

FARM AND DAIRY

AND RURAL HOME

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1. FARM AND DAIRY is published every Thursday. It is the organ of the British Columbia, Manitoba, Eastern and Western Ontario, and Bedford District, Quebec, Dairywomen's Association, and of the Canadian Holstein, Ayrshire, and Jersey Cattle Breeders' Association.

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FARM AND DAIRY

PETERBORO, ONT.

ELECTRICITY FOR FARM WORK

Not many years ago it would have seemed a far off cry to talk about farm houses in general being heated by electric radiators, bread toasted therein by electric toasters, the ironing done with an electric flat iron, the coffee prepared in an electric percolator, the cooking done with an electric cooking outfit and the house and barns illuminated at night with electric incandescent lamps.

All of these may shortly be actual facts in a goodly number of farms heated within range of the Hydro-Electric transmission lines and services. Our readers may learn of the provision that has been made for supplying electric power to farmers by referring to an article on page two. Farm and Dairy is informed by the secretary of the commission, Mr. W. W. Pope, that already a number of townships, under the Act passed by the Ontario legislature last session, have applied for the power and steps

are being taken to furnish them with the power. Some of the rural municipalities that have applied for power under the recent Act are—Parkhill, Lucan, Glencoe, Clarksburg, Cottam, Dublin, Dereham, Millbank, Mt. Salem, North Oxford, Otterville, Luther West, Mono, Rochester, South Dumfries, South Norwich, Smithville, including the Police villages of Baden, Mimico, Port Credit, and others, all of which are receiving attention and being enquired into with a view of ascertaining their several requirements, and upon such reports will depend the estimated cost of power to them.

The electric age on the farm has passed its dawn. It is safe to predict that before the end of the present decade we shall see wonderful developments in the use of electricity in the country. Ere long we will not consider it anything out of the ordinary to hear of electricity doing on the farm all the things enumerated in the first paragraph of this editorial, lighting farm buildings, running the farm machinery, and pumping the water for the family and the farm stock. Here's hoping for an early consummation of the vision!

NEXT—THE MOTOR TRUCK

The motor truck bids fair to fill many important places in various lines of agricultural endeavor. Articles published elsewhere in this issue will apprise Farm and Dairy readers of the trend of the times in regard to the motor truck.

On the creamery page we reproduce a photo showing a motor truck used in connection with the Brooklyn creamery. Judging from Mr. Peterson's experience the possibilities of the creamery business are about to be greatly enlarged following on the more general introduction of the fast-moving, distance-defying motor.

In the early future the motor truck will in all probability become a factor in delivering milk from some farms within reasonable distance of cities where now milk is delivered by express companies that take an exorbitant toll for their services.

The fruit growers near large consuming centres also will resort to the motor truck for delivering their produce. A number of growers near Clarkson, Ont., last summer, on being interviewed by an editor of Farm and Dairy, intimated that they were considering the motor truck as a means of lowering the cost of marketing and of retaining a greater percentage of the consumer's price, which they, the producers, ought to receive.

The practicability of the motor truck in meeting the needs of the fruit growers situated as are the Clarkson men, becomes evident when it is learned that growers at Clarkson can with a team and a spring democrat deliver a load of green corn, on-the-cob, in Toronto, a distance of 20 miles, and make from \$9 to \$10 on the trip, which amount would otherwise be the toll exacted by the express company.

In connection with the larger farms the motor truck will prove itself an

invaluable means of transportation on long and short trips and in general haulage work, of which there is an abundance though of a varying kind on such farms. The small tractor, illustrated on page five, which also may be used as a motor truck as shown in the illustration, may prove itself invaluable on even an ordinary 100-acre farm.

Verily the day of the motor and the motor truck is with us, and who would care to forecast with certainty the future of its usefulness covering even the next period of five years?

LARGE FARMS ARE INEVITABLE

Contrary to the history of agriculture the world over it would appear that Ontario farms, and perhaps the farms of the other older provinces, are destined to become larger rather than decrease in size as the country develops and ages. That tendency towards small acreage in individual farms, which has been true until very recently of all countries as they aged in their making, is being upset by the mechanical age in which we are now living.

