



CORNSTALKS

Just as the invasion of the European cornborer has put up to every farmer in the corn-growing regions the problem of how to get rid of the cornstalks and hold the pest in check, new inventions for the utilization of this farm waste for making paper and also a substitute for lumber have been perfected.

Now capital in large amount has been subscribed to finance industries which will contract with farmers for their stalks, after harvest, send their own machines into the fields to gather them, and haul them to central points where they will be manufactured into useful products. This will help conserve the forests and will also add to the profits of the corn growers.

GAS

The International Red Cross is preparing for the next war. One of the certainties about the next war on any large scale is that poison gas will be used on a larger scale than ever before. War is no longer an affair of kings and hired armies; it is whole nations against whole nations. The aggressor in the next great war will not wait for the enemy to assemble an army but will try to wipe out a whole city by dropping poison gas from the clouds.

What the Red Cross is looking for is some means of detecting the most minute trace of poison gas in the air. A prize of \$2,000 is offered to the successful inventor. And we call this a civilized world!

EMOTIONS

Anger, fear, worry, especially the latter, kill more people than "real"

disease, according to a report recently made to the New York Academy of Medicine. There is no such thing as overwork, either of body or mind. The body, given sufficient nourishment, will quit of its own accord when fatigue becomes too great, and a night's sleep will put it back into trim again. Probably no human being has ever used his brain to its full capacity. Men who have studied that subject say that most of us use less than a quarter of our power of thought.

But let worry, jealousy, fear of losing one's job, one's money or one's sweetheart, creep in, and the whole picture is changed. The emotional tension tires both mind and body, which cannot go on without violent stimulation, and the process of decay is hastened. Most of the deaths from heart disease and kidney trouble are the result of emotional tension rather than any real defect in the physical organs.

LIFE

With all the talk about the increased average length of human life, the age of seventy still remains the normal limit for the human being. So Dr. Louis Dublin, medical head of one of the great insurance companies, reports. Only exceptional individuals live beyond 70, and in America the proportion who die between 65 and 70 is increasing. Yet the average American lives longer than those of his father's generation, did, much longer than in his grandfather's time. That is because the illnesses which used to kill off babies, children and young people of both sexes are not so prevalent as formerly.

Every American baby born today has a reasonable chance of living to 55, which is the average length of life in this country, as against 48 in most of Europe. But the man who reaches 55 cannot count on more than fifteen years more of life with any degree of certainty, and the chances are that he will pass on in ten years.

COAL

Geologists of the Byrd South Pole Expedition have found coal in Antarctica. Great Britain takes occasion to remind the United States that considerable parts of the land there are under the protection of the British flag. Trouble-makers,

especially the sensational newspapers which prefer war to peace because war is more "newsy" are already trying to lay the foundation for international strife.

If we ever do go to war against Great Britain it will be over something far more important than a coal-bed located where the temperature is always below freezing and usually 40 degrees or so below zero. Even if the coal were accessible it would not be worth fighting over. Coal is losing its importance in the economic scheme of things, now that oil has become the principal fuel for the world's navies as well as the merchant marine.

WHEAT GROWING POINTERS

(From tillage and production report of Eastern Oregon Wheat conference.) Spring disking of stubble is always advisable if the ground is to be plowed late. For early plowing disking does not pay. The use of a rolling coultter attached to a jointer aids in turning over stubble more completely, making better summer fallow.

Late plowing without previous disking reduces wheat yields. Plowing from five to eight inches deep with variations in depth each time of plowing is recommended. Plowing deeper than eight inches will rarely if ever prove profitable.

Packing after plowing does not materially affect the yield of wheat after fallow. For spring plowing

and sowing, thorough packing after plowing is advisable.

Harrowing is best done within a week or 10 days after plowing. Harrowing after plowing and before the moisture has left the ground helps firm the seed bed.

Tillage tools best adapted for summer fallow are spike tooth and spring tooth harrows, and blade or rod weeders.

Weedy fallow means lower yields and poorer quality of wheat.

Cost of plowing is recognized as important in cost of production. New tillage implements are being introduced intended to eliminate plowing in seedbed preparation. These implements should be tested by the Oregon Experiment station so that definite recommendations can be made regarding their use. Plowing is necessary in most soils and should not be replaced until the value of the new implements has been demonstrated.

Oregon Stock Values Lower Than in 1929

Oregon livestock values on January 1, 1930, show a very marked reduction. A reduction is indicated in every class of livestock although sheep show the greatest slump, according to a report released through the federal-state cooperative reporting service by Paul C. Newman, agricultural statistician in charge.

While the total number of sheep in Oregon remains unchanged as compared to January 1, 1929, the average price of all classes is \$9.90 a head compared to \$11.60 a

year ago and the slump in total value is \$6,374,000. With sheep numbers remaining stationary and with the big slump in value it appears that the steady increase of sheep through the past few years has received a definite check.

Dairy cattle in Oregon failed to register any increase and the number on farms is estimated at 220,000 head, the same as a year ago. The average value per head slumped \$8.00 a head to \$80.00. The present estimate of total value of all dairy cows and heifers is \$17,600,000 compared to \$19,360,000 a year ago.



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