

The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

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EDITORIAL.

Socialism is on trial in Germany.

For sale—A pile of European crowns.

The ex-king club in Europe now reports a very considerable membership.

Germany, we believe, would now gladly exchange her submarines for an equal weight of good nutritious food.

Mr. Hohenzollern, formerly King of Prussia and Emporer of Germany, has been visiting friends in Holland.

Colds and roup are common among fowl at this season. House them in well-ventilated quarters, but prevent drafts.

British live-stock breeders are not doubtful as regards the future. They are paying the highest prices on record in that country for good breeding stock.

The Canadian Defence League would have military training made compulsory in our schools. Why prepare for something we have fought so hard and successfully to banish?

The great effort now should be to re-establish our industries on a peace basis with the least possible hardship to all concerned. The army, also, has to be absorbed into civilian life; are we ready?

The cessation of hostilities is no cause for alarm in regard to our market for live stock and farm products. The armies have to be demobilized and agricultural production restored to a normal basis before the demand can lessen.

Europe is lamentably short of food, and even next year bumper crops will be necessary to restore conditions to anything like a normal basis. Meat supplies particularly are at a low ebb, and refrigerator tonnage is none too plentiful. There is still much to be done.

Britain's future trade policy will, no doubt, favor the output of the overseas Dominions, and Canada should be ready to supply that lucrative market with the commodities required. There must first be an understanding of what that demand is, and our transportation systems, terminals, abattoirs, cold storage facilities and all should be so located and operated as to promote that trade.

Premier Lloyd-George has come out frankly for a League of Nations, and has said: "A large number of small nations have been reborn in Europe. These will require a League of Nations to protect them against the covetousness of ambitious and grasping neighbors. A League of Nations is absolutely essential to permanent peace. . . . We shall go to the Peace Conference to guarantee that the League of Nations shall become a reality."

Labor should be more plentiful for the farm from now on, but the most satisfactory class will be obtained when a small cottage is provided so a married man can be employed. For day's work the single man will give good service, and in many cases will give satisfaction for six months or a year, but as a general thing the man with a family is more settled and contented and will take more interest in the work of the farm. Where at all possible accommodation should be provided and a married man employed by the year.

Right Triumphant.

The remarkable turn of events in Europe is a glorious culmination to four years of struggle between right and might. In August, 1914, Germany was vastly superior in men and equipment to anything the Entente Allies could array against her. England, France and Belgium were threatened with defeat at the hands of an all-powerful militaristic nation which depended on force to impose her will on the civilized world. Right, however, eventually triumphed, and now the people of Europe are determined to map out their own destiny with governments that are representative of the masses. While the major part of the continent is now in a more or less chaotic state, order will, in time, be evolved, and out of this upheaval Democracy should emerge, bringing to oppressed millions a freedom such as they have never known. Peace has yet to be declared and treaties signed, but the signatures which terminate this struggle will be endorsed by peoples who hate war rather than by despots who consider such documents a "mere scrap of paper." The overthrow of autocracy has been complete beyond expectation, and the demands for abdication have come from within the countries whose rulers have been deposed. We must wait patiently for results until order is evolved and stable governments are established, but in the meantime there is every cause for rejoicing over the glorious triumph of Right.

School Boards Asked to Indorse Military Training.

After Canada has been four years engaged in one of the fiercest struggles of all time with the object of overthrowing militarism, and more than 50,000 Canadians have laid down their lives in this cause, a Toronto organization has the audacity to ask for and promote military training in the schools of Ontario. The ridiculousness and inconsistency of the whole scheme becomes all the more apparent when we recall that England, France, Italy, United States, and their Allies have sacrificed millions of lives that autocracy might be de-throned and that there be no more wars. Right has prevailed, and the success of this noble and righteous cause now seems more complete than even the most optimistic could expect. If our Allies were sincere, and we believe they were, the signal victory they have achieved will make it possible to erect all necessary barriers against future conflict. Why then train for war?

