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# The Farmer's Advocate

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## EDITORIAL.

It is time the ram lambs were separated from the

Select next season's flock header before breeders have sold out.

It is easy to see where thorough cultivation of the corn paid well this year.

Wheat seeding time is here again. Prepare the land well, fertilize, and treat the seed.

Keep the plowshare bright; next year's crops depend on the amount of fall plowing done.

Take an interest in your local Fair and make it better than ever. The Fall Fair that does not go ahead soon goes off the map.

If horse-power is available don't waste time with the single-furrow walking plow. Ride, and turn two furrows instead of one.

Crate-fatten the young cockerels and dispose of them as soon as ready for the market. Chicken feed is an important item these days.

The Canadian army continues to win fresh laurels and demonstrate that no better fighting force, of equal size, exists on any battle front.

There is an advantage in selecting seed corn in the field; one knows what the parent plant was like. The date of maturity is also worth considering.

Anything to be sold in the auction ring early this fall should be getting extra care and feed. It does not pay to lead poorly-fitted animals into the sale-ring.

Lord Shaughnessy advises that Canada feel her way in the nationalization of railways, but surely no bigger blunder can be made than the one for which the country ls suffering to-day.

If the judge does not give your animal the ribbon you think it deserves give him the benefit of the doubt and let it go at that. Nothing can be gained by "kicking" unless the decision is a flagrant or wilful error.

The fuel shortage will not be confined to the towns this coming winter. Many country homes are poorly supplied and wood is very scarce. There is no use minimizing the possibilities of hardships and suffering, for the shortage will be felt acutely unless we have a very mild winter.

Farmers' organization is class organization, pure and simple, but it is necessary that all classes become organized before a proper union of all forces can be accomplished. This done, the various branches of our national life can arrive at an understanding that will make democracy possible and ensure a reign of equity and justice.

Strikes are usually the result of dissatisfaction on the part of labor which realizes that handsome profits are being realized through their toil and in which they do not share. Formerly strikers were looked upon as outlaws, but in the majority of cases public sympathy is now with them. This is a good omen and indicates that the time is drawing near when capital will have to recognize labor and agree to terms that will return to the working man a just compensation for the service

#### Think Twice.

There has always been a feeling in rural districts that the majority of urban folk were wealthy, and this has ever kindled a desire in the breasts of young country people to leave the ancestral home for the centres of population where money apparently flowed so freely. This erroneous impression has enticed many a young man away from good opportunities and transplanted him into a position of servitude where the compensation was meagre and the ultimate outcome was disappointing. Only by living a life of extreme frugality does the wage or small salary earner store anything away for a rainy day in the city. Expenses are always on a level with the income, and often only through very careful watching are they prevented from going beyond the limitations of the pay envelope. On the other hand, many promising young men of rural training rise to positions of influence and power in city life. In fact, were it not for the constant drain on the country the towns and cities of this or any country would, in a short time, go into decline for the want of that freshness and vigor which develops only where the air is pure and life is ideal. One makes his own opportunities, but the office boy does not marry the president's daughter and become the manager of the firm or business as frequently as fiction would lead one to believe. There are good chances everywhere, the door to success is still wide open, but the ushers at this entrance are not so numerous as at that which leads to failure and disappointment. Anyone who has made up his mind that he is not suited for agriculture would do well to try some other line, but he should not be influenced in this decision by the glare and tinsel of the city. Wealth comes slowly to the farmer, but it comes only to the few in the city. Country youth should not drop the bone in reaching for the shadow.

### A Credit System for Agriculture.

In some districts of this country where the land is owned mostly by men who have passed through the hard years of paying off the mortgage, and have emerged into the clearing, there is perhaps little need of more money than is now available, but there are sections where the road is still heavy and the load moves none too easily. In some parts of Canada farmers are willing to acknowledge that the production of their farms could be increased through the use of more capital, but too often there is a tendency to keep financial matters a secret, and this is the greatest barrier to successful farmers' organizations, brought into being for the purpose of securing sufficient capital with which to carry on business. The banks are required to keep their assets in liquid form, and loans to manufacturers or most other forms of business are satisfactory to all concerned because the money is turned over several times before the period of the loan expires. As pointed out dozens of times in these columns, this form of credit is not suited to agricultural development. As an example, let us consider the case of a farmer who desires to build a silo. He will require \$300 perhaps in July. Corn will be stored in the silo that fall and fed to a bunch of steers that may not get to market till October of the following year. There is no revenue from the silo for at least 15 months in this case, and when the cattle are sold the silo has only partly paid for itself. Take another instance, when stocker or feeder cattle are purchased to consume the roughage and grain grown on the farm. In a good many cases a whole year will elapse before they are cashed in at the stock yards. The chartered banks do not take kindly to this form of credit; their assets are required to be in more liquid form. A good system of long and short-term credits would work out advantageously for Canadian farmers, as a whole, and organizations now extant should give this matter their

consideration this coming winter so that such a boon to the industry may not be deferred unduly.

The Province of Manitoba has a Rural Credits Societies Act, which has only been on the Statute Books a comparatively short time, but which nevertheless is already justifying itself and making for a greater degree of agricultural prosperity. One society organized under this Act will be discussed in an early issue, and the fact that the 64 beneficiaries of the Act in this Society average around \$10,000 in actual assets over liabilities shows that it is not a poverty-stricken class who are making use of the facilities afforded through the Association. Farming has always suffered from the lack of ready capital, but this could be remedied if the agricultural class themselves would take the matter in hand, organize and bring about such conditions as the industry requires for its well-being.

#### The Fair—A School for Adults.

Without doubt a greater breadth of vision and a more useful education can be acquired at one of our larger exhibitions in a few days or a few hours than can be obtained at any other institution in a much longer period. Education simply equips one to carry on his or her life work to the very best advantage, and places one in a position to serve the community and nation in a manner which suggests good citizenship. The home, the farm, the factory and all branches of our national and social life are depicted there, and the most up-to-date methods and equipments are to be seen demonstrated and in operation. Those who go to learn will find much to carry away in the form of useful information, while a proper acquaintance with the latest inventions in household utensils, farm machinery, electrical and gas appliance and everything which tends to make our labor less arduous, yet more productive, will be a valuable asset throughout the year which follows. The live stock, the field crops and produce of all kinds act as an incentive to return home and do better. Life without progress is slow death for we cannot stand still; we must either advance or go back. The influence which our large fairs have on the national life of Canada cannot be over-estimated; they depict the progress of thought, invention, art, agriculture and science. No one can afford to miss this annual schooling.

#### The Future for Live Stock.

In spite of all the doubt and uncertainty which dims one's vision when peering into the future, there appears a vista leading to a prosperous live-stock industry in this Dominion. Prices will drop no doubt after the war, but world-wide conditions and a substantial shortage from a universal viewpoint will not permit of anything but a steady and more or less satisfactory market for years following victory and the declaration of peace, This is the opinion of those who are in close touch with the situation and in a position to know the sentiment and the possibilities existing in the war-ridden nations, and in the countries where live stock may be produced to restore the equilibrium in meat supplies. In last week's issue H. S. Arkell, the Dominion Live Stock Commissioner, emphasized the necessity of bringing to maturity a national live-stock policy that will place Canada on a good footing and cement the trade relationship which now exists with the Mother Country. There is much the Government can do. They can provide for suitable and ready market reports which the farmer can get on his telephone every morning, which arrangement cannot be made too soon; suitable abattoir and storage facilities should be erected and adequate terminal accommodation at the seaboard ought to be made a part of our equipment for carrying on our export trade. While the Dominion Government must concern itself with such matters as we have suggested, the farmer