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Co-operation, Cows and Pigs Have Made Denmark.

My purpose in writing this is to give the farmers of Canada a picture of conditions under which the Danish farmer is working, and how it has been possible for him to make that little kingdom known all over the world, and at the same time made its people prosperous.

A glance at the map of Europe will show that Denmark is a comparatively small country, occupying a rather exposed position, surrounded almost entirely by the North and Baltic seas. The kingdom consists of the peninsula of Jutland and the islands of Zealand, Fyen, Laaland and a number of other smaller ones. The entire country occupies an area of about 15,000 square miles, equal to one-fifth the size of Manitoba.

The soil is not rich, in fact, there is more poor than good land in Denmark, much of it being thin and gravelly, the so-called hungry soil. Of the total area eighty per cent. is productive, and of this, one-sixth is forest. Of the remainder less than half is arable, what remains being chiefly grass land.

The growing season is short and cool, and very often wet, so the farmers have some problems to solve. In average seasons only the early variety of oats ripens properly. The experiment stations have succeeded in developing a fall oat, but the farmers have to depend upon the early sorts of spring sown kinds. Fall rye, fall wheat and barley do well, and when to these are added oats, hay crops and roots the round of crops which the Danish can grow with advantage is about complete.

Denmark is not a grain exporting country, but millions of dollars' worth of grain and foodstuffs are imported every year.

Remembering that Denmark has to depend on its soil for prosperity, having no mineral or timber wealth, and remembering the size of the country, with its population of over two million five hundred thousand, the farmer of this country may well ask how the farmers of Denmark have been able to bring prosperity to the country, as they have done, and the answer lies in the two words, live stock and co-operation. The cows and the pigs are the wealth of Denmark, and system of co-operation the means by which the live stock is turned into wealth.

The crop rotation is managed with the view of growing feed, and many farmers have from 20 to 30 per cent. of acreage in roots, chiefly mangels, for the cows and pigs, except where there is a sugar factory located. Many farmers grow sugar beets almost entirely.

A farmer living in the locality of a sugar factory subscribes a certain number of acres on which he agrees to grow sugar beets every year, just like the farmer agrees to furnish milk from a certain number of cows when he joins a co-operative creamery.

The crop rotation in Denmark is as a rule:

1st year..... Rye or wheat
2nd year..... Roots
3rd year..... Barley seeded down
4th year..... Clover and grass
5th year..... Grass
6th year..... Oats
7th year..... Fodder plants, Lucerne, etc.

In the middle of last century Denmark was facing a crisis of stagnation, and, as mentioned before, being a country without mineral or timber wealth, the only way to save the country from ruin was to improve upon agricultural conditions, and made the land produce enough to make it possible to expand the export trade in the leading products of the farm, namely, butter, eggs and bacon.

Agricultural conditions in Britain at that time were such, that the land did not produce sufficient to supply the ever-increasing demand for farm and dairy products, on account of such a large proportion of the farm land being held by wealthy men, who did not farm it, but kept it for game and sport. Even to-day there is much land lying idle in Britain, which would create a new wealth

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