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LETTING  
IN  
THE SUN

### On Getting Started

It is the beginning of a new year, and I have resolved (if the editors of Farm and Dairy are willing) to start a series of chats with you, my neighbors. I think that we on the farms need a bit of sociability. We need something to take the place of the old building bee. And its logical successor is the farm paper. I don't know what subjects your chats may embrace, but I warn you that if you are after boiled down information you'd better arrange to skip my chats—

—if, on the other hand, you ever feel and feel like to talk of "snips and snails and sealing wax, of cobwebs and kings," just to take your mind off your work for a moment or relaxation, then I invite you to drop in every chance you get and pass the time of day with me. My friends, if you ever feel a desire to break into print for a living, take my advice and pressie ahead. It is a faster method of getting to the death. Besides, you will be saved the worry of making a start. That's the whole trouble—getting started. For a long time you sit and stare at the wall, looking for a little for your first article, story or poem, as the case may be. Struggle as it may seem, no little projects itself from the forehead—same result. You try tramping up and down the kitchen floor, and you accidentally step in the spot where the cellar door is when it is down.

But tonight I got an inspiration. I suddenly thought of the spare room at Aunt Mary's. She keeps the blinds down to preserve the wall paper, and any visitor who comes along during the winter season and sleeps in the dampness of the spare room should count himself lucky if he escapes with bronchitis. Usually they take pneumonia. The trouble is Aunt Mary doesn't let the sun in. The same applies, I think, to many of our editors. They put too much "shop talk" between the covers of their papers, or rather too little of the type of reading that takes our minds away from the worries of tuberculosis in the pure-bred herd or black head among the turkeys. So I'm going to try to let a little light into the heavier reading that Farm and Dairy supplies through its various departments. And choosing the title "Letting in the Sun" was me a start.

The difficulties of getting started seem to be many, but I'm writing, but in any new phase of activity in which we may engage. You've got to pluck up your courage and plunge into a new venture whether it be literature, box or goose raising, the way you did the "old" time you went swimming.

And speaking of getting started in good roads—I remember a big white stone that used to protrude from the road opposite our farm. Every ridge that came along bumped that stone for it was well centred in a rather narrow road. How much mud was knocked off buses and wagon wheels by that stone. I would not venture to say, but for 40 years it held steady against it. Careful drivers slackened speed when the stone hove in sight. Always at road-work time the path master talked of blasting it out, but this was never done. Always good earth was drawn to this stone and it was given a decent burial, but always during the next heavy rain the good earth deserted and ran down hill, and the stone re-emerged itself. But one day while we were preparing for the annual interment of the white stone, an hoary patriarch came by and stopped to chat. He'd been away from these parts nigh onto 40 years, he said. In the course of his reminiscences he remarked that he

had drawn that identical stone to its present place to fill a hole in the road when he was passing, way back in the cobwebby past. He said it as if 'twere something to be proud of—that had been his mission.

After we'd revived somewhat from the shock of his news, we dug about the white stone, hatched on a chain and with one team of horses drew the stone from its resting place. And now it stands by the fence, a monument to the difficulties of making a start in any good roads movement.

Sam Ray

### Milk Distribution Charges

THE formal order-in-council regulating the spread in milk prices between producer and consumer, which came in force January first, reads as follows:

1. That from and after the first day of January, A.D. 1919, and until further order in council, all milk distributors shall not charge more for milk sold by them than the actual cost of the milk delivered at their premises, and, in addition to such cost, on milk sold in the Provinces of—

Province of	Cents per quart.
British Columbia	5.25
Alberta	5.25
Saskatchewan	5.25
Manitoba	5.25
Ontario	5.
Quebec	5.
Nova Scotia	6.
New Brunswick	6.
P. E. Island	5.

2. That no retail dealer shall charge a higher price for milk than the price a milk distributor charges the consumers in the locality in which such retail dealer is carrying on business.

3. That if the cost of distribution is increased owing to an increase in the price of fuel or otherwise, any distributor affected thereby may submit evidence of such increase to the Food Control Board and ask that the maximum amount herein prescribed for distributors in the province in which such distributor is selling milk may be increased.

4. That no distributor selling milk in a locality where the amount paid at the present time to distributors is less than the maximum amount herein prescribed shall increase the amount without first obtaining the written consent of the Food Controller.

### A Hog Production Move

THE Hamilton Board of Trade are planning to provide a small pig for every rural school in the Wentworth county—if he wants it. Members of the board are being asked to subscribe to a fund to be spent in purchasing brood sows. These sows are to be kept by members of the agricultural section of the Board of Trade until the litter arrives. The sow can then be sold for more than enough to pay the farmer for the trouble of keeping her. Each school boy will feed his pig until eight months old, when it will have an estimated value of \$35. The lad will then be required to pay for his pig and the Board of Trade for the members who subscribed to the movement. The sows are to be born during the year. All they will be out will be interest on \$10 for one year. This is only one of many schemes that have been launched throughout Canada to assist in the greater production of pork.

### MORE HOMES WANTED.

Homes wanted in good Roman Catholic families; promising children; twin girls seven years; boys three to five years. Homes west of Peterboro desired. For information write Hugh Ferguson, Stratford, Ont.