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Succeed."

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EDITORIAL

If we do not put our best intelligence into the farm, we shall get little satisfaction out of it, or financial returns, either.

In many pursuits men may muddle along and make a livelihood, but to make a real success on the farm a man must have a good head, and use it.

Still the Clydesdales come. They have their faults, concerning which plain-speaking has been recently indulged, but show us a perfect breed of draft or any other class of equines! Canada has large place and warm affection for the splendid Scotch cart horse.

Between white grubs and drouth, many a pasture field this summer has suffered sorely. What to do with the ruined spots, where the larvae have left but a dead-looking sheep skin of loose turf, is a problem we have discussed, with effort at practical suggestion. Contributors' experience and ideas would also be very welcome.

Unwelcome news is Prof. Waite's statement that the disease known as "little peach" is common in Ontario. He and one of his assistants were with the excursion through the Grimsby district lately, and pointed out a number of trees affected by it. He claims that much of the disease commonly called yellows in this country is in reality "little peach," with which the yellows are closely related. Pulling out the trees and planting again is the only known remedy.

"The power of the immediate future is water-power. The trust of the immediate future is the power trust, if nation, State or citizen fail to do their utmost. In some regions this trust is already firmly entrenched. In others, it is in the making. In every region it is spreading, strengthening, acquiring, where men need power to work for them and water runs down hill. To say there are no combinations to control water-powers, is to be of them, or to be misinformed." This trenchant paragraph, by Overton W. Price, in the Independent Magazine, is calculated to emphasize the prudence and far-reaching importance of the Ontario hydro-electric power policy, which has been so insidiously and sedulously attacked and obstructed in so many ways.

The trouble with the protectionist is that he has eyes for only one of the elementary processes of arithmetic. He sees addition, but not subtraction. An industry built up under the protection of a tariff wall fills his eye, and appeals to him as a concrete entity. The handicap to other industries, and to consumers generally, resulting from an increased price charged for the products of the protected industry, escapes his attention, because it is distributed in small and not readily determined proportions among a large body of consumers. The United States, for instance, has pointed to the magnificent manufacturing industry fostered by its protective tariff policy. The influence of this same policy in producing the unsatisfactory conditions of country life into which a commission was appointed recently to inquire, and in bringing the Republic to a point where importation of food supplies is a threatened necessity, constitutes the complementary effect which American politicians seem unable to realize.

American Bacon not Exported as Canadian.

Notwithstanding quotations of \$8 to \$9 per cwt. for live hogs, it appears that the trade in pure-bred swine is very dull at present, and that it has not been good for several years. Certain breeders and others are of the opinion that the duty on hogs and hog products coming in from the United States should be raised. The charge is made that dressed hogs in large quantities are being imported by packers who cure them into bacon, hams, etc., for export, and that such goods are sold in England as Canadian, thereby injuring the reputation of our product. In support of this, it is said that the difference in price between Canadian and Danish bacon is greater now than it was some years ago. "The hog business in Canada," it has been declared with much emphasis, "will go to the dogs if something is not done soon."

With regard to the statement that Canadian bacon does not sell so high in proportion to Danish as it did some years ago, the general impression is that such is the case. Admitting that the general impression is correct, it is true to only a limited extent, and there are other reasons for the condition of things complained of than the one given. For one thing, the supply of Canadian pork products is irregular. There usually is a great scarcity of hogs in the late spring and the summer months, and a glut during October and November. The British buyer who might wish to deal in Canadian goods is unable to count on a steady supply, and naturally turns to other and more regular sources for his hog meat. Here is where the Danish farmer excels. His hogs are coming forward steadily at all seasons of the year. Then, too, Canadian farmers flock in or out of the hog business according as prices have been high or low for the previous year or two, thus accentuating the periodic fluctuation in supply and price. And another factor in the case is that the grade of hogs supplied to our packers is not as good as it was at one time, and never was as uniformly high as it ought to have been and might have been. This is largely the fault of the packers. If they discriminated in price between the ideal bacon hog and the thick fat, as some of them started out to do, there would have been by this time a much superior type in general use than there is. So long as one class of hog brings as much per pound as another, a farmer is going to keep the kind that he believes will weigh the most for the feed consumed. And the common belief, whether right or wrong, is that the moderately thick and short type of hog does this.

