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STOUFFVILLE, ONT.

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GENERAL NEWS

A refreshing exception to the rule that divine guidance points a preacher from a low-salaried pastorate to a church with fuller coffers is the case of the Methodist minister of Guilford, Mo., who has notified his congregation that he will refuse to serve it longer unless his salary is cut by \$200 a year. This miracle is fully corroborated.

An excited military-looking gentleman entered the editorial sanctum one afternoon, exclaiming: "That notice of my death is false, sir, I will hope you will within an inch of your life, sir, if you don't apologize in your next issue." The editor inserted the following next day: "We extremely regret to announce that the paragraph which stated that Major Blazer was dead is without foundation."

F. S. Edge proposes to cross the Atlantic in a motor boat next March and incidentally win the prize of ten thousand dollars offered for the feat. The boat, as described by the builder will be 65 feet long and will carry six passengers and a crew of two men. That seems a small crew, but then in a petrol boat everything ought to be automatic, and once the engine is started the crew ought practically to have hardly anything to do. She will have 300 horsepower engines. In reality she will have more, because there will be two engines on each side, of 150 horse power apiece, and a centre one of 40 horse power.

The Emperor of Germany is a sensible father. He wishes his six sons to have a thorough knowledge of agriculture, and by his instructions a small farm has been placed at the disposal of the boys, where, with a few of their school fellows, the young princes dig and hoe and plant, enjoying the work immensely, even though it does involve hard labor. The Kaiserin takes an equal interest in their work, and buys at market prices the products of the farm. The boys also own a large number of fowls and two cows. How different is the life of these sturdy youths from the pampered existences of many children of privilege.

The farmer's hired man does not dread the threshing season as it used to. There is a good reason for it. The time was when the hired man had to take his position at the head of the straw carriers and half blinded with dust and perspiring at every pore had to keep the straw away. The man who was throwing in the sheaves of feeding as it is termed, seemed to be doing his best to bury the chap at the head of the straw elevator. Now both the feeder and the carrier, may be out of the job. The modern thrasher feeds itself. The man with the pitchfork merely lays the sheaves of the table, the machine does the rest. It also cuts the straw up into chaff of half or quarter inch lengths, and thus there is no danger of anyone getting buried under a stack. All machines in the country are not the equipped but they will be, as threshing can now be conducted with half the hands that were formerly necessary.

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CUNLIFFE & PETERS.
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Men who beg in the streets of large American cities and refuse to take work in the country when offered to them are having a hard time of it. The well-to-do, who formerly handed out a quarter without asking questions, have now got into the way of refusing every appeal for aid with an easy conscience.

The fact that about four million deaths from fever, mostly malarial, are caused in India every year, indicates the stupendous importance of the mosquito problem. It has been proven that people dwelling in houses situated a mile from the breeding grounds of the anopheles variety of mosquitoes are practically free from malaria.

Many farms in this vicinity are infested with wild oats, and to effect their extinction is a job of no mean order. A government bulletin advises hand-pulling, summer-fallowing, sowing an early-maturing crop to cut for green feed in July before the wild oat ripens; it also recommends planting clean seed, and burning. Another method is to disc harrow in the fall, so that the seeds will be covered and ready to sprout in the spring. Have the land fenced, and turn the stock on, and have their pasture the wild oats off clean. Plow in early part of July, and harrow immediately afterwards, and another cultivation with the disk will get all the oats to germinate. Allowing the land to lie in sod for about six years will make sure work of the pest.

A foolish and thoughtless practice, but nevertheless a criminal one, is that of hiring livery boys and rigs to go a certain distance and then using them for double or three times the distance. Some young men will frequently hire a livery horse for an hour or two and during that time will drive the animal at such a furious rate and abuse it to such a degree that more harm is wrought than could be done by a month's ordinary hard work. Those who indulge in these practices are not, in the majority of cases, aware of the seriousness of their offense. In the first place, one committing the offense can be charged with theft, and for theft of this character there is a very heavy penalty. In the latter case, a heavy penalty can be imposed for cruelty to animals. Not only does the horse suffer, but the owner and his family. A person may enter a livery

Along the 6th concession of Markham there has been considerable light-fingered work done recently. Mr. Monkman and Mr. Alex. Russell each lost two rolls of binder twine, and since that time Mr. Russell had some chickens taken in broad daylight. Some parties driving an Aurora wagon on which was a ladder and some other articles got off in passing his farm and caught and killed four of his chickens. Mr. Russell saw them, but before he could reach them, they jumped into the rig and drove off at a lively gait.

