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## EDITORIAL.

The man who lives for money lives in vain.

The soil and the seed is the practical problem of the hour.

Read and re-read the masterly contributions in this issue relating to seeding operations, by J. H. Grisdale and L. S. Klinck.

The application of the principles involved in the questions introduced in the last issue of "The Farmer's Advocate," in relation to soil culture and seeding, would, in the opinion of Prof. J. H. Grisdale, of the Central Experimental Farm, revolutionize Canadian agriculture.

One good result to date of the reciprocity issue is that it has to some extent diverted the attention of American newspapers and magazines from their persistent prattle about the Latin republics of Central and South America, and focussed their vision upon the nascent, self-governing nation spread across the northern half of the North American Continent.

The present Government of Canada has paid out \$16,315,862 in iron and steel bounties, \$1,580,793 in lead bounties, \$243,254 in manila-fibre bounties, and \$1,888,195 in petroleum bounties. Twenty million dollars, which these aggregate, is quite a tidy sum to spend on a nursing bottle. There is no reason why the iron and steel bounties should be renewed.—(Toronto Star.

That 2,200 people own half the land of England, is the rather startling statement accredited by our English correspondent to Professor Macgregor, of Leeds University. The number of persons owning over one acre is said to be not more than 250,000. This is concentration with a vengeance, and goes to explain popular dissatisfaction with the land system. C. Turnor, of Lincolnshire, author of a recent book on "Land Problems," which has caused considerable discussion in England, believes that land reform will have to come in a few years, and that the development of small holdings lies at the root of such reform. True to his convictions, he has announced an auction sale of his estate of 4,000 acres.

Rural Canada is strewn with neglected opportunities. Crops which might be grown with large profit are ignored, or produced under small acreage, on account of the excuse that they make too much work. This point is very much overwrought. In determining what lines of agriculture to engage in, the question should be, not what crop will make the least work, but what will repay the most ample wages for the labor that is employed? The answer, of course, will vary with conditions and circumstances, but, taking the representative average farm, a studious farmer of our acquaintance contends it is within the mark to say that one-tenth of the arable acreage should be in alfalfa, one-sixth to one-fifth in corn, and one-quarter to one-third in clover. These crops make work, but they make the money that liberally rewards the work. If one of these estimates is decidedly too low, it is the estimate allowed for alfalfa. Remember that alfalfa and clover increase the capital or producing value of the land.

## Training Agricultural Teachers.

A professor in a leading American College of Agriculture stated to one of the editors of "The Farmer's Advocate" that he had come to realize a serious handicap in his work through the lack of a more thorough preliminary education. A young man of good, resolute parts, well versed in the technical knowledge of his department and its practical bearings, he was not likely to rest content under such limitations, but would resort to special means of self-improvement, in order to improve his vocabulary, his art of expression and methods of teaching. When we remember the large number of colleges and schools of agriculture that have had to be manned with experts in recent years, it is not a matter of surprise that very many find themselves in a similar predicament. To have knowledge is one thing; to possess the quickening genius of education, quite another. Knowledge is power when it means an endowment of faculties equipped for service. To teach effectually, in the true sense of the word, is one of the greatest of all vocational achievements, and few there be that find its talisman. Schools and colleges of agriculture will increase in numbers. More agricultural teachers will be required, and more teachers equipped with knowledge of agriculture and rural life for the elementary and secondary schools, which include the High Schools. How are they to be trained for the work of teaching? The inadequacy of the Normal School courses in Ontario to properly equip teachers for the rural public schools is confessed by the giving of supplementary courses at the Agricultural College, Guelph. But for the local exigencies of politics, a Normal School, in conjunction with that institution, might have proved a valuable and unique agency in the teacher-training outfit of the Province. Fourth-year graduates of the college are drafted directly into the position of County Representatives of the Provincial Department of Agriculture, and a part of their work is to organize and teach agricultural classes in the local High Schools. They have, no doubt, found greater and more immediate encouragement with other lines of work, such as special short courses, judging schools, orchard meetings, demonstration work, school-garden competitions, the organization of farmers' clubs, and the Corn-growers' Association, but the other branch of work is steadily kept in view as a Departmental policy, we believe. Judged by the remarkable progress of public and private agricultural schools, and the growth of agricultural classes in regular High Schools across the line, an increasing demand for teachers trained in the pedagogic use of agricultural knowledge may be expected. The outcome of the work of the Royal Commission, under Dr. Robertson, on Technical Education and Industrial Training, will give added stimulus to that type of teaching.

