

FARM AND DAIRY

AND RURAL HOME

Published by the Rural Publishing Company, Limited.



1. **FARM AND DAIRY** is published every Thursday. It is the official organ of the British Columbia, Eastern and Western Ontario, and Bedford District, Quebec, and the American and Canadian Canadian Home-Cattle Breeders' Association.

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6. **WE INVITE FARMERS** to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive their articles.

CIRCULATION STATEMENT

The paid subscriptions to Farm and Dairy exceed 11,000 in the circulation of each issue. Including copies of the paper sent subscribers who are but slightly in arrears, and sample copies, we have from 11,500 to 12,000 copies. No subscriptions are accepted at less than the full subscription rate.

Sworn detailed statements of the circulation of the paper, showing its distribution by counties and provinces, will be mailed free on request.

OUR GUARANTEE

We guarantee that every advertiser in this issue is reliable. We are able to do this because the editorial columns of Farm and Dairy are carefully edited as the reading columns, and because to our readers we are known as unscrupulous advertisers. Should any advertiser herein deal dishonestly with you as one of our readers, we will refund subscribers, we will make good the amount of your loss, provided the transaction occurs within one month from date of this issue that it is reported to us within a week of its occurrence, and that we find the facts to be as stated. It is a condition of this contract that in writing to advertisers you must state "I saw your advertisement in Farm and Dairy."

Refuses shall not be only the trade at the expense of our subscribers, who are our friends through the medium of these columns; but we shall not attempt to adjust trifling disputes between subscribers and honorable business men who advertise, nor pay the debts of honest bankrupts.

FARM AND DAIRY

PETERBORO, ONT.

THE DEMOCRATIC TRAFFIC

Canadian farmers will benefit in many ways from the Democratic tariff bill should the Democratic party succeed in carrying it through the House and Senate without important change from the basis announced last week. The bill will inevitably meet with vigorous resistance from the interests affected, including those of many United States farmers, who fear Canadian competition, but its ultimate adoption is probable. It will not accomplish as much for Canada as the Reciprocity measure would have done, as under that measure practically all foodstuffs imported by the United States from Canada in the condition in which they left the farmer's hands were made duty free, while heavy duties were retained against similar products from the Argentine and other agricultural countries. This would have given Canada a preferred market in the

United States for the products of her farms. Under the tariff bill now proposed only a few items are placed on the free list and the world will be entitled to share in the benefits of the tariff changes that are proposed. However, Canada being the nearest neighbor of the United States stands to derive the greatest advantage.

The most important feature, as far as we farmers are concerned, is the fact that milk, cream, potatoes, and swine have been placed on the free list as well as meats. The tremendous development that took place in our exports of cream to the United States some three years ago following a reduction in the tariff charges on cream, indicates what may be expected to occur now that milk and cream are both to be admitted to the United States free of all charge. While milk cannot be shipped to as great an advantage as cream, nevertheless considerable quantities of milk from all border points and even from considerable distances inland in the dairy districts, may be expected to find its way across the border.

The change in the duty on potatoes will be of immense advantage, particularly to the Maritime potato growers.

The reduction in the duty on butter from six cents to three cents a pound and in the duty on cheese from six cents to 20 cents ad valorem, which latter is likely to equal an average reduction of approximately fifty per cent., will not result in increasing the demand for these products as much as it might had milk and cream not been placed on the free list. However, large quantities of Canadian butter and cheese from the provinces of Quebec and Ontario will be certain to find their way across the border with decided advantage to our Canadian farmers. While there are seasons of the year when eggs are cheaper in the United States than in Canada, notably in the spring, nevertheless, during the greater part of the year eggs sell for lower prices in Canada than in the United States. The reduction in the duty on eggs from five cents to two cents a dozen will ensure a keener demand for our eggs during those periods when prices rule low and will have a material effect in maintaining prices at a higher level.

Even in spite of the duty of 2 1/2 per cent. against Canadian cattle, which has ruled hitherto, many car loads of Canadian cattle have annually found their way across the border when prices ruled high on the other side. The reduction, therefore, in the duty on cattle from twenty-seven and one-half per cent. to ten per cent. will result in a greatly increased export of cattle from Canada to the United States and a consequent stiffening of prices on this side of the border. The reduction in the duty on horses from twenty-five to ten per cent. will mean little to western Canada, but should prove a decided benefit here in the east where we are near the great horse markets of the Atlantic coast states. The large cities of the east are the prin-

cipal markets of this continent for horses and we may expect to see a great increase in our shipments of horses to them result from the proposed tariff reduction. The fact that Canadian meats are to be admitted free will mean more to Canadian packers than to us farmers, but we may at least hope to derive some benefit therefrom.

