is published every Thursday.

It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.

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the scales may be brushed from the eyes. Read more diligently books, bulletins and the agricultural press. Experiment modestly after a painstaking and accurate manner. Substitute knowledge for guesswork. Utilize freely the services of specialists in every line from weeds and insects to chemistry and physics. Realization of ignorance is the beginning of knowledge.

"Give instruction to a wise man and he will be yet wiser; teach a just man and he will increase in learning."—Proverbs.

Gleanings by the Education Commission.

The itinerary of the Royal Commission on Technical Education and Industrial Training through the three Maritime Provinces has been a series of revelations to the members, and an educational thought-quicken to the communities visited. Provincial Governments, educational leaders, town business men, farmers, and municipal authorities, have united in their efforts to make the tour fruitful in benefit to the people by facilitating the study of local conditions by the Commission and their search after facts.

At Hillshoro, P. E. I., a great treat was enjoyed in the visit to the Macdonald Consolidated School, the demonstration work in school-gardening and manual training, as part of the rural-school education, exciting favorable opinion. Rev. Dr. Bryce, of Winnipeg, expressed himself with great delight over the air of prosperity and contentment pervading the community. The chairman, Dr. Jas. W. Robertson, made a happy plea for taking advantage of the child's inherent love of labor as a principle and method of education, and described the farmer as a partner with the Almighty.

At St. John, N. B., Ernest A. Schofield called the attention of the Commission to the imperative need of the rural youth for instruction relating to farm-improvement. That improved methods were required, he said, was shown by the statement that, while the price of milk remained about what it was twenty years ago, the cost of producing it had increased about eighty per cent.

Geo. Raymond, of King's Co., found, in cow testing, keeping records, drainage, and alfalfa growing, effective means of increasing his profits. John B. Cudlip, of the York and Cornwall Cotton Mills, believed in the personal contact of teachers

with pupils as more effective than the correspondence-school plan.

By other witnesses, a great deal was said in favor of training in domestic science and home-making, of which a host of girls were growing up in lamentable ignorance. Too many subjects on the curriculum, only a smattering of them taught, boys and girls leaving school unable to write or spell properly, too many men trying to fish and farm at the same time, and doing neither properly; too many boys and girls employed prematurely in industrial life; boys drifting out of public school earlier than girls, with little education, and that of a faulty nature; more Physics and less Latin; instruction needed in the conservation of fishing-ground, and improved methods in fish culture and curing; men with 300 and 400 acres of land, and not one properly worked, waste of much cash in artificial fertilizers through lack of knowledge in their use and oversight of the trade; lack of appreciation of farming by farmers themselves; no serious effort made by many to really interest the youth in farm life; progress of consolidated schools hindered by their cost; public-school curriculum driving the pupils to the colleges and professions; many manufacturers not yet awakened to the value of industrial training—were among the points brought out.

Chas. W. Bleakney, an I. C. R. machinist, offered the suggestion that the status of industrial life would be greatly enhanced, if, in connection with trade education, diplomas or degrees were granted.

W. B. MacKenzie, Chief Engineer on the I. C. R., described what seemed to him an ideal educational scheme, in Cincinnati, where students spent "week about" in a college and an industrial establishment, thus combining theory and practice till the completion of their course.

Dr. W. S. Carter, Chief Superintendent of Education for New Brunswick, stated that manual training was a help, rather than a hindrance to students in their other work. In examinations, scholars who took manual training, domestic science and school-gardening did just as well as those who did not. A small farm in each county, leased, with a man in charge, as is done in Japan, would awaken interest, and prove a valuable object-lesson. Normal Schools should be schools of method, not scholastic. Short courses in dairying, school-gardening, etc., for teachers should be given in the Normal Schools. Common-school chemistry should be purely agricultural.

Co-operative Banks for Farmers.

(Our English correspondence.)

A development following the Small Holdings Act is the proposal of the British Government to found co-operative credit banks under the auspices of the state. Such banks have proved very useful to farmers in Germany, France, etc., and on a non-state basis in Ireland. Both of the great political parties are in favor of extending this system of finance to Great Britain, so early action is probable.

This new development shall be of much assistance to the small holders, as cheap credit will be available to enable them to develop their holdings. In the last two years about 80,000 acres have been acquired by laborers and others in the rural districts of England. The scheme is designed to help the industrious, but not to give any help to the wastrel or the loafer.

This important announcement was made by Lord Carrington, at a banquet given by the Farmers' Union in honor of the members of the German National Agricultural Society, who are on a visit to England. Lord Carrington did not give any particulars of the scheme, but as President of the Board of Agriculture he will submit a bill in due course to Parliament.

