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Value of Stall and Yard Manure Compared

Experiments Show Clearly the Advantage of Using the Former

During the war very high prices prevailed for commercial fertilizers. Even then it has been almost impossible to obtain some of these materials, and prices are still high. Farmers should, therefore, pay more attention to farmyard manure. It could be produced in as large quantities as possible and when produced could be applied in a way to eliminate loss and waste, or at least to reduce these to a minimum. This involves the adoption of intelligent methods of handling. Experiments conducted in this country at our experimental farms and agricultural colleges prove that where at all practicable the best method is to haul the manure to the fields as made. An experiment along this line extending over five years and recently concluded at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, shows decided profits in favour of the above method. The rotation followed was corn, wheat, clover. The manure was applied on the land before ploughing for the corn, more manure was applied for the wheat or clover crop. Eight tons per acre of fresh stall manure was spread on the sod in December and January, while on each day an equal amount was placed in low flat beds in the open to be spread in the spring immediately before ploughing. The distinct comparisons between stall manure and yard manure that was called "stall" manure and "yard" manure demonstrated that stall manure was an average gain of 4.1 bushels of corn, 1.3 bushels of wheat and 490 pounds of clover hay per acre from the stall manure over the yard manure at the prices prevailing at present the gain amounted to \$11.60 per acre, or, in other words, the fresh stall manure applied directly to the land was worth \$1.45 more than yard manure which had been piled and applied in spring. This gain was made without expense. Indeed there was less handling of the manure. Was it not worth while?—F. C. N.

The Canadian Department of Fisheries and the United States Bureau of Fisheries are planting chinook salmon eggs from the Pacific coast in the St. Lawrence river system.

Two cars of flax seed have been shipped from the Tilbury district in Ontario to Belfast, Ireland.

To Secure British Timber Trade Dealers Must Meet Market Demands

Active Competition with Timber from Northern Europe Makes it Necessary for Canadian Dealers to Overcome the Scant Size Difficulty

An authority on the timber trade, in referring to Canada's opportunities for obtaining orders for reconstruction work in Europe, says that the greatest difficulty which manufactured lumber from North America has to overcome in the Old Country is the problem of scant size.

"The 'scant size' difficulty," he continues, "arises when we deal with scantlings, dimension stock, door stock, and floorings. For instance, a British-made door manufactured from 2-in. Swedish or Russian stock measures 1 3/4 in. in thickness in its final finished state. No 2-in. door stock manufactured on the Pacific Coast will give a finished door 1 3/4 in. in thickness. The rules and customs governing the manufacture of lumber generally in Canada and the United States allow a greater difference in the actual and nominal sizes than obtains in Sweden and Russia.

"As far as British Columbia is concerned, the bulk of the lumber heretofore imported by the United Kingdom has been in the form of large

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Multiple Production As Applied to Coal

Efficiency Can be Doubled, if not Tripled by This Means

There is no apparent reason why fully co-ordinated development should not look toward a fairly complete recovery of at least the leading by-products in coal, and this prospect would definitely entail the doubling, if not the tripling, of the fuel efficiency derivable. This means that our present annual coal output could be made to more than double its service, or, accepting the current service requirement as a standard, that less than half the output can do the present work and in addition make heavy contributions to the supply of fertilizers, motor fuel, and chemical products. The aggregate loss, on the basis of this very modest estimate, runs well above a billion dollars a year, or over \$10 for each inhabitant of the United States. Of such measure is the average man's pecuniary interest in the full utilization of coal.

Improvement in coal utilization can not be relied upon to come from in-

dustrial stimulus alone, but must be brought into effect as the result of public interest in the matter. The means for starting toward this accomplishment lie in the direction of enlarged municipal gas plants, which will handle all the coal needed by the community with the production of solid fuel, gas, and the by-products, ammonia, benzol, and tar.

Through the principle of multiple production, therefore, coal can be forced to render up its full quota of service. This is a new economic force, one scarcely recognized as yet as a principle which may be constructively applied. Yet the principle of multiple production has been gaining headway for years, and by means of it the multiplying needs of man are being met from practically a stationary range of raw materials. The rôle of multiple production is rapidly enlarging; it represents a principle that must come into play more and more to relieve the strain falling upon natural resources and transportation. Through the agency of chemical knowledge it serves to create a divergence of products, each the starting point of a second diverging series. The principle of multiple production is peculiarly applicable to coal and oil; only by the use of this principle, brought into effective action under the guidance of a constructive economic policy, can adequate value be extracted from these power materials.—C. G. Gilbert and J. E. Pogue of the Smithsonian Institution.

WHY IMPORT WEEDS?

The suggestion that seeds of the Flanders poppy should be imported to Canada is carrying sentiment to a dangerous extreme. The plant is, after all, only a beautiful weed, a common pest in France. It would be wise to take thought and to learn from a former experience of a similar nature. The blueweed, or Bishop's Curse, was imported several years ago, presumably for garden purposes exclusively, but it is now a noisome pest in portions of eastern Canada. The thought of the Flanders poppies "over there" calls forth feelings of national pride. Bringing them over here will destroy their sentimental value for Canadians and will add another to our already long list of plant nuisances.

Housing Reform and the "Black Spots"

Conditions Cast Discredit on Civilization—Humanity More Important than Material Wealth

The important bearing that better housing and town-planning have upon the physical condition of our people, cannot be too often or too strongly emphasized. As far back as 1908, the writer stated that:

"There are also many other lines upon which improvement can be made, such as the housing of the poorer classes, preferably in detached houses or cottages, the preventing of overcrowding, and I would go so far as recommending legislation to prevent, under certain conditions, the erection of the tenement. They are a damnable architectural invention, and their erection should be carefully considered. Space is what we require, so that fresh air and sunlight may be enjoyed by all."

We may consider the question from different standpoints, the architectural, the social, the economic, but the all-important one is that of the health of the individual and all that health means as the important factor in national efficiency.

It is a reflection on our governments and lawmakers that it has taken the great world war to stir them into activity on these and other questions which they had never seriously considered heretofore, because they failed to realize that health was the nation's greatest asset. The people themselves constitute the nation's wealth—not the horses, cattle and sheep, nor yet the raw materials, nor the products of agriculture, but the healthy men and women, the physically fit, these give worth and value, these increase output and, when the test of battle comes, win the victory.

Severe as the test and strain of the last four years have been, there are greater difficulties to be met if we are to rise to the problems of a lasting world peace—*mundus* must be the first consideration of governments—man, physically, socially and intellectually, must be their first and constant care. We must maintain a high standard of national efficiency by the adoption not only of wise measures, but we must support them by substantial financial assistance, accompanied by a central state authority to control, advise and co-ordinate. One of these measures must be sanitary houses, reasonable in cost and in healthful environments.

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