

Farmer's Tanning Guide

By GEORGE EDGAR STEVENS

This book contains all the quick ways of tanning, from twenty minutes to six weeks. It is not intended as a full and complete compendium of scientific principles, but gives all of the simplest methods that can be followed by an inexperienced person. Farmers' boys can tan cat, dog, wolf, badger and sheep skins, for making robes, mats and mittens for family and neighbors. Among the important subjects discussed are:

Tanning fur skins, sheep, dog, wolf and badger skins. Tanning calf skins, muskrat, etc. Deer skins, sheep skins for mats, wood-chuck skins with and without the hair, rabbit skins, etc. How to make rubber water-proofing for boots, axle grease, tools for tanning. How to color glove leather. Nature of ingredients used in the tanning processes. Tanning leather. To loosen fur, hair or wool. Grain blacking, how made and put on. Tanning harness leather, raw-hide, deer skins for gloves and graining, and other skins for various purposes.

A valuable little book that will be appreciated by industrious farmers who desire to make a little money during their spare time and utilize skins and furs that perhaps would otherwise be wasted. Postpaid 25c.

Book Dept., The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg

LIGHTING ON THE FARM

There are many ways in which life in the country is different to that of the towns. In some directions farm life is superior unquestionably to city life, but in others the crowded population in the towns and cities is better off than the farmer and his family. The inconveniences of farm life are made a great deal of at times and, to a certain extent perhaps, grumbling is justifiable in this regard, but there is a great opportunity, in many instances being overlooked, which if realized would do much to entirely do away with some of the old time objections to the farm. During the winter season particularly, one of the chief drawbacks to living on the farm is the inconvenience which is generally felt in regard to lighting in the house and barns. Sight is one of the most easily harmed of the senses and hence it is important that due consideration be given to its preservation. It is not long since torches and candles were the sole means of illumination in the home. Many are still living who remember the rushlight and "farthing dip" which did little more than emphasized the darkness of the room in which they were used. Oil lamps, coal, gas, acetylene and later electricity are all comparatively modern means of illumination. Today in the city light is available which altho not equal to sunlight at least is sufficient for all practical purposes. But the farm has not kept pace with the city in this regard. Of course it is scarcely possible on account of conditions that every modern lighting improvement can be made use of in isolated farm houses, but the fact is that insufficient attention has been paid to this phase of home comfort on the great majority of farms in the country today.

Conditions are largely responsible for this. Heretofore very little reading was done by farmers as a class largely on account of there being very little information available in a popular form on agricultural or other subjects and also because of the lack of rural educational facilities. Now, however, all this is changed. The farms are literally deluged with newspapers, periodicals and books of all kinds, on every subject imaginable, and the farmer and his family spend the long winter evenings in reading whatever appeals to each member's particular taste. But what arrangements are made to provide light on the ordinary farm?

Light Requirements

What are the requirements of an efficient light? First of all it must be sufficiently bright to provide enough light to all parts of the room so that anyone desiring to read may do so without in anyway damaging their sight. Then it must be easily looked after, readily kept clean and free from any danger of setting the house on fire. It should be as economical as possible and be lasting. There are several lighting systems at present on the market which will comply with most of these requirements. Electricity is to be found in nearly every town home. It is not impossible for farms to be equipped with a similar convenience. Small electric light plants are on the market and can be installed at a moderate cost. They consist of a motor generator or dynamo, a small gas engine to furnish the power to run this dynamo, a storage battery to take care of the electricity as it is made, and the wiring and light fixtures to complete the installation. The initial cost of such a system forms the

greatest objection, but once installed it has been proved that electricity can be generated and used on the farm at less cost per kilowatt than that charged in many towns and cities. A low voltage system is generally installed, usually from 30 to about 60 volts. On such a system transmission over long distances cannot be made, the "line drop" being too heavy, but short distances, such as from the power plant to the nearby buildings, is generally all that is required. The engine can be used to do most of the other farm chores if necessary, or else if a system of sufficiently high voltage is installed the stored electricity can be used direct by motors attached to the pump, washing machine, wringer, sewing machine, etc., whenever so desired. A small 32 volt system, amply suitable for the ordinary farm, can be bought, including the engine, for about five hundred dollars.

Improvement in Oil Lamps

Where the initial expense prohibits the installation of an electric lighting plant just as good results can be obtained from one or other of the many different gas and oil lamps at present on the market. The tendency nowadays is to get away from the old fashioned wick burner. There is always associated with this kind of lamp the dull, yellow, smoky flame and unpleasant smell of oil which was so much a part of the old homestead and was only tolerated because nothing else could be substituted to take its place. Oil lamps can be bought now, however, which have none of these objectionable features. The wick is being used only as a conductor for the oil, which is vaporized by its own heat and burns as a gas distributed over a strong asbestos mantle. The result is a brilliant, white light which is soft to the eyesight and which at the same time penetrates to all parts of the room. The old objection to oil lamps using a mantle in the burner was that the mantle was so fragile after once being lit that any little jar or shake would break it and a new one would be required before the lamp was of any use again. Today, however, this difficulty has been largely overcome, mantles being made which will last just about as long as the lamp glass of the ordinary house lamp. Gasoline is the oil used in some of these brilliant lamps on account of its vaporizing ability, but improvements have made it possible for less volatile oils, as coal oil or kerosene, to be used with just as much efficiency. This fuel has the further advantage of being both free from danger from explosions and very much cheaper than gasoline. Acetylene gas is used to some extent, but it has the disadvantage of being highly explosive and several mishaps have occurred to such plants. There is no reason why the farm home should be any less brilliantly lighted than the city home. Improvements have been made in oil lamps which make them efficient, cheap, reliable and durable. Reliable farm lighting has passed the experimental stage and the farmer today, after a little intelligent enquiry as to the modern lighting appliances for the home, can, without going to any very great additional expense or running any risk of failure on the part of the lamp to answer to the manufacturer's claims for it, illuminate his home just as completely and perhaps a little more cheaply than his town friend.

