

The Value of Good Looks (Hoard's Dairyman)

The Farm and Dairy of Canada prints an attractive picture of an Ontario farm home on its front page and says:

"The wealth of natural beauty that surrounds the majority of farm homes in the province of Ontario is a drawing force which should attract and hold people to the farm. And it is a mighty factor. The progressive farmers of to-day realize that those things which go to make a home beautiful are worth while."

The other day an 80-acre farm, only a mile or so from the Hoard's Dairyman farm, sold for \$200 an acre. The owner, Mr. George Hake, had built a very tasty and convenient house in the past year, and had set to work to do other things to make the premises look attractive and home-like.

Almost any farmer will admit that a neat, well-kept farm and farm home will sell for more than an unkempt, run-down looking place. Yet quite a number seem to have no real sense of beauty and orderliness. In all such cases, there will be found a lack of close business calculation and good general management.

A sense of beauty is based on a sense of order and good looks, and this is the foundation quality of mind that leads to clean-cut, business-like farm management. Such things have a large money value in themselves for property, whether it be an animal or a farm that shows it, sells for more in the market. But the greatest value is seen in the effect of such sentiment on the farmer himself. When once he places himself under its domination, close joints are made in his calculations, the factor of waste disappears and larger profits ensue. We have often said and say it again, that we never knew of a neat, orderly farmer who was not a financial success.

We call to mind a farmer, Mr. Lincklaen Cummings of Stockbridge, N.Y., who died but recently on his farm at over 90 years of age. For years it had been an inspiring sight to visit that farm and note the exquisite order and cleanliness of the fields and home premises. Mr. Cummings was a man of very superior order of mind and one of the most thoroughly perfect farmers we have ever known.

There certainly is some relation between an appreciation of things beautiful and what may be termed successful business management.

Money for Agriculture

We have this year about \$780,000 to spend in agricultural work in Ontario. To carry our work into every county and district of the province, to man all the branches of the Department and meet the requirements of the Agricultural College to keep pace with demands, we need approximately \$250,000 more annually. At first this looks like a big sum, but in comparison with an annual output of \$250,000,000 from 175,000 farms it is not so large. We are now spending on agricultural improvement just 30 cents apiece yearly for every person in the province. What we need is just 10 cents apiece more. Shall we get it? Of course we shall if we make out a good case and public opinion gets behind it. We can get public opinion behind it if we can show results. These are coming. In fact, they are here for those who will take the pains to look for them. We are trying to make them so plain that it will be impossible not to see them.

The Dominion Government could give us this amount without missing it. If the Government of Canada were to divide only \$1,000,000 annually among the different provinces for the extension of agricultural work,

there would be an immediate expansion of work that would show itself in increased customs receipts. I believe that every dollar so invested would be returned many times over in increased customs. The business man is shrewd who knows how to invest his surplus cash so as to produce more. Sometimes it pays him to borrow to carry out his plans. Our governments should follow the example of the successful business man. As far as the Department of Agriculture is concerned, it is not saying where the money should come from. It has the plan, the men can be found, the work can be done, results can be had, if only the money suits are forthcoming.—C. C. James, in an address delivered last November in Washington, D.C.

Some Profits in Bee Keeping

Editor, Farm and Dairy.—Having read the article on "Farm vs. City Life" in Farm and Dairy, I thought it well to let readers of Farm and Dairy know what I have been able to do this past season with 100 hives of bees (spring count).

I had some 30 hives that I could place on a farmer's place three miles from the home yard. I took them there while the fruit trees were in full bloom. These I visited one day each week throughout the season. I worked them for extracted honey, and they gave me 4,000 lbs. of white honey and increased to 40 hives by fall—fairly good pay.

I had lots of combs and tools to work with, and at the home yard I made increase and received some 6,000 lbs. of honey and nearly 300 lbs. of wax.

The section of country in which I live, Frontenac County (North), is not a good country for bees. It is not nearly as good as some other places in Ontario where there are hundreds of tons of honey going to waste for the want of bees to gather it. And yet the boys and girls of the farms want to get into the cities because they think they will do so much better and have a better chance there to get on and make a better living. If they would only take hold of what they have at hand, with the same amount of brains that they would have to use if working in a city, they could do far better at home and with such things as lay at their feet.

OPPORTUNITIES IN POULTRY AND FRUIT

Every one cannot keep bees; but one could do as well with poultry or fruit if these are taken up in the right way. No one need run away with the idea, however, that these things can be earned in a day, or in a year. Let them start right and not give up until they come out on top and all will be well.

If I had taken the advice of an old beekeeper when I started and had taken two or three years to learn the business right, I think I would have saved hundreds of dollars and a lot of waste time. As it is I often feel when I am in the cities for a few days that the most of the people there have a hard time of it to make both ends meet. I visit around a lot in the winter time, for I have a lot of old friends in the different cities, both east and west, so I am posted on this point. I find that a lot of people have a fine looking home and dress well, but have to look at every dollar before letting it pass through their hands—far more so than the man on a farm needs to—even he who is on a poor farm.—Charles Blake, Frontenac Co., Ont.

I appreciate Farm and Dairy very much. The special magazine issues published on different subjects are worth more than the subscription price of the paper.—Henry Coben, Victoria Co., Ont.



When the Bluebirds start a warbling
And the Mocking birds to mock;
When the summers here with roses
And the sun's the farmer's clock;
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When snowballs come a whizzing
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