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The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

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EDITORIAL.

Machinery is more plentiful than men.

Know where economy is required, then practice it.

Get in your supply of binder twine. It may be scarce.

One weed gone to seed may mean one hundred next year.

The herd will never improve through the use of poor sires.

Fence corners grow grass and weeds—most weeds. All should be cut.

A farm without a well-arranged water supply is behind the times.

The cultivator, kept going, is the only salvation of the corn and root crops.

It is time to commence supplementing pastures. It doesn't pay to let the milk flow drop off.

The man who grows the best crops generally produces the best live stock in his community.

Beware of the man who offers something for nothing. Few people live on fresh air and water.

When is a summer-fallow not a summer-fallow? When it is only half worked. It is then a nuisance.

How quickly our complaints change! It was too wet and cold a few weeks ago, now it is too dry and hot.

It may be a little early to talk about after-harvest cultivation, but it is not too soon to be thinking about it.

There is plenty of room in Canadian politics for more honest, upright politicians, who have the interests of the country at heart.

The farmer who makes a partner of his son usually makes a farmer of him as well. That is, of course, if the boy has any bent toward agriculture.

The Kaiser will have to do a great deal of kissing of admirals of his battle fleet before he can open the sea routes to the German commercial fleet.

The man who is taking good care of his orchard and fruit crop this year may be a big gainer. The crop, on the whole, is not as promising as it was, and prices may be high.

Have a regular hour for meals, and arrange to have them on that hour. The women folks deserve every consideration in this particular, and the health of the entire family will improve through regularity.

We don't like the term "Dairy Shorthorn." "Dual-purpose" is much better, and in breeding this type of cattle the breeder should be careful not to lose sight of beef in a senseless stampede for excessive milk production.

There are Two Requirements of the Dual-purpose Cow.

In a lengthy article in last week's issue a writer, who has visited several of the leading dual-purpose Shorthorn herds in the United States, outlined the work being done there, and expressed considerable faith in the future of the dual-purpose animal of this particular breed. We have many times pointed out the dangers existing in the breeding of dual-purpose cattle. We believe that it is not impossible to breed a very high type of cattle which will produce a fair amount of milk, and still possess the conformation necessary for them to be included as very good specimens of beef animals. Many who have started out to breed dual-purpose Shorthorns are destined to make a failure in so far as adhering to the double purpose is concerned, unless they pay more attention to beef and a little less attention to milk. The whole tendency on the part of some breeders seems to be toward milk, and they go into the game seeing nothing ahead but heavy production. We like to see a big, strong cow, with plenty of depth and thickness, straight in her lines and smooth, and then we look for a large udder with well-placed teats, and long and tortuous milk veins. The man who has his eye on milk alone seems to see nothing above the flank of the animal. Udder, milk veins and milk wells are about all he examines, and the cow he selects is usually a slim-necked, narrow-chested, peaked-backed, all-round mean individual. There is no reason for breeding a red and white Holstein. If the cattle bred and named dual-purpose Shorthorns are to be real dual-purpose animals, first attention must be paid to meat, and with it get as much milk as possible without seriously injuring the beef tendencies of the breed.

In laying the foundation for a dual-purpose herd the buyer or breeder should be well satisfied with cows that give from 6,000 to 8,000 lbs. in each lactation period, provided these cows show good beef type and Shorthorn character. Pushing for high records is bound to be carried too far and will result in dairy Shorthorns, a class of animals which should not be eligible to be called dual-purpose. We do not like the name "dairy Shorthorn," because, under existing conditions, there is no excuse for such animal. We have our distinct dairy breeds which fill the bill for milk and cream as well as one could expect, and we have our distinct beef breeds which produce the acme of excellence for the block. The place for the dual-purpose animal, and it has a very large place in Canada's agriculture, is on the average farm, where the man is so situated that he can make more by a combination of a fair supply of milk and good beef calves than by straight beef or straight dairy operations. In order to breed and maintain a herd of the kind of cattle that will produce good steers it is necessary that attention be paid to meat, and that milk production be not over-estimated or over-worked. We are afraid that a great many of the breeders who are enthusiastic over the dual-purpose cow are headed straight for a red and white dairy cow, which is a mistake.

