The Tractor is Not Destined to Displace the Farm and Truck Horse

Department of Agriculture Statistics Show $21,000,000 in Rural Districts on January 1st, 1920

The horse is coming back in a last struggle to hold his place against the progress of the automobile, tractor, truck and airplane. The Department of Agriculture estimates that horses on United States farms increase from 19,833,000 in 1910 to 21,100,000 on January 1, 1920. Mules increased, too according to the estimates.

The Horse Association of America with headquarters in Chicago, proposes to encourage the breeding, rearing and use of horses. The association, which is a nonprofit organization, incorporated under the laws of Illinois, is backed by horse breeders representing all breeds of horses by the saddlery and harness interests, by the horseshoe manufacturers and master horseshoers, by the hay, grain and feed interests and by the carriage and wagon builders of America.

"The horse is—next to man himself—the most efficient power unit in existence, delivering more effective motive energy in proportion to energy consumed than any other type of motive-power unit when the work done as a self-reproducing, self-repairing organism, is taken into account," declared Wayne Dinsmore, secretary of the association.

"Millions of horses have worked from the time they were three years old, until they were 12 years of age without the expenditure of a dollar for repairs," Mr. Dinsmore said. "The horse shows a reserve power which does not often get stuck in a tight place like the motor vehicles."

Mr. Dinsmore said the horse can do short-haul work just as rapidly as a truck and from 25 to 40 per cent cheaper.

During the recent snow storms in New York when every means of moving traffic was said to have failed but the horse, the horsemen declared some merchants paid as high as $50 a day for the use of the horse.

The government realizes the importance of the horse, Mr. Dinsmore said, and has sent out bulletins encouraging horse breeding.

Teamsters and teaming contractors nowadays want large and heavy horses and are willing to pay for them. They are paying as high as $800 for a team of heavy drafters. Many of the large concerns have written the association that they must have horses for their short haul work.

The officers of the horse association are: President, W. D. Dunham Wayne, Ill.; vice-presidents, John W. Gaver, St. Paul, Minn., and Clen Perrine, Cincinnati; treasurer, George S Bridge, and secretary, Wayne Dinsmore, both of Chicago.

Illinois, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Nebraska, Indiana and Missuori are represented on the board of Directors.

Imported Butter is Denied Entry

Several shipments of butter offered for entry into the United States from foreign countries have been denied entry because the butter failed to come up to the requirements of the Federal Food and Drugs Act, according to officials of the Bureau of Chemistry, United States Department of Agriculture. The imported butter has to meet the same standards and tests as the domestic product. The majority of the shipments which were refused entry contained too little butter fat and too much salt and water, but a few contained boric acid, a harmful preservative.

More butter came into the United States last year than during any other single year for the last ten years. The quantity of butter exported from the United States was also larger than normal and more than three times as much as the imports. The total imports of butter and butter substitutes for the year 1919 amounted to 9,519,368 pounds; the exports of butter for the same period were 34,556,425 pounds.

The greater part of the butter imported into the United States now comes from Canada, but shipments come also from Denmark, Australia, Argentina, and New Zealan. Of 300 shipments of butter from Canada examined, 33, or a little more than 10 per cent of those examined, were denied entry into the United Statcs. A few shipments from other countries also were not admitted because they were adulterated under the Food and Drugs Act.

Shipments of imported butter are carefully inspected at the ports of enry and only such butter is admitted, say the officials in charge of the enforcement of the Food and Drugs Act, as meet the standard which the domestic product is required to meet.

Explosion Leads to Reform

Aluminum dust caused by polishing "lip stick" containers may seem a far call from agriculture. Yet, when a quantity of aluminum dust exploded in the plant of the Aluminum Goods Manufacturing Co., at Manitowoc, Wis., resulting in the death of six girls and the serious injury of six others, it was the grain-dust explosion specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture who were in a position to diagnose the case and to assist in prescribing preventive measures against similar occurrences, not only in that plant but in the plants of many dusty industries throughout the country.

The explosibility of aluminum dust is not a new discovery, but the Manitowoc catastrophe first brought it officially to the attention both of he United States Department of Agriculture and the industrial Commission of Wisconsin. Representatives of the office of Grain Dust Explosions Investigations of the Department of Agriculture made a thorough inspection of the damaged plant and in cooperation with reperesentatives of the commission determined that the direct cause of the explosion was a spark from a piece of wire that had somehow got into the suction fan drawing the dust from the finishing machines, and in which a quantity of dust had apparently collected. Suggestions are now being made by which the Aluminum Goods Manufacturing Co., will be able to rearrange its suction system to minimize the danger of explosions in the future. A conference has been held with the Industrial Commission of Wisconsin, and close co-operation has been established with a view of working out a standard method of collecting dust in such a way as to minimize danger in all dusty plants. The experience of the Department of Agriculture specialists in handling explosive dusts will be of value to the Wisconsin Industrial Commission. The commission is collecting samples of dust in various kinds of plants over the State and sending them to Washington for Analysis and recommendations as to treatment of them.

