

beekeepers use the old style Langstroth frame, depending on their own judgment in spacing them. A large majority of my own hives are equipped with this latter style, although I have some hives with the Hoffman frame.

The style of cover to use must be chosen by the beekeeper also. There are several very suitable covers, each adapted to its own section, mostly. The metal-roof cover is very handy and serviceable, although lately it is becoming rather expensive on account of the rise in the price of zinc. The excelsior cover is also very suitable, although it is rather hard to make at home. These two, I think, are the most popular covers, although there are several other styles, including the gable roof, etc., which are very common. Lastly, whether you buy your hives in flat or make them yourself, use care and time in putting them together, as it will repay for the trouble later.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

BEEKEEPER.

FARM BULLETIN.

"I Hear the Feet of the Young Men."

BY PETER MCARTHUR.

The papers have had much to say about the youthfulness of Sir Douglas Haig as General-in-Chief of the British Armies in the West. If my memory serves me, Sir Douglas is forty-four years of age. When I saw the fact commented upon that he was a young man to be placed in so responsible a position, I reached for a pencil and paper and a not entirely satisfactory dictionary or biography and began to jot down the ages of the great Generals of history. The result was amazing. I found that at Sir Douglas Haig's age practically every great General was dead or had retired. Only two outstanding figures had attained a greater age. At Waterloo, Wellington had reached the culmination of a long career as England's greatest General, and his age was forty-six. When George Washington took command of the American Army he was forty-three, and naturally was older than Sir Douglas Haig, when his rebellion was successful and became dignified by the title of Revolution. Alexander The Great was a boy in his teens when his military career began, and at the age of thirty-one, having already conquered the known world of his day, he was weeping for new worlds to conquer. Julius Cæsar had fought his way to the position of Pontifex Maximus at the age of thirty-seven, and Hannibal was at the head of the army of Carthage at the age of twenty-six. William Wallace was the liberator of Scotland at the age of twenty-three. Napoleon Bonaparte was at the head of the army of Italy at the age of twenty-six, and at thirty-two was practically the master of Europe. His great marshals, Murat and Ney (bravest of the brave) were at the height of their power at the age of twenty-eight, and Bernadotte became marshal at the age of thirty-two. When Napoleon grasped imperial power, his wisest adviser was General Duroc, aged twenty-four. Most incredible of all, George Washington's wisest adviser on matters of finance and public policy was Alexander Hamilton at the age of nineteen. Even at his death after having established a financial system of the United States, and after becoming the head of the American Army, Alexander Hamilton was killed in a duel at the age of thirty-two.

I might go on indefinitely naming the heroes and fighters of the past, and I think that at least an overwhelming majority of them would be shown to be young men. Fighting appears to be a young man's business, not simply in a hand-to-hand conflict, but also in strategy. The Austrian Generals complained of Napoleon, that he did not fight according to established military principles. The dear old men who were at the head of the Austrian Army expected him to fight "according to the book of arithmetic," but he did not do it, and although they knew that all logic and history was on their side, as to the best way of conducting battles, they went down to defeat. In the business world it is the same. The old men may have charge of the money bags, but the daring ideas that mean economic revolution and make new captains of industry are the ideas of young men. "Youth will be served."

And yet we are now suffering the horrors of an old man's war. With old men marshalling the legions in the field and old men planning strategy, the boys of the world are being sacrificed. The reason for this is obvious. Europe had comparative peace for at least a generation. When the Kaiser ran amuck, he naturally had with him the Generals and military advisers whom he knew as a young man, and who had grown up with him. Like himself, they were all old, and although they might be efficient, they lacked the splendid imagination and daring of youth. Opposed to him are the Generals and Statesmen of the rest of Europe, who have also grown old during the time of peace, and their methods of fighting are the methods of old and cautious men. It is all nonsense to say that this war is different from any other war. Every war in history is different from every other war. Probably the first troglodyte who superseded the stone axe with a bow and arrow was regarded as an innovator, and as a man who had developed the last possibility of war. But to-day science is providing the militarist with miracles—miracles of hell—no one seems to know how to use them effectively. Only old men would ever be content with the long-drawn horror of a "war of attrition." Youth would have grasped and hurled the thunder-

bolts of science. Do not forget that the Prime Minister of England, who dragged down Napoleon, was William Pitt—a boy in his twenties.

