

# THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

Organization · Education · Co-operation

Winnipeg Man

May 2, 1917

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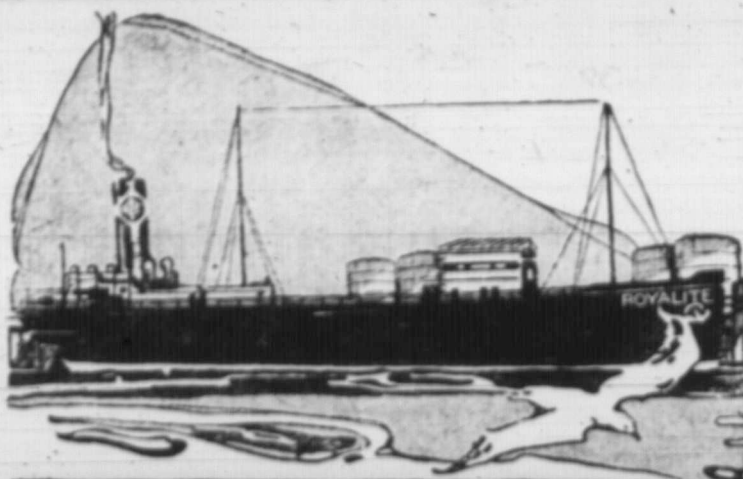


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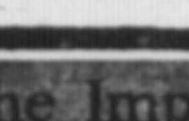


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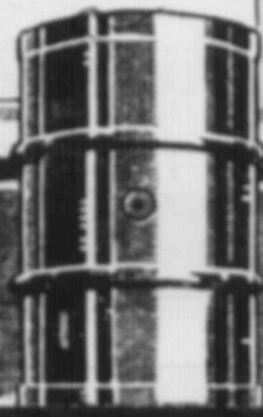
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THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

"Equal Rights to All and Special Privileges to None"  
A Weekly Journal for Progressive Farmers

Published under the auspices and employed as the official organ of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association and the United Farmers of Alberta.



The Guide is the only paper in Canada that is absolutely owned and controlled by the organized farmers—entirely independent and not one dollar of political, capitalistic or special interest money is invested in it.

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Children love Jelly Roll just like *this*—

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- light and daintily digestible.
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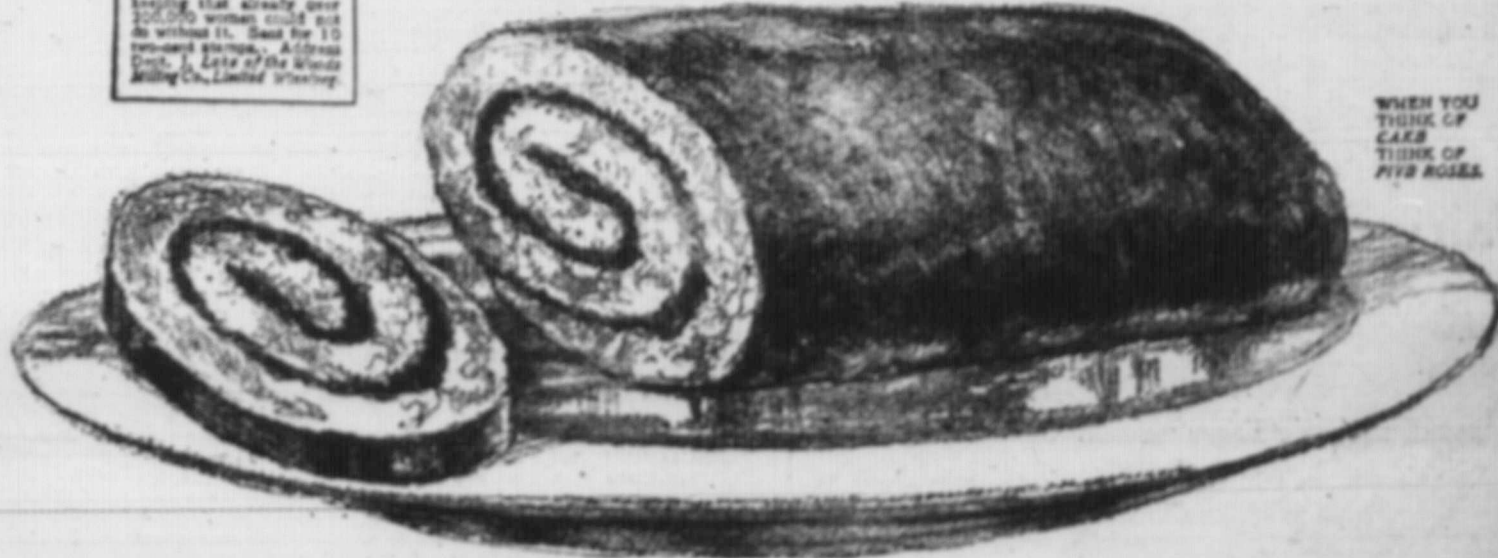
The strength and fineness of FIVE ROSES flour hold the batter together in the long, well-greased pan, promising a uniform raising in the oven. Its elasticity allows the quick, faultless rolling so essential.

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# Our Ottawa Letter

(By The Guide's Special Correspondent)



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Many tests have been made, the result of all pointing to the fact, in Ford engines, of an oil of a little more viscosity than that of other oils for other engines. The advantage of this appears to be that whatever part of the lubricating oil works up into the expansion chamber is turned up without delay, and flows out through the exhaust, preventing any trouble from carbon deposit on the cylinder walls as a heavier oil might do.

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**EXTRA LOW OFFER**

- 906H470. 1 Gal. Tin, EATON Ford Auto Oil ..... 70
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So good for Ford Cars it is Used by the Manufacturers Themselves

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Ottawa, April 25.—This has been budget week at the capital. Tariff and trade matters have held first place in parliament. To some extent the situation has been clarified. Speculation as to the adoption by the government of some modification in its general tariff policy has been somewhat general. When free wheat was announced, as a war measure, many people thought it would be followed by a number of tariff changes, and the prediction was freely made that they would include free agricultural implements. This feeling prevailed pretty generally until Monday afternoon when Archie McCoig, of West Kent, moved to have farm tractors placed on the free list as an encouragement to production.

The reply made by Sir Thomas White, minister of finance, indicated quite clearly that the government still adheres to its general policy of protection for Canadian industries. Mr. McCoig was told that tractors could not be admitted free because they are manufactured in Canada. In this respect they differed from ditching machines which came in free. The house naturally interpreted the minister's statement as applying generally to all manufactured articles and expectation as to tariff changes was lessened. Nevertheless, Sir Thomas's one sentence announcement in his budget speech: "We have no tariff changes to propose," came as quite a surprise to the house. "I thought that beans would at least be placed on the free list," one member remarked. This observation was due to the fact that Mr. McCoig had asked also for free beans and Sir Thomas had asked him to wait for the budget.

#### More Profits to be Taken

The budget established a record in two different ways. The figures of revenue, expenditure and trade were the largest in the history of the Dominion, while the new proposals it contained were down to the irreducible minimum of one. The single proposal made was, however, popular because it was designed to increase the taxation of those best able to pay, the munition makers and other big business concerns which are making abnormal profits. Under the business war tax of a year ago profits in excess of seven per cent. are taxed to the extent of 25 per cent. This will still prevail up to 15 per cent. profits. In addition the government will now take one half of all profits between 15 and 20 per cent, and three-fourths of the profits beyond 20 per cent. The increased business taxes are expected to produce a big addition to the revenue, but the returns will probably not be so big as if this rate of taxation had been fixed a year ago when profits were larger than they are at the present time. Under the legislation of last year partnerships and ordinary business houses are exempt up to ten per cent. as compared with seven for incorporated companies. This provision still remains in force.

#### Free Tractor Proposal Rejected

The debate on Mr. McCoig's resolution calling for duty free farm tractors produced the first division of the session, the motion being rejected on a division of 48 to 28, a government majority of 20. Mr. McCoig moved: "That, in the opinion of this house, on account of the urgent need of greater production of foodstuffs and the admitted shortage of farm labor, tractor engines suitable for all kinds of farm work, which will be of great assistance to producers, should be admitted into Canada duty free." Mr. McCoig told the house that in his part of the country fields containing 400 acres would be left uncultivated unless tractors could be secured. The government of Ontario had purchased ten tractors with which to help the farmers and the Dominion government could help a great deal by immediately removing the duty. J. G. Turriff asserted that hundreds of large tractor engines of a type not made in Canada are being used in the west. They can do the work of eight or ten horses and a removal of the duties would be a great benefit to the farmers of the

prairie provinces. The joint appeals from east and west had no effect however, Sir Thomas White said that the Massey Harris people were making a small tractor and that they were being made in Brantford and elsewhere. He argued that if tractors were allowed free entry the raw materials which enter into their construction would also have to come in duty free. Mr. McCoig proposed to restrict free entry to the duration of the war, but that proposal was not accepted and the motion was voted down.

#### Propose Permanent Free Wheat

The most important development of the budget to date from the standpoint of the western farmer, has been the introduction of an amendment by J. G. Turriff in respect to free wheat. It is as follows:

"This house desires to take the earliest opportunity of expressing its pleasure that the government has at last yielded to the persistent demands of the grain growers of the west, as frequently set forth by delegations and resolutions of the representatives of the farming interests, and repeatedly voiced by the liberal party in the house, by placing wheat, wheat flour and semolina on the free list, and thereby securing a free market for wheat and wheat products in the United States.

"This house is of the opinion that if the policy of free wheat is made permanent it will enormously increase the prosperity of the west and be to the general advantage of the whole Dominion.

"In order that the country may be assured of such permanency and that the action of the administration is not a mere temporary expedient which may be revoked at any time by the government without reference to parliament this house would urge upon the government the desirability of submitting early in the present session a measure to place by statute wheat, wheat flour and semolina on the free list, and thereby encourage the farmers to engage in the largest wheat production possible."

The likelihood of the question of the permanency or otherwise of free wheat as provided for by order-in-council under War Measures' Act, being the subject of difference of opinion and debate in parliament, was foreshadowed in this letter last week. The accuracy of the prediction is made manifest by Mr. Turriff's amendment and by the fact that this point had already been the subject of acrimonious debate. The chief speech since the amendment was moved from the government side has been made by Hon. Arthur Meighen, who maintained that the order-in-council has all the permanency of an act of parliament. In this view he is supported by Sir Thomas White. Mr. Meighen's speech on the budget excited more than ordinary interest because the members were anxious to hear what he would say about free wheat. Mr. Meighen did not depart in any degree from his previous attitude as to the desirability of free wheat under normal conditions, although justifying the action of the government in view of present conditions created by the shortage of shipping, the demand for wheat in the United States and the necessity of providing a market for the large quantities of low grade wheat still in the hands of the farmers in the west. The solicitor-general maintained that the arguments advanced in the past against the reciprocity agreement and free wheat were wholly justifiable. He asserted that the Liberals were responsible for the agitation in the west which has led the majority of farmers to believe that they would be benefited by free wheat. He quoted market quotations before and after the bringing into effect of the free wheat order-in-council to prove that what had happened had been just what it was predicted would happen by the opponents of reciprocity and free wheat. Incidentally Mr. Meighen denied the existence of a millers' combine and argued that did such a combine exist The Grain

Continued on Page 38

# The Brain Growers' Guide

Winnipeg, Wednesday, May 2, 1917

## CORPORATION TAX INCREASED

Finance Minister White in his budget speech at Ottawa last week announced that the tax on corporation profits would be greatly increased. At the present time corporations capitalized at over \$50,000 are taxed 25 per cent. on all profits over 7 per cent. of their paid up capital. The new tax will be in addition to the old one and will take one half the profits earned by corporations over 15 per cent. and up to 20 per cent. All corporations making more than 20 per cent. profits will pay three-quarters of their excess profits into the public treasury. No distinction is made between manufacturers of munitions and any other corporation, which is hardly just and fair. The new tax will undoubtedly produce a considerable increase in revenue and it is very easy to collect. A tax on the profits of corporations is a sound principle and is a splendid step in the right direction. The chief criticism is that it is two years overdue. Munition manufacturers have been making as high as 500 per cent. profit and have been getting away with most of it. The farmers' platform advocates the corporation tax and the farmers' companies will pay very heavily under the new system. The farmers' companies are all honestly capitalized and have not one cent of watered stock. There will be a large number of corporations in Eastern Canada earning immense profits who will pay very little if any of the corporation tax because their stock has been watered to such an extent that their profits will not show at large percentages. True the government is supposed to squeeze the water out when collecting these taxes, but we imagine that the squeezing will be merely a polite fiction.

No tariff changes were made by the finance minister and the protected interests will still be allowed to retain all the tariff privileges which they have been enjoying in the past. It is quite plain that the only method by which the tariff can be reduced is for the farmers of Canada and others who object to the high cost of living to poll their votes in favor of candidates who will stand for a lower tariff.

Sir Thomas White declined to consider an income tax because it would be too expensive to collect and those with big incomes had already subscribed to the war loan and were thus exempt from income tax. This is one of the iniquitous features of the war loan. The wealthy men of Canada are subscribing to it very largely and under the terms of the loan the income derived from it cannot be taxed for any purpose whatever until the expiration of the loan twenty years hence. The men with big incomes in Canada will be well pleased that they are not to be compelled to part with any of it during this time of national sacrifice.

The finance minister did not mention the organized farmers' proposal to place a direct tax upon land values. Hundreds of millions of dollars worth of idle land throughout Canada is paying not one cent of taxation for war purposes, yet this war is being fought for the protection of that property as well as for the protection of any other property. The speculators who are holding this land idle are not paying their fair share of this country's taxation. This tax would be very easy to collect and the cost would be practically nothing as the same municipal machinery now in existence could collect the taxes.

Neither was any provision made for taking an inheritance tax from large estates. This would have provided some additional revenue and would cost nothing extra to collect because each province has the machinery already in operation. It would also help to break up those big fortunes in Canada which are rapidly becoming a great menace to democratic de-

velopment. It is only by educational work among the people that the government can be forced to tax those people who have large fortunes accumulated through special privileges. Equitable taxation in Canada has been unknown in the past, but it must come if there is to be developed a general prosperity throughout the land.

## MANITOBA'S NEW ELECTION LAW

It is difficult to keep elections honest and straight. As long as government by the party system prevails crooked elections will prevail. The crookedness may vary in amount from the wholesale debauchery of the electorate to isolated cases, but it will still be evident. That will not deter lovers of good government, however, from continuing to fight for square dealing at the polls. Unfortunately election laws are not always drafted with the object of assisting them in that fight. They are too frequently made by politicians to serve party ends and so constructed as to make prosecution for election crookedness difficult instead of facilitating it. There is an outstanding exception in the case of the new Manitoba Elections Act. The old statute has been amended to embody the results of the work of a commission appointed by the legislature during the session of 1916 and which held nine meetings during the recess. The result is that Manitoba has now the best election law in Canada. Several features of this law, a synopsis of which appears on another page, are worth noting. Voters must be identified by their signature before casting their ballots. Individual expenditures and general campaign funds are strictly limited. No donation for campaign funds shall be received from sources outside the province. Registration by proxy is confined to members of the voter's family or his employer or business partner. The disfranchisement of voters by eliminating their names from the register is made impossible. The conveyance of voters to and from the polls, except in specified instances, is prohibited. The half holiday on election day leaves every voter free to exercise his franchise. Experience will probably show that there are places where the law can be improved, but the electors of Manitoba have now in their hands an instrument by which they can practically eliminate political duplicity on election day if they will but see that it is rigidly enforced.

## INSURE YOUR CROP

It is a pretty well demonstrated fact that no district in Western Canada is immune from hail. Whatever doubt there was about that was rather well dispelled by last year's experience. The line insurance companies operating in Saskatchewan last year lost nearly \$1,000,000 over and above the premiums received, while the premiums of the Hail Insurance Commission fell very far short of the tremendous losses sustained. Alberta fared better, but there too the line companies lost about \$150,000 and the Hail Commission a very large sum. Indeed very few companies made any money. No one dreamed of such hail losses. They were unprecedented. No farmer can really afford to take the risk of doing without hail insurance this year. With seed wheat that cost \$2.50 a bushel, oats 70 cents and barley over \$1.00 the loss would be too great. For many farmers this may mean the year of finally clearing up debt and getting on an independent basis. The crop should be insured for enough to cover seed, labor, interest and other fixed charges at least. Banks advocate the carrying of such insurance to avoid gambling with the weather, and no

farmer should feel any diffidence about approaching his banker to arrange for the credit necessary for this purpose.

## FARM LOAN BOARDS

The new farm loan board for the administration of the government mortgage system in Manitoba has been announced. The chief commissioner, Lachlan MacNeil has had long experience in the loaning business and is well acquainted with Manitoba conditions. The government was wise in selecting a practical man instead of a politician for such an important post. Another member of the board, J. S. Wood, vice-president of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, will command the respect and confidence of the farmers throughout the province. He is the only farmer on the board, which is unfortunate as it would have been very advisable to have had at least another practical and representative farmer connected with an institution which is designed solely for agricultural betterment. The new system is organized and ready for operation and should produce very much improved conditions in the farm mortgage business throughout Manitoba.

The Saskatchewan farm loan board comprises Colin Fraser, manager of the loan department of the Mutual Life Assurance Company, as chief commissioner, and J. H. Grayson, Moose Jaw, and J. O. Hettle, Saskatoon, all of whom are financial men. Mr. Fraser is a man of considerable experience and is well in touch with the mortgage business in the province. Apparently there are to be no farmers on the Saskatchewan board. Probably this matter in both provinces will be remedied in the future. It is announced that no loans will be made in Saskatchewan until after the election, which will be held in a few weeks. The Alberta board has not yet been announced nor whether loans will be made before the Alberta election, which will probably be held this summer.

## WAR IN REAL EARNEST

The British and French on the west front are driving the Germans back step by step and the heavy casualty lists received daily show the enormous sacrifice of life that is necessary to accomplish this great purpose. Reports from Germany show great unrest among the people and a very decided food shortage. If the Germans will follow the example of the Russian people and depose the Kaiser and the Hohenzollern family it will be possible to make peace on reasonable terms, but if it is left for the allies to settle with the Kaiser and his war lords the war will undoubtedly last for some time yet. There has been considerable uneasiness over the possibility of Russia concluding a separate peace with Germany, but the latest pronouncements by the new Russian government are to the effect that they will fight to a finish. The Russians have plenty of men, but are short of munitions and transportation facilities. If the other allies can supply this deficiency they can increase the pressure on Germany and Austria and consequently shorten the war. The American commission now on the way to Russia is to aid in this work. The United States is preparing to take a real part in the war. General Joffre, the great French military leader and really the biggest figure in the war, is now in Washington conferring with President Wilson. At the same conference is the Right Honorable Arthur Balfour, representing the British government. What plans will be laid will no doubt be kept secret, but we may rest assured that when these men get together the Kaiser has good reason to be worried.

FREE WHEAT PERMANENT

In discussing the order-in-council by which wheat and wheat products were placed on the free list, Sir Thomas White stated in parliament last week that the order-in-council had precisely the same effect as an act of parliament. He further stated that these items would remain on the free list until changed by act of parliament and produced authority from the deputy minister of justice in support of his contention. This seems to cover the situation thoroughly and should be all that is required. Parliament of course has authority to change the duty on any item at any time.

DIRECT LEGISLATION

At the big Liberal convention held in Moose Jaw some few weeks ago in preparation for the provincial election there was no discussion on the subject of Direct Legislation and it is not mentioned in the platform of the party. This is a serious omission. Direct Legislation was in the platform of both the Liberal and Conservative parties in Saskatchewan prior to the last provincial election. After the election a Direct Legislation bill was put on the statute books. It was then put to a referendum of the people, but with restrictions which killed the bill. The restrictions were of such a character as to justify the belief that it was intended that the bill should be killed. If the people of Saskatchewan and the Grain Growers' Associations really want Direct Legislation it will be necessary for them to be active, because if it is not made a subject of discussion during the campaign both parties will rightfully feel that there is no great demand for it on the part of the people. Direct Legislation should have a place on the statute books of every province. It is one of the finest pieces of democratic machinery that has been invented and it will help amazingly to put our public life upon a higher and cleaner basis.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND WAR

The greatest American, Abraham Lincoln, said, when the Civil War was almost over—

"Yes, we may all congratulate ourselves that this cruel war is nearing its close. It has cost a vast amount of treasure and bloodshed; the best blood of the flower of American youth has been freely offered on our country's altars, that the nation might live. It has been, indeed, a trying hour for the republic, but I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of war corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people, until all the wealth is accumulated in a few hands and the republic is destroyed. I feel in this moment more anxiety for the safety of my country than ever before, even in the midst of war. God grant that my suspicions may prove groundless."

Lincoln's suspicions have not proven groundless. They have become living realities in the life of the American republic. What he said at that time might be repeated today without one iota of change. Graft and exploitation during the Civil War laid the foundation of many enormous American fortunes and the program is being repeated in Canada today.

It is to be hoped farmers will be able to combine to take full advantage of the new Livestock Encouragement Act in Alberta. By this act five farmers by signing a joint note and thereby becoming jointly responsible are able to purchase livestock on government security up to the value of \$500 each. There are of course certain rules to be followed and certain supervision is necessary, but the machinery is comparatively simple and should be readily adaptable. It should help to give those farmers with available feed, but no money, a chance to make greater use of some of the natural advantages which surround them and which in the past have too often counted as disadvantages.

The Dominion Millers' Association at a

meeting held last week discussed free wheat and was not fully decided whether to accept it as a temporary measure or to oppose it generally. It is quite evident that the government has decided that the political strength of the Western farmers is greater than the political strength of the millers. The right thing for the millers now to do is to join with the organized farmers and use their united strength to have the tariff removed from other articles which enter into the cost of milling and the cost of living.

We imagine President Wilson will prosecute the war just as vigorously and with the same ability that he has endeavored to remain at peace. Germany before the war had a population of 65,000,000 and Austria 55,000,000. The United States alone brings against them a population of over 100,000,000 and with resources and wealth practically equal to Germany and Austria combined.

It is announced that the new federal grading system in the United States will entirely replace the individual state system of grading. The wheat grades have already been promulgated and will take effect in Minneapolis very shortly. There will be considerable difference between the new grades and the Canadian grades.

Of the taxation proposals in the platform of the organized farmers the government has accepted only the graduated corporation tax. This is the one which hits most heavily the farmers' own organizations.

Has anybody heard of the Economic and Development Commission appointed a year or two ago to revolutionize agricultural methods? It will be remembered that most of the commissioners were financial magnates whose chief experience in agriculture was accumulating the wealth which the farmer created. If the commission has anything to report, we should hear about it soon.

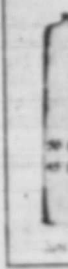


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Flour

# The Problem of Crop Production

## The Factors of Crop Growth, Profitable Production and Agricultural Permanence

By John Bracken, Professor of Field Husbandry, University of Saskatchewan

The control of crop yields and the maintenance of soil productiveness are problems that directly affect the prosperity of both the individual and the state. An increase in net return equal in value to one bushel of wheat per acre on the land at present under cultivation in Western Canada would at 80 cents per bushel pay the whole cost of the general expenditure for purposes of government of the three prairie provinces. The same increase per acre per year for 10 years would pay off the present provincial debts of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and still leave \$80,000,000 to use for other purposes. It would pay off the total mortgage indebtedness of every farmer in Western Canada. An increase in net return equal to one bushel per acre would mean that approximately \$15,000,000 additional cash would be made available for that section

plant food or water or heat, but neither is as important to the crop grower for the reason that he finds both provided in very great abundance. It is our business only to regulate the supply so that the soil will contain neither too much nor too little but just the right amount for good tilth.

### Frost as a Limiting Factor

The average number of days between spring and fall frosts, for a period of 10 years in Saskatchewan, varies from 73 in the north-east to 133 in the south-west. The shortest period between frosts during the same length of time was 33 days for the north-east and 101 for the south-west, while the longest frost free period in each of these districts was 112 and 163 days respectively. These figures probably represent the extremes in length of frost free period for most of the present settled area of Western Canada.

It is apparent from these data as well as from actual experience that in northern climates nature sometimes fails to provide enough heat to mature crops without injury from low temperature, in which case man must either add to the supply or take such steps as will offset the danger from "frost." This is one of the two chief difficulties facing the crop grower in Western Canada. There is need for developing a system of "northern farming" for northern regions just as there is need for a system of "dry farming" for dry regions or one of "humid farming" for wet ones.

### Water as a Limiting Factor

Water is generally the limiting factor in crop production in Western Canada. In other words it is the chief cause of low yields. From 250 to 1000 pounds of moisture is extracted from the soil and transpired by the plant into the air in the process of forming one pound of dry organic matter in its tissues. We receive from 12 to 20 inches of water from the clouds annually. The precipitation in most agricultural countries ranges between 10 inches and 150 inches per year. Our supply is small and our need is great. Man must furnish what nature does not supply. Otherwise he must be content with low yields. The efficient utilization of our precipitation for the development of the latent wealth that is in our soil is the biggest material problem Western Canada has to face. She has made some progress towards its solution but much work remains yet to be done.

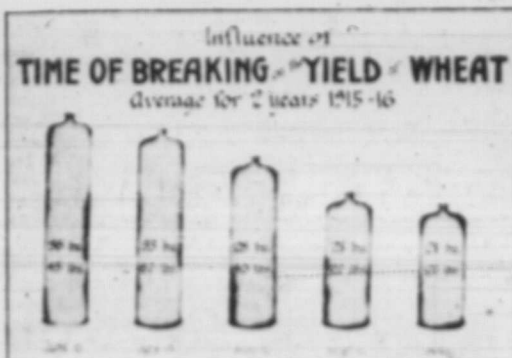
### Plant Food as a Limiting Factor

Of the 80 odd chemical elements known to science 15 may be used by plants but only ten are essential to growth, and of these ten all but four are provided in liberal quantity—the four are nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and calcium or lime. In Western Canada our normal soils are rich in the chemical elements essential to plant growth. We are permitting ourselves to neglect almost wholly

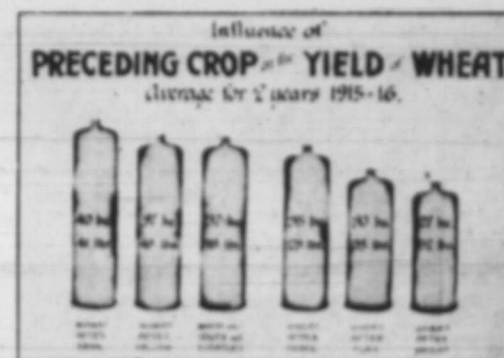
the question of its conservation, yet the maintenance of this generous supply is likely ultimately to be a very serious and difficult problem. At the same time our immediate difficulty is one of developing our resources rather than conserving them. Nevertheless it should be possible for us to do what older agricultural countries have done, viz., conserve our soil resources while still developing them. It would seem to be the part of wisdom to direct more of our energies and resources toward the solution of this difficult question.

### The Importance of Good Seed

The seed we sow may be good or poor. Its vitality may be lessened by frost or other injury, its vigor lowered by disease and exposure and its health and purity affected by disease spores and



How tillage affects yields



How crop rotation affects yields

of the community engaged in supplying the needs—the commercial and in distributing his products—the commercial and industrial interests; while a decrease of one bushel per acre would mean that an equally large amount of mortgages, loans and notes would remain unpaid for at least an additional year.

If one bushel per acre or more of an increase is to be obtained, or even if one bushel or more of a decrease is to be prevented, the man who control our greatest resource, viz., the soil, must know, (1) the factors that are essential for the growth of crops; (2) the factors that affect the profitable production of crops; (3) the factors that affect the permanence of a profitable agriculture. They must not only know but they must put into practice the means at their disposal for controlling or influencing these factors of growth, profit and permanence.

