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ITEMS FOR AND ABOUT THE FARMER



"THE DIGNITY OF OUR CALLING"

An Address Delivered Before the Annual Convention of United Farmers of Ontario in Toronto Two Weeks Ago by Percy Mulholland.

and is a member of the junior ers' organization, and has manigiven considerable thought to lignity of the profession of farmEditor's note.

President and Gentlemen:
Dignity is defined by Webster as valion of mind, nobility of rank, age or culture of the soil. The party of agriculture is a well establed fact, has been ever since Adam is placed in the Garden of Eden, cepting to a few who thru mistaken and ideals have endeavored to and ideals have endeavored to it among the minor and un-fied occupations in which men

phases, phases that are in har-with the nature of the beholder. will tell of its hardships, another s charm in the lovely June time. folk will talk of its independence intry folk of its drudgery. But privileges and possibilities of farm are not to be measured by what been made of it, but rather they mited only by what noble women intelligent men can accomplish in its domain. A very prevalent in or popular sentiment has been essed in the oft-quoted lines of

have said and I say it ever, s the years go on and the world goes over, ere better to be content and clever,

nding of calling and tossing of

of grain, Than a strong man striving for Than a strong man striving for fame and gain."

I protest against this superficial view, a view that recognizes in farming nothing better than content, nothing higher than being clever at manual labor. I am not willing to accept one who is but a dull laborer on the farm as my ideal farmer any more the farm as my ideal farmer any more int, or the teller in the bank

Gives Wide Scope.

What is farming? It is an art, a mience and a profession. It requires more brains than does law, more tech-nical knowledge than does medicine, as much uprightness as theology. With this grand scope should not pri-vileges and possibilities cluster about the farmer? Farming as a vocation allows the widest scope for individuality; here more than in any other calling can one have liberty to exercise the power of choice—that greatest privilege of existence, as it is also the greatest responsibility of life, for another of nature's forces, live, will the oak grown in free another of nature's forces, live, will the oak grown in free another of nature's forces, live, will the oak grown in free another of nature's forces, live, will the oak grown in free as much as that grown in dense obtability, perhaps. Is it not Dr. obtability of making a mistake—the base of the bordown in the can harness the twice as much as that grown in dense the base of the bordown in the can harness the base of the bordown in the can harness the base of the bordown in the can harness the twice as much as that grown in dense the base of the can harness the base of the can harness the base of the can harness th a matrimonial millstone around his neck, mistaking it for a life predown to him from the gods on a sun-berwise, rests upon the power of doice. We choose higher or lower loughts, we choose better or worse ms, we choose noble or base nds, we choose good or poor methods of farming. Some of us, perhaps, would be inclined to resent it if we were accused of choosing to be a bad farmer, practicing a bad method of farming. We would prefer to say that we had no choice; that circumstances we had no choice; that circumstances creation or development, now in the were against us; that the seasons were uniformly unfavorable. But if we sift our conduct to its primary when we consider the farmer's wheat we sift our conduct to its primary pulses, how often shall we find that of nature. We behold a unique formation much trouble," because we too of stamen and pista, a formation we not the patience. have not the patience for tiresome de-tails, because we have not persever-the first dawn of creation it has borne

ance in continuing. Discrimination Needed. Choice was never denied us. Our own acre and what to do with it is our personal concern. The wheat of yesterday; the day is the wheat of yesterday; the day is the wheat of Adam. rsonal concern. There is a close uty and a plain line of conduct for each of us with our own acre and our brains. We are sovereign with our own acre. We cannot, it is true, ke it wider, but we may make it eper. Tillage and fermilization will mmand maximum returns, and if han ignorance of breeds and their ill get the last ounce of value from the acre. We are to seek the truth in arm that we may translate it into that we may discover what is best or our own acre, and, quite as important that the thorored has that the thorored has that are thorored has that are thorored has that are the form of the first that we may discover what is best or our own acre, and, quite as important that the thorored has that are thorored has a substitution of the farm that we may translate it into so that we may discover what is best for our own acre, and, quite as important, that we may decide what is for our own brain. Our tastes music of Wagner or the drama of and preferences are to be candidly considered, as the best work is ever done on those lines where the brain is pursuits germane to farm life? What most inclined to activity. With this heart has not been thrilled by Buch-amplitude of intellectual view we shall anan Reed's story, "Sheridan's Ride ing about the farmer and the life upon the farm. The vocations of the town with its commerce its of the town with its commerce its of the country on a safe footing, insofar as the food supply is concerned." town with its commerce, its service and its professions are no more diversified in their character and in their demands when the character and in the character and in their demands when the character and in their demands when the character and in the character demands upon taste and ability than are the pursuits of the farm. Each of With all his line of fathers known. different branches of farming ppeals to the capacity and inclination