These co-operative credit banks originated in Germany, the first being founded in 1849. They have spread all over the continent, and have reached India and Ireland in a modified form. Each of them is an association of neighbors united to borrow a sum of money in order to lend it out cheaply to such of themselves as need loans. Savings deposits are also received, and much of the loanable capital is derived from this source. One essential of the system is that the association covers only a small area, in which everybody knows everybody else.

The money is loaned only for a specific purpose, say to buy a horse, or an implement, and careful inquiry is made. The loan can be called in at short notice. There is unlimited liability of all the members in such associations, and the success is said to be largely dependent on the trust of the members in each other.

In Germany alone there are 10,000 of these institutions, and the amount lent by such banks on the continent last year was £18,000,000. Not one of these thousands of credit banks has ever failed, which is fairly conclusive evidence of their stability.

The British Government will need to spend some money on education and organization to get the conservative Britisher to co-operate with his fellow farmers. Some state capital may be of use in certain conditions, but no large amount

will be needed. In Ireland, when a credit bank is set up to the satisfaction of the Irish Board of Agriculture, the latter guarantees the loans the bank requires; no money passes—public credit does the work.

CONDITION OF BRITISH AGRICULTURE.

Lord Carrington, in the course of the same speech, was in quite an optimistic mood regarding English agriculture. He was sure they would agree with him, when he said that old England was not on the down grade, as some people and some journals in this country would have them believe. Indeed, speaking on behalf of the Board of Agriculture, he thought he could fairly say that agriculture in England was certainly looking up, and though we now and again heard despondent stories from some of our great agricultural landlords, such cries were not justified. The agricultural industry of England was in a sound, prosperous and flourishing condition, and with good weather we might hope to have a plentiful and bountiful harvest. These encouraging statements were heartily applauded by farmers present, and are a wholesome antidote to the pessimistic people who are constantly asserting that England is "played out." F. DEWHIRST.

British Emigration Statistics.

(Our English correspondence.)

The emigration statistics from the United Kingdom show considerable changes of recent years in the destinations of British emigrants, and a great increase in the popularity of British colonies. In the six years ending 1899, for every 53 emigrants going to British colonies, there were 103 for foreign countries. In the four years ending 1909, for the first time in history, half of the emigrants from these shores have remained within the Empire. Canada has taken the lion's share for the last four years, having averaged 115,000 per annum, against 16,500 per annum a decade ago.

Though Australia and New Zealand come in next place, they are far behind the Dominion. Their totals in the last four years have reached to 29,000 per annum. South Africa has taken an average of 22,000 in the same period.

A peculiar feature of the statistics is the rapid increase of British emigrants of late years, and the very small increase in emigration from Ireland. The acquisition of their farms by Irish farmers has certainly been one potent cause of the lessened proportionate exodus from Ireland.

Canada's widespread and effective advertising of its advantages accounts very largely for its big share of emigrants, in comparison with other overseas dominions, which have not placed their advantages so forcibly before the British people. Inspection of British journals and exhibitions now shows these colonies to be wide-awake, and they are placing their propositions before the public in a far more effective manner than of recent years, and, as a result, are securing more desirable settlers. One hears here in discussions sometimes that "No Englishman need apply" in Canada, but our daily papers and prominent journals are full of the advantages of Canada—all written in the most glowing periods, and seductively illustrated with fields of golden grain, or of well-stocked farms, or of peaches which make one's mouth water. So your immigration people evidently believe that we have in England people of the kind really needed for Canada's development. F. DEWHIRST.

HORSES.

Ringworm.

All the domesticated animals are liable to ringworm; the horned stock the most so. Its growth and development in the skin closely resemble that of the mushroom or fairy ring in old pastures; at least, this description applies to the commoner form of the malady, known as Tinea or Tricophytic ringworm. The sheep and the pig are but occasional victims. No less than four Tricophytions have been identified as causing the trouble in horses—mentagrophytes, flavum, equinum, verrucosum, and Audouini. In cattle, it is always the T. mentagrophytes, and this probably accounts for the almost certain cure of ringworm in cattle when properly treated, and the uncertainty which attends like measures undertaken for the horse. Cattle, it will be observed, generally suffer most at the end of the winter, or in a late spring when they have long been confined to yards, more particularly those fenced by old posts and rails of wood, when their environment more closely resembles that of horses bedded on peat moss or other stale litter, which offers a favorable breeding ground or sporulating bed similar to that of the mushroom-grower. We have seen large studs of horses infected through a single animal where frequent shifts are made as when