

5, 1917

THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

Organization · Education · Co-operation

Winnipeg Man

December 12, 1917

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How You Can Reduce It Permanently

Every motor operator must pay, when his machine is in motion, a friction tax. The burden of this expense is heavy or light, according to the owner's thoughtful care in selecting lubricants.

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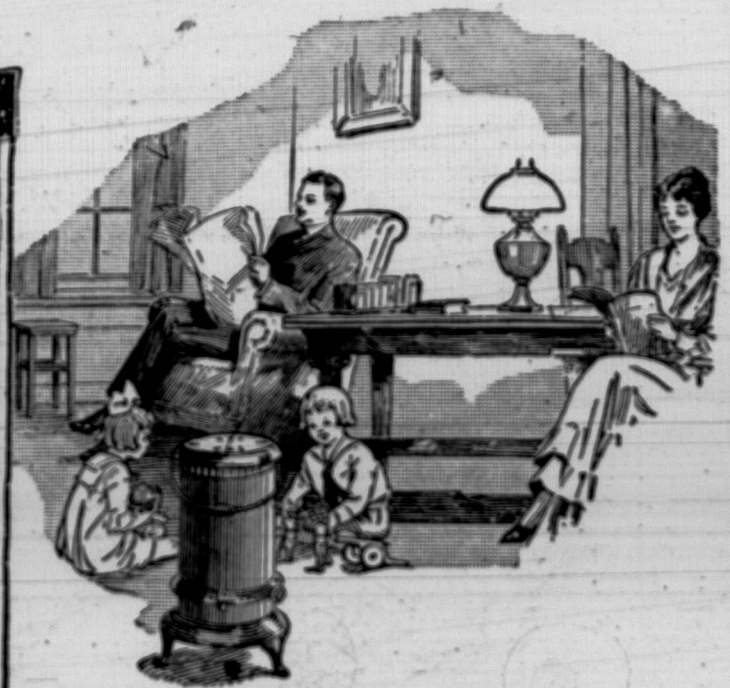
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A COLORED NOTION

A colored notice in this issue of The Guide shows that your renewal is due.

The editors hope that you have enjoyed reading The Guide and that you will send \$1.50 for your renewal at once.

Several weeks' notice is given so that subscribers will have time to send in their renewals, thus not missing any issues.

Back numbers of The Guide cannot be supplied.

When requesting a change of address subscribers should give the old as well as the new P.O. address.

The yellow address label on The Guide shows to what time your subscription is paid. No other receipt is issued.

Remittances should be made direct to The Guide, either by registered letter, postal, bank or express money order.

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 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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Authorized by the Postmaster-General, Ottawa, Canada, for transmission as second-class mail matter. Published weekly at 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg, Man.

VOL. X December 12 No. 50

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ADVERTISING

Published every Wednesday. Subscriptions in the British Empire \$1.50 per year, except Winnipeg City, which is \$2.00 per year. Foreign and United States subscriptions \$2.50 per year. Single copies 5 cents.

Advertising Rates

Commercial Display—20 cents per agate line. Livestock Display—16 cents per agate line. Classified—5 cents per word per issue.

No discounts for time or space on any class of advertising. All changes of copy and new matter must reach us seven days in advance of date of publication to insure insertion. Reading matter advertisements are marked "Advertisement." No advertisement for patent medicines, liquor, mining stock, or extravagantly worded real estate will be accepted. We believe, through careful enquiry, that every advertisement in The Guide is signed by trustworthy persons. We will take it as a favor if any of our readers will advise us promptly should they have any reason to doubt the reliability of any person or firm who advertises in The Guide.

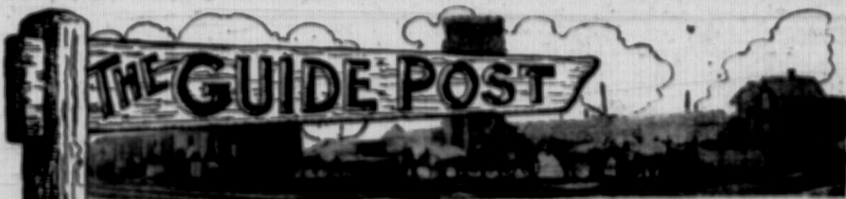
To the Gift Seeker

The true Gift Giver today is better known by the wisdom of his selection than by the amount of money he spends. So long as the gift bears distinction and quality, its cost may be dropped out of consideration. The gift spirit is not measured in dollars and cents.

In this connection you will find the D. E. Black & Co.'s Catalogue an inspiration. So many things may be had at such moderate prices that the wants of anyone may be satisfied.

Our new 1917-18 Catalogue is just completed. Send for a copy today. It is free for the asking.

D. E. Black & Co. LIMITED Jewelers Herald Building — Calgary



Fruit growing has not made rapid progress on the prairies. By many it has been looked upon as a hopeless proposition.

But all the time fruit growing enthusiasts with the true pioneering spirit have been busy investigating to see just how far fruit growing can be successfully carried on in this climate. The dean of these experiments is undoubtedly A. P. Stevenson, of Morden, Man. For 30 years he has been experimenting and developing new varieties suitable for western condition. The benefit of his long experience is now to be given to Guide readers. A series of 12 articles dealing with fruit growing, gardening and ornamental planting is being prepared for us by Mr. Stevenson. The first of these appears in this issue. It covers thoroughly the growing of strawberries. If your copies of The Guide are not regularly filed it will pay you to cut out these articles and save them for future reference. They will contain detailed, practical information which will be of inestimable value to you in establishing a fruit garden for supplying your table with home-grown products.

"The cartoons alone are worth more than the price of the paper. I wouldn't be without them for \$5.00 a year," said a Saskatchewan farmer who called a few days ago to renew his subscription. That made the artist feel happy. He likes to have his services appreciated by the farmer. There is abundance of evidence that they do appreciate them. For that reason arrangements were made some time ago to utilize his full time. There are few farmers' papers having a fully-equipped art department, such as The Guide now has. The weekly cartoon, the Deo Dads, the illustrations for our seed grain and other catalogs, and all other art work are prepared right here in our own offices. This is a valuable service; but then, there is nothing too good for the farmers.

Here is a service which the advertising department of The Guide is anxious to render you. Are there any articles which you wish to purchase and which are not represented in our advertising columns. If so, just drop a card to the Advertising Department, Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, and they will give you full information as to where the articles you want can be secured.

Do good roads interest you? Most farmers who have hauling to do are vitally interested in them. There are many municipalities in the West which are doing splendid work in improving the highways within their borders. This work is partly the result of the activities of the provincial governments and partly due to the progressiveness of the farmers in the municipalities. During the winter a series of articles on Good Roads will appear in The Guide. These will cover every phase of this important movement. The first of these articles appears in this issue. It outlines the

policies of the provincial governments of the three prairie provinces and will be followed by equally instructive articles on other phases of the subject.

Before shipping live poultry long distances by express it is always wise to find out what the express charges will be. Recently a Guide reader shipped such a consignment from a point in Alberta to a commission firm in Winnipeg. The total charges amounted considerably over 50 per cent. of the value of the shipment. Prices quoted are always f.o.b. at point of destination. Shipping charges are therefore deducted when settlement is being made. In this case the commission firm dealt in an entirely fair manner with the customer but there was, of course, disappointment with the results. Matters of this kind are covered in the poultry department and those who read it each week are kept thoroughly informed on the marketing end of the poultry business.

Whoever said that women's meetings were designed for gossiping parties was quite mistaken. If he would read our Farm Women's Club page he should see how much mistaken he was. Reports have come in showing that Cayley U.P.W.A. has contributed \$2,500; Carstairs nearly as much; Claresholm Institute \$3,000, as well as making 6,000 articles; Strathmore \$1,200 and 6,218 articles; Verdant Valley \$2,500 and many thousand articles; and Leduc, \$2,000. These figures speak in glowing terms of what our women are capable in their nation's crisis. In the latest Red Cross report for the Northern Alberta Red Cross branch it is stated that 98,670 articles were received from the country auxiliaries. The value of these articles is given at \$13,778.63. The country auxiliaries contributed \$40,754.29 in cash as well. This does not of course include the enormous sums of money that are raised for other branches of patriotic work than the Red Cross.

The Patriotic Funds are receiving splendid support from the farmers' organizations. One morning last month the mail brought a letter from the Weyburn Farmers' Elevator Co., of Weyburn, Sask., which contained \$1,500. Of this, \$500 was for each of the following funds: Y.M.C.A. Military Fund, the French Red Cross and the Belgian Relief. From all over the West contributions continue to pour in and the grand total is now nearing the \$20,000 mark. There is no question about the insistent need of the continued support of all these worthy enterprises. Now that the troops are entering on their fourth winter campaign, and the people of the war stricken countries are again facing a long cruel period in which their sufferings from famine will be augmented with the terrors of winter, the utmost that we can do for them will be required to assuage their sufferings.

"Preparedness"

If you do not make a Will, the Administrator who takes charge of your property will find it unready to be dealt with by anyone except yourself. The Administrator will have to guess your ideas about the management of your estate; and even if he knows your ideas he will be compelled to follow the legal procedure prescribed by law for the estates of people who do not make wills.

Make a Will, and give an Executor power to carry out your wishes. About executorship, consult

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Ready January, 1918. Send your name.

We are buyers of Timothy Brome and Western Rye.

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Organized in Western Canada in 1906

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We are prepared to make loans to responsible farmers on the security of threshed grain or against bills of lading.

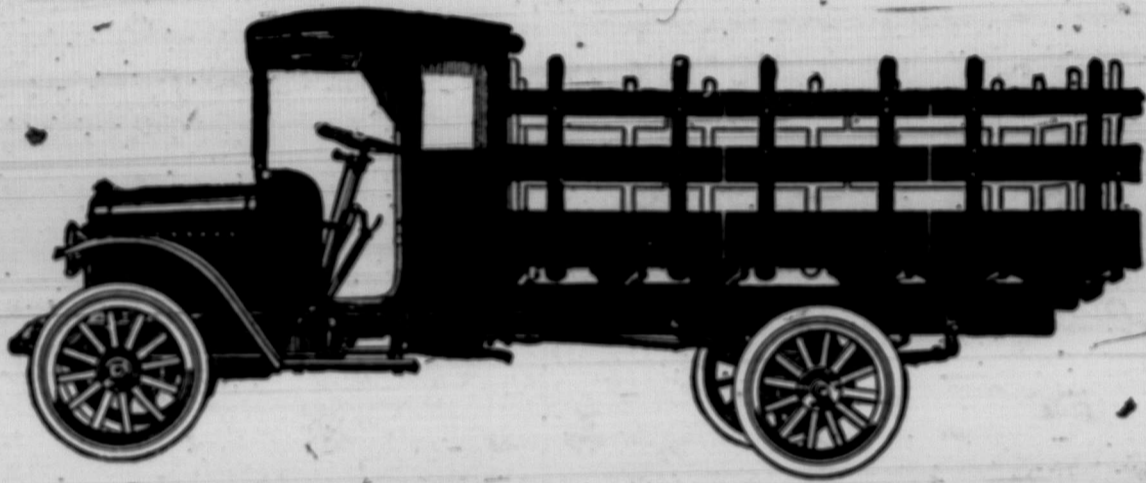
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MAXWELL

Most Miles
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That is what Mr. Walter Faber did with his Maxwell one-ton truck during the last season.

Mr. Faber is a successful farmer living nine miles out of Wayne, Nebraska.

He believes in applying business methods—efficiency methods—to agriculture.

So last spring he bought a Maxwell one-ton truck.

In that truck he hauled to market EVERY-THING his farm produced. Said Mr. Faber:

"I made seven trips into Wayne and back each day with my Maxwell truck—just five more than I could possibly have made with horses."

Among the crops truck-marketed by Mr.

Faber were corn, oats, wheat, hay, potatoes, etc.

He hauled 10,000 bushels of shelled corn—55 bushels, that is, 3080 pounds, to the load.

That was more than 50 per cent overload. Mr. Faber's truck cost no more to keep going than one team of horses.

Now most of his neighbors are planning to buy Maxwell trucks.

What are you going to do? Continue using slow, expensive horses? Or buy a low-priced, economical and swift Maxwell Truck?

Your nearest Maxwell dealer has the trucks. See him.

One-ton truck chassis, \$1415; Chassis with cab and wind. shield, \$1460; Chassis with box body, \$1475; Box body with windshield, \$1530; Express canopy body, \$1500; Chassis with stake gate body, \$1540. All prices f. o. b. factory

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The Brain Browsers' Guide

Winnipeg, Wednesday, December 12, 1917

Union Gains Strength

There are unmistakable signs that the cause of Union is daily gaining ground in Canada. So clear has it become in many constituencies that the Laurier-Liberal candidate has resigned and given the Unionist candidate an acclamation. The confusion caused by the exemption tribunals in the west has happily been cleared up by the government. The result is that farmers are relieved from the ambiguous position in which they were placed and are more strongly than ever supporting the Union government. The government, the minister of agriculture and the minister of militia have made it clear that farmers are to be left on their farms to produce the food that is needed as badly as men on the firing line. Farmers have been urged as a patriotic duty to produce food and they are doing it. They may rest assured that they will not now be drafted into the army. If the exemption and appeal tribunals refuse to recognize the need for food, the government has announced that such farmers as are drafted will be discharged from the army and sent back to their farms.

In this election campaign as in all others there are many who have no argument except misrepresentation and falsehood. They seek only to confuse the mind of the voter. There is only one big issue at stake. The campaign in Quebec is that Canada has done enough. The policy of the Union government is that Canada is in honor bound to remain in the war to the finish. If the Allies are defeated nothing else matters much. If Germany is victorious the Iron Heel will be placed upon Canada. Germany wants Canada as a part of the German empire. What Germany has done to Belgium is known to all. God alone knows what would happen to the world if Germany comes out of the war victorious. All that our fathers have fought and bled for in ages past would count for nothing. The sacrifices that our boys today are making in France and Flanders would all be unavailing. The war is not won. The enemy is still undefeated. To save our homes and safeguard democracy, Canada must remain true to the pledges given in 1914 when Parliament unanimously declared to stand by Britain, France and Belgium to the last. It is no time to debate small things when the issue is life and death. The sacrifice of our soldiers must not be in vain. They must not be deserted in the hour of their greatest need. If the Union government is returned to power Canada will be in the war to the end. If the Union government is defeated Canada will do but little if any more to carry on the war in which she has done so nobly to save mankind from the power of German autocracy.

High Cost of Living

The cost of high living was never more apparent in Canada than it is at the present moment. A few light restrictions have been made and there are large numbers to whom every increase in the cost of living means a reduction in consumption. But there is still a great waste of productive power. Retailers state that there never was a time when the demand for extravagantly expensive wearing apparel was so great as now. Fashion and not the need of the hour is still the dictator of much of our purchasing. Take shoes for example. The more imperative the demand for the conservation of leather the longer fashion decrees the tops. The more necessary it is that labor should be economically employed the more of it is squandered on elaborate trimmings. A simple analysis of the list of articles exposed to tempt purchasers reveals

the enormous maladjustment of our whole industrial system in view of the need of economy both in consumption and in the utilization of labor resources. An enormous amount of labor is being frittered away in unnecessary and even harmful production, while such an important industry as the production of food stuffs, which is laboring under the greatest strain that was ever thrust upon it, is altogether inadequately manned. It is not so in Germany. The industrial efficiency of that country is what is making it so difficult to resist her aggressions. More and more it is becoming apparent that similar organized industrial efficiency will be necessary in order to win the war and this is simply a question of having each man and woman working where the results of their labor will increase the necessities of life and of war. The first step in national thrift should be the placing of a ban on personal extravagance.

The New Income Taxes

The system of taxation in use in this country has been wasteful and unscientific, to say nothing of its other faults. It has put the burden of providing revenue on to agriculture and the basic industries while favoring the big interests. At last a new principle has been recognized. The taxation of incomes was authorized by the last Parliament and will be enforced early in 1918. Thus the ability of citizens to pay rather than the amount of their purchases or of their consumption will for the first time be considered in relation to national revenue.

The income tax has long been utilized in Great Britain. Introduced at first as a war measure and long so regarded, it has gradually grown into a permanent instrument of taxation. Since the outbreak of the war the amount of the British income tax has risen enormously, together with the supertaxes on large incomes, and in the last financial year it produced more than a billion dollars of revenue. The tax begins with incomes of \$650, all below that amount being exempt. Incomes above that figure up to \$3,500 are subject to abatements varying from \$350 to \$600, with an allowance of \$125 for each dependent child. Incomes above \$3,500 are taxed on the full amount and incomes in excess of \$12,500 bears further carefully graduated supertaxes. In the result an income of, say, \$250,000 pays 25 per cent. on \$12,500, higher rates on successive portions up to \$50,000 and 42½ per cent. on all income in excess of that amount. There is a differentiation between earned incomes and those derived from investments, the lowest rate on the former being 11¼ per cent. and on the latter 15 per cent. An income of \$4,000, to state a case, pays 12½ per cent. if earned and 17 per cent. if unearned.

The details of the British income tax system are too complicated to give more fully. But enough has been said to enable comparison to be made with the new Canadian tax, bearing in mind that conditions and the purchasing power of money vary in the two cases. The Canadian income tax will fall upon the incomes enjoyed during the present calendar year, subject to certain minor deductions and exemptions. It will be payable, wherever possible, at the source of the income. The base rate of the tax will be four per cent., which will be levied upon all of the income exceeding \$1,500 in the case of unmarried men and widowers without dependent children, and exceeding \$3,000 in the case of all other persons. Incomes in excess of \$6,000 up to \$10,000 will be subject to an additional tax of two per cent.; those of \$10,000 to \$20,000 to five per cent. supertax; \$20,000 to \$30,000 to eight per cent. supertax; \$30,000 to \$50,000

to 10 per cent. supertax; \$50,000 to \$100,000 to 15 per cent., and those over \$100,000 to 25 per cent. supertax. Corporations will be exempt from the supertax and all taxes imposed on them under the Special War Revenues Act of 1915 and under the Business Profits War Tax Act of 1916 may be deducted from the payments due as income tax. Such profits as these corporations distribute in dividends will not escape income tax; they will be taxed as part of the incomes of the persons receiving them.

Simple addition of the supertax to the base rate of taxation will determine the full rate at which any given income will be normally taxed after February 28 next. The highest rate of taxation will be 29, and the lowest four per cent. This compares favorably to the taxpayer with the British rates, especially when it is borne in mind that 80 per cent. of excess profits is now taken by the exchequer in Britain. The provisions of the Canadian law which permit the excess profits taxes to be deducted from the amount payable as income tax clearly need consideration. Most of the statutory returns should have been received by the time the new Parliament gets down to business next year. From the information then available the whole question of taxing excess profits in addition to income ought to be reviewed and the tax on both must be increased.

No More Titles Needed

In the older countries of the eastern hemisphere, with their historical traditions and associations, some justification may be found for the perpetuation of peerages and orders of knighthood. In the less conventional atmosphere and less stratified society of the western hemisphere, with its newer civilization and its progressive tendencies, there is no excuse for the introduction of such expedients. Those whom the citizens of the democratic communities on this side of the Atlantic desire to honor neither look for nor appreciate honors which are empty and titles whose significance is faint and blurred. Already the sturdy growth of knights and the seedlings of the peerage planted in the soil of Canadian independence present a grotesque contrast to the prevailing characteristics of the people. Where merit has ordinarily been rewarded with the respect and spontaneous confidence of the citizens, freely extended to men and women in all other particulars neither socially better nor socially worse than their fellows, arbitrary distinctions of rank are beginning to be established. And not satisfied with the existing facilities for the creation of these social inequalities, the authorities now propose to introduce a new complication in the "Order of the British Empire."

This organization is to include five classes, of which two will confer knighthood, corresponding rank for women consisting of the title "Dame Grand Cross." The membership of this order, it is understood, will be recruited throughout the Empire from among those who have rendered notable service in connection with the war. Thus the attempt to create an Imperial aristocracy proceeds, having its origin in a mistaken notion of imperial organization and feeding upon the vanity of those whom it is sought to honor.

Few Canadians desire these honors for themselves or wish to see their public men and women wearing them. In this handing out of titles there is danger to the Empire and to the maintenance of the spirit of true democracy. Such honors will fall inevitably to the commercially successful or to the politically ambitious. In either case they will fail of the slender justification of birth elsewhere sup-

porting them. They will invest the plutocrats, whom modern conditions already tend to evolve, with a spurious aristocracy. They can seldom fall to those upon whom a democratic people most wishes to confer its honors. The tradition which has, until recently, kept the Dominions free from false and arbitrary social distinctions—a tradition having much in common with the spirit which prevented Mr. Gladstone, among others, from accepting an oft-offered peerage—ought to be sedulously preserved and religiously observed. Orders of knighthood have, in the circumstances of a new and growing country like Canada, none of the feudal significance which survives in them in Europe, and the Canadian people desire that no such foreign sentiment shall be incorporated in their institutions, no matter how praiseworthy the motive may be.

Resources in Farm Labor

From every farming district in Canada the cry is going up for more help in the fields next year. The labor supply is totally inadequate to the needs of production on the scale already established. Much of the help that is available is of the most unskilled and unsatisfactory kind. But skilled farm help exists. Canada has not begun to utilize to its full effectiveness the trained farm help available within her borders. There are tens of thousands of men with skill in farm work who are not at work on the farms. The woods may not be full of them, but the cities are. There is not a city or town in Canada in which you can throw a brick without hitting someone who scarcely ever saw outside the line fences of his father's farm until he was a grown man. For 25 years there has been a steady stream of youths, trained from the cradle in farm work, pouring into our towns and cities. Many of them are now engaged in employment that does not compare in importance with food production. No organized effort has ever been made to make this labor available to the farmers with the exception of a few spasmodic and mostly ineffectual voluntary attempts on the part of urban dwellers to assist the farmers in a pinch. If the war keeps on for another year or two, as it has every prospect of doing, something will have to be done to mobilize this labor and make it available on the farms. Why should it not be done next spring? It is as easy to mobilize for the farm as for the trenches. The mobilization need not be on a basis of \$1.10 a day. Farmers are willing to pay men what they are worth. The times demand the reorganization and readjustment of the labor supply so that more men will be available for agriculture, now as never before Canada's paramount industry in importance.

Some of the organized trainmen pay \$48 per year in dues to their organization; the barbers pay \$12 in dues to their union, and the boot-blacks pay \$5.00 per year to keep up their organization. The farmers pay \$1.00 per year in dues to their organization and then some of them wonder why they don't get better results.

Cause of Food Shortage

The vicious fiscal policies of Canada and the United States are now bearing bitter fruit. Agriculture is the great basic industry of both these countries. Had it received fair treatment at the hands of past governments, it would have been equal to any emergency that could be thrust upon it. But it received no such treatment. For the last fifty years the policies of the two countries have been directed almost entirely to the building up of urban interests. By means of iniquitous tariff laws the farmers have seen the reward of their labors divested from their pockets to the coffers of financial magnates. While agriculture languished, the greatest and most insolent plutocracies in history were being built up. And so in the last twenty years we have seen the development of the rural problem. While great cities were springing up everywhere, country-sides were becoming depopulated. Even before the war broke out, population in the United States had almost overtaken food production, while in Canada agriculture, which should have distanced all other industries in development, was making comparatively feeble growth. The outbreak of the war found the farms undermanned and altogether unprepared for the tremendous burden that was soon to be thrown upon them. The first three years of war accelerated the rush from the farm. Mushroom war industries making huge profits were able to out-bid the farmers for help, and the labor problem became increasingly acute. The enlistment of farmers' sons and farm laborers swelled the stream of men whose footsteps were directed away from the farm. The German submarine policy has created a shipping situation which has cut off agricultural supplies from distant agricultural countries, and now the farmers of Canada and the United States are faced with the burden of supplying the Allied nations with all their food importations. The situation is such as to cause the gravest concern.

Farmers are being urged to re-double their efforts to produce surplus food products. They will do all that is humanly possible, but it may be humanly impossible to fully meet the tremendous demands that have been thrust upon them. The lesson of the present food crisis is that agriculture cannot be systematically exploited with impunity. We hear a great deal about making the world safe for democracy. It will never be safe for democracy until the great class of food producers are unburdened from the impositions that tariffs have placed upon them during the last fifty years.

Public Ownership Progressing

In the United States there has recently been a great growth of public opinion in favor of the nationalization of railways. When America went into the war and the railways of the nation were brought into the war organization the transportation problem was partially solved by this method. It has been announced however by those close to the railway organizations, that the very best and most satisfactory service cannot be secured even under the war organization so long as the railways remain in private hands. The realization of these facts is forcing many people to favor the taking over of the railways by the state as a war measure. The undertaking would be a tremendous one, but it would not equal in magnitude the nationalization of the railways in Canada in proportion to population. Great Britain today has practically the same as public ownership of railways. In the United States private ownership is supreme. If America adopts public ownership of railways it will be but a few years until the railways of the world are operated by the state the same as the postal system. Such an achievement would forward the progress of democracy immensely.

While all the authorities are telling us of the great shortage of food, Canada still permits the destruction of food in the breweries. Huge quantities of sugar are manufactured into confectionery and large quantities of cream are manufactured into ice cream. Here is a chance for the food controller to conserve food in a very practical manner.

When making your Christmas gifts don't forget the starving women and children of Belgium. While we are comparatively comfortable they are suffering as only people in a war devastated country can suffer. Any contributions for the Belgian Relief Fund may be forwarded to The Grain Growers' Guide and they will be promptly turned over to the proper authorities.

The tanks have again demonstrated their usefulness in clearing the way for an infantry advance. A whole fleet of them were used in the great British drive on Cambria. The war will yet be won by the side which can put the most war machinery into action on the front.

Hog Producers Assured Protection

There is a shortage of 30,000,000 hogs in Europe, Britain, France and Italy... The Dominion Government and the Provincial Governments are collaborating to greatly increase the production of hogs in Canada... Mr. W. J. Harris, the Food Controller for Canada, made the following statement to a representative gathering of porkers and pig-breeds:

"The hog industry will receive a boost in the near future... The hog industry will receive a boost in the near future... The hog industry will receive a boost in the near future..."

CONFIDENCE JUSTIFIED

There has been no shortage in the world's production... The Dominion Government and the Provincial Governments are collaborating to greatly increase the production of hogs in Canada...

SAVE THE YOUNG SOWS

Every sowing in the British Isles requires 1 1/2 bushels of beans per acre... The Dominion Government and the Provincial Governments are collaborating to greatly increase the production of hogs in Canada...

Division of Canada Department of Agriculture
LIVE STOCK BRANCH
OTTAWA

TRAPPED AT LAST

Taking the Distance out of Mileage

The Good Roads Policies of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta

ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN MANITOBA

A Good Roads Act that Gets Results

By ARCH. MCGILLIVRAY, Highway Commissioner

Primarily the construction and maintenance of the roads of Manitoba are controlled by the municipalities. The council of each municipality assumes responsibility under its form of municipal government for these works on all the roads within the boundary of its own municipality.

The government of the province exercises no authority over the expenditure of municipal funds except when these funds are supplemented by government grant. In such cases the work is performed according to the directions of the engineers of the department of public works, and any work performed in a municipality on this basis must be acceptable to the engineer before such grant is paid. These grants are paid from an appropriation voted yearly by the legislature from the consolidated revenue of the province. The distribution of the fund is entirely in the hands of the minister of public works, the allotment to a municipality being dependent on the exigency of the case and the necessity of the work to be performed in each municipality applying therefor. Since the passing of the Good Roads Act, 1914, the distribution of the appropriation has been very largely confined to municipalities in outlying districts, where need of improvements is greater and the financial ability of the ratepayers less than in the older and more prosperous municipalities.

The present Good Roads Act was placed on the statutes of the province in 1914 and is intended primarily to assist the municipalities in the construction of the main market roads. There is also a clause of the act which provides for more liberal assistance on a road through any municipality which has to carry a large amount of traffic from outside sources, over and above the traffic generated within its own limits. This act is administered by a good roads board of three members working with the minister of public works. The highway commissioner is chairman of the board. In conjunction with the board and working under its directions is a staff of engineers. The duties and office of this board, besides those pertaining to the general administration of the act, are to assist municipal councils in formulating suitable schemes of road construction and improvement in the respective municipalities; to compile statistics and collect information relative to the mileage, character and conditions of the roads of the province; to investigate the various methods of construction best adapted to the various sections of the country; and establish standards for the construction and maintenance of highways in various sections, taking into consideration the natural conditions, character and availability of road building material, and the ability of municipalities to build and maintain roads under the Good Roads Act.

Municipalities Take Initiative

It rests entirely with the municipality to take advantage of the assistance provided under the act. In order to obtain this assistance the municipality must by resolution of its council apply to the good roads board expressing its desire to avail itself of the provisions of the act. In doing so, this application must be accompanied with a plan of the municipality showing thereon the roads proposed to be constructed or improved. Accompanying this plan of roads, the municipal council expresses its desire in connection with the nature of improvement to be performed, method of financing the same, and also makes a statement as to the approximate cost of the work to be undertaken. The amount of the assessed valuation of all the real property in the municipality liable to taxation and as shown on the last revised assessment roll of that municipality is also required

to be given, as upon this amount is based the amount of debenture indebtedness that can be placed on the municipality for the purpose of works under this act, this indebtedness being limited to 6 per cent of the assessment of the municipality exclusive of all other debenture liabilities.

Upon receipt of an application from a municipal council and information as aforesaid, an engineer of the board is sent into the municipality and a survey and investigation is made by him of the roads proposed by the council. The engineer reports to the board on the feasibility and merits of the scheme and gives an estimate of the cost of performing the several works proposed. The scheme as then outlined and reported upon by the engineer is considered by the board, and if ap-

instead of issuing debentures to defray the cost of the work may appropriate a portion of the current revenue of the municipality and proceed with the work from year to year in that manner, or the council may impose a tax annually, such tax not to exceed five mills on the dollar and pay for its work as it goes. It must be said that under ordinary conditions it is much preferable for a municipality to issue debentures and thus have its roads constructed as quickly as possible.

All works performed under the Good Roads Act are by contract, unless mutually determined otherwise by the council and the board, and no contract shall be let unless the work has been advertised and tenders asked for during a period of two weeks. The acceptance of any tender is subject to the approval of the board. The lowest responsible tender in all cases receives the work.

The work must be performed in accordance with plans and specifications of the engineers of the board, whose services are given free to the municipality. When the works are of sufficient magnitude to require assistants to the engineer who shall be constantly on the work, the municipality is required to engage such engineer's assistants, and the expense incurred thereby is chargeable to the cost of the work and of which the government pays its proportionate share.

Province Contributes to the Cost

According to the provisions of the act the province contributes one-half of the cost of all work, including bridges and culverts of a permanent character done on a system of roads regularly brought under the act when the work thus done is of a superior character to the ordinary earth grading and such as gravel, macadam or other improved type of road. One-third of the cost of constructing earth roads is borne by the province, and where permanent culverts and bridges have been constructed in this type of road, the Government pays one-half the cost of such permanent work. Where a road is considered to be of general importance to the province as a whole, and over which a large amount of traffic is carried from points outside the municipality, and when such road is accepted under the act as a provincial highway, the government pays two-thirds of the costs of works performed in improving the same.

The province also contributes one-half of the cost of constructing a bridge or culvert of a permanent nature, which entails an expenditure of \$200 or over, and one-third of the cost of a timber bridge or culvert which is \$500 or over, built in a road which does not necessarily form part of a system accepted under the act. Such bridges and culverts, however, must be built in accordance with the regulations of the act and in compliance with plans and specifications prepared by the engineers of the board. Specially qualified bridge engineers are retained in the service of the board for such work.

The maintenance of all works performed under the Good Roads Act is done and the expense incurred therefore is borne by the municipality affected. When this work is neglected by a municipality, the government has authority under the act to engage men and teams to do the work and to levy through the municipal commissioner's department for the cost of the same. The provisions of the act apply to a portion of a municipality in the same manner as to the municipality as a whole.

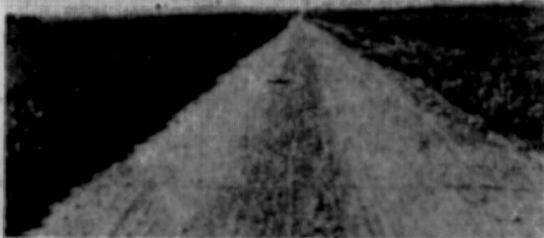
GOOD ROADS IN ALBERTA

The Problem in a Rapidly Developing Province

By L. C. CHARLESWORTH, Deputy Minister of Public Works

The road question in a new and rapidly developing province such as Alberta, presents many problems which are not met with in an older and longer established part of the country. New areas are constantly being opened up for settlement and

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Which of these Roads would you sooner team wheel over?

proved by it and its decision in the premises subsequently ratified by an order-in-council, the municipal council is thereby authorized to proceed with work under the act and is entitled to receive the advantages and privileges of the same. The work, however, must be carried on in full compliance with the act, and regulations of the board pertaining thereto.

Raising the Municipality's Share of Cost

A municipal council having a system of roads brought under the provisions of the act, has then authority to issue debentures for the amount of its estimated share of the cost of performing the works proposed. The amount of debenture issue must not, however, exceed six per cent of the total assessed valuation of the municipality. The rate of interest payable on these debentures is limited to 6 per cent per annum. The repayment of the debentures may be extended over a period not exceeding 30 years and must be in equal annual installments of principal and interest. Every by-law for the purpose of issuing debentures for road construction must be submitted to and receive the assent of the ratepayers of the municipality or portion thereof affected by such by-law. A majority of the votes actually polled is sufficient to carry or defeat the by-law. The municipal council



SOME OF THE PRACTICAL RESULTS OF PROVINCIAL GOOD ROADS ACTIVITIES IN MANITOBA AND SASKATCHEWAN
Left—40-foot Steel Bridge, concrete abutments and graded approach, Touchwood Creek, west of Harris, Sask. Centre—Concrete Road, St. Vital, south of Winnipeg, Man. Right—Approach to 125-foot Steel

British Co-operation in War-Time

It is rendering an important service in the time of the Empire's Testing

By a British Co-operator

The co-operative movement in Great Britain consists of three main divisions. They are the agricultural, productive, and distributive societies. The first are the greater in number, membership and influence, and through their national federations have entered the field of production on a wider scale than even the distinctly productive societies, and now are extending their agricultural activities.

It is usually they who are designated when the term "industrial co-operation" is used. In 1916 these distributive societies numbered 362, with a total membership of 3,529,227. They are employed to 115,651 persons. They are controlled by committees of management elected from the members, each member having one vote. These societies vary in size from a few score members only, to 50,000. Twenty-one societies have each a membership of over 1,000, but over 800 societies have under 1,000 members each.

The share and loan capital of the distributive societies in 1916 amounted to £53,323,352. The bulk of the trade is in groceries, provisions and bread, which goods practically all societies deal with. The greater number have also shops for the sale of meat, drapery and clothing and footwear. A large number are milk retailers and a few own farms on which they draw supplies. The total retail sales for the year amounted to £121,628,550.

Recognized by Food Controller

Membership and trade have increased rapidly during the war, and the rate of increase would have been greater but for the difficulties of obtaining supplies. Co-operative service to the nation since the outbreak of hostilities cannot be adequately appraised. Co-operators have been the way in their treatment of employees called up for service. They have done much to steady prices. Their situation has been recognized by Lord Boddard, the food controller, who recommended the inclusion of co-operative representatives on all local food control committees. Even when traders as such were excluded, he said, co-operators could be admitted as representing the interests of the consumers.

For purposes of wholesale trade and manufacture societies in England and Wales are federated in the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and in Scotland by the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd. These organizations are familiarly known as the C.W.S. and the S.C.W.S. Their sales last year amounted to £66,732,484. Though there are slight differences of detail between the two, a description of the scope of the C.W.S. would be substantially true of both institutions.

The C.W.S. deals in practically every commodity which retail co-operative societies sell. Its headquarters are in Manchester. It has branches at Newcastle and London; depots at Bristol, Cardiff, Northampton, and salerooms in half-a-dozen or more towns. Through these, last year, it sold goods to the value of £52,230,974.

If this total £16,263,385 was for goods produced in its own factories and workshops. It mills flour, bakes tea, churns butter, cures bacon, and manufactures biscuits, jams, cocoa, chocolates and sweets, margarine, patent medicines and sundry articles innumerable. It

weaves cotton and wool fabrics, and makes men's and women's clothing and underclothing.

It manufactures hats and shoes at the rate of over two million pairs a year, and soap quantities of some 100,000 hundred tons a year. It possesses dairy, pig and other farms in England and tea gardens in Ceylon and India. Its shipping depots are in Holland, Denmark, France, Spain, West Africa, the U.S.A. and Canada. And its resources and capabilities are continually multiplying.

In his brief statement on the trade interests and the needs of the English people, it is necessary to have any appreciation of the service rendered by

the co-operative movement to the nation during war time can be made. The important fact is that this complex organization of manufacturers and distributors exists for the service of producers and consumers, and protects both from exploitation by middlemen. This has been its most significant service.

The matter can be made clearer by describing the co-operative treatment of a single commodity—bread. This vital article of food has been sold by co-operative stores consistently below the price charged at competitive shops. The returns published month by month by the ministry of labor prove this. For instance the official figures showed that on September 1 the predominant price of bread in private trade was

chaser's dividend or discount which co-operators receive. On September 17 the government-controlled price of bread came into operation. Co-operative stores sell at (and in many cases below) the controlled price and pay dividend on purchases in addition.

Many of the finest bakeries in the country are owned co-operatively and in the early days of the war, before the government was in a position to do the work itself, large contracts for bread for the troops were executed by these bakeries. Praise of the quality was universal.

