

# Earn a Farm Library

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Do you want to increase your library? Would you like any of these books? Glance at the following titles—

- Green's Vegetable Gardening.
- The Practical Garden Book.
- Beautiful Flower Growing.
- Evergreens, and How to Grow Them.
- Farm Windbreaks and Shelter Belts.
- Landscape Gardening.
- Amateur Fruit Growing.
- The New Onion Culture.
- The New Rhubarb Culture.

We intend publishing a Special Garden number of The Guide early in February next in order to make this number as practical as possible. We want to publish the actual experiences of farmers in this country who have made a success already of gardening at all the operations connected therewith. We recognize that such experience is valuable, and as such we offer the complete library mentioned above for the best article received on each of the following subjects; for the second best article on each subject we will give you one of these books, and for the third best article we will give you two of these books. The subjects are as follows:—

**SUBJECT No. 1—THE VALUE OF FARM GARDEN**

All contributions on this subject should contain complete instructions as to the mood which has been followed in making a satisfactory farm garden. The following outline will give some idea of the points which should be touched on:—

- Size and plan of lay-out. Kind of soil.
  - Variety of vegetables which are most useful and suitable for Western conditions.
  - Amount and kind of fertilizer applied.
  - Method of preparing the ground for the different crops.
  - Time and method of sowing each variety.
  - Distance apart of the rows.
  - Possibilities of and methods followed in the production of home-grown seeds.
- This should include the most common vegetables grown in the West, such as:—

- |              |           |           |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Beans.       | Lettuce.  | Radishes. |
| Beets.       | Onions.   | Citrons.  |
| Cabbage.     | Parsley.  | Squash.   |
| Carrots.     | Parsnips. | Turps.    |
| Cauliflower. | Peas.     | Rhubarb.  |
| Celery.      | Pumpkins. |           |

**SUBJECT No. 2—EXPERIENCE WITH SMALL FRUITS**

This article should deal with all the details which are necessary to ensure successful cultivation of some or all of the following:—

- Bush Fruits
- Gooseberries
- Strawberries
- Raspberries
- Currants
- Tree Fruits
- Apples
- Cherries

Discuss the yield and market price, giving some idea as to whether any of these crops are profitable, ones to grow.

**SUBJECT No. 3—SPECIAL GARDEN CROPS**

Articles on this subject should deal with the growing and marketing of special garden crop, such as:—

- |            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| Celery.    | Onions.     |
| Cucumbers. | Sweet Corn. |
| Tomatoes.  | Beans.      |
| Rhubarb.   | Cabbage.    |

Most of these crops require forcing, so that a description and, if possible, a plan of a hot bed should be included in the article. Discuss the yield and market price of each of these crops, and tell whether each crop is a profitable one to grow. We are especially desirous of receiving information in regard to the marketing end of the business. Information bearing on this phase of the subject will go a long way towards determining the best contribution.

**SUBJECT No. 4—THE VALUE OF WINDBREAKS**

Every garden to be successful should be protected in the West by a windbreak. We want articles explaining how a good windbreak can be grown on the prairie farms. Following are some of the points to be dealt with:—

- Preparation of land for windbreaks.
- Best position of windbreaks for protection purposes.
- Kind of trees best suited to prairie conditions.
- Method of planting trees, distance apart, subsequent attention which these trees require, etc.

**SUBJECT No. 5—FARMSTEAD PLANNING**

The value of a farm is very often judged by the appearance of the house and buildings. We want you to tell us what you have done on your farm towards laying out the grounds attractively. It should include:—

- A plan of the homestead.
- Kinds of trees planted around, together with the best time and method of planting them.
- Arrangement of flower beds, vines, creepers, shade trees, etc.
- Shrubs, evergreens, etc., used.

**TO CONTRIBUTORS**

We want articles from every Province and from all parts of each Province. When writing on any of the subjects, just think that you are telling a neighbor who has had no experience in the matter under discussion just exactly how to be successful along whatever line of work you are describing. For instance, if you are going to describe your gardening experiences, just consider that you are giving instructions to someone who has never made a garden before. Describe the whole subject in detail just as if you were telling the hired man what was to be done. In this way your article will be of real practical value to all who read it. Photographs should accompany the articles if any are available. Write plainly on one side of paper only. All articles must be received by January 15, 1915. The result of the competition will be published in the Special Number. Address all contributions to:—

AGRICULTURAL EDITOR  
GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE, WINNIPEG

## The Study Course

**BIGGER PROFITS**  
Study No. 5

The fifth study in the "Course of Study" booklet, which has been prepared by the Canadian Council of Agriculture for the use of the local associations and unions in the three Prairie Provinces, is devoted to the subject, "Bigger Profits: The Economic Situation."

By the way, if there are any local unions or associations who have not secured copies of this "Course of Study" booklet, they should get them at once, as it will afford them great assistance in carrying out the program for their meetings during the winter. Single copies or quantities of these "Course of Study" booklets can be secured from P. P. Woodbridge, Secretary, United Farmers of Alberta, Calgary, Alta.; J. B. Musselman, Secretary, Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, Moose Jaw, Sask., and R. McKenzie, Secretary, Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, 404 Chambers of Commerce, Winnipeg, Man. Single copies may be secured from the Grain Growers' Guide, Book Department, Winnipeg, at 25 cents each; 5 copies for \$1.00, and 20 copies for \$3.00. The provincial secretaries will probably sell them cheaper.

