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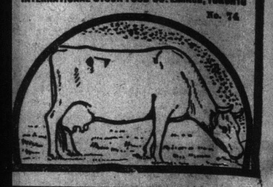


INTERESTING AGRICULTURAL FEATURES FOR OUR COUNTRY READERS

HORTICULTURE

COVER CROPS

Important Need of Many Orchards—Kinds and When to Sow.

Next to spraying, the crying need of most Canadian apple orchards is cultivation and cover crops. During spring and early summer the tree requires an enormous amount of plant food to grow wood, leaves and fruit, leaving a balance to go towards the production of fruit buds for another season's crop. When the tree is improperly nourished, fruit buds for the next season are very scantily formed, and so the tree develops a habit of alternate bearing, which might be largely overcome by cultivation and manuring, accompanied by judicious thinning of the fruit in those seasons when the trees seem disposed to overbear. Not only do the trees need plant food, but, to convey that plant food to their leaves and back to the parts to be nourished, there must be moisture and plenty of it. Cultivation conserves moisture, *besides* conducing indirectly to the *liberation of* plant food.

We had a remarkable illustration in 1910 of the value of orchard tillage. Two old orchards had just been taken over by us for demonstration purposes. One was plowed and cultivated, but the other was not secured in time to plow that season. The former made quite a nice growth of wood, and improved materially in condition and appearance, despite the trying period of summer fronsts and drouth. The latter orchard, treated similarly in other respects, suffered disastrously. In fact, it went all to pieces. Fruit dropped, leaves shrivelled up and turned yellow, and limbs died by the hundred—to such an extent, indeed, that, although many loads of prunings had been taken out during June, a big eighty loads more had to be removed in the spring of 1911 for the six or seven acres. There is no reasonable doubt in our mind but that, with proper cultivation, this orchard would have made more marked improvement than the one above referred to, which was in worse condition to begin with.

But, while cultivation of the apple orchard is ordinarily desirable during the spring and early summer, it should usually be discontinued about the last of June, and a cover crop sown, to be plowed down either late in fall or early winter. The cessation of tillage, followed by growth of the cover top, tends to check wood-growth, thus making for maturity of the wood to withstand frost. It also shrivels the foliage to some extent, and lets sunlight in to color the fruit. No doubt in interferes somewhat with the development of size in the current season's crop, but color is perhaps more important than size.

The cover crop also takes up soluble plant food, some of which might otherwise go to waste. This is converted into humus, to be liberated for the benefit of the trees when the cover crop is ultimately plowed under and decomposed. If the cover crop is a leguminous one, it will also add nitrogen abstracted from the air. Nor is this all. A suitable cover crop helps to keep windfalls clean, to improve conditions for picking, and to protect the roots of the trees during the ensuing winter.

A great variety of crops may be chosen for the purpose, and the use of a succession of different ones is to be recommended. For the most part, though, we advise the selection of legumes, and in our own experience have had best results from alfalfa, mammoth clover, hairy vetches and common red clover in about the order named. In three years' experience, alfalfa, sown at the rate of 25 to 30 pounds per acre, at various dates, from the end of June to the first of August, has not failed to produce a strong, even, vigorous growth, usually good even under the trees. Mammoth clover, sown last year about the last of June or first of July, also did splendidly, in spite of the worst summer drouth ever known in the county. Both crops came through the winter well, but the alfalfa made rather better growth under the trees. Red clover has done well, too, but not so well with us as the others. Special caution is necessary not to let the cover crop stand later than the spring after it is sown, particularly if it is alfalfa, else the cover crop will rob the trees of moisture, and plant food, interfering with their growth and cropping, and killing some of them in time.

There is difference of opinion among experts as to the best date to sow the cover crop. The middle of July has been commonly advised, but, for our part, we have advanced it yearly, and are at present disposed to favor the latter part of June, mainly for the sake of ensuring better color. Conditions, however, vary, and each orchard must be treated according to its needs.—Farmers' Advocate.

GENERAL

WHITE AND COLOR WASHES

For Improving Appearance and Sanitary Conditions of Farm Buildings.

There is no cheaper or more attractive means of improving the appearance and sanitary condition of the farmhouse and surroundings than the judicious use of white or colored washes. Such washes are easily prepared and applied. A recent United States farmers' bulletin gives directions for preparing standard whitewashes. A few formulas for washes not included in that bulletin and which have also proved satisfactory in use are given below:

According to the Alabama Tuskegee Experimental Station, a unique and valuable use can be made of the white and colored clays which abound in many localities, viz., the preparation of washes for covering or kalsomining the exterior and interior of dwellings, schoolhouses, etc.

