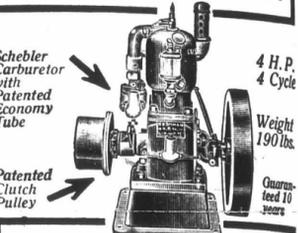


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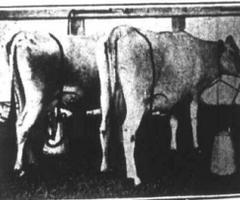
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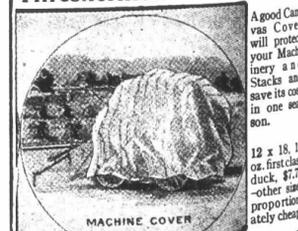
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VOL. L.

LONDON, ONTARIO, SEPTEMBER 16, 1915.

No. 1199

EDITORIAL.

Start the plow. Keep it going.

Now for a busy, bright and beautiful long open fall!

It took Toronto Exhibition to straighten up the weather.

Canada will need a big crop again in 1916. Prepare now.

Get all the land turned up for the frost to get in its best work this winter.

The exhibitor who breeds the winners gets the most satisfaction out of winning.

Didn't you decide to kill the scrub sire after seeing the right kind at the Fair?

The only way to keep live stock is to keep it well. Breed right and feed judiciously.

The pigs and chickens will not object to the sprouts on the wheat if the miller does.

A safe rule to follow on the farm is to offer nothing for sale that is not in the best possible condition for sale.

A year of much damaged grain should be a great season for the stockman. Make big money from your grain by feeding it.

Prepare a big acreage for crop in 1916 and prepare it well. The Empire's greatest munitions factory must be worked to the limit.

This has been a year when the man on the high rolling soil could sympathize with the farmer on the heavy, soggy, undrained fields.

One of the lessons which big exhibitions bring home to stockmen and farmers is that it pays to breed nothing but the best.

Encourage the boys to enter the competition at county fairs. It will only be a few years until they will be the big stockmen of Canada.

It is surely fine to hear the big men of Canada get back to the basis of things and give the agriculturists credit for the part they are playing and do play in the world's affairs.

Well might Kaiser William promise to deal with the commander and crew of the submarine which sank the Arabic when British seamen had already dealt successfully with them.

The loser who loses with a smile and a determination to return next year and win gets more out of showing than the winner who drags and rests on his oars until next year's fairs.

Remember, the best grain can only be grown from the best seed put in well. A great deal of the fall wheat will be late sown this year, and the preparation for the crop should be even better than usual.

Extra Feeding Precautions Necessary.

All conditions this year are favorable to a great deal of trouble in feeding live stock during the coming winter. There will be plenty of feed, but much of it will not be of the best quality, owing to the bad haying and harvest weather experienced in Eastern Canada during the past two months. We do not wish to frighten anyone against feeding stock this winter, but where there is such a bulk of musty and dusty, coarse feed and even grain itself, it is no easy matter to avoid digestive troubles in the stock. It should be a good year for the experienced feeder to prove his worth. More care than is usually given will be necessary in the change from grass to dry feed. Too much rain has made the grass very sappy, and has served to take every bit of sap out of most of the straw and much of the hay. It is evident that the change from soft grass to poor hay and straw must be made very gradually if trouble of more or less serious nature is to be avoided. Silage and roots should be used to bridge over the chasm. There should be good silage this year, even though corn has been a little backward, provided growers let it mature fairly well before cutting or allow it to dry out a little before ensiling. The corn is likely to be very sappy, and unless care is exercised sour silage may result. The feeding value of much of the straw which was fairly pounded into the ground and harvested after it had been ripe for many days will be practically nil, and yet with hay none too plentiful and of inferior quality it will be necessary to feed considerable straw. This will only be safely accomplished by carefully mixing it with other feed. It should be a good year for the cutting box. Poor hay and poor straw, where these must be fed, should be cut and mixed with pulped roots and silage. This will aid the animal to digest them, and there should be less danger of any of the stock getting so much poor-quality feed at once to cause serious trouble. Line water should be freely used on musty or dusty roughage, especially where fed to horses. Care of the threshed grain should be such as to prevent heating. Any that heats should be promptly spread out and stirred to cool. Chop should not be piled up for months ahead, as trouble will be found in keeping it sweet. A little caution in feeding should be listened to and acted upon this year. This has been a very unusual season, and the careful feeder must be right on the job.

Business and the Wheat Crop.

The price which the farmer is to get for the 1915 wheat crop is still a matter of conjecture, but one which is occupying the minds of not only the producers of the crop but of business men in all parts of Canada. It has been hinted through the press that the wheat situation was one of the topics discussed by Premier Borden on his recent trip to the Old Land, and any report which he may have is eagerly awaited by grain growers and men engaged in all kinds of business, for businessmen in the twentieth century realize, and more especially in a year of crisis, that the farmer must have a certain amount of money else business is bad. This is particularly true of Western Canada which had a poor crop last year, but with increased effort and a good season has a bumper yield this fall. Farmers increased their acreage and tilled their land better

than is usually the case in preparation for a big crop this year. Now conditions are such that it costs enormous rates to transport the grain from Canada to Liverpool, which is really the wheat market of the world. These high rates cut very deeply into the price which the farmer gets for his crop, and speculators in a time like this are very likely to take an undue advantage of the men who must sell their wheat. It is to be hoped that some arrangements will be made whereby the wheat can be disposed of at a fairly good price, at least a figure somewhere near its value in such times. The money that the Canadian farmer gets for his wheat this year is going to be, provided the price is good, the making of good times in this country. If the price drops very low and Western farmers, and also some in the East, have difficulty in meeting their obligations, the outlook will be none too promising for an improvement in the general situation of depression. Of one thing we are quite certain, there is going to be no shortage of wheat, nor has there been any great shortage of this food product, but there is a demand and must continue to be for Canadian wheat in the Old Land where it will sell at a good price, transportation rates being the big factor in keeping down the price to the grower. The problem now is to make some arrangement to transport Canada's surplus wheat to the Old Land at a rate which will leave the grower a good percentage of the profits due him. The speculator must not be allowed to take an undue advantage, and the Government should do all in its power to assist the farmer by obtaining better rates for transportation.

Crop Rotation Advantages.

This may not seem to be the proper season at which to discuss crop rotation but most farmers make their preparation for the next season's work in the autumn, and it is necessary on a well-managed farm to be always looking ahead, planning ahead, and working ahead. A beginning must be made somewhere and no better time to lay down a basis for a short crop rotation can be found than in the fall when the land is being plowed, cultivated, and put in trim for the crop which it must grow in 1916. The advantages of rotating crops are many and as a general thing the shorter the rotation the better. There is no more successful method of fighting noxious weeds, than by changing the crop on each field each year and making the entire rotation not longer than from three to five years. Weeds gain very little headway on fields which carry a hoed crop once in three years, the other two years being devoted to clover and grain. This is a very short rotation and may not be suitable to all methods of farming. The farmer must decide for himself the best rotation to follow. Very successful men have found a four or five-year rotation quite suitable and in it the land is usually seeded down at least for two years out of the term, and produces at least one hoed crop during that time, so that it is obvious that in so far as keeping the farm free from weeds is concerned, crop rotation is of great importance and for this reason alone no farmer operating on a mixed farming basis can afford to crop his fields in a haphazard manner.

It is a well-known fact that different crops require varying amounts of the various plant foods contained in ordinary farm soil, and also that different crops feed in different ways and at