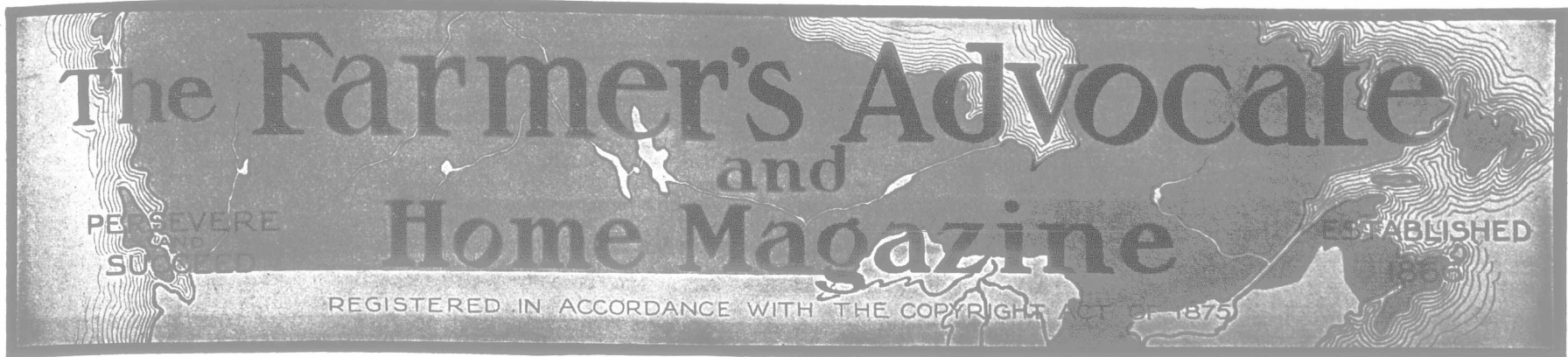




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EDITORIAL.

Canada is confident.

Democracy must win.

Far-reaching is the effect of war.

It did not take Europe long to throw off the cloak of civilization.

The fight against food scarcity can be won by better cultivation. Start now.

The automobile is in the war, but is hopelessly outnumbered by the horse.

Exhibits at Canada's great fair were as large, as attractive and as educative as ever.

If you cannot import more good animals you can at least breed more. Get the best.

Those who advise should remember that more live stock is just as essential as more grain.

An abundance of live stock means larger crops and greater all-round returns for the farmer.

The high price of feed should cause growers to take better care of the corn crop, especially corn for husking.

You may not be able to get land ready for wheat, but a better preparation should be given this fall for next spring's seeding.

Canadians should eat more apples and other wholesome fruits. Try an apple in the morning and another at lunch, and a third in the evening.

Our county fair managements should endeavor to make their respective fairs a success. It will not do to cut out all the program of agricultural education.

Good seed is likely to be scarce next spring, and we would caution our readers to save the best bins of grain to sow their fields. Good seed is half the battle.

It is gratifying to note that with war the supreme topic of conversation our biggest fairs were filled with creditable exhibits. Canada has faith in herself and her future is assured.

We are reading too much war news. Would it not be better to spend more time reading and studying how to make our own business right here in Canada stronger and more remunerative?

The general opinion in the cities is that the farmer is waxing fat as a result of this war. A correspondent in a recent issue showed the fallacy of this belief in the case of many dairy farmers who, on account of short crops, are buying feeds at advanced prices while their milk sells at the same old rate.

Is it not funny that everyone accuses the farmer of making too much money when prices are high, surely forgetting that when such is the case the farmer has very little to sell? If he had plenty of the high-priced articles they would be cheap.

Curtailling Agricultural Expenditure

Those interested in Ontario's agriculture will be rather surprised to know that the expert judges usually sent out by the Department of Agriculture to do the judging at the smaller fairs throughout the province will be cut off this year. The Department has also decided to hold no Farmers' Institute meetings this winter outside of a few which may be specially arranged for, and at time of writing several other omissions from the general course of encouragement to agriculture are being considered. It seems rather strange after all that is being said regarding the increase in production which Ontario and Canadian farms should show during the next few years that so many of the means of helping the farmer to effect this increase are being cut off. Of course, the money stringency is blamed for all the trouble, and this is traced to the war, but it seems to us that everything possible should be done to encourage the farmer to push his business as he has never done before. With the talk in the air that there are to be no Institute meetings, no expert judges, and some go so far as to predict that there will be no Winter Fairs, the farmers of this country are becoming imbued with the same spirit of fear and pessimism that has already gripped a good many of the manufacturing industries. Surely the money is available somewhere to carry on most of this work, none of which is extremely costly.

