

# WESTERN CANADA'S CEREAL CROP

One of the Best Ever Harvested.

The cereal crop of Western Canada for 1917 was the most valuable one ever harvested; the returns from all classes of live stock have been equally satisfactory. The wool clip was not only greater than in any previous year, but the price obtained was double that of 1916, which in turn was almost double that of the year before.

As was the case in 1915 and 1916, many farmers were able to pay for their land outright with the proceeds of their first year's crop. Further evidence of the prosperity of Western Canada is shown by the fact that one in every twenty of the population is now the owner of an automobile. If the farming community alone is taken, it will be found that the proportion of automobile owners is still greater. The bank clearings of the leading cities of Western Canada were consistently higher than they were in the corresponding periods of 1916, and then they were higher than the year preceding. In Winnipeg \$500,000,000 more was cleared in the 11 months ending November 30 than in the same months a year ago.

The entry of the United States into the war has strengthened the bonds between that country and Canada. We are now working together for the same ends. Those who are not fighting are promoting a greater production of foodstuffs. In this connection Western Canada offers a wonderful opportunity. Not only can larger quantities of staple foodstuffs be produced, but the cost of production is lower and the remuneration greater than where land is more expensive. Notwithstanding the fact that the price of farm products has doubled during the past three years, there are millions of acres of arable land in Western Canada which can still be bought at a low price.

Western Canada has an enormous acreage prepared for seeding to wheat in 1918. It is larger than in 1917, and will probably surpass the record area put into crop in the year 1915, when the largest crop ever known in the West was harvested. The year 1918 should also see a further increase in live stock activity.

Farmers have been investing considerable sums in cattle; the high prices secured for wool and mutton have opened the eyes of Western farmers to the possibilities of sheep, and such was the demand for breeding animals last fall that it was impossible to meet it adequately; the campaign for greater hog production is expected to yield an increase of between 25 and 50 per cent in 1918.

Those who are contemplating coming to Western Canada cannot do better than come early in the spring when they can put in a crop and harvest it in the fall. In this way they will be able to achieve something that will not only be of great benefit to themselves, but also to the great cause for which the Allies, including the United States, are now fighting.—Advertisement.

In Prehistoric Times.  
"How long has he been sick?"  
"About fifty years."  
"He must have passed the crisis, then."

## GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER

has been a household remedy all over the civilized world for more than half a century for constipation, intestinal troubles, torpid liver and the generally depressed feeling that accompanies such disorders. It is a most valuable remedy for indigestion or nervous dyspepsia and liver trouble, bringing on headache, coming up of food, palpitation of heart and many other symptoms. A few doses of August Flower will immediately relieve you. It is a gentle laxative. Ask your druggist. Sold in all civilized countries.—Adv.

A Yearn for Beauty.  
"Why did you pick out such a handsome shaving mug?"  
"Well, I've never been satisfied with my own mug. I thought I'd indulge my fancy a little in this."

Important to Mothers  
Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, that famous old remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Wm. C. Little* In Use for Over 30 Years.  
Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Proving It.  
"Jubbe is a man of great promise."  
"Hm! So, he's been borrowing from you, too."

Piles Cured in 16 to 14 Days  
Druggists refuse to sell any PREPARATION that cures itching, blind, bleeding or protruding piles. First application gives relief. 6c.

Iron Imbedded in concrete in Germany has been found to be free from rust after more than 45 years.

To keep clean and healthy take Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. They regulate liver, bowels and stomach.—Adv.

Many a man neglects his family in order to pose as a public benefactor.

After the Murles is for Tired Eyes—  
Red Eyes—Sore Eyes—  
Irritation—Granulated Eyelids—Sties—  
Blepharitis—Refractive Errors—Nearsightedness—  
Treatment for Eyes that feel dry and smart.  
Give your eyes as much rest as you can. Use your eyes with the same regularity.  
CARE FOR THEM. YOU CANNOT BUY NEW EYES.  
Sold at Drug and Optical Stores or by Mail.  
Ask Murles Eye Remedy Co., Chicago, for Free Book

# MICHIGAN YOUTHS IN CRIME PACT

Inspired by Lurid Pictures of Extortion Scenes Seen in the "Movies."

Mt. Pleasant, Mich.—Six schoolboys, ranging in age from fifteen to seventeen years, and members of prominent families here, are believed to be the members of the gang of blackmailers operating under the direful title of the "Black Four," with the object of obtaining, through threats of death, money from business men and other well-to-do citizens.

