Conservation

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Lake of the Woods Levels

Settlement of Vast Importance to Manitoba Water-powers

The recent decision of the International Joint Commission regarding the investigation into the Lake of the Woods water levels is another example of the importance and benefit to be derived from the proper presentation and firm adhesion to our justified contentions in international water-power problems.

The Commission of Conservation, as in all boundary water questions, took particular interest in the Lake of the Woods case, and it is gratifying to note that practically all the principles contended for have been recognized in the recommendations of the Joint Commission to the governments of the two countries. The conclusions were only reached after a most thorough investigation and study covering a period of three years and including a complete field survey of certain portions of the region affected.

The effect on the large water-powers of the Winnipeg river is of particular interest to Canada and would prove a strong stimulus to the industrial development of the Winnipeg district. Water power is recognized as a dominant factor and the water level for the Lake of the Woods permits the latter and other lakes to be used as immense regulating reservoirs for the benefit of Winnipeg River water-powers. In this connection it is of interest to note that the Commission of Conservation which, long ago, recognized the importance of these water-powers and that proper forest cover should be conserved in the upper waters, has strongly recommended that the Lake of the Woods watershed be set apart as a forest reserve.

The flood conditions of 1916 strikingly emphasized the urgent need for an efficient co-ordinated system of regulation and control of the waters of this drainage system. This is provided for in the recent report, which also includes the safeguarding of the interests of navigation, forests, and others.—L.G.D.

Avoid Waste

The world war has taken so many producers from the sources of food supply that the world's consumption of food is greater than the amount available, and, consequently, food reserves are being rapidly depleted.

Millions of men are actively engaged in warfare and in the supply of munitions and equipment. They are fighting our battles and we must provide their food. Canada will produce all the food we can consume, but Canadians have never been known as a selfish race. Our allies, therefore, are depending upon us for help and our people will unquestionably respond with generous hand.

The time for planting for 1917 is past, but the time of harvest is yet to come. There is very often much waste at this time, due, in many instances, to the lack of a demand at market prices. Fruit, especially, supplies much of this waste, and yet, while this waste is taking place, many families are compelled to go without it for lack of means to pay the market prices. Local organizations could easily arrange to bring the consumers in touch with this surplus fruit that it might not be wasted. The use of such perishable food, which would otherwise be wasted, will help to increase the supply of exportable food.

There is also much waste in the kitchens and dining rooms of Canadian homes. The waste in bread alone is a considerable item. Bread has been looked upon as one of the cheaper staple foods and little care has been taken to prevent its waste by drying up, the discarding of crusts, etc. A little thought will show what this waste amounts to when the cumulative result throughout Canada is considered.

Sir Robert Borden has said that Canada is in the war "to the last man and the last dollar." Canada is also in the war to the last pound of food. Canadians are their brothers' keepers, and will feed them, cost what it may. It is necessary, therefore, that we practise economy of the food supply. It is better to deny ourselves from choice than from necessity. There is no denying that there will be a food shortage, and the present is the time to put into practice thrift and rigid economy in the use of food.

Cultivate the Corn and Potatoes

Weeds Absorb Plant Food Needed to Sustain the Crop

Corn and potatoes are now planted. It is hoped that they were put in under ideal conditions. It has been truly said that no amount of cultivation after a crop is planted can make up for a lack of proper preparation of the soil before planting. Root and corn crops, however, respond readily to cultivation after they are planted and up. To kill weeds and conserve moisture, corn should be cultivated thoroughly and carefully when it is small. Remember that corn roots spread out between the rows and are quite close to the surface of the soil when the corn gets tall enough for the last time through with the cultivator. Consequently, to prevent cutting off and destroying the tiny roots by which the plants feed, care must be taken to make the last cultivation very shallow.

Potatoes should be kept free from weeds. Weeds absorb the moisture and plant food needed by the potatoes to make a good yield. Potatoes at present prices are very remunerative.—F.C.N.