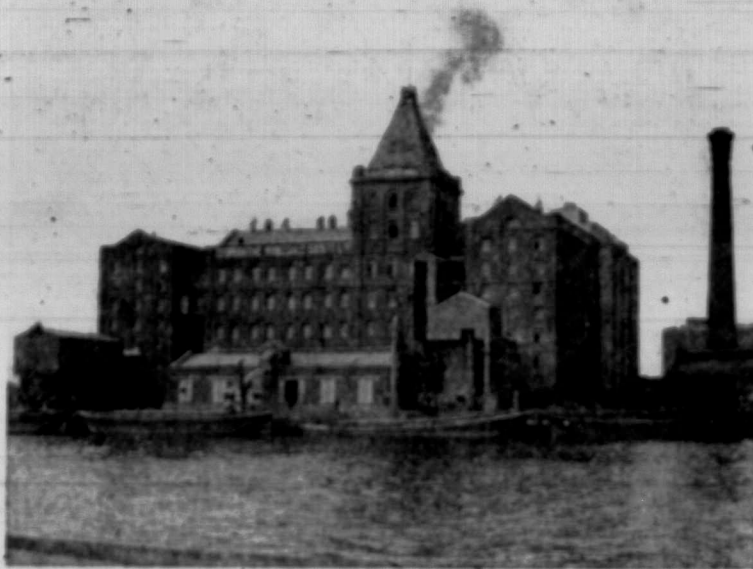
Co-operative Flour Mills

The efficient organization of the bread trade has in part been made possible by the co-operative flour mills. The C.W.S. owns eight. The principal ones are excellently placed in the ports of Manchester, Newcastle, London and Bristol, and land has just been purchased for another at the port of Liverpool. At each of these the wheat can be unloaded directly from the boats to the silos of the mill. The total output from these C.W.S. mills last year was 3,185,963 sacks (a sack is 280 lbs.). The C.W.S. can claim to be the largest flour millers in the United Kingdom. The fact was recognized by the government in the selection of one of the C.W.S. mill managers for work on the Royal Commission on wheat.

Not only are they the largest but the equipment of their mills is among the most perfect. The Sun Mill at Manchester has an output of 140 sacks of flour per hour. In the granaries of this mill 20,000 tons of wheat can be stored. They can be filled directly from ocean-going steamers by their own elevators.

The annual requirements of wheat for the C.W.S. mills is twenty million (20,000,000) bushels. On its own estates it grows now a small quantity of English wheat, but its agricultural developments are still in their infancy. Even if they increase on the scale which many co-operators hope, the C.W.S. must still, like the nation as a whole, be dependent on over-sea supplies. To grow wheat for its own use it is necessary to go out of England. It has begun in North America, the granary of the world.

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One of the Big Flour Mills of the Co-operative Wholesale Society

11d. against 11d. in co-operative shops. And this statement does not take into account the pur-

chase done so.

Public Ownership of Coal Mines

Why This Natural Resource Should Be Nationalized.

By Edward Ellis-Goss

Coal is a natural resource. God, not man, through nature's processes made it. One hardly needs an argument against private ownership and control of air, sunshine, water, land, or coal; it is self-evidently unjust and absurd. All the facts and arguments are against it. When Mr. Baer gravely declared that God had given the ownership and control of coal to himself and others as trustees of providence the people laughed. Providence never did intrust Baer and his ilk with these natural resource public necessities, they obtained them by injustice and viola-

tion of law; and if providence ever had so intrusted these things to Baer, he and the other coal barons had long since proven themselves embezzling trustees, betraying their trust and robbing the people for whom the coal was intended. Therefore they should be dismissed from their job. As coal is a natural product, "not made with hands," no man has a moral right to more than his share. It should be appropriated by the government and be mined, transported and sold to the people at cost, including a fair tax for government use only.

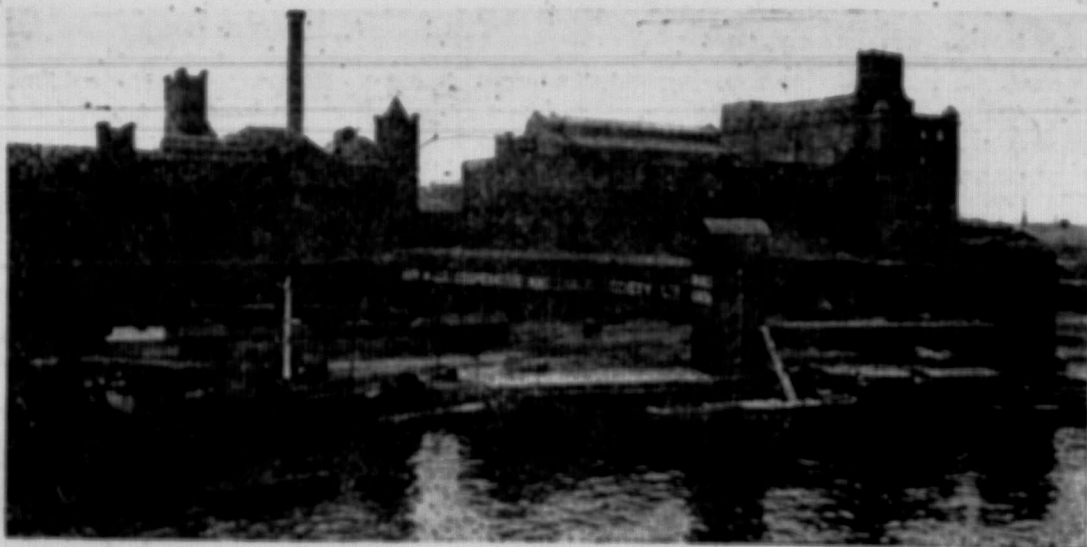
Coal is peculiarly subject to unjust and cruel monopoly under private ownership.

1.—At the mine. The individual who owns coal under his land is unable to mine it properly as an individual and is compelled to sell or lease to the coal magnates at the price they choose to pay or leave his coal prospect undeveloped while their company steals it by tunnelling under.

And if he secures enough financial help from independent capitalists to put in the needful machinery and labor to work his mine, the difficulty of getting the coal to market is

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An address by the editor of Real Democracy at the Public Ownership Conference held recently in Chicago.



THE C.W.S. FLOUR MILL AT MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

A Man at Need

A Lumberjack Tale

By A. M. Chisolm

CHAPTER 1.

The lamplight, streaming through the open door of Adelard Savigny's bar, cut a great yellow gash in the soft darkness of the June night. Through the door streamed also strong alcoholic odors, a babel of French oath and song, pounding of glasses, and stamping of feet. Evidently business was brisk with Savigny, who kept a very tough house, and respectable citizens passing by gave the place a wide berth.

Not belonging to that class, Jimmy McPike and Bill Leamy stopped and listened. Both wore the short trousers, long stockings, and spiked boots of river men. In fact, they were just off the drive, their pay was intact in their pockets, their thirst was six months long, and they had no earthly objection to trouble of any kind.

Leamy would have attracted notice anywhere. He was a bull-necked, husky giant, standing six feet two in his stockings, straight in the back and broad in the shoulder.

Viewed from behind, he was a handsome man. But his features had been much mishandled. His head was small and covered with bristles, close cropped black hair. Fierce, cunning little eyes twinkled beneath a lowering brow. In some by-gone battle his nose had been smashed in, so that the bridge of it lay flush with the face. His upper incisors were missing, and his lower jaw protruded like a bulldog's. When he smiled, the unseasoned beholder shuddered. To crown all, his face was badly pitted with small-pox and scarred by the caulks of river boots. His entire expression was absolutely truculent, ferocious and brutal. Beneath his repellent exterior, his heart was as tender as a girl's. A man in hard luck could have his last cent. He feared nothing on earth. And, next to the memory of his mother, he loved his chum, Jimmy McPike.

McPike was a fighting man, known by repute in every lumber camp from Temiskaming to the St. Maurice. He stood a little above the average height, but it needed a second glance to realize just how beautifully he was built. His neck was set into his powerful, loose-swinging shoulders with the solidity of a pyramid's base. From his shoulders to his feet, he tapered gracefully, a lean, lithe, pliant, one-hundred-and-eighty-pound shanty lad, without an ounce of fat or a soft tissue. As he listened to the noise, a hunger grew in his deep-set, cold, blue eyes.

"Let's go in, Bill," he suggested.

Leamy demurred. "What's th' use?—unless ye want a scrap. Lave th' pea soups be themselves. An' Savigny's whisky w'u'd poison a dog. Come on to Kelly's where our crowd is."

The voices of both men carried the faint brogue that was theirs by inheritance. You will hear it liping softly from half the shanty boys you meet; for in the back townships, settled long ago by disbanded Irish regiments of the fourth George, the tongue has never lost the twist of the old sod.

McPike raked the pine sidewalk with a spiked boot, stripping this, white slivers from the board. "It'll do no harm to luk in," he persisted; but his voice held exactly the tone of a child who makes an excuse which he knows is none.

"No harm!" Leamy repeated scornfully. "Ye know better. Like Le Gros Quebec an' that gang is in there, an' fightin' drunk."

McPike put forward an unanswerable argument at once.

"An' is it me an' you must go dry bekase Le Gros Quebec, or anny other peajammers this side iv hell, is in a bar? Le Gros Quebec, is it? Big an' beefy he is, an' I've heard say he wanted a chanst at me. Be hivins, here's where he gets it!"

Leamy grinned horribly in the darkness. "Let her go, then, Jimmy. Me an' you can take care of ourselves. But don't hunt trouble wid him."

"I never hunt it," said McPike. This was quite true. It was equally true that he never swerved a hair's breadth to avoid it. They crossed the street, and entered Savigny's.

A gust of alleged melody and the rank odor of split liquor met them at the door. The bar was crowded with shantymen, mostly of French

extraction. They were just off the drive, and were tanking up, after the time-honored custom. The babel of their voices was like a settling flock of wild geese. Half a dozen were singing "Sur le Vieux Castor Riviere," and the roomful roared the chorus, beating a thunderous accompaniment with the heavy-bottomed whisky glasses.

In the centre of the room, an artist was doing a step-dance, to the great detriment of the floor, the splinters flying from each slap of his steel-shod feet.

From time to time he threw up his head and howled appreciation of his own efforts, for the heat of the room and the rapid motion had fused with the "whisky blanc" which he had swallowed, and the effect was cumulative. From behind the bar, Savigny beheld the ruin of the floor, and cursed the dancer inwardly, but dared not interfere, tough though he was, for the crowd was quite capable of wrecking the place and breaking half the bones in his body if the whim seized them.

Back to the bar, a brimming glass in one hand and a pipe in the other, with which he beat time to the chorus, stood Le Gros Quebec, a burly hogshead of a man, evidently possessed of enormous strength. His name was Antoine Charette, but he was known mostly by his pseudonym—The Big Quebec—conferred on him by reason of his size and the place of his nativity.

Though much above the average height of man, he did not appear tall because of his great girth. His chest arched forward like the curve of a sail. His back and shoulders were almost



A Group of Canadians Recently Returned From Germany in the Exchange of Prisoners

deformed with bunched muscles. He himself did not know the limit of his strength—gift of hardy voyageurs, developed to its utmost by a life of the hardest open-air exercise. And with the weight and apparent unwieldiness of a grizzly bear, he owned all that great plantigrade's leopard-like quickness on occasion, as well as his ferocity when aroused.

Just then he was in a jovial mood. His slob-black eyes gleamed beneath bushy brows, his thick lips were parted in a smile, revealing two solid rows of yellow ivory, whose strength he sometimes exemplified by lifting with them a barrel full of pork, and he belloyed encouragement to the dancer in a voice tuned to carry above the roar of white water pent in rocky walls.

Into this festive gathering McPike and Leamy adventured. Their entrance was the signal for a sudden pause in the racket. They were known by sight to many of the men, and by reputation to more of them. From time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, there has been bad blood between the Irish and French of the logging camps, and sanguinary battles innumerable have been fought between them, for no reason other than hereditary and traditional dislike. Therefore, the coming of the two men to a resort patronized almost exclusively by French-Canadian shantymen was in itself a bid for trouble.

The two shouldered their way to the bar, and demanded drink. Being served, they invited the house to step up.

"Here's till ye, Quebec," smiled McPike, nodding across his glass to the big man. "May ye live by white water an' d'e in yer bed, an' clear current an' a fast chute for yer soul afterward."

"She's blame' good wish, dat," returned Quebec, grinning amiably at the flag of truce. "Salu ma frien! How you mak' heem go, hey? ain't seen you since two year, I t'ink."

"She goes bon," said McPike. "Two year is. A man can do a lot of talkin' in two year Kebec."

The French-Canadian shrugged his enormous shoulders. "Plaintee feller talk too moche wi hees mout, anyhow," he announced. "What you mean by dat, hey?"

"I hear you've been shootin' off your face about me," said McPike, with directness. "Yo claim to be boss of th' Coulonge, th' best man on th' river. You may be. I dunno. I ain got no kick at that, s'long's I don't work thee meself. But I'm told you say I dodge you at the drives an' in town. I dodge no man, an never did, an' you know it. So, if ye said th' Kebec, I'll show ye which is the best one of two."

The big man glared at him, his ferocious temper plainly astir. "Whoever say I say d' she's one beeg liar," he announced flatly, without a certain dignity. "Cre nom! I don go talk wit' my mout' lak dat. Dey call you boss of de Bonnechere Reeve. All right. M' I'll be boss of dat Coulonge. S'pose I pass myself on dat Bonnechere—mebbe I'm boss of dat too. S'pose you pass yourself on dat Coulonge mebbe you get to be boss of heem. All right I don' ron away from you; you don't ron away from me. Any tam you lake for fight heem hou I go you, for sure. But I ain't talk 'bout yo for because I'll t'ink you'll be good mans wi yourself."

The two, standing face to face, looked each other and down, and in the gaze each there was a respect and a keen sizing up of points. "Then that's all right," said McPike. "W'u'd ye lik to take a biri out of n' now?"

Le Gros Quebec shrugged again indifferently. He was not at all afraid of McPike but he was simply not fighting humor.

"For what I fight yo hey?" he queried. "For fo Ba' gosh, non: I get plait tee fight when I can't he heem. But if you lak f pick de row—" Another expressive shrug signified his entire willingness oblige.

"I never picked a re in me life," said McPike proudly. It was a point of honor with him. In numberless rough-and-tumble battles he had fought

the other man had always been the aggressor to a certain point, not always well defined. "M' the matter of that," he added candidly. "I noways sure I'd get any fun out of a turn with you, an' I might draw a father iv a lick! An' now we'll have another drink, for luck."

Quebec grinned mirthlessly, for his temper had been ruffled, though not stirred to action. He accepted the offer, and filled his glass with Savigny's colorless poison. The men who clustered around expectantly, listened to the conversation which their practiced ears interpreted as a certain fore-runner of hostilities, turned away in disappointment, and the racket broke out again.

The dancer, bereft of an audience, had paused but leaped again into activity. Almost instant the scarcely diluted alcohol he had swallowed seized him in its grip, and he dropped to the floor, unconscious. He was dragged into a corner, and another took his place. Everything was lovely, and the prospect of trouble seemed very remote, indeed.

It came like a bolt from a clear sky. A young man, a newcomer whom nobody had noticed slipped through the crowd until he stood before Le Gros Quebec. Entirely without warning, less a curse simultaneously delivered might so considered, he struck the giant in the face.

So utterly unexpected was the blow that Quebec reeled back against the bar, as much from surprise as from physical shock. The other man at him like a wild cat, striking with both hands his teeth bared in a wolf-like snarl, the embodiment of crazed, malevolent fury.

With a backward bound, as light as float
Continued on Page 26

MUNICIPAL HAIL INSURANCE

I have received a number of inquiries in regard to the additional assessment on land which is being made by the municipal hail insurance board, on all municipalities operating under the municipal hail insurance scheme, the inquiries being as to whether the tax is legal. We have submitted this matter to our legal department and the reply is that the tax would appear to be perfectly in order and that there does not seem to be any other course than to pay the tax. The impression that the maximum tax under the Act is \$10 per acre is not correct, as the Municipal Hail Insurance Act was amended at this last session of the legislature, giving the hail insurance board the power to strike any such additional rate on all lands within the districts that were actually under crop during the current year, in the event of the fixed rate set before the season opened, proving insufficient to pay the cost of administration and the losses sustained. This amendment means that there is no maximum tax at the present time, and that provision is made for the collection of this additional assessment in the same way as in other taxes due the municipality.

A Vexed Question

The municipal hail insurance question is a vexed one, particularly in Alberta, as it has not proved a success in this province at any time since its inception. One of our correspondents suggests that as the Central office claims credit for having brought the municipal hail insurance scheme into existence, we might therefore be reasonably expected to straighten up the present unfortunate conditions to the satisfaction of all. I have not been able to discover that the Central office has at any time taken credit to itself for inaugurating this scheme, but as a matter of fact the U.F.A. committee on municipal affairs did exercise some supervision in the fall of 1912, at the time the act governing the organization of municipalities was being drawn up by the provincial legislature. The report of that committee to the convention, however, does not father the scheme, but spec-

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.

fically expresses their disappointment that a more comprehensive plan had not been devised, and gives warning as to the necessity of the farmers of this province keeping close tabs of the way the municipal scheme works out from year to year, and getting an intelligent grasp of the problem which it was designed to solve. It has been very obvious from the first that the farmers of the municipalities involved have at no time gone to the trouble of getting an intelligent understanding of the situation, and their failure to do so is largely responsible for the present situation.

Government by municipality after all means nothing more in general terms than that a greater degree of authority is given to residents in a given municipal area to conduct their own business and govern themselves without unnecessary interference or paternalism from the province. The Municipal Hail Insurance scheme is a form of co-operation, the object of which is to give protection to the farmer against the complete loss of all that he has, and his reduction practically to a state of dependency on charity for the means to keep going until he got another crop. Please note that this is not a defence of the details of municipal government or the way in which the hail insurance scheme has been administered to date, but is merely a definition of what these ideas are intended to accomplish.

U.F.A. Has Done Its Duty

I am frank to admit that, in my opinion, the U.F.A. has not done its duty in spreading information as it might have done, and thereby educating its members as to their responsibilities for the success or failure of the scheme. This is probably due at least in part to the fact that from its inception an attempt was made to bring the whole question of municipal government into party politics, a course which was neither necessary nor advisable but which if not actually participated in, was at least received with silent acquiescence by those who would be affected by it. I know that on the first and only attempt that was made by this office to deal with the matter by special circular, there were several locals who claimed that the Central office was playing politics, and the board of directors at that time hinted fairly definitely, that no further circulars on that subject were advisable from this office.

The situation at the present time is simply that the assessments levied from year to year have not been sufficient to pay the losses which have been awarded, and the cost of administration, and you cannot take out of the common treasury more than you put into it. The Act expressly provided in the first place that if the municipalities did not put into the treasury sufficient cash to pay the loss sustained, that the loss should be paid pro rata at so many cents on the dollar instead of being paid in full, but when these conditions arose that funds in the treasury were not sufficient to pay the losses in full, the municipalities promptly proceeded to instruct their representatives to borrow or steal sufficient money to pay all losses in full. Money was borrowed and has to be paid back, and the only result of paying the losses in full when the money was not in the treasury was to pile up an additional liability which had to be met sooner or later, as all just debts have to be met under the law. At present it certainly looks as if the scheme will be voted out of existence at the earliest opportunity, and these accumulated liabilities will have to be met before or at the time the scheme is voted out of existence, hence the present assessment. The question is what are we going to do about the hail insurance question, not only as regards municipalities but in

its general application to the province?

Hail Insurance in Alberta

The hail insurance business of Alberta is in a serious condition so far as the farmers of this province who have to pay for it, and who no less certainly need proper protection, are concerned. We have ignored our own interest in this matter too long already, with the result that if some change is not made in the immediate future, we are extremely likely to find ourselves as a province without any adequate protection at all, and what protection we do get, only at a price altogether out of proportion to its actual worth. It is no good beating around the bush. The municipal scheme is a failure so far, in that it has not paid one hundred cents on the dollar, even at the maximum compensation of \$6.00 per acre. One may ask whether the rate has been too low, or whether the cost of administration has been too high, or whether the awards which have been made for losses sustained have been higher than the circumstances justified, or whether there has been too small a portion of the province operating under this scheme, thus bunching the risks and resulting in a heavy proportion of losses when the storm hits a given district. These things are something which it is for us as intelligent citizens to find out for ourselves. It may be any or all of them. It is probably a little bit of each. The main thing is that results have been such that there is little doubt that at the earliest opportunity the scheme will be voted out of existence, and we will have no protection from the municipal end at all.

Private Hail Insurance Companies

In the field of private insurance much the same condition exists. It is no good beating about the bush in this field either. The fact remains that from certain causes, which investigation would undoubtedly reveal beyond a shadow of doubt, the big companies who form the backbone of the hail insurance business in this province, and who, when it comes down to brass tacks, are the only ones in a position financially to stand the strain of a bad year, have almost consistently lost money, and are now seriously considering withdrawing from the province entirely, a movement which is entirely within their rights since no man or corporation can be reasonably asked to continue to do business at a loss, and that the big companies have been doing this there is no doubt whatsoever. With the big companies removed from the province, there is no private provincial company that can possibly carry with any degree of safety to itself, even a reasonable proportion of the \$18,000,000 worth of risk that is written in this province each year. The size financially of the company that would be safe to carry these risks under such conditions cannot be readily estimated, but if the rates are to stay where they are, the capitalization would have to run into millions in order to guarantee full payment on all losses, or else the rate would have to be still further increased for a number of years in order to provide a large reserve against contingencies and the experience of Saskatchewan with its municipal scheme, having a reserve of nearly \$1,000,000 in cash, has been sufficient to show that even then the reserve is liable to be wiped out in a few hours by a storm of unusual magnitude and severity.

From the information gathered through our experience this year, this office is frank to admit that we consider that ways and means must be found for the present at least, to keep the big companies in the field, and that can only be done by offering them inducements in the way of a reasonable opportunity to make a fair margin of profit on the business

that they do. Whether that can be done by an increase in the rate, or by a reduction in the cost of administration, is for us to determine and by investigation, but we as farmers have got to realize that hail insurance is a business proposition whether we handle it ourselves on a co-operative or some other basis, or whether we have some outside private organization doing it for us. We have either got to carry our own insurance and pay ourselves for it, or we have got to get somebody else to carry our insurance and pay them for doing it, and the situation at the present time in all seriousness looks as if we were going to vote out of existence the scheme which offers us an opportunity to carry our own insurance, at the same time that the private companies who have been supplementing this municipal scheme, are about to withdraw from the province entirely. The chances are that if we had given to both schemes the attention that we should have done since we have to pay in both cases, we would find that the failure in each case is due to faults in the administration that we could have remedied without much trouble. It is not yet too late, but action will have to come quickly if it is to be in time. The matter is to come before the convention of the U.F.A. Give it all the consideration that you can both before and at that time. —P.P.W.

CALEDONIAN LOCAL ACTIVE

J. C. Bridges, secretary of the Caledonian Local, reports as follows: "Our last meeting was well attended, and I am pleased to report the following motion: "That the members present were all agreed that the raise in the membership rate to \$2.00 per year was not any too much considering the work done by the head office."

Mr. Muir, our last year's delegate to the convention, spoke well and said that it was the local's own fault that they did not receive more benefits, for the members did not attend meetings and therefore could not do business.

We intend sending two delegates to the next convention, R. H. Brown and H. Pearson. We also arranged to hold a social and dance in aid of the Red Cross on Friday, November 30.

INTER-PROVINCIAL GOOD WILL

We have received the following very kind letter from our sister province:

"I have just finished reading your Special Circular No. 20, in the November 14 issue of The Guide. I am a farmer living in Saskatchewan, but hope it will not bar me from becoming a member of the U.F.A. I am no respecter of boundary lines. Enclosed please find \$2.00.

H. Halvorsen."

This expression of practical goodwill coming across the imaginary border is particularly gratifying to us, as we trust it will be encouraging to our members in the discussion of the matter to which our friend refers.

We hear from Mrs. J. W. Guthrie of the Sunnyside U.F.W.A., in enclosing membership dues, and advising us that they are sending two delegates to the convention. To quote from her letter: "We have just the other evening held a very successful entertainment, of which the chief feature was the play "Haying Daisy," which you so kindly typed for us. We raised \$120 on this entertainment, which will go to the Red Cross."

O. A. Boggs of Strome writes reporting the formation of a new Local Union at Owre, to which he acted as organizer. He mentions that this is the third try they have had, and it apparently proved to be the proverbial lucky one, as we have since heard from the newly appointed secretary, H. O. Brown, remitting for a membership of 22, in addition to others transferred.

The farmers in that district appear to be enthusiastic and determined to make a real live union of this.

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THE FOOD PROBLEM

Every reader of the Manitoba page knows by this time that among the pressing problems of the next twelve months the food problem must receive careful consideration and must be solved.

It is abundantly clear that the Allied forces must for many months to come depend largely upon Canada and the United States. The shortened tonnage and the great distance make it impossible that any large amount of supplies could be brought from Australia or New Zealand or the southern hemisphere generally. The countries of western Europe must get their supplies direct across the Atlantic. Europe as every one knows has been eating into her capital of food supply for three years at an increasing and alarming rate. Canada had been doing little more than supplying her own needs until the call came. It is now required of her that she shall establish her capital supply so strongly as to be able to meet the increased demand and to prepare for any further increased demand which coming months may impose.

It is not only grain production that is involved, but also the supply of animal products which forms so essential a part especially of army food. The supply of cattle, hogs and sheep must be largely increased and wisely conserved in order to yield the greatest possible present and future supply.

This means that thousands of people must purposefully begin to concern themselves with providing additional cattle, hogs and sheep in their own farm work and in their communities generally. The increase can only be made by individuals concerning themselves with the problem. Many who have hitherto bought their animal food supply will plan to rear animals which shall provide food for the family and for others. Many a family which has never thought of such a project before will accept the injunction to "keep a pig," and the scraps from many a table, and the sour milk and the half plate of porridge that Johnny left at breakfast will go to feed the grunter in the back yard and ultimately to provide Al pork for the family table.

But the principle which must be recognized is that every one ought to be considering the situation and finding out what the conditions are and in particular what he himself may do to increase and extend food production as his share of the nation's task. —W.R.W.

NEEPAWA CONVENTION

Thursday, November 29 was a very big day with Neepawa Grain Growers. The workers' conference in the forenoon had only a small attendance, but a beginning was made on the day's work and some hints given for more effective local work. The afternoon session was well attended and was a busy and interesting session. Resolutions dealing with the extension movement to include a Dominion-wide convention, the constitutionalizing of the women's department, the increase of the dues of the local branch and the problem of securing sufficient help at reasonable rates were discussed and passed. Short addresses were given on the local library, the opportunities of the movement for young people and the responsibilities of the local official board. The election of officers for 1918 issued as follows: President, A. J. M. Poole, Springhill; vice-president, Mrs. Montgomery, Glenholm; secretary, L. G. Thomson, Arden; district director, William Milne, Keyes.

The event of the day, however, was reserved for the evening, when 172 guests gather around well-furnished tables in the Hotel Hamilton. In the absence of Mr. Henders and Rev. F. C. Middleton who had been expected, addresses were given by Rev. A. W. Kenner, of Franklin, on Community Organization, by Mrs. A. Tooth of Pile on Women's Work, by Mrs. A. McGregor on Service and Progress and by W. R. Wood on Democracy and the Grain Growers. Splendid music was rendered by a

talented Neepawa quartette—Messrs. Carlow, Coutts, Ferris and Van Sickle, while Miss Florence Young presided with her accustomed grace and talent at the piano. Neepawa Grain Growers not only had a good day but gave fresh evidence of the power and solidarity which the movement has attained in the community.

Plea For the Use of Schools

We should use our school houses as community centres. If we have a school board who object to furnishing lights for the building for fear they might be used for evening gatherings, try to make them change their attitude. If that can't be done relieve them of their responsibility by furnishing a place where their sons and daughters can congregate with their parents for an evening of profit and pleasure. They haven't yet awakened to the needs of their community and shouldn't be allowed to hamper a good movement by their narrow mindedness. It would be well if our organizations could all have halls to use for their work and pleasure, and in the near future we may have them, but until we do, let us use our school houses. They were built for education and certainly the boys and girls need them just as badly after school age as during the time they are actually in school.—Organized Farmer.

ROARING RIVER RESOLUTION

At the November 28 meeting of the Roaring River G.G.A. the following resolution was passed and copies sent to Premier Borden and Hon. T. A. Crerar:—

"That we the members of the Roaring River G.G.A. see the necessity of formulating some plan for the conscription of alien labor, and that the alien be placed on the same basis regarding wages as the boys at the front, and that labor battalions be formed of the said aliens to be distributed throughout the country, and set to work wherever required."

John Livesay, Secy. Swan River, Man.

A PROGRESSIVE BRANCH

Up to date the Morris G.G.A. appears to be the premier association in regard to numbers. Some other branch may however report before the close of the month with a large membership to their credit. A little rivalry in this regard is very interesting. Some secretaries have reported that they have nearly all the available farmers in their districts enrolled as members; which speaks volumes for the officers in charge.

Swan River District meeting will be held at Kenville on December 13, at 3 o'clock. There ought to be a rousing good time at this northern centre. There are lots of live subjects to discuss and Swan River has a number of members both men and women capable of handling them in an interesting and instructive manner. Be at Kenville.

Verona Branch

Secretary J. E. Colquhoun of the Verona Branch reports that they have now a membership of thirty-one, and that they have had a profitable year in their branch. This branch was formed less than a year ago.

OUR SPECIAL THREE

1. The Memory Gem. Perhaps the greatest hero in the men who does his best and signally fails, yet is not embittered by his failure. A life here in which you fail of every end you seek, yet which disciplines you for a better life is not a failure.

2. The Definition. Books are not absolutely dead things, but do contain a progeny of life in them to be active as that soul whose progeny they are; nay, they do preserve as in a vial the purest

Manitoba

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efficacy and extraction of that living intellect that bred them.—Milton. 3. The Joke.

Election time was drawing near, and an enthusiastic politician was addressing his constituents in a frenzied speech. Not a few of his assertions, reduced to cold thought, were diametrically opposed to one another, but each proposal was received with applause. A judge turned to his companion and said; "That reminds me of an Irish leader who was cheering his men on to battle. 'Min,' said he, 'ye are on the verge of battle, an' I want to ask ye before ye start, will yez fight or will yez run?'"

"We will" came a chorus of eager replies.

"Which will yez do?" says he.

"We will not," says they.

"Aha, thank ye, min," says he; "I thought ye would."

—Selected.

The secretary of the Little Souris Women's G.G. Auxiliary has forwarded \$10 as a contribution to the Y.M.C.A. Overseas Fund. Little Souris Auxiliary have been making good progress and hold regular monthly meetings.

ENDORSE FARMERS' CANDIDATE

At a meeting of the Elm Bank G.G.A. held on December 3, the following resolution was passed by unanimous vote:—

"Be it resolved that Fred. Shirliff, a leading member of our local association is a candidate for member of the Dominion parliament for the constituency of Portage la Prairie. Whereas Mr. Shirliff is a win-the-war liberal, a believer in free trade and conscription of wealth, and a staunch supporter of the Grain Growers' movement and the Farmers' platform as laid down by the Canadian Council of Agriculture.

"Whereas this constituency, being largely a grain growing district and Mr. Shirliff being a wideawake farmer and acquainted with present day conditions.

"We, as an association, endorse Mr. Shirliff and urge upon every grain grower and others to support and vote for him at the coming election"

H. A. FOSSAY, Pres. Dacotah, Man.

SOURIS DISTRICT MEETING.

The Grain Growers of the Souris district held their convention at Nipinka on November 28. Members from all parts of the constituency were there. In the evening the meeting was addressed by Mr. Henders. He impressed on us the growing importance and influence of the farmers' movement. Recognized by all the organized interests of Canada, its officers were from time to time called into consultation with them. No important matters of public interest were put forward by the government, either Dominion or provincial, without first obtaining the views of the farmers through their leaders. The press of town and city were now behind us, convinced of our intentions to work for the betterment of conditions. He urged the strengthening of the locals and reminded us that the only danger of failure was from our own apathy or indifference. He expressed his views on conscription, favoring the application of the principle to wealth, labor and man power. A resolution in favor of a Union government for the duration of the war met with the unanimous support of the convention.

F. RAMSOM, Sec. Souris Dist. Ass'n.

THE RURAL POINT OF VIEW

The mind of the western farmer is acquiring a distinctive character which in the next ten years will become more

obvious than it is today and will make it a still more powerful factor in the shaping of social and economic life and of public policy.

The man who works the land has not lived all his life on the farther side of a prairie bluff. Very often he has negotiated other bluffs elsewhere which have helped to make him the man he is. The up-bringing far removed from the quarter section he now cultivates—down by the "misty Atlantic," on in the "Queen's Bush" of old Ontario, or on the fertile plains of Iowa or Missouri, or across in some of the older mother lands beyond the sea. Possibly it was not rural but urban, in some of the great industrial centres of the new or of the old world. And his mental make up takes some of its essential features from these distant and varied sources.

Their Cosmopolitan Nature

In many cases he has seen something of the world as a young man before settling down upon the prairie. Perhaps the Yukon called him in the days of '98 and '99, or he tried a year or two at "the coast." In some cases he served a loyal apprenticeship to some other line of craftsmanship before he began to learn the art of agriculture. Blacksmiths, carpenters and storekeepers are frequently met who have gone "back to the land" and in not a few districts there are farmers who have served as doctors, ministers or school teachers before they found their ultimate vocation on the farm.

And even if he has not travelled far afield he has in any case come in contact with varied types and with people from circumstances differing widely from his own. His neighbor on one side was an Ottawa River lumberman. On the other side is a Canadian Scot from the Ontario township of Dumfries. Over the way lives an Iowa American and just beyond him a Highland man from the Lewis. The minister of his church is an Ulster Scot, educated in Belfast and in Princetown. The settlement just south is from old France and the one north from Norway via North Dakota. Influences from the ends of the earth converge upon him in his prairie home and are creating him a new and composite type. He has been brought into contact with life and has learned thereby.

His Practical Acquirements

And he come in contact with life still. The problems of agriculture face him with new questions every new day. He is experimenting with various crop rotations. He is testing methods of weed extermination. He rubs up against business men and gradually becomes a match for the keen intellects and the sharp methods by which he is confronted. He has to do with deeds and mortgages and liens and contracts. The questions of taxation and of price variation and of the effects of tariffs press upon him season by season. He is aware that there are startling differences between the prices he realizes for his product and the prices which the consumer a dozen miles away pays and he is led to search into the cause. And he is coming to know some of the practical meanings of mergers and combines and tariffs and thereby life is teaching him things which he will use bye and bye.

And so he is coming to be that comparatively scarce phenomenon—a man who does his own thinking, and who reaches his own conclusions. He realizes that his work is an integral and essential part of the manifold activities which constitute the nation's life. He is becoming increasingly aware of human inter-relationships and inter-dependencies and of individual responsibilities for right and wrong, for justice and injustice. The tremendous fact of the existence of vast financial organizations whose purpose is to exploit the primary production of the nation is gripping him more and more. And he is watching, resolving, and in an hour not far distant he will unify his strength and strike his blow for freedom and for economic justice. And in the coming reconstruction the rural mind and the rural resolve will be one of the factors that will be steadfastly and strenuously exercised in the direction of equity and the all round square deal.—W.R.W.

CONVENTION AT BALCARRES

The District No. 7 convention of the S.G.G.A. met at Balcarres at 2 p.m., on Thursday, November 15, and adjourned at noon of the 16th. While the attendance was not as large as at some of the other conventions, it was a very important meeting, and resolutions were passed which should have a considerable influence.

The meeting was called to order by the district director, Wm. Penny, but as he was busy on the exemption board, J. L. Rooke of Togo, a member of the executive, presided during most of the sessions. J. L. Rooke of Togo, R. M. Johnson of Eastview, H. C. Fleming of Tate, Mrs. C. E. Platt of Tantallon, Mrs. Frith of Birmingham, district director of the women's section, and H. H. McKinney, superintendent of organization, were the principal speakers.

Mr. Rooke's Address

In his address on Thursday afternoon, Mr. Rooke stated that the first settlers in this country did not locate here expecting to remain. They thought they would make some money and go back home to enjoy it. But after a while, he said, they decided they had better stay here and improve conditions and make this country a good place in which to live. The farmers have gradually learned that it takes the fullest co-operation to bring about satisfactory conditions, and they must have a voice in legislation if they are to remedy all the conditions and solve all the problems which confront the farmer. Mr. Rooke then traced the history of the G.G.A. from its small beginning in 1901 to the present organization, composed of 30,000 members. He showed that the S.G.G.A. was the pioneer of the farmers' organizations in Western Canada. He then outlined the organization of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, and showed some of the benefits which have come from the organized farmers' movement. He also pointed out the fact that the G.G.A. has had a large influence in bringing forward some of our leading public men and referring especially to Hon. C. A. Dunning, who received public recognition first in the association. Mr. Rooke said we ought to be proud of the fact that a farmer is now trusted with the purse strings of our province. Farmers should also be proud that when the Union government was being formed, the country should look to one of the farmers' companies for the minister of agriculture. Mr. Rooke closed with the statement that any farmer who was not a member of the Grain Growers' Association had not come to see his full duty to himself and his fellow men. He enjoined those present to go home and urge upon all other brother and sister farmers that they should help along with the good work.

Important Resolutions

One of the most important resolutions was introduced by E. H. Clayton of Debue, requesting the railways to give the stockmen better service in the transportation of livestock. He stated that the livestock trains were often run on very slow time, and that the service was very far from satisfactory. The following is the resolution which was passed by the convention:

Whereas, the farmers of the west have been encouraged to raise more livestock, therefore, be it resolved that this convention ask the central executive of the S.G.G.A. to take up with the railway companies or the railway commission the question of transportation of livestock, with a view to giving a faster train for livestock transportation.

Another resolution which came in for a considerable amount of discussion was the one asking for a labor controller, who should be able to deal with the important labor situation. The resolution follows:

Whereas, the leading authorities of England, France, the United States and Canada have demonstrated that there is a tremendous shortage of food in the world, this shortage being a serious, indeed, as actually to menace the allied forces in the present war.

And whereas, the Canadian authorities and food controller have urged the western farmers as a patriotic duty to produce the very largest possible crop in 1918, in order to insure adequate food for the Allied armies and civilians of Allied countries; and whereas, the

Saskatchewan

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amount of wheat western farmers can produce depends almost entirely on the farm help available; and whereas, the shortage of help in 1917 has already very seriously affected our chances of raising a full crop in 1918;

Therefore, be it resolved that the food controller be urged to impress on the Dominion government the importance and necessity of appointing a labor controller, who should see that no one is employed in non-essential occupations and to see that every farmer has the necessary assistance to enable him to produce a maximum crop in 1918. The labor controller would have full power to deal with this matter and to establish a price for labor.

The following resolutions were also adopted by the meeting:

Resolved that the delegates present take up the question of municipal hospitals in their respective municipalities, and to endeavor to get all to join together for the purpose of building and equipping the same.

Whereas, the most of our provinces have passed prohibition legislation, but this does not prevent the importation of alcoholic liquors into our province.

Resolved that we request the Dominion government to pass the required legislation to prevent the manufacture and importation of alcoholic beverages.

Resolved that it is advisable for the provincial and federal authorities to co-operate in the matter of a federal bureau of child welfare.

