



The fall working of the public highways is a mistake.

August flies make the cows shrink in their milk, no matter how good the pastures may be.

Timothy will do well sown the fore part of September, but not sow the clover until spring.

When the young rooster begins to crow, he wants the frying pan, or, rather, the frying pan wants him.

Cows, clover and corn will, if properly combined, put any farmer in the western prairie sections on his feet financially.

The census shows that the state of Iowa produces just a million dollars a day in farm products for every day in the year.

There are lots of farmers who overwork themselves for thirty-five years so as to be able to spend their savings and last days at some sanitarium in a vain effort to recover lost health.

We have found the purple top Swede turnip sown about the 1st of August to give the best turnip for table use which we can produce. Turnips make their best growth during the moist, cool fall days.

It will always be hard to make some farmers understand that they do not have a right to kill the game and catch the fish in the streams on their farms just when they want to regardless of state laws defining closed and open seasons.

The katydids made their appearance this year earlier than usual, about July 23, when they are not usually due till about the 10th of August. If the old saw holds good—six weeks to frost from their coming—an early September frost will pinch a lot of late corn.

The great objection to clover as a dry forage plant is that it is very difficult to cure properly, the season when it should be cut being almost always showery. Not one-fourth of the big crop of clover where the writer lives was secured in good shape this year.

Spreckles has discovered a new method of refining sugar at a cost of \$1 a ton against \$7, the present cost to the sugar trust, and the process is so simple that it can be carried out on the plantations where the raw sugar is produced and with inexpensive appliances.

We have a letter from a good friend of the farmers' mutual insurance companies who favors the payment of all losses up to two-thirds of the value of the property destroyed and insured regardless of the manner in which the fire loss occurred save in case of incendiarism.

For every acre of crops destroyed on the bottom and slough lands of the central west and northwest this year by the excessive rainfall there will be five acres of splendid crops produced on all those areas where the normal rainfall is too scant to insure large crops in an ordinary year.

We have known some balky horses beyond the reach of moral suasion, kind treatment and prayer. Nothing would start an old buckskin we once owned but a split plug of tobacco wrapped around his bit. This would make him so sick at the stomach that he forgot all his meanness in a very short time.

Of course it may not be possible because of the press of other work to do, but there is no work on the farm which pays better than getting the stubble and weeds well plowed under during the month of August. It has almost all the advantages of a summer fallow, cleans the land and makes of the rubbish covered up a valuable plant food for the next season.

As with all other unrefined and undesirable things in this world there are an aggressiveness and intolerance about weeds which put one to his wits' end to know how to manage them. Now, why should a burdock grow thrifty and lusty and a tomato plant not four feet from it under same conditions, without culture, only grow to be a poor, little, spindly, unproductive thing?

Maybe some of our readers will be doing the same thing we did last year—get to hunting all over the garden for some dead and putrid thing which we could smell only too well, but could not find, to find later on the cause of the trouble to be a stink-horn mushroom growing near a post and almost out of sight. If you smell this smell, look for a mushroom and not a dead cat.

The attempts at skunk farming have all proved failures.

It is a miserable alternative when a farmer is forced to take tramp help or go without.

When a three-months-old calf will bring \$20 for veal, it helps out the dairy business.

Alfalfa furnishes lots of food for the bees, in which respect it is far ahead of red clover, whose nectar can only be reached by the bumblebee.

Marching off a lot of hoboes at the muzzle of shotguns to the harvest fields to work was one of the funny harvest season freaks of Kansas this year.

No state in the Union is coming to the front with larger or better crops this year than Nebraska. This year's crop will be worth as much as the land which produced it through much of the state this year.

The farmers' telephone lines in a western state did much to bring to an abrupt ending the late attempted corner in corn in Chicago. Every man holding any corn of the contract grade was reached in a hurry by the telephone.

It means either tile draining or seedling down for lots of land all through the prairie sections, the excessive rains of the summer having completely ruined the growing crop upon all lands which were originally sloughs, basins and marshes.

We noticed a row of dewberries nicely trained up on a low wire fence the other day and readily saw that this method removed one of the great objections connected with this fruit—the gathering of the berries with the vines sprawling all over the ground.

A permanent drought seems to have settled down upon all that part of interior Australia which has heretofore been a great pastoral country. The sheep and rabbits, combined with the lack of rain, have ruined the country, and the stock losses have been enormous.

True that the rain falls upon the just and the unjust alike, but this year, when the just man on the river bottom got his share and then all that fell on the unjust man's place on the hill above him to boot, the theological equity of the old saying was knocked into a cocked hat.

Riding across the country lately during a severe storm, we noticed that in nearly every pasture where stock was kept the cattle all bunched near to the fences, which, being of wire, explained why so much stock is killed by lightning where the fence wires are not properly grounded.

We just remark that good, old-fashioned oatmeal, properly cooked, still holds first place with us in competition with all the newfangled germ and malted cereal foods with which the country is flooded. The canny Scotsman is said to be the legitimate product of oatmeal and the Shorter Catechism.

