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References:  
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### An Instantaneous Cure.

During the cattle plague of 1866 in England a farmer who had lost a number of his cows grew so depressed that he fully persuaded himself he had also contracted the disease. The medical man whom he consulted tried in vain to laugh him out of his fears, but subsequently, being fond of a joke, pretended to agree with the patient's views, and solemnly told him if he would attend to his instructions he would be cured. He then gave the farmer a prescription, which he directed should be taken to a neighboring druggist, but when the latter opened the envelope and read the contents he was as much startled as the farmer. For the prescription was as follows: "This man has the cattle plague. Take him into the backyard and shoot him, according to act of parliament." Needless to say, the cure was instantaneous.

### Investing in Nature.

A man must invest himself near at hand, and in common things, and be content with a steady and moderate return, if he would know the blessedness of a cheerful heart and the sweetness of a walk over the round earth. This is a lesson the American has yet to learn—capability of amusement on a low key. He expects rapid and extraordinary returns. He would make the very elemental laws pay usury. He has nothing to invest in a walk; it is too slow, too cheap. We crave the astonishing, the exciting, the far away, and do not know the highways of the gods when we see them—always a sign of the decay of faith and simplicity of man.—John Burroughs.

### Worldly Wisdom.

As there is a worldly happiness which God perceives to be no more than disguised misery; as there are worldly honors which in his estimation are reproach, so there is a worldly wisdom which in his sight is foolishness. Of this worldly wisdom the characters are given in the Scriptures, and placed in contrast with those of the wisdom which is from above. The one is the wisdom of the crafty, the other that of the upright; the one terminates in selfishness, the other in charity; the one is full of strife and bitter envyings, the other of mercy and of good fruits.—Blair.

### Bean Milk.

"Pigeon milk is a myth," said a milkman, "but there actually is a bean milk. It is drunk, put in tea and coffee, and even frozen for ice cream. The Japs are its inventors. This milk is made of the Soja bean. The bean is first soaked, then boiled in water. After the liquid turns white sugar and phosphate of potash are added, and the boiling is kept up till a substance of the thickness of molasses is obtained. Nobody could tell this bean milk from condensed milk, and when water is added it can't be told from the fresh. The Japanese poor use nothing else."

## Making Money On the Farm

### V.—Wheat Raising

By C. V. GREGORY.

Author of "Home Course in Modern Agriculture"

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ONE of the most important grain crops grown in this country is wheat. It is second in value and acreage only to corn. Notwithstanding the great importance of the wheat crop but little attention has been paid to improved methods of culture. Wheat is largely looked upon as an extensive crop. Most farms in the wheat belt are large. This is especially true of the spring wheat belt in northwestern United States and southern Canada. It is no uncommon sight there to see a section or more in one field. Wheat follows wheat year after year. Little live stock is kept, and no manure is applied to the land. Under this treatment the seemingly exhaust-



FIG. IX—HARVESTER AT WORK.

less supply of fertility is becoming worn out. The humus especially has been used rapidly, with no source of renewal. Usually it does not take more than a decade of continuous wheat growing to reduce the yield one-half. Conditions in the winter wheat belt are not so bad, but there is much room for improvement there also. Not only is continuous wheat growing hard on the soil, but it does not distribute the work evenly throughout the year. In the spring there is a rush to get the seed in. In the fall there is a still greater rush to get the crop harvested and thrashed. The rest of the year there is little to do. What the wheat farmer needs is diversification—more live stock, more crops and rotation. The wheat belt and the corn belt should be mixed up more. Many farmers in the corn belt raise wheat as one of the leading small grain crops. Many others would find it profitable to do so.

