

Conservation

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Phosphate in Western Canada

Important Discovery of Fer- tilizing Agent Near Banff, Alberta.

A discovery of the highest importance in connection with the future development of agriculture in western Canada has recently been made by officials of the Conservation Commission, who report discoveries of phosphate near Banff, in the Rocky Mountains National Park. While it is yet too early to state definitely, it is expected the deposits will prove to be comparable both in extent and quality with those of Wyoming, Utah, Montana and Idaho, these being far greater than in any other country.

Supplies of phosphate at a low price have a very important bearing upon the agricultural industry of a nation. Western Canada is naturally a farming country but is far removed from the hitherto discovered deposits of phosphate in Canada, which are confined to the Ottawa district. Great deposits of phosphate occur in Montana, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming in the United States, but these again are situated a long distance from the Prairie Provinces; again, it is doubtful whether supplies from the United States could always be assured, for, at a Conference of the Governors in 1908, the wisdom of permitting the exportation of so essential a quasi-proprietary commodity was questioned.

While very little fertilizer is now being used in Western Canada, there is no doubt that the land would give an increased yield by its use; soil fertility would be maintained instead of being exhausted, which will be the ultimate result if the present practice is followed indefinitely. The following example illustrates the amount of high grade phosphate rock which it would be necessary to add to the land annually as fertilizer to replace the phosphoric acid removed from the soil by the crops in the three Prairie Provinces.

In 1913 there were 16,726,400 acres under cultivation in these

Protection of Game

Reasons Why the Sale of Game should be Totally Prohibited

Dr. William T. Hornaday, America's leading conservationist with respect to wild life, is an uncompromising advocate of total prohibition of the sale of game. He gives the following reasons in support of the measure; some refer only to United States condi-

ten years longer, all our feathered game will be swept away.

(3) Because it is a fixed fact that every wild species of mammal, bird or reptile that is pursued for money-making purposes eventually is wiped out of existence, even the whales of the sea are no exception.

(4) Because the laws that permit the commercial slaughter of wild birds for the benefit of less than 5% of the inhabitants of any estate are directly against the

Do You Think of Safety?

When you leave your home for your day's work, do you remember that constant care is necessary? Do you, when you arrive at the office, factory, or shop, bear in mind your own safety and that of others? To think first of safety means consideration for others; it means lives spared and fewer vacant chairs.

Most accidents can be prevented, but what is each one of us doing to prevent accidents? We must not expect that care will be taken for our safety and never take thought for that of another.

It is estimated that a man's average earning power is \$700 per annum. Some of us receive more and some less, but whatever we earn each year will be reduced after a serious accident and will be stopped by death. What are you going to do about it? The obvious thing to do is to learn safety—to insist upon others doing their work in the safe way—to point out to the proper officials unsafe practices and unsafe machines—to take no chances. It may seem unnecessary to tell you this, but what of each year's toll of life and limb? Get the safety habit and pass it along as an heritage to the children.—*Bulletin issued by Ontario Safety League.*

tions while others are of general application. Coming from an undisputed authority, they can be neither ignored nor denied by opponents of the measure.

(1) Because fully 95% of our legitimate stock of feathered game has already been destroyed.

(2) Because, if market gunning and the sale of game continue

provinces and the depletion per acre annually is equivalent to the phosphoric acid contained in 60 pounds of high-grade phosphate rock. At this rate, 501,800 tons of high-grade phosphate rock would be required each year simply to offset the depletion of the land already under cultivation in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.—W.J.D.

interests of the 95% of other people to whom that game partly belongs.

(5) Because game killed for sale is not intended to satisfy hunger. The people who eat game in large cities do not know what hunger is, save by hearsay. Purchased game is used chiefly in over-feeding; and as a rule, it does far more harm than good.

A great many fires are caused by accumulations of rubbish, oily waste and rags. Particularly is this true of accumulations of rags which have been saturated with linseed oil or furniture polish and used in dusting. These are very often left in some closet or under a stairway, frequently causing serious trouble.

Rural Fire Prevention

Suggestions for Reducing Fire Loss on the Farm and in the Village

Farmers and villagers should be among the most active of fire protectionists. While most villages have some fire fighting system, few have paid departments. Living isolated from auto pumping fire engines, chemical and other apparatus, and fire alarm boxes, the farmer or the villager must constitute himself an individual fire department. It is in the autumn and winter when the stoves, the open fireplaces and the kerosene lamps come into use that the fire danger is greatest. Eternal vigilance is the price of safety.

Many country and village homes have a "store room" into which, during the cold months, rubbish and debris are thrown indiscriminately. Newspapers, rags, old clothes, etc., constituting the most inflammable collection, are thrown into this room, usually the worst—from the fire protection standpoint—in the house. Most villagers use the kerosene lamp or possibly a tallow candle while searching in the cellar or store room. The lamp or candle is put down, a rat runs out and, in the excitement, especially if a woman is present, the light is frequently knocked over and a blaze is almost certain to result. Water is hard to get, pumps freeze up and the farmer or villager is powerless when the fire develops.

During the summer, English sparrows carry nest-making material into cracks and crannies, building nests close to chimneys and flues. Chimney swallows, nesting in the stacks, knock the mortar from the bricks and make holes through which sparks find their way to the sparrow's nest. A mysterious fire results, generally on the coldest night of the year.

All flues and chimneys should be examined before the fires are lighted in autumn. Water should be drawn at night and placed in pails where it will not freeze. Roofs should be examined and cleared of curling shingles and other spark catchers. The store room should be the most carefully kept

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