EXPERIMENTS.

REASONS WHY THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD HELP FARMERS

By Assisting Scientists to Observe the Life and Causes of Death of Noxious Bugs and Insects--Prevention Retter Than Cure in This Direction.

Man is inclined to travel in beaten paths, looking little to the right or left for short cuts and easier grades. He is prone to select at the start the most expensive and most intricate way of accemplishing his object. The study of mechanisms gives plain proof of this, Watts' original steam engine was a most complicated affair. It took two or three generations to simplify and perfect it. The same was true of the sewing machine and all other complicated inventions. The wagon in use in central Europe to-day is made with as much work on one as on six American farm wagons and it is a most awkward affair. A set of English plow harness is equal in It was for the most part ready for the weight to the combined weight of our plow and plowman. A regular one-horse English farm cart is much heavier than onr two horse wagon. And so the world plods along.

America should and does lead the world but she must be constantly on the alert or she will drop behind. The rejuvenated giants of Europe will some of them handicap us. They are far ahead of us in that form of politics so dreadful to some ages-paternalism. For years practical scientific research was fostered by Europearn governments and great results had been obtained, especially in France and Prussia, before we as a government dreamed of such a thing. Slowly we have fallen into line but we are far behind. The United States should have been leaders from the start in all scientific and inventive lines, and especially in practical applied science. There are great openings yet to be filled. Our forests are not conserved. Our rivers are drying up, our lakes and harbors are filling up with detritus, once navigable rivers are now a delusion and a snare, our swamps are unreclaimed and remain a menace to life and health. More paternalism in certain directions might do us good though it is better to let the people do for themselves what they can do best. There are many things, however, they cannot do. Much is yet hidden that would be of great benefit if it were brought to light that prirate agencies cannot devote the time and means to properly elucidate. Here paternalism in the government steps in and is useful.

The inventor and scientist is not a business man as we now use the word. Not a man who can amass wealth. They are poor, with rare exceptions. Our lawyers, statesmen and scientists do not as a rule get rich. They will not grovel in the dirt for gold. Yet they give great wealth to the world.

Contagious and infectious diseases have constantly decimated mankind and animals since the beginning. One would think that this fact would have led man up to the use of proper weapons of defense. Yet it is only within the past few years that experiments have been made as to the causes of diseases. It is now accepted that animal life is the cause of nearly all of man's ills. Professor Forbes of Illinois was the first in this country to give the matter scientific attention. Naturalists had long known that ferol life, insect as well as larger animal, had myriads of infectious diseases. About 1863 chinch bugs were enormously plenty throughout the prairie The last week in July they were attacked in Illinois by a deadly disease and at the end of two weeks not a living bug could be found in the neighborhood. And the uext season scarcely one could be found for a cabinet specimen. This occurred throughout the prairie states at different dates that season. Of course, isolated individuals escaped and gradually re-seeded the country. Professor Forbes made a careful study of this. He learned its character and how to preserve it through the winter so the bugs might be infected the following year. If I remember rightly, however, he failed in this by reason of there being no chinch bugs the following year to infect. From want of means and time Professor Forbes was forced to discontinue his study and this valuable weapon of defense against the prairaie farmer's great enemy was forced to rest until three or four years ago when it was taken up by a professer of a Kansas experiment station. The latter has demonstrated that there were two distinct diseases deadly to the chinch bug. One was a fungus, the other bacterial. Bugs could be easily infected with either and they would be exterminated before they could do any harm. He met with the same results that Pro-fessor Forbes did. He killed every chinch bug in his region and his experiments seemed fated to come to an end for want of material. But he advertised for healthy chinch bugs. It was neces sary to have chinch bugs to keep the in-fection.

Another case is the importation of the Australian ladybird (bedalia cardinalis). It ate up all the cottony cushion scale bugs—its only food—where introduced bugs—its only food—where its and then starved to death. This diffi-culty had to be bridged over by inclosing the bedalia on protected orange trees infested with scale. Otherwise the bug would have to be imported

the bug would have to be imported again if the scale made a fresh start as it surely would do.