of the individual. The generation of farmers coming after us is to be congratulated upon horse in song?
The gates of opportunity open wide opportunities that will be its own. to the educated farmer. Prof. Mar-shall in his great Birmingham address generation is being better pared than we to appreciate and said: "In the world's history there has opriate the patient labor bestowad by thoughtful students upon the problems of soil and heredity. It has been one waste product so much more important than all others that it has a right to be called the waste product." een said that to think is the prero-He refers to the higher abilities of we of the human being, and do we many of the working classes—the latent, undeveloped, the choked-up and wasted faculties for higher work that, not observe that when the child first begins to speak the question constant-

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55 Church Street. Toronto, Ont.

up or wasted; and is it not some such conviction as this that impels our young people to seek the city, to seek the great currents of thought? What are we doing to make boys and girls in love with the farm? Are we forgetful of the graces and accomplishments of life? Are we devoted to the accumulation of property? It has been said so often that the soil holds the real wealth of the world, so often said that the farmer feeds and clothes the whole world, that the idea of material property has become firmly lodged in our conceptions of farming. Too often the farmer himself has found "property" the keynote to the music in nature. While money and profits are legitimate, worthy and indispensable incentives, is it well to be so absorbed reading carefully the following ly on his lips is "why?" Life will ever be young, joyous, full and satisfying while we have and cherish the spirit within us that is asking "why." It is only when we make bread and believe that it is luck it it proves palatable: only when we sow our wheat and believe that the weather makes or mars the crop, or when we rear colts and lieve that the weather makes or mars the crop, or when we rear colts and calves and believe, with Topsy, that they "just growed." Only when we live on these dull levels, never asking "why." will we find farm life hard, tiresome and uninteresting.

Farmer a Manufacturer?

The farmer has a rare opportunity for becoming a manufacture—an ideal

The farmer has a rare opportunity for becoming a manufacturer—an ideal manufacturer, the very highest type of manufacturer. That nation is most civilization whose exports leave her shores in the ultimate form fitted for consumption. Does not this maxim apply to the farm? Webster defines the manufacturer as one who works the manufacturer as one who works and manifness?

Jas Parton says: "If any young man were to ask me—shall I become a farmer? I would have to reply by asking—are you man enough?" Think of that, recall how from a crude form of farming has been evolved agriculture as a profession, directed by intelligence and sustained by capital. And has it not been, a great evolution? the manufacturer as one who works raw materials into wares suitable for use. This is notably the privilege of the farmer. Prof. Roberts says "History does not furnish a single instance of a nation rising to any degree of civilization whose food was composed of a few unconcentrated products." He cites the Indian as an illustration. The Indian, in his cold and cheerless wigwam, is a being less cleanly and less companionable than the beast of the field. He eats from a kettle, his food the putrid carcase and entrails

on its own nature that unique forma-

tion, forever guarding the purity of

wheat of Pharach, the wheat of Adam.

The Law of Variation.

But if we turn to the domestic ani-mals we discover the law of varia-

Some heart once pregnant with

celestial fire, Hands that the rod of empire might

Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre." Cannot he on the farm make his

have swayed,

doubtless

And has it not been a great evolution? Evolution truly—but involution as well. The mind of man has been involved in the work, the sweat of the brow has made "obeisance" to the travail of the brain.

Thinkers Needed.

