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EDITORIAL.

It is no small honor to be the granary of the Empire.

That for which great preparations are made is almost sure to happen.

Meat of all kinds is likely to be very high this winter. Another win for live stock.

It is a good time to be calm, but the farmer as well as the soldier must be on the alert.

The war against the army worm was serious enough, but battles between human armies are far more disastrous.

Where the best corn is grown it is cultivated long after the men and horses are lost to view in its towering foliage.

Begin now to prepare for a big crop next year, and if the preparation is right it is more than likely the crop will justify the expense and labor.

Unless the land is in a good condition to grow the crop, fall wheat is not the safest cropping proposition. There is still time to do much in preparation.

If war goes on for any length of time wheat and other grains will surely advance in price, and there will be a danger that too much raw material will be sold off many farms.

The second cutting of clover is light in most districts. Hay will have to be replaced by straw in many stables this winter, and on some farms the latter will be none too plentiful.

Ambition, when directed in the proper channels, is commendable and to be encouraged, but developed for self aggrandizement at the expense of others it is to be despised.

Prices of foodstuffs may soar. When prices are high more sales are made. No one can blame another for selling when high prices come, but the stockman should be careful not to sell off all his producers, or what of the future?

How weeds do creep in from the roadsides and fence corners! The only safe method of repelling their invasion is to make regular scouting trips around the farm with sickle, scythe, spud or spade and cut down without quarter all the invaders found crossing the border.

Pastures are drying up very fast, and there is a danger that many newly-seeded meadows may be pastured too closely this autumn. If a good hay crop is desired next year the new seeding of clover should not be pastured closely. In fact it stands a better chance if not pastured at all.

With the suddenness and fury of a raging cyclone Europe has been plunged into what is likely to prove one of the worst wars of history. At the moment the world is more interested in destruction than in construction. Let us hope the greatest good which comes out of the terrible slaughter which has begun will be the end of war and the beginning of peace among all the nations.

Produce the Supplies.

The Encyclopaedia Britannica, under the heading, "General Principles," discusses some of the modern conditions affecting war. First and foremost war is called a matter of movement, and so is facilitated by good roads, including railroads, steamboat service and draft animals. Then secondly, war is a matter of supply. Campaigns are made easier by large areas under cultivation, carrying large numbers of live stock, making it possible to pour foodstuffs from one country to another in case they are needed. Third in the list is placed the matter of destruction, and fourth, that war is a conflict of well-organized masses aided by telegraph, telephone, visual signalling, balloons, air ships, etc. It is claimed that armies are easier to move, to feed and to manoeuvre than they once were, but nevertheless campaigns are most difficult.

It will be seen from this that one of the mainstays of any power is its available products of the farm. If these were not to be had or could be cut off all the gun powder, armament and scientific devices to destroy human life would be worthless in the defence of any country. The ease with which it is possible for a nation to get the products of the soil has much to do with the outcome in any contest. Provisioning the country is the real big task in war, and the ability to produce while the fight is in progress is what strengthens a nation. The farmer is the backbone of the fighter who must be fed.

What the Season Has Taught.

The saying that we are never too old to learn is as old as the world itself. It is as true as it is old. There are new things to be learned from each season's operations, new ideas to be picked up and incorporated in future farm operations, new seeds to sow, and new crops to reap. We are often too stubborn to learn anything. We feel too eager to criticize our neighbor's methods to see the real good in them, and to adopt them on our own place. We would often rather take smaller returns by our own old way than increase profits by our neighbor's new way. And yet the new ways that are profitable are finally adopted by all progressive farmers. Have you seen anything in your own fields or in those of your neighbors this year that looks like a good object lesson? If you haven't it is more than likely you have not been watching carefully. Have you noticed that heavy clay soil sown a little too early before it had dried sufficiently to work well is not giving as good a crop as some left until nice and friable before being sown? Have you noticed that the early-sown grain, provided the soil was right at the time of seeding, is yielding the best crop by far? Have you noticed that corn sown on spring-plowed sod is doing in many cases much better than corn planted on fall-plowed land? Have you noticed that corn and roots cultivated regularly and frequently are outdistancing in growth the same crops that have only been cultivated once or twice? Have you considered the difference in the clover which was closely pastured last fall and that which was not pastured at all? These are only a few hints. We know of several fields of fall wheat which were early sown and which are outyielding the later-sown fields considerably. These are only suggestions. There are hundreds of things which come up yearly in the operation of a farm, and from which something of value may

be learned. Take advantage of all these. Size them up. Find out the reason of things, and take advantage of lessons learned.

A Dependable Crop.

We have heard many expressions of surprise at the rapid advancements which the corn crop is making in its conquest of the north. A few years ago many sections which are now raising large acreages of ensilage and cob corn, did not think it advisable to plant more than perhaps half an acre or an acre of this crop, believing that it could not be depended upon in the district to yield a satisfactory crop. Gradually, however, Old King Corn has marched northward, and to-day we find in quite northerly districts stock farmers depending upon this crop for their winter's roughage, and depending not in vain. It has been a dry summer and in some sections other crops have been partial failures, but where the corn was given any kind of a chance by way of fertilization and cultivation it has grown luxuriantly, and promises to yield a crop sufficiently large to carry the live stock on these farms over winter in first-class condition. Corn is one of the most dependable crops we have. It does not stand cold weather well but will yield fairly good crops even in cold, damp seasons, and when the summers are hot and dry it out-distances any other crop which the farmer can grow. During the coming winter silage will take the place of hay in much of the feeding operations in Eastern Canada. Straw is also short in many districts, and were it not for the fact that a fairly good crop of corn is rapidly reaching maturity feed might be very scarce on many of the farms where the drouth has been the most severe.

There is a lesson in this for the man who has not already been converted to corn as one of his main crops. He cannot afford, if his farm lies in any latitude where corn will succeed at all, to do without this valuable crop. It is more easily cultivated than the root crop, yields a higher amount of feeding material to the acre, and may be relied upon one year after another. We look to see even more corn sown next spring than has been the case in any past year, that is if farmers generally, take the matter seriously and do what all indications point out that they should.

Push Farming Now.

While the blackest war clouds are hanging thickest over the continent of Europe and nations are flying at each others' throats in what may prove one of the most disastrous wars the world has ever seen, and while such a war cannot but affect conditions in America as well as in Europe, it would seem that the best course for this continent, and especially this country, to pursue would be to push agriculture to the utmost, and produce all possible from the land by the best system of farming known. If needed, men and money from Canada will be a factor in the contest, but the greatest value the Dominion has in the Empire may be proven to be her capacity to produce food to feed the fighters. One of the greatest problems in war is that of feeding the belligerents, and in keeping lines of communication open so that no part of the country has its supplies cut off. If Europe fights, as it seems she will, crops in that country will go unharvested, in fact, it may be that the crop which