It is believed the daring youths were led into a life of crime through witnessing the many "vampire" and "underground" pictures shown in the



The Boys Called Themselves "The Black Four."

"movies." The names of the schoolboys have not been made public and no arrests have been taken place.

The boys are said to have confessed to threatening George H. MacGillivray, a druggist of Mt. Pleasant, with destruction of property in case he refused to hand over \$500. A letter containing the threat was found under MacGillivray's drug store door. The boys called themselves the "Black Four." Only four boys were at first members of the band, which was organized some months ago. Two more were admitted later.

John S. Weidman, president of a state bank and one of the wealthiest men in the county, received a letter threatening himself and family with death if he did not leave \$30,000 buried in a certain place.

The charter of the "Black Four" is in the hands of the sheriff and reads as follows:

"We do hereby promise to be loyal to our gang and risk even death for its honor and glory, and to the traitor, death."

## HOLDS DOWRY, LOSES HUBBY

Wife Charges That New York Attorney Demanded \$10,000 or a Divorce.

New York.—"Your father got the best of me. He promised me \$10,000 to marry you, and he didn't give me a cent. I don't care whether he gave you the money or not. The money belongs to me. You are responsible."

This declaration, according to the complaint filed by Mrs. Selma Levinson, in a suit for separation from Isaac Levinson, a lawyer, was made by the defendant just one month and two days after their marriage.

The plaintiff alleges the defendant told her he would get the money. If not in an agreeable way—in one that would be disagreeable.

"If you don't give me that \$10,000, then I want to get a divorce," the plaintiff says she was told.

According to Mrs. Levinson, she received \$10,000 as her dowry, but the defendant did not get it nor was he promised it.

## MAN STUMBLES ON FORTUNE

Janitor Picks Up Paper and Finds He's Heir to Half of \$600,000 Estate.

Greensburg, Pa.—C. E. Ellsworth, janitor at the public school building, swept out the rooms as usual the other night. A bit of paper caught his eye and he read that he was heir to half an estate of \$600,000.

The estate is that of Robert I. Ellisworth, aged eighty-eight, who died 15 months ago at his home in Washington and left his entire fortune to his nephew in Greensburg and his sister, Mrs. Elvina Bindon of Washington.

The nephew here had lost all trace of his uncle, neither having seen nor heard from him for more than forty years. Soon after he received notice of his fortune from an attorney.

## 9,500,000 Acres of Wheat in Kansas.

Topeka.—The Kansas board of agriculture has estimated that 9,500,000 acres of winter wheat have been sown in that state. Based on 100 per cent condition of the state's growing wheat is 70.1 per cent, or lower by 5.8 points than was reported a year ago. The government apportionment of wheat for Kansas was 10,000,000 acres.

# REDUCING MOUSE AND RAT DAMAGE

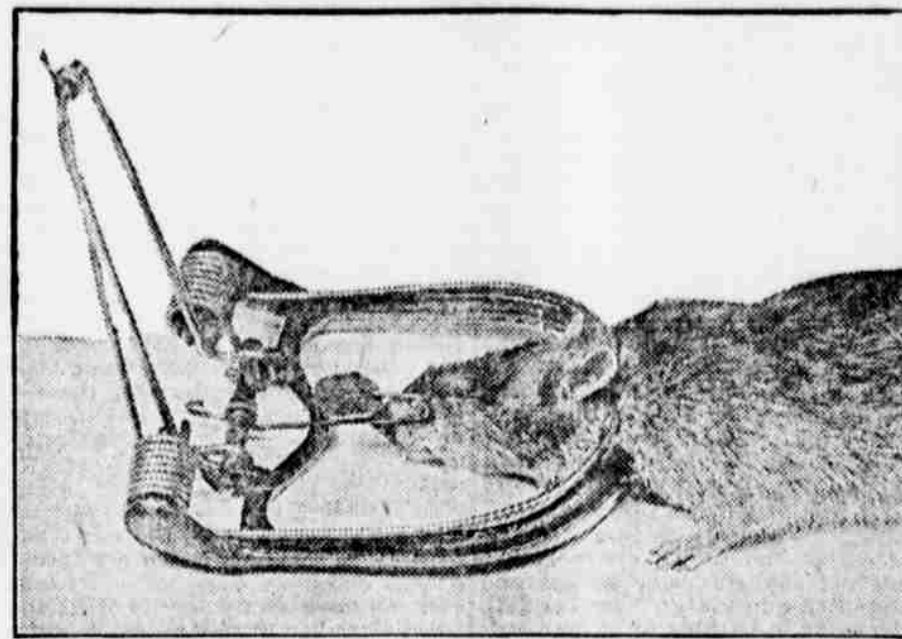
Co-operation and Organization Is of Utmost Importance.

