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o 50 Cents a Year

### Where Is Our Frugality?

**F**RUGALITY never was so striking a virtue of the Americans as friend and foe alike have declared, and it was never so little practiced here, I believe, as at the present time." If the American social science association never got down to bottom facts before, it did in this utterance of one of its officers. The German and the Scandinavian immigrants have given striking object lessons in success through frugality on the farms of the northwest, the Irish in the northeast, the Belgians in Louisiana, and so on throughout the country. The American freedom and go-ahead with a reasonable amount of European frugality work wonders in any line of business. Ian MacIaren, the Scotch clergyman, was astonished at American wastefulness, on first traversing our country. There is no need of the pitiful scrimping which is a necessity among the peasants and laborers of the old world, but we might as well wake up to the fact that outside of large manufacturing concerns, which have reduced economy to a science, we are an extravagant people. We want to accumulate fast; to gain not by saving, but by older, perhaps more risky methods. We despise the slow-going ways of the fathers.

### For a Clean Summer.

The ounce of prevention is what counts, in matters of health as well as in other things. With reasonable precaution many of the most dreaded fevers, hog cholera, malaria and other maladies may be prevented. Though we may think we are saving when we feed decomposing animal and vegetable matter to stock, in the end it is doubtful economy. Clean out the mangers of horses and cows and the pig trough daily, don't fail to see that the kitchen sink is kept as clean as lime or a weak carbolic solution will make it. The slop and swill receptacles need frequent cleaning and the outhouses a plentiful supply of dry dirt for daily use. It is not the odor caused by decomposition arising from putrid matter that carries sickness and death, but the minute germs. Much more is known about germ life than a few years ago, and it is our duty to profit by the information.

### The Danger Signal.

There has been a great deal heard of the good times that the Dominion has been enjoying for the last couple of years. While there is no doubt that Canada has had much to be thankful for, there are indications that there has been an inflation in some lines and the necessity for a conservative policy from this time out is being sharply emphasized. The banks have been the first to hang out the danger signal and have put a damper on speculation by advancing rates on money. General trade continues fairly satisfactory, but retailers are complaining of the limited amount of

trade. The present season promises to be favorable to the farming industry, as good prices are anticipated for all kinds of farm produce.

### Take an Outing.

Get ready to visit the experiment farm with the agricultural society of your district. A list of the visitors institute dates for Ontario, when the college and farm keep open house, are given on another page. A visit to Guelph ought to be one of the best uses to which a few dollars can be put. Every minute can be fully occupied in a study of the hundreds of varieties of grains, grasses and forage crops, of the various breeds of live stock and of the dairy school. Familiarity with the college and its teachings is a good thing and the able professors will be only too glad to show visitors all these features.

### The Dairy Produce Season

has opened with a high level of prices, indicating the scarcity of cheese in Great Britain. The output of butter on the other hand is rather small, as dairymen were all making cheese. Cold storage facilities are constantly expanding in all sections.

### The Dominion Parliament.

This body has been in session for nearly five months and it looks as though it would not dissolve until some time in July. The general impression is that there will be a dissolution immediately after the session and that the elections will take place in early September.

The spring weather in eastern Canada has been most unseasonable. The month of May has been abnormally cold and all crops and vegetation have suffered considerably. In western Canada the weather has been more reasonable and crop prospects are reported as good.

Cold storage export rates on farm produce will be so high this year, nearly 50 per cent more than last, that unless unexpectedly high prices are realized on the other side, returns to farmers will be greatly reduced. The three years' contract with steamship companies having expired and all available ships being pressed into the South African war service, the government contract this year could not be renewed on anywhere near as favorable terms as in 1896.

Shall Newfoundland be annexed to Uncle Sam or come in as a part of the Canadian confederation? Premier Bond of that province stands for annexation, while Mr Mornie, the leader of the opposition, advocates union with the Dominion. Which shall it be? This question has not been agitated so much for years as at present. The fact that the island might enjoy unlimited free trade with the states, by annexation, thus greatly benefiting the important

fishing industry, is worthy of consideration. But geographically and considering past associations as one of the "Blue-noses" the island, Mr Mornie claims, should confederate.

