

The Farmer's Advocate AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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DOMINION.

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The innocent attempt to register offspring on the wrong parents is a mistake that is frequent enough to demonstrate the common absence of adequate private records. In the majority of cases there appears to be no evidence of intent to falsify statements, but the information supplied on the applications very often indicates some irregularity which can be easily straightened out. The individuals of the breeding herd or flock should each be allotted space in a suitable book, with a sufficient number of columns to permit of several different entries. It is unnecessary here to name the items to be entered. Any practical breeder knows from experience what information is necessary, and this can be set down to suit the person in whose hands it will be used. The name, number, description and disposition of the offspring entered on the same sheet with items concerning the dam are valuable, for in this way the produce of all females can be traced. Some system of ear marking, combined with private records, places a breeder on a superior footing in regard to his business.

Industries Should be Classified.

If this war were to last for ten years, which God grant it may not, our Legislative bodies might get this country organized in some kind of a way, and perhaps we then would be able to see signs of efficiency. As it is, the unexpected is always happening which throws the machinery out of order and halts production till the matter is adjusted. How much better it would be if these untoward events could be anticipated so when a monkey wrench got into the gears the new parts would be at hand to slip on immediately. Production is the cry in this country, but officials outside the agricultural departments are apparently unable to realize upon what production depends, and their rulings are too often based on a very superficial survey of the problems which confront them. As an example of the conditions to which we allude, the recent Order in regard to gas in Western Ontario may be cited. Industries were cut off and while this one Ordinance, caused in part by exceptionally cold weather, did not excite consternation, those affected were unable to get any assurance in regard to the future. A number of tile manufacturers throughout Western Ontario are users

of this kind of fuel, and, with kilns fitted for burning gas, they were unable to continue without supply. The Province of Ontario annually spends around \$30,000 in educating the farmers and assisting them in regard to drainage. One million dollars is also set aside from which loans are made; and this is all very good, but with an inadequate supply of tile available the Government propaganda leads up to that all-important part of the scheme, namely, getting the tile into the ground, and there it stops. Of the \$134,000 loaned last year under The Tile, Stone and Timber Drainage Act, 91 per cent. was used in the counties of Essex and Kent. Lambton, Essex and Kent need tile most, and farmers are willing to drain if they can get the tile. However, all the public moneys, education, ditching machines, etc., are of no use without tile. The actual operation depends on that specially-prepared bit of clay which is getting scarcer and scarcer. A speaker at the recent Clay Workers' Convention, held in London, made the statement that one domestic consumer of gas used enough in one year to burn sufficient tile for 50 acres. He also asserted that 5,000 furnaces in the city of Windsor could burn some kind of fuel other than gas, and thus in times of necessity liberate a very appreciable supply for essential industries which are not equipped to burn anything else.

This is a local matter, more or less, but there is a principle involved which is capable of a very broad application. There can be no doubt as to the necessity for production, yet, when matters arise which disturb the equilibrium of things in general, the requirements of agriculture are lost sight of and kindred industries are classed with the non-essentials, to the detriment of the country's chief purpose. All departments of Government should become acquainted with the aims and requirements of agriculture and then devote their efforts, each branch in its own sphere, to that all-important matter before the world to-day. This is a period of stress and great issues are at stake. It is time industries were classified and the preference given to those which contribute something to the winning of the war.

Sandy Gets Out of a Hole.

By SANDY FRASER.

"Sandy," says the auld wumman tae me the ither night after I'd got in frae daein' the chores an' wis sittin' by the stove readin', "Sandy, dae ye mean tae tell me that ye went to the theatre the time ye were in New York, there. I hae juist had a letter frae Jennie an' if she's no' jokin' I'm thinkin' I'd better not be lettin' ye rin loose in a hurry again. Ye need a guardian yet, Sandy, auld an' all as ye are."

"What kind o' stories has Jennie been tellin' on me the noo?" says I, tryin' tae look innocent, "It wis hersel' took me tae the 'movies,' so it canna be that there's muckle wrang wi' them. My but ye ought to see them," I went on, "they hae the pictures in their natural colors noo, and ye dinna need to hae muckle o' an imagination to mak' ye think ye've been tae the ither side of the world an' back takin' in all the sights, after ye come oot o' one o' these shows. It wad dae ye good Jean," says I, "to be where ye could tak' in one o' these things aboot once a week or so. They're quite an education in their way."

"I dinna hae the time tae spend in that way," answered Jean, takin' her knittin' doon frae the shelf, "but it wisna the 'movies' I wis referrin' to when I asked ye aboot gaein' tae the theatre. Sandy, tell me, did ye or did ye not gang tae the regular theatre where they hae girls in short dresses dancin' and cuttin' up on the stage an' all that sort o' thing?"

"Weel Jean," I replied, "ye ken I woudna' tell a lie for less than a dollar an' a half any way, so I may juist as weel say to ye right noo that I'm guilty. Jennie an' I went to see a couple o' plays that week I wis in New York, an' if ye're thinkin' o' takin' measures to hae me pit oot o' the church I canna help it. Ye ken it's a lang time since I objected to anything ye'd made up yer mind to do. At the same time," says I, "I suppose ye'll dae like any ither judge. Ye'll gie the prisoner at the bar a chance tae speak a word for himsel' before ye pass sentence on him. Noo ye ken as weel as mysel' that I wis always given tae understand that people that went to the theatre got harm by it. Weel, it's a fact. They do. An' a lot mair people that I ken get harm by eatin' an' sleepin' an' workin', an' a number o' ither things that they carry tae an extreme. Tak' this habit o' eatin' as an example. Up to the present we haven't discovered any means o' livin' without it. It's a necessity. But at the same time they tell us that more men die from the results o' over-eatin' an' under-eatin' an' the eatin' o' the wrang kinds o' food than die frae all ither causes pit together. An' tae my mind the same thing applies tae almost ilka action we are called on tae perform in the course o' a lifetime. It's this gaein' to extremes that plays the mischief wi' humanity, an' we seem to hae inherited a tendency that mak's us gang too far, one way or the ither, nine times for every once we stop at the place called moderation. An' let me tell you Jean," says I, "that I think this principle, or whatever ye like to call it, applies tae the theatre as weel as anything else. There's a chance for

