MORE WOOL WILL BE PRODUCED IN WEST

Sheep feed eagerly and grow fat on the Australian salt-bush, which covers millions of acres of uncultivated land in the great Pacific Northwest. This once despised weed grows wild on land that is good for nothing else, and the discovery that such land can be used for raising sheep is having an important effect on the outlook for our future American wool crop. The discovery, told by Robert H. Moulton, writing in Munsey's Magazine (New York, March), was made by Y. C. Mansfield, a sheep-rancher in the state of Washington, who hit upon it by a happy accident, as described by Mr. Moulton. Altho the immediate prospect of wool shortage has passed, owing to the close of the war, the world could do with a considerable amount of wool over and above that now produced, and it will gain a substantial increase from the alkali deserts of the West if the hopes held out by Mr. Moulton are justified. He writes:

"It has been estimated by the United States Bureau of Animal Industry that it takes one hundred and sixty pounds of wool a year to provide a soldier with uniforms, blankets, and other necessary items, and that it keeps twenty sheep working to supply that quantity, figuring on an average of an eight-pound fleece to each sheep. This makes it easy to understand the emergency that arose when the Government called four million men to arms. Our production of wool in 1917 was about three hundred million pounds, and we suddenly found that we needed more than twice as much as that for the army alone, making no allowance for the needs of the civilian population.

"The situation, of course, was greatly relieved by the suspension of hostilities, and any immediate fear of a shortage has probably passed. It remains true, however, that the world needs more wool. To do our share in providing it, as well as to increase the nation's food supply, the United States Government has urged the necessity of raising more sheep.

"The great difficulty to be overcome is the fact that the great areas of grazing land which formerly existed in the West have been slowly disappearing, and what is still available does not furnish sufficient forage for any great increase in the number of sheep. Such is the situation—or so it seemed up to a year or two ago, when a Washington state sheep rancher, Y. C. Mansfield, made a discovery which may be destined to play an important part in relieving any future scarcity of wool and mutton. Mr. Mansfield's discovery was simply this—that sheep will wax fat and grow luxuriant fleeces if fed on what is known as the Australian salt-bush.

"Now, the important thing about this is that there are literally millions of acres of this once despised weed in some of our Western States, which would furnish grazing land for enormous flocks of sheep. The land on which the salt bush grows is now regarded as worthless; as a matter of fact, the salt bush has been considered such a pest that there is a law in at least one state against allowing to go to seed. If further and more extensive tests prove as satisfactory as those already made, it appears that here is practically a virgin field of sheep-raising offering wonderful opportunities.

"Mr. Mansfield's discovery came about in a peculiar way. For several years he farmed some three thousand acres of land, all of it wheat land with the exception of one hundred and fifty acres, which were subirrigated alfalfa land. Finally his fields became so foul with Russian thistles that this, together with the high cost of labor and the low price of wheat, made it impossible for him to continue the growing of wheat alone, without keeping live stock to help pay expenses.

"Accordingly, he invested in a flock of sheep, and it was while driving these home that he made his discovery, which he has since turned to such good account. Along the road near the Mansfield ranch the salt bush grew in abundance, and to the rancher's amazement the sheep began feeding up on it greedily. He figured that the year before, in trying to get rid of what he supposed to be a noxious weed, he had destroyed about five hundred dollars' worth of good sheep feed besides wasting a great deal of labor.

"The following year he increased his flock of sheep to a thousand head, and decided to try the experiment of feeding them exclusively on the salt bush. The animals were first turned loose on five acres of ground on which the bush grew thickly, and although left there for two weeks, they did not clean up all the feed. This patch had not been used for two years as a road for the feeding of stock, and its soil was richer than most of the surrounding area. Ordinarily, however, the salt bush will grow freely on the most arid and unfertilized land, and required practically no attention after once getting a stand.

"Later in the summer Mr. Mansfield made some hay of the weed, but on account of the scarcity of labor he was not able to haul it in out of the shock. He had to drive his sheep through the field containing this hay to a stubble-field where there was plenty of other pasture; but the sheep always preferred the salt bush hay, and would stop there to eat it.

"Although his experiment during the first year convinced Mr. Mansfield that he had made a valuable discovery, he was loath to announce it for fear of misleading other farmers. It was not until after he had tried it for a second season, with equally good results, that he felt justified in giving it to the public. Other farmers in the same vicinity have since pastured small flocks of sheep on the salt bush, and are hearty in indorsing his report. In every case where the sheep have been fed on the bush they have been superior, both in flesh and in wool, to other sheep in the same vicinity which were grazed on ordinary pasture.

