

The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

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LONDON, ONTARIO, MAY 20, 1920.

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EDITORIAL.

Corn is still King.

Those "participation certificates" were worth saving after all.

Store the wool clip in a dry place and don't commit that oft-repeated crime of tying it with binder twine.

Many farmers are un-fencing rather than fencing their fields this spring, as a consequence of the lack of help.

The prospects now are for a bountiful fruit harvest and producers should do their part to make the product a clean one.

Start to swat the fly early. Those flies on the wing now will be great-great-grand-parents in a remarkably short time.

The sheep and lambs are entitled to their annual bath in some tick-destroying mixture. Don't neglect to dip this spring.

Cleanliness and sanitation about the stables are more powerful agents in the prevention of disease than tons of drugs and lotions.

General Sir Arthur Currie, who achieved military fame, will, as President of McGill University, train Canadian boys for the battles of life.

It is not a good omen when Canadians sell their Victory Bonds and purchase stock in theatres and amusement houses. We are worshipping false gods.

Would it not be well to stifle our little grievances, if such we have, and join with the children on Empire Day in giving three cheers for the world's greatest Empire.

Ornithologists or bird students, in other words, should get busy and study this "Round Robin" we hear so much about. Perhaps it is a bad bird and should be extinguished.

A cow's breeding and producing efficiency depends, to a large extent, on her ancestry and the treatment given her as a calf. Care well for the calves if you would have profitable cows.

Good conscientious road work on the part of everyone will accomplish a great deal and perhaps bring the farmer more direct benefit than the millions spent on county and provincial highways.

The unfortunate circular letter sent out by the Secretary of the U. F. O. was, we presume, the result of over-zealousness and should be viewed as such. In this twentieth year of the twentieth century we should be big enough to forgive and forget.

A reasonable butter-fat content and cleanliness are the standards by which milk is judged. Milk producers' organizations throughout Canada are endeavoring to have their product measure up to the standard in these regards, and then they are asking recognition on the part of the consumer.

A Curb Bit on the Legislature.

On two recent occasions the Secretary of the U. F. O. has circularized the secretaries of local clubs, asking them to use their influence with members of the Legislature in regard to matters before the House. Mr. Morrison, we believe, is actuated in this by the noble resolve to have the U. F. O. members live up to their pledges of retrenchment and conduct themselves in accordance with the principles which gained their election. Nevertheless, it is possible that the Secretary's zeal may exceed his good judgment, and his actions embarrass the Government whom he helped to elect.

It is obvious that the U. F. O. group in the Legislature have hewn very close to the line in order to preclude any just criticism of class favoritism, and the Premier, Hon. Mr. Drury, is to be congratulated on having come fresh from the ranks of agriculture and gained the confidence of all classes—a confidence equal, in sum total, to that accorded any premier of Ontario who has preceded him.

Under these circumstances, any undue influence emanating from rural clubs has a rather disquieting effect, and only encourages critics to ask (quite within their right) in whom power of Government is actually vested in this Province of Ontario. Whether Mr. Morrison's views in regard to the "Round Robin" and the "Superannuation" were right or wrong is not the subject for discussion here. In our opinion his opposition to increased indemnities at this session was based on good judgment, but we think he has erred in his opposition to the Superannuation Bill. However, the matter of any individual's opinions regarding these questions is not relevant. "The Farmer's Advocate" desires only to point out the lack of wisdom and the injustice of sending representatives to the Legislature and then withholding from them, in the name of democracy, the right to their own honest opinions. We can democratize as far as we like, but we must still have some form of responsible government which we can trust without a curb bit in the mouth.

Silage Crops.

The time was when corn held an exclusive franchise in the field of silage crops. Where it can be grown satisfactorily there is nothing that can excel it, and farmers everywhere in corn-growing districts should produce as much of this king of all crops as they can conveniently handle. Not only is it par excellence for winter feeding, but a great many producers are now ensiling more than enough for winter requirements so they may have a supply when the drought-stricken pastures are not yielding sufficient to sustain the cattle during the dry summer months. Few farmers ever err by growing too much corn. Corn is a South and Middle-Canada crop, but from the East has come another crop which is well adapted for cooler climates. A mixture of peas, oats and vetches has made a good silage crop in the Maritime Provinces, and it has done well in the northerly latitudes of Ontario. The West has also made its contribution to silage crops, for from that direction has come the word that sunflowers yield heavily and can be ensiled satisfactorily. In feeding value, it is claimed, sunflower silage practically equals corn. The point now under experimentation chiefly is just when the sunflowers should be harvested in order to obtain ample maturity without a superabundance of woody fibre.

