

FOR FARMERS, STOCK BREEDERS AND GARDENERS

NEWSY NOTES

BY AGRICOLA

THE POMP OF HERALDRY

During the summer I had a visit from a party of tourists from the U.S.A. and their object was to find out if possible, whether their ancestors had been granted armorial bearings. This was a little out of my line, (although I have always had a liking for anything pertaining to ancient history) so I could only promise to write to a good friend in England who, I supposed, would get me the information. Of the four names which I transmitted I was told that two were mentioned in "Burke's Armory," a book wherein are recorded all the coats-of-arms, which have been granted by the British College of Heralds. The other two, whom I need not specify, were not entitled to armorial bearings. The names found in "Burke" were those of Holmes and Yeo. There were about twenty different families of "Holmes" entitled to armorial bearings, and as a rule these were in different districts or villages: the original coat-of-arms figured a holly tree, covered with red berries, and was a reference to the old English word "Holm," meaning holly. The name "Yeo" had come to mean "a farmer" of a special tenure, and consequently the nine different branches of "Yeo" figured in "Burke," had coats-of-arms suitable to their profession. Most of them had birds on their escutcheons, and one family bore "a turkey in its pride" to use the technical description. When that coat of arms was granted, the turkey was a very rare foreign bird to Englishmen, and worthy of notice; and especially so in his pride—which means displaying himself. Another branch of the "Yeos" had three garbs (garbs) or wheat-sheaves on their shields.

Now in this Note I have purposely put "the cart before the horse": It is time to turn back and say something about the origin and meaning of armorial bearings. Very early in the history of mankind, particular symbols had been adopted by various nations and families. The lion was assumed as the symbol of the tribe of Judah; the Raven by the heathen Danes and Vikings; various totems mark the tribes of our Pacific Coast. All this imagery was certainly the precursor, though we must not fall into the error of supposing that it was the ancestor, of mediaeval heraldry. There is a great confusion of ideas, especially among the poets, as to what heraldic animals are. The u. e. d. and scriptural, classic and ancient Brito-Celtic heroes had coats-of-arms attributed to them by writers who ought to have known better! There is evidence that coats-of-arms were first used, though only to a small extent, in the reign of Henry II. and continued to be the distinguishing insignia of the "steel-locked knights" till villanous mischiefs in the guise of gunpowder, gave chivalry its death-blow. The name indicates that the Knight wore a coat or camise of cloth over his armor, and on it was depicted in colors the device which he also bore on his shield. The shields of the Conqueror (on the Bayeux tapestry) and his immediate successors are depicted "plain"—without devices. Richard the Lionheart had a shield with a lion passant guardant, as his device, and this mark of recognition was the more necessary since he was the first King to use a closed helmet. This new type of head-gear "erect" which surmounted the helmet and was usually the figure of some bird or beast noted for strength, rapacity, or speed. Finally the coat-of-arms included a "motto," which was at first perhaps only the battle-cry of the bearer, but afterwards became a sentence resembling what we call a proverb; and this might be couched in Norman French, in Latin, or in just plain English.

These, then, are the three essential parts of armorial bearing: the crest (above), the escutcheon or shield with its heraldic devices (below the crest), and the motto of the family, on a curved scroll or ribbon, below the shield. The early bearings or devices were very simple as might be expected; being variations of geometric figures, bars, crosses, circles, zigzags and so on. As time went on and the herald's skill grew, we find him employing all the objects of animate nature as "charges"; also the figures of a great many animals that were never only the herald's own, as dragons, wyverns, and the ever-popular griffin. In the decadent days of heraldry some wretched examples are to be found. The coat-of-arms of the

family of Tellow (granted in 1760) was "On a book erect gules" (i.e. on a red book standing up) "clasp-ed and leaved or" (or means gold), "a silver penny argent, thereon written the Lord's Prayer; on the top of the book a dove proper (that is, in its proper colors) "in his beak a crowquill pen sable" (black). In answer to the question of "what use are coats of arms in our times" one can only refer to their sentimental value. "At present, notwithstanding the democratic tendencies of the age, armorial bearings are in greater demand than ever in England, and more or less coveted in the United States, and a great deal of the proper business of heraldry is still transacted within the College of Heralds, and a good deal more, irregularly and improperly, without it. . . . possibly because they (the aspirants to armorial bearings) "are not aware that the College is still willing to grant arms, crest and motto, on terms within reach of almost every aspirant to which I take to mean that the College is a kind of Record Office for that particular distinction.

