

Good Light at Small Cost for Rural Homes

By R. E. Dinsick

WHAT the large generating electric light plant is to the city dweller, what the gasoline generating plant is to the country store and other isolated public places not having the convenience of connection with electric lines, the new and improved kerosene mantle lamps are to the farm home as it is most generally found. Each one of these means of lighting has its place where it is the most suitable, and I have found by several months' use that the kerosene mantle lamp is pre-eminently the light for the small home. It gives a light equal to anything now known; it is as safe as any hand lamp can be, so that any member of the family at all competent to handle any kind of a lamp at all can use it as safely as a common lamp; it consumes but half the oil consumed by the old red flame lamps, and at the same time gives more than twice the light, this light being white light so nearly approaching natural sunlight, and giving cheer and convenience to the home; and the best thing about it is that it costs no more than the old lamp of good quality, the price of reliable ones being only about seven or eight dollars.

The matter of providing good lights for farm homes is one of the most neglected to be found on the farm. The farmer will equip his place with all the modern conveniences in the way of the latest labor-saving machinery; he will provide a piano at a cost of several hundred dollars for his daughter, and an automobile for his son; and yet his family will go right on using the old lamp, smelly and costly open flame lamps that cause eye strains, headaches, and necessitate the use of glasses by all members of his family prematurely. This is a sad conviction of the farmer's judgment, and yet it is only too true.

Conditions As They Are

In a recent investigation of the matter in 100 farm homes just as they came driving along the road I found that 98 of these homes had nothing better in the way of lights than the old open flame kerosene lamps, some of them with flat wicks and some with round, and about evenly divided among the two. Of these 100 farm homes 15 had automobiles and nine had pianos in the house. In 86 of them some members of the family were wearing glasses. What a regrettable error of judgment this is, when we consider that the gift of sight is by far the most precious our Maker gave us.

It is true that up to very recently the matter of providing the farm home with the best improved lights has been a difficult one to deal with because the cost of improved lighting plants for the individual home was prohibitive. And so the farmer has gone right on using the old flame light that was used by the first men fifty years ago, when Edison brought out the first practical electric light, there had been no real improvement in artificial lights for the home and the working places. Since then there have been brought out several lights, all of them equally good in the matter of the quality of the light itself, that are applicable to all the different needs, and there is no longer any reason why every eye in the land should not be provided with an improved lighting apparatus.

The cost of a mantle lamp does not exceed six dollars, and it will save enough on oil alone in the course of six months or so to pay for itself, to say nothing of the comfort and cheer it provides in the farm home by

making it possible for all members of the family to read and work about the home as easily as by daylight.

They Are a Success

A part of this indifference as to the lights provided for the farm home seems to arise from skepticism as to the value of the new lights, and a some kind can be bought for sixty cents while one of the new and improved lamps cost around six dollars. There need be no fear as to the value of the reliable ones do not hesitate to put them out on trial and approval; and in the matter of cost it is only a trifling difference at most, and should be considered as service itself. There are few farmers that would now discard the self-binder and go back to the hand sickle or the cradle for harvesting grain simply because the sickle or the cradle costs a little less; and yet I believe that in the long run there is just as much saving in the use of the new and improved lights over the old ones as there is in the improved harvesting machines over the old ones if we stop to consider the matters of health, convenience and general happiness.

Happiness? Yes, that's the word exactly that I want to use, and in the right place. Happiness is what we should live for, not merely dollars and cents, and there is nothing that contributes more to happiness for ourselves and others than light. It was the first thing the Creator saw the need of after He had created the heavens and the earth. He provided all that was needed then, but left it to us to provide more as needed. The inventors have happily succeeded in providing the best of lights to meet the wishes and needs of everyone, and there is no longer any excuse for going along without all the light we need or desire.

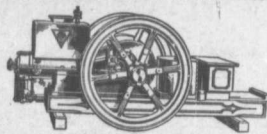
Horses Will Be Needed

"FARMERS are foolish to sell their good mares," stated Mr. John Bright, Dominion Live Stock Commissioner, at a meeting of the Ontario Horse Breeders' Association in Toronto on Dec. 31. "But they are very foolish to hold those same mares without breeding them. All the horses in Canada are going to be needed before the end of this war, while ten times as many animals as we have at present will be needed in the western provinces in the next few years."

Some dissatisfaction had arisen over reports that thousands of rejected war horses were being sold in Canada. The Live Stock Commissioner gave an emphatic denial of these rumors. "Of the 30,000 animals bought in this country, and of the thousands more passing through from the United States only 300 rejected horses have been sold, all of which were given a veterinary inspection before being disposed of."

Mr. Bright quieted much apprehension on the part of the Ontario farmers when he stated on the authority of the Canadian Premier that the Government had never ceased to buy horses.

Owing to the dissatisfaction among the farmers and horse-breeders of Ontario over the present system of buying army horses, a committee, composed of John Boag, Robert Graham and William Smith, was appointed to discuss with the Minister of Agriculture the question of buying remounts for the Dominion of Canada.



Alpha Gas Engines

Do Any Work—Use All Oil Fuels

An engine that will do the work you want it to do; that will operate without being continually adjusted and tinkered with; that will burn any fuel you wish, is one of the greatest conveniences you can have on your farm.

Alpha Engines entirely measure up to these requirements in every respect. You can always rely on them. They start and run on a simple, low-speed magneto. There are no troublesome batteries to watch or fuss with, or wear out. Frequently require renewing. Simply turn on the fuel, give the flywheel a turn, and the engine is good for a steady all day run at any kind of work.

Alpha Engines are ideal for farm use because anyone can operate them. Your wife or boy or hired man can use one of these engines without the least trouble, and do easily many small jobs that would otherwise require a lot of time and hard work. Alpha Engines will save you money by doing quickly those time-wasting jobs that ordinarily take you away from field work that is demanding your attention.

Ask for the Alpha Engine catalogue. It will give you a lot of valuable information on the many superior and exclusive features of these Engines, and will show you how to get more work done in less time and at less cost.

Eleven sizes, 2 to 25 horse-power. Each furnished in stationary, semi-portable or portable style, and with either hopper or tank cooled cylinder.

DE LAVAL DAIRY SUPPLY CO., Ltd.

LARGEST MANUFACTURERS OF DAIRY SUPPLIES IN CANADA
Sole distributors in Canada of the famous De Laval Cream Separators.
Manufacturers of Ideal Green Feed Silos. Catalogues of any of our lines mailed upon request.

MONTREAL PETERBORO WINNIPEG VANCOUVER

SYDNEY BASIC SLAG

Now that the New Year has started Ontario farmers will be thinking of fertilizers. The man who has used them, knows their value. To him we say

"Give Sydney Basic Slag a Trial This Season"

The cost is \$20 per ton. Compare this with what you have been paying elsewhere. Is it not worth your while to investigate? Then there is the man who has been watching his neighbors and has been thinking of trying fertilizer, who probably has been reading our advertisements from week to week. We want to get at him. If we are not represented in your district why not take our agency and distribute a carload of 20 tons? You will be reasonably remunerated for your trouble and your neighbors will bless you for introducing Basic Slag into your district.

Write us at once and we will have our general Sales-agent call on you.

THE CROSS FERTILIZER CO. Ltd.
SYDNEY, NOVA SCOTIA