Avoid the term "dairy" in speaking of any type of Shorthorn cattle, and stick closely to the requirements of a good all-round cow, namely, meat as well as milk. This will necessitate some attention to the size and general beef qualities of the cows used in the herd. Select nothing but the big, roomy females which give evidence of being able to produce a good calf as well as a fair-sized pail of milk. Forget about the 15,000 and 20,000-lb. records, and lay more stress on the 1,500 or 1,800-lb. mature steer, or the 1,000-lb. baby beef at twelve to fourteen months of age. Dual-purpose means serving two purposes, not simply giving milk.

War Makers and Peace Makers.

In a hundred years to come historians and journalists will be focussing the causes and consequences of the Great War soon to enter upon its third year. They will finally assign, as observers of the day will do for themselves, the responsibilities and achievements of sovereigns, statesmen and warriors in its beginning, its course and its ending. Prejudice or hireling testimony may for a time obscure issues and becloud judgments, but the day is coming when even the people of the Central Powers, seeing the abyss into which they have been dragged, will cry out as did the old Roman: Where are my legions? and demand: What have you done for our homes? To emerge clean-handed from such an ordeal and to be able to lead effectually in the peace congress when it comes, for the healing of the wounds of the nations, will be more arduous and more glorious than being conquerors. To this place of pre-eminence is Great Britain designated in a volume from the pen of Princess Catherine Radziwill, (Kolb-Dawin) a Russian of remarkable gifts and opportunities, who discloses with merciless candor what has transpired behind the scenes, and analyzes the characters and conduct of the rulers and diplomats of Europe in relation to the day of settlement. Her opportunities for observation were gained at the Courts of England during the reigns of Victoria, Edward VII, and George V; in Germany during the time of Wm. I, Frederick II, and the present Kaiser, and in Russia during the rule of Alexander III and Nicholas II.

In forecasting that Britain would lead in the final negotiations, she pays British statesmen the tribute of saying that they possess most fully the wisdom, political knowledge and fine sense of proportion necessary to give the balanced consideration which comes of long-sighted vision to the arduous and complicated questions which will arise. "Britain took up the sword for the sake of principle and out of respect for her own signature. Her chivalry in maintaining the right of Belgium has assigned her the foremost place in Europe, and most certainly has given her the moral as well as material right to lead in future negotiations. She gave to a sceptic and selfish world a noble example of disinterestedness, which will be written on the pages of her national existence in letters of gold, and will remain engraved in her memory with tears of blood. England deserves well of humanity."

The growing suspicion and condemnation of secret diplomacy in international affairs is heightened by the records given by Princess Radziwill, and should be superseded by an era of daylight. Taking up in turn the part played by leaders in Russia, France, Austria, Bulgaria and Serbia, Belgium and Greece, Italy, Turkey, Germany and England, she concludes that the efforts of the Emperor of Russia and his royal cousin of England will be powerfully exerted to bring enduring rest to a war-weary world.

Along with amazing material achievements a strange moral obtuseness, want of faith in others and density of understanding, seem to have blinded German diplomacy. Through her ambassadors she looked with contempt upon France as utterly incapable of rising to great action or heroism. Prior to the final outbreak the French preserved their temper though purposely goaded by Baron Von Schoen, to reprisals from which happily they abstained. Like England she rejected or was undeceived by vague and insulting promises to remain quiet while Russia and Serbia were being crushed. England was regarded too hopelessly selfish and supine to risk the bones of her soldiers on the battlefield, and Prince Von Buelow thought Italy could be held in the Triple Alliance by bribes of territorial advantages to be wrung from Austria, used as a cat's paw to issue