

Agricultural Shows in Britain.

A private letter from Mr. W. A. MacKinnon, Chief of the Fruit Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture, who is now in Great Britain, contains some interesting notes on the development of agricultural shows in that country. Some of his criticisms given herewith are well worthy of notice by those interested in agricultural education in Canada. "One striking feature of the recent royal show at Carlisle, England, was that all but two or three of the buildings were simply frames covered with canvas, in other words the show took place under a series of long tents. The advantage of this system is that the framework can be taken down and the tents shipped from point to point and used many times in the season. This arrangement also makes it possible to use grounds for an exhibition which are required during the rest of the year for another purpose. The tents are arranged in a compact and systematic order in such a way that visitors can go in one direction and return in another, seeing always new exhibits. The classes are arranged in blocks, not in long lines.

There are four classes of agricultural shows in Great Britain:—(1) The large shows devoted to breeding types and implements; these are open to the kingdom. (2) Local shows for the benefit of tenant farmers and breeders in the neighborhood; there may be certain open competitions in these, and the addition of sections for horticulture, apiculture, sports, etc., is optional. (3) Fat stock shows for the encouragement of the production of high-class butcher's meat. The chief ones are held at Birmingham, Leeds and Norwich; the finale so to speak where the winners in the three former compete take place at the great Smithfield show. (4) Specific shows, these are held for the benefit of one or more particular branches of agriculture, such as dairying, fruits, poultry, horses, etc. A good type of this class of show is that held at the Agricultural Hall, London, during three consecutive weeks for special breeds of horses as follows:—First week, Shires, Second week, Hackneys, Third week, thoroughbred hunters and polo ponies. One of the best of these specific shows is that held at Ashbourne, Derbyshire, a great Shire horse center, (owing to local conditions, fine grass, climate, etc.); here they have three main divisions of the show, one for general classes, (2) Foals bred by tenant farmers, (3) Foals from stallions belonging to local breeders.

Another notable show is that called the Cart Horse Parade held in London, where prizes are given for the best single, pair, unicorn, and four horse teams; these must be working horses attached to the vehicle without load. No new harness or vehicles are allowed; the turnout must have been used up to the date of the show, Whit Monday. The prizes are given for the best working condition, the object being to encourage carters to take good care of their animals and a pride in their appearance. This is one of the most commendable of the specific shows. There are many local poultry shows and village shows of varying importance; at some of these prizes are given to the school children for the best collections of named grasses, weeds, etc. This also is found to be a very satisfactory aid to education. Private land owners also sometimes hold shows for the encouragement of agriculture among their tenant farmers, under local farmers. Chief among these is the show held by the Duke of Portland, known as the "Walbeck Tenant Farmers' Show."

The secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society states that the year 1790 was the beginning of agricultural shows in Great Britain.

Particular inquiries about the standards adopted in judging stock at these shows failed to elicit a definite statement on this point. In fact the officials themselves were not any too clear as to what is or ought to be the standard. They appear to have fallen into the easy error of looking on the prize itself as being the end and goal of the exhibitor's ambition. On pressing the matter somewhat closely certain officials admitted that too little attention was paid to either the educational value of the show or the cash result to the farmers at large. In the catalogues and prize lists judges are warned not to be influenced by the market value of stock in making their awards and a high official stated that in his opinion too little attention was paid to the economic value of the exhibits, and that farmers are sometimes misled by awards so as to produce an article which is not remunerative. With regard to the Smithfield show they have begun to make improvements in the direction of market demands; that is to be expected as the object of the show is to encourage the production of butcher's meat. Formerly prizes were given for animals four years old, but lately this has been cut down to three and under, and no prizes are given for cows. The result is that they get fewer of the tallow animals which used to be seen there: yet they still give awards in some cases to animals which would not be sought for by a butcher. The Smithfield judges are breeders, and the lessons learned by farmers from the judgment have to be picked up without the benefit of any explanation of reasons from the judges. Farmers are sup-

posed to learn from the show that certain types of animals can be made to put on flesh at a certain rate, weight for age. There is also a slaughter class which the judges view and rank alive and afterwards when killed. The secretary says that the average result is that the same animals are ranked first both alive and dead, but there are exceptions and some dissatisfaction in consequence. In this class one judge is usually a farmer and the other a butcher; these have similar ideas for the block test. Heifers must be killed if they take a prize, this being a meat show, and not a general or agricultural show.

Educational meetings are all but unknown. At Carlisle there were demonstrations of dairying processes, but no word of explanation seemed to be given. Guelph leads them all for active, energetic, intelligent education, for in Britain the farmer seems to be considered highly honored in being allowed to exhibit, and they let him pick up some crumbs of information if he can."

F. W. Hodson, Live Stock Commissioner.

The Domestic Problem.

"We are placing a good many girls, but I'm afraid we are not solving the domestic problem," said the anxious-faced chairman of the committee on employment connected with a large philanthropic institution. The underlying idea of her remark was that there is a solution for what we call "the domestic problem," and that it may be discovered as we may discover the answer to a question in algebra—by patient and clever thought.

