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EDITORIAL.

Win the war first; then talk of peace.

Harvest some ice. It will be needed next July.

If you have one dog you have all you can afford to keep.

Did you elect a good council? If you didn't whose fault was it?

Talk of peace is rife, but it appears to be a good time to prepare to finish the work on hand.

We want some house and barn plans. Send us a pencil drawing, with dimensions, windows and doors plainly marked.

The city woman who can get 550 gallons of milk from a cow on \$40 worth of feed at present prices, missed her calling.

If a man's work besides being of benefit to himself is of no advantage to the nation, he is at the wrong job in this time of crisis.

Get your neighbor to subscribe for "The Farmer's Advocate." By doing so you'll do yourself a favor, will help your neighbor, and will increase the strength of the paper.

The man who pays wages abnormally high is a factor in the high cost of living. He disturbs labor, increases the cost of production, and steals men from other necessary work.

Many farmers neglect to provide available cash to meet exigencies which would arise were they to die suddenly. Life insurance is not as popular as it should be in rural districts.

It is said that the women who toured the Western States speaking along the route in favor of Hughes, succeeded in turning the election to Wilson. Now, who is the woman suffragist?

A good house means a handy house, and a handy house does not mean a large house. Remember your wife has plenty to do in a small modern structure. Avoid the big, barn-like house.

Read the report of the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Convention in this issue. It will revive the whole meeting to those who attended, and will give those who did not a good opportunity to benefit from the proceedings.

The Western farmers are accused of being out of touch with popular sentiment and of "lacking in appreciation of the forces that day by day are becoming the determining factors in the winning of the war." Who controls popular sentiment? The strongest organization. Up to the present this has not been a farmers' organization. Things may change. Certainly the farmers' movement will not be popular with those who have amassed fortunes at their expense. It is nonsense to say that farmers generally do not appreciate the three factors necessary in the great war, viz., men, munitions, food. The rural districts have sent of their men. They know the importance of munitions and are ready to pay tribute where tribute is due, but they expect that the importance of their work in food production be recognized. If the farmer gets a good price for his products it is also true that the munitions-maker does not sell his goods at a loss.

Suggestions Re Field-Crop Competitions.

Last week a number of young farmers discussed Field Crop Competitions in their increasingly interesting department of "The Farmer's Advocate". Some very good hints were brought out and it would be well for those in charge to act upon some of them.

The competitions might do more good if those entering could get, in some manner, reasons for the awards as made by the judges. The local secretary of the agricultural society or some one in authority should be told by the judge, so that the information could be passed on to the contestants, the whys of the placing. And to have uniform work done a set of judges must have rather uniform ideas. They should receive at least some special training under one head.

In judging potatoes it would be far better, from the viewpoint of the competitor, if the judge would dig a square rod of potatoes in at least three different parts of the field as a basis for estimating yield and quality, rather than digging a few feet on one row in one place and multiplying the result by 22, assuming that there are 22 rows forty rods long in all acres. All do not plant potatoes the same distance apart and no one can estimate a crop from a single digging of six or twelve feet. Make the estimate of some value.

A graded prize list might help. Where entries are numerous more prizes might be awarded than where entries are fewer. The aim should be to get as many as possible to compete, and to distribute the prizes on the best possible basis. We believe that it would be a good idea to make it a rule of the competition that all winners in the field should have to exhibit the product in sheaves, bushel baskets or bags at the local fall fair before the prize money would be paid. This would stimulate interest. Fair-goers generally would see the results of the effort. They would be induced to sow pure seed. Eventually they might compete. Such a plan would help the local fair and would result in the greatest good to the greatest number.

Labor, Wages and Net Returns.

People are prone to pay too much attention to a great deal of the palaver heaped upon so-called philanthropists who pay their hired help unheard-of wages. The man who pays his help \$5 or \$6 per day when other business can only afford to pay \$2 or \$3 per day is heralded far and wide as a public benefactor, and such he is to a limited extent, but his plan is not without weakness when considered from the larger viewpoint of labor and the country as a whole. He disrupts labor, causes dissatisfaction in other industries, forces higher wages and consequently higher cost of production of necessary things. A better plan would appear to be to cut down the price of the manufactured product to the users, to pay the laborers a reasonable and satisfactory wage (always more than a mere living wage), and so distribute the profits where they belong, to manufacturer, to laborer, and to the user of the product. It is not good that a firm should tax the users of its product to such an extent that it can double the average wage paid by like or other industries. Every laboring man likes to get the highest available pay. Other firms selling their products at smaller profits are forced to pay higher wages, and up goes the cost of their products to the consumer. Did it ever occur to you that every time wages receive a boost through strikes or force or even through such a cause as that which we are discussing the cost of living goes higher—and generally out of all proportion to the wage-earner's income increase.

High wages in factories take men from the farms because men will go where they get most for their labor, and no one can blame them. The greatest scarcity of farm

help is nearly always experienced in close proximity to towns and cities where highest wages are paid. The man who sells his manufactured product at a price so high that he can pay his hired help bigger wages than any other manufacturer can pay, to say nothing of the farmer, is drawing men from other business and from the farms and is a contributing cause toward the high cost of living. High cost of production means that the necessities of life and work come higher to the consumers every time. The man who pays the big labor bonuses and doubles the scale paid takes it out of somebody. Everyone likes to see his fellowman get all he can for his efforts, but all would rather see the man who works with his hands get higher net returns. It is not what he gets in wages that counts so much, but what he gets over and above the necessary amount for himself and family to live on. It would be well for all to think these matters over. Farmer, manufacturer, workingman—all should have a living and a little besides. There should be a fair profit on all goods from the farm and the factory and also on the labor required to produce these, and the laboring man should get more than a mere living every time. With a fair balance between farm and factory he would, but in the long run little is gained through increasing production costs by greatly increased wages. The man who works with his hands is no better off at the end of the year at present wages and present prices of the commodities he must buy than was the same class of man a few years ago at half the wages and less than half the necessary expense. Think it over. How does it affect the price of milk, meat and bread?

Helps in Treating Live-Stock Diseases.

In the Horse Department of this week's issue "Whip" puts up, in entirely new form, an article on the "Common Diseases of Horses." Every farmer has horses and all have troubles of their own. Twenty-six of the commoner diseases are tabulated with their causes, symptoms, treatment and doses. The whole thing is put in a "nut-shell" and in simple language. The weights and measures known to the drug trade are translated, in the introduction, into the commoner farm measures. Keep the table for future reference and watch for future tables dealing in a similar manner with the commoner diseases of cattle, sheep and swine.

There are many little ailments which a man brought up with live stock can treat in a satisfactory manner if he has the necessary drugs and a few instructions. It is wise to commence treatment as soon as any derangement is noticed, but be careful to use judgment and where veterinary assistance is necessary get a qualified practitioner. The table on another page will help you in the simpler treatments. If they do not suffice call in a veterinarian promptly. Do not wait until the animal is dying and then send for professional help. Treat disease promptly and on common-sense principles.

Slaughtered But Not Destroyed.

When the fattened animal goes up the long gangway into the slaughter house most people look upon it as virtually destroyed. Not so. Nothing is destroyed. The meat, of course, is the main consideration, but the profits of slaughter rest largely with the skill in handling the by-products. Everything that goes in comes out in some form and is used. The importance of these by-products is outlined in a special article in this issue. It is interesting to follow a steer through a big packing plant and back to the farm home from which he went. It is the little sidelines that have made some packing houses great. In a sense the law of the indestructibility of matter is illustrated in what happens to the fat

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