Where a clay is sand free all that is necessary is to mix it thoroughly to obtain a consistency of the average good whitewash and to apply it to the rough surface in the usual manner. Where dressed lumber and hard-finished plasterings are to be kalsomined the surface must be previously prepared and sized.

Sandy clay can also be used, but it must first be freed from sand by one of the following methods:

"(a) Sift the pulverized clay through a fine sieve, or a piece of coarse cloth; (b) Stir the pulverized clay thoroughly into a vessel partly filled with water; let stand two minutes. The sand and gravel will sink to the bottom, and the water, with its suspended clay particles, can be poured off; (c) Take a coarse bag, something like a flour sack; put half a gallon or so of the pulverized clay into it; dip this repeatedly into a vessel of water until the clay has been washed out. The sand in the bag may be thrown away, and a fresh batch taken and treated in the same way until a sufficient quantity to suit your purpose has been gotten out."

Where a wash is desired which does not easily rub off, one of the following methods is proposed:

"(a) For every gallon of color wash stir in a pint of glue size (glue that has been dissolved in water until it becomes the consistency of mucilage); (b) To every gallon of color wash stir in a pint of well boiled starch or flour paste, being sure that there are no lumps in it; (c) For every gallon of color wash stir in a quart of thoroughly boiled sweet milk from which all the cream has been taken; (d) Boil a pound of rice in two gallons of water until a smooth paste is formed; strain through a cloth, and use the water the same as any other sizing."

The colors of the above clays may be blended by mixing one with the other, thus producing a variety of shades, or coloring matters like laundry blue (Prussian blue) may be introduced at very little extra expense.

An Australian whitewash, which it is claimed will not rub off, is prepared by "dissolving two pounds of ordinary glue in seven pints of water, and when all is dissolved adding six ounces of bichromate of potassium dissolved in a pint of hot water. Stir the mixture up well, and then add sufficient whiting to make it up to the usual consistency, and apply with a brush in the ordinary manner as quickly as possible. This dries in a very short time, and by the action of light, becomes converted into a perfectly insoluble waterproof substance, which does not wash off even with hot water, and at the same time does not give rise to mold growth, as whitewash made up with size often does. It may be colored to any desired shade by the use of a trace of aniline dye or powdered coloring, while by the addition of a small proportion of calcic sulphite its antiseptic power is much increased."

A recent consular report states that a traveler in the rural districts of Uruguay will be struck by the fine white color of the farm buildings even during the wet season. This neat effect is secured by the use of a whitewash prepared by macerating the sliced leaves of the common cactus in water for 24 hours, producing a liquid of creamy consistency, to which lime is added and the whole well mixed. "When applied to any surface, be it of wood, brick, iron, or other material, a beautiful pearly white appearance is produced, which will endure through storms and frosts for many years." It is suggested that in sections of the United States where the cactus is abundant it might be utilized with advantage in this manner.

These whitewashes, like all those which contain milk, flour, glue, or other organic matter, are not recommended for use in damp interior places.

NOT ENOUGH EDUCATED FARMERS

The United States secretary of agriculture said recently: "The department of agriculture is organizing just now to take farm demonstration work into the northern states. Two classes of men are required for this work: First, in each county a first rate farmer who has been a success on his farm and who understands practically, without much theory except what he may have incidentally picked up, how to handle the soil, the plant, and the animal; second, over large districts and states a different class of men is wanted, who have an agricultural college training combined with its application to practice in the field. As we read the daily papers and see the reports of the thousands of young men who are graduated in law throughout the country, the reflection naturally comes, what a pity that the great demand of the farm for intelligent men is not being more considered by our educational institutions. There is not law work for more than a small per cent. of these young men. No doubt the education and mental training they have had will make them brighter men, but there are no jobs waiting for them, that is for more than a very small percentage of them, while the fields are crying aloud for trained men. Housekeepers are complaining of the cost of living. It would seem to be wise for our educators in their national meetings to consider these pdoblems. It might be wise to consider about how many young lawyers will be needed in the next year to take the place of the older men who are dropping out. That could be very easily determined. Then if the attention of this class of students were called to the demand of the industries for educated men, a different direction might be given to many young men who seem to be 'drawing their bows at a venture.'

