

CURRENT COMMENT

FARM POLICY SUCCEEDING.

Sir John Willison recently made an interesting statement to the Canadian Club in which he contrasted the wealth produced by agriculture and industry, insisting at the same time on the necessity of co-operation between them. The whole controversy he considered had been distinguished by a lack of candor and of information. The experience of Free Trade England had not been different from that of Protectionist America, and the whole situation was capable of explanation by the movement of population from the country to the cities. Mechanical invention had displaced hand labor. To say that as many men should be employed on a thousand acres as a century ago was as reasonable as to say that as many printers should now be employed setting type as before the linotype was invented. Many villages and towns had decreased in size and he knew ten villages that had ceased to exist. Where 50 to 60 hotels formerly existed there was now no house where meals could be had. These facts explained the loss of thousands in every county before farming was considered at all. The idea that production had not increased or that it was less profitable had no ground in fact. Mr. Duncan Anderson had contrasted 1832 and 1920 and declared that, while farm help was scarce, with the introduction of machinery one farm hand could produce as much as ten formerly did, and the work was far more economically and efficiently done. This naturally effects a reduction in population, but does not materially effect production. Sir John doubted if any country in the world produced as much real wealth as the farmers of Ontario, and adduced the fact that the banks of Ontario now had deposits exceeding those of all the banks of Canada of a generation ago. Money could not now be lent on farm mortgages. Chattel mortgages were as scarce as passenger pigeons, and he doubted that farmers had been the victims of excessive taxation. Nothing was worse than to force people on the land when by crossing the border they were able to find every form of industrial employment. There must be a policy of developing all the differ-

ent opportunities our resources provided, and these would be undiscovered should we fail to support this policy. The man who created a great industry and turned raw material into wealth, benefits the whole people, even if he do amass some wealth. Sir John quoted Robert Blatchford's parable of capital and labor. Two savages fought for a canoe. They were both hurt and the canoe was damaged. Had they co-operated instead of fighting both could have had canoes and gone fishing.

A WORLD OUT OF JOINT.

Nothing has been more unexpected in European politics since the war than the fickleness of the Greek electorate. Venizelos is easily the greatest man in Greece and her greatest benefactor for generations. He has enlarged her territory after saving her from the alliance with Turkey and Bulgaria which Constantine would have led her into, and in reward for all this they turn him out, threaten his life, and call for the renegade Constantine. Is it a matter for surprise that the United States refuses to be mixed up with European affairs or that Britain arranges to get on with Russia? The tendency of Europe after the tragedy of these heart-breaking years to return, like the dog to its vomit and the sow to its wallowing in the mire, should convince the least, or the most, worldly-wise that what Europe needs, and perhaps the rest of the world as well is not merely change of government, a different economics system, or a different social order, but a change of heart in the people themselves as well as in the nations. The world is distraught, and there is no unity of consciousness in humanity. The symptoms in this nation or that, of boycott in India, Sinn Fein in Ireland, Bolshevism in Russia, Constantinism in Greece, militarism in France, and the domination of the drone spirit over that of the worker everywhere is not to be cured by any political reform. The evil lies deeper, and is accompanied by terrible symptoms like the famine-threat to 20,000,000 lives in China and to millions of children in Europe. If one looked out over the world as one might over a farm, he would say it was falling to ruin. Who is to speak the word of power and set the nations to rights again?



HERE was a jolly miller
Lived by the Zuyder Zee;
He was the gayest Hollander
That ever I did see.
The secret of his cheerfulness,
He told one day to me:
"I've always been too busy
To have time for gloom," said he.

END OF THE TRIO OF FAMOUS DWARFS

DEATH OF COUNT MAGRI CLOSURE CAREER BEGUN WITH BARNUM.

The Tom Thums for Three-Quarters of a Century Have Been Household Names Throughout the Civilized World

With the death in Middleboro, Mass., of Count Primo Magri there passed the last of a famous trio of midgets, whose names for nearly three-quarters of a century have been household words in the civilized world.

In 1842 P. T. Barnum chanced to see an 8-year-old boy in a village near New York. The boy's name was Charles Stratton; he was the son of a drayman; but the boy's dwarf body appealed to the instincts of the great showman. He sought out the boy's father and offered him \$3 a week for use of the boy. The father agreed and the next week Barnum exhibited him in New York under the name "General Tom Thumb."

