

The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

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EDITORIAL.

Give the boy a calf to feed this winter.

It is time to start fattening the feeders.

Rush the work; winter is approaching.

Buy seed grain this fall and be sure of a supply.

Oil the harness before hanging it away for winter.

A bad year never discourages the successful man.

Keep the plow going until frost finally shuts it out.

Put the final touches on the stables the next wet day.

Fences riddled in the fall must be repaired in the spring.

The plow left in the ground at night may be there all winter.

Be saving on the feed at first that it may hold out until spring.

If you are "married" to a party you cannot be the most intelligent voter.

You have an excellent opportunity to study the relative values of feeds furnished in this issue.

It takes a man with courage to feed turnips to cattle when they are selling at from 40 to 55 cents per bushel.

This paper will help you compound rations for your stock this winter. Look up the tables elsewhere in this issue.

The small tractor may soon prove a large factor in Eastern Canada agriculture. Do not forget its value on the belt.

Labor is too scarce to permit the exclusive use of the single plow. Add another furrow and make up for the hired man you haven't got.

Let every Canadian farmer and manufacturer work for quality in his products and help establish Canadian goods in the markets of the world.

Do you go to church on Sunday and take a general interest in church work? If not, where is the blame, with yourself or with the church? This is a point worth looking into.

Uniformity is important. Let every side of bacon produced in this country conform to one standard. Canadian bacon is sought by the British market. Improve the quality and uniformity.

The Government could very well appropriate a sufficient sum of money to carry good plowing to more farms. What has the Agricultural Department done toward better plowing, the basis of good cultivation?

Legislation should be enacted at the next session to preclude any chance of American thick-fat hogs coming in to be cured and then passed on to the British market as "Canadian cured" bacon. Our market should be preserved to the Canadian producer.

Legislation Necessary to Safeguard Canadian Bacon.

Canada's best customer for bacon and hams has always been the United Kingdom, and it is the Old Country market for these products in which Canada, having established a place, must in the future find an outlet for hog products. But that market demands high quality and uniformity in its bacon. Denmark and Ireland were noted for the uniformity of their bacon and so topped the market, but Canadian bacon is always bought on the Old Country market in preference to a similar grade of United States bacon. The war has cut off a large portion of the supply of Danish bacon. There is a scarcity of hogs in Ireland. Canada has a grand opportunity to improve the standing of her bacon in the eyes of the Britisher. But to do so breeders must have a single purpose constantly in view—the long, neat side with the trim ham. No attention is to be paid to the stories of packers that we require a thicker hog. And packers must put up a uniform product all to be branded "Canadian bacon." And here is where legislation is necessary to prevent thick-fat hogs, fattened on corn and killed in the United States coming in here to be cured and sent to the Old Land as Canadian-cured bacon. The lard hog would soon irreparably injure the standing of Canadian bacon in the British market. The brand "Canadian" should mean produced in Canada. It is a trade mark not to be infringed upon and our Government would do well to see that it is properly preserved. In 1903 Canada sent 137,230,048 lbs. of bacon to Great Britain. The annual export of this product fell off yearly until 1914 when it was down to 23,859,754 lbs. For the year ending March 31st, 1916, it was up to 144,918,867 lbs. the highest in the history of the trade, and for the first four months of the present fiscal year 55,534,771 lbs. were exported. This shows the way the trade is going. To hold it after the war Canada must put out the very best. The American would like to get Wiltshire side prices for his fat bellies if he could bring them in here, singed, and cure them here for export as Canadian-cured bacon. They would ruin the market for Canadian bacon and the Government at the next session should pass legislation which would preclude any possibility of such happening.

The All-Round Farm Power.

In last week's issue we published an account, with illustrations, of the big Tractor Demonstration recently held near Whitby, Ontario. Thousands of farmers saw the Demonstration and thousands more read the report mentioned and are weighing in their own minds the tractor question, and, provided they can get a tractor small enough at a reasonable price—a machine that will do the work they have for it—they are ready to buy. Eastern Canada, a mixed farming country, requires a form of farm power which may be put to the greatest variety of uses. Cultivation and reaping crops are not the only work the stock farmer has for the tractor. In fact they represent only a comparatively small part of it. There is a great deal of work around the barn and house on the average Ontario farm for power such as the modern tractor supplies. Mixed farming means farming with live stock of some kind as the basis of operations. Live stock makes silo filling, feed grinding, straw cutting, milking, and much other power work necessary. Wood must be cut and water pumped on every farm and the day of power lighting on the farm is fast approaching. The small thrasher is coming and with it will be necessary power for its operation. The tractor, easily moved from place to place under its own power, would solve the whole problem and the prospective buyer as well as the

manufacturer and salesman should weigh well the importance and value of the tractor as a belt machine. We would be inclined to put this value first and then to size the machine up according to its value as a power for cultivating and harvesting purposes. And the small, handy tractor has a real value here also. Provided it will do the work, the smaller and handier the machine is the better. Ontario fields are small and turns are all too frequent. This must be remembered. Also it is important that the machine be not too heavy. Packing of clay soil is sometimes not in the best interests of the crop to follow. The small tractor is about to emerge from the experimental stage. Wonderful improvements have been made in the past two years. More will follow on their heels. Every farmer would be well advised to watch the development of the small tractor as an all-round farm power.

The Good Horse is Secure.

Quite recently many farmers have been heard to remark that the horse was doomed as a factor in Canadian agriculture. We would not care to go so far as to give utterance to such a belief. True, the automobile, and rightly so, has replaced hundreds and hundreds of light horses, but it cannot replace them all. The farmer who rides in his "car" in summer is mighty glad to draw the lines over the back of his trusty "driver" and tuck himself comfortably in his high-bodied cutter when the snow is two feet deep on the concession and piled fence high on the side lines. For winter country transportation the automobile isn't in it. For the good roads in summer the horse is fast becoming a back number. Folly is it for the man interested in "cars" to claim that the horse must go for good. Just as foolish is it for the horsemen to say that the motor has no effect upon the horse business. There is and always will be a market for cars and horses both, and both must be improved as the years go by. A high-class saddle horse, the best of the carriage class, and the fleet-footed roadster will always be in demand in limited numbers for riding, driving and show-ring purposes. The point for the horseman to realize is that nothing but high-class stock will do. The automobile has driven the cull into oblivion. The best is the only light horse that will meet ready sale.

But what of the heavy horse? The small tractor is coming, yea, is here to stay, and there are those who at its introduction grow nervous for the heavy horse business, and say the horse is going and will soon be gone. Not so. As with the horseless carriage the tractor will displace a number of horses on many farms, no doubt, but it will replace the poor horses, not the best. It cannot, even if it fulfills all the expectations of the manufacturers, drive all the horses off any real farm. Every farm has work for horses that the tractor cannot do. Winter, with its teaming makes the horse secure. Certain farm work all the year increases this security. The only question is, how many horses will tractors replace. Time will tell. The tractor, as explained in another article, is likely to prove a valuable power, and, like the automobile, is here for good, but this need not "scare" any horseman who breeds the right kind of horses. Canada is a new country. In the next few years thousands of new farms will be brought under cultivation, requiring more horses, for every farm must have them no matter what other power is available. There is a scarcity of horses in Europe, which will surely increase the demand here eventually. The United States has sent hundreds of thousands to the war zone, and demand is keen in that country.

The heavy horse is a necessity, so is the tractor. There is work for both, and each will make the other