Water Power to Save Coal

Reduction of Unnecessary Coal Consumption a National Problem

Canada depends upon the United States for a large portion of her coal supply both for domestic and industrial purposes; she is therefore much interested in the coal conditions obtaining there. A recent communication from Secretary F. K. Lane of the U. S. Dept. of the Interior shows how acute the situation has been made by the entrance of our neighbors into the war. One of the remedies urged, particularly applicable to Canada, is the immediate conservation of fuel by the efficient use of all available water-power. Elimination of unnecessary consumption of coal is considered a problem of national interest and of immediate concern. New power requirements should therefore be met, so far as practicable by utilization of hydro-electric energy; this would also apply to present steam generating energy consuming coal or oil in its production. Thus, all water available at water-power plants should be utilized to produce energy up to the capacity of the works and the requirements of the population and industries within transmission distance of the site; every facility should also be given for the efficient development of new sites. In regions where water-power can be made available steam-power plants should be operated only to carry loads in excess of those that can be carried by water-power plants. The adoption of this course, in many cases, would mean cheaper operation, particularly in view of the rapidly increasing price of coal.

Every additional hydro-electric horse-power used in Canada means the yearly liberation of from 10 to 12 tons of coal for domestic heating or other purposes where hydro-electric energy cannot be so effectively substituted.—L.G.D.

Assist in the work of preventing accidents for your own sake and for the good of our country at large.

Combatting Forest Fires

Constant Patrol the Only Effectual Means During Danger Period

The primitive method of combatting forest fires is to wait until the fire assumes alarming proportions, endangering life and property, and then to organize a fire-fighting force to try to put it out. Unfortunately this system, or lack of system, still prevails in many parts of Canada. Too frequently, these untrained volunteer fire-fighters have actually assisted the spread of the fire by indiscriminate back-firing. Under the best of circumstances, the chances of extinguishing a large forest fire by human efforts alone are small. In many cases, the best that can be hoped for is that the fire may be checked until assistance comes in the form of rain.

As has been said by a woodsman, whose nationality may be inferred, "The time to put out a fire is before it starts." The value of constant patrol of the forests during the dangerous period is becoming more fully appreciated every year. The organizations entrusted with the protection of the forests, such as the Dominion and Provincial forest services, and the co-operative fire protective associations in Quebec, are all devoting their main efforts towards efficient patrol. The establishment of look-out stations for the detection of fires, and the installation of telephones and signal systems by means of which the location of fires may be promptly reported, or assistance summoned, are component parts of the patrol system. The use of aeroplanes has been experimented with in Wisconsin for fire detection, but their utility under ordinary circumstances, especially as a substitute for other forms of patrol, has not yet been demonstrated. It is, however, to be anticipated that the application of aviation to fire detection may develop to a material extent with the return of aviators after the war, and with the development of a smaller, slower and less expensive form of hydroplane or aeroplane.

Thousands of dollars have been spent annually throughout the Dominion in fighting fires, which could have been prevented by the expenditure of a comparatively small amount on patrol. By efficient patrol, damage from forest fires can, to a very large extent, be prevented; while fire-fighting comes in after a considerable amount of damage is done. As a protective measure, one dollar's worth of patrol may easily be worth a hundred dollars' worth of fire-fighting.

Rangers should be impressed with the importance of this phase of their work. The man who puts out a fire with a few shovelfuls of earth or with what water he can carry in his hat, may be performing a greater service than one who, by failure to take such preventive measures, is compelled to organize a large gang of fire-fighters to check a conflagration. The ranger, who, by his influence in the district, can secure the co-operation of the settlers, campers and others to prevent the setting of fires, may have an easy job, but he is of more use to the country than he who, by failing to attend to his patrol duties, is obliged to work day and night fighting fires which need never have reached such proportions.

Not all fires can be prevented; many are started by lightning, and others from causes which are purely accidental. These must be quickly detected and put out while incipient. Constant vigilance is the price of success in fire protection.—R.D.C.

Save the Rags

Shortage of Wool Increases Demand for this Waste

A serious shortage in wool exists. Almost all countries engaged in the war have taken over the wool supply to provide for soldiers' equipment, while the United States Council of National Defense recently took up with the clothing manufacturers the matter of the saving of cloth by eliminating from the 1918 styles patch pockets, flaring skirts, cuffs on coats and trousers, etc., and all unnecessary pleats and frills. The Council is also advocating the more general mixing of cotton with wool and the more extended use of shoddy.