## COMMUNITY EFFORT IS BEST

Permanent Results Can Only Be Obtained by Building Animals Out of Shelter and Food—Government Ready to Help.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The necessity of co-operation and organization in the work of rat destruction is of the utmost importance. To destroy all the animals on the premises of a single farmer in a community has little permanent value, since they are soon replaced from near-by farms. If, however, the farmers of an entire township or county



METHOD OF BAITING GUILLOTINE TRAP.

unite in efforts to get rid of rats, much more lasting results may be attained. If continued from year to year, such organized efforts are very effective.

## Community Efforts.

Co-operative efforts to destroy rats have taken various forms in different localities. In cities, municipal employees have occasionally been set at work hunting rats from their retreats, with at least temporary benefit to the community. Thus, in 1904, at Folkestone, England, a town of about 25,000 inhabitants, the corporation employees, helped by dogs, in three days killed 1,645 rats.

Side hunts in which rats are the only animals that count in the contest have sometimes been organized and successfully carried out. At New Burlington, O., a rat hunt took place some years ago in which each of the two sides killed over 8,000 rats, the beaten party serving a banquet to the winners.

There is danger that organized rat hunts will be followed by long intervals of indifference and inaction. This may be prevented by offering prizes covering a definite period of effort. Such prizes accomplish more than municipal bounties, because they secure a friendly rivalry which stimulates the contestants to do their utmost to win.

In England and some of its colonies contests for prizes have been organized

to promote the destruction of the English, or house, sparrow, but many of the so-called sparrow clubs are really sparrow and rat clubs, for the destruction of both pests is the avowed object of the organizations. A sparrow club in Kent, England, accomplished the destruction of 28,000 sparrows and 16,000 rats in three seasons by the annual expenditure of but \$6 (\$29.20) in prize money. Had ordinary bounties been paid for this destruction, the tax on the community would have been about £250 (over \$1,200).

Many organizations already formed should be interested in destroying rats. Boards of trade, civic societies, and citizens' associations in towns and farmers' and women's clubs in rural communities will find the subject of great importance. Women's municipal leagues in several large cities already have taken up the matter. The league in Baltimore recently secured appropriations of funds for expenditure in fighting mosquitoes, flies and rats. The league in Boston during the past year, supported by voluntary contributions for the purpose, made a highly creditable educational campaign against rats. Boys' corn clubs, the troops of boy scouts, and

## State and National Aid.

To secure permanent results any general campaign for the elimination of rats must aim at building the animals out of shelter and food. Building reforms depend on municipal ordinances and legislative enactments. The recent plague eradication work of the United States Public Health Service in San Francisco, Seattle, New Orleans, and at various places in Hawaii and Porto Rico required such ordinances and laws as well as financial aid in prosecuting the work. The campaign of Danish and Swedish organizations for the destruction of rats had the help of governmental appropriations. The legislatures of California, Texas, Indiana and Hawaii, have in recent years passed laws or made appropriations to aid in rat eradication. It is probable that well-organized efforts of communities would soon win legislative support everywhere. Communities should not postpone efforts, however, while waiting for legislative co-operation, but should at once organize and begin repressive operations. Wherever health is threatened the public health service of the United States can co-operate, and where crops and other products are endangered the bureau of biological survey of the department of agriculture is ready to assist by advice and in demonstration of methods.

## IMPORTANT FACTORS IN GROWTH OF HOGS

Problem of Exercise Is Difficult to Solve in Winter—Good Plan Is Outlined.

Exercise is one of the most important factors in the growth of hogs. Hogs that are confined in a small lot do not develop sufficient stretch and frame, points out Ray Gatewood, instructor in animal husbandry in the agricultural college.

"The problem of exercise," said Mr. Gatewood, "is more difficult to solve in winter than in any other season of the year due to the fact that hogs should be kept off the pasture for the good of the pasture."  
"Exercise can best be provided by allowing the hog free range on a field which is fenced hog tight and which has not been planted to any crop. Stalk fields in which cattle are running make a desirable place for stock hogs. Because hogs are likely to remain in their sheds too much in the winter they should feed some distance from their sleeping quarters. This forces them to take a certain amount of exercise."

## REPAIR MACHINES IN WINTER

Farmers Should Give Careful Attention to Tools and Implements for Next Season.