"This applies to more than the lawyer. There are no doubt far more young physicians being turned out from the educational institutions of the country than there are patients for. Wrong direction has been given to the education of many young men, and yet there is nothing more difficult to change than the old systems of education.

"In his sixth annual report (1911) as president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, Dr. Henry S. Pritchett says: 'According to the census tables there were in the United States in 1900, 132,000 physicians and surgeons. In the bulletin on medical education issued by the foundation in 1910, it was calculated after careful investigation that 2,000 graduates annually from the medical schools would furnish an ample supply of new physicians to take the places left vacant by death and other causes, and to keep pace with the growth of population. Assuming, and it is evidently an extravagant asumption, that the proportion of lawyers to the population should be as large as the proportion of physicians, 1,700 graduates annually from the law schools would be sufficient to maintain even the present crowded stage of the legal profession. As a matter of fact, in June, 1910, the number of students graduated by the law schools numbered 4,183; and this takes no account of the large percentage of lawyers who are admitted to the bar without having received a law school diploma. If we place the per capita need of a lawyer at the same figure as the need of a physician, and disregard all who enter the profession without completing successfully a law school course, it is evident that the output of the law schools of the present day is far in excess of any necessary demand.'

"It is certain that the demand for lawyers and physicians is much more than met by the professional schools today. It is equally certain that the demand for educated farmers is strikingly neglected."

BLEACHED OATS AND BARLEY

The United States department of agriculture has received numerous inquiries relative to the application of the food and drugs act to oats, barley and other grains bleached with the fumes of sulphur. It appears that by this process grains which are damaged or of inferior quality may be made to resemble those of higher grade or quality, and their weight increased by addition of water. Such products, therefore, are adulterated within the meaning of the food and drugs act of June 30, 1906, and cannot be either manufactured or sold in the district of Columbia, or in the territories, or transported or sold in interstate commerce.

It is represented, however, that grains which are weather-stained, or soil-stained, the quality of which is in no wise injured in other respects, are sometimes bleached with sulphur fumes. Pending the report of the referee board of consulting scientific experts as to the effect upon health of sulphur dioxid, and the results of experiments being made by this department as to the effect of sulphur-bleached grains on animals, no objection will be made to traffic in sound and wholesome grains which have been bleached with sulphur dioxid and from which the excess water has been removed, provided that each and every package is plainly labeled to show that the contents have been treated with sulphur dioxid. Bulk shipments should be properly designated on invoices. The terms "purified," "purified with sulphur," "processed," etc., are misleading and not proper designations for these products.

Attention is also called to the fact that grains bleached with sulphur fumes may have their germinating properties very seriously impaired.—Board of Food and Drug Inspection, Washington (D. C.)

DOMINION EXPERIMENTAL FARMS

The dominion experimental farms system involves the central farm situated at Ottawa and branch farms and stations at the following points: Charlottetown (P. E. I.), Nappan and Kentville (N. S.), Cap Rouge and Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere (Que.), Brandon (Man.), Indian Head, Rosthern and Scott (Sask.); Lethbridge and Lacombe (Alta.); Agassiz, Invermere and Sydney (C. B.)

In order to lay before the country the character and extent of the work undertaken at these farms for the benefit of agriculture, J. H. Grisdale, the director, appointed last year to succeed Dr. Saunders, was called upon during the last session of parliament to explain the whole matter to the select standing committee on agriculture and colonization. Following a more or less lucid description of the farms and their work, Mr. Grisdale answered many questions which brought out much useful information. During the course of the evidence, it was shown that at the central farm it cost $11.77 per acre for cultural operations to grow farm crops which yield a return of $45.47 per acre, as contrasted with $10 and $16.50 for the average farmer in the same locality. The whole subject as presented has been printed in a bulletin of twenty-two pages which may be procured free by applying to the publication branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

STOCK

CARE OF THE HARNESS

It is a business proposition for every farmer to take good care of his harness, for not only does the harness last longer, but danger of accident is much lessened. Many, many runaways occur every year just because some weak place in the harness is let go and not attended to in time. Sometimes in spite of the utmost vigilance, little things will escape us, but nine times out of ten the drivers are aware of the condition of the harness, and do not fix them out of sheer negligence. Many broken bones and large repair bills testify that this is very expensive neglect.

The life of a harness may be greatly prolonged by proper care and handling, heavy pieces should never hang over the lighter pieces. It is best to have a separate hook for the bridle. It pays well to have a special room for the harness constructed so as to be handy and free from moisture. It is a very bad plan to hang harness behind the horses in the stables, as the gases and moisture from the manure rots the leather very fast. Harness should be cleaned and oiled two or three times every year.

