

FARM AND DAIRY

AND RURAL HOME
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, \$1.00 a year. Great Britain, \$1.25 a year. For all countries, except Canada and Great Britain, add 50c for postage.

ADVERTISING RATES, 12 cents a line flat, \$1.60 an inch an insertion. One page 64 inches, one column 12 inches. Copy received up to Saturday preceding the following week's issue.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES

STOCKWELL'S SPECIAL AGENCY
Chicago Office—People's Gas Building,
New York Office—Fribourg Building

CIRCULATION STATEMENT

The paid subscriptions to Farm and Dairy exceed 10,000. The actual circulation of each issue, including copies of the paper sent subscribers who are but slightly in arrears, and sample copies, varies from 15,700 to 19,000 copies. No subscriptions are accepted at less than the full subscription rates.

Sworn detailed statements of circulation of the paper, showing its distribution by counties and provinces, will be mailed free on request.

OUR GUARANTEE

We guarantee that every advertiser in this issue is reliable. We are able to do this because the advertising columns of Farm and Dairy are as carefully edited as the reading columns, and because to protect our readers, we turn away all unscrupulous advertisers. Should any advertiser herein deal dishonestly with you as one of our subscribers, we will make good the amount of your loss, provided such transaction occurs within one month from date of this issue, that it is reported to us within a week of its occurrence, and that we find the facts to be as stated. It is a condition of this contract that in writing to advertisers you state: "I saw your advertisement in Farm and Dairy."

Business shall not ply their trade at the expense of our subscribers, who are our friends, through the medium of the columns herein. We shall not attempt to adjust trifling disputes between subscribers and honorable business men who advertise, nor pay the debts of honest bankrupts.

The Rural Publishing Company, Limited
PETERBORO, ONT.

"Read not to contradict and to confuse, nor to belittle and take for granted, but to weigh and consider."—Bacon.

An Appreciation

MR. J. J. Kelso, who supervises the care of Neglected and Dependent Children in Ontario, writes us as follows:

"Farm and Dairy is becoming famous as a 'home-finder and certainly deserves the thanks of all who love children, for its voluntary and unremunerated work. On behalf of the Children's Aid Societies of the Province, I wish to express the highest appreciation of your 'good services. The issue of Oct. 7 is most 'interesting and attractive.'"

Thank you Mr. Kelso. The appreciation of yourself and others who are rendering noble service on behalf of the homeless little ones of our land would be sufficient reward for any effort the editors of Farm and Dairy may have made to assist you in your noble work, were it not that we have already been sufficiently repaid in the doing of it. A good deed is its own reward. And then our Folks, without whose cooperation we could have done nothing in finding homes for these little ones, also deserve a large portion of the credit for the good work done.

Land Question at Bottom

FOR a solution of the housing problem in cities, four of the nine members of the Commission on Industrial Relations, which recently investigated social conditions in the United States, recommended that—

Special attention should be given to taxation in order that land should, as far as possible, be forced into use and the burden of taxation be removed from home owners.

For a solution of the agricultural landlord and tenant problem, they found it necessary to recommend—

The revision of the taxation system so as to exempt from taxation all improvements, and tax unused land at its full rental value.

For a solution of the problem of unemployed men, they found after long investigation that whatever else may seem to be necessary, the one thing that cannot be neglected is—

The forcing of unused land into use by making the tax on non-productive the same as on productive land of the same kind, and exempting all improvements.

In short whatever industrial question they studied relating to social unrest, they found the land question at the bottom.

About Farm Commissioners

WHEN Premier Borden first announced that a commission would be appointed to enquire into agricultural conditions in Canada, a group of Ontario farmers were asked by one of the government's representatives if a certain prominent pork packer would be acceptable as their representative on the commission. It never seemed to occur to this official that the farmers of Canada would desire to be represented on the commission by men of their own calling. Why, whoever heard of such a thing! Where could even one farmer be found who could qualify for such a responsible position!

The average government official, even among those elected by popular vote, does not seem to realize that the farmer's viewpoint has widened in the past few years to such an extent that the farmer of to-day is interested in all phases of the nation's welfare. They forget that in the organization of great cooperative concerns, farmers have received a wonderful education in questions pertaining to business, finance and transportation. They forget that the greatest grain country in Canada, if not the greatest in the world, was organized and is owned and operated by Canadian farmers. They forget that through their clubs and granges, farmers have educated themselves on social and economic problems. Through these various agencies, many farmers have been fitted admirably to take their places on the Royal Commission as representatives of the farming community. What is more, the organized farmers of Canada will not be satisfied to be represented by any, except such of their own number as they may consider qualified for the position.