The department of agriculture has now taken hold of this work as it should have done years ago. The experiments the present season have been very satisfactory both on the chinch bug and cabbage caterpillars. The boll and leaf worms of the cotton plant are now the most destructive insects in this country. A means of destroying them would be worth millions to the industry. It is undoubtedly true that all noxions insects can be obliterated by disease. Heretofore parasites have been credited with the extermination of least of the extermination of discovered by experiment and study. There are many vegetables which are bug repellents and these should be experimented with.

D. B. Wier.

THE REASON WHY.

WIER SEEKS TO SOLVE THE CAUSES OF DEPRESSION.

Farming Has Been Affected Deleteriously by Changes in Commercial Uses of Farm Products--Coal Oil Against Corn-A Better Era Promised.

Many writers and political economists have attempted to give the reasons why the farm has not paid during the last twenty years. Before 1861, we will say for about fifteen years, farming and its commerce had been going along smoothly. There were no violent irruptions, changes or fluctuation of prices.

The farmer knew from the past what the future would be, provided always that there were no radical changes. Farming was then a conservative business. There was no speculation in it but rather a certain steady income. Land was free by homesteading. plow and though millions of acres of rich prairie land were brought under cultivation yearly the growth of the country and commerce absorbed the product and the farmer was prosperous. Railroads, canals and cities were being built and the farmer was feeding the builders. We supplied the world with cheap cotton and many other things. Taking things all in all it was a very comfortable time for the farmer. Yet he worked hard, was prudent and gen-erally out of debt. The prairie farmer then got into that peculiar habit of buying up all the land that joined him and the neighbors he bought out came west to grow up with the country and in that way the great trans-Mississipi was quickly settled by men who understood farming in all its details.

Now we come to review the causes which brought about radical changes in farming. We will begin with alcohol. Indian corn made the cheapest alcohol. It was generally used for light in the shape of camphine and burning fluid. It was used largely in cooking, in the arts, and shipped in large quantities to Europe to be converted into so-called brandies and other liquors. All of this alcohol or nearly all was made from in this way. corn. In 1862-3 coal oil came into general use, entirely displacing the burning fluid. This would have been a serious blow to the corn grower if the war had not intervened. The war, with its great wastes of provisions, labor and lives, really saved the farmer from bankruptcy. It brought about high prices undreamed of before. Money was plenty, especially in the great producing centres. Corn continued to be king. It was the foundation of pork, beef and alcoholthe sinews of war. The cutting off of alcohol and the internal revenue tax placed upon it had no appreciable effect on the farmer. The result has been that war prices and plenty of money begot extravagance. The old prudent ways were dropped and forgotten. Was the old better than the new? Perhaps it was safer and carried with it a more comfortable and restful life. The farmer of the last twenty years wears more frills, rides where he used to walk, and has much more style than he had in the fifties. But is he happier and having an easier time of it? Those who have enjoyed the privileges of both periods can see but little difference in the pleasures and comforts.

We now come to the causes of the present general depression. With the late deplorable situation among the farmers of the prairie states—and their condition reflects on all other states, for prairie state prices rule the prices of provisions throughout this country and to a limited extent the commercial world-alcohol still has much to do. It is to-day carrying the full war taxes first placed upon it. This tax the corn grower has to pay. The excise tax of 90 cents a gallon largely prevents the use of alcohol. If the removal of this tax would cause the use of one third or onehalf more spirits by cheapening its price that would measure the portion that the farmer pays. And if it caused the use of one-third or one-half more it would enhance the price of corn just hat much, with the usual reflex influence on the prices of all other foods.

Corn was not only knocked out in sirup. price by the tax on spirits but also by the extension of railroads. Pork made from corn was refused admission into | tough on cooling. some of our foreign markets. Another thing to be considered is that one man and a horse could only cultivate twentyfive to thirty acres of corn in 1855, while in 1875 and since, one man with two acid. Bathe the chapped parts occahorses and improved implements can cultivate twice as much with greater cure and prevent chapping and whiten