That the provinces and the federal authorities co-operate also regarding the appointment of a Dominion board of health.

That the federal government be requested to appoint a commission to enquire into and report on the diagnosis, registration, treatment and prevention of venereal diseases.

Whereas, we consider the proposed prices of implements to be greater than the occasion demands.

Resolved that the government be asked to set a standard price on all classes of machinery and manufactured goods.

Whereas there is a growing desire on the part of the Canadian people to obtain a more direct and efficient control of legislation; and whereas, under the present system it is very difficult to accomplish that desire; and whereas, at the close of the war it will be necessary to have the B.N.A. Act amended in several respects; therefore, be it resolved that in the opinion of this meeting the Dominion government should be requested to take the necessary steps to obtain an amendment to the above-mentioned act, which will make it possible to enact to the fullest extent direct legislation, including the initiative, referendum and recall.

THE MOOSE JAW CONVENTION

The annual convention of District No. 1 was held in Moose Jaw on November 27, under the chairmanship of W. H. Beesley, of Belbeck, district director. A large number of farmers were present from all parts of the district. There were also present J. A. Maharg, president of the association; J. B. Musselman, central secretary; R. M. Johnson, member of the executive; H. H. McKinney, superintendent of organization, and Mrs. T. M. Morgan, of Aqueduct, director of the Women's Section of the district. Mr. T. A. Brice, of Riverhurst, was elected secretary.

Marked Improvement in Organization

In the course of his annual address, Mr. Beesley said some very successful meetings had been held during the summer, and a marked improvement was noticeable. Many of the locals had held union meetings, which made it possible for the executive and directors to address a much larger number of members. The appointment of a superintendent of organization would bring the central office into closer touch with the locals, and would help to overcome many difficulties. The organization of the farmers had been of untold benefit, not only to members of the association, but also to those farm-

ers who were not members. It had helped them to solve their problems in ways they had never thought of before. It had given women an equal standing with men, and had won for them the dower law and the franchise. They also needed the help of the women in getting the liquor traffic abolished. Mr. Beesley also made a strong appeal for support of the Victory Loan, for the sinking of party differences in favor of the Union government and for greater production in order to help the Empire in the hour of her need.

Messrs. A. W. Bell, Riverhurst; Martin, Wingello; and Austin Hodgins, of Mortlach, were appointed a resolution committee, and they brought before the delegates the following resolutions, which were adopted, viz.:-

1. As some of our soldiers are already coming home from overseas, and a great many more will come when the war is finished, who will not be able to do a good day's work and still will be anxious for some employment that they can perform with success.

And whereas our federal government has yet made no provision for a respectable employment for these soldiers,

We, the Tugaska branch of the Saskatchewan G.G.A., ask our government to create rural mail routes for the accommodation of the public and that the said soldiers have the first opportunity of bidding for these routes, which will find them a respectable employment and at the same time provide a necessary service for the community and country.

And, that the Tugaska branch forward this resolution to the central secretary to have their approval and have the same taken up with the postmaster-general at once.

And, that the same resolution shall also be brought before the district and annual conventions for their approval, and also the local secretary write the postmaster-general.

This resolution was referred back to the committee to be re-drafted, the delegates being of the opinion that the whole question should be dealt with by the government in a truly scientific manner.

2. Whereas the registration of lien notes and chattel mortgages is necessary for the protection of the seller;

And, whereas the registration office serves as a guide to the seller in estimating the financial standing, and integrity of the prospective purchaser.

And, whereas much inconvenience has been experienced from the fact that registered lien notes and registered chattel mortgages are not discharged in the registry office when paid.

Be it resolved, that any individual or individuals, having lien notes or chattel mortgages registered, shall be compelled under penalty to have such registration discharged within fifteen days after payment has been received.

3. That this association recommend to all our members and to all Saskatchewan farmers the purchase of Victory Bonds to the full extent of their power. We think that all who can possibly spare any money from the necessary work of production should help to finance the Empire in its hour of need.

4. Resolved that we give our fullest support to the Greater Production Loan which is being floated for the purpose of financing the Farm Loans scheme and providing cheaper money for our farmers.

5. That this convention is in favor of increasing the present membership fee to \$1.50, and increasing life member's annual subscription to 75 cents.

6. Whereas, the people of Saskatchewan and of many other portions of Canada have declared themselves in favor of the prohibition of the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquor, and whereas, the government of this province has passed legislation intended to give effect to this desire, and whereas, this legislation cannot be given full effect without prohibitive legislation by the federal government.

Therefore be it resolved that we ask parliament for legislation that will effectively prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor for beverage purposes in all parts of Canada.

7. Whereas, liquor houses have advertised an unlimited supply of liquor on hand, and whereas, liquor is needed in the manufacture of munitions; therefore be it resolved that our Dominion government take over the supply already available and prohibit the use of grain being used in manufacture of more liquor until such time as more is needed for munitions.

8. That all locals hold their monthly meetings on the same week each month, so that Central office would be in a position to send out price lists or changes therein and other communications the week previous to meeting week, thereby insuring a more prompt consideration of their correspondence and answers thereto.

Officers Elected.

After disposing of the resolutions, Mr. Beesley was re-elected district director, with Thomas Tier as assistant director. T. A. Bryce was elected secretary for the coming year, and the sub-directors were re-elected for 1918, as follows:—Mrs. Hendrickson, Outlook; Messrs. Geo. M. Ernons, Eyebrow; W. D. Locke, Riverhurst; R. J. Sheldon, Uren; Alfred Greene, Boharm; and W. J. Orr, Broderick.

At the evening meeting addresses were given by Mr. Maharg, Mr. Musselman, R. M. Johnson, Mrs. S. V. Haight, Mrs. Morgan and H. H. McKinney, these being interspersed with solos by Miss Johnson, which were much appreciated.

Mr. Maharg, in the course of his address, said the object of the present political move was to carry the war to a successful issue. The war situation was far from encouraging, and every man and woman should render every possible service to the Empire at this critical time. With regard to the Victory Loan, it was impossible to secure too large a subscription, as it would all be needed. They were all absolutely dependent on the success of the government loans.

The time had arrived when a hog was worth more than a shell, and they must make every possible effort to increase the production. The government would render every assistance, and would make it possible for farmers to secure good breeding stock.

Mr. Maharg further referred to the need for the rehabilitation of the large devastated areas in Belgium and France, as to which more would be heard before long; and also to the necessity of every farmer giving his support to the Greater Production Loan, so as to furnish money to the farmers at a low rate of interest.

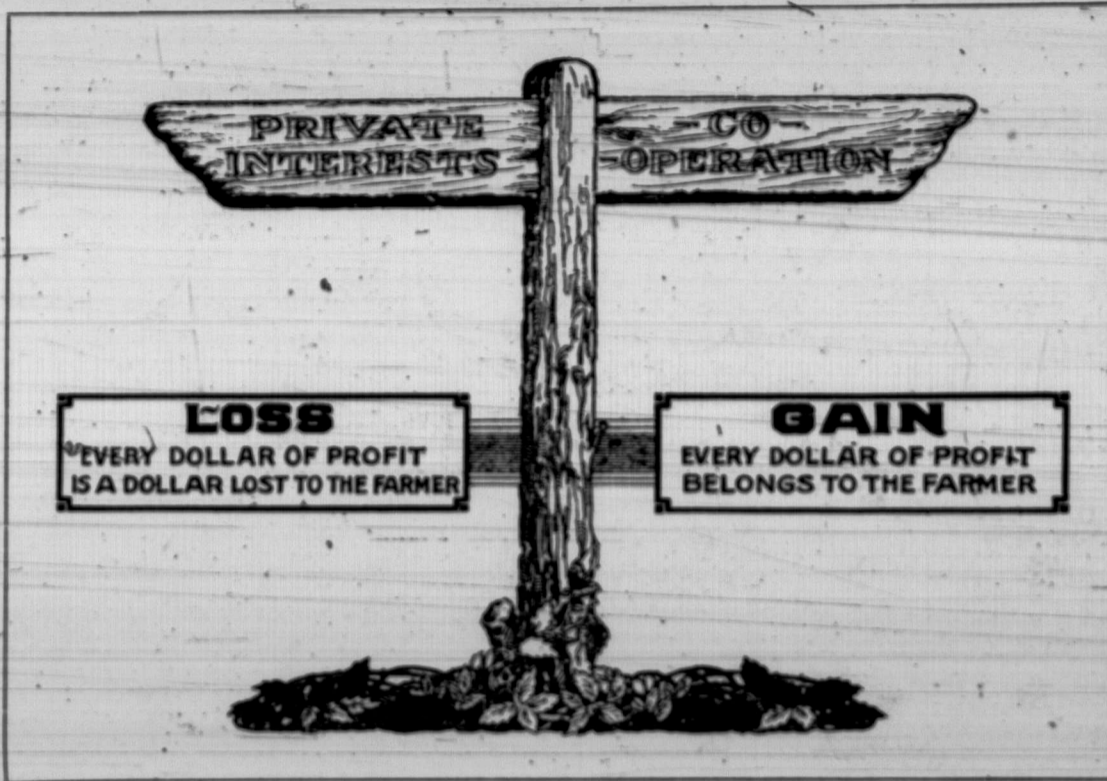
Mrs. S. V. Haight, of Keeler, outlined the work of the Women's Section. She said they were endeavoring to co-operate with all other women's organizations in the province, such as the W.C.T.U., the Political Equality League, Social Service Council and others, and were giving special attention to social legislation, medical aid, the medical inspection of the children in the schools, and all questions which had to do with the education of the people and the improvement of rural life.

Fighting For Democracy

J. B. Musselman said the war was being fought for democracy, and for the same ends for which the G.G.A. was striving, so there was no need to apologize for presenting the program of the association at this time.

Education was one of the first essentials of democracy; it was impossible to have a real democracy without it. They did not establish democracy merely by giving the people the ballot. They must become fitted and prepared to exercise the ballot intelligently.

As a second essential there must be developed a sense of responsibility for government on the part of the masses of the people. Probably not more than ten per cent of those having the franchise could be depended upon to cast their ballots unless there was some kind of party organization to get them out. Therefore, while they condemned the party system they could not get away from it without providing something to take its place. The majority



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RIGHT is MIGHT
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Nov. 26-Dec. 7	Morden	Kenton	Plumas
Dec. 11-Dec. 22	Crystal City	Melita	Grand View
Jan. 8-Jan. 12	Reston	Virde	Russell
Jan. 15-Jan. 26	Souris	Carberry	Glenella
Jan. 29-Feb. 9	Hartney	Langruth	Neepawa
Feb. 12-Feb. 23	Farmers' Week at Winnipeg		
Feb. 25-Mar. 8	Roland	Portage la Prairie	

LECTURERS AND DEMONSTRATORS

	CIRCUIT 1.	CIRCUIT 2.	CIRCUIT 3.
Livestock	Geo. H. Jones	Geo. H. Jones	J. R. Bell
	A. J. Mackay	A. J. Mackay	K. McGregor
Field Crops	J. M. Kiteley	H. Walker	A. J. McGregor
Gas Engines	D. R. A. Drummond	A. C. Campbell	M. Smyth
	E. Kincaid	W. Ferguson	T. E. Allen
Home Nursing	Miss L. Clarke	Miss Winram	Miss E. Winram
Cookery	Miss R. M. Atkinson	Miss Atkinson	Miss Mitchell
Dressmaking	Miss M. Smith	Miss C. Senior	Miss E. Blackburn
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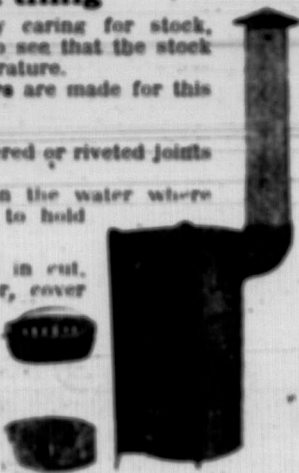
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Better Farming Club

By L. H. Newman, Secretary Canadian Seed Growers' Association

FORMING A SEED CENTRE

In a former issue of The Guide there was published a short article by the present writer entitled "Seed Growing Centres." In this article it was pointed out that the three western provinces require each spring approximately 25,000,000 bushels of seed grain. Evidence was also adduced to show that the seed grain commonly used, even by the best farmers, is not as good as it might be in respect to yielding power, freedom from weed seeds and ability to resist unfavorable conditions. As a result of this condition, enormous losses are annually sustained. The sowing of seed containing weed seeds may be avoided by the careful use of the fanning mill. It is not so easy however to insure the "breeding" of the seed. This is something which lies deeper, concerning as it does obscure life processes and forces. It is something which is determined and regulated by ancestry. One has only to visit one of our experimental stations during the growing season and examine the numerous varieties and strains of a given crop to be convinced of the great practical differences which exist between them. These strains represent variations of one form or another which have arisen in the parent variety. Even some of our so-called pure lines are known to produce plants which differ from the parent sort. Sometimes these aberrant types differ in form and may be quite easily detected. Others differ less visibly and are revealed only when propagated separately.

Constant Selection Necessary

The work of isolating and propagating superior strains requires much time and skill and must therefore be left largely to experts. Unfortunately, however, very few farmers nowadays seem to realize the fact that constant and systematic care must be exercised in order to maintain the good quality and high producing capacity of this seed after it comes to their hands. If they are prepared to purchase a fresh supply every two or three years from someone who is making a specialty of producing specially selected seed, well and good, but if they hope to use their own seed year after year they should under no circumstance neglect to carry out certain practices which have proven good. The use of seed especially selected from good crops is really a very ancient practice. The experience of farmers for centuries has shown it to be very good practice to select seed from vigorous productive plants for the following year's crop. In Scotland it has been a common practice to select grain from that part of the crop which was most vigorous and most productive. The grain was kept by itself for seed after being thoroughly cleaned. That practice was not followed first in Scotland however. It has been the practice ever since man applied his intelligence and his insight to farming. In an old book containing a translation of the works of Virgil, who lived before Christ's time, I read the following:

"Some men I have seen medicate the seeds they sow and steep them in alkali and black lees of oil, to give a fuller fruit to the deceitful pods, that with any fire however low, soon may they be sodden. I have seen these, though, picked long before and tested with much care, yet for all that degenerate if human toil does not pick with the hand the largest, one by one, each year. Thus all in nature is fated to speed from worse to worse and slipping back to run in downward course; just as when a man with oars painfully rows a boat up against the torrent, if perchance he slacks his arms, lo, headlong down the descending stream the current sweeps him on."

The selecting of seed therefore is a practice of reasonably ancient origin.

How the C.S.G.A. was Suggested

A few years ago, up in the hills of the Gatineau-River, there lived a family by the name of Meldrum. Mr. Meldrum was a good farmer and had several daughters. He had his daughters go into the wheat fields before the harvest and pluck a number of the best heads of wheat in their aprons and from the seed obtained from these heads he would sow a small patch of land the following year. This process he continued for a number of years and by means of it produced a wheat which won first prize at the World's Fair at Paris. This brought us our first international reputation as a wheat growing country. The practice was profitable to Meldrum and was helpful to his neighbors.

The system so well carried on by this farmer suggested a regular system of seed selection for use by farmers, and gave birth in fact, to the organization now known as the Canadian Seed Growers' Association. This association is organized to encourage those who wish to adopt a simple and practical system of seed selection on their own farms. The rules require that a few pounds of seed be selected and threshed by hand each year in order that a small seed plot of at least one-quarter-acre may be sown the following year. This area can be looked after in a way which it is impossible to do in the case of large fields. Impurities may be picked out by hand from time to time during the growing season, and the crop allowed to mature thoroughly. This should then be harvested and threshed by itself and the grain kept separate for sowing the following year. Where this system has been followed for a number of years, there has been produced seed of very superior quality. The demand for this seed has increased not only amongst farmers but among seed dealers. The difficulty of knowing that you are getting what you want when you order a certain variety of seed is overcome, since all growing crops and threshed seed is inspected and all of the seed, which is called "registered seed," goes out in sealed sacks. Farmers who have to buy seed of any kind should whenever possible, obtain seed of this class.

Establishing Seed Centres

Up to the present the members of the association have been widely scattered, there being very seldom, two members operating in the same locality. This fact has made the inspection of crops of seed an expensive operation. It has also, in many cases, made it difficult to obtain any considerable quantity of registered seed in a given locality especially in the eastern provinces. Furthermore it has been found that the number of farmers who would take the time to select heads each year and operate a seed plot has not been adequate to meet the demands of the buying public. As a means of meeting these difficulties, steps have been and are being taken to organize what are known as "seed centres." The plan usually followed by those taking the initiative in the organizing of these centres in a province is first to ascertain the districts best suited to growing seed of a given kind of crop. A meeting is then called in each district of all farmers interested and the matter presented as a business proposition. The need and demand for large quantities of seed of better breeding is explained, as are also the details of the system by which this seed may be produced. It is pointed out that if those interested will get together, adopt a constitution and bye-laws satisfactory to the C.S.G.A. and appoint competent officers, they may choose one of their number to produce what is known as "elite stock seed." Quantities of this seed or its immediate progeny may then be procured at a certain price by each member of the centre for

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propagation. By this arrangement the other members of the centre are simply propagators, but by virtue of this arrangement their seed may receive official recognition as registered seed. It is explained further that all seed to be sold as registered seed by members of the centre must be sold through the centre and not independently by the individual members. In order to insure this rule being carried into effect the secretary of the centre is required to sign the Certificate tags which must be attached by the Inspector to all sacks of registered seed.

Where farmers operate in this way they frequently are able to arrange to have their seed cleaned by the one mill. This is advised where practicable, since it is likely to insure greater uniformity of product.

The Success of a Centre

Members of these centres up to the present have been required simply to pay to their treasurer a small membership fee which is used to defray expenses. Other than this there has been no financial obligation of any kind. Under some circumstances, however, it may be advisable to organize as a joint stock company or in some other way so as to require each member to become financially interested in this concern.

The success of a centre, as is usually the case where a number of persons are concerned, depends very largely upon the secretary. This of-

ficial must be enthusiastic and a good business man. He must above all have infinite patience and be not easily discouraged. It frequently happens that a seed centre may not have a single bushel of registered seed to sell during a certain year. This should not be a serious discouragement. The motto should be "Do the best you can each year, always hoping to reach the standard set for Registered seed." When this standard is reached one is practically certain to reap a fair reward, always with the proviso of course that the secretary has advertised sufficiently.

Another advantage which the seed centre scheme may have over the ordinary method of working independently is the possibility of obtaining an advance from the bank on the presentation of store-room receipts just as is done in the case of ordinary grain stored in elevators. In many parts of Western Canada especially, such an arrangement would frequently be of real advantage.

Many Centres Needed

The possibility of establishing too many centres and of producing more seed than is needed is one which naturally arises at first thought. When we recall the vagaries of climate, however, and remember that almost every year large districts in Canada suffer severely from unfavorable weather conditions which not only render it impossible to produce registered seed, but which often necessitate the actual bringing in of seed from some other district, our misgivings are at once dispelled. What is needed throughout Canada is a larger number of seed centres, all trying their best to make the grade, so that there will always be in some part of the Dominion a reasonably good supply of the class of seed we are after.

Make Your District Known

In the breeding of live stock the value of making a district known widely as a source of supply of some particular breed is recognized. To accomplish this, both quality and quantity are necessary. Buyers naturally go to these districts where the supply is known to be good and where they know that attention has been given to quality. The same principle prevails in the production of seed. Buyers who are looking for car-load lots of good seed naturally go to those districts which have established a reputation for the quality of their goods and which are known to have a large supply. Furthermore the methods of doing business are usually more satisfactory to the buyer in these localities than they are in the case of the isolated grower or breeder. This applies in the case of the seed grower who is growing a seed crop of say less than 50-acres. In Western Canada the seed centre scheme has not quite the same interest as it has in the East in so far as quantity is concerned. On the other hand the advantages of co-operative effort which are associated with this scheme have a certain interest for all, and it is believed that, except in the case of the larger operators who are growing say over 200 acres, it will often pay to "get-together" in accordance with the plan outlined.

Farmers who believe their district to be well suited to the production of seed of a given kind of crop and who would like to have a seed centre established should communicate with the deputy minister of their provincial department of agriculture, as the provincial departments are all anxious to encourage these enterprises.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS FULL

Over 140 students are registered at the Olds, Alta., School of Agriculture this year. The attendance has been so large that the townspeople have been unable to provide boarding accommodation for all who presented themselves and some students are sleeping in cots at the school. A score of applicants for admission to the course in agriculture and household science have been turned away. The Claresholm School has registered about 100 students and the Vermillion School about 60.

FARM MANAGEMENT

Amortization of Loans

As stated in a previous article, the biggest consideration in regard to loans is the terms of repayment of the principal. To secure low interest rates is important, but when the rate is reduced from 8 to say 6 per cent. the difference is only \$2.00 per year on each \$100.00 of the loan. It is not the purpose here to minimize the advantages of lower rates of interest. A reduction of 2 per cent. on all loans outstanding in a province is a matter of several million dollars annually. Still with the individual farmer the repayment of the principal is the matter of greatest concern.

The advantage of the amortization plan of repaying a loan is to render the irksomeness of disposing of the principal of a large, long-time loan less exacting. This is accomplished by providing that fixed annual payments extending over a term of years will, eventually liquidate the principal and interest of the amount borrowed. If a loan of \$1,000 is secured at 5 per cent. interest, the annual interest charge is \$50. With the ordinary loan this would be the annual payment, but at the end of 10 or 20 years the principal would still be as large as at the beginning. Suppose that the loan had been secured on the amortization plan and that instead of \$50 annually the payment was set at \$100 annually. Now the payment of \$100 instead of \$50 a year is not a great matter, but at the end of 15 years the total amount of the loan is disposed of. The amount applied to interest and to principal each year on such a loan is shown in the following table:

Total annual payment	Interest at 5 per cent.	Paid on principal	Amount of principal still unpaid
\$100.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$950.00
100.00	47.50	52.50	897.50
100.00	44.87	55.13	842.38
100.00	42.12	57.88	784.49
100.00	39.22	60.78	723.72
100.00	36.19	63.81	659.90
100.00	33.00	67.00	592.90
100.00	29.64	70.36	522.54
100.00	26.13	73.87	448.67
100.00	22.43	77.57	371.11
100.00	18.56	81.44	289.66
100.00	14.48	85.52	204.14
100.00	10.21	89.79	114.35
100.00	5.72	94.28	20.07
21.07	1.00	20.07
1,421.07	421.07	1,000.00

Besides the advantage of reducing the irksomeness of repaying the principal there are other considerations in favor of the amortization plan. One of these is that the farmer can always look forward to the time when he will be free from the obligations which the loan imposes. One of the discouraging features of a mortgaged farm is therefore disposed of. Another consideration is that it provides a means of greater certainty for the extinguishment of mortgage indebtedness. It is almost impossible to discharge one of these large loans when it falls due all at once. When a definite amount falls due each year, however, there is almost a certainty that no renewal will be required. If all mortgage loans were on the amortization plan there would be a rapid decrease of the farmers' mortgage indebtedness.

The amortization plan has been utilized for years in the West in connection with advancing money—to enable city dwellers to become owners of their homes. Building loans have been advanced on agreement that definite monthly payments extending over a period of years would eventually extinguish the principal besides paying the interest. The money usually paid as rent could therefore be utilized to repay the loan and the householder had the advantage of living in his own home. The following is a statement of the facts of such a case in a Saskatchewan city. The amount borrowed was \$800. The interest rate was 8 per cent. The monthly payment was \$16.90. The time was five years, at the end of which the mortgage on the home was entirely extinguished.

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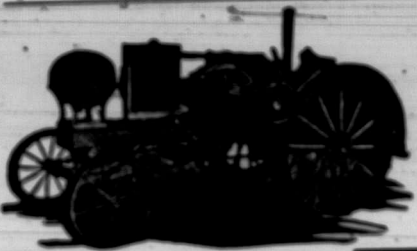
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Will open February 4th and continue for three weeks.
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is loaning cheap money to the farmers of the province for this purpose and will pay you for the use of your surplus cash

4 per cent.

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NANTON BUILDING

WINNIPEG

A Retail Credits Association

An Original Scheme to Finance Retailers and Wholesalers by Co-operation

By E. A. Weir

One of the curses of our present financial and merchandising system is that credit prices prevail in practically everything instead of cash prices. It is largely on account of an inverted system of credit. Today the farmer buys from his store to a great extent on credit, at credit prices from the retailer; who buys on credit at credit prices from the jobber or wholesaler; who buys on credit prices from the manufacturer. Thus credit prices instead of cash prices permeate the whole system of rural commercial finance now in vogue in Western Canada. The burden of all this added credit finally falls on the farmer, and his operations are curtailed just that much as a result of the increased prices he has to pay.

As a result of this system the farmer has looked to two places for relief, i.e., mail order houses and co-operative buying, and these two have grown with remarkable rapidity. Last winter there were 890 merchants trading at points where are located the 140 branches of The Canadian Bank of Commerce in the three prairie provinces. The conditions under which these merchants do business is indicated by the following figures given by Vere Brown, superintendent of these branches:

Total number of merchants.....	890
Number operating on cash basis.....	135
Number giving credit.....	735
The 735 merchants giving more or less credit allow discounts for cash as follows:	
9 allow.....	10 per cent.
1 allows.....	8 per cent.
20 allow.....	5 per cent.
1 allows.....	2 per cent.
1 allows.....	1 per cent.
703 allow.....	no per cent.

At a large meeting of wholesalers, retailers and bankers, gathered in Winnipeg last February to consider this problem, a very prominent banker, addressing that meeting, said: "Is not the first step to induce our retail merchants to make the cash price the basis of their trading, not the credit price less a discount for cash; to get their cash prices as nearly as possible in line with mail order prices and fix their credit prices at whatever higher level may be necessary to fully cover interest and the percentage of bad debts, which might be expected to arise from credit sales made with discrimination?"

During the same meeting, after further discussion, this was said by a banker: "The banks have taken the initial action to encourage farmers in cash buying, and there are other ways in which they could co-operate with the wholesalers and retailers, but it is up to the latter to take the next step."

To be Formed in Manitoba

It seems highly probable now that such a step will be undertaken at an early date. It is proposed to form in Manitoba a Retail Credits Association to overcome some of the difficulties the merchandising trade has been working under.

This Retail Credits Association is designed to do somewhat the same thing for the retailers and wholesalers of Manitoba as the Rural Credit Societies are expected to do for the farmers, and in consequence the two will be more or less complementary. The two schemes are very similar in general conception. Prominent retailers in Manitoba are very enthusiastic about it, and while all the wholesale trade are not so confident of its success, they feel that if it will help out the retail trade in a legitimate way, as it is designed to, that it will be a good thing.

Briefly the proposal is to incorporate a Retail Credits Association with a capital of \$1,000,000 divided into \$100 shares. The wholesalers would be allotted one-third of this, the retailers one-third and the government of Manitoba one-third.

All retailers and wholesalers who join will be required to take shares in the association in proportion to their assets, and 10 per cent. of each sub-

scription would be paid for in advance and subsequent instalments as may be required. The government's contribution would be put in at the same times and same proportions as those of the wholesalers and retailers. The capital paid in would be invested in government or other public securities and held as a guarantee fund to provide against possible losses, and the income from investments paid to subscribers.

The management of the association would be vested in a directorate of 10, composed of retailers, wholesalers and government officials. The officers of the association would be a president, vice-president and general manager. The latter would be the only salaried officer.

Objects of the Association

The objects of the association are as follows:

- 1.—To grant and regulate the entire time credit of members.
- 2.—To devise simplified methods of bookkeeping for members.
- 3.—To audit books for members.
- 4.—To prepare, maintain and distribute efficiency bulletins.
- 5.—To manage retailer's businesses when necessary.
- 6.—To place efficiency experts within retailers' reach.
- 7.—To reduce the cost of credit.
- 8.—To assist the retailer to meet mail order competition.
- 9.—To maintain bureaus for members' information.

Under the Retail Credits Association, suppose the retailer "A" buys from the wholesaler "B" goods to the value of \$1,000. "A" then applies to the Retail Credits Association for a line of credit for say \$10,000. If he is a worthy merchant and his business assets warrant it his application for that amount will be granted. The retailer "A" then gives his note for \$1,000 at say three months. This note would be presented to the Retail Credits Association for its endorsement, which is given by the association putting its acceptance to the note. It thus becomes the obligation of the retailer with his resources plus the resources of the association behind it. The association itself is made up of interested business men, i.e., wholesalers and retailers plus capital subscribed by the province. This note by the association endorsement becomes liquid negotiable paper of the highest class and enables the retailer to make a cash settlement with the wholesaler, and thereby get the cash price. This paper, it is expected, will be a standard security, as good in Chicago or New York as in Winnipeg. It will be a power in decreasing interest rates and will enable retailers to take their discounts, which are said to amount to as much as 15 to 20 per cent. or more on the year's business of the average retailer who buys on credit.

How Credit Should Be Granted

At the joint meeting held in Winnipeg in February and referred to earlier in this article, one of the banking authorities gave this as his personal opinion regarding sound lines for banking for the retail merchant.

"At present the banks are giving credit to retailers against farmer's notes with a good margin, irrespective of how much credit the retailers may be taking from the trade; but I wish to project upon you, as purely my own personal opinion, that in the very best interests of all concerned there should be a considerable narrowing of the present policy of the banks in this matter.

"In other words, a retail merchant should take his credit either from the bank or the trade, not from both. Under existing conditions what frequently happens is that a merchant becomes badly extended with credit to poor risks and the weakness of his credit methods is concealed from his trade creditors by the use of the bank credit against collateral notes, until it is too late to save him. An easy-going bank manager, misled by an apparently safe

OUR nation-wide investment connections and membership to the Montreal Stock Exchange enable us to offer exceptional facilities for the execution of buying and selling orders in all Dominion of Canada bonds.

Our very complete organization, especially adapted for handling mail order business, assures you of prompt and satisfactory service.

Hold Victory Bonds, your best investment, buy more under our Partial Payment Plan.

Write for Booklet. H.

GREENSHIELDS & CO.
Members Montreal Stock Exchange
Dealers in Canada - Bond Issues
17 St. John Street, Montreal
Central Chambers, Ottawa

How Many Men

Prepare for a time of Need?

Sickness or disabling accidents might come to some of us; but death certainly comes to all of us sooner or later. Common sense should teach us to prepare during the days when our earning powers are greatest for the future protection of our loved ones.

Think of your wife and children. Deprived of your protection and support, they will be left alone in the world to shift for themselves, and you know what that means. A Life Insurance Policy is the safest way of providing for future protection.

The Great-West Life issues Policies to suit all classes. Information will be gladly given on request. Write, stating age, to—

The Great-West Life Assurance Company
Dept. "1"
Head Office - - WINNIPEG

"Bond The Secretary"

With your requirements in the Undermentioned Companies

ALL KINDS OF Fidelity Bonding

Also Workmen's Compensation, Motor Car Risks, Public Liability, Employers' Liability, Glass Breakage, Burglary, and Personal Accident and Illness.

CLAIMS PAID EXCEED \$36,000,000

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Head Office for Canada and Newfoundland—Toronto, Ont.
Branch Office:
400 Merchants Bank Bldg., Winnipeg
S. G. Carnegie, Branch Manager

When in need of a Guarantee Bond Apply to—

The Dominion of Canada Guarantee and Accident Insurance Company

The oldest and strongest strictly Canadian Casualty Company

Head Office - Toronto

Branches—Winnipeg
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margin in his security, accepts notes made by farmers scattered over an enormous area, concerning whose standing he has little or no knowledge. The ability to raise money at the bank against his customers' notes prompts easy credit injurious to the merchant, and the use of money so obtained creates a fictitious appearance of satisfactory payments in his accounts with the wholesalers."

How the Association Will Finance

It is obvious that such an organization as the Retail Credits Association will overcome this objectionable situation to a very large extent. The bankers will be better off because they will be carrying the paper of the last man in the merchandising transaction. There will not exist between the bank and its ultimate security such an endless chain of traders as is now existent. The bank can look to one central organization for this security. This system would make retailers and wholesalers carry their own loads. Hitherto the bank has given credit to both more or less, but this credit extension has been mainly from above. The fact that the retailer has had to look to the wholesaler for his credit has put the former absolutely in the power of the latter, and whether properly exercised or not, such a state of affairs is not a healthy one.

Under the arrangements for financing the Retail Credits Association, the retailers would pay a certain fixed rate, likely about seven per cent. on purchases guaranteed by the association, and out of this the banks holding the finances would pay a small per cent., possibly one per cent., to the association. The proportion of the interest thus received by the association would furnish the money with which to pay the running expenses. The security of the association would consist of the stocks held by the retailer, the book accounts of the retailer, indemnity bonds, business life insurance and fire insurance. The association would also have special powers as to foreclosure, special auditing powers, and the retailer would be under obligation to place all his floating credit through the association. When the board of this association has determined the amount of credit to be allowed each retailer, that retailer would be free to order goods as required, and duplicates of each order would be forwarded to the society and there recorded and endorsed up to the fixed limit.

In speaking recently of the effects of the new scheme its originator said: "The present situation appears to be that unless some means are found of putting the small retailers in a position to compete, they must soon go out of business. Aside from the injury to retailers themselves, as a class, such a development would have a very injurious effect upon the country towns and villages in still further lessening the variety and interest of village life and removing the only social centres for the farming population. In addition, such development would necessarily react in the lessening and ultimate destruction of the wholesale trade since large houses buy mainly from the manufacturers."

The Retail Credits Association should mean much to farmers through the possibilities it will open to retailers in the way of reducing costs and giving better service. The keeping of the wholesalers' price lists in the central office of the association will tend to keep prices down through healthy competition. The provision of expert advice for retailers should do much to help them.

MANITOBA'S CONTRIBUTIONS

Winnipeg, December 4.—Manitoba's contribution to the Victory Loan is \$31,769,850, subscribed by 75,791 of her citizens.

The 1911 census gives Manitoba a population a little over 450,000; her increase since then is probably not over 50,000 when those gone overseas are considered, so that 500,000 is a fair estimate of her present population.

Based on this estimate it may be said that her contribution to the Victory loan represents nearly one in six of the population. The actual

Wheat at \$2.21 and Farm Lands

A quick return from an improved highly cultivated tract of land is what is desired these days by the average farmer, who knows that the price is going to remain high for some time to come, in view of the world-wide grain shortage and European conditions. Such a tract we have, not far from Winnipeg, which, at present prices with average returns only, will pay for itself in two years. There are

2,400 ACRES AT ONLY \$27.50 PER ACRE

of which about 1,400 acres are cultivated, 700 acres of them being in summer-fallow; extensive fencing, excellent house, barns and granary, and magnificent well water.

Two other farms of 640 acres and 800 acres, but closer to Winnipeg, similarly improved, only \$20 and \$35 per acre each. Terms easy and within reach of anyone.

Apply to

THE STANDARD TRUSTS COMPANY
346 MAIN STREET, Administrators WINNIPEG

Cost of Insurance

Did it ever occur to you that the daily cost of \$1,000 Life Insurance from ages 25 to 35 is SIX TO SEVEN CENTS, from ages 25 to 45, SEVEN TO ELEVEN CENTS, from 45 to 65 is SIXTEEN TO TWENTY-ONE CENTS? Too cheap to go without, is it not?

Write for Particulars giving occupation and year of birth.

The Western Empire Life Assurance Co.
Head Office: 701 Somerset Building Winnipeg, Canada

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

SERVE THE EMPIRE

Canada calls on every farmer to produce all his land will yield. Should you require a loan in order to increase your production, it will be well to consult our local manager. We Negotiate Farmers' Sale Notes.

119 Branches 43 Branches in Western Canada

NORTHWESTERN LIFE POLICIES

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The Most Wonderful

CREAM SEPARATOR
Money Can Buy

The perforated equalizing sleeve which distributes the milk equally to the discs is the most wonderful invention ever put into a separator to increase its efficiency. Gets more cream than you would think existed in the milk.

No. 30—300 pound capacity \$54.55
No. 45—450 pound capacity \$58.50

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WATERLOO BOY GAS ENGINES

2 Horse Power	\$ 52.75	With Magneto	\$ 63.75
3 Horse Power	\$ 80.55	With Magneto	\$ 91.05
5 Horse Power	\$ 130.75	With Magneto	\$ 143.75
7 Horse Power	\$ 169.75	With Magneto	\$ 182.75
9 Horse Power	\$ 275.50	With Magneto	\$ 292.50

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The best mechanical help you can get. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back promptly. Please list to 14 R.R. Will run your grinder, clean, pump, saw, cream separator, etc., and give entire satisfaction in any weather. Prompt delivery guaranteed.

SEED GRAIN PURCHASING COMMISSION

This Commission, appointed, on the recommendation of the Honorable the Minister of Agriculture, by the Federal Government of Canada, has for its aim the procuring of a supply of clean sound seed grain to meet the requirements of Municipalities, Farmers' Organizations and Farmers in districts affected by drought, frost and other causes.

All seed grain purchased and distributed by the Commission is handled at the Government Interior Terminal Elevators at Moose Jaw, Calgary and Saskatoon. It is all inspected by the Seed Inspection Staff of the Dominion Department of Agriculture on arrival at these Elevators and must conform to the following Standards after recleaning:—

WHEAT—Class No. 1 Marquis Seed Wheat

No. 1 Hard and No. 1 Northern Seed Wheat shall be composed of practically pure Marquis Wheat, sound, clean and free from other grains, and free from noxious weed seeds under the meaning of the Seed Control Act and weigh not less than 60 pounds to the bushel.

OATS—Class No. 1 Seed Oats

No. 1 Seed Oats shall be composed of grades No. 1 and 2 C.W. Oats, shall contain 95 per cent. of white oats, sound, of strong vitality, clean and free from other grains, free from noxious weed seeds within the meaning of the Seed Control Act and weigh not less than 34 pounds to the bushel.

BARLEY—Class No. 1 Seed Barley

Canada Western Seed Barley shall be composed of the six-rowed variety, sound, plump, clean and free from other grains, of good color and free from noxious weed seeds within the meaning of the Seed Control Act and weigh not less than 45 pounds to the bushel. ("Within the meaning of the Seed Control Act" means not more than one noxious weed seed per pound of grain).

The Government Seed Inspectors have been instructed to select and specially bin such cars of grain as can be cleaned, at reasonable cost, up to the above mentioned Standards.

