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"Persevere and
Succeed."

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EDITORIAL.

Which do you prefer—a paper with courage to say what it thinks, or one with no higher motive than to take a stand which it believes will be popular?

The chemist may not know all there is to know about whims of animals and the art of feeding, but he can tell us much, and we do well to utilize his researches.

For downright practical educative and stimulative influence along agricultural and live-stock lines, probably no institutions on the continent equal our forthcoming series of winter fairs.

To make the present best the future average, is one object of the Farmers' Institute work. The Ontario Superintendent, Mr. Putnam, has announced the list of meetings to be held during the latter part of November, and continuing through the next month. It should be a good series. Watch your local dates, and attend.

If it is ethically justifiable for the United States Government to seek to compel the grinding of pulp and manufacture of paper within its boundaries by import duties on those commodities, it surely is quite as justifiable and much more advantageous for Canada to encourage manufacture in the Dominion by placing export duties on raw materials.

No farmer worthy of the name will allow the liquid manure from his stables to run away. Unless straw and chaff are very plentiful, some other absorbent will be necessary in the gutter. Why not kill two birds with one stone by using raw ground phosphate rock, thus adding phosphorus to the soil, while at the same time retaining nitrogen by soaking up the urine?

Every other important class has its clubs. Why not farmers? The Farmers' Club movement is fraught with possibilities of great usefulness. It is growing, as it deserves to do. Is there a Club in your neighborhood? If not, write for suggestions to G. A. Putnam, Superintendent of Ontario Farmers' Institutes, Department of Agriculture, Toronto. No doubt, he will gladly reply, even to those living outside the Province he is employed to serve.

Considerable space is devoted in the present issue to a consideration of feeding questions. Every man who has to do with the feeding of live stock should read carefully the several articles and replies to questions. For lack of a thorough knowledge of the composition of feeds and their most advantageous combination, so as to form reasonably well-balanced rations, many a stockman has obtained indifferent results, or has purchased supplementary feeds to poor advantage. For instance, we have known men having corn fodder and clover hay for roughage, with only bran and corn meal as concentrates, to feed first the fodder and corn meal, then the clover hay and bran. The merest elementary knowledge of animal chemistry would have led them to reverse their practice, feeding bran with the corn fodder and corn meal with the clover hay. There are numerous points such as this which any man can settle advantageously for himself, if equipped with a knowledge of animal needs and the chemistry of feeds.

False Economy.

"The trouble with Mr. Blank is that he is too stingy to buy a good bull." This remark was made by a successful breeder and exhibitor in reference to an unsuccessful competitor in the same breed of stock.

Townpeople are in the habit of referring to farmers as a class as being "stingy, too close altogether," which, of course, is an unfair imputation. But the habit which farmers have to form, if they are to succeed, of looking carefully after every little possible waste, and the fact that for a great part of their living they do not have to make any cash outlay, is responsible for a certain hesitation in spending money, which to those living in the city, where everything has to be paid for—where much is earned, but little saved—looks like pure miserliness.

That many farmers, however, suffer financially from the policy of being too saving cannot be disputed. One of the class who has made money at farming, but who does not balk at laying out a few hundreds when necessary, made this remark the other day: "No matter how many first-class bulls there are in the township, if there is only one scrub with a service fee of fifty cents to be found, that is where they will take their cows." That is not economy; it is pure folly and loss.

Some dairy farmers make a similar mistake in the feeding of their cows. Who has not seen a herd of these fine creatures forced to spend the whole daylight hours of the autumn in trying to nibble enough from a pasture, already eaten bare by the middle of August, to keep life in their gaunt carcasses, daily growing thinner? Their owner meanwhile, as he ruefully surveys the shrinking milk yield extracted from the poor animals, becomes convinced that there is not much in the cow business. One hardly knows whether to laugh or scold at such economies.

