

remains in the bins. There is no work to be done all over again.

Does Better Work

Another important item is that the engine does better work than can be done with horses. When seeding as I do the grain is put right into the freshly disked ground, while it is still moist, loose and warm. The wind and sun have had no time to dry out the ground. Every kernel of seed is in contact with moist earth and begins the process of sprouting without a moment's delay.

With an engine one can do his seeding when conditions are best for it. If he has a large acreage and the season is late he can work his outfit every hour of daylight, or every hour of the day and night, if he has the men for it. This Modern Farm Horse never grows tired and forces its driver to stop. These things all go to make up the very best kind of crop insurance. Not only insuring that one will have a crop but that he will have the biggest possible crops for the seeding has been done at the best time possible and in the best possible manner.

Cost of Operating

In regard to the cost of doing field work with the engine I have learned the following facts. In an average day's run my 45 BHP. engine will burn about two gallons of gasoline and 45 to 55 gallons of kerosene or engine distillate, called in the Canadian northwest Silver Star kerosene and Engaline. Here in Floyd county, Iowa, gasoline cost me in 1910 13½¢. per American standard gallon, pure white kerosene has cost me from 7 to 7½¢. while engine distillate cost me from 5 to 6¢, generally 5¢. In this way the expense for fuel and lubricating oil is approximately \$3.25 per day. From these figures any one can determine what a similar engine would cost him in his community remembering that an American standard gallon is approximately 83% of a British Imperial gallon.

To do the work of this engine would require 25 average farm horses. Their feed bill a day with hay at \$10.00 per ton and oats at 34¢. per bushel would equal \$6.50. Two men will operate the outfit. It would require at least six men to do the work with horses. So the wages of four men is saved. Twenty-five good young horses cost more than my engine has cost. Consequently the daily interest and depreciation on the investment is less in the case of the engine than in the case of the horses. When the horses are doing nothing their feed expense will be more than two-thirds of what it is when they are working and the six men must be paid and boarded. When the engine is not working it costs nothing and there are only two men to be paid and boarded.

These few facts stated, and they are not all the facts in the case by any means, should prove to be sufficient evidence for any man that an engine will decrease the cost of doing the work and increase the income of the farm. These two general facts should prove very strong arguments why a man should buy an engine, providing of course he has a farm adapted to its use.

THE TRIUMPH OF MARQUIS WHEAT

The winning of the \$1,000 in gold at the Land Exhibition in New York, by Mr. Seager Wheeler, of Rosthern, for the best 100 lbs. of wheat grown on the continent of North America, has a significance and importance quite outside of the great triumph for Canada of maintaining her lead in wheat production. Perhaps not everyone who read the reports of this victory noted the fact that the prize had been taken by "Marquis wheat."

The Canadian West has made its reputation for wheat-growing on the variety known as Red Fyfe, a wheat which is not only beautiful in appearance and of great weight and density, but which has one outstanding quality which endears it to the hearts of millers literally all over the world, and that is what is known in the trade as "baking strength." So great is its superiority in this respect over all other hard wheats that have been offered to British millers (who are really the price makers of wheat for the world), that no other variety would have been sought for, had it not been for the length of time required to fully mature Red Fyfe, and the danger from early frost.

The first large areas in Manitoba were ploughed in 1883. The constantly recurring August frosts were most discouraging. The Dominion Experimental Farms were

established in 1887. Almost at once the officials took up the work of endeavoring to find a variety of wheat which, while having the milling and baking qualities of Red Fyfe, would mature earlier. In the year 1888, Professor Saunders began to work actively on an endeavor to breed a variety of wheat that would have the milling and baking qualities of Red Fyfe, and would mature from eight to ten days earlier. A very large number of experiments were tried, and many varieties produced, those which were the greatest apparent success being crosses between Red Fyfe, White Fyfe and the early Russian bearded variety known as Ladoga.

From these crosses the three varieties which have remained and attained any prominence are Preston, Stanley and Huron, and while these varieties were all more or less successful, Preston in particular became very popular, more especially in Northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan. None of these varieties have ever equalled Red Fyfe in its remarkable baking strength, and in the case of Preston and Huron there was the fact that the flour was of a deeper yellowish color than that made from Red Fyfe. As time went on and larger quantities of these hybrids were produced and exported, the British miller began to notice a difference in the milling quality of the wheat received from Western Canada, and as the wheats were very much alike in appearance a number of the millers became possessed of the idea that the difference in milling quality was due to the wearing out of the land from excessive cropping, articles to this effect appearing in Milling and other journals; while the men in Canada who were closely in touch with the trade, knew that much of the wheat complained of was coming direct from new land.

