

at the corner grocery. The middleman and the railway seem to have been getting the best of the cabbage juice. "What worries me," observed the man from the northern peninsula "is not how to grow cabbage but how to get them within reach of the consumer."

Is not the time opportune for some one other than the farmer and vegetable grower to get busy?

### The One Great Issue.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate."

I was delighted to see endorsement of the stand taken by "The Farmer's Advocate" on the Bank Act Revision, and the evil effects of the money influence in the Dominion by one whose name is so well known to Ontario farmers as W. O. Good.

Farmers who read these lines may take the word of one who has been up against the real thing in boycotting, that "The Farmer's Advocate," has undertaken, in the farmers' interest, a task of great magnitude and great risk to itself in "showing up" the evils of the present Money Trust on the public as well as on the individual life of the Dominion. The proprietors of the paper must know full well that in essaying the role of the prosecuting counsel against the Money Interest they are opening up large possibilities of striking more hornets than oil.

"The Farmer's Advocate," like other journals, depends for its existence not on revenue from subscriptions, which is infinitesimal, but on revenue from advertising. The banks, as the editor has explained, have already withdrawn their advertising from "The Farmer's Advocate" because it published some articles by Peter McArthur throwing light on the Canadian Money System. Now that the paper has renewed its activity and turned on more light, every ounce of strength in the Money Trust's bone will certainly be exerted to injure the farmers' newspaper. "Crush 'The Farmer's Advocate'!" will be the motto. The banks cannot withdraw their advertising—they have already done so. But they can, perhaps, by intimidation and mild but influential warnings, compel firms depending on "favors" from the banks, in the shape of loans, to withdraw their advertising. And there is not the slightest doubt in the world that no stone will be left unturned. It has been done in the West with the "Grain Growers' Guide." It will be done in the East with "The Farmer's Advocate", or all my years in the newspaper work count for nothing.

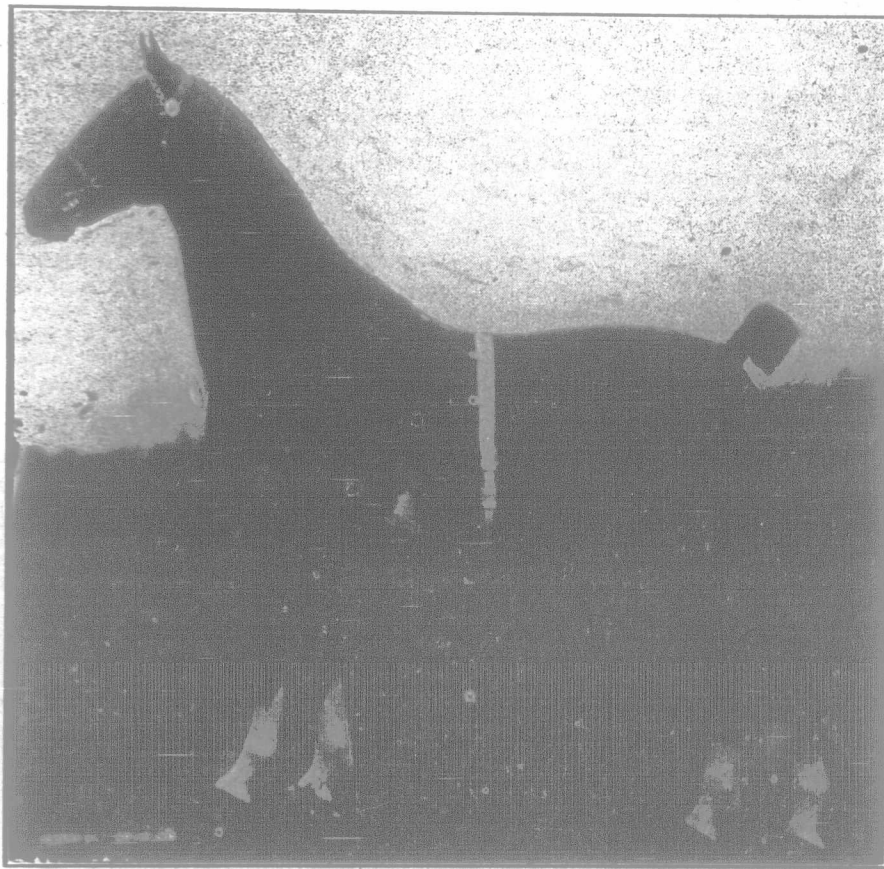
The moral is, then, for every reader of "The Farmer's Advocate" to rally to its support in its fight for better conditions for the people, and to send the editor a few words of approval, if only on a post card. These he should publish. It will be an effective demonstration to the present government, and a lesson to future governments that the farmers are alive to the menace of the Canadian Money Trust.