For this reason the old fashioned rag-bag should come into fashion. The day when rags were not of sufficient value to warrant much attention being paid to them is past. To-day there is a heavy demand for woollen rags. Scarcity of new wool has created an increased market for shoddy materials, of which woollen rags are the basis, and increased prices are being paid for this hitherto neglected material. *Save the rags.*

Benefits of Fresh Air

Proper Ventilation Essential to Good Health and Efficiency

Fresh air is one of our unlimited natural resources, available at all seasons and at all hours. It is essential to life and good health. Of recent years more attention has been paid to its beneficent influence in this regard, but far too many people regard fresh air as a means for the cure of such diseases as pneumonia and tuberculosis; it is not adequately recognized as the greatest disease preventive known.

Nature has done her part in supplying pure air. Wherever the opportunity is afforded, the air is continually changing by natural methods. Man, however, has rendered this effort of nature largely nugatory by building homes, factories and offices almost air-tight, in which the air becomes stagnant and unwholesome. The consequence is that the occupants, continuously breathing the same air, rapidly become drowsy and incapable of giving of their best efforts.

In the homes of our people, greater use should be made of the body-building fresh and pure air. Rooms should be thoroughly ventilated and aired; sleeping rooms especially require that the air be continuously changed. The easiest and most convenient means to accomplish this is by the opening of windows. A cross current of air between two windows gives the best results; otherwise, a change of air may be secured by lowering the upper sash to permit the foul air to escape, and raising the lower one to admit the fresh air. Roll the blind to the top to facilitate the exit of the impure air, or, if pulled down, insert a few inches of netting at the top of the blind.

Public health should be a primary consideration. Pending the improvement of housing and living conditions people can do much to secure greater health for themselves by making use of the open window to admit fresh and pure air.

> Canadians should not consider that 1917 will be the only year that rigid economies must be practised. There is no knowing at this date when the war will end, and even after it has ended there will be urgent need for Canada's surplus of food for many months while Europe is being regenerated.

Present Fuel Situation

Coal Should be Secured Now Last all Next Winter

The following indicates th there will be a greater coal shorta next winter than last, and ther fore we should arrange for our fu supply accordingly:

1. Great Britain is short 1 000,000 tons of coal; Fran lacks even more; the coaling Allied warships on the A lantic coast, the naval, dome tic and industrial requirem incident to the entrance United States as a belligere all mean that the coal produ tion must be increased.
2. United States officials anti pate that next fall there will unprecedented demands rolling stock as well as great difficulty in handling the pr duction.
3. The situation is that t United States companies ha placed an embargo on co going out of that country, a the United States desires keep coal cars in that count for any emergency that m arise.
4. The present rather acute sho age of coal in many quarte will not be helped by war co ditions in the United States.
5. Coal prices have generally i creased, and, unless there Government regulation, th will reach higher levels.
6. The U. S. Geological Surve as well as other agenc having knowledge of the fac is urging all consumers of co both large and small, to st their winter's fuel during t summer months.

In so far as central and weste Canada is concerned, the situati is intensified by the fact that ow to the coal strike in the west so 200,000 tons has already been l from production this year; al owing to the shortage of ships a the great demand for iron f for the manufacture of munitio much less coal than ordinarily w brought up the Great lakes la year, so that there are practica no supplies on hand.

From the above it is evident tha to be assured of our winter's su ply of coal, and, at the same tim save inconvenience and pe higher prices, we should buy c during the summer months wh ever and whenever it is availa

The Dominion Government h appointed a Fuel Controller t charge of the situation, and th dealer and householder can as by filling their bins now with suf cient coal to last through the wh winter. By so doing they will h out conditions when the ra way congestion occurs next fall.—W.J.D.

Commission of Conservation

CANADA

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CONSERVATION is published the first of each month. Its object is the dissemination of information relative to the natural resources of Canada, their development and the proper conservation of the same, together with timely articles covering town-planning and public health.

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Mosquitoes

Abolish Breeding Places to Eliminate the Pests

One of the worst summer pests with which humanity has to contend is the mosquito, and yet those who suffer most usually do least to abolish the cause. Most people endeavour to protect themselves from mosquitoes, but the place to secure the greatest results is where they breed.

Mosquitoes breed in stagnant water. Rain-water barrels, old tin cans or pails partly filled with water, and stagnant pools offer welcome breeding places. These should be either drained or protected. People at summer resorts and campers in wooded districts are much troubled with mosquitoes and this pest greatly minimizes the number who would spend their summers in the open air.

