

Educational Purposes and Value of the Great National Corn Exposition

THE Corn show—what is it? The story of the latest efforts of the law which control reproduction can be made to make the soil yield more of its riches to the agriculturist will be told at the National Corn exposition which opens on December 6.

The Corn show exemplifies the achievements in the development of plant values, by the same kind of painstaking study and scientific care that has given highbred animal life. The utilization of heredity is the whole story. There is a rather material vindication of the doctrine of the survival of the fittest in the lesson taught by the Corn show. Time, but all grains and grasses. It might well be called an agricultural show since its scope has been so much widened beyond the original beginning.

The exposition might be compared to a world's electrical show. In such a show the electricians show how to harness and direct electricity, making it do the work which men do, but in greater quantity. At the National Corn exposition, scientists and farmers who are making brains with muscle, shows how to harness up and use the energy of heredity to increase the production of food in the world.

In short, the exposition shows that reproduction is the basis of the creation of new wealth. It is an inspiration to anyone, whether farmer or business man, because it deals with the work of supplying the world's necessities, of making men and women more prosperous and happy by giving them more and better food.

Back of the exposition and meeting in Omaha during the time the grain and grasses are on display, are two organizations which are responsible for increasing the products of American farms \$1,000,000,000 annually—the National Corn Association and the American Breeders' association. These organizations assure the attendance of men who have international reputations as leaders in agricultural thought; Economists, scientists, builders of great railroads which have made possible the intense development of the agricultural region and kept the stream of pioneers ever pouring into the new lands of the west.

Besides these organizations, twenty-five state agricultural colleges and experimental stations have put their tremendous influence and resources into the Corn show, to make it a success and each will demonstrate the work being done in the state to make the farms more productive and the work of running them an art.

The United States government, through its Department of Agriculture and Department of the Interior, will show that these departments have been "making good" by making exhibits of their actual results. The exhibit made by the Department of Agriculture at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition in Seattle during the summer of 1909, was brought to Omaha in eight baggage cars and is now installed at the National Corn exposition, together with such exhibits as the Interior Department could show to advantage at a great grain and grass show, sure to be attended by some 200,000 farmers.

One of the most interesting features of the government exhibit will be to show what has been accomplished in radiating the insects which annually destroy millions of dollars worth of farm crops. Man has always had competitors for the world's supply of food. The insects have been among the most active, but the Department

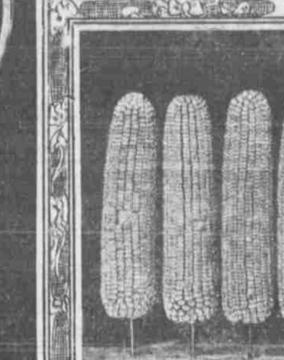


INDIANA CORN TROPHY

of Agriculture has thrown its influence against the insects and other "powers that prey."

Individual exhibits will probably number 20,000—drawn from farms in all parts of the country by the offer of the National Corn exposition to pay \$50,000 in prizes, and the offer by interested and enterprising firms and individuals, to award a score of gold and silver trophies to the exhibitors of the best samples of grains and grasses.

In offering these prizes the exposition in a general way has made a rule which will make it possible for the amateurs in practice, scientific farming in the 1909 exposition, pouring out the professional, to any enter in which a Junior premium list to be awarded to



CHAMPION TEN EARS OF 1908

they have not won prizes before and compete only for the trophies in the sweepstakes. This ruling means there will be new winners in 1909 and the \$50,000 list of premiums goes to the individuals showing the best grains in their zones. Last year one man won more than \$1,200 on ten acres of corn. He can enter this year

only to retain the grand champion sweepstakes trophy in the world class.

In addition to the regular lists, several supplemental lists have been offered by corn clubs, grain growers' associations, the young women entering the domestic science and art department. These exhibits will all be arranged in the Omaha Auditorium and auditorium annex, having a combined floor space of over 200,000 square feet. Every exhibit may be easily seen, professional guides being employed to locate any individual exhibit desired from any state or county. The judges have also volunteered to be in attendance constantly after the judging is done that they might explain to exhibitors the points on which certain grains are awarded prizes, while others fail to win.

In a lecture room which will be open every morning and evening, men of national reputation will speak on subjects pertaining to farm and commercial life, and individuals, James J. Hill alone offering more than \$2,500 in gold as prizes for grains and grasses.

others will put on demonstrations with the assistance of experts and with the aid of strong lights, that their work may be seen in all parts of the lecture room. For instance, under the direction of the Beef Producers' association, the carcass of a whole steer will be cut up daily by expert butchers in the glare of a "spot light," while a lecturer explains the best cuts and tells how the show housewife will buy these cuts and serve them in a way to make

as desirable as the more expensive meats. The cheaper cuts will then be prepared in the domestic science department and those who want to be "showmen" may have an opportunity to

making, and the wheats to make the best bread will be ground and the bread baked. The prize wheats will be milled to demonstrate that they deserve the prizes they have won.

But all will not resemble a big school room with hard lessons to learn. Entertainment of an exceptional character has been provided on the program. By special permission of President Diaz of Mexico, the famous Mexican National band will be in Omaha during the two weeks of the



BARLEY TROPHY

amusement with instruction. For instance, any moving picture show can get films showing convicts escaping from a penitentiary, the pursuit by guards, the fight in the woods or a tragedy in the home of an escaped convict, but only the National Corn exposition shows pictures of convicts making good roads on scientific principles in the picturesque mountains of Virginia. These films were taken in Virginia during the summer when the convicts were working to give the state among the best roads in the United States. Another entertaining film shows how in some states, great comfortable carriages are provided to take school children to graded high schools. The whole trip is made from the time the driver cracks his whip until the school house is reached; he gathers up the little ones with their dinner baskets, some ride the horses, others exchange stories with the driver—it is sure picnic day and comes every day in some districts. The films were made for the corn show in Minnesota.

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Little, however, did those men dream of the intricate problem that the men would face who have had before them constantly the question of getting from the soil the greatest possible profit. They realized that in the rich loam of the river valleys and on the rolling prairies of the country there was wealth, but they did not figure out the problem of making the soil give up what is shown. In their minds was the plan of broadening the scope of the government and by the creation of a new department affect a means of promoting good investments in the land. These men wanted something done to promote the cultivation of the soil of a country, the cultivation of all lands upon which the sun has ever shined. They looked upon the western plains, the rolling prairies and the wild lands, as a bonanza, waiting for a Columbus to discover the wealth buried beneath the sod.

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Woodmen of the World

THE MONUMENTAL ORDER

The Strongest Fraternal Life Insurance Order in America

Over \$39,000,000 Losses Paid

†\$9,000,000.00 Emergency Fund to minimize cost and guarantee permanency. †Thirty thousand monuments erected to memory of deceased members.

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Get Permanent, Not Temporary Fraternal Life Insurance--Get the Best.

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