

AUCTION SALE

of Farm Stock and Implements. The undersigned Auctioneer will sell by public auction at Lots 57 and 58, Con. 2, Old Survey, W.G.R., Bentinck, (just west of Durham on the Parker Farm), on MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1917, the following: 1 span working horses, 7 and 8 years old; 2 cows, calf at foot; 1 steer rising 2 years; 5 one-year-old steers and heifers; 1 sow, with litter six weeks old; 1 sow, newly farrowed; 50 hens, 1 Frost & Wood binder, 6 ft.; 1 Peter Hamilton mower, 1 Bissell roller; 1 turnip pulper; 1 Peter Hamilton cultivator; 1 Cockshutt disc drill 13 discs; 1 horse rake, 10 ft. wide; 1 heavy wagon, 3-inch tire; 1 top buggy; 1 Frost & Wood double plow; 1 single plough; 1 set harrows; 1 disc harrow; 1 set double harness; 1 set

single harness; 1 wheelbarrow; 1 wagon box; 1 hay rack; 1 pig rack; 1 Melotte cream separator; 400 bus. oats, a quantity of hay, and several other articles. In addition to the above, there will also be offered for sale 2 colts, rising 4 years. The implements and harness above named are all nearly new. Everything must be sold, as the proprietor has sold his farm and intends moving to town. Sale will commence at 1 o'clock. Terms:—Hay, grain, and all sums of \$5 and under, cash; over that amount, 9 months' credit will be given. In furnishing approved joint notes, five per cent. per annum will be allowed off for cash at time of sale. A.H. Redford, Dan. McLean, Prop. Auc.

Back to the Land

By Farmer John

I have been wondering for some time if the readers of The Chronicle would enjoy perusing an occasional contribution relating to farm topics. I have interviewed the Editor and he has graciously consented to give this preliminary effusion a place in the columns of his widely-read periodical.

I found it difficult to choose my initial subject, but after mature deliberation I decided to write a few sentences on that somewhat stale urban cry of "Back to the Land." To whom is this mandate addressed? From the wording of the command it is evident that farmers' sons are meant, as a fellow can't go back to a place where he never has been.

What would happen if all the men brought up on farms and now living in towns and cities, should suddenly be obsessed with the idea that they must go back to the land? It would be no laughing matter, I can tell you. The sick would go unattended, for nearly all the best doctors are country bred. The urban sinners would go to the bad, for the majority of city preachers were born in country homes. The boys and girls attending the city schools, and the young men and women at the universities would have to be taught, by women, for nine-tenths of the male teachers and professors of Ontario went barefoot to a country school. The plaintiffs and defendants would have to fight their legal battles without the aid of lawyers, (it would cost less, however) for scores upon scores of our lawyers argued their first case with the hired man, who generally won out in the end. Then, there are eminent judges, successful business men, expert railroad officials, wide-awake manufacturers, observant editors, by the hundreds, who saw the first light of day in some humble farmhouse.

Wouldn't it be simply awful if all these sons of farmers should "get up and get" back to the farm again?

"But," exclaims the Back-to-the-land advocate, "I didn't mean those men. I want the married laboring man to return to the land (which, by the way, he should never have left). There is no place like the farm to raise children." But where shall the married laborer go? In the neighborhood in which I live, there is not a farmer who could keep a married farm hand the year round. I have travelled considerably in Old Ontario and have yet to see a district where houses for farm hands are the rule. Here and there, a little frame house or brick cottage may be seen where the hired man lives, but they are as scarce as hen's teeth. I almost forgot to mention, however, that some farmers have built fine new houses for themselves, and generously turned over the old house to the hired man. The fact of the matter is that comparatively few farmers need a man the whole year round, anyway. But when confronted with the foregoing facts, the Back-to-the-land advocate says the married city laborer should take up the farms that are at present unoccupied and untilled throughout the province.