"The Australian salt bush is a much branched perennial, which forms a thick mat over the ground to a height of about two feet. Its branches extend laterally for several feet, and frequently a single plant will cover an area of fifteen or even twenty square feet. Its leaves are about an inch long, broad at the apex, coarsely toothed along the margin, fleshy and slightly sticky on the surface. It belongs to the chenopod or goosefoot family—of which that troublesome Western weed, the Russian thistle, is also a member. The seeds germinate better if sown on the surface, which should be plowed or firmed by driving a flock of sheep across it. When covered to any depth, the seeds decay before germination.

"There are great stretches of black alkali land in the United States, of no use for anything else, on which the salt bush would thrive. It is confidently asserted that if these areas were sown to the salt bush they would support millions of sheep, and would enable our Western ranchers to produce more wool and more mutton than the whole country now raises."

Just the Same.

"Did you tell your wife as you did before you married her?"

"Exactly. I remember just how I used to act when I first fell in love with her. I used to lean over the fence in front of her house and gaze at her shadow on the curtain, afraid to go in. And I act just the same way now when I get home late."—London Tit-Bits.

Deserving Business.

Mike Arlief—Been doing anything lately?

Spud Arlief—Oh, knocked off a couple of profy holds last week and polished off the Mayor of Mudmouth.

Old Lady—Dreadful! Dreadful!—London Opinion.

PERSEVERING TOMMY STILL AFTER CUP

Sir Thomas Lipton, that persevering British yachtsman, is again at his old tricks of trying to lift the championship cup from America. He has just arrived in New York to complete arrangements for the big international event off Sandy Hook this summer. Liptons' boat was built before the war. The yacht here shown is the American cup defender the Resolute.

TOWNLEY AND THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

(From Literary Digest.)

The moving spirit of the Non-Partisan League, the organization that has revolutionized North Dakota, is a political genius named Arthur C. Townley. He is the man who induced 200,000 farmers to give up sixteen dollars each for membership in his league—a feat which is considerable of an achievement, when you come to think of it in the light of all available data on the canny farmer, who does real work for his money and is naturally reluctant to come across with real coin of the realm except for due cause. Pondering on this phenomenon, one is led to reflect not only upon the remarkable persuasive powers of the party who collected all this money, but also upon the fact that thereby he has acquired a most powerful hold on these men. The average farmer never invests sixteen dollars in anything, be it a league membership or a new and mysterious implement for deborning calves, unless he expects full and complete returns with interest. The personality and activities of Mr. Townley, who has gained so large a following, and collected so many dollars among the agriculturists of the Northwest, are discussed at some length by a writer in the New York Tribune. He says:

Mr. Townley is thirty-eight years old and has been in politics for only four years. Already one entire state government and 200,000 farmers in thirteen states are completely under his sway. He is a more effective speaker in his appeal to the multitude than Bryan at his best. What is more, he combines with his gift of speech as great an organizing political genius as often occurs. That is a rare combination. With it he has done two impossibilities. First, he has organized a majority of the farmers of one state, North Dakota, into a benign trust, a sort of agrarian Soviet, powerful enough to deliver the entire governmental machinery of the state into the hollow of his hand. Secondly, he is on the road to engineering the only effective alliance of farmer and laborer ever achieved.

According to this writer, there is apparently nothing Bolshevistic about Mr. Townley and his Non-Partisan League. They are neither disloyal nor I. W. W. in spirit or in fact. They resent being called even Socialists. They are simply a radical set of farmers, largely of alien parentage, who want to experiment in state ownership in an effort to right certain wrongs.

They have embarked upon their venture in a legal way, and their experiment is quite in harmony with the national Constitution. To show how their leader has brought about the results already accomplished we quote further:

Townley has organized class feeling with a new narrowness and a new venom. Only farmers can be members of the league. With a very few exceptions, only farmers have been elected to office by the league. Every effort has been made to make the farmer class conscious and to fan its hatred of the capitalist.

It is said further that if there is a menace in the movement in North Dakota it lies with Townley, not the farmers. The average league member merely expects that certain enterprises in which he is vitally interested will be owned and operated by the state. But there is evidence that Townley's ideas are more radical than that. As we read:

He has already organized as a private venture of the league a great system of chain stores in the state. Rumor says that these will ultimately be sold to the state. He has had close relations with the I. W. W., and in 1917 made an extraordinary attempt to unite the farmers of North Dakota with the I. W. W. harvest hands in a working agreement that would have vastly enlarged and strengthened the Haywood union.

