

CANADA'S YOUNG FARMERS AND FUTURE LEADERS.

Back on the Job.

For some months previous to the close of 1918 the "Young Farmers' Department" did not appear in the columns of "The Farmer's Advocate." This has occurred from no desire to minimize the importance of this department, but because reports had been reaching us for some months that organization work among young farmers was suffering severely from causes due to the war, particularly the Junior Farmers' Improvement Associations. Young men were leaving in large numbers for overseas and pre-war activities had generally given way to the stern necessity for production, so that little or no time was left for the work of these organizations.

Now, however, fighting has ceased and the war is virtually ended. The farm boys will be coming back and re-establishing themselves in civil life. They will, we expect, again want to take up former occupations and to partake in organization and improvement work as before. "The Farmer's Advocate," as always, is ready to assist and believes the time is ripe for another appearance of the Young Farmers' Department.

This will be a department especially for the young farmer; and much of its success will depend upon his interest in it. We will welcome, especially, articles relating experiences in connection with practical farm work and organization, as well as comments by other young farmers on those articles that appear. Publication will be given to all contributions that have such general interest as to warrant the necessary space. Your experiences in caring for and feeding crops and animals will be particularly appreciated, as well as your thoughts about organization work, and your ideas on farming in general. We hope you will make yourselves at home in this department and consider it as your own.

Beginning with this issue, we are running a series of six or seven short articles on "Public Speaking and Debating." This is an avenue of education admitting of great improvement in most rural districts. There is plenty of good talent, but it is undeveloped, and in getting G. H. Unwin to present the result of his experience and to advise with you as to how you can best become able to clearly and convincingly express your ideas on the platform, we feel that we have added a valuable element to the material of this department. The hints on the organization of debating societies should also prove helpful, as will, likewise, the list of subjects suggested for debate.

Public Speaking and Debating.

BY G. H. UNWIN, O.A.C., GUELPH.

Part I. How to Organize.

This series of articles is written for young farmers who wish, through the medium of private societies and debating clubs, to train themselves in public speaking. There are several reasons why such education is particularly desirable at the present time:

1. Farmers, as a class, are coming to the front and are playing a more conspicuous part in national life than they have done hitherto.
2. With the increasing scarcity of labor, farmers' children have few opportunities of going to school; therefore, any channels of self-culture, such as debating clubs, should be made use of.
3. These are stirring times. A knowledge of public affairs is not only desirable but absolutely necessary.
4. Public opinion is the strongest political force in the civilized world to-day. For this reason it is imperative that every class should contribute to public opinion, and should have capable representatives, taken from its own ranks.

The suggestions given in these pages are based on several years' experience in teaching public speaking at the Ontario Agricultural College. The students taking these classes are themselves farmers, so the difficulties which they have encountered are probably much the same as those which confront the members of rural societies. These observations are primarily for the use of inexperienced speakers, and consequently they must include much that is elementary.

It has been thought advisable to include some hints on organization and procedure. Full information on these subjects can be obtained from Bourinot's Procedure of Public Meetings, and also from the Extension Departments of some of the universities, for example, Wisconsin. However, these sources are not within the reach of all, so it may be well to give the most important points in the organization of a literary society.

Suppose a meeting has been called for this purpose. First of all one of the promoters should be moved into the chair and should at once take charge. His first duty will be to appoint a secretary for this particular meeting. Then he should outline the proposal and call upon anyone interested to address the meeting on the subject. On this point Bourinot says:

"It is essential that no discussion shall commence and be allowed to proceed until a member has proposed and another has seconded a motion as a basis of consideration and debate."

MOTION.—"That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable to form a society in this town (or other place) to encourage public speaking and to promote an interest in current events."

After a free discussion this motion should be put by the chair. Let us suppose it carried. The next step should be to secure the names of all those who wish to

be members of such a society. Since the first meeting is always informal, the secretary might pass around a small writing pad or notebook on which those interested might sign their names, while the business of the meeting proceeds.

The next step, as outlined by Bourinot, is to form a select committee to draft a constitution and regulations. This committee reports at the next meeting and its suggestions are taken up one by one and adopted or amended as the members see fit. In rural sections, however, where people cannot assemble at short notice, it might be well to put through as much of the preliminary business as possible at the first meeting. For this reason I append the draft of a simple constitution, which may be read before the meeting and altered as circumstances require. In this case some member rises and puts the following motion:

"Mr. Chairman, I move that we constitute ourselves a committee of the whole to frame a constitution for this society."

Having been seconded, the motion is put to the meeting. Then the chairman might read through the following constitution, afterwards putting each clause separately to the vote.

Article I. Name.

SECTION 1. This association shall be called "The _____ Society of _____."

Article II. Officers.

- SECTION 2. The officers of this society shall be a President, Vice-President and Sec.-Treas.
- SECTION 3. The officers of this society shall be elected every three months. No person shall be eligible for the same office two successive terms.
- SECTION 4. If a vacancy occurs in any office the society shall immediately hold an election to fill such office.

Article III. Duties of Officers.

- SECTION 5. The duty of the President shall be to preside at all meetings of the society, and to see that the rules of the society are carried out.
- SECTION 6. The duty of the Vice-President shall be to perform all the duties of the President in the absence of that officer.
- SECTION 7. The duties of the Secretary-Treasurer shall be: To take minutes of all meetings of the society; to do all correspondence of the society not otherwise provided for; to take charge of all money belonging to his society, and to keep accurate account of all receipts and expenditures in a book kept for that purpose.

Article IV. Membership.

- SECTION 8. Any person resident in the township of _____ may become a member of this society on being proposed, seconded and duly elected by a majority of the votes cast.
- SECTION 9. Any person may become an honorary member of this society by election at any regular meeting, provided three votes do not appear against him. He shall be entitled to all the privileges of an active member, except voting and holding office.

