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"Persevere and Succeed."

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EDITORIAL.

A correspondent of a leading American agricultural journal has made the discovery that top-dressing meadows by means of a manure spreader is good for them, and the journal to which he writes has an editorial declaring it is true, and containing the most surprising information that many farmers across the line have believed such top-dressing injurious to pastures. Verily, the American farmer has been a long time learning some very simple facts.

Clover hay should, if at all possible, be fed upon the farm. Analyses show that it is actually richer in fertilizing constituents, ton for ton, than the grain of oats. The nitrogen content is practically the same in each case. The oats have about nine pounds more phosphoric acid per ton, but this is more than offset by the difference in potash content, the clover hay containing over 31 pounds per ton more potash than the oats. Taking the phosphoric acid and potash together, we find a net superiority of 22 pounds per ton in favor of the clover.

If some of our public experimenters wish to do something of outstanding value, let them conduct an elaborate series of field experiments to test the value of barnyard manure, taking into account not only yields, but other items, such as relative labor, cost per ton or bushel of producing and harvesting good crops on manured ground, and poor crops on land unmanured. Few farmers will ever take full stock of their manure piles till their value has been experimentally determined in terms of dollars and cents per ton. Here is work for the agriculturists at Guelph, Macdonald College, Terra and Ottawa.

One of the witnesses at Guelph before the Royal Commission on Industrial Training and Technical Education suggested that the time had come when most valuable aid could be rendered farming if the railways and leading banks would establish model farms at intervals where they operate, in charge of scientific agriculturists. Pondering the consideration of this proposition, "The Farmer's Advocate" ventures the proposal that, if the railways desire speedily to promote the interest of farm communities, they can do so effectively by taking such measures as will stay the slaughter of people on level crossings, by giving more efficient transportation for animals and farm products, and by giving a general two-cent passenger rate on their trains.

Begin now to plan for the beautifying of your home surroundings. Watch the labors of the women about the house. There is water piped into the cow stable; is it also piped into the house? The latest labor-saving implements are acquired for farm operations; has the same progress been made in the women's work? Sit down and watch for a while. Then suggest the doing of a few of these things for the home, and see the delight you have surprised into your wife's face. Instal these needed things, then talk over with the family the beautifying of the home surroundings, the planting of some ornamental shrubbery and a few more trees. Invite your neighbor and his wife in to tea and talk such schemes over together. Let the plans include the school grounds, the day-bell home of the children for much of their early life. Thus readily may the appearance and life of the entire community be changed.

Do Not Barter Away Electrical Power.

Ex-President Roosevelt has pointed out that, for the United States to give away without conditions the water-power of the country, one of its greatest natural resources, would be an act of folly for which the children of the men of to-day would be forced to pay an annual return upon a capitalization based upon the highest prices which "the traffic will bear." "They will find themselves," he goes on to say, "face to face with powerful interests entrenched behind the doctrine of 'vested rights,' and strengthened by every device which money can buy and the ingenuity of corporation lawyers can devise. Long before that time they may, and very probably will, have become a consolidated interest, dictating the terms upon which the citizen can conduct his business or earn his livelihood, and not amenable to the wholesome check of public opinion."

Referring to the portentous monopolistic concentration of power production in the States, Chas. E. Wright, Assistant Attorney to the Secretary of the Interior, at Washington, D. C., states that, "For heat, light and transportation, and the power that turns the spindle and grinds the corn, will be the product of transmitted water-power within the lifetime of our children."

Gifford Pinchot, Chairman of the U. S. National Conservation Commission, who was practically crowded out of the Forestry Service because of his pronounced attitude against the alienation of the public domain, declares that General Electric interests are acquiring great groups of water-powers in various parts of the United States, and dominating the power market in the region of each group. Year after year their paid attorneys appear at Congress asking legislative removal of the new remaining obstacles to their perpetual and complete absorption of the remaining water-powers. Unless the people take steps to protect themselves now, they may be sure the trust will give little consideration to the welfare of the average citizen when it comes in conflict with their own."