The Commission will purchase No. 1 and 2 C.W. Oats, 3 C.W. Barley and No. 1 Hard and 1 Northern Marquis Wheat, subject to official grading and weighing, accepted as suitable for seed by the Seed Inspectors and stored in the Interior Terminal Elevators at Moose Jaw, Saskatoon and Calgary, and pay therefor a premium of 5 cents in advance of the closing cash price on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange on day of purchase; all purchases to be made on basis Ft. William. When requirements are nearly filled, the Commission will notify farmers and grain dealers, through the Agricultural Press, that no more grain will be purchased after a date specified in such notification, which will be given at least two weeks in advance. The Commission invites the co-operation of farmers and grain dealers in carrying out its objects, so that there will be no possible danger of any shortage of seed grain for next spring's seeding and the expectations of the Allies for a plentiful supply of foodstuffs from Canada will be fulfilled. In purchasing and inspecting seed grain the services of the Commission and the staff of the Dominion Seed Branch will be available free of charge and the grain will be sold to farmers at actual cost plus cleaning and other necessary charges.

All correspondence should be addressed to A. E. Wilson, Commissioner and Chief Agent, Post Office Building, Regina, Saskatchewan.

CAN. GOVERNMENT SEED GRAIN PURCHASING COMMISSION

A. E. WILSON, Commissioner and Chief Agent.

figure up to last night is one in 6.6; the final report will probably make it one in six. The same figuring gives a contribution up to date of \$63.50 per head of population, more than a \$50 bond for every man, woman and child in the province.

WAR LOAN SUBSCRIPTIONS

Toronto, December 3.—Official returns up to a late hour tonight show that \$401,530,100 have been subscribed to the Victory Loan, 627,723 people having filed applications for bonds.

Province	Objective	Subscription
Alberta	\$12,000,000	\$14,110,200
British Colum.	12,000,000	17,820,500
Manitoba	15,000,000	31,769,850
N. Brunswick	7,000,000	8,020,150
N. Scotia	15,000,000	15,384,600
Ontario	140,000,000	200,424,800
Quebec	90,000,000	92,000,000
Prince Ed. Is.	1,000,000	2,000,000
Saskatchewan	12,000,000	20,090,000

Totals \$304,000,000 \$401,530,100

Saskatchewan

Continued from Page 12

of them were not yet alive to the real meaning of democracy. The sense of responsibility for government was not highly developed.

The third essential of democracy was the power of expression on the part of those who constitute it. No man had attained the full stature of a man unless he was both able and willing to take his place, either from the floor or chair, in the deliberative councils of his fellows. The only reason they, as an association, did not have more of their members in parliament, was because the farmers had not learned to express themselves in public. They should be encouraged by the thought that the winning of the war would help to establish that democracy which constituted the ideal and objective of the association.

Mrs. T. M. Morgan, director of the women's section, urged all women to take their full responsibility as citizens of a democracy. They were glad to have attended the funeral of the party system and they hoped there would be no resurrection. They should be willing to show the same spirit of sacrifice which was exhibited by those at the front.

R. M. Johnson and Mr. McKinney gave most interesting short talks on the work of the association, the latter urging all delegates to go back with a new zeal and enthusiasm to make the association count for more in each community.

This brought to a close a most successful convention.

NEW LOCAL AT CONDIE

What promises to be a live local was organized at Condie on Saturday, November 3. On that date H. H. McKinney, superintendent of organization, W. T. Hall, director of district No. 16, and W. Bielechowsky of the central office staff, journeyed by auto in order to be present at the birth.

An accident occurred, however, when one-and-a-half miles from Condie, and Messrs. McKinney and Hall decided to brave all the terrors of the mud and finish the journey afoot. Unfortunately they set out on a wrong trail, and were obliged to return the same way they had come. Nothing daunted, however, they made a fresh attempt, and eventually reached the place of meeting, where they found a nice little gathering of farmers patiently awaiting their advent.

A short address was given by each of the visitors, after which the new local was brought into being. George Cushing was appointed secretary pro. tem., and about 20 farmers were enrolled as members. We welcome this our newest local and hope it will have a prosperous future. S. W. YATES.

SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

No. 13.—Directors Lillwall, Sales, Johnson, at Wilkie; Dec. 12.
No. 8.—Directors Orchard, Maharg, Musselman, Johnson, at Regina; Dec. 19.
No. 5.—Directors Bateman, Maharg, Hawkes, at Wolsley; Dec. 19.
Many of these meetings will also hold over during the following day.

The-Duty of Will Making

There is a tendency to postpone the performance of this duty.

Did you ever consider that a will carefully prepared by your lawyer, with this company appointed executor to carry out its provisions, proves the best protection you can supply to your heirs?

THE CANADA TRUST COMPANY

Huron & Erie MORTGAGE CORPORATION

(UNDER SAME MANAGEMENT)
COMBINED ASSETS OVER \$24,000,000

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Money to Loan

For terms of twenty years (when shorter terms are not preferred by the borrower) repayable by equal annual payments which include both principal and interest—the surest and cheapest plan yet devised for the gradual extinction of a debt.

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THE G. P. R. GIVES YOU TWENTY YEARS TO PAY

An immense area of the most fertile land in Western Canada for sale at low prices and easy terms ranging from \$11 to \$30 for farm lands with ample rainfall—irrigated lands up to \$50. One-tenth down, balance if you wish within twenty years. In certain areas, land for sale without settlement conditions. In irrigation districts, loan for farm buildings, etc. up to \$2000, also repayable in twenty years—interest only 6 per cent. Here is your opportunity to increase your farm holdings by getting adjoining land, or to secure your friends as neighbors. For literature and particulars apply to Allan Cameron, General Superintendent of Lands, Department of Natural Resources, 908 First Street East, Calgary, Alta.

Bacon Is A Military Necessity

Bacon is the most compact form in which meat and fats can be supplied to the armies.

It takes up the minimum of space in freight cars, ships, transport wagons and in supply depots at the front. It is easily handled, and it keeps.

Bacon, on account of its large percentage of fat, is the great outdoor food. Men who work and travel hard, sleep in the open air, and are exposed to the wet and cold, require a large amount of fatty foods, because such foods best

supply the nutriment, the energy and the heat-producing qualities necessary. Bacon fortifies the body against exposure, repairs the wear and tear of hard work and is easily digested. It is also easily and quickly cooked.

The Allied Armies require enormous supplies of bacon, the British Army ration allowing $\frac{1}{4}$ pound per man per day. With the United States raising great armies, the demand for bacon will be still further increased. Where is the supply to come from?

32,425,000 Hogs Short

There is a shortage of 32,425,000 hogs in Europe. The hog population of the United States is 10% below normal. The number of hogs slaughtered in Canada in September, 1917, shows a decrease of nearly 27% compared with September, 1916. Despatches from Denmark state that the total prohibition of exports of pork products is

anticipated in order to insure an adequate supply of meats and fats for the Danish population.

The situation is serious. The armies must be assured adequate supplies of bacon. A great increase in the production of hogs in the United States and Canada is a military necessity.

Save the Young Sows

Young sows which are slaughtered now only produce about 150 pounds of meat per sow, whereas each of these sows, through her progeny, could produce at a moderate estimate 1,500 lbs. of meat within a twelve-month period.

The United States has committed itself to greatly increase its hog production. Canada will do her share. Every pound of pork that can be raised is urgently needed.

The Dominion Government and the Provincial Governments are co-operating to encourage greatly increased production in hogs and to safeguard the growers.

Already steps have been taken to control the spread in price between that received by the producer and that paid by the consumer. The grower is assured *his fair share of the price* paid by the consumer.

The Flour Mills are under a form of license and allowed a profit of 25 cents per barrel on the

flour only—the bran and shorts will be sold at cost, and are to be free from adulteration.

The huge United States corn crop is under effective American control to prevent speculation and to insure none of it going to Germany. There will be an abundance of feed from this source as the 1917 crop is 600,000,000 bushels greater than last year's.

The buying of the meat for the Allies will all be done by the one Commission representing the Allies which will be an influence in stabilizing the market and preventing wide fluctuations in price.

The great shortage of hogs in Europe and the vast demands of the Allied armies for pork products indicate a bright future for the swine industry in Canada.

There is *individual responsibility*, and every man who can raise hogs should seriously consider the possibility of raising one or two extra litters in 1918.

Dominion of Canada Department of Agriculture

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The New Chatham Fanning Mill and Grain Separator

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both in Canada and the United States for Forty Years.

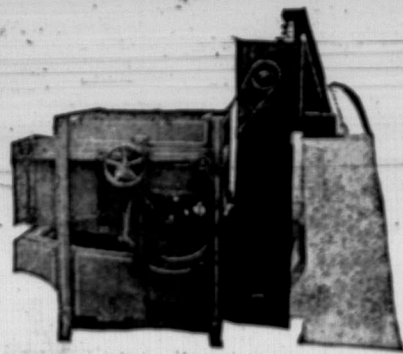
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and retains the same sturdy construction that has made the Chatham famous.

The best is Cheapest in the end—THEY LAST LONGER

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Toronto \$40.00	Montreal \$45.00
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Proportionate fares from points in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta to points in Eastern Canada on sale December 1 to 31, 1917; Return Limit Three Months

There is more pleasure, comfort and more to see when you go via Minneapolis, St. Paul, or Duluth and the superb route of the

NORTH WESTERN LINE

Through Milwaukee—along the Shore of Lake Michigan—or Through the Devils Lake Region and Madison

To CHICAGO

From MINNEAPOLIS | Two Morning Trains to Chicago
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Ticket Office:
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WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS PLEASE MENTION THE GUIDE

British Co-operation in War-Time

Continued from Page 8

A 10,000 Acre Canadian Grain Farm

The C.W.S. and S.C.W.S. jointly have purchased an estate of 10,000 acres for wheat-growing in Canada. It lies 60 miles from Saskatoon, and Houghton station of the C.N.R. is on it: even 10,000 acres is but a small beginning. Under the most favorable conditions the land could not produce enough wheat to keep the present C.W.S. mills working for more than three or four days of the year. But the entry of the C.W.S. among the producers of the Dominion gives co-operators a new bond with its territories and Canadians a fresh interest in the British co-operative movement.

It may be said that the movement is out for the co-operative conquest of industry, and of necessity finance must play an important part, and the question of co-operative finances is now receiving serious attention. The banker of the co-operative movement is the C.W.S., and the turnover (deposits and withdrawals) of the bank in 1916 was £277,349,727. Not only is the C.W.S. doing the banking business of the majority of co-operative societies in its area, but for an increasing number of trade unions also. It is banker now to over one thousand societies and unions. The advantage of such centralized control has been emphasized again and again during the course of the war. One instance will suffice.

The C.W.S. Banking Department

Through the C.W.S. banking department the surplus capital of some societies can be used for the strengthening of others whose needs are greater. When the war loans were floated and telling patriotic appeals made to all investors, big or little, co-operators were in no way backward in taking up the loan. Indeed, some societies, whose capital for years had been greater than their requirements, might have gone too far in this direction, and by unconsidered action have handicapped their future development. The C.W.S. bank here was a tower of strength. By arranging that practically all the amount of loan taken up should be done in consultation with its management, it was able to decide what surplus could, without danger to the movement, be lent for the service of the nation. The surplus was not small; in all some five million pounds were invested in war loan stock and bonds.

Before the war the movement as a whole suffered from no lack of capital. The supply was greater than could profitably be employed in co-operative work, and large amounts were invested outside. The future position promises to be far different. Capital generally for some time after the war will be scarce and dear, and co-operators cannot escape the effects of such a position. Already the C.W.S. bank is preparing plans to meet any difficulties which may arise. It stands for the movement as a whole in this, and its service alike to the nation and those whom it represents has been of incalculable value during the anxious days of war, and may be still greater when peace again returns.

Public Ownership of Coal Mines

Continued from Page 8

likely to wreck this enterprise. The railroad will not build a sidetrack to his mine, or it will not furnish him the cars needed, or it charges him more than it does the magnates by giving rebates to them. Thus the Baer gang clinched their claws upon the coal business of Pennsylvania. From this it would appear that the independent operator not only needs large machinery for mining, but also a few railroads to get his coal to market. Lacking these, he is unable to compete with the magnates and must surrender to them at their price or fail utterly. Of course I know that there are laws against the railroads discriminating in rates and conveniences between their patrons, but what are laws to conspiring, embezzling "trustees of Providence" where there is a chance for profitable loot?

2.—At the market. Before the war

Escape the Cold! Buy EXCURSION TICKET For VICTORIA



Victoria (British Columbia's magnificent capital, green all year round) calls you nge away from the bit-og cold this winter.

Least Rainfall

of all our Pacific Coast cities. Beautiful buildings; lovely homes; splendid scenery; excellent roads; flowers commonly in bloom in open air at Christmas; golf every month in the year; balmy, soft air; average mean temperature for January 38 degrees above zero.

EXCURSIONS

Dec. 2 to 8; Jan. 6 to 12; Feb. 3 to 9.

ASK TICKET AGENT



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION FREE. WRITE PUBLICITY COMMISSIONER, VICTORIA, B.C.

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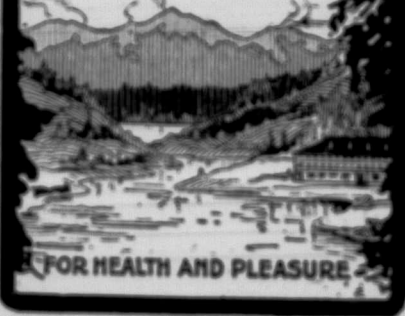
HARRISON HOT SPRINGS

You'll find here a panacea for your winter ills or tired muscles—especially your rheumatic ones.

Harrison is one of the most beautiful spots in the world, only 70 miles east of Vancouver, B. C., in the heart of the mountains on a lake forty miles long. Mild, salubrious climate. Write for analysis of sulphur and potash waters.

St. Alice Hotel
Harrison Hot Springs, B. C.
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Get off at Agassiz, on C. P. R. Main Line
Buses Meet Every Train



FOR HEALTH AND PLEASURE

Have You an Auto that Isn't Working Now?

Use that automobile for power work now when it can't be used on the road. You have the investment so why not get the benefit of it all the time? For further particulars, see LAWRENCE AUTO POWER ADVERTISEMENTS in "The Grain Growers' Guide," Oct. 24th, Page 29; Nov. 7th, Page 18; Nov. 21st, Page 25; or write stating kind of car you own to

Lawrence Auto Power Co.
302 A. Lock Box 3144 WINNIPEG, MAN.

We Are Open To Buy Bromes, Kern Rye Grass and Timothy. We have enquiries for car lots of Seed Oats and Six-Rowed Barley. Seed samples. Our Seed crops of Wheat, Oats, Rye and a new Five-grained Barley are available. Send your name for 1918 catalog, ready for part of December.

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I was able to have placed in our cellar, in co-operation with a neighbor, which enabled us to take a car-load, good Illinois furnace coal at \$2.50 per ton. It cost, loaded on the car at the mine, \$1.25, which meant 55 cents for the miner and 70 cents for the operator for overhead costs and profit. The haul to Chicago gave the railroad 75 cents, at the rate of about \$97.50 for one car, and 50 cents for the Chicago teamster. This coal now retails in five ton lots at \$5.65, leaving approximately \$3.00 per ton profit for the Chicago dealers; and it would be higher if the U.S. fuel department had not intervened. Those who buy it in ton lots only pay still more, while the poorer people who buy by the bucket pay from \$10 to \$20 a ton. It is not scarcity of coal nor of coal cars that causes high prices and lack of fuel, but the crime of monopoly "grinding the faces of the poor." There is plenty of coal in the earth; and if not we can harness the limitless water power, which blesses our domain, and keep us all warm, cook our food and light our homes and streets with electricity. Meanwhile it is certain that the coal belongs by right to all of God's children, and that the only way to protect the consumer is by public ownership. Private ownership has not only failed, it has become a terrible menace to the nation, an enemy, a traitor, a robber.

New Zealand's Coal Business

In New Zealand the government has gone far enough into the coal business to supply its own railroads and power plants with government-mined coal, and to supply coal enough for the open market during emergencies to keep the price on a basis quite reasonable compared to prices in the United States. But nothing short of complete government mining and marketing of coal will save the people from the blight of slavery which now forces them to enrich private monopolizers of God's bounty before they can cook food for their children or warm their homes.

Taking the Distance out of Mileage

Continued from Page 7

The land being rapidly taken up. New marketing centres may be established, sometimes two or three close together, competing for the trade of the same territory, each pressing its claims for roads to bring in the trade of the surrounding country. The adjustments of time are required before any intelligent conclusion can be arrived at as to the proper locations for main roads. In the meantime, roads of some kind must be provided. In Alberta the situation has been further complicated in the past by the possibility, and even probability, of a new line of railway coming along in the course of a year or so and entirely changing all routes of travel, turning main roads into rural roads and vice versa.

The foregoing is not put forward by way of apology, but merely as an explanation of conditions peculiar to a new province, which render it difficult to carry out any comprehensive road scheme until it is possible to decide with a reasonable degree of intelligence where main roads should be. The Government of Alberta, therefore, while working towards definite ends in its road policy, must of necessity make haste slowly in many directions if the best results are eventually to be achieved.

A Complete System Aimed At

The ideal aimed at is a complete system of trunk roads, secondary roads and rural roads, classified according to the traffic which they must carry, and constructed and maintained on a basis of co-operation with the local authorities, the details of the arrangements as to co-operation depending upon the class of road dealt with. But here again difficulties peculiar to a new province arise. The local organizations are not uniform, and one comparatively short trunk road may very easily pass through rural municipalities, local improvement districts, and unorganized units, the local authority and power being different in each case. Further, this year's local improvement district may next year become a rural municipality, the unorganized territory may be either, and even the reverse has been known to happen and rural

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municipalities have disorganized. Hence the difficulty in framing legislation to meet constantly changing conditions. These changing conditions are, of course, due to growth, and the more rapid the growth the sooner conditions will finally become established, but in the meantime our policy must fit the conditions.

Earth Roads Exclusively

All our roads are earth roads, and it is realized that for a time at least this must continue to be the case, owing to the lack of material over the greater part of the province suitable for roads of a more permanent character. During wet weather an earth road is bound to cut up under heavy traffic, but with proper attention to drainage in the original construction, and proper maintenance afterwards, the inconvenience and damage can be reduced to a minimum.

The greater part of the efficiency of earth roads depends upon proper maintenance, and pending means of compelling maintenance by the local authorities, the work of maintaining trunk roads is done by the government, and increasing attention is being paid to this feature of the work.

Notwithstanding the conditions referred to above, Alberta has already built up the framework of a splendid road system. There is a trunk road from Athabasca in the north to Coutts in the south, passing through intervening cities and towns, fully 500 miles in length; the trunk road from Walsh in the east, through Medicine Hat and Calgary and intermediate towns, to Banff in the west, about 300 miles; the road from Lloydminster in the east through intervening points to Edmonton, and west almost to Eatwistle, about 230 miles; the road from Medicine Hat via Lethbridge and Macleod to the Crow's Nest Pass, over 200 miles. This latter road has just been connected with the British Columbia road, being the commencement of an inter-provincial system. We have also the roads from Wetaskiwin to Hayter; Lacombe to Compeer; Munson to Al-sask; Vegreville to Munson; Lethbridge to Cardston; Red Deer to Rocky Mountain House, and others, which reach easily a total of over 2,500 miles, generally speaking in pretty good condition. In addition, there are many stretches of good road not yet connected up in any general system, that will eventually all form part of the great framework.

During the past season many trunk roads and feeders to trunk roads have been extended, and uncompleted links in others closed up, and it is expected that the coming season will see further important extensions, and arrangements for a definite system of construction and maintenance on a co-operative basis completed.

SASKATCHEWAN HIGHWAYS

Where There Are 180,000 Miles of Roads

By H. S. CARPENTER, Deputy Minister of Highways

There are in the occupied portions of Saskatchewan over 180,000 miles of roads. Very much of this mileage, however, is purely local roads which for years to come will carry only light traffic. The government has, since 1912, apportioned the expenditures of government money with the object of completing at as early a date as possible a system of main roads, and to this end has adopted the policy of limiting expenditure to such roads as are included in this scheme.

To accomplish this, a main road system has been drawn up and laid down on paper, and this is used as a basis to determine the location of authorizations for expenditure of government money. This main road system was drawn up with the idea of providing the farmer with a main market road to his nearest shipping point, rather than with the idea of providing main trunk roads across the province, or main roads from town to town, but the main market roads can usually be so located that they will, when connected up, constitute the main roads from town to town, and will in many instances be available also to incorporate in the lines of main trunk roads.

While our main road scheme was drawn up with the idea of, as far as possible, establishing permanently the



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location of our main market roads, conditions in a growing province such as ours, where the opening up of new lines of railways is followed by the establishing of new market centres, are such that modifications have to be permitted to meet changed conditions, so the original main road scheme has been modified or extended from time to time as circumstances required. The policy of limiting government expenditures to main roads laid down in harmony with our main road scheme makes possible a well-defined program of work, a steady adherence to which will insure the completion of these roads at a much earlier period than would otherwise be the case. This main road policy also makes it possible to adopt a uniform standard of construction, a standard which we would possibly not be justified in maintaining roads of lesser importance.

Department of Highways Established
In a new country such as Saskatchewan, where previous to 1908 there was no provision for rural municipal government, it was inevitable that the administration of government money on public improvements should be centralized in the government. As our rural municipal organizations became stronger financially and better fitted for self-government the tendency to entrust to the control of the rural municipal councils more and more of the duties and responsibilities hitherto borne by the government arose. At the last session of the Saskatchewan legislature the department of highways was established to carry on the administration of highway work which had previously been carried on by the board of highway commissioners. The Highway Act, which established the department of highways, gave the minister authority to enter into an arrangement with the councils of rural municipalities whereby the council could take charge of the expenditures of whatever government money was to be spent in each municipality. This policy has been carried out during the present year and the minister on being satisfied that any municipality possessed the necessary equipment and organization to properly carry on the work entered into a contract with the municipality to spend for the department such money as the government was able to spend on road work in that municipality. The contract provides that the work shall be done on main roads selected by the municipality but approved by the department. The contract embodies specifications governing the standard of the work to be done and is carried on under the supervision of the government's officials and must be such as will be passed by the officials before the money is paid.

Bridges
The arrangement referred to above with the municipalities applies for the present only to road construction as in the case of bridge work very few of our municipalities have the equipment or the desire to handle the construction of the larger bridges. Practically all bridges of a span of 20 feet or over are built and paid for by the government. The bridges constructed are broadly of two kinds: timber bridges on pile bents, and steel bridges on concrete or pile-abutments. During 1917 the department will build and reconstruct about 150 timber bridges of from 20 to 80 feet in length and four steel bridges on concrete abutments ranging from 8 to 150-foot span and two reinforced concrete arches, one of 64-foot span and the other of 72 feet. Most of the timber bridges are constructed by government bridge crews financed and controlled by the department and are paid for out of revenue account. The steel and concrete bridges are all let by contract and are paid for out of capital. All timber for the timber bridges and the steel and cement for the larger bridges are purchased by the department directly from the manufacturer. The province has built since 1905 about 2,000 bridges, ranging in size from 12-foot frame timber bridges to a reinforced concrete arch bridge, 1,200 feet in length bridging the Saskatchewan river at Saskatoon.

Surveys
The department also maintains a survey branch under which is employed a staff of surveyors and engineers lo-

ating and surveying new roads and road diversions. This work is done by the department in conjunction with rural municipalities, the department bearing all the expense except that municipalities are required to pay any compensation necessary to the owners of land from which right-of-way has to be expropriated.

The department has also under its charge the ferry service of the province and has operated during the present year 42 ferries, over the north and south branches of the Saskatchewan river. These ferries form a very necessary and otherwise impassable link in a system of main roads. The expense is borne entirely by the government and no charge is made to those using the ferries. The traffic on these ferries has increased at a tremendous rate during the past few years, both as to the numbers carried and as to the tonnage of individual loads.

Maintenance of Roads

Saskatchewan is a dirt road province and it will no doubt be many years before, outside of the cities and towns, any very considerable mileage of metalled road surfaces can be constructed. For this reason the question of maintenance has become one of the most important problems facing the road builder in this province. Although large amounts of money have been spent both by the government and rural municipalities for the construction of

new roads, sufficient attention has not been paid to maintaining these roads in the condition they should be.

To induce rural municipalities to give more attention to this very important matter the government is now distributing among rural municipalities a large part of the money collected as fees for auto licenses. This is given to the municipalities on the condition that it shall be used for maintenance only of main roads leading to market towns. It is hoped that the amounts contributed by the government for this work will be supplemented by money for similar purpose by the municipalities.

The department has for some time done a great deal to encourage the use of the road drag and in the endeavor to make its usefulness known throughout the province, has since 1912 carried on an annual road drag competition. This competition is open to every rural municipality. Each municipality may make one entry of a stretch of road from 2 to 4 miles long. This competition is conducted by the department and cash prizes of sufficient value are awarded every year to the municipality making the best showing to offer an inducement to municipalities to enter the competition. Our experience has been that municipalities which have become sufficiently interested to make an effort to win a prize have demonstrated to them the usefulness of the road drag in maintaining earth

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roads and once becoming a convert to the use of the road drag we now find them dragging many miles of road in each municipality, without the necessity for any incentive in the way of a prize for their efforts. This question of prizes has now become of minor consideration in view of the improvements which result in the conditions of our roads.

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Mrs. James McKensie, Edina, Mo., says: "Just ten applications of Caustic Balsam relieved me of gonorrhea. My husband also cured eczema with it, and we use it for corns, bunions, colds, sore throat and pain in the chest."

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The Regulation of Public Markets

The New Federal Livestock Act—Improvements in Market Information

One of the real hindrances to increased production of livestock in Canada has been a feeling among producers that they could not depend on a square deal after the stock left their own yard, that they were liable to be beaten by the drover, commission man, stock yards scales or packer. Oftentimes there has been no real foundation for such fears but, too frequently these fears have been well founded and the last three years have seen constant revelations which have damaged the farmers' confidence.

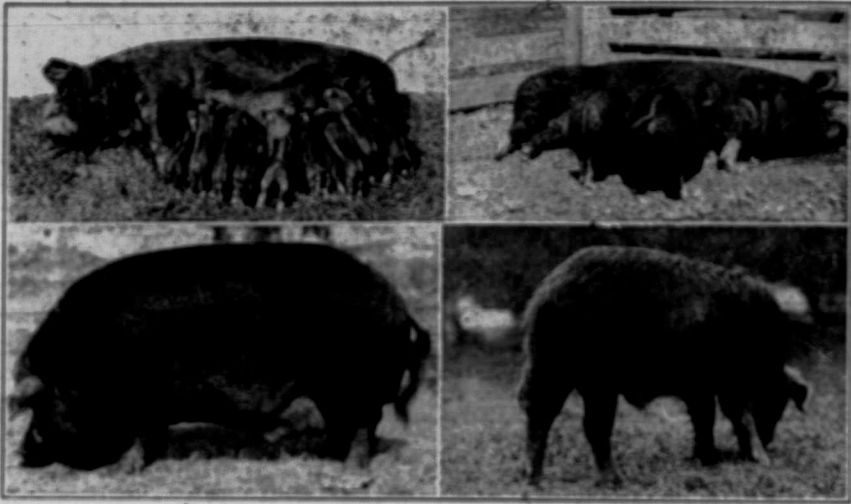
The Dominion department of agriculture for the last two years has been maintaining officials at some of the most important stock yards in Canada and during the last year at practically every central market in Canada. These men have kept statistics on the number and classes of all kinds of livestock passing through the yards, also close observation on the methods of operation and trading practices at these yards. Such has been part of the service of the markets branch of the department. As these statistics and information assumed shape they formed a foundation along with information secured from other sources for the satisfying of many demands for government regulation of stockyards and poultry marketing. Such demands have been made many times by grain

the proper accounting by such commission merchant of the proceeds of any sales received by him, and of any money paid to him to effect any purchase." Special licenses to permit persons to operate on stock yards as commission merchants and the terms and conditions under which these latter are to be issued may be authorized by the Minister of Agriculture.

All To Be Submitted to Minister

Sections 6, 7 and 9 under this new Livestock Act provide for regulation as follows: "Every stock yard shall be constructed and equipped in accordance with the regulations, and no stock yard shall be operated or used until it has been inspected and approved by the Minister or an inspector, and every stock yard shall, at all times, be open to inspection.

The owner, lessee, occupier or operator of every stock yard shall manage such stock yard in conformity with written by-laws, and a schedule of the fees and charges to be charged for livestock using such stock yard, shall be sent to the Minister for his approval, and such by-laws shall not have any force, nor shall the owner of the stock yard use the same for marketing livestock, or be entitled to collect any fees or charges, until such by-laws and schedule of fees and charges have been approved by the Minister.



Big Factor in Increased Hog Production—If enough sows like the one with the big litter are bred to good bears, the great scarcity of fat, oil and pork products the Allies are suffering from will be overcome. It costs just as much to keep over a good breeder as a good one. Below are shown two sows, a one-bearer bear of the type, and a strong sow. There is no gain in breeding sows to a bear like this. The good bear should get broad, deep, quick-maturing and easy-lactating pigs.

growers' associations, livestock associations, the agricultural press and others. The result was that at the last session of parliament a livestock act was passed at Ottawa to give effect to these requests. It was assented to September 20, 1917, but has not yet been put into force. Its main features are given herewith and are worthy of the careful study of all farmers.

Provisions of the Act.

The act provides that there shall be a livestock exchange in connection with each stock yard operated under the act, and that every commission merchant doing business at the yards must be a member unless he holds a special license from the Minister of Agriculture. Farmers or drovers, however, are left the right to sell their stock at any yard. Such a method of selling, of course, is rarely carried on now in actual practice.

Regarding the operations of livestock exchanges, the act says "(1) A livestock exchange shall not be operated until the by-laws to regulate the management and business of such exchange have been duly approved by the Minister, and a written notification of such approval has been sent by the Minister to the secretary of such livestock exchange.

"(2) Such by-laws shall provide for the admission as members of such livestock exchange of such persons as desire to carry on the business of commission merchants, on such terms and conditions as may be fixed by the by-laws, and such by-laws shall require every commission merchant becoming a member of the exchange to furnish sufficient and satisfactory security for

Any stock yard not operated or maintained in conformity with the regulations may be closed by order of the Minister, but no such order shall issue until thirty days after written notice has been given to the owner, lessee, occupier or operator of such stock yard specifying the reasons for which it is proposed to issue such order; and the Minister shall consider any objection offered by such owner, lessee, occupier or operator to the issue of a closing order.

Full Regulations Governing Operation

The Governor-in-Council may make regulations prescribing—(a) the manner in which stock yards are to be constructed, equipped, maintained and operated;

(b) the manner in which complaints against commission merchants and the operation, maintenance or management of stock yards shall be made and investigated;

(c) the manner in which livestock, meat, poultry eggs and wool shall be graded and branded or marked; and what shall be the size of packages containing meat, eggs and poultry, the kind of package that may be used, and how such packages shall be branded, marked or labelled."

The provisions of this act do not apply to stock yards now in operation until a three months' notice has been given. The Minister of Agriculture decides as to what are or are not public markets. Violations of the act are to be punishable by severe fines or imprisonment. It will be noticed this act provides for regulation of public markets, not for their operation.

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SELDOM SEE

a big knee like this, but your horse may have a bunch or bruise on his Ankle, Hock, Stifle, Knee or Throat.

ABSORBINE

will clean it off without laying the horse up. No blister, no hair gone. Concentrated—only a few drops required at an application. \$2 per bottle delivered. Describe your case for special instructions and Book \$ K free. ABSORBINE, JR., antiseptic ointment for manking, Reduces Painful Swellings, Enlarged Glands, Gout, Wens, Bruises, Varicose Veins, Varieties, Old Sores, Allays Pain. Price \$1 and \$2 a bottle at drugists or delivered. Manufactured only by W.F. YOUNG, P.D.E. 495 Lyman Bldg., Montreal, Can.

Heaves CURED

—by removing the cause—and cured to stay cured—If 3 boxes of Fleming's Tonic Heave Remedy fail to effect a cure of any case, old or new, we will refund the full amount paid. For Box, \$1.00; 3 for \$2.50. Mailed on receipt of Price. Scratches Disappeared Gen'lmen—I gave a course of your Tonic Powders, which has put a horse and his mate in the shape, and a touch of scratches has quite disappeared. Geo. A. Miles, Oxville, Alta. Full information in Fleming's Vest Pocket Veterinary Adviser Write us for a Free Copy FLEMING BROS., Chemists 4, Church St. - Toronto, Ont.

Dr. BELL'S Ve strinary Medical Wonder. 10,000 \$1.00 bottles to horsemen who give the Wonder a trial. Guaranteed for Inflammation of Lungs, Hooves, Kidneys, Fevers, Distempers, etc. Send 25 cents for mailing, packing, etc. Agents wanted. Write address plainly. Dr. Bell, V.S., Kingston, Ont.

HORSES

UNION Stock Yards of Toronto Limited. Capital one million five hundred thousand dollars. "Canada's greatest live stock market" covers over two hundred acres. Railroad sidings for all lines. Horse Department conducts Auction Sales every Wednesday. Private Sales every day. All stalls on ground floor. Four to ten carloads of Horses received and sold each week. Consignments solicited. Those requiring sound young draft mares and geldings, blocky general purpose farm horses and delivery horses will find a large stock to choose from. Special sales arranged, correspondence solicited.

Walter Mackland Smith, Manager Horse Dept. Union Stock Yards of Toronto Limited Keele Street West Toronto

AYRSHIRE CATTLE

are heavy milk producers—rich in butter-fat and very prolific— Write for Booklet W. F. STEPHEN, Secretary Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association Box 501 Huntington, Que.

FOR Stocker and Feeder CATTLE

Write any of the following Commission Agents or Dealers at Edmonton Stock Yards EDMONTON CARSON, WOOD & WEILLER A. J. HILLS & CO. UNITED GRAIN GROWERS H. P. KENNEDY LIMITED IRA WORNACOTT H. SCHMITT

Send for FREE SAMPLE of THE "IDEAL" EAR BUTTON. FOR CATTLE Canadian Stamp Co., P.O. Box 363, Winnipeg

Canada are under private or corpora- tion control and regulation. The prin- cipal livestock markets of Western Canada are operated by subsidiary companies of the three big railway systems. A public market should be in that condition where it can give its very best efforts to the interests of the primary producer. It is perfectly ob- vious that if a case arises during the delivery of livestock to our markets by which the shipper suffers, that the market officials are not likely to raise the roof looking after the shippers' in- terests. No one could expect them to under the present system.

It will be noticed that all by-laws of livestock exchanges in detail with all fees and charges must be submitted to the Minister of Agriculture. It thus provides machinery for keeping a full tab on all commission men, dealers and speculators and the licensing of them. It will also be noticed full power is given for the regulation of the market- ing of wool, poultry and eggs.

Improved Market Information

Livestock men in the United States at a recent convention in Washington endorsed the regulation of stock yards by the Federal authorities and the sending out of authoritative market information instead of the host of mar- ket letters of all kinds now emanating from all the various markets in the United States. The Department of Ag- riculture at Ottawa last summer com- menced sending out a market letter covering livestock conditions on all the chief markets of Canada. This has been improved greatly, and some are very good indeed, and deal with con- ditions much better than any of the drovers' or commission companies' market letters. The trouble has been, however, that this letter covering con- ditions in western markets has had to be sent to Ottawa and from there sent back to western journals for publica- tion. The consequence is more up-to- date letters are available from the commission firms, and even though they may not be quite so thorough, they are preferable since the one unpardonable sin with market reports is to have them late.

Conditions on the Winnipeg, Calgary and Edmonton markets should be centred in Winnipeg, and compre- hensive market letters sent by wire, if necessary, to the leading papers just before going to press. For papers in Western Canada to secure these reports themselves is an impossibility. It can- not be done without keeping an author- ity on the yards constantly. It is true, information could be secured, but the true conditions on the various markets could not be reflected.

SASK. LIVESTOCK MEETING

At a joint executive meeting held in Regina on November 16 it was de- cided to hold the annual meeting of the Saskatchewan Livestock associations in Regina on January 3 and 4. These meetings will include the Saskatche- wan Cattle, Horse, Sheep, Swine, and Poultry Breeders' associations. A pro- gram is now being prepared and free return fares on the standard certificate plan will be arranged for.

TRAPPING MUSKRATS

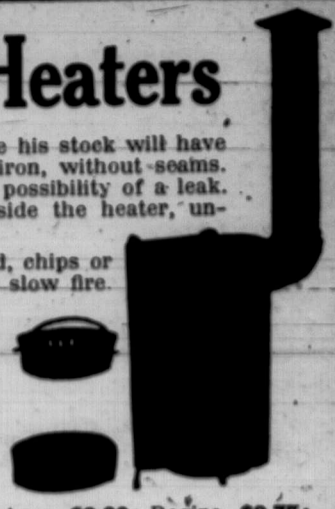
An interesting case of the illegal trapping of muskrats was recently brought to light in Winnipeg. In this case those who had transgressed the law were totally unaware of its pro- visions. It is illegal to trap or offer for sale muskrats in the province of Manitoba prior to March 1, 1918 if the muskrat is caught south of latitude 51. In this case farmers living south of that latitude made shipments of musk- rat skins to a commission firm in Win- nipeg. The shipments were seized by the chief game guardian. The facts that the skins had been shipped in the ordinary way to a firm doing a large business was prime facie evidence that the farmers were not aware that they were trapping illegally. Any man dis- obeying this law is liable to immediate prosecution but in the case noted the transgressors were, it appears, not prose- cuted further. Muskrats can, however, be trapped and offered for sale when they are caught north of latitude 51. The duration of the closed season in the north is from March to May. It is understood that this regulation is peculiar to Manitoba and Ontario.

U.G.G. Tank Heaters

A boon to the farmer who wants to be sure his stock will have plenty to drink all winter. Made of cast iron, without seams. It sinks into place in tank and there is no possibility of a leak. Down draft pipe is of cast iron, and outside the heater, un- affected by fire.

Uses almost any kind of fuel—coal, wood, chips or straw. Draft easily regulated for quick or slow fire. Lid is lifted off without interfering with smokestack. Grate and ash pan easily re- moved for cleaning. Stands on short feet, allowing water to circulate below.

Comes complete with fire grate, ash pan, poker and length of pipe fitted with fire arrester. T-2.—Tank Heater, 14 inches in diameter and 23 inches high. Weight 170 lbs., tak- ing second class freight rate. Price—Winnipeg, \$9.00; Regina, \$9.75; Calgary, \$10.25.



U.G.G. Feed Cookers

Kettle is of full 40-gallon capacity, made of heavy cast iron, extra thick at bottom for long wear. Smooth inside. Fits closely into jacket, so there is no waste heat.

