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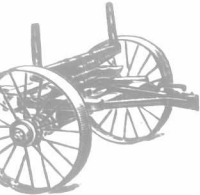
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Vol. XXV.

EDITORIAL.

Man's behavior under adversity is a crucial in-
dex of his character and capacity.

The moisture-holding power of the seed-bed is
an effective measure of its productivity.

Time is the most valuable property any man
possesses. Why waste it by tedious methods?

This is a splendid time to get ahead of the
weeds. An early plowing, followed by frequent
cultivation throughout the fall, will do much to
minimize the weed growth in next year's crops.

On August 1st, a farmer at Rosenfield, Man.,
delivered on the Winnipeg market wheat from
Manitoba's 1910 crop grading No. 1 Northern.
Not bad for the fur country!

What do the fall fairs mean to you and to your
family? A place to have a holiday, a frolic, to
see friends not often seen, and to meet new ones,
to hear the bands and to see the races? Good.
But not so good if at the same time you and your
family do not get a new inspiration, for better
things on your farm, a suggestion for new im-
provements to make the home work easier, more
quickly, more satisfactorily done, lessons learned
for the betterment of your stock and your farm.

Work should not be a burden. Intelligent work
goes far toward making life worth while. It
is the monotonous, mechanical exertion of muscu-
lar force, without any inspiring ambition of ex-
cellence or improvement, that makes of work a
degradation unbearable. But the inspiring ambi-
tion of doing this thing, which I am doing well,
even better than it has ever been done before, and
from the mastery of it to essay new tasks, gives
an equal dignity to all labor. The attractiveness
of a piece of work depends, not so much on the
task itself, as the attitude of the laborer.

A ride through the Niagara fruit belt at this
season is a feast for sore eyes. Pear, plum and
peach trees droop under an accumulating burden
of fruit. Grape trellises are hidden by long rows
of trailing vines, through which peep bunches of
unripened vintage. Recent showers have greened
the meadows, while the mansion-like homes of the
fruit barons, which form almost a continuous vil-
lage along the Queenston and Grimsby stone road,
present an aspect of trimness and palatial com-
fort rivaling the fashionable residential suburbs of
our leading metropolitan centers.

Farmers retire from the country to the town
to secure good school facilities, to escape bad
roads and isolation, to be able to have social
advantages. They wish to be nearer the center
of things, and to be, to a greater extent an in-
tegral component of the social structure. Their
very action is an admission that country life,
while successful financially, is not satisfying so-
cially. The problem calling to-day for solution,
and for leaders in its working out, is that of
making country life sufficient as a place of per-
manent abode. Rural telephones, good roads,
rural mail routes, will all be contributing factors,
but, over and above these in the extent of the in-
fluence which they will exert, will be the properly-
adapted public-school system, and the church made
anew.

Thieving Within the Banks.

The New York Evening Post, a newspaper not
given to sensational journalism, in reviewing the
stealings of employees and officials of United
States banking institutions, finds that the sums
taken during the past five years amount to \$25,-
000,000. How powerful the lure of wealth is to
overcome the scruples of honesty, is understood
when one learns that the banker convicts in the
Federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, out-
number every other class of criminals except bur-
glars and mail robbers.

Seven bank presidents, eighteen cashiers and
thirteen cashiers and tellers—thirty-eight in all—
are serving sentence for violation of the national
banking laws, which goes to show, incidentally,
that justice is not altogether blindfolded and im-
potent in the Republic. At the bottom of all this
thieving is the inordinate love of money and the
determination of men and women to keep pace
with their fast-living neighbors and associates.
Investigation has shown that those who go wrong
attempt to sustain themselves financially by gam-
bling; or, as it is called, speculating in stocks, in
order to get something for nothing. Handling
money or securities as a farmer or a grocer handles
potatoes, the temptation comes to the fellow in
the clutches of the Wall Street brokers to relieve
himself temporarily by the use of other people's
money which he is handling. Sooner or later the
inevitable end comes. The reason given by the
Post for the possibility of all this stealing is in
loose methods of auditing, and the inference plain-
ly is that if a penny-wise and pound-foolish policy
on the part of American banks prevents an effi-
cient system of examining all accounts and securi-
ties, then the Government should do so, for the
protection of the people both within and without
the bank. While the victimized depositor or
stock-holder may take some satisfaction in seeing
culprits punished, it would be more to the point
if their going wrong were prevented, thus saving
his funds and relieving him from the further bur-
den involved in his share, through taxation, of
incarcerating the thieves.