The farm of the future will demand more of the farmer; keener faculties and better trained; incisive discrimination to hear and heed the suggestions of nature, to enlist her every wigwam, is a being less cleanly and less companionable than the beast of the field. He eats from a kettle, his food the putrid carcase and entralls of some wild animal, garnished perhaps with a few kernels of corn or bitter roots. He is the type on man produced by too primitive food. He can originate; he can invent nothing. His nature did not develop the finer elements; he was incapable of defending his home, of holding against the invader this grand country which was his heritage. But what of the man that has butter, milk, sugar, bread, the invader this grand country which was a profession and industry. Let us distinguish between the farmer and farming. Farming goes on forever. It goes on when in harmony with the laws of nature, the laws that are fixed and unchangeable laws, that are obscure perhaps, but surely patient investigation and intelligent thought will ultimately bring them to

his heritage. But what of the man that has butter, milk, sugar, bread, luscious fruits? What effect have these expensive, refined and concentrated foods upon the man who consumes them? This magnificent country that he has conquered, and scence, with all the applied forces of nature, bring an answer that is the glory of the sugar and our farm life; let us cherish bring an answer that is the glory of the sugar and our farm life; let us cherish pring an answer that is the glory of the sugar and our farm life; let us cherish pring an answer that is the glory of the sugar and our farm life; let us cherish pring an answer that is the glory of the sugar and sugar a try that he has conquered, and science, with all the applied forces of nature, bring an answer that is the glory of our age. The elements that sustain all life lie in the soil beneath our feet. They constitute the raw material of the farmer. The earth worm takes his food directly and muth an when we read of the typical "New read of the typical terial of the farmer. The earth worm takes his food directly and with an instinct so low that we have the proverh about the "early bird." On the other side the soil nourishes the grass. The farmer selects and cultivates that grass fill it had blacked. vates that grass till it buds, blossoms

own opportunity? Is not higher work one of the privileges of farm life? We plant and sow and reap—may we not also think? There is a general impression that on the farm mental vigor is denied an outlet, that it is choked up or wasted; and is it not some such conviction as this that

ase of a poor young man, just barey able to keep himself affoat, who
ied a matrimonial millstone around

pass under the magic power of man
and then, to quote again from Prof.

Roberts, "Lo, he has enchained the
two pictures that I am going to present, one, the inspiration of boyhoo the other, the regret of old age? golden grain of butter that has slipped down to him from the gods on a sun-beam." Better food makes better men. An old farm house with pastures wide Sweet with flowers on every side

A restless boy, who looks from out The porch with woodbine twined liarly the privilege of intelligent farmers. It lies within the province of Wishes a thought formed in his heart Oh; If I only could depart
From this dull place, the world to

How happy, how happy I should be Amid the city's restless din

A man that round the world has been. Who amid the tumult and the throng Is thinking, thinking all day long Oh; could I but tread once more
The field path to the farmhouse door The old, green meadows could I see Ah, me! how happy I should be.

NATION-WIDE FOOD SURVEY.

Washington, D.C.-Work on the nation-wide war emergency food survey is well under way, schedules having been mailed to every food dealer, tion, by and thru which is open to manufacturer and holder of supplies in more than family lots.

man a grand domain for the exercise of his intelligence. There we find him moulding into beauty and value the moulding into beauty and value the sion of congress, will cover more than 100 different foods and returns must set the last ounce of value from acre. We are to seek that The survey, ordered at the last sesagents in 43 typical counties in vari ous parts of the country in order that the figures obtained by mail may be checked. Estimates of stocks of foodstuffs on farms will be made by the

spired patience and loving enthusiasm bureau of crop estimates. as is the tinted canvas of Millet, the "The complete survey," said a statement by the bureau of markets, "will Shakspere. Are there not great pos-sibilities and high privileges in the yield the most accurate information ever collected in regard to the extent of the nation's food resources, and is considered a nimportant step in the effort to place the country on a safe

FARM IMPLEMENTS REPAIRS OF ALL KINDS It was pedigree with all that that implies. Which shall we say was the better brain—the one that bred the GEO. W. SMITH COMPANY Cor. Jarvis and Duke Sts., Toronto horse or the one that celebrated the

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Tor lack of opportunity, have come to nothing. You will remember the thoughts in Gray's Elegy:

"Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid with the old reliable Fleming's I with the old reliable Fleming's Tonic Heave Remedy. Cures both old and new cases, tones up animal's whole system. Full price refunded if it ever falls. Write-for Free Copy of Fleming's Vest Pocket Vet. Adviser. FLEMING BROS., CHEMISTS., 55 Church St. - Toronto.

