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Harvest Help.

In order to avoid, if possible, some of the difficulties experienced in the West last year in distributing the harvest helpers that were brought up from the east, this year, in addition to making inquiries through the regular crop correspondents, the Manitoba Government is placing with all station agents, lists for the receipt of applications from farmers wanting help, the number required, the wages offered, etc. After these lists have been compiled, tickets only to the number of men called for by any one station will be issued to that station at the harvesters' excursion rates. It is also proposed to check all baggage to Winnipeg, and redistribute from there after the men have become located. Those farmers who have thus filed their applications with the station agents will have first choice of the men sent to their station. The intention is to bring in one excursion in time for the harvest cutting, and others a couple of weeks later, when the Ontario harvest is well over, and the time for stacking and threshing has arrived. It is expected this year, owing to the great interest being taken by American capitalists in our cheap lands, that a strong effort will be made to inaugurate home-seekers' excursions at harvest time from the south. The harvest would be well over in the central States before it would be necessary for the men to leave, and, besides seeing the country—Manitoba and the Northwest—the harvest and threshing would afford an opportunity of earning some money, a proposition with which most home-seekers would not be disposed to quarrel.

The indications are that there will be demand, at good wages, for all the men that can be obtained.

Free Importation of Breeding Stock.

A recent despatch from Ottawa reveals a case of apparently unwarranted interference on the part of a U. S. Customs official in the matter of the importation of pure-bred live stock for breeding purposes into that country. The dispute is between Mr. H. F. Page, of Mission City, B. C., and the Collector of Customs at Sumas, Washington. The former, in October, 1901, was compelled to pay \$1,000 duty on ten Percheron horses—four stallions and six mares—entry for which had been made as pure-bred stock for breeding purposes, and claiming free entry under the existing tariff, the horses being accompanied by the proper registration papers of the American Percheron Horse Breeders' Association. The contention of the collector is that Mr. Page was taking the horses into that country for sale, and that such action was not in accordance with the spirit of the agreement. A deposit equal to the amount of duty on the valuation of the animals was claimed before allowing them to pass, and Mr. Page appeared before one of the judges of the Board of Appraisers, whose headquarters are in New York and who will render their decision some time in August. Much will depend upon the rendering of the court as to the proper reading of the regulations referred to. It is well known that large numbers of registered horses and cattle have, in recent years, under this law been taken from Canada to the States, both by American citizens and Canadians, and sold for breeding purposes with many questions being asked by the Customs authorities, so long as the proper registration papers accompanied them. It appears, of course, that it to be an unnecessary and uncalled for interference with a legitimate trade, and it is to be hoped that the court, in its wisdom, will side

with the farmer, as the free distribution of improved stock is certainly desirable in the interest of the people of both countries, and no unnecessary barriers should be placed in its way. If there is any industry in which free trade is mutually beneficial, it is in the dissemination of pure-bred stock for the improvement of the general stock of the country.

Health on the Farm Affected by Insects.

