

The Farmer's Advocate AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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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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ADDRESS—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE,
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (Limited),
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who knows all about how to eliminate scrub bulls, it would be quicker and wiser to pay him enough to get the use of his information permanently.

When there is need for immediate action as in this matter, monkey wrenches in the machinery are always dangerous, and it is rare indeed when Provincial and Federal Departments come together that someone does not come prepared with a trunkful. Delays now have carried us dangerously near the breeding season when the scrub bull perpetuates his harmful qualities. Both Departments of Agriculture are well manned indeed, with but few notable exceptions, and the officers of each are qualified to do their own work and do it well. The Federal Minister of Agriculture has the confidence of all stockmen and has made it abundantly plain that he will do his utmost to deliver the country from the scourge of the scrub. He may also be depended upon to co-operate in every possible way that comes within the scope of his work. We feel also that the Provincial Minister was a happy choice of Premier Drury, and both men realize the great need for better live stock. It would be a great forward stride if this big problem could be tackled without the usual red tape.

An idea comes across to us from the United States that should be useful in solving the problem. A campaign to get rid of the scrub bull has been vigorously waged across the line, and not without results. Already entire counties are without a scrub or grade bull in service. In order to accomplish this there has been co-operation between township and county officials, between county and state authorities, and between the agricultural men in the Federal and State Departments. Our township and county councils might advantageously lend their support to a campaign which would tend towards improved live stock, with its attendant greater prosperity to the county as a whole. From a financial standpoint there is no logical reason for using a scrub or even a grade bull in our herds and flocks, and this argument alone should be sufficient inducement to secure the support of every township and county council in the districts where the fight is to be waged. In fact, it should be easy to work up strong competition and friendly rivalry between counties, and between the townships within each county, as to which would the most quickly free itself of the scrub. Any county or township council might well feel proud if it could first claim the honor within a group of counties of winning out in the race for better sires.

Everyone possesses a sporting instinct, and here is a game worth the very best efforts of all.

We would like to see some good plan speedily adopted and put into effect with a first-class man in charge. Such a man should, preferably, be one who could give all of his time to this work. It would, no doubt, be advisable to concentrate in a very few representative counties at first so that the remainder of the Province could be worked more easily after once gaining a foothold.

A Bonnie Dream.

BY SANDY FRASER

When it comes this time o' the year and I hae been warkin' oot in the bush or around the barns all day, I find myself unco' sleepy in the evenings, after I hae had my supper. I will generally be takin' a paper an' sittin' myself doon beside the stove wi' the intention o' spendin' a couple or three hours readin' the latest news o' the strikes, or the doings o' the Government, or the state o' the markets, or any o' the ither thousand an' one things that go intae the makin' o' a present-day news-paper. But first thing I ken the auld wumman will be stickin' a knittin'-needle intae some part o' my anatomy an' tellin' me not to be breathin' sae loud. The warm fire an' the same auld "strike" news mak' a combination that sends me off tae the land o' dreams quicker, I'm thinkin', than ever soothing-syrup sent a bairn. They say it's an unco' healthy sign, to gae off to sleep in yer chair, like that, but I dinna ken as there's muckle truth in some o' these auld sayings. I hae my doots aboot it, anyway, since last night.

I had had my supper and had taken up the reserved seat by the fire, wi' my paper in hand, as usual. There was a number o' things o' interest to read aboot and thinks I to myself, "I'll no' gang to sleep in my chair to-night, surely".

I had been readin' for maybe ten minutes or mair, beginnin' on the back page, as is my custom, when, on turnin' the paper over, I saw on the front page a couple o' head-lines in big, black print that read like this: "FARMERS ON STRIKE. PREMIER DRURY ORDERS ALL MEN ON FARMS TO THROW DOWN THEIR AXES, SHOVELS AND PITCH-FORKS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE."

"For the land's sake," says I to myself, "what's comin' noo? Are we goin' tae be in the fashion after a'?" Let's see what the demands o' the Farmer's Union are, anyway". And I went on to read what was printed in the double column underneath. This is the way it went: "The reasons for the calling of this unprecedented strike of the farmers are as follows: First. It is well known that the agricultural classes have, as a rule, leisure for but three things, which are eating, sleeping and doing the days' work. Therefore we demand that a maximum of fourteen hours be considered a day's labor on the farm in future. We do not ask for a six-day week but we suggest that Sunday labor be reduced to a point where it will be possible for the farmer to have the greater part of the evening for such recreation as he sees fit.

Second. We demand that our hired help be furnished us by the over-crowded cities and that we shall not be charged more than one-half the regular yearly income from our farms for the payment of said hired help. Equal Rights being one of the planks of our platform we ask to be raised to the financial level of our hired help in the future.

Third. We demand, for appearance sake, a small profit on the farm produce we have for sale. It has been pointed out by agricultural college professors and others, recently, that it costs the farmer from fifty cents to a dollar more for every hundred pounds of milk he sells than he gets for it. Also hog-raising is now looked on as rather more of a pleasurable pastime than a money-making industry. Hens are kept from force of habit. It is said that at one time the value of the eggs they produced equalled the cost of the feed they consumed, but this is doubtful.

Therefore, as a means to putting these several industries on a paying basis we shall, for the present, cease production. No more grain shall be grown, no more live-stock shall be raised than will just supply our own needs. In doing this we are only following the precedent set by all other laborers throughout the world. The fact that their action may mean starvation for many people is not considered by strikers. Wrong must be righted even if humanity suffer in the process. Desperate diseases require desperate remedies. Therefore we call a halt to all production on the farms of this country from this day and date. Signed:—The Farmer's Union.

