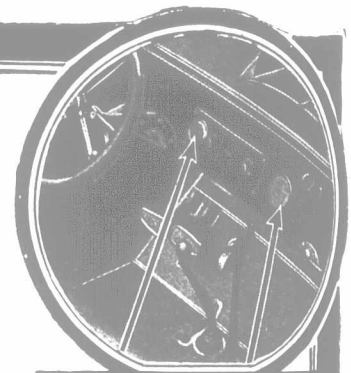


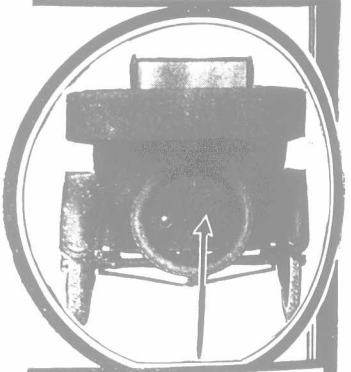
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Vol. L.

LONDON, ONTARIO, OCTOBER 7, 1915.

No. 1202

EDITORIAL.

Breed more sheep.

When the silage settles, fill up the silo again.

Canada is Thankful. Her people are doing their bit.

Cleanliness leads to healthfulness in animals as well as in the human race.

Remember once again, the farmer feeds them all, and give him credit for doing his bit.

Do not let the mangels get frosted before harvesting. Frosted mangels do not keep well.

Rough feed will be the solution of the feeder's problem again this winter. Take good care of it.

School Fairs are rivalling in importance the larger institutions. Encourage the boys and girls.

Plowing has been delayed by wet weather. The man who finishes his work this fall will hustle.

Cobwebs do not make very satisfactory covering for stable windows. The trouble is they are too good as shades.

It is time to put the stables in order for the stock. Bad fall weather is hard on the dairy cows as well as all classes of stock too much exposed.

Conditions have changed re treatment for hog cholera in Canada. Do not destroy last week's issue containing the history of hog cholera in Canada.

The Kaiser's train to Paris is losing time rapidly. Due in August, 1914, it will soon require re-making up after its delayed and perilous passage.

The Kaiser's legions are not likely to winter in the same trenches on the western front that they did last winter. There is "push" in the West yet.

The average of tall wheat seems much smaller this year than was the case last fall. There is room for a big effort to increase the spring crops and make up for the falling off.

Labor trouble, fire, tariff changes, war, sheep laws, strike changes, and expiring patents are given by an American writer as the risks of the business man. Who is affected by the first one, at least more than the farmer? He is a business man when it comes to risks which he must take.

The British Navy in this war has done the greatest work of any navy or army in the world's history. It has saved the world from the heel of militarism, saved its helpless women and children from the Prussians. The man who would starve the British Navy, he he of any naval or army man, should hide his head in shame.

Sanitation to Prevent Disease.

The greatest single factor working toward a healthy condition of all live stock in Canada is care and cleanliness on the part of the owners of the stock in all their workings with that stock. If a case of infectious disease is discovered, isolation and disinfection should be practiced at once. But it is in the general care of the stock that disease gains its foothold, often practically unobserved. It is well known that where cows suffer from tuberculosis, and pigs run with them, feeding partially from the undigested grain in the former's solid excrement, the pigs are likely to contract the disease. Pigs fed on tubercular-infected, unpasteurized milk or whey are also exposed to infection. We were shown some rather convincing figures in the office of the Veterinary Director General, Dr. F. Torrance, a few days ago relating to this very thing. The corn belt of Canada, Essex and Kent, produces hogs in large numbers, and in some parts of these counties the conditions are much as they are in the corn belt in the country to the south. The climate is such that the pigs do not always get the best of housing. Methods of feeding keep the pigs very closely associated with the cattle, and these are not always as carefully stabled and cared for as in sections where the climate is more severe and better stabling and greater care absolutely necessary. The amount of care given stock is largely influenced by the necessities of climate and feeding conditions.

