

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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DOMINION.

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influences of trade prejudice and personality in salesmanship, to tend toward the utilization of raw materials at home, and to turn the balance in the case of some industries that hesitate whether to locate here or not, still, a high tariff, by increasing cost of production, defeats its purpose, and ultimately handicaps not only agriculture, but manufacturing.

Master or Servant of the Work?

Nowhere more than in farming does forehandedness give results. The great number of tasks which each day brings easily engrosses the entire attention of him who will permit such an inundation. Such a submission to little things in time produces a man who ever is busied and worried about the duties of to-day and to-morrow. At sunset he is still hustling, and at night-fall, worn out, he stops with the little things still unfinished and his only plans for to-morrow anxious ones. Wise farmers ever anticipate the duties of approaching seasons. Their binders are in running shape before the grain is ripe; the stabling is overhauled before cold weather comes; plowing is done before snow flies, and fences are repaired before pastures are fully green, or the neighbors' cows get in. Yet, one man has no more to do than the other, save in that the system of one lessens his labors, while the unfortunate system of the other increases his and multiplies his waste of energy.

The two types are easily distinguished. One stands erect, his tone is confident, his step elastic, his smile infectious, and his farm in order; the other bends under the burden of the days, his tone is plaintive, his steps hurried, his plans indecisive, his expression anxious, his farm furrowed as his brow with the marks of indecision, or else he presents the free-and-easy, shiftless character that takes things as they come.

In any case, nothing but disadvantage arises from such day-by-day living. Plans as full as possible for the week, the month, the season, the year—yes, for many years—should be adopted on all farms. Necessarily, the farther ahead they are, the more subject to change and lacking in detail they will be, yet they should be there, like great guiding-towers, whereby to correctly direct the course of one's daily living. The mountains and the great deep inspire, but all cannot live by either of these. However, all can study the clouds, the heavens, and the distant stars. The long view gives a proper perspective to one's own relative importance; and the long view of one's life adjusts its events into proper relations, and gives one a mastery over the little things.

Those who have allowed their work to crowd too closely upon them are quickest to cry. "We have not the time, we have too much work," thus submitting to the tyranny of many tasks. Time must be taken to break the chains, else they will never be broken. Time must be taken to stop and think, to read, and study, to straighten the back ere it becomes forever stooped and crooked; to play, to know one's children, and to renew with one's patient, overwrought wife the delightful days of courtship. Thereby comes the broader vision, the more abundant life, and incidentally the larger business success.

One must climb the hill, study the stars, get a grasp of the great expanse; lay plans, be master of the life he lives, and live it as a master.

Improve the Rural Curriculum.

In all parts of North America the attention of the people is being focussed on the subject of common-school education. Its inefficiency, particularly in relation to rural pursuits and life, is being recognized by those who have the future well-being of agriculture and the state at heart, and who have given thought to the powerful influence upon the tendencies of boys and girls by the training of the public schools. This was clearly brought to view by the report on agriculture in the public schools, adopted by the Nova Scotia Farmers' Association, as published in the official proceedings of that body, endorsing the establishment of the Rural Science School at Truro, and memorializing the Council of Public Instruction to consider the public-school curriculum, with a view to replacing some of the present subjects taught in the rural schools by compulsory course in nature study and the principles of agriculture, and requesting the faculty of Agricultural College to in general investigate the common-school curriculum, and in particular make recommendations in regard to giving the trend of education a more distinctly agricultural bias, by endeavoring to secure additions to the school readers in use in the more advanced grades of well-written articles from authorities on agriculture, such additions, for the present, to be in the nature of leaflets which could be placed in the school readers.

Some Canadian and other journals allude caustically to Roosevelt and the influence he exerts. References to "Roosevelt Tyrannus" and "one-man power" obtrude themselves in newspaper paragraphs. The critics seem to forget that, in a true democracy rulers derive their just powers by the consent of the governed. Leaders we shall always have. Strong leaders we need, but so long as they represent and enact the will of the majority and the highest sense of the nation, there need be no fear. Roosevelt in the Presidential chair derived his power and authority from the support of the people, which he commanded by reason of his personality, the ideals he exemplified, and the movements to which he gave effect. One advantage of a democracy is that rulers who cease to represent the popular will may be speedily dethroned.

