

good-sized waist band, "it looks pretty nice and it's all very nice for them to show us how nicely those little engines work, but what's the use of them showing us all that when we can't afford to pay anywhere near the price they ask for them and, anyway, the price is unreasonable. They had lots of material on hand, and are making us pay the big prices just the same as if they had to pay the new prices for material. They should keep the prices at the old place until they use up all the old material."

I happened to know that he was wrong and that most farm machinery manufacturers held their prices down as long as they could, but, even if he had been right, I couldn't help wondering what the same man would say if he were asked to sell his wheat below the market price because it was at a lower price when he grew it, which was before his expenses got to within a mile of where they are now. As I was thinking about this, I began to wonder if the farmer wasn't pretty nearly as much of a speculator as the ones around the stock exchange, who have been getting such a storm of protests.

I don't doubt for a minute but what I'll get somebody into my wool for this, but I couldn't help wondering just the same.

Somebody asked me the other day if the light gas tractor had arrived at the place where it could be called "finished." No, it hasn't; and I don't suppose it ever will get there, for, before it gets to such a state of perfection, something new will be sprung on us; and, anyway, I don't think the gas tractor will ever get to the place where it will be impossible to improve it and, even if it did, there would always be somebody who would think they saw an improvement and, in consequence, they would stick in something that had been tried out and proved a failure long before.

You know it's amusing (when it isn't something worse) to see how manufacturers will persist in decorating their tractors with things that have been tried out and proven failures. Some manufacturers manage to make a collection of these failures, put them all onto one tractor and the result has Charlie Chaplin and Harry Lauder beaten so had they look like an omelet.


Oh, no. Don't worry; the gas tractor will see lots of changes yet and if we don't all starve to death or shoot each other first, we'll see the gas tractor share its popularity with another power.

Doug. R. A. Drummond.

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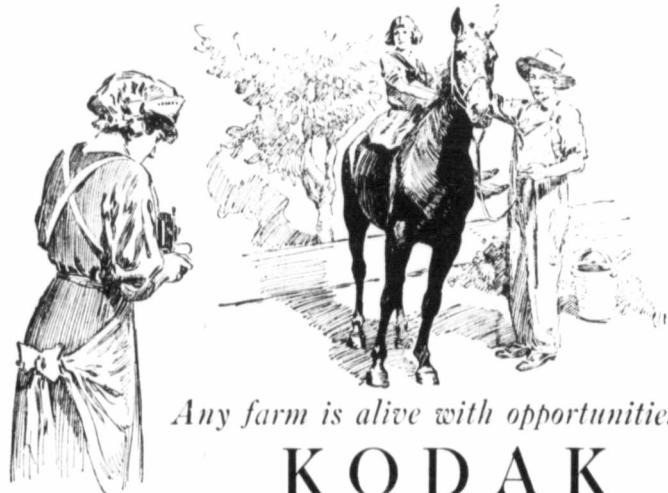
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