A system is being worked out by the commission that will prevent a repetition of the horror that overtook the girls at the Manitowoc plant.

To Dress the Four-Post Bed

Bedsteads are unavoidably the center of interest in any bedroom and consequently should be particularly beautiful. In the days of Martha Washington the dignified four-posters of Mount Vernon, with their graceful canopies and dainty draperies, were worthy of their conspicuous position in the center of the room.

Appreciating their beauties and profiting from our lessons in sanitation and comfort, we have hit upon the happy compromise of reducing the draperies to a minimum and of substituting light, graceful posts for heavy, carved ones, while the feather-bed and stepladder have retreated hand-in-hand to the attic, giving way to the luxurious box spring and sensible hair mattress.

How to "dress" the canopy bed according to these modern ideas is then the question. The simplest method is to dispense with the curtains formerly hung at the corners and across the back, and to have only the balance at the foot and at the top, the lining in the top to be used only when construction of the bed absolutely requires it.

To make removal for laundering easy, these valances are now shirred over slender brass rods which rest in sockets, attached to the bedstead underneath the side and feet boards and inside the molding at the top. Three rods are used and the valances are cut in three strips at both the bottom and at the top unless the posts are unfinished and homely. In that case the valances are in one piece and shirred around the posts to conceal them.

A foot valance should be deep enough to reach the floor within two inchesand the top valance is usually made about the same depth, although it can be deeper if need be. The foot valance needs no heading, but the top valance usually has an inch heading.

In a colonial room there is no prettier or more appropriate material for these valances than dotted grenadine fine dimity or mull, with narrow ball or dotted fringes. Old-fashioned knitted or knotted bedspreads go well with them and should hang down over the foot valance about three inches.

Glazed chintzes were used by the English for bedsteads of this type and are frequently used here. They are trimmed sometimes with silk bindings that harminize in color and sometimes with narrow knotted fringes in appropriate colors. The English unglazed chintzes in the small designs are almost as pretty as the glazed and drape more softly. Either is appropriate.

Be a dreamer if you will, but get up and hustle when the alarm clock goes.

Drying Brushes in a Hurry

Traveling salesmen and actors, when they have occasion to use their tooth or shaving brushes, generally have to put them away wet in order to catch a train. This is annoying, because the brushes not only wet other things in the traveling bag, but they become sour as well. In order to dry them in a few minutes, tie a strong piece of string on the handle of the brush about two feet long, take the other end of the string in your hand and swirl the brush rapidly around in the air for a minute or two. The water will fly from the brush by centrifugal force and it will be practically dry as punk.

Rex Seal's Plant Working at Capacity

With a demand far exceeding the present production on the Rex Seal Products Company's plant at Browns-Mills-In-The-Pines is working to capacity. The new automatic machinery recently purchased from the Bishop Babcock Co., is expected every day and this will run productions up near the 10,000 case mark. Even with this production, the company has a ready market for every case and indications are favorable for the construction of a similar plant to the one already in operation on the grounds of the Rex Seal Products Company.

In a "blind test" recently made, the ginger ale manufactured by this company was selected as the best out of 25 others. However, this is to be expected when one stops a second to consider that the water from the artesian wells is not distilled, which in most instances is the case, thus maintaining all its sparkling qualities, possessing a quantity that many soft drinks are short of.

Owing to the fact that the Rex Seal Products Company has 328 acres, there is an abundance of space for the erection of a canning and preserving plant as prescribed in the broad charter of the company, and if present plans of the company for expansion are carried out, Browns-Mills-In-The-Pines will have an industry that will be known internationally as well as nationally.

The Rex Seal Products Company figuring conservatively estimated their profit at $1 a case, and with a production of only 5,000 cases a day, six days a week will average 30,000 a week, figuring 40 weeks a year, making a production of a million and a half cases a year or a nestimated profit of $1,500,000 annually Can you see the prospects of an early dividend? And will Rex Seal be a second Coca Cola?

The original investors in Coca Cola of $100 received as high as $25,000 on their investment. Other soft drinks enterprises have brought fortunes to those who had the courage and were farsighted enough to get in on the ground floor of America's greatest of all enterprises—the soft drink industry and all this took place long before prohibition was ever dreamed of.

"Maid in the Pines"—which appears on the label of all Rex Seal Products is symbolic—having reference to the millions of pine trees surrounding the splendid location of the plant of the Rex Seal Products Company at Browns-Mills-In-The-Pines New Jersey's famous health resort. It would not be surprising that with the combination of pine and sparkling spring water the drinks as manufactured by the Rex Seal Products Company will find favor with high medical men and the drinking of Rex Seal's products prescribed as a refreshing tonic or beverage.