And on the face of it this seems a reasonable proposition, for, as everyone knows, there are a few deserted farms in every township. However, these farms have been abandoned for very good reasons, and to persuade some inexperienced laborer from the city to buy one of these agricultural derelicts is nothing short of a crime. As a rule, it is not easy to induce a fellow who has been raised on a farm to buy such good-for-nothing land, but unfortunately, it is often quite easy to persuade a man who knows nothing about farming that a fortune can be made in a few years on these deserted farms, and he sells his little suburban property, with its comfortable cottage, well-kept yard and snug stable, and buys a cheap farm. Then commences a series of hardships equal to any endured by any of our Proton or Glenelg pioneers, but with little of the hope and joy the pioneers experienced in their rough, but exhilarating battle with the forests in days gone by.

Right in this neighborhood, a hard-working laborer from some distant city was induced to settle on a farm that I wouldn't take as a gift if I had to live on it. No! Not if stock and implements were thrown in. This poor chap, with little money, and less experience, put up a brave fight for a living, but the odds were against him, and he went to the wall in less than two years. It was a pathetic struggle from start to finish. If some of these Back-to-the-Land wisecracks knew what sorrow they have caused they wouldn't be so ready with their gratuitous advice. There is no doubt that occasionally some energetic fellow may succeed in making a fortune out of a poor farm, but he is the exception. But what follows? His success is published in every paper. Photographs of his farm, buildings, poultry, wagon loads of eggs, etc., etc., are

scattered broadcast, and as a result, many a city fellow, whether he is a laborer, or not, who is not doing as well as he would like, says to his wife, "Mary, let us try the land for a change. I believe there's money in it." He fancied he heard the call, "Go thou and do like-wise," but he went and did like 'foolish' instead, and in the end returned to the city a sadder poorer, but a wiser man. I suppose I shall be called "back number" when I say to the city man, "Stay in the city", for if you don't know enough to make a living where you have always worked, you certainly will not stand much of a chance to make a living where you've never worked. As for the doctors, lawyers, etc., well, I think they have enough brains to know that they are better off where they are.

TRAVERSTON.

W. J. Cook brought home three fine fat cattle from W. G. Lawrence's sale. He'll have to keep them under lock and key, as beef prices are soaring.

W. R. Wallace visited the parental homestead in Normanby over the week-end.

J. J. Peart and his nephew, Emerson, have their drag-saw outfit at work the past few days. John O. Greenwood has a pile big enough to keep him splitting till Easter.

W. Paylor sold a good work-horse on Fair Day.

One trouble leads to another. Your scribe took an agency for a fertilizer firm, and then A. B. McLellan said the stuff was no good unless sowed by a fertilizer disc drill, and shipped one home with him on Thursday last. Just watch the tatties grow next June.

Rev. E. S. Moyer's sermon on Sunday was specially noted for its earnestness.



Are YOU in this? Enlist NOW in the 248th Battn.

ONTARIO FARMERS

EXISTING WAR CONDITIONS DEMAND THAT YOU GIVE THE QUESTION OF SEED SPECIAL ATTENTION THIS YEAR. SEED OF DESIRABLE VARIETIES AND HIGH GERMINATION 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 OR POTATOES FOR SALE may forward Samples to this office, stating varieties, Price and Quantity.

FARMERS WISHING TO PURCHASE SEED, are also invited to communicate with this office, stating variety and quantity, and in effort will be made to put them in touch with farmers having seed for sale.

WRITE TO

W. H. HEARST Minister of Agriculture

H. C. DUFF District Representative, MARKDALE, ONT.

To City, Town and Village Dwellers in Ontario

A Vegetable Garden for Every Home



IN this year of supreme effort Britain and her armies must have ample supplies of food, and Canada is the great source upon which they rely. Everyone with a few square feet of ground can contribute to victory by growing vegetables.

