

We Wish the many Readers
of Farm and Dairy a
Happy Christmas and
a Bright and Pros-
perous New
Year.

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TO OUR
READERS AND ADVERTISERS

Our Sincerest Wish is that
Your Xmastide may be a
happy one and that, 1915
holds in store for you, contin-
ued---aye increased, prosperity.

FARM AND DAIRY

Advertising Dept.

Peterboro, Ont.

Farm Homes are Opened to the Orphan Children of Belgium

H. BRONSON COWAN, Managing Director, The R. J. Publishing Co., Limited

THE deep sympathy that is felt among Canadian farmers for the harassed and impoverished people of Belgium, and particularly for the thousands upon thousands of orphan children, has been shown by the response that has been made to the proposal advanced two weeks ago by Farm and Dairy to bring some of these orphan children to Canada to be adopted into some of the comfortable homes of the readers of Farm and Dairy. Already Farm and Dairy has received letters from readers throughout Ontario and Quebec who are willing to adopt one or two children each into their homes, and every day's mail is bringing additional applications. Where requests have been made for two children it has invariably been so far, that they should be a boy and girl, brother and sister.

As soon as it became evident that there was a sincere desire among the readers of Farm and Dairy that we should help the people of Belgium in this way, and that they would be willing to cooperate with us in doing so, we wrote to the Belgian Consul at Ottawa, Mr. Goor, to ascertain if the Belgian government would be willing to allow its orphan children to be brought to Canada in the manner we proposed and if it would be willing to cooperate with us in this enterprise. Mr. Goor has replied that the Association of Children's Aid Societies for the Province of Ontario, through its President, Mr. W. L. Scott, K.C., had already expressed its desire to bring over to Canada Belgian orphan children for the purpose of adoption under its control. This had led him to send a letter to the Belgian government office to ascertain if the Belgian government was in favor of the proposal. Mr. Goor stated that as yet he had not heard from his government, and advised us to cooperate with the Association of Children's Aid Societies in the province of Ontario in reference to the matter. As soon as word is received from the Belgian government we expect to be advised in regard to its decision.

Previous to hearing from Mr. Goor, we had already written to Mr. J. J. Kelso, Superintendent of the Children's Aid Societies for Ontario, and had asked him if he would be willing to cooperate with us in our work, not knowing that his Association had already made a similar proposal to the Belgian government. Mr. Kelso has replied expressing a fear that the Belgian government will not give its approval, and suggesting that should this prove to be the case, readers of Farm and Dairy might be willing to adopt some of the Canadian children now under the care of his association. He advised us further that there were a number of children under the care of Rev. E. C. Hall, the agent of the Society at Oshawa.

Canadian Homeless Children

Mr. Kelso wrote Mr. Hall of the work Farm and Dairy was planning, with the result that we have received a letter from Mr. Hall advising us that the Children's Aid Society at Oshawa, has twelve children, ranging in age from eight months to a girl fourteen years of age, for whom they were anxious to find homes. Some of these children are very bright, including a boy of eleven years, another boy of thirteen years, and the baby eight months old. We mention this fact to the readers of Farm and Dairy in case some of "Our Folks" may feel that charity begins at home and that they might prefer to adopt some Canadian children who

are near at hand and in need of homes. Farm and Dairy hopes that there will be a ready response to insure homes being provided both for our Canadian children and for many orphan children from Belgium.

Homes That Are Open

Farm and Dairy does not feel that it would be right to mention by name those of its readers who have kindly offered homes to Belgian children without their consent but feels sure that "Our Folks" would like to see something of the spirit that has been that has been aroused in answer to our appeal. One of our readers in Glenora county, writes us in part as follows:

"Your proposal to save some thousands of dollars by using a cheaper grade of paper in Farm and Dairy, and to use a portion of this surplused find homes in Ontario for the orphan children of Belgium, has inspired me to do some good for the poor, homeless and parentless children of that country. Your suggestion should meet with favor by all who are able to take care of the orphan children. The quality of the paper now used in Farm and Dairy is quite good enough for me and has not reduced the value of the journal any. My wife and I will be glad to adopt a boy and girl, brother and sister preferred, ten years of age or older. We will watch the columns of Farm and Dairy to see the progress of your noble work of charity."

Another reader of Farm and Dairy, living in Dundas county, writes: "I think your plan is a good one, and would like to get a Belgian brother and sister between five and ten years of age, born on a farm, as physically strong and bright. We have no child in and feel that we as Canadians should help the Belgians in this way. We will try to make good citizens of these children by giving them a good education and if they proved worthy would help them to get a start in life." "This was the first letter received."

From Argenteuil county, Quebec, one of "Our Folks" writes: "Your idea is a good one. I should be glad to have a little girl about ten years of age. If I should get a child she would have a comfortable home and be well cared for." The young woman who wrote this letter is living on a one hundred acre farm with her mother.

From Essex county has been received a letter from a farmer who not having any children of his own, is anxious to adopt a bright intelligent boy, ten or twelve years of age, and preferably one who has been brought up on a farm. Many more letters of this kind could be quoted but space will not permit. In view of the hearty response that has met our proposal and the great need that exists for work of this kind, we hope that nothing will occur to prevent us from carrying this proposal to a successful conclusion. This week an editor of Farm and Dairy went to Ottawa, and have a personal interview with Mr. Goor, the Belgian Consul, and with Mr. Scott, the President of the Children's Aid Societies, and if necessary with our own Canadian government officials in an effort to see what extra steps can be taken, if necessary, to insure our being able to bring some of the needy children of Belgium to happy homes in Canada, as well as to brighten lone homes by bringing to them these little ones who so greatly need the love and care that is being so freely offered to them.