

Saving Farm Labor.

As illustrating the unceasing trend toward economy in wealth production which characterizes this, the machine era, an article in the December "Technical World" by James A. King, on "Making the farm a factory," is illuminating. Comparing modern methods of farming with those of fifty years ago, Mr. King says in part:

"One may see a moderate sized engine hauling five or six large self-binders, each one cutting a strip eight feet wide, binding the grain into neat uniform bundles, and dropping them in bunches of five or six, handy for the shockers. Or in some sections one may see a large engine hauling a combined harvester and thresher. This machine, with five or six men to operate it, will walk right down through a field of grain, and cut it, thresh it, throw the straw onto the ground and sack the grain ready for hauling to market. In this way one engine and five or six men will cut and thresh from one hundred to one hundred and twenty acres of grain in ten hours. To do this same work in the old way would require thirty-five to forty men to cut the grain, fifty or sixty to bind it, and, if it were wheat that went twenty-five bushels to the acre, would require three hundred and seventy-five men to thresh it with flails; one engine and six men operate a machine that does the work of four hundred and fifty men of fifty years ago."

Here, of course, as in all other departments of production, the predominating tendency is to reduce cost by means of the conservation of human energy. With such a movement we have no quarrel, for the desire to save labor is inherent in the race and is the basis of its progress—puritan deification of Work notwithstanding. What of the labor-power that is thus conserved? We need only note the tremendous flow of population that has been taking place towards industrial centres during the past century. An influx that has caused those centres to raise the cry "Back to the land," as a means of ridding themselves of a troublesome surplus of labor. Before commenting further, let us quote Mr. King's closing remarks:

"The day of the traction engine has but begun. The machine, or power, farm is with us. In the future we shall "traction" the soil, and the horse will become more of a friend and companion and less of a slave. The young man who delights in handling machines and engines will find this delight at home on the farm, and not in the dark, dirty crowded city. On the machine farm he will find the opportunity to do the great things of which he dreams, and his labor problems will have been solved. He will become an important factor in the great task of feeding the world."

With a large roomy house, the farmer of the future can have all the modern conveniences of a city home, with the blessing of pure air, room and space, delightful scenery and privacy without seclusion, which are only known to the city dweller on rare holidays. He will have modern plumbing and heating systems. If he do not care to make his gas engine do double shifts in the fields, he can hitch it in the evening to a private dynamo, and at will light his home and barns, and while he sleeps will charge a storage battery with which to operate pumps, feed grinders, washing machines and other things during the day. With the traction engine, the automobile, modern home equipment with sewers and electricity, the telephone and the daily mail at his disposal, the farmer will be the aristocrat of the future."

What a vision to brighten the lonely hours of the humble homesteader, as pensively he stuffs the Macklin Mourn into a hole through which the blizzard loves to blow. But, alas! we fear such things are not for him. He who would reach the Touch-the-button farm, must woo the land with something more seductive than three cases of household effects and a team of animated spavins.

The farmer "aristocrat of the future" must have capital, and lots of it. Which is another way of saying that, instead of the farmer of to-day becoming an aristocrat, the industrial aristocrat of to-day will spread his aristocracy over the rural districts. Proletarians who get "back to the land" will go as wage slaves. As for the farmer who works a comparatively small patch of ground with such tools as he can scrape together, his lot will be to grow humped and back and anxious of mind, openly bragging of his independence, secretly envying his more fortunate brother who runs the engine or tends the ploughs on the es-

tate of the "squire" of automobiles and electric light.

One pleasing feature is the freeing of the horse. Too long he has been a slave. And when horses can get emancipated, there begins to be some hope for wage-slaves. Let the good work go steadily on. The inevitable result of economic evolution is political revolution; which latter, as we see it now, would be much to our advantage, and is therefore greatly to be desired.—Western Clarion, Vancouver, B. C.

The capitalistic system was evolved through revolution from the feudal. The social system will evolve through revolution from the capitalist.

Under socialism the means of life will be at the command of everyone. At present they are at the command of a few only, and the many have to work beyond their strength or starve.