CONDENSED INFORMATION FARMERS AND THEIR CLUBS

MELANCTHON.

John S. Wallace has purchased a 100-acre farm, part of Lot 13, 6th line, Amaranth, and a house and lot in Laurel from Geo. Hepton, Reeve of Amaranth. Mr. Hepton takes western property in exchange.

INGERSOLL

CORBETTON.

The farmers around Corbetton are talking of forming a company to purchase a hay press for their own use.

Three hundred and twelve hogs were marketed in Markdale last week, and J. J. McGee topped the list, receiving almost \$94 for one porker.

At the annual meeting of the United Farmers of Ontario, Melancthon, the following officers were elected for the year 1918: President, W. G. Noble; vice-president, John Lyon; secretary-treasurer, E. D. Carson; directors, Jas. Brown, jr., Jas. Stinson, W. J. Ferris, W. Hudson, W. J. Henry, J. F. Breen, Jas. Porter; auditors, T. Broderick, R. C. Thomson. The next meeting will be held on Friday, Jan. 4, 1918.

RELESSEY.

Wm. Wilson of Relessey marketed 67 bushels of clover seed for \$871 the other day.

Among the deliberate falsehoods which have gone abroad and attained consideration are the following: That while advising conservation Mr. Hanna personally indulged in meals costing \$4 and upmarked; that his home was extravagantly managed; that exorbitant salaries were paid to his office staff; that he was going to commandeer all preserved fruit excess of a certain number of jars and that he intended to fix a maximum price for hogs. The pledge card scheme was systematically decried and all unwittingly innocent and patriotic people were made the purveyors of these mischlevous rumors.—Mt. Forest Representative.

J. L. Clark of Norval held probably the largest auction sale held in the County of Peel, the receipts being a trifle over \$22,000.

Milk in Ingersoil advanced to 11 cents per quart last week as a result of an agreement entered into among the vendors, who claim that the increased cost of wholesale milk, as well as utensils, make it impossible to retail it any longer at the old price.

ORANGEVILLE.

Wm. Smart has purchased from Bert Howes his farm on the corner of the 8th Con, of West Luther, and the Damascus side road. The farm is well built and contains 95 acres. The price paid was \$5500.

MARKDALE.

OUR NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

OD is a kind Father. He sets us all in the places where He wishes us to be employed; and that employment is truly "our Father's business." He chooses work for every creature which will be delightful to them, if they do it simply and humbly. He gives us always strength enough, and sense enough for what He wants us to do; if we either tire ourselves or puzzle ourselves, it is our own fault. And we may always be sure, whatever we are doing, that we cannot be pleasing Him, if we are not happy ourselves.

JOHN RUSKIN.

EXPERIMENTAL UNION ANNUAL MEETING

at the Convention in Guelph Next Week.

The annual meeting of the Ontario agricultural and experimental union is to be held at the Ontario agricultural College on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 8th and 9th of January, 1918, starting at 9.80 on the forenoon

Even in spite of the great scarcity of labor thruout the country, it is interesting to note that there were fully one thousand more co-operative experimenters thruout the province in 1917 than in the year previous. This was likely due to the fact that the talking of forming a company to purchase a hay press for their own use.

WROXETER.

PROTON.

The monthly Horse Fair will be held here on Saturday, 5th prox.

ORILLIA.

Orillia council has adopted a milk bylaw, which provides that all milk sold in the town must be delivered in sealed cans or glass bottles tightly stopped.

Milk has not to be pasteurized.

J. McGee topped the list, receiving almost \$94 for one porker.

PROTON.

James McPherson & Sons of Proton showed two fine grade beef cattle at the Live Stock Show in Toronto on Dec. 7 and 8. The younger beast, a steer, weighed 1800 pounds and the other, a helfer, went 1210 pounds. After judging was completed an auction was held and the town must be delivered in sealed cans or glass bottles tightly stopped.

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for tuberculosis, re-foresting of waste places, etc.

Open Discussion.

