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**MUCH STOCK AND
FEED MOVED UNDER
FREE FREIGHT ACT**

**Farmers and Smaller Stockmen
Have Taken Advantage of Free
Freight Concessions.**

Farmers and the smaller stockmen have taken full advantage of the free freight concessions which were in effect this fall for the movement of feed, stock and hay outfits. From August to September, figures which have been prepared by E. C. Bain, markets representative livestock branch, Edmonton, show that there were from August, special relief tariff cases into effect, and to the end of November, 6,338 cars of feed shipped to various points with the rates to which the special rate applied. For the same period there were 54 cars of stock shipped to feeding grounds and locations where there had been preparations made for carrying them over the winter. There were a number of farmers and stockmen who went up to the districts where there was hay available and during August and September 235 outfits were transported, of which there were 69 returned up to the end of November.

Following are detailed returns of the movements:

Month	No. cars
August and September	1,258
October	1,840
November	3,170
Total	6,338

Month	No. outfits
August and September	119
October	147
November	278

Haying Outfits.
Returned Haying Outfits,
August to November 30th, 60

**DANTES' INFERNO
REALIZED IN MODERN
SELFISH INTERESTS**

Dantes tells in the opening part of the Inferno that he saw outside the gates of Hell a walling company, denied entrance everywhere and doomed to misery and isolation wherever they were. He asked who they could be and was told that they were the people who on earth had never been willing to take sides on anything except with a view to their own interests. They had let great chances go unexploited while looking out for their own safety and comfort. They had responded to no moral challenge on the earth, and now, where moral balances are struck, they had no place. Hell could not admit them, lest the damned get glory from them; they had no virtue which purgatory could bring forth; Heaven could not admit them for lack of any value. The one for whom the social system has no challenge is no use anywhere in the universe.—Halifax Citizen.

The Farm Page

Rural Life in Alberta

By MRS. LEONA R. BARRITT

Being an address delivered at the convention of the Social Service Council in Edmonton.

I am much pleased to be given a place on your program as a representative of Rural Alberta. When I think of my responsibility in this connection I am reminded of Portia when her lover had made a choice of the casket containing her portrait, and to paraphrase her words, "For this occasion I would be twenty times myself; a thousand times more wise, ten thousand times more eloquent." Yet if I succeed in calling attention to our needs as I and others who live and work in rural communities see them, I shall have fulfilled my mission here this afternoon. And just here let me remind you that you do not know rural Alberta, nor rural life anywhere if you only see it from the steering wheel of a motor car, or even if you visit us occasionally, so long as you bring your own particular squint along with you.

Not long ago I read an article in one of the Edmonton papers, which contained these two sentences: "Canada's prosperity depends upon her live-up-to-date towns. Canada's future depends upon the prosperity of her towns and cities." Needless to say, it was written by the Secretary of the Dominion Retail Merchants' Association.

Now I ask you is that true? Is it true of western towns and cities? Is it true of small towns anywhere? For depth of reasoning it is on the same plane as another remark of which I was told. A man from Detroit was discussing industrial unrest, and was blaming the high cost of living on the price the farmers were asking for their produce and he said, "Now what would the farmers do if the city people refused to buy their produce?"

What are the facts of the case? The prosperity of Canada depends upon the development of her wheat fields, first and foremost, then of her mines and other great natural resources. The prosperity of the towns, particularly of the western towns and cities, is only an evidence of the prosperity of the country, wholly dependent upon it, and not in any sense the cause of that prosperity. According to the 1911 census the rural population of Canada exceeded the urban by some 609,000. In Alberta, according to the same census, the rural population was nearly a third greater than the urban. This means that, according to these returns, more than half the entire population of Canada, and considerably more than half the population of Alberta live on the land. The most important industry of Canada is agriculture, and for this western country, no one can travel from here to Winnipeg and not be impressed by the fact that the mission of the prairies is to feed the world.

How Rural Life Has Been Regarded.
But how has rural life been regarded? Until the war, and more recently the Ontario elections, brought us into prominence, we were the submerged half. We have the schools, the hospitals, the churches, the poorest, but most expensive, medical attention, the most poorly developed social life, the fewest of the conveniences which are supposed to accompany civilization, and the longest hours of labor of any class of people in Canada. Two years ago a gentleman who is a successful farmer, and a true lover of rural life, said to me: "If I had ten sons, not one of them should ever be a farmer; and if I had ten daughters, not one of them should ever marry a farmer." And why? Because economically he is exploited, and socially he has no status. I do not say that it is entirely other people's fault that such conditions exist, but I do say that agriculture has not had the consideration it should have had as a basic industry, nor has the dignity been attached to it that should be attached to the most important industry of a great country. It is a matter of education; and our governments, schools, colleges, universities and churches have all been to blame.

A Dominion government report published not long ago had this to say: "Farm women now spend so much time on social affairs that they have lost the art of making jams and jellies as their grandmothers did. The result is a great economic loss to the country. A clever man copied that report and added a few verses, of which I shall quote one: 'The farmer's wife in the early days was wholly free from nerves— Twelve hours a day she'd slave away at putting up preserves; Six children dangling at her skirts, a seventh on her arm. She gamely set herself to wipe the mortgage off the farm; But now she sometimes visits round.

(Continued in Next Week's Issue)

Fools brag—where wise men only admit.

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DAIRYMEN WILL HOLD CONVENTIONS IN FEBRUARY

Three Annual Provincial Associations Will Hold Meetings During That Month.

February is to be the big month for the dairymen of the west, for there are three annual provincial associations to hold meetings during that month. Edmonton will be the meeting place for the members of the Alberta association, and the date is the last one of the three being set for February 24 and 25. Manitoba is immediately preceding it, and set for February 18 and 19, and will be held in Winnipeg. Saskatchewan association has set three days for the convention this year, which is to be held in Moose Jaw and for which Percy M. Reed, provincial dairy commissioner, with the active co-operation of the directors of the association have made arrangements for a very elaborate program.

The Saskatchewan convention will be addressed by a number of the most prominent dairy authorities and officials on the continent, among them being: Hon. C. A. Dunning; Prof. R. M. Washburn, St. Paul, Minn.; J. A. Roddick, Ottawa; D'Arcy Scott and P. C. Runnick; Goe H. Barr, chief of the dairy division, Ottawa, and A. P. Shade, Vancouver, will be judges of the butter competitions. W. H. J. Tisdale, of the University of Saskatchewan, will conduct the boys' and girls' dairy cattle judging competitions, while the butter judging competitions will be conducted by Prof. MacKay.

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