So it goes through the whole round. Labor is spared, and weeds laugh and grow fat, while the corn or roots are being starved. Manure is not furnished, and diminished and unprofitable crops result. A cheap but incapable man is hired, and work gets behind, is poorly done, with all that that implies, the farmer's temper is at the breaking point continually, and his chances of going to the hot place very decidedly increased.

While not excusing in the least such unprofitable savings in running expenses, it will be well to reflect on the fact that many may be forced against their wish to adopt such methods. Lack of means, an unfavorable season, sickness in the family, or other misfortunes, often almost compel a man to pursue a course which he would fain avoid.

A well-known D. D., in a lecture he delivers, tells with evident relish of some years that he spent when a growing big boy working for wages with an Aberdeenshire farmer. He ate in the same kitchen with the master and his wife, though not at the same table, or at least not at the same end of the table. It was the every-day practice of the master to have an egg for breakfast, though, of course, such extravagance was out of the question for the men. Be it noted that the wife got no egg either, but the good farmer regularly, after eating his egg halfway down, would then shove it across the table to his wife, who as regularly finished it. The good doctor who tells this, says that if he had not been a minister many who heard the story would not have believed it, and even as it is, they have their suspicions. But to those who were in the same room at meals the scene was so familiar that they can scarcely understand the surprise with which others view it. And yet that same farmer, whose table economy was so rigid, would take him out with him, and

together they would sow \$50.00 worth of fertilizer on a single field. That man's farm, for which he paid a good rent yearly, became in time a perfect garden for fertility. The whole of it originally was of soil so intractable and stubborn that before a plow could be used it had to be trenched by hand with a pick.

Little wonder is it that those hard-headed Aberdeenshire Scotchmen, who practiced such parsimony in food and such liberal expenditure of strength and means in subduing natural obstacles, have made a place for themselves wherever they have gone.

Wasteful methods are pursued even on some of our farms, and for waste there should be nothing but condemnation. It is always deplorable, and little short of sinful. But ultra penuriousness frequently results in the scarceness it was intended to obviate.

"There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth;
And there is that withholdeth more than is meet,
but it tendeth to poverty."

Telephone Connections.

Connection with near-by towns, and with towns and cities at a greater distance, is very soon felt to be a necessity by subscribers of a rural-telephone system. As the Bell Telephone Company has, for the present, or until the Government may assume control, practically a monopoly of the long-distance business, and also of local town and city telephone trade in Canada, outside connection means connection with that company. It is quite possible for officials of a rural company to look so exclusively at their own need as to overlook the fact that the Bell Company are always ready for more business, especially if they can get it at extra profitable rates. Such officials may be induced to close a deal with that company before they themselves have considered the matter fully, or have learned on what terms other independent telephone companies have made long-distance connections. Every subscriber of a rural-telephone system having connection with the Bell Company brings grist to their mill. But, like other corporations, and individuals, also, the Bell Telephone Company are on the lookout for as good a bargain for themselves as possible. As a consequence, some rural companies probably pay more than others for a like service. One arrangement where there has not been too much haste in coming to an agreement, is for the rural telephone company to have free connection with the Bell system, where the rural line reaches it, subscribers, however, having to pay a fee of five cents for every call to nearest Bell central on that system. Cases are reported where rural companies have paid a fixed rental per subscriber of \$3 or more per year for a connection with a given town, which is regarded as unfair to those who, perhaps use the line only two or three times in a year, and rural companies have inadvertently restricted themselves to certain territory. In some cases the rural company extends a trunk line to the city or town limits; in others, each company builds part way, the subscribers paying a rate per call, depending on the distance or length of trunk line to the city or town, the fee being divided between the Bell and the Rural Company. Abrogation of the three-minute time limit on conversations is a concession that has also been secured. To other points outside the city or town the regular long-distance rate is charged rural subscribers, plus the local rate. Where the Bell people extend a trunk line to the Rural headquarters, a rental of so much per mile per annum, sometimes as much as \$8, is agreed upon. In such cases, a lower rate, say five cents per call,