Every line in a newspaper costs money. If it is for the financial gain of an individual or society, it should be paid for. If a grocer were asked to contribute groceries to one abundantly able to pay for them, he would refuse. The proprietor of a newspaper has to pay for the free advertising if the beneficiary does not, and it is one of the hardest things to be learned by many that a newspaper has space in its columns to rent. To give it away for anything less than living rates would certainly be as fatal as for a landlord to furnish house rent free.

THE PRINCESS AT WORK. The above is the title of the new premium picture to be given with that great paper, the Family Herald and Weekly Star of Montreal, this season. It is said to be a gem, by far the most expensive and beautiful they have ever issued. All who pay a year's subscription (one dollar) to the Family Herald and Weekly Star get a copy of the picture free. Family Herald subscribers are this year in greater luck than ever. The Princess at Work, alone, is worth a good deal more than what is asked for the year's subscription and the picture.

CRAB APPLES. A quantity of translucent following delicious glasses of jelly, five quarts, prepared Clearwaters. Carefully looked over being put aside. The others were put out and all rot. The good were put in the 6 quart water. The apples were all the juice that out and poured then the apples and hung up to in pressed any. The and after boiling

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F. H. GRAY, Agent

Weather forecasters in the British Isles have worked at disadvantage. The disturbances largely approach from the west and south-west, and in those directions the Atlantic has kept the observing stations too far away for effective reports. The aid of wireless telegraphy is now being invoked. Efforts of the Meteorological Council to make arrangements with Lloyd's have failed, but private enterprise has now stepped in, and the approach of future storms is to be signalled from ships crossing the ocean.

BLUEBERRIES IN QUEBEC.

In a few favored sections of Quebec blueberry picking is now an important industry. Up the Gatineau there are immense sandy plains where the pine trees edged twenty years ago by forest fires, where there are towns of tents and temporary huts occupied by berry pickers and their families in all several thousands. The importance of the industry may be gauged by the fact that the Government finds it necessary to detail land surveyors to take charge of the plains measure out and stake the bounds within which each lessee may work. The price paid for the privilege is not excessive, and is lavied at so much for the crop. Special trains run to the centre of the plains for the conveyance of the fruit, which is packed in rough boxes holding twelve, twenty or forty quarts. The Gatineau fruit is not of the finest quality, and is largely bought up by the great jam-importing firms. Householders prefer to purchase the slightly acid fruit from the Saguenay district, which is larger and has a tougher skin, enabling it to be transported with less danger of crushing. Just now the steamers of the Saguenay River and the trains of the Lake St. John Railway as well as filled to their utmost capacity every day with the Saguenay "grapes," as they are called.

PINE STUMPS.—A new proof that what is wasted one time becomes a valuable material under other circumstances, is given in the success of pine tar plants that have been started up near the head of Lake Superior. That the industry is no experiment and of no doubtful value is shown by the fact that the Weyerhaeuser syndicate, the largest lumbering concern in the world, has taken it up, has just bought out the plants already established and is installing more. All the region about the head of Lake Superior is, or was covered with pine timber, and when this was cut the stumps remained on the ground. Pine stumps do not rot as do those of hard woods, and the presence of these stumps was a serious obstacle to the spread of farming in the region. Now comes the pine tar company and offers to clear a farm of all its stumps or to pay the owners \$3 a cord for them if the latter pulls them. For farmers, throughout thousands of acres this is an estimable boon, and it will open hundreds of thousands more acres as fast as the stumps are got out. The company has invented, or adapted existing processes of destructive distillation of wood to the pine stumps, and is securing a combined product of great value. There is a large amount of turpentine in these dry stumps, also a high grade of lubricating oil, tar, and finally, excellent charcoal. The discovery that lubricating oil was to be secured from stumps by carrying the distilled product to its last analysis, is quite new, and no machines for producing this has yet been installed, but they are to be put in at once in the company's first plant, a few miles south of Duluth.

FINE SPEX

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