

WHAT CO-OPERATION CAN DO FOR AGRICULTURAL CLASSES

Co-operation has proved a magnificent help to the working classes wherever it has been tried. How has this been done? There is no person, be he ever so poor, who does not spend some amount of money each week on the purchase of food, clothing, fuel and, it may be, some little luxuries. By combining with others to buy the same goods in large quantities the middleman is got rid of, and in this case the money that would go to him (which may be well earned) becomes profit to the co-operators.

Now for the farmer. Co-operation will benefit those engaged in agriculture by their buying essentials such as seed, feed stuffs, implements, machinery or whatever else it be—the saving will be great without danger of fraud or overcharge. Likewise by carrying co-operation further they may dispose of their farm produce, their poultry, their eggs, their milk, with greater certainty, with less trouble and for more money. A co-operative dairy turns the milk produced on the farm to far better account than a single producer can do. A co-operative egg society is a customer far more to be depended upon.

People engaged in agriculture by combining also place themselves in a position to buy implements and machinery, the purchase of which their own modest means and small opportunities may not warrant. Buy them collectively, they may use them separately in turn and so obtain all the benefit. Take for example a community of farmers who have small herds of cattle and who require and desire the services of pure bred sires. By combining and purchasing the best pure bred sires that can be had the individual expense would be small while the advantages would be realized by each.

In very many cases such combination is absolutely easy. In many cases, indeed, scattered population and small wants may place a difficulty in the way. However, that difficulty may generally be got over without much trouble.

Whoever has once turned to co-operation has never turned away from it. The known number of co-operators in Scotland is 2,332,754. They have £30,275,808 laid up in shares. Their annual dealings amount to £97,933,757; their annual profits to £10,979,995, and all this began with twenty-eight weavers combining some sixty years ago with just £28 among them, which they were required to pay up gradually.

We may, if we only will, do the same thing in this country. Our opportunities are greater; we have a good climate, fertile soil, and it only remains for us to establish the markets.

Therefore, Canadian agriculturalists, co-operate! Co-operate! Co-operate!! Co-operate both in house and farm. Co-operate to do justice to your holdings!

THE FEDORENKO CASE

"When a deed is done for Freedom, through the broad earth's aching breast, Runs a thrill of joy prophetic, trembling on from east to west, And the slave, where'er he cowers, feels the soul within him climb To the awful verge of manhood, as the energy sublime Of a century bursts full-blossomed on the thorny stem of Time." —James Russell Lowell.

Freedom of speech, freedom of the press and freedom for one and all to spread their doctrines broadcast, have so long been part and parcel of every English-speaking dominion, that we are very liable to lose sight of the fact that not every government extends these blessings to the people. But the knowledge that citizens of Russia enjoy no such liberties has been brought home to Canadians in an exceedingly forceful manner by the recent attempt of the iron hand of the Czar to reach forth and drag to imprisonment and death the revolutionist, Saava Fedorenko.

It is probable that never before did the defense of one man so stir the length and breadth of the North American continent. A poor wanderer, fleeing from an unjust doom, Fedorenko was arrested in Winnipeg last August. At that time he was little known, the news in a daily paper that a Russian

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THE GUIDE IS DESIGNED TO GIVE UNCOLORED NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF THOUGHT AND ACTION and honest opinions thereon, with the object of aiding our people to form correct views upon economic, social and moral questions, so that the growth of society may continually be in the direction of more equitable, kinder and wiser relations between its members, resulting in the widest possible increase and diffusion of material prosperity, intellectual development, right living, health and happiness.

THE GUIDE IS THE ONLY PAPER IN CANADA THAT IS ABSOLUTELY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY FARMERS. It is entirely independent, and not one dollar of political, capitalistic or special interest money is invested in it. All opinions expressed in The Guide are with the aim to make Canada a better country and to bring forward the day when "Equal Rights to All and Special Privileges to None" shall prevail.

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murderer had been arrested at the instigation of the Russian authorities being the first intimation that even the Russian Freedom League had that a fellow-countryman was in trouble. H. Saltzman, head of the Winnipeg branch of the League, immediately became suspicious that the prisoner was wanted on political and not on criminal grounds. Well did Mr. Saltzman know that the Russian government would make no great effort to apprehend a murderer, but that no effort, no expense would be too great to run a political offender to earth, carry him back to the land of the Great Bear, stand him against a stone wall, apply unpeepable tortures to make him divulge the names of other workers for freedom, and have a squad of soldiers send the revolutionist's soul to its Maker.

An investigation into the case confirmed Mr. Saltzman's suspicions. Fedorenko had been a leader in the Russian Freedom movement. No risk had been too great for him to take in the cause. One of the small districts in Russia had been especially active in revolutionary activity, and had been placed under what virtually amounted to martial law. Into this district went Fedorenko and some of his compatriots to spread the doctrine that will some day turn the Russian oligarchy out of power and place the reins of government in the hands of the people. While engaged in this work the little party was surprised by a party of police. Well they knew what would happen to them if they allowed themselves to be captured. Death with torture would be their lot. They resolved not to be taken alive, and in the resulting fight a policeman was killed and the revolutionists made their escape into Austria. From there Fedorenko made his way to Argentina, the haven of refugees. After a short sojourn in that country he went to London, England, but finding that the millions of Russia were hot on his trail, he took ship for New York. Even here he did not feel safe, and again sailed to Argentina. Then he came to Winnipeg and resolved to settle down and make his fight for freedom in this city. The fight was not long in coming, for in a few weeks after his arrival he was arrested on the murder charge, and the request for his extradition to Russia followed.

The murder charge was based on the death of the policeman. According to British law so man can be extradited on a political charge. Fedorenko's friends thought that he could gain his freedom on this account and immediately started to collect funds for the fight. Meetings were held, not only in Winnipeg, but in all of Canada and a great part of the United States. At each a collection in aid of the confined revolutionist was made. Money poured into the fund. A prominent Winnipeg attorney volunteered his services. Seldom has public opinion been aroused as it was in this case. Organizations of every kind poured resolutions into the court demanding the release of the prisoner. The Russian authorities engaged the best of legal talent. After a long fight the court released Fedorenko, but he was rearrested on another charge before he left the room and was sent back to his cell. This time his confinement was of short duration and after a few days he was again set at liberty, which he has enjoyed since. There are rumors that the Russian government will make further efforts at extradition, but as yet none have materialized, nor is it likely that, in the face of the pronounced public sentiment, any such efforts would be successful.

MUCH FOR CONSERVATION

Ottawa, Jan. 4.—It is understood that the conservation commission will ask parliament this session to vote a large sum to carry on the work of the conservation of the forest resources of the Dominion. It is proposed that the grant, if it is made, should be extended over ten years, and that it should be expended in reforestation and fire protection. A recommendation along these lines will be adopted at the forestry convention when it meets in Quebec this month.

James Stewart, one of the oldest residents of Western Canada, died at Prince Albert aged 85 years. He entered the Hudson's Bay store at Fort Garry in 1855.

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