"A curious evidence of the vitality of heraldry, and of the desire of all mankind for ancestral distinction," says another writer, "is afforded by its extension among the republics of the New World. The United States boast some excellent genealogical societies, and a great and very general desire is shown by individuals to trace their pedigrees to the stocks of the Old World and to assume the arms proper to their name. The national emblem of the Stars and Stripes, now so widely and honorably known throughout the world, has been traced back to the paternal coat (of arms) of the first and greatest President, George Washington, whose English ancestors bore "a shield, 2 bars gules, in chief 3 mullets of the second" (Roughly this is—on a silver shield two red stripes with three red spur-wheels (stars) above them). "In Canada, Australia, and other English colonies, the assumption of arms by individuals and by the community is not less general; and the republics of South America, of Spanish origin, almost all have adopted coats-of-arms."

It only remains for me to add that at the present day armorial bearings are painted, enamelled, embroidered and engraved, upon personal ornaments, furniture, carriages and cars, etc., etc.

NEW CHORAL SOCIETY

I hear, on good authority, that the young folk of Brackley Point and vicinity, are about to begin their third season as a Choral Society and have secured "Howe's Hall" as their meeting place. They had previously met at a private house, and it is felt that the change to the Hall will result, in an increased membership. Mr. Roberts who is a native of South Wales and came to the Island some years ago, has been elected as conductor and will be ably seconded by Messrs. Walter McLeure, Kenneth Stewart and Blythe Hurst, who have been members since the Society first commenced in 1933. Mr. Roberts has the advantage of a good knowledge of the Tonic Solfa System, and is well acquainted with a considerable acquaintance with the Staff notation; and knowing him as I do, I feel sure that he will give the Society of his best, and will not spare himself in imparting the necessary instruction. I rejoice to see the young folk cooperating in such a cause and wish them every success as they thus add another cultural interest to their lives. They are learning to work together in a team work, a matter in which the older generation is uncommonly backward, often to their own detriment. The future is in the hands of the young!

VACCINATING TREES!

At the Summerland (B.C.) Laboratory of Plant Pathology they have been vaccinating apple trees for "corky-core and die back." Perhaps "giving the trees a hypodermic injection" is the term I ought to have used, since the dosage is a chemical to wit, boracic acid, and not a vaccine. The recovery of the sick trees treated with boron, says the report, was marvelous, but none of the other chemical trials, proved helpful. "These experiments involved the introduction through holes bored in the trunks with a brace and bit."

However the experimenters are on the look-out to see if a boron fertilizer applied to the soil will have the same effect in eradicating the two diseases above mentioned, and the reason is that when holes are bored in the apple-tree trunk, moisture and rot-spores may enter, and attack the tree. Some years ago, in front of the farmhouse where I was employed stood two mountain-ash trees: they were of the round-headed horticultural variety and were said to be over fifty years old. The trunks were about six inches in diameter and were well scarred by the woodpeckers. Into one of these wounds had drifted the spores of some species of Agaric (toadstool) and soon scores of little "cups" and soon scores of little "cups" burst through the bark. Like black spread under the bark, like black

The Gladiolus Thrips

Since the first outbreak of the gladiolus thrips in Canada in 1930, this injurious insect pest has been under the close observation of the Entomological Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, and as a result of some fine co-operative work between the Branch and the Canadian growers of gladioli considerable knowledge has accrued regarding both the fecundity and shortcomings of the remedies originally worked out. Bringing all the latest information up to date, together with certain changes and modifications in control recommendations, a revised edition of the pamphlet, "Gladiolus Thrips" has just issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture. It may be obtained from the Publicity and Extension Branch, Ottawa. The thrips is known to pass the winter on the corns in storage, but, as yet, has not been found hibernating successfully out of doors. All stages of the insect may be killed by treating the corns prior to planting, as Alan G. Duxan, the author, points out in the pamphlet. Fumigating the corns with naphthalene flakes or immersing them in a solution of corrosive sublimate or hot water has given the best results. The spraying of growing plants with a Paris-green brown-sugar solution is also very effective.

