

FIGHTING A TRUST IN BINDER TWINE

Statement of the Grain Growers' Guide With a Logical Deduction Therefrom

In the Grain Growers' Guide appears an interesting article on binder twine. Dissatisfied with the high price of twine the Grain Growers' Association for a year past has been investigating the cause, and as a result has come to the conclusion that the American binder twine manufacturers have created a corner in the raw materials, and established a monopoly.

The Secretary of the Grain Growers' Association, so we are told, "has had the problem under consideration for a long time, and last fall he took the matter up with some British capitalists and manufacturers with the object in view of starting a British binder twine industry in competition with the American trust. It was then that the investigation of the real conditions started, but the project had to be dropped, because it was demonstrated to the satisfaction of the investigators that the United States binder twine trust had such an absolute monopoly on the necessary raw material that effective competition was out of the question."

The Guide adds: "There is reason to hope, however, that the Western farmer soon will be independent of the American binder twine trust. The investigation by the Grain Growers' Association and the British manufacturers resulted in an attempt now being made to introduce machinery using flax straw instead of the present material. If this experiment is successful it will mean the establishment of a new industry in the Western Canadian Provinces, a big saving for the farmer, and, besides, let him out of the twine trust's clutches." So far so good! But while struggling to free the farmer from one American combine, the Guide advocates a fiscal policy which would enable two or three score United States trusts to drive competing Canadian industries out of business and then advance the prices of many necessities of life at their own will all over the Dominion.

Alex. Bruce & Co., head office, Glasgow, Scotland, are negotiating for a site to erect a wood preserving plant in Edmonton, Alta.

A MESSAGE FROM A WOMAN TO WOMEN

"Every Woman Should Take 'Fruit-a-tives'"

LAKELBY, Ont., May 15th, 1911 "Kindly publish this letter of mine if you think it will benefit other women who might be afflicted with the diseases I have had in the past, but am now, thanks to 'Fruit-a-tives', completely cured of. It is my firm belief that every woman should take 'Fruit-a-tives' if she wants to keep herself in good health. Before taking 'Fruit-a-tives' I was constantly troubled with what is commonly known as 'Nerves' or severe Nervousness. This Nervousness brought on the most violent attacks of Sick Headache, for which I was constantly taking doctors' medicine without any permanent relief. Constipation was also a source of great trouble to me and for which the Doctor said 'I would have to take medicine all my life', but 'Fruit-a-tives' banished all these troubles and now I am a well woman."

Mrs. FRED. GADKE, 50c a box, 6 for \$2.50—trial size, 25c. At dealers or sent prepaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

BIG STEEL PLANT

To be Built Near Montreal by English Capital

The big industrial corporations of Great Britain and the United States are realizing the significance of the rapidly-growing markets of Canada. The firm of Armstrong, Whitworth & Co. Limited has officially announced its intention to erect a steel works establishment on the south shore of the St. Lawrence River, directly opposite Montreal, east and southeast of the town of Longueuil. Two hundred and fifty acres of land have been purchased at a cost of \$400,000; the water frontage of this property extends two thousand feet.

The Armstrong, Whitworth Company Limited, at Elswick, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, employs over 25,000 men; at Manchester, over 5,000. Later on, it is proposed to establish subsidiary concerns to which the parent company will supply the raw material. But for the Canadian tariff Canada would not secure this industry with the livelihoods for workmen which it will bring with it.

Some men try to realize on their opportunities before they arrive.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST CULLED FROM ALL SOURCES

The little village of Dezenacker, in Bavaria, an isolated community of 150 inhabitants, is said to be the most honest place in the world. In the last 150 years there has not been a single case of theft. On the basis of this record the inhabitants are protesting against a night watchman, who is not needed, they say.

A girl sculptor in Pittsburg is making a reputation in scientific circles with a kind of sculpture or modelling that is unique. She models insects and other animals which are so small as to be almost invisible without the aid of the microscope. The specimens she wishes to reproduce in plaster are first photographed through a microscope, and it is through study of these photographs that she makes the molds.

