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Farm Industry Prosperity.
No industry has equaled the prosperity of agriculture the past decade. Scientific methods of farming and improved live stock have greatly increased the revenue of the farms in all parts of the country. The land has been cultivated to yield increased crops, and prices have ruled uniformly high and stable. While other industries feel the effects of the financial depression, the soil continues to yield bountiful harvests and values hold firm in contrast with depressed business activities. The government estimates that the value of the agricultural products of 1908 will total the enormous sum of \$8,500,000,000.

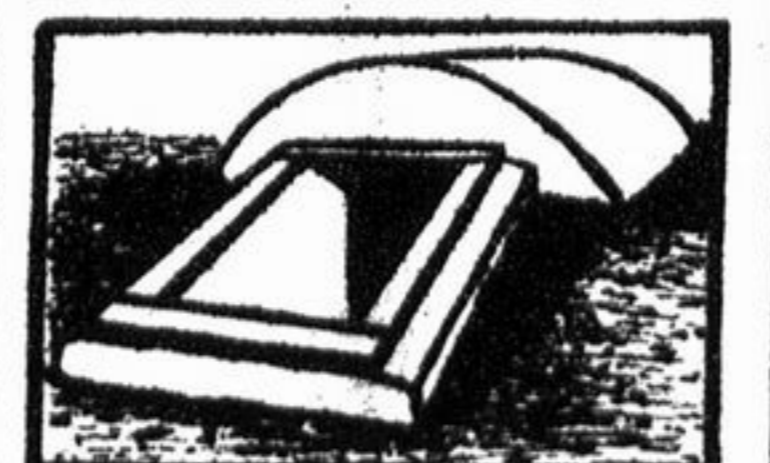
Farmers have invested approximately in agriculture \$25,000,000,000, which yields a gross income of 30 per cent on the investment, according to the estimate of the value of this season's output. In some localities where farm lands are cheap the gross return is upward of 100 per cent on the investment, and farmers are able to pay for their land with a single crop. It is estimated that there are 6,000,000 farms in the United States that are putting on the market annually an output valued at \$8,500,000,000. It is the leading industry of the country, and its prosperity has had an ameliorating effect on the late financial panic. The farmers are the only representatives of an industry who are not materially affected by the current dull times.

Live stock husbandry is becoming more paramount in agricultural operations. The assessed valuation of the horses, mules, cattle, sheep and hogs in the United States now totals \$4,331,300,000. Dairy products now equal the combined value of wheat and oats. The value of eggs and poultry equals the

of wheat and other grain is often seriously injured by harvesting too late, by leaving it in the shock too long, by wetting or heating in the stack because of careless stacking, and by threshing and storing damp grain, resulting in this-burning, etc. Often wheat which might have graded No. 1 or No. 2 stumps off to No. 3 or 4 or is rejected simply because of the neglect in taking proper care of the grain--Field and Farm.

Collar for Roads and Vegetables.
Root cellars are usually built half below and half above the level of the ground. Excavate sixteen inches below the desired level of the floor, and around the sides build a foundation twelve inches wide of one part Portland cement, three parts clean, coarse sand and six parts broken stone or gravel. Remove form and fill between the foundations to a depth of twelve inches with porous material, tamping well.

On the foundation and at equal dis-



CONCRETE ROOT CELLAR.

tance from either edge erect a solid wall eight inches thick, with one part Portland cement, two and one-half parts clean, coarse sand and five parts crushed, broken stone or gravel, leaving an opening at one end for the steps. Build up the end walls, so as to form a point in the middle, and high enough to give the roof a sufficient pitch to shed the rain.

Near the top at each end openings for windows should be left, and the sash fitted and plastered in after the concrete has set and forms have been removed.

If a concrete roof is desired, forms should be erected and a roof two and one-half inches thick laid on. On the

A BIG SHEEP AT THE CHICAGO STOCK SHOW.