Heavy Sheet metal jacket is re-in- forced with strong iron band around bottom. Cast iron door and frame are bolted on.

Under the smoke pipe is a baffle plate to ensure flame going around the bottom of the kettle instead of direct to flue. Wood or straw is used for fuel, and fire can be regulated to burn a long time. Sits on ground, outside.

Table with 4 columns: Model, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Weight. C-3—40-gallon Feed Cooker \$16.00 17.00 17.75 243 lbs. C-11—Base, with legs for using Cooker inside 6.00 6.35 6.60 66 lbs. C-13—Grate for Coal 2.45 2.65 2.85 52 lbs.

TAKES SECOND CLASS FREIGHT RATE UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LTD. WINNIPEG - REGINA - CALGARY Amalgamation of The Grain Growers Grain Company Limited and Alberta Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company Limited

LUMBER AT REDUCED PRICES

Covering only a Limited Number of Cars We have several hundred thousand feet of high-grade B.C. Fir to dispose of at extremely low prices. Quality Guaranteed.

Despite the fact that lumber is still advancing in price we intend moving these few cars. This stock will not last long so do not fail to write for your Price List at once.

THE T. EATON CO. LIMITED WINNIPEG CANADA

Buy Your Oats Through Us

We can offer oats in car-load lots delivered at any station in the West at minimum prices. Consign your grain shipments to—

THE OLD RELIABLE COMMISSION MERCHANTS JAMES RICHARDSON & SONS, LIMITED WINNIPEG CALGARY BASKATOON

CASH FOR CREAM

We Pay Highest Cash Prices. We Return Empty Cans Immediately. We Remit Promptly. We Solicit Your Patronage. MANITOBA CREAMERY CO. LTD., 509 William Ave., WINNIPEG

A Man at Need

Continued from Page 9

thistledown, for all his bulk, Quebec broke clear of his assailant, knocking two men sprawling as he did so by the impact of his huge body.

"Sacredam!" he bellowed, every hair of his beard and head bristling with fury, "for why you do dat, hey? Mo' gee! I kill you."

His rush was that of a wounded grizzly, resistless in its dynamics. As he rushed he struck, swinging a giant arm with the force of a falling tree. The blow might have killed had it reached its objective point at the base of the ear. Broken by the upper arm and shoulder, it simply brushed his antagonist from his feet as a chessman is swept from the board, and hurled him headlong into the crowd.

Carried by his momentum, Quebec crashed over the place where the other had stood, pulled up short, wheeled, and charged back. Ham-

pered by the crowd, the young man was unable to avoid him. The huge fist smashed into his body with the impact of a ball on a catcher's mitt. He went clean into the air with the force of it, alighted doubled up on the floor, and gasped, writhing for air.

Le Gros Quebec leaped. Ring rules had no place in his code. By established custom, he was entitled to trample a fallen foe to death, or next door to it, with his spike-shod feet. He expected it himself if he went down, and he rarely showed mercy.

The air that was entering the straining lungs hissed out in a gasp as the riverman's feet landed squarely on the heaving chest. With the half-conscious body of his victim for a take-off, Quebec leaped straight upward. His temper, always morose, was a flaming hell at the unprovoked assault. This time he would land on the face.

In mid-air, he howled like a wolf, the blood lust of the fighting animal

strong upon him. And in mid-air he suddenly shot sideways, so that he missed his mark, stumbled, and fell.

CHAPTER II.

McPike and Leamy had been interested spectators of the brief affray, keeping their backs to the bar with a wisdom born of long experience.

"Now he gets it," said the former, as Quebec rushed the first time. "Wuh!" he grunted, as the blow was struck. "Be hivins, Bill, but he can hit!"

"He'll kill him," said Leamy.

"They're both French. What matters?" said McPike.

"Not the young lad," his chum contradicted. "Didn't ye hear him curse?" Just then Quebec struck his second blow. "I won't stand to see the big pea-soup stamp the lad to a jelly," growled Leamy. "I know what the boots is."

"L'ave 'em alone," McPike warned. "'Tis not our business."

But Leamy jumped, and with a motion of hand and arm swift and certain, deflected the body of Quebec as it began to descend. He was up like a flash, glaring around angrily.

"What mans give me dat shove?" he demanded savagely.

"I give it ye," said Leamy coldly. "An' what have ye got to say about it, me buck?"

They glowered at each other above the prostrate figure, a well-matched pair. So might two great carnivora dispute the possession of a carcass. Of the two, the Frenchman was the bulkier, but Leamy owned a long-sinewed, tremendous strength, and he was a tried fighting man. He grinned a horrible, gap-toothed smile as he waited for what might happen, and his fierce little eyes never shifted from the other's. Beside him, McPike curtly commanded a man to stand back, and jerked his elbow into the ribs of another who was crowding forward.

"You mak' dis your bizness?" cried Quebec.

"I do that," returned Leamy. "Just l'ave the lad be, now, or you an' me will lock horns."

"You see heem hit me!" exclaimed Quebec furiously. "I'll stand by de bar, me, an' I'll mak' no fuss. He come up, an' he don' say not'ing, an' he punch me on my face. Mo' gee! I kill him for dat."

"Ye've knocked the wind out of him and smashed a rib or two, like enough," McPike put in, loyally backing up his friend, of whose course, however, he thoroughly disapproved; for, as he looked at it, a man who had the advantage of the first blow and then got whipped did not deserve assistance or sympathy. "L'ave it go at that, Kebec, an' have a drink with us."

"I kill him!" repeated Quebec obstinately.

"Come on, an' try it," said Leamy truculently. "Quit talkin', Jimmy, an' mind no pea-soup bats me wan on the back iv me head."

Savigny slipped, unnoticed, from the room, for he saw what was coming.

Le Gros Quebec shed his coat, and flung it from him. He had never measured strength and skill with Leamy, but he knew him for an experienced and dangerous man. Even if he had never heard of him, the scarred face, the prognathous jaw, the poise of the body, and the entire confidence of the big lumberjack advertised him as a fighter, fearless and proven. And beside Leamy, holding back by the glare of his cold blue eyes the men who surged around, as wolves before a buck at bay, stood Jimmy McPike, the boss of Bonnechere, acknowledged champion of a district noted for "hard" men.

The French-Canadian hunched and squared his huge shoulders, freed from the binding restraint of his coat.

"All right. For sure, you get plain tee trou' now," he growled. McPike, you an' your frien' pick dis row, remembraire!"

"Is this a row?" sneered Jimmy McPike. "What talkers yeez Couslonge highbankers do be! Save yer wind for fightin', me buck, for ye'll need it. Keep back there, you Cousineau! I know yer dirty trick. Well, take it, then!" And McPike, the man who never picked a row, shot a fist as solid as the heel of a dumb-bell into the face of Armand Cousineau, who was furtively edging around to get room for the deadly kick of which he was a past master, and who thereupon ceased to take an interest in affairs.

At the same instant, Le Gros Quebec drove at Leamy, who sidestepped, swung a heavy right-hander on the mouth, and was immediately tripped by a spectator's out-thrust foot. He went down with a roar of fury, and rose, bellowing like a bull, a swarm of French clinging to him. If they had possessed the experience to pin his legs, he would have been helpless, but they clung to his arms and clothing.

(To be continued.)

Farmers of the West

VOTE For Canada and Your Homes

This election decides whether Canada stays in the war. If the Union Government is endorsed, our gallant army is assured of adequate reinforcements. It will be in at the finish. Then Canada that has poured out without stint the life-blood of her sons in the battle of world liberty—Canada that has fought on and suffered ungrudgingly in the dark years behind us—Canada will go over the top with her Allies to Victory.

If The Union Government is Beaten

But if the Union Government is beaten, Canada is out of the war. Our country will be in a turmoil of internal dissension. There will be no reinforcements. Our army will be paralyzed. Its four divisions will dwindle to three—to two—to one—until the proud Canadian standards, emblazoned with the famous names of Ypres, of Vimy and of Passchendaele must be withdrawn from the front line and furled in dishonor.

Fa'al Blow to Cause of Allies

Such a defection must prove a more fatal blow to the cause of the Allies than even that of Russia—for it will be the first cleavage in the hitherto united and indomitable Anglo-Saxon ranks. Canada's defection all too surely must bring down with it the whole plan of the Allies.

What is There Left for Canada in Defeat?

What is there then left for Canada? Of what value are the broad lands of the West, our great wheat harvests, when there will be no buyers, no Allied markets, no British navy to convoy our produce?

Defeat for Canada means our wheat must rot in the elevators, our industries must be paralyzed, our farm lands worthless.

It means that our credit will be ruined and that we can no more look for help to the Allies we have deserted.

It means ruin.

RUIN—that is what confronts Canada, and especially the Canadian Prairie West, if we fail in our duty on December 17th and thus bring about the defeat of the Union Government.

If we Desert our Army we Destroy Ourselves

The Union Government is pledged to the Selective Draft—to the reinforcements of our army at the front and of our industries at home—of which the first is agriculture.

The Union Government is providing the money for a twin purpose—to equip and maintain our army and to purchase and transport our crop.

If we desert our army and Union Government, we destroy ourselves. We close the seas against our farm produce and bankrupt our purchasing power. It is the warships which convoy the soldiers that convoy the wheat.

VOTE FOR CANADA—HOME AND HONOR

Which Shall It Be?—The honor of Canada saved; our heroes overseas sustained; our farms productive and our granaries overflowing—

VOTE UNION!

OR—Our sons deserted; Canada a pariah among nations; wheat unthreshed, rotting in the fields?

SAVE CANADA!

Farm Help Will Not Be Drafted

Food Production Vital

"I will see to it that if any farmer's son, honestly working on a farm for the production of food, is drafted, he will be discharged from The Canadian Expeditionary Forces, if he goes back to the farm."

—Gen. Mewburn, Minister of Militia,
Dundas, Nov. 24th, 1917.

"In the general policy of the law and instructions issued to the tribunals, the farming industry is certainly recognized as one of the utmost importance to the national interest and therefore it is the duty of the tribunals, in the proper execution of the responsible duty with which they are charged to see that effect is given to farmers' claims in proper cases."

E. T. Newcombe,
President Military Service Council,
Ottawa, Nov. 26th, 1917.

ENTITLED TO EXEMPTION.—"Men who are habitually and effectively engaged in the growth of agricultural products and whose labor cannot be diverted from that occupation without substantially diminishing the necessary supply are, in the view of the Military Service Council to be entitled to exemption, so long as they continue to be usefully employed in farming. It is assumed that the tribunals will realize that the farming industry should compete successfully with military service in those cases where it is established that the withdrawal from the former occupation of men qualified for the latter service, will materially diminish the output or production necessary for the maintenance or efficiency of the expeditionary force or the support of the people at home."

—Military Service Council, Ottawa, Nov. 26th, 1917.

The country relies on the farmer, not only for food, but for striking a sane balance on political matters. Free from the turmoil of city life, he has a sane, clear view of large affairs.

In the present crisis he recognizes clearly that the real political leaders of both parties have cast aside party allegiance and have joined together for the winning of the war. This is the one great issue and to see it accomplished requires the whole-hearted support of every patriotic Canadian.

Support Union Government

Quebec, which has not done its duty in this war to its mother country, France, to the protector of its liberties, Great Britain, or to its native land, is solidly lined up against Union Government with the determination, rapid in its intensity, to bend the rest of Canada to its will. By appealing to the slacker it hopes for Victory.

UNIONIST PARTY PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

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, the not necessarily for publication. Unused letters will be returned if accompanied by postage.

A CALL TO ALBERTA FARMERS

Editor, Guide: At a meeting of Streamstown farmers held on November 20, a movement was started that will, it is hoped, put the farmers of Alberta in a position to break away from their old taskmasters, the party politicians. Recognizing that without thorough organization it was useless for them to try to elect their own representatives to the government, it was decided to form an independent farmers' league, which should start at once to get the farmers of the province joined together, so that they may, when the time comes, have a campaign fund and an organization powerful enough to elect their own representatives. While it is too late to do anything at the coming election, it was thought that the time was opportune to make

a beginning and get ready for the future. This is a question that is to-day uppermost in men's minds, and it is only by striking while the iron is hot and getting to work early that we can hope to be prepared when the next opportunity occurs.

It is hoped that farmers all over the province, and particularly those of the Battle River riding, will take up their idea and discuss it at their meetings and at their firesides during the long evenings. If this is done there can be no doubt of the outcome, and in a short time we shall be able to get together and form an organization to cover the whole constituency.

All we need is "a strong pull, a long pull and a pull all together," and we shall soon be in a position to dictate

terms instead of accepting what the other fellow likes to offer us.
 W. H. TOMPKINS.
 Streamstown, Alta.

ORGANIZED PRODUCTIVE EFFORT

Editor, Guide:—In the three prairie provinces there are 19,017,610 acres of land either patented or disposed of which are at present unoccupied and uncultivated. There are in addition 12,801,548 acres of undisposed available Dominion lands suitable for agricultural purposes within 20 miles of railways. There are thus 32,000,000 acres within 20 miles of a railway waiting for the plow. There is no absolutely reliable data as to how much of this is suitable for tractor farming. From the departments of agriculture of Manitoba and Saskatchewan I have received estimates that make 10,000,000 acres. There are then 10,000,000 acres of virgin land in western Canada requiring no further railway construction to make them accessible, capable of being plowed, disced, seeded, harrowed and packed, and subsequently harvested, all in 1918, if the men, engines, plows, other implements, and the money can be obtained. It is not unreasonable to expect 15 bushels of

wheat an acre from a breaking crop seeded the same spring as it is broken. Estimating that the whole ten million acres available were in wheat the crop would be 150,000,000 bushels, and the value around \$300,000,000. There is no doubt that the British government would readily finance the provincial governments of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta in putting another 10,000,000 acres under crop in 1918. This additional 150,000,000 bushels of wheat, or say 120,000,000 bushels of wheat and 40,000,000 bushels each of oats and barley, would come on the market in the opening months of 1919, when the pinch of extreme famine may be counted on to be gripping Europe.

Can 10,000 32-70 h.p. tractors or their equivalent be found to work day and night from April 1 to June 1, 1918? There is one thing certain, viz., that if all tractors now in use in western Canada are used to their fullest extent on the unbroken 10,000,000 acres available they will, after doing the work of their owners, be able to plow many thousands of acres. If every tractor owner, and all owners of power plowing outfits notify their provincial premiers how many weeks plowing they could do between April 1 and June 1, 1918, a valuable preliminary step would be taken. The price at which such work should be done must be a good one—one that would well repay the owners. Many difficulties in the way of co-ordinating the privately-owned tractors of the west into an efficient force at once present themselves. They can be met as more insuperable obstacles have been and overcome since July, 1914. Assuming the number of power outfits to be 10,000 of all sizes—and in all conditions of repair, and that in addition to doing the work of their owners each could on the average break, cultivate and sow before June 1, 250 acres, they would account for 2,500,000 acres.

This would leave 7,500,000 acres of the 10,000,000 to be plowed by new outfits to be purchased by the provincial governments. The man-power to operate 7,500 large-size tractors continuously from April 1 to June 1 would mean some exacting organization work, but there is no doubt that the energy and capacity that has been shown in Canada in connection with the war can find and train the men in time to commence work next spring.

Is it desirable to do this? May not an additional 120,000,000 bushels of wheat in 1918 lower prices? After all, 120,000,000 bushels is only a drop in the bucket of the world's supply, or at most only a cupful. It is difficult to imagine that prices could be affected adversely by this amount.

The world needs the food, and 120,000,000 bushels of wheat would save 120,000,000 people from starvation for 90 days. The provincial governments are facing the question of using the unbroken land in a gigantic attempt to supply something of the world's enormous need of food.
 DAVID ROSS.
 Strassburg, Sask.

LIQUOR BEING SHIPPED IN

Editor, Guide:—Several of the Grain Growers' conventions are introducing resolutions to request the Dominion government to prohibit the manufacture and importation of intoxicating liquors. Too much encouragement to these resolutions could not possibly be given. This province is simply flooded with tempting and illuminating literature by the liquor houses of Winnipeg and Calgary, and the evil effect of it is daily becoming more apparent. Just what the object is in closing the bars and dispensaries and then allow liquor to be shipped in wholesale from neighboring provinces the writer fails to see. In some cases drunkenness is becoming more common than before the bars were closed; at that time a bottle or flask would suffice, now it is brought in by the gallon.

Nowhere is the inconvenience of this baneful system more readily felt than on the farms, where men addicted to the drinking habit are often unfit for service for two and three days at the time. When a man takes to drinking not only does he neglect his work, but he lets everything go to wrack. If the government wish to assist farmers at the present time they can do it quite easily by passing laws that will prevent these drunken orgies which are on the increase all over the province.—E. C. SKINNER, Sask.

OSTERMOOR OSTERMOOR OSTERMOOR OSTERMOOR



The Happiness and Healthfulness of Cheery Bedrooms

Good taste counts for far more than ostentatious wealth in furnishing the bedroom of today. No longer is it just a place to sleep in—nor is it heavy and depressing with hangings, furniture and carpets. On the contrary, the modern bedroom is bright and cheery, and is usually the daintiest and most attractive room in the house. For such a bedroom, the ideal combination of luxury and economy is the

OSTERMOOR
 The "Quality" Mattress

This famous mattress—built of the finest cotton felt—gives 25 years of ideal service for \$25. That's a dollar a year—less than 2 cents a week for restful, healthful sleep. There are plenty of "OSTERMOORS" that have been in nightly use for 25, 30, 40 and even 50 years—and are good mattresses today. This is the practical economy of the "Ostermoor."

You'll know the "Ostermoor" among a thousand by the name woven in the binding. Look for it. Ask your dealer or write us for the name of our nearest agent.

THE ALASKA BEDDING CO. LIMITED
 Makers of Bedsteads and Bedding
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GUARANTEED ALASKA BEDDING
 "ALASKA" on all Article "A" and High Grade Every Particle."
 "The Mark that Guards a Nation's Sleep" 1751V



OSTERMOOR OSTERMOOR

82 Bushels of Wheat from 1 Acre

Seager Wheeler, Canada's famous seed grain expert, has grown as much as 82 bushels of wheat on an acre of land.

YOU Can Get this Wheat FREE

The seed used was from heads especially selected by Mr. Wheeler from his Kitchener plots.

The Grain Growers' Guide has purchased Seager Wheeler's crop of wheat and will distribute all of it free to farmers, farmers' wives, sons and daughters throughout the West. You can get this wheat free. The Grain Growers' Guide has purchased from the world's prize winning growers the most unusual collection of seed grain ever assembled. They have published an unusual book known as The Guide's Better Seed Book that tells all about this collection of seed grain. There is an allotment of this seed grain for you.

Through careful, painstaking selection, Seager Wheeler has developed an entirely new wheat and a distinct and superior strain of Marquis wheat.

There is one of The Guide's Better Seed Books for you

The new wheat is known as Red Bobs and is yielding from 50 to 60 bushels per acre.

Send the Coupon in for yours

Mr. C. S. Noble of Nobleford, Alta, purchased some of Mr. Wheeler's Improved Marquis wheat, and in 1916 threshed 54,395 bushels from a field of 1,000 acres, or at the rate of 54 2-3 bushels per acre.

Excerpt and Illustration from The Guide's Better Seed Book

Seager Wheeler, Canada's most famous seed grain expert, has evolved an entirely new variety of wheat. This wheat Mr. Wheeler has named "RED BOBS," and of it he says: "I consider Red Bobs the most desirable, of all the wheats now grown, for propagation in Western Canada. It comes as near to approaching the ideal as possible. It has the right kind of straw, a superior head, is early in maturing and produces a large plump red berry superior to any I have ever seen."

This wheat has an interesting history. The original parentage on the one side was an unknown variety of Australian white wheat, on the other a hulless and beardless variety of barley known as Nepal.

The original stock—from which the Red Bobs is derived—was forwarded to Dr. Saunders, Ottawa, from New South Wales, Australia, by a man named Farrar. This wheat was known as White Bobs. It was an early maturing hard white wheat with a high milling and baking value under test. A sample of this White Bobs wheat was sent to the Indian Head experimental farm and Seager Wheeler obtained a small ten pound sample from there.

This was in 1907 and since then miraculous changes have taken place in characteristics of the Bobs wheat. On his seed plots, Mr. Wheeler found that the Bobs wheat was ten days earlier in maturing than Marquis, the straw was strong and a little longer than Marquis, the head was longer, compact and uni-



A typical head Red Bobs Wheat, front and side view. Natural size. A typical head Red Five Wheat, from a prize winning sheaf, front and side view, natural size.

formly filled and the berry of an unusual size, but the grain was white and practically unsaleable on the Canadian market.

With this grain—due to the fact that it gave unusual promise—Seager Wheeler used a little more than his customary painstaking care. His "BOBS" plots were subjected to the most rigid of inspections and in 1909 Mr. Wheeler found a head of this wheat—in every respect a typical "Bobs" head save for its color. It was red. This was the very thing he had been looking for.

Concluded in Guide's Better Seed Book

The Grain Growers' Guide

WINNIPEG

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AN UNUSUAL OFFER

The Grain Growers' Guide has published a new book entitled "THE GUIDE'S BETTER SEED BOOK." This book is crammed full of the most interesting and valuable information and unusual illustrations. This book tells all about the world's prize wheat. It tells how The Guide's system of free distribution originated, the origin and function of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, the value of breeding and selection of grain for larger yields, and of the men who have accomplished the most in this great work. It gives all of the details of The Guide's extraordinary plan for the distribution of the WORLD'S BEST SEED—how The Guide is working with the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, the Saskatoon Exhibition Board and the Manitoba Agricultural College to provide free summer camps and seed grain short courses for the boys who go into the business of raising seed—how nine boys will be taken next winter, absolutely free of all expense, to the City of Ottawa. There they will be entertained, as a reward for their contribution to this Bigger Yields Campaign, by Dr. Jas. W. Robertson, the Premier of Canada and the Governor General.

The Guide's Better Seed Book gives descriptions and illustrations of all the different kinds and varieties of the most exceptional collection of registered seeds ever assembled. It gives the details of the seed fair that will be held in the fall of 1918 at which the progeny of the world's prize winning grains will be exhibited and at which \$500 in cash will be distributed to those who have secured some of The Guide's Better Seed.

It tells how you can secure Red Bobs Wheat, Kitchener Wheat, the world prize winning strains of Marquis Wheat, Victory Oats, Banner Oats, Thorpe Barley, O.A.C. No. 27 Barley and four varieties of potatoes, absolutely FREE, by simply introducing The Guide into homes where it is not now read.

This book is full of unusual information.

YOU should have some of this world's prize winning grain for foundation stock. It comes free and there is no limit on the amount you can secure as long as the supply lasts.

The coupon mailed today will bring The Guide's Better Seed Book. This book will tell you how to get the seed that will mean bigger yields, more grain to satisfy the Empire's needs and more money in YOUR pocket after your crop is marketed.

You should have a copy of this book.

Clip the Coupon at the lower right hand corner of this page NOW. Do it before

you become interested in some other valuable feature in this issue of The Guide. Mail it to The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, Man., and the book will be forwarded to you by return of post.

THE GUIDE'S BETTER SEED BOOK

THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE, WINNIPEG, MAN.

Please send me immediately one copy of your "BETTER SEED BOOK" containing a full description of the seed which you will distribute and the method by which I may secure a portion of it.

Name _____

Post Office _____

Province _____

LIVE POULTRY WANTED

Hens, 4 lbs., per lb.	15c
Choice Fat Hens, per lb.	16c
Ducks, per lb.	17c
Turkeys, per lb.	21c
Spring Chickens, choice No. 1, lb.	18c
Geese, per lb.	17c

These prices guaranteed till December 25, F.O.B. Winnipeg.

All these prices are for poultry in good condition. We are also handling dry picked poultry, head and feet on, 3 cents above prices mentioned.

IMP R I A N T N O T I C E

On and after December 10 we will forward crates for shipping to any part of Manitoba or Saskatchewan express charges paid.

ROYAL PRODUCE & TRADING CO.
97 AIKENS ST. WINNIPEG

LIVE POULTRY and Eggs Wanted

The approach of Christmas strengthens the demand for poultry. The price of feed is likely to remain high therefore it will pay you to send all your poultry to us at the attractive prices we are offering for early shipment. We can handle any quantity. Give honest weight and pay cash on receipt of goods. You save money by shipping to us because we prepay all express charges for crates sent out to any part of Manitoba and Saskatchewan and do not charge the shipper back with this out-of-pocket expense when sending our returns.

We are handling Dressed Poultry of any kind and we are paying 3 cents a pound more than for live poultry.

Spring Chickens, good condition, lb.	17c
Turkeys, in good condition from 7 lbs. and up, per lb.	21c
Geese, any age, per lb.	16c
Ducks, any age, per lb.	17c
Old Roosters, per lb.	12c
Old Hens, in good condition, from 4 lbs. up	15c
Choice Fat Hens, per lb.	18c

All prices quoted hold good until December 25th. All Prices F.O.B.

We are also in a position to handle all the Dressed Hogs you can ship and should be glad to have you write us for quotations.

Siskind-Tannenbaum Grocery Co.
405 PATCHARD AVE., WINNIPEG, MAN.

Live Poultry WANTED

Old Hens, per lb.	14c-15c
Roosters, per lb.	12c
Ducks, per lb.	17c
Turkeys, per lb.	21c
Geese, per lb.	15c-16c
Spring Chickens, per lb.	16c-17c

Old Birds in Good Condition
We are also handling Dry Picked Poultry, head and feet on, 3 cents above prices mentioned.

Our quotations are for Poultry in Good Condition. Go over your flock; let us know the variety and quantity and whether you wish to ship live or dressed. We will promptly forward crates and shipping tags. All consignments are given our personal attention in the matter of correct weight and quality. Our shippers know that they will receive the satisfaction.

MONEY ORDER MAILED DAILY

Standard Produce Co.
43 CHARLES ST. WINNIPEG

LIVE POULTRY

By shipping to us you are assured of honest weight, absolute security, and prompt returns.

NOTE THE FOLLOWING PRICES

Turkeys, from 7 lbs. in good condition, per lb.	21c
Spring Chickens, in good condition, per lb.	17c
Hens, in good condition, per lb.	15c
Ducks, in good condition, per lb.	17c
Roosters, any age, per lb.	12c
Geese, per lb.	16c

All prices are for live weight F.O.B. Winnipeg, and are guaranteed for 15 days from date of this issue.

MAKE YOUR OWN CRATES

To save express charges out on empty crates it would be advisable to make your own crates. Get boxes from your local merchant. The express agent at your point will give you full particulars regarding the company's requirements as to ventilation and crate sizes. We will send crates if requested. The earlier you ship to us, the better for you.

Golden Star Fruit & Produce Co., Winnipeg, Man.

The Holiday Poultry Trade

What for Christmas Dinner—Turkey Trade—Poultry and Meat Prices

By Professor M. C. Herner



For the Christmas dinner most people want something a little out of the ordinary in the way of table poultry. To what extent this will be followed this year will depend largely on the price of chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys. For the farm table it will be a good deal easier to decide than for the city housekeepers' table. The housewife on the farm can usually select what she wishes out of her flock.

Taking into consideration both supply and demand in the dressed poultry trade we are inclined to think that prices for poultry for the holiday trade are going to be just a little disappointing for the farmer. The condition in which many of the chickens have come on the market during the last month has had the effect of lowering the prices considerably for this class of poultry. As far as ducks are concerned, the call or demand for these is generally not very heavy. The most peculiar thing about the duck trade is that the consumers have to be educated to eat duck. While either duck or goose does not make as good eating as turkey, still on most tables it is considered more of a luxury than chicken. Either of these two could very well take the place of turkey for Christmas dinner this year. The price of either of these two is likely to be within reach of the average family table. The supply is on the whole about the same or slightly higher than other seasons.

The Turkey Market

As far as turkeys are concerned, different conditions prevail than in any other section of the dressed poultry trade. Buyers were keen on turkeys last year, in fact, some were so keen that they loaded up a good deal heavier than they should have with the result that they were left after the holidays with enormous stocks on their hands. This surplus was so heavy that some of last season's turkeys are still in storage and will come out to compete with this season's supply. Such a condition can have only one effect, and that is to lower the prices of the season's product. This must inevitably happen in any line of produce. Last year the turkey market broke just about a week before Christmas, with an enormous drop in price. This year a similar occurrence is likely to be guarded against. This may not be the most cheerful news for the farmer after feeding four-cent-a-pound wheat, but in the end it will be the demand that will regulate the price.

Comparative Prices and Values

Looking at the question from the consumers' standpoint, we find that table poultry has so far, or at least, up till the last two weeks, been considered more or less of a luxury. The demand for chickens at 27 cents to 32 cents per pound is quite limited. After the price comes down to 25 cents or lower per pound the consuming public begins to buy quite freely. Chicken at 25 cents per pound will be found better value for the money than the present prices for beef and bacon. It may take the ordinary consumer a little while to get round to this viewpoint. A good supply of printers' ink along with a definite educational propaganda might do much in the way of inducing heavier consumption of table poultry in these times and less of the other lines of meat. Poultry has for so long been considered a luxury that the consumers have not yet come to the place when they figure it good business to buy chicken instead of beef.

In comparing prices paid for live poultry and livestock, like hogs, we notice that while hogs have gone up in price 100 per cent, or nearly that, during the last three years, the price of live poultry is at best only a cent or two per pound higher than previous to the war. And yet it takes just as much feed now to produce a pound of chicken as it did then. Similar conditions prevail in other lines of poultry

production. The reaction that has followed last season's comparatively high prices has not been overcome yet and is not likely to be overcome this season.

HALF THE VALUE IN EXPRESS

A Guide reader living in Alberta recently made a shipment of live poultry to a commission firm in Winnipeg. The shipment consisted of three coops, which contained 22 hens, 36 ducks and three turkeys. When the shipment arrived, one duck was dead. The weight of the fowl at Winnipeg was 221 1/2 pounds, and at the quoted price the value was \$33.79. As is the usual custom, the coops were returned by the commission firm. The statement of the shipment is as follows:

Value of fowl	\$33.79
Express charges on shipment	15.75
Express on return coops	1.56
Net receipts	16.18

This is a case in which dissatisfaction arose, but in which the treatment of the customer by the commission firm was perfectly fair. It simply illustrates that precautions should be taken in shipping live poultry. The reason that the farmer got less than one-half of the proceeds of his poultry in Winnipeg was because he did not investigate the question of charges before making his shipment. The express charges for shipping live poultry such long distances is so great as to make this method of marketing unsatisfactory. In such cases it would be better to ship the poultry dead. Dressed poultry express charges are at a lower rate, the weight of crating is less and the shrinkage is less. In every case before making shipment the amount of charges should be ascertained from the express agent, who is able to give the figures exactly. Quoted prices by commission firms are always the f.o.b. basis and the point of destination and express charges on the shipment as well as on the returned crating must be deducted from the value of the poultry. Shrinkage is one of those things that it is impossible to define. In some cases poultry will shrink as much as 12 per cent when shipped a long distance at certain times of the year. Of course, dressed poultry cannot be shipped long distances by ordinary express in warm weather, but in cold weather no harm can come to it. In all cases, however, the amount of the express charges should be ascertained before shipment is made.

Petroleum Oil

No poultryman's storeroom should be considered fully equipped without this useful commodity. Applied to the shanks and feet of fowls it will prevent scaly-leg. Brushed over the perches and sprayed into the crevices and corners of the shelters it proves an effectual insecticide, and the latter term may be applied to it when it forms an addition to the lime wash preparation. Few things are so inexpensive and yet so useful as petroleum.

Spirits of Camphor

Camphor spirit when used in time, is a good remedy for coughs and rattling in the throat—the signs of bronchial trouble—a few drops in a little water poured down the throat two or three times daily seldom failing to effect a cure.

Ammoniated Quinine

Another useful remedy for bronchial troubles, and one that may be used in place of camphor spirit, and in similar quantities. It is advisable in cases of a bronchial nature to mix a little honey with the moist mash, and to keep the patients in a warm, moist atmosphere.

Tincture of Iron

Tincture of iron has fine tonic properties, and is necessary in the toning up of birds that have passed through sickness. It is also good for fowls run down by heavy laying or the moult. A little should be added to the drinking water.

Iodine Tincture

Tincture of iodine comes in useful for painting corns such as appear in cases of bumble foot. It may also be applied to the parts covering the lungs when the latter are congested, and to tumors and scrofulous growths.

Friar's Balsam

A capital thing to apply to torn combs and other members having newly-formed wounds. It should not be used in dressing old, running sores, something of a more antiseptic nature being safer.

Useful Antiseptics

Carbolized vaseline, boracic ointment and powder, and iodoform powder are all excellent dressings for wounds, and especially for those of a scrofulous or festering nature, as by their use blood poisoning and septic fever are checked.

Potash Permanganate

A disease preventer, being a powerful germicide. Sufficient crystals should be added to the drinking water to impart of the latter the color of pale port wine. Used twice a week it will do much towards steering the stock clear of contagion.

Glauber Salts

Glauber salts may be regarded as indispensable and it should never be out of stock. All adult fowls should have a dose of glauber salts added to the moist mash at least once a week, the same being dissolved in hot water before being mixed with the meals. Fowls suffering with any disease affecting the blood should also be dosed with the salts.

Flowers of Sulphur

A splendid cooling agent for summer use. Also excellent for fowls dragging in the moult or chicks failing to feather properly. It should be added to moist mash, and only when the weather is mild and dry. Also useful as a fumigant for insect-infested roosting houses, the sulphur being placed on an iron pan containing red hot coals.

FIRST DRAFT JANUARY 3

The first draft of men under the Military Service Act will be called to the colors on Jan. 3. It was originally hoped, as stated in the proclamation, calling upon the first class to register, to put the first draft on active service by Dec. 10. But owing to the fact that a very large proportion of the men in the first class postponed reporting for service or claiming exemption until the last days of the period fixed by the proclamation of Oct. 13 for compliance with the law, it has been found that the work of registrars and tribunals has not yet advanced sufficiently to make it practicable to call a draft to the colors on the date indicated.

Dress Your Poultry—and profit by it

The cold weather enables you to dress your poultry for market. This method creates a distinct saving for you, since dressed poultry shrink very little in transit. Live poultry will shrink anywhere from 6 to 15 per cent, depending on time of feeding, weather and length of time taken on the road. Besides, by shipping dressed poultry you don't have to pay high express charges for heavy crates.

Today's Market Prices Are

Turkeys, per lb.	24-25c
Chickens, per lb.	21-22c
Fowl, per lb.	16-17c
Ducks, per lb.	22c
Geese, per lb.	17-18c

Prices may be a little higher on account of the Christmas demand. We guarantee to pay you the highest market price the day your shipment is received.

Reference, Any Bank or Banker

Laing Bros.

304 ELGIN AVE. WINNIPEG

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Success with Potatoes--Community Problem

How the improvement of a few varieties, the growth of certified stock and standardization of the community crop are making Wisconsin a world-famous potato region.

By S. P. Wild and L. M. Sasman

As a result of just a little plain neighborly co-operation started about six years ago, Wisconsin is raising more and better potatoes, marketing them to advantage, and becoming famous as a potato state. Co-operation is the underlying principle of the Wisconsin Potato Growers' Association, whose potato show was held November 20-24 at the University of Wisconsin. Starting with a small convention and show in 1912 with 40 or 50 pails, boxes and sacks of just potatoes it has grown—grown until the present show had 16 counties represented with large displays, with dozens of growers contesting for prizes. Now it's the largest and best potato show held in America.

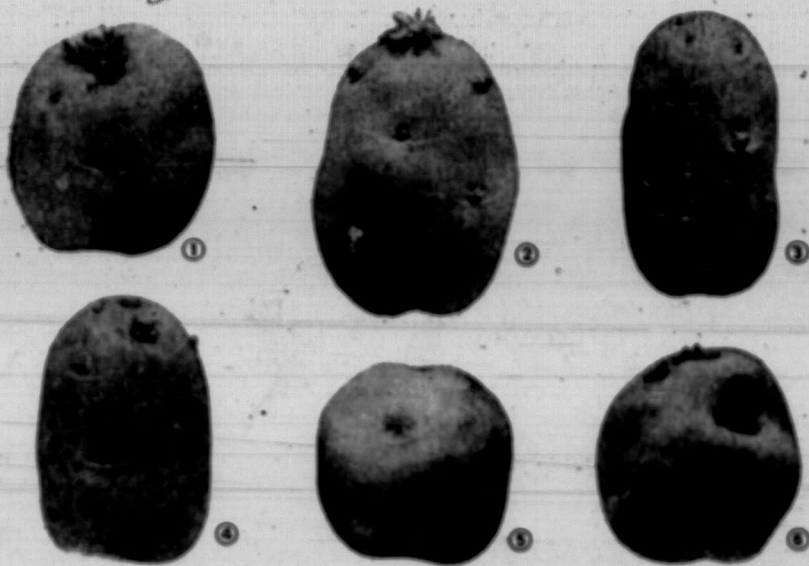
Potato Growers Organize

The successful methods followed by the Wisconsin Potato Growers' Association have been simple; yet its results, even in this short time, have attracted attention in all parts of the continent. Since the association was organized to foster and develop the potato industry,

later they will mix. With ordinary potatoes that would be bad enough, but since we are trying to interest men in good seed potato production, the mixing of varieties becomes an important thing to watch out for.

"Potatoes sell better, either for seed or table use, if they are uniform in size and of the same variety; and the expense of raising and handling of only one kind is less, because of the more uniform growth, maturing, and similar factors. We've found that it pays; and it will be the policy of the association to help others make it pay."

"Standardization of the product means the adoption of definite standards of grading potatoes for the market, such as are being suggested by the government. Fewer culls are shipped and the waste in handling is greatly lessened. If we can bring it about, we shall ask everyone who handles potatoes to do so on this basis. Practically, this would amount to licensing potato handlers so that all potatoes would have to be handled under



Standard Potato Varieties that are recommended for commercial planting in Wisconsin:— 1. Rural New Yorker; 2. Green Mountain; 3. Burbank; 4. Early Ohio; 5. Triumph; 6. Irish Cobbler.

it called to its aid that great ally of progress and co-operation—education. The members of the first convention enlisted 300 or 400 of the potato growers; they enlisted the county agents in the different potato counties; they enlisted the agricultural experiment station and the experts there; they called on the nation's department of agriculture. The association has been attempting to educate the farmers of today, showing them the possibilities and profits which lie ahead; bringing pressure to bear on the indifferent; allaying the suspicion of the doubters by straightforwardness and tangible results; and finally, overcoming hostility by the force of enlightened opinion. The show is the culmination of each year's work—and reflects the progress made during the year.

