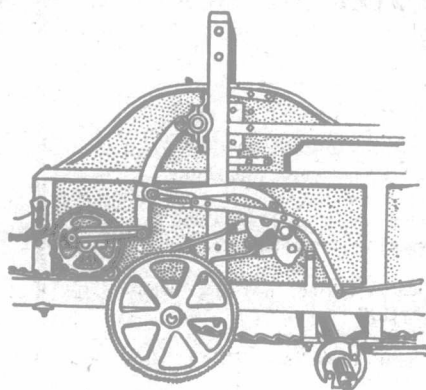


A "New Idea" Drive

The Old Style "Nest of Gears" Banished

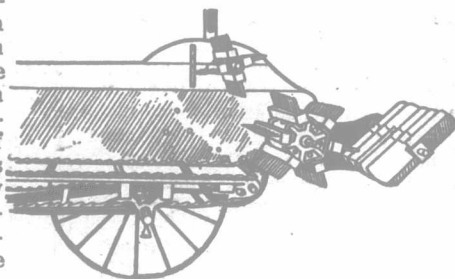
A driving mechanism consisting of a "nest of gears" is now considered out-of-date. The direct chain drive, as used in the New Idea spreader, is conceded to be the simplest, most powerful, most durable "drive" in existence. When the



New Idea Manure Spreader

is not spreading, the driving mechanism stops. No unnecessary wear on the machine. The chain on this drive cannot jump off if the spreader hits a bump—a spring tension holds it in place. What a difference between this efficient "New Idea" drive and the complicated drives on other machines. And throughout the entire construction of the "New Idea" you'll find it's very different to ordinary spreaders. Write for booklet explaining all about the two-cylinder pulverizing system, the

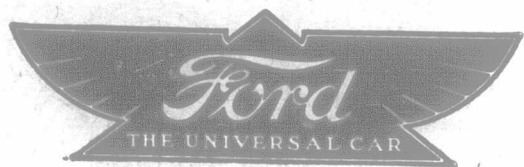
distributor, the conveyer, self-aligning bearings, the axles, of this low-down, light-draft machine.



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cate" for three years, and I like reading the Beavers' letters. I go to school every day, and I am in the first book. Our teacher's name is Miss Houston, and we all like her very much. For pets I have two rabbits and a dog; his name is Captain. He and I go for the cattle every night in the summer. As my letter is getting rather long I will close.
CHESTER MEDILL.
(Age 7, First Book.)

Moorefield, Ont.

Mending Basket.

Difficulties Lying in the Path to Woman Suffrage.

Possibly the greatest question confronting the civilized world to-day is that of equal suffrage for men and women. That the cause is gaining ground no one can deny, but the march of progress seems slow when we consider that it is forty-two years since the women were enfranchised in the State of Wyoming. There must be a reason for such slow progress, great difficulties must lie in the path. In this article I shall try to enumerate some of the greatest difficulties which I can see, and which were not mentioned in the articles appearing in "The Farmer's Advocate" of May 24.

The militant suffragettes of England are no doubt working against the cause when they undertake a work of destruction, hit and miss, about the country. They seem to be a class of people who have tired of the reign of peace and want "something doing," but I do not believe that woman suffrage forms much of the prize for which they are fighting. No Government can yield to the demands of a movement of organized unrest that does deeds of shame which even the anarchists would not do. These deeds of shame have caused many noble women, as well as men, to become disgusted with the whole movement, and public opinion counts more to-day than ever before. If a person believes in woman suffrage, it requires a great deal of nerve to say so when public opinion calls him or her a suffragist, and classes all such with the militant suffragettes, so popular in the courts of England. About the only well-known reasons for enfranchising the women are those given by rattle-brained suffragists. These are well advertised, but the reasons that are worth while are never heard by many. A lot of old maids and silly girls have said that if the women voted they could command salaries equal to men for equal services, in such positions as teachers, lawyers, etc. Any reasonable person can see the folly of trying to keep a nation going if men who have families to support receive so higher pay than spinsters. The reasons which spinsters give are not representative of a nation whose women are wives and mothers. About all these people say on marriage would mean, when boiled down, "Make divorce easier." Is this in the interest of the nation?

