

SOME TARIFF TRUST "HUMOR"

In reading this pathetically amusing article, which we take from the "San Francisco Star" (March 23) it should be remembered that, according to evidence accepted by the British Tariff Reformers, a shilling in America does not go as far as eightpence in our own country.

The Woollen Trust magnates of Lawrence, Mass., have a finely developed sense of humor. . . . As evidence of their ability as humorists, witness pay envelope No. 1,607, issue to a Lawrence mill-worker. On the back of the envelope was this advice, solemnly put there by the trustees of the Broadway Savings Bank, controlled by the Woollen Trust:—

WHO OWN THEIR HOMES?

THOSE WHO SAVE REGULARLY AND PLACE IT WHERE IT GROWS

ONE DOLLAR WILL OPEN AN ACCOUNT AT THIS BANK

4 PER CENT INTEREST

Now for the Woollen Trust joke! Just opposite this bit of kindly and fatherly advice, such as a kind and loving Woollen Trust might be expected to give to its faithful employees, is this inscription: "TWO DOLLARS."

That was written in with ink by the trust's mill timekeeper. It represents the reward that went to No. 1,607 for his week of labor. "Buy a home," suggests his employer, the fatherly trust. "After you have paid the grocery bill for your family of five or six and bought some coal, and paid the landlord his share, and tickled the baby with a new pair of shoes, and purchased some nice warm underclothes for Willie, and bought mamma a new shawl, take what is left of your wages and buy a home!"

Isn't that funny? Mill employee No. 1,317 also got a free laugh with the pay envelope handed him by the trust, for it bore this legend:—

DO NOT SPEND ALL YOUR INCOME

A MAN'S DUTY TO HIMSELF IS TO SAVE SOME MONEY OUT OF HIS EARNINGS

START AN ACCOUNT AND BE INDEPENDENT

The timekeeper wrote \$6.05 on this man's envelope, which probably was the reason he was advised to be independent. Who, receiving the princely sum of \$6 per week, would stop to think of such trifles as owning a home? This man probably owns his city mansion already, hence the trust could think of no advice suitable for him beyond admonishing him to be independent.

No wonder the tickled mill-workers went on strike. Who could work where there was an opportunity to listen to funny jokes, handed over to them free of charge by the funny old Woollen Trust?—Free Trader.

WOOD FROM STRAW

Wood from straw is an important development invented by Mr. Louis Carré and described by Mr. Frank Norton. The wisps of straw are cut lengthwise into three pieces, then cooked with chemicals, then subjected to immense pressure. So manufactured, the artificial wood is produced in a continuous length of any thickness. It saws well and planes well, but requires sharper tools. Matches are made in this way. In the cereal countries, where wood is scarce, this process will be very useful in providing fuel.—World's Work.

TRAINING HORSES

A new book entitled "The Training and Breaking of Horses," by M. W. Harper, a well known expert on the subject, has just been published. It consists of 375 pages, handsomely bound and fully illustrated. The book goes very fully into the whole subject of training horses for work, for saddle, for driving, and also of training and breaking wild horses. The vices of horses and methods of correcting them, the care of the colts, the treatment of injuries and all the best devices for handling vicious horses are fully dealt with. The book is a valuable manual and a mine of useful information to every owner of horses. Price, postpaid, \$1.75. Book Dept., Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg.

The Grain Growers' Guide

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THE GUIDE IS DESIGNED TO GIVE UNCOLORED NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF THOUGHT AND ACTION and honest opinions thereon, with the object of aiding our people to form correct views upon economic, social and moral questions, so that the growth of society may continually be in the direction of more equitable, kinder and wiser relations between its members, resulting in the widest possible increase and diffusion of material prosperity, intellectual development, right living, health and happiness.

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Improved Cattle Guard



This Photo shows the new cattle guard invented by Mr. Robert B. Walker of Strathcona, Alta. The cow that tries to cross this gets a sharp crack on the shin.

What is claimed to be a simple, inexpensive cattle guard and a great improvement on those now in use, has been invented by Robert B. Walker, of Strathcona, Alta.

The guard is thus described and explained by Mr. Walker:

"The surface cattle guard consists of three sections. One section fits between the rails, the others on the outside between rail and fence. The width of these sections, if regulated by the gauge of the track, the length or distance to be crossed by an animal, may be changed to suit, but it has been built just long enough to prevent an animal attempting to jump over it without landing on it. Guard shown is 7½ feet. The height when in normal position is just level with the top of the rail, when operating, about nine inches above tie. The photo shows it adapted to five-inch steel rail. Each section of the guard is composed of a number of units. The length of section is governed by the number of units used or the proportions of these units.

"Now, the idea contained in the rig is that in attempting a crossing the animal must bear its weight on its foot, which if placed on the guard presses a plate, causing a bar to fly up and give the animal a sharp crack on the shin. This is so unexpected that the cow naturally lifts its foot, allowing a spring to bring the unit back to its normal position. This striking bar is protected by a roller which the animal cannot stand on, so must put its foot where intended. These striking bars are always pulled back to place by the springs, and each unit is entirely independent of the others. This was shown when trailing brake gear was dragged over it, by pulling one unit out entire and clean, leaving the others as good as ever.