Love At First Sight.

This was the beginning of one of the greatest of Barnum's attractions, but it was not until 1862, when Barnum met Lavinia Warren, of Middleboro, Mass., a 29-year-old midget, that he found a partner for Tom Thumb. It is said that Barnum here disclosed his genius when he saw the girl, who even before Barnum had found her had been exhibited as a sideshow attraction by a showman along the Ohio River. He arranged for a meeting between his protégé and the miniature Lavinia, and, as his match-making instincts told him, it was a case of love at first sight. The pair were married February 10, 1863, at Grace Church in New York.

Barnum was an able press agent; he managed that the whole world should hear about it. There were all the ceremony and trappings that mark a fashionable wedding. Presents came from many sources; gifts were received from Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Mrs. William Bassett, Mrs. James Gordon Bennett, and August Belmont. The day following the wedding the couple visited the White House and were the guests of President and Mrs. Lincoln.

Then followed years of touring, beginning in the Civil War camps and not stopping until almost every country of the world had been visited. It was a tour of triumph, royalty was as eager to see them as were the common people; hardly a ruler of Europe that did not give them audience, and the photographs of the midget couple at one time were said to have been in more family albums than any person's in the world's history. "It has been said," Mrs. Tom Thumb once was quoted, "that the general had been kissed by more women than any other living man. I can with equal assurance assert that I have shaken hands with more human beings in all stations of life than any other woman in existence."

The Second Tom Thumb.

The general died in 1885 and Mrs. Tom Thumb two years later married Count Primo Magri, an Italian dwarf who had made his first appearance in public exhibitions in Bologna in 1865. He came by his title, and also a pension, through Pope Pius IX. He made his first American trip in 1878 and thereafter became one of Barnum's attractions. After his marriage to Tom Thumb's widow he succeeded to the name that Barnum had made famous, and was generally known as the second Tom Thumb. The two spent nearly the whole of their remaining years upon the stage and in sideshows, and in that time amassed a considerable fortune. They retired some five years ago to their home in Middleboro, Mass., where they lived in the miniature furnishings their long years had provided.

Mrs. Tom Thumb died less than a year ago at the age of 78. Recently

Count Magri's health began to fail, and he planned to return to his old home in Italy. The fortune that had been, somehow had almost disappeared, and in order to gain money for his trip he sold at auction the furniture and personal effects, the gifts and mementoes that had been collected through a lifetime. The amount realized was pitifully small. But the return to Italy was not to be, for within two weeks after the auction was held the count had succumbed to the illness, and so ends the famous trio.

FERTILIZERS HELP CONTROL INSECT PESTS.

Anything which will give the plant best growing conditions—a well prepared seed bed, properly fertilized, good seed and a suitable rotation, will enable it to survive a greater amount of unfavorable weather, to be sown reasonably late and yet survive more or less severe winters, and above all to overcome an amount of infestation which would damage or even destroy a crop less well handled. A fertilizer which will hasten maturity is recommended for all southern Indiana soils and the use of lime on most farms is also much needed. Since the growth and vigor of a plant are directly related to Hessian fly, jointworm and wheatgrain injury, it is important that the soil be not only properly manured but it should be so handled as to give a good seed bed and where the ground is to be plowed, this can best be done by plowing before the middle of August and subsequently harrowing as is necessary. Later plowing, even when thorough, is never as satisfactory as earlier plowing and subsequent harrowing.—Indiana Experiment Station.

ONE WEEK'S BEEF

All There is In Cold Storage In Canada.

How long would the foods in cold storage to-day last us if every other means of supply were closed? Probably few people could answer.

Compared with the holdings for October, 1919, according to a statement by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, our present storage of beef is 15,642,955 lbs. less than it was a year ago, "or only sufficient, if all other sources of supply failed, to meet the domestic demand for slightly more than one week."