### Classes of Wheat.

Wheat is divided into two general classes—winter and spring. Winter wheat is sown in the fall, makes a considerable growth and comes up and heads out the next season. Spring wheat is sown in the spring in much the same manner as oats. In Minnesota, the Dakotas and other states of the same latitude or farther north spring wheat is the only kind that can be grown successfully since the severe winters are fatal to the fall sown varieties. In the northwest, however, the warm winds from the Pacific moderate the climate that winter wheat can be grown successfully. Farther south, in the winter wheat belt, the bulk of the wheat is sown in the fall. There are many objections to winter wheat. It does not make as high a quality of flour owing to the smaller gluten content. It is the gluten that gives the gummy consistency to bread dough that causes it to rise when mixed with yeast. Winter wheat occasionally winter kills, resulting in a loss of the seed and the work of seeding. The most serious objection in the corn belt is that it does not work in well after corn, which is the accustomed place for small grain in the rotation. These objections are overbalanced, however, by its greater yielding ability. The start which it gets in the fall enables it to come up much more vigorously in the spring and give about twice as many bushels per acre as can be obtained from the spring varieties.

Wheat is further subdivided into hard and soft varieties. The soft wheat makes a flour that is unsuited to breadmaking because of its lack of gluten. It is used extensively in making crackers. The amount of soft wheat grown for market is comparatively small.

A new variety of wheat known as macaroni has been introduced into the western states within the last few years. It is very high in gluten and is much used in the manufacture of macaroni. It does not make a very high quality of bread owing to its yellowish color. The chief advantage of macaroni wheat is that it can be grown in regions where the rainfall is too scanty for the standard varieties.

### Will Wheat Run Out?

There is a widespread impression that wheat will run out if grown in the same locality for a number of years. Experiments at a number of stations show that this is not so. The real cause for wheat running out is continuous culture on the same land, with little attention paid to seed selection. Another fact that experiments have brought out is that the standard varieties are superior to most of the new ones. Every year seedmen make claims of wonderful yields obtained from new varieties, not only of wheat,

but of other crops as well. In most cases these claims are entirely unfounded. Before introducing a new variety it will pay to write to your experiment station for information regarding it. Even if they recommend it the safest plan is to try only a few acres at first until you see whether or not it is adapted to your particular locality.

Where winter wheat can be grown it will pay to raise it in spite of its disadvantages. It can be worked into the rotation by sowing it after oats in a rotation of corn, oats, wheat, clover. The clover seed may be scattered on the ground among the wheat plants early in the spring. Another method of using winter wheat in the rotation is to cut the corn early for silage or fodder and sow the wheat on the corn stubble ground. The trouble with this method is that it is usually so late before the corn can be got off the ground that the wheat does not get enough of a start to enable it to withstand an extra severe winter. There is an advantage in having wheat follow corn or some other cultivated crop in that the weeds will bother much less. The work of seeding is also less since the ground does not need to be plowed.

### Preparing the Ground.

Wheat, like oats, needs a firm seed bed. Corn ground which has been run over twice with a disk is an ideal seed bed. It is fine and mellow on top and firm beneath. There is nothing to prevent the capillary moisture from rising rapidly to the loose top layer, where it is held just where the roots need it. When wheat follows some other small grain the ground is so hard that, except in the case of very loose soils, the disk will have little effect on it. Such ground must be plowed. Plowing for wheat does not need to be very deep. Many farmers practice burning the stubble before plowing, since in this way many insects and weeds are destroyed, and the capillary connection is restored quicker. Some humus is lost in this way, but the advantages gained in many cases make it more profitable to obtain the needed humus in some other way.

The soil should be well disked and harrowed after plowing to make a fine, compact seed bed. With wheat, as with oats, considerably better yields are obtained by the use of a drill. In loose or dry soils the press drill is a big advantage. The wheels that follow pack the soil over the seed. This brings the soil into closer contact with the wheat grains, and they will absorb moisture faster and begin to grow sooner. This quickness of starting is of much importance in fall sown wheat near the northern limit of the winter wheat belt, since there everything depends on the wheat making a good growth before the ground freezes. Earliness of seeding is important for the same reason. If you cannot get your winter wheat in early—and by early is meant the first half of September—it is better to wait until spring and sow a spring variety.