Some men—a good many—make the mistake of sowing too large a field of rape for the stock which they wish to eat it. Rape needs feeding off close, when the new growth will give all through the season a young and tender foliage. When allowed to grow, it soon becomes strong, tough and unpalatable.

The question of saving the corn fodder will soon be up. The value of this fodder has been demonstrated the past winter as never before, and, while hay the country over will be more plentiful and much cheaper than a year ago, the corn fodder will still be saved, for when well cured it is the best fodder produced on the farm.

The elderly man who is bothered to know just where to place some of his money for investment would do a good thing to hunt out some deserving and poor young man and help him on his feet. In most cases such investments would not only be profitable in a financial way, but much satisfaction would result from the doing of such a generous act.

We have known a man owning a ten thousand dollar farm to kick because he had to pay an annual tax of \$45 on it. This man should go to Bulgaria, Turkey, Egypt, India and other semi-civilized countries if he would know what real taxation is. In no country on earth does a man get more in return for the taxes he pays than in America.

It seems funny to turn back fifteen years and read what a furious controversy there was over the question of deborning cattle. The various humane societies and all tender hearted people were up in arms over the new barbarism, as it was termed, while broadsides of indignation were hurled at the men who ventured to practice it. It took time to prove the humanity of the process and quiet the opposition. Now there is no voice of protest.

Where the writer lives there is hardly a week goes by that some man does not have a valuable horse ruined by the barbed wire; not all in the pastures by any means, but a horse is tied near a fence and gets a foot over, or it runs away and into a fence, or careless drivers drive the horse over down and loose wires—all sorts of ways. Then lightning kills a good many by reason of their standing with their heads near the fence during electric storms.

WHAT SHALL THIS MAN DO?

A gentleman living in Kentucky writes asking some advice. He lives on a forty acre farm, the soil of which is none too good. He has a wife and twelve children, all under age. He says that it is hard for them to make a living from this poor little piece of land and wants us to tell him where to go so that he can better his condition. He can scrape up about \$1,000 to start with somewhere else. It is a delicate business attempting to advise a man so situated, and about all we feel like doing is to state a few facts for his consideration. In the first place, we notice that southern bred people seldom feel at home in the north—less so, we think, than northern people who seek homes in the south. For this reason it would not seem best for our friend to seek a home in the north or northwest. It would look as though with such a family he would be specially well fixed to get hold of a truck farm in the south, where early vegetables and berries could be produced for the northern market. There are much profit and reasonable safety and certainty in this business, which is being developed at a rapid rate in North Carolina and many of the Atlantic coast sections. We are reliably informed that a very fair quality of land—timbered—can be bought on easy terms contiguous to lines of railway and that the three crops of strawberries, potatoes and string beans can be raised and put on the eastern markets so early that more clean money can be made from twenty-five acres in such crops than can be made off the best eighty acre farm in the west. A man with such a family has no right to so locate that his children will be deprived of all educational advantages, and a frontier location too often involves this. There are other good locations in Louisiana and Arkansas where fruit raising and poultry keeping could be made very profitable. The trouble is that men situated just as our friend is do not know just where to go, and for all such so situated we would advise sending for all the literature which can be obtained descriptive of those localities where land is cheap. This literature may be obtained of the passenger or land agents of any of the railways, of the state land commissioners or state auditors—in fact, almost any citizen will give information touching his locality when written to. Get all this information together, then decide where to look first and make a personal inspection. The chances are that you will thus find the place you seek.

GROWTH OF DAIRY INTERESTS.

The late census bulletin on the country's dairy interests is out and shows a most wonderful development of this interest during the past twenty years, or since the date of the establishment of the creamery system. There are now 9,355 butter and cheese factories in operation, Iowa leading, with 824; Wisconsin, 788; New York, 740; Pennsylvania, 619; Minnesota, 546, and Illinois, 465, strictly butter factories or creameries, and New York leading with 1,314 cheese factories. The total capital employed is \$36,508,015, and the value of the product is \$131,190,277, a gain of 109 per cent in ten years. But all this represents only a fraction of the benefit which the development of the dairy business has brought to the country, the increased fertility of the farms, the enormous meat interests and the more scientific and improved methods of agriculture which have ever followed in the wake of the dairy interest, representing a gain in agricultural wealth which it is impossible to compute. The cow has done great things for the country.

A BANK'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Here's a difficult problem: One country bank turned in to another a bundle of bills which was counted by the receiving bank and found to contain \$500. The next day this package of money was paid out to a farmer for \$500 and at the time was counted neither by the banker nor the farmer. The farmer carried the money all day and at night deposited the still unbroken package in another bank, when he discovered that it was \$200 shy. He then sued the bank of which he got the package, and the higher court held that the bank was liable. It would look to us as though the loss should have been equally divided, for neither one of them counted the money when it was paid over.

THE MARTIN AND THE SPARROW.

