

The Farming World

And Canadian Farm and Home

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Peace, Plenty, Prosperity

TO-DAY is the one set apart for Canada's national thanksgiving. Never in the history of this Dominion have Canadians had greater reason to be thankful than during the closing months of 1903. Peace, plenty and prosperity reign within our borders, love and contentment within our homes, and hope and confidence in the future within the hearts of our citizens.

Canada has peace. For years she has lived at peace with her neighbors. No internal strife is seen within her borders. The anarchist and the lyncher do not find here a congenial spot for their nefarious practices. Her people are law-abiding, and, though occasionally the agitator may gain a slight foothold, his power is soon broken and his influence checked. May this sweet dove of peace long continue to hover over our beloved Canada.

Canada has plenty. Plenty of natural resources, plenty of room for the honest settler, plenty of opportunity for her citizens to make the most of themselves. But more than all this, perhaps, Canada has plenty of the good things that go to make a people contented and happy. The harvest of 1903 has been one of plenty—abundance for both man and beast. The honest toiler will have enough and to spare, while gaunt famine and death-dealing plagues can have no part with us. Truly this land is specially favored of all lands.

Canada has prosperity. Peace and plenty give prosperity. No other country, and we say it without boasting, enjoys a greater degree of prosperity than does Canada in this year of 1903. Some may have larger prosperity for the few, but Canada's prosperity is for the many. Manufacturers are busy, labor is at a premium, while the farmer has enough and to spare in this year of plenty. Truly Canadians are to be envied of all peoples.

These three—peace, plenty, and prosperity—form the trinity for which all Canadians should be devoutly grateful on this day of national thanksgiving. And who should be more grateful than the farmer? His barns are filled to the full and his granaries are not empty. The dairy is a large source of profit and live stock adds no small sum to the receipts of the farm. The orchards have yielded in abundance and plenty cometh from the vineyards.

Let the spirit of thanksgiving, therefore, reign in the hearts of all on this glad day. Let there be confidence in the future and hope for even better things to come, as Canada progresses and her resources are made to give forth in greater abundance of the products of the forests, the mine and the farm.

"Hickory"

The first instalment of our splendid new story will appear in the next issue of THE FARMING WORLD. It will be a distinct loss not to begin reading it from the beginning. Those who begin with the first chapter are not likely to miss a line, as it is a tale of love and adventure of the most fascinating interest, and one that appeals directly to every true Canadian farmer. A very real and perplexing problem in many a farm home is introduced by the author in such a way as to awaken the thoughtful interest of the reader.

Very Good Indeed

The Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa, after leading the Exhibition number of THE FARMING WORLD, writes: "I found it a very good number indeed, and was very pleased to look it over."

We have a few copies of this number left. To any person interested in agriculture we shall be pleased to forward a copy on receipt of name and address.

The story will appear first in THE FARMING WORLD; afterwards in the more expensive book form. Take advantage, therefore, of this opportunity. The story will appear in no other Canadian paper.

The Preference and the Farmer

Chamberlain has spoken, and his scheme for a preferential tariff within the Empire is now before the public. That it is being subjected to a tirade of criticism by numerous British journals goes without saying. On the other hand, there is a large section of the English press as strongly opposed to it. There seem to be either half-way opinions. They are either strongly in favor of the proposals or most bitterly opposed to every part of it. In Canada, though

little is being said by those in authority, the general feeling is strongly in favor of a preferential tariff that will give Canadian products an advantage in the British markets.

The question that concerns us most is what it will do for the Canadian farmer. A duty of two shillings per quarter on foreign wheat is equivalent to nearly six cents a bushel. Great Britain imports annually wheat to the value of about \$115,000,000. In 1902 Canada sent to the United Kingdom wheat to the value of \$18,024,257. An advantage of six cents a bushel over the foreigner would undoubtedly enable the Canadian farmer to capture a very large proportion of Britain's wheat trade, if not the whole of it, in a very few years. It would stimulate the West and bring millions of acres under wheat cultivation. Then the corresponding tax on flour should help to develop our flour trade with the Motherland, the value of which for 1902 was only \$2,290,056. Of all Great Britain's imports of grain and grain products, valued at about \$300,000,000 annually, Canada at the present time supplies only about one-twelfth, while from the United States she imports annually \$160,000,000 worth, or over one-half of the total purchases. A preference in favor of Canada would in time change the relative positions of Canada and the United States in the British markets.

But the preference on grain is not all. A tax of five per cent. is proposed on all foreign meats and dairy products, excepting bacon. Of fresh beef and mutton Great Britain imports about \$75,000,000 worth annually, of which the United States contributes \$40,000,000, the Argentine \$16,000,000, and Canada less than \$400,000 worth. With this small advantage here is another opportunity for Canada to enlarge her markets. Why bacon should be excluded is hard to understand. It would seem to the outsider that beef and mutton are just as much a "food of the poorest" as bacon is. This is one of the disappointing parts of the scheme, so far as the Canadian producers are concerned. In 1902 Canada sent to Great Britain bacon products to the value of \$12,356,648. With a similar preference to that proposed for beef and mutton our bacon trade, which is more of a specialty with us than either of the other two, would be greatly stimulated.

The preference proposed on dairy