Let us look at some figures re bovine tuberculosis in hogs as compiled by the Health of Animals Branch from inspections made in the large slaughter houses and packing plants. In 1913, 26.72 per cent. of all hogs from Essex Co., Ontario, killed at large plants were found infected with tuberculosis. The four year average for that county was 21.35 per cent. In 1913, 39.27 per cent. of all hogs from Kent Co., Ontario, showed lesions of tuberculosis, with a four year average of over 26 per cent. Compare these figures with those of Ontario Co., Ontario. In 1913, only 12.25 per cent. of the hog carcasses from that county showed lesions of tuberculosis, while the four year average was only 11.22 per cent. Another central county, in 1913, sent 17.17 per cent. of tubercular carcasses, and had a four year average of 16.09 per cent.

We are not making out a case for any one county over another. They all have too much bovine tuberculosis carried to their swine. Other counties might be given, some high, some comparatively low, but the fact remains that Essex and Kent show the highest percentage, and Ontario about the lowest percentage of cases of bovine tubercular infection in hogs. Of course many of the carcasses were not seriously infected and the greater part of them were used for human food, the parts showing lesions being destroyed. Most of these pigs were killed young. Suppose they had all lived for several years, what then would have been conditions? Imagine nearly one third of all hogs from a certain county being tubercular.

We give these figures to once again impress upon readers the absolute necessity for better sanitation in the stables and in the management of live stock. The best way to prevent disease is by cleanliness and care.

Encouraging the Young Farmer.

If the agriculture of the future is to far out-distance the agriculture of the present or the past, the young farmer must be interested and encouraged. In fact if agriculture is not to go backward instead of forward the young men of the farm must be induced to take hold of and push their calling. While at a County Fair, recently held at Strathroy, in Middlesex Co., Ontario, we noticed a new departure in exhibits. The Fair Board had placed on their prize list no less than \$30 to be divided into prizes for a special Township exhibit and the judging of live stock by the boys. Twenty dollars of the money went as prizes for the exhibit of the products of the Township. It is this which we desire to commend. For the first year, the exhibits were certainly a credit to the young men who arranged them. But it is not the exhibits themselves that we wish to comment upon, but the good they did. A wholesome rivalry has sprung up between the young men from the various Townships interested and they are vying with one another in greater efforts toward better agriculture. The judging competition showed the same interest which leads to success. Money set aside for competitions in agriculture to be entered by the young men is certainly well spent, and any Fair Board which makes this a feature of its prize list and exhibit is sure to do good. Get the young men interested and they will surprise us all.

Where the Farmer's Living Comes From.

The profits which reward the efforts of the average farmer and his family are not large, yet there are factors in rural life which will, to some extent, counterbalance this ostensible lack of remuneration. The proprietor of an urban business must add enough to the cost price of his goods that the profits may furnish a living for himself and those dependent on him. His food, fuel, rent, and all necessities of life require a cash outlay and under circumstances most unfavorable, for he is at the remote end of the chain that links the producer with the consumer. The farmer, so far as food is concerned, is at the base of supply, for he is the producer and consequently suffers least through the medium of distribution. The entire consumption of the rural household is not home production by any means, yet a large part of it is and more of it could be without making the culinary branch of the home less appreciated.

The one great disadvantage suffered by the actual producer of food is that he cannot set the selling price to the consumer or stipulate what he himself is to receive. All he can do when prices fall below the cost of production is to cease producing that particular article and attempt some other crop, while if the entire output from the farm does not leave a balance over living expenses and costs then a struggle ensues, for he cannot add to the selling price of his commodity in order to hit him out of the mire. However, when a farmer begins operation with a fairly large equity in his business he is able to prosper if climatic conditions are not constantly unfavorable and he adheres to the principle of modern farming. Agriculture is not a "get rich quick" occupation and never was, but it is a very safe and desirable business at the present time, owing to the fact that the annual income is not