He was so much of a "red" that the war interested him not at all until the second Russian revolution showed what a force for radicalism it might be. He did not directly oppose either the draft or Liberty Loan. He did attack the war as being run by capitalists and argued that the capitalists should pay for it. In his Minnesota campaign of 1916 he nominated for governor Charles A. Lindbergh, a more extreme critic of the capitalists' war than Townley himself. In the campaign of 1918 the membership of the league was unquestionably augmented by the entire pro-German element of Minnesota and North Dakota.

Townley realizes perfectly that his success in North Dakota has depended upon the un-American character of the population, which made it less tenacious of individualism. He is so organizing the schools and newspapers of North Dakota that they can be made effective weapons of socialistic propaganda.

It is not known what Townley may do with labor. Being a master of inflammatory speech, it is said that if he should try to organize the labor unrest of the country a grave problem might be presented. In any event, and leaving labor out of the question, it is thought the Non-Partisan League in the 1920 election stands a good chance of carrying North Dakota, Minnesota, South Dakota, Idaho and Montana. However:

The Non-Partisan League is just as strong as Townley and no stronger. This is a reservation which must be constantly borne in mind.

If he collapses or blunders hopelessly, the league will collapse.

The success or failure of the whole socialistic program of North Dakota depends upon the executive ability of Townley.

He is the government of North Dakota.

And Townley is, or was, a speculative plunger, who, before he went into politics, plunged twice in large scale farming—and failed both times. He is temperamental and dictatorial. He has learned some caution and talks as if he realized the necessity of going slowly in the North Dakota program. Yet there are already signs of the plunger in the activities of the league.

Townley himself is a wholly American product. His political methods have some striking resemblance to Soviet methods. But they were entirely original with him and a natural product of this peculiar section of America. He is an American Lenine, not a Russian Lenine, in origin and inspiration.

He was born in Minnesota, the son of a farmer, and comes of straight English stock. He is tall and lean, dresses in black, and has been called by his enemies "the hawk." He has a clean-shaven, sharp face, with dark hair rolled back from his forehead, and when he is burning up an audience he bends his knees and swoops down like an avenger.

Nobody knows much of Townley's earlier years. His two farm failures are matters of common knowledge. He tried wheat in Colorado and flax in North Dakota, both on a huge scale, financed by others' money. Both failed utterly. He was to be the "Flax King of North Dakota," and did make $15,000 the first year. Then came two bad years, and he went under. The cynics say that he got his socialism then. At any rate, he next appears as a Socialist agitator.

Townley is a master propagandist. There has never been in America a propaganda of magazines, newspapers and speakers as elaborately and ably organized as that of the league. His funds have been huge—$2,000,000—expended chiefly in two states, North Dakota and Minnesota. No political party [illegible] ing t[illegible] And [illegible] been [illegible] not, [illegible] syste[illegible] name[illegible] liest [illegible] ernm[illegible] stanc[illegible] electe[illegible] is, To[illegible] for th[illegible] all se[illegible] been [illegible] league[illegible]

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Ne[illegible] Amer[illegible] evole[illegible] tuner[illegible] Tow[illegible] Dako[illegible] dozen[illegible] bosse[illegible] hum[illegible] that [illegible] to e[illegible] ness, [illegible] them [illegible] their [illegible] citiz[illegible] and [illegible] mach[illegible]

[illegible] not fight back. All we could [illegible] to lie down and keep out of [illegible] I would much rather have [illegible] there there was something to [illegible] back at than to lie there un[illegible] dreadful and almost un[illegible] gueling handed us by a des[illegible] enemy.

[illegible] were relieved the next night [illegible] Scottish division, the Gordon [illegible] nders, and joined the First [illegible] an Division about a kilometer [illegible] the road under cover of an [illegible] arkness. And I want to say [illegible] hands were very grateful for [illegible] rkness.

[illegible] at 75 boats are being operat[illegible] fishermen on the lower Rogue [illegible] and are selling about 200 fish [illegible] to the Wedderburn Trading [illegible]y. The company is paying [illegible] $100 a day to fishermen.

any human being, and I will keep my contemptuous and condemnatory thoughts of anybody out of my mind; neither will I speak derogatory words.

10—I will keep my whole self in tune with positive, healthful and optimistic forces.

11—I will make my enforced intimacies as pleasant as possible; I will get along without friction or bickering of strained relations, with my family, my neighbors, and my business associates.

12—I will plan for at least a half hour's quiet, for reflection and for cultivating my own spirit.

