

A "CATERPILLAR" AS A PLOW HORSE

A Tale of a Trip to John Crow's Ranch and Some Facts About a Big Wheat Man.

Plowing 35 acres a day and doing the work of 40 horses, a "caterpillar" engine is daily toiling away for John Crow, the big reservation farmer. At this time the machine is at work on the Isaacs place, between McKay and Tutulla, and is engaged in plowing a 480 acre field. In company with Mr. Crow a trip to the scene of operations was made today by a representative of the East Oregonian and by Miss Fleck, librarian of the public library who is from Wisconsin and is anxious to learn of western ways and conditions. She had a "joy ride" on board the "caterpillar" and declares she enjoyed the experience immensely.

"The caterpillar engine is the right thing and she stood by the side of his auto and watched the crawling monster go along, at what would be a fast walk for a horse, and drag four three bottom plows behind it. Chief among the advantages of the caterpillar are that it does not have to be fed during the winter months, it does not have to be harnessed and unharnessed, it does its work faster than horses and it saves a hired man or two.

At this time Claude Crow, son of John Crow, is serving as chauffeur for the caterpillar and he has one man to care for the plows. With this crew of two men and a machine fed by gasoline, 35 acres of ground is covered every day.

But the caterpillar is not a perfect machine yet, by any means. "They need to make a few improvements in order to get it right," says the owner of the Crow machine. "The magnetos is too cheap and there are some other betterments that will come about in time, as the engine is made more and more perfect."

Plowing 1200 Acres.
This spring Mr. Crow is using his caterpillar to plow not only his own land but to turn under many acres for some neighbors. He is farming 800 acres himself, but will plow a total of about 1200 acres with the machine on its present run.

Not Always Thus.
"How did you farm when you first came to this country?" Mr. Crow was asked, after the workings of the caterpillar and its 12 trailing plows had been duly observed.

"When I first came here I was as broke as a dog and I worked for wages up near Milton," he replied. "I soon found that a man could not make anything working for wages and went to Heppner, where I took up a 160-acre ranch. A year later I sold that

place for \$500 and came to Pendleton. I first rented land north of town and made a little money the first year. We used walking plows then. The next year I had three quarter sections to farm and I bought two gang plows. That year I made a profit of \$5000."

He Also Lost Money.
But when farming in Umatilla county has not always been the big money making business it has been during recent years. Though he made money in the early days of his farming career, John Crow also had the experience of "going broke" during the hard times. It was in 1895 that he lost a crop through rain and had a \$5000 mortgage that was due and could not be paid. When that mortgage was satisfied Mr. Crow was in much the same position as when he arrived in this country, "broke as a dog," as he expresses it.

However, of late years prosperity has smiled again upon the farmers of Umatilla county and especially upon men who are good managers and hard workers like John Crow. So it has come about that when newcomers ask who some of the big wheat farmers of this section are the name of John Crow usually comes near the head of the list. It is sufficient to say that when he goes from ranch to ranch to see how his spring work is proceeding he goes neither afoot or horseback. He goes by automobile.

A Progressive Farmer.
Unlike some other big wheatraisers of this section, John Crow is not a "standpatter" in the matter of agricultural methods. He believes in progress and is willing to make more money than at present if he can ascertain how to do so. Therefore he is devoting 40 acres of good reservation land to experimental crops. He has long had an alfalfa pasture that has been the envy of other reservation farmers. He is now trying out some field peas, some millet and sugar beets. The field peas were seeded this spring and at the same time a crop was put in by his neighbor, Charles Hamilton. That the field pea will grow with success in this country Mr. Crow is hopeful and he is going to give that crop a trial. If he finds the field pea properly productive he will use it as a summer fallow crop. In other words, he will seed the field peas early in the spring, thresh or hog off the crop early in the summer and then proceed with the summer fallowing during the rest of the season. In this way he is following out the suggestions of Prof. H. D. Scudder of O. A. C.

How Old is Your Horse?
Corvallis, Ore.—There are four ways to tell the age of a horse, according to Prof. E. L. Potter of the Oregon Agricultural college: by his teeth, by his ribs, by the flesh on his tail, and by the skin on his cheeks.

In a young horse the cheek skin is soft and elastic, and flies back quickly when raised. In an old one, it is lifeless and goes back but slowly.