As the trees were ornamental, my employer was anxious to save them, and I suggested "vaccinating" them with sulphate of iron. We bored holes at intervals with a half-inch bit, and inserted a "charge" of the chemical. Then we fitted a cork tightly into the hole and washed the trunk well to remove any loose chemical. The reason for this was that we thought the chemical might prevent the bark from closing the wound. When all was dry a coat of paint was applied, which is always a good precaution to take when the "skin" of a tree is broken. The fungi (toadstools) died out and the tree was saved. It had been affected by some sort of blight on the twigs and leaves, and for two or three years this was absent, but gradually came back, probably coming from some near-by tree. I saw these trees ten years ago and they were still living.

FENCING CONTEST IN CANADA

Early in the Spring of this year I read that the City of Winnipeg was to have a fencing contest during the summer but I saw nothing more about it in the newspapers. One cannot say whether or not it came off. The fencing here specified meant swordsmanship and of course included the use of fencing foils, and it is noteworthy that since women were "emancipated," some of that sex have made very respectable swordswomen.

Walking is, in my opinion, and in that of those who are former competitors, the best form of exercise that can be indulged in. Next to that I put fencing. Either of them calls every muscle into action, but whereas walking may be as leisurely as you please, fencing requires an alertness of mind and eye, besides suppleness of limbs, and rapidity of response. In many respects it resembles boxing, but is without its debasing tendencies. The writer had some experience of this pastime, when a group of youngsters, mostly aged seventeen or thereabouts, used to meet on a summer's evening, for a bout at "singleticks." A singletick, is an ash made up the singular, is an ash sapling, about three feet long, and scarcely as thick as a man's finger. The thicker end of the "stick" was inserted into a basket-hilt, so that it rather resembled the Highland claymore. There were also, for those who could afford it, various pieces of de.ensive "armor," the chief of which was a strong wicker helmet, with a face-guard of heavy wire mesh. We couldn't afford it, so faced our opponents with the singletick, which like King James's weapon, "was both sword and shield." It was the old-fashioned sailor's cutlass drill that we followed, with five "cuts" at the head, shoulders, and legs respectively, and three "points" (i.e. thrusts) at different parts of the body. There were "guards" in reply to the "cuts" and "parries" for the point. The latter were more difficult to very small area; so that novices would stipulate that "points" were not to be used against the head. England was really merry England in those days, when we could stand up and beat each other "black and blue!"

One of the group gave this sound advice: "If you are ever assaulted by any ill-meaning person, never strike at his head as you may be tempted to do. He will naturally throw up his hand or weapon to guard the blow. But if you give him a 'point' (a thrust in the stomach) you give him something he is not prepared for, and it will knock him out."

Quarter-staff was an older pastime still, and had a long run in England. It was so called because of the way of holding the staff, which was a strong stick or pole about the height of a man. The contestant grasped his staff in the middle with his left hand, and midway between the middle and the end with his right hand. He could guard off a blow with the long end of his staff, or deliver a nasty "jab" with the short end. It must have been hard on the fingers, since there was no guard for them!

Farmers' Costs Reduced, Farm Prices Increased, Under Bennett Gov't.

Much has been heard from Liberal politicians that if they were returned to power on October 14, the duties on farm machinery will be lowered, which, they claim, would be of great value to the Canadian farmer. The following survey of prices of comparative machinery at present and the results are interesting. It is shown that in practically every case, the Canadian farmer buys machinery cheaper than does the American farmer. Here are some typical comparisons:

Table with 3 columns: American, Canadian, Price. Lists various farm machinery items like mowers, reapers, and tractors with their respective prices in both countries.

HIGHER COSTS UNDER KING

Liberal apologists, to mislead the electors, are comparing post-war prices with those under depression. The real comparison is between prices under the King Government and those now prevailing under the Bennett administration. Here are some of the results:

A 5 ft. Regular Mower, costing \$90.00 in United States and \$87.00 in Canada under Bennett, COST \$97.50 IN 1928 UNDER THE KING GOVERNMENT.

