

THE FARMER AND TARIFF ON GRAIN

Raw Material Taxed! Manu- factured Articles Free! How Does That Affect the American Farmer?

GET YOUR PENCIL, MR. FARMER

Are the Farmers of the United States Expected to Advocate That Canada, Argentine and Australia Ship Their Flour and Meal in Free? Bran, Shorts, Middlings and All Other Mill Feed to Be Fed to Foreign Live Stock Instead of Enriching American Farms.

BEEF AND WOOL ALSO FREE?

How Are We to Build Up American Agriculture? Shall We Still Further Reduce the Hard Earned Profits? Would It Be Another Crushing Discouragement on Top of All Our Other Farming Problems?

(National Crop Improvement Service.) The relation of one interest to another is so complex that it seems difficult to avoid disturbing the rights of the American Farmer while seeking to correct abuses in other directions.

Every farmer should consider how the tariff revision will affect him. Nobody knowingly would add to his burden, but would not the proposed duty on grain while removing the duty on flour, feed and meal work the great hardship upon just the class it is intended to benefit?

If Canadian wheat and oats are kept out and Canadian flour is admitted free, will it not reduce the price of American grain to the Canadian level?

Think this over carefully. When you see it clearly, write to the United States senator from your state and ask him for a square deal.

Every Farmer Should Do This. Ask him if flour or oatmeal is to come in free should not grain come in free? Or if grain is to be taxed should not flour and oatmeal also have an equalizing tax? Protest against any form of tariff revision that will reduce the farmer's income, which may be avoided without injustice to labor and capital in other industries, and the consumer as well. A letter from a farmer will get proper attention, and

Every One Counts. It is hard, as it is, to make a profit on live stock and dairy products without paying a premium to our Canadian neighbors. It is certainly true that not half the farms in the United States are now raising as much live stock as they should.

What effect would leveling the price of your product to that grown on \$10 land have on the price of your land? This question should be immediately discussed in the Farm Bureau Farmers' clubs, Breeders associations, the Grange Society of Equity, Farmers' Elevator companies and a strong letter sent by the secretaries to the United States senators.

There may be a grave injustice by congress, perhaps unwittingly, to be imposed upon the whole farming community. Grover Cleveland said that the tariff is a "local issue." Look out that your own prosperity is not at stake.

RECREATION CONGRESS.

(National Crop Improvement Service) Some of the subjects discussed by the Playground and Recreation Association of America at Richmond in May are:

- Leisure Time for Working People.
- Right of Every Girl to be Courted Under Decent Conditions.
- Play Schools.
- Best Forms of Play for Adults.
- Recreation as a Means of Holding the Family Together.
- Boys and Girls' Clubs.
- Children's Gardens.
- Municipal Summer Camps.
- Rural Recreation.
- Recreation for Women in Rural Districts.

The whole movement is based upon the assumption that efficient work cannot be done without a corresponding amount of play.

TESTING BARLEY.

All Small Grains Should Be Germinated After Fanning Out Weed Seeds, Dirt and Chaffy Kernels.

No grain should give a germination of less than ninety-five per cent for the best results. The higher the percentage of germination the better. That all the grain germinates is not sufficient, however. The germination should be strong and vigorous, resulting in a strong, rapidly growing young plant. As the success or failure of the crop depends upon it this is an important point. Be sure your seeds are thoroughly cleaned and graded. Best work you can do.

WHICH KIND ARE YOU?

In the opinion of a current writer, there are three varieties of farmers—the new farmer, who is the progressive business agriculturist; the old farmer, once up with his times, the pioneer with a wholesome love of work, but little ability as an administrator, and the mossback or the old farmer who has gone to seed, who does not love work and is hopelessly lost in modern competition. He is a drag upon the progress of agriculture and an obstruction in the wheels of the country community organization. The new farmer will take care of himself, and the old farmer and the mossback are rapidly disappearing, but the extension idea is the idea of taking to them the inspiration and help that the new farmers can give.—Country Gentleman.

TOOLS FOR THE FARMER.

Save Money, Time and Temper by Having the Proper Equipment.

Every farmer should keep good tools, so that during bad weather, when work cannot be done in the fields, repairs may be made. This work can be done in the shop. A small shop may be built cheaply.

There are many repairs that will be needed during the year. Buildings will need repairs, implements need fixing, fence materials are to be cut and put up, new devices, handy contrivances, etc., made. A man handy with tools can save much expense during the year, and the tools will give him employment when perhaps his time would not be profitable otherwise. Boys usually find pleasure in using carpenter's tools.

H. B. White of the agricultural engineering department of the University of Minnesota gives the following list of tools that the average farmer should have: Square, rule, rip-saw, mallet, hammer, oilstone, hand-saw, wood rasp, jack plane, draw-knife, ratchet brace, screwdriver, expansive brace, marking gauge, chisels—half, one and one and a half inch; bits—one-quarter, three-eighths, one-half, five-eighths and three-quarter inch.