Of our smaller birds which like to frequent the haunts of men the house martin is about the only one which can hold his own with the bullying English sparrow, and in the annual contest between these birds for the possession of nesting places the martin generally comes off victor. All our other small birds—warblers, bluebirds, wrens, grosbeaks, orioles, song sparrows, catbirds and many others—are simply driven away from any locality where the sparrow congregates. This is no guesswork, but the well proved result of the closest observation by our best students of bird life.

TIMBER IN MISSISSIPPI.

There will not be a lumber famine in this country for many years, though the price of lumber may and probably will be higher. The south has vast and almost untouched forests. Twenty-five counties in the state of Mississippi contain 5,890,000 acres of pine land, which will cut an average of 6,000 feet to the acre, making 34,160,000,000 feet, worth, at \$10 per thousand, \$341,600,000.

John Trigg

DEPUTY KILLS STRIKER

Clash Between Guards and Miners at Nesquehoning.

INTENSE EXCITEMENT FOLLOWS.

One of the Deputies Arrested on Charge of Murder After Order is Restored and Lodged in Jail at Mauch Chunk, Pa.

Nesquehoning, Pa., Aug. 19.—In a clash between striking mine workers and deputies here last night, Patrick Sharp, a striker of Lansford, was shot and killed almost instantly by a deputy. The shooting caused considerable excitement for a time, but order was soon restored without any other persons being injured and the town is now quiet. A deputy named Harry McElmoyle was arrested charged with the killing of Sharp and was taken to the county jail at Mauch Chunk. The shooting occurred shortly after 6 o'clock. Five deputies were on their way to shaft No. 1 of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation company, just outside of the town. In the center of the town they were met by a number of strikers, who began persuading them not to go to the colliery. The officers did not stop, but kept on their way and tried to prevent any trouble. The strikers, it is said, began to abuse the men and followed them nearly to the colliery. There are conflicting stories as to what actually brought on the clash, but just before the deputies entered the place a shot was heard and Sharp dropped to the ground. The bullet entered his body close to his heart, and he died almost instantly. Witnesses say the shooting was done by McElmoyle, and that he stood only six or seven feet from Sharp when he fired. Only one shot was fired. The deputies immediately withdrew to the colliery and a large crowd gathered about the place. When it was learned that Sharp was dead there was the greatest indignation among the strikers and other townpeople, and for a time it looked as though serious trouble would occur. Cooler heads among the mine workers prevailed on the crowd to disperse, urging the argument that if there is any bloodshed troops will surely be sent here from Shenandoah. The crowd dispersed and the town soon calmed down to its normal state.

UNION PACIFIC SHOPMEN STRIKE

Car Carpenters and Painters Join Machinists and Boilermakers.

Omaha, Aug. 19.—Two hundred car carpenters and painters at the Union Pacific shops joined the striking machinists and boilermakers yesterday. The strikers demand the abandonment of piecework in their department, which method they accepted from the company only seven weeks ago on a year's trial. They charge that the company has not maintained its part of this year's agreement in that it has slashed the wage scale. The company insists that it has kept the agreement.

Congressman Hitt Ill.

Chicago, Aug. 19.—Congressman Hitt of the Ninth Illinois district is seriously ill at the Stratford hotel. While driving to the depot yesterday to take a train for his home in Mount Morris, Ill., he was taken violently sick with dysentery and was compelled to return to the hotel, where he was put to bed. About the hotel the impression was general that Mr. Hitt was a very sick man.

Minister to Run for Congress.

Cleveland, Aug. 19.—Rev. Morgan Wood, D. D., pastor of Plymouth Congregational church, and one of the most widely known ministers of his church in the United States, announced yesterday that he would be a candidate for congress on the Democratic ticket from the Twenty-first Ohio district. The Republican nominee is Hon. Theodore E. Burton, the present incumbent.

Nelson Breaks World's Record.

Pittsburg, Aug. 19.—Joe Nelson, the "cycle wonder," supported his title last night at the Coliseum by breaking the world's record for twenty miles and beating Freeman and McFarland. The men were in a three-cornered race for the distance and Nelson set the crowd wild by his superb riding. Nelson's time for the twenty miles was 27:18, beating the world's record of 27:34 2-5.

Judge Shiras to Retire.

Pittsburg, Aug. 19.—"It is true that my father expects to retire from the bench of the supreme court early in the coming year," said George Shiras today. This is the first direct statement confirmatory of the report that Justice Shiras contemplated leaving the bench.

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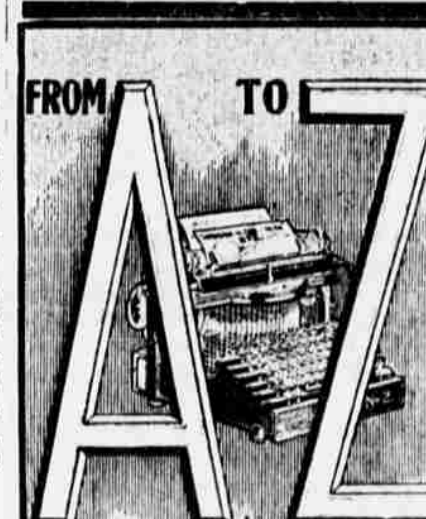
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