A 6 ft. Gear Mower, costing \$107.50 in United States and \$100.00 today in Canada, COST CANADIAN FARMERS \$105.50 UNDER KING IN 1928.

A 10 ft. Hay Rake, costing \$57.00 in United States and \$51.50 in Canada, COST \$57.00 IN CANADA UNDER MACKENZIE KING.

A Side Delivery Rake, costing \$138.50 in United States and \$124.00 in Canada, COST \$138.50 IN CANADA UNDER MR. KING.

A 5 ft. Reaper, costing \$149.00 in United States and \$135.00 in Canada, COST CANADIAN FARMERS \$145.00 IN 1923 UNDER LIBERAL RULE.

A 6 ft. Binder, Truck and Carrier costing \$240.00 in the United States and \$235.00 in Canada, COST \$259.50 IN CANADA UNDER MR. KING.

A Manure Spreader costing \$165.00 in United States and \$172.00 in Canada, COST OUR FARMERS \$192.00 UNDER KING IN 1928.

OTHER FARM IMPLEMENT PRICES WERE IN LIKE PROPORTION. The above figures may be verified from any Canadian implement dealer. They TELL THEIR OWN STORY. But there is another story which may be taken in connection with the above: farm machine prices under the King Government are lower: farm machine prices under the Bennett Government are higher: farm machine prices under the King Government are lower: farm machine prices under the Bennett Government are higher.

District Experiment Sub-Stations Important

An important and very practical phase of the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation programme centres around the intensive studying of the farm problems of production resulting from drought and soil drifting; also around the demonstration of the most successful precautionary and controlling measures. A medium for carrying on this work, the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act provides for the establishment of District Experiment Sub-Stations. These Sub-Stations are located in problem areas, principally in the south and central portions of the three Prairie Provinces, where hardships and financial loss have resulted from varying degrees of drought and soil drifting in their extent. Up to the present time thirty-nine District Experiment Sub-Stations have been established on varying soil types, and an active program of work has been instituted. As a broad objective the procedure aims to develop a system of farming with as high a degree of permanency as may be possible, a system that may be adaptable to farming areas where grain farming is principally being followed, with limited rainfall and on soils subject to drifting.

The system of cropping based primarily on strip farming with its accompanying necessary cultural practices and short crop rotations. The two year rotation of fallow, wheat alternating has been most widely laid down, although in certain sections where the annual precipitation warrants such a procedure, a three year cropping system of two crops of grain after fallow is being followed. The cereal crop is being grown on these short rotations varies in keeping with the individual need and aims to produce wheat primarily as the cash crop, at the same time to grow other crops to soil drifting or wind erosion. The effect of cover crops and the use of manures and chemical fertilizers is also under experimentation and study as to their effect on controlling soil drifting.

The development of farm home shelter belts to protect the farm buildings, farm home and to give shelter to stock around the paddocks is under way. Definite plans have been made and land summer fallowed this season as may be required in keeping with the programme to make it possible next spring to set out tree plantations and shelter belts on farms operating as District Experiment Sub-Stations, where they do not now exist, and also to expand the present shelter belts as may be advisable. The farm garden, as a source of supply of vegetables for the family during the summer and winter is being provided for in the layout and is being enclosed by the shelter belt adjoining the buildings. The garden area is being divided into two sections so that each year cropping will take place on summer fallow land. A sufficiently large area is being set aside for this purpose to make the use of horse manure possible as a labor saving procedure in farm gardening.

To provide adequate pasturage for such live stock as may be kept, including horses for farm use, a permanent grass paddock adjoining the buildings and protected by a tree shelter comes within the programme of work. In many cases such a paddock already exists, and has already been seeded to provide this pasture, using Crested wheat grass or Bromo grass as the foundation when seeding down. As a supplement to the permanent pasture, as the season advances and growth becomes slower, provision is made for supplementary pastures, and an area is being seeded down to fall rye as well as to spring grain.