ELECTION OF FARMERS TO PARLIAMENT

At the district convention of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, held in North Battleford, on December 1 and 2, 1914, among the several resolutions was one presented from the Willow Heights G.G.A., calling for direct parliamentary representation of farmers.

It was ably discussed by the mover, Charles Truscott, and several of the delegates, as well as J. B. Musselman, the Central Secretary, and F. W. Green, Honorary Secretary of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association; Thos. Sales, the District Director, was chairman, and the motion was passed.

Various opinions were expressed, but all seemed to be unanimous in the conviction that the Prairie Provinces, in order to obtain their full share of national legislation, must elect more farmers to the House of Commons at Ottawa. Resolutions of conventions and delegations to Ottawa were not getting the results that the serious condition of farmers on the prairie warranted.

As one delegate expressed it, we must elect men who are "touched with our infirmities," whose convictions were born from the trials which came to those seeking to make homes and a decent living from farming on the prairies.

The occasion inspired the writer, who was present and took part in the discussion, to prepare the following verses: The Prairie Farmers' Parliament Song:

"It's a Long Way to Legislation"

(Sung to the Universal Patriotic War Song, "Tipperary")

Dedicated to the Organized Farmers and Farm Women of Western Canada.

To the House of Commons
Came the farmers for their rights,
Where the halls are paved with gold,
And M.P.'s spend their nights;
Singing songs for banks and railroads,
Trusts and charters queer,

Till the farmers in amazement,
Had to shout into their ear:

Chorus:

It's a long way to legislation,
It's a long way to go.
There's a right way to build a nation;
To get our rights we know!
Wake up, House of Commons!
Look out, Senate Square!
We are united farmers from the prairies,
And our hearts are right there.

It's no use resolving
In conventions every year,
Till we send our men to parliament,
And treat our women fair.

Our homes and farms will prosper then;
Towns have men and work;
Then East and West will get fair play,
And none will want to shirk.

Chorus:

The Guide we have for education,
To fight our rights we know;
We all believe co-operation
Will make free high and low.
We want better markets;
Our own banks we demand,
Then we'll all sing together, Rule
Britannia!
God bless our prairie land!

Let farmers be united,
And their policies decree;
To take their place in parliament,
And make the country free.

With equal laws for men and wives,
Our boys and girls will sing,
All hail, our nation's farmers!
God save our Queen and King!

Chorus:

Saskatchewan is a glorious province;
Alberta is truly grand;
Without a peer is Manitoba,
United all three stand!

Wake up, House of Commons!
Let all M.P.'s take care!
We want better homes upon the prairies,
For our hearts are right there!

WILJAMES THOMPSON,

Pres. Warman G.G.A., and Director at
Large Sask. G.G.A.
Saskatoon, Sask.

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND

Received at The Guide office up to Monday, January 4, 1915.
Previously acknowledged \$1509.05

John Witherspoon, Carberry, Man.	10.00
L. J. Styles, Adanae, Sask.	5.00
H. A. Crosswell, Atwater, Sask.	10.00
Robt. Baskerville, Boissevain, Man.	40.00
Pupils of Point Douglas school Dist. No. 1475, Windygates, Man.	10.50
A Friend, Govan, Sask.	5.00
Proceeds of Waldensian Valley School concert, Cabri, Sask.	10.00
Belle Plaine Sunday Sch. F. S. Matthews, Silver Grove, Sask.	42.90
"A Grain Grower," Miami	25.00
"A Friend," Hartshorn	5.00
Mrs. E. J. Wells, Wessington, Alta.	1.00
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W. A. Johnston, Douglas-ton	10.00
M. Shantz, Didsbury	10.00
Maurice and Batt O'Callaghan, Provost, Alta.	50.00
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Miss Frederickson, Smiley, Sask.	1.00
R. G. Bursg, Smiley, Sask.	1.00
Miss Milne, Smiley, Sask.	.50
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Dan Byer, Smiley, Sask.	.50
Messrs. Brown, Smiley, Sask.	.55
A German Canadian	10.00
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David A. Leslie	8.05
Alfred O. Hawkins, Maysmont, Sask.	10.00
	4.00
Total	\$2005.80

WINNIPEG PATRIOTIC FUND

John Witherspoon, Carberry, Man.	\$10.00
"Omar" School, Miniota, Man.	5.25
Total	\$15.25

ALBERTA SECTION

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palties from the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Edmonton.

In conclusion, we hope that many of our unions will take this matter up more thoroughly in the future than heretofore, and if they will do so in an unprejudiced manner and give the matter due consideration it will undoubtedly lead to a great extension of this work in the near future.

It is worth noting the enormous growth of the idea in Saskatchewan, its great success in that Province and the general satisfaction which is felt thereat. What Saskatchewan has done well, we should do better.

P. P. WOODBRIDGE,

Provincial Secretary.

P.S.—I have just noted that in that portion of this circular dealing with the organization of rural municipalities an important amendment to the Act has been omitted. At the last session of the Legislature the Act was amended so that the Minister of Municipal Affairs may by order establish any territorial unit a rural municipality without petition being received.