To prevent them breeding, stagnant water, if it cannot be drained off, should be sprinkled with low-grade kerosene, which will quickly form a film over the surface and prevent the larvæ coming to the surface to breathe.

For protecting the person from mosquitoes, many substances may be used to rub on the hands and face, one being composed of one ounce each of castor oil, alcohol and lavender water; another, one ounce of oil of citronella and four ounces of liquid vaseline, while oil of cassia has been used to good effect and the odour is not objectionable.

There are many powders on the market which are more or less efficient insecticides. The foresters of Commission of Conservation, in their surveys, have used a powder, "Pyrethrum," which was found very effective when burned in the tents the evening before retiring, the mosquitoes and flies being killed by the smoke fumes.

Drowning Accidents

Many Lives Uselessly Sacrificed Through Carelessness

Each year many lives are lost by drowning accidents. Carelessness and bravado are the chief causes, consequently many lives might be saved by the exercise of caution.

Learning to swim is of course the first essential in the preventing of drownings, but, even in this, there is an element of danger, as the learner is often tempted to go beyond his depth before fully competent to take care of himself. To keep within his depth is the only safe way for the beginner.

Carelessness in the use of rowboats and canoes has claimed many victims. Ordinary common sense only is necessary to overcome these drowning accidents. These frail craft are only intended for the use of those who know how to use them, and safety depends upon the occupants refraining from moving about.

The use of high-speed motor boats of late has added its chapter to the record of lives lost by drowning. Lack of speed restriction on our inland lakes and rivers has encouraged the "speed fiend," and consequently many accidents are due to his running down or swamping rowboats and canoes, as well as collisions with other motor-boats.

These accidents are avoidable, and the most elementary application of 'safety first' principles would save to Canada many needlessly wasted lives.

Costly Toys

Parents Responsible for Much Fire Loss and Many Deaths of Children

"* * * residence was almost completely destroyed by a fire, caused by a child playing with matches. The house was soon a mass of flames and the blaze beyond control. The fire threatened to spread to other frame buildings, but the firemen succeeded after a hard fight in confining it to the house in which it started."—*Ottawa Journal.*

"Great oaks from little acorns grow" may be said to have its application in the small beginnings of our great conflagrations. All fires are the same size at the start, circumstances alone being responsible for their control. If means for extinguishment are at hand, the fire may be quickly put out, otherwise no one can tell where a fire will end. In far too many cases, playing with matches has resulted in fires and the death of children in Canada. Yet parents will neglect the most elementary precautions to keep matches from children. Fire has a fascination for human nature, as is evidenced by the throngs which gather to witness a fire. This has its counterpart in the young child, who early learns that the match will provide fire, and consequently conceives a deep-rooted desire for them. Parents have a great responsibility in the matter of not only teaching their children the danger of lighting matches, but also in keeping the matches away from them and in a safe place.

Manure as Fertilizer

Equal Results Secured with Fresh and Rotted Manure

Perhaps one of the most remarkable results obtained in our experiments with fertilizers has been the discovery that, as far as ordinary farm crops are concerned, fresh and rotted manure, applied at the same rate, have given practically equal yields. The explanation for this is not easy to find, since rotted manure, weight for weight, is very considerably richer in plant food than fresh manure. It probably lies in the better inoculation of the soil with desirable micro-organisms for the conversion of soil plant food into assimilable forms by the fresh manure and the greater warmth set up by its fermentation in the soil affecting beneficially the crop in its early stages. But, be this as it may, we have the practical deduction that there is no concomitant gain from the use of rotted manure, in the ordinary farm rotation, for the labour involved in rotting it and the large losses in organic matter and plant food that inevitably accompany the operation. *The quicker the farmer can get the manure into the land or onto the land the better, for it is never worth more than when first produced.*

The manurial value of clover need not be dwelt upon at any length. Our work in this connection is fairly well known throughout the Dominion. It has been of an exhaustive nature and has yielded most satisfactory results; indeed, it would be difficult to overestimate its value to Canadian agriculture. Chemically, physically and biologically, the growth and turning under of clover improves the soil, and we have been enabled to demonstrate over and over again that a crop of clover in the rotation has a manurial effect equal to an application of farm manure of ten to fifteen tons per acre.—*Dr. F. T. Shutt at Eighth Annual Meeting of Commission of Conservation.*

Near the town of Tsingyuan, China, a large irrigation project is being carried out. Canals have been dug running for 25 or 30 miles into the neighbouring districts, and a temporary dam has been thrown across the Fen river, which has been wholly diverted into the irrigating ditches.