The officers of this company are all high class men of unquestionable standing who would not be connected with any company organized merely for promotion purposes; nor could they afford to jeopardize their reputation for many times the capitalization of Rex Seal Products Company.

Koontz & Company advised the purchase of Rex Seal Products Company stock at $8.50 and the price has advanced to $10. They are offering the unsold portion at this price and indications are the stock will be oversubscribed.

How to Save Coal

Although a coal fire always burns better, especially at the start, when lighted from the bottom, it has been found to be much more economical of coal if the paper and kindling wood are placed above the coal, says Popular Mechanics. A few small coals and cinders are spread over the top of the kindling wood to enable the coal fire to be started. After the top layer begins to burn properly, the fire will spread solwly downward. If the air draft is right. This method secures the most complete combustion because the gases from the unburned coal at the bottom must pass through the burning layer at the top, and thus become completely burned. It is admittedly harder to build and control this kind of a fire, but the saving in fuel often justifies the extra trouble.

Japan is the first country to lift the ban against immigration of Hungarians since the close of the war.

The Furrow

News and Views About the Farm

Letters from the grain trade have again been addressed to the Bureau of markets, United States Department of Agriculture, complaining that no punishment other than publication of findings is meted out to violators of Section 5 of the United States Grain Standards Act. This section provides:

"That no person, except as permitted in Section 4, shall represent that any grain be shipped or delivered for shipment in interstate or foreign commerce is of a grade fixed in the official grain standards other than as shown by a certificate therefore issued in compliance with this Act. . . . Whenever, after opportunity for hearing is given to the owner or shipper of the grain involved, and to the inspector thereof if the same has been inspected, it is determined by the Secretary that any quantity of grain has been incorrectly certified to conform to a specified grade, or has been sold, offered for sale, or consigned for sale under any name, description, or designation which is false or misleading, he may publish his findings."

What good is accomplished in finding violators guilty, if nothing further is done?" asks the complainants.

The penalty described in the Grain Standards Act for violations of section 5 is merely the publication of the findings of the Secretary of Agriculture. No provision is made for criminal prosecution for violations of this section; the Department of Agriculture therefore, cannot take action beyond the publication of findings.

Violations of other sections of the Grain Standards Act carry a penalty of a fine not exceeding $1000, or imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both. Violations of Section 4 are in the class punishable by fine or imprisonment. This section requires that persons shipping or delivering for shipment, in interstate or foreign commerce, grain for which standards have been established and which is sold by grade, shall have the grain inspected and graded by a licensed inspector.

It is felt that in some cases the publication of findings by the Department of Agriculture, and the bringing of these findings to the attention of the grain trade, serve as a greater penalty to violators of Section 5 than a criminal prosecution under a provision carrying fine or imprisonment, especially in cases where only a nominal fine may be imposed. This theory is not universally agreed to, as evidenced by expressions from grain dealers favoring more drastic action in cases of flagrant violations of Section 5 which involve fraud and deception. Under the present provisions of the Grain Standards Act, however, it is not possible for the department to take action beyond the publication of findings.

SHEEP RAISING

Equipment for raising sheep on mild latitudes little housing is needed, and the main need for fencing and pastures of sufficient number and size to allow frequent changing of flocks to fresh ground to insure health where winttrs are longer and more severe, buildings and sheds are necessary to furnish protection from storms, though no special provisions are needed for warmth. Dryness, good ventilation, and free from drafts are the first requisites of buildings for sheep. Convenience in feeding and shepherding must also be held in mind in locating and planning such buildings or sheds.

Small flocks can be cared for in sections of barns having stabling or feed storage for other stock, but with a flock of, say, 100 ewes separate buildings are desirable. The interior arrangement of these buildings should be such as to require a minimum of labor and the least possible moving of ewes in doing the feeding and caring for them during the lambing season. A building of this type can also be utilized for fattening purchased lambs to be disposed of before lambing begins in the regular farm flock. A good supply of feed racks, grain troughs, etc., can be provided at small expense and will save labor and prevent waste of feed.

OLD APPLE TREE THAT GAVE THE WORLD GRIMES GOLDEN

Plant an apple seed and you never can tell what kind of fruit you will get, but the chances are thousands to one that it will be entirely worthless. This one chance, however, sometimes leads to fame and fortune. If any apple ever was worth its weight in gold it was the one containing the seed that gave us that widely known and most delicious of apples—the Grimes Golden. Old records tell us that away back about 1780 one Edward Cranford planted in what is now Brooke County, West Virginia, a whole orchard from apple seeds. When the orchard was about ready to bear he sold his farm to Thomas P. Grimes. One of these seedling apple trees produced a fruit of such rare golden color and high quality as to make the name of Grimes famous. As early as 1804 Thomas Grimes sold fruit from this tree to the traders in the New Orleans market. About 1899 the parent tree fell to the ground and the original wood is now a thing of the past with the exception of a gavel made from it now in the possession of the West Virginia State Horticultural Society. The original Grimes Golden tree gave all the scions which grafted on to other stocks enabled the excellent qualities of this favorite fruit to be perpetuated throughout the United States for it has been grown wih a marked degree of success in every section of the country.