"The guard has been improved since this test, which was to prove that the guard would stand up to the hard usage and be reasonably able to do its duty afterwards. A sloping plank at the end tends to raise gear above guard or above the rollers which protect the striking bars.

"I think that I have made it clear that when the animal receives a sharp blow on the shin every time it attempts to cross it is very discouraging to further progress. It is suitable for horses, cattle, swine and sheep.

"The cost of manufacture compares favorably with the ones now in use, and the appearance speaks for itself."

The board of railway commissioners has laid down certain conditions to be fulfilled by any cattle guard before it can receive their endorsement. The main qualifications are feasibility as shown by actual experiment, efficiency, not dangerous to a derailed train, noiselessness under a moving train, easily repaired, passable by pedestrians and cheapness. Mr. Walker submits that his appliance will satisfy every requirement.

BUILDING MORE ELEVATORS

Ten "locals" of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator company are being established between Regina and Griffin, along the line of the Regina-boundary branch of the G.T.P.

Locals have been organized and elevators are to be built at Riefstein, Grey, Riceton, Lindley, Lewvan, Colfax, Cedoux, Rainton, Talmage and Brough. Practically all the farmers living in the territory tributary to these towns are associating themselves with the locals.

The work of constructing the elevators will be set on foot when steel is laid along the G.T.P. line. Steel laying is expected to be in full swing very shortly, so the elevators will soon be in course of building.

All told this year the company will build between 70 and 80 elevators. In this way and by the acquisition of six or seven elevators already constructed, the company will increase its total capacity from some 1,440,000 bushels to 4,000,000.

"You, there, in the overalls," shouted the cross-examining lawyer, "how much are you paid for telling untruths?" "Less than you are," retorted the witness, "or you'd be in overalls, too."

THE GLOBE ON CO-OPERATION

The Toronto Globe in a recent editorial says:

"The experience of Canadian agriculturists during the past few years has proven conclusively that the best kind of organization to promote their own interests is not the joint stock company, but the co-operative association. The truth of this statement is amply confirmed by the proceedings of the agricultural conventions held last week under government auspices at Ottawa. The co-operative association has the great advantage of stimulating rather than repressing private enterprise, for which the joint stock company substitutes corporate activity. It has long been notorious to students of industrial conditions that it is difficult to find an employee who is as watchful of his employer's interests as he would be of his own. Fortunately large farms are not necessary to business success; they are quite often a hindrance. A man working his own small farm intensively can usually secure a better return for his capital and labor than either an individual or a company can do by the less thorough treatment that seems inseparable from the large farm system.

"The improvement that has taken place in the production of winter apples in Ontario is a case in point. By a simple form of co-operation the farmers of Norfolk county, which is not specially adapted for apple production, have increased their output and improved its quality to such an extent that the farmers of other counties, following their example and practicing their methods, are now rivals in the competition for pre-eminence. The farmer who seeks to become a member of a co-operative association binds himself to treat his orchard in certain ways; he is required to cultivate and manure the soil, and to employ intelligently the approved methods of destroying insect pests. In return he enjoys the advantage of the high reputation which the association has achieved in the marketing of properly assorted and packed apples. The packer who buys an orchard at a speculative price in early summer is eliminated. The farmer does his own packing under supervision, and it has been found that in this way he secures better prices for his fruit.

"There does not seem to be any good reason why some system of co-operation should not be successfully tried in the marketing of beef cattle, and perhaps also in the sale of dairy produce. Frequently the individual farmer finds himself at the mercy of some 'trust' or 'combine' when he wishes to sell his animals or their products, and it is well worth while to test, by carefully conducted experiments, whether the power of the trusts to control prices might not be successfully met and defeated by co-operation among stock farmers. The stockman, if he is working alone, has often great difficulty in obtaining transportation facilities of a satisfactory sort at reasonable cost either from the railways or from the ocean steamship companies. Groups of producers working together might often obtain what the individual fails to secure; at all events the effort seems to be worth making.

POCKET MONEY

EASY TO EARN BOYS AND GIRLS

Just listen. How would you like to earn a little money for yourselves during the summer? Wouldn't it be fine if you could earn enough to buy yourself a bicycle, or a pony. Perhaps you are saving up to go to the Agricultural College or Domestic Science School. Wouldn't it be nice if you could earn enough to buy mother a rocking chair or something useful for father?

Well, here's your chance. Write at once to—

Desk No. 1.

The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg.

And tell us your full name, your age, also your father's name. Be sure to tell us how much spare time you have and if you have a pony or a bicycle. Also say if you go to school. If you will do this we will tell you what we want you to do for us. The work we wish you to do is easy and if you put your minds to it you will soon be very wealthy boys and girls.