At Poplar Bluff, Mo., lightning which took the life of Ralph Sherman and injured Herman Suma at Dr. C. W. Williamson's farm, photographed perfectly on the bodies of the two men the impression of a large tree which the bolt first struck. Pictures of leaves and branches almost covered the upper portion of Sherman's body. A perfect reproduction of a leaf was made on Suma's side.

When sunset put an official end to Governor Major's two good roads days in Missouri, during which it is estimated 250,000 business men and farmers forsook their business and their farms and went to the highways to give their vote, that the State might receive impetus to become a leader in the good roads campaign, it was estimated the work done, had it been paid for, would have amounted to \$1,500,000.

Convicts serving terms in the Ohio penitentiary, or their dependents, will be given compensation for their labor on and after September 1. The amount of compensation to prisoners will range from one to five cents an hour, and the gradings will be based upon character, industrial efficiency and good conduct. The law providing for this was passed at a recent session of the legislature.

The "Roosevelt sale" is the latest thing in merchandising. As put in effect in Chicago it affords a 2 per cent. reduction to purchasers for each child they have, with a maximum reduction of 10 per cent. The merchants who tried it out found the scheme very successful, and the stores were crowded, the presence of the children being required as proof of the existence of the number claimed.

Miss Ellen Pierce has fixed a valuation of \$40,000 an hour on her time and accordingly she has brought suit in the District Supreme Court at Washington against a railroad company for half that sum for keeping her locked up a half hour in the dressing room of a railroad coach. A defective lock made her an involuntary prisoner for thirty minutes while she was on her way last autumn to a seashore resort. She claims she has not recovered yet from the effects of her detention.

A priceless painting by Manet has been found to have patched a hole in the roof of a hen house in the back garden of Ziem, the well-known painter, who died recently. After Ziem's death, a quantity of battered furniture was discovered, together with the frames of old canvases, in the corners of his picturesque house in the Butte of Montmartre, and the accumulations were thought to be not worth taking away by the executors, who left them behind. As the picture must have been nailed to the shed before Manet became famous, the inference is that it had served to keep the rain off chickens for something like 50 years.

Often the naming of a Japanese baby is a simple matter, the father or grandfather speaking before the company the name of some famous man, if the child is a boy, or of some favorite flower, if it is a girl. For girls, Hana, flower; Yuki, snow; Ai, love, are the favorites of parents with a poetical strain. The sterner country folk choose for their daughters Matsu, pine; Take, bamboo (the bamboo joints are exact; hence the exactness of virtue); Ume, plum, since the plum bears both cold and snow bravely. For boys, Ichiro, first boy; Toshio, smart; Iwao, strong and Isamu, brave, are very popular. Where belief is strong in the power of a name, the family, in holiday dress, often assembles in a large room. Each writes a name upon a slip of paper and lays it reverently before the house shrine. From the group a very young child is chosen and led before this shrine, and the fate of the name is decided by the small hand which reaches out for a slip. Though it is a festive occasion, the selection of a name is made with a seriousness worthy the election of a bishop. Many believe devoutly that this rite influences the baby's entire future, and therefore, the one whose slip is chosen incurs from the moment of choice great responsibility for the child's welfare.

The first National Convention of Cremationists of America is to meet at the Crematorium in Detroit, Wednesday, for a session of two days. Steps will be taken at the meeting to form a national organization, similar to the Cremation Society of England.

Snow fell Monday morning on Mount Washington, N. H. The temperature registered twenty degrees above zero at seven o'clock. Harvey G. Chase, who tramped the Crawford trail Sunday with a party of tourists, telephoned down Monday that the party feared to make the descent because of the dangerous ice coating on the trail.

The youngest person ever operated on for appendicitis, according to Chicago physicians, is Robert Zazzino, 11 months old, who had his appendix removed Monday at the American Hospital, Chicago. The child is said to be sustaining the shock of the operation well, and physicians assert he probably will recover. Nine minutes were required for the operation, and in less than half an hour the infant was out from the anesthetic.

