

The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

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EDITORIAL.

The harrows will save hoeing in the corn.

If you want good fruit do not neglect the last sprayings.

The able-bodied man who is out of work this year is indeed a slacker.

Grain that was early in the mud may yield better than that "mudded in" late.

The man who waited for another drying day was late with his seeding this spring.

A corn crop kept thoroughly cultivated is, as a cleaning crop, almost equal to a summer-fallow.

It has been a great spring to demonstrate the value of underdrainage. It pays to tile wet land.

Hay promises a heavy crop. It will require more machinery to harvest it, for no men are available.

You may not be the best farmer in your neighborhood, but you can at least strive not to be the worst.

A farm work-shop with a place for everything and everything in its place will pay big interest on the investment.

If you can get the seed, plant a few more potatoes than usual. The tendency is toward a small acreage of this necessary crop this year.

The boy who has an interest in the farm or its stock usually is more likely to stay on the farm than is the lad who knows nothing but work.

When sowing mangels late, sprout the seed before sowing. It will gain a week or ten days in growth and give you a better chance at the weeds.

A school-house with an assembly hall and reading room is a necessity in most rural school sections. The best way to get such is by consolidation.

Nothing could be more appropriately named than "Deadman's Hill," one of the outer defences of Verdun. It has meant the end of many a German battalion.

The difference between the poor feeder and the good stockman is quite apparent from a glance at the herds now on pasture. The poor feeder is the loser every time.

A herd of dairy cows is the source of success on many farms. They tend to replace carelessness and indifference with system and interest. There is room for more dairy cows.

Some of the most valuable labor-savers on the farm are simple devices constructed at small cost by the owner or his boys. If you use any on your farm describe them through these columns.

The gang plow was resurrected and placed in commission on many farms this spring to fight the grass which got such a start on late-sown fields. Plowing twice next fall may be necessary to clean the land, and the two-furrowed plow, set to plow shallow after harvest, will help greatly.

A Vigilant Public.

Every farmer knows that the price of clean crops is an attitude of unrelenting vigilance towards weeds. Without unremitting attention, superiority can neither be bred nor maintained in our herds. It is the safeguard against wasting diseases and predatory pests, the means of security and satisfaction in the pursuits of the farm. The same principle holds good in the affairs of the country. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" declared John P. Curran, and this truism, long since passed into a dusty proverb, needs to be taken out of its gilt frame and electrified by the people. History teaches us that no form of government will insure absolutely the liberties and property of the subject from despots and colossal grafters if the searchlights of publicity are turned off and the people suspend their watchfulness. A republic in name may become an autocracy of some sort in reality. Russia, one of the most absolute of monarchies, long regarded as the very opposite of progressive, has, since the war, been enabled to institute a tremendous and beneficent social and fiscal reform, the despair of nations supposed to lead in enlightened policies. Governing constitutions are important, and in them provisions can be incorporated safeguarding the rights of individuals and communities. In drafting the constitution of the American Republic, provision was embodied making inalienable certain rights of the federating states, and in the British North America Act, constituting the Dominion of Canada, the power to control education, important natural resources, etc., was vested in the uniting provinces. Time has attested the wisdom of the foresight that designed these provisos which, under altering conditions, as the country grows, continue workable in proportion as a spirit of fairness and right pervades their administration and their usage by those concerned. It has been said that parliaments and governments, being made up of individuals, are not greatly different from the people who delegate to them authority. The record of governments in this country shows clearly that in time they become effete and corrupt under the linking up of patronage and political partyism. It is useless to deny this, and even partisans are being converted every day to acknowledge its unfortunate truth. All the virtue and capacity on one hand or all the weakness and iniquity on the other are not monopolized by any one party. This brings us back to the responsibility resting respectively upon the press and the pulpit of the land in inculcating a spirit of independence, of fair play and those eternal principles of right that may be stifled but cannot be eliminated, because Divinely implanted. A muzzled, partisan press is the worst foe of the interests of the people. If people settle down to the comfortable belief that with a good piece of legal machinery called a constitution, and "their party" in power that all is well, they are predestined to a rude awakening. They will suffer, and they deserve to suffer if they negligently relinquish their personal interest in the affairs of the country, and their punitive watchfulness of public men who are too prone to become mere distributors of patronage and concessions. One need not turn any farther back than recent sessions of the Canadian Parliament to see with what lavish recklessness public money and the public credit have been sacrificed in a go-as-you-please railway policy, to which attention has already been directed in these columns.

If people allow themselves to be diverted into two hostile camps by political bosses, they may expect corporations to manipulate legislation while smooth-handed promoters pussy-foot out of the treasury with the swag. Cajoled or chloroformed with doses of "pap" distributed here and there, the electorate

relaxes its vigilance, ceases to punish offenders, surrenders its freedom, parts with its control and sacrifices its estate. Just as the Great War is the price the world must pay for breaking the heavy sword of a military autocracy, so here the people will realize how severe the penalty for deliverance from the tyranny of partyism, the folly of greed, and the neglect of eternal vigilance.

A Cure for Laziness.

Laziness is practically unknown in the country districts. The lazy man can scarcely exist now that labor is so scarce, and it requires such an effort to live. Carelessness and procrastination are more common, but we heard the other day of a cure for all these. It is rather a novel cure and yet, according to our authority, who, by the way, is in a position to know, it is quite common and cures many seemingly chronic cases almost before the sufferers have realized what is happening. The treatment may be taken in large or small doses, preferably small at first, increasing gradually as effects warrant. The remedy is a herd of dairy cows. Our expert informed us that in his opinion dairy cows and the advance of dairying had done as much to systematize agriculture and put it on a paying basis as any other one thing, and perhaps as much as all together. The day a man goes into dairying he must begin planning his work. He must rise early. Must milk regularly. Must have his milk or cream at a certain place at a certain time. Must be cleanly and systematic. Must start to stamp out carelessness. Must keep good cows and feed and care for them well and regularly. If he does not do these things he cannot make it go. He finds he is being gradually cured of his former trouble, and he scarcely realizes what has happened. There is no place for laziness or carelessness in the dairy business, and dairy cows well looked after will cure these troubles. A degree of carelessness, unfortunately, still prevails in the management of some herds, but usually the dairyman is not found in bed late in the morning, is not found behind with his work, and is generally endeavoring to put system into his effort, which means success.

Helping the Farm Boy.

The trend of rural population cityward has been the subject of more articles and addresses for the consumption of country folk than any other one topic of recent years. City orators have solved the problem several times and by a wide diversity of methods, but the problem still remains. The other day, while calling on one of the best farmers in one of Ontario's richest, central counties, the one thing which stood out in bold relief among the many good things of the farm was the real interest which father and sons took in the place. The father's greatest effort was, as he explained and as was evident about the place, to put nothing in the way of the boys developing interest in the farm and in better agriculture generally. When the boys wanted pure-bred stock and expressed a desire to show their good cattle in competition, they were encouraged and aided by an interested father. When one of them became a first-class plowman his desire to prove his prowess in competition was met by all possible help from his father. The boys wanted better seed and they got it. They early showed mechanical ability in the making of handy devices for farm shop repair work, and they were encouraged to develop their own ideas. The farm now has a well-equipped shop and forge, and the boys, with their father do nearly all the farm repair work. Their ingenuity has developed rapidly. The farm