"Here, here," I yelled oot at this point. "Hurrah for the farmers. They've waukened up at last." "And so ye hae yersel', Sandy," says Jean. "It was aboot time. Ye seem to hae been havin' a pretty exciting dream." "Weel, weel," says I, rubbin' my eyes. "Is that the way it's gaein' to end, after a'?" I thocht the millenium had come, sure enough, but I guess it's still on the way. Oh weel, it was a bonnie dream, anyway."

"It aboot something that happened in the guid auld days afore ye were married, I suppose?" inquired Jean. "Na, na," I replied, I thought the farmers were gaein' on strike and that I'd get a chance to lay off for a few weeks, or so."

"Do ye know," said Jean, "That's what I believe is at the bottom o' mair strikes than any ither one thing." "What?" says I. "Juist that inclination to 'lay off', as ye call it," she returned. "Ever since the day man was condemned to earning his bread 'by the sweat of

his brow' he has been tryin' to dodge workin' oot the sentence. Women are no' that way, now. When did ye ever hear o' the women gaein' on strike. Tell me that?" "They're too muckle afeared o' losin' their jobs. I guess that's why they dinna strike," I replied. "Gin you lost yer job, Jean, where wad ye look for anither?" says I.

"Ye'd better gang tae yer bed, Sandy", returned Jean. "Ye'll be feelin' better in the mornin'. I ken ye're badly disappointed aboot that farmers' strike bein' called off, a'richt."

Nature's Diary.

A. B. KLUGH M. A.

For some time we have heard various suggestions as to how aeroplanes could be employed in different commercial enterprises. One of these suggestions which appeared to be quite feasible, and which aroused much interest among those who are alive to the necessity of conserving our forests, was the use of aeroplanes in locating forest fires. This matter has now passed from a possibility to an actuality and the aeroplane is demonstrating its value in forest patrol work.

A report from Victoria, B. C. says that for the first time in the history of the Province an aeroplane has been successful in detecting a forest fire and reporting the location to the fire-ranger. While the aeroplane Pathfinder No. 2 was flying over Duncan, Pilot Brown caught sight of a large amount of smoke issuing from a densely wooded country. He immediately proceeded to the spot, and on circling overhead ascertained the extent of the blaze and the exact location. On returning to Duncan he reported the matter to the fire-ranger who took steps to check and extinguish the fire.

An aeroplane forest patrol has been established in Oregon. In July so many outbreaks of fire occurred that the War Department was induced to assign army planes and flyers to forest patrol work, and eight Curtiss planes were sent to Salem, Medford and Roseburg. Two planes left Salem each morning, one operating over the timbered area east and west of the Southern Pacific tracks as far north as Portland, and the other as far south as Eugene. A similar service was maintained out of Roseburg, one of the planes covering the territory as far south as Medford and the other as far north as Eugene.

The St Maurice Forest Protective Association in Quebec experimented with two seaplanes, loaned by the Department of Naval Services, during the past summer and found that they were of the very greatest practical value.

A futher, and very valuable, aid in forest protection is the use of wireless in combination with aeroplane patrols, and is now being tried out in California. In the past great difficulty has been experienced in maintaining communication in the forest, because of the interruption of the service caused by falling timber, especially in the stormy season, while snowsides have been another source of destruction to the wires. The use of wireless of course, obviates all these difficulties. For the purpose of the present experiment the U. S. Signal Corps has lent the U. S. Forest Service four combination sets of transmitting and receiving apparatus. One set of the equipment is installed on Mount Hood, at an elevation of about 13,000 feet and another at the nearest forest ranger station. Two other sets are to be installed in the Clearwater Forest in Idaho.

The use of aeroplanes and of wireless means a very heavy expenditure, but whatever may be the cost of maintenance it can never mount to the enormous total of the annual loss due to forest fires.

The use of the aeroplane for mapping forest areas has been suggested, and now we have a report of the discovery of a pulpwood area by planes. Last summer an American expedition from Boston, with three planes, cruised over the country about Battle Harbour, Labrador. They explored two million acres of timber land, and photographs taken from the air showed the different bodies of timber and the streams available for transporting the pulpwood logs.

Another commercial use of the aeroplane is in connection with the fisheries. Actual tests on the Atlantic coast of the United States show that flying at a height of five hundred feet an aviator can see a school of fish anywhere within a radius of half a mile. The U. S. Naval Department is co-operating with the Department of Commerce and it is proposed to use the seaplanes for locating schools of fish and thus furnish fishermen with information as to their whereabouts.

One of the latest developments is the aeroplane on the farm. It has made its debut in this connection on the 100,000 acre wheat ranch owned by J. Pierpont Morgan at Hartin, Montana, where it is used to transport the manager from one part of the ranch to another, the machine being operated by a former U. S. Army aviator. The aeroplane is equipped with wireless, so that even while in transit the manager can keep in touch with ranch headquarters.

This, the last issue of the year, contains an index to all the numbers that have been published during the last six months. Preserve this number and you will be able, in a moment's time, to turn to anything published in "The Farmer's Advocate" since July 1 of this year. If you have not been saving your "Advocates," start with the first number in January of 1920. At the end of every six months an index appears, and the twenty-six numbers constitute a volume. "The Farmer's Advocate" should form the nucleus of every agricultural library. Start now to preserve the numbers as they appear.

As the a little or no feeding and importance. conditions, such high winter time not rec a degree. a little extr will fit ther form. Idle satisfaction in cases wh that toward even thoug are, when a fair day's w winter will functions of hence, the without too strength.

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