### The Factors of Crop Growth

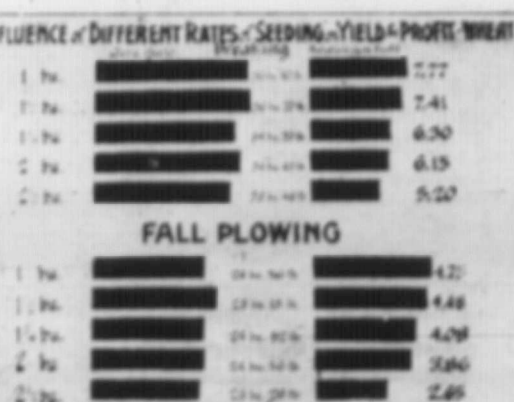
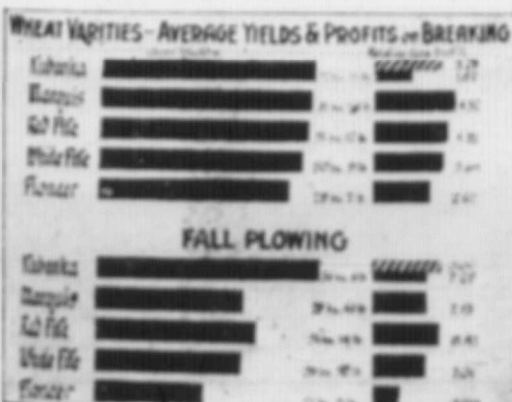
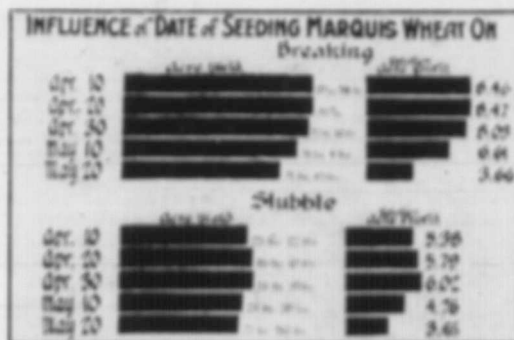
The factors that must be provided before plants can grow are: (1) The seed—which contains the life principle, the reproductive part. (2) Plant food—the chemical elements of soil, water and air that are available to plants and that are necessary for growth. (3) Water—a plant food itself and also a carrier of plant food from the soil to the plant. (4) Heat—without which the life processes of the plant, germination and growth, cannot go on. (5) Light—for the synthesis or building up of organic tissue from the inorganic elements of plant food. (6) Air—which not only supplies a large part of the food of plants but which in small quantity in the soil provides a desirable environment for plant roots and at the same time plays a large part in the development of "available" plant food. Of these light and air are as important to the plant as

weed seeds. It is a man's privilege to see that the seed he uses will germinate and germinate vigorously, that it is free from disease and admixture and that it is of a sort that is suited to the climate and soil where it is to be planted. These are fundamental requirements. They constitute the primary elements of successful crop growing. They are the only things essential in good seed and fortunately for us each quality is absolutely within our power to control. These conditions are all absolutely essential to growth. When each is provided in suitable quantity and in available form, the soil produces abundantly. If any one is lacking, no growth whatever will take place. And it is important to note that the factor that is present in smallest quantity in relation to the need of the crop, will determine the yield. A chain is as strong as its weakest link. The yield of a crop will be as high and no higher than the supply of the limiting factor will permit.

### Factors Affecting Profit

It is not difficult to grow crops. It is not very difficult to grow 40 bushels per acre. But it is a difficult matter to grow crops at a profit, even 40 bushel ones. Suitable crops planted in productive soil according to up-to-date methods do not necessarily yield profitable returns. In order that a profit may be secured not only must all the conditions of growth be provided but the crop must be protected from weeds, which rob it of its plant food and moisture and increase the cost of production; insect, animal and bird pests, which lessen the yield or the quality of the crop, either before or after maturity; plant diseases which nourish themselves on the tissues of plants and thus lessen their yield or quality or both; and severe storms, which

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These illustrations are self-explanatory. Results in chart on left are average for six years, in middle and upper charts, three years.

# Farm Experiences and Problems

## Guide Readers tell of their Success in Growing Alfalfa--Some things to be Avoided

### SIX YEARS' ALFALFA SUCCESS

I have grown alfalfa for six years and the first acre seems to be getting more vigorous each year. It has been thinned out quite a bit by moles and ground squirrels cutting and eating the roots from two to three inches below the ground level (they are very fond of it), but this does not seem to have affected the yield and as the crowns on the plants left have grown so much larger that they pretty well occupy the ground. Although some brome has crept in this does not hurt the hay much.

I have 20 acres of pure alfalfa and 50 acres mixed alfalfa and western rye grass. The 20 acres is grown on rather light soil some of it quite high knolls sloping to the river flats with a southern exposure, consequently it is often bare early in spring and subject to alternate freezing and thawing. The 40 acres of mixed alfalfa and rye grass is on rather heavy, and after rain, a little sticky land. This piece was under water from two to three feet deep for over three weeks last spring and I certainly thought that it was good-bye alfalfa and rye grass as well, but I got over three tons of splendid hay the first cutting. I turned my cows and young stock onto it instead of cutting it a second time as the second cutting of this field would have come in during harvest and I had more hay than I could well attend to with available help. The second cutting would have been as heavy as the first and nearly all alfalfa. About two-thirds of the first cutting was rye grass. It seemed to take the alfalfa a little time to force its way through the sludge left after the water had gone down.

With the exception of the first two or three acres which was sown on summerfallow, I have sown the alfalfa with a nurse crop of barley. It will grow with a nurse crop all right and you do not lose a year but it will not be as vigorous the second year as if sown on summerfallow. After the second year when the roots get down to the permanent moisture I can see no difference. Evidently the nurse crop takes some moisture which would benefit it and I can understand that in a dry season it might crowd it out and kill it. In an average year, however, it will do well with a crop and the stubble seems to hold the snow.

I have not inoculated the soil for alfalfa except two acres. What was inoculated seemed a good deal more vigorous at the start of the second season, but after a little when the uninoculated got established I could see no difference. Any land that will grow the little wild yeast does not seem to require inoculation. It will grow in this district without any.

### Turkestan is Hardy

I have grown Turkestan and it is perfectly hardy here. There may be some varieties a little more leafy but none more hardy. The first acre I sowed I used 20 pounds seed to the acre, but now I believe 10 pounds is sufficient. Where it is thinner the crowns grow much larger and more robust and fill up all vacant ground. Any time in May or June is a good time to sow. If you leave it too late it may not get enough rain to get a good start which is important. I have put in all mine with the drill, it saves seed and you can get it in at a more uniform depth. It is well to leave plenty of top growth the first fall. It also does it good to give it a top dressing with stable manure, but this should be put on with a manure spreader which will put it on evenly and break up all lumps.

### Top Dressing and Cultivation

I top dressed some on high ground knolls after the first cutting and you could fairly see it jump. There was no manure left to speak of to bother at the second cutting. All, or nearly all weathered into

the ground. I strongly believe that top dressing is the way to apply nearly all manure in this country. Harrowing is certainly a benefit after cutting and even the first thing in spring. I disked a piece this



Second Growth Mammoth Alfalfa Ready to Cut.

spring and my boy said it was cut all to pieces, but it was stringier and ranker in growth than that not disked alongside. About four tons is the average yield in two cuttings. Last year I had five tons and then let stock graze on it in the fall. Do not let stock on if possible after rain, especially on heavy land as they do damage by tramping.

The first cutting is ready about June 24. The second, the first week in August or just before harvest. Cut when it is about one-fifth out in bloom. Do not let it get too dry after cutting. If you do, you will lose the leaves which are the most valuable part. Put it in small coils as soon as possible after cutting. If well coiled it will turn quite a bit of rain. The first cutting in June is sometimes a little hard to get in shape but the second cutting may get a little too dry if you leave it a day too long. Do not cultivate alfalfa in the fall but top dress it if you have the manure and time. Cultivate in the spring as this stimulates growth.

JOHN A. ROSS.

Man.

### ALFALFA WILL NOT STAND SHEEP

It is 20 to 22 years since I started growing alfalfa with one pound of seed. There was no particular name for it at that time. I sowed it broadcast in the latter part of May or the beginning of June just before a rain and harrowed it. I kept the weeds down and got a good catch, but had covered too much ground therefore it always was a little thin. The two years I took off two crops I mowed it when in bloom and raked it before it was dry. I then put it in coils and left it to dry. The third year I let it go to seed and I threshed it with a separator but there was a lot of seed that went to waste. With this seed I seeded seven acres with barley on a rolling piece of high, sandy ground. It came up fine. In July and August that year it was hot and dry so on the high places it was killed out and on the low alkali spots it did not do well but where it was not too low nor too dry it did fine. One year I got two bushels of extra good seed and mixed some of it with rye grass, timothy and some clover, sowing

with a crop of oats. This was a failure. The following year I seeded two acres after potatoes, roots and corn with some of my own grown seed. This piece of land drifted so it was plowed up. That was my last seeding. Eight years ago I got sheep and as these patches were not fenced in the sheep soon finished up the alfalfa. They would be on it late in the fall and early in the spring. Sheep will soon kill alfalfa.

A. C. L.

Ruth, Man.

### ALFALFA DOES WELL IN SASK.

My experience in growing alfalfa in Saskatchewan is as follows. I came from eastern Oregon where I had been running stock and where the grasses were getting shorter. I decided to visit the western part of Saskatchewan and found it an ideal stock country, with plenty of running streams, lots of natural shelter and above all nice, short grasses. After being here a short time and seeing the difficulty of getting hay I decided to sow alfalfa. I sowed one plot of three acres which I intended later to irrigate. It grew beyond my expectations, giving two cuttings each year and pasture in the fall for my hogs. Being busy with my other farming operations, I neglected to get irrigation to it and in three years I found that it had gone down to water and did not need surface irrigation. In 1913, I had more land cleaned up, adjoining this piece and sowed to oats in 1914. The oats dried off, while the alfalfa grew a fine crop of hay. The second crop I allowed to go to seed and in spite of the hot, dry weather it made as plump alfalfa seed that I ever saw. Now I must explain how this alfalfa got its water, for alfalfa is a composition of sunshine and water. There is a creek running around this special piece of land, and naturally there is a water level twelve feet from the surface and in three years all but one little knoll had got to water. It took this knoll, with a raise of one foot one more year to reach it. The surface indications plainly showed as there was not much growth on this spot for second crop until the fourth year. This is called sub-irrigation. Now there are hundreds of acres of this same kind of land all over Saskatchewan that will grow five tons of hay in two cuttings.

In 1912 I sowed 12 acres of alfalfa to compete in Saskatchewan government-competition. The terms were that the land was to be sown in 1912 and judged in 1914 and to be sown on dry farming land with no irrigation. I had my land well summer-fallowed and kept it worked until latter end of April. On May 1 I sowed ten pounds of seed per acre with my seed drill, using every hole which sows six inches apart and about one to one and a half inches deep in loose soil. Then I ran the packer over it to level off the ground and make a compact seed bed. On June 1, or 60 days from seeding I cut the first crop. It had made a heavy growth and was 12 inches high. I raked it up and stacked it and it measured three-quarters of a ton per acre. The after growth was left and not being fenced off that fall the stock pastured it so close it would have made a good bowling green. I made a promise to it that I would give it a blanket of straw for winter to hold snow. When winter came I put two loads of straw on one end and then calculated how much more I would have to put on and decided right there that I had neither straw nor time enough so left it to its fate. I burned the straw off in spring and when it started to grow I could not see any difference. Then 1913 was a dry year and it did not grow high enough to cut and the stock pastured it down again. The year for judging,

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Alfalfa may be grown under widely varying conditions, but it does especially well on the Prairie. It is now grown successfully from Texas to the Peace River.

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# Starting Young Stock Out in Life

At Lambing Time---With the Young Pigs -Care of Cow at Calving

Ewes recognize lambs only by smell and voice. Frequently ewes with twins or triplets disown one of the lambs.

This is often due to the stronger lamb which is usually born first, wandering out among the other sheep. Hence it is well in the farm flock to put ewes away by themselves for a short time, until the ewes and lambs become familiar with one another. This of course is not so apt to occur when sheep are outside and during warmer weather. Sometimes ewes with single lambs disown them on account of the lack of milk to support them caused by lack of proper feed before lambing. This is especially true of young ewes.

Once in a while a lamb is born in a weak condition. The careful shepherd is on hand to assist it by lifting it up to its mother's udder, putting the teat into its mouth, and drawing some milk into the mouth with his fingers. This should be repeated until the lamb, after it has once had the taste of milk and has gained strength, is able to stand and drink by itself. Some lambs, although they may be born strong, are unable to find the mother's teat. Ewes sometimes have their udders wrapped up in dense or long wool, which makes it difficult for the lamb to find the teat. In such instances the surplus wool should be removed at once with the sheep shears, and the lamb be assisted at its first meal. In rare cases it also becomes necessary to open up the teat by squeezing out the little wax on the end of it.

Often a lamb has a hard struggle at birth and arrives in this new world almost exhausted, lying without any signs of lung action. Now is the time when one must act quickly to revive the lamb. The first thing is to clean all phlegm out of the mouth. Then one must hold the mouth open, with his two hands and blow gently three or four times into it to start up lung action. Then lay it on its belly and beat it slightly with the two hands, one on each side of its breast right back of the shoulder, and if it does not commence to breathe blow into its mouth again. If there is the slightest bit of life left in the lamb, one can revive it by this method.

If a ewe loses her lamb she may become a step-mother. A lamb may be taken away from another ewe that has more than one lamb, and given to the ewe which has lost her lamb. This can be done by skinning the dead lamb and putting the skin on the lamb that is to be adopted. The odor of the skin of the dead lamb will make the ewe believe that it is her own. This skin must be removed in from 18 to 24 hours, or it may cause the lamb's own skin to decay. Another way is to hold a ewe about every two or three hours and let the lamb suck, and she will own it in five or six days. The ewe that is to adopt the lamb should be put into a small enclosure or tied with a halter so that she cannot hunt the lamb, as otherwise she may kill it. We have often taken lambs that did not get any too much milk from their own mothers and have let them drink the surplus milk of ewes with an overflow.

All newly lambed ewes should be examined for a few days, both in the morning and evening, to see whether the lamb or lambs are taking all the milk out of the udder. It is peculiar that some lambs will only suck on one side of the udder, and the milk which is left on the other side will cake and spoil the udder. Often it takes a number of days for the lamb or even two lambs to use up all the milk. All this surplus milk should be milked out as long as necessary in order to keep the udder from caking.

### Feeding the Ewe After Lambing

Some individual ewes in the flock are naturally heavier milkers than others, and this class is the most profitable to the owner. Where ewes have large udders the udders are very apt to become inflamed and as a result the ewes will have milk fever if precautions are not taken with regard to their feeding. To avoid milk fever feed the ewe but little grain for three days after lambing. The danger of milk fever is over after this time, and the ewe may gradually receive her full allowance of grain again. Roughage and succulent feeds do not cause milk fever and may safely be fed both before and after lambing.

A bad chill or cold, or a wet floor, as well as improper feeding is enough to cause inflammation in the ewe's udder. The best remedy for caked udders is as follows: Upset the ewe and bathe the udder with warm water for about five minutes by means of a woollen cloth. When thoroughly bathed, gently rub it with a dry cloth, and rub in some

melted pure hog lard, using it as warm as the ewe can stand. Mercurial ointment, or so-called "blue ointment," can also be highly recommended. A hot woollen cloth held on the ewe's udder three times a day has also given good results. The milk that has caked in the udder must be milked out as thoroughly as possible each time the application of water and lard is made. Make sure that the ewe has nice dry bedding.

Sore teats on ewes are generally brought about by the lambs. These youngsters often have very sharp teeth and in sucking not only bite the teat and make it sore, but also injure part of the udder. Ewes with udders in this condition refuse to let the lambs suck. When this state of things is first noticed, milk out the milk from the udder at once in order to prevent clogging up and caking. Some vaseline should then be smeared on the sore spots at least three times a day until cured. Take a small file and file the front teeth of the lamb or lambs belonging to the ewe. File them down smoothly and make them somewhat flat on the top so that they cannot bite into the flesh and teats of their mother's udder.

Young lambs are easily taught to drink cow's milk from a bottle with a rubber nipple attached to it and after they have once tasted the milk they will quickly and freely run to the person carrying the bottle. They may also be taught to drink out of a dipper. The reason why so many



Steady morning in the country. Feeding calves whatsmore. Open air, good pasture, enough milk and clean pails help make good calves. An arrangement of this kind saves milk and pasture.

people have been unsuccessful in raising lambs by hand is in most cases that they did not understand the difference between cow's milk and sheep's milk as regards richness and fat percentage. People have a general idea that pure cow's milk is too rich for lambs, but the writer is of a contrary opinion. He knows from analyses of sheep's milk that cow's milk is much lower in fat percentage than sheep's milk.—Frank Klembeinz, Wisconsin Agricultural College.

### STARTING THE YOUNG PIGS

When little pigs are born the attendant should be on hand to see that everything goes well. If the pigs are strong and the sow lies quiet, it is better not to interfere. Sows that have been properly fed and given sufficient exercise seldom have difficulty in farrowing. The pigs should be placed to the teat to suck as soon as possible. The weaker the pigs, or the colder the pen, the more important an early drink of the mother's milk becomes. If parturition is not unduly protracted, and if the pigs are strong, lively and comfortable, they may wait for their first drink until all are born, but in such matters the attendant must use his judgment. As soon as the sow appears to have settled down quietly, it is best to put the little pigs with her and leave them together. It is well not to interfere except when it is absolutely necessary.

By the time the pigs are about three weeks old they will have learned to eat. If at all possible it is a good plan to give them access to another pen in which is kept a small trough. Here

they can be fed a little skim-milk with a very little middlings stirred into it. The quantity of middlings can be increased gradually as the pigs grow older. If they can be taught to nibble at mangels if such are available during this time, so much the better. A small amount of soaked whole wheat, peas or other grain, scattered on the floor of the pen, will cause them to take exercise while hunting for it. If it is not possible to provide an extra pen, the sow may be shut out of the pen while the pigs are being fed. Many people simply allow the young pig to eat with the sow, and many good pigs are raised in this way, but better results will be obtained if the pigs can be fed separately. If the sow is turned out with her pigs, it is not well to give a very large range at first. She is likely to travel too far and unduly tire them.

### Management After Weaning

If the young pigs have been taught to eat as described, and skim-milk is available, they may be weaned successfully when six weeks old. It is true that many pigs are weaned before they are six weeks old. It is seldom advisable to do so if they appear to be thriving with the sow. If skim-milk is not available it is generally advisable to defer weaning for two weeks more, and special pains should be taken to have the pigs well accustomed to their new food and eating heartily before they are weaned.

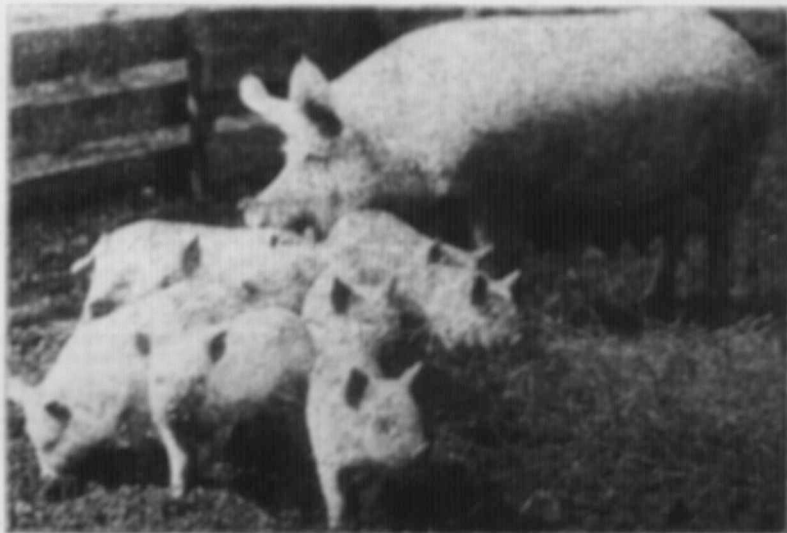
Skim-milk and middlings make about the best food for young pigs after weaning. Soaking or scalding the middlings will also tend to prevent digestive troubles. Scalding the middlings is especially useful when no skim-milk is to be had, as it makes the pigs like the feed better. To scald the middlings, it is best to pour boiling water on them, cover the vessel and allow to stand for several hours, or from one time of feeding to the next. When the pigs are first weaned, it is better to feed four times a day, giving only a small quantity of feed each time, and taking care to keep the trough clean. When well started, they may be changed to three feeds a day. Two parts of middlings and one part of corn meal or ground-barley, mixed with skim-milk to form a slop, make an excellent ration for growing pigs.

The aim should be to develop bone and muscle during the early stages of growth and, while the pigs should be thrifty and sleek in the hair, they should not be fed in such a way as to overload them with fat. This is especially true of pigs which are intended for breeding purposes and which should be carried right through to breeding age upon feeds which stimulate growth and general vigor, rather than fat. A reasonable amount of fat is not objectionable, but the development of the frame, the muscular system, and the vital organs must not be neglected, if a satisfactory breeding animal is to be produced. Variety in feeds and plenty of exercise are very essential features in raising an animal that will possess all-round developments.

### COWS AT CALVING TIME

If the cow has been dry for six weeks and received sufficient feed so that she is in good condition at calving time, there seldom will be any

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A brood of healthy young Yorkshire in good growing condition. With hogs at \$16.00 in Whiting, there isn't much chance of loss in raising swine this year.

# The Country Homemakers

CONDUCTED BY FRANCIS MARION BEYNON

## MERLIN AND THE GLEAM

Not of the sunlight,  
 Not of the moonlight,  
 Not of the starlight!  
 O young Mariner,  
 Down to the haven,  
 Call your companions,  
 Launch your vessel,  
 And crowd your canvas,  
 And ere it vanishes  
 Over the margin,  
 After it, follow it,  
 Follow The Gleam.

—Tennyson.

## FOLLOW THE GLEAM

It is in the spring of the year that The Gleam beckons us all. The crocus noses its eager way through the mat of brown grass, and waves a blue flag of hope and encouragement to the restless discontented spirit. Hard after it come the saucy buttercup, and perky violet, ushering in the long procession of summer flowers, and all the time the birds have been slipping, two by two, into their accustomed places in trees and grass and setting up their mating songs. The cumulative effect of it stirs even the most sluggish human spirit to restlessness and the more adventurous to recklessness. It is then that great projects shape themselves in the mind and that the soul strains hardest at its bonds in the "age-old demand for liberty. As the season advances the gleam grows fainter, and the great majority settle back slowly and regretfully into their harness, a little more dead, and distrustful of The Gleam than they have ever been before. But here and there with every revival of life, some spirit bursts its bonds and hurries out and after The Gleam, which varies in character and brilliance with every mind which conceives it. It may be a new business undertaking, a change of occupation, a pleasure trip or a migration to a new country. It never looks the same to two pairs of eyes.

A book has been built around this idea, "Why Not?" by Margaret Wickhamer. Every person who had seen The Gleam was faced with the question, "Why not?" and mostly no adequate answer could be given. It is safe to say that whatever faults it may have as a literary production this book is never read without a stirring of half dead dreams.

## DIRTY MILK

In every address by a medical authority upon the causes of infant mortality an appalling percentage is laid at the door of dirty milk. While this evil flourishes all the year round it is in the hot months of June, July and August that it gets in its deadliest work. By dirty milk a doctor means milk filled with germs, a few of which may be there before the milking, but by far the greater percentage of which come from the dirty handling of milk.

It is not uncommon for cows to be milked in stables, the floors of which have never been flushed with water in all their years of usefulness, often in windowless and stables with dirt floors, and into which no ray of light ever enters except when the door is opened. The milker comes to his work wearing a sheepskin coat which has served him for months of stable wear, and makes the lazy cow get up out of her manure bed to be milked. In order to facilitate his work he wets her dirty udders with the milk and the dirt drips into the pail. The pail itself has been washed with warm water and wiped with a germicidal dish cloth which is never washed and boiled and dried in the sun like other articles of household use.

In the summer the surroundings of the cow are greatly improved since she lives outside all day and night in the fresh air, and can have nice clean, rain-washed grass to sleep in. But she is milked with the same disregard of cleanliness. The milker still goes to his work with dirty germ-covered hands. The smock or flannelette shirt which has taken the

place of the sheepskin coat, is not any more free from dust, the pail is still dried with the dish cloth after being washed, instead of being thoroughly scalded with boiling water and left to drain. The dirt from the cow's udders is still allowed to drip into the pail.

And the result? Dead babies. Hundreds of innocent little lives sacrificed to the carelessness of adults. It isn't pleasant to contemplate, but it happens on some farms every year. It will happen again this year, and some of this dirty milk will be sent to the cities to poison scores of little babies whose parents are not even personally responsible for the conditions under which it was milked.

FRANCIS MARION BEYNON.

## ON BEING COURTEOUS

Dear Miss Beynon:—I wish Nancy Lee had gone just a step further, in her article on incorrect signatures and asked why so many of our women in writing a note to a neighbor begin "Mrs. Blank." It is



A YOUTHFUL POULTRY FANCIER

merely a courteous form to write "Dear Mrs. Blank" and does not mean Mrs. Blank is dear to our hearts, and it is considered rude to be discourteous.

It is certainly disconcerting to receive a note from a bride whom you have called by her Christian name for years and have it commence "Mrs. Blank" and signed "Mrs. Jones." Now, does the young lady wish me to address her hereafter as Mrs. Jones or was it merely to impress it upon my mind that she was now a "Mrs." Personally, I felt as though it were somewhat insulting; and today one of our club members brought me just such a note, written by another member. Surely, it will not detract from our womanliness if we show just the common forms of politeness which people in ordinary good society deem essential.

Alberta.

A READER

## PANAMA HATS AND GASOLINE IRONS

Dear Miss Beynon:—In The Guide of April 4, I see a mother asking for two little booklets, "How to Teach the Truth to Children," and "The Most Wonderful Story in the World." As I feel myself in the same position as her I am sending 15 cents for them. If you would kindly get them for me as I do not know where they are published.

Also, do you or any of our members know of anything to stiffen a Panama hat. I washed it with soap and water. It is nice and clean but the brim is floppy. It is a good quality Panama so I hate to throw it away. Have any of the members used a gasoline iron and are they quite safe? I intended getting one last summer but a neighbor told me they were not safe, so I did not get it. I have so much

ironing to do in summer that if it is practical it would be a great help to me.

M. B. K.

Alta.

## NEED REFINING INFLUENCE

Dear Miss Beynon:—Having noticed on Home maker's page of Guides of March 14 and April 4, two letters re illustrations of catalogs I should like to thoroughly endorse opinions expressed by "A Reformer" and "Sask." I think all women who know the power and influence exerted on their younger days by refining and elevating environment should do their best to put down this and kindred evils, far too prevalent in our western homes.

Kindly send me the booklets, "How to Teach the Truth to Children" and "The Most Wonderful Story in the World," for which I enclose 15 cents.

AN ENGLISHWOMAN.

Man.

## TOO MUCH TOBACCO FOR SOLDIERS

Dear Miss Beynon:—The most common topic for conversation seems to be the high cost of living. Almost every necessary article of food has been raised in price. I notice, the government of Great Britain is prohibiting the import of certain articles of food, but not one word is said about the valuable space in the ships allotted to tobacco. There is a great cry now about immorality among our soldiers boys in England, and it certainly is regrettable, but why wait until the torch is burning its brightest, before trying to extinguish it. Millions of dollars of our money is spent each year in fighting this torch, namely, by tobacco, often in the form of cigarettes. I am sorry that so many of our Canadian women and women's societies are sending our boys this obnoxious weed. The W.C.T.U. is the only society, which I have noticed, that has raised a voice against it. I will copy what the medical column in one of our daily papers says:

Question:—What harm can come from tobacco? What untoward consequences can come from its excessive use?

Answer:—Tobacco is responsible for many catarrhs of the nose, throat and larynx; nervous heart affections (palpitation and intermittance). Later there may be myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscles); digestive troubles, nausea, gastritis, indigestion, insomnia or nervous tremors, muscular twitchings, and partial or complete, temporary or permanent blindness (amblyopia). In youths, smoking depresses the circulation and causes heart distress at the least exertion; and especially are impaired the powers of concentration and of sustained mental application.

Dr. Jordan, of Leland Stanford University, once said in an address before a Young Men's Christian Association:

"Vice destroys a man's capital in nerves, which means the power to do things. The injuries wrought by vice are on the nervous system. In vice men and women seek for something which does not exist. The brain, and of course, the human mind, which goes with it, is the finest bit of mechanism we have in the world. The brain is made up of centres of energy called cells and when you injure the brain the mind is affected. There is something divine about the brain. No chemist can make a brain cell, and if he could he couldn't put them together so that they would remember and appreciate the marvels of life. There is no place more stupid than a saloon. It takes a sober brain to appreciate philosophy, music, art, athletic pleasures and the highest things in life. It is the virtuous men who are in demand. The sober man rarely neglects his duty. Drink and tobacco ruin the nerves." And Dr. Jordan told literal truth.

Man.

MOTHER OF SOLDIER BOYS

Former President Taft was visiting a Southern home, and after he had gone an old colored mammy was asked what she thought of him. "Well," she replied, "he looks like he'd be regular to his meals, sah."

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AN ORATION ON THE U.F.A.

Following this paragraph you will find an essay which was given orally a few weeks ago by John Cassels, of Calgary, a 16-year-old high school boy and with which he secured first prize in competition with the boys from grade IX of the high school, giving essays on any subject of their own choosing. Some of our locals have been asking for information as to what the U.F.A. has done. It would take volumes to tell it all but this city boy, handicapped as he is through lack of practical connection with the U.F.A. has said a great deal in a little space. Did someone say the U.F.A. has no place in the city? I wonder how many U.F.A. members know as much about their own organization as does this city boy who has nothing but his own sense of observation to rely on.—P.P.W.

Mr. Chairman, Honorable Judges, Ladies and Gentlemen:—The subject on which I have chosen to speak to you today is the United Farmers of Alberta. I chose this because of the vital importance of the agricultural industry to a country with such a vast extent of arable land as Canada has. What more important industry is there in the world? With mining and forestry it supplies the raw material for all other industries. In these days of stirring events it would be easy to find a more exciting subject but none of more importance to Canada or indeed to the entire British Empire.

In spite of its importance, this industry is not encouraged as it ought to be. It certainly was not in the past, for the history of the farmers shows one continual struggle to better their position. It is well known that the farmer has one of the most strenuous occupations and in an average year, gets no great recompense for his labors. This was particularly so in the early years when these western provinces were very thinly populated. Besides, the many outstanding difficulties of the times, such as bad roads, long distances from the railways, and the lack of the comforts which are now common, the farmer had other troubles as great, although less obvious. As time went on, the gradual development of the country, partially overcame these original difficulties, but only brought to the surface the numerous and more subtle enemies against which the farmers had to struggle.

