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LONDON, ONTARIO, AUGUST 17, 1916.

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EDITORIAL.

Unless you have an automobile the other fellow has the good road.

Short-handed farmers will soon be wishing for more daylight to save.

The farmer who acts quickly is the one who makes most out of farming.

Get through harvest in time to have a day at the fair. Go any way.

If there is seed in the second crop of clover save it. Hay was plentiful the first crop.

Everyone is agreed that party politics of either brand should not figure in army appointments.

It might be more advisable to endeavor to do better than to try to prevent others from improving.

The Allies are entering on the third year of war in a position to make it their year and the end of Teuton aggressiveness.

As a general thing wheat that is in early has the best chance. If possible get the land ready in August and sow early in September.

If there is a good colt or a choice calf on the farm encourage the boy to exhibit it. Start him right by letting him have the prize money.

The man who expects his boys to work on the farm for board and clothes until they are thirty or more is a big factor in rural depopulation.

No successful business man hides what he has to sell from the public. Farmers might, to their advantage make a wider and more profitable use of advertising.

Get at the surface after-harvest cultivation. It will mean fewer weeds and better crops next year. Later and deeper cultivation will also be done with greater ease.

The man who is always going into things when they are dear and going out of them when they are cheap is always "out" financially and "in" so far as loss or debt is concerned.

It is said that the average wages made yearly by United States farmers do not exceed \$200, and over there, as here, certain people are wont to reiterate that the farmer is the only man making money these times.

Get away from the old farm for a day or two once in a while. Encourage the women folk to take an occasional holiday. See what the other fellow is doing and then the better appreciate your place through a better-directed effort.

The boy of to-day would rather brag about how many oats he can cut in ten hours with a seven-foot binder than about the number of acres he could reap with the old-fashioned cradle in an old-fashioned day of fifteen or sixteen hours with five meals, and no one blames the boy. The farm without implements and machinery is a farm without profits. The farm with too much equipage is in the same class.

A Member Must Represent.

An article in last week's issue pointed out that before any great change could be made in the legislation passed by Parliament favoring, or otherwise, agricultural interests in the country a fair representation of the agricultural districts by men who are farmers themselves would be necessary. The fact remains that in proportion to population farming is very poorly represented in our parliamentary halls. We wish to go one farther and state that a great deal depends upon the farmer representative sent to Parliament even though he be in the majority in the House. All too often when a farmer goes to represent his constituency in Parliament he is over-shadowed by lawyers and other men gifted in platform oratory and always ready to express their opinions, and too often, also, the farmer stays in the background because he is given no real chance to express his opinions, and do the work which he should do.

A change must come over the country before we can expect very much of a right-about-face in the matter of carrying on its Federal and Provincial affairs. Our farmers must stand together and must to a certain extent insist upon independence within the party, and, to get that, they must exercise that independence at the polls. There are in every rural constituency farmers quite capable of representing that constituency and it is not necessary to go to the towns or cities to find the best candidates. What is wanted is a capable young farmer or older man who has the courage of his convictions, who is not married to any political party, although he may have party leanings, and who is ready to go to Parliament and speak and act for the rights of his constituents.

There is no getting around the fact, and politicians recognize it as well as anyone else, that agriculture has not been getting its just dues at the hands of legislators for many years and it is about time that the rural districts were represented by men who would do considerably more than fill a chair in the house and vote when a division of the house occurs, and men directly representative of the people who elect them. The matter is in the hands of the electors themselves, and they should, after they have elected their representative, make it a point to familiarize themselves with what he is doing as their representative. It does not look well to find only a mere handful of the members of Parliament in their places in the House when important bills are under discussion. About the only time the House is well filled is when the whip cracks and a division occurs. About the poorest class of representative a constituency can have is a farmer who is afraid to stand up for his rights and the rights of his constituency and keeps quiet during the whole term or one who yields to the palaver of polished politicians, listens to the old bunk that the farmer is the backbone of the country and an all-round good fellow and lets it go at that. Canada needs wide-awake farmers in Parliament as well as wide-awake representatives of all other industries and callings.

The Country's Business Managers.

A good business, and a going business, always has a live business manager—a man who is ready to listen to the ideas of his employees from the smallest paid to his right hand man. Each and every one of the employees will, some day, from practical experience, evolve an idea, which, if worked out, will mean dollars and cents and more success to the firm. Of course, all will have their petty notions and their ridiculous kicks, but the efficient manager listens to them all, dismisses trivialities immediately, but thinks over and acts upon favorable suggestions.

Departments of Government are, or should be,

businesslike. They handle the biggest business in the country—the business of the country. They employ large numbers of men in their various branches, and many good men with ideas and ability. They also, very often, exercise a great deal of red tape, and the man on a particular job down the line far enough to be able to feel the pulse of the people or the country must see Mr. So-and-So and Mr. Somebody Else and so on, but never the head of the Department or the man who should correspond to the business manager. There are Superintendents, Assistant Chiefs, Chiefs, Deputies and other come-betweens, go-betweens or get-in-betweens who must be seen first, until any idea the working Government employee may have had is pretty well flattened out by the time it reaches the Deputy Minister, and about ready for burial before the Minister hears of it. There is nothing to hinder a Minister from hearing what the men in the different branches of his Department have to say. He and the country have everything to gain from such. The right kind of Minister would call his men—those down the line a ways as well as the higher-ups into his office once in a while and interview them, to draw out their ideas as to what was needed to strengthen the work and make it worth while to the people. A private company insists upon efficiency, and uses all its employees to help in work and ideas. Why should not Departments of Government? Maybe they do. But we fear that the men who rub shoulders with the people, who are working with the people, rarely see the Minister of the Department upon which they work. Some of them might not know the Minister if they saw him. They only see the next man higher up, and so on up to the top. Federal politics are worse than Provincial in this regard, it is said—far worse. At Ottawa the red tape is almost as red and as strong as at Washington.

If this fits your Department Mr. Minister of the Crown hadn't you better make yourself a good manager by remedying it? And how about you Mr. Employee? Insist upon seeing the Minister occasionally. What a change would take place with Departments of Government on a business basis, and Agricultural Departments would benefit as much as any.

Cheaper Money for the Farmer.

During recent years there has been a great deal of discussion on the subject of cheaper money for farmers. One thing is certain, there is something wrong with our economic system, with our legislation, or with our farmers, themselves, otherwise agriculture would be getting a fairer share of the returns made from the country's leading industries.

No doubt cheaper money would help. We recently read a statistical account which placed the average yearly wage made by the American farmer at \$200. This is very small, in fact smaller than most people would believe, but, even though it were several times this amount, the farmer would not be receiving returns on his investment and labor in comparison with those made by men whose money and time are spent in other lines of endeavor.

The matter of cheaper money has come to a head in the United States where a rural credit Bill was recently passed. The Act provides that the country be divided into twelve districts, each to have a Federal Land Bank, authorized to make loans to farmers on first mortgages on farm land, the loans to be anywhere from \$100 to \$10,000. These loans must be made through farm loan associations or agents, and are limited to 50 per cent. of the value of the land offered as security, and 20 per cent. of the permanent insured improvements that have been made upon it.