The best plan is to buy good tools. Cheap tools will seldom give satisfaction. Then the tools should be kept in a tool box in the shop or some place where they can be protected. Whenever you have finished with one always put it back in its place.

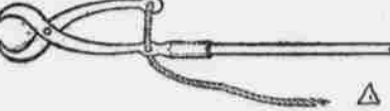
Tools to be truly serviceable must be kept sharp. No progressive person can afford to waste time using dull tools. They should also be polished and kept bright.—Farm and Ranch.

GETS THEM BY THE LEGS.

This Hog Catcher is the Work of an Old Time Practical Blacksmith.

I am an old time blacksmith and have made a good many hog catchers like that in the picture, says a correspondent of Farm and Fireside, from which paper cut and description are reproduced.

It is a common pair of pincers, only the jaws are rounded in place of flat. Make them about eight inches long



GOOD HOG CATCHER.

from rivet to eye in end of handle. One handle has a socket as illustrated.

Fasten a half inch rope in the eye by making a knot in end; then pass the other end through the second eye. This rope should be as long as the pole, which is from twelve to sixteen feet. Put it in the socket loosely.

When catching the hog, throw a little corn down or in the trough, open the catcher wide, reach with the pole to one of his hind legs and pull the rope. Pull the handle or pole out of the socket and draw the hog toward you.

Have You a Colt?

It the colt is bred right and handled right he does not need to be broken. He breaks himself. If the owner is on proper terms with his mares and begins handling the colts when they are quite young and if they are bred of draft type the matter of breaking them is not a question of breaking at all, but one of education. A colt can be educated just the same as a boy. It can be done by the use of the brain or a hickory stick. If brains are used a good colt will develop into a good horse, just as a good boy will develop into a good man. If the club is used good cannot be expected from either.—Kansas Farmer.

Keeping Calves Well Bedded.

The stomach of the little calf is very sensitive and easily ruined. Nothing will do it sooner than keeping the animal confined in a wet, dirty pen. Clean the calf often and bed it with a liberal supply of dry straw or fluff. It is no little labor to keep a stall where several calves run clean and dry, but there is no other way if you want to raise good calves.—Farm Progress.

Give the Little Pigs a Chance.

A trough for the pigs arranged with f shaped partitions set strongly in the trough would give the little fellows an equal show with the big ones and the weaker ones could get their share of food. A handy man can make such a trough arrangement in an hour or so.—Farm Progress.

HOW TO START A HOUSING REFORM

The Danger That Springs From Ignorant Living.

ITS PREVENTION AND CURE.

Work Must Proceed Along Three Lines—First, Construction of New Houses; Second, Demolition of Old Houses; Third, Proper Maintenance.

Bad housing consists in houses that are poorly lighted, unventilated, damp, imperfectly drained, exposed to undue fire peril, in bad repair, vermin infested, disease infected, with uncleanly surroundings, with insufficient water supply, without toilet accommodations adequate for comfort, cleanliness and privacy; with defective plumbing, with overcrowded rooms and with cellar tenements.

Such houses are "dangerous to moral and physical health, social and personal," and increase industrial inefficiency, inebriety, dependence, poverty, disease, death, juvenile delinquency, debased citizenship, vice and crime, degeneracy of race.

The prevention and cure of bad housing conditions must proceed along three lines:

First.—Every new dwelling and tenement must be constructed so as to afford suitable living accommodations.

Second.—Every old house not now fit for habitation must either be demolished or improved so as to be fit.

Third.—All habitations, new and old, must be maintained in good repair and sanitary condition.

Standards for new houses depend upon the application of physical laws and hygienic principles. Standards for window design and courts upon which windows open depend upon the physical laws which govern the transmission and absorption of light and our observation of the actual illumination produced.

The time has come when provisions now in effect with respect to tenements should be applied also to habitable rooms in other classes of buildings. The health officer should be able to demonstrate the advantages which result from standards of this nature. He may be sure that no effort in housing advance is so sure of lasting reward as the successful expression of worthy standards in new habitations.

Slovenly shacks, ramshackle shanties, tumbledown sheds and tottering



EXCELLENT HOUSING CONDITIONS IN MASSACHUSETTS TOWN.

stables, dwellings in disreputable disrepair, "shame stained and bearing the nauseous odors of decay," deface our cities to an unnecessary extent. The health authorities who realize the nuisances that must result from the existence of such structures may and must take the initiative in community movement for their destruction.

The improvement of a house unfit for habitation mainly consists in structural changes in the building and its plumbing and drainage equipment. Such changes will often be resisted by the owner. To enforce laws against such opposition the converging efforts of building, legal and health authorities are required.

The co-operation of health officials is required in the keeping of both old and new houses fit for habitation. Their function is the practice of practical sanitation and instruction to tenant, owner and agent. This means tactful, tireless enforcement of laws which prohibit overcrowding, unclean accumulations, the presence of horses, pigs and goats, the occupation of unfit cellars and attics as well as the affirmative requirements that the house and appurtenances, especially plumbing and drainage, shall be kept clean and in good repair. The means for accomplishing these results consist in an adequate inspection service acting upon its own initiative as well as upon complaints, a sufficient office force and an individual record for each house.