As to the charge that our packers, by importing American pork, curing it and exporting it as Canadian, were lowering the reputation of our products, "The Farmer's Advocate" has made diligent inquiry. Trade returns have been carefully scanned, several packing companies consulted, and inquiry addressed to Dr. J. G. Rutherford, Veterinary Director-General and Live-stock Commissioner, Ottawa. The trade returns show that a considerable importation of pork products, especially lard and its compounds, is made from the United States yearly, but give no color to the allegation against the packers. The packers themselves reply emphatically that it is false. One firm declares: "We have no knowledge of American hogs, either alive or dressed, coming into Canada and being converted into bacon and hams." Another: "We are not importing any dressed hogs from the United States, or from anywhere else, and have not done so." Yet another: "Hogs are about as dear in the United States as they are here, and we don't think it is

possible for any packer to do anything of the kind." "How," asks one of them, "would inspected houses be able to do the dressed-hog business from the States, when an inspector would brand the meat? For export, bacon and hams must be inspected and stamped." Dr. Rutherford answers in part: "The total quantity of pork imported from the United States during the last twelve months by Canadian establishments under inspection is 911,721 pounds. These importations consisted almost entirely of mess pork in barrels, and hams, backs and bellies, only a very small portion of the whole being long, clear bacon. When these figures are compared with the exports of Canadian bacon and hams, the figures for which during the last five years run between 77,000,000 and 128,000,000 pounds annually, it will at once be seen that the importation of American pork for manufacturing purposes is of no importance whatever." This might be inferred from the fact that Buffalo hog quotations have been practically the same as those in Toronto of recent years. There is only one conclusion possible, the statement is without material foundation.

The Protecting Forest.

What with forestry conventions, forestry instruction in seats of learning, and the services of professional foresters, supplemented by continual increase in lumber prices, a gradual interest is being aroused in this most important subject, and not too soon.

By virtue of its fuel and timber product alone, the forest is a vastly valuable asset. But it confers additional and incidental advantages of an economic and aesthetic character, scarcely less important than its harvest of wood. An excellent article, entitled, "Influence of Forest on Climate and Water Supply," has been contributed to "The Farmer's Advocate" by H. R. MacMillan, B.S.A., Assistant Inspector of Dominion Forest Reserves.

The claim once made in favor of forests, that the climate was modified by their presence and the amount of rainfall increased has been largely abandoned. In the forest itself and its immediate vicinity, temperatures are less extreme, both by night and day and in summer and winter, but there is no appreciable effect on average temperature conditions of a country. In the matter of rainfall, also, which we used to be informed would be increased and made more regular, all that is now claimed is that on the forest area itself local showers will be more frequent; the open country will not benefit.

One of the chief beneficial influences of a forest is in retarding the run-off of water. Snow is melted more slowly in the shade of trees, and rains are held in the mossy soil as by a sponge, so that the outflow is gentle and more continuous. Not only is this of great importance where water-powers or irrigation supply is concerned, but in the matter of wasteful washing and gully of the soil, and of destructive overflows of streams, it is worthy of our serious attention. In this connection the startling statement is repeated, that to double the rate of flow of a stream is to increase its power of carrying sediment sixty-four times. What an awful engine of destruction is a fast-flowing current of water!

The effect of a farm wood-lot in harboring insectivorous birds, affording local shelter from winds, relieving the landscape and beautifying the country, are other advantages which cannot be too often or too strongly impressed. The forest is a blessing, the wood-lot a boon, and the domestic cow, which has destroyed thousands of acres of promising wood-lot by browsing the seedling trees, has been guilty of a vandalism, the