



Vol. L.

LONDON, ONTARIO, FEBRUARY 4, 1915.

No. 1167

EDITORIAL.

Exercise spells success with breeding stock.

Someone has said that war is a great cleanser. How?

Fresh air is essential in stables but drafts are dangerous.

A ventilating system without suitable outlets is useless.

In the cold weather is a good time to prepare for heat; put in some ice.

The man who gets the money doesn't sit around the stove all the time.

Even a pig may be over-fed but there is little danger with feeds at the price they now are.

A correspondent in this issue gives a hint which will aid in solving the "Rural Problem"—keep men by the year.

As a developer of persistency in milking there is nothing like a long lactation period for the heifer with her first calf.

If you have an extra good barn or house, then let "The Farmer's Advocate" give others some of the ideas contained therein.

The shortest and usually the coldest month of the year is here. It is however a good month to begin preparation for spring.

If you have any doubts about the adaptability of certain varieties of grain, roots or vegetables for your district, try an experiment.

Give the creamery and cheese factory first-class milk and cream and so give makers no chance to blame producers for bad butter and cheese.

The winner of the dairy herd competition in Western Ontario made it a point to equalize the length of time between milkings and it paid.

The ideas of our readers as to how best to go about the task of increasing production would be valuable at this time. Give others the benefit of your opinion.

War is the worst that General Sherman or anyone else could say of it when it is waged against unfortified towns and defenceless women and children. How long can such last?

Over eleven million men are now engaged in destroying life and property and this number will be greatly increased before spring opens up and the biggest battles the world has ever known are begun in earnest.

It is always better never to be late. Have all kinds of seed on hand and ready for the ground as soon as the proper time for seeding arrives, it will save you time and may also save you money this year.

What a pity the policy of buying direct from the producer could not be carried out in more lines of endeavor as it is being practiced in the buying of army horses. The Government is to be commended upon its policy in this particular.

Something Practical Towards Increased Production.

Our farmers are told that it is their duty to increase production and no one, under existing conditions, can gainsay that they should. But have the producers in this country not realized this ever since the fifth day of last August? Yes, and even long before that. The world at war, serves, of course, to drive the realization home and the men on the land stand ready to do all they well can to aid humanity over the ruts into which it has fallen. They are ready to grow more than they ever grew before if someone will only bring them the necessary labor to carry out their plans which had been laid some time before the "Increase Production" campaign now on was conceived in the minds of the authorities at Ottawa and Toronto. There is now little need of impressing upon farmers generally the reasons why bigger crops and more of them should be grown in 1915, but there is a great need of an increased effort on the part of our Governments to place at the disposal of farmers who require men the services of these men and at the same time give work to the unemployed and improve conditions in our own cities. It is all very well to say there is going to be more available labor this year than in the past few years; but is there? Not unless some effort is made on the part of the Government to turn idle city men into working farm hands. Many farm hired men have enlisted. The situation is growing even more acute and if production is to be increased men must be supplied to do the work at a fair wage. The farmers of this country expect something of their representatives in the Dominion Parliament and in the Provincial Legislatures in this crisis. If it is imperative that they (the farmers) be told to increase production it is just as necessary that they be aided to get men to help them bring about the increase.

Our Immigration offices have done good work in the past and are still doing good work but few are coming to our shores now. Let them turn their attention to the cities and do all they can to induce men out of work, and particularly those who have had farm experience, to go on the farms. But there are not enough Immigration offices to look after this properly. How would it do for a special appointment to be made in each county for the spring months to look after farm labor? Most counties in Ontario have District Representatives. These men are already very busy and could not, for various reasons, be expected to do the work, but they all have offices in towns and these offices could be utilized by the men who are engaged in placing men on the farms, or other offices procured. The Representative gets in touch with many farmers desiring help and he could aid some in this respect. Let it be well advertised that these offices are open and men available to fill the places the farmer has ready for them. It is no soft job to be doled out on political pull but a real man's work—a man who is alive to the needs of the farming community and also of the working man. This may not be the best organization possible. If the Government has a better one let them put it into practice but at any rate let there be something more than platform oratory in this increase production campaign. With the proper organization spread broadcast over the country thousands of men should be placed on the farms and so something of a practical nature accomplished toward a bigger

production the coming year. A man on the ground closely connected with the District Representative, but directly responsible for the work should accomplish something. He would soon know conditions, he could get in touch with the Immigration offices in the larger cities, which should be worked to the limit to hunt men willing to go to the country, and he could supply the right kind of men. The Government should understand that the farmers of Canada expect them to do a little towards increased production besides talk and they will welcome a practical move to bring them labor this spring. The cost of such a campaign would not be great if offices already established were used for the new men. It should not be loaded on to the District Representative. If the plan is feasible it is time to start; if not has the Government or anyone else a better one? Let us have some action. Get the right plan, then push.

Help the "Dollar Chain" Lengthen.

In the "Home Magazine" department of last week's issue the announcement was made that "The Farmer's Advocate" had opened a fund to help in the relief of the Belgians, to aid in carrying comfort to the soldiers of the allied armies, and to add a little more to the efficiency of the Red Cross work. This country has done nobly and contributions to the various funds have been liberal but still the amounts collected are inadequate to cope with the growing need of relief. Think of it, Belgian babies starving for milk, their mothers homeless, penniless and subjected to the rigors of winter without food and without necessary clothing to keep them warm. Think of our own soldiers in the mud to their knees day in and day out facing the foe. They need warm things to add a little comfort to the great deal of discomfort of a muddy-bottomed trench in winter. Besides all this there is urgent need of more bandages and antiseptic supplies for the wounded. This country as yet knows little of war and its horrors, the worst of which have not yet come even to Europe. We are living in plenty. We can and should help humanity over this terrible crisis. The hardest fighting is still to be done and the greatest need still to come. The aid cannot and should not be all given at once and then stopped. There is need of a steady stream of money to alleviate the suffering which daily grows more intense so that "the dollar chain" should appeal to all. If you cannot spare a dollar give what you can, it will be thankfully received. If more can be donated do not stop at the dollar. To those who feel that they should contribute more than one dollar it might help both contributor and the fund to send it in one dollar per month or one dollar per week as the sender desires. This would keep a steady flow of funds to meet the steadily increasing need. Some starving child, some unprotected mother or some mother's wounded, soldier son will get a measure of real relief from every dollar link in this rescue chain. The first contributions are announced this week. Contributors' names and addresses will be published each week. Non-deplumes may be substituted if desired. Help the chain grow.

In some of the leading daily newspapers, rural communities are berated for not making a greater showing in the enlistment rolls. At the same time the official cry to the farmer from all sides is: Produce, Produce, Produce.