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EDITORIAL.

Salt satisfies stock.

The hired man is human.

Cultivation makes the corn crop.

Make a pot-pie of your roosters.

Machinery is the farmer's friend.

Breed that heavy mare this month.

Carry on the great offensive against weeds.

Apples will be a light crop in Ontario; make them clean.

A question bothering politicians—Can Canada conscript?

Tubers and beetles (bugs) will not grow on the same potato stalk.

Socialist Peace Conferences savor of the Central Europe espionage system.

A wider use of the tractor does not mean that the draft horse is to be driven out of business.

The farmer in these days who would eat only that which he could not sell would surely starve.

Have you running water in your home or is your wife always running to the well or spring for it?

A campaign to increase facilities for transportation may be more necessary than that for production.

An American paper was right when it said: "You may be too old to go, but you're not too old to hoe."

The Germans still claim a victory in the Jutland fight, but where have they kept their fleet since?

Conscription seems to have troubled the politicians in Canada as much as it has the so-called slackers.

The new crop of Canadian Knights did not include any farmers, notwithstanding their efforts to increase production.

If grain is needed for food why use it up in manufacturing drink? They say food is scarce. There is no scarcity of water.

As a machine for speeding up production the farmer is of the self-starter type and does not require cranking at any season of the year.

Two things are necessary to make tractors popular in Ontario. First, they must be light and handy; second, the price must also be light.

Judging from some of the material published re farm help, the Ontario Government might get out a bulletin on the uses and abuses of high school boys and city help on the farms.

There are a few rare birds in Ontario. The other day we met a farmer who had no complaints about crops or weather and the same day we talked with a consumer who did not believe farmers were getting too much for their produce. Extremely rare!

Developing a Sympathetic Spirit.

We have time and again pointed through these columns that all the campaigns for increased production, thrift and prevention of waste should not be directed specially at the farmer, because it is liable to leave a bad taste in the mouth of the man on the land. We are told that one of the foremost aims of the Organization of Resources Committee in Ontario is to promote a sympathetic feeling between the farm and the city, or between city people and farmers. This is right and proper. As the Farmer's Advocate has time and again stated, the problem of the producer on the farm is not so different after all from that of the consumer in the city, but there is a certain something in between which gets too large a percentage of the profit from both. When it comes to promoting a sympathetic spirit there is a chance for the Resources Committee, through the press which circulates in the city, to do a great work. Of the 5,000 boys sent out by this Committee this year from the towns and cities to the farm, we understand that nearly all are making good, are satisfied with their places, are getting good wages—running from \$18 to \$30 per month with board and washing—and that their employers are well pleased with the boys. Some of the letters from these boys and from their employers would make just as good reading as those few which are published from time to time, and which emphasize the fact that some one farmer has overworked and abused a certain boy. This is just an indication of what might be done. It might be just as well to point out once in a while that the farmer has a few troubles and no end of difficulties in his work of production; that it costs something to start on a farm and to operate it successfully; that eggs do not just happen in nests but that hens must be fed to produce them; that it takes more than wind and water to produce breakfast bacon; and that expensive feed is necessary, coupled with considerable labor, to grow nice, juicy steaks. This might be better than to lay all the stress upon the high prices which the farmer demands or gets when he comes to market and forget about the high prices which he must pay when he buys the necessary machinery, implements, feed, etc., to keep his farm going. Yes, there is room for a more sympathetic feeling between rural and urban people. Both are good and necessary to the welfare of the country, and it is just as necessary for urban dwellers to begin showing some of this sympathetic feeling as it is for rural people. All are working with the same end in view, an honest, respectable, decent living with reasonable profits for everybody. There are a few, however, and they are not found on the farms, who exact unreasonable profits from both the farmer and the average citizen of our towns and cities, and it is these who have been responsible for what lack of sympathy may exist between the two classes of our best citizens.

Political Muddling.

The political muddle which recently developed in Ottawa revealed the fact, if we are to believe despatches from the Capital, that certain party politicians even at this stage of world crisis would play politics rather than act statesmanship. Selfishness for party or personal gains should have no place in the public life of Canada at this time. There has been altogether too much petty party fiddling while Rome burned. The Canadian public will back up a straightforward, active, national policy to carry on the war to best advantage and it ill behooves either party or individuals in their party to put their own ends ahead of the country's needs at this time. It is just as ridiculous also for one party to be forever blaming the other when members of both are in reality to blame. If it was ever necessary for Canada to forget politics and replace it with statesmanship which will carry the country through honorably and efficiently it is now.

The Power Machinery Era.

A new era in agriculture in Ontario is dawning. Rapid strides have been made in the development of power machinery for the farm and this machinery has been applied successfully on a number of even the smaller farms in this Province. But we are only at the beginning. Water-pressure systems have been installed in a number of homes and out-buildings but the percentage having this facility is still small. In the very near future we are to see wonderful development in this regard. The farm home will very shortly be as well supplied with modern conveniences as is the city home, and no one is more deserving of these than the farmer, his wife and family. The scarcity of labor is making it necessary also to do more of the work of the farm and stable with modern machinery and appliances. Feed and litter carriers are becoming more common each year. Gasoline or other types of engine are used on many farms. Wide implements are replacing the narrow as time goes on. Hay loaders, hay forks, and such machinery for taking the heavy work off the shoulders of the man on the land are coming into more general use. Milking machines, cream separators, automobiles and all other forms of accessories to lighten labor are rapidly coming into use as labor grows scarcer. The farm tractor is getting a boost in Ontario this spring and the attention of many farmers is drawn in that direction. Machinery is beginning to do for agriculture what it has done for other industries. We are living in a time when it is necessary that the output of all our agricultural land be as large as it is possible for those on the land to make it. Agriculture must not be handicapped in any way. It is incumbent, then, upon those in authority that they give all encouragement possible to the farmer in his work. Machinery and modern implements are necessary to greatest production. They should be made available to the man on the land at the lowest possible figures, leaving a fair and reasonable margin of profit for the manufacturer and those necessary to place this machinery and implements at the farmer's disposal.

Drainage Interest.

After the wet season of 1915 and the extremely wet spring of 1916, followed by intense heat and drought and this followed by a somewhat late, and in some parts of Ontario rather wet, period this year, little further evidence is necessary to show that underdrainage pays on any land not naturally drained well or land inclined to be wet, and consequently cold and backward. Following the recent heavy rains in Western Ontario, we took a trip through parts of the country most affected and it was not difficult to see the difference in the grain and grass on land which was well drained. Spring grains got in earlier in the season and were making a more rapid and vigorous growth, very little water being noticed on the drained fields, whereas land adjacent and which was not underdrained was showing the effects of too much water being retained therein and thereon.

Through correspondence with a number of tile manufacturers we learn that the only reason for a slackening up in the demand for tile in certain districts is the shortage of labor both at the yards and on the farms. A number reported the demand better this year than ever before, but in each case these yards were located in a district where ditching machines for farm drainage purposes are in operation and where the farmers have been convinced that the ditcher does good work and that tile drainage pays through seeing the result in their own neighborhood. In other districts where no ditching machine has yet been used this, of course, is a bad season to get tiling done. Labor is scarce and all the available supply has been used up in getting the crops in and properly attended to. There is however, a growing interest in underdrainage, particularly as its value has now been