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EDITORIAL.

The check-row corn planter is one of our best weed destroyers.

So far, the growing season of 1912 has been as wet as that of 1911 was dry. Are we in for another year of extremes?

Millet is not a bad crop to try on land which could not be planted to corn in good season. Rape is first-rate where one has the stock to utilize it.

Prepare for haymaking. Early cutting of red clover, while it may not yield as many pounds per acre, gives a more palatable and more digestible feed, and gives the aftermath a chance to produce an abundant second crop, either for feed or seed. To give the field the best possible chance to produce seed, cut early.

Just before haying is a good time for the annual stock-taking, if it was not done in April. A yearly inventory is a splendid eye-opener, a source of encouragement to the enterprising, a stimulus to rational investment of money, and a sobering check upon easy carelessness in buying. Knowledge is always corrective and helpful.

Haymaking must be done as rapidly as possible, and as much machinery as can profitably be employed should be installed, in order that the crop may be harvested in the best possible condition. No one having any considerable amount of hay to harvest can afford to do without a hayfork and track, and, where large quantities are grown, the hay loader and side-delivery rake are labor and time-savers.

From this time forward, cultivation should be regular and frequent in the corn and hoed-crop fields, and in the summer-fallow. In the former it is necessary to promote growth and keep down weeds, and in the latter, which is worked for the sole purpose of ridding the soil of noxious weeds and improving its fertility, it is imperative that thorough work be done. With the worst weeds it is necessary to give them a setback weekly; thus, cultivation at least once every week is necessary.

Now is a good time to sow the turnips. They come on quickly, are ready to hoe before harvest begins, or during the breathing spell between haying and harvest, and usually grow into good-sized and fine-quality roots. If you have calves and young stock to feed, and have no mangels or sugar beets, you cannot afford to do without a few turnips. They add something to the ration which just seems to suit the calves' condition in the winter.

Rainy days may be profitably employed in cleaning out the old straw and chaff from the bays in the barn. The past long winter of shortage in straw served to get most of this worked down into manure, but doubtless many barns contain a little, and this would be a good season to clear it all out, and thus destroy a large number of rodents, which use it as a breeding place, and afterwards make inroads on the grain bins. Mice and rats destroy large quantities of grain in the granaries yearly, as these granaries are situated in or near the mows in the barn, in which has accumulated quantities of old straw, ideal breeding places for these animals. Clean them out before harvest.

Believe in Your Occupation.

Success to a great extent depends upon effort, and effort bears a direct relationship to one's feelings toward the task at which he is employed. Listlessness, half-heartedness, carelessness result invariably in partial or complete failure, and are conceived, born, fostered, fed and reared upon doubting and skepticisms with regard to the business in which the person is engaged. If you have no faith, no real belief in the possibilities of the future of your undertakings, it is better, far, to drop them and commence something in which you are assured in your own mind of success. If the man engaged in a particular work sees no good to come of it, what chance has he to convince the public that his calling is one to merit the attention of the mass of hard-headed, thinking people, every one of whom is out to make a success of life? It is the worst possible argument against a business to see those engaged in it dissatisfied, and ever decrying it as unprofitable, unproductive and wholly undesirable. Yet, how often do we think that we have positively the worst occupation in the world, and that the other fellow has all the best of it, gets his living easier, has more leisure, and enjoys life to its fullest extent? The "other fellow" may be at the same time thinking the same of us. There seems to be a strong current of dissatisfaction in human nature which demands an ever-changing course of events. This uneasiness is general, but with those who believe strongly in their business is not lasting, having only a very slight effect.

Real, lasting, deep-rooted dissatisfaction is often the result of failure to believe sincerely in the occupation engaged in. To believe in one's business does not mean that one is to reach that stage of satiety which eliminates effort. Not at all. Believing stimulates to increased effort, and well-directed effort brings results which cannot but increase and perpetuate the firm confidence in the possibilities and outcome of the working of the business. It is a kind of endless chain. The first link is an occupation, for an ambitious person without employment is like a fish out of water; welded with this first link is the strengthening link of belief in the calling undertaken; out of this link, and joined with it grows effort which brings results, the last link which cements the chain, increases the business and the belief in it, and spells success. Once the work is decided upon, the outcome hinges upon the extent to which the worker believes in his decision.

We read of an increasing trend of population cityward. We ask ourselves why. Answers in hundreds are given. The school is blamed, the society, or lack of it, comes in for its share of responsibility; the desire for leisure and excitement, the possibility of higher wages, less work and shorter hours—these and the scores of other reasons are advanced, and all have a bearing on the situation, but what effect upon the youth of the country districts has the man engaged in agriculture who says, "Never be a farmer; it is the hardest and least remunerative occupation in the world," or the woman who says, "The farmer's wife is a drudge, with no social advantages whatever." How often do we hear men remark, "If I had my life to live over I would never be a farmer; I would go to school, receive an education, and enter one of the professions." What are the sons of these men likely to think of their fathers' occupation? Are they likely, after having this sentiment instilled into them from the cradle up to a high-school age, to show any great

respect for agriculture? No. They learn to look upon it with contempt, and it is only after they have been fitted for, or have accepted and tested other occupations that they begin to see things in their true light, and gradually get more love for the country. But at this time they are very often wholly unsuited for farm life. They are not physically fit, and they lack the knowledge of farm practice necessary to successful farm management. It is these men who are crying "back to the soil." Had their parents, from the beginning, taught them to honor and finally believe in the occupation of farming as being one of the best the country offers, many of these would have never left the land. The child naturally believes the parent is right in his or her estimation of the calling engaged in, and if it is favorably commented upon by father or mother as the result of a firm belief in it, there is no doubt as to its effect upon the child's mind in its formative state. If every agriculturist would always remark, in reference to farming, "It is the best occupation in the world, when all things comprising health, pleasure derived from close communion with nature, freedom and real life are considered," the trek to the city would not be so serious, and the rising generation would grow up with a far larger percentage remaining on the land. It is said that education and social organization will solve many of the country's problems. We firmly believe in getting all the education possible, but it must be more vocational, must interest the rural youth in the science of agriculture and the beauty of nature, and should be commenced in the home as a result of the heads of the family showing in actions and words that, as a result of believing firmly in their business and its future, they are satisfied with their calling, and willing, as a result of this belief, to push it to its utmost.

Enjoying Nature.

With the highest kind of respect for botanists, entomologists, zoologists and biologists in general, we confess sometimes to a feeling of impatience towards that class of them who imply that it is necessary to know nature analytically in order really to appreciate her charm. From an economic point of view, the systematic knowledge of the scientist is invaluable, and not to be ignored by any farmer without loss. From an intellectual point of view, it is likewise excellent for those who have or care to cultivate a mental bent in that direction. But that such knowledge is necessary to the highest enjoyment of nature's charms, we are not prepared to concede. A certain friend of the writer confesses frankly and unashamed that, though country-bred and still living on the land, he knows the name of fewer birds and plants and insects than the average high-school boy; yet he fairly revels in rural conditions, and has always done so. He cares nothing how many petals a certain species of flower possesses, nor what are the names of the ferns under his feet, nor what are the scientific appellations of the birds flying over his head. What of botany he once knew he has mostly forgotten, and has likewise unloaded the greater part of his scanty information about birds, insects and sea-anemones, yet there is nothing on earth he enjoys better than a walk through field and wood, drinking in the charm, without caring in what it consisteth. Enough to know that the birds are overhead and their music is sweet; enough to sense the beauty and fragrance of the woods with-