

Conservation

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Social Service Congress at Ottawa

Coming Convention on White Slavery
and other Vital Human Problems

On the 3rd, 4th and 5th of March, an important national convention will be held at Ottawa, for the Promotion of Social Reform. It will be held under the auspices of the Social Service Council of Canada and the National Committee for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic and will have the distinguished patronage of H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught. Upwards of 500 delegates, embracing representatives from nearly all religious denominations and associations interested in social reform work, are expected to attend. Distinguished speakers from all over America will be present to deliver addresses.

The following subjects, all of which are of vital interest, will be considered during the three days of the convention: the weekly rest day and national well being; the value of the social survey; the problem of the city; the church and industrial life; child welfare; the problem of the country; the white slave traffic; the international treaty for the suppression of the white slave traffic; immigration, gambling, political purity; temperance and prohibition; the federation of the churches and other bodies for social uplift; international peace; the care of defectives; the care of criminals, etc.

A congress such as this may be described as a conservation congress of the highest kind, for, as Hon. Mr. Sifton said at the last annual meeting of the Commission of Conservation, "in the last resort the highest degree of conservation depends upon the efficiency of the human unit."

Experiments in the use of aspen poplar for shingles show that the shingles do not check in seasoning, and that they turn water satisfactorily, but that they are too easily broken in handling.

Dr. B. E. Fernow, Dean, Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto, and Bristow Adams, of the U.S. Forest Service, have just been elected president and secretary, respectively, of the Society of American Foresters, the largest organization and, with the exception of the Canadian Society of Forest Engineers, the only association of professional foresters in the western hemisphere.



(Cut No. 21)

Baling straw for shipping away from the farm. This is a practice that should be discouraged. With every ton of straw goes humus and plant food which is needed in the soil to maintain fertility. Weed seeds cannot be cleaned from straw and are carried and distributed far and wide.



(Cut No. 22)

O. A. C. barley, 52 bushels per acre, on the farm of Jas. Sutherland, Namao, Alta., who is doing illustration work for the Commission of Conservation. A good yield as a result of sowing good seed which was carefully selected, well cleaned and the crop well cared for.

TO NEWSPAPERMEN

To further public interest in conservation subjects, the Commission will lend to Canadian journals the cuts used in this bulletin. Cuts may be obtained in either fine or coarse screen, and stereotype mats will be furnished to those who have the mechanical equipment necessary for their use.

As there are only a limited number of these cuts, delays are sometimes unavoidable, but orders will always be filled as soon as possible after receipt of application. It is requested that cuts be made use of at the earliest possible date, and returned (O. H. M. S.) promptly, together with a copy of the publication in which the illustration appears.

When ordering, please fill out and forward us this coupon:

Number of cut.....

Kind of cut (fine or coarse screen or stereotype mat).....

Name.....

Address.....

Safety First on Railways

Accidents in Connection with Train
Operation Not Including Train
Accidents

These may be briefly summarized as being due to: coupling or uncoupling cars, switching, coming in contact with overhead or side structures, falling from, or being struck by cars or engines. With the exception of the elimination of structures of insufficient clearance, the best the employer can do is to keep the appliances in proper condition. Carelessness is the vital and all important factor in causing accidents. The most deadly practice of all is that of adjusting couplers by hand or foot, just as the cars are coming together. Negligence, carelessness and forgetfulness are broad and general terms, and it is extremely difficult to get down to the definite and concrete in dealing with accidents.

Although it is perhaps callous to consider the matter of safety from a mercenary point of view, yet that phase of the matter should be considered. If an old and experienced employee is injured, he must necessarily be replaced by a man not so well trained nor so competent to fill his position. In addition to this change, railway companies frequently have to pay an indemnity under the workmen's compensation laws so generally in force. On the other hand, the employee will also suffer a financial loss, for even if the workman's injuries are trivial, he must still, owing to his injuries, lose time and a certain amount of pay.

The making of rules will not prevent men from taking foolish and unnecessary risks. These men know the danger and uselessness of many practices in which they indulge, but yet foolishness and ridiculous traditions of railroad service, that a railroad man must be willing to "take a chance" result in many accidents. If this idea can be overcome, and if the employee can be convinced that his standing will be gauged by his carefulness in avoiding danger, a great stride will be made toward reducing accidents.

—W. L. C.

Oils distilled from the needles of spruce and fir trees are being used to scent petroleum floor oils which are sometimes objectionable on account of their odour.