They still had great difficulty in marketing their produce, because of the high freight rates and the advantage taken of them by the large corporations, with which they were obliged to deal. For example, the elevator companies opposed the building of the heading platforms, and any other efforts of the farmers to become more independent of them. Consequently, the farmers were forced to dispose of their grain to the elevators at a lower price than might otherwise have been obtained. The lack of ready money and the hard conditions on which it could be borrowed were other sources of trouble. The implement companies took advantage of this to make time agreements in which an imposition was concealed among elaborate legal phrases. For example: in small letters they would put a clause stating that if payments were overdue a certain time, the farmer's stock or other valuables could be seized.

Against these and many similar troubles, the farmers were helpless so long as they acted only individually. These unfair conditions lasted without remedy till 1909, when acting on the principle that "union is strength" the farmers formed themselves into a body known as the United Farmers of Alberta. This was not an entirely new society, being formed by the amalgamation of the Alberta Farmers' Association and the Canadian Society of Equity. Some of the men instrumental in its formation and well known in the Calgary district were: the late W. J. Tregeilus, the late J. Speakman and E. J. Freeman.

Aims of the U.F.A.

The U.F.A. aims primarily to be an educational organization; that is to say its principal object is the distribution of information on all matters affecting the interests of the farming community, and assisting the farmers in any other possible way to advance the interests of their district or those of the province.

It has now obtained a considerable influence in the legislature, and uses that to bring about improvements in the laws affecting not only the farmers but the people as a whole. From the start it had the good wishes of the farmers all over Alberta but its greatest support came from the mixed farming districts of the north. The majority of its first members came from one or other of the two original societies but with this for a start, it did not take long to get others interested and at the end of the first year they had over 2,000 members spread through 120 active locals.

During that first year, a great deal of work in various channels was under the organization of a body known as fruit in the benefits already obtained and some will have results in the future.

These early successes have been even surpassed by those of later years. The membership shows an increase of over 14,000 since 1910, making an approximate total of 17,000 members. The financial condition compares as favorably with those of former years. Besides these, the last two years have added to the strength of the society by the organization of a body known as the United Farm Women of Alberta. This body will work along the same lines and in conjunction with the U.F.A.—The U.F.A. has now an independent influence on the government since the extension of the franchise to women. The continued steady growth of the U.F.A. shows that it has proved a valuable asset to the communities in which it has been established and being founded on the most democratic principles, its future opportunities are unlimited.

The Movement in Canada

Not only in Alberta are the farmers making their power felt but in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and B.C. similar societies have been formed. Further, the organized farmers of these provinces have formed a representative body called the Canadian Council of Agriculture. The objects of this body are the considering of, and taking united action upon matters where the interests of the Dominion are at stake or where Dominion laws require improvement. That the power of the farmers is recognized by government is shown in their being consulted about the proposed purchase by government of the Canadian wheat crop of 1917. Through their directors, they can investigate matters of interest and submit to parliament any suggestions they think advisable.

Although the U.F.A. does not aim to be a commercial corporation it has had a great share in the formation of the farmers' co-operative societies of which the principal one is the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company. Not only did they advise the farmers to form these societies, but they made it easier for them to do so by getting the Alberta government to pass the Co-operative Trading Societies' Act, which is acknowledged to be one of the best in existence on the American continent. Another act which does them credit is the Canada Grain Act. Far as it is from being perfect, it goes a long way to overcome the difficulties attending grain shipping. Working along these same lines they have been agitating for a government-owned packing plant to give greater facilities for the handling of the livestock trade.

Perhaps the source of greatest trouble to the farmers was the railways. Firstly, being the only means of transporting the produce to a market, they put on exorbitant freight rates which took away all of the little profit which would otherwise have gone to the farmer. Secondly, having the choice of two routes, they chose that which gave them the longest haul. That is, they forced the farmers to ship their produce east, instead of into the B.C. market, by making the rates west so high that it was better for the people of B.C. to buy from the States. As a consequence of these manipulations

many thousands of tons of hay and oats and many thousands of dollars' worth of meat were imported yearly from the United States, which should have been purchased in Alberta. From its earliest existence the U.F.A. has interested itself in this matter and done all in its power to remove these glaring injustices. This was no easy matter, yet their efforts have been attended with a reasonable amount of success. In 1910, an order was issued by the Railway Commission for a general investigation. While it was several years before a decision was given, ultimately an all-round reduction was effected and since then, the association has had the rates still further reduced.

The Farmers and the Manufacturers. The abuses practised by machine companies which have been already mentioned, were overcome in 1913 by a government act regulating such sales with the result that many of the less reliable firms, who were the chief offenders, went out of business. It is hoped that in the near future, the financial conditions which made these deceptions possible, will be removed by the agricultural credit system, which is now being considered by the government.

The U.F.A. can now offer protection to individual members or numbers of members who are suffering unjust treatment at the hands of powerful corporations. In many cases, this can be done merely by an interview or a letter from the secretary, Mr. Woodbridge. But if these methods fail, the farmers have the strength to carry the matter through the courts of justice or before the government. This was shown in their fight with the C.P.R. which resulted in a government re-classification of the irrigable land throughout this district. The great reduction made by the government in the irrigable area makes it evident that the farmers were being taken advantage of and there is little doubt that but for the organization of the U.F.A. the farmers could not have taken such effective action.

It must not be thought, however, that the organization has any intention of setting the farmers in opposition to other interests in the country. Its aim is rather to aid in removing all friction and cause of discord in the work of the nation, and to build up a greater Canada for a freer people. This feeling is expressed by their president, H. W. Wood, when he says, "we must ever be ready to show to all that we are willing to adjust our relationships with all other legitimate classes on a basis of right and justice."

Some of the outside movements with which the farmers have allied themselves and in which their influence has been felt are prohibition and women's suffrage. It is important to notice that direct legislation which was successfully used in the prohibition campaign was first introduced into this province by the U.F.A.

It has been feared that when the farmers gather their full strength they will not respect the rights of other classes, but the aims of the organization and its former conduct are, I think, sufficient guarantee for the future. Hitherto they have restrained themselves within the bounds of equity and justice when they had the upper hand, only aiming to bring about those happy conditions when there will be unselfish interclass co-operation.

The British exchequer returns for the fiscal year ending March 31 show a revenue of \$2,867,031,910, an increase of \$1,183,233,790 over the preceding year. The expenditures were \$10,960,563,550, as compared with \$7,795,791,875 for the preceding year. The greatest increase in the revenue was from excess profits on various businesses, including munitions, which totalled \$699,600,000 as against \$700,000 the year before. Income and property taxes brought in \$1,900,000,000; customs, \$350,000,000; excise duties, \$280,000,000.

Alberta

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by P. P. Woodbridge, Secretary, Calgary, Alberta, to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

Are Your Hail Premiums Excessive?

Our rates are reasonable. Twenty years in business. Losses paid in full.

Full Government Deposit in Alberta Government Bonds for protection of Policy-Holders.

We issue a fully paid Policy—no assessments.

Prompt adjustments and sure pay.

We settle within sixty days after proof of loss.

Licensed for Province of Alberta.

Assets \$450,000

Good local agents are wanted, where we are not represented. You can add several hundred dollars to your income by a few weeks' work.

St. Paul Mutual Hail and Cyclone Insurance Co.

715 Herald Building CALGARY, ALBERTA

Plant Registered Seed Potatoes This Year

The Guide has been fortunate in securing for its readers a quantity of registered Irish Cobbler potatoes, which are free of all disease, weighing from 3 to 6 ozs. each. These potatoes, if bought in the ordinary way would cost from \$3.00 to \$3.50 per bush.

Growers of these potatoes are eligible for membership in the Canadian Seed Growers' Association.

You farmers who want good seed will want these Irish Cobblers; they are from the best stock obtainable.

Be Quick—the Supply is Limited

Get the coupon below in the mails at once—it's worth while.

COUPON

May 2, 1917.

The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg. Please send me particulars for securing your registered seed potatoes.

Name ..... Post Office ..... Province .....

# CASH FOR YOUR CREAM



**CRESCENT CREAMERY COMPANY LIMITED**

Operating Centralizing Buttermaking Plants at

**WINNIPEG** **BRANDON**  
**YORKTON** **KILLARNEY**  
**CARMAN**

Write to the Company at the point to which you wish to ship and they will give you any and all information asked for.

## Boys-Girls

Wouldn't you like to have the best pig in your neighborhood? Or the best laying hens? You can if you try.

**"Raising the Standard of Agriculture in Western Canada"**

is a little booklet which The Guide has published for FREE distribution to Boys and Girls. It tells about pure bred hogs, registered seed potatoes, pure bred poultry, eggs for hatching and fodder corn. We have a copy for you.

WRITE FOR IT TODAY

Use this Coupon

COUPON

May 2, 1917.

Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg.

Please send me a copy of your illustrated book, "Raising the Standard of Agriculture in Western Canada."

Full Name .....  
Post Office .....  
Province ..... Age .....

# Manitoba

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association  
W. R. C. Henderson, President, 404 Chambers of Commerce, Winnipeg, to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

### AUXILIARY FORCES

The grain growers' movement derives much of its value from the fact that it is one of the great voluntary auxiliary forces of the state. Legislators, courts, departments and commissions of various kinds are official and established by law for public service. But a democracy rejoices that the people, because they are free, organize themselves voluntarily along various lines for the promotion of special causes looking toward fuller public well-being. Despotism hates and represses such action; democracy loves and delights to promote the free and open association of individuals and their co-operation for worthy ends. In this sense the churches are auxiliary forces, or, as it has been put, the church and state are both auxiliary forces making for the perfecting of the life of the nation. Similarly, temperance societies, welfare leagues, mutual improvement societies, agricultural societies, home economics societies, co-operative associations, beef rings and scores of others are to be counted as auxiliaries helping forward the general life of the community, representing some ideal, pressing for some improvement. And such is the Grain Growers' association.

Every individual who serves well his local branch and does his bit for the betterment of life is just as truly a public servant as if he sat in the chair of the first minister of the Crown. It is his opportunity just as truly to assist in completing the structure of the commonwealth, and to have his share in perfecting the great temple of humanity.

"In the elder days of art  
Builders wrought with greatest care  
Each minute and unseem part  
For, the gods see everywhere."

Let us do our work as well  
Both the unseen and the seen  
Make the place where God may dwell  
Beautiful, entire and clean."  
W. R. W.

### WAR PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

Gilbert Plains G.G.A. invited all the farmers of the district to attend their meeting on April 7, to discuss the resolutions made by Sir Geo. Foster to the Council of Agriculture regarding the purchasing of the surplus Canadian wheat crop of 1917. The meeting was largely attended and addresses were delivered by Mr. Avison and R. Cruise, M.P. Mr. Avison explained the composition of the Council of Agriculture and how they approached and discussed the subject laid before them by the Minister of Trade and Commerce. He told how they discussed the cost of production, the price paid for the Australian wheat crop and the British crop, the different values of the wheats, the cost of transportation and also how best to stimulate production at a time when the world's wheat supply was very low. Being asked what authority the Council of Agriculture had to refuse Sir Geo. Foster's proposals, he admitted frankly that the council did not consider they were making laws—but they represented the largest body of organized farmers in Canada. Sir Geo. E. Foster had laid the matter before them and they gave him the reply which represented the collective wisdom of the council.

The following resolution, moved by J. R. Dutton, and seconded by J. A. Fortune was carried by a large majority: "That this meeting of the Gilbert Plains district endorse the reply of the Canadian Council of Agriculture to Sir Geo. E. Foster, naming a maximum of \$1.30 and a minimum of \$1.50 for No. 1 Northern or a flat rate of \$1.70 per bushel for the crop of 1917, i.e., Fort William and Fort Arthur." Those dissenting from this resolution were of the opinion that the government should leave the wheat alone until they showed their economy in the purchase of war supplies and also their patriotism by taking the tariff off British goods so that when Britain's

ships come for Canadian wheat they could come loaded with merchandise instead of ballast. Mr. Cruise stated he had come, not to make a speech, but to obtain the opinions of the farmers on questions which were likely to come up in the near future and which he might be called upon to cast his vote for or against. There was the question of the government taking over the C.N.R. and the G.T.P., also that of extending the life of the present parliament or having a national government during the war or an election.

J. A. Fortune and L. Clary put the following motion: Resolved that we believe the time is ripe for the nationalizing of all Canadian railroads, these to be merged and operated under an independent commission. The labor question was discussed and the suggestion of conscripting labor at the rate of soldier's pay brought forth much indignant comment. Grain growers could not go on record as advocating industrial slavery. "There was no danger of the laborers refusing to work. He had to work in order to live. There is plenty of wealth in the country to give him a decent living. Some were of opinion that our government, if it wished to escape the indictment of a "rich man's war and a poor man's fight," should tax the wealth of the money gluttons of Canada. The president interrupted at this point wishing the balance of the time for the business of the association. Orders for 21,000 pounds of twine were taken and the membership dues were received from 31 members.

J. B. PARKER, Sec.  
Gilbert Plains G.G.A.

### BIG SAVINGS TO DELORAINE FARMERS

A concrete example of the benefit derived from united action may be cited in the case of the Deloraine G.G.A. The Deloraine district received the greatest setback in its history through rust and hail losses. It was found necessary to import a large proportion of the seed required. The local association added to its list of community buying commodities all classes of seed with the result that the membership list of the local has increased by 70 per cent. Of wheat alone the members have been supplied with 14,300 bushels at a saving averaging 18 cents per bushel. The cost of the wheat was from \$1.49 to \$1.76 or an average of \$1.67. This compared with the price charged by private dealers in grain an average price of \$1.85, leaves a profit to the members purchasing seed wheat of \$2,574 for this season. The activities of the association have not been confined to its own members, but the other locals in the district have made use of the purchasing committee of the association to the extent of about an equal amount of business. Ten more cars have been brought into the Deloraine district by private parties. The saving to this district alone on the special seed grain rate as handled by certificates for wheat amounts to \$1,166.40 or about \$18 per car of 1,000 bushels, a very convincing argument that organization means co-operation, that co-operation means unity of action and that unity of action spells success.

An arrangement is being made by the local executive to receive donations of old metal and steel with a view of making a shipment immediately after warping—the proceeds to be added to the amount still on hand from the Patriotic Arre Fund and send same for the Red Cross or other branches of relief work.

### TWO CREEKS LOSES PRESIDENT

Our local association suffered a severe loss in the death of the president, R. G. Willock, on April 10, after a very short illness. The late Mr. Willock was born in England some forty-eight years ago and for the past twenty-five years was a resident of this district. A public spirited citizen, he took a keen interest in the affairs of the community. He has been president of the local

since its inception in 1913; also secretary-treasurer of the Ross School district for many years and later of the Ross consolidated school of Two Creeks. He was warmly interested in matters of education and was an official of the district trustees association while some of his work in connection with the local school will stand as a credit to his memory. He was a keen athlete and was for twenty years or more captain of the local cricket team, playing right up to last season. He was also secretary for several years of the Minnola Lodge, Sons of England, and did a great deal of official and installation work for the order throughout the west. The regret felt at his early and sudden demise was expressed in some degree by the attendance at his funeral which was the largest ever seen in this district. He leaves a wife and four children.

JAS. MORTON, Sec. treas.  
Two Creeks G.G.A.

Our secretary writes a very encouraging letter this week. Among other matters he states that association has already unloaded five cars of seed wheat for the use of the farmers in their district, besides a large amount of other commodities which has been the means of several new members linking up with their branch. He reports that they have had a very busy winter in their local and that it is in a very thrifty condition, the members generally realizing in a much greater degree the many advantages derived from organization and co-operation. Practically every farmer within the district is becoming interested in the grain growers' movement and they are endeavoring to become the premier branch of the Manitoba G.G.A. for 1917.

The secretary of the Cromer G.G.A. in remitting membership dues, states that at a recent meeting the farmers' platform was adopted unanimously by the members present. They held a banquet recently which proved a huge success and their branch now is much stronger than last year, holding their meetings regularly now with better attendance and more interest in every way than formerly. This is another evidence that the farmers are awakening to the necessity of organization and united efforts in seeking reforms.

Secretary R. A. Forbes of McCreary G.G.A. stated that in a letter from the secretary of the Glenholm branch they are forwarding their membership dues from seventeen members. They have not been very active for some time but from now on we will look for good reports of renewed activity in their direction. An evidence of the prosperity of this district is seen in the new Grain Growers' elevator soon to be built at this point. The farmers have subscribed the necessary amount of stock and we have the promise of the company to commence placing the material on the ground in time to have the elevator ready to handle this season's crop. It will be modern and up-to-date in every respect—capacity of 30,000 bushels.

The president, Thos. R. Patterson, in a letter to this office states that they now have about sixty members with a women's auxiliary at Little Souris recently organized. At their last meeting they arranged to hold their second annual picnic on Monday, July 2 and have invited President Henderson of the central office to be present and give them an address on the occasion.

Best McLeod, secretary Shoal Lake G.G.A., reports that their annual picnic will be held at Shoal Lake on Wednesday, July 4. Excursions will be run from Neepawa and Russell. The usual sports program is provided and the best speakers available will be present. Keep this date free and spend it at Shoal Lake.

The following branches have recently forwarded dues to the central: Cartwright, Decker, Royallen, Oakville, Goodlands, Rossmouth, Vider, Russell, Virden, Cranmer, Birnie, Oakton, Bala St. Paul.

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\*Furth Central Librator reading through i W early

SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS VS. COMMUNITY CONSCIOUSNESS

By the development of the power of initiative we develop individuality in the boy or the girl and lay the foundation for that self-conscious strength of the resourceful man and woman which in the last analysis is, after all, the bed rock foundation of every democracy.

Team work is good, co-operation is important, but self-consciousness, self-respect and a little pride of self such as causes one to demand something more of himself because he is himself than he expects of others, these are attributes of the men and women who are most useful to society.

What is true of the individual is also true of the family. How pitiable a thing is a family which possesses no family consciousness, no family pride, which expects nothing of itself as a family and whose members have little or no sense of loyalty and devotion to each other, but what a noble institution is the family which has family consciousness in large measure, family traditions, a family standard of ethics, the family in which every member from the father down to the youngest child demands of himself and of the other members better work, cleaner living, more rigid honor because they are Smiths or Wheelers or Johnstons than they expect of other people.

In this new western province of Saskatchewan with her cosmopolitan population we have been somewhat slow in developing a good, healthy provincial consciousness and pride in and devotion to provincial institutions. This condition is due to many causes, not the least of which is the constant bitter and unreasoning disparagement of all things provincial whether good, bad or indifferent by the narrowly partisan in the heat of political controversy.

If we could but eliminate the public utterances of those who seem to think that their only chance of winning honor is through the disparagement of the work of others and the discrediting of anything and everything which is in any sense the result of the labors of political opponents we should soon develop in Saskatchewan that same type of provincial consciousness and loyalty and devotion to provincial institutions which has been the very bulwark of some of the most progressive nations of the world. But even then, we shall find that modern conditions make the preservation of the community spirit and of community consciousness a problem of no small moment; yet upon the solution of this problem depends in large measure the stability of the provincial unit of every unit of government.

Community Institutions

There are many evil effects in evidence because of this lack of the right kind of community consciousness. There is, for instance, the lack of concern for the interests of neighbors as individuals, but perhaps worst of all is the lack of a proper sense of proprietorship of and responsibility towards community institutions. The greatest single drawback under which our educational system is laboring—and this is doubly true in rural districts—is the almost absolute lack of a sense of community ownership and responsibility of the individual towards community institutions. Probably not one in ten of the adult members of the average rural community attends even so much as the annual school meetings or ever hear a report of the year's work and a much smaller proportion ever visit the school during sessions. There is almost an absolute lack of responsibility towards the units of the community and through this absence of community spirit and community sense of ownership and responsibility has in large measure grown up the all too common tendency on the part of the individual to exploit the community. I have found that even amongst people who have a fine sense of personal honor, there is not the same standard of honor towards the body politic, towards corporation or towards units of government. To this lack of proper community spirit is attributable in very large measure all that is low in the standard of our public honor and

the comparative lowness of standards of honor between nations. If it were possible to develop in all our communities the same kind of spirit of co-operation, the same kind of loyalty towards community interests and towards the individuals within the community which now exists in every well ordered family, we should at one stroke have revolutionized society.

Community Consciousness

First and above all every rural school teacher should exert himself to develop a good healthy community consciousness for his own school district. Every teacher should take care to uphold before the children everything which is worthy of his own community and especially he should not permit himself to take the attitude of a champion of agriculture in the sense of defending the calling as being respectable. Boys and girls are not inclined to honor those occupations which require to be constantly defended, and agriculture needs no defence. School children ought to be taught, taught very young and taught not in terms of dollars alone but rather in terms of labor and sacrifice expended, the cost of school buildings, the school furniture and the equipment. They should know what are the revenues of the School Board and what are their sources. They should be given to understand what sacrifices

way: Children can be taught to have a higher regard than this for the community interests.

One of the most important things that teachers can instill into the minds of the children is that waste, even the slightest waste, is always wrong and always costly quite irrespective of whether it be directly a charge upon the person responsible or not, and they should be taught that waste of public property is their loss. A man or woman who has been well brought up will as carefully turn off the electric light, the water taps and the steam heat when not required if living in a public hotel at so much per day as when living in private apartments and paying for these conveniences by measurement. There is something lacking in the sense of honor of people who will waste when "it costs just the same."

HOLDING MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

A meeting was held March 8. Report of committee and distributing proceeds of box social and dance held February 28 as follows: \$10 to Ladies' Patriotic League, \$10 to the Association Fighting Fund, \$5 to the Patriotic Fund, and \$7 to the Returned Soldiers' League. Five five-minute discussions on experience in killing weeds and a discussion on municipal tax and road work were held. Debate: "Resolved that married women should have as much outing for pleasure as their husbands," the affirmative being taken by Miss Gertie Toop, Mrs. J. Lamb and Miss MacCullum, and the negative by J. Lamb, E. Laird and W. A. Brown. The affirmatives won by one point.

It was decided that we make some effort to secure new members. The president and vice-president choosing sides from the rest of the members to secure new members until next meeting, March 22. The losing side is to provide a supper for meeting, April 5. A. E. SWAYZE

Secy. Tate Local.

SHE PROPOSES

Say! Mr. Grain Grower, a very estimable lady, Mrs. Grain Growers' Association—wants to propose to you. She wants you to join her for life; or, in other words, she wants you to marry her. She very much appreciates your loyal attachment in the past but now that you have become well acquainted and have grown to like each other, she would like to have you for a life partner.

The marriage certificate costs only twelve dollars and this is not an expense but an investment. You will get your money back in a number of different ways and you will also receive something of beauty and of abiding worth. You would pay out twelve dollars in annual fees, anyway, if you live long; and unless you join for life you do not acquire that which has the greatest permanent value. Don't you see that it is really smarter, therefore, to get married! It will save you money and also be a splendid investment. While Miss Association realizes that most men marry from mixed motives, she is not satisfied that you should marry her for her money alone or for the help she can be to you. Like all true women she wants love to be the chief consideration. But she knows that many men are fickle and changeable and so she wants you to get married so that you will feel that you are bound to her for life. She feels that your permanent interest in her will then be assured and that your loyalty and love will become constant. After marriage you will not feel that you can freely criticize her to others. She is your wife now and as such she must be shielded and defended. Her interests are now your interests and you do not think so much of what she is doing for you as of what you can do for her. Yes, that is just what she wants, the loyalty and devotion and attentions of the ideal husband.

What a splendid change this idea of getting married would make in the atti-

tude of some towards the association! What big things it would mean if all her members were such model life members! Instead of an attitude of criticism, every member loyally trying to help. Of course we know that our good wife has some faults, but "with all her faults we love her still," and instead of disclosing her faults to the world we try to help her to correct them and thus promote her highest good. In such an atmosphere all criticism becomes kindly and constructive and helpful, because it eliminates from a loyal, loving and generous impulse. So this fine lady, with her beautiful history, her vigorous and rapid growth, her splendid physique, and her record of marvelous achievement, is today offering you her hand in marriage. Will you take it! Only twelve dollars is required for a life membership (marriage) certificate. This certificate is a beautiful work of art and should adorn the home of every progressive farmer. You are already proud of your connection with the association, but you should take still greater pride in becoming a member for life.

The life membership fees form a permanent fund to work for your children and grand children. What greater service can we render the next generation of farmers than to pass on to them our splendid association in the best condition for rendering its great service! The association needs more capital to work with and whatever helps the association helps its members. Send us your \$12 today and become a member for life. By doing so you will help to make a more efficient organization to advance your interests and those of your descendants. Let us hear from you about it, anyway. We would like to correspond with all who will consider this proposal favorably. Address the central—H.H.M.

I enclose \$40, the proceeds of an oyster supper held by the Dahinda Local, to be paid to the Belgian Relief Fund.

A. CREELMAN.

Secy. Treas. Dahinda Local.



We have pleasure in presenting herewith a cut of the First Prize banner displayed at the Annual Convention at Moose Jaw in February last. The motto inscribed on the banner is to be congratulated on the fact they have shown in this banner, both as to design and colors, and we trust it will be an inspiration to others of our locals in succeeding years.

are necessary in order to provide them with these facilities. Children have no tendency to carve their names on the parlor table or piano in the home. They would not do so on the school desks if they had the same sense of ownership and responsibility.

Teachers should use, as far as possible, local matter for illustrations in their work. The school children should be taught who are the trustees and who the chairmen of the board, what their responsibilities are, what service they perform and what remuneration they receive or why they receive none. They should know who is the reeve of the municipality and who are the councillors. They should know what are the duties of these respectively and from what sources they derive their revenue. They should be taught a sense of ownership and responsibility towards the public highway and to have a pride in its proper upkeep. No farmer would stumble from day to day over a loose stone lying in the path from the house to the barn. Yet, there are thousands who would not stop a team and stop out of a wagon to throw a loose stone or other obstruction out of the high-

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The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg.

Please send me your illustrated poultry folder, which will give me particulars and instructions for securing your settings of eggs for hatching.

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\*Further instalment of address by the Central Secretary before the Saskatchewan Educational Association, Regina. The concluding instalment, dealing with the foreign language question, will appear in an early issue.



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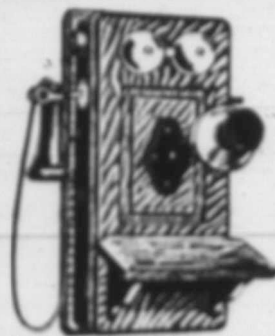
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# The Mail Bag

## AN OPEN FORUM

This page is maintained to allow a free discussion of all questions vital to western farmers. Up to the limit of space letters will be published giving both sides of all such questions. It is not possible to publish all letters received, but an effort will be made to select those most fairly representing different views. Short letters will be given preference. All letters must be accompanied by name and address of writer, but not necessarily for publication. Unused letters will be returned if accompanied by postage.

### DUTY ON LIGHT TRACTORS

Editor, Guide:—In the discussion on the floor of the house re duty on light tractor engines, Sir Thomas White, minister of finance, is quoted as saying, "If you confine the matter to light tractors it might be more favorably considered." An eastern member also took the stand that no special demand had been made by the farmers for the abolition of this duty. Now he is perfectly right in that statement to this extent, that in the demand of the organized farmers for free importation of machinery and implements, no one line has been specially mentioned. To my mind this matter is of such importance that the farmers should make a strong appeal for the removal of the duty on small tractor engines on the following grounds: With the small tractors one man can do the work of three men in some cases, and of two men in many cases with the same or less overhead expense. It will reduce the cost of plowing 50 per cent; of seeding 50 per cent; of cutting the grain 25 per cent, and of threshing 50 per cent. It will also reduce the cost of summer fallowing by 50 per cent. I can get a large number of men who are using small tractors of different makes to substantiate the above statements, and I think it is only fair that the opinion of farmers, who by practical experience have learned the lesson and know whereof they speak, should be accepted in preference to the statement of men who have not had the practical experience of working small tractors. I have spoken to a large number of them along the above lines. Every small tractor placed in the field will be the equivalent of two extra men on the farm. The removal of the tariff on small tractors will reduce the cost of the engine by one-third, and thousands will then buy them where they will not buy them under present conditions.

The best results that can be obtained from horse power in plowing anything like heavy land is one acre to the horse, at a cost, including harness, of \$250 per horse. The cost for horse power that will do the same work in the small tractor is just about \$100. With the duty removed it would be reduced to \$75 per horse equivalent. In the above calculation I take it that the cost of fuel per acre is just about equal, that is to say, that the quantity of oats and hay will equal the cost of oil per acre. But the great gain is in the man power with the engine compared to that of horse power. One man can plow as much with the engine as three men can with horses. With the power lift seeder one man can sow as much as three men with horses. In cutting the grain the difference is not so great, as it is necessary to have one man on each binder and one man on the engine. On summerfallow or breaking one man is equal to three. In threshing we find the greatest saving. A 12 h.p. engine on the draw bar will handle a 24" cylinder with all the latest equipment, threshing under favorable conditions 100 bushels of wheat per hour, while an outfit of five to six men and four teams will do the work at a total cost, with fuel included, of \$12 per day. One thousand bushels per day spouted into the portable granary at five cents a bushel is \$50 per day, while most men are paying 10c per bushel for their threshing. This cuts the threshing bill right in half, and where you can have an extra man you can plow 4 to 10 acres at night and thresh all day. This is no dream for it has been done successfully.