But, pshaw! What will that amount to after all? Do you think it will "fizz" on the men at Ottawa? It will on some. It will open the eyes of all. But, on the majority who are there at present, ostensibly representing us farmers, yet all the time playing into the hands of the Money Interest, it won't even sizzle. Then what is to be done? Organize, gentlemen, organize! We must drop old-time party politics and get together as farmers opposed to a Giant that has us all enslaved. I say "enslaved" advisedly, for we have, in the recent failures of the Ontario Bank and the Farmers' Bank, ample justification for the conclusion that the present condition of the banking business in the Dominion is improvable. Sir Edmund Walker's special pleading to the contrary notwithstanding. How many lives were utterly blanked by the Farmers' Bank failure? And wherein were the public protected by the Finance Minister, who, although he was warned of the impending danger, complacently sat still and saw the structure come like an avalanche upon the bodies of the people without moving a finger to stop the onrush? To-day parliament is holding a mock Banking Act Revision, which won't revise anything worth talking about so far as the public are concerned. Here you have two excellent illustrations of what the old-time parties will do for the public when the interests of Special Privilege, in the form of the Money Trust, are concerned.

As our friend, Peter McArthur, has repeatedly told us, we must cease being partisans and simply be men fighting for the rights of the people against the gigantic privilege and prosecuting power at present enjoyed by the mere handful of men who constitute the Money Interest, and who constantly stand at attention ready to oppose and quiet down every shadow of movement tending to weaken their power. There is no other real "issue" before the people to-day, and there hasn't been since the first pages of history were penned. All other so-called "issues" have been but red herrings across the trail to lead the thoughts of the people astray.

A few of the clever ones, possessing the supreme qualities of leadership, have banded together in the red-herring industry and built up to its immense disastrous proportions this uncrowned King, the Money Interest; opposing, because it was in their interest to oppose, the education which meant the opening of the eyes of the people to the basic conditions of society, when privilege and extortion must surely totter and fall. The tottering stage has already begun. We see it in England, in France, in Germany, and now in the United States. If nothing happens, if President Wilson is not assassinated, he is going to be a slightly more conservative Lloyd-George.

We hear nothing more frequently from the lips of Canadian farmers than this: "We farmers are a lot of blinkety-blank fools. We don't stand together. If we only would we could run the whole country as we pleased, make our own prices, and if the city Johnnies refused to pay them, we could starve 'em into submission in a fortnight." In those familiar words we have the expression of Power. But it is the power of the caged lion, who, in his innocent ignorance, doesn't know enough to use his power in his own behalf.



Hopwood King.

Junior champion of the Hackney Show, London, England.

It gives one gooseflesh, when election time comes round, to note the absence of the above talk, and to hear above the din of battle: "I'm a Liberal (or I'm a Conservative) you bet, and always will be! What good did either party ever do for the country?" And away the people go across the red herrings to the polling booth to vote against themselves and in favor of just one thing—the Money Interest. That's just what it amounts to. It's a crude way of putting it, but such, in a nutshell, are the facts. Surely "The Farmer's Advocate" and its brilliant contributor, Mr. McArthur, have said enough already to get farmers seriously thinking as to what is for and what is against their interest. But I expect more is to follow, for we farmers can thank our lucky stars that we have, in "The Farmer's Advocate", a paper which is now strong enough to withstand and defy the tentacles of the Money Trust. It simply remains for us to back it up—back it up in every way possible.

