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FEBRUARY 12, 1920

World Problems.

The selling of dairy and farm products, and the finding of markets, have been governed by war conditions for the past four or five years. Prices have gradually advanced, and while Europe is reconstructing herself financially, productively, and otherwise, there will be a continued demand for all kinds of Canadian food products, at higher prices than in the process before the war. years before the war.

More serious problems of the world are before us. The reduced value of the currency of each country in Europe, as well as of Great Britain and all her dominions, thus affecting the rate of exchange, has a serious result in making sales and in determining the price of our products. Our Canadian currency will products. Our Canadian currency will not pass at par in the United States. Why not? For the reason that we are buying from the U. S. more than we are selling to them, hence, a Canadian dollar is worth only about 90 to 93 cents in New York, and even less in some other cities. The lesson is—Buy less from the United States and sell more to them.

The rate of exchange is much more serious in selling to European Countries. For instance—If Italy bought cheese from Canada to-day at, say, 25 cents per pound here, the exchange rate would more than double the price which it would have cost before the war in Italian currency, but, if England bought at 25 cents, the exchange would add only 5 or 6 cents per pound. In both cases, the freight and insurance would add further to the cost, plus its rate of exchange. The reason for depreciated currency in Europe is the cost and destruction of the war. The cure there will be restoration of productiveness on farms and in factories, which the working classes are now attempting by long hours of intensive labor. Not only these complications of payment, but many other difficulties require to be overcome in selling cheese and butter, such as exporters of grain have not so seriously to contend with.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, which you can leave to the long experience of the dairy produce firms of Montreal to solve, in my opinion the farmers of Ontario will continue to have very good returns for butter and cheese, and they should use every effort to increase their product. Under ordinary conditions, the selling price of everything depends, first, on the quantity produced, and second, on the market for it. Every citizen of Canada is interested in the quantity and quality of food produced by the farmers, and also interested in our manufacturing industries of all kinds. The predominant factor governing the quantity produced both in the farm and by the factories is labor. "Man shall live by the sweat of his brow," is as true to day as when first spoken. The farmers without in Canada par in the United neither in Canada, nor in the United States, have been able to produce sufficient food to feed the starving people of Europe. The manufacturers have not been able to produce sufficient clothing, and many other articles, to supply the people of Canada, so that an enormous advance in prices has occurred. One of the chief causes of this advance in prices has been the attitude of labor, not simply in higher wages, but in working shorter hours, thus limiting the product.

We believe that autocratic government has fought its last fight—but autocratic labor has now entered the field, and must be dealt with, before real peace and goodwill dominates the civilized world. We are passing through a period of reconstruction. Patience and perseverance is needed, but the world must have greater production, and that cannot be attained with shorter hours of labor.

THE FARMER'S DAY. There are many signs in Canada to show that this is the farmer's day. I propose, therefore, instead of speaking only of what you are locally interested in, to take up those problems which every farmer and citizen is thinking about. He who holds the plow, who tills the ground, who raises the food to feed the people, now proposes for the people and by the people, to govern the people. It is a larger job than at any time in our history; perhaps the largest that any country with a population of seven or eight million people has ever undertaken. The first man in Ontario to-day is a farmer. All honor and success to him. He says he does not propose to legislate for the classes; that means, I suppose, that he will try and legislate

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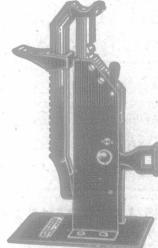
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The Imported Percheron Stallion

Jabot [3139] (84214) as illustrated on page 249 of this issue was imported in 1913 when three years old by his present owner T. J. Berry, Hensall, Ont. He weighs 1,900 lbs. and is a splendid specimen of a Percheron horse. He was exhibited at London last fall, winning second money out of 13 entries. A foal by him won first place in draft class in 1918, at London, and in 1919 won first at London and first at Toronto, the only places exhibited, and was sold for a long price.—Advt.