

July 12, 1916

unfortunate people requires more money than is coming in now. In fact the committee is afraid that this great work, a debt owed to Belgium, may have to cease for lack of funds. Then there will be nothing to save innocent women and children from dying the most horrible of deaths—that of starvation.

Belgium, thru the heroic defence of her armies, saved the allies by giving them time to organize. The Germans have vented their anger at having their plans thus routed by doing all in their power to make Belgium suffer. The Belgians, once a prosperous people, refuse now to work for the Germans, refuse to make ammunition that would be used against their own brothers and their allies. The Germans, in an endeavor to break their spirit, have tried to starve them.

The relief committee states that \$2.50 will keep one Belgian family for one month. Response to requests for help for this deserving cause have been generous in the past, but surely everyone can yet forego some pleasure or luxury to keep death away for a few days from a few of these innocent victims of the European war.

The cause is a noble one and the need is most urgent. Subscriptions large and small may be sent to the Belgium Relief, 290 Garry St., Winnipeg, Man., and a receipt will be returned signed by the joint treasurers, R. T. Riley and A. Gouzee.

THE PRE-EMINENT PRIME MINISTER

Recently Hon. H. H. Asquith, premier of England, celebrated with his constituents of the "Ancient Kingdom of Fife" the thirtieth anniversary of his first election as their representative in the British House of Commons.

Mr. Asquith's political career has not been without the spice of variety. Mr. Gladstone, with a keen eye for rising young Liberals, selected him in 1892 as the mover of the motion of want of confidence which caused the overthrow of Lord Salisbury's government, and for three years he held the portfolio of the Home Department. For the eleven years between 1895 and 1906 he assisted his fellow-Liberals in opposition to "plow the sands"—using his own apt expression—but he gradually forged to the front as the most formidable critic of the Salisbury-Balfour-Chamberlain government, and when it was overthrown in 1905 he became Chancellor of the Exchequer under Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's premiership. Since 1918 he has been Prime Minister, an office he has held longer continuously than any of his predecessors except William Pitt, who had the involuntary aid of the French Revolutionists and Napoleon Bonaparte to keep him in office from 1783 to 1801.

Mr. Asquith has not in his make-up a trace of Marchionellism; he is a rare compound of transparent sincerity in his views and exceptional ingenuity in adapting means to ends. His first sagacious step was to hand over the Exchequer to Mr. Lloyd George, and when the House of Lords undertook to deal adversely with the latter's budgets he secured the royal assent to a measure embodying the greatest change that has been made in the constitution of parliament since the Union Act of 1800. When the Carson menace arose in Ulster he took to himself the war portfolio, and when the greatest war of all history broke out he selected as his successor the foremost war organizer of the world, Lord Kitchener. When one of his colleagues failed to keep Ireland peaceful he took over the Irish portfolio. Over and over again, in parliament and off the platform, he has made the most notable speeches that have been made on the war, its progress and certain outcomes.—Toronto Globe.

For a good crop in 1917 prepare now. Summer fallow your land well. Plow as soon as possible and deep. Conserve all the moisture possible by harrowing each day the land that has been plowed.

Stop all weeds from maturing and forming seed. Cut the road allowances and along the fences. Let no corn escape.

While the ewe is yielding milk for her lamb she is also growing a fleece.

Your Questions Answered

This department is not confined to legal enquiries. The Guide is in a position to obtain information from experts along any particular line of farm work. Questions on livestock, field crops, dairying, farm engineering, etc., in addition to legal queries will be welcomed and promptly answered. Only veterinary queries cannot be answered, since we do not have experience that we have not space available to accommodate them. Questions which do not bear the name and address of the enquirer cannot be answered. But every paid up subscriber should consider this department one created to serve, and should make use of it whenever any important question of farm work requires settlement.

ABOUT WIREWORMS

Q.—We are having trouble with wireworms in our crops. Would you advise sowing wheat on summerfallow? How can they be controlled? Any information concerning their life history would be appreciated.—W. T. Sack.

A.—Prof. V. W. Jackson, professor of biology in the Manitoba Agricultural College, has the following to say about wireworms:

"Wireworms are known by their hard, glossy, yellowish or brownish shell, and flat, slender shape. They turn into click beetles, common ground beetles, which by a clicking movement of the head right themselves when turned over. The wireworm feeds greedily on the roots of grass, grains, strawberries, beans, and in fact will cut off almost any plant. On the farm they are most troublesome on crops following sod. Fall plowing, as for the cutworm, and repeated several times in succession is desirable, since they live more than one year in the larval stage. As they do not come to the surface of the ground as cutworms do, they cannot be so readily poisoned with poisoned bait. In gardens they are occasionally trapped by sticking pieces of potatoes three inches into the ground near the roots of bean plants and other plants which they trouble. The wireworm comes to the potato and can then be poisoned by poisoning the potato, or they can be removed with the potato and destroyed. The only farm method of battling the wireworm is by proper rotation of crops and fall plowing. As the click beetles which come from the wireworm are ground beetles and do not fly about as do the moths which come from the cutworms, they cannot be so readily trapped or killed, and hence we are forced to depend upon fall plowing for the destruction of the wireworm."

Wireworms are most plentiful in sod land and as the sod gets worked out they disappear, hence grain sown on summerfallow will be less subject to damage than that sown on sod.

C.P.R. PAYS NO TAXES

Q.—Do the C.P.R. and the Hudson's Bay Co. pay taxes on their vast holdings of land in the West, and if so in what way?

A.—The C.P.R. pays no taxes on its land of any kind. When the grant of 25,000,000 acres was originally made to the company in 1881 it was stipulated that the lands were not to be taxable for twenty years. When the twenty years expired the railway company contended that they should have twenty years from the time the patent was issued and they took the matter into the courts and it was settled by the Privy Council giving the company practically nearly another twenty years' exemption from taxes.

The Hudson's Bay Co. pays all ordinary taxes, but is now fighting the surtax, claiming exemption from this under its charter.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Q.—Does the United States Government require a Canadian about to reside in one of the States to take an oath of allegiance to United States?

A.—No. If a man wishes to enjoy the franchise, however, and to become a citizen of the United States he must take the Oath of Allegiance after a certain number of years of residence.

ORIGIN OF WORD "BOOZE"

Q.—Can you tell me who coined the word "booze"? It is used very often in connection with the liquor business and I would like to know the origin of the word.—L. E. J.

A.—It is stated that Mr. E. C. Boone was a distiller of liquor in Philadelphia in 1840, or thereabouts. Two whiskey bottles were sold in New York on March 22 of last year for \$58.00, and they are kept as souvenirs. Shown into these bottles was the name of E. C. Boone, and it is said that his name introduced booze into the vernacular. There is an old English word "booze" which meant alcoholic liquor, altho it is generally conceded that the word "booze" as used in this country originated from the name of this early distiller.

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Under Oath

William Fitzgerald, Dominion Superintendent of Insurance, when examined by the Royal Commission on Insurance, March 15th, 1906, made a declaration under oath regarding the London Life Insurance Company, which should be known to everyone.

It had happened on one occasion that the Investments of the London Life Insurance Company had not been inspected for a year. When asked to explain, the Superintendent declared:

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