Four Patriotic Reasons for Growing Vegetables

- 1. It saves money that you would otherwise spend for vegetables.
2. It helps to lower the "High cost of living."
3. It helps to enlarge the urgently needed surplus of produce for export.
4. Growing your own vegetables saves labor of others whose effort is needed for other vital war work.

The Department of Agriculture will help you

The Ontario Department of Agriculture appeals to Horticultural Societies to devote at least one evening meeting to the subject of vegetable growing; manufacturers, labor unions, lodges, school boards, etc., are invited to actively encourage home gardening. Let the slogan for 1917 be, "A vegetable garden for every home."

Organizations are requested to arrange for instructive talks by practical gardeners on the subject of vegetable growing. In cases where it is impossible to secure suitable local speakers, the Department of Agriculture will, on request, send a suitable man.

The demand for speakers will be great. The number of available experts being limited, the Department urgently requests that arrangements for meetings be made at once; if local speakers cannot be secured, send applications promptly.

The Department suggests the formation of local organizations to stimulate the work by offering prizes for best vegetable gardens. It is prepared to assist in any possible way any organization that may be conducting a campaign for vegetable production on vacant lots. It will do so by sending speakers, or by supplying expert advice in the field.

To any one interested, the Department of Agriculture will send literature giving instructions about implements necessary and methods of preparing the ground and cultivating the crop. A plan of a vegetable garden indicating suitable crops to grow, best varieties and their arrangement in the garden, will be sent free of charge to any address.

Write for Poultry Bulletin Hens are inexpensive to keep, and you will be highly repaid in fresh eggs. Write for free bulletin which tells how to keep hens. Address letters to "Vegetable Campaign," Department of Agriculture, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

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

Into the hardware store he went. A silver quarter for nails he spent. Nor gave scant note to the packet's size.

As overhead were murky skies.

Next morn, the storm did wildy blow; "I'll fix up things to save a row, "The stair-step needs a nail or two "The back door hinge has lost a screw.

"I'll drive a nail, its place to take, "And then, a new pig trough I'll make."

He drove a nail into the door. The stair-step got a couple more: Some fourteen in the trough went home.

"Now, I will fix the stalls up some."

"Say, sonny, bring that parcel o'er And pick me out of nails a score." The lad brought o'er the paper brown.

It gave no clink as he threw it down

He flattened out each folded side. To see no nail was there to hide. "Say, dad," he piped, "that makes me squeal.

"But sky-high has gone the price of steel."

ABERDEEN

On Saturday evening about fifty friends and neighbors gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McLean to do honor to their only son, Fletcher who has been attending the O. A. C. college in Guelph, and who came home Friday wearing the uniform of the 253rd Battalion (Queen's Own Highlanders). Rev. Mr. Ashton of Mulock very ably handled the program of the evening, and contributed largely to it himself by concise addresses. Near the close of the program, Fletcher was asked to come forward, and while a well-worded address was being read by Mr. Dan. McLean, the soldier was presented with a wrist watch, signet ring and purse. Though taken entirely by surprise, he made a very suitable reply, and when the program was over, the soldier's father thanked the people in appreciation for their kindness. A dainty lunch was served, and an enjoyable hour spent, after which the evening closed with the singing of "Blest be the Tie that Binds," and three hearty cheers for our soldier friend, his mother and father, and for the boys who are fighting. We all join in wishing Fletcher every

