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The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

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EDITORIAL.

Keep the good breeding females. They are worth as much to you as to the other fellow.

It is not such an easy matter to breed high-class live stock as it is to produce scrubs, but the reward is greater.

The recent rains will have made plowing much easier, and, for this reason, will be much appreciated in the country.

Get a few panes of glass while in town, and on the next rainy day replace the broken lights in the stable and pigery.

Take good care of the corn that was left over after the silo was filled. It is valuable fodder, and is still all right for refilling the silo.

Drink more milk and eat more cheese and butter. No foods are healthier or more necessary to the human body than milk and its products.

A good deal of the fruit now going to waste in farm orchards might find a ready market after Christmas. Storage is the big problem in the fruit business.

Don't neglect to open up the draining furrows, and see that the mouths of the tile drains are open. Surplus water is no benefit to the land, and it may do some damage.

Farming is one emergency after another, but the successful farmer is prepared to grapple with obstacles as they arise, and, what is more, he does not worry about them until they confront him.

The profit is made on winter eggs. Almost any hen will lay in the spring, but prices are usually lowest then, and it requires a good many eggs to pay a hen's keep in these days of the high cost of living.

Why does successful dairying represent one of the highest types of farming? For one reason, because for every 100 pounds of digestible organic matter consumed, the cow gives back 18 pounds of digestible food solids.

The miners' strike in England has interfered seriously with the movement of apples from Nova Scotia. No country can any longer live unto itself. The world is one big community, and we are all more or less affected by the actions of our neighbors, even though they live thousands of miles away.

Individuals who have long enjoyed the beneficial bounties of a protective tariff, and publications which have insistently advocated protection, cried out against the Government handling the wheat crop of 1920 because, they declared, it would constitute a serious interference with the natural movement of trade. Whatever else the exponents of high protection may be, they are not always consistent.

It has been said by breeders of long experience that it requires twenty years to work out one's ideas and develop a uniform herd of cattle. This may appear like a long time to the beginners, yet it is only too true. With unlimited resources, individuals might be purchased that would conform with a certain type, but the young stock produced is not so likely to be uniform as from a herd of breeding cows that have been bred and reared on the same farm.

The Function of a Government.

Sentiment prevents the average man from considering politics with fairness and intelligence. That is why reasonably efficient and honest Governments are idolized by some and hated by others. When people allow others to do their political thinking for them, they get into the habit of taking their facts from their feelings, instead of taking their feelings from their facts, with the result that they fall easy victims to the political muck-raker. The truth is that we expect too much of our Governments. We very seldom take an intelligent interest in politics, and we believe in the fallacy that a Government should, and can, solve all our problems. There are thousands of befuddled voters who really believe that each new Government will work wonders. When the miracles are not worked, the business of cursing that Government begins. The chief functions of a Government are to maintain law and order, keep the channels of commerce open, equalize conditions and privileges so that one class or industry is not favored to the disadvantage of another, and look to the development and prosperity of the nation as a whole. When they have done this without fear or favor, industries and individuals should look after themselves. So many glowing promises are made prior to elections that people, as a rule, have come to expect too much of the Government in power. We are constantly chasing political rainbows, and suffering disappointments all the time because we do not obtain the legendary pot of gold.

An Example in Milk Marketing.

In last week's issue there appeared an article descriptive of The Dairymen's League, Inc., of New York State, a co-operative organization of over 85,000 milk producers, that for the last four years has successfully functioned as a selling agent for the dairy farmer. This is a co-operative endeavor to realize somewhere near the cost of production for milk, and provide a protective and stabilizing influence on the market of the milk producer. In the dairy department of this issue a further article describes the work of The Dairymen's League Co-operative Association, an organization entirely distinct from the Dairymen's League, in that the latter was incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey, and engages only in the sale of milk produced by its members, and takes no part in its manufacture for market. The Dairymen's League Co-operative Association was incorporated in New York State and was organized specifically for the purpose of encouraging the development of co-operatively owned dairy factories, and their management by a central Association in such a manner that an outlet for surplus milk would be provided, and such occurrences as so-called "strikes" eliminated. Recent developments in the milk situation brought home to the Association the need for still further steps in co-operation, and in September the Board of Directors were authorized to inaugurate a pooling scheme among all the 85,000 members of the Dairymen's League, as well as to push the development of co-operative milk plants in every locality where conditions would warrant it.

A careful reading of these two articles cannot fail to convince anyone acquainted with milk-marketing organizations in Ontario and Eastern Canada that the dairymen of New York State have set us a splendid example of what can be accomplished through unswerving loyalty to a properly-organized co-operative association. What applies to the conditions of dairying in New York State, however, cannot be made to apply exactly to Canadian conditions. The successful principles of co-operation will undoubtedly apply all over, but dairying conditions are different, and, in some respects, our problems of organization are more difficult than those which faced the New York dairymen when they first organized in 1907. Our difficulties are, how-

ever, not insurmountable, and we would like to see the Ontario Milk and Cream Producers' Association re-organized to such an extent, at least, as to make it a democratic and co-operative force, rather than an organization which depends upon the diplomacy of its president for results. The splendid example in co-operative milk marketing furnished by the Dairymen's League of New York should not be lost sight of. The milk producers of Eastern Canada can do what any other body of men can do, and now is a good time to increase the efficiency of our milk-marketing organizations.

Don't Stand in the Young Man's Way!

A movement has been launched that promises to change the complexion of agriculture, and give a brighter hue to farm life in Canada. Young men are coming to the front, and, while they are not usurping the rights of their seniors, they are demonstrating that there is energy, progressiveness, and a good deal of wisdom to be found in the ranks of young men who are modestly remaining in the background until invited to come forward and prove themselves. The boys and girls are being given a chance, also, and as the young men and the young women step up to positions of responsibility, there will be a battalion of younger folk in reserve ready to lend support and keep the front line companies up to strength. We have got to admit the wonderful potentialities of the younger generation, and the claims they have to a say in the management of local affairs, and the administration of the industry of which they are expected to become a part.

How often we hear it said that a certain business or a particular farm will go to pieces now that the one man who made it a success has been called away. The institution, the business, or the farm so bereft is likened to a lamp, the oil from which has all burned out, or to a ship without a skipper. It cannot go on, for the builder and guide has gone—there is no one qualified to take his place. In the majority of cases, though, someone steps to the helm and under the stimulus of responsibility, and in response to the urgings of youth, carries the business or the farm along with a greater degree of success than ever characterized it under the former management.

There is nothing like responsibility to bring out the best in a young man, and they constitute the minority who will not rise to the occasion when elected to a position of trust or heavy responsibility. If farmers would allow their sons to assume the responsibility for any reasonable venture or new method they advocate, and permit them to go forward with the project aided by the parent's co-operation and good will, the young men would make good in ninety per cent. of the cases. Fathers, too often, try to discourage initiative in their sons and, too frequently, when parents do give their consent to any new departure they withhold their moral support. Youth is naturally a period of progress, initiative, or venture, if you will, and when these desires are curbed the spirit is broken. Many young men quit the farm simply because they cannot restrain their desires to be, at least, up-to-date in the matter of farming methods, equipment and quality of live stock with which they work. Father and son should constitute a very successful type of partnership. The senior member brings to the business wisdom growing out of long years of experience, while the junior partner is the dynamo of the organization. Each must give, and each must take, but father and son working on a business-like partnership basis should successfully solve the problems that are driving many young men from the farm. Do not look upon farming as a task requiring only the wisdom and sagacity of age. Farming requires the dynamic force and progressive spirit common to young men. Don't stand in the young man's way!