So far as Sir Thomas White's statement goes in regard to duty on raw material, it would be interesting to know just what the manufacturers get in rebates and what they do not, particularly in iron and steel, and in small tractors that is all that is used. The statement has been made that there is a rebate on raw material in iron and steel to our Canadian manufacturers on goods that are sold in Canada. If such is not the case we as farmers

would like to have the evidence; but if it is so, that is no reason why we should be penalized to the extent of \$25 on every horse power used. If the government is desirous of encouraging production they will not refuse to at least remove the duty on small tractors, and the organized farmers should in my opinion make a special case of the small tractor and endeavor to get the finance minister to remove this duty. If we do not press for this we cannot expect to get it, as we know there is strong opposition by other interests to such a removal. Give us cheaper power and we will get more bread.

We are thankful for getting free wheat which will be a great blessing to the west. If they give us cheaper power we can give more wheat, which will be another blessing that we would all be thankful for.

JOHN KENNEDY.

Winnipeg.

### PUT FARMERS IN FIELD

Editor, Guide:—Now that the Canadian Council of Agriculture has formulated a farmers' political platform and the time seems ripe for the farmers to go into politics, why not get in with both feet. It looks like a one-footed arrangement for us to pledge either of the party candidates. Some fifteen or twenty years ago back East where the writer came from we had two candidates on each side, all four pledged to support the Prohibition platform, and on one side at least the brewing companies furnished a good part of the campaign funds. It seems to me we are about in the same boat when we pledge a party candidate and let the party run the campaign. One reform we are asking for is publicity of campaign contributions and expenses, both before and after the election, and I can't see how we can hope for a party man to support that. He would not be allowed to if he wanted to.

If there is an election this summer or fall now is our time unless we want to wait another four or five years, so it behoves us to make our start now and in the right way. If we farmers expect to get any relief we must go into this thing for ourselves; run the campaign ourselves; do our own financing, and then when we send a man to Ottawa he is under obligations to nobody but ourselves and we have a good right to expect results. We only have 14 farmers there now, and pledging a great number of lawyers and such like would not make our side much stronger. In the next election we will have a chance to send 36 or 37 members from entirely farming constituencies, and as the tariff is costing us \$200 or \$300 each every year we could easily afford to put in two dollars each or five if necessary, and we would have ample funds to finance our campaign. So why not each and every one chip in and do his little bit to make it a go. We should send at least 24 out of the 36 entirely and absolutely farmers' men. To be of much use to us they must be bona fide farmers that know and realize our situation.

At a mass meeting held at Truxon March 24 we resolved to organize and ask the rest of the Moose Jaw constituency to line up, call a convention and put a candidate in the field. He must be a farmer and must live in the constituency and pledge himself to support the farmers' platform. Truxon has started the ball. Let us one and all give it a push and keep it rolling. In a few years we would be wondering why we ever stood for such conditions as we now have.

A. CREELMAN.

Dalhousie, Sask.

### INDUSTRY MUST PAY TAXES

Editor, Guide:—Will Mr. Kennedy or some other advocate of the single tax, explain by what method the value of land or natural resources are to be determined for the purpose of taxation.

Wherein lies the difference between taxing value or taxing industry, since the only source of wealth must come from labor applied to natural resources. Hence it appears labor must produce tax in both cases.

Tariff tax is an indirect tax on the consumer, and the farmer is taxed as such, the injustice being more apparent in his case because he uses or consumes higher taxed or more valuable commodities. The much abused land speculator is a very necessary evil in most parts of the rural west, he pays more than half the taxes and, if his land was fenced and put under cultivation probably, as conditions are today, most of the farmers would be put out of business; or in other words, confine the farmer to his own holdings and you create a new set of conditions. Land monopoly as a method of exploitation is crude and out of date. It is now done more efficiently and more thoroughly by the ownership of other monopolies vitally necessary to the lives of the people, and where the exploitation is not apparent and by the majority unsuspected. In this direction lies the solution of the problem of the high cost of living.

COLLATER.

**FARMERS ATTRACTING ATTENTION**

Editor, Guide:—I notice by the newspapers that a great number of stock writers and others are holding forth on the farmer and the farmer's business. They unanimously urge everybody else to do their patriotic duty and get out on the land and help production. Even capitalists, if we may judge from their spokesmen, the politicians, are at last taking notice that for their own interest it is necessary at least to make farming endurable and not chase the last remnants of tillers of the soil into the towns. They are beginning to see dimly that as a rule wealth must be produced before it can be successfully manipulated, and that the crowds of new homesteaders of a few years ago with strong backs, intoxicated for 160-acre farms, are a thing of the past, notwithstanding their slush about after-the-war immigration. Even some preachers neglecting the fairy tales of Moses are beginning to dabble in economics.

One gentleman in a late issue of The Guide is much exercised over whether the farmer is unwilling or unable to pay a living wage. He is unable to solve the problem but thinks perhaps the war is helping to open politicians' eyes. Well, for the benefit of such I will relate a little of my own experience. Last fall I had to stack a crop of over 3000 bus. alone, four-fifths of it wheat, or let it get snowed under, and perhaps not get it threshed till the spring or threshed tough with no care to ship it for treatment before it went bad. I am no greenhorn and can do a good job even stacking single-handed, though a little of it is enough. I was 19 days doing the work. The crop was in good shape, in fact though it was the very last days of November the thresher made a record run for the season. He just allowed one cent per bushel on wheat and nothing on oats of a difference between stack and stack thrashing, in both cases the thresher providing everything. Well, when I figured up my wages it worked out at \$1.25 per day and board for myself and team. I may say I had a standing offer with an agent in town for him to send me a man at \$4.00 per day but he was unable to secure one—a thing financially very lucky for me.

EMPIRICAL.

**SUGGESTS KNIGHTHOOD FOR BEAGER**

Editor, Guide:—Seeing that production is to play such an important part as to the eventual result of this great world's strife, the thought occurred to me—in what way can it be fostered? In what better way than to confer a knighthood, on say a man like Beager Wheeler? Why not recognize such a man, or what would a farmer have to do to have such an honor conferred? To my mind, to see agriculture recognized in such a way would be the best thing that could happen to the "best of all callings." Would much like to see what some of my brother agriculturists think on the matter.

W. T. MACKIN.

Challey, Alta.

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<b>ALL No. 9 WIRE</b>							
G 4-34-8	Horse and Cattle Fence, Wrapped Lock	5 2/3	4	34	8	11-11-12	26
G 5-40-9	Horse and Cattle Fence	6 7/8	5	40	9	10-10-10-10	32
G 6-40-9	Horse and Cattle Fence	7 7/8	6	40	9	8-8-8-8-8	36
G 7-40-9	Horse, Cattle and Sheep Fence	8 7/8	7	40	9	5-6-6-7-8-8	42 1/2
G 8-47-12	General Stock Fence, Wrapped Lock	11 2	8	47	12	6-6-6-7-7-8	48
G 9-48-9	General Stock Fence	11 2	9	48	9	3-4-5-6-7-8-8	52
G10-50-12	General Stock Fence, Wrapped Lock	13 1/2	10	50	12	3-3-4-5-6-6-7-7-8	60
G 7-30-16	Heavy Hog Fence, Similar to 7-30-16	9 5/8	7	30	16	3-3-4-4-5-7	45
G 7-30-16	Heavy Hog Fence, Wrapped Lock	9 7/8	7	30	16	3-3-4-4-5-6-7	46 1/2
G 9-36-12	Extra Heavy Hog Fence	11 3/8	9	36	12	3-3-3-4-5-6-6-6	57
<b>No. 9 TOP AND BOTTOM, No. 12 FILLING</b>							
G10-50-15	General Stock or Sheep Fence, Wolf Proof	8 6/8	10	50	15	3-3-3-4-5-6-6-7-7-8	42
G 8-32-15	Sheep Fence	6 7/8	8	32	15	3-4-4-4-5-6-6	35
G 8-32-30	Medium Hog Fence	8 6/8	8	32	30	3-4-4-4-5-6-6	40
G 7-20-24	Medium Hog Fence	6 8/8	7	20	24	3-3-4-4-5-7	35
G 7-20-18	Medium Hog Fence	5 9/8	7	20	18	3-3-4-4-5-7	29
<b>No. 9 TOP AND BOTTOM, No. 12 FILLING, No. 13 STAYS</b>							
G14-46-16	Poultry Fence	10	14	46	16	2-2-2-2-2-3-3-3-3-3-4-4-4-4-4-5-5	55
G16-58-16	Poultry Fence	11	16	58	16	2-2-2-2-2-3-3-3-3-3-4-4-4-4-4-5-5-6-6	60

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**The Grain Growers' Grain Co. Ltd.**

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**The only Visible Planter.** The operator can always see what work the machine is doing.

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No wasting of High Priced Seed Potatoes.

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Feed can be shut off without raising covering discs from the ground.

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For further information see the Kill-Em-Quick Gopher Poison Advertisement on Page 22

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## Boys' and Girls' Clubs

Why Every Farm Should Have a Garden

### GOOD GARDEN A NECESSITY

I don't think that there is anything that helps out more on the farm than a good garden. When the vegetables are ready for use they are not hard to get ready to cook. Radishes, lettuce and spinach are ready quite a while before anything else. The woman who cooks does not need to cook so much other food when vegetables can be gotten. Vegetables are also supposed to be good for one's health. If the garden is put in early, garden peas and beans are ready for use about the latter part of July or perhaps before. This is the time when the cook hardly knows what to get as the people are getting pretty tired of everything else.

A good garden helps out a great deal when other foods cost so much. A packet of seeds costs but a nickel and if they are given the right treatment a person could not buy the products for two or three dollars. If the vegetables are a success a person can can them for winter use. In the case of canned vegetables purchased, half of the tin is water. There are probably only two tomatoes to a tin. A person may save a great deal by growing a garden and getting really good vegetables instead of stale stuff.

Small fruits such as strawberries, raspberries, currants, gooseberries and cranberries are easy grown and they help out a great deal when the season for preserving fruit comes round. Rhubarb is also easily grown and is very good for pies.

If people do not use all they grow they will always find people in the towns and cities who will readily purchase the surplus from them. Fresh vegetables are worth a great deal in the fall to store up for winter use. I don't know how a farm can manage without carrots, parsnips, turnips, beets and cabbage for winter use but alone what is used in the summer.

WILLIAM A. BROWNLEE

Sask.

### INCREASES FOOD SUPPLIES

Vegetables form a necessary part of our food because of the mineral matter they contain, therefore the use of fresh vegetables is imperative. In no place should vegetables form a greater part of our food than on the farm. If the farmer has no garden he is forced to expend money in buying vegetables which otherwise he could keep in his pocket. Besides, they are often hard to procure. If one lives near town it is easier, but in any case one cannot be sure of getting them fresh, and if they are bought in large quantities, as is necessary unless one is in town often, they are liable to spoil before being used. If the farmer has a garden, fresh vegetables are at hand when required, thus saving time and expense. In the fall, tomatoes, cucumbers, etc., can be pickled, small fruits preserved, and potatoes, cabbages, turnips, etc., stored for winter. Vegetables to spare may be turned into useful cash. It is expensive buying sugar in war time, but buying both sugar and fruit is more so.

The chief advantages of a garden are that plenty of fresh vegetables can be had at cost of seed and labor; these are fresh and free from disease, ensuring good health and saving doctors' bills, and vegetable, fruit and pickle are supplied for winter and summer. In war time everyone should be as self-supporting as possible. By having a good garden we help support ourselves and others, thus making more food obtainable for the men who are fighting for us.

ELIZABETH A. H. THOMPSON, Sask. Age 15.

### KEEPS BOYS CLOSE TO NATURE

A kitchen garden is very useful in many ways. How many boys and girls that belong to this club don't like vegetables? I for one think there is nothing better than to come in from the hay field at noon and sit down to a hearty meal consisting of roast beef, boiled carrots, fried onions, boiled turnips, bread and butter. A garden also helps to teach us to grow grain and other things that need cultivation. When you are out in the garden hoeing out the weeds and watering the vegetables that need it, don't you think that it is much better out there than in the house lounging around reading? It certainly is far more healthy.

A garden shows the wonders of nature's work. It shows us how things are made to grow by the warm sun and cooling rain. Did you ever notice how fresh things look in the garden after a little shower of rain? They all seem to take heart again and grow and smile in the warm sun that comes after the rain. Vegetables are the most healthy thing a person can eat. To have vegetables on the farm one must have a garden; to have a garden one must look after it; to look after it one must know how; to learn how just ask The Guide. That's what I am doing anyway!

JAMES BUCHAN, Sask.

### GARDEN SAVES CASH OUTLAY

Many people are beginning to see that a good kitchen garden is profitable in more ways than one. Now when the high cost of living and economy is all the cry there is nothing that will help us more than a good kitchen garden. We may not be able to sell our garden products and make a profit in the actual cash, but we will not have to buy our vegetables. Besides, when we have a garden of our own we feel that we have a right to use more vegetables than if we had to buy them, and they are the most healthful things we can possibly eat. If we were to keep an account of the money spent in canned foods we would be surprised at the amount. If we have a garden there is sure to be some surplus vegetables and in canning is becoming more popular these can be easily and quickly put up. We do not need to go to any expense as we can do it with the things almost every farm woman possesses. They are much healthier than in cans and we can also rely on their being fresh. These are a few of the reasons that go to answer the question, "Why every farm should have a kitchen garden."

LOTTIE COLLIER, Sask. Age 16

### A SOURCE OF PLEASURE

A garden is useful, convenient, and a pleasure. How handy to step to the garden and pick some new fresh vegetables—lettuce, onions, radishes and peas, instead of going to the market and spending money for the same that they keep ship-



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This is a vital subject to every farmer who is anxious to make progress, provide himself with a better home, educate his children and enjoy some of the comforts of life. The book entitled "Farm Management," by G. F. Warren, is regarded by all authorities as the very best information on the subject of farm management that has yet been published. The author has made a life-long study of the success due to the proper management of farm business.

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E. R. Halbert, Trechu, Alta., a farmer who purchased this book from us, says: "I find it a work of unusual excellence and worth it in any case, does not fall of material needed by every up-to-date farmer who hopes to succeed in such an arduous branch of industry. Indeed this is a masterly treatment of the subject, and I confess that I would not do without it for ten times the price."

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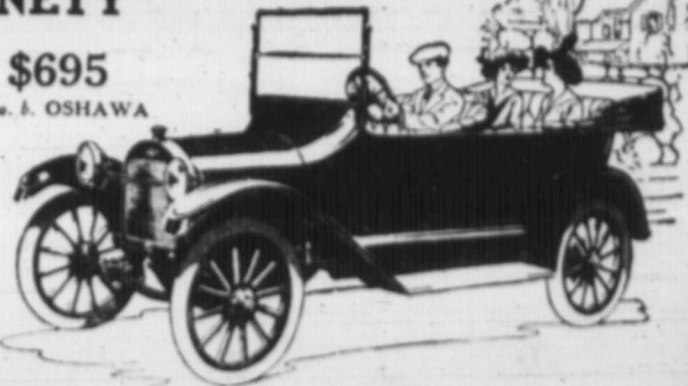
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ped a great distance in a wilted and tasteless condition. Diligence in your spare moments will produce vegetables sufficient for an ordinary family, whereas the same time wasted plus the money the vegetables cost throws a wide balance in favor of cultivating a garden. Then, too, what a pleasure it is to weed and cultivate the tender plants and watch them grow. Raising our own garden truck is not only economy, but fills a long felt want after the skimpy menu of the winter months, and it is certainly essential to health to have a variety of vegetables the greater part of the time.

In these times of great stress when farms are expected to produce to their limit we should do our bit by adding at least a good garden. We are especially favored with a beautiful rich soil in this district and all vegetables suitable to this climate can be grown in great abundance. I have in mind several gardens laid out regularly and adorned with flowers here and there which added to the beauty of the growing vegetables. They were not only attractive, but essential to keep up a variety on the table.

EDITH KERN,  
 Age 15

### PREPARING GARDEN SOIL

In starting a garden, first clear the land of rubbish, which should be burned, especially if it contains old weeds. A liberal application of well rotted manure should be turned under. Plow and spade as deep as possible, then work the soil down with disc and harrow, till a fine seed-bed is procured. Very fine manure such as poultry or sheep manure, which is the most valuable for vegetables, may be applied lightly after plowing or spading and then worked in as a top dressing.

The prime requisite of a good kitchen garden is a good seed bed. Garden seeds are small and require the best of conditions in order that they may germinate properly. The soil should therefore be plowed early and harrowed at frequent intervals until the seeds are sown. Harrowing conserves moisture, loosens up the soil and lets in the air to warm it up and also destroys weeds. It should never be done when the soil is wet. Two or three strokes a week will put the soil in the best of condition.—H. O. W.

### FARMERS ON UNIVERSITY BOARD

The new board of governors for the University of Manitoba, appointed under the new university act at a recent meeting of the cabinet is as follows: Isaac Pittblado, K.C., chairman, A. M. Nanton, John A. Macbray, K.C., R. T. Riley, Dr. H. H. Chown and Dr. James McKeay, all of Winnipeg, John R. Little, Brandon, Wm. Iversach, Isabella and A. J. Cotton, Swan River.

The Winnipeg members, with one exception, have been associated in the past with university affairs; this is especially true of Mr. Pittblado and Mr. Macbray. Of the outside members of the board John R. Little is a leading business man of Brandon, Wm. Iversach is a farmer of Isabella and president of

the Manitoba Trustees association; and A. J. Cotton, of Swan River, one of the leading farmers of the province.

This board is appointed under the university act passed at the last session of the legislature. It has the power to appoint the president of the university, the bursar, the librarian, the registrar, the professors, the lecturers and instructors and all officers, clerks, employees and servants deemed necessary, to fix their salaries and define their duties.

### TRACTORS AND PRODUCTION

Two hundred tractors have been sold out of Lethbridge this season already, only three of which were of Canadian make, the others coming from across the line. On these a total of \$60,000 has been paid in duty by the farmers purchasing them. One agent brought in four the other day, on which he paid \$1,100 duty, which the farmer, of course, will in his turn pay to him.

The farmers of southern Alberta are buying perhaps more tractors this season than ever before to cope with the delays caused by the late season and in an effort to respond to the plea of the Dominion minister of agriculture for a greater production in cropping every possible acre. The way in which agricultural production is hindered by protection on farm machinery is well illustrated in the case of these farmers. They were mulcted of \$60,000 in order to encourage the production of three Canadian-made tractors. The amount of the duty utilized as capital for future production would have sufficed to set up many new homesteaders and to bring many hundreds of acres under crop.

### LIEUT. COM. ARTHUR M. ASQUITH

Former Premier Asquith's third son, Lieut. Commander Arthur M. Asquith, of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, has just been awarded the D.S.O. for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He is one of three brothers who have rendered splendid service to the Empire during the war. Lieut. Raymond, the eldest son of the former Premier, recently made the supreme sacrifice. Before the war he was a brilliant lawyer and gave promise of achieving great things in his chosen profession. Lieut. Herbert, the second son, who was also a barrister in pre-war days, inherited his father's literary ability. At Oxford he took a double first, like his father, and between times in his fighting in France and Flanders found time to write a volume of poems, which he recently issued under the title of "The Volunteer and other Poems." Lieut. Herbert Asquith was wounded twice. The third son, who has just received the D.S.O., first saw service at Antwerp, where he fought in the trenches. When he went to the Dardanelles, where he was wounded and in the subsequent fighting on the West front he received two additional wounds. The record made by the Asquith family is certainly a creditable one.

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## Problem of Crop Production

Continued from Page 7

Injure the soil and damage the crop by "drifting," or by stunting, lodging or breaking down the plants or by shattering the grain. Further, either the cost of production or the selling price must be controlled.

### Weeds, Insects, Rust and Hail

It has been estimated that the weed crop of Saskatchewan costs her farmers \$25,000,000 a year, and probably this item does not cost the average farmer in Saskatchewan more than in either of the other prairie provinces. The loss through destruction of crops by cutworms in one district in a single season is placed at 35,000 acres. And the cutworm is only one of dozens of insects that take an annual toll from the farmers' crops. The loss to Western Canada from rust in the year 1916 at the October price of \$1.50 a bushel amounting six bushels decrease per acre, reaches the enormous sum of \$100,000,000. In other years wheat smut, flax wilt, potato blight and other fungi have contributed to the large annual loss from plant diseases. The loss from hail is variously estimated at from one half to two-and-a-half per cent. of the average, or on the basis of the 1916 crop a loss of 50,000 to 250,000 acres.

### The Problem of Fertility

The conditions that affect growth and the factors that affect profit are and will continue to be the chief considerations of the individual farmer. Yet a third set of conditions of vastly greater importance to the future of the state, viz., those that affect the permanence of our agriculture, remain to be considered. We are hearing much today on the one hand about the "depletion" of the land, the loss of "fertility" and the "exhaustion" of plant food from the soil; and from another quarter about our soil being "the richest in the world" and about its supply of plant food being "inexhaustible." We hear of land that after continuous cropping and no return of plant food, is producing as much as or more than it did a generation ago, and we are led to ask ourselves: "Do soils wear out?" "Can they become depleted?" "Are they being exhausted?" These are questions upon our solution of which the future material success of Western Canada very largely depends.

What is fertility? In its narrowest sense it is plant food in the soil,—the chemical elements plants use in growing. In its broadest sense it is ability to produce crops, and includes available plant food, tilth, health or freedom of the soil from disease and purity or its relative freedom from weed seeds. In its broadest sense, "fertility" means productivity, which is synonymous neither with plant food nor chemical content. Soils do not become depleted or exhausted of the plant food elements they contain although these may be seriously lessened, but the land may become depleted or exhausted of its "productiveness."

And now having considered the many sided problem the farmer has to solve, let us examine the nature and effectiveness of the instruments he has for the multiple purposes he must achieve. These include, the choice of suitable crops; suitable crop management practices; the improvement of crops by selection and breeding; irrigation or drainage; or both; tillage; a suitable crop rotation; the use of livestock; the application of business principles to the management of the whole farm—the land, the stock, the labor, the machinery and other equipment, and the finances; the use of legumes and nitrogen fixing bacteria and the utilization of manure. Brief reference is all that can here be made to these.

### Crops and Crop Management

Nature has given us some plants that resist disease, some that resist frost, some that resist drought and some that avoid these conditions. A great number of crops suited to different systems of farming are available to choose from and the experience of farmers and the records of our experiment stations are fast teaching us the ones that are best suited to our climate and soil. The value of some new and untried crops has yet to be determined, and the suitability of different classes and types of crops for particular local soil and



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Warranty	10 to 25 Ecologists
Capacity	10 to 25 Paleontologists
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Price	10 to 25 Archaeologists

climatic conditions is a line of work that needs further investigation. But our present knowledge, if utilized, is sufficient for our present need, and we have faith that new forms will be developed or discovered that will meet any pressing requirements of the future. It is sufficient here to say that Marquis wheat, Banner oats, O.A.C. No. 21 barley, Grimm alfalfa, Western rye grass and Northwestern bent corn are recognized standard varieties for normal soils in the greater portion of the present settled area of Western Canada.

Men are improving crops today by preventing them from deteriorating and by increasing their hereditary power, with respect to yield, quality or some other economic character. The first is the business of the farmer, the responsibility for the second lies with our experimental stations. Our crops have in many instances sadly deteriorated by admixture with weeds and seeds of other crops, by attacks of disease by drought and frost and by improper care of the seed. The prevention of each of these as far as possible is necessary in order to maintain productiveness and quality. It is not always within the farmers' power to wholly prevent these conditions but ordinarily he can do much to lessen their ill effects.

The hereditary power of our crops has been and is being improved by selection and by artificial crossing followed by selection. The favorable plant must be found, isolated, tested out. Practically all of the common crops now grown have felt the influence of the breeders' touch. Marquis wheat, Victory oats, O.A.C. No. 21 barley and No. 959 Winter rye are familiar examples of improvement by selection and breeding.

In warm, dry climates moisture is the limiting factor in crop production. Where water can be secured by artificial means a profitable agriculture generally results. We practice irrigation in parts of Western Canada, but over most of our country it is not possible to do so because water is not available. Outside a few local areas and on some low flat lands and alluvial soils, land drainage is not a serious problem in the prairie provinces.

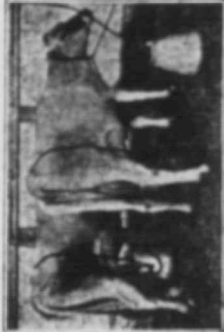
#### Tillage and Rotation

Tillage is the greatest means at man's disposal for controlling the conditions that at the present time are causing low yields on the farms of Western Canada. It is also by far the largest single item on the cost side of the crop account. And yet it is the subject upon which we have the least positive data concerning the relative value of different practices. In the dry year of 1914 the yields of Marquis wheat at Saskatoon ranged from 6 to 32 bushels per acre. In the wet year of 1915 they ranged from 17 to 47. The differences were due entirely to the different tillage practices followed.

Our observations have taught us that among other things tillage may be used: (1) To store moisture in the soil as by deep plowing, early in the rainy season; (2) to conserve moisture in the soil, as by maintaining a granular mulch on the surface by means of surface cultivation; (3) To facilitate the movement of moisture in the soil, as by firming loose soils and loosening hard ones; (4) to modify soil temperature as by loosening, evaporation and by firming, the soil over the seed; (5) to increase the moisture of a crop, as by packing, allowing less moisture and developing less available plant food; (6) to increase or decrease the air content of soils, as by loosening hard soils and firming loose ones; (7) to develop available plant food, as by modifying the heat, moisture and air content of the soil; (8) to kill native grasses and shrubs, as by plowing in a dry time; (9) to control weeds, as by surface cultivation, to expose the roots to the sun and wind; (10) to control soil drifting, as by the practice of shallow ridging and the use of the granular mulch; and (11) to dispose of rubbish and cause its decay, as by plowing.

It has been indicated that a good rotation should include a grass or grass-legume crop to aid in the control of annual and biennial weeds and as a fertilized crop to help fight both annual and perennial weeds. What these

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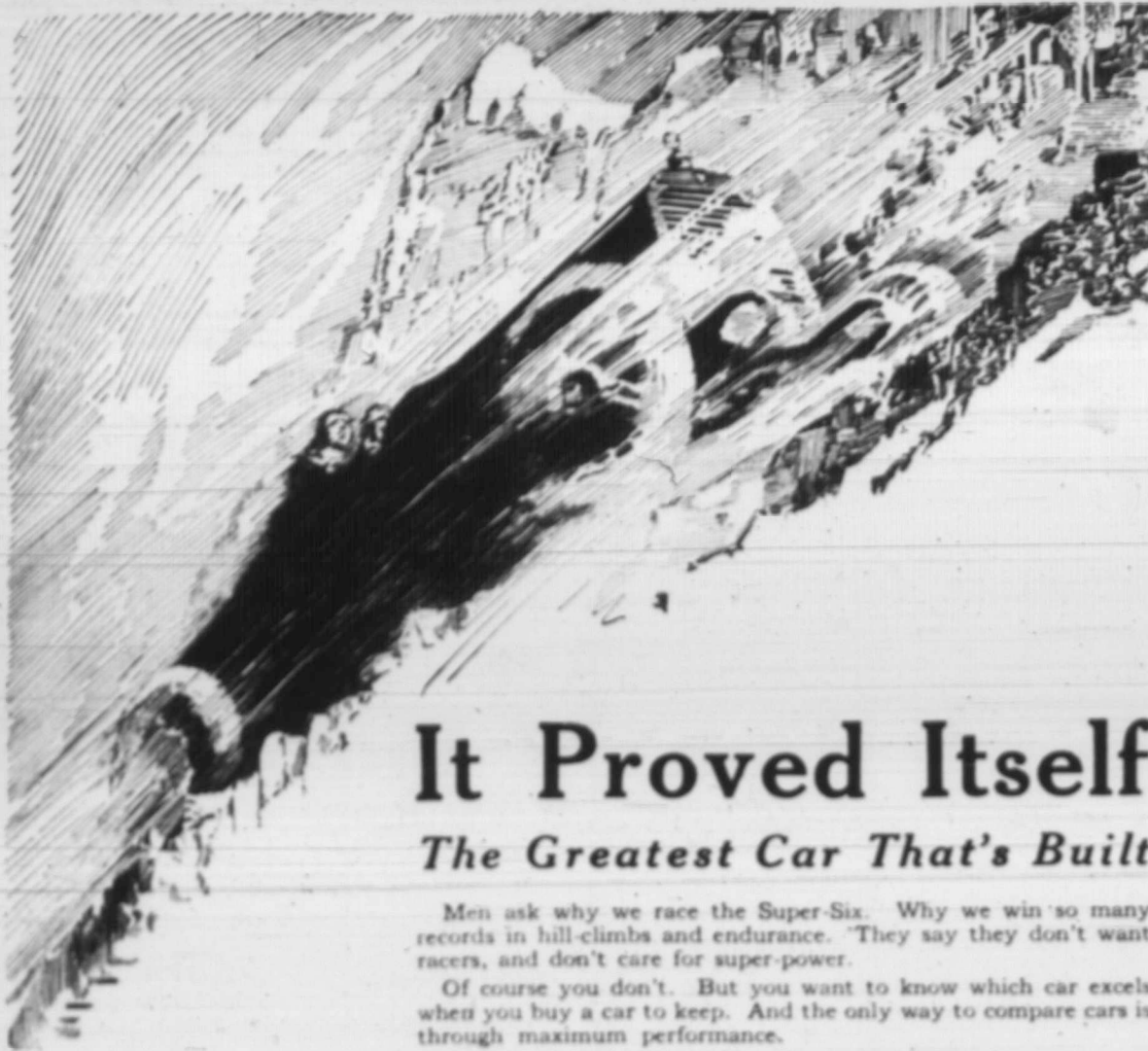
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crops are to be and the sequence they will follow our farmers and our experiment stations must work out. Corn, alfalfa, western rye grass, timothy, winter rye, beardless barley and possibly red clover, together with the cereals now commonly grown seem at present to offer the greatest promise. These are forage crops. They necessitate the use of livestock.

