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times the price of

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in 1917 it was 38
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"high" for Ohio
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Without going any further into the question, I would like to impress upon you the importance of registration. If the Ontario Legislature would pass an Act requiring every veterinarian to register before legally practicing, the official Registrar would very soon weed out any individuals who had been deceived in their teaching by a correspondence school. Apart from every other consideration, the Veterinary Profession is entitled as a profession to such legislation. All the other professions are recognized in this way and have been for very many years. It is therefore difficult to understand why the same consideration has not been afforded the veterinary profession in Ontario.

In conclusion, I have to say that the Central Canada Veterinary Association will be only too pleased to give any further information or particulars at its disposal to serve the cause of the profession as outlined in this letter and no less that of the live stock industry.

A. B. WICKWARE.

Secretary - Treasurer of the Central Canada Veterinary Association.

Improve the Quality.

At the present time unprecedented prices are being received at auction and private sales for high-quality pedigree animals to strengthen herds already established, or to be used as foundation stock. Stockmen who in the past paid little attention to the breeding of their herds and flocks are now commencing to grade up by use of pedigreed sires, and to lay the foundations of registered herds by purchasing pedigreed females. This, we believe, is a step in the right direction. For too many years the average farmer has practically drifted along so far as his live stock was concerned, and after a score or more years of work his herds and flocks are of little if any higher quality than they were when he started. If, during this time sires of one breed and of the recognized type and conformation had been used, and the females selected, the individuals in the present herd would have compared favorably in conformation with pedigreed stock and would have been worth considerably more than the individuals resulting from haphazard breeding decade after decade. This applies to sheep and hog raisers as well as to cattle breeders. On the ordinary farm there has been too much mixed breeding carried on and not enough study made of matings for best results. While there is a good demand at high prices for all classes of stock at the present time, it may not always be thus. We do not anticipate a serious break in prices in the near future, but, as in the past, the medium stuff will be the first to suffer and consequently every stockman should have a goal in view and endeavor to bring his herd up to a certain ideal, and that ideal should be set high.

There are pessimists who contend that as the present prices are due to abnormal times, sooner or later they will drop to where they were a few years ago. Granting that they may be correct in their supposition, the man with well-bred stock will still come out on top. However, the present abnormal times are seriously depleting the herds the world over. If reports are correct there is little live stock of any kind left in some sections of the continent and the demand for meat to supply the armies will no doubt cause beef exporting countries to draw upon their breeding stock to supply that demand. When the war is over, and may that time soon come, breeding stock will be required to restock the depleted areas in Europe and there is reason to believe that this country will be called upon to supply part at least of that demand. Will we be prepared? Cattle will be required for the production of beef and milk. Hogs and sheep will be needed in large numbers to supply meat and the latter to furnish wool for clothing. In an agricultural country like Canada, the live-stock population might well be greater than it is and the quality on the whole higher. The stock farmer is the bulwark of the country. Live stock not only brings in a revenue year after year but aids in building up our farms so that bigger and better crops may be grown with each succeeding year. The heifers of right quality might advisedly be saved for breeding purposes rather than sent to the block. The lambs of good type and conformation should also be saved as our flocks are not of sufficient size to meet the countries' demand for wool and meat. Let every stockman endeavor to improve his herds and flocks. Good stock will no doubt be in demand for years to come.

THE FARM.

From the Window of a Railway Coach.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

During early August days the rising hundred miles northward from Toronto brought to view a sweep of harvest fields seldom surpassed, if indeed equalled in this section of Canada. With binders going in all directions beyond the eye's reach, the progress of the season recalled lines by gifted Robert Elliott in an old file of "The Farmer's Advocate":

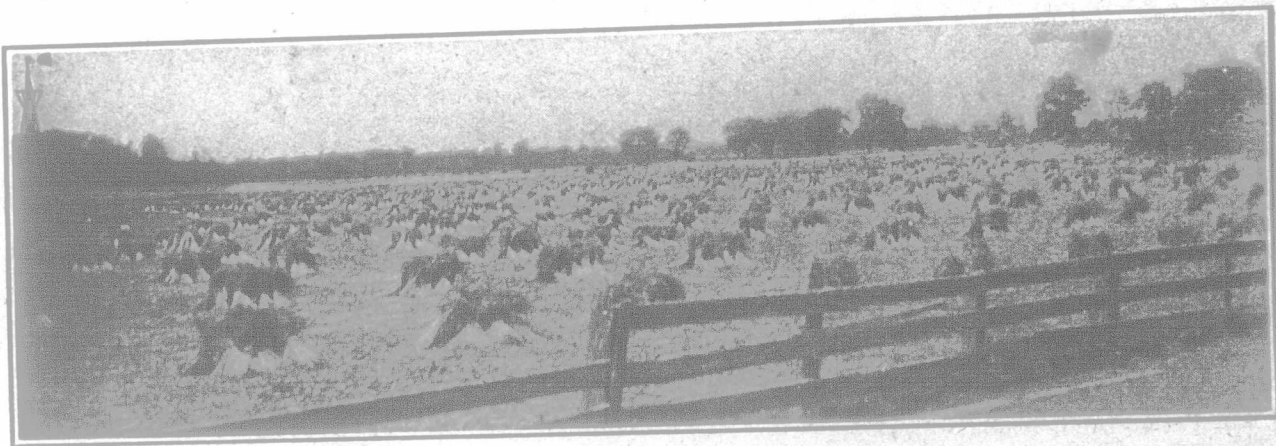
"The white field,
The green field,
The field all yellow gold."