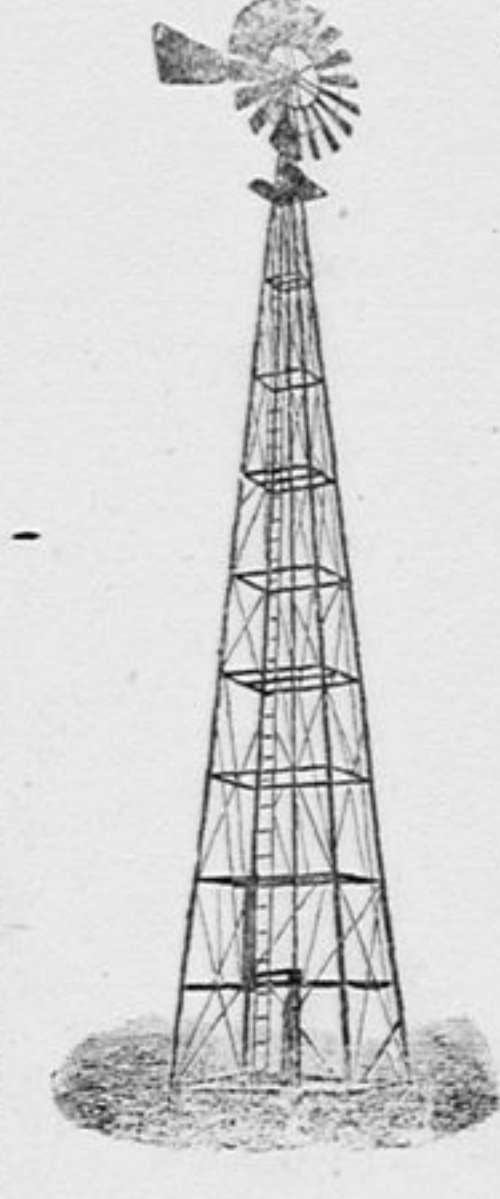
FARMERS! ATTENTION!

1 1/4 H.P. Gasoline Engine for Sale

Complete with Pump Jack. New outfit, and will be sold at a bargain.

Chevrolet Garage, Durham or J. F. Saunders, Box 2, Durham

The ONTARIO WIND ENGINE and PUMP COMPANY



Manufacture the Cheapest and the Best Pumping Outfit on the Market.

Sold by W. D. Connor

Durham - Ontario

success in his military career, and a safe and speedy return.

The Red Cross ladies met at the home of Mrs. Dave Lamb last Saturday. Fourteen ladies were present, 35 pairs of socks turned in, and the collection amounted to \$3.90. Miss Mary McCracken and Mrs. Smith were appointed to represent our society at the meeting of the township society for the purpose of packing supplies. Some musical selections on the phonograph and organ were much appreciated, and after a dainty lunch, the meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem. The next place of meeting is at Mrs. Jas. Haslett's, on Saturday, March 10. Quite a number from here attended the Red Cross carnival in Durham and report a good time. Mr. Malcolm McLean of Didsbury, Alta., who has been spending a couple of months with friends here, returned on Tuesday to the west. Misses Mae and Lizzie Grierson spent Sunday at their home.

THE LATE MRS. McEACHERN.

Mrs. Jos. McEachern, one of the most respected residents of Egremont township, passed away at her home, 10th concession, on Tuesday, the 13th inst. Deceased was the only daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Mc-

Bride of the 8th of Egremont, two of the township's first pioneers. She resided with her parents until her marriage with Mr. McEachern over 20 years ago. She was in her 50th year and was very much esteemed by all who knew her, as a kind, loving and affectionate wife and mother. Deceased was a consistent member of the Woodland Presbyterian church, and the funeral services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. S. H. Moyer, of Conn. Her funeral to Woodland cemetery on Friday was largely attended by friends and neighbors. The family who are left to mourn besides her husband are: Ethel (Mrs. H. McDougall), who lived near her; Myrtle (teacher in Proton); Mary, John, Willie, Nellie and Grace, at home, and one brother, John McBride, of the 6th concession. The relatives from a distance who attended the funeral were: Albert and John Mountain of St Marys; and Albert Dolson of Cheltenham, an uncle; Jane and Susan McNichol, nieces, Toronto; and John Ernest McBride, of the 153rd Battalion, St Thomas, nephew. Her memory to her family will often be a guiding star to help them over the rough places through life and it might be well said of the departed that "she hath done what she could."—Mt. Forest Representative.