

time baker, took up his position in the enclosure ready to battle with the woolly ones. The old shepherd, an assistant and myself each armed ourselves with a pole, which had attached to its end a wooden hook two feet in length and not unlike a scythe blade in shape. The shepherd and his assistant took a position directly over a little six-inch water fall which ran into the ten-by-ten-foot tank.

After a heated, but brief struggle with a ewe, Charlie flung it into the water with a splash. I immediately collared it with my pole and led it over to the reach of the shepherd and Bill, who in turn grappled the plunging beast with their hooks and raked her under the falling water. After a minute of this the sheep was released and passed out the little exit and was soon standing on the rocks, letting the water drain from the fleece, while I was leading the next one over to the shepherd. It was my particular business to have one on my hook in readiness to pass across to the shepherd when he was ready. The excitement prevailed when Charlie had particularly good luck and four or five sheep were swimming about the pool at one time. While I was engaged in holding a particularly keen nanny, an over zealous sister or two or three of them often made a bee-line for the exit. Such incidents were not without their compensations. Charlie provided no end of mirth for us all during his frantic struggles with the high spirited "sheep." He in turn did not forget to laugh heartily when he took a few sheep by surprise and shoved them all in together. After putting the whole flock through in this manner, they were left to dry at the other side of the stream for a quarter of an hour, and then the poor water-soaked creatures were herded into the enclosure a second time. Again they were put through the "wet" process. This was the real washing, the dirt coming out in such quantities after the soaking that the tank was often like a mud puddle in spite of the hurried exit of the water.

We finished in good time to everybody's satisfaction. As I wended my way across the meadow I came to the conclusion that the English method of sheep washing is much in advance of our methods in Ontario.

N. J. LAUGHLIN.

Nether Swell Manor, Stow-on-the-Wold.

THE FARM.

Settler's Views on Fire Protection.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

I have noticed that the Government have patted themselves on the back at the end of every year over the success of their fire-rangin' plans; but to tell the truth, around here the seasons have been too wet to make any serious fire possible. The question is, are they doing good or not? one thing I do know there is not the same amount of land cleaned up as there would be if we could burn when dry enough. It is not a bit of use trying to burn brush and logs unless dry and then you cannot get a permit when you want it, or by the time you do get it it starts to rain and is too late. It is not easy to get in touch with your fire ranger, especially when it is dry, but after a rain he is usually around. What does this mean? Around here there are thousands of acres of land that have been timbered or partly timbered leaving the ground covered with logs, brush, stumps, etc. Each year they are getting dryer, but one is not allowed to burn it as we used to at a dry time. It amounts to this, we will get another dry season and another fire and when it does come you might as well

try to stop a tempest. I think it would be better to burn some every year as we used to for it has got to burn and burn it will.

Timiskaming, Ont.

A PIONEER.

The British Minister of Agriculture Resigns.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Lord Ernle has resigned his post as British Minister of Agriculture. There is not a farmer in Britain but will agree that his Lordship has had one of the most difficult tasks ever set a Minister of the Crown. During

created under the Act, threw the balance of the scale dead against the cereal producing farmer. To this moment Lord Ernle has his own opinions as to the future of British agriculture. He took office with these ideals: To see the land cultivated to its utmost capacity; to see more live stock maintained; more produce raised; and more laborers employed at higher wages. He essayed to attain those results by increasing arable cultivation. He wished to make wheat the pivotal and most profitable crop of English farming, but behind it all there stood the fear that such a very necessary wartime remedy would not or could not, be expected to be effective for long after the war. During the war he combated the argument that the sacrifice of pasture would reduce the number of live stock in the country. He argued that, besides producing an additional quantity of human food, a larger head of cattle could be carried on arable land than on grass. But therein he failed to convince the farmer.

ALBION.

Real Prosperity.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The true prosperity of any country cannot be measured in dollars and cents; and all attempts to judge our well-being by the trade and commerce statistics are utterly foolish.

So far as material things are concerned true prosperity depends first, on the abundance, or quantity of those things; secondly on the kind, or quality of those things; and thirdly on the character of the people who use the things.

1. If the supply of commodities is short we cannot be said to be a prosperous people. Starvation will follow if we do not have sufficient food. Inadequate housing and clothing will produce bad results from various standpoints. If school buildings are lacking, the education of our children will be defective. And so one might go on to enumerate many examples where the lack of quantity unquestionably works to our disadvantage. Abundance, therefore, is one factor in making for prosperity.

2. But it is not enough to have plenty of material good things; we must have abundance of the right kind. A people whose material wealth consisted of alcohol, gunpowder, precious stones and fine public buildings, would be in a most precarious condition, even though the quantity of these commodities was tremendous. We must have those things which are necessary to sustain and produce life. Good food is necessary, light is necessary, fresh air and exercise are necessary. Education, recreation, inspiration are necessary. Music and painting, literature and the like may be of great value. Therefore, even from the standpoint of abundance, we must never forget that quality is just as important as quantity.

3. But neither quantity nor quality will suffice without character. Dynamite may be used to clear land of stumps and stoves, to tunnel through mountains, or to help us dig precious minerals from the earth. But it may also be used to destroy life and lay waste the countryside. Even good food may be a curse to the glutton; and clothing or houses may be used for ostentation instead of for protection. A horse may throw an unskilled rider with fatal results, while to put microscope or telescope into the hands of the typical navy would be pure waste. People must have that within them which responds to good music, painting or literature else they are not profited. Everything, in fact, may be used or abused. The great war, just over, exemplifies this on a huge scale. When was the ingenuity of mankind, or the vast material wealth of the modern world ever put to more life-destroying purposes?

Everyone should keep in mind, then, when our sleek politicians are talking about our marvellous prosperity and our great wealth, that it is not enough to have a big production or trade in things which have a money value in the market. It matters a great deal what kind of things are produced or traded; and it matters still more what the character is of him who uses these things. "Man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

Brant Co.,

W. C. GOOD.

AUTOMOBILES, FARM MACHINERY AND FARM MOTORS.

Installing the Spark Plug.

The porcelains of spark plugs are often broken by screwing the plug too tightly into a cold cylinder. When the cylinder becomes heated, it expands, and exerts a crushing force on the frail spark plug which finally results in a fractured porcelain. Screwing a plug too tightly into a cold cylinder makes its removal difficult when the cylinder is hot, as the expanded cylinder walls bind on the threads and grip the plug. The plug should be screwed into the cylinder just tight enough to prevent the leakage of the gas.

A short, thin wrench (bicycle wrench) should be used on spark plugs, as it will be difficult to exert excessive force on the plug with the short leverage.

Wide-faced wrenches often cause damage by gripping the bushing or packing nut. Packing leaks are often occasioned by the wrench loosening the bushing when the plug is being screwed home.

Avoid any gas leaks around the plug, as they reduce the compression and cause a loss of power.

Bad leaks may be located by a hissing or popping noise that is in step with the speed of the engine. Small



It is only Oatmeal and Water.

his tenure of office he accomplished much well meaning and effective work, but the conditions created by the war, in the way of control and the restrictions imposed upon agriculture by two other new departments, those of Food Production and Food Control, have, with the difficult position in which the industry stands at the moment in regard to wages and the fixed prices paid for cereals raised under the Corn Production Act, brought about Lord Ernle's head much hostile criticism.

Perhaps Lord Ernle's greatest accomplishment was the evolution of the Corn Production Act, a perfectly good measure, as far as it went, until the Wages Board,



Good Scenery and Good Fishing Combined.

gas leaks may be located by a hissing or popping noise that is in step with the speed of the engine. Small

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