

## Letters of a Farmer to His Son

A KIND WORD FOR DEMON RUM

for us.

Your loving,  
FATHER.

DEAR BILL:

I shall be expecting you on Saturday night and will meet you at the station with the car. Don't bother about bringing much of anything with you, unless you call in at the Dispensary and get something with which to flavor the Christmas pudding; and while you are about it, get enough to add a little flavor to our conversation. Now that the curse of strong drink is about to be banished from our fair Province forever, I may admit what you probably already know, that I shall miss it. It never was a curse to me; and many a time I have felt the better for, as Paul said to Timothy, "a little drop for my stomach's sake." I have always felt and contended personally that liquor is no more harm to those who know how to use it than is any of the other of God's creations. The trouble is that it is only the exceptional man who does know how to use it; and for that reason I voted against the Dispensaries, and shall be glad, for public reasons, to see the Province dry. Now that it is disappearing and no harm can be done by telling the truth, I may observe to you that many a time a thimbleful of whiskey has cheered me up and made the world look better and brighter to me, besides being splendid for the appetite. If everyone could use it as well and carefully as your father, there would be no harm done.

I am glad to have got that off my chest, Bill. I always did hate hypocrisy and I think there has probably been more of it talked and practised in connection with the liquor business, for and against, than anything else on earth.

I am considering what will be the next thing to be reformed after liquor is gone. I know there are lots of fanatics who would make it illegal to smoke, if they could do so, and their reason is the same as the reason of this same class of people for objecting to liquor drinking. It is the same reason which someone once said made the Puritans of New England object to bear-baiting: not because it gave pain to the bear, but because it gave pleasure to the spectators.

However, I merely started out to say we would be watching for you on Saturday and have been led into this long and indiscreet panegyric on the Demon Rum. And by the way, Bill, if you feel that you can afford to bring a few real good cigars I think they also would brighten up my outlook on life after we have put away the good dinner your mother is preparing

### District Conventions

(Continued from page 7)

the encouragement of progress in farming goes, has been weak, inefficient, and at times even evil and vicious. If there is to be a continuance of a central and branch banking system, why not nationalize one of the banks, have an exclusive national currency, and thus do away with the waste now involved by the public support of twenty-two banks, and over three thousand branches? Can anyone be convinced that a city like Saskatoon needs a dozen banks to serve 25 000 people? Wilames Thompson, district director of District No. 6, was re-nominated, but declined to stand, and John McNaughtan of Piche was nominated and elected as the unanimous choice of the convention. W. J. Orchard was re-elected district director of District No. 8.

A resolution introduced by John McNaughtan of Piche, was passed as follows:—"Resolved that this convention recommend the advisability of the central convention having a committee appointed to investigate the market problems of Western agriculture, and that Professor Swanson be asked to assist."

At District No. 8 convention resolutions were carried which would keep the full board of directors in closer touch with the executive.

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## Christmas Greetings

In these days of trial for all, and of sacrifice and heart break for many, a shadow comes across one's soul in thinking over the fitness of expressing to each other the heretofore bright and glad salutation of "A Merry Christmas."

Nevertheless, we do wish for everyone a beneficent Christmas season, free from all undue anxiety, personal or relative, by account of the uncertainties incident to the present momentous state of international affairs.

And we would with all respect, suggest and advise on the part of all, the exercise of patience, courage, kindness, thrift and economy in the use of things material, high hopes for all things moral and spiritual, and throughout all a steadfast confidence in the ultimate righteous and peaceable outcome of the present greatest struggle for personal, national and international liberty and freedom, which the world has ever known.

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## ANOTHER IMPORTANT AD- VICE FROM McBEAN BROS.

The last letter we issued in this paper was dated September 28th. Since that date wheat has advanced to \$2.00 and oats to 65c. The last few weeks' prices have declined, but this is only a natural reaction. We are looking for our wheat to sell at above \$2.00 later on. Oats before another crop is harvested we feel will sell at around 85 cents. There is nothing in the situation to warrant lower prices before another crop is harvested, and even then you need not look for very low prices. We figure that our low grade wheat is entirely too low compared with higher grades, but these prices will adjust themselves after the beginning of the New Year. We strongly advise farmers not to sell a bushel of their wheat and oats until the beginning of the year, or until wheat is around \$2.00 and oats around 75 cents to 80 cents.

Flax and barley are fairly high now, but we think both these cereals will go higher. We are Commission Merchants and would like a share of your grain this year. Give us a trial, ship your grain to Fort William or Port Arthur; advise McBean Bros., Winnipeg, Man., so that we can look after the grading. We make big advances on each car of grain. Write us any time for market information.

December  
8th, 1916

**McBEAN BROS.**

GRAIN EXCHANGE

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## Donald Morrison & Co.

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WE handle Wheat, Oats, Flax and Barley on Commission, obtaining best possible grades and prices. Our work is prompt, accurate and reliable. Let us handle YOUR shipments this season. Daily or weekly market letter on application.

References: Bank of Toronto, Northern Crown Bank and Commercial Agencies.