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The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

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EDITORIAL.

Plan for a full silo next winter.

Spare the good dairy-bred calves; they will be needed later on.

Grow plenty of roughage, such as hay, straw and silage. If anything must be purchased, let it be concentrates.

That famous trade mark "Made in Germany" will not help Germany very much in paying off her huge war debt of one hundred billion marks.

It may be more profitable to purchase fertilizers this spring than grain and millfeeds next winter. Figure the problem out according to your own circumstances and the requirements of your soil.

The committee appointed by the Government to consider the question of titles know full well before they hold a session what the Canadian people want, or more properly speaking, do not want.

The matter of prohibition will come before the electorate of Ontario in the form of four questions. The ballot will consequently be rather confusing, and every voter should understand the ticket thoroughly before going to the polls.

With labor more costly than ever and the price of millfeeds still soaring, meat animals and dairy products must remain high in price if production is to be maintained. City people are looking askance at the farmer, but urban dwellers do not understand what \$50-bran means.

The women of Ottawa ask that oleomargarine be placed permanently on the list of saleable commodities in Canada in order to safeguard the health of children. It was found by thorough investigation in the United States that even rats would not thrive on it; in fact, they sickened and died.

If we have an unemployed army, as is claimed in some quarters, why not mark off certain sections of our highways to be patrolled by men with horses and carts to keep the roads in repair? A shovelful of earth in time would save a whole cart-load. Roads can be kept in repair more cheaply than they can be remedied after a season of neglect.

Labor is demanding a higher wage and shorter hours; production costs are soaring every day, and every day they are striking back at the laborer. Meanwhile, farmers are equipping their farms with labor-saving implements in order to withstand the siege. The time is coming when someone will call "quits," and then we will get down to a reasonable basis and transact our business of living and trading in a sensible manner.

The plot deepens. The Board of Railway Commissioners claim to have no jurisdiction in regard to Daylight Saving; the Acting Premier is not sure but what the matter of time is a provincial affair any way, and thus it goes. So long as the masses take no hand in affairs of state the Government can legislate without difficulty, as they did last year when the Daylight Saving Bill carried; but when it comes to giving everyone a square deal the cogs of Government don't mesh. We have built up in Canada a huge and intricate piece of machinery which works beautifully when legislating for the few, but it requires new parts before it will turn out suitable laws for the many.

Class Differences.

The development of class organization is being carried to a greater degree day by day. This means that each class organized, according to occupation, is developing a deep consciousness of its importance, and is making demands upon other classes and upon the State that reflects beneficially upon itself alone, and with little thought as to how its actions will affect the neighboring classes upon which it depends. Demands and counter demands are rapidly following each other. The question is, where will they lead?

In looking at the situation, it must be understood that rapid organization among certain classes recently has been taken in self-defence. Some organizations had developed to a high degree, and because of the lack of organization and united power in other classes, had been able to profit at the expense of those still unorganized. The situation we find to-day is but the result of action taken in the past. We are, as it were, reaping the harvest.

We cannot to-day look back at the Government of Canada with a great deal of pride. If it had been government for the people rather than government for the classes we would have had a different situation to-day. Yet in this present day and generation we must look to the Government largely to meet the present situation. It is the only body we have that should truly represent all the people and all the classes. Yet we find it divided into factions representing the different classes. This is both good and bad. It is well that all classes should be represented in proportion to their strength and importance, but there is a tendency to legislate in favor of class rather than in favor of the State.

What is needed to-day is a sane organization that would bring into it representatives of all classes, something that would break down the acute class consciousness and bring all to a realization that each class is dependent upon the other; that as one class builds up wealth in huge quantities another class must suffer; that each class is playing an important part in our civilization, and must be respected and rewarded for its services in a fair manner.

Unless at an early date there is serious consideration of these problems by the leaders of the different class organizations who should be endowed with national ideals and a readiness to re-adjust their demands according to the best interests of the State, which includes all classes, then we may look for a continuation of the turbulence and unrest that is undermining the health of the civilized world to-day.

The Labor Market.

The labor market is in a very peculiar condition. For some months the Governments of this country have been discussing large appropriations for building and construction work in order to alleviate the unemployment situation. During all this time laborers have been clamoring for higher wages and getting them. Farmers find it just as difficult to get help as during the worst years of the war, and viewing the subject from all angles, it is indeed a complicated one. We hear that in all the towns and cities there are a great number of men out of work, yet we know of many instances where employers are driven almost to exasperation in their attempts to get good men who will work. On top of this the Minister of Labor says: "The unemployment situation throughout Canada is improving from day to day, except in the Province of British Columbia, where there is unhappily an exodus, or I might term it a migration of soldiers who returned to that province. . . . Only yesterday I received word that our railroads west of the Great Lakes, who just a couple of days ago placed an application for a large number of laborers, have stated that within thirty days, or as soon as the

frost is out of the ground, they will want 10,000 men. That is going to absorb the large number of aliens who have found themselves out of employment, or have been displaced to give employment to returned soldiers."

This seems to indicate that the price of labor will, at least, be maintained during the coming season. The effect of a high-labor market on agriculture is quite obvious. Farmers are purchasing larger and more labor-saving implements, with the intention of doing what they can alone on their 100 acres and by co-operating or changing work with neighbors. While this may be the best plan, under the circumstances, for the individual farmer yet the effect on agriculture in general will be bad, for which the country as a whole will suffer. There will be a diminution in both area and yield of crops, less live stock will be maintained, and production will be decreased in general. Food prices will, in consequence, remain high, and the laborer will be the greatest sufferer in the end.

Prices are still high all round, due, in part, to the abnormal demand for food, wearing apparel and building material, but it does not appear like good planning to endeavor to keep them high. We are not blaming the laborer in the least for his efforts to obtain a living wage, which the majority are barely getting now on account of the enormously high and increasing cost of living. However, if the strength of the labor organizations were directed to the end of reducing the cost of living the results would be more gratifying. Increased wages act like a boomerang. They increase the cost of production, and thus strike back at the very man who was clamoring for relief.

Bovine Tuberculosis and its Effect on Trade.

It is not difficult to see which way the wind is blowing in regard to our trade in pure-bred live stock. All countries, provinces and states are erecting barriers against tuberculosis, and breeders of pure-bred live stock in Eastern Canada who look to the United States, Western Canada or even the local associations for business must recognize that their cattle will have to pass the tuberculin test.

The United States import regulations say: "Cattle over six months old for breeding purposes and milk production shall also be accompanied by a satisfactory certificate of tuberculin test (which test shall have been made within 30 days of the date of importation by a veterinarian in the employ of and receiving a salary from the Canadian Government, or by an inspector of the Bureau of Animal Industry) giving the date and place of testing, and a description of the cattle, with ages and markings."

Western Canada is getting quite in earnest regarding this matter of tuberculous cattle. They are going to look to it more in the future than in the past that no tuberculous cattle come into their country. Perhaps the Province of British Columbia is more vigilant in this regard than any other, but the sentiment is strongly in favor of prohibition against tuberculosis. In the Eastern Provinces associations are purchasing sires on the co-operative plan. Many of these are assisted by the Provincial Governments, and the demand is for tuberculous-free animals. We can no longer wink at this matter of tuberculosis in our herds and let it pass at that. Anyone desirous of building up a remunerative trade will have to maintain a herd that is free from the disease. We do not wish to imply that our pure-breds are tuberculous, what we desire to point out is that we must take more precautions and have ample proof that they are not diseased.

Just how far we can get with accredited herds, it is difficult to say until a clear statement is made by the Government and the Health of Animals Branch outlining their scheme. However, accredited herds are becoming