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Instead of being alarmed to think that the fate of the present war may be in the hands of a man so young as Sir Douglas Haig, it seems to me that we should look forward with eagerness to a time when still younger men will be promoted to command. When men in their thirties take charge, matters will look more hopeful; when men in their twenties come to the top, the end will be in sight. We have heard how the Germans have passed from the use of heavy artillery to the use of machine guns, and each change has been regarded as an advance. But if there is anything in the lessons of history, the one change that will bring victory will be that which brings young men into supreme command. The side that manages first to shake off its incubus of old men will have victory within its grasp. The world is growing weary of this old man's war, in which the youth of the nations is bleeding to death. The young men are doing the fighting. Let them have the leadership of young men.

The Farmer and the Various Governments.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The farmer is without any doubt engaged in the most noble, and honorable calling in life. He is the mainstay and backbone of our country. All other vocations are appendages from this one main trunk. His work is closely associated with nature, is pleasing, interesting and scientific. The man engaged in this work, who is a student of nature, has before him one continuous, interesting panorama, both in the products of the soil and the growth of the various animals. Men engaged in such honest work and free from the greater immorality that exists in the larger centers are naturally much less suspicious, and more easily hoodwinked than men in cities and towns. Environments are such that it is not surprising that the farmer has been slower to waken up to the fact that he has been the butt of every government we have ever had. Governments have all been sinners so far as we farmers are concerned. The fact is the farmer who is the backbone of the country has been ruled by these various off-shoots, instead of managing his own business, it is being managed for him, in other words the tail is running away with the body. The reason for this is not lack of intelligence on the part of the farmer as some of the brightest minds to-day are in the rural districts. It is a thing of the past for the farmer to cast his parental eye over his sons and decide which of them are bright enough to send to the city. The question now is, which of them is bright enough to take up the vocation of modern and scientific farming. I repeat then, it is not the lack of intelligence on the part of the farmer; but it is lack of union and co-operation. The scattered population of the rural districts makes the union more difficult; with the coming of the rural phone and rural mail, these obstacles have been overcome to a marked degree; consequently the establishment of co-operation to-day is very simple compared to the hard labor our forefathers had, in their efforts along these lines. Men engaged in all other walks in life are a unit. The banks and financial institutions of this country are practically one great trust. The manufacturers, packers, etc., have their interests well looked after. Professional men have their societies and mechanics their unions. Every government has to reckon with these various bodies, and as each of these organizations gains some advantage through legislation, the farmer who has very little direct protection, has to take on a still greater load. Surely all of us who have raised and fitted a lot of hogs for the market must realize how completely we are in the hands of the packer and middlemen, when we find the price drop severely just when every one has fat animals, and it does not pay to continue the heavy feeding. If by chance you called at the grocery for a few pounds of bacon you would not find the drop in price had ever gotten that far. The facts are we are the only industry in the country that buy retail and sell wholesale. Any other industry conducting business along those lines would soon be in the hands of the receiver. Take our horse market during the past year and a half. When war broke out anyone with a little grey matter would be perfectly justified in believing the price of horses would naturally go up. Our Dominion Government issued a war book on agriculture. We were given statistics for the whole world, giving the total number of horses in the world as 93,000,000. We were told a very conservative estimate of the losses would be 1,000,000 per month. One does not need to be very much of a mathematician to estimate the effect this condition should have upon the horse market. What has been the result, there never has been a time when the horse market has been so dull in the past several years.

The government no doubt had good reasons for closing the horse market; but when they did, surely we were entitled to as good a price for our horses as we were getting in peace times. The price fixed by the army buyers was from \$50 to \$100 lower than we had been getting during peace days. The number of horses required by the Canadian army was only a drop in the bucket, and as there were no public works or railroad building going on, horses were actually a drag on the market. The result was a tremendous falling off in the breeding this last season.