Great Waste in Logging

Technical Forest Services Necessary to Supervise Logging

A recent report issued by the United States Department of Commerce calls attention to the very large amount of waste which occurs in converting standing timber into lumber. Waste in logging occurs in a number of forms. In many cases, the tree is cut unnecessarily high, leaving a large amount of the most valuable material to rot in the stump. Young trees are frequently not protected from falling timber. Immature and defective trees are cut and rejected. Large limbs, tree tops and lodged trees are left to waste. Small bodies of timber in comparatively inaccessible places are often left standing. Trees broken in falling are generally left, as are also short log lengths. In the United States National forests, where modern methods of scientific forestry are practised, this loss is about 10 per cent, but in general practice 15 to 20 per cent is not too high an estimate in considering the logging industry as a whole. Undoubtedly, the same percentages would apply also to Canada, unless, indeed, they should be increased.

The forest resources of Canada are by no means inexhaustible; in fact, our resources of saw timber are only about one-fourth those of the United States. One of the most practicable and effective means of conserving these resources is to avoid all unnecessary waste. That great waste still occurs in our woods cannot be questioned, and a good deal of it could be avoided.

The great bulk of logging in Canada is on Crown timber lands, under regulations imposed by Dominion or Provincial authority, as the case may be. In most cases, these regulations are inadequate either to prevent unnecessary waste or to provide satisfactorily for the re-establishment of the forest on cut-over lands. Further, the enforcement of such regulations is for the most part also inadequate, due to lack of sufficient inspection of the right kind, on the ground. The establishment of technical forest services, with adequate staffs of trained foresters, in direct administrative contact with all cutting operations on Crown lands, will be necessary before a satisfactory solution of this problem may be anticipated. A beginning has been made in this direction in Canada, but much still remains to be accomplished. Just at present, foresters are not available, due to the very heavy percentage of enlistment from this profession.—C.L.

The only camp fire in the woods that is "out" is one that is "dead out."

Good Roads and Their Cost

Much Needed Information Supplied by Ontario Report

To assist smaller municipalities to avoid the expensive and annoying mistakes which have been made by many municipalities during the process of street improvement, the Ontario Department of Public Highways has prepared a special report.

The work is the result of information secured by a survey of 33 cities and towns in Ontario. In the introduction Mr. McLean, Deputy Minister of Public Highways, outlines the growth of city streets from the country corners to the modern urban thoroughfare. The expenditure involved by street improvement is discussed and the mistake of undertaking work of this nature, without consideration of a general plan, condemned. Lack of intelligent and experienced supervision also accounts for much of the expenditure of public funds for no adequate return.

The selection of the type of pavement best suited to local conditions is of great importance, the chief factors in which are: The size and wealth of the municipality, the amount and class of traffic, the class of street, whether business, residential, etc., and the materials available locally.

Another matter to receive consideration is the selection of materials, covering all classes of pavements from the gravel or broken stone surface to the most durable as well as the most expensive forms, such as creosoted wood block, brick and stone block. Streets of cities, towns and villages are classified, and the materials best suited to their construction are shown under the different headings.

The treatment of gravel and macadam roadways with oils and tars is described; the advantage of rounded corners at intersections in order that motor traffic may turn easily and safely is illustrated; the paving possible in avoiding land damages by the establishing of permanent grades and street levels in new subdivisions is shown; and the two important items of drainage and foundations are discussed.

The history of street improvement from the laying of the first roadway is given and the methods used in the construction of pavements, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, street railway track allowances and pedestrian crossings are described. Detailed costs of materials, labour, pavements, sidewalks, curbs and gutters are furnished. Special features such as the construction of bridges, subways, driveways, etc., are fully described and the costs of these various works supplied where possible.

Tabulated data show the extent of paving in the municipalities, the cost of different classes of pavements prior to 1915, and the cost of the different sections of pavements laid in 1915, forming a valuable record of pavement costs prevalent throughout Ontario. In addition to being a report, interesting and instructive, it will prove a valuable book of reference to those connected with street improvement. Copies may be obtained by applying to Mr. W. A. McLean, Department of Public Highways, Toronto.