Agriculture is both a science and an art—inseparably so—and there is a science of farming itself distinct from the group of natural sciences, such as botany, entomology and chemistry, that relate to it. There would, therefore, seem good reason to make effective provision for pedagogy, say as an elective subject, in connection with the four-years' course of agricultural colleges. Since teaching involves not only knowledge of subjects, but of the personality of those taught, and a bringing of the two together, such training would undoubtedly be a source of great strength to the graduates of those institutions, in whatever capacity, public or private, they might be called to serve.

## In the Dairyman's Interest.

A Western Ontario creameryman and dairy farmer of long experience, looking at the subject from that dual standpoint, has no hesitation in expressing to "The Farmer's Advocate" his strong approbation of the reciprocity arrangement. The vastly-increased demand will prove stimulative to the trade in dairy products, and, in his judgment, tend to a levelling up of prices. The recent shading down of American prices for butter and eggs is conceded to be the result of speculative dealings in these products forcing them to a point above legitimate values. The New York Produce Review and American Creamery reaches the following conclusion: "It is very doubtful that the movement of dairy or poultry products in either direction under free trade would be sufficient to do more than equalize reasonable differences, being to that extent a distinct advantage, and without seriously affecting productive interests." It is a well-known fact that, notwithstanding the tremendous organized efforts, both by Governments and private individuals, in Europe, America, and the Antipodes, production is not keeping pace with the increasing demand for milk and its products, as has often been predicted in years gone by. One need only consider the economy of milk as a food, the teaching of modern medical science in support of its more general use, and the enormous growth of urban population, daily crying out for milk and cream and butter, to understand how difficult it is, with a highly-organized and skill-demanding industry like dairying, to keep up a sufficient supply. If markets could be restricted to one or two milk products, and be kept by "The Trade" in certain limited channels, it might be possible to corner prices down a notch or two sometimes; but, with lessened tariff restrictions, this becomes more and more difficult. One might suppose that, with the characteristic enterprise of United States dairy-men, they would keep pace with, if not overdo, the industry; but not so. A recent study of the situation in New York State, where so many conditions favor dairy cattle, proved that, even with greatly advanced prices, the requisite dairy cows are not forthcoming. In Ontario we have a similar state of affairs, and reciprocity will probably send buyers abroad in this Province to recruit the big dairy herds of the Empire State, and add emphasis to the counsel given in these columns, to make more of a specialty of raising dairy heifers. A decided impetus to the butter business may be looked for as one of the sequences of reciprocity.

The inability of United States dairymen to keep up sufficient supplies of butter, even at enhanced prices, led to the reduction of their tariff on cream, which is estimated as having gone across the border to the amount of some \$8,000,000 worth for the year ending March 31st, 1911, thus constituting a raw material for the American creameries. It was a necessary and sagacious move, and could only have been checkmated by imposing a heavy export Canadian duty on cream, which nobody in this country seriously thought of proposing. Other things being equal, and butter now being on the free list, it will be decidedly better to have that cream converted into butter in Canadian factories already equipped for the purpose, retaining, also, the manufacture of boxes and other dairy supplies. Last year's prices for cheese were not altogether satisfactory to our factory patrons, and to this branch of the industry, access to the near-by big American trade, where the superiority of Canadian cheese will doubtless make a place for itself, as it has in