13—I will be more honest, square and prompt than business requires; more kind than charity requires; more loyal than friendship requires; more thoughtful than love requires.

14—I will do somebody a good turn that is not expected of me.

15—If anybody does the wrong I will not bear him a grudge; I will try to forget it.

16—I will enjoy as heartily as I can what the day brings me; and get all the pleasure possible out of eating, drinking, resting, working, amusements, and the people I meet; so that at night I may be able to say: "I have lived today, and have found life good."

There Are Birds and Birds.

Jessie—"I was taken in dinner by that officer you introduced me to. He was quite gallant, and remarked upon my birdlike appetite."

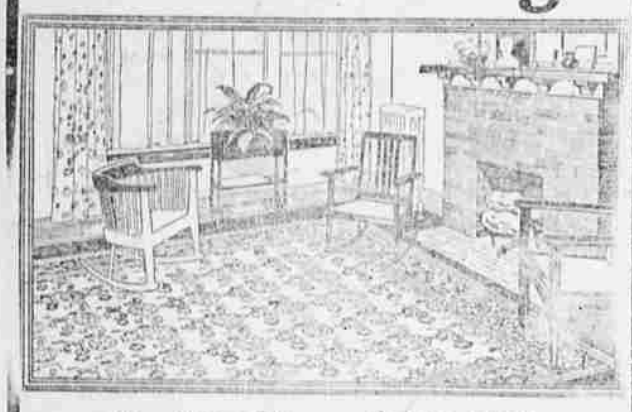
Maud—"Well, he should be a good judge on that point, dear; he runs an ostrich farm in South Africa."—London Mail.

Just So.

"Why have words roots, pa?"

"To make the language grow, my child."—Baltimore American.

Wilton Rugs



9x12 Size $63.50

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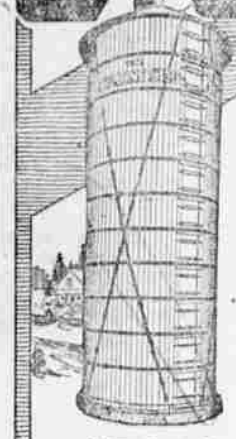

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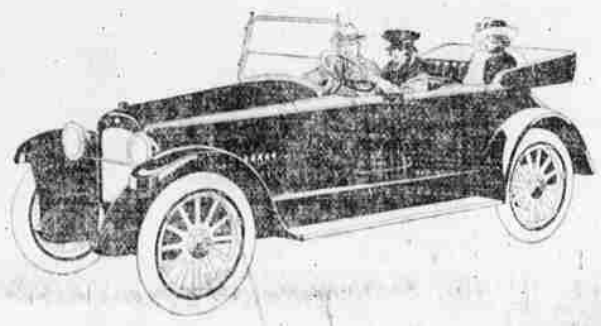

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Therefore, learn this creed, better if you can, and say it as your day begins.

1—I want this day to be a cheerful and successful one, so that I may come to my resting bed tonight glad and satisfied. To accomplish this I will plan my day intelligently.

2—As I know that happiness depends on me, my will and attitude of mind, and not on events, I will adjust myself to whatever happens.

3—I will not worry. If a thing can be helped I will help it, if not, I will make the best of it.

4—I will keep all mental poisons out of my thought. I will especially resist and exclude fear, which weakens and unnerves me.

5—I will not allow myself to become angry.

6—I will resist pride.

7—I will try to affect pleasantly everyone with whom I am thrown in contact. I will try to make happiness as well as to receive it.

8—I will believe in myself. I will allow nothing to make me doubt myself nor to create in me discouragement or despair.

9—I will not let my [illegible] despise any human being, and I will keep my contemptuous and condemnatory thoughts of anybody out of my mind; neither will I speak derogatory words.

10—I will keep my whole self in tune with positive, healthful and optimistic forces.

11—I will make my enforced intimacies as pleasant as possible; I will get along without friction or bickering of strained relations, with my family, my neighbors, and my business associates.

12—I will plan for at least a half hour's quiet, for reflection and for cultivating my own spirit.

13—I will be more honest, square and prompt than business requires; more kind than charity requires; more loyal than friendship requires; more thoughtful than love requires.

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15—If anybody does the wrong I will not bear him a grudge; I will try to forget it.

16—I will enjoy as heartily as I can what the day brings me; and get all the pleasure possible out of eating, drinking, resting, working, amusements, and the people I meet; so that at night I may be able to say: "I have lived today, and have found life good."

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