

URGE TAX ON LAND VALUES

The arguments for the proposals we press on the government and the House of Commons are unanswerable. As the united committee declares in its manifesto:

"If there is one class that cannot make good any claim to escape fair contribution, it is that of the landowners who hold land which they are neither using nor allowing anyone else to use. The man who holds land out of use or only puts it to partial use is vetoing all the production which would be possible if labor and capital had access to that land on fair terms, and, by helping to maintain an artificial scarcity of land, he is increasing the price of it, and so worsening the conditions upon which labor and capital may obtain access to any land. In these days it is not only fair but urgent for economic reasons that all landowners should be taxed alike on the true value of the land they hold. The great need now is, and will be in the years to come, to open up every source of wealth and to increase production in all possible ways, in order to maintain our economic position during the war, and to repair the waste afterwards. The taxation of land values is the surest means to this end, as it would tend to bring into full use land which, in the absence of such taxation, landowners are encouraged to underuse or keep out of use altogether. For the above reason it is urgent at once to take the necessary administrative and legislative steps to secure the taxation of land values."—A.W.M., in Land Values Monthly (London, Eng.).

SHADE TREE SPRAYING

Last summer was decidedly the worst season for insect damage to shade trees that Manitoba has experienced for some time. In some districts the canker worms ate the leaves almost entirely from the maple trees and almost killed them. They were not, however, distributed over all the province. But in every part of Manitoba plant lice were abundant, and between their depredations and those of other insects, the shade trees in many parts of the country had a very hard time of it.

This year the Horticultural Department of Manitoba Agricultural College has launched a vigorous crusade against the tree pests. Two posters have been distributed and J. A. Neilson, B.S.A., assistant professor in horticulture, is touring Manitoba giving public demonstrations in tree spraying. His remaining dates are as follows: Virden, June 7; Alexander, June 8; Carberry, June 9; Portage la Prairie, June 10.

As indicating the damage done last year to the trees, the following news item from the Boissevain Recorder of recent date is representative:

"The maple trees around town show the deadly effect of the insect pests of last year. Many people have used the axe already, and others will later. Many of the smaller trees are dead, the older ones are dead to the larger limbs; they may sprout out again, but the continuance of the insect another year will finish them entirely."

HORSES AFTER THE WAR

Not only has the wastage by reason of war been enormous, but in all the belligerent countries, not omitting Great Britain, there has either been a partial stoppage or a whole stoppage of breeding by reason of the scarcity of labor, the disturbed conditions or entire devastation.

Whether the war lasts or ceases there must continue an undiminished demand for horses. When peace comes there will be a long period of replenishment. Then quality as much and even more than quantity will be required. Hence the evident call to every Canadian farmer is to breed and to breed to the best available, to utilize his mares for production and to secure the immediate services of the best purebred sire of type in his neighborhood. It will pay.

The demand is increasing and will continue to increase long after peace has been declared. If Canada is to take advantage of the situation the time to start in is now. There will be an assured market demand for foals at weaning time from mares bred now.

REDUCE BEER OUTPUT

London, May 29.—The House of Commons today passed the second reading of the bill which would reduce by 13 per cent. the output of beer. The object of the bill is to relieve the room in ships required for importing foreign hops. The measure empowers the government to prohibit the importation of hops unless the home-grown supply is insufficient to meet requirements, when licenses for importation will be granted. This question has been a highly controversial one in Great Britain for some time past. The economists have pointed to the wastage of sea-carrying power incurred by the carrying of hops for brewing purposes, which space, they have asserted, could be so much better utilized in carrying foodstuffs and other necessities.

MUST FENCE RAILWAY LINE

Ottawa, May 28.—A judgment has been issued by the railway board ordering the Canadian Northern Railway to complete the fencing of its line east and west of Onoway, Alta. The complaint as to lack of fencing was made by P. P. Woodbridge, secretary-treasurer of the United Farmers of Alberta.

CO-OPERATIVE POULTRY MARKETING

Last fall the Saskatchewan Co-operative Organization Branch, working in conjunction with the Poultry Husbandry Department of the Provincial College of Agriculture, conducted a co-operative poultry killing and marketing station at Saskatoon with the object of encouraging a greater production of poultry and poultry products in the province. This work met with such a hearty response on the part of the producers and brought such satisfactory returns that it has now been decided that this year two killing and marketing stations will be operated, one in Regina to serve the southern half of the province and the other at Saskatoon for the territory tributary to that point.

Poultry producers are invited to fit up their birds and send them in alive to these stations this fall, where they will be killed, plucked and graded, under the supervision of experts provided by the College of Agriculture, and subsequently stored and sold by the Co-operative Organization Branch. Advance payments at graded prices, consistent with the quality of the birds, will be forwarded to producers when their birds reach the killing station, and when the poultry has been disposed of final payments will be forwarded, returning to the producer every cent realized from the sale of the birds, less the actual cost of handling. It has not yet been definitely decided when the stations will be opened, but it is anticipated that they will be ready to receive birds by November 15, and will remain open for a month or more. Favorable prices are anticipated. Parties desiring information in regard to the production and handling of poultry should communicate with Professor R. K. Baker, College of Agriculture, Saskatoon. Inquiries in regard to the administration of the killing stations should be addressed to The Co-operative Organization Branch, Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Bernard Partridge, the principal cartoonist of Punch, holds a warm place in the hearts of Canadians for the picture which appeared in Punch a year ago, showing Canada as the defender of the Empire. The picture was inspired by the heroic stand made by the Canadians at St. Julien, and the battle-scarred soldier who holds the flag with one hand and his rifle with the other adorns many homes in the Dominion. Partridge was born in London in 1861 and early in life took up his work of decorative painting and illustrating books. He joined the staff of Punch in 1891, and for a number of years has been principal cartoonist of that famous English publication.

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Egyptian Graves, Bureau, Man.	20.00
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