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Home Magazine

ESTABLISHED 1866

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LV.

LONDON, ONTARIO, SEPTEMBER 16, 1920.

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EDITORIAL.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Take a holiday.

Why not a co-operative egg circle in your locality? Be the first to start it.

"Breed, weed and feed" is as good a slogan now for the live stock man as it ever was.

House the pullets early so that they will get used to their new quarters before beginning to lay.

The wise stockman will watch the market closely and adjust his feeding and his stock accordingly.

Don't fail to attend the local fall fair. It is maintained in your interest, and deserves your support.

Any person who believes that milk can be produced for less than \$2.96 per eight-gallon can can have the privilege of trying it.

The plow is one instrument on the farm that it is desirable to work at the greatest speed, once land and weather are fit for it.

When sending the son to the agricultural college, do not neglect the daughter. Could she not be spared for a course in domestic science?

If you are showing live stock at the fair, acquaint yourself with the rules laid down by the management. It may save you much trouble.

If it is worth while having a tractor on the farm it is worth while learning to use it properly. As much depends on the operator as on the tractor.

Will there not be a little time this fall to make the home surroundings a little more attractive? How about levelling the lawn or seeding those bare spots and planning for a few shrubs, trees and flower-beds next spring?

Is your son starting to take a course at the agricultural college this fall? If so it will depend largely upon himself and you, too, whether it does him any good or not. It is eminently worth while if time and money can be spared.

Dairymen and consumers of milk throughout the country should be ready to offer a measure of praise and support for the National Dairy Council for the fact that the rates on milk are not to be raised along with other increases granted the railroads by the Dominion Board of Railway Commissioners.

Someone has referred to the utter humbug and insincerity of the whole farmers movement. This seems like an unwarranted statement from the fact that one who would make it can know nothing about it. It is, moreover, particularly difficult to accept such a judgment from one who, in the same breath, will say that the farmer "has always been a steadying, a conservative force."

Freight and passenger rates are to be increased so that the railroads may carry on and fulfil their true functions and give efficient service to the people. It is easier for the railroads to get their rates raised than for the people to get them lowered, and it is to be hoped that when the time comes when they should be lowered the railroads will play as fair with the people as the people have played with them.

Common Citizenship.

The age in which we live is one of progress and rapid adjustments to meet ever-changing conditions. Modern complex civilization, could one stand off and judge it in an impartial manner, would be something to marvel at; and instead of wondering as we do now why there should be thirty or forty wars and international disputes in progress, the wonder would probably be that there are not more. There are so many causes that can produce war and misunderstanding; and to those arising out of present-day problems and necessities there are also to be considered other causes, perhaps long buried in the hearts of large and small nations that for centuries have cherished real or imagined wrongs. Amid the welter of conflicting ideas that since the termination of the great war has dominated the thought and actions of all peoples, it is only natural that these real or fancied wrongs should crop out once more and add to the general confusion. The common sisterhood of all right-thinking nations was so plainly proven during the great world conflict that now it is happily over, nations are importuning each other for all kinds of favors and assistance.

Nothing is improbable at this stage in the world's history. In the midst of the world muddle sits Great Britain, the outstanding empire of all time and symbolical in the chronicle of human affairs of thrift, industry, integrity, benevolence and justice. Attempts are now being made from many quarters to beard the British Lion, and of these the one that is attracting most attention is the upheaval in Ireland, and particularly, of recent date, the attempt of a single individual to right the wrongs-real or fancied-of all his countrymen by slowly starving himself to death. We have no ideas to put forth as regards the Irish question-which it is doubtful if all the Irishmen together would solve even if allowed to go unbridled except one. That is that no single man can by making a martyr of himself change to any appreciable degree the course of progress in democracy. Democracy is a slow and distinctly human thing. Swayed by the multiplicity of opinions and thoughts within a nation, its course must be slow and show many false starts. Its one paramount beauty is its outstanding saneness; because nothing can be far astray that is supported by the majority of the people.