### Crop Rotations and Livestock

Such a change on all the farms in will follow our farmers and our experiment stations must work out. The greater part of this money must be made on the farms. The problem then will be solved but slowly. Nevertheless it will be solved. It is largely a rotation, a farm management and an economic problem. The purely agronomic or crop and soil phases of it are the least difficult to answer.

In our opinion we shall not control weeds and drifting soil permanently until we adapt our system of farming to meet these conditions which have caused soil are now causing low yields and poor quality in our crops. That adaptation will include a rotation of crops designed chiefly for controlling weeds and drifting soil, for lessening the cost of production and for building up a more permanent agriculture. It will necessarily include livestock to make use of the forage crops that must be grown, and to lessen the amount and thereby the cost of the tillage necessary to control weeds.

### The Use of Legumes

Tillage, the choice of suitable crops, and suitable cultural practices will enable us to develop the resources of our soil. Business methods and in some places a rotation of crops and the introduction of livestock will enable us to produce crops more profitably, but only the use of legume crops, the practice of a crop rotation and the return to the soil of some of the plant food we remove in crops and in fallowing, will enable us to build up a permanent agriculture, and a permanent agriculture is absolutely essential to the future well being of the state.

In the final analysis our ultimate success as a nation depends not only upon our ability to produce profitable crops now, but upon our ability to keep on producing profitable crops.

### Alfalfa Does Well in Sask.

Continued from Page 8

1914, was an historically dry year and when the judges came to view it they did not get out of their car, but that was all it made four inches of growth and withered away by June.


The next year it started early to grow and we had had winds when it came up. The winds cut it out again with drifting sands and buried it in places three inches deep until my neighbors decided it was dead and buried, but on May 17 it started to rain and we had a wet summer. I cut two crops of hay that measured two-and-a-half tons per acre and had a good pasture in the fall. In 1916, I got from the first crop 29 tons of settled hay. The second crop was left for seed but the season being wet and cool and frost coming early it did not mature and help being scarce I turned the stock on it for winter feed. I might say that this 12 acres was not inoculated to prove my assertion that alfalfa sown in limestone soil will inoculate itself but it took three years before the inoculation had spread all over the field.

The variety was Turkestan. Professor Bark of the Canadian Pacific Irrigation Farms is my authority for saying that there is no difference between Grimm's and Turkestan, except in price. This field the first year was drag harrowed, and every spring I ran a spring tooth cultivator over it. I sowed 10 pounds of seed to the acre which was three pounds too much for dry land or non irrigatable fields.

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Continued from Page 9

complications arise. If the cow is on pasture, she should be allowed to remain there, but looked after at least twice per day when about to calve. If not on pasture, the cow should be turned loose several days before she is expected to calve in a box stall of sufficient size. As the time of parturition approaches, the udder becomes distended and hard, and filled with the colostrum milk. When the tendons and muscles relax on either side of the rump, leaving a hollow appearance on either side of the tail head, parturition may be expected within 24 hours, or three or four days at the longest.

The cow should be left strictly alone at time of calving, unless some assistance is evidently necessary. As a rule the calf will be born within half an hour. If the calf is not expelled after an hour or two, an examination should be made. The normal position of the calf at the time of delivery is forefeet first with the front of the hoofs and knees upward while the nose lies between the knees. If the condition of the calf is normal, the cow may be assisted by pulling on a rope attached to the forefeet of the calf. This must be done carefully, and only when the cow strains. If the position of the calf is abnormal, the services of a qualified veterinarian should be secured if possible, unless the person in charge has had considerable experience.

The cow is especially subject to retention of the afterbirth, and special attention must always be given that it comes away. When the cow is in good condition, the afterbirth is usually expelled within a few hours after the calf, often almost immediately. Cows far along in years or in low condition of health are especially subject to this trouble. The giving of cold water soon after calving may cause it to be retained. All water given within the first 24 hours should be warmed, and cold feed should be avoided. The afterbirth when expelled should be removed, to prevent the cow from following her instinct and eating it, which may result in disorders in the alimentary canal. If the afterbirth is not expelled a serious condition of the cow is brought about by the decomposition of the tissues within the body and the absorption of the poisons. A cow in such condition becomes emaciated and produces but little milk, and that is not in fit condition for food.

The cow should be so handled that retention of the afterbirth will be prevented as far as possible. However, it will occur frequently in all herds. If it does not come away within 24 hours, it should be removed by the hand. If taken in time, a weight of one or two pounds tied to the protruding membrane may by its dragging effect pull the membranes and stimulate the uterus to contraction. The only treatment that can be relied upon is to remove by the hand. For the inexperienced the service of the veterinarian should be secured. Every man having the responsibility of caring for many cows should acquire the experience necessary to do this successfully himself.—C. H. Eckles, Professor of Dairying, Missouri Agricultural College.

**CONTAGIOUS ABORTION IN COWS**

I am having trouble with my cows calving. Three have calved and the calves seem to be weak. One died after five hours and another lived three days. None of the cows cleaned but retained the afterbirth. They are in fair condition for this time of year, are wintering out and running at wheat and oat straw stalks and are fed two to three green oat sheaves per day. I have seven or eight more to calve and would like your advice to avoid above and how to take away afterbirth.—Mixed Farmer

**Answer**

The trouble which you are experiencing among your cows is due to Epizootic Abortion. This disease is caused by the cows becoming infected with a disease germ which attacks the womb and operates harmfully on the development of the calf. The calf, in these cases, is frequently born before it has

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fully matured, or if carried the full time, it is born weak and lacking in vitality, and usually dies within a few hours or days.

The retaining of the afterbirth is always characteristic of these cases; as the abortion germ operates on the womb and sets up a catarrhal condition of its inside surface, and causes the foetal membranes to become firmly adhered, so that when the cow calves, the membranes, or afterbirth, are not expelled within the usual period of time which is from twelve to twenty-four hours after calving.

We would recommend that you keep the cows which are still to calve separate from the others. Those that have calved should have the genital passage washed out daily with a one per cent. solution of cresolin or carbolic acid, until all discharges have ceased. This solution is made by adding one part of the drug to 100 parts of clean, lukewarm water. In giving these injections into the genital passage, a suitable hand pump is useful and can be obtained through a drug store or from any of the large departmental stores.

With regard to removing the afterbirth from cows such as you speak of, the best method to follow is to place directly into the womb one ounce of iodiform powder. This is allowed to remain inside the womb until it dissolves and its action, in the course of several days' time, causes the afterbirth to become loosened and detached and to be expelled from the womb. Forcible tearing away of the afterbirth with the hand is not advisable. It is better in these cases to allow the afterbirth to remain for several days or a week until it becomes loosened and easily detached, and removed by the hand. After the afterbirth comes away all that is required is to flush out the genital passage with the antiseptic solution already referred to.—Dr. C. D. McGilvray.

**GUIDE READERS HELP BELGIANS**  
The Grain Growers' Guide,  
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Sirs:—I have much pleasure in acknowledging yours of the 14th, enclosing your check for the magnificent sum of \$519.20, being amount of subscriptions which have been received for the Belgian Relief Fund through the medium of your valuable paper.

A. J. H. DUBUC,  
Winnipeg, April 17. Belgian Consul.

The Grain Growers' Guide,  
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Sirs:—I am in receipt of your favor of the 14th, inst., enclosing check for \$915, being amount of subscriptions received through the medium of The Guide, and for which I enclose receipt. Kindly accept the warm thanks of the executive for your continued interest in the Red Cross Society.

A. W. FLECK,  
Ottawa, April 18. Hon. Sec.

The farm flock always pays when given proper care. Production here might be materially increased with very little additional labor or expense. Adopt system in your work, and put the management of the poultry plant into the hands of a boy or girl. One farmer we know recently made \$3.50 per cwt. out of his feed grain by selling it as new laid eggs. If one can do that, others can. Feed is dear, but so are eggs.

Breed from bred-to-lay strains; market the eggs when new laid; distribute the sale of table poultry over as much of the year as possible; cull out the weaklings and feed intelligently. Increased production will follow, resulting in a larger surplus to meet Great Britain's demand for eggs.

Sweet clover can be sown with wheat or barley as a nurse crop or it can be sown alone, says the North Dakota Agricultural College. The certainty of securing a good stand is best when sown alone. This is an expensive way, however, as no return is secured from the land that season unless it be some pasture in the fall. The most economical method is to sow it with a nurse crop as a good stand usually results and a crop is secured at the same time.

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**MANITOBA'S ELECTION LAW**

The amendments to the Manitoba Election Act are radical and far-reaching in their effect. Registration by proxy is restricted by the new law so that the registration can be made by some member of the voter's family, or his employer or business partner. Under the old law registration by proxy could be done by "the person with whom he resides or last resided in the city," which made possible the gross abuse of wholesale registration of fictitious names from hotels, rooming houses, clubs, etc.

Failure to register during the regular registration period will no longer be a bar to getting on the list. Any person claiming to be entitled to be registered as an elector will have his name put on the list if he is able to satisfy the revising officer in an oral examination that he is entitled to registration. No notice of application is necessary previous to appearing before the revising officer.

**Voter Must Sign Poll Book**

The one big change in the regulations governing the actual polling is the requirement in the new law that each voter must himself sign his name or make his mark in the proper column of the poll book. The signature of the voter must then be compared by the returning officer with the signature on the original application and statutory declaration for registration which the voter signed at the time of registration. For this purpose the clerk of the executive council is required to place these original applications and declarations in the hands of the returning officer before election day. The returning officer must not give a ballot paper to any voter before he has thus compared the signatures. The effect of these provisions should be to eliminate personation.

The old system of candidates ingratiating themselves by making donations or contributions is done away with by the new law, which not only debar candidates from any special contribution or donation for any purpose during the time he is a candidate, but it also protects the candidate by making it an offence for any person to solicit any donation or contribution from a candidate during that time. Any contravention of this provision will be set down as a corrupt practice.

**Election Expenses Limited**

Then as to the expense of a candidate the total expenses incurred or authorized by any candidate at the election or in connection with it, shall not exceed \$500 except in the electoral districts of Winnipeg Centre, Winnipeg North and Winnipeg South, where they shall not exceed \$750. This limitation however, does not include the expenses of printing and advertising, and the expenses of publishing, issuing and distributing addresses and notices.

The money spent by the central or general committee of any political party, or by or through any officer or member of such central or general committee, is limited to \$25,000 in connection with any general election, and it is provided that no such expenses shall be incurred or authorized except for a central office, the holding of public meetings, the preparation of election literature and the publication, issue and distribution of same.

The clause prohibiting campaign contributions from outside the province speaks for itself. "It shall be unlawful for any person or persons, corporation or organization within the province to receive from any person or persons, corporation or organization, residing or situated without the province any contribution of money or other thing of value for use within the province for political purposes."

No person or committee or corporation will in future be permitted to convey or furnish any vehicle for conveying any voter to or from the polls. The only exceptions are persons of the same household, or sick or crippled persons; nor will it prevent two or more voters from providing joint transportation for themselves at their own expense, or a person going to the polling place to record his own vote taking one or more voters with him free of charge.

The new law provides for a public half holiday after one o'clock in the afternoon of any election day.

# Quality-First Telephones



Canadian Independent Telephones are first and foremost a high quality product. The materials and workmanship are of the best. The design is up-to-date in every respect.

They are made by a Canadian company, with a full knowledge of Canadian telephone requirements, based on years of experience in building telephones for Canadian Independent Telephone Systems.

A big Canadian company, with a complete and modern plant, builds and guarantees them. It makes rural telephones, automatic telephones, inter-communicating telephones, switchboards, etc. It supplies all construction materials required to build any size system.

It is a "Square Deal" company—one price to all. Why go out of Canada for telephones, when the most satisfactory ones for Canadian conditions are built right here in Canada?

Get the No. 6 Bulletin, which describes them in detail.

We will now carry a stock of telephones, parts and construction materials at Regina. The Independent Electric Co. are our Western Distributors.

## Canadian Independent Telephone Company Limited

257 Adelaide St. W. Toronto, Canada



**Concrete Machinery For Farm Use**  
This Cement Hand Mixer runs on hand or power. Write for SPECIAL OFFER. Crushers, Crushing Mills, Brick, Block, Tile and Sewer Pipe Machinery, Mixers, Gas Engines, etc.  
**WETTLAUFER MFG. CO. LIMITED**  
1790 Spadina Avenue, TORONTO, Ont.

**GRASS & CLOVER SEEDS**  
Vigorous, hardy, northern grown stock. Perfectly cleaned, highly tested for germination. New catalog of Farm, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Mail order only. Write Dept. 40  
**HARRIS McFAYDEN CO.**  
Farm Seed Specialists  
Winnipeg, Man.

**BOOK ON DOG DISEASES And How to Feed**  
Mailed free to any address by the Author  
**H. CLAY GLOVER CO., Inc.**  
118 West 31st Street, New York

# RUSSIAN WAR BONDS

Are the Outstanding Safe Investment Opportunity Created by the War

Ten Year Internal Loan Issued, 1916. Due, 1926  
IN DENOMINATIONS OF 100, 500, 1,000, 10,000, 25,000 ROUBLES,  
FREE OF ALL PRESENT AND FUTURE RUSSIAN TAXES

- 1—1,000 Roubles of Russian money under normal conditions are worth in this country \$514.50.
- 2—1,000 Roubles, under the present abnormal conditions can be bought at a discount of 33 1-3%.
- 3—All the Russian ports with the exception of Archangel and Vladivostok are closed. Consequently, Russia's export business has been cut to pieces, while her importations of Munitions from this Continent have been enormous, thus temporarily making the balance of trade heavily against her. The position, therefore, is purely technical, and the Rouble should go back to its normal value after Russia resumes her large export business.
- 4—In buying these bonds one will have a return on the investment of 5 1/2 per cent. even at the present low price of the Rouble; a return which will increase as Russian exchange improves, till at normal the return would be 8.84 per cent. In addition to this interest rate, the Rouble at normal will give the investor a return of over 50 per cent. on his capital.

Opinion of Montreal Financial Times, issue of Feb. 24th, 1917:  
**Russian Bonds**

"Russian Bonds, we believe, are absolutely all right. There has been an extremely heavy Canadian participation in these securities—having in the part of about conservative investors too, despite the fact from Ottawa that such foreign investments will be liable to taxation, in the event of an income tax. The only argument that can be raised against the Russian Bonds is this one, 'no purely patriotic grounds.'"

Opinion of Toronto Saturday Night, Feb. 3rd, 1917  
**The Purchase of Russian Bonds**

Reference, Sat., Jan. 1917  
"Listen, God and Devil—I notice an ad. on Russian Bonds that has been appearing in the Winnipeg Free Press, and would be obliged by your opinion on the same. It seems to me that the statement as to possible profits when exchange returns to normal is altogether impossible. Would be glad of your opinion of these bonds as an investment.—E. C. B."

"Would consider the Russian 5 1/2 per cent. Internal loan to be a rare opportunity investment. The profits promised when war conditions end and there are more such loans are not at all impossible. You are now buying a 1000 rouble bond with a face value of \$514.50 for about 50 per cent. of its face value. The present conditions arose largely from the fact that Russia is cut off from the rest of the world and her trade is necessarily curtailed."

Upon request we will send a bond of any denomination to bank in your town with draft attached, giving you privilege of examination before paying for same

## WM. JENNINGS O'NEILL COMPANY

Municipal and Government Bonds

303, 304 ELECTRIC RAILWAY CHAMBERS,  
WINNIPEG

Actual Bonds Delivered At Once

WM. J. O'NEILL COMPANY,  
Electric Rly. Chambers, Winnipeg  
Please send me particulars of above  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

# Farmers' Financial Directory

## The Attention of Farmers

Is directed to the attractive conditions of MORTGAGE LOANS made by the

## Credit Foncier F.-C.

CAPITAL \$9,647,677.19 ASSETS OVER \$40,000,000.00

Since its incorporation in 1882 the Credit Foncier F.-C. has made loans to farmers on the amortization, or sinking fund, plan.

**Long Dated Loans**, arranged for a term of from ten to twenty years, or longer, as may be agreed, are repayable on the amortization plan—that is, by annuities comprising interest and principal. Full particulars on request. **Short Dated Loans** arranged for a term of from five to ten years. A portion of the principal may be repaid each year.

*Farmers requiring capital to improve their farms, buy stock, purchase more land, or pay off a mortgage bearing a high rate of interest, will find it beneficial to communicate with the Credit Foncier F.-C.*

The rate of interest is definitely fixed. It never exceeds 8 per cent. No unnecessary delay in completing loans. Expenses are reduced to a minimum.

Loans can be arranged by correspondence with same facility as mail order purchases or government advances, and with a definite saving to the farmers applying.

For full information as to terms, write at once to the—

PROVINCIAL MANAGER **Credit Foncier F.-C.**

Winnipeg Regina or Edmonton

# The Dominion Bank

Established 1871

Paid Up Capital and Reserve, \$13,000,000

Total Assets \$7,000,000

FARMERS' applications for loans for farming requirements and cattle purchases given special attention. Enquiries invited.

Consult the Manager of any of our Branches

F. L. Patton Superintendent of Western Branches Winnipeg

S. H. HENDERSON, President E. H. DEWARY, Vice-President C. D. KERR, Treasurer

## The Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Co.

Head Office - Wawanesa, Man.

A. F. KEMPTON, Secretary-Manager

Assets Over Liabilities	\$228,545.77
Number of Farmers Insured Dec. 31st, 1916	33,107
Amount of Insurance in Force	\$16,128,717.00
Increase in Business During 1916	\$4,051,428.00

A Fire Company insuring all classes of Farm Property at the Lowest Possible Cost to the Assured. FARMERS! Here are Six Reasons why it will pay you to insure your Property in

### THE WAWANESA MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

**FIRST**—Because it is owned and operated by the Farmers of the three Prairie Provinces for their mutual benefit and not to enrich stockholders of a company formed to accumulate wealth at the expense of the insured.

**SECOND**—The cost of insurance is not only very low, but you are not required to pay your premiums in advance unless you prefer doing so, and no interest is charged when premium notes are taken. The agent's fee is all that is required to be paid in cash.

**THIRD**—The Company is thoroughly reliable, and its policies are better adapted

to Farm Insurance than any others issued. The use of steam threshers permitted free of charge.

**FOURTH**—The costs of adjustment of loss claims are paid by the Company and not by the insured.

**FIFTH**—Insurance on livestock covers them against loss by fire anywhere on the farm, and by lightning anywhere in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

**SIXTH**—That this is the largest Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company in Canada and must therefore be giving the best satisfaction.

### ALBERTA FARM LOAN ACT

No year in the history of Western Canada has seen such a wholesale adoption of measures designed to furnish better credit facilities, both on long and short term loans to the farmer as that just passed with the closing of the various sessions in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. In the latter province credit measures providing for long and short term loans and special credit on livestock have all been put on the statute books.

The mortgage or land act in Alberta is modelled very closely after the system adopted in New Zealand, and it should go far toward assisting farmers and specially ambitious homesteaders in Alberta. This act provides for the lending of money on first mortgages on farm lands in the province up to 40 per cent of their appraised value, calculated on the basis of value and productivity when the improvements in respect of which the loan is desired have been made. The maximum amount that can be loaned to any one person is fixed at \$5,000.00.

The borrower must be actually engaged in, or intending to be engaged in, agriculture, stock raising or dairying, and must satisfy the Board that he has experience and ability to carry on the same successfully.

The rate of interest charged on loans shall be sufficient to pay the interest on the money raised for loan purposes by the sale of bonds or other securities and the costs of raising the money and the expense of conducting the business of the board. The latter should not exceed about one per cent and the total cost of loans should not be over about 6 or 6 1/2 per cent.

Every mortgage shall be for the period of thirty years and shall provide for the payment on the first day of January, in each year of equal annual instalments of principal and interest so as to repay the loan within the period mentioned. Any mortgagor may pay off his mortgage in full after it has run one year upon payment of a bonus equal to six months' interest or after the mortgage has run five years without any bonus. After the expiration of five years from the date of the mortgage the mortgagor shall have the privilege of paying on any interest day on account of the mortgage the sum of \$25 or any multiple of \$25. This virtually gives the same option as though short term mortgages were in effect.

The loan business shall be administered by a Farm Loan Board, to consist of not less than three nor more than five persons, to be known as directors, and the general management of the affairs of the Board shall be in the hands of a Commissioner of Farm Loans, who shall devote all his time to the performance of the duties of his office. The Commissioner and the directors of the Board shall be appointed and their remuneration fixed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

The Board has power to employ such persons as may be required for the transaction of its business and may fix their remuneration. All salaries payable and expenses incurred on account of or by the Board in connection with the farm loan business are to be paid out of the funds of the Board.

Where loans are required for the making of improvements advances may be made by instalments as the work progresses, but in no case shall the advance on account of a loan for improvements exceed the proportion which the work done at any time bears to the entire work undertaken.

The sum of \$10,000,000 is appropriated for the purpose of the organization of the Board and the putting into effect of the Act. The money for loans will be raised by the sale of bonds on the world's money markets. Repayments on mortgages will be put into a sinking fund or reinvested in other mortgages. The net amount of securities outstanding at any one time in connection with farm loans shall not exceed ten million dollars.

Ample provision is made for the keeping of proper books and records, for the auditing of same and for annual returns and statements to be furnished to the Provincial Treasurer and by him to the house during each session.

# Money to Loan

on improved farm property

Lowest Current Rates

Apply through our representative in your district or direct to our nearest office

## National Trust Company Limited.

323 Main Street WINNIPEG

TORONTO MONTREAL EDMONTON REGINA SASKATOON

Absolute Security in Hail Insurance

## The Acadia Fire Insurance Company

LIABILITY GUARANTEED BY PHOENIX ASSURANCE COMPANY LTD. OF LONDON, ENGLAND

Total Funds Exceed Eighty-Four Million Dollars

Hail Dept. 409 Garry Building, Winnipeg, Man.

## The WESTERN EMPIRE Life Assurance Co.

Head Office: 701 Somerset Bldg. Winnipeg, Canada

MR. GRAIN GROWER—Your Present Need is to provide for your Future Need. You are independent now. You can guarantee your future independence.

We can show you how to do it—send age next birthday. We will supply complete information without obligation to yourself.

## The Weyburn Security Bank

Chartered by Act of The Dominion Parliament

HEAD OFFICE Weyburn, Sask.

Number Branches in Saskatchewan

H. O. POWELL, General Manager

## The Canada Permanent Trust Company

Will be pleased to act for you in any portion of trust, such as:

EXECUTOR OR TRUSTEE of an estate left under will

ADMINISTRATOR

AGENT in Execution or Administration, etc.

All Correspondence Confidential.

AGNY GEORGE F. R. HARRIS, Manager 278 Barry Street - - - Winnipeg

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## Four Features

each of importance to those considering life insurance, are clearly shown in the Report for 1916 of The Great West Life Assurance Company.

- 1. The Strength of the Company**—the unquestioned excellence of the investments and their profitable nature.
- 2. The Prominence of the Company**—for ten successive years leading all Canadian Companies in the amount of business written in Canada.
- 3. The Economy of the Company**—exceptionally low expense rates.
- 4. The Popularity of the Company**—clearly proven by the record business written and the record business gained.

### THE GREAT-WEST LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

Dept. "H"  
Head Office Winnipeg  
Ask For a Copy of the Report



**PURE ASPHALT ROOFING**  
WRITE FOR FREE SAMPLES  
Buy your Roofing direct from the factory distributors—Get reliable quality at less than wholesale prices. We have the proper Roofing Material for your buildings, heavy and light grades. Some as low as 50¢ per square. We specialize in Builders' Supplies.

**THE HALLIDAY COMPANY**  
FACTORY DISTRIBUTORS  
HAMILTON CANADA

## Pure Registered Oats and Barley

We have a limited quantity of registered oats and barley left over from our big seed grain competition.

We have 50 bushels of Banner Oats and 40 bushels of Victory Oats at Winnipeg, sacked in 25, 40 and 80 pound sacks, inspected and sealed by the Canadian Seed Growers' Association. We will ship these at the following prices, F.O.B. Winnipeg:

25 pound sack	\$1.10
40 " "	2.00
80 " "	3.70

We have 40 bushels of O.A.C. 21 Barley at Coronation, Alta., put up in 25, 40 and 80 pound sacks, sealed and inspected by the Canadian Seed Growers' Association. The prices of this grain are as follows, F. O. B. Coronation:

25 pound sack	\$1.10
40 " "	2.00
80 " "	3.70

When ordering state definitely whether you wish us to ship by freight or express, giving name of your nearest railway station where there is a station agent. We cannot ship to a flag station unless you include in your remittance enough to prepay freight or express charges. We do not expect these small quantities of grain to last long and those who wish to secure some will need to send in order and remittance at once to the

Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg  
Man.

### ALBERTA LIVESTOCK ENCOURAGEMENT ACT

An important act passed in the last session of the Alberta legislature was the Livestock Encouragement Act, enacted to encourage the production of livestock in that province. Associations of five, or more, persons engaged in practical farming in the province may apply jointly for a loan not exceeding \$500 each to buy cows and heifers. Those who have obtained homestead entries are eligible as members in such associations. Applications are to state the amount of money desired for each purchaser and the kind of livestock each intends to purchase. A portion of the loan not to exceed 10 per cent may be used by one or more members for the joint purpose of a pure bred bull.

The livestock commissioner makes inquiry and after deciding that the association is one which should receive assistance under the act he will notify the lender from whom the association proposes to borrow, stating the maximum of the guarantee which the government will give and which shall not exceed \$500 for each member and also the proportion of the proposed loan that each member is to receive. The association gives the joint and several note of the members for the total amount borrowed for a period not exceeding five years, with interest not over 6% payable yearly. Each borrower also pays a fee of \$1 for each \$100 borrowed, which amount goes to the livestock commissioner's department to cover the expense connected with the loan. The lender sends the association's note to the commissioner who passes it on to the provincial treasurer, who guarantees to the lender the payment of the note and interest and then returns the note. Upon the receipt of this note the lender deposits in some chartered bank to the joint credit of the borrower and the livestock commissioner a portion of the loan which each member is to receive.

The borrower then buys, with the approval of the Commissioner, the livestock mentioned in his application. Such stock is branded with a brand recorded in the name of the department, as also is all the offspring of the cows and heifers and all the offspring of the female offspring, etc. No execution, distraint, attachment or garnishee can be effected against any of the livestock offspring or the proceeds of the sale of any such livestock under this act. The livestock cannot be disposed of, or otherwise dealt in, until the note is paid with the interest, except under permission of the commissioner and in certain special cases which must have the sanction of the commissioner. Provision is made for the repossession by the commissioner of all stock which has not been properly looked after, the public sale of this stock, the payment of the notes and the bringing of suit against the borrower if such public sale is not sufficient to meet the note.

Copies of both of these acts may be obtained from the Provincial Secretary, Parliament Buildings, Edmonton.

### WELLS FAVORS REPUBLIC

H. G. Wells, the famous novelist and author of "Mr. Britling Sees it Through," has written a letter to the London Times advocating the formation of republic clubs in Great Britain with the idea of discussing a republican form of government in place of the present monarchical system. He points out that the present feeling throughout Europe is in favor of the abolition of monarchical and absolute government and he feels that the British people would be in keeping with the modern spirit to consider whether or not a republican government would not be best for Great Britain. Mr. Wells' letter is causing a great deal of discussion. His son has been killed in the trenches and he is advocating that the war should be continued until peace can be secured on terms which will guarantee its permanency.

### M.A.C. INSTRUCTOR LEAVES

E. H. Farrell, instructor in butter-making at the agricultural college, has resigned. Mr. Farrell states that it is his intention to go into business for himself. Mr. Weir, assistant butter maker, has also resigned.

## "THE MOST ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENT SECURITY EVER OFFERED IN CANADA"

The above is the general opinion of posted authorities regarding—

### Government of the Dominion of Canada 5% Bonds due March 1st, 1937.

Interest payable free of exchange at any branch bank in Canada. Denominations: \$100, \$500, \$1,000. Free of all present or future taxation by the Dominion government. Price on Application.

We also offer a full line of Canadian Provincial, Municipal and City Bonds to yield from 5 1/2% to 6 1/2%. We will be glad to respond to any enquiry you may make.

We buy and sell bonds for our own account and any statements made with reference to bonds sold, while not guaranteed, are our opinion based on information we regard as reliable, being data we act on in purchase and valuation of securities.

## EDWARD BROWN & Co.

BOND DEALERS  
296 Garry Street Winnipeg, Man.

## Loans for Seeding

Do you require money to purchase seed grain, pay wages, or for other expenses of putting in the crop? The services of this Bank are at your disposal. Do not hesitate to let us know your requirements.

## THE BANK OF TORONTO

Branches throughout Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

## ESTABLISHED 1875 IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

CAPITAL PAID UP \$7,000,000 RESERVE FUND \$7,000,000  
PELEG HOWLAND, PRESIDENT. E. HAY, GENERAL MANAGER.  
HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO

Dealers in Government and Municipal Securities. Dealers in Domestic and Foreign Exchange. Careful attention given to accounts of Merchants, Manufacturers and Farmers.