In previous studies in this course two proposed solutions of the rural problem have been outlined and discussed, namely: the "Better Farming Movement" and "Better Business Co-operation." No progressive farmer in Western Canada today will doubt that the position of the farmers can be greatly improved by better farming, which will give them greater production from the same amount of soil. Neither will any one doubt after the experience of the past, that the farmers' finances can be considerably bettered by organizing with his fellow-farmers for the purchase and sale of the commodities required on the farm and the producted produce on the farm.

**Cheaper Credit**

But even after agricultural methods have been reduced to an exact science, and every farmer is educated to produce the most profitable crops in the largest quantities from his farm, and even after the co-operative organization has included every farmer in the country and the cost of what they have to buy has been reduced to a minimum and the price of what they have to sell increased to the maximum, there is still a problem to be worked out. There are a great many agencies which tend to reduce the profits of the farmer, some of which operate directly and others indirectly. In every country in the world where agriculture has prospered it has been necessary to provide the very cheapest possible and the most satisfactory form of credit. In Canada no effort has yet been made in this direction and it will undoubtedly remain for the organized farmers themselves to perform the chief labor necessary for the establishment of such a system of credit. In order to develop the railways of Canada the public credit of the country has been pledged to the extent of hundreds of millions of dollars in order that the railways might borrow the money at from 3 to 4 1/2 per cent. In addition to pledging public credit to this enormous amount, there has been given to the railway organizations of Canada in the way of direct gifts by Canada upwards of \$7500,000, and additional land grants have been given to the railway companies to the extent of millions and millions of acres. Undoubtedly railways have been essential to the development of Canada; but railways cannot prosper without large agricultural development, any more than farmers can prosper without satisfactory railway development. The two go hand in hand.

**Why Not Farmers Also?**

the public credit can be pledged to touch an enormous extent and public funds devoted to the same purpose of the extension of railways, it is reason-

able to assume that extraordinary efforts should be made to assist the agricultural industry to secure cheap credit. One of the greatest handicaps to agriculture in Western Canada has always been the high cost of money, not only for mortgages but also for short-loans from the banks. Mortgage loans in Western Canada at the present time, with the large mortgage companies, run from 8 to 9 per cent., and there are a considerable number of mortgages on western farms bearing interest at 10 per cent. In Eastern Canada these rates are unknown. In Ontario and Eastern Canada farmers are able to secure money by mortgaging their farms at the rate of 6 per cent., and some of them as low as 5 1/2 per cent. In Western Canada farmers are paying from 9 to 10 per cent. interest on money which they borrow from the banks, while in Eastern Canada they are able to borrow from the same banks at 7 per cent. When it is remembered that eastern farmers are much nearer their markets than the western farmers, it can readily be seen that the financial handicap under which the western farmers labor is very serious.

It is not proposed in this study to consider the question of the tariff specifically as another study later on in this course is devoted entirely to the tariff.

**Concentration of Wealth**

One phase of the economic system which is dealt with in this study outline is that of the concentration of wealth in Canada. Those who have been reading The Guide for a few years will remember that a special issue was published on June 25, 1913, entitled "Who Owns Canada?" In that issue of The Guide it was shown that forty-two men controlled practically \$4,000,000,000 or more than one-third of the total wealth of Canada. It is not difficult for the ordinary mind to understand that if this immense wealth is in the control of such a small number of people, then a proportionately less amount of wealth will be controlled by the balance of the population. In proportion to its age and population Canada has produced more millionaires and multi-millionaires than any nation in the world, and is still producing millionaires at a rapid rate. It is impossible to produce a large crop of millionaires without producing at the same time a very large crop of comparatively poor people. One of the problems which the organized farmers must face is to bring about conditions which will ensure a more uniform distribution of the vast amount of wealth annually created in this country.

**How Fortunes Are Made**

Gustavus Myers, in his remarkable book, "History of Canadian Wealth," shows in detail how the foundation has been laid for most of the great Canadian fortunes. This is the book which should be studied along with this subject. One copy or more should be in the possession of every local association and some member might be selected to read it and prepare an article or an address which would be found most interesting. The book can be secured from the Book Department of The Grain Growers' Guide for \$1.60. It is only by studying the causes which have created the enormous fortunes of this country that the organized farmers will be in a position to propose and demand the legislation which will bring about the better distribution of wealth. Other books which could be used in connection with the same study are as follows:

- Canadian National Economy, by J. J. Harpell, 50c.
- People's Banks, by H. W. Rolf, \$2.00.
- Principles of Rural Economics, by T. N. Carver, \$1.35.
- The Rural Life Problem, by Sir Horace Plunkett, \$1.25.
- Co-operation Among Farmers, by J. L. Coulter, \$1.10.
- Agricultural Organization, by E. A. Pratt, \$1.25.
- The Country Life Commission, \$1.10.
- Co-operation and Nationality, by G. W. Russell, 35c.

These books may all be procured at the above prices of the Book Department of The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg. Not all these books are kept in stock, so it is well to allow two weeks for the filling of any order as the books



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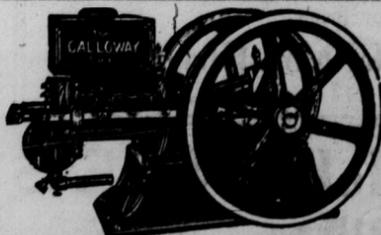
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