

The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

PERSEVERE
AND
SUCCEED

ESTABLISHED
1868

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875

Vol. XLIX

LONDON, ONTARIO, NOVEMBER 19, 1914.

No. 1156

EDITORIAL.

No stockman can afford to waste coarse feed this winter.

A clean, sweet manger is a great "appetizer" for the stock.

The sewing circle is aiding greatly in the comfort of the soldiers.

Everyone says, "It has been a great fall," and still there is plenty of work to do.

If it were not for the padded war news sheets some of us would not neglect our chores so much.

Added to the feeders troubles came the closing of the leading live-stock markets of the United States.

Every stable should be kept disinfected, and extra precautions taken to ensure good health among the stock in this time of danger.

Canadian stockmen will give their undivided support to our Federal authorities in their effort to keep foot and mouth disease out of this country.

Enlist in the army of agricultural recruits and plan to conquer the earth, and make it yield up abundantly to feed our soldiers at the front and those in need at home.

The foot and mouth outbreak is just another evidence that the stockman must be on the alert, and that his business has unseen dangers which demand his best attention.

The Belgians saved the day in the beginning of the war. It is Canada's turn now to forward all the relief possible. Why not induce some of these good people to settle in this country?

There is a great deal of talk about breaking up more new lands in Canada to increase crop output. Much more labor could profitably be expended on lands already under cultivation, but only one-half worked because of lack of help.

It does not help business to grumble; complaining of prices will not stiffen the market; grouching about the weather will not finish the fall work; worrying and talking about the results of the war will not end it sooner; cheer up!

It must not be forgotten that a nation's success or failure often depends as much on the way her business is kept up in a crisis as it does upon the way her brave soldiers fight on the field of battle. Push business; it is an effective weapon against foes.

The sacrifice of the man who puts extra effort into increasing food production may not be as great as that of the man who fights in the trenches, but it may be just as necessary. What would it profit us to have countless millions under arms and nothing to feed them?

Every Live-stock man in Canada should do all he can to keep foot and mouth disease out of this country, and to help stamp it out of the United States. Be exceedingly careful in the transferring of stock from place to place, and watch all avenues of possible infection.

An Unwarranted Attack.

Readers who have been following the daily press, and who are familiar with the facts of the case, are very indignant over the unfair and downright mean attacks on Prof. C. A. Zavitz, of the Ontario Agricultural College, Professor of Field Husbandry, and, in the absence of President G. C. Creelman, acting head of the Institution. A difference of opinion arose between some of the students and Prof. Zavitz over the advisability of military training at the O. A. C. Prof. Zavitz not favoring the idea which met the approval of the Minister of Agriculture, he promptly resigned as acting President, whereupon the matter was satisfactorily adjusted by Government heads at Toronto, and Prof. Zavitz continued to administer the affairs of the College, and the military drill went on. Not satisfied with the solution of the difficulty a number of disgruntled opponents of Prof. Zavitz, and residents of the city of Guelph, formed themselves into a deputation and went to Toronto demanding that Prof. Zavitz be asked to resign from the staff, and if he did not immediately comply with the request that he be summarily dismissed. Their petitions to the Government failing, they turned to the press in a vain effort to oust the man for whom the axe had been prepared. The absurdity of the movement made it scarcely worthy of comment. After all had been settled and both sides of the political press had editorially made it plain that Prof. Zavitz is too big a man to lose under any circumstances, to have the campaign against the Professor carried further was simply ridiculous.

There is no better known Field Husbandman in America than Prof. Zavitz, who has done more for field crops in Canada than any other living experimenter. Farmers know his real value if a few of the citizens of Guelph do not. Better even than this, we have it on good authority that the students at the O. A. C. felt so strongly on the matter that they as a body memorialized the Government that under no conditions would they countenance Prof. Zavitz' removal. We know hundreds of ex-students who feel the same. The Government had already recognized his worth. With the Government of the Province, the farmers of the Province, and the students and ex-students of the O. A. C. behind him, Professor Zavitz is solid, and the uncalled-for scathing criticisms of a few heelers should not under any conditions be allowed to disrupt the best agricultural college in the world, for once started such a system of procedure would soon check and hamper the good work of the Institution.

A Serious Live-stock Situation.

The seriousness of the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the United States has been impressed upon those who are in touch with the situation. At time of writing, Nov. 10th, thirteen States are infected and quarantined. Stockmen on this side of the line should lose no opportunity to do all in their power to keep the disease from spreading into this country. Our Federal authorities are taking every precaution, cars are being stopped at the boundary and thoroughly disinfected and, of course, rigid quarantine regulations are placed on all stock from the United States, in fact this embargo has been placed on the whole of the United States and for the next six months no cattle, sheep, swine or goats or flesh, hides, hoofs, horns or other parts of such animals other than cured meats, lard and tallow, or hay, straw, fodder or manure will be

allowed to enter Canada from the neighboring Republic.

The United States too has placed an embargo on Canadian cattle entering that country so that trade is brought to a standstill in cattle, sheep and hogs between Canada and the United States. This is certainly unwelcome news to stockmen and will, no doubt, cause a downward tendency in market values. Feeders and owners of stocker and feeder cattle for sale should be careful at this time. Nothing will be gained by rushing large numbers of live stock to our markets, while those to the south of us are closed, because undoubtedly prices will slacken and trade slow up appreciably. It may be that the cold weather coming on and the rigid steps which are being taken to stamp out the disease will have it in control in a very short time. We can only hope that it will, and stockmen would be wise to wait a short time, at least, before rushing the stock to market. In fact there should be no big rush as this is what pulls the market down below the profitable level. The disease has not, at time of writing, gained a foot-hold in Canada and it is still likely that with the support of all stockmen, the authorities will be able to keep it out of this country. This being true there is no great cause for alarm. However, one more barrier is added between the feeder and profits. Feed is high in price this season and it was going to be a hard enough proposition to make anything like a fair profit on feeding cattle without any unforeseen danger of this kind creeping in to disrupt trade and up-set market conditions.

There is a danger that a grave injury may be done to the live-stock end of farming in this country, at this time. The agitation to grow more wheat has been pushed with vigor and anything which militates against live stock prices will cause a curtailment of that industry which in the end would prove disastrous. It is a well-known fact that there is a shortage of live stock the world over and this shortage is increasing in magnitude daily. Stockmen in Canada should keep their stables clean, disinfected, and should take every precaution to bar out any form of disease and we feel sure that in a short time conditions will be cleared up, markets open and everything progressing favorably.

Some idea of what it means to close such stock yards as Buffalo and Chicago may be had from the fact that in one day the Chicago Union Stock Yards has taken in 33,501 cattle, 1,303 calves, 87,716 hogs and 26,999 sheep, to say nothing of 838 horses or a grand total of 150,357 animals in 2,933 cars. Of this number a large proportion was shipped East alive to be slaughtered for export, namely 10,063 cattle, 28 calves, 21,188 hogs, 6,469 sheep and 109 horses or a total of 37,807 animals. This was a big day and it gives readers some idea of what is handled at these yards and what it means not only to local but to export trade to have them closed. The Buffalo yards handle about 350 carloads of stock per day, including as high as 4,875 head of cattle, 13,600 head of hogs, 14,000 sheep and 1,250 calves. This market has been receiving large consignments of Canadian stocker, feeder and finished cattle, and like Chicago large shipments of stock are made East for killing and to different States in the Union for feeding and finishing. As a result of the quarantine no business will be done in these yards and no shipments from Canada are allowed to go into any part of the United States.

Prices of meats are advancing in Chicago and Buffalo but at time of writing are dropping in Canada's large cities. The closing of the outlet