The last of the imperial troops will leave Canada this month and Gen Lord William Seymour, the present commander-in-chief in British North America, will be the last incumbent from abroad. The general officer commanding the Canadian militia, who has always lived at Ottawa, will make his residence at Halifax. The official residence in Halifax, which the imperial government has maintained for the commander-in-chief, will be closed after 250 years' continuous occupation. The duke of Kent, Queen Victoria's father, was at one time its occupant. In military matters Canada has well earned the distinction and privilege of conducting its own military affairs.

It isn't every breeder that has animals he would care to place in competition with what will be found in the rings of the great international live stock exposition at Chicago, Dec 1-8, but every farmer and farmer's boy should plan to attend this, what is believed will be the greatest live stock show yet on the western continent. Breeders' associations will contribute \$35,000 and the live stock, railway and business interests of Chicago \$45,000. Admission will be free; no gate receipts. This will be the opportunity of a lifetime.

Religion is competitive, not co-operative, says a contemporary philosopher, speaking of the numerous churches in the small community where he lives. There is a town in Nebraska, with 3000 inhabitants, which has 13 churches, some of them aided by missionary societies. There are 14 meeting houses in a Maine town of 2000 population. The religious field is one in which co-operation will get at work before long.

Among a cargo of 27 New York street gamins shipped west in 1859 by the children's aid society was one named Brady, and one named Burke. The former is now governor of Alaska, and the latter has been governor of North Dakota. A large-hearted man in Indiana started Brady on his upward course.

One of the arguments against wide tire laws is the difficulty of getting a wagon thus equipped out of soft ground. Solid wheels, instead of those with spokes, do much to get around this difficulty. One of the states which have recently enacted wide tire laws is Massachusetts. The statute takes effect in 1902.

"The only thing which will satisfy everybody," says a contemporary philosopher, "is an arrangement for encouraging these trusts which cheapen the goods we buy and destroying those which cheapen the goods we sell."

### Problems of the Day.

#### THE POOR MAN'S WEAPON.

The real enemies of our industrial system are the people themselves. In a land where the common people can rule if they like, they disdain their rights and hand them over to political bosses who govern for what there is in it. People who give great franchises through their bosses should not squeal if the corporations use the franchises for their own benefit. The common people might as well throw up the sponge as to fight against forces who have all the weapons. It is idle to howl at railways after they have secured the legal right and have the power to maintain it, to do about as they please. The people can do better with their wits than to waste it cussing combines as long as legislatures and courts stand at the back of the combines. There may be fun and happiness in living in poverty, but there is more fun, for most people, in rising above this condition and getting more happiness out of a dollar a day. Corporations and combines will provide farmers with all the 50c happiness they want. If they want to rise on stepping stones to better things, the masses of the people must reign again. It is about time the men who made the wealth of the world by labor were able to keep a share of it for their own benefit. The business must be done through the ballot box. [An Ontario Farmer.]

Canadian Railways are increasing faster in relative tonnage of freight and passengers carried than in the building of new mileage. There are now 17,360 miles of track in the Dominion, controlled by 84 companies. Last year 488 miles new track were laid, which is more than has been laid for some time. For the construction of the 17,360 miles and equipment \$213,262,700 of public money has been contributed as follows: By the Dominion 161,708,400, by Ont 7,500,000, Que 1,100,000, N B 4,530,500, N S 2,250,000, Man 1,111,000, B C 31,500, municipalities of Ont 1,613,200, Que 4,340,750, N B 261,500, N S 221,700, Man 595,600, B C 7,500, N W T 27,000. The only government roads are the Intercolonial of 1315 miles and the P E I road of 210, both of which were operated at a profit last year. The railroads of the country are credited with a capital investment of \$964,700,000. The gross earnings amounted to 62,244,000.

The Greatest Need of farmers is union because farmers will not stick to one price and the only way I can see to supply the need is to form a union and let its officers fix a fair price for all produce of the farm. Farmers should sell direct to consumers as much as possible so that the profits of middlemen may go into our pockets. Let the union fix any that undercuts the union price. Bad as times are at present we could have a fair price for our produce if farmers would only stick to market prices and not undercut each other as is so often done. We must use the latest and best implements. Take ideas from a good farm paper such as F & H and I think we will have better success.—[J. R. McKenzie, Peel Co. Ont.]

The London (Ont) Dairymen's exchange was organized last month with E. S. Hunt of Scottville president, and J. A. Nelles secretary. At the first sale, 229 boxes of cheese were offered for which 9½c was offered on some lots.