

school-grounds, in each case prescribed by the Education Department. The School Garden shall be adjacent or convenient to the regular school-grounds. (2) The School Board shall provide the necessary tools, implements, seeds, and other requisites, and also a garden shed or a suitable apartment for the storage thereof, and for use as a working laboratory.

"3. One legally-qualified teacher in each school, who holds a certificate from the Macdonald School at Guelph, or any other institution approved by the Minister of Education, that he is competent to give instruction in Elementary Agriculture and Horticulture, and who shall thereafter give instruction, approved by the Inspector, in said subject at any Rural or Village Public School having a School Garden attached, in accordance with the regulations of the Education Department from time to time, shall be entitled to receive an allowance, at the rate of thirty dollars a year, from any sum voted by the Legislature for these subjects.

4. (1) Should the sum voted by the Legislature not be sufficient to pay in full the grants on the foregoing bases, the Education Department will make a pro rata distribution of the sum voted."

As indicating that the subject of educational reform is not likely to become a party football, espoused by one side, and opposed on general principles by the other, it is encouraging to note that Hon. Richard Harcourt, ex-Minister of Education for the Province, has recently advocated in the Legislature a system of Industrial Education. With this, of course, we entirely agree, although taking occasion to point out that a system of education for the farm is of vastly greater economic and national importance than education for urban arts and crafts, important as the latter unquestionably is. School-gardening and nature-study, carried on under the direction of trained and competent teachers, bids fair to do more to improve our rural education than any one other reform that can be introduced.

#### MILITARY DRILL AND TUBERCULOSIS.

At present we are hearing much about military drill in schools, as a defence against a possible invasion of our country. A greater enemy lurks on our highways and in our gloomy barns than will ever invade our shores. We talk of the yellow peril, but a greater evil lies in the white plague, which in Toronto kills, in one year, three hundred and thirty-eight people. The statistics are equally alarming throughout the Dominion and the United States.

Tuberculosis, or consumption, is the national disease of North America. It is estimated that six thousand people in Pennsylvania and four thousand in Massachusetts die every year, victims of this terrible disease. Dr. Biggs estimated that tuberculosis annually costs the city of New York twenty-three million dollars, while the total loss to the United States, as a whole, is three hundred and thirty million dollars during the same period.

We are woefully ignorant about our enemy at home. Would it not be wise to teach our school children how to combat this deadly foe, instead of training them to fight an imaginary one?

It is inconsistent to expect a boy to carry out the principles of the Prince of Peace and a rifle at the same time. If we are what we profess to be, why confuse the lad?

How many of our boys know that consumption is infectious? That the germs are spread in the sputum of diseased people on our roads, or in our buildings, either through ignorance or criminal carelessness? How many of our people are aware that, when these germs dry, they float in the atmosphere, seeking the weak spots in man and beast?

Our cities are protected by signs on which we read,

"PLEASE DO NOT SPIT."

Why cannot our country halls and churches, and last, but by no means least, our barns and pastures, be protected by such notices?

It is an acknowledged fact that tuberculosis is infectious. If it attacks the lungs, it produces consumption. It may attack other organs of the body, and develop into spinal disease, hip disease, consumption of the throat, tuberculosis of the glands, or brain, and other complaints. Abdominal tuberculosis is very prevalent among infants who are reared upon unsterilized cow's milk.

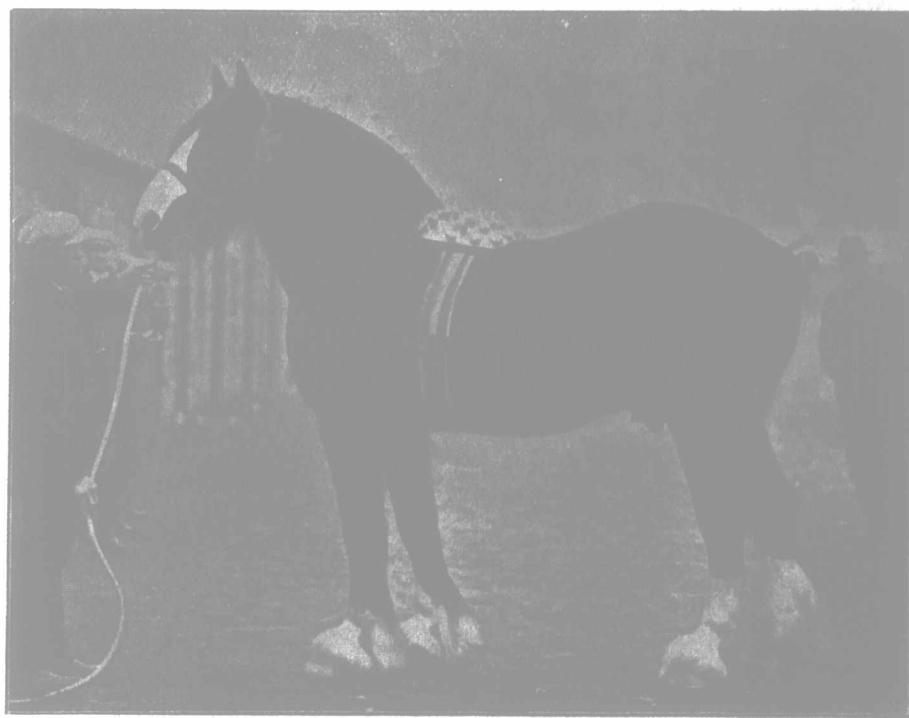
Tuberculosis can be transmitted from men to cattle, and from cattle to men. It is picking us off more surely than is possible with the rifles of an enemy; therefore, we need recruits from all over the Dominion to join in the crusade against this deadly foe.

