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The Canadian Thresherman and Farmer will not solicit subscriptions on the Winnipeg Fair Grounds this year. When you go to the Fair, you wish to see the Exhibits and to enjoy yourself; not to be bothered by subscription solicitors. If subscription soliciting annoys you we wish to be the first to cut it out.

We will have a cottage at the Fair this year and we want you to visit us, and if you wish to subscribe or renew your subscription, we will be tickled to death to take your money at the cottage. **But anyhow come and talk to us.**

COUPON.

This Coupon and \$1.00 if presented during Winnipeg Fair, July 12 to 22, 1911 will entitle you to The Canadian Thresherman and Farmer from August 1911 to January 1913.

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To the Threshermen of Canada.

TALK No. 5

The threshing season will soon be here. By the time this issue of our magazine reaches its readers the winter wheat in Southern Alberta will have begun to take on the color of harvest time.

There is every indication this season of there being a bumper crop with a large amount of straw to put through. This will mean that it is up to you to have your outfit in good shape.

In the first place, you will want to see that your engine is thoroughly overhauled. It will want to be thoroughly repacked; all the line shaft boxes carefully gone over and re-babbitted, if needed. See that all stay bolts are tight and do not take any chances on there being any weak flues. It may take some little time to go over your engine, but unless you are using it for plowing purposes you can do it on rainy days. A good plan, if you are near a blacksmith shop, is to run your engine into town as the blacksmith can in a great many cases help you out on things that it is not possible for you to do with your own equipment. And by the way, don't overlook the separator. The straw last year was short, was comparatively dry and easily threshed. The result was that your old outfit worked and worked comparatively well, but this year with long, heavy straw, unless your feeder is in pretty good shape, don't take any chances. It is the business end of the machine, and unless you have something that will put the straw into your separator right, you certainly cannot get the bushels out of it.

See that your cylinder and concave teeth are in good shape. It does not pay to furnish power to drive a separator cylinder, the teeth of which are only doing half a job. It takes more power to drive it and you certainly do not get the results. See that all the boxes and journals from the largest to the smallest are carefully gone over and tightened up, using babbit where necessary. See that the oil holes are all cleaned out and that there is not a weak joint anywhere.

The smallest thing may ultimately develop into a big break that will cost you days of delay just when time means crisp handsome dollars to you.

See that your outfit is equipped with a good, substantial lifting jack, and that all the other little necessities, such as oil cans, pipe wrenches, water glasses, cold chisels, punches, lace leather, etc., etc., are all in shape.

If your engine happens to be of the internal combustion type, it is just as necessary that you put it in ship shape. Better take out the pistons and clean the inside of the cylinder thoroughly. See that your piston rings are in good shape, for a worn piston can burn up a lot of oil and not give you much power. See that you have on hand a generous supply of dry cells, or, at least, be assured that there is a supply within reach. Have a supply of spark plugs on hand and if your engine is equipped with a magneto you had better take it down and clean it thoroughly, or if you don't know how to do this yourself, get someone to do it for you. You cannot get an explosion without a good spark.

If your engine has given you trouble and some small parts have been in the habit of breaking carry some of those extra parts along with you.

Remember, the man for whom you thresh never excuses you for a breakdown and it is the outfit that goes on a farm, completes the job, and gets away without a mishap, that can come back again the second time and get its own price.

Just one word in conclusion. The heavy straw that we will undoubtedly have this fall is not going to be a money-maker for you as a thresherman. You have got to put through a lot of it in order to get a certain number of bushels and bushels are what determine your pay. Don't for the sake of your own dignity and respect, to say nothing about the welfare of your pocket book, cut your price. Charge a reasonable price and stick to it, and if you can't get it, pull your outfit in the shed. In fact, you had better give it away than take it out and lose money on it. The farmers of Western Canada have got to have you to thresh their grain. They can't get it into the elevator unless you do.

This does not mean that you are to hold them up, but you are entitled to a good, reasonable wage for your services. Do your utmost to render them a service and then charge them a price for it, and we do not believe that you will have many that are dissatisfied. You can't sharpen a pencil with a dull knife, neither can you do good job of threshing with a poor outfit.



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