In cleaning the harness it is best not to use water. If water is used the leather is filled with moisture and the oil does not penetrate it very well. Soaps are hard on leather, as most of them contain lye, which does much harm. The harness can be cleaned thoroughly and easily without moistening it.

It is a good plan to keep a supply of rivets and other articles handy in repairing harness on hand and mend the harness as soon as it shows signs of weakness. Much money can be saved in this way. Another important thing is to always have the harness fit the horse which is wearing it. If the harness is big for the horse there is a great strain upon the harness and great discomfort to the horse. The same is true even in greater sense if the harness is very tight. Some part is liable to give way at any time. No matter in how big a hurry, the harness should be readjusted to fit the horse before starting if it was used upon a different horse previously. I believe the time I spend in caring for my harness is very well spent, and believe that I save quite a little each year in this way.—C. J. Griffing.

FEEDING HORSES

We feed cattle to produce milk or beef; sheep, to produce wool and mutton; hogs, to produce pork. The horse we feed to produce energy alone; and the amount and quality of the feed should be graduated according to the expenditure of energy to be demanded from the animal. If the horse is highly fed, and no sufficient outlet provided for the energy developed by the food, the result is disease and injury—sometimes fatal. If a great expenditure of energy is demanded of him, while he is fed insufficiently for its production, the demand is met by the consumption of the animal's own tissues, and by such a drain upon his vital powers as, again, may seriously impair his value. It is seen, then, that from the standpoint of the horse's physical well-being alone, the proper adjustment of rations to the amount of work performed is something well deserving of serious study. But on it, too, depends the question of the cost of horse labor and of the comparative value of the horse and the machine in the operation of the farm. Wasteful or inconsiderate feeding may often cause the question to be determined to the disadvantage of the horse; whereas, with a ration adjusted each day to the amount of work required, he might bravely hold his own, for a long time yet, against his puffing rival.

SALT FOR DOMESTIC ANIMALS

Some farmers do not realize the importance of providing plenty of salt for all the different animals kept on the farm. Experiments have been conducted at some of the stations, by depriving a certain number of cows of salt for a short time, and they showed a marked falling off in milk, and when the same cows were given a regular supply of salt, the milk was soon increased to normal. If salt is kept where each animal can have daily access to it they will only eat what they need to keep them in good health; but if deprived for any length of time, some will eat so much at once as to be injurious. This is very apt to be the case where salt is supplied at intervals. It is a fact that some animals eat and seen to require double the amount of salt that others do. I have one horse that eats over one quart of salt every week, which is double the amount the other two eat. It is a very good plan to make a box in one corner of the grain manger and keep this filled with salt so the horse can eat just what he needs every day. It is the same with cows, there should be some way provided so they can have daily access to salt in the stable. Where it is the practice of giving the cows salt perhaps once a week, and throwing it out somewhere on the ground, they will not do near as well, and then, too, where salt is given to cows in this way it is very apt to be forgotten and cause suffering as well as loss. It will do very well to salt sheep in this way, when running in pasture, but it is not a good way to manage with cows and horses.

DAIRY

THE VALUE OF COW TESTING

One of the most encouraging lines of work which the United States department of agriculture is carrying on in the south is the institution of herd records on dairy farms. By this means the unprofitable cow is detected and can be disposed of for slaughter. The heifer calves from the profitable cows are raised to take the place of the unprofitable animals. In this way the quality of the herd is steadily improved. The daily weighing of the milk and the testing for butterfat enable the dairyman to feed the individual animals according to the production and to select such feeds for the ration as are shown to give the best results.

The department receives many letters from dairymen of the south bearing on the value of this work. J. K. Morrison, a dairyman of Grenada, Mississippi, writes under date of March 29 as follows:

"I write to express my great appreciation of the work done for me by your department.

"From the records kept I found two cows that produced over $200 profit. One, $110.88, the other $103.80. A two-year-old heifer made $97.50 net profit. I began to test with six cows. I have sold two of them as they were unsatisfactory. I have four more that have not finished the year's test, but I will probably sell three of them and replace with registered stock.

"I built a concrete floor in my dairy barn. Have laid the foundation for a silo; have ordered stanchions and a registered bull.

"The butter I sell is put up in pasteboard cartons and brings 35 cents per pound. I get an average of 28 cents for milk.