Improving the Potato Crop

Three definite lines of work are being pushed. The restriction of the number of varieties grown to the one best adapted to the state; the standardization of the potato crop of a community or county, and increasing the production of certified stock. Here is the plan as explained by W. D. Juday, county agent in Oneida county—the county which has just won first place for the best potatoes four years in succession.

"Restricting the number of varieties grown has been thought best for several reasons. In the first place, certain varieties are especially adapted to some soil types and do better there than other varieties. So by interesting the growers in one locality in the variety found best for that soil type, the total production in that community is increased and better prices are obtained.

"Of course farmers, like other folks, have their likes and dislikes, and all will not agree to raise the same variety, but the restriction to a few of the best varieties is feasible and the results so far are very encouraging.

"Another reason for restriction is the danger of mixing varieties. If a farmer grows two or three varieties, sooner or

this classification. The grower would then be sure of a certain price in relation to the market—if his potatoes are good, he is sure of a good price; if poor, he would receive a proportionately lower price.

"Such a system, it seems to me, would be the greatest possible incentive to the growing of good stock. The grower of good stock would find it profitable to continue; the grower of poorer stock would want to grow improved varieties. The incentive would become automatic."

"Certification of seed," the third aim of the association, involves no new principle," believes C. P. West of Sawyer county. "It consists merely in the inspection, under the supervision of the state, of the field of potatoes twice during the growing season and once as the seed is taken out of storage to be sold. Each time the inspection is for the purpose of determining that there is no mixture of varieties and no disease present."

As an outgrowth of this aspect of the association work, a smaller organization was formed during the show, composed of growers who desire to grow certified seed. They already know of the benefits of co-operation and feel that the co-operative selling of their product would be of advantage to them.

Seven Varieties Grown


Only seven varieties are allowed to compete in the show, according to J. C. Milward, secretary of the association. These seven varieties are the best adapted to Wisconsin conditions. They include Green Mountain, Rural New Yorker, Triumph, Irish Cobbler, Early Ohio, Early Rose and Burbank. The four the association hope to see most largely grown are: Green Mountain, Rural New Yorker, Triumph and Cobbler. Most of the counties are now specializing in growing just one or two varieties, instead of 50 or 60 varieties as formerly.

R. H. Ashton, president of the Chicago Northwestern read in a speech before the growers, urged the importance of grading. He said: "In 1900 the United States



This Christmas

Let Your Choice be a—



Pathephone

LET it be a Pathephone because the Pathephone has all most desirable features possessed by other phonographs in addition to its exclusive improvements.

For instance, the Pathephone plays with a genuine polished Sapphire Ball which never requires changing, instead of a scratchy, scraping needle which has to be changed after every record. The Sapphire Ball is part of the Pathephone equipment. It never wears out and Pathe records are guaranteed to play over 1,000 times without wearing.

The Pathephone music is wonderfully full and clear and natural.

The Pathe cabinets are the most beautifully designed of any, and will be a splendid acquisition to the most exclusively furnished home.

Do You Know—

- The Pathe Sapphire Ball replaces the old-time scratchy needle.
- It produces better music.
- The Pathephone plays all makes of records as well as Pathe records.
- Pathe repertoire includes the cream of the world's best music.
- The Pathephone is a combination of French inventive genius and Canadian manufacturing brains.
- The Pathephone costs no more than ordinary phonographs.

Your present talking-machine can be exchanged for a Pathephone on attractive terms. Write to us at once for name of nearest dealer and get our free catalogue, splendidly illustrated, and also containing chats on Period Furniture.

THE PATHE FRERES PHONOGRAPH COMPANY OF CANADA, Limited
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R. J. WHITLA & CO. LTD. WINNIPEG, MAN.

raised 210,926,897 bushels of potatoes, an average yield of 80.3 bushels to the acre, and the crop sold for an average of 43 cents a bushel. This year the crop will be 452,923,000 bushels, an average yield of 104 bushels to the acre and will sell for \$400,000,000. To transport this great crop will require 750,000 freight cars—and cars are needed for transportation of war stuffs. Wisconsin has produced a twelfth of this crop, three times as many bushels as last year.

Potato Machinery Interests Growers

Great interest was taken by the growers in the large exhibit of potato machinery, especially in the grading outfits. The boys' clubs were at the show in force—the association takes a considerable interest in getting the boys interested in the better potato game.

The determination of the growers as expressed at the convention and show included co-operation among the farmers and among the boys and girls on the

farm; co-operation in the production of more and better potatoes with great profits to the growers and co-operation in the restriction of varieties, the standardization of the crop, and the certification of the seed.

A "REESOR" WATCH WILL LAST MANY YEARS

When you buy a watch you want one that you know will be durable and accurate. From the hundreds that we have sold we know that this one will meet every demand—a 15-jewel nickel Reesor. Special movement in a \$11 solid nickel dustproof case... \$15 same movement in a Fortune with filled case, postpaid

"It's a Wonderful Timekeeper"

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WINNIPEG

The Country Homemakers

Conducted by Mary P. McCallum

A CONSCIENCE ELECTION

Next Monday is election day. Surely if ever the marking of a ballot is to be according to the dictates of conscience that time is Monday, December 17. The electors of Canada have never faced, have never been called upon to face, such serious issues as are pending to-day. There is just the possibility that the electors of Canada will confuse the real issues of the election with those things which must come in a more or less marked degree to a country which is taking its share in a world war when its people have been trained in the arts of peace. It is not easy always to distinguish.

Plainly we must face the situation as it actually is, stripped of all irregularities, subtleties, and adhesions. These are times for clear thinking and sound reasoning. A little fuzz on our thinking now may blind us to those things which are elemental and fundamental. In spite of the efforts of so many people to avoid such a catastrophe this election campaign has divided the people into two hostile camps. In the one we have Sir Robert Borden, with his strongest Conservative ministers and a number of the best, ablest, most influential and straightest-thinking Liberals in Canada to-day. On this side of the political fence are those men who have risen above the dissipating of their energies in party politics, those men who have agreed to pool their brains, their time and their energies in a common cause and for a common end. That end is a united, strong, national Canada who must take her place with honorable, high-principled nations till the end of time. In the other camp are those who are satisfied that if Canada remains in the war until her present fighting army is wasted away she will have done her share and more than her share in establishing democracy, freedom and liberty in the world. In fact they are quite without any qualms of conscience when they say that "Canada has done enough and more than enough. In the economic field as in the military field it is time, more than time, to cry, 'Halt.'" We must decide whether we are to carry on or whether we are to quit, and make known our decision on December 17.

To get things down to elemental thinking we must recall our sentiments and feelings when on August 9, 1914, Canada, shocked beyond words, rose with France, Russia and Great Britain in mighty protest at the violation of the liberty of small nations, at the desecration of all that makes national life worth living, and at the utter abandon of all honor or righteousness on the part of Germany. Then when nation after nation was laying down life and sacrifice that the cause of liberty should not be trampled it was easier to take our stand and volunteer to do our share. Then promises broken were an insult to national ideals and little nations violated were a stain that must be wiped out. Those things are just as sacred to-day as they were in August of 1914 but after the dull, unrelenting grind of three and a half years of war we have grown accustomed to those things which so incensed us then. That is our great danger to-day. We are apt to forget why we entered the war, and for the reasons we entered the war we must remain in it until Belgium and Serbia have been vindicated.

There is no need of discussing the irregularities that are making it difficult to see the real issues. Sir Robert Borden as the head of the government has failed to do many things which we could wish he had done, and he has done those things which we could wish he had not done. There are scores of things which we hold him responsible for. Yet when we consider both sides and have the assurance that the one party stands for the maintenance of Canada's honorable place among nations and to her own people and the other as surely will see Canada sink gradually into ignominious neutrality which coming at this time would be little short of an acquiescence with German ideals and methods, it seems that our duty to our country and to our country's heroes is very plainly defined.

FOOD ADMINISTRATION

The following article appeared in a recent issue of the Literary Digest. At the end of the article is a series of questions which were designed for discussion in the schools of the United States:

Do you know what the United States Food Administration is; what its aims are, and how it hopes to achieve them? It is a bit of American history which every student ought to understand.

This body was authorized by the act of Congress, August 10, 1917; whereupon, President Wilson, by executive order, created it and appointed Herbert Hoover at its head.

The Aims

From the very beginning the task of the Food Administration has been twofold: (a) to provide our Allies and our own soldiers at the front with a supply of food ample enough to enable them to win the war. And at the same time (b) to provide enough food for the people of this country at prices which shall be as moderate as the extraordinary war-time conditions permit; to accomplish this by the cooperation of producer, distributor, and retailer with the government for the greatest good of the greatest number; and to use such compulsory measures as have been conferred upon the Food Administration by law to safeguard the public against individual greed or concerted extortion.

How These Aims Can Be Achieved

The first of these tasks—that of supplying our Allies with food enough—can be accomplished only by increased production and by conservation. Conservation means to waste less of all foods and to save a sufficient quantity of necessary foods which can readily be shipped overseas. The foods specially needed are wheat, beef, pork, dairy products, and sugar. To gain the amount required for shipment abroad, it is essential that every family and every person—young and old, should try to eliminate waste and to substitute other foods for those needed for our soldiers and our Allies. This is one of the surest and easiest ways in which all may help to win the war. The food-saver serves his country as surely as the soldier.

The second task is one of considerable difficulty and complexity. Shortage of labor, and as



Little Miss Hannah of Wilkie, Sask., Doing Her Bit in Production

a result of this, high wages on the farm and in the shop, shortage of food-crops in Europe, shortage of shipping because of destruction by submarines—these and other factors contribute to raise prices.

Questions for Discussion in Schools

1. What are the fundamental purposes of the Food Administration?
2. In order to provide an adequate supply for the Allies, are the American people expected to eat less food?
3. In what way does the Food Administration propose to encourage production; to control the wholesaler; to control the big retailer?
4. What is the duty of the retailer? How can the Food Administration enforce the performance of this duty? How can the public cooperate with the Food Administration in enforcing the performance of this duty?
5. How will the conservation of food help to win the war?

Current Application

1. Who is the food administrator in your State or city? What progress is he making? Is the public cooperating with him? Are you?
2. Why should all who failed to enroll in the Food Administration during the recent Food-Pledge Week do so at once?
3. What recent events upon the European battle-fronts have brought home to all patriotic Americans the realization that this war has become such a serious business that no citizen can afford to ignore its special problems, particularly those relating to the world's food-supply?
4. Is not voluntary cooperation among the people in a democracy, in matters of common

concern, such as the food-supply, necessary to prove the efficiency of popular government in a struggle against autocratic government?

WHAT AND HOW TO READ

What to read is always a more or less important question, but almost more important still is how to read.

If we wish to broaden and enrich our education, we must first learn to pay attention. (That is, we must learn to observe carefully and to compare and deduce.) Next, we must learn to think for ourselves. (That is, we learn not to be swayed by prejudice or old customs, old teachings, but must freely form our own opinions and make our own decisions.) And, third, we must learn to reverence the opinions and lives of others. (That is, we must learn to respect the personality of others, must concede to others the right to view life from their own standpoint, even though it may be a very different standpoint from our own.) We must, in short, be observant and attentive, clear-thinking and unprejudiced, tolerant and liberal. You will see, I am sure, that anyone who has so far educated himself as to have attained these three things will go upon a journey of the mind in a wholly different manner from one who has not; and will get far more of knowledge and benefit out of his travels.

There is a certain amount of information that you can hardly help picking up if you go about at all in strange and new lands or exploring new fields of thought; but the most precious knowledge of all is denied to him who travels without these keys I have spoken of. Go into a new country with a dull and unobserving eye, a prejudiced mind and an intolerant spirit, and much that is valuable will be closed to you and much that is beautiful will be beyond your reach.—Annie Bryan McCall, in the Woman's Home Companion.

PLEA FOR HOSPITALS

I enclose herewith a few verses to which, for the sake of the cause for which they are written, I hope you may be able to give both place and prominence in your paper. The need for more hospitals on our western prairies is great. The private doctors' prices are so exorbitant, ranging as high as \$125 for merely being present at a confinement, that people take the risk of doing without rather than incur the expense. The great hope of the people lies in the hospitals and no doubt their usefulness could still further be extended if some medical examination of the people could be carried out and the principle of "keep well" rather than "make well" held up.

Hoping you will think well enough of the verses to publish them.

Wiseton, Sask. MARGARET M. DICKSON.

TO THE MEN OF THE PRAIRIES.

Ye have built you fine schools and great colleges,
They rise to the right hand and left;
But of what is the good of a college,
To the child whom disease has bereft?
Arouse, ye men of the prairies!
They call to you, east and west,
The children, now growing up blindly,
Whom disease shall yet rob of their rest.
Ye spend millions in teaching good farming,
How money, more money, to gain,
Think you it will assuage your deep longing,
For that mound 'neath the snow-covered plain?
Arouse, ye men of the prairies!
They call to you, east and west,
Yes, pointing accusing fingers,
Those mounds where our loved ones rest.
Many millions the dollars you've squandered,
Upon stock, and on many a fair;
While each woman in three on our prairies
Is injured for lack of right care.
Arouse, ye men of the prairies!
They are calling to you,—wilt still rest?—
The mothers, who patient unselfish,
Have helped you build up "the Great West."
For each dollar you spend on a college,
For each upon farming bestowed,
Upon stock, or a fair, lay aside one
To build a sick patient's abode.
Arouse, ye men of the prairies!
Build swift, build them everywhere,
Till no one upon our wide prairies
Shall lack of right medical care. —M.M.D.

Have You Joined Our Christmas Piano Club?

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Such a favorite proposition is made possible through the powers of real co-operative buying. The Club is already organized and has enrolled many members who have already received in their homes the piano of their choice. This Club is run in co-operation with the best and oldest piano firms in the world, such as: Chickering, Gerhard-Heintzman, Nordheimer, Bell, Haines, Sherlock-Manning, Canada Piano Co., and Winnipeg Piano Co. Regular pianos are featured at special prices and on special terms, and you have 90 styles of pianos and player-pianos to choose from.



CANADA PIANO
Style Colonial
Regular \$400
Now **\$325**



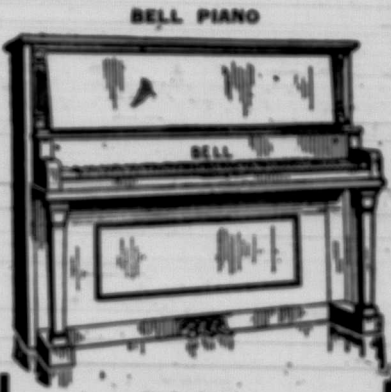
CANADA PLAYER-PIANO
35-Note Player-Piano
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Now **\$590**

To avail yourself of Club membership and thus secure these many advantages, all you have to do is to advise us that you are interested in buying a piano. You are then enrolled as a member and have until December 31st to choose your piano. You are supplied with full information, but unless you care to do so you are not obliged to buy.

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Your choice of any of the above-mentioned makes. Terms: One-Fifth Cash and two or three years to pay off the balance, monthly, quarterly, half-yearly or annually, as you prefer; a special discount of 10 per cent. saved on cash or on extra installments paid at the time of purchase; 30 days' free trial or if unsatisfactory money refunded on the return of the piano. 10 years guarantee. Piano Bench with music receptacle free. Freight prepaid to your nearest station. Every piano personally selected by our president.



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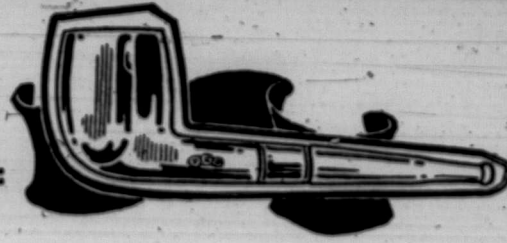
Please send me full information about the Christmas Club as advertised in The Grain Growers' Guide and also a membership blank.

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That is what you will say when you start looking through the Dingwall Catalogue and come to that splendid page of pipes, page 58.

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There are several pages of other gifts—gifts that you cannot go wrong in choosing. Any of them will be sent anywhere in Canada entirely at our risk and expense, and to prevent after-regsrets, subject to exchange. You do not have to give us any reason—just send back anything you do not like and the full purchase price will be promptly refunded.

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Perilous Babyhood

Some Reasons for the High Infant Mortality Rate on the Prairies

Being a baby is the most perilous occupation on earth. Why is it so dangerous? Certainly it isn't the baby's fault, for he is too little and helpless even to protest. If ever anything was the victim of circumstances the baby is. If circumstances resolve themselves into an ignorant mother and father, then ten chances to one the baby is off to so bad a start in the race of life that his run is a tired spurt, a flicker, and a happy release in death. The lives of almost one-seventh of the babies born on the prairies are snuffed out before they are well begun.

The other day I went over to Dr. Stewart Fraser's office to discuss with him the high infant mortality rate on the prairies. Dr. Fraser is the commissioner for public health for Manitoba. I asked him for a general statement as to the causes and the solution. He said: "I can give you the whole case in a nut-shell. The cause is ignorance and the solution is education." On first glance it doesn't sound terribly formidable, does it? But when one thinks on it seriously for a minute it grows into a staggering statement.

Whose ignorance? Statistics show that the proportion of babies who, with their mothers, are under the care of the doctor or nurse and rigidly adhere to their instructions, and which die, is indeed very small. Then the only others who have to do with the baby and whose influence may affect it either for good or for ill are the mother and father, and, alas, the neighbors. Now neighbors are the finest class of people in the world—that is, almost always. But there is a time when they are not, and that is when they advise you on how to take care of your baby and insist on your following out their directions. The only person's advice which you can afford to follow is that given by your doctor or your nurse. All other advice is generally too expensive. Too many times have mothers given their babies for such advice.

The Cause Is Ignorance

"The cause is ignorance." Have you ever been in a home at baby's meal-time? The baby is having bread and milk or some other soft food from a bowl. Have you seen the mother or the grandmother or the servant girl or the visitor, or whoever was fortunate enough to get the privilege of feeding the baby cooling the food for baby by blowing upon it? Or have you seen them partly chewing the food and giving it to the baby? It is a disgusting picture, but one which can too often be seen. And we wonder why so many babies die. The babies die because it is the only way they can avoid the inhuman treatment given them.

One day last summer I went out to Winnipeg Beach on an excursion. There were people there of every creed, race, and nationality; of every age and condition of life, as is general on such trains. I went down to the train some time before it was to leave on its return journey. Across from me sat a very young mother and father with their first baby, a little infant not more than six weeks of age. There was dancing in the pavilion some little distance away, and the enticing strains of the music floated to us where we sat. The baby's mother wanted to dance, but there was no one to look after the baby. An old lady of perhaps 65 agreed to look after the baby

for a little while. She was an uncouth, untidy-looking old lady, with superstition and ignorance of common laws of sanitation stamped all over her face. When she smiled she displayed a mouthful of decayed and unsightly teeth.

The young mother willingly gave her the baby to care for while she had a few dances. Shortly after the mother departed the baby awoke. The picnic day away from home had plainly upset the regular habits of the baby. It was cross, uncomfortable and hungry. It told us all about its discomfort in loud, lusty wails. From a ribbon which hung about the baby's neck was a "comfort." It had come into the dust and grime of the day. Although the nipple was of some dark rubber material the ribbon bore sufficient testimony of the fray. In a furtive effort to make the baby stop crying the old lady rocked the baby and patted it. She dandled it and turned it on its back. But at least five times a minute she paused to put the comfort in her mouth to moisten it and put it in the baby's mouth. It was all to no avail. A little girl came along with an all-day sucker in her hand. The little girl had already done some duty by the sucker. But she let the little baby have a few tastes. It stopped crying for a moment. The old lady moistened the comfort again with her lips and rubbed it on the sucker and gave it to the baby.

Still the baby cried. Finally the little girl was despatched to fetch the mother. The mother came, much put out at having to do so. Still hot and excited from the dance she nursed her baby, and in a very bad temper at having to come at all. The wonder is that the kind Lord did not take the baby before further disaster could fall upon it. When the mother finished nursing her baby she moistened the comfort and put it again in the baby's mouth. The baby promptly went to sleep. The old lady again held the baby and the mother went out to resume her dancing. It is a horrible story, but one which is too often a fact. Dr. Fraser's statement was not such a monstrous fabrication, was it, when he said "The cause is ignorance?"

Why This Baby Died

Dr. Mary Wood-Allen once said: "I have seen a four-months-old baby at the table in its mother's arms fed with mashed potato, gravy, hot biscuit and tea, and the mother pointed jubilantly to its flat flabby face as a proof of her wisdom. When, in its second summer, the child died, she felt no remorse, for 'its teeth killed it.'" I once watched a mother of an 18-months-old baby peel a six-inch green cucumber and give it to her baby to eat. It was given the cucumber about nine o'clock at night, when it was tired and cross. In justice to the constitution of that baby I must admit that it slept soundly until morning. But some fine day, when that child is called upon in illness or fatigue to rely on a sound constitution, the constitution will be missing.

One day last summer, when the temperature was in the region of 90 degrees, a little girl, perhaps 10 years of age, came up to where I was standing. She was wheeling a baby-buggy in which was her 10-months-old brother. They were both eating licorice. Both were dirty and "smelly." It seemed to me there were hundreds of flies crawling over the

baby, and it was sadly whining. The baby was the very picture of discomfort, dirt and unhappiness. I am quite certain that that mother had never heard that flies and babies do not thrive in such close proximity. If the flies remain the baby is apt to die. If parents are to take no chances on the lives of their babies, then flies must go.

These examples serve barely to mention the gross ignorance of many parents in bringing up their children. The wonder is that the death rate among infants is as low as it is. We are very prone to say that it is among the non-English that the death-rate is the highest. That is quite a mistaken idea, for nothing can be more appalling than the ignorance of some of our own Canadian mothers and fathers. To care for a baby has been the last thing they thought of learning. I expect that they thought when Providence gave them a baby Providence would tell them how to take care of it.

The Lord Taketh Away

I have not even mentioned the array of senseless superstitions which are still believed and indulged in to this enlightened day. The poor babies who outlive a superstitious grandmother or neighbor are indeed few. The miracle of life seems to be a field for the weaving of mysticisms and fantasies. "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away." And between the giving and the taking lies the whole vast realm of human ignorance and lack of understanding, which tend to the taking away of far more than the Lord ever dreamed. We lay too much at the door of the Lord, and the sooner we learn that the Lord gave little lives into our hands to be reared and cared for and that we must be educated to the best care for them, the sooner will we realize that much of the taking away is in our keeping.

There is the whole list of communicable diseases which, too, have been relegated to the darkness of ignorance and misunderstanding. Have you heard mothers say: "Well, our children will have to have the measles some time. They might as well have them now as at any time, so I think I'll let them go down and play with the Jones' children who have the measles." They go down and play with the Jones' children. Little James is rather a pesty child and has always needed more care than the others. He takes the measles first, and after a long ravaging illness he revives a little, only to learn that his eye-sight will be impaired for life. It didn't pay that time to "trouble trouble before trouble troubled" them. It never pays. Doctors and health experts declare that all diseases known as children's diseases may be stamped out. There is an outbreak of fever or measles because there are conditions which tend to the growth of those germs, and because in the handling of those cases there is carelessness. Some day an outbreak of that kind will be a criminal offence on the part of some careless person and will be dealt with as such. A parent who wilfully exposes her children to any of those diseases should be guilty of a criminal offence. In many cases nothing short of manslaughter can be charged to those parents.

Lack of Medical Facilities

But unfortunately the reasons for the high infant mortality rate are com-

plex and complicated, for there are other reasons for the high rate on the prairie. In his last report Dr. Seymour says: "Congenital debility is the cause of 36.05 per cent. of the infant mortality during the year. With the still-births these two causes were responsible for 50 per cent. of the deaths. This means that proper care is not given to mothers during pregnancy, and if the high infant mortality rate is to be reduced reform must begin at this point." In another place Dr. Seymour says: "Child birth occasioned 112 deaths during the year. Of these 23 were in cities and towns while 84 were in villages and rural municipalities, the latter being 75 per cent. of the deaths from this cause. It is quite evident, therefore, that a large proportion of these deaths occurred through the lack of skilled physicians being in attendance; another instance as proof that life might be conserved through proper medical methods."

Dr. Fraser says: "The solution of the high infant mortality rate is education. If people would exercise the same thought and care and study to the care of babies that they do to the care of the incubator full of chickens or eggs, or to the calves and colts in the barn, the proportion of babies which die would be much smaller. Now that patriotism is calling so many thousands of our men abroad there can be no more patriotic campaign engaged in by anyone than that of conserving the young lives at home."

A letter was handed to me one day last summer from a woman who lived more than 25 miles from a doctor. She lived in a part of the country where for the last few years crops had not been very good, and consequently there was no money to be had for doctor's bills. She said: "I have had two confinements out here without a doctor and with no one to help me but a friend. I am now approaching my third, and the thought of no medical aid drives me crazy. For the love of Heaven tell me what to do. Help me out please." Stories like that would bring tears from stone, and yet they are all too common on the prairie, in the frontier edges especially.

The Grain Growers' Guide Helps

Surely it will tax the powers of those working toward the two solutions of the high infant mortality rate to make the material decrease we should like to see. To give the necessary education will take time and perseverance and routine, and to give adequate medical aid will require much money and many well-trained medical people. Each one of us can lend the weight of our influence towards the solution of both. Every woman's organization can assist the health authorities to carry on their campaign of education, and through municipal and governmental agitation you can do much to bring about the supplying of money and medical practitioners. The Guide has received the approval of the provincial departments of public health to assist in as far as it is able in carrying on a great educational campaign. It is prepared to lend its assistance in agitating for more adequate medical facilities in rural districts of the prairie. But it must have the support and backing of its readers to make any such work effective. Let us adopt as our slogan: "Making Prairie Babyhood 100 per cent. Safe."

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Farm Women's Clubs

RESOLUTIONS RE PLEDGES

The following resolution has been received from Acme U.F.W.A., and forwarded to all the clubs for their endorsement or disapproval:

Whereas, we believe it our duty to help our soldiers and our Allies in any way necessary, but feel that it is useless to save if our government is so inconsistent as to allow wholesale waste of the resources of the country by brewers and food profiteers.

And whereas the subterfuge that there is no wheat allowed to be used in making alcoholic beverages is unworthy of your government, inasmuch as the two grains, rye and barley are important food grains if there is a shortage of wheat.

And whereas it looks as if the people are asked to save in order to allow the brewers and food profiteers to continue their predatory activities.

Therefore resolved that we are opposed to signing food pledge cards until such time as our federal government takes action to control the waste of grain used in making alcoholic beverages, and also the waste of our resources caused by food profiteering.

This resolution has been unanimously endorsed by the clubs so far heard from, viz., Streamstown, Carstairs, Strome, Namaka, Rathwell, Sedgewick, Whitla, Birdsholm, Ponoka, Zetland, Leo, Paradise Valley and Seven Persons.

Changes are taking place rapidly, and since the above was received, an order-in-council has prohibited the use of grain in distilled liquors, but the destruction in malt goes on. We hope to hear from every club regarding this resolution, when we can present it as coming from our full organization.

Cayley U.F.W. voiced the sentiment of the big majority of the thinking people of this country when it characterized the recent war franchise as "un-British, unjust, and an insult to the intelligence of Canadian women." It could well be labelled "Made in Germany" for its autocracy; but I am at a loss to know how it could be labelled for its stupidity—for that bill defeated the very objects of the framers. We hope that, ere this, the "patriotic" authors will have realized their mistake. Tyranny and dictation do not sit well upon a democracy, when it comes to a matter of what we shall think.

LEONA R. BARRITT,
Prov. Sec. U.F.W.A.

Calgary, Alta.

MOST ENCOURAGING WORK

The Women's Institutes of Alberta are nearing the end of a most successful year. In March of the present year the institutes numbered 137, with a membership of 3,500. There are now over 200 institutes in the province with a membership of over 8,000, a fact which redounds to the credit of Miss Mary MacIsaac, the indefatigable superintendent.

District conferences were held in Claresholm, Olds and Vermilion during the month of November. At all three conferences reports of institutes gave splendid accounts of the work accomplished for the Red Cross. The Claresholm branch contributed \$3,000, besides making 6,000 articles; Strathmore contributed about \$1,500, and 6,218 articles made up and shipped. A few of the other particularly good institutes in the south are Champion, Reid Hill, Barons, Magrath and Bow Island.

In the centre district, Ledus with \$2,000, and Verdant Valley with \$2,500 and many thousand articles, excelled in Red Cross work. In the north, Fort Saskatchewan, Ryley and Vermilion reported splendid work in this connection. Indeed every institute in every district had a tale to tell of noble work for this great cause.

Besides the Red Cross work many institutes are supporting prisoners of war, besides contributing to the Great War Veterans, the Widows and Or-

phans of the War and other patriotic funds.

The motto of Alberta Women's Institutes is "For Home and Country." At the present time the work "For Country" is the prime importance, and, as shown above, the members have been true to their slogan and by their zeal and untiring efforts have accomplished a wonderful work.

Besides responding to the country's call many institutes have felt that the work "For Home" must not be neglected, that they too must "carry on" in order to keep conditions at

planning. A branch will be organized shortly at Puce Coupe, which is 90 miles north from the railway at Peace River Crossing. What a Women's Institute means to these people in the far north can only be understood by those who have really pioneered in the loneliness of this new country.

So from end to end of the province Alberta Women's Institutes are doing their part to promote and foster all that is for the good of "Home and Country." MRS. A. H. ROGERS, Prov. Sec. Alberta Women's Institutes, Fort Saskatchewan, Alta.

THE KINDNESS OF FOLKS!

Aren't people just the kindest beings ever? Here we have been working as hard as ever we can to make our club page the best possible, because we believe in women's clubs. But then, who couldn't, after reading the wonderful things they are doing? And already the letters are coming in telling how much they enjoy reading what other clubs have done and the great inspiration the news is. It's very gratifying to know that work is appreciated, isn't it? Above all things, we want this page to be of service to the women workers of the prairie.

We have decided to extend the time for our competition which was announced in the issue of November 21, until Christmas time. There is so much that is interesting on both subjects. "What Our Women's Club has Done for Our Community" and "Our Greatest Success," that we want to give many of the clubs a longer time to reply. The first prize in each case is \$5; the second is \$3, and the third is \$2. This is not limited to only the secretary or press reporter of a club, but is open to every member of any of the six organizations on the prairie. Send us your stories before Christmas. Write them plainly on one side of the paper, and address them to the Editor, Farm Women's Clubs, The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, Canada.

Your club doesn't have to be large and prosperous to be an inspiration to others. The greatest inspiration in this work your editor had was when she visited the Streamstown U.F.W.A. near Kitscoty, Alberta. The club meets in a little school-house more than ten miles from a railway. The day she was there was cold and bleak, with a strong wind blowing, but there were women there from miles away. But that club is practically the only means those women have of meeting each other and neighboring, and do you suppose they don't value that club for its community sociability? I should say they do! And they do excellent work too. There are hundreds like it on the prairie. It would be an inspiration to these large town clubs to know what is being accomplished in the remote frontier edges of our country. Read our Club Page every week and you will think of dozens of things you are doing or have done which would interest others. Then let The Guide tell about it for the benefit of those others.—Editor Women's Club Page.

home as nearly normal as possible. They are endeavoring to improve conditions in their own community—sometimes it is the building and maintaining of rest rooms for the comfort and convenience of women and children. Carmanagay has finished paying for a \$1,000 rest room, Sounding Creek branch at Youngstown owns a similar one. In several instances the United Farmers have helped furnish the rest room and in others the United Farm Women and Women's Institute unite in supporting one. At Cereal, a little town on the C.N.R. from Calgary to Saskatoon the institute is building a \$2,500 bungalow containing one large assembly room for institute and other gatherings, and three smaller ones, living room bedroom and kitchen. This suite is to be the home of a district nurse of the Victorian Order, whom the Women's Institute of Cereal will employ. The men of the community have loaned the Women's Institute the money to finance the scheme at a very low rate of interest and on easy terms, a fact that speaks for the high esteem in which the Cereal Women's Institute is held in its own neighborhood.

Wetaskiwin Women's Institute conducts a sewing club for girls in the evening. This is under the direction of a competent instructor.

Onaway Institute is working to help the local mission hospital. Innisfail Institute is urging the creation of a free municipal hospital. Minburn is beautifying the cemetery.

Besides the Red Cross work each institute is taking up the cause best suited to its individual locality. Several are working for supervision of school playgrounds and hot lunches for children in the country schools.

In the north many new institutes will soon be organized. Already there are 16 institutes north of Athabasca

RESENT UNFAIR IMPUTATION

Would you please give the following resolution space in The Guide:

Resolved—That the Pangman Local of W.G.G. express their strong disapproval of and dissatisfaction with the War-Times Election Act, whereby thousands of the patriotic women of Canada are denied the right of franchise, and, further, that we resent the imputation made by Mrs. F. H. Torrington, Mrs. S. A. Hamilton, Mrs. Albert Gooderham, Mrs. A. E. Stevens, heads respectively of National Council of Women, Equal Franchise League, Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire and Women's Christian Temperance Union, that the women of the prairies are not so loyal and as anxious to win the war as are the women of Ontario.

MRS. D. E. KLUICK,
Sec. (pro tem.) Pangman W.G.G.A.
Pangman, Sask.

EXCELLENT WORKERS

Our Alameda Homemakers' Club was organized three years ago, and now has a membership of 40. Alameda is a small village of less than 300. The town women and the country women work together. We meet once a month in our rest room, provided by the government through the influence of the Saskatoon University. A grant was paid to the hotelkeeper to provide and keep in Al shape a room devoted to the use of the public as a rest room.

Our meetings are well attended and good programs are provided for every meeting and discussed. Some of the papers that have been given are as follows: Thrift and Economy; Children and Fairy Stories; Cooking for Threshers; Canning and Preserving; Gardening; Value of Foods; House-Cleaning; The Welfare of Neglected Children of our Community; Children's Troubles, and Books for Children. Besides the

papers that are given, two members give papers on current events, both home and foreign. These are splendid and keep us in touch with the affairs of our country and state. These two women have to deal with these two subjects six months in succession.

At the last meeting before the convention held at Saskatoon, the president passed slips of paper around and asked the members to write what the club had done for them and what they thought it might still do for the benefit of the community. The answers were varied and many good ideas were presented. The delegates then read these answers at the convention, and they were commented upon very favorably.

We have a government free circulating library opened here now, and expect to find food for thought during the long winter months, when it will be passed on to another society.

The Homemakers' Club has done a lot of patriotic work and Red Cross work during the last two years. We have just recently sent three barrels of canned fruit and pickles to the returned soldiers' home, besides donations to Y.M.C.A. work in the trenches. Then from among our members we organized a branch of Red Cross workers. I will just state a few of last year's donations and work: In the month of July, two carloads of old iron were shipped, the value being \$330, along with a bale of Red Cross supplies valued at \$50. In August we raised \$168 by sales and subscriptions at 10 cent teas; also a bale of goods was sent to the hospital, valued at \$50. In September we raised \$200. In October our efforts realized the handsome sum of \$300. November our receipts amounted to \$751. It is the aim of our society to send a bale of goods every month, along with a donation, and our efforts have been successful so far.

We have 30 boys representing us at the front. We send each a Christmas box, and are now contemplating sending them Easter boxes. We have several ways of raising money. I will just mention a few, as my letter is growing too long: Sale of home-made cooking, butter and eggs; setting hens and raising chickens; making articles and drawing for a lucky number; selling house plants; holding a miscellaneous shower and then selling the articles by auction, and donating animals and then selling them by auction. It seems a very little bit in comparison with what our boys are doing in the trenches, but if we each do our bit cheerfully and unitedly we will accomplish something worth while.

MRS. J. W. McNEIL,
Sec. Homemakers' Club.
Alameda, Sask.

U.F.W.A. NOTES

Birdsholm U.F.W. is planning for a concert by outside talent. The secretary, Mrs. Carr, is an indefatigable worker. She reports that Mr. Fairfield, of the Experimental Farm, will give an address to the boys and girls at a Potato Club party, the last of the month. The members of the U.F.W. are making an autograph quilt for the Red Cross Fund, and they will give a sale of comfortable and useful articles before the convention.

Sunnyvale U.F.W. are holding a concert on the 23rd for the Red Cross. Some of the members have gotten up a play, "Hazing Daisy," and there will be songs, recitations, etc., followed by a supper and dance.

The first Monday in November they had a special meeting and packed 20 Christmas boxes for the boys in the trenches who had gone from that locality. They also sent \$50 to Red Cross for Christmas stockings for the wounded. We think this speaks very well indeed for the Sunnyvale club.

LEONA BARRITT,
Prov. Sec. U.F.W.A.
Calgary, Alta.

REMUNERATIVE REST ROOM

For some years we have helped the local agricultural society. We have had

Pianos

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entire charge of the ladies' work department; children's section and horticultural section; revising the prize lists; arranging the display of exhibits; securing judges, etc. Since the war began we have assisted the Red Cross Society in serving meals and refreshments.

Since the Boys' and Girls' Club was inaugurated in this vicinity we have taken great interest in it. On fair day we arrange the girls' exhibits and assist the judge. We also give a free lunch to all the boys and girls, this year serving over 100 lunches.

Our society meets once a month. We have interesting lectures and demonstrations from members of the Manitoba Agricultural College, also from men of our own town and our own members.

The establishing and maintenance of the rest room has been of great benefit to town and country women. At the time we opened it, about five years ago, the society had very little money, so we had to raise some before renting a room. We elected a committee of four women, who wrote to 100 women of the neighborhood, explaining the scheme and asking for \$1 from each to establish a fund. We received about \$60. With this in the bank, we thought we might begin. We rented a room, curtained off a part for a kitchen and another part for a toilet room; bought some furniture, stoves, cups and saucers, plates, etc. Some furniture was given us. We opened it to the public, giving a ten cent tea to increase the fund. We secured the services of a matron, who is always prepared to serve afternoon tea for 10 cents.

When the room had been in use a few months and proved itself a benefit to the women of the community, we approached the town council, and the councils of two municipalities for its maintenance. With these grants and an occasional sale of cookery we have been able to keep it going for about five years. The expenses are heavy, but with careful management we keep out of debt.

I have not the books, but the following will give you an idea of our expenses:

Disbursements—Rent, \$8 a month; matron's salary, \$12 a month; coal, coal oil, electric lighting, bread, cake, tea, sugar, milk.