Every month brings some cure-all for the ills of housewives. Yesterday it was cooperative housekeeping. Today it was the housing of servants outside the home. Tomorrow it may be the return of the mistress to the kitchen, and her consequent emancipation from the inefficiencies and disappointments of paid service.

The truth is that in none of these plans resides any general or permanent relief from the conditions that distress many women. There is no program of domestic reform which can make the questions of breakfast, dinner and supper, of clean clothes and clean rooms, as simple as a question in mathematics—to be worked out and settled. The only "problem" that will help the individual woman, and, through her, society as a whole, is that she shall be a better woman. Whether she is rich or poor, whether she keeps twenty servants, or one general housework girl, or no servant at all, whether she is mistress or maid, the simple fact is that she is bound to use her best powers not for her own selfish pleasure, nor even for club, or church, or society, but for making the home in which she lives a comfortable, peaceful and inspiring place.

To this end she must be a good woman—considerate, firm, prompt, kind, patient, capable, just, honorable, unselfish. When every one, maids and mistresses alike, are better women the domestic problem will be solved.

A True Nerve Tonic

Will act, not so much directly upon the nerves as upon the digestive functions and the abundant formation of red, vitalizing blood. Nerves can't be fed on medicine. They can, however, be restored and strengthened by assimilative food. The marvelous action of FERROZONE arises from its action over the digestive and assimilative processes. When you take Ferrozone the blood is purified, strengthened, and grows rich and red. Then you grow vigorous, healthy and beautiful, ready for work, because you have the strength to do it. No tonic for the brain, blood or nerves compares with Ferrozone. Price 50c., at Druggists, or Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.—Sold by Garden Bros.

HAMILTON'S PILLS ARE EFFECTIVE.

A Poser.

On some of our trains carriages for "ladies only" have been placed.

On one occasion these carriages were all occupied by the fair sex; consequently a number of ladies were obliged to procure seats in a compartment in which a haughty young fellow was the sole occupant.

He quickly saw that the carriage would soon be filled and he be in danger of losing his seat.

At length, when an elderly woman hove in sight, he thought it time to interfere.

"My good woman," he remarked, somewhat testily, "this is a carriage for gentlemen."

But he was quite taken aback when the old lady made the unexpected reply:— "Then what are you doing here?"

"That" Six Times.—There is no word in the English language which can appear six times consecutively in a sentence and make correct English.

To illustrate: A boy wrote on the blackboard: "The man that lies does wrong."

The teacher objected to the word "that," so the word "who" was substituted. And yet it must be evident to the reader, for all that, that that "that" that that teacher objected to was right after all.

In India, China, Japan, and adjacent countries are about 400,000,000 people who rarely eat meat: yet they are strong, active, and long-lived. Darwin is the authority for the statement that the Andean natives perform twice the work of ordinary labourers, and subsist almost entirely on a diet of bananas.

SHE PATIENTLY BORE DISGRACE

A Sad Letter from a lady whose Husband was Dissipated.

How She Cured Him with a Secret Remedy.



"I had for years patiently borne the disgrace, suffering, misery and privations due to my husband's drinking habits. Hearing of your marvellous remedy for the cure of drunkenness, which I could give my husband secretly, I decided to try it. I procured a package and mixed it in his food and coffee, and, as the remedy was odorless and tasteless, he did not know what it was that so quickly relieved his craving for liquor. He soon began to pick up flesh, his appetite for solid food returned, he stuck to his work regularly, and we now have a happy home. After he was completely cured I told him what I had done, when he acknowledged that it had been his saving, as he had not the resolution to break off of his own accord. I heartily advise all women afflicted as I was to give your remedy a trial."

FREE SAMPLE

for reply. Address The Samaria Remedy Co., 23 Jordan Street, Toronto, Canada.

HER HUSBAND WAS A DRUNKARD

A Lady who cures her husband of his Drinking Habits writes of her struggle to save her home

A PATHETIC LETTER



"I had for a long time been thinking of trying the Tasteless Samaria Prescription treatment on my husband for his drinking habit, but I was afraid he would discover that I was giving him medicine, and the thought unnerved me. I hesitated for nearly a week, but one day when he came home very much intoxicated and his week's salary nearly all spent, I threw off all fear and determined to make an effort to save our home from the ruin I saw coming, at all hazards. I sent for your Tasteless Samaria Prescription, and put it in his coffee as directed next morning and watched and prayed for the result. At noon I gave him more and also at supper. He never suspected a thing, and I then boldly kept right on giving it regularly, as I had discovered something that set every nerve in my body tingling with hope and happiness, and I could see a bright future spread out before me—a peaceful, happy home, a share in the good things of life, an attentive, loving husband, comforts and everything else dear to a woman's heart; for my husband had told me that whiskey was vile stuff and he was taking a dislike to it. It was only too true, for before I had given him the full course he had stopped drinking altogether, but I kept giving him the medicine till it was gone, and then sent for another lot, to have on hand if he should relapse, as he had done from promises before. He never has and I am writing you this letter to tell you how thankful I am. I honestly believe it will cure the worst cases."