"I wish to assure you as the head of the dairy department that I shall help to spread the gospel of better cows, better methods of handling, and more feeding of carbohydrate value.

"Excessive use of meal and hulls is doing much to keep us down in dairy work in the south. Cheap protein should be a help and not a hindrance. I thank you that you are trying to help the little dairymen.

"I shall not be satisfied until I have a dairy of ten cows producing a net profit of $100 each. I should do this at an early date with the aid of the Babcock tester, the scales, a silo, and more grain which I have to raise this season. I am thoroughly imbued with the dairying spirit and hope that I can repay the department for the aid given me by helping others."

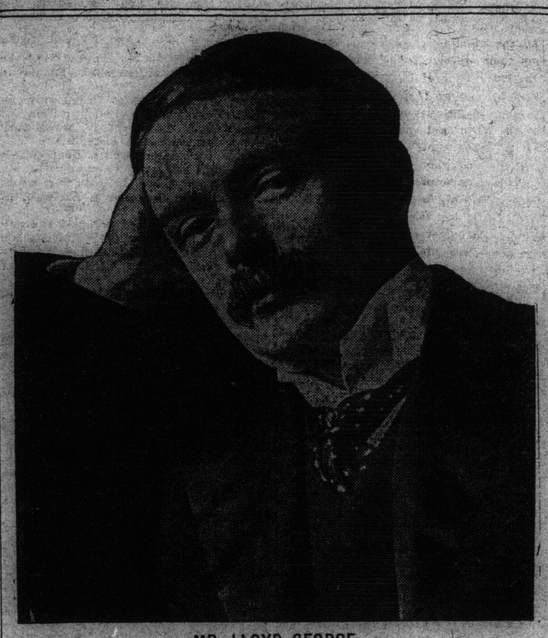
A PERUVIAN CUSTOM.

One of the customs of the Indians is the reduction of human heads made by some savage tribes in North Peru, says Peru Today. The savages make this reduction of human heads in order to show their prowess over their enemies. The process is as follows: After separating the head from the body they boil it in an infusion of forest plants known to themselves, so as to soften the bones, which they afterwards remove. When the bones are all out, the head is kept in a hanging position and hot pebbles put inside, which when cold are replaced by other hot ones until the skin is slowly dried and reduced to the required size. When the process is complete, the heads are hung round the neck of the proud wearer. The more heads the greater the warrior.

LLOYD GEORGE, THE MAN

England's Minister of Finance at Close Range

His Exposition of Industrial Unrest as a Question of Social Betterment—Land Administration a Source of Waste—The Idle Rich—The Relations of England and Germany.



MR. LLOYD GEORGE

Personal contact with Mr. Lloyd-George reveals physical characteristics which the photographer and cartoonist cannot delineate, writes Robert Donald, editor of the London Chronicle in the Outlook. If the eyes are the mirror of the soul, it is certain that in the case of Mr. Lloyd-George they would be the most striking things about him to the physiognomist. Steel gray in color, they are ever observant, ever vigilant, stern at times and as uncompromising as the mountain crags about his Welsh home, at other times soft and limpid, betraying the tenderness of his nature. When he smiles, as he often does—for the wit and humor of the Celt are strongly ingrained in him—you notice the deep-scarred lines in face and forehead which tell of mental and physical pain, for Mr. Lloyd-George has had much ill-health. His hair, parted on the right side, is now quite gray, and flows in restrained waviness about the massive head. The eyebrows, so far from being black and arched into the sinister-looking points made familiar to the public by caricaturists, are light in color and perfectly even. His commanding air adds inches to his stature, which is actually only some five feet and a half. His manner is restless, but the body becomes rigid under mental concentration with regard to any great problem; as, for instance, when I asked him to state his opinion of the recent coal strike in Great Britain and its causes.

"That was but a sign of the times, and I was quite prepared for it," was the reply. "By all I have heard, and by what I have myself seen, I have known for the last couple of years that it was inevitable.

"What was the cause of the strike? It was purely social and economic. Politics had nothing whatever to do with it. It was solely rebellion against existing social conditions, and I do not think, on the whole, that even wages were a factor of much consequence.

"You must remember that you are now dealing with a much better educated democracy than existed, say, thirty or forty years ago. One thing everybody seems to overlook who talks of our political or social principles, and that is the English Education Act of 1870. Since the passing of that act you have had a great system of national education, constantly improving and broadening. The working classes not only read nowadays, they think."

