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ADVICE THAT BORE FRUIT

A few summers ago (to be exact, it was
in 1909) I stopped off with a companion
to visit a boyhood friend who owned a
considerable farm on the outskirts of a
little farming village.

"I never seem to get anywhere," com-
plained our host to us, as we sat on his
porch that afternoon. "Every time that
I get a little ahead of the game and have
a little money in the bank, ready for
the girl's education, some unexpected
expense comes up--the money all goes
for repairing a barn or buying wagons,
and there's nothing to show for the year's
work. This year it's the same old story;
it will take every spare penny to pay for
the new harvester. I'll never get any-
where."

This man was a good farmer and a hard
worker, but, like many others, he had
never learned that the modern farm
to be profitable must be conducted along
modern business lines. He made no al-
lowance for the cost of keeping up his farm
and he was regularly disappointed when
the year's work showed little or no profit.
He did not spend a dollar on maintenance,
and consequently he was continually
digging down into his jeans for money to
pay for new buildings, implements, etc.

We three walked around the farm. The
barn, built less than ten years before,
but absolutely free from paint, showed
distinctly where sun, wind, rain and
frost had done their destructive work.
Under open sheds and in the corners of

fields were various pieces of farm machin-
ery, where they had stood since the previ-
ous harvest. Rust had eaten its way
into the expensive metal and in several
places I could stick the blade of my pocket
knife deep into open seams in the wood.

We stopped in front of the wreck of
the old harvester. "There," said our
host, disgustedly, "I bought that in
1903, and look at it now! I'll never buy
that make again."

"When did you paint it last, Dick?"
I enquired.

"Paint it?" said he. "Paint it? Why it
was painted when I bought it."

"And you haven't painted it since?"

"No. I haven't the time or money for
such frills. I'm a farmer, not a painter."

"Yes," broke in my travelling com-
panion, tapping on the rusted metal
with his pipe for emphasis, "but if you
had spent about a dollar a year on good
paint--say seven dollars in all--you
wouldn't be buying a new harvester this
year and that pretty daughter of yours
would be going to town this winter to
finish her schooling. That seven dollars
would have been a mighty profitable
investment."

"That sounds all right," returned
Dick, "but I tried it once. When I
painted the house in '98, I had some
paint left over so I painted the plow.
It came right off, didn't do any good."

"Of course not. The paint that was
made to stick to wood couldn't hold on
the hard metal. You can't expect
every medicine to cure every disease or
one paint to do good work on every sort
of surface. That's why the most reliable
manufacturers make special paint for
every surface and every use. Seven
dollars on a good implement paint--one
dollar a year--would have kept the old
harvester as good as new. It's the same
way with the barn."

"Oh, there's no use in painting the
barn. It's not worth it. I've got to
build a new one, anyway. The rain goes
right through this and spoils the hay."

"It didn't do that the year it was built,
did it?"

"No, of course not. It was a good
barn then."

"Why didn't you buy a good grade
of paint made especially for barns and
rough lumber of all sorts? Unpainted
wood cracks and shrinks and lets the rain
in. You probably lost enough every
year in damaged crops to pay the cost
of painting several times over. It's
merely a case of spending money to save
money."

Dick pulled on his pipe a minute with-
out speaking. "Hum," he said, finally,
"maybe you're right. I guess I never
looked at it that way." He kept silent
for a few minutes. "Say," he exploded
suddenly, "do you think it's too late to
save the barn?"

"Of course not," answered my friend.
"Paint it this fall the minute your harvest
is safely in. The wood will be in perfect
condition to receive the paint after the
summer sun has tried it thoroughly,
and the weather will probably be clear
and settled. That's one reason why
there is no better time to paint than fall.
The other is that your buildings are prop-
erly protected and ready for winter's frost
and snow. Frost is mighty bad on wood
because it goes in so deep and splits and
cracks the timber. There's one thing
more--when you go to town for paint,
don't try to see how cheap you can get
it. Ask your local dealer or look in your
farm papers for the name of a reliable
paint of established reputation. The
good paint will cost you a little more this
year, but you won't need to do it all
over again so soon."

This June I stopped off again at the
little town and drove out to my friend's
home. House and barn were attractively
painted. Nowhere could you see a
machine or wagon exposed to the weather.
I turned in. Dick greeted me from the
porch and called his wife.

"I'm sorry," said he, "that my daughter
isn't here too."

"Where is she?" I asked.

"Oh," said he, "she comes home from
the academy tomorrow for her summer
vacation."

HOMES FOR THE PEOPLE

(From Sunday Times, Perth, Australia)

It is very gratifying to find that the
Acting-Premier has risen to the occasion
with regard to a scheme of workmen's
homes. Mr. Gregory, of course, could not
commit the Cabinet to any line of policy
in the absence of the premier, but he has
so readily realized the importance of the
suggestion put forward by "The Sunday

Times" four weeks ago that he has re-
quested Mr. Bennett, the registrar of
friendly societies, to collate such infor-
mation as may be accessible for the purpose
of having the whole matter considered as
soon as Mr. Wilson returns to the state
in a couple of weeks' time.