Such observations as the foregoing should bring home to Canadians the tremendous significance of the water-powers for generating electricity in the Province of Ontario and elsewhere. The control of these resources is the key to the industrial future of Ontario, which, as the inaugural of Niagara power at Berlin portends, will be simply revolutionized in a few years' time. In her dependence, thus far, upon foreign coal fields for supplies of this fuel for heating and the generation of steam-power, Ontario is not in an enviable position; therefore, the authorities should give effective heed to the admonition of the Canadian section of the International Waterways Commission, that it is of very little advantage, indeed, to this country to develop power, and then permit it to be transmitted to the United States. This matter is of immense indirect portent to Ontario farmers, and Arthur V. White, in the University Magazine, is undoubtedly correct in saying that the export of Niagara power should not be permitted, except under conditions and terms which will absolutely conserve the present and future interests of Canadians. We are only seeing the dawn of the industrial future of this Province, and she may yet require for heating, light and power every unit of electrical energy generated at Niagara and in the eastern waters of the Province. Not only is it the substitute for coal and deliverance from the monopolistic coal interests, but it is an effective lever in the meantime in any negotiations for coal supplies. What we have, let us hold, nor be misled by any gilded bait of immediate returns when might irretrievably compromise our future.

Success.

The general practice of parents, wherever their homes may be located, is to inspire in the hearts of their boys, strongly, the ambition of "Success." We want our children to succeed in school; we want them to stand highest on their examinations, to lead the classes in High School, and to win the prizes in the college or university; we hold up before them how this man, starting with nothing and as a nobody, made his millions, owns railroads, or controls a business, and whose name is known throughout the nation. A good many of us can remember how, as boys, our fathers worked hard and stunted much, that their boys might be something, not mere farmers; and a good many whose parents were doctors, lawyers, tradesmen, or of other calling, remember full well how they, too, wanted their boys to be something—something else—and had placed before them similar ideals. And now, a little older grown, are we any wiser than our parents? Are we not holding up the same will-o'-the-wisp to our children under a different name, but yet the same? Success, what is it? Fame? Sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal. Riches? The root of all evil. Power? With it does much grief come. Pleasure? It tastes bitter in the very drinking, and in excess revulses. Estates? "And he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions."

What, then? Let us not hold up to the boys fast growing into men the chimera that in any of these ways lies the path to a ripe old age of content. Fame may come, but it must be for doing good; the riches that make a man worth while are those of mind and spirit that come from a love of God, of little children, of the blue sky, pure air, and of God's out-of-doors, and of mind from companionship with the verities of the ages learned first-hand and from the master writers of the centuries; the power that is worth wielding is that which comes from the merited confidence placed in an honest man of ability; and estates are hard to justify under any doctrine.

Such is success; ask the old men who have run the race, and some of whom have tried each of the illusive paths. Where better, where else so well, can a man be a man, earn his own bread and that of his family; study, become rich of heart, strong of mind and pure of spirit, as on the farm? Let us inspire our sons and our sons' sons to live upon the land where they were born, to live well, to grow broad and strong, and to achieve truly.

Institutes Must Go Forward or Cease.

No one can compute the good that already has been the outcome of Farmers' Institutes. Amongst some of the good things they have wrought for Ontario farming may be mentioned the bacon-hog industry, better attention to crop rotation, improved methods of cattle-feeding, alfalfa culture, and better methods of poultry-keeping and dairying. Indeed, there is scarcely an aspect of agricultural practice that has not improved by these meetings. Add to this the healthy pride the farmer now has in his work, and his feeling that farm operations require his best thought, and one feels safe in saying that Farmers' Institutes have already justified their existence many times over. Their very success, however, bids fair to be their own destruction. Like everything else in these progressive days, they must move on or move off. Already there is a feeling that the Institute has served its day. Not that the farmers' problems have all been solved, but that the farmers' real problems are not being satisfactorily discussed at the meetings, is the reason for the present unrest.

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