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EDITORIAL

Corn and roots depend on cultivation.

Old weeds die hard, young ones succumb much more easily.

Harrow the sprouting corn. It will save labor later on.

Keep the cultivator going—cultivate! Cultivate! Cultivate!

A few swede turnips will add to the value of the ration for the cattle next winter. Sow them soon.

If you have a small piece of land that is clean and well cultivated try a little alfalfa sown alone.

Here is one to ponder over: "We are short on originality, long on imitators, and very short on stability."

Hot weather is here, flies are here, and unless the dairyman is careful his cream or milk will be tainted before delivered.

If possible arrange the pastures so that the stock may have access to shade. It means much towards their comfort.

Attend a few of the good old-fashioned picnics in your neighborhood. A day away from the farm now and then will inspire renewed effort.

Watch the methods of your neighbors, and see if there is not something in them that could be used to improve your own. If so do not hesitate to make use of them.

A good cow can soon become a scrub in the hands of a careless and indifferent owner, but a scrub cow cannot be made worthy of a stall in a good herd by the best of care.

Does your farm reflect prosperity? If not why not? As a general thing on an average fertile soil the farmer himself is the factor which determines whether or not good crops will be produced.

If Canada's farmers were as rich as some would make it appear, they would not have to take the dust of so many city-owned automobiles, and they would be given their due portion of the road on all occasions.

Now that the country's business with MacKenzie and Mann is settled for a few months, it should not take long for Parliament to wind up the people's affairs to be attended to this session.

The world moves toward peace. Had the Mexican situation developed a few years ago many bloody battles would have been fought already, and arbitration would never have been dreamed of. Formerly all things were fought out, now they are thought out.

A Big Man's Job.

Do not despise your occupation as a farmer, no matter what is said or written. Farming is the biggest job in the world to-day, and has some of the best men in the world working towards its advancement. It has become a common saying that the farmer is not enough of a business man to successfully compete in these strenuous times, and some say that it is because of his lack of business acumen that he is not given more favors in a financial way by moneyed corporations. Be that as it may we venture to say that if a good many of the advisers—business men in "Big Business" were obliged to earn every dollar they make by the sweat of the brow and by live-and-let-live business principles, the farmer's lot would be easier to-day and he would have more cause to be looked upon by other professions as a business man. We said at the outset that agriculture is a big man's job, and so it is. With weeds and weather to contend against, scarcely any good farm labor available, and every other industry taking all possible advantage of the inability of the man who must work long hours with his hands six days a week, how can he find time to develop as he would like, the financial and social side of life, which give polish and insight into the ways of the world. Many of our financiers have not had as much ability as lies latent in many busy tillers of the soil, but they simply grasped the opportunity laid bare before their eyes, and once they got a little money they had the "whip hand" and more came at their bidding. They were big enough to amass great fortunes, but many could never have been successful farmers. The farmer's job is the biggest job in this country, and he who masters it achieves success as great as, and far more deserving than that of the millionaire who has manipulated other peoples money to enrich himself.

The Fight Is On.

Out in the corn field, in the summer fallow, in the potato patch, in the roots and even in the garden there is a mustering of forces now going on which, if not checked, will work havoc with the crops on these fields, or will require an endless fight later on to exterminate them. The corn is just peeping through and the roots are not up yet, in fact may not have been sown, the summer fallow has had its first cultivation and has laid a few days, and over all there is a slight green cast, and where the land is stirred it shows full of countless white rootlets and sprouting plants originating from small seeds of the many weeds to which fertile soil is heir. Now is the time to commence the fight. Harrow the corn if it is not too big. If it is cultivate. Harrow the potatoes several times before they are up, and once just as they are coming through. Cultivate the summer fallow as often and as thoroughly as possible, and lastly hoe the garden that the table may be supplied throughout the summer with fresh vegetables and luscious fruits. This war on weeds is the most legitimate and important fight which now concerns farmers. It is more important than red coats, rifles, cannons and dreadnoughts. Good farmers look upon dirty crops as a disgrace, and know the yield is injured by weeds and lack of cultivation. The fight is on. With the help of weeders, harrows, scullers, cultivators, and hand hoes, you can win if you commence the fight before the enemy is entrenched. Will you?

Helping Nature to Grow Her Crops.

Agriculture is a term with narrow significance to some, but as years go by and "knowledge comes" the outlook broadens into an expansive field without a visible horizon. A little difference in slope, a little difference in the character of the soil, and a few days longer growing season make one acre so situated as productive as an ordinary one-hundred-acre farm when the value of the output is considered. The systems of coaxing valuable crops from the soil, as practiced in the South-Western part of Ontario, emphasize the unlimited possibilities in the agricultural world, and what a change of conditions or diversion of effort will accomplish. Temperature and moisture are ignored under a system of artificial irrigation, and with acres of glass the young plants are reared until the summer comes, when they are set into the field where the crop is matured in a month or two. The sun's rays have been collected, stored and augmented with artificial heat, and the seed grows into the young plant much more quickly there than where nature has the whole responsibility. The growers in the early district are not indifferent to weather and climate, but they work in conjunction with nature and the union is a happy one.

Sell Hay or Graze.

Scarcity of labor in Old Ontario and in many other parts of Canada has led farmers to seed down permanently a large proportion of their acreages. This, if not carried too far, will not likely greatly deplete the soil of its fertility, and if the right course is followed should in the end build it up. We are not strongly in favor of anything but a fairly short rotation of crops, but to the man without the necessary help and who is not disposed to hire it at ruling wages, far better is it for him to seed down than to only half work the farm under cultivation. There is a danger, however, that this practice may be unwisely increased by the good prices which have been obtained for hay, and the high price at which stocker and feeder cattle have sold recently. As the present situation stands there is a great incentive to grow hay for sale, sell it all off the place and bank the money. Indications point to a short crop of hay we are told in some of the Eastern counties of Ontario and in Western Quebec this year. This has caused growers to be figuring on the value of their hay crop already. A short crop means high prices, less labor and more net returns than a bigger crop sold at a low figure.

There is just a possibility that the hay-growing business may be overdone. There are sections where this crop has been the standby for years, but there are many fields taken out of the rotation which goes with stock farming and placed under hay because it is less labor, and the farmer believes that in the end it is more profitable. Will it be? This remains to be seen, but one thing is sure, that if the crop is continuously sold off and nothing is replaced the yields must diminish. Timothy is by no means easy on the soil, and an old meadow is largely timothy until it has been crowded out by the less valuable and more pestiferous Canadian blue grass, which gives small yields, runs the land down, and is the most fertile breeding ground for wire worms and white grubs yet discovered.

There is a partial, if not a complete, remedy for some of these sections, and that is graze the land. We do not propose to advocate wholesale