THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

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FOUNDED 1866

A Movement to Unite Town and Country.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE": A Council of Commerce and Agriculture, to bring about a closer understanding and a stronger mutual confidence between rural and urban community interests in Essex County, is now being undertaken. The project has already received the most careful consideration of the Border Chamber of Commerce, the Department of Agriculture and number of the more prominent farmers of the district, and organization will be proceeded with in the near future.

It is proposed to establish an associa tion similar to that, which a few years ago, found its inception in Saskatoon Saskatchewan, and which finally de veloped until it embraced the three Prairie Provinces with headquarters in Winnipeg, where annual meetings are held.

F. Maclure Sclanders, Industrial Com-missioner of the Border Chamber of Commerce who is fostering the enterprise, was instrumental in the preliminary work in the Western provinces, and is receiving the heartiest co-operation from the Department of Agriculture and the leading farmers of the country.

Speaking of the proposed council, Mr. Sclanders recently said:

"As conditions now exist, there is a conspicuous lack of such desirable confidence. This is wholly regrettable; it is also unintelligent and harmful.

"On the one hand the farmer looks with rather an unkindly and suspicious eye upon the business man; and, on the other, the business man does not seem to realize in any clear or definite sense the absolutely inseparable inter-dependence of the commercial and agricultural com-munities. For the farmer to blame the business man or for the latter to condemn the former for the present condition of things would simply be a case of the pot calling the kettle black.

"Now, the necessity, particularly in these times, for the existence of intelligent and proper confidence between the two communities in point must be obvious to every thoughtful individual. That the present attitude of stand-aloofness is not merely stupid, but actually detrimental in a very invidious sense, no one is likely to dispute.

'As a matter of fact, I am firmly of the opinion that a marked agricultural uplift can only be achieved when the business man will sincerely and energetically focus his trained commercial experience on many of the problems now affecting the agricultural community. The busi ness man through long years and genera tions of experience in meeting and solving all phases of commercial difficulties i peculiarly adapted to co-operate with the farmer in meeting many of the obstacles and problems with which the latter is now combatting. On the other hand, the farmer struggles largely with nature, and in a large measure he is laboring under a severe handicap in attempting the solu tion of the many business considerations which are now inseparable from hi vocation. 'Such being the case, I believe the solution of agricultural problems and betterment of conditions generally, mus emanate from the business man. Commenting on the proposal, J. W Noble, District Representative of Agricul ture says: "The chasm between the agriculturalis and the business man in a great man cases is too wide, and since a Council o Commerce and Agriculture has worked out to advantage in the West, I am strongly in favor of its introduction into this part of Ontario.' In introducing this co-operative move-ment into older Canada, its promoters have a fertile soil upon which to sow their seed. Within the past year, when greater production became more imperative that ever, manufacturers of Windsor, Ford Walkerville, Sandwich and Ojibway instrtuted the community or co-operative method which was later adopted in other parts of Canada, and throughout the United States. Then again, when the shortage of seed corn in the spring of 1918 threatened to demoralize, to a large extent, the farming community of Essex, a corn-growing district, active steps were immediately taken by the Chamber of Commerce, which opened negotiations with WashingFEBRU

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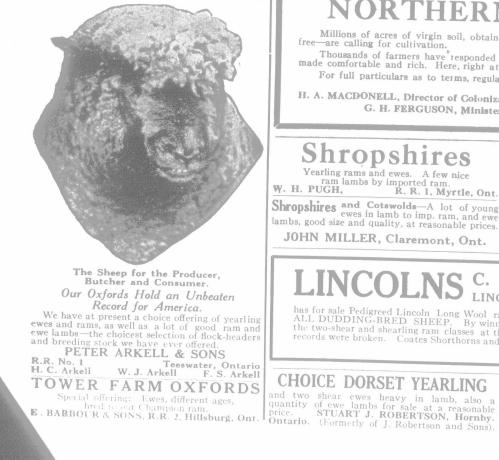
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