"However, present slaughtering are going largely directly into consumption," the Department's statement adds. "Only from 30 to 40 per cent of the visible kill per annum does actually go into cold storage before entering into domestic consumption, and a large part of domestic demand is invariably supplied by local trade and from farm killings. In view of the heavier operating costs, combined with the lower status of hides and the more unsettled condition of the overseas market, when compared with conditions of the market movements to date have been well taken care of at fair-ly firm prices—a condition of affairs considering the steady retail prices of meats, which is the 'golden mean' for producer and consumer."

IMPROVED METHODS.

There's always room at the top for the man who belongs there. Daring has value only as it is combined with judgment.

Work was once a thing for the slave; now it is the recreation of the free.

Improved methods make for accomplishment; accomplishment only increases the earning power, broadens life, adds to its interest and usefulness, and prepares for a comfortable old age.—Preston M. Nolan.

The Arctic fox is brown in summer and white in winter.

Public Health Talks

(By Dr. J. J. Middleton)

Children Should Have Plenty of Sleep, Well Ventilated Rooms and Plenty of Recreation; Parents Should Make It a Practice to See That Their Children Develop Regularly in Their Health Habits; the Growing Child Can Make the Best Progress in Home and School if Proper Care is Given.

All questions appertaining to health which are asked by readers of this paper will be answered in these columns. All you have to do is to state your question clearly and address your letter to Dr. J. J. Middleton, Parliament Buildings, Toronto. The answers will appear in these columns in about two or three weeks.

Children as a rule do not get enough sleep. On account of their rapid growth and development and their almost ceaseless inclination for play and activity their little frames get physically exhausted and need plenty of rest. Only during sleep is absolute rest obtained for the brain and nervous system generally. The infant should spend most of its time in sleep; the child of four at least half of its time. The child of seven should have at least eleven hours, and the child of nine as much as ten hours or more. Children require more sleep in winter than in summer, and this necessity should be recognized; they should go to bed early, for the most refreshing sleep is obtained in the first few hours after going to bed. Many people do not realize the importance of the children going to bed early. Entertainments or evening parties at home, with all the noise and excitement that accompanies such an event, put the children of the family into a highly nervous condition, especially if they are not sent to bed at their regular hours. Regularity of the hour for bedtime, as well as for rising should be insisted on in case of children up to ten or eleven years of age.

Easy to Bed.

The child will readily adopt these habits if it is trained to them, and it is just as easy to teach a child the right way as it is the wrong. To let a child stay up late at night is a practice that has nothing to commend it. It is allowed by some parents as a matter of expediency or personal comfort, because they will say the child, if it goes to bed early at night, wakes up the whole household at day-break next morning. This, however, is again a matter of habit, for up till nine years of age the child should have at least ten hours' sleep.

The brain benefits from regularity of rest, not less than the stomach from regularity in meals. The signs of insufficient sleep while mainly mental, are largely physical as well. They are anemic, languid, dull, drowsy and stupid. The appetite is poor, the growth is stunted. The face is pale, the eyelids are heavy; the eyes are sunken and dark ringed. These children are not inclined to muscular activity and are incapable of learning. Occasionally children showing such signs are found in the upper standards of a school. They are often hardworking, clever children.

When found, they should be spoken to and advised, and the parents also warned of the risk of overworking the brain. Less time given to study, and more to recreation and sleep will often work wonders in such cases. In cities, children of the very poor often show the effects of lack of sleep through selling papers, sometimes till midnight. In the country districts children often suffer unnecessary fatigue through the strain of home work. Teachers, of course, insist that the junior pupils should do a certain amount of homework, and rightly so, but the nature of the study and time required to master it should be carefully arranged. In no case should the work given children at home interfere with their time for recreation or sleep. The child's bedroom and how it is ventilated is a very important matter; the teacher should certainly give some instruction in this subject. Good pure air is as necessary for the brain during sleep as during wakeful activity. The air of bedrooms is often vitiated by closing the windows and lighting the lamp or gas for some time before the room is to be occupied. The lamp should not be lighted until the room is entered for the night, or else the windows should be kept open. If contaminated or bad air is breathed during sleep, it will produce effects no less serious than those produced by breathing such air during the waking hours. Children as a result, will be dull and stupid next day, not inclined to have much appetite, and generally feeling out of sorts. In this condition it is practically impossible to teach them anything that will remain a their memory.

Well Ventilated Rooms.