RABIES, HYDROPHOBIA

A History of the Disease and How to Treat It

During the past year many cases of rabies have been reported in Canada, which have caused much loss of live stock, and, in several localities, people have been bitten.

This is one of the oldest diseases known. In the fourth century B. C. it was described by Aristotle, who wrote: "Dogs suffer from a madness which puts them in a state of fury, and all the animals that they bite when in this condition become also attacked by rabies."

The season of the year makes very little difference, as the disease is just as prevalent in winter as it is in summer. This seems contrary to the ideas of many people, who think that July and August, "dog days," are the only time that dogs are subject to rabies.

Cause

Rabies is caused in nearly all cases by the bite of a rabid animal. It is possible to contract the disease from the saliva, the tears from the eyes, or the milk of a rabid animal. The rabid dog is a source of danger a few days before the symptoms of the disease appear, but in no case before he was bitten by a rabid animal, or otherwise inoculated. Hot weather, lack of water or ill treatment will never in themselves produce rabies.

The dog is the principal source of which rabies is spread over the country.

Symptoms

The symptoms seldom develop in less than fourteen days after the animal was bitten—most commonly three to six weeks—but they may not show for six months to a year. Not all animals bitten develop the disease. It depends somewhat upon the part of the body which was bitten. In man there is less danger if bitten through the clothing than upon the bare parts of the body. It is not uncommon for the symptoms to develop in less than two weeks when bitten upon the head. The symptoms show in one of two forms—furious or dumb.

Furious Rabies

With the furious form the dog is at first noticed to seek the company of his master more than usual, or he will hunt dark, secluded places. Sometimes he will make sudden starts towards objects. These conditions last for a day or two. Later he becomes restless, and will often travel twenty to thirty miles in a day. While he is on this trip he is very likely to bite cattle, hogs, and dogs often passing horse and man, unless they interfere with his course. He will usually return home unless he is killed. During this period he is irritable, seldom eating or drinking, not because he does not want food or water, nor because he is afraid of water, for he is not, but from the fact that his throat is paralyzed and he cannot swallow. Often he will force sticks and stones down his throat in efforts to satisfy hunger and thirst. This period of irritation lasts for two to three days, followed by a period of paralysis, which has already taken place in the throat, as shown by the voice, which has already changed to a prolonged howl, and the inability to swallow. This is followed by paralysis and death, the entire symptoms lasting from four to ten days.

Dumb Rabies

The dog seeks his master's company or may hide in dark places, being unable to eat or drink, the lower jaw hangs down and the tongue protrudes, which may swell and turn dark. This condition is followed by paralysis and death in four to ten days after the first symptoms appear.

Symptoms

Cattle are prone to chase chickens, dogs, and may run at a man, whom they are less apt to attack. Often falling down from no apparent cause, twitching of muscles, inability to eat, due to paralysis, often showing signs of sexual excitement even when pregnancy is well advanced, but seldom biting. These symptoms are followed by paralysis and death.

The horse is often more vicious than cattle, biting anything within reach, and shows many of the symptoms shown by cattle.

Diagnosis

This is made from microscopic examination of the brain, which shows small round or oval bodies from 1-25,000 to 1-1,000 of an inch in diameter. They have never been found unless the animal has been inoculated with rabies virus. There are also changes in the nervous ganglia in the last stage of rabies, but this manner of diagnosis is more uncertain and of little use in the early stages of the disease. Sticks and stones may be found in the stomach of a rabid dog.

Treatment

This consists of a preventative treatment (Pasteur), which must be taken before the symptoms have developed. In order to be effective it should be taken within a few days after having been bitten by a rabid animal. The treatment may also be given to valuable domestic animals.

Unselfish.

Mrs. Backbay—Why are you leaving us, Bridget? Boston Cook—Me reasons are philanthropic. I want to give some wan else a chance at the joys of living with yez.—Harper's Bazar.

A Family Jar.