In the study of drought and soil drifting problems on Sub-Stations, very special attention is being given to the methods of handling the summer fallow. Tillage practices being directed to permit a lumpy surface and to retain as large a portion as possible of stubble and other forms of vegetation on the surface.

In the organization of a Sub-Station, the land is not purchased but rather a cooperative agreement is entered into with a progressive and interested farmer in these different districts. In consideration of an annual rental for land use, this farmer undertakes to provide the necessary labour and equipment to carry out the work under the direction of a Supervisor representing the Dominion Department of Agriculture. To be effective in studying such a problem as that of soil drifting, a fair sized unit is necessary and for such an area up to 640 acres is that utilized in Sub-Station work. The District Experiment Sub-Station is a community developed organization and aims to study and work with farmers in these districts for their mutual benefit so that sound practices and those most likely to succeed under such conditions may become general in their application.

District Field Days have been held this year on these Sub-Stations at which time the Station operator and Representative of the Dominion Department of Agriculture reviewed the work under way and results being obtained.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

(Continued)

If a farmer is breeding horses for his own use on the farm, or for the market, he must be sure that the foal gets a good start. If a mare foals out on the grass there is frequently less danger of infection, but if inside, the box stall in which she is kept should be thoroughly cleaned out a few days before and carefully disinfected. A coat of whitewash is excellent for the latter purpose, and should be applied to the stall, and it should be encouraged to partake of its mother's milk at once.

The necessity of a good supply of milk for the young foal is often overlooked. We watch our cows carefully to see if they have sufficient milk for their calves, but many farmers fail to realize the importance of a mare feeding her foal well.

A good supply of milk for a foal is essential for its proper development, and if it shows by a lack of thriving that it is not being well fed, its mother should be provided with feed that will induce a larger flow of milk. Good grass is the best feed for such a purpose, but oats and bran will be good supplements, and these should have plenty of fresh water to drink.

The foal soon learns to eat oats and if the feed box is not too high will assist its mother at her nursing. Bran should be mixed with the oats.

If its mother is doing farm work the foal may be fed a little oats and bran during the time the mare is in harness. Nursing mares should not be overheated at work, or if they are very warm should be allowed to cool off before they are turned in with their foals.

Foals should be on pasture as much as possible, as grass is excellent feed for them. If a group of draught foals are being raised, a creep might be arranged in the pasture, where they could be fed grain separately from their mothers, but are only one or two foals on a farm, this is scarcely necessary as some simple arrangement can be made for giving them an extra allowance.

Foals should be weaned at from five to six months, and care should be taken to keep them growing. Any setback or stunting of the growth that happens to a young foal during the first year of its life is apt to have a permanent effect upon it. A foal should be well fed through the first winter. Feeds rich in protein and calcium are necessary to make good muscle and bone, two essential things in the development of a horse.

Alfalfa and clovers are rich in lime and also in protein, especially alfalfa, which makes good feed for a growing animal. Oats, bran, wheat middlings and a small allowance of linseed meal will stimulate the desired development in growth. The idea should be to grow the animal out, but not to unduly fatten it.

The joints in the legs of young horses are soft during the first year or two of their lives, and should be taken in feeding draught horses, at this age, not to fatten them, as their legs will have to carry an undue weight and possibly injure their hock joints. Clydesdale breeders are almost everywhere about this, but the result usually is very sound legs and feet, which are of the highest importance to horses that have to pull loads.

Owners of some other draught breeds have not been so particular in this respect, their main object being to get their horses up to weight, often resulting in rather full hocks. Possibly a happy medium between these extremes might not be far away, but never forget that unsoundness in horses unfit them for doing their best work, realizing the highest prices, or being safe animals from which to breed.

AGRICULTURIST

The extent and direct importance of the problem under consideration has been evident from the group of from 10) to 350 farmers who have assembled to discuss with one another and study their local community problems.

The work in connection with the District Experiment Sub-Stations is being directed by John C. Moynan, Chief Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Dominion Experimental Farms.

Grate Feeding Of Poultry

(Experimental Farms Note)

Modern methods of production have so simplified poultry raising that it has been made possible for poultry meat to become an every day article of diet. That it has not become so is mainly due to the fact that Canada's poultry is marketed in an unfinished condition—scrawny, consequently dry and tough and all too frequently poorly dressed. Poultry to be appetizing must be well fleshed and fattened, and properly dressed.

