

very clever workman. His wife, a happy, cheerful woman, who tried to make their home as bright as possible, did what she could to earn money. The eldest child, a bright girl, stayed at home and worked. The two youngest children went to school, for their parents would deny themselves rather than let their children go without an education. Jack, a very adventuresome lad of sixteen, fond of rambling about and finding new things, would not go to school.

It was just these kind of lads that formed the most of Drake's crew which sailed from Plymouth early in the spring of 1492. Jack had interviewed one of the captains of the crew, and in spite of the sorrow and anxiety of the whole family, was accepted as a watchman on the "No Surrender," the second-best ship of the fleet.

Months had passed away and no news had been brought of the whereabouts of Drake's crew. It was in the month of September, and already the leaves were getting their golden tint. Squirrels frisked about gathering in their winter hoard. A trying day it certainly had been for Mr. Irwin. He had retired to rest after his tedious work. The eldest girl was washing dishes, her mother was mending clothes, and the children were learning their lessons. Hark! what was that? O, just the sighing of the trees or rustling of leaves. But again it was heard, more distinctly. It was a rap. Who would come at this time of night? No man ever called but in the day-time for business, and visitors were seldom seen. The door was opened. There stood Jack. There was a rush and a clatter. Mother, daughter and children all rushed to embrace him in their arms. They made such a clatter that it awakened Mr. Irwin, and he came hobbling to the door on his wooden leg. Jack stated that he and the other noble fellows were the first to sail around the world. No more poverty or discontentment for the Irwin family, for would not Jack be able to earn money since his fame had spread abroad. With happy and light hearts the Irwin family, who had been worried about Jack, retired to rest with gladsome hearts, which they never had before for many a night.

HAMILTON CLUTTON,
(Age 14, Form 1B, High School.)
Dunlop, Ont.

Dear Puck and Beavers,—I have written to your charming Circle before, and have seen my letter in print. I have four sisters and one brother. My brother and oldest sister and I go to school. My father has taken "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine" for upwards of twenty years. I enjoy reading the letters of the Beavers very much. There are often some nice stories in the Beaver Circle which I enjoy very much. I liked the stories about Captain Ben and about Tonka, the bear, very much. I am not what they call a bookworm, but have read a few books. I have read "Little Men," "Little Women," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and "Fading." I like the books written by Louisa M. Alcott the best—"Little Men" and "Little Women."

We had a concert at our school before Christmas. We had a good programme, which was followed by the distribution of the presents of the Christmas tree by Santa Claus. We go to school every day if we can; our teacher's name is Miss Sullivan, and we all love her fine. I am in the Fourth Class and intend trying the entrance next year. Wishing the Beaver Circle every success, I will close with a few good-byes.

Constantinople is a hard word, can you spell it? Ans.—I can.

Why is swearing a bad habit? Ans.—Because it is a bad habit.

As I was going to school I met a man with seven bags. Each wife had seven bags, and in each bag were seven cats, and each cat had seven kids. How many were going to school? Ans.—One (1).

ELLIS A. BROTHMAN,
(Year 12, Class, Sr. IV.)
P. S.—Will some of the Beavers please write to me.
Ariss, Ont., R. 1, Box 2.

Dear Puck and Beavers,—This is my first letter to you, and I thought I would write, as I have seen any letters from New York. I live a mile and a half from St. Catharines and two from

AUCTION SALE

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Thursday, March 4, 1915

Sale commences at 1.30 o'clock sharp.

Twenty milch cows, 4 of which are in milk, some fresh, balance due in March and April. Registered Ayrshire bull, 4 years old. Dam R. Q. P., 9, 143 lbs. milk, 400 lbs. fat as a four-year-old. Two Ayrshire bull calves, one 8 months and the other 6 weeks.

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O. A. C. 72 Oats For Sale.—You cannot afford to grow any other. All seed oats are scarce and dear, why not buy the best, ahead in all trials? Grain from 1st-prize field in Standing Grain Competition. Clean and pure as to variety. Price, less than 5 bus. lots, \$1.30 per bus.; 5 bus. and over \$1.25 per bus., f.o.b. Galt. Bags extra. WM. ELLIOTT, Galt, Ont.