Experimental and research work in connection with silage crops is of inestimable value to Canadian agriculture, and it cannot be too vigorously carried forward. Our winters make it necessary to store large quantities of succulent feed, and he is a wise farmer, indeed, who goes further and provides against parched and drought-stricken pastures in the summer-time.

The High Cost of Legislating.

The famous "Round Robin" in the Provincial Legislature and the persistent demand of Ottawa members for larger sessional indemnities are simply in line with the increased cost of everything. Why should we expect to get our legislation at pre-war prices when everything we buy and sell has increased enormously. Someone may counter that if the law of supply and demand be allowed to operate some of this legislation would not be worth very much. However, even at their face value the Statutes handed out to us compare favorably with commodities on the market, which resemble only in appearance the product we desire. The crux of the whole matter is that a laborer is worthy of his hire, and the better man he is the more he is worth. Sessional indemnities should always be kept sufficiently high so any man whom the people choose to represent them in the Commons or the Legislature can afford to accept the duties thus imposed upon him and live like a decent, respectable citizen while thus engaged.

"The Farmer's Advocate" subscribes to the principles upon which our elected representatives are basing their claims for larger sessional indemnities, but just at this time when retrenchment is absolutely essential it seems to us that our Commoners and members of the Legislatures should not add their voices to the popular cry for higher wages and increased public expenditures. The members of the Ontario Legislature are pledged to retrenchment, and while many of them might have been ignorant of the cost of living in the city of Toronto, and did not fully appreciate what the expenses incident to being a member might amount to, they should have at least known what the sessional indemnity was. Under these circumstances it would be just as well to absorb the loss the first session and not take the country by surprise in asking for a larger stipend without preparing their constituents for the request. Above all, our elected representatives in the Commons and in the Legislatures are in the best position to appreciate the vital need of economy at this time, and the sacrifice on their part would be a splendid example to a people gone mad in an orgy of wanton extravagance.

The Increase in Tuberculosis During One Decade.

There is sufficient evidence against tuberculosis in Canada to amply justify the campaign now being undertaken against this scourge. Not only is there a very substantial loss sustained by breeders and by the country generally, but danger to the health of humans generally is increasing at an alarming rate. Quoting from the report of the Veterinary Director-General, we find that in one year 4,630 cattle carcasses and 36,478 portions were condemned in inspected slaughter houses owing to the prevalence of tuberculosis. During the same year, 4,355 swine carcasses and 772,236 portions were condemned owing to the prevalence of tuberculosis. During that year 58.42 per cent. of the total condemnations in cattle carcasses were due to tuberculosis, while in swine 75.25 per cent. of the total condemnations were due to tuberculosis. Cattle affected with tuberculosis in Ontario and passing through inspected slaughter houses rose from 2.68 per cent. in 1910 to 3.5 per cent. in 1919. In Quebec, affected cattle rose from 3.36 per cent. in 1910 to 4.85 per cent. in 1919. For all Canada the percentage has risen from 2.96 in 1910 to 3.72 in 1919. These inspections in the slaughter houses indicate a steadily increasing spread of tuberculosis in Canada's cattle. In regard to swine, the figures are still more alarming. In 1910, Ontario swine passing through inspected slaughter houses showed 10.4 per cent. to be affected with tuberculosis, while in 1919 this percentage had risen to 21.4. The swine throughout Canada showed 8.9 per cent. of those passing through inspected slaughter houses to be affected in 1910, while in 1919

Purple Calf Meal Special,
11-12, 1919, and awarded
Gold and exhibited by Mr.
P.P., for South Huron.

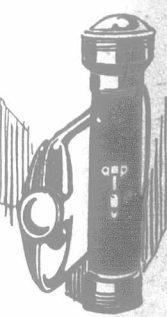
the best calves raised on our
two cuts show two of the prize
and they showed a profit of
thousand pounds or over each

bags and is sold everywhere
advertising matter and we will
products and call it calf meal,
substitute for milk, made up

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