There are two principal methods of finishing pen feeding and crate feeding. The former method is generally used for turkeys and waterfowl, the latter for chickens of all ages, although some feeders follow the practice of pen feeding for a couple of weeks and then "finishing off" in crates. Batteries are commonly used in intensive plants, but for ordinary farm use crates are equally satisfactory and are inexpensive, as they may be readily constructed by anyone who is handy with saw and hammer.

The quarters where the birds are to be "finished" should be dry, cool and well ventilated, and the birds should have quiet and freedom from excitement.

The general purpose or heavy weight breeds are best suited for crate feeding and best results can be expected only where strong vigorous sturdy type birds are used. Before starting the finishing period, the birds should be dusted with flowers of sulphur to insure their freedom from lice.

How the birds are fed is equally as important as what they are fed. Heavy feeding at the start will often result in the birds going "off their feed."

Our markets demand a light colored skin, consequently, those feeds that tend to produce this should be favoured. Fortunately our home grown grains are just what are needed. Oats, barley, buckwheat and wheat are all suitable and are best fed in combination, mixed to a batter with sour milk.

Feeding trials at the Dominion Experimental Farms have shown that excellent results may be attained by the feeding of elevator screenings, and that unmarketable potatoes, fed in conjunction with home grown grains not only produce economical gains but flesh of the very highest quality.

For full instructions on the making of fattening crates and the feeding, killing, dressing and grading of poultry write to the Publicity and Extension Branch, Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, for a copy of the bulletin "Preparing Poultry Produce for Market," or write to your nearest Experimental Farm for information on specific questions.

The Ploughshare Of Peace

Following the trail of Canadian-made farm implements and machinery from the Dominion constitutes a generous lesson in geography. At the present moment, the one geographical spot to which all eyes are turned is Ethiopia, and although little thought is being given to Isaiah's vision of the time when "they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks," that is exactly what Canada is doing. A study of the map will show that Ethiopia is surrounded by Canada's narrows, seeders, and ploughs, even as far as the confines of the vast continent of Africa, from Morocco in the extreme north-west to Port Said in the north-east, and down to the farthest south in Cape Town.

While munitions of war are being piled up around Ethiopia, the latest consignments of Canadian-made agricultural implements are making their peaceful and beneficent entrance into contiguous countries, French Africa, Egypt, and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan on the north and north-east; into British Somaliland on the east, while in the south virtually a solid phalanx of Canadian ploughshares stands the continent throughout Kenya Colony, once called British East Africa, the Belgian Congo, Rhodesia, Portuguese East Africa, and the British South Africa. Not only in the countries of Africa but in those of Europe, Asia, North and South America, and in the outlying outposts of the world whose shores are laved by the waves of the seven seas, Canadian farm implements and machinery find their way.

Canadian Wool

Sheep raising is an important phase of live stock production in all the provinces of Canada. Since 1913 a great deal of attention has been given to improving the quality of Canadian wool and the methods of its preparation for the market.

The writer had some experience of this pastime, when a group of youngsters, mostly aged seventeen or thereabouts, used to meet on a summer's evening, for a bout at "singleticks." A singletick, is an ash made up the singular, is an ash sapling, about three feet long, and scarcely as thick as a man's finger.

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We require a hundred tons of good pressed timothy hay for delivery within next two weeks. Highest market price paid. CARVELL BROS. LTD. L-1219-10-13-1

NOTICE

For service this fall, one Pure Bred Berkshire Boar. CALVIN BISHOP. Mt. Buchanan

Canadian Cranberries

The culture of cranberries, although not a widely established industry in the Dominion as yet, can be conducted with profit in many places where at present practically nothing is known of the growing and care of this crop.

Propaganda has been issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, with the exception of the work done in a few bogs in Nova Scotia, British Columbia, very little has been accomplished in Canada to further the production of cranberries, although there are doubtless many acres of unemployed lands suitable for cranberry bogs.

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If possible, lime your land this fall, and for QUICK RESULTS use the HIGH GRADE, FINELY GROUND LIME from

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