Receipts—Town council, \$5 a month; one municipality, \$5 a month; one municipality, \$1 a month; teas, sales of cookery, gifts from H.E.S. as needed, rent of room to hospital aid, \$6 a year.

To help out, the members of the Home Economic Society often give cakes, butter, etc., and we always pay for our tea on meeting days.

Trusting this information may be helpful to other societies.

M. COOPER,
Pres., H.E.S.

Minnedosa, Man.

SOME NEW IDEAS

If only an idea could be worked successfully and some kind of bond be established between the different clubs it would indeed be a big step forward. In the life of every club I think there are often times when the work seems up-hill, when we wonder, "is it really worth while?" We feel isolated and are much more easily discouraged than we should be if only we could feel we were but part of a whole and the other part somewhere was caring as to our failure or success. What matter under what name we work, our aims are the same and it would be hard to predict to just what position of influence and power the women's clubs could attain if only they united.

I will try to give you, as clearly as I can, the story of our club work. We organized two years ago last May, under the direction of one of the demonstrators sent out from the Manitoba Agricultural College. We agreed to meet the second Thursday and with but one exception have held a meeting every month since. We have an enrolment of about 30 members, although our attendance at times exceeds this. Last month 63 were present. We serve a 10 cent-ten at the close of each meeting. Twice a year the directors make out programs and distribute them among the members.

We solicit the help of all the business and professional persons in reach and

have had some most excellent and instructive papers. It has been rather a hard matter to get the ladies to speak out. Such a statement may seem singular to the men, but such has been our case. I think that clubs should encourage debating, it would help considerably in giving confidence to a would-be speaker. I followed the advice of The Guide and wrote to Alberta University for debates suitable for rural communities and promptly received a splendid list.

This summer, since so many new cars have come into the district we have made good use of them in visiting other societies. Hospitalities have been exchanged, the condition being that the visiting society provided the program. This has proved quite a refreshing stimulus; we have returned home with fresh ideas and fresher energies.

Along with the social side we try to keep ever before us that which should now be the true work of every club, patriotic work. We have done sewing, ready-cut garments obtained from the Red Cross headquarters; within our means we have responded to every call for donations. Fresh suggestions for raising money would indeed be acceptable to us. These are some of the ways we have tried. Tea cent teas at the homes of the members, sales of home cooking, social evenings, dances, whist drives, patriotic dinners, lunch counters at rinks, etc., and amateur theatricals. At our meeting yesterday we contributed towards the Christmas stocking which the Red Cross is sending to all our boys in hospitals. We formed a committee to look after the information regarding the shipment of a car-load of iron, rubbers, paper, etc., and we got on foot a new idea (to us) which perhaps will not be too late to hand along. We fixed a large box in each store with a request that presents be put in our Christmas parcels for the boys at the front from this community. On it was tacked a list of suggestive articles. These boxes are to be left up for 10 days, at the end of that time the committee meet and pack them off. We always supply the wool, and in this way get quite a number of socks knitted for our boys.

MAY GERRAND,
Miniota, Man.

Pres. H.E.S.

A SPLENDID YEAR'S WORK

Our membership for this year numbers 33. Meetings have been held monthly at the homes of the members. The average attendance throughout the year has been good—better than that of any previous year. One delegate was sent to the annual convention last February and several other members went as visitors.

A civic committee, consisting of three members, is appointed every two months. This committee prepares papers to be given at the meetings. The subjects are sometimes chosen by the whole meeting and sometimes left to the civic committee. Discussion follows the reading of the papers. Some of the subjects discussed were as follows: Free Trade and Protection; Food Tax a Crime; First Aid to the Injured; The New Federal Franchise Bill; etc.

Various newspaper articles relating to current events have been read and discussed. The club subscribes for the Woman's Century. The meetings conclude with the "cup that cheers" and sociable chatter. During the year various social events have taken place, proceeds being donated to different patriotic funds. The annual New Year's Eve social, was held on December 29, 1916, the proceeds given to the Belgian Relief fund. A donation was also made to the Equal Franchise Board. A play entitled "Miss Mary Smith" was given on April 13, the proceeds of which were divided between the Red Cross and Belgian Relief funds.

The annual G.G. picnic was this year held at Dry Lake, being a joint affair between Pangman and Khedive associations. Mr. Maharg was speaker.

In July a lawn social was held, for the purpose of raising funds for the treasury. \$25 of this was donated to the Y.M.C.A. Military Overseas Service. Each month \$2.50 is sent to the Leader for the Belgian Orphans fund.

MRS. C. CLEWS,
Pangman, Sask.

Sec'y W.S.G.G.A.

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No more acceptable gift can be made to any member of the home circle than good furniture, whether single piece or complete suite. It will please both in its worth and in its usefulness.

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- Easy Chairs
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Christmas Confections

In the city of New York there are dozens of tea rooms and candy shops run by a quite remarkable business woman, Mary-Elizabeth Evans. Several years ago, owing to business reverses in her family, Mary Elizabeth was forced to use her earning powers to help out in support of the family. She made excellent candy and started in selling home-made products. Her candies were so delicious and so attractively packed that her business increased at a phenomenal rate until now this same Mary Elizabeth has a chain of candy and tea rooms in New York that are not only very profitable and well kept, but are a great success as well. Mary Elizabeth's courage. A short time ago she made me aware that the confections she manufactured must contain little or no cane sugar, and that in her tea rooms she would serve as far as possible the least needed by our Allies. The things may be had on call, but are a sight to tempt the appetite. And I am sure it is not only wise, but expedient to follow her example. We are so busy asleep in this peaceful Canada, going to take some sort of earth-shaking to make us realize that our Allies are food! food!! food!!! And need it badly. Sugar is one of the things they need. A man who come from England the other day, in speaking of the lack of sugar, was particularly hard on the children. There were so many things that really could not be made palatable without it, in many cases the only thing to be had in the way of sugar was barley sugar. So this year let us make our Christmas sweets of fruits and nuts as far as possible. They are delicious and healthy. Brown sugar and molasses or in combination make good ones. In some places it is hard to get granulated sugar even in small quantities, and it may be this is a good idea. We will learn how to use other things. Necessity is truly the mother of invention.

Pop Corn Balls

This recipe was crowded out last week. The illustration in that issue shows these may be used for decorating Christmas table.

2 cups brown sugar
1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup water
Butter in saucepan, and when melted add sugar and water. Bring to the boiling point and boil until the syrup thickens a firm ball when tried in water. Remove from fire and stir until every kernel coated, then form into balls, do not use much pressure.

Pop Corn Candy

In making pop corn candy, either maple syrup, molasses, white cane sugar or corn syrup may be used instead of sugar. To one cup of syrup allow one teaspoon of vinegar. Boil together until syrup hardens when dropped in cold water. Pour over freshly popped corn and mold into balls or fancy shapes for Christmas tree. Little pop corn men please the children. Mark in the lines and outlines with melted chocolate.

Maple Pralines

Take one pound of soft maple sugar and add three-fourths cupful milk and one tablespoonful butter. Bring to the boiling point, and let boil until a soft ball may be formed when tried in cold water. Remove from fire, add two-thirds cupful of English walnuts cut in small pieces, and beat until creamy. Drop from tip of spoon (working quickly) on a buttered board or board covered with paraffin.

Fruit Bars

Take a pound of dates, half a pound of almonds, a quarter of a pound of pecan or walnut meats, two tablespoonful of orange juice. Peel the dates, put all the ingredients through the meat chopper. Add the orange juice, and mix thoroughly. Dust the baking board with powdered sugar, and roll out a sheet an eighth of an inch thick. Cut with a sharp knife into hot water, and cut into squares. These bars are to be recommended in the place of candy for Christmas.

To Salt Peanuts and Almonds

Use only raw nuts. To blanch either kind of nuts, cover with boiling water, let stand for a minute or so, drain and remove skins. Dry for several hours on paper toweling. Put in a saucepan with olive oil or butter, put in the oven and brown, stirring often so that the nuts may be uniformly browned. Spread on brown paper and sprinkle lightly with salt.

To Salt Pecans, Walnuts and Filberts

Blanch as perfectly as possible. Slightly beat an egg white, dip in the fingers and rub each nut lightly. Dredge lightly with table salt, dry in a slow oven, browning slightly.

Stuffed Raisins

Select a large bunch of cluster raisins, wipe gently, make an incision in each one and remove seeds. In each opening insert a salted nut; almonds are best. Use as garnish on top of a box of candy.

Stuffed Dates

Dates may be stuffed with peanut butter, whole nuts, preserved ginger, marshmallows, or candied cherries. Wash the dates, remove the stones and fill the incision with your choice of fillings, roll in granulated sugar. Figs may be sliced, sprinkled with chopped walnuts, rolled up tight and sprinkled with powdered or granulated sugar.

Figs form the basis for another confection when sliced and topped with marshmallows and raisins. Other fig slices might have maple sugar and nuts on top, while maple sugar bonbons could be nicely finished off with raisins.

Even prunes may be stuffed with dates, figs, candied fruits or nuts chopped fine. Soak large prunes in water over night, steam until the skins are tender, take out the stones and stuff. Mary Elizabeth offers the following suggestion:—"A pretty idea for anyone wanting a particularly decorative effect is that of a light yellow basket, with a bow of fluffy gauze ribbon on the handle and in the basket rows of prunes from which the pits have been removed and the openings filled with whipped cream piled high. The finishing touch is given when chopped green pistachio nuts are sprinkled over the cream.

Merble Foam

3 cupful light-brown sugar
1/2 cupful water
2-3 squares chocolate
2 egg-whites
1/4 teaspoonful vanilla
1 cupful chopped walnuts or hickory nut meats

Boil until the mixture crackles in cold water, then pour slowly over the egg-whites beaten stiff, stirring continuously. Beat until nearly stiff enough to drop from the spoon, then add the vanilla and nutmeats. Pour into a shallow buttered pan and cover with the chocolate, melted.

Fruit Paste

Put through the meat chopper enough cherry, peach or quince preserves to make a half-pint with the juice. Heat fruit and add two tablespoons of gelatin, previously softened in a very little cold water. Stir well, and continue stirring until it begins to cool and thicken, then pour into oiled dish to make a layer one inch thick. Let dry slowly, sprinkle with sugar and place in box with waxed paper between the layers. A mixture of dried apricots and dates may be used for this paste. Wash apricots and soak overnight in enough water to cover. Pour off water, bring it to a boil, pour over apricots and let stand until cool. Put apricots and dates through meat chopper, and proceed with the proportions as given.

Molasses Candy

2 cups Demolico molasses
2-3 cup sugar
3 tablespoon butter
1 tablespoon vinegar

Put butter in kettle and when melted add molasses and sugar. Stir until sugar is dissolved. During the first part of the cooking, stirring is unnecessary, but when nearly done it should be stirred constantly. Boil until when tried in cold water, mixture will become brittle. Add vinegar just before taking from the fire. Pour into a well buttered pan. When cool enough to handle pull until porous and light colored, allowing candy to come in contact with tips of the fingers and thumbs. Not to be squeezed with the hand. Cut in pieces with scissors or a sharp knife. Put on buttered plates to cool.

Our Club's Big Xmas Tree

WHAT PRESENTS ARE ON IT FOR BOYS, GIRLS?

\$25.00 Cash for Boy or Girl sending Best Reply

\$15 Cash for 2nd Prize
\$10 Cash for 3rd Prize
And 50 Cash Prizes of \$1.00 Each



- Some Xmas Presents on the Tree for Boys and Girls
- Baseball
 - Air Rifle
 - Boxing Gloves
 - Candy Doll
 - Doll Carriage
 - Drum Stick
 - Five Five Book
 - Drumstick Wash
 - Brush
 - Building Blocks
 - South Organ
 - Turquoise Pins
 - Build a Snow
 - Hockey Stick
 - Football
 - Perfume
 - Aeroplane
 - Game Book
 - Silk Handkerchief
 - Wrist Watch
 - Claret of Tulle
 - Skating Ring
 - Shocking Hair
 - Nuckle
 - Sail Boat

SO that we may become better acquainted with more of our boys and girls this Christmas, we are giving you this fine Christmas Tree loaded down with beautiful and valuable presents. Ten of the presents are in sealed boxes. Nobody but Uncle Peter has seen what they contain, but on each one has been drawn a puzzle picture that tells what it is. No. 8 represents Boxing Gloves. Now can you guess what Christmas present for a boy or girl is in each of the other nine? Get some one to help you if you like, but write out yourself your answers to all of the ten pictures. On January 31, 1918, Uncle Peter, who edits our page for boys and girls, will judge the answers and award the big cash prizes as above to the boys and girls complying with the conditions of the contest whose answers are all correct, neatest and best written. So get busy and send in an answer to-day, and this Christmas may be the happiest you have ever had.

Our "Success Club" for Boys and Girls has provided these fine prizes and hundreds of Christmas presents as well. You'll hear all about the "Success Club" when you send your answers, and if you wish you can become a member free and receive the lovely Club Emblem Pin.

Thousands of boys and girls in Canada are already in the "Success Club" and proudly wear the Club Pin. If you are bright and quick to send in the answers, you can join the "Success Club" too and win a big cash prize and a dandy Christmas present as well.

Only boys and girls under fifteen years of age may send answers, and each boy and girl desiring his entry to compete for one of the fine prizes will be required to perform a small service for the Club, for which an additional valuable reward will be given. Address your answers to THE "SUCCESS CLUB," c/o Rural Canada, Dept. 6 Toronto, Ont.

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Young Canada Club

By DIXIE PATTON



YOUR FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE

The competition, "How the Boys and Girls May Help to Win the War" is now closed. Inge Dohlmann was the prize winner again. Inge's story is certainly interesting and original and I am sure he would not find it very difficult to find ways and means of doing his "bit." Inge tells me that he is a Dane. You know his country is not at war, but you can see how much Inge thinks about the cause of the Allies by the very nice story he wrote. The second prize is won by E. Publow who is the secretary-treasurer of a very active Junior Red Cross Society. Many of the stories were so good that it was hard to choose the prize winners from among them. I only hope many of you will put your excellent ideas into practice and do some really good work towards winning and ending the war.

This time I am going to have two contests, each quite separate from the other. For the story we are going to have a change of theme and temperament. I want you to write me a story telling me about the funniest experience you have ever had. Remember when you are writing it, that you want to make the other boys and girls laugh. Let us see how much fun we can have in this contest. Then we want photographs of interest to others. You all have photographs of yourselves or your friends or the little tots in your house engaged in some work or play about your home or farm. This sort of picture is always interesting to others and we should like you to send them to us. A first and second prize will be given in each contest. The prizes as before will be books. When sending the pictures be sure to tell us who they are and anything of special note about it. These competitions close on New Year's Day.

HELPING WIN THE WAR

Many things, both great and small, may be done to help win the war. You may often wonder what good a ten cent piece can do in this great war. I know that to be a question often asked, but

when you think a little, you may easily understand and answer it. Now, how many children in one province would you say would give a ten cent piece? Well, we'll say some twenty-five children or even more would. Now that would be \$2.00 or \$3.00, and then remember that many others give more, some 25c, some 50c, some \$1, and others more. Don't you think that you could afford to give your nickel and help the wounded instead of buying candy or such unnecessary things whereby you only ruin your teeth and things, health?

I will now tell you a short story about how a poor boy, named Dan, "did his bit."

Dan was a poor, very poor boy and his parents were of course, poor too. One afternoon when Dan came home from school, he found a potato. "Who in the world has thrown a potato away in wartime? What a shame!" was the first thought coming into Dan's head. He picked the potato, and put it into his pocket and walked along towards home.

The teacher at school had told the children about how others had helped win the war and had asked them to do their bit. Dan was all the time thinking, "How can I help? I've got no money." Now, all of a sudden, a thought flashed into his head. Yes, he was going to try. It was something anyway. When he came home he took the potato and what do you think he did? Well, he did a very simple thing that both you and I can do. He went down to the little garden and planted it. Why, you ask, what good did that potato do there? Well, we'll see.

Next fall, when other people gathered their potatoes, little Dan went down in the garden and got his, and how many do you think there were? There were seventeen nice, big potatoes and how glad Dan was! He counted them over and over again. Now, I am sure you do not know what Dan did? He made a pretty basket of grass and twigs in which he put fifteen potatoes. The two left over he took into the house and hid in an old

box. Next spring he was going to plant them in his garden.

He took the basket with the fifteen potatoes in it, and well, where do you think he went? He went to the fair, but what did he want to do there with his potatoes? Wait a minute and you'll see. He sat down under a nice shady tree, arranged his potatoes nicely and then he cried out very loudly, "War-potatoes, war-potatoes, buy one and plant it in your garden to help win the war. Only ten cents a potato. Please buy one!" And in less than an hour all his potatoes were gone, but instead he had fifteen bright ten cent pieces in his pocket.

Oh, how glad he was! Next school-day he went up to the teacher, told him the story about the potatoes and gave him the money. Now, don't you think the teacher was proud of him? And don't you think he was a very wise little fellow? I do.

But this of course is not the only way you can help. You know most girls knit socks and make shirts and such things. I know most of you do that. Now, I have got an idea! Wouldn't it be nice for you to form a little sewing or knitting club in your home town? You could have a meeting as often as you had time and then you could have a general gay time by sewing and knitting. And every once in a while you could, like the clever girls you are, give a concert or entertainment, and the money you thereby get, you could give to the Red Cross, Blue Cross, or whatever fund you like. That would be an interesting way, I think.

Then there is another way, as you all know, that is to have your little garden, but as it is getting winter I guess I had better not say anything about that. But still there is another way. That is, try to learn as much as possible and become educated, clever men and women, when you grow up, so that you will become good citizens and always try to remember that every little helps.

INGEBORG DOHLMANN,

Dickson, Alta.

THE DOO DADS ARE OUT ON A SQUIRREL HUNT

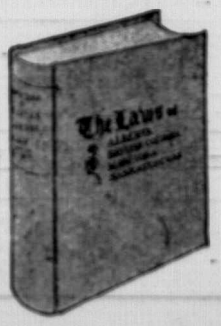
Ho! Ho! Here is a commotion. What does it all mean? A few minutes ago everything was quiet. All you could hear was the squeak of the farmer Doo Dad's cart and the hum of the machinery in Doo Dads' flour mill. Then all at once came the Doo Dads with a rush. First came the squirrel running for dear life and after him the leading hunter, followed by the others. Over there on the other side of the mill the Doo Dad is blowing the hunter's horn to get the hunters to close in as the squirrel is nearly exhausted. The leading hunter's frog has just jumped clean over the old man's cart, alighting right on top of the poor little Doo Dad who did not see him coming. One little fellow got too near the windmill and one of the fans caught in his trousers and up he goes. Here at the bottom one of the hunters is being thrown, much to the amusement of a roguish little fellow who does not seem to be aware that he may soon be run over unless he looks out. One little fellow has thrown up his reins and is grasping the frog's neck knowing very well that he will bump into the frog ahead of him. The Doo Dad mounted on a turtle comes last. He might have known that a slow old turtle could have never kept up with the hunting party. The hunters mounted on flying machines are also getting into trouble. The dragon fly flew right into the wind-mill and the poor little Doo Dad is likely to get a bad fall. The one following behind will meet the same fate unless he can steer his flying beetle away from the mill. One of the Doo Dads has climbed up a ladder to the roof of the mill thinking he would be safe there but the big bird, taking his nose for a cherry, has given him an awful peck. The old dusty miller, who is oiling his mill is not safe either for the dragon fly will likely bump into him. See how the poor hunted little squirrel is making every effort to get away from his pursuers. Unless he finds a tree up which he can run to safety they will soon be upon him. But the rout will soon be past and nothing will be heard again except the grinding of the flour mill and the squeaking of the old man's cart as he takes his grist away.



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JOHN JONES and TOM SMITH were good farmers and friendly neighbors until a line fence was built. Then their friendship turned to hatred, and all through "Ignorance of the Law." The value of the land involved was very little, but their differences could not be settled amicably so they put it up to the courts. The fees were very costly, the trial was long drawn out, the judges' decision settled the question of the fence, but it did not atone for the loss of time, the mental worry, nor the injured feelings—
Result—A lasting family feud.

—This all would have been avoided had either of them purchased "WESTERN CANADA LAW," covering every point concerning line fences.



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Do You Know?
What your obligations are to fence?
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The share of the cost you lawfully should pay?
The liability of the owner of a trespassing animal breaking into any fenced land?
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Think--
Think how often you have secured legal advice on a trivial matter needlessly, and sometimes at great expense. Look back at the risks you have taken because you "did not know the law." In the future save your money and secure absolute protection through the ownership of this 1917 revised legal authority.
Every shrewd, prudent man should have "Western Canada Law" in his home for the protection it gives.

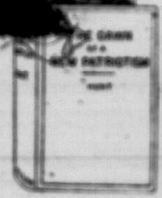
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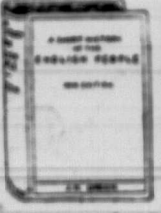
THEY GIVE A LASTING BENEFIT



The Dawn of a New Patriotism, By J. D. Hunt. Price **\$1.15**
An exceptionally valuable book for local associations to use in studying Canadian institutions. Shows the development of parliamentary government, and the opportunities for securing Canadian candidates by such work as is done by the organized farmers and farm women.

Green's Short History of England Price **\$1.75**

This is the finest English History ever written, covering the period from the very beginning until the present time. It is not merely a record of kings and events, but rather a history of the people themselves, and the development of British civilization. It is 1,000 pages of intensely interesting reading. The last 150 pages are devoted to a splendid summary of the domestic and social reforms in Great Britain that have been secured from the battle of Waterloo up to the present time. It is comprehensive, authoritative and instructive.



Training and Breaking Horses \$2.00
By H. W. Harper. Price postpaid
The property broken and well-trained horse is worth a great deal more than a vicious animal with equally good physical qualities. It is, therefore, a matter of dollars and cents to every horse raiser to have all his horses gentle, obedient and orderly, both at work and in the stable. This book is by one of the best authorities and cannot be excelled for real practical instruction to horse owners. The time to begin training a horse is when it is a young colt. Professor Harper begins with the colt and describes his handling. He devotes chapters to "Training the Work Horse," "Training the Trotter," "The Hack Horse," "Training and Breaking the Wild Horse." This chapter is very valuable to those who have farm horses to break and train. All the whips and types of harness, both outdoor and inside the stable are described, as well as the method to overcome them. Special attention is given to the care of the colt in training, which is the most important of all in developing a valuable horse. The book contains 297 pages and is handsomely bound. There are over 100 illustrations showing the various hitch and device recommended by the author.

How to Conduct Public Meetings or Cushing's Manual—By Luther S. Cushing. Price **.50**
This is the standard book of instruction for conducting public meetings. It contains complete information on rules of order, the rights and duties of members making motions and amendments, order of business, suspension of rules, manner of debating, time of speaking, committees, their functions and their organization.



Sixty Years of Protection in Canada, By Edward Porritt. Price postpaid **\$1.25**
This book is acknowledged by all to be the most complete and enlightening history of the Canadian tariff ever written. It stands alone. Nowhere else can one find such a thoroughgoing treatment of the political and economic facts of protection, the influences which dictate tariff changes, the Free Trade movement in Canada, the various attitudes taken by the Liberal and Conservative parties and the importance of the Grain Growers' movement. The economic pressure felt throughout all Canada is bound to keep the tariff in the forefront of our national problems, and every Canadian voter should read this book and understand this question. It is written in a fascinating style and is as pleasant to read as a popular novel. No one can claim to be acquainted with the history of Canada who is not familiar with the facts contained in Mr. Porritt's book. Every farmer, editor, clergyman and teacher, as well as every politician and businessman, who is interested in public questions and the high cost of living should have a copy of "Sixty Years of Protection in Canada." The book contains 478 pages, is printed in large type and handsomely bound in red cloth covers, and fully indexed.

Farm Management, By G. F. Warren. Price postpaid **\$1.90**

Read this book and give yourself a greater opportunity to "make good" on the farm. Like the majority of the farmers, you have a choice, born of ambition, to succeed in your work. If you are prepared, you have a far better opportunity to be successful than those who have the desire but not the preparation, and one of the essentials of a successful farmer is the ability to manage his farm properly. Good business management on any farm will bring you from \$100 to \$500 more profit per year. "Farm Management" will tell you how to lay out your work to the best advantage, how to save time, labor and machinery. It is the only book of its kind in existence.

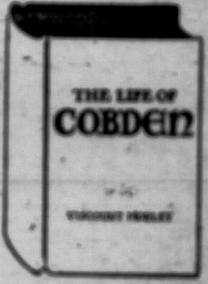


Farms and Feeding—By W. A. Henry, D.Sc., D. Agr. Price Postpaid **\$2.50**

Save money as well as knowing the feeding value of each fodder crop. There are two essentials to the production of first-class livestock, that is feeding and the other correct feeding. A first-class animal may be well bred and yet not show to good advantage owing to improper feeding methods. The language of the book is simple, scientific terms being fully explained wherever used. Throughout, the object has been to present the findings of the laboratory, the feed lot and the stable bearing on the problems of stock feeding in simple language and few words. The book is divided into three parts. Part one deals with plant growth and animal nutrition, nutrition studies, feeding standards and methods of calculating rations. Part two deals entirely with feeding stuffs and their nutritive value as heat and energy producers. The preparation of feeds is here dealt with as well as a catalogue of fodders and the nutritional value of feeding stuffs. Part three deals directly with the feeding of farm animals. Under this heading it is to be found investigations concerning the problems in beef production, the dairy cow, station tests with pure bred dairy cows, care and management of sheep, management and feed of swine, as well as inseparable details relating to experiments which have been carried on by investigation in all parts of the world. A complete index makes it a simple matter to refer to any data required at a moment's notice. The book contains 618 pages.

The Life of Richard Cobden, By John Morley. Price **.45**

The father of the free trade movement in England. The most effective free trade debater who ever lived. He fought both Liberals and Conservatives to secure free trade and refused all titles. This book was reviewed in The Double Issue of Nov. 21, 1917.



Farm Blacksmithing—By J. M. Drew, Instructor in Blacksmithing, Minnesota State School of Agriculture. Price **.60**

A blacksmith shop on the farm may be easily and cheaply built and equipped. With a little practice a farmer and his son can learn to do ordinary blacksmith work without trouble, and may thus avoid costly winter days and stormy days in summer that would otherwise be wasted. This book is written to instruct farmers and their sons for this purpose. It is well illustrated and the information is simple and accurately given so that any farmer will be able to understand it and make use of it. Among the subjects dealt with are: The furnishing of the farm blacksmith shop; the use of iron and steel; making door bolts, staples, chains, rings, hooks, rivets, bolts and nuts, welding; making lugs; making whiffletree levers, forging and tempering steel tools; the use of drills; sharpening knives; shoeing farm horses; the use of files; how to cut iron pipes; how to make type galleys; how to tie knots; how to file a saw; how to calculate the sizes of bolts. This book will pay for itself many times over in the hands of any farmer who wants to make good use of his time.



Farmer's Private Secretary Price **\$2.25**

Save for itself the money every year. Make all the money you can out of your farm by doing your business right. Have copies of all your letters and keep them in the where you can get your hand on them instantly. Contains 91 letters, with a pocket for each letter of the alphabet. This file when closed is only 11 inches thick, but opens like an accordion and will hold 1,000 letters. Made of tough paper reinforced with linen. It will last twenty years if handled with care. Two handsome bound writing tablets to fit the file, with blotter. One hundred white envelopes. Six sheets "Manila" Carbon paper, for taking copies of your letters. Six "Manila" pens, specially made for making carbon copies of letters. One set of instructions.

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References: Bank of Toronto, Bank of British North America or any Commercial Agency.

WE ARE RELIABLE Grain Growers who have shipped to us will tell you we gave them the best **SATISFACTION.**

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(Try us with a Car.)

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Send Bills to the Ogilvie Flour Mills Co. Ltd., Winnipeg. Liberal advances. When Buying Flour Stipulate Royal Household.

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Each of the grain companies whose announcement appears on this page is licensed by the Canada Grain Commission to handle consignments of grain from farmers on commission. Each company is also bonded in accordance with the terms of the Canada Grain Act, to a sufficient amount which in the opinion of the Canada Grain Commission will ensure the full and prompt payment for all grain shipped to them by farmers. No grain dealers' advertisements are published in The Guide except those licensed and bonded according to the above provisions.

THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

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PALMER-McLELLAN

Trench Boots

THE BOOT FOR SOLDIERS IN FRANCE

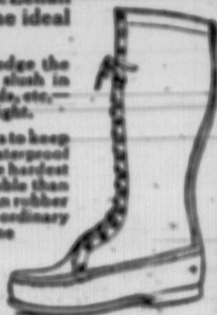


BECAUSE they are made of the same Chrome-oiled leather that is used in our famous Palmer-McLellan Shoebacks, which hunters, trappers, and lumbermen swear by, Palmer-McLellan Trench Boots are recognized as the ideal boot for wear at the front.

The boys in France have no chance to dodge the discomforts of the rain, mud, snow and slush in the trenches, on the roads, across the fields, etc.—they practically must live in it day and night.

They need Palmer-McLellan Trench Boots to keep their feet dry and warm; knee high and waterproof all the way up, sturdy enough to stand the hardest wear, yet soft, pliable and more comfortable than ordinary boots—far better for the feet than rubber boots. Trench Boots sizes correspond to ordinary boot sizes, but it is customary to order one size larger than ordinary boot size to allow room for extra socks.

In your order give the size and choose the price of the boots desired, and we will ship them carriage paid to any address in France, England or Canada. Write if you want more information.



No. 6412. Knee High, Heavy Single-hole Nailed on and Hob Nailed. Very strong and very comfortable. Price, post paid **\$14.00**

Palmer-McLellan Shoeback Company, Limited
DEPT. W FREDERICTON, N.B.

DISTRICT No. 8 S.G.G.A. PROGRAM

The program of the convention of District No. 8 S.G.G.A., which will be held in the Y.M.C.A. auditorium, Regina, on December 19 and 20 is as follows:

December 19—9.30 a.m., formal opening, address of welcome, Mayor of Regina; district director's address; reports of sub-directors; appointing of committees; address on co-operation; Mr. Ketcheson. 2 p.m., address, R. M.

Johnson; discussion of trading activities; resolutions. 8 p.m., addresses, President J. A. Maharg, Mrs. Haight, Vice-president W. G. A., J. B. Musselman, musical selections.

Dec. 20—9.30 a.m., address on organization, H. H. McKinney; discussion on organization; resolutions. 2 p.m., election of officers; resolution and unfinished business.

W. J. ORCHARDE,
Dir. District No. 8.

Our Ottawa Letter

Halifax Disaster—Uncertainty of Elections—Exemption of Farmers' Sons.
(By The Guide's Special Correspondent)

Ottawa, Dec. 7.—Election talk and spirit has been overshadowed and subdued at the capital and doubtless elsewhere by the great war tragedy at Halifax. In no other city in the Dominion are there so many people intimately connected with the Nova Scotian capital, more particularly at the present time when many members of the official world are engaged in the direction of war activities from Canada's most easterly winter port. Nevertheless, although the people throughout Canada will be sobered by the most stupendous disaster that has afflicted a British city in modern times, nothing can prevent the continuance of the battle of the ballots—until they are deposited in the boxes on election day and those who take a keen interest in matters political will continue to speculate as to the likely results until their minds are enlightened by the official count.

Uncertainty as to Elections

It was the late Sir John Macdonald who said that nothing is more uncertain than an election—unless it be a horse race—and the wisdom of the saying was never more clearly demonstrated than in the present contest. While the general consensus of opinion appears to be that the Union government, at any rate after the soldiers' votes are counted, will have a majority, a vast difference of opinion exists as to whether it will be large enough to be of real utility in carrying out the policies of the government. The Ottawa Citizen (Unionist) editorially discussing government prospects of success declares that victory can only be won by hard work. The Citizen says:

"The Unionists concede Sir Wilfrid Laurier 90 seats throughout Canada. But they give him 60 in Quebec. Assuming this latter figure to be right it means that the separatist party will have to secure 30 seats in the remaining 145 constituencies in the Dominion. This is one in nearly every five, and experience compels us to warn the Unionists against over-confidence. If the Laurier Liberals secure 50 seats outside Quebec, or one in every three, they will come pretty near winning. The worst fault in the business is in underestimating your opponent. The main thing that counts is work."

Undoubtedly thousands of other warm supporters of Unionism are haunted by the same doubts as the Ottawa Citizen, while supporters of Sir Wilfrid Laurier may perhaps be pardoned for believing that with the big Quebec handicap in their favor they are likely to make a neck-and-neck finish with the government. They assert that the Unionist organization in allowing the opposition only 30 seats outside Quebec are conceding them fewer seats in the Maritime provinces, Ontario and the West than they are likely to carry. The most optimistic prediction from Unionist headquarters here allows the Liberals the following number of seats: Quebec, 58; Maritime provinces, 12; Ontario, 12; the West, 10; Total 92. Liberals on the other hand profess their ability to carry at least the following number: Quebec, 60; Maritime provinces, 15; Ontario, 20; the West, 15; Total 110. This would leave the government a majority of 14 while the Unionist estimate would give the government a safe majority of 42.

Order-in-Council re Exemptions

A few seats will make a wonderful difference on election night. The most interesting development of the week at the capital has been in connection with the administration of the Military Service Act as it affects the farmers. This, as has been pointed out in recent letters, has been a source of considerable trouble owing to the failure on the part of many local tribunals to give exemption to men who should not be removed from the land for military purposes. In order to at least correct to some extent the harm done, Sir Robert Borden and a number of his colleagues who were in the capital at the week end drafted an order-in-council having for its purpose, according to the official

announcement made on Monday last, "immediate action on appeals from the decisions of tribunals in the case of farmers, farmers' sons and hired help, where such cases have been refused exemption."

The order-in-council authorizes the minister of agriculture to appoint a representative of the department in counties or districts, (1) To attend the sittings of the tribunals, to guard the national interest in connection with the production of foodstuffs; (2) to appeal from the decision of tribunals in cases where due weight has not been given to the urgency of maintaining our food supplies, and (3) to investigate and report upon appeals or applications for exemption where the ground of appeal or application is that the party seeking exemption should in the national interest be retained in food production rather than enrolled in the expeditionary force.

The official announcement went on to say that the minister of agriculture after looking into the matter believes, "that some of the tribunals have failed to give due weight to the urgency of maintaining our food supply."

The Order Criticized

It will be observed that no claim is made in the announcement that farmers or their sons are in all cases to be exempted. Doubtless, farmers who till their own land will be, but when it comes to sons it will depend on how many there are of them and what need there is for their remaining at home.

Liberal headquarters evidently fearing that the order-in-council would be regarded by many as a declaration that exemption was to be given to all who have been connected with agriculture gave out the following statement in criticism of the government's action:

"The Borden government is now trying to give the impression that it does not intend to conscript farmers and that farmers who have been conscripted will be returned to the land. This is pure bluff—a delusion and a snare. The cabinet cannot change an act of parliament that has become law. The Military Service Act cannot be changed without action by parliament, even though the Borden government realizes too late that it is a mistake to take men from the land at a time when the world is threatened with a food shortage. The law stands."

"The order-in-council which pretends to change the Military Service Act is merely a memorandum expressing the opinion of the cabinet and authorizing the minister of agriculture to have somebody present to watch the tribunals."

The authorities did not lose much time in bringing before Hon. Justice Duff, the central appeal judge, a test case in order to demonstrate that the rulings of certain tribunals were not in accordance with the intentions of the government as expressed in the Military Service Act. The appeal which was made a test case was made by W. H. Rowntree, an elderly Western Ontario farmer, whose only adult son, who had been working continuously on the farm for the past seven years, was drafted for service. He lives and works with his father who owns a farm of 150 acres near Weston, Ont. The appeal was granted by Mr. Justice Duff, who, in the course of his judgment, says: "It is perhaps unnecessary to say that such exemptions are not granted as concessions on account of personal hardship, still less as a favor to a class. The sole ground of them is that the national interest is the better served by keeping these men at home."

CIVIL WAR IN RUSSIA

London, Dec. 10.—The long-expected civil warfare in Russia apparently has come. General Kaledines, the leader of the Don Cossacks, supported by General Korniloff, is declared in an official communication issued by the Bolshevik government, to have raised the standard of revolt in the Don Cossack region against the people and the revolution.

Dec 12
Oat per bush and light cases of two cent Bar Saturday cents hi Flaw week wa and are cents ov
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The Farmers' Market

WINNIPEG MARKET LETTER

(Office of United Grain Growers Limited, December 10, 1917)

Oats—During the first three days of last week prices for oats in the local market advanced five cents per bushel. Besides a good demand for cash oats there was the influence of strong American markets and light hedging sales here. The advance brought out heavier sales, and the demand for cash oats eased off, so that prices worked lower toward the end of the week. On Saturday closing prices were still two cents higher than a week ago.

Barley—Has been in keen demand and prices have advanced steadily during the week, closing on Saturday five and one-half cents higher than a week ago for 3 C.W. and 4 C.W., and three and one-half cents higher for lower grades.

Flax—Prices show practically no change from a week ago. The advance during the early part of the week was followed by weaker markets toward the end of the week. Receipts have been considerably lighter and are averaging much below a year ago. There is a steady demand for cash flax at a premium of five cents over the price for December delivery.