After an absence of nearly half a century the smallest oil painting in the world, a landscape miniature painted on a grain of corn, has been returned to the artist who created it. He is Samuel T. Schultz of Camden, N. J. In 1868 Schultz went to Wheatland, N. J., the home of James Buchanan, picked up an ear of corn, there and decided to paint Buchanan's portrait on one of the grains. Then he changed his mind and painted a landscape. Since then the work has passed from one art centre to another in Europe. It was returned to Schultz from Berlin.

The Paris police have discovered that five telephone girls have been working in connection with a grain broker by keeping him informed of all transactions made by his competitors. The broker paid them a monthly sum for their services, and is said to have cleared a considerable amount in the last few months. Le Journal says that a court of inquiry has been instituted. The allegations include one to the effect that the broker prevailed upon the telephone girls to hold up messages of rival firms, and permit him to overhear their communications.

Miss Elsie Burr, one of the wealthiest young girls in Boston society, recently began work as nurse at the Children's Hospital in the Back Bay. Miss Burr was one of the prettiest debutantes last winter. Her father, I. Tucker Burr, a banker, gave her a gorgeous coming-out party. A brilliant social career was predicted for her. Suddenly she announced her determination of following the lead of a number of other Vincent C'ub girls by becoming a nurse. In preparation for her training at the Children's Hospital, Miss Burr has spent most of the early summer at the hospital on Children's Island, Marblehead. To complete her course in training it will be necessary for Miss Burr to spend three years in the study of the theory and practice of nursing.

One thing that conveys careless automobile drivers beyond all else, says the New York Times, is that some of them ever run down a traffic policeman. Hundreds and hundreds of bluecauts are on crossing duty in New York every day of the year, and if they were not protected by their uniform their calling would be extra hazardous. They stand in what for civilians would be the most dangerous positions conceivable—right in the middle of the tide of traffic, with automobiles and motor cycles and other vehicles passing them by dozens, scores, hundreds, thousands, and, on holidays, tens of thousands. There is nothing to prevent any traffic policeman from being crushed at any moment of his day's work. No matter how stout he may be, his bulk could not stop an automobile. Yet the significant fact remains that he is not run down.

To keep a kitchen table white, wash it first with vinegar, then scrub it as usual.

Sixty of Boston's Back Bay mansions are on the market. In these blessed days of progress the automobile has made it possible for even a Bostonian to live outside of Boston.

The cooks of Boston have a paper devoted to their interests, to which they are invited to compete. They may submit prose or verse, but the subjects, it appears, must be chosen from the kitchen.

The largest book in the world is an album recently made in New York city. It has room for 10,000 photographs and 500,000 names. There are in it 4,000 pages.

A Cleveland, O., man invented a self-ripping bed supposed to gently wake a man by putting him on his feet. The spring was too strong, however, and on the first trial the bed threw its inventor through a window.

One of the features of the Worcester Mass., Labor Day parade was a monstrous loaf of bread, made by the Bakery Workers' Union. The loaf was of the twisted variety, and weighed 15 1/2 lbs. It used 58 lbs of flour.

Among the queer industries that have come to notice is one in Denmark for the manufacture of lecithin and collestrin from hogs' brains. Lecithin and collestrin are used in the manufacture of medicinal preparations, and it takes the brains of four hogs to make one pound of the products. Lecithin is a fatty substance, and collestrin is described as being a white powder resembling naphthalene.

King George has refused to allow his sister, the Queen of Norway, to let Appleton House to an irreproachable tenant. The house, which is on the Sandringham estate, was given to Queen Maude by King Edward for life, but if she did not require it for her personal use it was to be returned to the owner of Sandringham, now King George. The King now not only refuses to allow Queen Maude to accept a tenant but has declined her offer to sell him her rights for \$25,000.