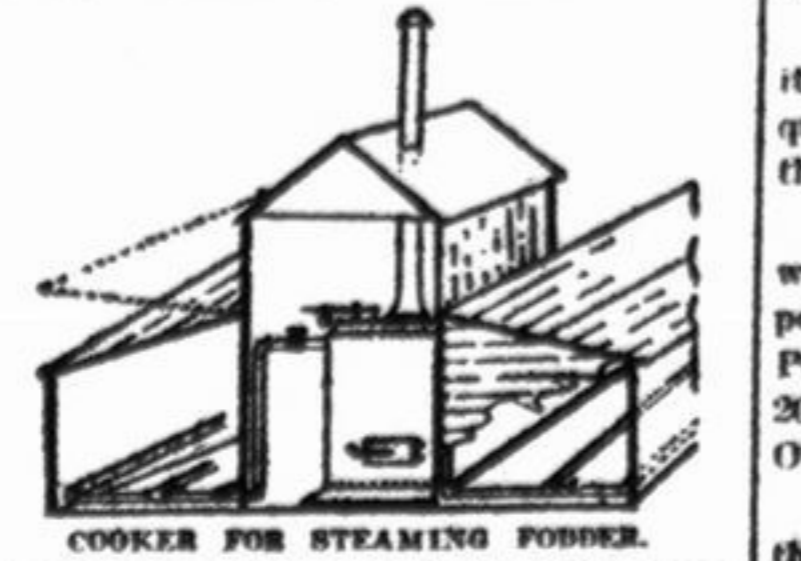


combined appraisal of wheat and potatoes. The combined value of dairy products, eggs and poultry equals the value of the corn crop.

The 6,000,000 farms produce a gross output of \$8,500,000,000, or an average of \$1,416 annually. This is an average gross income per farm of \$118 per month. Even the 100,000 New England farms are credited with an annual output of \$200,000,000, or an average of \$1,052 per farm. While there is no magical transition from poverty to wealth in agriculture, there are such liberal returns from the soil and such attractive profits for farm produce that farmers as a professional class lead all industries in stable prosperity. Commercial activity or industrial depression do not materially affect the consumption of farm commodities. Goodell's Farmer.

It Pays to Steam Fodder.
Fodder can be made much more palatable by moistening the mass with live steam. A barrel or hoghead with a little steam pipe run from a small feed cooker will do for one to half a dozen head of cattle, but for feeding on a large scale the following plans will show how to build a cooker of sufficient capacity:

The shed should be only large enough to house the steamer. There is a small



COOKER FOR STEAMING FODDER.

door in the end next to the fire-box beside the boiler. The bins on the sides should be large enough to steam an ample supply for each day's feeding. The bin is filled one day before using and steamed thoroughly, but not enough to make it soggy. It should be allowed to cool and then fed the next day.

The bin should be provided with hinged lids. The steam pipes are run from the steamer to the bottom of the bins, where they are connected with more pipes to give an equal distribution of steam.

The pipes inside the bins are pierced with one-eighth-inch holes six inches apart to allow the steam to escape.

To preserve the bins they should be lined, bottom, sides, top and lids, with zinc.

Farm Management.
Successful farming depends upon doing everything at the right time and in the right way. A fellow should push work and not allow his work to push him. After a crop has been grown it should not be lost or allowed to become damaged by a little carelessness in handling or storing. The quality

top of this, and before the concrete is dry, a layer one-fourth inch thick of one part Portland cement and one part sand should be placed, troweled when partially set and smoothed with a wooden float. Forms should not be removed from roof for at least three weeks.

Roof and steps should be reinforced with a woven wire fabric or with steel rods. The cut shows a small cellar suitable for storing all kinds of roots, fruit and vegetables.—Farm and Home

Farm Notes.
Sheep should not be fed ensilage except in small quantities.

It is said that barley furnishes as much nutriment as the same weight of oats.

Don't overcrowd the chickens. Winter only as many as you can comfortably.

Clean dirty eggs with a woolen rag slightly moistened in water; never wash them.

A teaspoonful of chloride of lime in a pint of warm water is said to relieve wind colic in horses.

The idea of perfect comfort should predominate in every building that is constructed for the hogs.

The failures that we make, if wisely pondered and wisely used, may guide us to the success we long to achieve.

Farmers are a power in the land, but it is only as they stand together on questions that affect their welfare that this holds true.

Fourteen million bushels of wheat were exported through Puget sound ports last year and 13,000,000 through Portland, Ore. New York exported 30,000,000, Galveston 8,000,000 and New Orleans 5,000,000 bushels.

There are good openings for men in the pig business who will feed city swill. It is good material for pig feeding, but must be fed with judgment. Before feeding it should be heated and fed before it becomes cold. In many cases outbreaks of disease come from feeding cold swill.

In Holland healthy pumpers are set to work at farming. For this purpose the government has six model farms, and on these a man who fails to support himself at another calling is taught the principles of farming. He is then allowed to rent a small piece of land at a very low figure and is compelled to till it and support himself.

Owing to the light weight of oats in so many sections of the country where an excellent crop of this cereal is usually produced, the matter of getting good seed is going to be one of considerable difficulty this spring. Whether home or foreign grown seed is used, the grain should be put through a fanning mill under a good blast of air for the purpose of getting rid of the light, chaffy kernels, which, as a rule, have little or no germinating power. In the process a good deal of weed seed is also likely to be eliminated, which is a decided benefit.