As we have pointed out in the course
of our articles on the subject, the scheme
has already been adopted in New Zealand,
Victoria and South Australia. The New
Zealand act has been in operation for some
years and has proved a great success.
There a worker of any kind can secure
his own home by putting down a deposit
of £10 and paying the balance off in the
shape of a weekly rent extending over a
period of 30 years if necessary, at 4 1/2
per cent. Thus, if a man's house and land
cost £500, he would have to pay about
15s. a week in capital and interest, but
every year would see the interest reduced.
Again, if a man were content with a £400
home, he would have to pay slightly
over 12s. a week, decreasing as the capital
was reduced.

We find by the city council proceedings
that Cr. Lander introduced a resolution
to the last meeting of that body affirming
the desirableness of supporting the move-
ment by waiting upon the government,
but the citizens of Perth will be astounded
to hear that it was rejected. Only the
mover and Cr. George voted for the
proposal, while Crs. Allen, Braidwood,
Foster, Franklin, Ledger, M'Sorley, Ochil-
tree, Tatham, Butt, Shafto and Simpson
recorded their votes against such a wicked
attempt to interfere with the monopolies
and interests of landlordism. Those
eleven councillors should be execrated
out of municipal life, for men who would
refuse to affirm that workmen should be
enabled to acquire their own homes,
because in so doing they would escape
the vice-like grip of the rent-extorter,
are only fit for purgatory, or some warmer
climate. Even Cold-tea Simpson, who is
tonguing for a Labor seat in Parliament,
allowed his self-interest to damage his

In order to give the readers of The
Guide complete news of the election
the Mail Bag Department has been
omitted this week.

ambition. He wants to be a Labor
member, but he objects to workmen
owning their own homes. A nice sort
of inconsistent humbug he is, to be sure,
and if the workers don't turn him down
with a snap they have not the spirit
which we credit them with. The same
may be said of Franklin and Braidwood,
who caded Labor support to try to crawl
into Parliament. As for Allen! He is the
tool of the landlords; M'Sorley is the
man who sells "fancy bread," which
is common bread, but need not be 32 oz.
to the 2 lb. loaf. Ochiltree has become
attached to a plutocratic poppa-in-law;
Butt is a renegade Laborite; and the others
are sheep--follow the bell-wether.

If these councillors had any brains,
they would see that a couple of hundred
workmen's houses in a fast-growing city
like Perth would scarcely be felt by the
tenement vampire, but in any case these
rapacious agents of landlords and ab-
sentees are not going to be allowed to
balk a movement of so benevolent and
inevitable a nature.

Indeed, the city council has here a
magnificent opportunity for utilizing the
municipal endowment land situated the
other side of West Leederville. Why not
offer this 4,000 acres to the government
to be laid out as a model suburb, on the
lines of the cocoa town of Bournville
in England? The place could be made
a picture and a beautiful residential
village for our toilers, who should be
assisted and encouraged in acquiring
healthy and pleasant homes. Why should
the wealthy have all the good things of
this world, and the workers be allowed
to stew in dirty city cottages? Get the
workers out of the city, for the whole of
it will shortly be required for business.
Get them out into the country in a suburb
specially designed to provide healthy
and pleasurable surroundings. It would
be cheaper than maintaining a percentage
of them in hospitals.

We notice that a deputation waited on
the acting-premier on Friday and urged
that the Chinese gardens in the city should
be resumed and the Celestials and their
stinking manures banished to some remote
locality. Good! But one idiotic speaker
who no doubt thought he had struck

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a brilliant idea--suggested that workmen's
homes should be built on the sites of the
low-lying, semi-putrid gardens. What
a disgusting idea! Is anything to be
good enough for the men who do the
manual work of the community and for
their children? Would the shallow-thinker
who made the proposal dream of build-
ing a house for himself and his family
on ground reeking with decades of stable
and liquid filth? Yet he had no hesitation
in committing workers to the germ-
infested locality.

No; while the government is about it,
let them establish a model suburb with
the latest hygienic surroundings.

HORSES SAVED FROM FIRE

The barn of A. B. McGregor, about
two miles southwest of Davidson, Sask.,
was burned last week. The loss is about
\$1,300; insurance \$350. There were
housed in the building thirteen horses,
including a valuable jack and a
stallion, three cows and calf. The live
stock was saved except about 15 turkeys
and 30 hens. While terribly frightened
the animals without exception seemed to
comprehend the situation, never once so
much as tightening a tie rein until released,
when they fled with the greatest speed.

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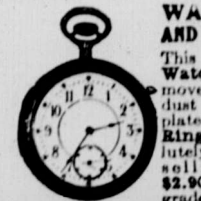
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