

of business to an amount which would bring the total issue of national currency up to, say \$500,000,000.

Two years ago people were not thinking as much about the financial question as they are now and Mr. Maclean's proposals did not receive much attention in some quarters and were dismissed in others as subversive of good banking and sound currency. Yet the Federal Reserve Act, substantially similar, is acclaimed by the most conservative bankers in the United States and even in Canada. Stranger still the plan pressed upon Congress by President Vanderlip, of the National City Bank of New York, the biggest bank on the continent, was almost identical with the plan which Mr. Maclean a year earlier had laid before the Dominion Parliament.

In conclusion we may say that our estimate of the advantages to be derived by the United States from the Federal Reserve Act and the desirability of similar legislation for Canada, is concurred in by nearly everyone in either country who has approached the subject with an open mind and given it careful attention. Thus we observe that much of what we have been saying is more pithily expressed by Mr. S. P. Pantou, of Vancouver, B.C., in a recent contribution to The Vancouver World, as follows:

Mr. W. F. Maclean, M.P., proposes a similar system for Canada, with an issue of \$500,000,000 Dominion notes based on \$125,000,000 gold reserve. This is unassailable from a gold-standard standpoint, few countries having so much as 25 per cent. gold behind their currency, and none ever needing so much for redemption requirements. The inauguration of this plan would not only establish a great and permanent prosperity, enabling the people to work off their indebtedness, but it would greatly enlarge the field for legitimate banking upon a basis of safety that has never been approached in Canada.

It would be well for the bankers of Canada to follow the example of those in the United States in admitting that the antiquated and defective system of half a century ago has run its course. They should join forces with Mr. Maclean and bring the new system into operation with the least possible delay. It is their opportunity to make permanent friends of a people who are not feeling very friendly just now.

TIMELY POULTRY ADVICE

By F. C. Elford, Dominion Poultry Husbandman

The indications are that new laid eggs will be as scarce this winter as usual and if extra attention is not paid to getting the laying stock into condition and housed early, the supply of eggs may not be as plentiful even as they were last winter. Tho the present is too late to begin to prepare for early winter eggs, it is a good time to make the best of what we may have by getting everything ready before the cold weather comes. The beginning was made last spring when the early pullets were hatched, for only the early pullets can be depended on to give eggs during November and December. The hens, as a rule, will not lay many eggs until the end of January or February, it is therefore from the well matured pullets that the high priced eggs may be expected, and in order to get the most out of these, care must be taken, as from now until laying time is a more critical time in the life of the pullet than most poultrymen imagine.

How to Get Ready

First, keep no stock that will be non-producing. Kill off the old hens that will not lay until the spring. Market the immature pullets and all surplus cockerels as soon as they are ready. Give the rest of the pullets every opportunity to develop and get into laying condition before winter sets in.

Second, put these pullets into their winter quarters early. The unnecessary handling or changing of pullets from one place to another just when they are about to begin to lay is disastrous and in some cases will retard laying for several weeks. Give the pullets every chance to get acquainted with their winter quarters in plenty of time and feed liberally so that they will start to lay before the cold weather.

Third, do not feed sparingly but judiciously. Tho feed may be high, it does not pay to stint the layers. Feed them grain in a litter on the floor and as the weather gets colder increase the

quantity of litter. In addition to the grain, see that they have either a hopper, with dry mash constantly before them, or if preferred give it in the shape of a moist mash once a day. Have the house clean, preferably white-washed, and allow plenty of sunshine in. We have found that with a shed roofed house, a board protection along the front of the house as high as 18 inches from the floor is an advantage; from this up glass and cotton in the proportion of one glass to two of cotton, make the most ideal front for the average Canadian house.

Canada Imports Eggs

During the fiscal year ending March 31, 1914, over 11,250,000 dozen eggs were imported into Canada. These came from Great Britain, Hong Kong, China, Japan, New Zealand, and United States. Surely Canadian poultry keepers can supply the demand this year. If all help in this matter there should be no lack of eggs and if care is exercised in the production there should be a good revenue to the producers and the consumer ought not to pay such exorbitant prices as sometimes have been asked in the time of scarcity.

Keep Cost of Production Low

Owing to the high price of feed, it may cost more this year than usual to produce new laid eggs, but by careful

management the average cost of one dozen eggs might be kept as low as usual. It is at the production end that producers should aim to economize and it is better to save at this end than to expect extreme prices. This is always the case and especially will it be so this winter when everything the consumer has to buy will be dear and money to pay for it scarce. It will be a loyal act to study how cheaply the eggs can be produced rather than how much can be charged for them.

Prof. Edward Brown, the veteran poultryman of England, made a suggestion the other day to English breeders, which suggestion, even from this distance, sounds good. He thought that as so many poultry breeders in Great Britain had done business with Belgian poultrymen, who in all probability were killed, or who at least have had all their stock destroyed, that these English breeders, as soon as the smoke of battle had cleared away, might donate to their old customers and friends in Belgium, sufficient breeding stock to enable them to start up again. This suggestion of Prof. Brown's is worthy of a Britisher and the Canadian poultry breeders may not be able to do this, they can show their loyalty by producing as many new laid eggs as possible for this winter and at the least possible cost. Strictly new laid eggs

in the winter time are worth a good price and the man who can produce them deserves credit and extra remuneration, but let us hope that this winter, by better care and management, we will have enough new laid eggs to supply the consumers at a price which is within the reach of those who must have them.

SUCCESSFUL EXHIBIT

At the twenty-first International Irrigation Congress, held at Calgary last week, the North Battleford district exhibit tied with Revelstoke for first place and was only awarded second prize by the spin of a coin.

Exhibits, of which there were twenty-four, could include products of the soil, irrigated or non-irrigated, as well as articles produced or manufactured in the districts represented. The North Battleford exhibit contained excellent samples of every kind of grain common to Western Canada, four splendid bundles of different varieties of Siberian alfalfa, grown by R. McLaren, of Maymont, Sask., a few miles east of the city; also rye grass, rape, roots and vegetables of every kind.

There is no irrigation in the North Battleford district, the rainfall being sufficient, the soil first class and the only other thing necessary to ensure bumper crops is good farming.

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