"Then you attribute industrial upheaval, in this instance at all events, to better education of the masses?"

"Undoubtedly. Wider knowledge is creating in the mind of the workman growing dissatisfaction with the conditions under which he is forced to live. I speak of my own knowledge. Take South Wales, which I know intimately. That was the breeding ground of the unrest which led to the coal strike. Housing conditions in South Wales are indescribably bad. The conditions under which the miners in some districts exist render decency impossible. There you have a country rich in natural blessings; exquisitely formed valleys which offer the most beautiful sites in the world for the building of well-designed townships, and for a mode of life which would elevate and not abase. Instead you find the houses unfit for human habitation. One cannot wonder that the educated democracy will stand that sort of thing no longer.

"Workingmen are realizing that they contribute to the wealth of the community without getting a fair share of the good things which result, and that is one reason why they strike, ostensibly for a minimum wage."

At this moment Sir Rufus Isaac, attorney-general and member of parliament for the borough of Reading, entered the room, and, overhearing the chancellor's remark, observed that in the law they long ago secured a minimum wage (when Sir Rufus was at the bar he was reputed to derive an income of something like £20,000—$100,000—a year from his practice.) "And we get our minimum wage," said the attorney-general, "chiefly out of the criminal classes."

"Yes," Mr. Lloyd-George remarked, "you extract gold out of the low-level mines.

Industrial Unrest.

"Industrial unrest, whether in this country or America or in continental Europe," continued the chancellor after this interlude, "is not alone a question of wages, it is a question of social betterment."

"We have been passing through a period of industrial tempests, and there are indications that the ship of trade has not yet entered calm water," I said to the chancellor. "Why are you opposed to the adoption of the remedy advocated by the Conservatives—the introduction of a protective tariff, as it exists in the United States of America, in Germany, France, Russia, Austria, Italy and other countries?"

"Because, in the first place," answered Mr. Lloyd-George, "industrial unrest is as acute in those countries as it is in Great Britain, which shows that the remedy is not to be sought in the direction suggested by the Conservatives. Here in Britain we have no agitation against high prices. Prices have increased here, but to a much smaller extent than elsewhere. The ever-increasing prices of the necessaries of life, which exist abroad, are the mainspring of the distress of the masses.

"The disturbance of industry, the wide-spread but remediable poverty of the people as a whole, can be cured, and it is the aim of the Liberal party to provide the cure by other means than the imitation of a policy against which the people of other nations are revolting. For one thing, wasteful and extravagant expenditure must be checked."

"In what way are we using up our resources in wasteful and extravagant expenditure?"

"I might indicate to you two or three directions which will occur to all social reformers. Take, first, the money spent on armaments both in Great Britain and in other European countries. The civilized countries of the world are spending nearly £500,000,000 ($2,500,000,000) a year upon weapons of war, and in the forging of the machinery they are withdrawing from useful and productive labor some of the most effective and skilled brains. In this country the annual bill for armaments is something like £70,000,000 ($350,000,000); that is, it is costing us £8 ($40) for every household in the kingdom. Were this burden removed, Great Britain could afford to pay every member of the wage-earning classes an additional dollar a week, without interfering in the slightest degree with the profits of capital.

"Another source of waste is the way in which the land of this country is administered," Mr. Lloyd-George continued. "It is not producing more than a half of what it is capable of yielding. An enormous area is practically given over to sport. You have millions of acres exclusively devoted to game. A good deal of it is well adapted for agriculture and afforestation.

"When you come to the land around the towns here the grievance is of a different character. You may have a greater waste in parsimony than in prodigality. That is the way the land around our towns is wasted; land which might be giving plenty of air and recreation and renewed health and vigor to the workman is running to waste, as the millions in our cities are crowded into unsightly homes which would soon fill with gloom the brightest and stoutest heart.

"The greatest asset of a country is a virile and contented population. This you will never get until the land in the neighborhood of our great towns is measured out on a more generous scale for the homes of our people.

"Another source of waste is unemployment—I mean, of the idle rich. I am not referring in the least to the men who by their own brains have made the money which enables them to indulge in occasional leisure and pleasure. I allude to the class of men who exist in larger numbers in this country perhaps than in any country in the world. You will find them lounging about in London clubs; or, in the country, walking about with guns on their shoulders and dogs at their heels; or upon golf courses, or tearing along country roads in motor cars at perilous speeds; not seeking to recharge exhausted nerve cells spent in useful labor, but as the serious occupations of their lives. These people account for something like two millions of our population; their sole business is to enjoy themselves, often at the expense of others of our great multitudes who live lives of arduous toil without earning sufficient for food or raiment or repose.