In 1903 the Cerealists of the Dominion of Canada was requested to go into this matter again, to see if something could not be done to produce a wheat that would be as successful in early ripening as Preston, Huron and Stanley, but which would have the baking strength and color of Red Fyfe. Re-selections were made from the cross-bred wheats, and very distinct improvements in these varieties

have been the result, but even these were not entirely satisfactory, and further crossing of other varieties was attempted.

One or more of the hybrid varieties were crossed with a wheat from Northern India which is known as No. 2 Calcutta Red. It comes from the extreme north of India, and closely resembles Red Fyfe in appearance.

From various of these crosses three new varieties of wheat were obtained. These were Marquis, Chelsea and Bishop. Of these three Marquis is the one which merits most consideration. The first extensive tests which it was possible to make from this variety were in the crop of 1908, and the greatest care was taken in testing these samples. It was shown that Marquis grown at Brandon, Manitoba, was equal in color and baking strength of flour to Red Fyfe grown on the same farm, and was decidedly superior to the Red Fyfe grown at Indian Head, Saskatchewan. The Marquis is a beardless wheat with hard red kernels, and very closely resembles Red Fyfe, excepting that it is very much earlier. It has proved, so far, earlier in fact than Preston or Stanley.

Chelsea is a very early beardless wheat, but was not satisfactory in flour strength; it more closely resembling Stanley. The Bishop wheat is still earlier and has many good qualities; it is not equal, however, in strength to Red Fyfe, and the flour is yellowish, and the wheat possesses a pale yellowish skin. It is, of course, not possible to affirm absolutely that Marquis is the long sought after and greatly desired variety with the baking strength of Red Fyfe, and ripening sufficiently early to preclude the possibility of damage from frost; but wheat-breeding has advanced so much since the early attempts with Preston, Stanley and Huron that it is fairly safe to assume that the type is fixed, and this triumph of Seager Wheeler's is of great importance in that he has produced this wheat in Rosthern district, which is regarded by grain men generally as a No. 2 wheat territory, and, moreover, he has produced it in one of the most unfavorable seasons known in the Canadian West in a wheat-growing period of

over 30 years. It is almost impossible to calculate the money value to this country of a wheat which will ripen from eight to ten days earlier than Red Fyfe, and at the same time retain the beautiful color and extreme baking strength of the wheat which, as No. 1 Hard, has made Canada famous. Another feature of this triumph which should not be passed over is the fact that a good deal has been said from time to time in a slighting way of Englishmen as farmers in this country. Mr. Seager Wheeler, who is an Englishman, has won from competitors all over the continent, and he has won with wheat which was grown in the ordinary course of his crop, and the superiority of which is due to excellent scientific farming.—Winnipeg Free Press.

TAXING UNIMPROVED LANDS

Changes in the tax system of St. John, N.B., were recommended by the committee on the Mayor's inaugural address in a report to the council recently. The reduction of the tax on improvements by 25 per cent. is advised, the deficiency in the assessment to be made up by the placing of a tax on land. This applies only to the first year, after which a further reduction of 25 per cent. per year on improvements and a corresponding increase in land taxation is recommended until the tax on improvements altogether disappears.

The present system of assessing income taxes is condemned as discriminatory, but no remedy is proposed other than a study to be given the matter.

The committee also asks for a royal commission to act in expropriation of land which may be held in large blocks and which the owners desire to hold for speculative or for investment purposes.

A reader suggests the following as a Thanksgiving thought:

"Let all the people praise Thee, O God; yea, let all the people praise Thee. Then shall the earth bring forth her increase; and God, even our God, shall give His blessing." Ps. 67: 5-6.

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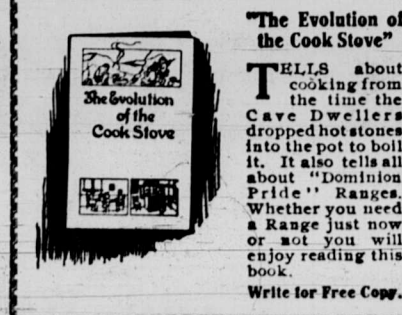
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