

The Farmer's Advocate AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

Agents for "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal,"
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1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE is published every Thursday. It is impartial and independent of all cliques and parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
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homes, ravaged farms and frightful cost of war even though it be the price of human liberty? Is there yet no better way?

When prices soar in time of a crisis everyone urges the farmer to do his share, but when prices drop below the point of profitable production who sympathizes with the producer? In times of high prices he is a financier in the eyes of the world, but when prices are low and he has to struggle to make ends meet, he is nothing but a plain old farmer "hayseed."

According to an estimate in The Nation of London, England, which may be taken as most carefully made, the cost of the war to Germany and Russia is about \$14,000,000 per day each, to Great Britain \$7,300,000, and to France and Austria each \$9,730,000, or the appalling total every twenty-four hours of \$55,100,000. Multiply these figures by weeks and months, and the financial burdens to be borne in the final reckoning by the people may well stagger humanity.

The National Winter Live-Stock Show has been cancelled, and there is some speculation as to what will become of the fruit show. We heard a good suggestion the other day, and we believe the growers are game. Here it is. Put up the exhibits even though no prizes are offered. Charge 25 cents admission, and turn the money over to the patriotic fund. If extensively advertised such a show would draw bumper crowds, and the people paying their money would come to see the show and be benefitted thereby.

Among the notable addresses delivered in connection with the official luncheons at the Toronto Exhibition, none surpassed that by the Hon. Duncan Marshall, Minister of Agriculture for the Province of Alberta, who recently returned from a visit to Belgium and Great Britain. In England he had heard the opinion widely expressed that this present would be the last great war and the hope of Imperial statesmen was that it would end in the disarmament of the nations. The business of trying to preserve peace by keeping large bodies of men constantly prepared for war was bound to end in conflagration as it had done. The conflict started by Germany would end in the re-adjustment of Europe on a new basis.

Canada's Great Opportunity.

P. G. Donald, representing a syndicate of English manufacturers whose object it is to promote the trade of the Empire by taking advantage of the opportunities afforded by the present war situation had an interview with Hon. George E. Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce. Mr. Donald's view is that Canada should encourage the establishment of a great export trade by a system of export bounties, to be diminished as manufacturers were able to establish themselves. Nails, barbed wire, tubing, and such hardware products were mentioned by him as those by whose manufacture Canada would fill the place formerly occupied by Germany.—Ottawa press despatch.

Editorially the hint is boldly thrown out in other quarters that it may be necessary to re-adjust the tariff along more strongly protective lines in order to establish new industries, and build up some which are said to have suffered from the competition of cheap goods made in Germany, followed up by steamship subsidies and other aids. These expressions may be taken as indicative of grave dangers to the common people following in the immediate, surging wake of the war. To take advantage of opportunities presented by the stoppage of supplies of raw beet sugar and toys, not to specify many additional articles from Europe, is entirely legitimate and need not be entered upon in any spirit of vindictive reprisal, for let us remember that Austrian or German farmers, artisans and scholars are human. They did not precipitate the madness of war; they did not want it, but they suffer by it the fearful dislocation of their industries built up with so many years of patient endeavor and technical training, followed by a pushing and thorough trade campaign all over the world. People do well amid the fever of the times to be upon their guard against the designs of promoters who might seek to fasten fresh economic burdens upon the people under the guise of quasi-patriotic endeavor. Excuses for such increases are now invalid. The trade is destroyed. It is for our people to grasp the opportunity. It is theirs simply to walk in and possess the land. In all good conscience, the loads will pile up fast enough without resorting to the extremes of a fiscal system from the excrescences of which America has been making a long and heroic effort to free herself. Neither should the situation be utilized to facilitate engrafting upon the country, the clutches of a militaristic machine which has put Europe and the world in the plight they now find themselves. The outcome of the war ought to be the downfall of mad autocracy, the ending of armament trust rule, and the perpetuation of peace.