During the winter months farmers should give careful attention to the work of repairing all machines which will be used next season. Also, orders for repair parts and new machines should be placed as soon as possible. This will acquaint manufacturers and their agents with the demand in different sections and enable them to make the best possible distribution. At the same time it will eliminate expensive delays in transportation at the busy season.

## NATURAL FEED FOR POULTRY

Hens Should Receive Grains and Other Milling Products, Meat Meals and Green Stuff.

The natural food of poultry consists of grains, insects, green forage and grit, and accordingly in domestication it is reasonable that the hens receive cereal grains and other milling products, and such animal feeds as meat meals and skim milk, and should also have an abundance of green feed or such substitutes for it as roots or steamed clover. Oyster shells, grit and plenty of fresh water should also be supplied.

## WHEN SOIL IS UNHEALTHFUL

Sometimes Becomes So Saturated With Droppings That Hens Are Likely to Contract Disease.

Ground may get so saturated with the droppings that it becomes unhealthy; if food is thrown on the ground, the flock is likely to contract diseases common to fowl. Where such a condition exists, it is best to remove a couple of inches of soil and fill in with clean sand or coarse gravel.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of the Sunday School Course of the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)  
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## LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 3

### JESUS LORD OF THE SABBATH.

LESSON TEXT—Mark 2:15-16.  
GOLDEN TEXT—The son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath.—Mark 2:28.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL FOR TEACHERS—Ex. 20:8-11; Isa. 58:13, 14; Neh. 13:15-22; Matt. 12:1-8; Luke 4:16; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1, 2; Col. 2:16, 17.

PRIMARY TOPIC—Jesus and the Sabbath day.

MEMORY VERSE—Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.—Ex. 20:8.

JUNIOR TOPIC—Jesus and the Sabbath.

MEMORY VERSE—Ex. 20:8-11.

INTERMEDIATE, SENIOR AND ADULT TOPIC—Our day of rest and worship.

I. The Sabbath a Boon, Not a Burden (vv. 23-28). It has been suggested that this passage, particularly verse 23 indicates something of the poverty and simplicity of the lives of the disciples that they lived not only a day at a time but literally from hand to mouth. America is the most prodigal nation on the globe, but it is today facing the necessity of conservation and retrenchment, not because it is desired but of necessity in winning this great world war struggle. Perhaps this will prove to be a boon growing out of the darkness of the days through which we are passing.

Notice that the disciples were not particularly criticized because they plucked and appropriated the grain that belonged to another even though it was for their bodily needs, but because they did it on the Sabbath day. The Jewish law permitted them to take that which did not belong to them because of their necessity, but would not permit them to do it on the first day of the week. The criticism of the Pharisees, based upon Deut. 5:14; Ex. 31:15, though apparently scriptural, was, however, based upon an incomplete knowledge and application of those scriptures. Jesus shows them first that ceremonial prescriptions and laws must give way before the needs of man and he cites the case of David as an illustration. Again he shows them that the demands of the temple service were superior to the prescriptions of the common law (See Matt. 12:5, 6), that he, himself, is greater than the temple for he is the one in whom God tabernacled (John 1:14 R. V. Margin). The Sabbath law therefore must give way before the necessity of Christian service. Again he shows that mercy is more than sacrifice, and so ceremonial demands must give way before the needs of mercy and compassion. He also shows them that the Sabbath was made for man (vv. 27, 28) rather than man for the Sabbath. He, the "Son of Man," is the consummation and head of the race, Lord even of the Sabbath, and as Lord of the Sabbath he has set aside the seventh day Sabbath, which was the shadow of things to come (Col. 2:17) and belongs to the old order and dispensation. It is true that we have no right to judge any man regarding the Sabbath (Col. 2:16, 17), but as Christians who are "risen with Christ" (Col. 3:1) we are to keep the Lord's Day, (Rev. 1:10), the first day of the week, (Acts 20:7) the resurrection day, and are under no law whatever to keep the seventh day.

