

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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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.
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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.

"Looking this Way."

We produce the following from our esteemed contemporary, the Live Stock World, of Chicago, which, during the hot wave, sought to vary the hog market quotations by adjusting the political and commercial relations of Canada and the United States:

"Canadian farmers are reported to be looking yearningly across the international border. They covet the markets of the United States from which their present political position debar them. They are producers, these Canadians, and the United States tariff has been a stumbling block in their paths ever since it was made prohibitive. Frank W. Hathaway, in the Contemporary Review, states that since our tariff schedules have practically shut out from the markets of the United States many of Canada's principal products, the desire for annexation has grown and will continue to do so unless commercial conditions and currents change. Canada must either be annexed to the United States or form a closer commercial union with the United Kingdom. One or the other of these alternatives seems inevitable from the logic of necessity. * * We are now selling three dollars' worth of farm products for every dollar's worth they sell us. This is why Canadians are yearning for the markets of the United States. They want to pay for that \$119,000,000 worth of our products they use in the like value of their farm, forest and sea productions. * * Eventually Canada will forget the law of blood, and following the twentieth century law of trade, knock loudly at our doors for admission."

Conditions and currents have changed. Following the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, the United States imposed almost prohibitive duties upon farm products, partly with the utterly mistaken notion that exclusion would force political union. Canada began the quest for new markets, and she was successful. Our farmers are not looking yearningly across the border. While the total export of farm products in 1901 to the United States from Canada was \$8,239,581, our export of farm products to Great Britain was \$66,523,700. Our exports of farm products to the States in 1901 were only one-third of what they were in 1866, but our exports of farm products to Great Britain have increased twenty-four fold. Take one item alone—bacon. In 1890 Canada exported only a trifle over \$500,000 worth, but in 1901 about \$12,000,000. During the same period, our butter exports ran up from \$340,131 worth to over \$3,600,000, and from 1868 to 1901 Canadian cheese exports increased from \$620,543 worth to \$20,696,951, and practically drove American cheese out of the British market. In short, we are exporting to Great Britain animals and their products, and feeding our coarse grains, etc., at home. Instead of selling barley, the farmer sells bacon, the demand for which could not be met last year, so popular was the product.

The change has proved advantageous to the Canadian farmer, as it tends to enrich his soil, while the old system depleted it. We must assure our Chicago contemporary that the Canadian farmer is not worrying a particle over the United States market. Canada has ceased to be envious of the bargaining Yankee, nor will he ever be again. The boot is on the other leg. The American is envious of the illimitable fertile areas of Canada, of her transportation routes, of her mineral and timber wealth, and her ability to grow sugar beets and wheat, and produce Portland cement. American capital is flowing Canada-ward, and Americans have been given to understand that if they desire to exploit Canadian timber and pulp wood they must set up their mills to do so on this side of the line. Americans are starting large manufacturing establishments on this side the customs line to cater for the trade of Canada and other portions of the British Empire. A conservative estimate puts the number of settlers coming from the States into Canada this year at 40,000. Canadians are beginning to appreciate their country and its resources. They have got upon their feet and propose to stay there. Canada has been jogging along very quietly, without advertising herself, for the past couple of hundred years, but during that period it might surprise many to know that her rate of increase in population was greater than that of the United States, and last year the total trade of Canada was about double that of the States per head of population. Official figures just to hand from Washington show, furthermore, that exports of the

United States have decreased more than \$106,000,000 during the past year, compared with the year previous, and the falling off was largely in the products of the American farm, despite the tremendous efforts the U. S. Government is making to increase the export of those products. Canada is all right, and, as a matter of fact, it is Uncle Jonathan that is looking yearningly across the Great Lakes, and he will look a long time before he finds any desire for political union with the United States. Canada stands ready, as she has ever been, to do business on a fair basis with our neighbors, but the farmer is not coveting the American market, for the simple reason that he has got a better consumer, and is pursuing a system that puts the Canadian breeder and farmer in the very front rank of the world's agriculturists.

HORSES

How Interest in the Horse Department of Agricultural Shows may be Increased.

To any observant person, it must be apparent that the interest taken in the horse department of the regular classes at the majority of our fall exhibitions is not what it should be, or what it is intended to be. It is noticed that the greater part of the crowd will be in the grand stand or standing around the ring viewing the special attractions and horse races (as most societies have special attractions of some kind), while few more than those directly interested will be present at the ring where the judging of the regular classes is taking place. This is not as it should be. There are always many present who are deeply interested, and who would enjoy seeing these horses judged if conditions were different. I don't purpose discussing the wisdom or unwisdom of having special attractions. The fact remains, that in order to secure a crowd it is, in most cases, considered necessary to have them, but we think that arrangement might be such that they would not so largely interfere with other and more valuable (at least, from an educational standpoint) features.

In the majority of cases, the general judging and the special attractions are taking place at the same time, the latter in front of the grand stand, and the former in some more or less distant part of the grounds, often where there is not sufficient space, or where the ground is too rough to show a horse's action. In some cases there is no attempt to form a ring, even with a rope, and then all who are present will crowd up among the horses being judged, and materially interfere with the functions of the judge or judges, and in many cases audibly express opinions as to how the prizes should be placed and even coach the judges. In other cases there is a ring formed and some attempt made to keep the crowd (if there be one) behind the rope or fence. But in few cases is there any attempt made to provide seating accommodation for the spectators. They must stand the whole time. Some may lean upon the fence, if there be one, but even this is very tiresome, and unless a person be directly interested or very anxious to see how the prizes are placed, either from a desire to learn or other motives, he will not bear the discomfort, but will go and get a seat on the grand stand and see the fun. Now, the question is how can this state of affairs be corrected? I think, at least in many cases, it might be arranged so that both functions would not take place at the same time. The classes might be judged, say commencing at 10 a. m. in front of the grand stand, where those who wished to see the prizes awarded might do so in comfort. If this should not be expedient, a special ring of sufficient size for the purpose might be provided, and seating capacity for the spectators also provided. We think it would be wise for the directors to have catalogues printed, stating the time at which each class or section would be shown. Still better, if the catalogues gave particulars of each entry, giving name of exhibitor, description and number of his entry, and supply a ticket with a corresponding number to be attached to the animal, such as is done at some of the larger exhibitions. The judge or judges should be very carefully selected. We favor the one judge system, but there is a difference of opinion on this point. Whichever system is adopted, care should be taken that those who are acting be thoroughly competent and honest. Great injustice is often done an exhibitor by a mistake on the part of the judges. A judge should be very careful in making his awards, and should be able to give valid reasons for every award he makes if called upon to do so. As a rule, it is not wise to give reasons publicly, as this cannot be done without referring to the faults or weak points of the entries that have not won first, and many owners, especially in the breeding classes, do not care to have these points publicly expressed. After all the sections of a class have