Medical investigation of the causes of certain diseases to which country people are especially exposed, prominent among which are malaria and typhoid fever, appears to have traced the origin, or, rather, the transference, of these diseases from affected or unaffected persons to certain mosquitoes and the common house fly, malaria being carried by the former and typhoid by the latter. Malaria has been called by medical men a country disease, it being generally most prevalent in swampy regions or where there are side pools of still water in the vicinity of streams. Malaria in cities, as a rule, is found only with persons who have contracted it in the country or in the suburbs, although with cities having marshy places on their borders, a malarial belt may exist, the extent of which depends upon the direction and force of prevailing winds and especially of the night breezes. The old idea that malaria is caused by breathing the miasma of swamps, it is claimed, has been exploded, and it has been discovered that the disease is contracted only through the bites of mosquitoes of the genus Anopheles. The cause of malaria is the growth and development within the red blood cells of a very minute parasitic organism belonging to the lowest group of the animal kingdom—the group Protozoa, or one-celled animals, which includes those minute creatures known as Amoebas and others, and which live in the water or in damp sands or moss, or inside the bodies of other animals as parasites. This parasite reproduces in the body by subdividing, eventually bursting the red blood cells and entering the blood serum as a mass of spores. Broadly speaking, when the blood of a human being is sucked into the stomach of a mosquito of the genus named, the malarial parasite undergoes a sexual development and gives birth to a large number of minute spindle-shaped cells known as blasts, which enter the salivary glands of the insect and are ejected with the poison into the system of the next person bitten by the mosquito. If this person happens to be non-malarious, the malaria has thus entered his system and malarial symptoms result. So far as at present known, this is the only way in which persons become malarious, and in order to avoid this result it is necessary to study and plan to avoid the bites of malarial mosquitoes, and as it is perhaps too much to expect that the average reader will study the habits and description of the different varieties of mosquitoes, which are given in full, with engraved illustrations, in an excellent bulletin, No. 155 of Farmers' Bulletins of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, by Professor L. O. Howard, Entomologist, we cannot but be glad to see the most practical measures to be taken to prevent malaria, which are the draining or filling up with earth of swampy or low lying places where pools are liable to form, the covering of the surface of pools with a thin film of kerosene oil, and the use of screen doors and windows, together with a thorough search of the house for mosquitoes that have found their way in, and the destruction, which must be done, of all such insects.

amount of insect powder (pyrethrum) used in a tin dish cover. Persons wishing to avoid malaria should not sit out of doors exposed to the bites of mosquitoes at night, and these having malaria should be carefully screened at night to prevent them from being bitten by mosquitoes, who, becoming thus infected, would become potential carriers of the disease. Such patients, systematically treated with quinine, the dose being always given at the beginning of the chill, will soon be rid of the disease. The time of dose is important, and the reasons for the time has been abundantly proven by the study of the life of the parasite in the blood cells.

TO PREVENT TYPHOID FEVER.—The common house fly is believed to be the principal insect agent in the spread of this disease, and this insect is especially abundant in farmhouses and other country houses in the vicinity of stables in which horses are kept. The reason for this is that the preferred food of the larva of house flies is horse manure. They are also attracted to and will lay their eggs in human excrement. Under favorable conditions they will breed, to some extent, in this excrement. They swarm in kitchens and dining-rooms where food supplies are exposed. They are found commonly in box privies, which sometimes are not distant from kitchens and dining-rooms where food supplies are exposed, with a box privy near-by, or with excremental deposits in the neighborhood, and with a perhaps unsuspected or not yet fully-developed case of typhoid in the immediate neighborhood, there is no season why, through the agency of contaminated flies alighting upon food supplies, the disease should not be spread to healthy individuals. That it is so spread is unquestionable. The remedy is plain, it consists of proper care of excreta, the destruction of flies, and the use of screen doors and screens for windows when raised, which are not expensive and can be purchased ready-made, or may, perhaps, be more cheaply home-made by a reasonably handy man. Where the old-fashioned box privy is yet in use, care should be observed to use disinfectants freely and often, fresh lime being the most convenient and to have it cleaned out occasionally, and the contents deeply buried and covered with lime. Where a good earth closet is in operation, and where a case of illness, the excreta of patients are promptly disinfected by the use of lime or solution of copper sulphate (bluestone), both of which are cheap and easily applied, flies breeding in the neighborhood will have practically no opportunity to become contaminated with typhoid germs. Horse manure, however, should also be attended to by being removed, if not daily, at least once a week, and placed in a pit or treated to liberal applications of lime. Neglect of these simple and easily practicable precautions is little short of criminal, and in many cases is doubtless the cause of much illness, suffering and expense, and the sacrifice of valuable lives, bringing grief and sorrow to the inmates of the home and breaking ties which might have grown and strengthened with mutual benefit in the passing of years. People are apt to seek to console themselves with the view that all such instances of the removal of their friends are dispensations of Providence, but in all emergencies we believe it is wiser to recognize that in this respect, as in others, Providence helps those who help themselves, and that by doing our duty in so far as we know it, by attention to the laws of health, and the principles of cleanliness, we may be enabled to work with Providence in the prophylaxis of useful lives, and the maintenance of the happiness of home.