Professor Bailey, of Cornell University, in a recent press interview, gave expression to the opinion that land acreage of farms in the future will increase rather than decrease. He believes that the small farm idea, now persistently proclaimed throughout the United States, and in this country, is the outgrowth of necessity born of European oppression and that the general adoption of this practice would reduce our farmers to the same class as the peasantry of Europe. According to Professor Bailey, every acre should be forced to yield its utmost capacity, as is required in the small farm well tilled" idea, but in the future to get the best results the farmer must be a man of large affairs and of great business ability, and be able to superintend crop raising on a large scale in the same manner that an engineer superintends the construction of a modern skyscraper. Farming is no longer a poor man's business, he declares; the farmer of the future will combine the qualities of capitalist and worker to attain success. Six hundred acres will support just as many people if it is owned by one man in a single piece as if it is owned by ten men, each owning and operating 60 acres, and the work of production will be facilitated by receiving direction from one common and capable head. Consequently, Professor Bailey maintains, the small farmer of the future will not be able to eke out even the most slender existence, but will be forced by conditions to work for the big farm owner.

This trend of the times may not be just to the liking of the rural economist, but notwithstanding the fact the ultimate general prevalence of larger farms appears to be inevitable. And the beginning has been made. New inventions—announced almost daily—for the purpose of saving hand labor and adding to man's efficiency, will help the movement along. Even now the equipment in the matter of farm machinery with the average pro-

gressive farmer must represent very considerable slice of capital. He can not stand much more. With the coming of the automobile, the farm tractor, electric power on the farm, and more efficient tilling machinery, all of which have already been introduced, the man who would have them all and keep production within a reasonable cost must needs be a man of large affairs, owning or controlling land in large areas, else he cannot make these pay. The smaller general farmer, it would seem, will be squeezed out.

Soon our farm lands will be handled as business enterprises now are with capital and machinery. And it will all be for the best. The working out of this seeming tendency towards larger farms, as Professor Bailey claimed, need not be a bad thing for our agriculture, or for our people, although it will for ever put farming beyond being a poor man's business.

THE TARIFF ON FARM MACHINERY

Why should we farmers when we purchase farm implements be obliged to pay the cost of production, the manufacturer's profit, the wholesaler's profit, the retailer's profit, and on top of all that, the increased price that is made possible through the working of the protective tariff? Is it not time that manufacturers of agricultural implements were giving up the "infant industry" plea and start a stand on their own feet not on our Canadian manufacturers have demonstrated that in every other country in the world where agricultural implements are sold they can compete successfully with the manufacturers of other countries. In the home market, however, where they are near their customers and are protected by shorter hauls, the claim is made that they are unable to meet the competition of United States manufacturers without the protection of a tariff wall.

They tell us that it costs more to manufacture in Canada than in the United States. This plea can no longer be taken seriously. In a United States Government investigation into an implement concern in the United States, that has branches in Canada as well, one of the officials under oath stated that there was practically no difference in the cost of manufacture in the two countries. Why then should we continue to give our implement manufacturers (who have cheaper labor than have their competitors in the States, and who get their raw material practically free of duty) the privilege of adding 17½ per cent. to the selling price that would be determined by free competition? And 17½ per cent. ad valorem is about 35 per cent. protection on the cost of production!

Our agricultural implement concerns are prosperous. They are paying much larger dividends on capital invested than are the farms of the country. One of the largest of our agricultural implement concerns has since its inauguration 20 years ago increased its output steadily from \$4,000,000 to \$16,000,000. The bal-

ance sheets of the fully guarded sides but it is funds paid in at the rate of large sums have aside for future plant. This is industries!

The added due to the fears with unduly means. Protection ensure the country try. Among the men's deputations member was free implements. The agreement offered of two and a half (mers are as strong to the continu agricultural imp be satisfied until moved.

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