

The Canadian Dairyman AND Farming World

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THE CANADIAN DAIRYMAN AND FARMING WORLD
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A FORESTRY POLICY NEEDED

A few weeks ago, in our issue of Nov. 11, we called attention to the large area of waste land in the counties of Durham and Northumberland, which is practically wholly unsuited to agriculture. Much of this land constitutes a water shed, where numerous streams take their rise. The land is hilly and of a light, sandy character and, in many places, it is inclined to drift. Many of the farms in this district are either abandoned or are used as runs for cattle.

An investigation of this land which was carried out during the past year showed that considerable areas of land suitable for forestry purposes could be obtained in this section. In the Township of Haldimand, Northumberland County, an area of from 3,000 to 5,000 acres suitable for forest manage-

ment could be obtained in one block. Under forest management, this now almost worthless soil could be made to produce a revenue. Similar soils in Europe are producing annually net revenues of from \$2 to \$10 an acre.

The fact that this land is so favorably situated near a railroad augurs well for the success of a forestry policy which could be adopted in connection therewith. That the farmers in this district are alive to the importance of re-foresting these lands is shown by the resolutions that have been passed at farmers' institute meetings and the requests that have been made for forestry workers and speakers to address the institutes.

A progressive policy of re-foresting this area, and a liberal allowance from the Legislature to carry out this policy is essential. The men at the head of the work in forestry require sufficient funds to enable them to push this work till success crowns their efforts in establishing at least a forest nursery on this area. The Government need have no hesitancy in providing the funds essential to the proper carrying out of this great national work. We believe the Hon. Mr. Duff is sufficiently energetic and progressive to see that this important matter is dealt with at an early date. It should have been intended to years ago.

VOTE FOR LOCAL OPTION

One of our subscribers in Renfrew Co., has written us as follows:

"I would like to suggest that you 'should have a department in your paper' dealing with the temperance question. The whiskey traffic is carrying on its deadly work 'day and night. It is blighting the 'hope of a bright future for many 'a young man on the farm. Your 'paper can do much to educate the 'fathers and sons about the danger 'of alcoholic drinks, even in the 'smallest quantities. A good editor 'ial occasionally on this subject 'would, I believe, be the means of 'saving many a man who is just 'starting on the downward course. 'God only knows that there are too 'many of these men who need ad- 'vice on this question."

If we have not had editorials lately in The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World dealing with this question of temperance, it has not been because our heart and sympathy has not been with the movement. The liquor traffic, as our correspondent states, is one of the great curses of our country. When we think of the untold misery it has caused and of the lives it has blighted, we can only wonder that it has taken us, as a people, so long to realize the need for driving it out of the country. The spread of local option, not only in Canada, but throughout the United States, is one of the grandest signs of the times. It shows that at last the public is becoming alive to the need for putting an end to this curse.

While we would like to have a department in each issue of The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World, dealing with this question, lack of space makes it impossible for us to

comply with our correspondent's suggestion. As opportunity presents itself, however, we will speak out upon this question. We hope that every reader of this paper who may have an opportunity this fall of working for local option will cast his vote against the liquor traffic.

SIMPLE PLEASURES THE BEST

One reason why many boys have left the farm for the city has been because they have not known the difference between real and artificial pleasures. There is a glamor about the large, luxuriously furnished theatres, and other places of amusement in the city, that draws a certain type of country boy just as the arc light draws insects. Only too often the result is the same in both cases—destruction.

There is need that we shall make clear to our boys and girls that the young men and women in the cities, who are making the greatest successes of their lives, are not the ones who spend time and money enjoying themselves at operas and dances. They are the young people who are working ten and twelve hours a day in offices and stores, or at their studies and who are saving, and then spending their money. Success in the city is gained in one and in only one way: That is by hard work. There is far more opportunity to enjoy simple but real pleasure on the farm than in the city and it costs less.

Take an example: The patrons of the Central Smith cheese factory, Peterboro County, Ont., each year for eleven years, have held an annual banquet. These events have grown in interest and in importance. They now are anticipated with pleasure for months. Generally, one or two prominent speakers from outside points attend and speak briefly on agricultural matters. Musical talent adds to the interest.

The banquet that was held early this month was no exception. It was said that some 400 were present. The ladies had furnished a supply of edibles that tested the strength of the tables. There was almost everything to eat that one could find in any large city restaurant. Every person was expected to sit down and eat as long as they could and anything they wanted. As every one else was having too enjoyable a time to watch what others were doing there was nothing to prevent one from eating as much as the limit set by their capacity would permit. Surprising to state there was no such thing as a separate charge for every piece of pie, cup of tea or other article consumed. Had the usual city banquet prices prevailed the average charge to those present would have been about two dollars each.

After the banquet an excellent program of speeches, musical selections and recitations was provided. These included magic lantern views shown by Messrs. Geo. H. Barr, and C. F. Whitley, of the Dominion Department of Agriculture. The most enjoyable feature of the evening was the sociability of all present, young and old, men and women. Afterwards came

the drive home in the moonlight, over the first snow roads of the season.

We cannot have too many gatherings of this kind. They should be held frequently in every farm community. They promote friendly feelings and add to the enjoyment of farm life. They furnish simple, wholesome pleasure in an abundance that cannot be duplicated by the highest priced entertainments the city can provide. If we will give our boys and girls more opportunities to have a good time we will succeed better in diverting their attention from what is in only too often the alluring, but treacherous way of the city.

The Grange Commended

Toronto Star

There is no possibility of mistaking the attitude of the Dominion Grange in regard to the tariff, bounties, and railway subsidies. The members know their own minds on these questions and their views were expressed with singular clearness and force in the report of the Legislative Committee of the order. In brief, they demand a gradual reduction of the tariff in general to a revenue basis and an immediate withdrawal of protection where this has been used as a means of creating combines to plunder the consumer. In the matter of bounties and subsidies the demand is that there shall be no further extension of the system of bounty-giving to favored industries, and that the granting of subsidies to railways be no longer continued.

It is fortunate alike for the cause of agriculture and for the general interests of the country that farmers have an organization through which their views on these questions can be put forward. Manufacturing, commercial, and other interests have their mediums of expression, and if farmers were wholly without organization there would be serious danger that the interests of agriculture would not receive the consideration they should have in legislation. Nor is it an easy matter to raise well-founded objections to the demands presented on behalf of our basic industry. The British preference has undoubtedly been a potent factor in bringing about the amazing development in Canada's over-sea trade which has taken place of late years.

The demand for the abolition of the system of subsidizing railways, is one which, in view recent negotiations of Sir Thomas Chalmers, and the building of the Sudbury cut-off without bonus, it is difficult to find good grounds for rejecting. So, too, is the matter of bounties, particularly to the iron and steel rails in Canada and Australia in open competition with British and German manufacturers. It can hardly be in the form both of bounties and protection in Canada.

Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union

In view of the fact that the farms of Ontario have doubled their output during the past 15 years and that the Experimental Union has been largely responsible for this great advance, the work of this organization is deserving of much recognition. The sessions of the union held on Monday and Tuesday of last week were well attended by students and ex-students, of the O. A. C. and others. Experiments were conducted on over 8,000 Ontario farms during the past year. The experiments in connection with horticulture have been more extensive the past year than formerly as also in the case with forestry, chemistry and poultry raising. Through the