The ground for spring wheat should be prepared in much the same manner as for oats. The rate of seeding where a drill is used should be five or six pecks to the acre, with either spring or winter varieties. When sown broadcast about a peck more will be needed. If there is much smut present the seed should be treated as outlined for oat smut in article No. 4. The seed should be fanned and graded and tested for germination.

### Rotation in Wheat Farming.

In the great spring wheat regions the introduction of a crop of clover every two or three years will materially increase the yield. The growing of clover will mean some live stock to eat it, and the manure thus obtained will still further increase the wheat yields. The introduction of some of the other grain and forage crops will equalize the demands upon the soil and add to the profits obtained from



FIG. X—WHEAT WELL STACKED.

the farm. Experiments at the Minnesota station showed an increase of 50 per cent, or seven bushels to the acre, in wheat following cultivated crops over wheat grown continuously.

Dairying fits in very well with wheat farming, especially in localities so far north that corn cannot be successfully grown as a grain crop. In such districts the flint varieties can be raised for silage and fodder. The wheat following this corn will be freer from rust, scab and weeds and will yield much more. The cows will yield a good profit for all the feed they consume, and the work will be more evenly distributed throughout the year.

When wheat is grown to be sold to the flour mills the price will depend directly upon the quality. To get the best quality wheat should not be cut until it is fully ripe. It should not be allowed to stand too long after it is ripe or it will shell out badly. Wheat should be well shocked and capped. If not well capped the bran will become stained and cracked, injuring the appearance and lowering the price. Stacking is more advisable than shock thrashing since it means better quality and more fall plowing.

So much depends on the quality of the grain and the quality is so dependent on cultivation and harvesting that it behooves him who is after satisfactory results to make a close study of the situation. It does not pay to cultivate wheat intelligently and harvest it in a manner that makes all previous care and labor of little avail.

### First Use of "Kerosene."

"Kerosene" seems to have been first used in United States patent No. 12,612 of March 27, 1855, granted to Abraham Gesner of Williamsburg, N. Y., and assigned to the North American Kerosene Gas Light Company. In the preamble to his specification Gesner states that he has "invented and discovered a new and useful manufacture or composition of matter, being a new liquid hydrocarbon which I denominate 'kerosene.'" "Coal oil" was the term in general use before "kerosene" was invented.

### Easy Enough to Reform.

Stop grumbling. Get up two hours earlier in the morning and do something out of your regular profession. Mind your own business and with all your might let other people's alone. Live within your means. Give away or sell your dog. Go to bed early. Talk less of your own peculiar gifts and virtues and more of those of your friends and neighbors. Be cheerful. Fulfill your promises. Pay your debts. Be yourself all you would see in others. Be a good man and stop grumbling.—Sheffield (la.) Press.

### Judged by Their Trousers.

A study of the trouser legs, as seen in the photographs of our most noted men, bring the smile of contempt from even the most disinterested; and one wonders if anything could be uglier than the concertina folds of the clumsy elephantine outlines that are there to be seen. Breeches, knickers and kilts are all far more artistic and healthy.—London Tailor and Cutter.

### Examination Fever.

Examination fever in a terribly acute form has been developed by a learned doctor of Cambridge university. It is nearly fifty years since he matriculated, and he has degrees in three faculties, but he still accumulates first classes in the special (or pass) B. A. degree examinations in various subjects; last month he added the ninth specimen to his collection.—London University Correspondent.

### "Blue Hen's Chickens."

Capt. Caldwell, who commanded a Delaware regiment in the revolution, was notorious for his love of cock fighting. He drilled his men admirably, and they were known in the army as "Caldwell's game cocks." The gallant captain held a peculiar theory that so cock was really game unless it came from a blue hen, and this led to the substitution of "Blue Hen's Chickens" as a nickname for his regiment. After the revolutionary war the nickname was applied indiscriminately to all Delawareans.

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