For years humanity suffered and now we are undergoing a restless period of convalescence. We in Canada must be patient and have patience with those who have suffered more, and whom it is taking longer to regain a normal viewpoint. We in our turn are having our own internal troubles-more fancied than real-and all that is necessary for us to do in order to arrive at a solution of them is for us all to get together on a basis of common citizenship. There are injustices to be remedied—there always are—but they will never be satisfactorily remedied until the majority of people take time to remember that there is just as much human nature in some of us as there is in the rest of us, and that a question worthy of only one viewpoint is not very important. The average city dweller can easily be inflamed by stories about the farmers; the laborer can be led in the paths of radicalism by agitators who merely speak out the things which their listeners already believe from knowing only their own viewpoint; and the farmer and manufacturer can be kept in perpetual estrangement if they maintain between them a high wall of hostility fostered by selfish interests. There is a common ground, citizenship, that all classes of people in Canada can find footing on. In any successful society of people selfish interests must be, to a large extent, subordinated to the common good. Let us get together in Canada at this time and work out the paths of our future destiny along lines to which all can willingly contribute. Let us work that we may prosper, and let us above all things strive to understand the other fellow's viewpoint that he may the more readily strive to understand our own.

Our Pure-Bred Stock Imports.

In 1919, 2,550 pure-bred farm animals came into Canada from Great Britain and the United States. Of this number, 2,051 came from the United States. The majority of the imported stock were females. Thus from Great Britain came 356 females, and only 98 males. The importations from Britain consisted chiefly of sheep and Shorthorns. Only 23 Clydesdale stallions, and no mares, came through the customs from Britain. The figures showing the importations from the United States are interesting: 510 Percheron stallions and 373 Percheron mares were imported, a total of 883. No less than 192 Belgians were imported from the United States. Of this number, 115 were stallions. It is interesting to note that considerable numbers of purebred cattle came across the line. We imported 178 Aberdeen-Angus, 116 of which were females, but only 33 Shorthorns were imported, and 27 of them were bulls. Ninety-seven Herefords came in, and of this number 67 were females. Two hundred and seventytwo sheep came from the United States, as against 266 from Great Britain, and 96 swine were imported from the States, as against two from Great Britain. In all. 2,051 pure-bred animals were imported from the United States, as against 454 imported from Great Britain. It will be interesting to watch the figures for next year.

Cost of Producing Milk.

As this is being written the investigation into milk prices for the winter season of 1920-21 which the citizens of Toronto must pay, has not yet been held, although before this issue goes to our readers a report will have been secured. As shown in our last week's issue, however, the members of the commission appointed by the Honorable Manning W. Doherty to report from time to time upon milk prices have submitted their first report, in which is embodied a statement as to the cost of milk production in the milk-producing districts adjoining Toronto, for the year ending June, 1920. This report shows the cost of producing an eight-gallon can of milk to have been \$2.96 at the farm or the nearest shipping station, and it is the first detailed statement of its kind that has ever been presented to the public in this Province. There can be no question as to its general accuracy for it not only bears the stamp of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, a public service organization, but it also carries with it the approval of the representative members of the commission itself. none of whom so far as we know are open to criticism on the score of insufficient knowledge as to the factor in the milk problem which they were chosen to represent.

The figures are strictly impartial, and we believe not inflated in any sense. They do not represent the cost of production to the average poor dairyman, but to the average of nearly 100 specialized dairymen, the average production of whose cows is easily 2,000 pounds greater than the average over the Province, and whose investment in buildings and equipment—partly compelled by protective health officers appointed by the consumer is nearly \$175 per cow. Moreover, these figures were secured from dairymen who have engaged especially in that type of milk production which is encouraged and demanded by the development of large cities and who provide a safety valve for the health of the city resident, by the production of a steady quantity of the most necessary and valuable human food. These facts should not be lost sight of when the consumer is brought to consider the cost of his daily milk supply.

However difficult it may be for the average person to understand it, it is a fact that milk, even at present high prices, is a very economical human food, and it possesses this virtue for the consumer which is doubly unfortunate at the present juncture and, in fact, always, for the producer, that from the nature of the circumstances under which it is produced, it is always among