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# The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

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No. 1148

## EDITORIAL.

It is "cattle" year at the big fairs.

Plow up the old worn-out pasture field.

Soil mining, like sea mining, is disastrous.

Poverty and hunger stalk in the wake of war.

Good stock may be made a veritable gold mine.

Plow the back field just as well as the front one.

It's a long way to Tipperary, and it is also a long way to Paris.

After the war fever will come the inevitable relapse. Be prepared.

Put up a good fight, and profit alike from your losses and successes.

If grading of cream leads to better butter, why is it that Ontario does not grade her cream?

What balm have the war lords and armament makers to apply to the ravaged homes of Europe and the world?

Cold rains will decrease milk flow. Cows are much better stabled nights when the weather grows raw and chilly.

Canada must help feed her friends in need as well as the Motherland. Hay is being shipped from Montreal to France.

It is more than likely that a great business war will grow out of the present armed conflict, and the people must be watchful.

The long domination and education of Kaiserism took no thought for the rights and happiness of the people now ruthlessly trampled under iron feet.

Canada is patriotic, and those left behind by her soldiers at the front will be well provided for. Those who cannot go to fight are good givers.

Our young people should be taught to do things. If we know how to make things it will be little trouble to establish manufacturing concerns.

Hon. W. J. Bryan, United States' Secretary of State, at a recent patriotic centennial celebration in Baltimore, described the convulsion through which Europe is passing as the death throes of militarism.

Good exhibits seen by smaller crowds and seen well may prove more valuable as an educator than the same exhibits seen hurriedly and to poor advantage by over-large crowds.

In seeding down too many sows altogether too little seed to get a good catch. In saving seed keep enough to make a good seeding, and in sowing timothy this fall sow it thick.

Let the fall fairs and exhibitions go on. They inspire confidence and do a great deal to disperse the feeling of pessimism, which, if encouraged, would do serious damage to finance and business in Canada.

## All Grain or Some Stock.

There has been a great deal written and much loud shouting during the past few weeks about Canada's opportunities and many of the writers and speakers, in fact most of them, have emphasized wheat and wheat only. Coming just at a time when there had been a great agitation for less wheat and more mixed farming with live stock this sudden change only serves to show how quickly a crisis can change the minds of the people who try to do the farmer's thinking for him. Experience has proven that live stock farming is the surest way to increase and maintain an increased production. The producer knows this and yet with all the argument being thrown at him and thrust upon him that to be loyal he must grow more wheat and increase production he is in reality sowing more wheat and some of it we are sorry to say is going in on land not well prepared and not fitted for wheat production. The result on such land cannot but be disappointing. Is this increasing production?

Financiers may be able to sow a crop of coin and reap an hundred fold, but very often their agricultural farming has been too much neglected to warrant farmers taking them advice all the time. These men might do better as advisers for money lenders and stock investors than for farmers who depend upon their farms for their incomes. Grain farming has been proven to be soil mining, yes soil robbing, and yet our farmers are told to do more grain farming. True they may grow more grain in many sections but if they do they must feed more or the farm will be the poorer of the practice. We must not lose sight of the fact that there are other grains besides wheat which are used for food and we must not forget that there are other foods required in our Empire besides grain and all our farmers should look ahead a little. They plan to be farming after the war is over. What will be their chances if they overdo grain farming now? Who will reimburse them then? Who will feed the Empire then? Do we gain as a country in an Empire and does our Empire benefit by an increased acreage of poor crops or by a good acreage of big crops supported by live stock?

## What Ails Ontario Butter?

Ontario dairymen should be deeply concerned in the results of the butter exhibit at the Canadian National Exhibition both last year and again this season when Quebec and the Western Provinces swept the boards. It is nothing new for Quebec to lead in butter, but there must be something wrong when Ontario cannot get a single prize in the creamery classes. Where is the trouble? Are our farm dairymen behind the times, or are our factorymen lax, or our factories not well enough equipped? One prominent dairyman well-known to all interested in the business lays the whole blame for Ontario's poor showing on the fact that her factories do not properly grade their cream. Out West cream is graded carefully. Down in Quebec the same practice is followed. Invariably such a practice raises the standard of the cream delivered at the factory. Why is the lesson not brought home to Ontario producers and makers? There must be more careful handling of milk and cream if the best butter is to result. To get this needed care impressed upon all concerned with the business it is only necessary to systematically and efficiently grade the cream. An early beginning should be made to save the situation.

## Victims of War.

"Backs broken in two, arms twisted wholly off, men impaled upon bayonets, legs smashed up like bits of fire wood, heads sliced open like apples, others crushed into soft jelly by the iron hoofs of horses, faces tramped out of all likeness to anything human." This, says Charles Dickens, is what sulks behind "a splendid charge." A New York Tribune correspondent lately crossing the battlefield of Diest saw twelve hundred Germans raked into a single trench, and all over the field other graves, some of Germans, others of Belgians and some of horses. The peasants were sick of the two days hideous burial, covering the corpses with their mattocks. On the beautiful little Belgian farms the grain was ripe, but little of it would be harvested, and dark paths across the turnip fields were sodden with the blood of men and horses. Derelict helmets and lances covered the fields, and on the village outskirts houses were burned to the ground, and in a shed a peasant was weeping over the dead bodies of his cows. Every farm and every village has its tragedy, and far away those twelve hundred men in the trench had left pallid and broken-hearted wives, mothers and sweethearts. High over all a murderous biplane came and went hovering like some evil carrion bird seeking out more victims for death.

In a realistic book called "The Struggle for Scutari," Miss Edith Durham, who has spent much of her life in Albania where she was known as "Queen of the mountain men," unfolds much of the true inwardness of the late Balkan war, brought about by fraud, brutality, treachery and jealousy among the powers concerned leaving the land a seat of hopeless misery. "I beg all readers never to forget," she writes, "there is but one thing more terrible than war, and that is the time that follows immediately afterward; it is then that the war's innocent victims—those who have escaped sudden and merciful death by shot and shell—crawl back to the blackened ruins of their homes to face a slow and cruel death from cold and starvation."

Women crouched in hovels made of a few sticks leaned against the ruined walls of their house, and cooked leaves and grass for children. Many were half naked. \* \* \* Women with starving children would ask: "Why did the Great Kings (Great Powers) let the soldiers come and rob us and kill us? We were doing no harm. And they took our goats, and our sheep—everything, everything. And when my husband tried to save the sheep, they shot him. Our house is burnt. We are starving on the high road."

It is said that Napoleon on the return from the tragedy of the Moscow campaign, one of the most dreadful in all history, sent the cheering but brazen despatch to the nation at home that "the Emperor was never in better health." What think the Kaisers, the heads of the militarist and the armament makers who have for years been fattening on the heart and blood of humanity, of the hideous fruitage of the conflict they have precipitated? National glory and dividends! History should indict them as the best sense of the world does to-day, the enemies of mankind, and brand them with the infamy of Cain. Because they are eternal and inimitable Truth, mercy and justice will survive the cataclysm of Europe, but who could gloat over the wholesale butcheries, and dark ruin, desolated