FARM AND DAIRY

AND RUBAL HOME

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

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The paid subscriptions to Farm and
Dairy exceed 11,000. The actual circulation of each issue, including copies of the
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FARM AND DAIRY PETERBORO, ONT.

FEDERAL AID TO AGRICULTURE

Elsewhere in this week's issue of Farm and Dairy is announced the manner in which the Federal grant for Ontario agriculture will be expended. We wish to commend the Honorable Mr. Duff on the wise manner in which he has apportioned the Federal grant. We would also commend Premier Borden on his honesty in carrying out his pre-election promise of Federal aid to agriculture.

But we still believe that Provincial expenditure should be met by Provincial revenue. Money collected by indirect taxation by the Dominion Government and distributed throughout the provinces is too apt to be regarded as "money from home." Money received in this easy way will not be expended as wisely as that gathered by direct taxation, and its expenditure, therefore, more less under the eye of the taxpayer.

Money collected by indirect taxa-lus farmers if we could deliver butter. tion is not "easy" money. Although collected through the medium of a customs tariff it comes directly from the nocket of the Canadian tax naver The expenditure of such a large grant as the Dominion Government has placed in the hands of Hon Mr Duff is too great a responsibility to place on any Minister, and even were it always apportioned as wisely as this first grant has been, we would still question its wisdom. Provincial authorities will soon come to look on this grant as a matter of course, and divert provincial funds now going to agriculture in other directions and agriculture would receive no greater assistance than it now does. Also, we farmers, if we assent to the principle of Dominion aid to Provincial schemes, are tying ourselves up still tighter to indirect taxation, a form of taxation that bears more heavily upon us farmers than upon any other class in the community.

WIDER POSTAL SERVICE

The postmasters of Canada, in annual session at Toronto recently, made a suggestion that should receive the hearty support of every farmer in Canada. They in tructed their executive to endeavor to inquee the Postmaster General to increase the Canadian limit of weight of parcel post matter and reduce the rate of postage on the same. While the object of the postmasters in taking this action was to increase their own remuneration through their commission on stamp sales, the benefits that would come through the adoption of their resolution would be of more value to us farmers than to any other class in the community, not excepting the postmen themselves.

The adoption of a low rate of postage on parcels shipped by mail offers the most sensible method of regulating express charges. In this country, as in the United States, there is a close connection between express companies and the railroad companies. The shareholders in one own stock in the other. By cooperating in the regulation of rates our transportation companies are thus enabled to keep charges up to what the business of the shipper will stand rather than to pay reasonable interest on the money invested in roadway, rolling stock, and so forth. In the United States efforts that have been made by the Government to regulate express charges have met with but little success. It is now generally recognized in that country that a parcel post system whereby small parcels may be sent by mail at a reasonable rate is the best method of offering relief to the shipper.

Although popular in the country, many and strong interests have brought their influence to bear on the United States Government to prevent the passing of a parcel post bill. In Canada the same interests would

make their influence felt at Ottawa. The advantages of parcels post are evident. It would be a fine thing for

eggs or even fruit and vegetables by mail to our customers in the cities. It would be a great advantage for us to be enabled to buy by mail where we can buy cheapest and have our goods sent us at a small charge through the nost office. If we study our own heat interests we farmers will support the postmasters in their recommendation to the powers that he Our farmers' organizations would do well to add their influence to that of the Postmasters' Association in working for the adoption of a parce! post in Canada

THE CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE

On page two of Farm and Dairy this week our cartoonist depicts social conditions as we have them to-The capitalist, the man who has his money devoted to productive enterprise, and the laborer, are blaming each other for their troubles. And all the while it is the landlord who is quietly pocketing the wealth that they are producing. He it is who is "throwing the mud" that causes strikes and lockouts, the closing down of industries, and the suffering and loss that unemployment and decreased production entail. We farmers have a very direct in-

terest in these troubles of society, for we are injuriously affected by them no less than the rest of the community. In a new country where land has practically no value, interest and wages are high. As population increases we have competition for land A greater and greater proportion of the wealth that is produced by labor and capital must be given to the landlord. The laborer finds rents so high that in our great cities many whole families are compelled to live in a room. The immense amount of money that the capitalist must pay for the land on which to build his factory makes it necessary to reduce wages and increase the cost of his goods in order to pay interest on the investments in land. And the money so invested is not of itself productive of wealth

Taxation of land values would divert the moneys now going into the landlords' pockets into those of the general public, and thereby reduce other forms of taxation. It would force into use land now held by speculators, and thereby reduce rents, both to the laborer and the capitalist. This in turn would reduce the cost of doing business and thereby benefit the public.

It is the city land holder, the men who monopolize our mines and water powers, and the holders of special franchises, that are able to live on the proceeds of their monopoly without labor on their part. Our farmers' organizations, in endorsing taxation of land values and such natural monopolies, take a stand that is to the advantage of farmer, working man and capitalist. Our interests are common.

Stop the manure leak.

GUARD THE RESERVE

June 27, 1912.

The strength of a bank may be determined in no small degree by as certaining the value of their reserve fund. Such a reserve is necessary to make the institution a safe one in stockholders and for the general paklie who deal with it. The Government requires that banking institution hold a definite proportion of their capital as a reserve. The wise banker is continually adding to his reserve fund

But of vastly more importance to the well-being of the nation than the reserve funds of its Lanking institu tions is the reserve of fertility in it soil. It is from this reserve that this and future generations must secur that which keeps within them the breath of life. We farmers are the guardians of that reserve. The care ful dairy farmers, like the conserva tive banker, renders his country no mean service when he maintains the fertility of the soil on his farm. The farmer who sells the raw materials of his soil, hay, grain, and so forth a not only injuring himself individuals but is depleting the store that was intended for all of this and futer generations. Let us guard well that which has been committed to or care. And we will get our reward in increased crops and the continuals increasing value of our farms

AN ADVANTAGE TO ALL

A couple of weeks ago consumer in Toronto were astonished to find that butter, which had been steadily decreasing in price, suddenly steaded and then the price went up one of two cents. And this in spite of the fact that production was steadily increasing. This was due to the fat that the cold storage men had started to buy up butter to hold over for the scarcity of the winter months. Commenting on this condition of the ma ket, a leading Toronto daily pape has the following featured on the front nage:

"The reason, then, why the "Canadian housewife is paying "from three to five cents more for "the butter in this banner month "of the year is so that the col "storage men may rean a harve "when the commodity is scarce in "the winter."

And more of the same

Such an attack on cold storage met is apt to be misleading to the average consumer who does not know the conditions of production that exist in Canada today. Most of our dain products are produced in the six sunmer months. Were it not that numerous quantities of this summer production is placed in cold storage for the period of scarcity in winter, prices of dairy products in summ would be so low that "there would be no profit to the producer, and it winter dairy produce could not be had by the most of people at any price. and therefore would be the luxuris of the rich.

The consumption of dairy predus is approximately the same the year

-1 Production Our cold ading over again wity are render a public. We m er cold storage reg beks such as the o aring in the dail ons in that they ritation that wou cosonable cold s whas come into force ited States Suel qual production ention, would be

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Yours tr (Signed)

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