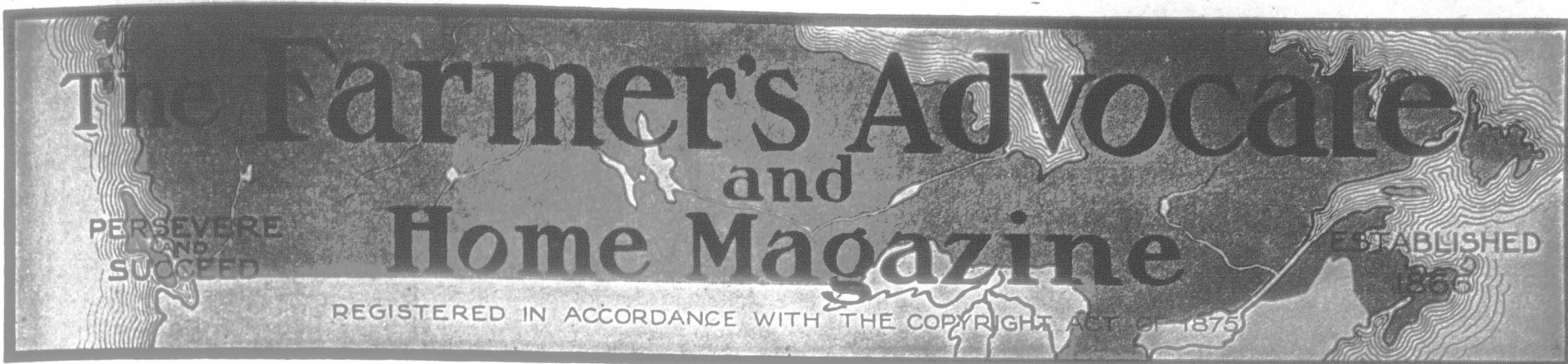


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## EDITORIAL

Fill the ice-house early.

If you have a good barn send us the plan.

Have you got next summer's wood hauled yet?

Light and ventilation are much neglected in many stables.

Are our tables likely to be supplied by New Zealand butter?

The O. A. C. No. 72 oat now bids fair to be as valuable as O. A. C. No. 21 barley.

Comfort for the cattle does not mean a high temperature maintained by foul air.

Save time and money by doing all the necessary teaming possible during the season of sleighing.

What are milk by-products worth to you Mr. Dairyman? Think twice before disposing of whole milk.

A larger number of dairy farmers should attend the annual meeting of the Dairymen's Associations.

The use of only the best varieties of grain and roots for seed would greatly increase the returns from many Canadian farms.

For the farm boy who likes farming the farm offers an opportunity not to be passed up without consideration. Where can he do better?

This is an opportune season at which to rid the herd of the inferior cows, and it is more than ever advisable to keep the better class of females.

A Western Ontario motorist recently made the statement that steel tires made the dust, and the automobile scattered it. He was right in part.

How fast are your steers gaining? Weighing them, where possible, from time to time may furnish some surprises, and may lead to a change in rations for some of them.

Read the reports in this issue of the Experimental Union meetings, and the annual convention of Western Ontario Dairymen. If you grow grain or milk cows there is something in them for you.

A farmer was recently asked how much he would take per bushel for his wheat, and was called "crazy" when he replied, "\$1.00 per bushel. The man knew what he was saying when he replied, "All right, I'll feed it to the hogs." It pays to feed the grain on the place.

### Turn on the Light.

Plenty of light is one of the first essentials in satisfactory stabling. It is necessary to cleanliness and good health on the part of attendant and live stock. Dirt and disease prevail in darkness. To let in the sunlight generously is a long step towards proper sanitary conditions. Without touching the question of germ-destroying, the dirt of litter, manure, fodder, and floating dust accumulating in cobwebs, will certainly escape notice in the corners and crannies of a dark stable. A periodical housecleaning in the cattle or horse stable is no substitute for a daily cleaning, which is most likely to be done when the light is turned on. The second point in favor of good lighting is that it saves labor, a great deal of vexation and, of course, time. With one man trying vainly to do two men's work, as is the case on thousands of Canadian farms, all needless and wasteful steps and efforts must be eliminated. Efficient work cannot be accomplished in dark stables which tend to waste feed and lessen gains in meat as well as in milk production. Therefore, we say, in planning to remodel the old stabling during the coming season, provide something entirely new—make sure that there are plenty of convenient windows. The light will flow in if given a chance. Do not keep it out. It is one of the stockman's best friends.