We need inspectors in country districts who will compel small farmers to let light and air into the cow stables.

I am familiar with many barns which are a disgrace to civilization. (Right here let me say that the majority of owners of such buildings will never see this article, as they never take an agricultural paper worthy of the name.) There are many barns in which there is no window at all. Others possess a port-hole, by courtesy called a window, but never made to open. Others have windows through which the light and the dust struggle together. In these dark and ill-ventilated barns stand the producers of human food, in a most filthy condition. These buildings are ideal breeding places for the germ tuberculosis.

It is the exception, rather than the rule, to see a clean herd in this district. It has been facetiously remarked that, when some apple-growers in the Annapolis Valley wish to fertilize their orchards, they have only to turn their cows out in the rain!

It is surprising to see what pains some men will take to groom the horse which he intends to show off as he trots past his neighbors! This same man will sit down to milk the cow which has never known currycomb and brush, while bits of filth drop from its plastered flanks into the pail. If you suggested such a thing as cleaning the udder and grooming the creature, he would think that you were in need of work. Milk cannot be kept clean unless the cow is brushed and well bedded; the latter is, to many cows, an unheard-of luxury. In these filthy surroundings, germs are continually dropping into the milk, where they multiply with astonishing rapidity. Then, we wonder why the white plague is carrying us off one by one. Upon the health of the herd depends the health of all who partake of their products.



Memento (13100).

Clydesdale stallion; black; foaled May, 1903. Sire, Baden Powell (10963). Winner of the Brydon Challenge Shield in 1906, and the Cawdor Challenge Cup in 1908, at Glasgow Stallion Show.

It is time we taught our boys and girls the proper care of milk utensils and farm buildings; then, perhaps, things would be clean and interesting enough to keep them on the farm, where, if they put as much energy as they are compelled to put in their city work, things would be more remunerative.

It is claimed that military drill will improve the physical stamina of the people. Will it affect the girls who will eventually become the mothers of Canada—these young women upon whose health depends the bodily strength of the nation? No! Until we can prevent our girls, especially in the Eastern Provinces, taking positions over the border, where they must stand long hours in overheated and ill-ventilated factories, partaking of hurried and non-nutritious meals, the physical stamina of the nation will deteriorate.

Would it not be more profitable for the country to pay our young people to stay on the farms, rather than spend the present six millions of dollars on armaments?

Where in this vast Dominion can be found a better place for nourishing sturdy young men and women, where they live on the luxuries of the land, than on the farm?

How is military drill to affect our boys? If they enter the militia, will it not make them discontented with the quiet, solid life of the old homestead? A military-drilled farmer would be a ludicrous individual, reminding us of the wooden Mr. Noah in the arks of our childhood. Military officials realize this in the army, and strive to counteract the stiff and unnatural positions by gymnastics.

In the country, the old axe would be an efficient substitute for Indian clubs, while on ladders, scythes, spades and pitchforks could be performed gymnastics requiring as much skill as displayed in any gymnasium. We waste a lot of time and energy punching balls which might be spent more profitably chopping kindlings!

The freedom of the farm is the birthright of every son of the soil, and a country life, if lived according to the laws of health and industry, will strengthen the nation; but more militarism means a growing burden of taxes and a sacrifice of liberty.

King's Co., N. S.

#### THE FARM VS. THE CITY.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have read, with much sympathy, your spirited editorials advocating the interests of the farm as preferable to those obtained in following city vocations.

You very truly point out the possibility of a truly ideal life on the farm, and people of all times have doubtless been allured thereto by the same romantic conceptions of happiness, free from the harsh and bitter experiences of city business life. It seems to me, however, that the great mass of mankind, whether in the city or on the farm, are not actuated by lofty ideals as to the most noble and ennobling form of living, but by the simple desire to get wealth and to get the comforts it will buy, and to use the power it gives them over the less successful in the competition of business.

The real truth about farm life, and the cause for which so many sons and daughters leave the farm home, is that, in spite of the most unremit-

ting toil and the most scrupulous economy, after many a long year, the parents have only eked out a bare living; and, though the children are grown-up, and, having had their full share in the homework, they find the parents unable to do anything to set them up in a farm business; and, unless they wait for the old people to die, there is no alternative to leaving the home, and often following the vocation of menials to people in other pursuits. In my judgment, as the result of close observation and considerable personal experience, both in cities and on the farm, there is no harder-earned dollar in Canada today than the dollar earned by the farmer, and there is no life in Canada where the incessant labor demanded is so great as on the farmer, robbing him of all

legitimate leisure for mental and physical relaxation, until labor, cheerfully accepted, becomes drudgery, and finds him in a struggle that knows no let-up or end, and from which the grave alone gives him rest.

This great burden on the farmer is borne in order that the dealers who buy his produce—the fruit of many months' labor—may go and make a profit thereon of 50 to 100 per cent. in less hours than he has taken months to produce it. To make bad worse, the farmer is up against trade combines amongst dealers in his buyings and sellings, until he is fairly fleeced of what he does get.

The Hon. John Dryden stated publicly, not long ago, that he saw no chance of improved prospects for the farmer, "until the margin of difference between what the consumer paid and the producer received was lessened," and all the poetry that may be written about the charms of farm-life will fall utterly flat on the minds of those who know, by hard experience, what it all means; and nothing will stop the exodus from the farms going on unless it can be made more profitable to those engaged at farming. Because farmers cannot go into the labor market and offer equal wages for the same number of hours' labor as in other pursuits, every day is making the term "farm laborer" a remembrance more and more of past history.

Again, anyone well acquainted with ordinary city thought about farmers, knows too well that the thought is of one illiterate, dirty and sordid, and suggestive of anything but the type of manhood depicted in your columns; and, where any-