119 Branches . . . 43 Branches in Western Canada



## THE STANDARD BANK OF CANADA

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO  
Branches Throughout Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta

WINNIPEG—Main Office  
455 Main Street

Branch—Parsons Bldg., Opp. Eaton's

Last Year's Experience Convinced the Farmers of the Prairie Provinces of the Wisdom of Effecting

## HAIL INSURANCE

You will have a sense of absolute security if you hold a Policy issued by THE EXCESS INSURANCE CO. LIMITED OF LONDON, ENGLAND

A Strong British Concern with an established record for liberality and fair dealing ASSETS EXCEEDING \$7,480,000.00 ARE YOUR GUARANTEE Agents in every town. Ask one of them for rates and terms or write to

Anderson & Sheppard

General Agents for Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.  
P.O. Box 1090, Moose Jaw, Sask. P.O. Box 1929, Calgary, Alta.  
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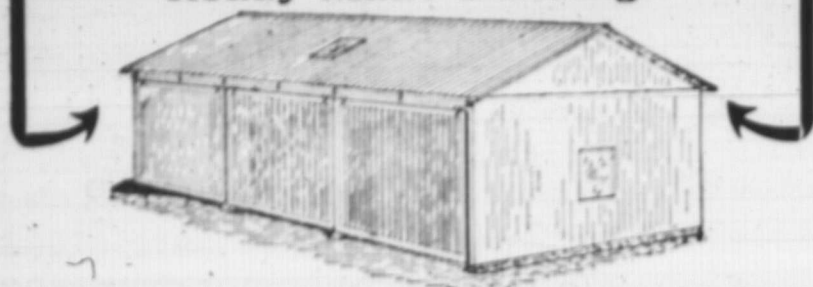




## Safety First on the Farm

Protect your Machinery and Implements from fire and weather in one of our

### Ready Made Buildings



Manufactured in various styles and sizes suitable for farm convenience. Write for booklet and prices to

**The Metal Shingle & Siding Co., Ltd.**  
Saskatoon                      Winnipeg                      Calgary

## EVENTS OF 1300 YEARS

**GREEN'S SHORT HISTORY of the English People**, new and up-to-date edition, is now available and we strongly recommend our readers to buy it. Accepted everywhere as a standard work, the book's popularity has continued steadily since 1874. It is the accurate story of the common people since the days of the early English kings, a master production which is no less entertaining than

informative. The new edition has 1,040 pages, clear type bound beautifully in green buckram, gilt lettering. Tables of chief events and dates in English history and an exhaustive index make it particularly valuable as a reference work. The latest edition brings it up to 1914. No one can know Britain who has not read Green's History. **\$1.60** Postpaid

BOOK DEPT., GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

WINNIPEG, MAN.

## TALKS ON TRACTOR FUELS

By The Imperial Oil Company, Limited

**T**HE more kerosene you use in your tractor, the more gasoline you leave available for your automobile. You save on tractor fuel and relieve the demand for gasoline and help to keep the price of it within limits.

**SILVER STAR KEROSENE and ROYALITE GOAL OIL** are the standard brands of kerosene in Canada. You can get them, also **PREMIER GASOLINE**, direct from one of our 500 prairie tank stations.

## Metal on the Farm

On the farm today there is scarcely any part of the buildings or equipment which cannot be supplied in metal form. To mention just a few uses, metal is used for roofing, siding, eavestroughing, doors, window sash, ceilings, ventilators, stalls and stanchions, ceiling supports, water bowls, hog troughs, water and stock tanks, granaries, grain tanks, oil tanks, barrels, culverts, septic tanks, etc.

Buildings roofed and sided with metal are practically safe from any danger of fire coming from the outside, and, if properly grounded, danger from lightning is done away with. In this connection, however, it is important that a few necessary precautions be complied with. In lightning protection probably the most important single consideration is the proper grounding of the system. A metal clad roof should have grounds at least at opposite corners and better still at each corner. An efficient ground will consist of a wire firmly attached to the metal roof and carried down the side of the building into the ground to a depth of at least eight feet. Good mechanical construction is essential to permanency and safety. The aim should be to have rodding material that is thoroughly reliable and have it installed properly and substantially. Thorough inspection should be made periodically and any defective part in the system promptly repaired. When this is done insurance companies will invariably give a reduction in rate on fire insurance risks, and this alone in a short time will pay for the extra first cost of the metal material used. Other advantages of metal are that it is strong, damp proof, easily handled by unskilled labor, vermin proof and durable.

Metal roofed and clad buildings will cost more to erect than those built entirely of wood, but once a metal clad building of any of the standard makes is put up it is there for practically all time to come and cost of upkeep is almost a negligible quantity.

The matter of ventilation is often advanced when metal barns are spoken of and objection taken to the proneness of moisture to condense on the inside of the metal surfaces and when heat from the stock or a change of weather occurs it melts, making the inside damp and wet. This condition should not occur if a proper and adequate ventilation system has been installed and it can generally be overcome in poorly constructed barns by increasing the size of the air outlets.

Corrugated iron is about the cheapest common form of metal covering which can be used. It can be applied direct to the studs and rafters, doing away with wood sheathing on the under side. Corrugated iron is of course galvanized, and put up according to the manufacturer's directions should last a lifetime. Ordinary black sheet iron painted can be used to advantage for roofing and general outside work.

### Anyone Can Apply It

One great feature about the metal roofing is that it does not take an expert workman to apply it. Any unskilled buyer with a moderate degree of adaptability, a pair of snips and a hammer can apply it. Another important factor in favor of the metal shingle and roofing is lightness. A first class metal roof will scarcely average 100 lbs. to 100 sq. ft., thereby lessening the needed strength of the superstructure and trusses. Likewise, it has been proven beyond any shadow of doubt that heavy and wet snow will not remain on sloping metal roofs whereas it will attach itself to wooden shingles very readily, and this snow load averages sometimes 60 lbs. to the square foot.

The good galvanized roofing of today is the last word in roof covering; it is rainproof, fireproof and lightning proof. In applying a metal shingle roof all nails used are covered up with the succeeding sheet which prevents the snow and frost from causing any disturbance, the sheets are fitted with locks which give ample room for contraction and expansion.

Where cheapness is the first consideration such as in buildings like implement sheds, garages, granaries, etc.,

corrugated iron without any sheathing is most commonly used. In barns and places where livestock of any kind is kept it is usual to use rough lumber sheathing making a warm construction. Nowadays in metal barn construction the use of steel trusses to do away with the heavy lumber framing is being advocated in some quarters. Considerable success has been credited to such construction and from the standpoint of making available the largest possible loft space this method has much to commend it.

### Metal Equipment

The economy in installation of modern barn equipment is coming to be more generally recognized. Every farmer who has had them knows the time and labor which can be saved by a hay fork or slings in the loft; a litter or feed carrier running on a track in the stable; a large galvanized iron tank located well up in the loft to supply a constant pressure of water in the bowls and gutters fitted to the metal stalls and stock stanchions in the stable below. Everyone knows the advantages of light, sanitation and cleanliness which can be had in a barn equipped in the foregoing manner and provided with metal column supports for the loft floor girders. Added satisfaction can be had in a modern barn by using steel window sash and metal doors.

Out of doors too, metal has its undeniable uses. Corrugated metal stock tanks of any desired capacity can be had which under test have lived up to all conditions of winter cold and summer heat, rough usage from stock and the corroding influence of all kinds of weather. Metal grain, water and oil tanks have demonstrated their value on thousands of western farms. Metal culverts of the approved makes have proved their great superiority to the old wood box culvert, and metal hog troughs have made it unnecessary for the hired man to be constantly driving spikes into a couple of planks in a vain endeavor to keep ahead of the old sow's seeming appetite for wood.

In the house, also, metal can be put to a great many uses. Metal can be stamped into any manner of shape to suit the artistic sense of the most fastidious, so that when used as ceiling and wall covering it makes a lasting and beautiful room. Metal doors and window sashes will do away with the sticking or refusing to open, which wood construction seems heir to.

### WHEAT GOING SOUTH

A considerable quantity of Canadian wheat has been going into the United States for the last few months and paying ten cents tariff duty before wheat was placed on the free list. The following letter from B. McKenzie, secretary of the Canadian Council of Agriculture gives the exact figures:—

"Your readers will be interested in the following information that I secured from the customs collectors, as to the quantity of western grain that has been entered for consumption in the between the 1st of September, 1916, United States at the following ports, and March 31, 1917.

Buffalo	2,391,556 bus.
Minneapolis	2,355,524 bus.
Duluth	1,578,983 bus.
Portals	323,537 bus.
Pembina	174,573 bus.

The returns from Pembina and Duluth were between September 1 and December 31, 1916.

Entries at Portals and Pembina were by Canadian farmers who drew their grain by teams to the American side."

### INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD

The annual conference of the International Brotherhood will be held at Knowlton, Que. (about 65 miles east of Montreal) from August 21 to September 3 inclusive. Any person wishing further information about the brotherhood conference should communicate with John Edwards, 53A Mozart Street West, Montreal, who is the authorized Canadian representative.

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# Rural Schools

## THE TEACHER'S LEISURE

When the editor of this page was a teacher in a country district there was a tendency on the part of parents to think of the teacher as a leisured person who did a little work only to vary the monotony of complete idleness. The same idea has found expression in some of the letters sent in for the rural schools department of The Guide. It may be true of an indifferent teacher in a very small country school, but the teacher, however small the number of pupils, who teaches efficiently all the grades from the receiving class to entrance is probably the hardest worked person in the district. Many persons do not know and others, who have been teachers have forgotten, the strain of trying to live up to a time table which gives the little children the very frequent attention and change of work the small child requires, while at the same time giving the senior classes the longer lessons which their work involves. This work would be exhausting if the hours were really only from nine until four, but with the elaborate preparation of lessons and correcting of exercises, which are an inevitable part of teaching so many grades, the teacher has not very many idle hours.

## AGRICULTURAL TEXT BOOKS

In the last issue of the Rural Schools a contributor suggested that instead of the present readers the children be given books on agriculture, and other practical subjects, from which to learn to read. We hope this suggestion will never be put into practice. The only really fine literature many country children ever read is the lessons in the school readers. There is no practical knowledge that could compensate them for the loss of this influence in their lives.

Thinking back at random over the lessons in the Manitoba Victorian readers one wonders what article on irrigation or fertilization could enrich the lives and minds of the children as this extract from The Vision of Sir Launfal: Not only around our infancy Both heaven with all its splendors lie; Daily, with souls that cry and plot, We Sinai climb and know it not. Over our manhood bend the skies; Against our fallen and traitor lives The great winds utter prophecies; With our faint heart the mountain strives; Its arms outstretched the druid wood Waits with its benediction; And to our age's drowsy blood Still shouts the inspiring sea.

Or, for smaller children, this beautiful little bit of fancy from The Brook: Little Brook, sing a song, Of a leaf that sailed along, Down the golden-braided centre of your current swift and strong; And a dragon fly, that lit On the tilting rim of it, And rode away and wasn't scared a bit.

No indeed, there is too little fantasy in the lives of little children, not too much, and we cannot afford to strip their lives of all the beautiful to make way for the practical.

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## WHAT TEACHERS ARE DOING

When we consider that most of the teachers in the rural schools of Saskatchewan have had little or no previous experience we are not surprised that the results of their work are not altogether satisfactory. At the same time I believe that the majority of these young teachers are anxious to succeed and to do their best for the children and the neighborhood, but they find it hard to adjust themselves to new surroundings and conditions in one short year. In the three months that they were at Normal School it was not impressed upon them that they were to be leaders in the community, neither was the relating of the school to the home or community emphasized. I taught in one of the rural schools of Saskatchewan some ten years ago, having received my training in another province. I had heard little of rural, social and economic problems and I did not realize that I had any duties to perform other than following the

course of study mapped out by the Department of Education. If I had realized what I was neglecting, I think, that I would have made an honest effort to work along these different lines. I believe that the same thing is true of our teachers now. If they were given some idea of where and how they could assist in solving the problems which face the country districts they would be willing to assist. Much of the talk about reforms is too indefinite to be of actual assistance. When we talk of making reforms along the line of a closer connection between the school and the home and the school and the community we must remember certain things. The curriculum is already over-crowded, and when the children do not attend regularly the teacher has difficulty in covering the ground required. The public school lays the foundation of all future training and we must be careful to make thoroughness our watchword. If new subjects are to be introduced they must be incorporated with subjects which already form a part of the course of study. In some cases it is only the method of teaching a subject which needs to be changed. I know a number of young teachers who are teaching in Saskatchewan and from them I have learned something of how they are trying to accomplish these reforms.

## Connecting School and Farm

How can we connect the school and the farm? One teacher, during the winter months, taught some of the laws which underlie agriculture drawing as much of the information as possible from the experience of the pupils. Toward spring she had the children bring samples of seed grain and test them for germination. She showed me a school garden which was small but well cultivated. She said that the children did not have time to cultivate large plots thoroughly and she was not strong enough to do the work herself therefore they confined their efforts to a limited space and I think that she was right, for at our homes we find it difficult to keep vegetable and flower gardens of moderate size in a high state of cultivation. This talk of adding several acres to the school ground to be cultivated as a school garden seems ill advised for I know of no rural school where gardening could be carried on to this extent without causing the neglect of other important subjects.

Another teacher stated that in teaching arithmetic she worked the majority of the problems in such a way that they seemed actual problems of the farm. When simple sets in book keeping were to be worked she arranged some that dealt with the business of the farm. The following subjects and others were given as subjects of short essays: "The Story of a Grain of Wheat," "How Bread is Made," "Describe that part of farm work in which you take the greatest interest." She taught sewing and construction work to a limited extent and before Christmas the pupils made pieces which were suitable as Christmas gifts for their parents.

When a young teacher came to a certain district the trustees told her that during the year they would like her to plan for a "school picnic," a Christmas concert, and to hold a "parents' day" at the school. They promised to assist, but stated that they would like her to arrange these entertainments. She saw at once that they were opening the door to leadership in the community and she was wise enough to make the most of her opportunity. Young teachers need encouragement along this line and I believe this should be impressed upon trustees when they meet in convention. Every second Friday afternoon the children held a meeting of their literary and the teacher endeavored to teach them parliamentary rules. Thus they were prepared to take their places in the public life of the community.

In one district the teacher persuaded the parents to form a literary society, but the past two winters have been so severe that few meetings have been held.

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No. 510

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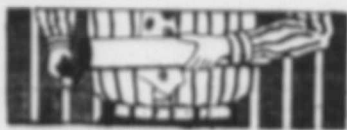
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frequently, I believe that he could assist and encourage the teachers to a very great degree. One inspector held a meeting in the evening to which the ratepayers were invited and at which they discussed the problems of the school. In many cases, where parents complain loudly that their children are not progressing, it will be found that those parents do not try to take an intelligent interest in the school work of the children. A simple inquiry each evening as to what has been accomplished during the day will often keep the child's attention on his work. In this section of the country the pupils do not attend the school as regularly as they should. I do not wonder that, under these circumstances, so few reach grade eight.

In one school not far from here a hot lunch was served to the children at noon. Each family took its turn in providing the dish, but in time, they grew tired of doing this. In districts where some of the children drive a long distance it may be a necessity. There are, however, some arguments against serving it in a one-roomed school. The children should spend as much of their noon hour as possible in the open air. Again, the teacher will need to supervise the work of clearing after the lunch has been served and this will consume most of the hour. If she is to come to the afternoon session with enthusiasm and steady nerves she needs a little relaxation between twelve and one. The improvement in conditions may seem very slight, but, in some quarters, at least, the struggle toward the new ideal has begun.

ELIZABETH.

Back

### NOT ENOUGH CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM

It is generally recognized that the school, and the rural school more especially, is one of the strong factors in the development of a strong type of character, among the men and women of the coming years.

Unfortunately, the majority of people are too ready to condemn the school for its failure to fulfil its highest function. Their criticism is destructive rather than constructive. This afternoon, as I passed our school—the ordinary white walled, red roofed prairie school, standing in uninviting solitude, in what was long ago chosen as the most central location—I asked myself the question, "Has our school been efficiently performing the service it was intended to? Has it succeeded in molding those who day after day have waited within its walls—into the 'four square type' we hear of in these days when the cry is for efficiency?" The answer that came to my mind was most clearly in the affirmative, but in spite of my belief in the capacity of the school for good, certain ideas kept presenting themselves to my mind for recommendation.

One thing that has undoubtedly hindered the usefulness of our school is the indifference of the majority of ratepayers to its government. They have not willingly attended school meetings. With the appointment of the school board their interest too often ceases. It has even been necessary on occasion to go and hail a passerby so that a quorum might be secured to carry on a business meeting. Surely the school is worthy greater support than it receives in many districts. The ratepayers do not want to be bothered with the management of one of the most important institutions in our country. It is because of this evident lack of interest in our school management, that I express the opinion that at least one woman should be on every school board.

#### The Teaching of Music

Nearly every criticism of the public school begins or ends with "The course in our public schools is too impractical." I am never too sure but that the reverse is true. Our curriculum includes farm arithmetic, grammar, geography, civics, manual training and domestic science, all practical subjects. One subject, not of the strictly utilitarian type that I would like to see receiving more attention is music. Our country boys and girls need more training in this gentle art. Give us more singing: National songs, passionate, spirited, with a martial ring; hunting songs, rollicking, joyful or gay; heart songs, tender, melo-

dious, soul uplifting; songs of many kinds, dignified, solemn, thrilling, blithe, full of mellow cadences. They will teach, refine, arouse enthusiasm, inspire. Choral clubs and even small orchestras can be successfully conducted, if only teacher and parents can be persuaded to take an interest in them.

Nature study has not yet come into its own in that school of ours. It would be a step in the right direction if the teacher would feel at liberty to take her little or big band for a ramble through the fields to the woods or along the river four or five times at least during the year. One teacher who went for such a ramble one glorious day in June said she would never forget the shouts of delight that the children gave when the lady's slippers were sighted. The compositions written a day later gave evidence of the "spontaneity of style" and "abundance of information," that is so much desired, but so sadly lacking on ordinary occasions.

#### Public Speaking—Good Reading

Would it not be a beneficial thing if our school would exchange its best work in drawing, arithmetic, geography (map work), writing, etc., with school B, which might exchange its best with C—a circulating exhibit which would serve as a stimulus for greater endeavor. Speaking contests in the senior grades would be of material benefit from an educational standpoint. A list of topics could be chosen by the teachers of schools contesting. Considerable class spirit might be stimulated by these contests. If asked to name something which does not appear in the average country school, but which would be of value to the children, the trustees might very likely collapse if "magazines" were named. Nevertheless, these are an educational asset our school would do well to have.

Very often children will read a magazine or at least study the illustrations when a book will fail to interest. My Magazine, Bird Lore, The American Boy, The Youth's Companion, etc., are liked by children. If the teacher cooperated with the ratepayers lower rates might be secured through a clubbing offer, and both school and people get their magazines at reduced rates.

Hot lunches cannot be advocated too highly or too often. The beneficial effects of such is their best guarantee. It is only a question of time until hot lunches are on the curriculum to stay. In the meantime I would like to see our school espouse the cause of hot lunches.

In pioneer times "Bees" played a very important part in accomplishing necessary improvements. If wisely planned they may in these times work for the good of the school. Clean-up bees have in former times worked transformations in our school and grounds, and I hope we may arrange garden bees and induce the ratepayers to cover the exhausted, weed infested seed bed which has been the heartbreak of so many teachers, with a substantial depth of rich black loam. Then we will have some chance of having an attractive display of flowers and vegetables, instead of a wilderness of weeds.

The organization of a mutual benefit society is something that could not fail to help our school very materially. Home and school could arrange to have their own officers, and monthly meetings might be held. Each alternate month the program could be provided by either pupils and teacher or ratepayers. With Service as the motto, such a society could not fail to develop greater fellowship between home and school, and that is one of the essential things for the success of our school.

EX-B-B-M.

Man.

The U.S. department of agriculture has issued a crop report which indicates a prospective serious shortage in the winter wheat of that country, even though growing conditions may be favorable from now until the time of harvest. If the season should be unfavorable, matters will be even worse. On top of this crop report, word has come that the Argentine corn crop, normally second in size to that of the United States, is exceedingly short this year. The farmers of the United States therefore are urged to plant staple crops for which there seem to be an assured market at good prices.

# Macaroni a Choice Dish

One of the very few articles of food that has taken up decided aeroplane flight in price is macaroni. Until a short time ago my knowledge of this delectable dish was limited principally to macaroni and cheese, and I have been amazed in experimenting to find in how many ways it may be used and how delicious many of those ways are. There used to be a deep seated prejudice against macaroni on account of the unsanitary conditions under which it was supposed to be made. A friend of ours who had travelled much in Italy would never touch macaroni, spaghetti or any of the family. He had seen too much macaroni hung to dry along the streets and lanes of the Italian towns, the dust of the streets making it a rich gray. No doubt most of that was for home consumption—we will hope so anyway. Now we can get macaroni made in Canada or the United States, made of the best wheat and made in factories that are more sanitary than most of our kitchens.

Macaroni is both a carbonaceous and nitrogenous food. It is made from semolina, a flour very rich indeed in gluten. It is a coarse, cream colored flour very unlike our powdery white flour. Mixed with milk as some of the macaroni is, it makes a very excellent substitute for meat.

Macaroni frequently lacks flavor, due mostly to the careless manner of cooking. And no matter what the final cooking process is, the first is always the same. Always have the water boiling and salt the water before adding the macaroni. Do not let it stop boiling until the macaroni is tender, if more water must be added, boil it in a separate pan and add when boiling. When the macaroni is tender run cold water over it, this keeps the pieces separate and the macaroni does not form a pasty mass. A bit of butter added during the boiling improves the flavor, but is not necessary. Some brands of macaroni need more cooking than others, one has to learn, by experience the length of time required to cook the different brands.

### White Sauce

Many of the recipes call for a white sauce, the following will fill this bill in most cases, half water may be substituted for the milk.

- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 2 tablespoons butter
- Salt and pepper

Heat the milk to boiling point, blend the flour and butter and moisten with a little of the milk, add gradually to the rest of the milk, stirring all the time, season with pepper and salt.

### Tomato Sauce

Macaroni is also excellent served with tomato sauce.

- 1/2 cup canned tomatoes
- 1 tablespoon chopped onion
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 cup water
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Simmer the tomato and onion in the water for twenty-five minutes, then strain. Melt the butter, add the flour and seasoning and slowly the strained tomato. Cook until the starchy taste is gone, add the boiled macaroni and cook in the sauce ten minutes.

### Boiled Macaroni

The macaroni to be served with the sauce should be prepared as follows:—

- 2 quarts boiling water
- 1/2 cup macaroni
- 2 level teaspoons salt

Have the water salted and boiling. Add the macaroni and cook until soft.

### Macaroni and Kidney Beans

- 1 cup macaroni
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 2 level teaspoons salt
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 quarts water
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 cup strained tomato
- 1 pint or 1 can strained kidney beans

Cook the macaroni in the boiling salted water until soft, drain and pour a cupful of cold water through it. Prepare a cream tomato sauce by heating the milk to scalding, then rub the butter and flour together and pour the boiling milk slowly over it. Add the strained tomato then the thoroughly drained macaroni and the kidney beans to the sauce. Serve very hot. Care must be taken in the stirring after the beans have been added as they mash easily.

### Macaroni and Cheese

There are a great variety of macaroni and cheese dishes, some of them insipid and unattractive, some of them very tasty and appetizing. It all depends on the cooking.

- 1-3 package macaroni
- 1 cup grated cheese
- 1 1/2 cups white sauce
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/2 cup stale bread-crumbs

Cook the macaroni in boiling salted water until soft, (from twenty minutes to half an hour). Pour cold water over it. Put a layer of macaroni in a buttered bake dish, add a layer of cheese and so on until the macaroni and cheese are used up. Pour over the white sauce. Sprinkle with breadcrumbs, dot with the butter and brown in the oven. A dash of red pepper added to the sauce improves the flavor.

### Macaroni and Eggs

This dish contains enough nourishment to take the place of meat at dinner.

- 1 cup macaroni
- 1 1/2 cups white sauce
- 3 hard boiled eggs
- 3 tablespoons toasted breadcrumbs

Cook the macaroni in boiling salted water, turn into a colander and allow cold water to run over it. Boil the eggs hard. Arrange the macaroni and sliced eggs in layers in a baking dish, having the top and bottom layers of macaroni. Pour the white sauce over it. Sprinkle the toasted breadcrumbs on top and bake in a moderate oven for twenty minutes.

### Macaroni Au Maitre d'Hotel

- 1/2 package macaroni
- 1 1/2 cups white sauce
- 1 tablespoonful chopped parsley
- 1/2 cup cooked mixed vegetables
- 3 hard boiled eggs

Break macaroni into short lengths and prepare as usual. Heat white sauce, put half of it into another small saucepan, add macaroni and keep it hot. Cut the vegetables into small dice or balls; add them to the rest of the sauce. Put border of the macaroni around a hot dish, and pile vegetables in the centre. Slice eggs and arrange them around the macaroni, sprinkling with a little salt and chopped parsley.

### Macaroni with Salmon

- 1-3 package macaroni
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 lb. can salmon
- 2 cups milk
- 3 tablespoons flour
- Salt and pepper to taste
- buttered bread-crumbs

Break macaroni into 1 1/2 inch pieces and prepare as usual. Melt butter with 1 tablespoonful of oil from the salmon and stir in flour. Then add milk and seasonings and stir, and boil for 3 minutes. Arrange macaroni and salmon in layers in buttered dish, pouring a part of the sauce each time over the salmon. Sprinkle buttered breadcrumbs over the top and bake until browned.

### Macaroni and Nut Pudding

This is much like tapioca pudding and makes a very nice dessert.

- 1-3 package macaroni
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoonful powdered cinnamon
- 2 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 1/2 cup chopped meat nuts
- whipped cream

Put some macaroni through a food chopper and measure 1 cup. Scald the milk, add the macaroni and cook until tender and the consistency of thick custard. Add sugar, cinnamon, yolks of eggs well beaten, vanilla, nut meats, and whites of eggs, beaten to a stiff froth. Divide into small buttered molds, stand in a pan of hot water in the oven and bake 20 minutes. Turn out and serve with whipped cream.

### Orange Charlotte

This is a dainty dessert and very good for invalids.

- 1 tablespoon gelatine
- 1/4 cup boiling water
- 1 1/2 cups strained orange juice
- 1/2 cup cold water
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 1/2 cups heavy cream

Soak gelatine in cold water, dissolve in boiling water. Add strained orange and lemon juice and sugar. Cool until it begins to thicken, then fold in cream beaten until stiff. Mould and serve garnished with cherries or lots of jelly. All gelatine moulds should be dipped in hot water, then in cold.

### HOME CANNING

An excellent bulletin has just been published by the Manitoba Department of Agriculture on canning all kinds of meat, vegetables and fruit at home. It gives full instructions and will save all kinds of trouble and give you better results if you follow the cold pack method. The bulletin will be sent free to applicants from any province, but I would recommend you to get your request in early. Simply address Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.



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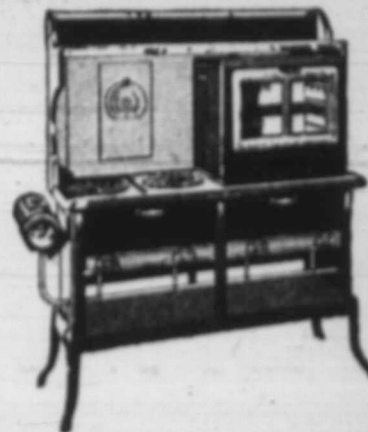


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**S**AFE, because the oil tank is away from the heat, and because the height of flame cannot vary. Clean, because there are no wicks to smoke or need trimming.

Burners can be regulated to give degree of heat desired, and when not in operation are left completely up out of oil contact. The asbestos lining and dead air space, and glass door of "Success" oven ensure heat retention and visible baking.

An economical cooker and baker, beautiful in appearance.



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## The Co-operative Creameries of Saskatchewan

Operated by The Dairy Branch, Department of Agriculture

are owned by farmers who supply the cream and are operated for their benefit. Wider markets and greatly increased returns have been secured through the Co-operative Creameries. Over \$17,000,000 as a final payment or dividend was divided among the farmers who supplied the cream during the year 1916. Co-operation among farmers is growing rapidly and means success. The output of butter from Co-operative Creameries has increased over 2,800 per cent, and the average selling price has increased to per cent, since the present policy was adopted in 1904. Last year more than 7,000 farmers supplied cream to the Co-operative Creameries, and over 2,500,000 lbs. of butter was made. Indications point to a still larger output this year. Send your cream shipments to one of the following creameries:

- |                |              |                  |           |
|----------------|--------------|------------------|-----------|
| Birch Hills    | Kerrobert    | Neville          | Tantallon |
| Carleton Place | Lanigan      | North Battleford | Unity     |
| Culworth       | Lanenburg    | Moosomin         | Wadena    |
| Ficks          | Lloydminster | Regina           | Waskia    |
| Heartburg      | Welfort      | Shellbrook       | Waskia    |

Express charges on cream shipments are paid at the Creameries. For further information write to the manager of one of the above Creameries, or to the

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE REGINA, Sask.

