Conservation

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British Scheme for Industrial Research

Advisory Council will Co-operate with Manufacturers

Great Britain is making vigorous efforts to hold her own in commerce. No stone is being left unturned to assure her a leading place in trade and industry. The British Advisory Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has established a fund of £1,000,000 to encourage industries to carry on scientific research. Naturally, "much will depend on how this money is spent". It has been recognized that the war has made it essential that assistance should be given manufacturers in this important work. The Council point out that it is desirable to "avoid chaining the manufacturer to the routine of Government administration, however efficient". After much consultation and deliberation, the Research Department has recommended that the new fund should be expended on a co-operative basis in the form of liberal contributions towards the income raised by voluntary associations of manufacturers established for the purpose of research. By this method the systematic development of research and the co-operation of science with industry will be carried out under the direct control of the industries themselves. It is hoped by this means to enable research to be carried out co-operatively which could not be attempted by individual firms. Every effort will be made to prevent duplication of effort on the part of the various associations of manufacturers.

It is intended that each firm subscribing to a research organization will have the following privileges: (1) It will have the right to put technical questions and to have them answered as fully as possible within the scope of the research organization and its allied associations. (2) It will have the right to recommend specific subjects for research, and if the Committee or Board of the research organization of that industry consider the recommendation of sufficient general interest and importance, the research will be carried out without further cost to the firm making the recommendation, and the results will be available to all the firms in the organization. (3) It will have the right to the use of any patents or secret processes resulting from all researches undertaken either without payment for licenses, or at any rate on only nominal payment as compared

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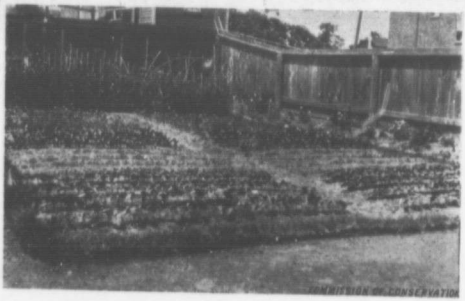

WAR GARDENS SHOULD NOT BE DEMOBILISED.

Do not demobilise your war garden. It should be put on the strength of the permanent forces of production. Gardening not only increased the food supply during the war, but it also added much to the total of human health and happiness. It is an institution that should be kept on a war footing.

Cut No. 184

Making Small Farms Pay Living Wages

What One Owner of Fifty Acres Has Succeeded in Doing

The experience of Mr. Arthur Christie of Winchester, Ontario, is a noteworthy illustration of the value of intelligent business-like methods in the handling of a small farm.

Mr. Christie writes as follows:

"When the Commission of Conservation selected our 50-acre farm for illustration work, we decided to try to ascertain whether or not it was possible to make a small farm pay the farmer a living wage. We made up our minds to follow the Commission's instructions with respect to selecting and sowing varieties of the different grains best suited to our particular locality and also to practice intensive cultivation.

"We had an ordinary herd of pure bred and high grade Ayrshire cows. We tested and weighed the milk, weeding out the unprofitable cows, until we had a fairly good herd. During the summer of 1917, we gave the land a thorough cultivation, wherever possible, and tested the different varieties of oats to find out the varieties best suited to our soil. We also seeded our fields heavily with red and alfalfa clover, in fact, we seeded all our cereal crops, whether we intended leaving them for hay or not. We hauled every bit of manure to the field daily and spread it directly on the land, and, when the spring of 1918 came around, we were ready for our trial. The season being favourable, we obtained the following results: 11½ acres of hay yielded 26 loads; 11½ acres of grain, composed of oats, wheat and barley, gave us 25 loads of sheaves, which threshed 700 bushels of grain; 6 acres of silage corn yielded 120 tons of silage and green fodder; 2 acres of

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Maintain Pulpwood Forest

The Abitibi Power & Paper Company Ltd., intends to begin a re-forestation programme this year and has asked for the co-operation of the Commission of Conservation in this work. The Commission has been co-operating with the Riordon Pulp & Paper Company and The Laurentide Company Ltd. for one and two years respectively in re-forestation work, and considerable headway has been made. The intitial studies have concerned the rate of re-forestation of cut-over pulpwood lands under natural conditions. Investigations to date point to the fact that it will take from 50 to 100 years for spruce and balsam to grow to merchantable size on these cut-over lands, whereas lumbermen have thought that reforestation would take place in about 30 years. Another disquieting feature the investigations have disclosed is the fact that where the pulpwood species are cut down, the new growth is predominately hardwood for which, as yet, there is little market. These scientific facts are of paramount importance both to the pulp and paper industry as well as to the governments concerned, which have always drawn large revenues from the forests.

Larger Loans Made For Better Houses

Government Anxious to Encourage the Use of Better Building Materials

One result of the co-operation of the Commission of Conservation with the Housing Committee is that there has been introduced into the recommendations to be made by the Federal Government something that will help to avert a certain amount of fire waste which goes on in connection with houses. The Government of Ontario limits the amount which may be spent on a house to $3,000. The result will inevitably be that cheaper material will be used, and in the Commission's recommendation to the Dominion Government it was suggested that, for a frame house with brick veneer or frame house with stucco and shingle roof, the loan be for $3,000 if the house contains four or five rooms, and for $3,500 if there be six or seven rooms; and that if the house be built of brick, stone or concrete with fireproof roofing material, the loan be $4,000 for three or four rooms, and $4,500 for six or seven rooms, the period of repayment being thirty years instead of twenty, at five per cent. The result will be that every man who wants to build a properly constructed house not only can get a larger sum, but can get it on the same monthly repayment plan as that of which the man who builds the cheaper house has the benefit. In other words, a man can get $4,000 for thirty years on the same monthly re-payment plan as the man who builds the cheaper house can get $3,000 for twenty years. Of course, the payments in the case of the larger loan extend over a longer period, but the owner has a house of more durable construction. That principle has now been adopted and will be a direct recommendation by the Dominion Government. In adopting these recommendations the government is taking a forward step in recommending the adoption of town planning principles in connection with housing schemes and in furthering these measures to secure the best methods of construction.—*T. A.*

Out of 100 average healthy men at 25 years of age, statistics prove that at 65 years, 36 will be dead, 1 will be rich, 4 wealthy, 5 still supporting themselves by work, while 54 of the 100 will be depending on friends, relatives or charity.

—*Safety Engineering.*