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COMMENT ON THE MORE RECENT FARM LABOR-SAVING MACHINERY

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The Progressive Spirit of the Times is Animating Manufacturers in Devising Machines to Solve the Problems Caused by Economic Conditions in Farm Life—Some of the New Machines—Comments and Illustrations.



Prof. John Evans

This phase in the development of agricultural machinery has far greater significance than we at present are disposed to realize. It means doing away with much drudgery; saving of much unnecessary human and animal labor; will eventually reduce working expenses; provide mechanical means for carrying on all farm operations independent of labor influences. Besides affording opportunities for exercising mental rather than physical strength, it will enable the farmer to perform those social functions which add so much to the pleasure of living in the country.

INDICATIONS OF PROGRESS

Interesting indications of the progress which is being made in agricultural machinery may be appropriately expressed in the words "still achieving, still pursuing," for improvements and developments which cannot fail to be industrially useful and valuable, are effected in almost every branch of farm work. The progressive spirit animating the manufacturers of farm implements and machinery is evident in the manner in which they are endeavoring to meet the demands arising from economic conditions affecting farm life. These conditions are being tackled with growing persistence and success by implement makers at home and abroad.

A NEW INTEREST IN MOTOR MACHINES

Interest in mechanically-propelled machines for every kind of farm operations is distinctly gaining ground. Farmers who a little while

ago had not a good word to say of the automobile, have now come to realize that the modern auto car saves time and money for them. Besides being capable of being put to use in various ways upon the farm. It is no longer regarded as a luxury, but a necessity, and consequently all who can possibly afford it are investing in machines for the immense economy which mechanical, as compared with manual and animal, labor is able to effect is to-day one of the world's greatest blessings.

SELF-PROPELLED TILLAGE IMPLEMENTS

Apparently the reasons for the small amount of attention that has been given to self-propelled tillage implements is probably due to the prevailing uncertainty regarding the comparative



Hauling Live Stock to Market

advantages of making implements self-actuating or of attaching them to a motor. Much may be said for and against these two methods of working cultivating mechanism; there is, however, a wide scope for self-actuating cultivating machines on large farms.

The latest novelty along this line is the automobile hoe; an illustration on page 4 shows the implement at work. The propelling mechanism



Sawing Wood with an Automobile—A New Use For The "Devil" Wagon

consists of a two-cylinder engine fitted with a carburettor for employing gasoline or other liquid fuels.

A VERY USEFUL FARM MOTOR

The sensible little machine—the small motor, three illustrations of which appear on page 4 and 5—is a veritable little *multum in parvo*. It can be used for so many purposes, and is sold at the price of a useful horse. Power for power it costs little more than a stationary oil engine, while its earning capacity is many times greater. It will drive all kinds of light machinery by belts, such as grinders, circular saw, cream separator, churn, etc. It will carry loads and haul all kinds of light implements and moving to its work it saves the trouble and expense of fetching a horse to do it, as is the case with a portable engine. It may be sent five or 10 miles to do a day's work. It is made in sizes of from 3 to 4 h.p. and 6 to 8 h.p., and is fitted with four speeds—two to six miles an hour.

MACHINERY MAY SOLVE GREAT PROBLEM

The keen desire of farmers to secure machines and machinery for all kinds of farm work affords one an idea of the great extent to which machinery is taking the place of manual labor in agricultural operations to-day. It is a good sign that there is such interest amongst our farmers, and so far as economic conditions are concerned, machinery affords the only means to solve the present problem of scarcity of farm help. In spite of the scarcity of help the same amount of work may be done and it be accomplished more quickly and economically by modern implements and machinery than would be at all possible under the old conditions and management. Under the new conditions and circumstances it may be more possible to retain the bright and intelligent young men on the soil, and so prevent the depleting of the rural districts and thus make for intelligent and progressive agriculture.

The Hired Boy.—There is the making of a good man in the hired boy on the farm, says the "Farm Journal," but he can be irrevocably spoiled in the making if too much is put upon him; if his shoulders are loaded with blame for everything that goes wrong indoors and out; if everybody feels privileged to give him orders, and if he is regarded as a mere machine without muscles to tire, sensibilities to wound, intellect to stimulate, or a soul to inspire with longings for better things. Those into whose hands are committed these youths ordained to eat their bread in the sweat of their face, have a responsibility above that of merely providing food, shelter, and clothing. An employer may be harboring an angel unaware.