Henri Menter, the rich and famous chocolate manufacturer, died on Saturday at his home in Pontoise, France. The "chocolate king" of France and owner of the Island of Anticosti, in the St. Lawrence, was born in 1853. His family had acquired many millions of dollars in manufacturing. Henri was called upon to take charge of his father's vast interests at eighteen. He literally walked in one day from a schoolroom to the private office of a business, meaning in capacity and importance more than one hundred million francs. At nineteen he had mastered the details, at twenty-five he had practically doubled the output, at thirty his name was a household word in France, and at thirty-five his fortune had reached the enormous figure of two hundred million francs.

GUARD BABY'S HEALTH IN THE SUMMER

The summer months are the most dangerous to little ones. The complaints of that season, which are cholera infantum, colic, diarrhoea, an indigestion, come on so quickly that often a little one is beyond aid before the mother realizes he is ill. The mother must be on her guard to prevent these troubles, or if they do come on suddenly to cure them. No other medicine is so safe as Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. They regulate the stomach and bowels and are absolutely safe. Sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Tillage in Manure The old maxim that "tillage is manure" has been shown to be true at Cornell University farm, where experiments were made in that direction. Some plots of potatoes were cultivated as many as eight times, and in every case the greater the number of times the plants were cultivated the larger the yields compared with plots on which fewer cultivations were given. The level culture was better than hilling. Two lots, cultivated eight times, left perfectly level through the season, produced at the rate of 284 bushels and 357 per acre and three lots, cultivated five times, produced 349 bushels, 325 bushels and 288 bushels, the last lot being hilled at the final cultivating. The different varieties used showed that the same results could not be expected from all of them, but sufficient evidence was secured to demonstrate that level cultivation and keeping the ground loose, were important matters in growing potatoes. Some lots that were cultivated only three times showed a large falling off in yield.

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GRAIN ON THE HOOF PAYS THE COUNTRY. FREE TRADE AND PROTECTION. A Striking Statement of the Toronto Globe Regarding Canada's Foreign Trade. The Toronto Globe says that one of the most suggestive features of Canada's foreign trade returns for the past year is to be found in the large exports of grain. The Globe continues: "The advice to sell grain on the hoof is being disregarded, and the results must tend ultimately to lessen and exhaust productive capacity. Exports of breadstuffs increased from \$127,635,875 in the year under review. Wheat exports increased from \$53,748,557 to \$93,425,160, which shows that the West is fulfilling predictions, and wheat flour increased from \$16,367,333 to \$20,164,753, which shows that our power development is promoting secondary industries. It is evident that immediate returns are sought more eagerly than perpetual fertility, and that the loss through the exhausting of farms is not being considered sufficiently. It is suggestive, in this connection, that exports of bacon and hams decreased from \$7,322,032 to \$5,632,957, and of butter from \$2,074,771 to \$239,290. Cheese exports totaled \$20,851,367, which is but a slight decrease from the previous year's record. These important items show the need of diverting effort toward stock-raising and lines of production which restore fertility." England and Germany Contrasted—the Lesson That is to be Drawn for East as Well as West. Germany has made prodigious strides in commerce and industry since 1888, and much statistical information showing these increases has been published in connection with the celebration of Emperor William's quarter century on the throne. It is now claimed that Germany is ahead of England as a producer of merchandise. In the last twenty-five years Germany's exports have risen from \$118,000,000 to \$2,541,000,000, and her exports from \$798,000,000,000 to \$2,146,000,000. Germany loses little population by emigration. The people fly from Britain by hundreds of thousands. Germany has a protective tariff and England Free Trade. Just so Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and all eastern Canada have greatly benefitted of late years from the operation of the Canadian Policy of moderate protection. It has encouraged the establishment of manufacturing centres, which in turn provide convenient and profitable domestic markets for Canadian farm products. French scientists have found a new source of vegetable ivory in the albumen of the fruit of a small palm growing prolifically in the French Sudan.

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