There will be times also when we will obtain decided benefit from the reductions that have been made in the duty on grains, fruits, and vegetables.

While our home markets are increasing rapidly, the markets of the United States are expanding even faster. This is because the free land of the United States is exhausted thus to some extent restricting further increases in agricultural production. In consequence, their cities are expanding more rapidly than ever before. It is still too soon to predict with confidence to what extent the channels of trade will be affected by the proposed changes in the United States tariff, but all who are acquainted with United States markets are agreed that the farmers of Canada will derive great benefit therefrom. It means that we are to obtain benefits that both political parties in Canada strove to secure for a number of decades.

One of the most significant features of the new bill is the fact that it shows that the majority at least of the people of the United States have come to believe what President Wilson has all along contended that the effect of tariff barriers is to promote the creation of monopolies and combines of many kinds and to increase the cost of living to the average citizen. The new bill and its working out will be watched with keen interest, therefore, by the people of other countries who are confronted with the same problems that the people of the United States are now grappling with.

TALK WITHOUT ACTION

It seems that one of the weaknesses of the majority of human beings is to talk about things and forget to actually do them. We do not believe that farmers are more given to talk without action than are other folks. But we should not be satisfied to be as other folks are. We should aim to be and do a little better.

We know of many farmers who have been talking of seedling a few acres to alfalfa for several years and are still feeding timothy. Others have been going to start cow testing on the first of January for the last 10 years, but they are still milking boarder cows without knowing it. One man that we have in mind particularly is also representative of a large class. He decided to build a silo about 10 years ago, has talked of it ever since, but has not yet got started. He is still wading through the snow to haul in the corn stalks. Probably the most numerous class of all are those who talk of purchasing a pure bred sire, but still continue to use the scrub bull—because they have never been able to get a pure bred

animal at the price of a scrub.

What does it profit a man to talk much. An ounce of action is more valuable than tons of talk.

WHERE THE INCREASE GOES

We believe that the ever increasing price of land is the most important factor in rendering the returns that the farmer gets for his labor so small! and the interest on his investment so low. It is always a satisfaction to us when a man recognized as a leader in agricultural thought expresses the same opinion. The latest addition to our ranks is Prof. C. W. Pugsley of the University of Nebraska. He describes the bad economic results of increasing land values so clearly that we reproduce herewith a portion of an address that he delivered recently. He says:

Just for the sake of reasoning, let us suppose that the problems of production have all been worked out, that we are producing the most that we possibly can, keeping up the productivity of our soils to the highest point, and have eliminated all waste along the line of production. Let us also suppose that we have worked out the best methods of distribution, that there is no friction or waste in the marketing of our produce, that no more people are employed in it than are necessary to give the best results. With these things worked out and operating we would naturally say that as producers and the consumers both should be receiving the benefit of a system to which was attached the least possible expense.

We can easily fall into the error of thinking that when that point was reached the farmer would be receiving a high rate of interest on his investment and a large profit besides. But would this necessarily be true? Would not its result be that the amount of money he had invested in land at \$100 per acre, immediately make that land more desirable? Would not its market value increase, because of the demand for more investments, until it had reached the stage where the income was down to the same point where we have it now?

"Please do not misunderstand me. Every man present this afternoon will stand with me, I think, in insisting that it is the duty of all of us to work at all times for the elimination of waste and the increase of the crease production. We must use the most successful method of handling the individual farm, and the most successful method of distributing the farm products. This is necessarily one of the objects of our existence in society, and really about the only excuse we have for maintaining agricultural colleges and experiment stations. But after this has all been done, is not there something left beyond? Is it possible that the elimination of all waste will still allow our lands to rise so high in value that it will be as difficult as ever to make an 'interest' upon it? Here is the first problem for rural economists, and few indeed have theories relative to its solution that will hold water."

The farmers' organizations of Canada believe that the evil of excessive land values can be largely overcome by raising all public revenues by a tax on land values only. And the number of sound thinkers who hold the same opinion is rapidly increasing. Prof. Pugsley is but one of many who recognize in ever increasing land values the weakest point in our economic system.

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