Place a Fair Value on Time.

One of the gravest mistakes a farmer can make
is to set a low value on his time. It used to
be rather common, when anyone mentioned time
in calculating the profits of a certain line of farm
work, to hear the rejoinder, "Oh, we don't count
our time; if we did, we would have nothing left.
We throw that in." The consequence was that
they "threw in" a great deal of time. It was
extensively wasted. Time, like money or anything
else, is utilized very much according as it is
valued. If one were hiring a job done, paying
out the cash, he would count the labor at
what it cost him. Now, is not one's own labor
worth at least as much as the hired man's? Gen-
erally it should be worth more, because more effi-
cient and faithful. If one cannot make his farm
yield him and his family at least as much wages,
over and above taxes, running expenses and inter-
est upon capital invested, as they could earn work-
ing for neighbors, then he is paying himself the
difference for the privilege of living on a farm of
his own. Of course, one might still prefer to do
this for the sake of being his own master, and
having a homestead of his own to engage his in-
terest, but business prudence demands that the
facts be recognized clearly in their true perspec-
tive. For our part, we are convinced that in
these days any man with average ability and apti-
tude for farming can, if he sets himself to it, make
his farm yield him not only interest, taxes and
his farm yield him not only interest, taxes and
expenses, but very much higher wages than are
commonly paid. But he cannot do this in the

average year by seeding his farm down to cattle
pasture. He can do it, though, by growing the
more remunerative crops and caring for these and
for his live stock by labor-saving methods.

If every farmer would this year get down to
an earnest study of the value of time, our imple-
ment firms would be swamped with orders for
labor-saving machinery of the largest practicable
sizes. No more five-foot mowers; no more single-
furrow plows (save for special work); no more
two-horse tillage implements (save, perhaps, corn
cultivators). They do the work, but it takes too
long to use them. Demand would be general for
the largest practicable sizes, so that the owner or
whomever he hired might earn maximum wages
while doing the work.

Of course some may go to extremes, get the
"big head" and ignore certain profitable lines of
husbandry—for example, stock-feeding—because it
does not promise the fancy wages they may set
upon their time. Some people prefer sitting
round the stove or swapping stories with their
neighbors to doing chores. But any sensible man
will realize that it is better to be working for
moderate wages than doing nothing at all. He
will also realize that time during winter and rainy
days is not worth so much as that during the
busy working period of the summer. There is
need to exercise discrimination and good business
sense. The wise man will set such reasonable
value upon his time as will work out consistently
to the greatest ultimate returns from his farm,
compatible with enjoyable living. Such value will
usually be rather higher than the average current
wages, and will tend to rise from year to year,
as invention multiplies the facilities for saving
time and increasing productive effort.

Life Standards.

Money should not be an end, but only one
means to an end. Too many of us say we have
not the time to read, to play, to cultivate our
neighbors and to develop the attributes of the
spirit which are our true selves. This is not from
necessity, but because the speedy acquisition of a
little larger profit than we have had before ap-
pears to be the "great good" most to be de-
sired. We become, ere we realize it, worshippers
of mammon. We use the dollar as the standard
of a successful life; we inculcate this idea into
the children, and farm life becomes one ceaseless
routine of long hours, of hard labor, wherein the
birds are pests, flowers become weeds, the stars
are not seen, play is wasteful, reading laziness,
music and pictures frivolous; selfishness becomes
paramount, and the soul one long cry against it
all. When this measure of life is adopted, farm
life becomes the most slavish, most dissatisfying
of all occupations. Fortunate, indeed, the man,
and secure, whose satisfactions and aspirations are
not limited to the products of the field, or to his
herds and flocks, however useful in themselves,
but the sudden deprivation of which leaves him
desolate and without resource.

But this standard of the dollar is beginning to
be questioned. It has not brought to the in-
dividual the pleasure nor the contentment of heart
that was expected, neither has it developed for
the nation the type of men needed. What is
wanted in our manhood is not great possessions,
but a large heart; not a cunning mind, but a
cunning hand, trained to honest labor; a disposi-
tion that gives to every man his honest dues;
a mind open to see what is just, and a will de-
termined to execute it.

The tremendous possibilities of a new and vast-
ly rich country, as is Canada, are usually apt to
swamp for a time the people's standards of liv-
ing which are serving as buoys marking out the