Those who let their alfalfa stand till one-third, one-half, or two-thirds in bloom, must not fault the crop if their stock next winter do not relish the hay as the owners had been led to expect. One-tenth in bloom is the proper stage at which to cut for hay.

HORSES.

Water the horses frequently in hot weather. Hard work in the hot sun, producing a great evaporation, rapidly depletes the water in the animal's body. As a consequence, the horse very soon becomes thirsty, and, like man, requires water frequently under these conditions. Plenty of water encourages sweating, which reduces the temperature of the body and makes a greater amount of work possible for the animal. If the water is denied, there may result an interference with the function of the sweat glands, resulting in a diminution of that secretion, and most men know the dissatisfaction of attempting to work a non-sweating horse on a hot day. The water should not be extremely cold; if it comes from a cold spring or a deep well giving cold water, it is well to allow the water to stand in the trough twenty minutes before the horse drinks. This raises the temperature of the water to such a degree that it is not likely to hurt the animal, even if it is warm. Every time the driver takes a drink himself, let him remember his horses.

Abuse has many meanings when applied to the treatment of horses. Many think of overloading, overdriving, starving, whipping, or various other heinous acts, at the mention of the word, and express themselves in no uncertain way thereat. But these are only the extreme and glaring instances. Each day sees these same people thoughtlessly sinning as grievously, though perhaps in slightly-different ways. They cause their horses to stand out in the hot sun, or leave them in a shadeless pasture all day to fight the flies as best they may. And then they wonder why the mares get thin or the colts do not thrive as expected! As far as possible, pastured horses should be protected during the hot summer months. Copious shade protects from the sun, but not from flies. Where shade does not exist in the pasture during the hot part of the day, if best results are to be obtained, the mares with colts should be placed in a dark, roomy box stall which affords protection from both heat and flies. Yearlings and two-year-olds will respond to such care, though with them it is not so imperative. The younger the colt is, the more necessary such protection becomes. The benefit from such treatment lies most in protection from flies, which, during hot days, drive the horses almost frantic.

It is difficult to protect horses working in the field from the sun, except by resting them from time to time for short intervals, as shade is available. But they can be protected from flies by the use of nets. In this respect, one wants to avoid the use of close nets that tend to increase the heat of the animal. Probably the leather lace net is most satisfactory. In addition, a long tassel attached under the throat-latch will further lend protection. By such treatment, not only is the comfort of the animals obtained, but the pleasure of working with them is greatly increased, and the energy of both man and beast is conserved.

Collars should fit work-horses. The horse should be taken to the saddler, and have his collar fitted, just as surely as his driver fits his own shoes before buying. It is anything but wise to purchase a collar that comes somewhere near fitting, then filling it to size with a sweat-pad. A collar should always be hard. The introduction of the sweat-pad renders it soft. Moreover, by increasing the heat and absorbing the sweat, it greatly increases the danger of scalding the shoulders. Most of the arguments are against the sweat-pad; the humane and the wise do not continue its use.

A man must always be master of his horse. To be that, he must be master of himself, always and first. If he loses his temper, speaks crossly or deals harshly with the horse, he as surely loses in mastery over it. Firmness must ever be accompanied by kindness, patience and confidence. The horse is the pupil, the man the teacher; the traits the tutor shows are soon reflected in the learner. A horse learns fright very often from the attitude of the driver, communicated through the reins and by the tone of voice. Harshness and viciousness are encouraged in similar ways. To be a horseman, then, one must be a masterful man.

Do not break the colt to lead. Teach him, in other words, do not let him run until five or six months old, then cornering him, put him on an end of the halter, while three or four hustling, strong men get on the other end and "break" him. That seems a pity. If a halter is put on the colt when a few days old, and a little care and judgment exercised, the colt learns to lead without even a serious pull, and, what is better, without losing any of his confidence in his