

# FARM AND DAIRY

AND RURAL HOME  
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Refuge shall not ply their trade at the expense of our subscribers, who are our friends, through the medium of these columns; but we shall not attempt to adjust trifling disputes between subscribers and honorable business men who advertise, nor pay the debts of honest bankrupts.

## The Rural Publishing Company, Limited PETERBORO, ONT.

"Read not to contradict and to confute, nor to believe and take for granted, but to weigh and consider."—Bacon.

## Dairying and the War

THE exclusive restaurants of Paris are eliminating milk and cream from their menus. This information, given by a war correspondent, who probably knows nothing about farming and has never given a thought to the effect of the war on the dairying industry, is full of significance for Canadian dairymen. These classy restaurants are deprived of milk and cream because the dairy herds that supplied them have been commandeered for the army. The probabilities are that if the war lasts for twelve months or more, the same fate will befall the dairy herds of practically all the warring countries of Europe. Military necessity knows no delay and if food is needed the dairy cows will be taken.

The destruction or even the partial depletion of the dairy herds of Europe will in the long run mean an enhanced demand for the dairy products of America, and probably, too, for foundation stock for the new herds that it will take at least a generation to rebuild. Canada and the United States may become the live stock breeding ground of the world, a position that heretofore Europe has held.

## Good Out of Evil

ALL war is intemperate. Strange as it may seem, an intemperate war has been instrumental in teaching a great temperance lesson. At the very commencement of the present European struggle the kingdom of Sweden declared for national prohibition throughout the continuance of the war. The German Emperor banished the canteen from his army and navy. Russia went still further; vodka, which is as much the national beverage of Russia as Scotch whisky is said to be of Scotland, was prohibited from sale over the whole country. The Russian regulations were the most drastic of all, and

Russia is reaping the greatest reward. So wonderful have been the beneficial effects following on the banishment of vodka that the Russian government is said to be considering the indefinite continuation of their prohibition decree, even when peace is restored. Travellers from Russia tell us that a few weeks after the decree had been put in force, its effects could be readily noted. Peasants who had before been heavy-eyed and slow and stupid became clear-eyed, energetic, and aggressive. Merchants found that their store bills were being paid more promptly. Manufacturers found that their employees were becoming more efficient. Everyone is well pleased with the change except dealers in intoxicants. Social and moral uplift has received a new stimulus.

John Barleycorn once regarded war as his ally in the killing of men. His suspension in Russia and Germany would seem to indicate that autocracy wants a monopoly in the business of killing during war times. If in the peace that is to come John Barleycorn remains in official disfavor, it will compensate fully for the horrors of war. But why should this good out of evil be confined to Sweden, Germany, and Russia? Why not extend it to Canada?

## Flat Rate for Eggs

THE course of the egg trade this past season, insofar as the majority of egg producers are concerned, has been much the same as in other seasons,—much talk of the poor quality of the eggs and the great losses that ultimately must fall on the producer,—and only talk. Some produce exchanges did make an effort to pay for shipments on the loss-off basis but they dealt largely with egg collectors and country merchants. These in their turn shifted the losses for rotten and stale eggs back on the producer without making any discrimination as to who was responsible for the poor quality of the shipments. The great majority of farmers all over Canada have been paid a flat rate for their eggs this year as in all other years.

There is not much incentive for a farmer to get out and hustle for higher quality eggs, collecting them twice a day, and delivering them twice a week, when he gets no more for his produce than the man who ships when the egg merchant happens to call, and collects indiscriminately from the laying house and the "found nests." It is becoming increasingly evident that egg producers must solve this problem for themselves. An increasing number are doing so through the medium of the cooperative egg circle. This past year more egg circles have been organized and more eggs shipped through them than in any previous year since the movement was started. In organizing such circles the producers can count on the opposition of the great majority of the country merchants and the bitter hostility of the egg collectors. The big dealers themselves, who claim to be so concerned over the poor quality of the eggs marketed, have alternately tried to corner the output of egg circles or to kill the circles altogether; of course there are some notable exceptions to this rule.

But the organization of egg circles must continue just the same. Who who produce the eggs are the only ones who are vitally interested in the inauguration of a system of payment that puts a premium on quality. And the egg circle enables us to accomplish this purpose.

The way of the wicked is hard. The way of those whose wickedness takes the form of watering milk threatens to become harder. A German professor is investigating an additional method of detecting such adulteration—by the comparative viscosity of the normal and watered fluid. May that professor survive the war and complete his investigations.

## The Disturbing Element

WHEN the battered and disorganized armies of Europe have ceased their killing because of utter exhaustion, the peoples of the world will call for a peace that is real peace; not a continuation of the armed truce that has existed in Europe for the last few decades. If statesmen fail to establish a permanent peace, history will brand them as failures and unworthy of the trust that has been imposed upon them. Already the press and the pulpits are offering their suggestions for the formation of the peace treaty that is to come. Their opinions are many and varied, and indeed there is room for much honest difference of opinion. All, however, who are honest and disinterested, are agreed on this, that the manufacture and sale of munitions of war must no longer be left with private corporations.

Armament manufacturers have always been a disturbing factor in European politics. They have set nation against nation, and by means of the sections of the press that they control have fanned the flame of fear and hate. Even the pulp itself has not been free from the sordid influence of armament manufacturers. High church dignitaries are among their stock holders. Unusual liberality on the part of Parliaments in dealing with military and naval budgets has been secured by inducing many members to subscribe stock and share in the profits of the armament industry. How successful these armament makers have been in making the world an armed camp is made evident by the war budgets of eight of the world's greatest powers. During the period of 1910 to 1914, the eight great powers spent a total of over twenty-five and one-half billions of dollars on their armies and navies.

How long can peace continue while such corrupting influence is allowed to exist? Government manufacture is the only feasible remedy yet suggested.

## A Success

ONE of the best satisfied men we have ever had the pleasure of meeting is a young Scotch-Canadian farmer of Western Ontario. His story is one of hard work, many discouragements, but eventually a home of his own and independence, neither of which he could have hoped to obtain in the mill town of Scotland in which he was born. Let us hear his story as he told it to an editor of Farm and Dairy a few weeks ago. "When I was in my early twenties," said he, "I came to see that work as I might I could never be anything but a poorly paid mill hand in Scotland. Along with a chum I decided to come to Canada. When we got to the dock my chum's nerve failed him and he went back to the mill, and is there yet. I came on. Through the Immigration Department I secured work as a hired man in Oxford county. Naturally I met with many discouragements. I knew nothing of farm work, but I applied myself, gave my wages, and in four years was able to get married and rent a small farm. My wife was a fine butter-maker and poultry woman, and between us we made that farm produce as it had never produced before. At the end of another three years we bought another badly run down 100 acres in the nearby county. Our firm is now paid for. We are improving it as we are able. Even now, we consider ourselves as independent, and I am much better off than I ever would have been in my native country."

He told us much more, but he liked best to dwell on the pride that he and his wife took in the success that had been theirs. His satisfaction was good to see. Several times since we have asked ourselves the question: If an untidied immigrant can attain independence in a few years what should be accomplished by those to the manner born?

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J. E. R.

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