Nor can we view with complacency the inauguration of cut-throat commercial rivalries. Now is the time rather for Canadians to display their capacity for alert adaptation and British resolution, not by calling out for the pap-bottle, swaddling clothes and the infant-industry cradle, but a prompt and thorough consideration of the new conditions confronting them. Advancement should be grounded upon the reliable basis of education for the factory and for the farm. At home and abroad the call of the Empire is for food products. Then let parliament make the conditions under which land can be occupied and farming carried on as easy and favorable as possible. The likelihood is that labor will be more plentiful in the future, but the really efficient workers of the new area must be educated for industries and for agriculture. The smart youth of Canada must not assume that they know it all. There must be patient and careful training. Here is the very greatest opportunity for a combination of federal and provincial action that has ever yet presented itself to Canadian statesmen.

Provincial Governments have been gathering information and crystallizing knowledge and experience in industrial city schools, but the problem is beyond the provinces alone. The Federal Government has happily in hand the results of the extensive labors of the Royal Commission on Industrial Education and Technical training, which can be made the basis on which to build an undertaking made practicable by Federal financial assistance, and administered by the pro-

vinces for the material advancement and well-being of the whole people. An early session of Parliament is said to be contemplated. It is to be hoped that the newspaper press and politicians will, for the time being, set aside political considerations as Parliament so nobly did in the emergency session a short time ago, and make a united and constructive move for the development of the agriculture and industries of Canada such as we have never seen before.

A Patriotic Fund.

The families and friends of those who take up arms and on the battle lines risk life and limb that others may remain secure at home, merit the consideration of the public at large. The request is being met by the low-salaried employee, and the leader in the economic world whose industry is at stake, for he realizes, if he be a man, that neither his money nor social standing will preserve the life of the nation in a time of war. Money will help, but the industries, commerce and all the network of public activities will depend upon the man with gun in hand. Beating drums and Union Jacks have aided wonderfully in amassing a sum of money for the comfort of sufferers and families left at home, but within the precincts of our cities and even on the Western prairies there are families who will suffer much, not on account of active participation in the war but in consequence of unfavorable conditions and the far-reaching indirect influence of the war itself.

In local districts circumstances are more pressing than the public is aware of, and the true patriotism of our people will be tried when without the sound of fife or pibroch the influential business man, clothed and in his right mind, will be soberly and quietly solicited to contribute to the comfort of his less fortunate Canadian brother. When we realize that the welfare of stricken country districts and unemployed urban people together make for the prosperity of Canada, and rise to the occasion with food and funds, then a genuine patriotic fund shall be accumulated that will prove the man and maintain the honor of this country. Now is a time to help, and our Governments do right when they assist as they are doing in the equalization of stores and the maintenance of unfortunate settlers. Sharing up in ordinary times is an odious principle, but in unprecedented eras humanity to man will go a long way in the restoration of many a falling institution, falling individual and weakening enterprise. A greater prosperity than was ever witnessed in this country will be the outcome of the generous frame of mind.

Nature's Diary.

A. B. Klugh, M.A.

Most of our frogs are found around ponds and streams, but the most aquatic of all is the Bullfrog. It prefers large ponds or lakes, where it can find deep water as well as shallow, screened from the shore by willows, alders, and other shrubs.

The Bullfrog is our largest frog, and some specimens attain a length of seven inches from the tip of the nose to the posterior end of the body. A Bullfrog a year old may be four inches in length or only two inches, so that their size is no sure indication of their age. The size they attain depends much upon the size which the tadpole reaches before its transformation, and upon the food and other conditions of their environment.

This species is a powerful swimmer, with great strength and length of hind leg and with very large webs. In diving, the legs are violently straightened out, and then slowly drawn forward into position for the second stroke. The web is alternately extended into a flat, resisting membrane, and folded again as the leg is drawn forward. As it dives large bubbles of air are given off from the nostrils, which are then closed tightly. The frog does not use the lungs in breathing under water, but the whole surface of the skin acts as a huge gill, allowing the oxygen in the water to pass through into the blood-stream. In consequence the frog can not only live under water for many months, but will by preference spend a large portion of its time lying at the bottom of the pond.

The name is, given to this species by the deep, resonant note which it utters, and which is variously rendered in human language as "Jug o' rum," "More rum," "Better go round" and "Be drowned." The Bullfrog has two internal vocal sacs, which act as resonators. These are in the pouch of the throat, and the openings into them are on the floor of the mouth.

This deep croaking is not the only sound which the Bullfrog can make, as when violently seized it utters a loud, prolonged, high-pitched scream.

The Bullfrog feeds mainly upon the insects and other small aquatic forms found in its habitat.