The organization to which we refer is known as "The Canadian Defence League," which claims to be "A Non-political Association to urge the importance to Canada of Universal Military (or Naval) Training and Service." The League had as President Col. Wm. Hamilton Merritt, but he recently passed to the Great Beyond where there is no war or rumors of war. Certain printed matter of the League bears the name of J. Galloway, Lt.-Col., as Assistant Secretary, so we presume it is a military organization rather than educational.

The Canadian Defence League has circularized school boards, asking them to sign and forward the following petition to the Honorable H. J. Cody, Minister of Education for Ontario:

"The Board Humbly Prays:

1. That for Forms 3 and 4 the Regulations as stated on pages 47 and 52, in paragraph 3, respectively, under the heading Physical Culture and now reading "Organized Play, and Games" be changed to read "Organized Play, Games and for boys Elementary Military Drill."

2. That for Form 5 Regulations as shown on page 57, relating to Physical Culture, be amended in line 1 by adding after the word "in" the words "Military Drill for boys."

3. That Military Training be required for all boys and young men who attend a High School, Collegiate

Institute or any other school under Government supervision.

4. That further provision be made through Summer Schools by the Department of Education for the proper training of female teachers in Physical Culture and Drill and all male teachers in Military Drill, so that all present certified teachers shall become duly qualified to teach this work, and that in future no certificates of any grade be issued to teachers who do not pass a satisfactory examination in Physical Culture or Military Drill. And Your Petitioners Will Ever Pray."

Since the Franco-Prussian war Germany has been fostering militarism. Her schools, colleges, and every educational institution in the land have been used to imbue the people of that country with the one ignoble idea that the sword was mightier than the pen, and that with the sword they would force their Kaiser Kultur upon the civilized world. What is Germany to-day? A crushed and helpless nation—crushed by the very powers who worshipped the God of Peace. Games, Play, Physical Culture, and everything which goes to develop body and mind should have a place in the curricula of our schools, where the future manhood and womanhood of this country is being trained for citizenship. It would be a national crime to take the child at an impressionable age and train him for other than a life of usefulness and service to mankind. Let us not repeat Germany's mistake.

Canada has done well in the great conflict. It was her duty and she saw it. But now that we have purchased, at an awful price, the opportunity to beat our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks, let us train our children in the use of those tools, rather than in the heinous implements of war.

Surely the Minister of Education will not be asked to make military training compulsory in our schools when we are looking forward to, at least, one hundred years of peace.

Britain's Agricultural Policy Discussed.

Now that the peace of the world seems about to be restored, it is appropriate that Canadian farmers should gain some conception of agricultural conditions as they exist after four years of war, in England and France. The attention of our readers is, therefore, drawn to another page of this issue where appears an interview with Dr. G. C. Creelman, Commissioner of Agriculture for Ontario, recently returned from a ten weeks' trip in the United Kingdom and France. Dr. Creelman has presented, to the readers of "The Farmer's Advocate," a very comprehensive survey of agricultural conditions in these countries, together with some very interesting details as to the work and objects of the Canadian Khaki University.

The matter therein presented is all the more worthy of study by Canadian farmers, since there is pictured a probable condition of affairs, strikingly different from that which has been expected in some quarters. As Commissioner of Agriculture and President of the Ontario Agricultural College, Dr. Creelman should be in a position to interpret the signs of the times, as read from rural opinion in England and the views of Britain's men of affairs, as no other man; and his eight weeks spent in Great Britain, added to two weeks in rural France, much of this time spent in company with men from the United States on the same mission as himself, should be a sufficient guarantee as to the accuracy of his information. We wish particularly to draw attention to what is said regarding Great Britain's future agricultural policy, as it is this policy which may make easy or difficult the path of the Canadian farmer. Of direct interest also is the light thrown on the work of the Khaki University, that institution fostered by the Canadian Government for the re-education of Canadian veterans of the Great War, until they shall have been demobilized.