There is a danger of curtailing expenses at the expense of production and the country at large. It might be well if those in charge would weigh carefully the outcome of the procedure before finally deciding to make further reductions in the work intended to increase the output of Ontario farms. Let not the war be so far-reaching as to cut into our very vitals, viz., our food supplies.

Take Care of the Corn.

The farmer is at this season of the year primarily concerned with the saving of enough feed for his stock during the winter which is fast approaching. He is always sure of plenty to eat himself, and if he is a progressive farmer, is anxious that enough and to spare is stored for his stock. There is one crop which has been gaining in favor in this country very rapidly, and that is corn. From no other crop can so much feed be grown per acre at so little expense. Most of the corn in this country this year is a good crop, but reports state that the crop in the United States is much below the small crop of last season. The war has had the effect of raising the price on nearly all classes of grains and farm produce, making feed dear. This fact coupled with a short corn crop in the United States cannot help but make high-priced corn this fall and winter. Corn is one of the feeds bought most extensively for feeding purposes, and when it is high in price the cost of producing pork and beef is increased. The course for the farmer who has a crop of corn in this country is plain. Save it all and save it well. Let the corn for the silo ripen up well, but do not allow it to become badly frost-bitten, and above all do not, as is so often done, practically waste that portion of the corn not needed to fill the silo. There are thousands of acres of good husking corn in Ontario this year, and all that can be utilized for this purpose should be husked and saved to increase the concentrate rations for the stock in winter, and keep down cost of meat

and milk production. Let all this corn ripen up thoroughly, and cut it and carefully shock it in the field. Husking may be done this fall or in the barn in early winter. The corn will keep best in a crib, but if piled on the barn floor in heaps not too large it will save all right. Some husk as needed, leaving the ears on the stalks until the corn is required for feed. It matters not how it is saved as long as it is saved. Much corn is sometimes wasted late in the fall after the silo is filled by being thrown over the fence and fed on the stalks. This year it should be saved if the practice has never been resorted to previously.

Be Your Own Agricultural Experts.

It seems that our Governments intend to cut down expenses to a minimum, and agriculture is suffering to no small degree. Much of the educative work generally carried on is being omitted this year, but this need not necessarily in any way perturb the farmer. Farmers are gradually becoming better organized, and if the Government does not choose to help them they are in a good position to help themselves. No locality is without its "leaders" in agriculture—men of practical experience and theoretical training. These men are in a much better position to do effective work where they are banded into clubs or other forms of organization holding regular meetings throughout the winter months. What need should there be for outside speakers? Every community has just as good at home if they only develop them. An unprecendented opportunity is now before our Farmers' Clubs and sister organizations. If the Government cannot afford to send outside speakers on agriculture into your communities, you cannot afford to let the opportunity slip of increasing your efficiency by holding more meetings and relying on home talent for your speeches and discussions. After all will it not be of more value to meet together—men from one locality and discuss matters agricultural as they pertain to that particular district? No two districts are just alike in soil, climate and cropping. What will do well in one township or on one concession may not succeed a township or a concession north, south, east or west of that district. We would urge all local farm organizations and the bigger organizations to co-operate this winter and put on a series of meetings better than has ever been held in the country, either as a result of local or government effort. Farmers themselves can fill the breach made by the cancellation of Farmers' Institutes and the "calling off" of the expert judges. There is not a fall fair which should suffer by this move. Let some of our good stockmen offer their services at a nominal fee, or perhaps free if the show managements will meet travelling and hotel expenses. Such a move will help the stockmen and help the county fairs. Good judges should step forward and fill the breach. There is not a county in the province but has within its borders men competent to place the awards on the stock exhibited at the county shows. Let them volunteer their services and show managements should not hesitate to engage local men, provided they are competent. After the fair, if proceeds warrant, the men should be paid a fair consideration for their work. This is the first work to be done, and special meetings of Farmers' Clubs and other organizations might be called to look over the ground and outline the work for the coming winter. If the farming community be-