These tools of administration must be supported by prompt court action upheld in turn by sympathetic public opinion.—Charles B. Ball in American City.

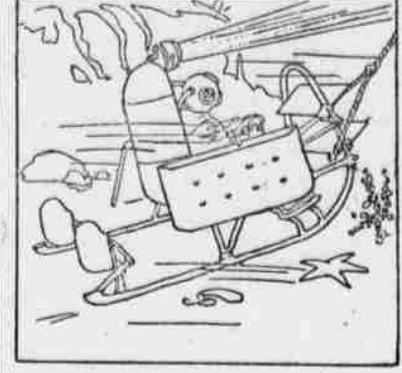
Present a Good Front.

In addition to making and keeping one's premises ornate and tidy every property owner should see that his street front presents the best possible appearance. A neat fence or border plantation, uniform, well planted and cared for street trees of the right sort and a green carpeted parkway make a street frontage look decidedly "classy." If, as has often been said, the appearance of a place is an index to the character of the inmates it pays to present a good external appearance.

MOTORCAR FOR DIVERS.

Submarine Sledge Designed For Use In Deep Sea Work.

A diving motorcar or submarine sledge for the use of divers while at work in the depths of the ocean is among the latest devices being used in the diver's art. The apparatus, which is a specially designed form of motorcar on runners instead of wheels, has no power of its own, being drawn through the water and along the bottom of the sea by a power boat on the surface to which it is connected by wire cables and with whose driver the diver is in communication by telephone. At the back of the diver's seat there is fastened a sheet or hood of metal for



DIVING SLEDGE IN OPERATION.

protecting him against the swift currents that are formed when the vehicle is being drawn rapidly through the water. The diving car can be steered upward and downward as well as in curves by means of a steering mechanism operated by compressed air supplied from steel tanks attached to each side of the vehicle.

The diver while operating the vehicle wears a regular diving suit, the special feature of which is a tank or cartridge that for a period of three hours supplies the diver with fresh air. The submarine sledge is capable of being operated at a depth of about 130 feet when the sun is shining and uses a searchlight fed from the surface boat when artificial light is required. It weighs 500 pounds fully equipped.

The most striking possible application of the sledge is in the work of recovering sunken wrecks or human bodies, the exact location of which can only be determined by a thorough search of a large area of river or sea bottom. By towing the diver back and forth over the bottom the search can be carried on with accuracy and in only a small part of the time that ordinarily would be required.

The sledge has already been used successfully at an average depth of seventy feet in the inspection of a long intake pipe running out into salt water.—Popular Mechanics.

To Tin Sheet Copper.

To tin sheet copper on one side, says the Engineer, metal is taken of the correct gauge or within one number of that size and then cleansed with the usual pickles and by scouring with sand or swarf and sand. The sheets are then coated with a killed spirit flux. They are next placed upon a holder laid at an angle of forty-five degrees to the tinning pot, so that the excess of tin will return by gravity. The molten tin is poured over the copper sheet and any excess wiped off with mops made of plumber's tow. The oxide formed on the reverse side of the sheet from the heat of the molten tin is removed by dilute sulphuric acid pickles. The sheets are washed and dried and then if necessary rolled again to gauge and polished. For cleansing tinned articles there is nothing better than whitening mixed with a little kerosene oil, the surface being polished afterward with a little of the dry whitening or Vienna lime.

Preserving Dry Batteries.

The life of dry batteries, which are to be used in wet or damp places, may be considerably lengthened by being treated in the following manner:

The batteries are placed in glass jars a little wider and higher than themselves. A layer of dry sawdust is placed in the bottom for the battery to rest on, and the sides are packed with sawdust to within half an inch of the top. Waterproof wires are connected to the binding posts and melted paraffin poured over the battery to the top of the jar. The carbon and zinc terminals should be marked to avoid trouble when connecting several cells together. Batteries treated in this manner are waterproof and can be submerged in water if necessary.

Shows Direction of Sound.

A machine has been recently granted a patent by the United States patent office covering a method of determining the direction of a sound wave or of locating a source of sound, and in doing this the waves emanating from such source are divided, and the divided parts are compared by bringing first one part and then another through a common conductor. He employs an apparatus, including two diametrically opposite receivers, the direction of the source of the sound waves being determined by stopping one of the said receivers, thus indicating into which of the receivers the particular sound wave was received.

Filing Soft Metals.

It is well known to mechanics that when lead, tin, soft solder and aluminum are filed the file is soon filled with metal and will not cut. It cannot be cleaned, like the wood rasp, by dipping it into hot water or pouring boiling water over it, but if the file and the work are kept wet with water there will be no trouble whatever. Both file and work must be kept thoroughly wet at all times.

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