Neighbor—What is all that row? Willie—Ma's canning fruit, and pa's a food inspector, and he's trying to tell her how she ought to do it.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Her Sick Friend.

"I didn't get to bed until midnight." "Sitting up with a sick friend?" "Well, yes, with a lovesick friend," answered the girl.—Kansas City Journal.

Powles' Corners.

(Correspondence of the Gazette.)

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wagar arrived home last Tuesday from Enterprise, where they spent a few weeks visiting. Mrs. Frank Jackson came with them, owing to the serious illness of Mrs. O. Miller, Mrs. Jackson's sister.

Some of our citizens attended the Institute meetings which were held at Cameron last Tuesday afternoon and evening.

VICTIMS OF CONSUMPTION.

MOTHER AND TWO CHILDREN AT MUSKOKA FREE HOSPITAL.

Are Now Under Treatment—Husband, Too, Had Been a Patient—A Tragedy in Real Life—Heavy Debt on Institution.

A story from the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives tells of a mother who, with her two children, is now under treatment in that institution. The husband had been a patient, but the case was an advanced one when the patient entered, and he has since passed away. There is little doubt but that the wife was infected as a result of caring for her husband, and now she is in the Muskoka Hospital. Her little girl, about five years of age, and a boy of ten are with her, both being afflicted with this dread disease.

The words of the mother are pathetic. She writes: "I want to a doctor and got him to examine my lungs to see whether there was anything wrong with them, and he said that the right lung was affected. A little rest, he hoped, would build me up. I have a little girl, about five years old, and the doctor says that if I could take her up with me it would do her ever so much good, as she is not very strong. I have three more children, and one of these, a boy of ten, seems also to be afflicted, and it is advisable that he should enter the hospital."

These three are of the 104 patients who are residents in this deserving institution and being cared for without money and without price. The sorry part of it is that the trustees are carrying a debt of something like \$40,000, incurred largely through the additions that have been made within the past year, and that have more than doubled the accommodation of the institution, together with the heavy cost of maintaining so large a number of free patients.

Readers who desire to help this great charity may send their contributions to Mr. W. J. Gage, Chairman Executive Committee, 84 Spadina avenue, or to the Secretary-Treasurer, 347 King street west, Toronto.

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Bury's Green.

Correspondence of the Gazette.

Mr. J. Phillips saw mill is now running, and he expects to have a large season's cut.

The clover threshing is about finished, and the yield will hardly be up to the average.

The trustees of S. S. No. 7, Verulam, have engaged Miss Simpson of Toronto as teacher. S. S. No. 10, Somerville, is still without a teacher.

Mr. Joe Southam is busy gathering material for a new barn, which he expects to erect next summer.

Miss Ruth Walker was visiting friends in Mariposa and Eldon.

Arthur and Fanny Flett are visiting friends in Peterborough.

Mr. Robert Martin of Grand View, Manitoba, is visiting at Wm Gamble's. Murdock Campbell is home from the West, visiting his parents and friends.

Coboconk.

Correspondence of the Gazette.

Mr. Flagler of Sunderland was in town Tuesday and Wednesday on business.

Mr. Neil McDonald of Toronto, paid a business visit to Coboconk on Tuesday.

A number of the members of the Masonic lodge attended the funeral of the late Joseph Heard of Fenelon Falls on Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith of Kirkfield are visiting friends in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Batty of Indian Head are visiting their father, Mr. Jack Batty of Coboconk.

The ball given by the Social Club on Tuesday evening was largely attended and all report an excellent time.

An interesting game of hockey is expected on Saturday night on Coboconk rink, between Kirkfield, and Coboconk. All come and enjoy the sport.

Two cases of diphtheria are reported to be in Coboconk, but we are pleased to say they are recovering. No more cases are reported.

School has been closed owing to the diphtheria but, expect it will soon be reopened.

Mr. Stevens of Robertson Bros., Toronto was in Town on Tuesday on business.

Lands for the Settler

Large areas of rich agricultural lands, convenient to railways, are now available for settlement in Northern Ontario.

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