Stallion owners complain of a very quiet season. If we were properly organized we would know what was the proper course to pursue in regard to breeding, instead of going along like a ship without a rudder. We would have known in advance if the Canadian Government intended to allow John Bull and Allies permission to buy here this fall, and we could have guided our breeding accordingly. When any of us intimated we should at least get what our animals were worth in peace times we were accused of being selfish and unpatriotic. If we were an organized body is there any farmer in this country who thinks any government would dare to have closed our market, then offer us \$50 to \$100 less than we had been getting? Compare the manufacturer with us, and how do you find them. If ever there has been unpatriotic proceedings, it has been the unholy profits extorted from the Mother country and her Allies in this hour of distress. From 100 per cent. up seems to be their motto. It is these very men who consider us unpatriotic, unless we are willing to sell our stuff at a great reduction. Let us be honest with ourselves and admit the fault does not lie with the various governments. The fact is this condition of affairs rests with ourselves. All governments, Dominion and Provincial past and present, have done a great deal for us in establishing Experimental Farms, Agricultural Colleges, Exhibitions, Fat Stock Shows, Demonstrations, etc. They have taught us to increase our production until we have made rapid strides in this direction. The wonderful work carried on by men like the late Dr. Saunders and Dr. Mills, backed up by the various governments, has been marvellous indeed.

Now that we have increased our production, if we are willing to sit back and allow all these off-shoots to grow rich at our expense, we farmers are bigger fools than I think we are. What we need is organization and co-operation. In a great many cases we have selected men for Parliament, who, after they get elected, worry as much about the farmer as a nursing baby about its breakfast. We have listened to these men preaching legislation that was weaving the rope to tie us hand and foot, and as they would make each statement we would cheer them to a finish. It would be just as sensible for the people of London to rush out and cheer when they saw a German air-craft hovering over their city dropping bombs. The old saying is, the crying baby gets the milk, and it is our business to see to it that the men representing us will soon realize they have an organized body to deal with. Under these circumstances our interests will be as carefully watched as those of all other organizations. There never was a time when the farmers of Canada had a more golden opportunity than the present to launch their claims. The masses of the people have had a good opportunity to see how the financial institutions, manufacturers, middlemen, etc., act during war time. Consequently it does not require much argument to prove to the voters of this country what they have done and will do in peace times. We have made many efforts at organization and co-operation. Our first great effort dates from 1866, The Grange Movement, which was very successful for a time then gradually had a slow death. In 1890 the Patrons of Industry were organized, and for a time they were very successful; but they had a more sudden death than the previous movement. In 1914 we had another movement started known as the "United Farmers of Ontario," this movement is the remnant of these other organizations, it is still in very young babyhood.

Far be it from me to attempt to dictate to these old, wise, deep-thinking, common-sense farmers; but before this movement becomes too strong let us profit by our past experiences. If you examine a few of the planks in the platform drawn up by the Patrons of Industry, you can easily see why it was a failure. Among a great many other things in their platform were such planks as Civil Service Reform, Abolition of the Senate, etc., questions that would be very difficult for any old established party to deal with, much less one in its very infancy, problems that had very little to do with the farming industry and certainly not any more than with all other industries. We made the mistake of introducing too much politics into our Constitution. Let us bear in mind the fact we must creep before walking. What we want first are questions in which all farmers are interested from poultrymen to wheat growers. Any organization starting in Ontario mixed with politics has failed and will surely fail again. Many of us on election day would cast our farming interests to one side and vote for the Devil, provided he wore a Grit or Tory jacket. Consequently we must be extremely careful in drawing up our platform. Look at the success attained by the wheat growers of the West, an organization just a few years old and now handling millions of bushels of their own grain, operating their own elevators and terminals at Fort William, also branching into the flour business. This is becoming a great and powerful organization with a wonderful future. Already the effect of this organization is being felt in the House of Parliament. I will grant you it has been easier in the West, as the Western man is not bound to party ties as we are in old Ontario, and when questions relating to the farmer arise he sticks to the ship and is either for or against the government, not so much Grit or Tory as he is farmer. However, with those advantages this movement in the West owes its great success to the skillful manner in which it was first started. This movement owes a great deal of its success to R. MacKenzie, Secretary of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association. It would be wise for the United Farm-