HER FATHER WAS A DRUNKARD

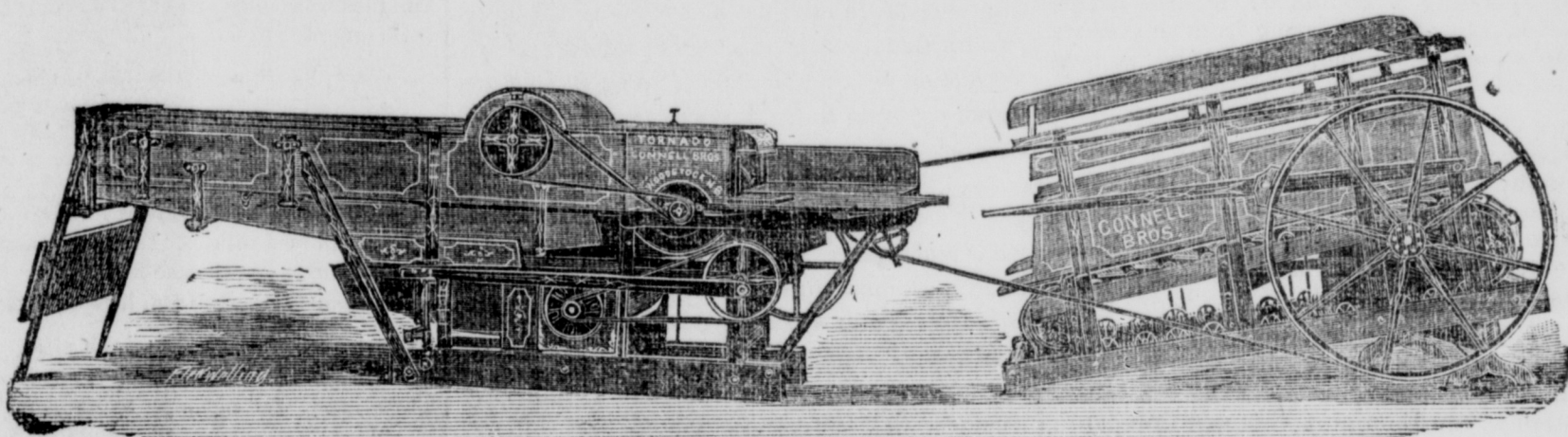
A Flucky Young Lady takes on Herself to Cure her Father of the Liquor Habit.

STORY OF HER SUCCESS.



A portion of her letter reads as follows:— "My father had often promised mother to stop drinking, and would do so for a time but then returned to it stronger than ever. One day after a terrible spree, he said to us: 'It's no use. I can't stop drinking.' Our hearts seemed to turn to stone, and we decided to try the Tasteless Samaria Prescription, which we had read about in the papers. We gave him the remedy, entirely without his knowledge, in his tea, coffee, or food regularly, according to directions, and he never knew he was taking it. One package removed all his desire for liquor, and he says it is now distasteful to him. His health and appetite are also wonderfully improved, and no one would know him for the same man. It is now fifteen months since we gave it to him and we feel sure that the change is for good. Please send me one of your little books, as I want to give it to a friend."

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UNDERTAKING

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Nov. 1, 1902.

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THE DISPATCH,

Queen Street,

Woodstock, N. B.

One of the most valuable clocks in the world is owned by the Duke of Westminster. For the last fifty years it has hung on the walls of Grosvenor House, an object of admiration and interest to the many people who yearly visit the Duke's London Palace. What the real value of the clock is it is impossible to say, but the pendulum alone is said to be worth £48,000. It is of solid gold, and set with forty-eight flawless diamonds, each one worth £1,000. Other jewels to the value of between £20,000 and £30,000 are scattered over the face, while each of the hands is tipped with a magnificent emerald.

During the Coal Strike.—"If you please ma'am," exclaimed the nursemaid, in great excitement, "I can't keep the baby from going to the scuttle and trying to eat coal. 'Dear me!' exclaimed Mrs. Languid. 'That child is going to take after his father for extravagance.'"

End of a Good Life.

I shall grow old but never lose life's zest, Because the road's last turn will be the best. Henry van Dyke.

A very smart reply has been attributed to Sir Wilfred Laurier. At one of the big receptions he was attending there was a young American who was adversely criticising Canada and things Canadian, and, in response to some disparaging remark made anent a national emblem, Sir Wilfred reminded him that in addition to the maple leaf Canada had the beaver, the emblem of industry.

"Oh, retorted the Yankee, 'we call the beaver a rat with a swelled tail.'"

"And many people are apt to look on your American eagle as a jay with a swelled head," promptly retorted the Premier.

Sousa is seldom seen out of uniform. He happened to be standing one day on the platform of a railway depot in America when a belated traveller rushed up to him and pantingly inquired, "Has the 9.30 gone yet?" "I really don't now," replied the March King, suavely.

"Then why don't you know?" shouted the other, irritably. "What do you suppose you are paid for, to stand there and say, 'I don't know?' You're a conductor, aren't you?" "Certainly," replied Sousa, humbly, "but only of a brass band."