ALASKA-YUKON-PACIFIC EXPOSITION

The live stock show of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition will open Sept. 27 and close Oct. 9. An appropriation of \$100,000 has been made for premiums in this department of the exposition and it has been arranged to bring the best live stock from the largest shows in the United States to Seattle during the closing period of the 1909 world's fair. Two live stock show circuits will close at Seattle. The main circuit will bring blooded stock to Seattle from the shows at Hamilton, Minnesota; Fargo, North Dakota; Helena, Mont.; Spokane and Portland. The annual live stock show at Hamilton is the largest in the United States and all of the prize winning blooded stock shown there will make the circuit with the final show at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition.

The Southern circuit, which opens at Sacramento, Cal., and shows in Salem, and Portland, Ore., will also close at Seattle on the same dates.

Classifications and rules governing the exhibiting of live stock, together with the premium lists, have been sent out to all parts of the United States and Canada in response to requests from owners and breeders of blooded live stock and the large number of inquiries that have been received indicates a widespread interest in this branch of the 1909 fair. A number of the best known breeders in the United States and Canada have already expressed their intention of participating in the show.

Requests have been sent out to the fair commissioners of the various States that will be represented in the live stock exhibits asking them to duplicate the prizes offered by the exposition to prize winners from their respective States. Some favorable responses have already been received, and it is probable that the cash premium list will be double the original amount offered by the exposition.

Other exposition records attach great importance to the live stock show. The largest attendance at the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland was during that period and the blooded stock has always been a big attraction at expositions.

Approximately 10 acres has been set aside for the stock yards on the grounds of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition. The site is within easy walking distance from the main portion of the grounds and the transportation facilities are excellent, as the Northern Pacific railway runs through the grounds at that point.

The government of Canada will make a feature of live stock in its exhibit. The exposition management has received advice from the Canadian exposition commissioner that Canada will erect a building covering a site 150 by 300 feet to house its general exhibit and that additional space will be required for its live stock display.

The live stock show is designed to promote the raising of blooded stock on the Pacific coast. During the past two years there has been a great demand in both Japan and China for fancy stock and the heaviest shipments out of the United States have been made to these countries. In both China and Japan there is an area of development in dairying and this trade would naturally come to the Pacific coast country if the blooded stock could be secured here. As it is now, most of the shipments have been made from the East and middle West.

HIS CHANCE.

Opportunity may come through a lucky accident, but genius shows in seeing and using it. The Rt. Hon. H. H. Asquith, now prime minister of Great Britain, was bound to distinguish himself sooner or later, even though he first became noted through what seemed mere chance. Mr. Stend, in the Review of Reviews, tells of this piece of "luck" which paved the way to fortune.

Mr. Asquith was the junior counsel to Sir Charles Russell, afterward Lord Chief Justice, as Lord Russell of Killowen, in the famous Parnell commission. For nine months he was immersed in the intricacies of that celebrated case. One day, while snatching a hasty lunch, Sir Charles told Asquith that he would have to cross-examine the next witness.

"This is most absurd!" exclaimed the astonished junior. "Mr. Macdonald is the next witness, and he is one of the most important. Of course you will cross-examine him!"

"No," replied Sir Charles. "I am tired. You will do it well enough." It was no use to protest. Asquith was dismayed. He was totally unprepared. Macdonald was supposed to be a shrewd, intelligent Scotchman, who would prove more than a match for the ablest cross-examiner.

When Mr. Asquith rose in the court he was at his wit's end. By good fortune, he put a question which was answered by the witness in a supremely silly fashion. Mr. Asquith saw at once that he could play his fish with good results. He did so, and the process was one of the most brilliant displays of skill ever witnessed at the bar. Poor Mr. Macdonald was turned inside out, and held up to a scoffing world, from which he gained the title of "Simple Simon."

Mr. Asquith that day established a reputation throughout the nation. He had seized his chance and made use of it.

As it Were.
"I spent three pennies yesterday to see some funny pictures in a slot machine."
"Yes?"
"My cents of humor, you know."

In the Ate.
"Banks thinks he has a fortune in this smoking tobacco."
"All pipe dreams."—Baltimore American.

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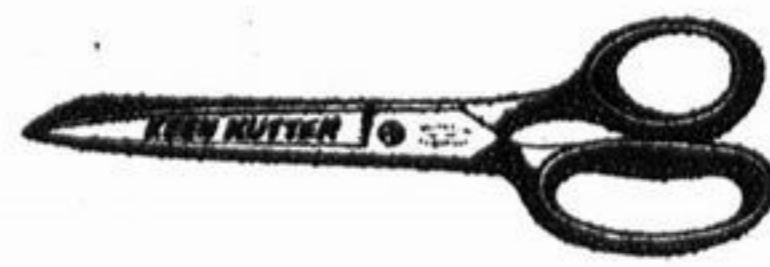
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