In addition to the reports on cooperative experiments the following subjects are to be duscussed at the meeting: "Ontario's agriculture in the present crisis", "root seed production in Canada", "seed potatoes from Northern Ontario", "sources of seed supply for Ontario", agricultural surveys", "co-operation in wool marketing", "underdrainage and tile making" "practical suggestions in the production of food materials for the coming year", etc.

year", etc.
All interested in agriculture are in-All interested in agriculture are invited to the meeting. Cheap railways rates have been arranged on the certificate plan. For fuller information and a copy of the program apply to C. A. Zavitz, Agricultural College, Guelph, Ontario.

Allies Face Serious Meat Shortage

There is a world shortage of meat. In Europe there are 115,000,000 fewer stock animals than before the war. The situation is so critical that meat is now one of the vital factors in deciding the outcome of the war.

The fighting forces of the Allies are fed heavily on meat, because meat, especially bacon, supplies a large amount of fat—and fat is worth twice as much as starch for producing energy. Meat is the food with "the punch."

The millions of soldiers and sailors in the Allied armies and navies must be ensured adequate supplies of this "fighting" food. The vast forces of workers in munition factories, shipbuilding plants and dock yards, and the women and children of Great Britain, France and Italy also require a huge supply of meat.

Some idea of the vital need for pork products overseas is given by the statement of British Imports of bacon and

шъ	PITTLE	me negmming	or title wa	4.
I	n 1913	they were		638,000,000 lbs
I	n 1914	they were		
		they were		
				1,006,000,000 lbs

There has been no increase in the world's hog production to meet this enormous increase in consumption.

Instead, there are 32,425,000 fewer hogs in Europe than before the war. In the United States the receipts at Stock Yards up to the end of October 1917 show a decrease of 4,721,223 hogs, or 14 per cent. less than the same period in 1916. In Canada the receipts at Stock Yards from the first of January to end of November 1917 show a decrease of 13 per cent. as compared with the same period in 1916.

The foregoing figures indicate the seriousness of the meat situation which can only be met by a large increase in production in Canada and the United States. On us and our American neighbors lies a great responsibility.

The quickest way possible to meet the meat crisis is with hogs, because hogs are very much more prolific than any other stock animal and are ready for market at an early

Hogs also produce more meat from a given amount of food than any other stock animal.

They also produce more dressed carcass in proportion to live weight, and the carcass contains more edible meat in proportion to bone than any other animal.

Pork and bacon are about 50 per cent. fat which is so vitally needed in the rations of our fighting men.

Bacon is also the most compact form in which meat and fats can be supplied to the armies. It takes up the minimum of space in freight cars, ships, transport wagons and in supply depots at the front. It is easily handled, it keeps, it is easily cooked and readily digested.

Canada and United States Government Control

To encourage the producers, the Governments of Canada and the United States have taken steps to stabilize the market and protect the producers in every way possible.

The Dominion Government now controls and restricts the profits of packing houses. The hog producer is assured his fair share of the price paid by the consumer.

The Flour Mills are under a form of

license with restrictions on profits. The export of bran and shorts is under control. The United States Food Adminis-

tration also states that, by a license system of manufacturers and distributors, it will do all within its power to see that the prices of pork are maintained in a ratio to feed prices that will cover not only cost of production but proper remuneration to the producer.

The action of the Governments of Canada and the United States indicates a serious endeavor to give stability to the market for hogs. In addition, there are two other tremendous decline in European and American hog production. The constant increase in British imports of hams and bacon since the beginning

Save the Young Sows

Young sows which are slaughtered now only produce about 150 lbs. of meat per sow, whereas each of these young sows through her progeny could produce, at a moderate estimate, 1,500 lbs. of meat within a twelve month period.

Every pound of pork that can be raised is urgently needed. Every

soldier in the Canadian and British Armies requires 1/4 lb/ per day to maintain the highest bodily efficiency. Every soldier in the great American army now being raised will require a like amount. The armies of Italy and France must all have meat.

Canada has responded nobly to every call that has been made for

men, for money and for farm produce. Today's call for increased hog production is one of the most urgent and vital that the Allies have ever made to Canada. There is an individual responsibility — and every person who can raise hogs should seriously consider the possibility of raising at least one or two extra litters in 1918.

Dominion of Canada Department of Agriculture

LIVE STOCK BRANCH OTTAWA