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MILKING THE COW

The farmers are being urged, and very properly so, to adopt the modern and approved system of cow-testing in order to ascertain the value of each cow and determine whether it will pay best to feed and care for them or hand them over to the executioner.

But the question that is agitating the farmers of this province today is Who is milking the cow and what return is the farmer getting for his milk? It is pretty well known that in this million and a quarter dairy farm of ours the milk supply is abundant, but it matters little whether it is abundant or scarce if the cow is being milked on the ground or into the milkman's pocket instead of into the farmer's pail.

They are milking the cow all right but where is the milk going? Where does the butter fat go? Where the butter? The milkers-in-chief are drawing some \$13,500 more in wages for themselves than their predecessors did although they were engaged at the same wages; they have generally raised the wages of their friends for whom they made places on the farm they were entrusted with and they are milking the cow for all they are worth.

The situation recalls a cartoon showing two farmers in a dispute over the ownership of a cow. To settle the dispute they engaged a lawyer. The cartoon shows one farmer pulling the cow by the horns, the other pulling her by the tail, while the lawyer is calmly sitting milking the cow.

This is the position today in this province with the Liberal government in the place of the lawyer—busily milking the cow.

When anything like this occurs on a farm—what happens? The farmer takes his milkman into the barn and quietly informs him that his services are no longer required. This is what the farmers of this province should do right now to the men who are milking their cow.

WHAT IS ECONOMY?

Everybody should know by this time what economy is, as we have had it preached and practised in this province for some time. Yet there are so many different varieties of it in these troublous days that a little study of the question may not prove unprofitable.

One of the dictionary definitions of the word is "the system of rules and regulations by which anything is managed." Another is "thrifty and careful administration; management without loss or waste."

As an illustration of the first definition the following example may be apropos: Suppose the government called for tenders for, say, 100,000 feet of lumber and suppose they receive a tender from a political opponent for, say, \$29 a thousand; also one from a political friend, who helped them during the election, for \$32 a thousand and they accept the latter. This would be economy as it would help to save that man for the party.

Suppose, further, that the successful tenderer has no lumber of his own and is obliged to buy it before selling it to the government. His neighbor, who had tendered for \$29, has plenty of it and can afford to sell to him as cheaply as he could to the government. So he buys from him at \$29 and makes three dollars a thousand or \$300 on, the 100,000 feet of lumber without putting a hand to anything except the contract. This also would be economy as the contractor would be doubly saved to the party. Of course the government would be making a present of \$300 to its friend but this does not alter the fact that the government's "rules and regulations for managing the party are economical—for the government. We are not speaking of the province.

The other definition, "management without loss or waste," is quite simple when we take into consideration upon whom the loss or waste is to fall. If it falls upon the province of course it can easily become a serious matter as there are so many avenues through which a loss or waste to the province might become a very economical proposition for the government, and vice versa. There are rumors that the vice versa end of it is looming up threateningly at present and that some things "saved" by the government have already gone bad on their hands, but the eternal principles of political economy, as practised by the present government, will endure as long as the government endures.

CURRENT COMMENT

Within less than a fortnight the Manitoba electors will give a decision upon the rejection or retention of the Norris Government. The Liberal press, perhaps with good reason, predicts the government's return although admitting a reduced majority. From this distance it is a matter of conjecture, but conditions as they appear might justify their claims. Premier Norris gave his support to Union government and war effort, thus ingratiating himself with a large element who will not now forsake him without reason. On the other hand because of this he stands to lose support in other directions, which may occur but not to an extent fatal to his party. The election is being quietly conducted, fierce passions have not been excited and those old time political indecencies have been discarded, so press reports tell us. The Government is not charged with anything in the character of a right-about-face in policy and if it has regarded its election pledges in the past, the wide range of progressive measures now promised to the people may be accepted as possible of fulfillment. Time will tell it all.

The looking-both-ways process of politics pertains at Ottawa, perhaps not to the same extent as in our own province, amongst Liberals, and to a more limited extent, amongst the Grain Growers' party. Their constant demand on the one hand is to cut down expenditure; reduce the number of civil servants, and in the language of Hon. Mr. Crerar—"There could be a substantial savings upon such things as public works and the militia; and he advised heavy cuts in national outlays." Yet when the departmental estimates are up for consideration, from the Hon. McKenzie King down to the smallest subaltern, the demand for this work and that work and this expenditure and that outlay, all described as most essential to the prosperity of the country, that the Government was at its wits end to resist the clamour. It is the old story of Liberalism from heart to circumference, jumping from extreme to extreme, demanding the impossible opposites, and that is why their power is "lessening" in the country.

A remarkable development of the lumber industry is planned for the regions of the mouth of the St. Lawrence. On the north and south shore and in the large County of Gaspé, P. Q., extensive and valuable areas which have not been exploited for the last forty years are again to be brought into use. Forty years ago, when strikes were not as popular as they are today, the Ross Lumber Company, carried on an extensive lumber business, for about twenty years previous, operating with a fleet of twenty-two full-rigged ships and giving employment to a large number of men. A strike occurred, not apparently for increased pay, but in the form of a miniature rebellion, in which the offices were destroyed, and the company closed up the business. Now after forty years of rest, a new English concern, the Great Eastern Pulp and Paper Company are to spend some millions upon the property to bring into successful operation. Railway connection is to be established.