II. A Proper Use of the Lord's Day (Ch. 3:1-5). It is somewhat unfortunate, our divisions of the Scripture into chapters and verses. This next passage is really a practical application and illustration of the principle with which Jesus has just been dealing. It was the custom of Jesus to frequent the synagogue on the Sabbath Day (Luke 4:16), the day upon which the Jews still gathered in large numbers. We need to note (v. 2) that the question which was asked of him was not a fair question, not so much honest seeking for information, but rather they "watched him" for they wanted to find something with which to trap him. Jesus taught that it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath Day, that it is lawful to heal on the Sabbath Day (Matt. 12:10) that it is lawful to restore a lost ass or ox on the Sabbath Day (Luke 14:5; Matt. 12:11) that a man is of more value than a sheep (Matt. 12:13), and that the new methods and new times demanded new applications (Mark 2:21, 22). In these teachings Jesus does not necessarily abolish or abrogate the ancient fourth commandment, but rather the misinterpretation, misuse and misapplication of the Sabbath law. For a correct interpretation of the Old Testament Sabbath see Isa. 58:13, 14. The difference between the Jewish Sabbath and Christian Lord's Day is a matter of counting; we begin to count at the point of the resurrection of Jesus. The Sabbath Day is a means to an end; it is not the end itself.

America's Great Heritage.  
The man was really and organically sick; he had a withered hand which all could see—no "moral error" about it at all, and he was really healed. The Lord's Day is America's great heritage. Are we going to throw it away? It is of economic value as well as a spiritual heritage. The observance of a day of rest has actually increased the amount of output in the munition factories of England. In this land of haste and bustle the brain needs the rest, the soul the feeding, and the body the relaxation which Sunday observance alone can furnish.



## A Woman's Burdens

are lightened when she turns to the right medicine. If her existence is made gloomy by the chronic weakness, delicate derangements, and painful disorders that afflict her sex, she will find relief and emancipation from her troubles in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. If she's overworked, nervous, or "run-down," she finds new life and strength. It's a powerful, invigorating tonic and nerve which was discovered and used by an eminent physician for many years, in all cases of "female complaints" and weaknesses. For young girls just entering womanhood; for women at the critical "change of life"; in bearing-down sensations, periodical pains, ulceration, inflammation, and every kindred ailment, the "Favorite Prescription" is the only medicine put up without alcohol—ingredients on wrapper.

The "Prescription" is sold in tablet or liquid form. Send 10c to Dr. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y., for large trial pkg.

Auburn, Neb.—"I do not know of a medicine that I can so highly recommend for women and their ailments as Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. I was suffering with woman's troubles. I became run-down, nervous, suffered from backache and pains in the side extending downward. I was continually in distress. I fell off in weight and was just miserable when 'Favorite Prescription' was recommended to me. I took about six bottles and was well satisfied with the results, for I was cured of my weakness and restored to good health. I have gained back my natural weight and have been a well person ever since."—Mrs. John W. Thompson.

## ABSORBINE

Reduces Strained, Puffy Ankles, Lymphangitis, Puff Swellings, Boils, Swellings, Stops Lameness and allays pain. Heals Sores, Cuts, Bruises, Boot Chafes. It is a SAFE ANTISEPTIC AND GERMICIDE.  
Does not blister or remove the hair and does not work. Pleasant to use. \$2.50 a bottle, delivered. Describe your case for special instructions and Book 5 R free. ABSORBINE, JR., medicament for market, reduces Sprains, Pains, Swellings, Venous Congestion—only a few drops required at an application. Price \$1.25 per bottle at dealers or delivered. W. F. YOUNG, P. O. Box 200, Springfield, Mass.

## His Vacation.

"Booze even gets into men's vacations and tangles them up," declared a temperance lecturer some time ago. "A man took the steamer for Boston with his wife. But the minute he got aboard he disappeared into the black, ill smelling hole they call the bar. Some hours later his wife hurried down to the bar and said to him:  
"Oh, George, come up on deck and enjoy the scenery. The hills and woods are just beautiful."  
"After swallowing his ninth beer, George growled, 'Aw, what do I care for your hills and woods? Do you think I'm gonna lose my vacation over scenery?'—Pathfinder.

## The Most Valuable Book.

The Mediceo Laurentian museum of Florence, Italy, has in its possession what is said to be the most valuable book in the world. This book is called the "Codex Amiatinus" and is pronounced by some scholars to be perhaps the oldest and by all odds the best ancient Latin manuscript of the Bible. The work is believed to have been copied from the translation by St. Jerome, which he made direct from early Greek and Hebrew scripts. Its origin is placed in the ninth century, and is thought to have been the handwork of English priests.

The Measure.  
Knicker—How much coal have you?  
Bocker—A solitaire and several brilliants.

Some men are born great and then proceed to slump.



Women whose sensitive nerves often yield to coffee's harmful stimulation, appreciate the change resulting from a ten days trial of

## INSTANT POSTUM

INSTEAD OF COFFEE  
Such a delicious drink makes the change easy and better nerves make it a permanent one.  
"There's a Reason"