Time for Overhauling.

"In these directions the time has come for a thorough overhauling of our conditions. That time comes in every enterprise—commercial, national and religious; and woe be to the generation that lacks the courage to undertake the task."

At this point the Master of Elibank quietly entered the room through the window from a terrace which communicates with his official headquarters next door. "Can I have a word with you?" he said. "The prime minister"—he called him the P. M.—"would like a cabinet meeting tomorrow at 11 o'clock; would that suit you? And—"

The amiable intruder is known in parliamentary circles as "The Master." His name is really Murray, and he is the chief whip of the Liberal party—the head of the whole party machinery responsible for organization in the house of commons and in the country. He is the bunty of the Liberal party, and manages to pull the strings as pleasantly and as successfully as does Bunty Biggar in Graham Moffat's play.

"Following the great victory of 1906, when Liberalism swept the country, you had," I said, turning to another subject, "to feel your way, as it were, for a year or two, before you embarked upon economic legislation. You had to form a constructive policy by revising the old to counteract the golden promises held out to the workers by the Socialists. What would have happened had you not done that?"

"We would have gone down like the Titanic," was the emphatic answer. "We would have been wrecked on the iceberg of popular criticism and social discontent.

"In order to retain and strengthen its hold over the working classes Liberalism had to become a more vital force, had to grapple with social problems in a serious way. During the four years following the great Liberal victory which you mention the mind of the working classes was uneasy. The return of the Labor party to the house of commons was followed by a vigorous propaganda which in many cases took the form of Socialism. If Liberalism had offered nothing to combat the promises and plans of the Socialist leaders, it would have suffered from reaction. The budget of 1909, attacking, as it did, land monopoly and taxing the rich, led to a revival in Liberalism, and increased the faith of the workingman in its future. But for that revival Liberalism would have become an extinct political force, as it has in Germany, in some of the Australian states, and elsewhere. But for the new Liberalism Socialism would probably have swept South Wales. As it was, at the election of January, 1910, the Liberals defeated the Socialist candidates in that part of the country.

"That election was a test in more things than the merits of the budget. The Conservatives vigorously advocated protection, holding out to the workingman the bait of higher wages and to the manufacturer greater profits. In the great industrial districts of England there was a a regular Tannhauser fight between the forces of good on the one side and the forces of evil on the other—I leave you to judge which was which—for the soul of the workingman. North of the Trent, which cuts across the middle of England, the working classes rallied to the support of Liberalism, while south of the Trent, with the exception of London, the Conservative party greatly increased their hold. Note this curious anomaly. The producing, manufacturing and industrial districts, including Lancashire and Yorkshire, were promised more work and higher wages under protection. They rejected the offer, while in the south of England, where there are few industries and where large numbers live on fixed incomes and cannot possibly benefit by the lure of protection, they voted in favor of it."

"You do not consider, then, that the mandate which you received from the country in 1910 to go back to office and carry on your work was due entirely to the Liberal party's intention to limit the veto of the House of Lords?"

"That was a great factor in the fight; it cleared the way for home rule and the great belated reforms, but the victory meant much more. People were encouraged by the old age pensions which we had given, as well as by the schemes of social reform which were outlined in my budget of the previous April. I may mention here that in introducing that budget I departed from precedent, and first spent an hour or two in sketching out my programme before dealing with financial incidence—a course which was criticized severely by our opponents. I regarded that plan as absolutely essential; for I wanted to make it clear that I was not taxing the rich for the purpose of making more revenue, but for the purpose of spending more money on the social well-being of the community."

Liberal Efforts.

"What further effort will the Liberal party make with regard to the social amelioration of the people?" I asked.

"Social reconstruction, the betterment of the condition of the masses, has still to come. There are millions of our people living in circumstances which no civilized community should tolerate. Social well-being must be secured through improved housing, the release of the land, and the betterment of the condition of children. The future of this country rests entirely with its children, and, alas! many of them are being reared in one-roomed homes amid surroundings which exercise a soul-destroying influence. Families of five and six are herded together in a single room. How can they be made good citizens under such conditions? I regard the slum child as a great national asset, and we must carve out for him a brighter future if he is to be worthy material out of which we shall weave the fabric of the great Commonwealth."