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

MAKE HASTE SLOWLY

Choose carefully the path. There are paths that begin in flower gardens and end in the jungle; and there are paths that begin in the wilderness and end in paradise. It does not matter so much where the path begins, as where it ends.

Of a sudden, as a well known corner, In the densest throng, Unexpected at the very moment As an April robin's gush of song Some oar smiles; and there's the perfect comrade I have missed so long.

—Bliss Carmen. "There are substitutes for wheat, And substitutes for meat, And substitutes for fowl, Oh, so many! But a substitute for you— Why, to search this old world through Would be useless, for you see There isn't any!"

Indeed I love thee; come Yield thyself up; my hopes and thine are one, Accomplish thou my manhood and thyself; Lay thy sweet hand in mine and trust to me.

—Alfred Tennyson.

JUST BETWEEN OURSELVES

BY DELLA E. STEWART

Self-interest is not a very high motive for wise living. But with some of us it succeeds where all other motives fail. Other times it's merely the first step to a higher consciousness doing something because of personal benefit may serve to show the charm of doing it for its own sake. Every friend we make, if we choose wisely, is an asset. Every enemy is a liability. Our social service possibility is determined by the balance. This isn't a vague or intricate problem. It's a plain business proposition.

While Canadians have no right to claim interest in United States politics especially in regard to their internal economy, yet we have a deep and justifiable sympathy in all that concerns their commercial development, and in their aspirations as a member of the family of nations.

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TO LAUNCH WOOD IN SEA OF MONEY

WASHINGTON, June 15.—All the golden details of the New York financiers' plans for launching the presidential candidacy of Major-General Leonard Wood in a sea of money were laid bare by the Senate political expenditures' investigation to-day. Charles H. Duell, New York attorney, who was "in on the deal," confessed all.

Gen. Wood himself was in the home of Ambrose Monell at New York City the night the plans for the underwriting of his candidacy to the extent of \$1,000,000 was discussed, and he acquiesced," was the statement of Mr. Duell, who has since severed all Wood connections. Monell is connected with the International Nickel, Midvale Steel and American Bank Note Companies.

THE LURE OF THE SEA

NEW YORK, June 14.—They that go down to the sea in ships these days see greater wonders than ever on the deep. This is the testimony of sea-wise mariners who have plotted liners over the Atlantic and back for many years. Since a major portion of the North American continent went dry the lure of the sea has grown more alluring than ever, and the fauna and flora of the ocean have been added to the many specimens surpassing pre-war imagination.

Captains of ships have a simple explanation for the undoubted fact that passengers from this side of the pond now do more drinking at sea than they ever did before.

The explanation goes like this: "When they leave a dry country for Europe, they drink because they are so glad to be away from prohibition. When they are coming back to America from less arid lands, they drink because they are once more approaching the desert. Like the camel, they desire to store moisture away in their humps."

Since the United States went dry by constitutional amendment many and various schemes have been proposed to beat the prohibition laws. Some visionaries have dreamed of purchasing an island well out beyond the three-mile limit and establishing there a heavenly oasis where the bar would never close and sumptuary laws would never be known. Others thought of a wonderful yacht, stocked with the

juice of the grape and the corn, that would cruise and cruise and never make port except to replenish. The more practical minded did not stop to dream, but, if they had the price, purchased a steamship ticket. The boats to Cuba are crowded, and so are those to Europe. On every vessel the bar steward is overworked.

Prohibition should be favored in the steamship companies. In one week 14,000 persons left New York recently for ocean voyages. One

large British liner reported the other day that its bar receipts on one crossing were \$5,025.00, a record. Ships' officers say that men who travelled dry before now take a drink, while travellers who took a drink in the old days now miss the three or four. This they describe as the "psychology of prohibition."

Of course, the three-mile limit has to be observed, more or less. But the ship's log, if it were asked, might tell that the thirst of the parched passenger from this side

is no respecter of the 18th Amendment. Long before the bar opens there is a line waiting. Some of the more thirsty make the smoke room their headquarters during the voyage lest they miss something. Men who once imbibed a solitary cocktail before dinner now miss the dinner and specialize on liquors. Instances are not rare when the visible supply of drinkables has been exhausted before the voyage ended, this resulting in scenes of infinite pathos.

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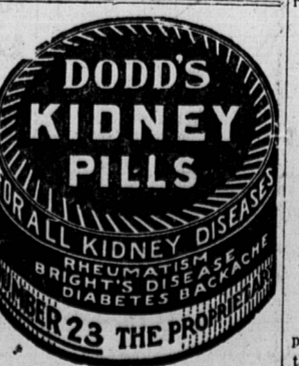


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