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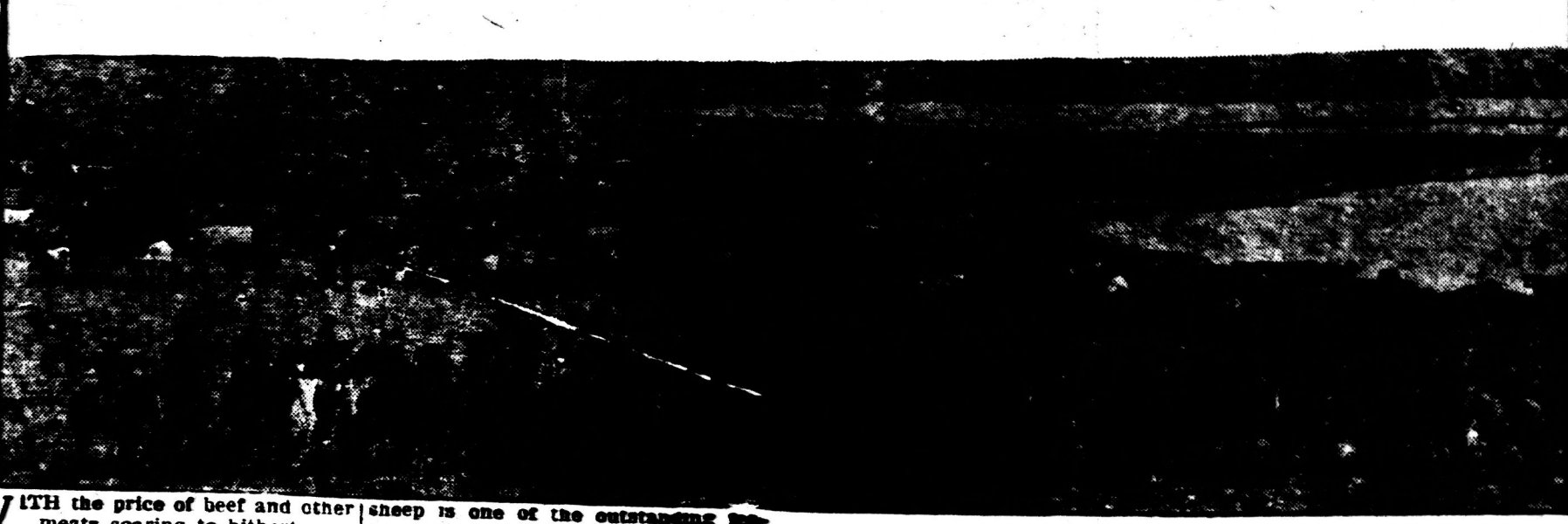
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of
Dr. J. C. Fletcher

In
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CASTORIA

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Canada and the Beef Problem



WITH the price of beef and other meats soaring to hitherto unheard-of heights, and every newspaper carrying stories about the future prices of boots and shoes and other articles made of leather, there may be a modicum of comfort to be taken from the fact that the farmers and ranchers of Western Canada are now turning their attention to cattle and stock raising to an extent that would not have been believed possible a few years ago.

The modern farmer is very wide awake, and especially those of the three prairie provinces of Canada, and naturally as soon as he saw the prices of livestock soaring on the large world markets he began to pay more attention to stock raising, gradually finding as he did so that by combining it with the grain production he was able to make two profits where he hitherto had one.

According to the figures given in the Census and Statistics Bulletin issued by the Department of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa, all three of the western provinces show large increases in the number of livestock raised in 1916, as compared with 1913, the year previous to the war. Although there had been a slight gradual increase in the years immediately preceding 1913, all classes of livestock except swine show greater percentage of increase in the years after the commencement of the war than those previous. The figures for hogs show a decrease, due to the several large war orders received by some of the western packing firms from the allies. One firm alone is said to have received an order for ham and bacon that called for 350,000 head of hogs. The increase in the number of sheep is one of the outstanding features of the government report. The increase, approximately 60 percent, which is very gratifying. Many of the smaller farmers of the west have started small flocks of sheep, as they have found out that the climate was very suitable to them, provided a certain amount of shelter was supplied during the short periods when the weather might otherwise be too severe.