The whole farming method of the South was changed by the war. Before, the cotton grower, his negro and mule were fed by the corn grower. After the was forced to feed himself.
Such are about one-half the causes

that have led up to the great depression in agriculture. The wonderful recuperative powers of the nation, the great immigration with the money brought with it and the millions set free by the nation in paying its debts are the forces that litical or partisan writer, which I am not, I would add in conclusion that what the farmer most needs to relieve How to Make Cheap and Quick Ki the general depression in his business is the removal of the excise tax on spirits. Cheapen alcohol and thereby increase its consumption. Not necessarily as a tipple but in the arts and domestic uses. Use it for fuel, for lighting purposes where gas or kerosene is too expensive. Create through its use an enlarged market for corn and thus will the great corn growing states bordering on the Mississippi and Missouri rivers again blossom as the rose. And their prosperity will reflect upon every line of industry, especially agriculture in all its branches.

D. B. WIER.



How to Oil a Harness.

Take a harness to a rcom where you can unbuckle it and separate the parts completely. Wash each part well in lukewarm water to which has been added a little potash. Scrub well with brush until all grease and dust have been removed. Wash the pieces well under the hand until they become supple. It won't do to oil until the harness becomes so. Let the parts dry in a place where they will do so slowly. When just moist, oil. For this purpose use codliver oil, as it is the best for the purpose. Besides, if you use neatsfoot, the rats and mice are your enemies at once, while they will not touch a harness oiled with codliver oil. Give a good dose of oil to all parts, then hang up to dry. When dry rub well with a soft rag.

How to Make a Dainty Letter Opener. Cut two pieces of sheet celluloid in dagger shape with curved blades. The whole should not be more than three or four inches long. The two may be glued together and some tiny design of flower or leaf sketched in sepia on the polished surface of the celluloid.

How to Keep Fish Fresh. A method practiced in Europe is to clean the fish and sprinkle the interior with sugar, keeping the fish in a horizontal position so that the sugar may penetrate as much as possible. A tablespoonful of sugar is sufficient for a three pound fish. The flavor is thus preserved a long time and fish treated in this way before salting and smoking have a fine

How to Clean Jewelry Easily. Every piece of plain jewelry, except a watch, can be cleaned by a simple washing with soap and warm water. They can be dried and brightened on a piece of chamois skin, or by being laid in a box of jeweler's sawdust. Pearls and turquoises cannot, of course, be treated

lime, which forms a new compound with the kerosene and removes every trace of By a second application, adding a little chloride of lime and allowing the mixture to stand in the vessel an hour, every trace of the kerosene odor will be removed.

How to Bleach Wax. Slice ordinary beeswax into thin flakes, lay them on sacking of coarse cloth and in sunshine, turn occasionally and sprinkle with .oft water unless there is dew enough. In four weeks it will be pure white.

How to Polish Shells.

When shells become dry they often them in water in which a little gum arabic has been dissolved, or with the use of a little nitric acid in the water.

How to Arrange Peacock Feathers. where you placed them. Try partially filling your vase or jar with sand or sawdust, and see if the peacock feather stems will not "stay put." Easy enough. isn't it. when you know how?

How to Test Honey.

color will indicate it, and many can detect it by the taste. If with potato sugar sirup, that will be shown by boiling a sample for a short time in water containing 2 or 3 per cent. of caustic potassa. If the liquid remains colorless the honey is pure, but if it turns brown it contains the potato sugar sirup. If there is wheat flour in the honey (and it is sometimes used to doubling the corn producing area and increase the amount), it will become very liquid when heated and solid and

> How to Cure Chapped Hands. Mix one ounce of glycerin, one ounce of rosewater and ten drops of carbolic sionally, especially at night. It will

How to Remove Old Wall Paper. Fasten the doors and windows closely and set a large vessel of hot water in the room for a few minutes. In a large room war he was not able to buy corn and it is well to add boiling water two or three times. The paper will be moistened and come off much easier and more evenly. The woodwork can also be cleaned much more easily while damp.

How to Make Chewing Gum Take of prepared balsam of tolu two ounces, white sugar one ounce and oathave sustained the farmer in so far as meal three ounces. Soften the gum in a he has been sustained. If it were not water bath till it is workable, then work for the fear of being construed as a po- in the other ingredients and roll in finely

> How to Make Cheap and Quick Kindling. Dip corncobs for about one minute in a mixture of sixty parts resin and forty parts tar, melted together. Dry in hot sunshine or uven.