The bedroom should be kept airy and well ventilated. The body will not suffer if well and properly clothed. If consumptives and babies can sleep in the open air and thrive on it there is no reason why healthy adults and children should not do so also.

Children should also be taught to go to the lavatory at the same time each day. This practice if consistently carried out makes for health, in that it tends to prevent constipation with its attendant ill arising from general lowering of tone and loss of appetite.

Plenty of restful sleep and the right kind of outdoor exercise together with good nourishing food, are the essentials for a healthy active childhood. With these supplied, the growing child may be expected to make the best progress at home and at school provided its general health is good.

If parents will only make it a practice to see that their children develop regularly in their health habits, and especially so with regard to the time of going to bed, a lot of good will result, and the child besides being kept healthy will have been taught methodical ideas that will be of benefit to it all through life.

DON'T HOARD

By Dr. James I. Vance.

Have a savings bank account, if possible, but don't hoard. Don't starve your soul to feed your locker. Don't diminish yourself or your happiness or your usefulness just to increase your account. The life is more than meat and the body than raiment.

Money in itself is worthless. Its only value is in what it can do. There is nothing more foolish than trying to see how much filthy lucre you can pile up.

Hoarding is a process that reacts disastrously on character. Under its baneful influences the juices of generosity dry up and one's personality contracts. The soul withers, and a man's nature becomes small and sordid and hard and mean.

Therefore, don't hoard. What I am saying about money applies to everything. Don't hoard anything. Don't hoard your social and mental traits. If you do, they will wither, too. Don't hoard your religion. What a blunder to try to be a miser with the one thing that was meant to make us big-hearted and generous!

MAKING MORE MONEY

INGENUOUS WAYS IN WHICH WOMEN COMES HAVE BEEN INCREASED.

"There's a young lady out here waiting to see you, sir, and she says it's most important. I told her you were busy, but she said that she'd wait if she had to stay there a week."

The head buyer of one of the largest department stores in Los Angeles smiled in spite of himself at this evidence of feminine obstinacy. The patient person in the ante-room probably wanted to sell him something that was worthless, but—

"Oh, well, show her in," sighed the buyer. "The sooner we get it over with, the better."

The moment the caller appeared the man behind the big mahogany desk knew that he would have to steel himself against yielding to her wiles, for she was not only young but exceptionally pretty. Without making the slightest attempt to use the ammunition with which nature had so plentifully supplied her, the young woman took up her position in the centre of the office and demanded: "What's the principal trouble with the aprons you're selling now?"

"Trouble?" echoed the buyer. "I didn't know there was any."

"That's because you are a man,"

The very genius of religion is to forget self in the effort to promote the happiness and welfare of others.

But you have seen people who are hoarders as though they were afraid there might not be enough of God to go around, as though residential accommodations in heaven are limited. This is the worst kind of hoarding—to get a spiritual blessing and try to keep it to yourself.

If you hoard it, it will spoil.

This was the lesson of the manna rained down in the desert from heaven to feed Israel on the journey to the Land of Promise. Every morning there was a fresh supply for the day's need. But some long-sighted investors decided to corner the market. They proposed to stock up against a day when the heavenly rain might cease and there would be a manna shortage in the camp.

When they examined what they had stored up, they found that the manna "had bred worms and stank." It was heaven's way of saying to foolish, selfish, sordid human nature: "Don't hoard."

Don't be a hoarder and don't be a spender. Be a user. Be a server.

"I'll wager that Out of every five women who wear the usual type of bungalow apron have found the same trouble with them that I have. They won't stay put. The straps slip off the shoulders at the slightest movement. That's because they were designed by a man. Now if a woman had made the pattern—Here she slipped an apron out of her shopping bag, and, almost before the buyer knew what she was doing, had demonstrated the advantages of her ideas in connection with it. As a result she left the office with an order for 20 dozen, which she made up entirely by herself.

That was three years ago. Now June Rand, 12 years of age, is president of her own company in Los Angeles and the only limit to her apron-hoarding-pajama business appears to be the available supply of materials.

DANCING MANIA IN THE ARCTIC.

The Jazz fever has broken out among the Eskimos of the fair north. Mounted policemen report that dancing occupies all the spare moments of the northeners, and that a great igloo, presumably of ice, has been built on Coronation Gulf, for a dance hall.