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BREEDERS OF

Barrad Plymouth Rocks, Partridge Plymouth Rocks, White Plymouth Rocks, Single Comb Buff Orpingtons, White Orpingtons, Black Orpingtons, Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds, White Wyandottes, Silver Laced Wyandottes, Single Comb White Leghorns, Rose Comb Brown Leghorns, Silver Campines, Golden Campines, Houdans, Pure Bronze Turkeys.

The above selection of birds are from the best poultry breeders, many of them being winners at Winnipeg Poultry Show, 1917.

Eggs for hatching, and birds sold by the pen. Cockerels, Cocks and Pullets sold singly when desired.

Carman Pure Bred Poultry Association

NEIL A. LOVE, Sec.-Treas.

*The Country Cook.*

GREAT DISCOVERY!

Remarkable Cloth that won't wear out or tear! Samples free by post to any reader.

Just fancy, readers! Whether a blacksmith, carpenter, engineer, laborer, farmer or clerk, could you by solid, hard, grinding wear, every day in the week—not just Sundays—wear a small hole in a \$2.25 pair of pants or a \$6.50 suit in six months? Could any of your boys wear a small hole in a \$2.27 suit in six months? Remember, six months of solid grinding wear and tear—not just Sundays—but every weekday and Sundays, too! If any reader can do this, he can get another garment free of charge!

A remarkable new untearable cloth has been discovered by a well-known firm in London, England. These new Holeproof Cloths are amazing! You can't tear them. You can't wear them out, no matter how hard you try. Yet, in appearance, they are exactly as finest tweeds and serge—sold at \$20.—But the price is only \$2.25 for a pair of Trousers, breeches \$2.50 and for a well-made, smart, stylish Gents Suit, delivered by post, with no further charge whatever \$6.50 only. Boys' Suits from \$2.27, Knickers from \$1.00. Readers are reminded that the above sums cover cost of postage and all charges, and there is nothing more to be paid on delivery. Full particulars of these remarkable cloths, together with a large catalogue of patterns, fashions, and a simple measure chart with which readers can measure themselves at home, will be sent absolutely free and postage paid to all those who just send a postcard to (Agents Dept. 3), The Holeproof Clothing Co., P.O. Box 777, Winnipeg. The firm's London address is 14 Theobalds Road, London, W.C., Eng., but all applications for samples should be sent to Winnipeg. Advertisement

Phonola advertisement featuring a gramophone and text: 'The Phonograph Sensation of the Age—Made in Canada. Even professionals find it difficult to distinguish between the Phonola and the voice of living artists. With this new-type machine you will get those full, round overtones, the clear, vibrant "high C" and the mellow low notes in all their original purity—no blurring, clicking or scratching noises whatever. Plays any and all disc records. Prices range from \$15 to \$250.'

Phonola advertisement featuring a gramophone and text: 'FREE: We will mail you our illustrated catalog of Phonola and records and name of our local dealer, upon request. DEALERS: We have a splendid proposition for dealers in unorganized towns. Write for details. The Pollock Mfg. Company Ltd., Kitchener, Ontario. Model "Process 1175"'

MUSIC TAUGHT FREE advertisement: 'In Your Home FREE. By the Oldest and Best Method School of Music in America—Established 1893. Piano, Organ, Violin, Mandolin, Violoncello, Banjo, Etc. Lessons in advanced lessons. Free home weekly instruction under everything given. Only expense shown to get this is cost of postage and return post. Write for Free Booklet which explains everything in full. AMERICAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 82 Lakeside Building, CHICAGO'

PAY When You Graduate advertisement: 'Garbutt Business College, Calgary. Success Business College, Regina'

MAKE YOUR BIKE A MOTORCYCLE advertisement: 'FREE BOOK. SHAW MANUFACTURING CO., Dept 111 GALENSBURG, E.A.S.B., U.S.A.'

Young Canada Club

By DIXIE PATTON

GARDEN PLANS

Of course a good many of you are planning the splendid gardens you are going to have this year. In imagination you can see the flowers growing and taste the juicy vegetables. There is just a danger of dreaming too big a dream and undertaking your operations on too large a scale. Between the day of planting and reaping there is quite a big stretch of weeding and hoeing that is downright hard work. Don't forget that and remember that a little garden full of happy strong plants is so much better than a big patch, where sickly weak things struggle against the weeds. But just the same we wish you the best of luck in growing things, eatable and beautiful. DIXIE PATTON

THE SNOW FAIRIES' SURPRISE

It was a bright morning in the winter, and the snow fairies were gathered under the snow laden branches of an elm.

"I wish that we had something to do," spoke up one little snow fairy. "Now that we have scattered the diamonds over the snow, polished the ice on the ponds and other work, why there isn't anything else to do."

"Well, we help Jack Frost in the evenings with his painting, but that is only in the evenings." Oh, you know it snowed last night! said a cheerful fairy. "Of course it snowed," cried the fairies scornfully, but how will that help us to get anything nice to do?"

"Well, you see," said the fairy, "the children who live in the farmhouse have colds and one little boy has sprained his ankle. When I went by his home yesterday he was sitting by the window and I heard him say he wished he had something new to look at. You know there are many trees around the farmhouse, and there will be just loads of snowflakes on the trees, so I thought we could make little figures of snow on the branches."

"Why yes, let's do it! But first we will ask the Queen," chorused the fairies. So off they trooped to the fairy Queen. She said they had a nice plan and she went back with them to the trees around the house. They each chose a tree and then began to work.

They scooped together the crystal flakes on the trees and made them into little rows of stars, little mountain peaks, flowers and even rows of tiny snow men, all standing on the branches. One fairy made a figure of the Queen standing on a topmost branch. It was evening when they finished, and then they went to ask Jack Frost if, instead of merely holding his paint pots for him they might paint some pictures on the windows. Jack Frost said they might.

So Jack Frost and all the fairies painted the windows. How they worked! Soon there were pretty pictures of snowy trees, with snowflakes floating down upon them, and pine trees with a man chopping down one of them for a Christmas Day. On some of the windows were big snow-covered hills, with children playing with their sleds on them. There were houses with big chimneys with the snowdrifts piled high about them. When the fairies were finished every one of them said they had had a lovely time. Jack Frost said they might help him paint the windows every night.

The next morning little Roy (who had sprained his ankle) and the other children saw the pretty pictures on the windows. How happy they were! They were just as happy and surprised when they saw the pretty figures on the trees.

When the children were well from their colds they went outdoors and danced and played around the pretty trees. GLADYS H. LINDGREN, Biggar, Sask. Age 10.

DIAMOND FAIRIES

When the sun shines on the snow it looks as though there were millions of little sparkling diamonds on the snow. Well, did you ever know that there are fairies in each diamond? There are, and that is why they look as if they are moving around. The Queen of all these diamond fairies is "Sparkle," and she is a sister of the north-west wind. One night Sparkle called her fairies and bade them go to their different tasks.

Each fairy had her own special work, but the Queen's favorite had to fly to the moon and get the key for the "Fairy Castle," and then let loose all the doves. These doves had to take the Fairy Queen in her chariot across the sky, from their home in the Milky Way to see the children skating and playing out of doors.

When the children saw the doves they tried to chase them, but of course they couldn't succeed and the Fairy Queen enjoyed their laughter and fun, until alas! One night she was caught by a little girl whose name was Eva. Eva took her home squeezed up tight in her little hand. Eva was very kind to her, but the little fairy pined for her airy home. One night Sparkle found a little tiny crack in the window, and of course being so tiny, she escaped.

It was so dark she could not see her way, so she lay just outside the window till morning, but when morning came she was so cold that she could not fly. So little Sparkle had to become an ordinary fairy with the others. VERA A. BACON, Age 12. Kinistino, Sask.

THE STORY OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

Once upon a time a little boy was watching the Northern Lights. He said to himself, "I believe I will follow them." So he started on his way. He walked for a long time, when he came to a small house made of snow. He knocked at the door. After awhile a small woman came to see who was at the door. She told the little boy to come in while she got tea. They had dry fish for their supper and some bread.

The woman was dressed in fur. And the men and children were also dressed in fur. The boy stayed at the Eskimo's home all that night and in the morning the little boy continued his journey. He got some reindeers and a sled. He put some hay in the bottom of the sled, and a polar bear's skin over his knees.

He travelled for a few days, and about noon he came to a beautiful bush covered with white frost. It sparkled in the sunshine. The little boy called it "Fairyland."

He drove on for about two miles when he came to a palace made of gold and diamonds. The boy went up the broad steps and rang the door bell.

A fairy came to the door. She asked the boy who he was and where he came from. The little boy said his name was Johnnie Green and that he came from Canada. "Who lives here?" asked the little boy.

"This is the home of the Northern Lights."

The little boy went into the palace and he saw the Northern Lights playing games. In the center of the hall the boy saw the "Lady Moon." The fairy took Johnnie all through the palace. BERTHA LOUISE HELPS, Manitou, Man.

SPRINGTIME

This is the time of the year when aged winter is slowly and sadly making his way back to his home in the north. As he goes, he thinks of his long life that is ended, and of the rest and good times that his coming afforded people.

Still jealousy creeps into his heart when he sees all his season's work being destroyed by the sun, and the people that once welcomed him, being glad to see him going and so eager to see the beautiful "Spring" coming again, although it does mean much harder work and less sport.

Even the animals and plants of all kinds welcome back warmer and brighter days, which is clearly seen in their different ways of welcoming her.

The birds show that spring is welcome by their singing, the frogs by their croaking, and even plants are glad to see her come once more, which is shown by the opening of their buds and putting on dresses of a gay color.

By all appearances old winter has quite worn out his welcome by his long stay (to which many of us will readily agree) and is going back to his ice palace in the north, where he is ever welcome. STELLA DOBBIN, Parklog, Sask. Age 14.

16 American Separator advertisement: '95% ON TRIAL FULLY GUARANTEED CREAM SEPARATOR. A SOLID PROPOSITION to send new, well made, easy running, perfect skimming separator for only \$14.95. Monthly Payment Plan. AMERICAN SEPARATOR CO., No. 3210, Rochester, N. Y.'

A Good Watch at a Reasonable Price advertisement: 'Our new 1916-17 Catalogue is now ready for delivery, and will be mailed free upon receipt of your name and address. D. E. Black & Co. Ltd., Jewelers, Herald Building, Calgary, Alta.'

LEARN NURSING AT HOME advertisement: 'One of the most noble and highly paying vocations; easily learnt without leaving home. Royal College of Science, 709 L. Spadina Ave, Toronto, Canada.'

SILK advertisement: 'All Fancy Colors—Large Prices—Just what you need for making Crayons, Buttons, etc. UNITED SALES CO., Dept. 4, Station 5, Winnipeg, Man.'

EAGLE advertisement: 'Write to-day for our big FREE CATALOGUE showing our full line of Bicycles for Men and Women, Boys and Girls—Tires, Coaster Brakes, Wheels, Inner Tubes, Lamps, Bells, Cyclometers, Saddles, Equipment and Parts for Bicycles. T. W. BOYD & SON, 27 Notre Dame Street West, Montreal.'

We Pay the Freight advertisement: '12 Bbl. \$38.50, 16 Bbl. \$46.20. Freeland Steel Tank Co., HALSBYTE, SASK. Manufacturers of all kinds of Steel Tanks'



# Farm Women's Clubs

## FROM THE MANITOBA SECRETARY

The provincial secretary, Mrs. E. C. Wieneke, Stony Mountain, Manitoba, would like a report from all local secretaries of the Woman's Auxiliaries of the G.G.A., also from any local organization where there are women members, as to how many women were enrolled during 1916, but only up to January 1, 1917. We are desirous of having an exact account of the increase in membership over that of last year. Please state what prospects there might be for organizing an auxiliary or section in that or nearby localities, and what assistance or knowledge would be needed to further this farmers' co-operative movement. We would like to see every farming community an organized centre and will do all in our power to assist. Now is the time to prepare for the public duties thrust upon us and we are not surely going to falter or grow indifferent after the splendid way the Canadian men have acted by taking or leading the way with their "British fair play."

In no way can women help their men folk so much as by standing solidly with them in their demand for equality as set forth in the Farmers' Platform. All organizations should read a portion of it at every meeting and follow with a discussion until its principles were so plain that even the blind can see. Just as sure as the day will follow the night just so sure will good results follow the united efforts of men and women when banded together for some good cause. Look at the recent unexpected change in N.D. legislative standing as an example of what can be done and are we, of Manitoba, any less capable?

Please report as soon as possible, and we would also like to suggest talking over the prospect of an annual picnic day, which would be held by all locals on the same day. Perhaps a discussion through The Guide might help settle this matter with satisfaction to all.

### A BIG IDEAL

Several of our members have asked me for a copy of "A Club Woman's Creed," and I take the opportunity afforded by our columns in The Guide to reproduce it for the benefit of all. If we strive to make it our rule of life, then we shall shut the mouths of those who would make us believe that women's clubs can never be a success, because women are too petty—that the personal element enters too largely into their business and social lives. Moreover our home life, which after all, is the true test of what we are, and not what we seem, will be beautified and enriched thereby.

### A Club Woman's Creed

Keep us, O God, from pettiness; let us be large in thought, in word, in deed. Let us put away faultfinding and leave off self seeking.

May we put away pretense and meet each other face to face, without self-pity, and always generous.

Let us take time for all things and make us to grow calm, serene, gentle.

Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward and unafraid.

Grant us to see it is the little things of life that create differences—that in the big things we are one.

May we strive to touch and to know the great, common woman's heart of us all, and O Lord God, let us not forget to be kind.

L.R.R.

### ALBERTA CLUB NOTES

The report from Seven Persons is more encouraging than usual. The club has done some co-operative buying, held a basket social, had a visit from the provincial president, and an address from Mr. Hare on the marketing of eggs and poultry. An egg circle may be the outcome. A donation was also voted for the Y.W.C.A. Travellers' Aid, Medicine Hat. We hope their membership will increase this year, and the pull be less up-hill.

Jenner has a favorable report also. The convention seems to have infused new life into the club and the membership is increasing. The women have

formed an auxiliary to the Calgary Red Cross and the secretary reports, "While we cannot help financially, we are nevertheless trying to do our bit." A program is being drawn up for six months, and the social side is not being neglected.

Sussexvale, Edgerton, is another club whose interest has been stimulated by the convention. Since then the members have made a quilt and sent the proceeds of the sale to the St. John Ambulance Association. They have also raised by means of a box social \$130 for Red Cross, besides doing two large bundles of sewing. Does that sound as if our farm women are unpatriotic? This club is taking up also one of the study outlines of the university.

"Things are looking up," so the secretary from Altorado writes. The club is taking up the study outline "Woman and the State." The May meeting is to be a mothers' day. Plans are being made for a Boys' Potato Club and a sewing and cooking contest for the girls. Mr. Ottewill from the university is down for a moving picture lecture. Proceeds to go to the military Y.M.C.A. An Easter offering of 124 dozen fresh eggs and 20 pounds of butter was contributed to the Soldier's Convalescent Home at Ogden, "so that they might have a real Easter." A Russian settlement near contributed a large proportion of the offering. I am sorry I cannot convey the enthusiasm of that report, but the secretary concludes, "I am as happy as a lark," and so are we.

Asker U.P.W.A. is keeping up its reputation. The March meeting was a joint one, and about ninety were present. For the April meeting there is to be an address on consolidated schools by Inspector Nelson. Red Cross work is engaging a lot of attention, as well as preparation for the school field day. The club is already looking ahead to U.P.A. Sunday and starting to make provision for it. This is one of the clubs that performs for the executive, the office that Aaron once performed for his brother, the great Israelitish leader Moses when he became weary—that of holding up his hands. We become discouraged often and wonder if the work is in any way realizing our dreams. Such reports as have come to hand this week are a real stimulus to effort, and an encouragement to be and do our best.

LEONA R. BARRITT.

### BELGIAN FAMILY ADOPTED

Dear Miss Stocking:—A goodly crowd gathered at the home of Mrs. W. Clews on the afternoon of March 22, consisting of twenty old and five new members of the Pangman W.G.G.A. Nearly all the women around here are now of the "elect" (i.e. W.G.G.) and we hope to win the rest before very long. Details for the Easter entertainment were arranged, committees appointed, etc.

A Belgian family is to be adopted by the club.

The civic committee read articles on Free Trade which aroused a lengthy (and rather noisy) discussion. The same committee is to get articles in favor of the other side of the question for the next meeting. After next month the subjects are to be taken up as debates.

K. CLEWS.


### HAVE HAD GAY WINTER

The members of the Lanigan women grain growers have found that the last winter contained more real fun than ever before. One of their active workers reports that although they were in the hail belt and total losses of crops were met with yet the neighborhood never seemed so sociable nor the winter pass so quickly. The reason was found to be the men and women grain growers' union meetings held during the winter months, and a number of debates which took place.—E.A.R.

### IDALEEN ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

Dear Miss Stocking:—The third annual meeting of the Idaleen association was held at the home of Mrs. Hendershot

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JAS. CUNNINGHAM, Mgr.



# Belgian Children must be fed. They need YOUR help.

Send your name and your money to **BELGIAN RELIEF FUND**

- 290 Garry St. Winnipeg
- Dr. Belgian Relief Committee, 1570 Cameron St., Regina, Sask.
- Dr. J. H. Woods, Hon. Sec., Belgian Relief Committee, Calgary, Alta.
- Dr. F. T. Fisher, Treasurer, Belgian Relief Committee, Edmonton, Alta.



on November 29, most of the time being taken up with business. The reports showed that during the year the club had helped with the Xmas and patriotic entertainments and the picnic and held its own annual June concert. A delegate had been sent to the annual Grain Growers' convention in Saskatoon, and Mrs. Haight had been secured to visit us and give an address during the summer. Two cash donations had been sent the Red Cross Society and a picture purchased for the schoolhouse. Two government libraries had also been received this year. The program which was chiefly "Great Women and Their Work," with one day set aside for "Housekeepers," and one for "Mothers," was well arranged by the committee in charge and carried out successfully. And yet—I wonder sometimes if other clubs ever feel as ours did—we hesitated whether we should take up the work and go on with it or drop it. On the resignation of all the officers and committees, no one seemed ready to accept the places they had vacated. However that state of affairs was of short duration, and I believe it is safe to say we are all proud to claim membership in the organization which truly belongs to the women of the prairie farms. The exchanging of ideas occasionally gives each member an opportunity of seeing the work her fellow-member has had or will have to do, consequently a better knowledge of how best we may help each other, and should make for a stronger association. Our seeming failure may prove to be a blessing in disguise, and there seems sufficient reason to look forward to improvement another year. The new officers are as follows: President, Mrs. Culler; vice-president, Mrs. Hendershot; secretary, Mrs. Hay; treasurer, Mrs. Sanson; directors, Mrs. Hutchison, Mrs. Lawson, Miss Whyte.

The topic was "Something which impressed me," by each member. Roll call, "Favorite Winter Sport."  
Sincerely yours,  
A. C. M. HENDERSHOT, Secy.

### PROTESTING AGAINST LIQUOR

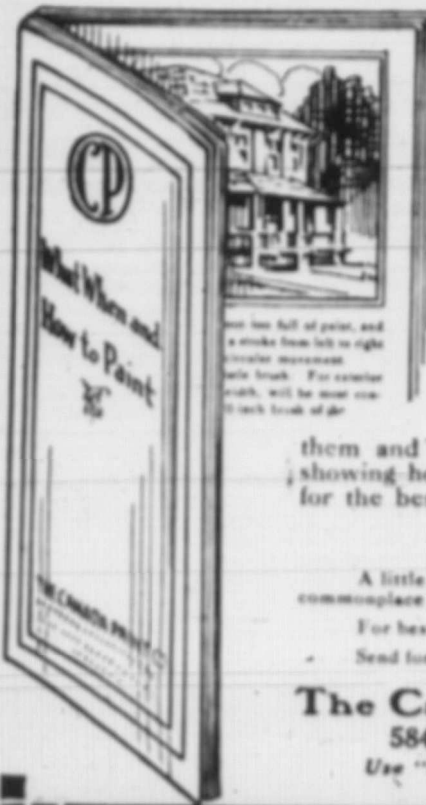
The Star City Women Grain Growers are among the ranks of those determined to this year make their association stand for something worth while in the lives of their members. Their president, Mrs. A. Blair, is deeply interested in making the work a success. She has written voicing the inquiries of the members regarding the right of women voting at the coming elections and making a strong protest against the shipment of liquor into Saskatchewan from the bordering provinces. The answer has been sent to the Star City members that they do not need property qualifications when voting for provincial members of the legislative assembly; they will vote as they did on the liquor question, that is on the same terms as men. In regard to the liquor question not only do liquor dealers of Manitoba and Alberta ship into this province but dealers in this province ship into the "dry" provinces on the two sides of us. A strong protest against this was made at the provincial grain growers' convention and we hope that legislation will, in the near future, be enacted prohibiting it, because of the strong public opinion that is being aroused against it.—E.A.S.

And from women who are members of having to all... (text is partially obscured and difficult to read)

### BELGIAN RELIEF SHIPS INSURED

The Belgian Relief Committee authorizes the statement that money contributed for the relief of the Belgians is not absolutely lost when an occasional ship meets disaster in the war zone, as it is protected from loss by the insurance on the ship and its cargo. It is further stated that ship after ship in the employ of the Relief Commission, reaches its destination safely and shipwreck is to exception. Most of the ships that have gone down have been sunk by hitting mines.

Before the war Germany is said to have been on a "peck ration" because hogs require less land per unit to produce than do sheep or cattle.



## What, When and How to Paint

Is the title of a practical book which points the way to a more cheerful—more beautiful home.

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# Heating Country Homes

In no country is the installation of an efficient heating system in the home more necessary than in Western Canada. The long winters with low temperatures and driving winds make it especially difficult to keep a house comfortable. Heating arrangements that would be perfectly well suited to more moderate climates are inadequate when used in Western Canada. Another factor and one not usually considered in this connection is that of ventilation. Only when a house is well heated is it possible to ventilate it in cold weather. Newcomers from less rigid climates almost invariably stand aghast at the lack of ventilation in our homes in winter time. They tell us that we have our house hermetically sealed; that this is bad for the health, that it induces tuberculosis and other serious ailments and that we can never expect to maintain our physical vigor under such conditions. They are right. A closely sealed house cannot be a healthy one. It is to be noted, however, that newcomers soon follow our example; the reason being that ventilation and comfort are conflicting terms in most houses on a wintry day. The common term that "fresh air costs nothing" like many other generally accepted platitudes is entirely false under these conditions. When the outside air, 40 degrees below zero, is admitted for ventilation it costs money to raise it to the temperature of a living room. But for health we must have it, and the question arises, which is the most economical way in which to heat our homes, since on this the question of comfort and health depends?

In the city practically every modern house has an up-to-date heating system. This is not always so in the country. Many good houses there are heated with stoves. Stove-heating serves well enough for small houses but for a large house it is totally insufficient. The large house heated with stoves is unevenly heated and therefore drafty and though stoves may be cheaper to install than a furnace, the cost of up-keep makes them dearer in the end. Besides, stoves are busy and increase the work of the housewife. They cannot be compared with an efficient heating system with the furnace in the cellar. Those who live in houses in which the installation of such a system has been neglected when they were under construction can still install them, though if put in after a house is completed the system is never quite so neat and efficient. This is especially so of the hot air system with which the large exposed pipes are used. Those who contemplate building a new house should figure on installing the heating system when the house is built as it is much cheaper and more satisfactory to do it at that time than later.

### A Few Heating Principles

Nowadays the heating of houses has developed into a distinct branch of engineering work. The very best thing for the intending builder to do is to get in touch with some of the firms who make heating a specialty, supplying the plan of the house and getting advice as to the proper installation of an effective heating system whether hot air, hot water, or steam. There are a few things to be noted in the installation of a heating system, especially the hot air system. In all exposed rooms on the windward side of the house the temperature will be lower than in other parts of the house. This is due to the fact that the cold air is entering through cracks and crevices which cannot be made absolutely air-tight. This air travels across the house becoming raised in temperature as it does and leaves the house on the other side through cracks and crevices, open doors or windows, or up the chimney flues. There is always a movement of air through a house in the direction in which the wind is blowing. In the efficiently heated house therefore the furnace so located as to deliver more heat toward that side of the house from which the prevailing winds come. The place for the furnace is as near as possible to the coldest part of the house. It is a common practice to place registers near the inner corner of the room in order to economize in

conducting pipe in horizontal runs. A small amount of economy in the first cost is secured but the efficiency of the apparatus is sacrificed. Conducting pipes should not be placed in the outer walls, because of the loss of heat due to the outside cold and the resulting loss in circulation.

### Hot Water Heating

One objection to the use of hot water heating as a means of heating is that once the heat of the house is much reduced the furnace is a long time raising the temperature to normal. This is due to the fact that the temperature of the water of the entire system must be uniformly raised because of its continuous passage through the heater. But, on the other hand, this uniformity of temperature prevents sudden cessation of the supply of heat to the house if the fire dies down. The installation of a hot water system is a job for experts. The apparatus is too costly and the work too complicated for the novice.

Steam heating has proved to be the best system for heating large buildings where the heat has to be carried for considerable distances but has not become widely used in homes of ordinary size.

An important point in any heating system is the maintaining of the proper humidity in the air throughout the house. It should be so arranged that a certain percentage of moisture be kept in the air, and this is provided for in various ways. Hot air furnaces usually have a water pan from which the hot air evaporates sufficient moisture. With hot water systems usually a shallow pan kept full of water and placed over or alongside of the radiator furnishes the moisture required.

When considering the purchase of a modern heating system it is best to get the advice of a good firm which makes a specialty of heating. By supplying rough plans of the house the firm will be able to make an estimate of the cost of a complete system and, if satisfactory, will supply full working drawings for the proper and effective installation of the plant.

### RUSSIA'S LAND HUNGRY PEASANTS

Reports from Russia indicate that the revolution has brought the long standing agrarian troubles to a head. Notwithstanding the organization of food committees which are doing their best to make the peasants understand that the land question cannot be wisely settled until the constituent assembly is elected, the peasants are inclined to take the matter into their own hands. Soldiers visiting their rural homes, with or without leave, spread the news of the revolution and lead the peasants against the land owners.

Peasants' conferences to which delegates are sent from even the smallest communes are being organized in every province of Russia to discuss peasant needs. Those already held have insisted on a proper distribution of land. One characteristic resolution demands that all land which private land owners cannot sow must immediately be surrendered temporarily to the peasants, soldiers' wives to receive shares free and others at moderate rent, to be fixed by the local communities. The grand committee of the alliance of peasants has addressed the following petition to the peasants at the front: "Do your duty. Do not fear that the lands will be divided without you. This division cannot be made by isolated villages for that would provoke internal quarrels by which the enemy might profit. Only the constituent assembly, wherein you will be represented, will decide this important question."

### FAVOR IMPERIAL PREFERENCE

London, April 26.—The British government has accepted the policy of British economic partnership with Canada and the other dominions.

The basis of the new policy is imperial preference, which the war cabinet adopted this week, acting on a resolution of the imperial war conference and the report of the Lord Balfour of Burleigh committee. The grounds for this decision were forecasted some months ago.



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The significance of the decision is enhanced by its unanimity both in the conference and in the cabinet. That is to say, labor and liberalism as officially represented in parliament join hands with unionism, thus practically closing the party divisions which arose when the late Hon. Jos. Chamberlain first propounded the policy in 1903. It is also noteworthy that Gen. Smuts, representing the Dutch as well as the British South Africans, cordially agreed. Australia's acquiescence was assured, though no Australian representatives were present.

In order to mark the importance of the occasion, it is understood that Premier David Lloyd George will himself announce the new policy in the house of commons Friday and he will indicate that, having now recognized the empire as a trading family, British ministers will proceed to create the necessary administrative machinery to give full effect to the imperial preference in co-operating to develop the empire's resources overseas and to negotiate for the closest possible trading arrangements with France, Russia, Italy and other allies in which Canada and other Dominions will share as Britain's partners.

France has prepared for these negotiations by intimating her intention to denounce the existing commercial treaties. It is expected British treaties will be similarly denounced, so that in accordance with the terms of the resolutions of the 1911 conference in Paris last June, specially favorable terms of trade may be conceded to the allies as against the enemies. Some of the radicals are expected to oppose the imperial preference and the new treaties with the allies in place of the present most-favored national treatment of the whole world, but the sting of their opposition is removed by the new world shortage of wheat which will preclude any immediate wheat duty here.

### TO CONSIDER SAMPLE MARKET

The Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada will hold a sitting at the City Hall, Winnipeg, on Tuesday, June 12, at 10 a.m. to consider rules and regulations for sample market trading.

### MILLERS DISCUSS FREE WHEAT

At a gathering of 75 members of the Dominion Millers' Association held in Toronto, on April 24, a resolution to accept the action of the Dominion government in opening a free market to the United States for Canadian wheat and flour as a temporary and not a permanent measure was unanimously voted down. The secretary of the association declared that the farmers of the north-west have been fighting for the free admission of Canadian wheat and flour into the United States for many years and that they now looked upon the action of the government as a triumph, having bluntly declared through the medium of The Grain Growers' Guide that it was not a temporary, but a permanent measure. For this reason he believed that the association should go on record as accepting the measure as temporary and not as permanent. The resolution was voted down, however, because it was felt that the measure as it now stands opened the way for the association to obtain a more equitable rate from transportation companies. The matter was therefore allowed to stand over until the annual meeting in July. The association decided to proceed with the furnishing of a flour handling syndicate launched, it was said, for the purpose of protecting the small milling concerns and with a view to eliminating the middleman.

