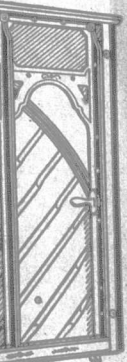


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# The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

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Vol. XLIX.

LONDON, ONTARIO, APRIL 30, 1914.

No. 1127

## EDITORIAL

The final warning: Test the corn before planting.

What should be one of the most important parts of the spring seeding is yet to do—putting in the corn and root crops.

If pasture is likely to be scarce this summer, now is the time to plan supplements. Soiling crops may be relied upon.

When State control of public utilities becomes a successful reality, all the folks—not one or two will own and control the State.

An extra cultivating or two before the corn is sown may mean tons to the corn crop. Prepare the land before planting, not after.

In the "slack" season, which some farmers have after seeding, would be a good time to put a few loads of gravel on the lane.

Non profit-making co-operative bodies may, incorporate, as such, in some States of the Union. Why not in all Provinces of the Dominion?

Sow some mangels and watch the calves grow next winter. Nothing is relished more by the growing stock than crisp, juicy mangels.

A difference of five dollars in the service fees of a stallion may mean a boost of fifty or one hundred dollars on the value of the colt when mature.

Over 50,000,000 farmers scattered over the civilized world have, for years, maintained successful co-operative associations. The movement is no new thing.

Declare war on weeds early in the season. They are much more easily destroyed while young than after a wide-spread root system entrenches them firmly.

True co-operative associations cannot be in restraint of trade when their profits are divided in proportion to patronage and the doors are always open for new members.

The Danish producer gets 92 1-2 per cent. of the consumer's dollar. Let us in our twentieth-century wisdom learn the methods of our organized superiors in the marketing game.

The term "profit" is a misnomer as applied to true co-operation. Any earnings or surplus resulting from the operations should ultimately return to those who created them and put them there.

If you have not enough confidence in your neighbor to co-operate with him; how do you expect a purchaser, who may be thousands of miles away to have confidence in you or your product?

A good name is greatly to be desired. We hear that some of those interested in adulterated and imitation maple products still think they should not be deprived of the use of the good name "maple", but it is altogether too good to be longer associated with such products.

## Better Protection for Pure-bred Stock.

For some time those familiar with conditions in many country districts have seen the necessity for more stringent regulations governing the running at large of male animals of certain breeds of live stock. A justifiable agitation, with a view to securing the necessary legislation, came to a head when, at several of the breed society meetings held in Toronto last February, strongly-worded resolutions were passed favoring the placing of strict rules and regulations on the statute books, and making provision for the necessary machinery to enforce the new Act when passed. Representatives of these breed societies laid the matter before the Minister of Agriculture for Ontario (and no doubt similar resolutions were presented to the various legislatures in other Provinces) with the result that a new Bill, as mentioned in our last week's issue, was brought in by the Hon. Jas. Duff. This Bill is a good one so far as it goes and is a step in the right direction, but it might well have taken into consideration certain classes of farm animals other than cattle. It says nothing about boar pigs or rams. One of the most dangerous, as far as human life is concerned, of all the domestic farm animals is the boar pig. He cannot be relied upon, and if he turns ugly at any time may cause painful or fatal injury to man or beast. He is just as worthy of safe confinement as is the bull. Even a cross ram should not be allowed to roam at large, for no one knows when he may seriously injure children on the way to or from school, or may even attack a grown person. He is not so hard to fence against as the bull and the boar, and, therefore, is not so likely to get off his owner's premises, but so many careless, and some good sheep breeders, run their sheep on the public highways during all or a part of the summer season that there should, for the safety of the public, be some regulation to make them keep their rams at home.

The danger to human life is the first consideration. No bull, boar or ram should be trusted too far. No one cares to meet any of these (especially either one of the former two) on the road, and parents are fearful for the lives of their children when they know they must pass and repass such dangers going to and from school. But the risk to human life is not all. Thousands of dollars have been lost through the negligence of the owners of scrub sires, who, by allowing them to roam at large, made it possible for them to gain access to the herd and flocks of their neighbors, there to work the mischief which the crossing of pure-breds does, or even worse damage when the pure-bred female conceives to the scrubbiest of the grade or cross-bred sires in the district. Telegony has never proven to be a factor in animal breeding, but even though a service, by a sire of a different breed, has an influence on the offspring of that service only, such accidental breeding, or breeding the result of wanton carelessness, may upset the calculations of a stockman, may injure his chances to improve his herd or flock, may unload on him a calf, a litter of pigs or a pair of lambs utterly worthless for breeding purposes, and due to their miscalculated breeding, mere scrubs which will not pay for developing may result. It is no more than right that the owner of females so damaged should have means of redress. We would back up the Bill for the protection of pure-bred cattle, and would add

extra clauses for the protection of pure-bred pigs and sheep, and make it possible for the owners of sows or ewes, which have conceived to a chance service of a boar or ram, to recover damages from the person responsible, as under clause three of the new Act. Nothing is more discouraging than to have the best cow in the herd mated to a bull of another breed, or the best sow in the field served by a little, spotted runt of a boar, or two or three of the best ewes mated with a black ram with horns. If it is wise to protect pure-bred cattle and it is, it is equally wise that this protection apply to other classes of live stock with which there is any danger.

## Dominion-Wide Rural Credit.

Quebec leads the Provinces in the rural credit movement, but there is now a project on foot in Saskatchewan to furnish agricultural borrowers with money on the co-operative mortgage plan, which has never been a part of our Canadian banking system. The Quebec system provides funds through the sales of shares, and liability is altogether abolished. In Saskatchewan farm mortgages will act as security for the bonds sold by the institution. In addition to this they will have the indorsement of the Provincial Government which will render them doubly safe. The security of no bond is based on the mortgage of one farm alone, but the whole community or the total number of mortgages stand as security for each and every bond.

In the United States there is now a bill before Congress called the Moss-Fletcher Bill, which has been recommended by a United States Commission studying rural credit institutions in Europe. This bill provides for the establishment of either joint-stock companies or co-operative national farm land banks, leaving it optional with the incorporators which shall be organized. It provides for the issuing of national bank bonds based on the farm mortgages held as securities for loans. In this case the bill, as recommended, provides that every bank shall issue its own bonds, and the question very properly arises as to whether it would not be better to have one central bank for each State and have all bonds issued through and by the central bank of the respective States. The Moss-Fletcher Bill, as it now lies before Congress, has its advocates and its critics, but all are agreed for the time that it will be instrumental in placing monies in the hands of agricultural borrowers who have heretofore suffered from a dearth of funds.

The Dominion Government is being urged to legislate in favor of this movement, and when in the initial stages rural credit should be encouraged in the proper direction. One Dominion-wide system will, ultimate in a stronger institution for the Canadian farmer than a number of Provincial systems different in character though sincere in motive. Whether it be the sale of bonds secured by mortgages or the sale of shares is a matter for decision, but the fact remains that provinces are not so different as to require different systems. Let the provinces co-operate at the beginning and set the example.

Still the farmer calls for men, and still the immigrant and out-of-work idler turn their deaf ear to the call. What is wrong? Does the farm offer too much work, or is being out of work to become the regular occupation of a portion of our people?