Golden in more ways than one, these spring grain crops standing straight, clean and ripe, surpassing those of a year ago in acreage and excellence, vouch for the splendid though quiet effort of farmers in production. The vegetable production of sensible urban citizens deserves cordial commendation, and its tangible ad-

vantage to home and health ought to ensure perpetuity after war issues are settled. It is, perhaps, as near back to the land as most town folks will ever get, while the lure of four dollars a day rules, and a two million dollar government housing project is speeded up to shelter crowds in the industrial centres. All the while farms enlarge their boundaries, houses once occupied remain empty, and farmers for the most part work out their own salvation. The big oat harvest should keep the cereal mills a-humming during the coming autumn and winter. Taking the area mentioned as a sample, it was superb and earlier ripe than in 1917. Barley was correspondingly good, auguring full feed bins. A few very fine fields of peas were observed, most of the wheat at the time being harvested, and further north, buckwheat made a promising show for pancakes and honey. Many excellent stretches of roots and corn were noticed, though the latter would appear rather limited to Western Ontario eyes familiar with the aspect of dairy farms in Oxford and Middlesex.

Some Ontario Flax Fields.

Flax, which used to be fairly well known to the early settlers of this country and for many years a prominent-fibre crop in parts of Ontario, is coming into its own again this season. Acres upon acres have been planted to flax that the allied supremacy in the air may not wane, for the flax fibre is a necessary commodity now in connection with the manufacture of aeroplanes. Here and there throughout Western



A Flax Field in Middlesex County.

Ontario may be seen fields of this fibre crop, but perhaps the largest areas are located in Middlesex, Huron, Lambton and Perth Counties. In the vicinity of Seaforth, Huron County, a representative of this paper recently had the opportunity of looking over a 40-acre field of flax where the pullers were busy at their harvesting task. The mill in that neighborhood had over 600 acres under control, so we learned, and the crop was good. All the way north through Huron and Bruce Counties flax fields were seen in surprising numbers and even far north in the Bruce Peninsula, remote from any mill, was observed a small field as a "war crop". Throughout a period prior to the war when flax mills were closing down all over Ontario, the industry still struggled on in Lambton County. This was due to the foresight of a few flaxmen located there and the up-to-date machinery and modern methods which one man, particularly, used in connection with his fibre business. It is not astonishing, therefore, to find in this section of the province a healthy enthusiasm and prosperous business in 1918. The raw material for a good many aeroplanes will come out of Lambton County this fall.

A Public Venture.

Impressed by the call for flax fibre and having in mind the vacant land in the neighborhood of Toronto the Ontario Department of Agriculture undertook the responsibility of producing 125 acres of this crop. This duty was assumed by C. F. Bailey, Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture, who located the land at Willowdale, just north of the City, where he reclaimed for agricultural purposes, the required area of real estate

holdings. A three-year lease was obtained and work was begun. About 90 acres were sown for fibre purposes and the balance of the 125 acres was intended for flaxseed. A good crop was produced and when visited sometime ago the pullers were busy with the harvest. Up to the present no mechanical puller has been perfected but on that occasion one was doing fairly good work in the field visited and with slight readjustments it should be made to perform the task in a manner comparable to that of untrained pullers at least. The difficulty seems to be to get the tops and butts even which must be accomplished in order that subsequent handling of the sheaves may be facilitated.

Mr. Bailey expected the fibre crop to yield about 1½ tons of straw per acre from which should be taken in the vicinity of 250 pounds fibre. This is worth 70 cents per pound at the mill. There should also be around 7½ bushels of seed per acre from the flax grown for fibre, giving a double revenue. As there is no mill near the Willowdale project, the crop will have to be baled and shipped, probably to Ottawa, where the Dominion Government have the required equipment at the Central Experimental Farm. From all appearances this venture will prove remunerative besides yielding a very considerable quantity of fibre, which was the primary object. Of course the expenses will be heavier than where flax is grown for a nearby mill. The plan now is to prepare the 125 acres for fall wheat and seed down. Thus the Government should obtain a crop of flax, a crop of wheat and one cutting of clover before the lease expires. Furthermore the land will be left in sod, which was stipulated in the agreement.

Mosaic Disease of Cucumbers.

Ontario gardeners are not thoroughly acquainted with the mosaic disease of cucumbers, since it is only of late that it has begun to appear frequently. There appear to be three types of mosaic, of which only one, called the "White Pickle Mosaic," is very damaging. This disease considerably dwarfs the plant and causes the fruit to grow very misshapen. This distortion is due to irregular growth, caused by the sickly condition of certain areas on the fruit which assume a light yellow or nearly white color, while the remaining part of the fruit grows normal. The other two types are known as the "mottled leaf" and the "speckled leaf" mosaic, but do not affect the fruit itself so disastrously.

Like other mosaic diseases, these cucumber troubles appear to be transmitted from one plant to another, although so far as is known they are not due to any fungus or bacterial organism. If the juice of a diseased plant is injected into a healthy plant the disease will be produced, and this same effect is brought about under field conditions, according to the theory which accounts for the spread of these diseases, by means of sucking insects. Insects will also carry the disease from cucumbers growing wild to those under cultivation in the garden, but it is not thought to be carried to any considerable extent in the seed. Because the life history of the disease is not known, no artificial remedies can be suggested. It is, therefore, advisable to remove any affected plants as they are noticed and be careful to burn all dead vines in the fall.



A Group of Flax Pullers Ready for Work.