Copper Cliff, where the largest nickel mines of the world are. We can see the smelter from the door. Sometimes when the wind is blowing this way, it blows the sulphur smoke from the roast-beds this way, and it kills all the grass and flowers, and is so thick you cannot see over three or four feet in front of you. I live on a dairy farm. My father has 125 cows and eleven horses. I go to school every day. I am in the Senior Third Book. My teacher's name is Miss Hughes. From a new Beaver.

CATHERINE McDONALD, (age 10),
Sudbury, Ont.

Dear Puck and Beavers,—This is the third time I have written to the Beaver Circle. I suppose all the Beavers are having good fun skating now. I have a pair of hockey boots and skates, and have had quite a few skates so far this winter. We had a thaw, but the ice is frozen now. I have a kitten for a pet. I go to S. S. No. 8, Township of Kingston. I have three miles to walk to school. Our teacher's name is Miss Chown. There are fourteen going to our school, six girls and eight boys. We had a Christmas-tree and concert at school at Christmas. I like to read

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PATRIOTISM and PRODUCTION

"I would urge the farmers of Canada to do their share in preventing the people of Great Britain from suffering want or privation."
HON. MARTIN BURRELL, Minister of Agriculture.

Fertilization and Thorough Cultivation Will Help the Empire

Patriotism and Production must go hand in hand. Great Britain and her Allies need food. Canada must help in supplying that need. You as a Canadian must do your share.

The soil is the basis of food production. Therefore, cultivation, proper fertilization and good seed are important factors. This does not seem very complex, but with the right crops on the right soil, this is the whole gospel of crop production.

How can you better fit yourself for your work this year?

- 1) Attend your Conference.
- 2) Talk matters over with your neighbor farmers. Give help and get help.
- 3) Read the agricultural articles in the daily and weekly press and in the agricultural papers.
- 4) Write to the Canadian Department of Agriculture at Ottawa and your Provincial Department of Agriculture for information.

Germany, France, Belgium, Holland and Denmark have increased their food production enormously during the last twenty years through cultivation, fertilization and seed selection. These are the countries that are being either devastated or most seriously affected by this war. Now is Canada's opportunity as well as Canada's responsibility.

The German Kaiser has cut off the supply of potash fertilizers from the rest of the World. This does not mean that we are without all supplies. Canadian fertilizers are still available. Use those "Made-

Attend Your Conference

in-Canada." Read the Bulletin on "Potash in Agriculture" issued by the Canadian Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Do not waste anything this year. Save carefully every pound of fertilizer in and around barns and stables.

Gather waste vegetable matter of all kinds. It will pay this year to clean up and to keep clean.

Wash-water contains potash. Coal ashes are good for heavy soils. Wood ashes are rich in potash and lime. Save everything.

Every day counts in getting on to the land. Drain off all surface waters as early as possible. Do not wait for Spring. This may mean a week or two more for growth.

Perform every farming operation thoroughly. Do the ploughing well. Disc and harrow the

land until a perfect seed bed is prepared. Sow the seed carefully. After seeding, roll if the soil is not too damp, then lightly harrow.

See that water furrows are run where needed.

Keep the weeds in check.

Do not economize in labour at seed time. A last stroke of the harrow after the seed bed seems perfect usually means extra bushels.

By each and every one of us doing the best that is in him and making the very wisest use of every acre, we, as Canadian farmers, may do much to help our Country.

LIVE STOCK

Breeding stock are to-day Canada's most valuable asset. The one outstanding feature of the World's farming is that there will soon be a great shortage of meat supplies. Save your breeding stock. Plan to increase your live stock. Do not sacrifice now. Europe, as well as North America, will pay higher prices for beef, mutton, and bacon in the very near future.

Canadian
Department of
Agriculture,
Ottawa, Canada

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Publications Branch, Canadian Department of Agriculture,
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Please send me these Bulletins: "Potash in Agriculture," "Alkali Soils," "Preparing Land for Grain Crops," "Crop Rotation and Soil Cultivation."

Name

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County Prov. 13