### TRADING IN FUTURES CENSORED

No trading in futures can be carried on in the Winnipeg Grain Exchange without first consulting a censorship committee. The most radical step in the history of the Winnipeg wheat market was announced on Saturday. "This action," said President Gage, "has been deemed necessary in view of the critical condition of the market and in the belief that such action would maintain trade along legitimate lines notwithstanding the fact that information before the council would indicate that the holdings in the market are almost entirely for the account of the British government and Canadian millers and that the millers have assured the exchange that their holdings are for present requirements only." The censorship committee is composed of Secretary McGill, F.

A. Fowler, manager of the clearing house and Thos. Brody, representing the floor committee. The object of the censorship is to ascertain the quality of the orders going into the pit, whether they are purely speculative or in any way connected with cash wheat. Following the announcement of the censorship May wheat declined 20, July 24 and October 19.

The present excited and nervous market situation with its wide fluctuations

is the result of many contributory factors. Most important of these is the world shortage of wheat. Supplies from Russia and the Balkan states are not available; lack of tonnage has rendered the Australian crop practically unavailable; the Argentine has placed an embargo on grain shipments; winter wheat situation in the United States is unsatisfactory and the submarine menace continues. All these focussed attention on the wheat shortage. In addition Great Britain has been slow in systematizing wheat buying and in the control of shipping. Line elevators have been hedging on the country purchases by selling futures against them. There has been unusual congestion in transportation with very little wheat moving by rail during the winter and a very late opening of spring navigation. All these things have contributed to making high, excited and nervous markets with wide fluctuations and characterized by absurd stories of corners, undue speculation, gambling, and the like. The only way to ascertain the amount of purely speculative trading was to establish a censorship of the trading in the pit. The air was first cleared by the announcement on the authority of the Royal Wheat Commission that the allied governments had done so buying during the last 40 cent advance and that they had sufficient wheat bought for present requirements. Immediately after the announcement a desk was carried to the south end of the pit where the three censors immediately took up their stations and began operations.

## Alberta Short Term Credit Act

One of the most important acts at the last session of the Alberta Legislature was the Alberta Co-operative Credit Act enacted to furnish short-term credit through co-operative societies. Such societies may be formed by thirty persons signing a petition, forms for which are provided, setting out their respective addresses, occupations, lands the name of the society they propose to organize, the proposed chief place of business, the names of four subscribers to act as provincial directors, and the name of one person to act as secretary-treasurer, until organization has been completed. The proposed members, who may number anywhere from 30 to 100, must be carrying on farming, ranching, stock-raising, dairying, or other operations within a radius of thirty miles from the location chosen as the chief place of business. Each subscriber must not take less than \$100 worth of stock, pay \$20 on account in cash, and give his note for the balance, payable on the following December 31.

The petition is then sent to the provincial treasurer with a request for a government guarantee. The government guarantees the lender against loss to the amount of one-half the capital stock of the society. At the same time as the petition is sent to the provincial treasurer a request should be made the council of any municipality within the territory in which the society is organized for a municipal guarantee. The municipality or municipalities will be asked to guarantee the lender against loss for an amount equal to one-half the capital stock of the society, or the same as that guaranteed by the provincial government. If two or more municipalities are interested, each may guarantee an equal proportion of that amount. Councils may give guarantees without submitting the question to the vote of the ratepayer, unless required to do so by the Lieutenant-Governor. The form and manner of the municipal guarantee shall be determined by the council and approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in council.

A copy of the order-in-council so approved is filed with the registrar of the joint stock companies, who issues a certificate of registration and publishes a notice of the same in the Alberta Gazette. Upon receipt of the certificate of registration, a notice of the publication in the Gazette and the report of the willingness of the government and municipalities to give guarantees the provisional directors shall call a meeting of all the subscribers to select four directors who shall be the subscribers' representatives on the board of the society.

On notice of this procedure the Lieutenant-Governor and the council of the municipalities affected shall appoint two directors each to the board, or in the case of two or more municipalities, each municipality shall appoint one director. A meeting shall then be called for the completion of the organization. After the election of officers the society shall be a body entitled to carry on business and to exercise all the powers conferred by the act. No officer, or director, except the secretary-treasurer will be paid any salary or fee except actual expenses incurred while attending meetings.

### Purpose Money is Put To

It will be the duty of administrators to arrange with any chartered bank, financial corporation, firm, or person, for loans to the members of the society for any or all of these purposes:—(1) The purchase of seed, feed and other farm supplies; (2) the purchase of implements and machinery; (3) the purchase of cows, horses, sheep and other livestock; (4) the payment of cost of preparing for cultivation and of carrying on the season's operations.

The society can also act as an agent for the members in either purchasing or selling commodities.

The procedure for obtaining a loan is as follows:—

(1) A member makes an application to the secretary-treasurer, on a form provided, stating the amount required and the purpose for which it is to be used and files with this application a statement of his assets and liabilities.

(2) The secretary-treasurer presents

the application and statement to the directors at their next meeting.

(3) The directors approve same in whole or in part on such terms as to securities as they deem proper, being empowered to take any form of security necessary to protect fully the interests of the society.

(4) When the loan is arranged for with the society the secretary-treasurer gives a copy of the approved application to the lender, who takes the borrower's note in accordance with the terms agreed on with the society. The society endorses the note and the borrower gets the money.

### Society Holds Lien

Where a subscriber obtains money with which to purchase animals, machinery, goods or other chattels of any kind he must give a signed written description of same on form furnished, to the secretary-treasurer within ten days after the purchase. The secretary-treasurer files a certificate containing particulars of the loan and of the security in the proper registration district and until the loan is repaid the society holds a lien on the animals or machinery so purchased and may take possession of the same in case of default or neglect or other breach of the provisions of this act.

The profits of the society coming from the share of interest obtained, or otherwise shall be applied:

(a) In payment of the necessary expenses of the society; (b) in payment of a dividend on the paid-up stock of not more than six per cent per annum; (c) in accumulating a reserve.

The annual meeting of the society shall be held between the first day of January and the first day of March in each year.

The paid-up capital of a society may be invested in such manner as the directors with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may direct.

Provision is made whereby a shareholder may retire from a society on complying with certain requirements, and the act also provides for the dissolution and winding up of a society.

The Lieutenant-Governor in Council has power to appoint a supervisor of co-operative credit societies and such inspectors, assistants and clerical assistance as may be necessary and to define the duties and to provide for the payment of such employees.

There is also provision in the act for the manner of keeping the books, for an audit by the provincial auditor at least once a year and for an annual financial report to the provincial treasurer to be laid before the legislative assembly.

## Your Questions Answered

### DISLOCATION OF STIFLE

Q.—I have a horse, four years old, that has dislocated his stifle joint on right hind leg. When we put it back in place it immediately comes out again. The horse is quite lame. What would you advise using or doing for him? Does this sometimes result in permanent lameness?—W. H. H. Sask.

A.—This horse is troubled with dislocation of the cap bone of the stifle joint. When the cap of the joint continues to slip out of place it causes the ligaments to become stretched so that they are unable to keep the cap bone in position, resulting in permanent lameness.

For treatment, pull the affected leg well forward so that the foot will rest flat on the ground. Having got the leg into proper place keep it in this position by means of a collar and rope passing from the collar between the front legs and tied around the pastern or foot of the dislocated leg. A good blister should then be applied to the stifle and the horse should be kept at rest tied up short in the stable for several weeks. A good blister for a case of this kind is composed of one dram of powdered cantharides and one dram of biniodide of mercury, mixed with one ounce of lard so as to form an ointment. In applying the blister, the hair should be closely clipped over the stifle and the blister well rubbed in around the joint so as to cause as much swelling as possible.

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### CONSCRIPTION IN UNITED STATES

Two groups of 500,000 each are to be raised by selective conscription in the United States. The Army Bill, which embodied President Wilson's proposals for putting the army on a war footing was passed by both houses of congress on Saturday of last week. Besides making provision for the raising of a million men by selective draft the bill calls for a total armed force of 1,900,000 men; an army of 287,000; a national guard of 625,000; filling of the gaps in the militia by volunteer and forced enlistment; the liability to service of all male citizens between the ages of 21 and 40 years inclusive, and exemption from service of those belonging to religious organizations whose creeds oppose war, clergymen of recognized religious denominations and federal state officials.

Conscription will apply to men between 19 and 25 years of age. It was proposed to institute a registration of such eligibles by co-operation between the federal, state and municipal authorities. In August or early September 500,000 of these young men would be summoned to the colors, those supporting dependents or needed by the nation in civil life being exempted from service. The officers needed to train and command these new troops would be drawn from the regulars, the national guard or from the first section of the new army to train a second. The second selected draft would be called up a year from now. A total of more than two million trained troops would be obtained within a year and a half or at most two years.

Three hundred thousand copies of President Wilson's war speech have been dropped over the German lines by entente aviators. Doubtless an attempt will be made, by order from Berlin, to gather up these unique messages from the air, but they will be in such volume that some are sure to escape the official hand.

Dust in the road is largely caused by the breaking up of the ridges formed when the road bed is wet from standing water. If the road bed is kept well crowned and smooth water will run off. The best way to keep the road bed smooth is to run over it with the road drag. This should be done soon after it rains. Any projections will be scraped off and dropped into the depressions. The harrow also lays the soil down in layers, which makes a harder surface than when the soil is dumped on to the road bed. The road drag is the most effective dust preventer except oiling the roads.

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# Small Fruits for the Prairie Farm

Raspberries, Strawberries, Currants and Gooseberries

By A. P. Stevenson, Morden, Man.

There are a number of varieties of the large and small fruits that are doing well with us here in the western provinces. To be successful in the growing of apples and plums it is essential that a good shelter belt be first established, if the farm is a prairie one, in fact no success will attend the efforts of the planter without the benefits of a good windbreak. This is usually brought about by the planting of forest trees of varieties of well known hardiness to the north and west of the farm buildings. A distance of not less than 50 yards should be left clear between buildings and forest trees. The varieties most suitable for this purpose are Manitoba maple, ash, Russian poplar, cottonwood, Russian willow, and caragana.

### Currants and Gooseberries

Part of the space enclosed by the shelterbelt will be the place to start the fruit garden. Small fruits may be set out as soon as the shelterbelt has been started. Currants, red, white and black are the first fruits usually planted in home-making in this western country. The bushes are quite hardy and with a little care and attention will give excellent returns. They are usually planted four feet apart each way. Under no circumstances should grass or weeds be allowed to grow among the bushes. Prune back some of the young wood in the fall or spring, remove occasionally some of the old wood but always leave some of the strong young shoots to take their place.

The management of gooseberries is much the same as the currant, but the varieties suitable to our western conditions are limited in number, and in our experience Carrie and Houghton are the safest to plant. These are the limit in hardiness of cultivated varieties. The fruit is of medium size and good quality. In currants Ruby Castle for red; Lee's Prolific, black, and white Grape are satisfactory varieties.

### Raspberries

The best method of growing the Red Raspberry on the farm is that known as the matted row. Set the plants in rows five feet apart and 18 inches apart in the row. Allow the young shoots to spread only 18 inches wide in the row, so that there will be a row of raspberry canes 18 inches wide only and as long as desired. The ground should be well cultivated between the rows. When setting out young raspberry plants in spring cut the canes off to within three inches of the root of the young plant. Enough only should be left so that it can be seen where the roots are planted. All dead canes in bearing plantations are best removed in spring. The following Red varieties have been bearing good crops with us for many years. In order of hardiness they are Nun-beam, London Shipper's Pride, and Herbert. The hardiest yellow Raspberry is the Caroline. The management for it is the same as for the red varieties.

### Growing the Best Strawberries

With an average rainfall abundance of the cultivated strawberry can be grown. Plants should be set out in spring in well prepared land in rows five feet apart and 18 inches apart in the row. Plant firmly but not too deep. The crown of the plant should be visible always. Keep all blossoms off the first season. When young plants begin to form, assist them to take root by placing soil on the runners so that the wind will not keep blowing them about. About freezing up time cover strawberry plants with clean wheat straw to a depth of from four to six inches. Remove this mulch some time the following May. It would be well however to leave part of the straw between the rows as a mulch and to walk upon while picking the fruit.

A new strawberry known as the Ever-bearing variety has been coming into prominence during the past few years.

We have grown this variety for the past four years, and we must say it is a great bearer of fruit of good size and excellent quality. We enjoyed the fruit this year as late as the first of October. Another point in favor of this variety is that a good crop can be gathered the same season the plants are set out. All blossoms should be kept off until the middle of July. They will fruit then until the first heavy frost. Their management is much the same as the old June varieties. Americus, Superb and Progressive are the leading and best varieties. In our experience the Americus is the most prolific.

### Laying Out the Garden

A little forethought in laying out the fruit garden will be the means of economizing time and labor in its management. Small square patches of fruit bushes should be avoided. Everything should be planted in long rows so that the labor of a horse and cultivator can be utilized to the best advantage, as the average man does not take kindly to using a hoe. A good place to plant the apple and plum trees is in the rows of small fruit bushes, 16 feet apart each way, and to beginners I would suggest they start with the hardiest known varieties first. Among these might be mentioned the Transcendent and Hyslop Crabs and Saunders' Hybrid apples. Large apples Hibernia, Gipsy Girl and Blushed Calville. These varieties are the extreme limit in hardiness as far as is known. Mammoth, Cheney and Aitkin are the hardiest varieties of the cultivated plum. The next in hardiness is our native wild plum. Fruit trees two to three years old are about the right age to plant out in permanent locations. All fruit trees on being planted out should be pruned back vigorously and planted firmly two inches deeper than they stood in the nursery. Late in the fall the trees should be hilled up with earth and the trunks wrapped with three ply of burlap from the ground up into the limbs. The hilling up will lessen the danger of the fruit trees being girdled by mice, and the burlap will help save the trees from being sun scalded in spring and from the depredations of rabbits. And it should never be forgotten that a good covering of snow all winter in the fruit garden is one of the essentials to the successful gathering of a good crop of fruit from the farm garden in this western country.

### TRANSPLANTING TREES

Q.—How should I go about transplanting native trees such as spruce, red willow and high bush cranberry?—M. O. C., Sask.

A.—It is advisable to move shrubs such as the red willow (which by the way is not a willow at all but a native dogwood) and the high bush cranberry as early in the spring as the ground can be worked. You would have better success with moving small shrubs of these varieties rather than attempting to transplant bushes of a larger size. You should secure as much root as possible when digging up the shrubs and after they are planted it is advisable to cut back the top growth very considerably. This is to compensate for the loss of roots and it will also tend to make the shrubs bush out much thicker from the root and will make better specimens.

In regard to spruce, these can be moved somewhat later. It is advisable, however, to get them planted before any new growth is made. Usually it is safe to move spruce under our conditions as late as the first week in June, although it is better to get it done before the end of May. In moving

spruce it is of the greatest importance that the roots be protected from drying out all the time the tree is out of the ground. The roots should not be exposed to the sun and wind even for a minute.—Norman M. Ross, Chief of Tree Planting Division, Indian Head.

Any readers of the Guide wishing further information on fruit growing should address their inquiries to the editor of the Guide and these letters will be answered by Mr. Stevenson or other competent experts.

## Our Ottawa Letter

Continued from Page 4

Growers' Grain Company which handles half the wheat produced in the west should be powerful enough to break it. Mr. Meighen also justified the action of the government by saying that it was better to have the discontent in the west removed even if some people should suffer as a result of it. He believed that the majority of the people in the east were prepared to make concessions to the west in order to remove their discontent.

Hon. Wm. Pugsley who replied to Mr. Meighen declared that his speech was an apology to the members sitting behind him for the government's action. He asserted that the government had not waited until parliament met to introduce free wheat because it knew that it would be impossible to get the support of caucus for such action.

### Debt Will Be \$1,300,000,000

The first round in the budget came on Tuesday. The opening part of Sir Thomas White's speech dealt with financial considerations. He was able to point to the largest revenue in the history of the Dominion, some \$232,000,000, for the fiscal year which closed with March. Out of this sum, after general and capital expenditure as well as interest and pensions had been paid, \$60,000,000 remained to be applied to the cost of the war. The minister admitted that the debt of the Dominion is growing at a rapid rate. Before the war it was less than \$400,000,000. At the close of March it was approximately \$900,000,000, and at the end of the present fiscal year he predicted it would have grown to \$1,300,000,000. The big increase was due almost entirely to the steadily growing war expenditure which has now reached the \$600,000,000 figure, including a large sum owed to the British government for the maintenance of the Canadian troops in France.

Sir Thomas intimated that the government in considering new taxation proposals had canvassed the advisability of putting a further customs tax on luxuries and had also thought of the imposition of an income tax. He made no mention of a tax on land values. Higher customs taxation on luxuries had been rejected, he said, for the reason that most articles of this character are embraced under fixed rates in the treaty with France and the tariff cannot be raised in respect of these. "Apart from this," he added, "we should hesitate at a time when France needs the advantage of all her sales on this side of the Atlantic to assist her to exchange to place a prohibition or increased duty against importations from our great Ally."

The reasons advanced by the minister of finance for refusing to impose an income tax were the same as he has advanced on previous occasions—that the collections would not be large and they would be difficult to make. He made the additional argument that with the increased cost of living the imposition of an income tax would be a hardship for many people on salaries. Dr. Michael Clark dealt particularly with this point when he spoke pointing out that if Canadians were relieved of some of the present taxation burdens they could well afford to make a direct contribution to the revenue of the country.

It was apparent that the proposal of the minister to impose additional business taxes met with the general approval of the house insofar as they went. He quite rightly remarked that if a business is making in war time profits above the normal they must be due to abnormal conditions created by the war. "I do not see," he added, "that it makes much difference whether the business in question is the making of munitions or of any other class of goods. Munitions are needed and no discredit attaches to the enterprise which provides them. The steel company which engages in the production of munitions could in most cases make as much if not more money by selling its steel products in the market of the world. Moreover, it would be inequitable to discriminate against the firm which makes a profit upon the finished article and leave untaxed the profits of those firms which supply the raw material.

Apart from taking the administration

to task for not eliminating party patronage and practicing more economy in the conduct of the affairs of the Dominion, A. K. MacLean, the opposition financial critic, criticized the government from three chief standpoints. He opposed the proposal to spend ten million dollars on roads at the present time, and declared that the general tariff increase of 7 1/2 per cent imposed three sessions ago should have been removed, at least from the free list of articles, and asserted that free wheat should have been brought into force under the Customs Act and not as a war measure. As such, he said, it was a temporary measure and would go out of force with the conclusion of the war. Sir Thomas White and Hon. Arthur Meighen both combated this statement, and the former produced an opinion of E. L. Newcombe, deputy minister of justice, that the order-in-council which brought free wheat into effect has the same effect as an act of parliament.

### Dr. Clark on Free Wheat

Dr. Michael Clark devoted some attention to the interview given by Sir George Foster when free wheat was announced in which he said—"this is removed from the realm of trade." He thought it was an extraordinary statement to come from a minister of trade and commerce. "To an ordinary man like myself," he said, "a minister of trade and commerce ought to be a man anxious to promote trade. He went to the antipodes and came back without paying expenses as the greatest commercial traveller in the world. On his way back he stopped off at Japan, and I do not know that our trade with Japan has increased by reason of his visit, and I do not know of anything he has done to increase the trade of the country; and now when the minister of finance, aided by the advice and assistance of the Solicitor-General, brings in a measure for the establishment of free trade in wheat with the United States, the minister of trade and commerce rejoices in the fact that it is removed from the realm of trade."

Mr. J. G. Turriff before moving the amendment, already quoted, reminded the government that the farmers of the west had been demanding free wheat for years. The government in surrendering had given as a reason that special conditions exist at the present time. Inaccurate statements, he said, had been made in the order-in-council because free wheat is worth less today to western farmers than in any year since 1911. The benefit would be considerable, but it would fall far short of what the farmers would have received this year had the measure been brought into effect early last autumn before the bulk of the wheat had passed from the hands of the grower into the control of the millers and the speculators.

### ALL SEED DISTRIBUTED

Walter D. Willoughby, R.R. No. 2, Shellbrook, Sask., who wrote a letter in our April 11th issue on the cultivation of tomatoes and who offered to distribute free seed of his Willoughby Nonesuch to all applicants, has advised us that he has sent out over 250 lots to Guide readers and that no more will be available this year. He states that any reader who has applied for seed and has not received it will however get it next winter.

The Chilean government has recently adopted measures whereby a special room is to be provided in factories where mothers may spend one hour of their working-day in caring for their children, without any loss in wages.

Curate: "Shame on you for beating up Mike that way. Don't you know you should pray for your enemies?"

Denny: "But he ain't me enemy, father; he's a friend uv mine."

### BELGIAN RELIEF FUND

Previously acknowledged	\$10,027 77
Harold Simpson, Lyleton, Man.	2 00
Gertrude Simpson, Lyleton, Man.	2 00
Edith Simpson, Lyleton, Man.	2 00
Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Simpson, Lyleton, Man.	4 00
Mrs. A. A. Elliot, Lacombe, Alta.	1 00
Wheat	1 00
Total	\$10,032 77

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The Cool Moist Weather we are now having is Favorable to Seeding and Planting

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North West Dent, per bus.	\$3.00
North Dakota Flint, per bus.	2.50
Longfellow, per bus.	2.50
Minnesota Yellow Dent, per bus.	2.00
Red Cob Fodder, per bus.	2.00

GRASS SEED	
Sorghum, per 100 lbs.	\$12.00
Millets, per 100 lbs.	5.50
Blue Grass, per 100 lbs.	14.00
Irish Grass, per 100 lbs.	15.00
Western Rye, per 100 lbs.	12.00
Timothy, per 100 lbs.	10.00
Permanent Pasture Grass, per 100 lbs.	18.00
Lawn Grass Seed, per 100 lbs.	22.00

GARDEN SEED—Hardest and Earliest Maturing Varieties	
Onion Seed, Extra Early Flat Red	\$1.50
Onion Seed, Australian Brown	1.50
Onion Seed, Red Wethershead	1.50
Onion Seed, Yellow Danvers	2.00
Peas, Earliest of All	.20
Peas, Abundance	.30
Peas, Bountiful	.20
Peas, Fortifol	.20
Peas, Telegraph	.20
Peas, Stratagem	.20
Carrot Seed	1.40
Beet Seed	.95
Beans, Wax or Butter	.35
Beans, White Haricot	.25
Beans, White Pea	.25
Corn, Early White	.30
Corn, Native Squaw	.25
Corn, Minnesota Squaw	.25
Corn, Golden Bantam	.35

To get Good Crops you must have Good Seed

Our Garden Seeds are all tested in our Greenhouses during the winter season, so that they may be depended upon as being of good germination and vitality. We grow many of the seeds we offer, which enables us to make our prices so moderate compared to many other catalogues.

Orders Shipped by Return Mail or Express Same Day as Received

## NEW EVERBEARING STRAWBERRY

The Greatest Acquisition Yet Introduced into the West to Provide Fresh Fruit Constantly



Photo taken in our Nursery

Note the vigorous growth, the berries in all sizes (some ripe) and flowers still showing for next year. This plot was planted first week in May. We picked ripe strawberries from it 24th of June, and continued picking ripe strawberries every day until the hard frosts came in the middle of September.

## HARDY FRUITS

Craspberries, Plums, Gooseberries and Currant Bushes, Raspberry and Strawberry Plants—  
Raspberry Plants, best and hardiest varieties, per 100 ..... \$5.00  
Gooseberries, per doz. .... 1.50  
Red Currants, per doz. .... 1.50  
Black Currants, per doz. .... 1.50

## Everbearing Strawberry

These plants flower and fruit continuously as long as the weather remains warm. They winter well and are safer to ship and transplant than are the ordinary varieties, owing to their continuous producing habits. They do not make many new plants and consequently are higher in price.

With us a plot of Superb planted in the first week of May commenced to ripen fruit in late June, and we picked ripe fruit every day until hard frosts came in the middle of September.

**Superb**—Yield a heavy crop of large berries of splendid flavor, from June to September; plants are strong and vigorous.

**Progressive**—On this variety the foliage is vigorous and plentiful, protecting the flower and fruit in the late fall.

Both Varieties (postpaid) doz. .... \$1.00  
Per 100 (per express) ..... 6.00

## Ornamental Trees and Shrubs

We Make a Special Offer This Spring Of:  
Nanotoba Maple, straight young trees, 5-6 ft., at per 100 ..... \$10.00  
Russian Golden Willow, 5-7 ft., at per 100 ..... 10.00  
Red Willow, 4-5 ft., at per 100 ..... 10.00  
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Lilac for hedges, 2-3 ft., at per 100 ..... 5.00  
Caragana, 2-3 ft., at per 100 ..... 5.00

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BRANDON, MAN. SASKATOON, SASK.

Nursery Established 1883

# Cockshutt "Climax" Cultivators

When you want to make a Big, Fast "Drive" against the Weeds in Summerfallow, you'll find the "Climax" does the Best Work in the Shortest Time with the Least Labor

We supply four widths of points—2 inches, 4 inches, 7 inches and 10 inches, all being quickly interchangeable so you can tackle any class of work and finish it up thoroughly and quickly.

Yes, it gets the weeds all right, "roots and all," but it does something even more important—it leaves the ground in the best possible shape to absorb and store the moisture so essential to the next crop.

Use a "Climax" Cultivator consistently and you'll get splendid results. One cultivation of your land won't do—use it as often as you can. It will stand up to your hardest work.

Let us send you our latest interesting, illustrated "Climax" folder free. Write our nearest Branch

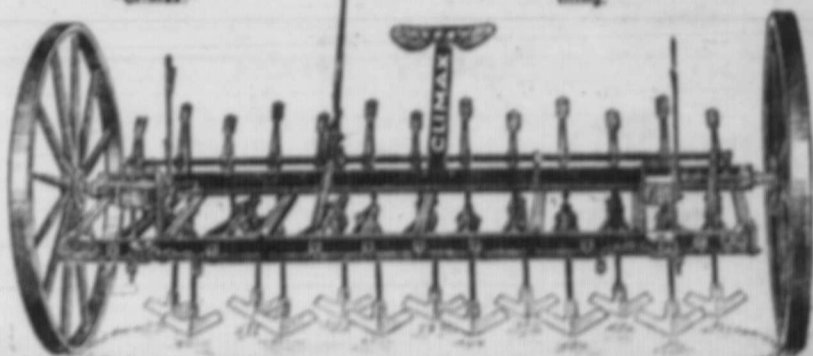
**Cockshutt Plow Co., Ltd.**

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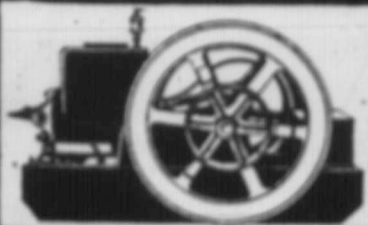
The heavy steel frame guarantees surplus strength for years to come. The heavy forged steel legs have a strong safety spring to avoid breakage when meeting with too heavy obstructions. The cutting angle of the teeth can be adjusted by an easy working lever.

To keep the surface loose and get big crops, use the "Climax"

No weed can escape these over-lapping teeth—they clean up everything.



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Premiums may be settled by cash or note. Liberal adjustments of loss claims. Spot Cash Payments. Full Government Deposit. Agents all over Saskatchewan. See one of them or write to

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## Save the Horses for Farm Work

**T**HE average farmer has enough work for his horses right on the farm. He can ill spare them to pull a buggy or a phaeton. And his own time is valuable, too. With farm labor so scarce, he cannot afford to spend half a day or a day to drive a horse to town and back, when he can do it in an hour or two in a Ford.

### Costs Less

A Ford car soon pays for itself in the time it saves the busy farmer, costs less to run than a horse. It doesn't eat its head off when idle.

Mr. S. M. Smith, of Holstein, Ont., says: "I can run my Ford car more miles with less expense than a horse." His experience is typical of thousands of others.

Mr. W. A. Fallin, of Vermillion, Alberta, states that he has driven his Ford more than 13,000 miles over muddy roads, prairies and fields in every kind of weather. His entire maintenance expense for three years, outside of one set of rear tires has been only \$3.35.

With the cost of running a Ford less than driving a horse, it doesn't seem good business to drive a horse to town and tire him out so that he is not fit for work on the farm the next day, now does it?

### Never Tired

That's the great beauty of a Ford! It never gets tired. It whisks you to town and back, or takes the children to school, or your wife to visit a friend, 15 miles down the line, without any slowing up for breath or any urging with a whip. You

don't have to say "gid-dap" to a Ford. And as for hills, well, it scurries over them like a squirrel climbs a tree.

It is as easy to drive a Ford as to drive a horse. It is just the car for country service. Narrow roads or sharp turns do not bother it. It can turn completely around in a very little larger space than a horse and buggy. It is not afraid of a traction engine, a street car, a train or another motor car. It never "shies." It stands without hitching.

The initial cost of a Ford is small—\$495 for the touring car. If you care to sell it at the end of one year, you will find many buyers who will offer you the first price, less \$125. Consider, therefore, how much pleasure you can have in a year for \$125; how many hours of tedious travel, and how much horseflesh you can save. Don't you think it is a good "buy"?

### "Ford Times" Free

No progressive farmer can afford not to own a Ford. The more you look into this, and think it over, the more you will realize that it is so. Let us put you on the mailing list for "Ford Times"—our interesting magazine. It will help you in thinking it over.

Touring Car - \$495

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