extremes here as weel as anywhere else. It's easy to get the theatre-going habit an' to get to wastin' one's time an' money on it. I'll admit that. But that's the very thing we were given brains to guard against. The only way we'll ever come to amount to anything is by pittin' into practice oor ability to choose between enough an' too much."

"That's all vera weel," interrupted Jean, "but what does your theatre dae for ye supposin' ye hae the gump-tion to stay awa' from it, say sax nights in the week? Are ye ony better, mentally or morally, or onything ahead for the time an' money ye've spent?"

"Ye certainly may be," I replied, "if ye've chosen the right time and place. An' ye don't need to mak' ony mistake on this point. There's no excuse for ony-one wha reads the papers gettin' caught by havin' to listen to a play that maybe leaves a bad taste in his mouth. If ye want to hear the best, ye can hear them, no twa ways aboot that. An' if ye are the kind o' person that wants to hear the worst ye can hear them too. But ye don't have to."

"I'm going tae tell ye a little aboot one play I wis at one night in New York. It wis called 'A Tailor-made Man.' The young man o' the play starts oot as an apprentice in a tailor's shop. All the same he has no notion to stay there. He sees other young fellows a guid deal higher up on the ladder than he is, an' he canna discover ony reason why that is the case unless it's because they hae mair brains than he has, an' he canna believe that. Sae by one dodge an' anither he gets acquainted wi' some business men that he thinks may be able to gie him a boost up the ladder later on, an' although he gets into some pretty tight corners he manages tae wiggle oot an' it ends up as ye have been beginnin' tae expect it would, by the young fellow becomin' the head o' the business concern that had employed him, to say naething aboot his marryin' the retiring president's daughter, which wis rin into the story as a sort o' a side issue, as they will aye be doing in these plays. But the moral o' the whole thing wis brought oot in the last scene juist before the curtain went doon, an' it wis this: 'It don't matter so much where you started from as where you get to.' The idea and aim o' the play was to show the spirit o' American business, an' it seems to me that it is a pretty guid spirit, if I ken onything aboot it. What dae ye think Jean?" says I, for she had got pretty quiet, for her.

"Oh, I dinna ken Sandy," she replied, "I've never thought muckle o' the theatre an' when I see oor lads an' lassies frae the country drivin' intae the toons nights in their cars, if they happen tae be livin' less than aboot forty miles from the city, I will be wonderin' what like an education those 'night schools' will be givin' them, an' if it will be makin' better men an' women oot o' them than their parents an' grand-parents were before them, or if they will be as guid."

"Dinna be afraid Jean," I replied, "they'll be a guid deal better than onything that's happened yet, I'm thinkin', an' if they hae the habit o' rinnin' intae the city once in a while to see a play all that need concern us is that they may ken where to go to hear an' see something clean an' wholesome an' that will perhaps gie them a chance to dae some thinkin' as weel. According to the way this world has been made ilka body that comes intae it an' stops here for ony length o' time has to choose between what is good an' what is bad. It was the only way to mak' men an' women, sae far as I can see. An' all that we can do is tae put oot a danger signal here an' there an' leave the steering o' the course to the owner o' the boat. Isn't that right noo Jean?" I concluded. "Oh sure," says she, and she started in on her knittin' juist as though the question had been settled for guid.

Nature's Diary.

A. B. KLUGH, M. A.

Canada From Ocean to Ocean—XII.

Continuing our journey across the prairies we come to the Rocky Mountains and when we get into the mountains we find a fauna and flora entirely different from that of any other region.

The trees are all evergreens and are quite distinctive in shape—tall, slender spire, and grow so thickly that seen at a distance they give the impression of a field of wheat rather than of a forest. The main species are the Lodgepole Pine, Alpine Fir, and Engelmann's Spruce. There are many species of alpine plants, but most characteristic are the Heaths; the White Heath with its white nodding bells, the Red False Heather with its deep pink flowers, and the Crowberry with its large, round, dull black berries. These low-growing plants form a perfect carpet under the conifers.

Of the many animals found in the Rockies the most noteworthy are the Hoary Marmot, Grizzly Bear, Mountain Sheep, Mountain Goat, Franklin's Grouse, Clarke's Nutcracker, Rock Wren and Dipper.

The Grizzly is truly a large bear, but it is not the gigantic animal it is usually supposed to be. A very large Grizzly will measure nine feet from nose to tip of tail, stand four feet at the shoulder and weigh eight hundred pounds. Average specimens are about 6½ feet long, stand 3½ feet at the shoulder and weigh from 500 to 600 pounds.

The color of this species is deep brown, darkening to brownish-black along the spine, on the limbs and on the ears, and grizzled, or frosted, over with a white tipping on the hairs on the upper parts of the body. It is this grizzled appearance which gives it its name.

The voice of the Grizzly shows a good deal of variation. It growls, grunts, roars and sniffs. Its warning and threatening call is "Woof! Woof! Woof!" A fighting Grizzly says "Aw-aw-aw!" The call of the cub for its

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