> How to Tell Fresh Eggs. To ascertain whether an egg is good or bad hold it up to the light. If it is good it is transparent; if bad, opaque.

How to Pickle Meat Red. Mix brown sugar, bay salt and common salt each two pounds; saltpeter, eight onnces, and water, two gallons. This pickle gives meat a fine red color. while the sugar improves the flavor

How to Clear Sugar. Take a little gum arabic and a little isinglass dissolved in hot water and pour it in the sugar while the latter is boiling. It will cause all the sediment to boil to the top of the pan, where it must be skimmed off. Loaf sugar may be cleared with the white of an egg, isinglass or gum arabic.

How to Make a Cheap Paint for Outside

Farmers will find the following a good receipt for making an excellent and cheap paint for outdoor buildings, fences and poultry houses: Take one-half bushel of good unslacked lime; slack it with boiling water, keeping it covered during the process, so that as little of the steam as possible may escape. Strain the liquid through a sieve and add to it a peck of salt dissolved in warm water and three pounds of ground rice boiled to a thin paste. Stir in boiling hot one-half pound glue and five gallons of hot water. Let the mixture stand a few days, covered from dust, and apply hot with a white-wash brush. If another color than white be desired, Spanish brown, yellow ocher or other colors may be added with the exception of green. This is a good paint for all outdoor woodwork, brick or Support.

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Dimples.

eruptions were due to a "blood humor," fe which they gave potash. Thus all the old Sarsaparillas contain potash, a most objectionable and drastic mineral, that instead of decreasing actually creates more cruptions. You have ne-ticed this when taking other Sarsaparillas than lose their luster. To restore it wash Joy's. It is however now known that the stom ach, the blood creating power, is the seat of all vittating or cleansing operations. A stomach arabic has been dissolved, or with the white of an egg. If the shells have a dull, thick skin, it can be removed by healthful digestion purifies it and they disappear. soaking in warm water and rubbing Thus Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparills is compounded with a brush, or, if very adhesive, by the after the modern idea to regulate the bowels and stimulate the digestion. The effect is immediate Use the latter with care, as it may destroy the luster of the shell under the contrast the action of the potash Sarsaparillas contrast the action of the potash Saraaparillas and Joy's modern vegetable preparation. Mrs. C. D. Stuart, of 400 Hayes St., S. F., writes: "I have for years had indigestion, I tried a popular Peacock feathers in a vase are the de- Sarsaparilla but it actually caused more pimples spair of the uninitiated, for they will to break out on my face. Hearing that Joy's was fall over or slide into any position but it and the pimples immediately disappeared."

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THE DALLES, OREGON.

A Revelation.



Few people know that the bright bluish-green color of the ordinary teas exposed in the windows, is not the natural color. Unpleasant as the fact may be, it is nevertheless artificial; mineral colorin matter being used for this purpose. The effect is two-feld. It not only makes the tea a bright, shiny green, but also permits the use of "off-color" and worthless teas, which,

worked off as a good quality of tea.

An eminent authority writes on this subject: "The manipulation of poor teas, to give them a finer appearance, is carried on extensively. Green teas, being in this country. especially popular, are produced to meet the demand by coloring cheaper black kinds by glazing or facing with Prussian blue, tumeric, gypsum, and indigo. This method is so general that very little genuine uncolored green tea

once under the green cloak, are readily

ts offered for sale."

It was the knowledge of this condition of It was the knowledge of this condition of affairs that prompted the placing of Beech's. Tea before the public. It is absolutely pure and without color. Did you ever see any genuine uncolored Japan tea? Ask your grocer to open a package of Beech's, and you will see it, and probably for the very first time. It will be found in color to be just between the artificial green tea that you have been accustomed to and the black teas.

It draws a delightful canary color, and is so fragrant that it will be a revelation to teas.

fragrant that it will be a revelation to tea-drinkers. Its purity makes it also more economical than the artificial teas, for less of it is required per cup. Sold only in pound packages bearing this trade-mark:

BEECH'S TEA "Pure As Childhood".

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