The interview was again interrupted by the appearance of a bishop—the Welsh bishop of St. Asaph who called to discuss some points about the bill for disestablishing the Anglican States Church in Wales, of which the bishop is a distinguished ornament. While Mr. Lloyd-George is eager for disestablishing the bishop's church, that does not disturb the friendship between them—they remain brothers within the family of Welsh nationality. Several other members of the government came and went—the chancellor's doors and windows are always open; he is the most accessible of all ministers.

With regard to British international relations, Mr. Lloyd-George expressed his opinion particularly on the effect upon civilization of a better understanding between England and Germany.

"The misunderstandings which exist and are fostered by sections of the people of both countries," he said, "are a misfortune, not only for each country, but for the whole of Europe. Prosperity is the corollary of peace, and peace is the first condition of continued prosperity. The policy of increasing expenditure on competitive armaments can end only in financial ruin, and until England and Germany come to an understanding there is no liklihood that the growth of armaments throughout Europe will be arrested.

"England and Germany have much in common. Great Britain has benefited a great deal by lessons learned from the social experiments carried out in Germany, while Germany has been able to build up its commercial prosperity to some extent on the experience of our own country. This community of interests and kindredship must be fostered, and by the mass of the people in both countries such a course would be welcomed. Thereby a heavy burden would be lifted off their shoulders and a large share of their energies and immense sums of national expenditure would be released and could be devoted to purposes for uplifting the people."

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LIGHTNING KILLS TWENTY-TWO HEAD OF CATTLE

Chatham, Ont., July 16—(Special)—Twenty-two head of cattle were killed by lightning yesterday afternoon on the farm of Mrs. Ferguson in Harwich township.

ELEBRATED 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR WEDDING

any Friends Gather to Wish Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Braman More Years of Happiness.

Hampton Village, July 18—On Tuesday ening, June 18, a very large number of ends and relatives gathered at the home Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Braman for e purpose of celebrating the fiftieth anversary of their marriage. In a previous count of the event, which was published The Telegraph, there were unfortunately me errors in the names and the account as therefore unjust but it is now made ght. About 7 o'clock a tempting supper as partaken of, the tables being mosh stefully decorated. During the evening ev. I. B. Colwell in a very pleasing adress, and on behalf of those present, wish- them many more years of happiness together. The remainder of the evening as spent in social intercourse, the company dispersing at a late hour after singing od Be With You Till We Meet Again. Among the many gifts was a substantial eque presented to the bride by Mr. raman and there were a purse of gold d many other beautiful presents. The vited guests were, Rev. I. B. and Mrs. olwell, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Payne, Mr. d Mrs. A. C. Dickson, Capt. and Mrs. T. Mabee and family, Mr. and Mrs. A. Mabee, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Marsters d son, Mr. and Mrs. Otty Earle and fam- y, Miss Carrie Earle and mother, Mr. and rs. John Desmond, Mr. and Mrs. Willm Logue, Dr. J. N. Smith, Ernest Braan, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Cain, Mr. and rs. W. H. Robertson, Mr. S. G. Braan and family, Mrs. T. H. Starrett, isses Mina Hutchings, Blanche Crandall, llie Crandall, Minnie Titus, Master Ned randall, Mrs. E. Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. Piers, Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Braman, iss Laura Braman, Mr. and Mrs. Frank orthrop, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Urquhart, rs. Fannie Urquhart and daughter, Mrs. arjory Urquhart and family, Mr. and rs. Miles G. Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. Isaa Spragg, Mr. and Mrs. D. Urquhart, r. and Mrs. Alvin Morrell, Mr. and Mrs. olomon Urquhart, Mr. and Mrs. William agle, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Braman d son, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Skinner, Mr. d Mrs. W. E. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. F. Hemmingway, Mr. W. H. Nugent, Miss bia Rodreges, Mr. and Mrs. David Urquart, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Flewwelling, r. and Mrs. C. Percy Ladd.

ELL THOUSAND FEET TO DEATH

HARRIET QUIMBY.

Who fell 1,000 feet to her death at the quantum aviation meet on July 1. She as the first woman in America to win an viator's license, and the second in America to lose her life in flight. Two en killed in France and one in Hungary.

OCEANIC FOUND ICE

New York, July 17—The steamer Oceanic, today from Southampton and Cherbourg, came by way of the Northern Sea, llowed by the Titanic when she met disster, and supposed until recently to be ear of ice for the season. The Oceanic eported having passed several small ices.