Article V. Executive Committee.

- SECTION 10. At the first meeting of his term the President shall appoint two persons, who together with himself shall act as an Executive Committee. Their duty shall be to arrange programmes, select questions for debate, and report the same to the society at least two weeks before the date appointed. The committee shall have full power to place active members on the programme as it may see fit.

Article VI. Meetings.

- SECTION 11. The regular meetings shall be held at _____, on _____ of each week at _____ o'clock.

The draft given above can be altered or supplemented as the members of any society may find necessary. Such in brief is the constitution of a society or, in other words, a formal record of its guiding principles.

The regulations, or as they are sometimes called, the by-laws, take up questions of procedure at meetings, time allowed speakers, membership fees, etc. These, as well as the election of regular officers, might be left to the second meeting.

After the society has been organized, the question of programmes becomes the vital one. I should suggest that the society have three regular meetings in the month and one open meeting. The following procedure might be adopted:

REGULAR MEETINGS.—Reading of minutes—Transaction of business such as applications for membership, correspondence, reports of committees, etc. Impromptu debate, criticism, adjournment.

The impromptu debate might be opened by two members previously appointed to take up opposite sides of the question. After their speeches the meeting might be thrown open for general discussion. Any member wishing to speak rises in his place, and the Chairman pronouncing his name acknowledges his privilege. When two rise together the Chairman decides which has the prior claim to the floor. When the question has been discussed thoroughly the Chairman takes the sense of the meeting by show of hands and then calls upon the critic, whose function in a case like this would be first, to sum up the arguments on both sides and then to offer suggestions to the individual speakers.

These miniature parliaments have been tried with great success in our classes at Guelph. Beginners are

less troubled with nervousness when speaking from the benches to the chair than when they are on the platform. I have known men who through timidity could not bring themselves to speak from the platform, but who, being interested in some passing question, have arisen from their seat and spoken with ease and power. In this way confidence is built up by degrees. Also, if the subject is a familiar one these debates are generally interesting, sometimes indeed very lively. There is the stimulating clash of personalities in a free discussion, which is often smothered in the formality of a prepared debate.

These impromptu discussions might be varied with programmes composed of short addresses by members previously warned by the Executive Committee. The regular meetings, in short, would serve the purpose of preparing the speakers for more ambitious performances.

The Open Meeting.

Once a month a more elaborate programme might be given, including music, readings, and a prepared debate. To this guests might be invited and, if possible, judges and critics might be obtained from outside the society. In the Union Literary Society of this College the practice now in vogue is to appoint three judges, one of whom announces the decision and also gives the criticism. The rules for debate are approximately as follows:

Rules for Debate.

1. Each speaker is allowed twelve (12) minutes in which to present his arguments. The Chairman shall warn each speaker at the end of eleven minutes and again at the end of the time specified.
2. The leader of the affirmative is allowed three minutes for rebuttal, during which he shall introduce no new material.

AUTOMOBILES, FARM MOTORS AND FARM MACHINERY.

The Useful Pipe Wrench.

One of the handiest all-round wrenches for a farmer is the pipe wrench. He can repair pumps and do a great deal of repair work on the farm plumbing with it. It is particularly convenient in removing taps that have rusted tight on bolt threads. If the square shoulder of a wood bolt turns in the wood so that the whole bolt turns when the top is caught with a monkey wrench, the head of the bolt can be held securely with a pipe wrench and the reluctant tap removed. Or if the threads extend half an inch beyond the tap a good purchase can be made on these with a pipe wrench until the tap is loosened.

If the corners of a nut are worn so that a monkey wrench will not grip the nut, the pipe wrench will grip it securely. In automobile and tractor repair work a pipe wrench is practically indispensable. Its uses are many, and once a man owns one he will count it a fixture in his shop. Pipe wrenches are made as light as monkey wrenches and those having jaws that extend two inches will easily hold a rod as small as a quarter of an inch. It is not advisable to get one with too wide an extension or one too large unless there is special plumbing to be done. We find one with a jaw extension of about one and a half inches satisfactory about the farm.

Gasoline Engines.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Kindly answer the following questions on gasoline engines:

1. Which would be the better to buy for farm work, a throttling governor or a hit-and-miss type of engine.
2. How much fuel should a six-horse-power engine use in ten hours at nearly full load, and which type would use the most?
3. Explain the Diesel type of oil engines. Are they made for farm work?
4. What would be the right width of belt for a six-horse-power engine? E. R.

Ans.—1. Either will give first-class results.
2. The general consumption of fuel is about a gallon a day per horse-power actually developed. If the engine were delivering say 5 h.p. for 10 hours it would use approximately five gallons.

The hit-and-miss has a slightly purer mixture than the throttling type, because when it misses that power stroke is devoted to scavenging the cylinder. Consequently the hit-and-miss uses slightly less fuel than the throttle type—all other things being equal. This last condition is difficult to obtain. Any difference there may be is not great enough to be material. There is another phase of the question that should not be lost sight of at this time, viz., that the throttle type is the best for burning coal-oil.

3. The Diesel engine. When air is compressed it causes heat as everyone knows who has felt the pump barrel after pumping up a bicycle or automobile tire, consequently if the compression were made great enough it should heat the air hot enough to fire a charge of gasoline if mixed with the air. In the ordinary engine the compression runs from 65 to 85 lbs. per square inch, according to design, but Diesel designed his engine to have from 400 to 500 pounds per square inch. If the fuel were mixed with the air while this pressure is being developed it would ignite spontaneously long before these pressures were reached. Consequently the pure air is admitted to the cylinder and then at the proper