There are several large flocks in the west, and the success that the owners of these have met with has prompted the smaller farmers to start flocks. An excellent price was obtained for wool this year, ranging as high as 26 cents a pound, and averaging ten pounds of wool per animal, the industry thus received another impetus. One sheep owner in Alberta was offered \$12.00 per head for his entire flock of 6,000 head. He refused the offer and also another of \$7.50 per head for 1,500 lambs. A short time after refusing these offers he purchased another 500 ewes.

The report estimates that there are at present 2,943,354 cattle in the three western provinces, 545,709 being milch cows and the balance beef and other cattle. This shows an increase of nearly 15 percent over 1913, and also the very large number of beef cattle that have been marketed during the past couple of years must be taken into consideration. Many large war orders were filled in Western Canada.

The Dominion and Provincial Governments and the Canadian Pacific Railway, through its Agricultural and Animal Industry Branch, have all aided the farmers in every possible way, and have published broadcast literature showing the best results that have



been obtained on the various experimental and demonstration farms. The Canadian Pacific has several of these farms throughout the West, with an expert in charge of each, and at every cattle sale these farms are represented by animals of a very high class, both for breeding, milch and beef animals. The experts in charge of these farms will at all times aid in any way they can the farmer who seeks advice with reference to the best stock to go in for and also the proper way to secure the greatest results.

As an instance of the demand for good breeding stock, eighty-one head of shorthorn cattle realized \$27,520 at a sale recently held at Calgary, Alta. The top price obtained was \$335, which was paid for a thoroughbred bull, while the average price was \$340, and when it is known that 65 of these animals were under eighteen months old, it will be seen that they were a fine lot of animals.

While there is no prospect of an immediate reduction in the price of meat as a result of the increased interest displayed by the farmers of the west, the prairies of the Canadian West have unlimited room for the raising of all kinds of livestock, and with the farmers taking a greater interest in livestock than ever before, Canada is destined to play a large part in solving the meat problem which the world now faces, and which is likely to become still more acute at the close of the war when European countries will be buying animals to replenish their herds.

Ontario Farmers!

Existing conditions demand that you give the question of seed special attention this year. Seed of desirable varieties and high germinating power will be factors influencing yields.

If you have not secured your seed

Let the Ontario Department of Agriculture help you

Farmers having Seed Grain for sale may forward samples to this office stating variety, price and quantity.

Farmers wishing to purchase Seed are also invited to communicate with this office stating variety and quantity and an effort will be made to put them in touch with farmers having seed for sale.

Write to—

GEO. L. WOLTZ,
 District Representative, Cayuga.

W. H. HEARST
 Minister of Agriculture

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Recruits Wanted for Production

Just as surely as lack of food is strangling Germany day-by-day, so plenty of food is winning the victory for the allies. The French armies, for instance, were never better fed than now, for France cannot forget the awful lesson of 1870—the failure of her food supply. To this she attributed the loss of that war.

To feed the French soldiers around Verdun, more than 25,500,000 pounds of food a week were required. This gives a faint idea of the colossal task of feeding an army. Canada and Britain have a huge army of fighting heroes on the line; every man MUST have plenty of food, in spite of a world shortage. Upon Canada's food production all principally rely.

The Farmers of Ontario Urgently Need Help

The Department of Agriculture appeals to men and boys to enlist in the farm help campaign. The Department appeals to men unfit for military service, or who find it impossible to enlist in the army. Do your "bit" by helping to increase production of foodstuffs. This is your hour of opportunity.

The farmers of Ontario need the help of retired farmers, of men following no occupation (retired), of business men who can spare a portion of their time. We appeal to all who can so arrange their ordinary affairs to plan to help some farmer friend, particularly in seed time and harvest.

Confer with your county District Representative of the Department of Agriculture, or write, "Farm Help Campaign," care Department of Agriculture, Toronto.

Ontario Department of Agriculture
 W. H. HEARST, Minister of Agriculture
 Parliament Buildings
 Toronto

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