As a farmer and an old newspaper man, who hasn't the acquaintance of any of "The Farmer's Advocate" people, and can claim disinterestedness, except for the cause, let me tell you how to back it up.

First write your member at Ottawa, and tell him in plain words that, as a farmer, you wholeheartedly endorse the stand taken by "The Farmer's Advocate" on the Bank Act Revision.

Then write your appreciation to the editor of "The Farmer's Advocate", even if only a few words. Don't think your little say won't count for anything—that is the farmer's inherent weakness; he thinks too much that way. It will count! It will help a whole lot for "The Farmer's Advocate" and for the fellows at Ottawa, who will now be watching for "The Farmer's Advocate" eagerly every week, to see that you, John Smith, and twenty thousand other Canadians with votes are saying the same

thing, which they know means that hundreds more who don't write are thinking the same way.

Next, don't forget, when you reply to an advertisement, to say you saw it in "The Farmer's Advocate." Modern business houses, which do advertising, have a system for keeping track of every reply that mentions the paper in which the advertisement was seen. The more replies they get of this kind the more they advertise in that paper, because they know it is paying them. Therefore, by mentioning "The Farmer's Advocate" you are bringing it home to the firm you write to that they can't afford to "cut out" "The Farmer's Advocate" whether the Money Interest says so or not. This is the backing "The Farmer's Advocate" needs to strengthen it in fighting the Money Interest.

But whatever you do, for goodness sake do something. We farmers have sat still and grumbled without doing anything to help ourselves long enough. We now have worthy and able champions in "The Farmer's Advocate", and in Peter McArthur. Let us with a firm purpose back them up. The first thing to do is to show our representatives at Ottawa that the farmers are out for business, and that the Money Interest

has got to be disciplined as step No. 1 in the movement towards fairer play and better times for the farmers, and the masses of the people.

Step No. 2 is to organize. Step No. 3 is to either develop from within or enlist from without the quality of great leadership, which is the quality farmers and other independent parties have always lacked, and the quality the Money Interest has always shone in. You can't have a great and powerful party without great leadership. But once well organized, a worthy leader will come forth. He is, no doubt, already among us.

Some other day I may make time to tell you a few more things about the Money Interest and its ways, how it, more than any other agency, is responsible for the high cost of living, and how we farmers can, if we get about it, show them a few things. In the meantime we must get on with the seeding, for the season is late and the work is piling up. But take an evening to write your member and the editor.

Northumberland Co., Ont. WM. L. MARTIN.

### Nature's Diary.

By A. B. Klugh, M. A.

From the ponds comes a high trilling chorus which is usually attributed to "frogs." But it is not the voice of any frog but of our warty friend the toad. We usually associate toads with dry places, but in the spring we find them in the water. Here they lay their eggs in long curling masses tangled along the water plants. They are arranged in a single row in transparent jelly-like ropes. The gelatinous substance about the eggs is hardly visible when the eggs are first laid, but it swells on contact with the water. The eggs are very small, only about one-fifteenth of an inch in diameter, and a single female lays between four and twelve thousand.

The time the eggs take to hatch depends upon the temperature, if it is very high they may hatch in four or five days, if the temperature is lower they take longer.

The little tadpole, on hatching, has a rather long, thin tail and a rounded head at the front end of which there are two small black suckers. These suckers secrete a sticky substance, by means of which the tadpole can attach itself to water-plants. Soon the gills become visible as little projections from the neck. In a few days the mouth appears and the tadpoles feed on microscopic plants. The external gills now disappear,