Men Were First to Wear Skirts

The cutaway coat worn by men of the present generation is about the last remnant of the skirt age to which men originally belonged, according to Mrs. Batrice Forbes Robertson Hole, a noted English woman, who seeks to disabuse tse minds of women of the belief that the skirt is woman's by right of inheritence and to show that they can wear bifurcated outdoor garments in season if tney desire.

"All the kings, mayors, priests, etc., used to wear draperies," says Mrs. Hale. "The cutaway coat is about the last remnant of the skirt age for men and the remaining cylindrical frock coat is the last vintage of the smock which was worn by peasants.

"I don't believe dress is based on sex oppeal," she says, in defending the principles on which women dress. "Savage chiefs wore beads and other adornments, and the men of old were quite as many frills and furbalows as the women. It was only with democracy that men gave up ruffles, lace and wigs.

"Up to 100 years ago men dressed quite as elaborately and as foolishly as women. The modern American wife is a shop window for her husband, showing at his desire that he is getting on in the world. Tiaras were worn only by queens ond duchesses, but they are worn today by ordinary woman, prompted by her husband to show that she can look as good as her neighbors."

The Power of a Picture

The British liquor interests are making generous use of cartoons and caricatures to ward off the efforts which are being made in the direction of prohibition in that country.

What under the sun is the use of going star gazing and picking moon flowers.

We never saw a man build a mountain, but we have seen more than one put up a big bluff.

Oh! Dishes and the Dishrag

It's the "After Effect" of a Delicious Meal

Every housewife knows what it is to prepare a nice dinner, to serve it tastefully and to enjoy the keen pleasure of those who partake. She also knows the problem of dishwashing to be faced when the feast is over and she must retire to the kitchen while the family and the invited guests go to the parlor. There is first of all the objection to putting one's hands ino hot, greasy dishwater, of wrestling with pots and pans.

With an electric dishwasher the whole unpleasant operation is put upon an efficient basis, the dishes washed easily and quickly, breakage reduced to a minimum. Think of washing dishes with a clean spray of soapy water instead of the family dish rag. Do you realize how unsanitary it is? How strange it is that sanitation did not long ago seek out the raggedy old dishrag and the dish pan as subjects of correction.

The electric stove is no novelty in the kitchens of the West while in the East it is gaining ground year by year, especially small stoves or cookers that permit oven baking and the use of at least two hot plates on top. Such a stove benefits the housewife in the following manner: First, there is no waste heat; therefore absolute cleanlipess is possible at all times. Third, labor is reduced to a minimum because an electric stove is always ready. Fourth, with no flame there is safety. Fifth, the character of the stove permits more time for social duties.

The "Pooh-Bah."

If you recall "The Mikado" you will not have forgotten Pooh-Bah, that classic dignitary in whose person were assembled most of the official appointments of the Flowery Kingdom Pooh-Bah with a little of everything. The modern electric grill is the same. It is very versatile in the number and variety of its accomplishments. There are round grills with four heats, square grills that cook three things at once and rectangular grills capable of two cookery processes at the same time.

The most important result of cookery is to bring out new flavors . A bit of bacon in its raw state is not very appetizing, but put several slices below the heating element of an electric grill, scramble some eggs properly in a pan above the element, toast some bread the correct way, make coffee in a percolator and you have an appetizing breakfast fit for the gods. Then, best of all, it has been prepared right at table with no soot, smoke or dust or ashes, without any of the by-products of combustion.

The portability of the electric grill is an important item. What a pleasant thing it is nowadays to prepare a meal wherever it is wanted, instead of always in the kitchen. With an electric grill and a convenient outlet a hostess may have her Sunday evening tea in the dining room, in the den or a cosy corner of the sun parlor. She can make it a jolly little feast, whetting the appetite with savory whiffs of food cooked in the cleanest way, with the cleanest kind of heat.

Air is one of nature's best cleansers and purifiers. It penetrates and it purifies. When by the aid of a vacuum cleaner the air not only passes through a fabric thus purifying it, but also carries the dirt along with it, depositing it in a bag instead of scattering it broadcast, then and then only has true cleanliness been attained in the home and health truly safeguarded.

The fundamental principles for the use of electrical appliances is this: When you are not continuously using any appliances turn off the current. To do this, disconnect the flat-iron, curling iron or other appliance by pulling out the plug. Do not be content with turning off the current at the lamp socket. Don't forget to disconnect the plug.

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