James A. Garfield was the only ordained preacher to be elected president of the United States.

PAINTED HORSE WAS TRICK OF SWINDLERS

RACE TRACK CROOKS PULL OFF SOME WEIRD AND FANTASTIC STUTS IN CRIMES OF TURFDOM.

The Central Criminal Court in London has been for eleven days engaged in the investigation of five charges of turf conspiracy and fraud, involving tales of racing tricks and like of which would have taxed the brain of the most imaginative of sporting novelists to conceive. All the charges rested more or less upon the substitution of one horse for another, but one was invested with ingenuity and daring of a very special kind.

Briefly, it necessitated the painting of a well known horse to represent one which has no existence, except as described on an entry form for a certain race. The plot was laid to rake in money in bets, and its successful execution required the transformation of the phantom horse into one that could not lose. The conspirators were resourceful enough to do it, although it meant the transfiguration of a good bay mare with several distinctive marks to fill the description of a brock cock supposed to have been bought out of the army for nineteen guineas. And the scheme was the more brazenly impudent inasmuch as the substituted horse had only a few months previously actually run over the same course on which he was to perform in disguise.

With some kind of dope not only was a bay mare turned into a brown, but a white blaze on the forehead and a white fetlock were effectually treated in the same way. Thus faked, the mare ran and, of course, won, bringing profit to those interested in her to the extent of several thousands of pounds. After the race petrol and peroxide served to restore the mare to her former state. In the meantime, however, another small difficulty had been got over, namely, the buying in of the mare at a considerable price—it was a selling race she won—for, of course, her connections had, in order to keep their secret, to see that she did not pass into other hands. With the ownership of the animal unchanged there appeared to be every likelihood of the fraud passing undiscovered. So it did for some time. Indeed, it might have remained buried, but for the indiscretion of one of the parties to it in another matter, and the fact that so many people were necessarily in the secret as to render a disclosure almost inevitable once suspicion was aroused.

When laid on the trail the detectives quickly exposed a series of nefarious transactions, which had been inspired by a man against whom there were already convictions for fraud. This person, who was passing under the description of a gentleman rider, was now sent to prison for three years.

WASTE PAPER BOOM SUDDENLY COLLAPSES.

Mills Refuse to Buy and Seller Now Gets \$5 Instead of \$25.

Few commodities are subject to such wide fluctuations in market price as waste paper. This has always been the experience of those engaged in the scientific reclaiming of waste paper, rags, etc.

At the present time waste paper is worth a fraction of the value it had even a month ago. The waste paper boom has collapsed.

Up to a few weeks ago buyers of waste paper were paying as high as \$25 a ton for it. Industries and other institutions with large quantities of commercial waste for sale found their by-products a good source of revenue. The waste paper people were glad to pay that price as they could get around \$45 a ton from the pulp and paper mills.

Now the mills refuse to buy. They are determined to break the waste paper market. Waste paper can only be sold at about \$20 a ton, which makes it impossible for those in the business to pay much over \$5 a ton to those from whom they buy. One firm which does a large business in waste paper has announced to the firms that supply it with waste paper:

"Waste paper is a commodity. Like every other commodity its price depends on the law of supply and demand."

"We're glad to buy waste paper—always glad to get it from any source. For waste paper is our business."

"But if the mills don't want it, it loses its value. And just lately the supply has far exceeded the demand."

"Consequently prices have dropped—the boom in waste paper values has come to an end."

"Naturally we can't pay more than the market price."

"So the price we pay for waste paper has dropped also."

"More than that—it's dropped from war-time standards to a far greater extent than any other commodity we know of."

"Prices to-day are only half or even one-third of those that ruled two months ago."

DIFFICULT TO LEARN.

The Chinese pocket dictionary contains no less than 10,000 characters, which one must learn in order to claim any real familiarity with the language. However, an acquaintance with three of four thousand symbols is all that the average native has, and is said to be possible to get along with a vocabulary of 1,000.

IRISH LACE FOR HOUSEHOLD LINENS.

Irish lace is now making its appearance for household linens. Many of the new pieces show trimming of Irish crochet insertions, borders and motifs. Irish lace handkerchiefs and wears exceedingly well, as well as linen.