

# The Farmer's Advocate

## and Home Magazine

"Persevere and Succeed."

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### EDITORIAL.

It is understood that a Dominion Apiary Act is contemplated, probably for the approaching session of Parliament at Ottawa, in order more effectively to deal with existing cases of foul brood among bees in the different Provinces, and its possible introduction from abroad.

Despite the scorching midsummer drouth, Western Canada is threshing a wheat crop estimated by the C. P. R. at nearly a hundred million bushels. Which serves to remind us that poor crops are scarcely ever so bad, nor bumper crops so good, as early expectations predict.

Of special interest and value to dairymen is the announcement, in last week's "Farmer's Advocate," of prizes for articles on the cost and profit of milk production. If you chanced, in the rush of fairs, to have overlooked it, turn up the offer now, and enter your experience in the competition.

Did our pioneer readers observe the announcement in the issue of September 15th of handsome prizes for a reminiscent story, to appear in the Christmas Number of 1910, covering pioneering experiences? Look over the conditions, furbish up your recollections, delve once more among the yellowing archives of the old bureau-drawer, and start your pen agoing.

A cogent editorial argument by the New York Independent against the proposal to fortify the Panama Canal, concludes in this noble spirit, admirably expressed: "So we object strongly to this effort unnecessarily to strengthen the war equipment and the war spirit of the country. Great Britain might not justly charge us with bad faith if we fortify; but if we follow the example of the unfortified Suez Canal, we honor ourselves, we honor other nations, we give a new impetus to the spirit of peace and goodwill, we add a new field to the enlarging area of international neutralization, which already includes the Suez Canal, the Black Sea, the Danube River, the Straits of Magellan, and, on land, Switzerland, which has no forts, Belgium, Luxemburg, Norway and Honduras. In this way stands honor, not contempt."

A good many boys are anxious to get away from the farm. They are ambitious, and for various reasons think farm life a drudgery which does not afford them scope for their ability. To those boys we say: What are the jobs of your size open to you? Teamster, street-car conductor, bank clerk, store clerk, or manual laborer, at each of which barely a living wage is made, and often scarcely that; from them it is not easy to rise. Perhaps the profession of the doctor, the lawyer, or the preacher appeals to you, as clean, pleasant and luxurious. From eight to twelve years' expensive, studious work are exacted before you can enter upon these professions, and then you must start at the bottom of them. None but the few of highest skill grow rich in a medical profession; few lawyers make more than five thousand a year, and out of this most many expenses are paid. Weigh the facts well. Look them square in the face, set your abilities, aptitude and resources in balance, and remember that you see only one side of the other fellow's job. It is not a man's job, with opportunity for advancement and the sphere of a princely life.

### The Tuberculosis Problem.

There is no evading the fact that bovine tuberculosis, endangering, as it does, the health of cattle, swine and human beings, must sooner or later be grappled with in a thoroughgoing manner. While, in so far as the question of human infection is concerned, thinking men still attach considerable weight to the late Dr. Koch's pronouncement that bovine tuberculosis was a less frequent source of the disease in people than was human tuberculosis, and that there was no authentic case on record where pulmonary tuberculosis (tuberculosis of the lungs) in man had been demonstrated as of bovine origin; still, the danger of tuberculous infection from milk and meat, more especially the former, is too great to be ignored. One unnecessary chance with death is one too many. Without wading into a maze of statistics and clinical records, let us suggest that those who saw the exhibit of tuberculous meat exhibited at the Canadian National, in Toronto, last year, put the question plainly to themselves, whether they would care to eat such meat, or cause others to use it?