Mental Food

THERE is a vast volume of reading matter entering Canadian homes that is unfit for perusal by our boys and girls—and the old folks too for that matter. The laws of the land are very stringent in safeguarding the physical food of the race; so stringent that adulteration and the use of poisonous preservatives is now practically eliminated. The mental food that comes in magazines and books is not so easy to reach through government agencies and a censorship on the impure and the vile must be established by parents themselves. Literature that is absolutely obscene is prohibited the use of the mails, but the plainly obscene in literature is not so great a menace as that in which the "devil doth in shining robes appear," and the vilest sins are sugar coated.

These thoughts have been suggested by the casual reading of several stories in a magazine circulating widely in Canada, and we know, entering the homes of hundreds of our Folks. There are many magazines in the same class as this one, accepted as standard and their place in the home unquestioned. It was the wisest of all teachers who said, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." The class of reading that we give our children largely inspires their thoughts and, consequently, affects their character. The reading matter that we permit to enter our homes should be more than merely harmless. It should be uplifting and ennobling.

What the Farm Contributes

UNDER this heading, we publish elsewhere a study conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture to determine just how much the farm contributes directly to the farmer's living. These studies were made in ten localities, representative of all sections of the United States. It was found that the average annual value of food, fuel, oil and shelter per person for the families visited, was \$129.74, of which \$91.97 was furnished directly by the farm. The average value per family, furnished by the farm, was \$421.17.

A person in the city paying rent, readily sees the dollars and cents value of the use of the house on the farm. The farmer, we believe, seldom considers the rental value of his home as an item to be credited to the farm. Similarly the city resident who pays out dollars and cents to the green grocer, milkman and butcher, recognizes the value of this produce used in the farm home, more clearly than does the farmer himself. Both of these items, house rent and food, and on some farms fuel also, should be considered in figuring the relative profits of farming as compared with other lines of business. The items that the farm contributes directly to the living of the farmer may often swing the balance in favor of the farm.

Farming with Little Capital

"MY brother and I have one thousand dollars between us. We have had little experience in country life, but we would like to farm. Our plan is to buy a dairy farm and start easy. We will need no hired help, as both of us are strong and husky. Can we succeed?"

This letter lay on our desk several days before we answered it. We did not want to discourage these young men. Neither did we want to get them into difficulty by ill-advised encouragement. Finally, we told them that starting out as they planned, they had not one chance in a hundred of succeeding on the farm. One thousand dollars might be ample capital for making a start on a grain farm, but it would not go far toward equipping a dairy farm, to say nothing about buying the land in the first place. We gave these young men the usual advice—to hire out with some good farmer and get more experience and more money before making a start as independent farmers.

Farming is becoming more and more a capitalistic business. Twenty or 40 years ago men stood a much better chance to succeed without capital than they do to-day, and even then it was only the ones with unusual ability who succeeded, and they had to travel a road beset with many hardships and privations. The tendency, however, is to forget early hardships, to ignore changed conditions, and consequently the general advice of those who have succeeded to young men who propound questions to them such as are propounded to us, is to go and do likewise. To all who have an ambition to farm, but who have limited capital, however, we still say, go slow. Better wait and get more capital, along with experience, and then probably it is advisable to make the first start on a rented farm.

WHEN we think of homes can we refrain from adding a special note of respect for those brave women in the Dominion who have seen their husbands depart for the war and also keep the home against their return? Many of the Canadian, Australian and New Zealand soldiers are married. There must be women on lonely prairies, remote wheatfields, barren sheep farms, who "run the show" with little help, or even alone. News is scant, letters are rare. No watcher in England has quite to equal the gallant patience which pulls a woman through an experience like that.—The Spectator.

A Book Worth

"N Pastures Green" is a book of wit, humor and very readable prose. It is the story of the life of a farmer, as told by a writer of E. K. Rind, and is a book that will be read with interest by all who are interested in the life of the farmer. The book takes the form of a series of chapters, each dealing with a different aspect of the farmer's life. The author is a farmer himself, and his knowledge of the life of the farmer is shown in every paragraph. The book is a good one to read, and it is a book that will be read with interest by all who are interested in the life of the farmer.

But there is a running all through the book an appreciation of the land movement. The author is a farmer, and his appreciation of the land movement is shown in every paragraph of the book. The book is a good one to read, and it is a book that will be read with interest by all who are interested in the life of the farmer.

"At this time, with the world more concerned with the war, it is not surprising that the book is not being advertised as much as it should be. The book is a good one to read, and it is a book that will be read with interest by all who are interested in the life of the farmer.

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