In this connection, experience is valuable. One reader can help another through the columns of "The Farmer's Advocate." Hand us for publication a short letter describing how your stables are lighted, telling the number of windows and their size and shape in a given length and height of wall and how the sashes are adjusted. Mention the dimensions of the stable also and how you get light to the central portions successfully.

### Are Your Stables Ventilated?

Of all the important considerations in planning and building farm out-buildings, perhaps none is so much neglected as proper ventilation. Some still plan their stables to make them as warm as possible, the degree of heat to be maintained by keeping in the foul air given off from the lungs of a large number of animals, and by the natural body heat of the horses, cattle, pigs and sheep enclosed. Everything is made as nearly air tight as possible. Then there is the man who realizes the importance of fresh air but forgets that direct drafts are dangerous. He very often plans his intakes in the form of doors or windows to be opened when necessary, and forgets to construct suitable outlets to carry off foul air. Some are still indifferent to the ventilation question, but the latter classes are gradually growing fewer in numbers. However, there are many who still seem to believe that their cattle should be protected from every vestige of fresh air in cold weather, and consequently the air in the stables is foul, heavy and damp, and the walls and ceiling are dripping wet. This latter condition may sometimes be found where there is ample provision made for ventilation, but the system is not properly operated. There are two main requisites in ventilation, one to get the system properly installed, and the other to have it properly operated after it is installed. It must be effective without great cost, and must be simplicity itself as far as operation is concerned. Nearly all concede that pure air is absolutely essential in the stables, and during the next few weeks, when many of our readers are planning stables to be built during the summer

of 1914, we invite those who have good ventilating systems already installed to describe them for the benefit of others. Few know the best size and number of inlets needed for a given number of cattle, and many do not understand outlets as they should. Give in detail the manner of installation and operation, and help someone else build a better stable or pig pen.

### The Farm Boy's Best Choice.

The gradual depopulation of the rural districts has been during recent years one of the most perplexing problems in our country. Even the cry against the high cost of living in the urban centres has not been sufficient to check the flow of the rising generation cityward and year after year the sons and daughters of the farm cut loose from the old surroundings and seek fortune with the greater throngs, and the larger the city the more irresistible its drawing power. Just how far this draining of the life blood of agricultural communities will go it is not possible to conjecture, but this we do know, that economic conditions are developing which should exert a very potent influence tending to keep the farm boy who likes farming on the farm and possibly to attract some of those who have left country paths for the city streets to a more successful life in their proper groove.

The country has natural advantages over the city which the latter can never hope to duplicate. There is a sweet communion with nature to be enjoyed on the farm that is impossible along the walled boulevards of the busy business city. There is freedom, fresh air, good water, health in its fullest measure and eternal joy for the lover of nature in the unlimited outdoor life of a Canadian farm, but all this has existed through the years in which the sons of the soil have been shaking the clay of their father's farms from off their heavy boots and donning the patent leathers of city pavements. Conditions are changing. The mail is now delivered at the farm gate; the ring of the telephone breaks the monotony of the kitchen, and facilities for travel are yearly being improved. The farm is not the isolated wilderness which many believe it to be. But when it comes right down to brass tacks, are any of the previously mentioned advantages or improvements destined to become the real magnet which shall inseparably attach the farm boy to the farm or exert such a drawing force on those already in other walks of life as to attract them back and hold them fast to that which is good? We are afraid not. People cannot live on beautiful scenery, fresh air loaded with the scent of apple blossoms, and water, be it ever so pure. While these, with conveniences now being enjoyed, are factors towards improving conditions, they are not life itself. They may aid in throwing agriculture into a new light, but they are not destined to be the fundamental cause of the changed conditions which are coming. If the majority of our farm boys are to make farming their occupation they must see in it an attractive life, and the greatest incentive to the young man is a fair and sure profit on his operations. The young men of the farm are not afraid of work. They know that farming means work, but so does any other occupation, and as a usual thing according as one works so he succeeds. The farm has no place for him who is afraid of work, but neither has any other calling worth while. But every man justly expects reasonable