Old horses apparently have a wider and more distinct space between their ribs than young ones. And with age the flesh on the tail of a horse shrinks, making the joints more distinct than they are on a young horse.

Judging by the changes in the teeth is a more accurate method. The coming of the temporary teeth first, and then the permanent ones; the development to maturity; the change in shape on account of wear; the coming of the cups in the teeth, and their wearing away afterward; and the change in the angle of meeting of the teeth, from straight together at five years to a sharp angle at twenty; all these are signs by which the experienced horseman can read accurately the age of a horse.

"It must be remembered that the permanent teeth, above and below, come in at the same time," says Prof. Potter, "but that the cups above do not wear away until all the cups below are gone. It must also be remembered that the changes begin at the center and continue at the rate of one pair a year; that a horse at maturity, which is at five years, has everything—that is, all his permanent teeth and all the cups. If one remembers this much, he has the whole thing in a nut shell."

Medicines that aid nature are always most successful. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy acts on this plan. It loosens the cough, relieves the lungs, opens the secretions and aids nature in restoring the system to a healthy condition. Sold by all dealers.

Sometimes we feel as if we'd rather be absent altogether than to be reported as among those present.

LIST OF DONORS TO ROUND-UP PARK FUND

Now that the first installment of work on the new \$12,000 Round-up park is all but completed and the next installment ready to begin, it is fit and proper that it be known to the world at large who were the donors to the fund which made possible an improvement which will not only accommodate the big wild west show and the thousands who will come to see it but will, long after the world round-up has become only a memory, be a credit and a source of pride to the city.

Heretofore only the names of the largest contributors have been published but below is given the entire list with the amount of their subscription:

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The soothing to remember that your rival is losing just as much sleep over you as you are over him.

WESTON CIVIC CLUB IS CLEANING CITY

(Special Correspondence.)

Weston, Ore., March 29.—Mr. E. P. Warren and wife who have been visiting in Weston during last week left Monday morning for Heppner, Oregon, where he resides.

Mr. Moses Taylor a prominent Athena rancher was in Weston on a business visit Monday.

Mr. J. Stamper a nephew of Mr. Henry Stamper, a prosperous liveryman of Weston, has moved his family from Pendleton and is living in the K. M. Powers residence on North Water street.

Mr. J. E. Keefe, jr. went to Pendleton Tuesday on an important business trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Watts of Athena, were over in their auto visiting friends.

Mrs. E. G. Michel who has been visiting her daughter Mrs. Kate Chandler of Baker City, returned to her home last night, March 27.

Miss Dora Mitchell, missionary of the German Baptist church of Portland, Oregon, and who has been conducting the song services during protracted meetings in Weston, has returned to her home in Portland.

The general spring cleaning of the city which was inaugurated by the Civic Improvement club two years ago, and which has been continued ever since, is about all completed for this season. The garbage has been gathered together and will be removed from the city limits soon. This custom has been the means of enhancing the beauty and cleanliness of Weston.

The latest invention which has been heard of in Weston and which has aroused much interest among the poultry raisers is that of eye glass for chickens. This invention is not, as generally supposed, intended for the finding and inspection of food, but it

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to preserve their eye sight in old age. With wonder we exclaim, what next!
Some recent improvements are being made on the residences of Wesley Carters and D. S. Madden. They are receiving a new spring coat of paint.
On Tuesday evening the dray team belonging to L. B. Davis became frightened on account of an auto coming up behind them and the result was they ran against a fire plug breaking it off. The water flooded the streets for a few hours before repairs could be completed.
Mr. Frank Price is now walking on crutches on the account of a slight scratch on the foot which became

so swollen that he is threatened with blood poison.
Miss Lucile Kemp has been confined to her bed for the past few days and Dr. Newsome is in attendance. Miss Ruby Taylor is also ill and under the doctor's care.
Miss Mabel Kennard was in Athena F. E. Livengood & Co. 100.00 on a short visit during the week.
Mrs. Alice Kirkpatrick who is very fond of roses has improved the appearance of her home by putting a hedge of fine pink La France roses on the south side of her lawn.
Mr. John Bonewitz, a German Baptist preacher of this city is holding a series of revival meetings on the Weston mountain.

CHILDREN IN THE HOME

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