Scarcely less important is the economic loss threatened by the ravage of bovine tuberculosis among our herds of cattle, and among the swine which follow them, or which consume unpasteurized skim milk or whey abstracted from the milk of tuberculous cows. For it should be understood that, even when the udder of a cow is free from tuberculosis, as it probably is in most cases, there is always the danger of introducing tuberculous germs into milk through the spattering of manure, in which infected cattle void the bacilli. At all events, it is a demonstrated fact that, at pork-packing plants there is a heavy percentage of condemnations among the hogs from dairy sections, and sections where hogs are fattened on the droppings of corn-fed cattle. Many centers of tuberculosis in cattle have been thus traced back from the packing plants, and this strongly suggests the expediency of the tagging system recommended, among other means of location, by the International Commission on the Control of Bovine Tuberculosis, which was appointed a year ago by the American Veterinary Medical Association, and whose report was synopsisized in our news columns last week, with further reference in the Live-stock Department this week. Its carefully-considered recommendations, we trust, mark an epoch in the rational handling of this stupendously difficult matter, and we advise everyone to inform himself carefully on every point of its deliverance. Intelligent self-interest, if no higher motive, demands it.

### Answering Correspondence.

In the course of a personal letter to a member of "The Farmer's Advocate" staff, a capable man, devoted to the work of a Provincial organization, wholly in the best interests of the people, confessed that the heart was at times almost knocked out of him through the indifference or carelessness of people in neglecting to answer letters. In these communications, certain offers of helpful service would be made to organizations at outside points. Now, it might not be possible for the persons addressed to make a specific reply of acceptance, but receipt of the offer could at least be acknowledged with a "Thank you," on a post card "will advise you definitely later." He had been engaged in similar work in an adjoining State, but had returned to serve his native country. Over there, he intimated, responses were always courteously prompt, and the contrast here was trying, if not painful.

We mention this just as a reminder to a good

many well-disposed people who carelessly occasion a great deal of trouble, and often loss to themselves and others by these seemingly small neglects. In business matters, a simple reply would often save vexatious proceedings, and not infrequently the additional costs of litigation, all without any real necessity. For the sake of the ordinary courtesy which one man owes to another, to say nothing of ordinary business advantage, then, let these small amenities of life have play, because, like a lubricant in the bearings, by the saving of wasteful friction, they make the machine work more easily.

### Majority (?) Rule.

J. P. Dolliver, LL. D., United States Insurgent Senator from Iowa, has a scathing article in the New York Independent, headed, "The Downward Revision Hoax," in the course of which he thus riddles the "regular" conception of party loyalty:

"It is a parody on our form of Government to say that a body like Congress shall be governed not by a majority of its members, but by a majority of the majority party of its membership. But there are many who carry the doctrine even further. They say that the majority of the majority party ought to be dominated by the majority of a committee. They propose literally to release the intellectual capital of the Congress by establishing a system of party majorities, until at length one man is delegated to say what Congress shall do, and those who fail to fall in with that theory of government are not only to be put out of the fold of the party, but they are accused of treason against the fundamental principles of popular institutions."

Thus, we see whereunto party loyalty tends—ultimately to one-man rule. Just in so far as our free-born citizens exercise their natal right to think independently, speak boldly, and vote impartially, will government of the people be by the people and for the people.

### Something to Aim at.

"It is no easy matter to conduct a farm according to the high ideals set before us in 'The Farmer's Advocate,'" but I can assure you, Mr. Editor, that it is a remarkably good thing for us to have these high ideals before us—we tag along after them as best we can, and frequently last year's ideal becomes a reality this year, while this year's ideal is tempting us upward and forward."

Thus wrote a man on whose farm a cement-block silo, alfalfa and improved stock have already become accomplished facts, while the owner still strives after better things. His letter pleased us very much, indeed. We know perfectly well there are ideas advocated persistently in this paper that are beyond the immediate attainment of many readers. They are recommended not as essentials for every man's immediate adoption, but as something to aim at and reach as soon as circumstances will permit. While there are some practices, such as alfalfa-growing, which can be adopted forthwith, there are others, like underdraining, that must be developed slowly, a little at a time, paying for the improvements, where possible, as one goes, though some are of such immense advantage as to warrant one going moderately into debt for them. Among these we would class building stables and silos, underdraining low places through fields, buying a good bull at a reasonable price, if the service of one is not otherwise obtainable, and some other things of that nature. Generally, though, we favor the cash basis.

The great point is that every farmer should have mileposts to work towards, and these we endeavor to keep before him. The editors of this paper realize full well the handicaps and difficul-