FARM AND DAIRY

AND RURAL HOME

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The Rural Publishing Company, Limited PETERBORO, ONT.

"Home" Cleaning Time

HE housewife who doesn't "house clean" at least twice a year is not classed as a good housekeeper by her more careful neighbors. And don't we admire the spirit of our women folks which makes dirt and disorder such a hateful thing to them! But would not a "home" cleaning time be preferable? "Home" cleaning involves not only the inside of the house, but the outside as well. Does it ever occur to you that it must be discouraging to the good wife to make such a thorough cleaning inside twice a year, while right near the back door and perhaps in full view of the road is a disorderly wood-pile and dirty door yard. Perhaps the cattle graze in front of the house where there should be a wellkept lawn and shrubbery.

Let us men folks encourage the ladies by looking after our end of the "home" cleaning. Here are a few of the jobs that might be attended to: Clean out the cellar, removing all decaying vegetables and such litter. Remove that disorderly wood-pile to where it will be less in evidence. Clean up the litter around the dooryard. Repair the fences and set the lawns and flower beds in order. Spend a pleasant evening with your wife studying a seed or nursery catalogue and making out an order for the vines or shrubs that she has coveted so long. When both get interested in the "home" cleaning there wil be less complaint of irregular meals during "house" cleaning.

Out with the Road Drag

THE split log drag is not intended to make bad roads good, but rather to keep roads that have been properly graded from deteriorating. The principle on which the drag works is identical with the one that makes a hog wallow water-proof; the hog rolls around in the wallow, keeps the sides smooth until finally the earth becomes almost as impervious to moisture as cement. A well dragged road is simply a hog

wallow turned inside out and upside down, and such a road sheds the rain instead of retaining water on the surface. The undragged road allows water to stand on the surface and get down at the foundation of the road until the road is little better than a mud hole.

It is evident from this brief elucidation of the general principle of road making that spasmodic effort will never accomplish anything with the road drag. We must start right now-better had we started earlier-and keep the drag going continuously after every rain or often enough to avoid ruts. If the township will not pay us for the trouble, let us drag the road adjoining our farm anyway and give the councillors an example of unselfish citizenship. If we do the work well the council will soon come to appreciate the value of the drag and will reward us for our efforts.

Poverty and Land

ONE of the questions that is more and more coming up for consideration is popularly known as "the land question." This problem, once regarded as purely an academic one and of little practical importance, is now coming to be regarded as the one lying at the source of poverty and the human misery and degradation that go with poverty. The anomaly of a rich and undeveloped country as the home of poverty-stricken people such as we now find in increasing numbers even in this new land appealed so strongly to the delegates to the Social Service Congress in Ottawa recently that men representing all the leading Protestant denominations in Canada adopted the following resolution amidst applause:

"Believing that God in His Infinite Love has "made ample provision for the needs of all His "children and that the poverty that is so wide"spread to-day is due to the failure of man"kind to recognize clearly that the great nat"ural resources of the earth, including the land,
"are the gifts of God to all His children, and "that the state is the trustee whose duty it is
"to administer these Divine gifts, not to the
"advantage of the few, but for the benefit of
"all, we, therefore, condemn the handing over of the public domain to private individuals "and corporations without imposing conditions "which would ensure their use and development "in the interests of the Dominion at large." "in the interests of the Dominion at large-Fruthermore, believing that our neglect in "the past to apply this principle of justice in "the administration of public affairs has led "to widespread speculation in land and the "other natural resources of the country, there-"by creating a desire to obtain wealth easily "and without giving adequate service in re-"turn and that this condition is a principal "contributing factor in the high cost of living, "city slums and rural depopulation, therefore "this congress recommends such a readjustment of existing methods of taxation as will "tend to prevent individuals or corporations rpofiting, hereafter, at the expense of the "public through appropriating unearned incre-"ment, and which will at the same time best "promote the interests of the community at "large."

This resolution expresses the stand of the Christian churches in Canada, and Farm and Dairy heartily endorses this resolution. We, too, believe that the Creator intended the earth for the use of all His children and that when any individual monopolizes for his own use land or its resources he should pay to the state in taxes what the use of that land is worth to him. In this way, by the taxation of land values, the holding of vacant land would be made impossible, industry as represented in buildings and crops would not be taxed, more capital would be available for productive enterprise, and thus, indirectly, the problem of involuntary poverty would be done away with. This resolution also expresses the new attitude of the Church toward social problems.

Better Than Military Drill

HE value of military drill for developing the physique of the city man is an argument much used by the Minister of Militia in defence of military training. Col. Sam Hughes glorie militarism. Had he his way he would have universal military training in Canada even as the have it in Germany. We suspect, however, that the worthy Colonel is more interested in propagating the military spirit in which he glories than in de veloping the physique of men. If, however, Col Hughes' first desire really is to develop th physique of Canadian manhood we would like to make a counter proposition for his consideration that we believe has more points of merit than has military training.

The season of the spring rush on the farm s approaching. Lack of labor will be the greatest detriment to getting the crops in the ground in good condition. Here is our suggestion: Why not march a few regiments of city militia mer out on to the farms to help the farmers with the seeding? The same tactics might be followed a harvest time. The city recruits would then ge fresh air, physical exercise, and they would develop more endurance in following the plow that in military marches. If they desired practice i shooting they might take their rifles along i the evenings and clean out the ground hogs that in some sections are becoming quite a pest. This practice in marksmanship would be or much mo advantage in actual war than would targe practice. The great advantage of this plan, ho ever, would be that it would add to the wealth the country and solve one of the farmer's most vexed problems, instead of being a source wasteful expenditure as is the present system of military training. We respectfully submit this plan for the consideration of the Minister Militia and Defence.

Get the Bulletins

RE the bulletins of the Dominion and Pa vincial Departments of Agriculture co ing into your home? You cannot affor to be without them. Some reports are regul encyclopedias of information. Where, for stance, would you get more concrete informati on feeding dairy cows than that contained in M Grisdale's recent bulletin on the subject? T annual report of the Ontario Agricultural Colle has information well worth while on every bran of farming. The Nova Scotia annual repo dealing as they do with some separate branch farming each year are a complete textbook themselves. Other agricultural reports are equa ly worthy of mention. A postcard to Ottawa to the Department of your province will brit these reports to you regularly.

Occasionally we hear criticisms of government reports and sometimes these criticisms are we taken. When scientists get in the habit of tal ing in the language of their trade they sho stop writing bulletins for general distribution Many bulletins are so technical that plain ord ary folks like the most of us would need a sciential tific dictionary to follow them. Such bulletins not read or appreciated. In many cases, ho ever, criticisms of government bulletins are spired by the fact that conclusions publish therein do not agree with the farmer's own ide on the subject.

Farm and Dairy has every confidence in matter contained in the bulletins from our v ous Canadian deplartments and colleges. farmers can not know too much about our occa tion and the government bulletin is an excelle source of information.

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The report of tee to the Reco cord Associatio has just been The report cortion of interest ested in the pu

The financial receipts of \$29, total \$27,272.58, hand of \$2,110.

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