Protect the Young Forests

Future Timber Industry Depends on To-day's Fire Prevention

"The fire was confined to the brush; no damage was done." How often do we see this in the reports of forest fires? The "brush" referred to is nearly always composed of young growing forests, which have not as yet attained merchantable size. One would be quite as much justified in saying: "A thousand acres of wheat was destroyed by hail, but as the crop was not ripe, no damage was done." Unfortunately, this attitude towards young timber is prevalent even among lumbermen and members of forest protection services whose contact with the forests should enable them to realize the length of time it takes to grow a forest crop, and its prospective value. Too often, little or no effort is made to stop forest fires until timber of merchantable size is endangered. The writer was out with a forest ranger in British Columbia not long ago, when a fire was noticed on a mountain-side covered with the finest stand of young Douglas fir and red cedar one could wish to see. When the ranger's attention was called to it, he said, "Let it burn; it's only young stuff." This particular stand was about 20 years old. The largest trees were 3 to 4 inches in diameter and 20 to 25 feet high. It is true that it had no present value for timber, but, in another 30 years, it would, in all probability, cut 20,000 board feet per acre; at the present stumpage value, it would then be worth at least $1.75 per 1,000 feet, or $35.00 per acre. Since 20 out of the 50 years of growth had been attained, the present value of the stand can safely be placed at two-fifths of the final merchantable value, or $14.00 per acre.

What the value of standing timber will be when these young forests become of commercial value no one can predict. If the history of stumpage values in the past may be accepted as a guide, it may safely assumed that it will enhance sufficiently to more than cover the expense of protection.

Canada is beginning to worry about the depletion of its forests. If we protect the young growth which nature is striving to establish, our forest industries will always be supplied with raw material.—R.D.C.

Cut No. 100 Harvesting Clover Seed

Grow Your Own Clover Seed

The Agricultural Survey of 400 farms in Dundas county during 1916 by the Commission of Conservation revealed the fact that only three and one-half per cent of the farmers grew their own clover seed. It was also learned that a majority of the farmers were sowing only about half enough seed required to insure a good crop of clover.

It has long since been established that home-grown seed gives best results. Put all these facts together and what is the very obvious conclusion? Much is said to-day about the high cost of living in cities, but what about the high cost of farming which means costly production? It should and can be reduced. If the farmer will grow his own clover seed instead of buying it at a high price, he will be much more likely to sow an adequate amount of seed per acre to insure a good stand. Plenty of clover on farms means abundance of good feed for stock and maintained fertility of the soil.

A thin looking second crop of red clover will often yield a good return of seed. It can be cut with the ordinary mower with a flat table attached to the cutter bar; a man follows and rakes it off into windrows. By making a few simple adjustments, it can be threshed with the ordinary grain thresher if a clover huller is not available. Save a piece for seed each year. Sow plenty of seed per acre. *Harvest better and bigger crops.* — F.C.N.

HUMAN WASTE

Elimination of waste in productive enterprises is one of the first importance in the development of Canadian industries. Human waste in modern industry exceeds all other forms of waste, and yet it has not received one-tenth of the attention given by employers to other forms of wastage. Efficiency systems have been installed by manufacturers without number, but very few have established a system to develop human efficiency. The percentage of waste in any industry will always depend upon the average unit of intelligence in the force of men employed. The man upon whom you can depend to carry out your system is always more important than your system. A good man nine times out of ten, will make a poor system work well, but a number of poor men, will even make any good system work well.

In modern industry, the human factor has not been given attention. Waste in machinery or material has been carefully checked by most industrial firms, but human waste has not been accounted for in most accounting systems. Yet the cost of the human scrap heap is greater than that of machinery or material. In fact, human waste is a greater menace to the development of modern industry, along lines profitable to the nation in competition with foreign countries, than any other form of waste.—*G. L. Sprague, Principal of Hamilton Technical School.*

Efficient Agriculture

With the most efficient agriculture in the world, Denmark is devoted almost exclusively to cattle and herds. It not only obtains the highest average results per acre by the cultivation of the soil, but also uses the agricultural production as raw material for a national industry in further manufacture. *In the finished form of butter, cheese and other food products they contain more labour value and raw material that Denmark exports, the output of its agricultural and herding industry.* Two-thirds of the population are engaged in agricultural pursuits or in handling agricultural products.