FARM AND DAIRY AND RURAL HOME

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OUR GUARANTER

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The Rural Publishing Company, Limited PETERBORO, ONT.

"Read not to contradict and to confute nor to believe and take for granted, but to weigh and consider."-Baron

The Sinews of War

RECENT developments point to the prolongation of the European struggle to the full limit of the time allotted for its settlement by Earl Kitchener. The rapid development of the first two weeks of the war have now steadied down to a grimly contested conflict which will not end until one or other of the belligerents is forced to almost unconditional surrender. Earl Kitchener has warned the Empine to prepare for a three-year struggle. If the war be continued for this length of time it is freely admitted that the allies will be more in need of wheat than of gunpowder with which to carry on the conflict.

Much of the European crop is seeded in the fall. The women of Europe will do their share in seeding the crops this fall, but hampered as they are by lack of horses, which have gone to war along with the men, the acreage seeded will be considerably curtailed, and the same will be true of the spring crops. Herein lies the opportunity of the Canadian farmer to serve the Empire and the cause of democracy. In providing for the food requirements of the armies we will be doing an equally important part with the soldier who fights on the battle field.

All indications point to a great demand for all grains for the next couple of years at least. It would be the part of prudence and foresight, as well as of patriotism, to increase the acreage of fall wheat sown as much as possible, and to prepare for an increased acreage of spring grains in 1915. We can follow this course with little risk, as, even if peace is consummated, the demand for food stuffs from Europe would still continue to exceed the supply for some time to come

The Seed Supply

WHEN Canadian farmers come to purchase their supply of seeds next spring, they may find another way in which the European war is having a reflex influence upon Canadian agriculture. Although we are not so dependent on Europe for our seed supply as was the case a decade ago, we still import a large proportion of our field, root and garden seed from Germany, France, England and Denmark ; and of these Germany is our most important source of supply. It is possible that contracts with German growers may still be filled through the media of brokers in a neutral country such as Holland. In any case, however, farmers would be wise to prepare for future emergencies by planning to pro-

duce their own field root seed for the crop of 1916. Those who have had experience in the production of garden seeds, should find the present an opportune time for the extension of this industry Seeds of the mangel, turnip, carrot and parsnip are comparatively easy to produce and if proper

selection is made of roots this fall, there is no reason why Canadian farmers should not produce better seed than has been supplied them by European growers. Twenty-five to fifty roots replanted next spring will give seed enough for an acre and allow for a very heavy seeding. This may mean a little inconvenience to some but if the present condition of the seed trade induces farmers to produce their own field seed a little hardship in getting supplies next year may in the long run prove a blessing in disguise.

Unemployment and Land

T least two of the large dailies of Toronto have intimated their belief that the cure for present unemployment in our cities lies in an accelerated "back-to-the-land" movement. Mayor Hocken of Toronto, has voiced this sentiment in a proposal that the Dominion Government break up one million acres of land to afford employment for men out of work.

Mayor Hocken's proposal is not practicable, as every working farmer well knows. That he is nevertheless right in his belief that what is needed is a greater development of our agriculture, few would deny. More people on the land means more wealth produced. It means a new market for products of city factories and hence an impetus to city industry. We once had this condition in Canada. People flocked to Canada from all corners of the earth. Both city and country enjoyed prosperity and unemployment was known. The law of supply and demand held the labor market steady because the surplus of labor could always employ itself on the free land. When land was chean mers' sons stayed in the country and tool near by instead of going to the city the labor market, as they now do.

But we have now little desirable free land left to act as a regulator. Land values have everywhere gone up. In the west there is practically no homestead land to offer within reasonable distance of railroad facilities. In most cases the settler would have to go back at least fifty to sixty miles did he lack the capital to buy highpriced land nearer the towns. And yet every settler in the Canadian West could be given one hundred and sixty acres of land, and not one of them be more than two miles from the railway!

The land conveniently situated is not worked. It is held out of use by speculators, who hope sto profit by increasing values to which they themselves do not contribute. If all taxes were shifted on to land values, as has been advised by western farmers time and time again, speculators would have to let go, land would again be available to settlers on easy terms and our industrial September 10, 1914

problems would regulate themselves. If Mayor Hocken and all the others who recognize it importance of a back-to-the-land movement we to advocate this remedy as earnestly as they have advocated other measures of less importance the problem would soon be solved.

Cooperative Activity in Ontario

THE gathering of the Associated Farmer Clubs of Waterloo Co., Ont., to discus cooperation, as described elsewhere in this issue is in line with the spirit of the times. Farme are coming to realize that in union there nower. We are coming to see that the disorgan ized multitude can never hope to deal advantage ously with the well organized few. Hence the growth of cooperative business in rural district Along with this growth of commercial come tion is the no less important cooperation for educational purposes. Legislation measure may make or mar the prosperity of any indu try, and it is well for farmers to get togeth and discuss the relationship to their industry the customs tariff, railway rates and kinds subjects.

Heretofore, cooperation has been local in a character. We are now feeling the need of or tral provincial organizations. Such central a ganizations have already been formed among the fruit growers of British Columbia, the gra growers of the prairie provinces and the fra growers of Nova Scotia. All European countrie where the cooperative spirit is manifest, has their central organizations. Ontario is the h Canadian province to come in line with the Unit ed Farmers' Cooperative Company Limited. Du ing the last few months such leading spirits a W. C. Good, E. C. Drury and J. J. Morrise have been doing their part to draw the local of operative organizations into the central or Those of Our Folks who are connected with loci cooperative societies will be serving their or best interests in using their influence to brin about membership for their society in the cent organization. Such centralization must come a timately; why not now.

Farm Furrows

The United States Department of Agriculture advises farmers that vacations should be deter mined scientifically. They have recently issue manifesto calling on farmers to stay home an harvest and plow their stubble fields, keep we down and so forth, and take their vacation la They also insinuate that it would be better a to take more than ten days at a time, being a the farm a short while to get work in order b tween vacation trips. If United States fam are anything like Canadian farmers we w suggest that the officials need not worry the selves about neglected crops due to the farm vacations. It has been our observation that fa mers take their vocation too seriously to all crops to suffer through ill-timed vacations.

We would again call the attention of Our Fals to the necessity of giving their full name a address when sending queries for answer in Fat and Dairy. Frequently it takes some time! secure the necessary information to answer a query sent and there may be another delay one to two weeks before the answer can be pl lished. In such cases we send answers direct to our subscribers in order to avoid delay. do not hold ourselves responsible for answer queries to any department where either the sal or post office address is omitted.

We bespeak for Colonel Sam Hughes the ma support of all Our Folks in his effort to abai the drink evil from our military camps. M tary institutions are bad enough in thems without the addition of the curse of alcohol.

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HREE of names a with the Ayrshire on t shire classes a they were R. they were R. Wm. Stewart Hume & Co., I year's fair thes the only ones two new exhibi ance at t Jas. Begg & Laurie Bros., M was an exhibite Stock Show la Bros made the the ring last w of recent origin both of whom twenties, starte for their And they ago making a most new exhibitors. marked on the c men in coming t don't believe in sure we have th swered one of th ing in to exhib more rapidly th and when we ge and when we ge will have the e how to show it,"

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