One of the arguments brought forward by suffragists is, "Taxation without representation is tyranny," but Governments of to-day explain taxation thus: A person who owns a valuable property pays a high tax, and in compensation for his tax so paid, all the machinery of the law is available for the protection of his valuable property. A person with less valuable property pays a lower tax because he has less property to be protected. If taxation justifies representation, minors and foreigners who own property have a right to the vote.

Are the women of to-day qualified to vote? Do they, as a rule, know more about government than men know? Have their lives trained them to understand most government projects, such as the building of canals, bridges, railways, roads, telegraph and telephone lines, the dredging of rivers, and the protection of trade and commerce? You say that men know little about such things. I admit that you say the truth, but will doubling the present ignorant vote improve matters?

Men have solved many problems, but allow me to call your attention to one problem, entirely the women's, called the servant problem. Why do so many girls prefer to work under the direction of men in factories and stores, at less than

a living wage, when domestic service offers work, better adapted to girl nature, at a wage of enough and to spare? A child at school is not given mensuration before he has solved the simple problems in addition and subtraction.

What is government? When boiled down, government, of the present day is, to a great extent, brute force.

A mother may govern her child largely by persuasion, but show me the person who has not, at some time during early life, felt the brute force of government in the form of a "licking." National government is on the same plan. The Government is not the party in power, nor the army and navy, but the rank and file of the nation's voters, who make the laws, and who must also enforce them. The voter must defend the country in time of war, and protect life and property at all times when protection is needed. He who says, "Thou shalt not steal," must not rest until he has done his best to punish the thief. Is it in the interest of the nation for its women to become a part of such Government?

There is no privileged class among voters; all must stand on equal footing. So long as a man can help to support the nation he is given a vote, but when the nation has to support him he is no longer allowed to vote, because, by his vote he might make it harder for the nation to earn his daily bread. Thus far this rule has worked in regard to the women who vote. For this reason all Mormons are suffragists. By giving his wife, or wives, the vote, the lazy Mormon relieves himself of the painful duty of supporting them.

How has woman suffrage worked out where it has been tried? In Colorado, Utah, Idaho, and Wyoming, women have voted, respectively, for from fifteen to forty-two years. In Utah, women have not rooted out polygamy. Twelve states in the American Union have laws to prevent children working in factories, etc., at night. Colorado, Wyoming and Utah, have no such law. Twenty-eight States provide for factory inspection. Wyoming has none at all. Twenty-one States have juvenile courts which they secured without the votes of women, except in Colorado. Thirty-eight States compel seats for women at work—Idaho does not. In Colorado, husband and wife are jointly liable for household finance.

In no woman-suffrage State can a woman compel her husband to support her, while in New York a man cannot pawn an old suit of clothes without his wife's consent. Truly, the best laws for women and children do not exist in those States where women vote.

These are some of the difficulties which must be overcome. Let us not hold up our hands in holy horror before them, but face them manfully and womanly, remembering that the vote, for women must come, and that every person's help is needed in putting up a clean, decent campaign in overcoming the difficulties and marching toward the goal of a higher civilization than this world has yet dreamed of.
H. L.

Lennox Co., Ont.

The Teacher a "Unit by Herself."

Editor "The Mending Basket":

With your permission, I would like to take up a small space in "The Farmer's Advocate" to reply to Greybird in her discussion of "The School-teacher." I was not present at the Women's Institute Convention, but I quite agree with Prof. McCready if he made the statement that the teacher in the rural school is a unit by herself in the community, and I think if Greybird and other members of the Women's Institute discuss and fulfil their duty to the children of the day and to the teacher as well as does the average teacher, they will have no time to discuss the personality, capabilities or shortcomings of the teachers. The teacher a unit by herself! I rather think so, in most communities at any rate. I would not say that all trustees are "uncouth, unlettered men," but certainly many of them are, and the majority of them know and think of little but how to get and save money; the teacher is bartered and cut down in salary regardless of capacity or experience, and when she has secured her position she finds a poorly-equipped school—no conveniences or modern improvements—and a board of trus-