December	Week	Year
4 5 6 7 8 10	ago	ago
Dec. 80 82 81 80 79 78 79 76		
Dec. 298 299 295 295 295 295 298 299		

Fort William, Dec. 10, 1917		Last Year	
1 hard	32,250 30	1,128,975 39	18,747 20
1 Nor.	598,768 20	2,001,854 40	
2 Nor.	371,810 30	1,604,452 10	
3 Nor.	407,678 10	1,314,721 10	
No. 4	360,170 30	7,144,391 00	
Others	1,450,775 00		

This Week		Last Week		This Week		Last Week	
Dec. 80	82	81	80	79	78	79	76
Dec. 298	299	295	295	295	295	298	299

1916—Lake		1917—Lake	
Wheat	8,129,198 50	5,929,182 50	
Oats	1,603,429 28	1,787,793 11	
Barley	3,210 34	456,983 29	
Flax	289,292 22	493,546 16	

Year	1*	2*	3*	4*	5*	6*	7*	8*	9*	10*
Fixed	221	218	215	208	196	187	213	212	207	
Year ago	183	180	175	163	132					

LIVESTOCK	Winnipeg		Toronto	Calgary	Chicago	St. Paul
	Dec. 8	Year ago				
Cattle						
Choice steers	8.00-10.50	7.00-7.50	11.00-13.00	8.85-9.50	14.50-16.00	11.50-13.50
Best butcher steers	8.00-9.00	6.25-6.85	9.75-11.00	8.00-8.50	10.50-11.00	10.00-11.50
Fair to good butcher steers	5.50-6.00	5.00-6.00	7.25-7.75	6.00-6.50	7.75-10.50	8.00-9.00
Good to choice fat cows	7.00-8.25	5.75-6.25	8.25-9.50	7.25-7.75	8.75-10.75	7.00-8.00
Medium to good cows	6.50-6.75	4.75-5.50	7.25-8.25	6.00-6.25	7.25-8.75	6.50-7.00
Common cows	5.50-6.50	4.00-4.50	6.50-7.25	5.50-6.50	7.25-8.25	5.00-6.50
Canners	4.00-5.50	3.00-3.75	4.75-5.50	3.25-3.00	5.40-5.75	4.50-5.00
Good to choice heifers	8.00-8.75	6.00-6.75	9.00-10.00	7.25-8.25	9.75-14.00	7.50-8.00
Fair to good heifers	7.00-7.75	5.00-5.75	7.50-9.00	6.00-7.00	6.50-9.75	5.75-7.00
Best cows	7.50-8.00	5.25-6.25	7.00-8.25	5.00-5.25	7.00-8.50	6.00-8.50
Best butcher heifers	6.50-7.25	5.25-6.00	8.00-9.25	6.00-6.75	9.00-10.75	6.50-8.00
Common toologna bulls	5.50-6.75	4.25-5.00	6.25-7.25	5.00-6.00	6.75-7.50	4.75-6.50
Fair to good feeder steers	7.50-8.50	5.00-6.35	8.00-9.25	7.00-8.00	8.50-11.50	8.00-11.50
Fair to good stocker steers	5.50-7.50	5.00-6.35	7.50-8.75	7.00-8.00	6.50-9.00	6.00-7.50
Best milkers and springers (each)	\$75-\$90	\$65-\$85	\$90-\$125	\$75-\$90		
Fair milkers and springers (each)	\$50-\$65	\$45-\$55	\$65-\$85	\$70-\$75		
Hogs						
Choice hogs, fed and watered	16.50	11.00	17.25-17.75	16.00	16.00-17.25	16.75-17.00
Light hogs	14.00	9.00			16.75-17.00	
Heavy sows	12.00-13.00	7.00			16.25-16.60	
Stags	8.00-10.00	5.50			16.00-17.10	
Sheep and Lambs						
Choice lambs	10.00-15.00	10.75-11.50	15.00-17.00	9.00-14.00	13.00-16.00	12.00-16.00
Best killing sheep	8.00-12.00	8.00-9.00	7.50-14.00	10.50-13.00	7.00-13.00	7.00-14.00

Date	Feed	OATS				BARLEY				FLAX		
		2CW	3CW	Ex 1	Fd 1	3CW	4CW	Rel.	Feed	1NW	2CW	3CW
Dec. 4	171	82	79	79	75	72	123	118	100	100	304	296
5	172	83	80	80	76	73	125	120	110	110	304	298
6	173	83	80	80	75	72	126	121	110	111	301	295
7	173	81	78	78	74	71	127	122	112	112	300	294
8	173	80	77	77	72	69	127	122	111	111	299	292
9	173	80	77	77	72	69	128	123	112	112	301	294
10	173	80	77	77	72	69	128	123	112	112	301	294
Week ago	171	81	78	78	73	70	123	118	108	108	301	295
Year ago		56	53	53			100	90	70	80	254	255
Year ago											254	250

diately following the close of navigation, 100,000 tons of these screenings will be held at terminal elevators at lake front to meet possible demands from Western Canada.

Provincial departments of agriculture will handle orders for screenings, and R. J. Allan, the newly appointed head of the bureau of feed purchase and distribution, will handle the distribution under the direction of H. S. Arkell, livestock commissioner. Licenses will not be granted for the export of standard screenings, but licenses will be granted for the export of refuse screenings when application is accompanied by certificate from board of grain commissioners.

Stock feeders should now get their orders in to their provincial department of agriculture at Winnipeg, Regina or Edmonton, as the case may be.

REQUEST WHEAT EMBARGO IN ALBERTA

At the direction of the board of Grain Supervisors of Canada, the C.P.R. has placed an embargo on the movement of wheat to Fort William over their lines in Alberta. All movement of wheat on their lines from now in the province of Alberta will be to mills only.

The territory covered by this embargo feeds mills at Medicine Hat, Maple Creek, Lethbridge, Macleod, Calgary and Vancouver, as well as smaller mills at more interior points. Practically all of these mills have contracts for Britain and the Allies. For some time the Board of Grain Supervisors have been making very careful investigation as to the amount of wheat still in the country and have concluded that if contracts are to be met and domestic requirements supplied, no more wheat must go off C.P.R. lines in Alberta. The C.P.R. in accordance with the urgent demands of the Wheat Export Company have been making every effort to move an exceptional amount before navigation closed. In this effort they have succeeded possibly almost too well, as supplies seem to be very thoroughly cleaned up at some points.

The conflict of interests which has occasionally been apparent in the past between the requirements of the Wheat Export Company for wheat and the buyers of flour for Britain and the Allies, has now been eliminated by the appointment of a buyer here who will work from the office of the Wheat Export Company.

The movement of wheat off C.N.R. lines in Alberta has been much slower. The northern portion of the province, served by the latter road, is later than the south. So far, the Board of Grain Supervisors have not found it necessary to place an embargo on their lines in regard to wheat moving for export.

The Livestock Markets

CHICAGO

Chicago, Dec. 6.—Not over 10 per cent. of the cattle crop is giving over \$12. Steers that have been on feed 60 to 90 days and were put in at high prices when fat cattle were near \$18, are coming in now and selling around or below original cost.

Having given the zone system of loading livestock a satisfactory test in Kansas City territory a similar plan is announced for Chicago with the object of preventing feed-and-famine runs and stabilizing prices on that market. It goes into effect on December 8. Loading within a 300 mile zone will be timed to have stock reach the market on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Outside that zone, within a radius that makes deliveries up to the 36 hour limit possible, loading will be timed to reach Chicago on Monday and Wednesday. Distant points will not be subject to control. The system will give satisfaction if the Tuesday, Thursday and Friday markets are not penalized by comparison with prices paid Monday and Wednesday.

There are wild fluctuations in hogs. Late last week prices dropped 75 to 85 cents. The check is now broken and prices are on the gain. Hog quality is improving and more 200 to 250 pound stuff is coming in.

WINNIPEG

Winnipeg, Dec. 10.—The Livestock Department of the United Grain Growers Limited reports receipts at the Union stockyards last week as follows: Cattle, 7,523; calves, 225; sheep, 235; swine, 5,522.

The cattle market last week showed an easing feeling, although a few had brought up to \$10.75. Both eastern and southern markets were a little off and competition was not quite so keen. Stockers for shipment went are still in demand at prices as quoted below. This class continues to sell from \$1 to 7 1/2 cents.

The run on sheep and hams has not been quite so heavy. Lambs are in demand at 15 cents; sheep selling at 10 to 12 cents.

Hogs are a little firmer, closing Saturday at \$16.70 fed and watered, and prospects are for a steady market next week.

Country Produce	Winnipeg	Calgary
	Dec. 11	Dec. 6
Butter (per lb.)		
No. 1 dairy	45c	40c
Eggs (per doz.)		
New laid	55c	50c
Potatoes		
In sacks, per bushel	60c	70c
Milk and Cream		
Sweet cream per lb. fat	50c	47c
Cream for butter-making (per lb. butter-fat)	45c	42c
Dressed Poultry		
Fowl (Young)	14c	14c
Spring Chickens	17c	17c
Ducks	20c	20c
Turkeys	25c	25c
Geese	14c	16c
Hay (per ton)		
No. 1 Timothy	\$14-\$20	\$15
No. 1 Meadow	\$12	\$10
No. 1 Upland	\$12	\$13-\$15

WINNIPEG and U.S. PRICES

	Winnipeg	Minneapolis
Cash Grain		
3 white oats	\$0.78	\$0.71-\$0.72
Barley	1.12-1.27	1.18-1.46
Flax, No. 1	3.00	

Such an action is deplorable in the face of the patriotic call to farmers to produce more hogs. It only emphasizes the desirability of establishing a minimum price in relation to grain prices. The government and everyone else really interested in providing food for the Allied armies are doing their utmost to encourage the breeding of every hog possible now. The packers have been pleading difficulty in financing exports. They say the situation arose out of circumstances over which they had no control. The latter explanation is too far fetched because they did not stop buying on the Winnipeg market. Recently a similar excuse was given when the slump in prices of about \$3.00 per hundred pounds occurred on all our markets. None of these excuses hold water for on every occasion the packers have gone on buying on some of these markets and have handled the products.

There is this consolation, however, before the crop of hogs that will result from present breeding operations are marketed these unscrupulous corporations will be under some better control. It is to be hoped a minimum price in relation to grain prices will be guaranteed. Whether it is or not, it is scarcely likely that the packers will dare to again perpetrate such a thing. Certainly no one will wish to assume any responsibility for an increase in production if such hold-up happens again.

A week ago the United Grain Growers at Calgary were forced to carry all hogs over until Tuesday last and the packers showed little inclination to bid against each other. They were thus compelled to dispose of the whole lot to the William Davies Co. (Flavelle's Company) at \$15.50 per car weight. This drop of fully \$1.25 per hundred is a week discouraged the shippers and very few hogs have been offered since. Last week with a stronger tendency to the market the hogs were sold at \$16.50. The prospects are for a more steady market next week. The price of hogs a year ago at this market was \$11.50.

Cold stormy weather and lower prices have tended to curtail receipts of cattle at the yards. Choice steers sold at \$8.55 to \$9.25. Fat cows sold at \$7.00 to \$7.75. Yearling stockers found a ready sale at \$50 to \$55.

The United Grain Growers bought about 300 head of stocker cattle in the yard last week to fill orders for farmers.

CAUSE OF DROP IN HIDES

There has been an agitated feeling in the American raw hide market for several months past which has, to a certain extent, cut down the price offered for country hides. This situation is brought about because the dealers expect the controller to fix a price which would naturally be below the present price offered. There has, however, been a more significant factor which has influenced the drop in the price offered for country hides within the past few weeks. This is that the United States was holding large orders for the Russian government which have subsequently been cancelled. As a consequence the market recently has automatically dropped 2 1/2 cents per pound at Chicago for country hides.

PATRIOTIC FUNDS

Belgian Relief Fund	
Previously acknowledged	\$11,558.62
Friends of the Social and Home Aid by Silverwood School District, Deepdale, Man.	75.00
J. C. Brown, Granum, Alta.	75.00
	\$11,708.62
Serbian Relief Fund	
Previously acknowledged	\$290.00
J. C. Brown, Granum, Alta.	75.00
	\$365.00
Previously Acknowledged	
Red Cross Fund	\$4,154.50
British Red Cross Fund	27.50
French Red Cross Fund	563.50
Y.M.C.A. Military Fund	527.00
Polish Relief Fund	110.00
French Wounded Emergency Fund	33.50
Blue Cross Fund	1.00
British Soldiers' Relief Fund	30.00
Canadian Patriotic Fund	800.00
Prisoners of War Fund	105.00
Returned Soldiers' Fund	25.00
Total	\$18,553.98

Hon. F. B. Carvell, minister of public works, has been elected by acclamation for Carleton-Victoria. His Laurier-Liberal opponent, J. E. Porter, has retired.

It is reported that Jerusalem has been abandoned by the Turkish army and that the British forces are now in occupation.

Success with Strawberries

By A. P. Stevenson



A. P. STEVENSON

On the large majority of farms in the prairie provinces there is a garden patch where vegetables and small fruits of various kinds are raised. These are usually grown for home use and any addition to this garden in the way of new varieties of vegetables or fruits adds another item to the appetizing charm attributed to the table of farmer housewife. To the garden rightfully belongs all small fruits, and among the small fruits there is none so delicious, so universally popular as the strawberry. Why is it then, that on so many farms in our prairie provinces, we fail to find a good strawberry bed? And why is it that so many farmers will tell you that they have had no success in strawberry raising? I believe the chief reason is a lack of knowledge in the culture and management of the strawberry plant and on this account it is very often entirely neglected.

For a number of years I have had the opportunity of visiting a large number of farms in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and I have found few localities where strawberries could not be grown for home use. There should be a good berry patch in every farmer's garden and in order to encourage this, every farmer should know something about growing them.

We all learn by experience, and ours has taught us that in order to be successful we must start right. If possible the site for the strawberry patch should be chosen so that the snow will lie in winter. Good natural drainage is necessary. Any soil that will grow good crops of grain or roots will usually grow strawberries. Land should be well summer-fallowed the year previous to planting. The best fertilizer for strawberries is well-rotted barnyard manure, which should be used in large quantities and should be applied and thoroughly mixed with the soil the season before planting. There is no fear of using too much. All plowing and harrowing should be done in the fall. Further, it is absolutely necessary that the plants should be sheltered from the wind and the garden well fenced against hogs and hens.

Plant Them in the Spring

There is no question we have to answer so often, as "When should I plant strawberries, spring or fall?" Spring is the proper and only time to set out strawberry plants in this country.

Strawberries are grown by two methods, the hill and the matted row system. The latter system is the one best adapted to our conditions on the prairies and is the one treated here. If the plants for setting out are obtained from a distance, they should be ordered to arrive as early in spring as possible. Plants are liable to heat and should be unpacked as soon as received, and if not planted out at once, they should be heeled in in a shady place, until ready to set out. Plant in rows four feet apart and 18 inches apart in the row. Strawberries require considerable care in planting. The crown must be just even with the surface, for, if planted deeper, they usually smother and die. Do not expose the roots to the sun or allow them to dry out while planting.

All dead and wilted leaves should be removed before planting and if the weather is dry, shade for a time with a few boards or old shingles, and water occasionally with slough water. Give good cultivation between the rows all summer, and as the runners shoot out and young plants form on them, throw a little earth over the runners to hold them in place. This is very necessary with us here. Our summer as a rule is dry and windy and the young plants will not readily strike root without this assistance. This is important as all the young plants that become rooted are the ones that will bear the crop the following season. It is also necessary to go over the bed occasionally and pick off all blossoms as soon as they show. This enables all the strength of the parent plant to go towards developing strong, healthy young plants that will bear the crop the following season.

When the ground freezes sufficiently hard in the fall to bear up a wagon, cover the plants with a mulch of clean wheat straw to a depth of six inches. Do not cover with manure, as on account of its weight it is likely to smother the plants.

Spring Care of Strawberries

We usually begin to uncover as soon as growth starts in the spring. Do this gradually, but always leave a portion of the chaffy straw around the plants. This is to keep the fruit clean and off the bare ground as it is easily soiled by heavy rains. The hoe is the implement used and not much of that, until after the crop is gathered. Hand pick the weeds while the plants are fruiting. Two crops, or at the utmost, three, are all that can be profitably taken off the same bed. It should then be plowed up, but a new bed should be planted the previous year. Of varieties to plant suitable to our western conditions I would recommend Senator Dunlop, Bederwood, Sharpless, Lovett, and Minnesota No. 3. These are all perfect flowering varieties and have been in bearing on our own grounds for many years.

Everbearing Strawberries

A few words may be said about this new breed of strawberries. We have had them growing and bearing on our grounds for the last eight years, and to my mind they are certainly the coming variety for our conditions. They do not appear to be a success south of Iowa. From there north they are at their best. A few of the points in favor of the Everbearers are: They give a good crop the first year they are planted. A frost in June does not materially injure the crop, as the bloom is soon renewed again; they will bear fruit from July until the first hard frost and the fruit is of excellent quality and size. Their management is very much the same as the July bearing varieties, only in setting out a patch in spring, it is of the utmost importance that all blossoms and runners be kept cut off until the middle of July. After that the vines will bear fruit until killed by frost in the fall. American, Superb, Progressive and No. 1017 of the Minnesota Fruit Breeding Station are the best varieties and are mentioned in order of merit. We have grown these and other varieties on our grounds, but the above mentioned are the best so far tested.

ONTARIO CO-OPERATIVE CO.

A meeting of the directors of the United Farmers Co-operative Co., Ltd., was held on Friday, November 23, when

arrangements were made for the annual meeting of the company.

The financial statement for the year's business was presented. It was most satisfactory in character, showing total sales for ten months of \$918,197.00, an increase over last year which comprised twelve months, of over \$400,000. The profits on the year's business were sufficiently large to enable the directors to declare a dividend of 7 per cent., which leaves a surplus of about \$800 to be devoted to reserve account.

The annual meeting of the company will be held on Friday, December 21, and a very interesting program has been prepared for it.

During the past few weeks 180 shares of stock, amounting to \$4,500, have been sold.

The new prospectus of the company is about completed and will be ready for distribution at an early date.

The possibility of opening a retail store in Toronto to sell goods direct to the consumer from the farmer was considered. The following committee was appointed to look into the matter: Messrs. Lick, Blatchford and Morrison.

The directors present were: Messrs. Tucker, Halbert, VanAllen, Good, Lick, McCrae, Powers, Schurr and Messrs. Morrison and Blatchford as officers of the company.

The annual meeting of The United Farmers of Ontario will be held on December 19 and 20.—Farm and Dairy.

THE HALIFAX DISASTER

It is estimated that about 3,000 people were killed, 8,000 were wounded, and 20,000 were rendered homeless as the result of an explosion in Halifax Harbor when the outgoing Norwegian steamer Imo collided with the munition ship Mont Blanc just before 9 o'clock on the morning of December 6. Seventeen minutes after the collision the fire which broke out reached the high explosives stored in the hold of the ship. The detonation which followed caused the greatest catastrophe that has ever visited a Canadian city. So terrific was the force of the blow-up that the main part of Richmond, only a short distance away, almost immediately appeared a mass of flames. So extended was the conflagration that it was several hours before the flames were got under control and by then street after street had been reduced to ruins and one of the greatest death lists in the history of Canada piled up. Hospital accommodation is entirely inadequate to meet the needs of the stricken city. Telegraph and telephone communications were demoralized, but as soon as news of the disaster spread, offers of assistance began to pour in. The first city to respond was Boston which dispatched special trains with doctors, nurses and medical supplies on board. An appeal for \$25,000,000 has been made to the people of Canada by the mayors of Halifax and Dartmouth, these figures being taken as a percentage part of the material damage done by the explosion. A preliminary million dollars has been given to the local relief committee by the Dominion Government. A searching inquiry as to the cause of the disaster has been ordered by the department of marine.

At a mass meeting, women voters at Hamilton, December 5, Major-General Newburn, minister of militia, read a cable received from the military authorities in England, stating that there were 142,000 Canadians in France and 31,000 in France and England available for immediate reinforcements. The minister stated that the total number of enlistments in Canada had been 440,000, and the total casualties 142,000. Between October 21 and November 21 there were 16,882 casualties in the ranks of the C.E.F.

A fire which originated in the pattern shops of the Polson Iron Works in Toronto on December 6, completely destroyed the building. Three large ocean freighters of 3,500 to 4,000 tons displacement were under construction as well as two trawlers. One of the freighters was badly damaged.

GENERAL MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED—THREE SALESMEN CAPABLE OF earning \$1,500 to \$2,300 selling strictly high grade seeds direct to farmers. Good opening for reliable farmer or man with knowledge of farming and not afraid of hard work. Give full particulars in first letter. All correspondence confidential. Address Box 9, Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg. 471f

AGENTS WANTED TO SELL OUR FAMOUS Hop-Malt Extract to make genuine delicious beer at home. Strictly conforming to Temperance Act. Big money for live men. Write for particulars to Department 1, Hop-Malt Company, Hamilton, Ont. 471f

A LOCAL AGENT WANTED IN EVERY COM- munity for "Digest of Canadian Mercantile Laws." \$5.00 a day easily cleared. No book like it in Canada. Splendid commission. Address, W. H. Anger, 97 Brunswick Ave., Toronto, Ont.

DOMINION EXPRESS FOREIGN CHEQUES are accepted by Field Cashiers and Paymasters in France for their full face value. There is no better way to send money to the boys in the trenches. 49-4

BECOME AN AUCTIONEER—TERM SOON. Circular free. Sargent's International Auction School, G. F. Sargent, President, 401 5th St. Sioux City, Iowa. 148-4

NEEDLES, REPAIRS—FOR ALL MAKES OF machines. Dominion Sewing Machine Co. (Accessory Dept.) 300 Notre Dame Ave., Winnipeg. 1f

EXPERIENCED FARMER (CANADIAN) WANTS Fully Equipped Farm on Shares. O'Neil, 288 Spence St., Winnipeg. 49-3

COAL—SCREENED LUMP, BEST COAL FOR stove and furnace. Prompt shipment. Apply, Tebeck Coal Co. Ltd., Tebeck, Alta. 451f

DENTISTS

DR. GORDON D. PETERS, 504 BOYD BUILD- ing, Winnipeg, two blocks west Eaton's. 461f

CALGARY ARTIFICIAL LIMB FACTORY 625-4055 ST. CALGARY ALTA.

WILSON'S MESSAGE

Washington, D.C., Dec. 4.—A definite statement to the world of America's war aims and of the basis upon which peace will be considered was made today by President Wilson in an address to congress in which he urged immediate declaration of a state of war between the United States and Austria-Hungary, Germany's vassal and a tool. As to Turkey and Bulgaria—also tools of the enemy—he counselled delay because "they do not yet stand in the direct path of our necessary action."

To win the war, the president declared, is the immediate and unalterable task ahead. He urged congress, just beginning its second war session, to concentrate itself upon it. The president sharply dismissed the possibility of premature peace, sought by German intrigue and debated here by men who understand neither its nature nor the way it may be attained. With victory an accomplished fact, he said, peace will be evolved, based on "mercy" and "justice" to enemy and friend—with hope of a partnership of nations to guarantee future world peace.

The war will be deemed won, he declared, "when the German people say to us, through properly accredited representatives, that they are ready to agree to a settlement based upon justice and reparation of the wrongs their rulers have done." Terms of peace, he added, would not include, dismemberment, robbery or punishment of the enemy, but would be based on justice, defined briefly as follows:

Freedom of nations and their peoples from autocratic domination, repatriation to Belgium, relinquishment of German power over the peoples of Austria, Turkey, the free Balkan States, as well as evacuation of Prussian territorial conquests in Belgium and northern France.

Emphasizing the purpose of the United States not to interfere in the internal affairs of any nation, the president asserted that no wrong against the German Empire was intended, and that there was no desire to re-arrange the Austro-Hungarian Empire. He said that when he spoke eight months ago of the right of nations to free access to the seas he had Austria as well as the smaller and weaker nations in mind.

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...NADIAN) WANTS... O'Neil, 355... 49-3

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STOCK—MISCELLANEOUS

FOREST HOME FARM—PRESENT OFFER... Clydesdale mares and fillies; seven Short... York Down rams; B P Rock cockerels and... A splendid lot of stuff at reasonable... Shipping stations, Carman and Roland... Andrew Graham, Roland Man 421f

FOR SALE—YORKSHIRE BOARS, SIX... months old. Ready for service, \$35.00 each... Also pure bred Barred Rock cockerels at from... \$2.00 to \$5.00. J. J. Stewart, Gladstone, Man... 50-4

FOR SALE—REGISTERED OXFORD RAM... lambs of exhibition stock. Also Toulouse geese... For particulars, phone or write T. A. Somerv... ville, Hartney, Man. 48-6

SHORTHORNS, CLYDESDALES AND YORK... shires. Prices reduced on young bulls. J... Rousfield & Sons, MacGregor, Man 231f

REGISTERED AYRSHIRES AND SHETLANDS... Young stock for sale. John Toole, Abernethy... Sask. 46-8

YORKSHIRES, BARRED ROCKS AND S.C.W... Leghorn cockerels. Harry Harris, Lamont... Alta. 48-3

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FOR SALE—PERCHERON STALLIONS—PAS... sed Government inspection. Young and good... quality. Write for prices. Wm. Ledingham... R.R. No. 5, Brandon, Man. 50-5

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HIGHEST CLASS REGISTERED JERSEYS IN... Saskatchewan. Five young bulls, three St for... immediate service, cheap for cash. C. H... Newell, Swift Current, Sask. Box 243. Phone... 214, Ring 2. 50-7

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SEVERAL CHOICE HOLSTEIN BULLS; ALSO... females. D. B. Howell, Yorkton, Sask. 501f

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BOARS FOR SALE—REGISTERED DUROC... Jerseys, the money makers, from our prize... winning herd. Have new blood for breeders... Best sows for spring farrow. Write for particu... lars. J. W. Bailey & Son, Wetsaskiwin, Alberta... 49-3

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HAMPSHIRE PIGS—THE MOST PROFITABLE... breed. Weanlings, either sex, \$15.00; choice... April born, \$25.00. Pedigree furnished. F... A. McGill, Riverhurst, Sask.

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REGISTERED POLAND CHINAS, LARGE... type, June farrow, thrifty, \$25.00 each. W. E... Swagard, Eyebrow, Sask. 48-3

REGISTERED CHOICE POLAND CHINA... hogs, sows and sows of breeding age. C. E... Duane & Son, Box 147, Oul Lake, Sask. 48-5

DUROC-JERSEY BOARS AND SOWS, WHITE... for price and description. J. T. Bateman & Son... Waskesy, Sask. 48-5

REGISTERED TAMWORTH BOAR AND TWO... sows, 14 months old. George Campbell... Killarney, Man. 49-4

FOR SALE—BERKSHIRE HERD BOAR, 18... months, good breeder. M. Ahagar, Lelington... Alta. 49-2

REGISTERED YORKSHIRE BOAR, 18 MONTHS... old, for sale cheap. Hans Hove, Exel, Alta... 49-3

REGISTERED POLAND CHINA HOGS—... May farrow. Choice stuff. \$35.00 each. C... W. Ames, Eyebrow, Sask. 50-2

O.I.C. AUGUST PIGS FOR SALE—SIBED BY... my imported boar. Breed sows later. G. E... White, Larocba, Alta.

DUROC-JERSEYS—BRED SOWS AND YOUNG... stock. Wallace Drew, Treherne, Man. 49-4

BUY THEM—DUROC-JERSEY SWINE. J. J... Kerr, Good water, Sask. 49-4

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Address all letters to The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, Man.

Count each initial as a full word, also count each set of four figures as a full word, as for example: "T. B. White has 2,100 acres for sale" contains eight words. Be sure and sign your name and address. Do not have any answers come to The Guide. The name and address must be counted as part of the ad and paid for at the same rate. All advertisements must be classified under the heading which applies most closely to the article advertised. No display type or display lines will be allowed in classified ads. All orders for classified advertising must be accompanied by cash. No orders will be accepted for less than fifty cents. Advertisements for this page must reach us seven days in advance of publication day, which is every Wednesday. Orders for cancellation must also reach us seven days in advance.

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SHEEP—GOOD BREEDING EWES FOR SALE, one to four years old, consisting of Shropshire Lincoln, Oxford and Merino grades. Phone, write or call, S. Downie & Sons, Carstairs, Alta. 501f

KARAKULE (PERSIAN LAMB)—RAMS, ON account of lateness of the season, will sell the remainder of flock at half price. G. W. Johnston, Wyoming, Ont.

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PEDIGREED SCOTCH COLLIE FARM BRED pups, parents excellent heifers, intelligent and obedient, either sex, \$12.00. Pedigree and photo of dog heeling cows furnished. W. A. Rowe, Neepawa, Man. 49-2

WOLFHOUD WHELPS—HALF GREYHOUND, half Russian Wolfhound. If you want a pair of whelps that will make good stand cold, swift runners and killers, buy these whelps, they cannot be beat. J. E. Hill, Heath, Alta.

WOLFHOUDS—W. C. DAVIS, BOX 161, Springdale, Sask. Buyer and seller of all kinds of hounds. Dealer in raw furs. Write what you have to sell, or what you want.

COLLIE PUPS—GOLDEN SABLE, FROM REGISTERED stock. Males \$15.00; females \$10.00. G. Detberner, Watrous, Sask. 50-4

POULTRY AND EGGS

WHITE ROCK COCKERELS, \$2.00 TO \$5.00 each. White Holland turkeys, from Quelp and Ottawa winners, toms, \$6.00; hens, \$5.00. Pekin ducks, \$6.00 per pair. White Guinea, \$4.00 per pair. Alfred Allan, Killarney, Man. 49-2

LARGE PEKIN DUCKS AND DRAKES \$4.00. Mammoth Toulouse geese, \$6.00; ganders, \$7.00. Barred Rock and Buff Orpington cockerels, \$3.00. All prices advance 25% December 31. J. T. Bateman & Son, Walsley, Sask. 48-5

PURE BRED TOULOUSE GEESSE \$4.00; ganders \$5.00. Nice white Moscow ducks \$1.50; drakes \$2.00. Mammoth Bronze turkeys, prices on application. G. P. Schroeder, Choritz, Man. 48-3

FOR SALE—SINGLE COMB BROWN LEG... horn cocks and cockerels. Better strain, fine, healthy, vigorous birds, at \$2, \$3 and \$4. Apply to J. T. McKenzie, Box 79, Rapid City, Man. 49-2

RHODE ISLAND REDS, BOTH COMBS—Cockerels, \$5.00; pullets, \$3.00. Fine size and dark. D. J. McDonald 703 Union Bank Bldg., Winnipeg. 49-4

WHILE THEY LAST—WHITE LEGHORN cockerels, \$2.00 each; two for \$3.00. Buff Orpingtons, \$3.00 each; two for \$5.00. R. D. Laing, Stonewall, Man.

ORPINGTONS—BUFFS; HENS \$1.50; PULLETS \$2.00; cockerels, \$2.50. Whites—cockerels from prize stock \$3.00, \$5.00. Some good breeding trios, \$8.50. Mrs. Anon Scott, Laura, Sask.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—BOTH COMBS—Choice young cockerels. Also 2 year-olds, \$2.00 each for immediate sale. Jas. O. Johnston, Box 31, Yellow Grass, Sask.

FOR SALE—PURE BRED SINGLE-COMB White Leghorn Cockerels. Fine healthy birds, \$2.00 each. Wm. Murphy, Box 401, Swift Current, Sask. 50-2

PURE S.C. WHITE LEGHORN COCKERELS, from M.A.C. laying strain. \$1.75 each; three for \$5.00. G. H. Mann, Burnside Farm, Carleton Place, Ont.

PURE BRED SINGLE COMB BROWN, ALSO White, Leghorn cockerels, \$1.25 each. Alfred Averill, Clanwilliam, Man. 49-2

PURE BRED ROSE COMB WHITE LEGHORN cockerels, \$2.25 each. P. C. Moore, Danbury, Sask. 49-2

PURE BRED WHITE WYANDOTTE ROSE Comb cockerels, \$2.00 each. Mrs. R. Rice, Binacarth, Man. 49-2

WHITE WYANDOTTE COCKERELS—PURE bred Rose Comb, \$2.00 each; December only. R. Wyler, Lunenburg, Sask. 50-2

PURE BRED SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORN Cockerels, Mammoth Bronze Turkey Toms, \$4.00; hens, \$3.00. J. Lutz, Redvers, Sask.

MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEY TOMS \$4.00. Choice Silver Laced Wyandotte Cockerels \$2.00. Wm. Farb, Marshfield, Sask. 50-2

RHODE ISLAND REDS—CHOICE LOT—BOTH combs, \$1.75 each for quick sale. C. W. Ames, Eyebrow, Sask. 50-2

PURE BRED WHITE PEKIN DUCKS, \$2.00 each. Drakes, \$3.00 each. J. W. Whitley, Simpson, Sask.

60 FIVE PFD BARRED ROCK COCKERELS \$2.00 and \$2.50 each. Mrs. John Mc Ginitie, Tub-Id, Alta. 50-2

FOR SALE—100 PURE BRED BUFF ORP... ington hens, one and two years old, \$1.00 each. Dell Chely, Carnduff, Sask. 48-3

BARRED ROCK COCKERELS FROM PRIZE winners, \$4.00 each; two for \$7.00. J. Horner, Box 22, Macleod, Alberta. 48-4

WHITE HOLLAND TURKEYS—TOMS, \$6.00; hens, \$5.00. Unrelated matings. Mrs. A. D. Naimith, Wawanam, Man. 44-4

WHITE ROCK COCKERELS, ROSE COMB Brown Leghorn cockerels, \$2.00 each. Thomas Cumison, Hazel Cliffe, Sask. 49-3

FOR SALE—PURE BRED SINGLE COMB Rhode Island Red cockerels, from prize winners, \$2.00. S. S. Brecken, Mavor, Sask. 49-2

Evidence Not Wanting

classified advertising than any other farm paper in Western Canada. If any further evidence regarding The Guide's "pulling power" were needed it is forthcoming in the letters which The Guide receives from those who have used its columns:—

In the advertisement we put in your paper on White Wyandotte Cockerels for sale. We have had very good results—more orders than we could fill. I may say this is the first time I have used The Guide to advertise in, and I find it very satisfactory indeed, and I will use it again any time I have anything for sale or if I want anything. Wishing you all success in your advertising columns.—Fred Brown, Uss, Man., March 29, 1917.

I had so many orders I could not fill all the orders for drakes.—Mrs. Alf. Souler, Assiniboia, Sask., May 7, 1917.

My ad. in The Guide brought remarkable results. I intend to make use of its columns later in the season as we have about 2,500 birds for sale this fall.—T. A. King, Milton, Ont., July 6, 1917.

GUIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS BRING BEST RESULTS

Try an Ad. in The Guide and watch the orders flow.

THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE Winnipeg, Manitoba

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CHOICE BUFF ORPINGTON COCKERELS for sale, \$2.00 each. T. E. Helem, Modora, Man. 49-3

BUFF ORPINGTON COCKERELS FOR SALE \$2.25 each. A. V. Lott, Findlater, Sask. 48-3

MAMMOTH BRONZE COBBLERS, FIVE DOL... lars each. Otto Idso, Fillmore, Sask. 49-4

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SEED GRAIN AND GRASSES

WANTED—CARLOAD SEED OATS, SEND... price, sample, particulars, to Leonard McLeod, Trossachs, Sask. 50-2

EXCELSIOR WYFAT FOR SALE—SEAGER... Wheeler's high-class selection. R. O. Wyler, Lusland, Sask. 50-2

WANTED—CAR LOAD SEED WHEAT, No. 1... Northerns (Marquis variety). Send sample and price to J. S. Paterson, Quill Lake, Sask. 49-4

SEEDS WANTED—TIMOTHY, BROME, WEST... ern eye. Harris McFayden Co., Farm Seed Specialists, Winnipeg 241f

FOR SALE—ONE CAR LOAD BANNER OATS... government test 55% in six days, 75 cents f.o.b. Saltcoats, Sask. A. C. MacGregor. 48-4

FARM MACHINERY

CASE STEEL SEPARATOR, 48-42 IN GOOD... shape; gearless blower; saw Ruth loader. Will sell or trade for small oil tractor. Ray Harrison, Red Willow, Alta. 48-3

BARGAIN FOR CASH—3 ROLLER CRUSHER, 12 in. shaker screen, two extra sets of rollers. Good condition. A. Barr, Pinhook, Sask. 49-2

WANTED—SECOND HAND WELL-BORING... Machine. State condition and price for cash. Steensson, Precoville, Sask. 50-2

FARM LANDS

WANTED A FIRST CLASS FARM. GOOD money will be paid for a one year's option on a first class farm of approximately half section in really good district, preferably near Winnipeg. Having no practical experience of farming would like to arrange that the present owner remains in possession for one year and assists with advice and works with the intending purchaser on crop share basis. Farm must be clean and running profitably and satisfactory. Intending purchaser is in good financial condition; married, no children. Please give fullest information to Box 10, Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg.

FOR SALE—WE HAVE FARM LANDS FOR... sale cheap in Saskatchewan. Can satisfy the smallest prospective buyer. In some instances the sum of \$200.00 to \$300.00 will cover the first year's payment. Write us for particulars, stating district desired. Will gladly supply full details. The Royal Trust Company, Bank of Montreal, Winnipeg.

WHETHER YOU WISH TO BUY OR SELL... a farm, it will pay you to let us know your requirements. We are in a position to offer you the most efficient service of any Western agency. Let us prove it. Dominion Farm Exchange, 214 Somerset Block, Winnipeg. 481f

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WANTED—TO HEAR FROM OWNER OF... farm or unimproved land for sale. O. K. Hawley, Baldwin, Wisconsin. 50-2

A FEW GOOD IMPROVED FARMS TO RENT... Waddington & Crook, Assiniboia, Alberta. 44-7

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FENCE POSTS, LUMBER, SALT, SUGAR, cement and plaster. Lowest wholesale prices. Car lot. McCullum Lumber & Supply Co., Merchants Bank, Winnipeg. 471f

FENCE POSTS—SPLIT CEDAR, ROUND TAM... arce and Round Willow Fence Posts. Write for catalog, prices delivered at your station. Enterprise Lumber Co., Edmonton, Alta.

FOR SALE—CEDAR FENCE POSTS, CAR... lots. E. Hall, Oklaibathie, B.C. 50-5

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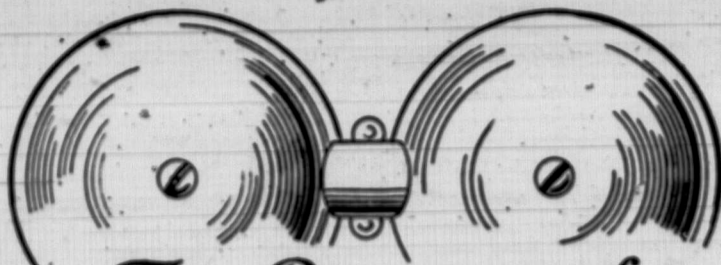
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¶ You miss up-to-the-minute market reports that your competitors in the next township get every day. That costs you money—real money time and again, when shrewd men who *know* the market take advantage of your isolation.

¶ You miss the *economy* of being able to telephone for supplies. Instead you must take a horse and man from work to go on errands. Think how often that has cost you half a day for man and beast. The telephone would save you that loss.

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¶ You miss the sociability that only the telephone can bring into a community—the sociability that keeps your wife from heart-breaking loneliness and your children from the "city-fever."

¶ You miss all this, that nearly 125,000 families on farms in Canada have found they cannot do without.

CAN YOU AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT THE TELEPHONE?

¶ Not when you consider that you can make it earn its low annual cost nearly every month in money saved and satisfaction gained—not when you realize the pleasure and convenience it will bring you—the anxiety and loneliness it will remove from your wife.

¶ Why, listen friend, folks who have the telephone say

"ITS THE BIGGEST LITTLE THING ON THE FARM"

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