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AND RURAL HOME

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Rogues shall not ply their trade at the expense of our subscribers, who are our friends, through the medium of these columns; but we shall not attempt to adjust trifling disputes between subscribers and honorable business men who advertise, nor pay the debts of honest bankrupts.

The Rural Publishing Company, Limited PETERBORO, ONT.

"Read not to contradict and to confute nor to believe and take for granted, but to weigh and consider."-Bacon

The Dual Purpose Cow

HE beef cow with milking qualities," is an attractive proposition nowadays. Both dairy and meat products are selling at unprecedented prices and all signs point to a continuation of these prices. Any animal that produces both of these profitable articles "looks good" to the man on the farm. Hence the thirst for information on the dual purpose animal.

But is the dual purpose proposition as attractive a one as it looks on the surface? What is milk producing or beef producing ability but a natural tendency improved and developed by man The cow in a state of nature produces enough milk to feed her calf and no more. As a result of hundreds, and in some cases thousands, of years of breeding and selection, man has produced the dairy cow of to-day. She is the result of concentrated work along one definite line. The beef animal has been produced in exactly the same manner and the good beef steer is almost as artificial a creation as the high producing dairy cow. When it has been so difficult to produce these results working with only one aim in view, does it seem natural to suppose that an animal inheriting both tendencies can be produced without the expenditure of infinitely more effort, skill and time?

We cannot afford to take a dogmatic position on this question of the dual purpose cow. Of this, however, we are sure-that the dual purpose cow will be the most difficult of all animals to propagate and is far from being the one adapted to the man who is not skilled enough to handle dairy cattle successfully. Of this, too, we are sure-that the good dual purpose cow will never be as profitable an animal as the good dairy cow. The most enthusiastic advocates of the dual purpose cow realize that this is true, and their advice to dairy farmers is to remain dairymen if they would secure the best results financially.

Getting Rich Quick

THE United States Federal and State Governments are busy rounding up "Get-richquick" artists who make it their business to pocket the surplus earnings of society. The schemes followed by these sharpers are singularly alike. They all invent or borrow some wonderful idea that will double money in a few months, or even a few days. Carefully worded advertisements are then circulated in the press and applicants are "let in on the ground floor," Incidentally the promoter disappears and the cash of his clients with him

Canadians are well represented on the roll call of suckers. Much money has crossed the line to enrich United States sharpers, in addition to the cash collected by some home artists. Occasionally we run across a farmer who has been baited and landed. In all cases the cause of trouble was the same. The investor desired to get rich quick, He was not satisfied with ordinary safe returns, and in being too grasping he over reached himself and lost all.

The bigger the returns offered the more carefully we should look into the proposition. Generally six per cent. with a little uncertainty is to be preferred to five hundred per cent. on a sure thing. If Our Folks really want big returns we would recommend tile drains and pure bred stock ahead of any advertised money maker.

Eliminate Fertile Eggs

HE poultrymen of Kentucky and Tennessee have established a "Rooster Day." On May 1st all the poultrymen of there two states who are in accord with the moven ent for better eggs banished the roosters from the laying pens and do not intend to replace them until December 1st. To encourage the movement the produce dealers of the state adopted May 16th as a "Rooster Sales Day." On that day they paid as much a pound for roosters as for hens, and thousands of roosters were disposed of.

Poultrymen everywhere have come to recognize the male bird in the flock as responsible for a large percentage of the bad and rotten eggs marketed during the summer months. It has been well proved that an infertile egg will keep many times as long as a fertilized one. The germ of the latter begins development immediately it is exposed to a warm temperature. In very warm weather a few days will render fertilized eggs absolutely unfit for food.

We in Canada are in need of a "rooster" day. We are losing millions of dollars annually through marketing bad eggs. We can remove one of the chief factors in bad eggs with decided profit to ourselves. Why feed the roosters all summer when they can be marketed to better advantage now than at any other season? Probably the most of us are in need of new blood in the flock anyway. Why not buy a new male when the breeding season approaches?

Our Landed Barons

T would seem that landed barons are not exclusively an Old Country product. Recent figures tabled in the House of Commons, Ottawa, show the total amount of lands granted by the Federal Government alone to railway companies in Canada as 30,426,817 acres. The land under cultivation in old Ontario is about 14,000,000 acres. Hence the Dominion Government has given away lands to railway companies equal to more than twice as much as is under cultivation in Ontario. As the railway companies have had their choice of lands, it may be assumed that the land they have claimed, on the whole, is equally as good as that under cultivation in

Were desirable lands unlimited and hence no one injured by such a policy of land bonuses as Canadian Governments have been following, we could make little objection. But land bonusing is not an innocent policy. The separation of a people from the ownership of their land is one fraught with great menace to the future wellbeing of our nation. Land will not always be plentiful. The United States once had more free land to offer than Canada has to-day. Now their free land is gone and there are still many land hungry people to the south of the border Even if the present generation were well supplied with land we could not afford to forget that our children will need land even as we have done If we allow our vast natural heritage to be exploited for the making of railway companies into landed barons, our children will have little for which to thank us when they find access to the earth denied them for ever.

But the evils of land exploitation are not all of the future. The Canadian West is already suffering from the policy of former governments. In many sections every other section of land is the property of a railway company. These alternate sections being free from taxation add to the taxation burden of actual settlers for the maintenance of roads and schools. In fact, these vacant areas form the greatest hindrance to an efficient educational system and to proper rural social life. If we are to bonus railways at all let it be in money. Let us not alienate the land from our children. It is the greatest wrong we could perpetrate on future generations.

Returns of Labour

66 N the sweat of thy brow shall thou est bread." So says the Good Book. We some times feel that this rule needs amending when farming is the business under discussion. Many of us are living on the interest of our investment and throwing in our labor for nothing; or, if we wish to stick closer to the text, we may say that we are living on the returns of our labor and owning our farms as an unprofitable investment. Neither interpretation will be a source of much satisfaction to the working farmer.

The constitution of a farmers' income has been much under discussion lately. Many who claim to be financially successful as farmers, it has been shown, are actually living on the interest of the money invested in their farms and on the labor of their sons and daughters. When one has his farm secure of debt he often forgets that interest on the investment is a receipt similar to the interest that one receives on a deposit in the savings bank. In fact, we should receive more than savings bank interest on the farm investment, as we can sell our farms and invest the money readily at six per cent. One who has a farm and equipment worth sixteen thousand dollars can secure an income of eight hundred dollars a year by selling his farm and putting the money at interest assuming that he can invest the proceeds so as to secure five per

What do we earn as farmers? A business-like way to determine our wage is to balance the total receipts from our farms against interest on investment, expenses of operation, depreciation, and the cost of labor whether it be given by hired help or by the rest of the family. The difference between the two is what we are getting for our own labor. If we speak of our earnings in terms of gross income, we are but deceiving ourselves.

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