

The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

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EDITORIAL.

Let there be no waste.

Give good measure; it pays.

Let the boys fit something for the fall fair.

You don't lose your self-respect by acting on the square.

Full garbage pails now may mean empty dinner pails later on.

Don't stop to worry about the past. Improve the time you have left.

Keep the cultivator going in the corn field; it will be the salvation of the crop.

Can surplus vegetables and fruits that cannot otherwise be stored for winter use.

Run the mower over the weedy pastures before the weeds go to seed. It will save work next year.

Don't run any risk with the potato crop. Apply poison and Bordeaux to ward off bugs and blight.

When driving or motoring remember that the other fellow has certain rights on the King's Highway.

The silo means larger profits from the corn field. There is still time to erect a silo before corn harvest commences.

Don't expect the team to do a full day's work in the harvest field on grass alone. Feed a little grain three times a day.

After-harvest cultivation starts weeds germinating so that a later stroke with the cultivator will destroy many of them.

Team work is needed with the different departments of the Government, on the farm, in the city; in fact, in every line of life.

Fall wheat seeding is only a few weeks distant. Is the field being put in proper tilth and a supply of good seed provided?

The weather cleared in time for a lot of hay to be harvested in good condition. This along with silage will help out the feed problem next winter.

Give the team a pail of water in the middle of the forenoon and afternoon when hauling in the crop. Water refreshes the horses as well as the man.

Market the broody hen or else break up her broodiness. It doesn't pay to feed high-priced grain to hens that merely sit on the nest week in and week out.

So long as flies are bred about the place we will be tormented by them. Avoid this by not allowing decomposing material to accumulate around the buildings.

What do you purpose doing with those weeds in the fence corners, around the barn, and on the roadside fronting your farm? They are unsightly to say the least.

Neglect the summer-fallow for a few weeks and the result of many days' work is brought to naught. Even in the rush of harvest it may pay to give it a little attention.

The Fly Nuisance.

Although the house-fly is a comparatively small insect, it is capable of causing considerable annoyance and of spreading disease which results in great loss of life. The house-fly is said to be among the most dangerous of insects, but yet it is tolerated to a certain extent in many homes. Refuse and decomposing material constitute the chief breeding places of these pests, but yet they are allowed to alight on food and drink to be consumed by humans. Coming from places laden with disease germs, it is a wonder that more sickness is not caused than there is. For the sake of humanity a rigorous warfare should be waged on this insect. Screen doors and windows should be put on the house and every effort made to prevent flies from coming in contact with food, especially that intended for infants. The milk-house or dairy should be carefully guarded and flies kept out of the sick room. Even when these precautions are taken the fly will continue to be a menace unless the breeding places are removed from near the buildings, or else treated to render them immune to the insect. The barnyard is a prolific breeding place of the house-fly, as is also decaying material such as vegetable garbage, cess pools, mouths of house drains, damp refuse of any kind, etc. Pouring kerosene over the waste material is an effective way of abating the fly nuisance, but there are places where the use of this is not advisable. Swatting the flies early in the season will also prevent increase in numbers, as it is said that a single fly may lay about one thousand eggs, which will turn into full-grown flies in about ten days after they are laid. As far as possible the breeding places should be cleaned up or disinfected so as to make it easier to protect the house from these disease carriers.

Reduce Waste.

A good deal is heard these days about conservation of food so that the vast armies, as well as the civilian population of the many countries engaged in war, will not suffer owing to lack of nourishment. Eliminate waste has become the slogan among certain classes of people who urge upon others the necessity of saving food products in every way possible. It has been said that fifty million dollars' worth of food goes into the garbage pails in Canada yearly, and that the waste in the city of Toronto alone would feed an European city of like size. While the waste is believed to be paramount in large hotels, restaurants, and in the homes of the rich, there is a certain amount in the most humble homes, due sometimes to lack of knowledge in making "left-overs" into appetizing dishes. The farmer and his family are not immune. Food may not go into the garbage cans, as there are always chickens and hogs to consume what is not used by the family, but there are other forms of waste which are prevalent; for instance, machinery is left to rust in the field instead of being stored, shelled grain is left on the fields which might be picked up by chickens and hogs were they given a chance, weeds are allowed to grow and use up needed fertility, plant food is permitted to leach away from the barnyard, vegetables rot in the garden instead of being canned for winter use, apples spoil under the trees for want of a suitable market or time to market them, crops could be turned to better advantage if fed to higher-quality stock, time is wasted by inefficient farm management, and lives are wasted by worry. It is expedient that wastage of human food in cities, in fact everywhere, be reduced to the minimum. On the farm, the great manufacturing plant of human food, the problem is a large one; it touches bigger things than the scraps from the table, which are not really wasted in the country. The farmer has had to do a lot of reorganizing on his farm to adapt the cropping system and general work to present conditions of labor shortage, but he has done it very creditably. If it were possible to study and plan

more and to improve the quality of some of the crops and stock, returns from the farm would be increased, and the country in general would be benefited. However, with shortage of help the tiller of the soil cannot always do as he would like.

A Deceiving Feature of Co-operation.

The very benefits of co-operation in Agricultural affairs lead many who have subscribed to the movement to consider they have made a mistake, and those who remain apart to think themselves the wise ones. There is something deceiving about it all. True it is that on many occasions the slacker profits by the enlistment of his neighbor farmer in the co-operative ranks, and this leads the member of the society to regret his association with the movement to which he has rendered assistance and become a part. However, the member usually profits and the non-member receives some benefit in an indirect way for which he pays nothing, not even moral support. Sometimes the non-co-operator even ridicules the one whose actions have meant profits to others as well as to himself, thereby causing disappointment, distrust and often rupture in the organization. What has really been a good thing for the community has been construed in men's minds as something which failed in its purpose for the reason that the co-operators were not the only ones to profit thereby. What helps one farmer frequently helps another, and on account of this very virtue of co-operation, dissatisfied and disgruntled minds result. A few concrete examples will make this point clear.

The co-operative movement among the Annapolis Valley fruit growers in Nova Scotia has tended to stabilize the whole industry. With strength, the outcome of union, they have struggled for improved shipping facilities. They have chartered vessels of their own. By loading whole trains with fruit and diverting them while en route to certain destinations or shipping points they have relieved and prevented congestion. They have controlled a large quantity of the output, thus preventing it from being consigned hither and thither by growers who are ignorant of market conditions and whose haphazard marketing methods would lead to congestion and glut. Indirectly, in all these ways, they have assisted the non-member, so those who do not identify themselves with the union are enabled to do business independently under more favorable circumstances. Above all, however, a big organization has been built up so dealers and speculators are obliged to meet the prices received by the members of the association (perhaps advance on them slightly) or they could not do business, for all the growers would flock into the organization. No doubt it is better as it is, but far too few appreciate the good the co-operative movement is doing. Some non-subscribers may be doing very well indeed, but not alone on account of their superiority; the organization itself makes it possible.

By united effort last spring 1,500 Ontario farmers graded and marketed in a co-operative way 260,000 pounds of wool. Up to the time the prices received for this wool were announced from 50 to 55 cents per pound was the highest prevailing price being paid. The farmers who sold co-operatively got 57 cents per pound for "coarse" and "lustre"; 63 1-8 cents per pound for low medium combing, and 66 cents per pound for medium combing. These two latter prices were paid for grades that constituted a large percentage of the product. Better grades brought 67 cents. As soon as these values were made public, prices all over the Province advanced, and those who still held quantities of the two million pounds of wool, with which Ontario is credited, benefited. Since that time all kinds of prices have been reported, and have caused some dissatisfaction among those who consigned their wool to Guelph.