

Practical Farming

Helpful Facts Gathered from Reliable Sources
Of Interest to Montana Farmers :: :: ::

(NOTE) If you have any idea to offer to the other readers or wish anything to appear in these columns kindly send it in.

HORSES' AGE

To tell the age of any horse.
Inspect the lower jaw, of course;
The six front teeth the tale will tell,
And every doubt and fear dispel.
Two middle nippers you behold
Before the colt is two weeks old;
Before eight weeks 2 more will come,
Eight months the corners cut the gum.
The outside groove will disappear
From middle two in just one year.
In two years from the second pair—
In three years "corners", too, are bare.
At three the second pair can't stop;
At two the middle "nippers" drop;
When four years old the third pair
goes
At five a full set he shows.
The deep black spots will pass from
view
At six years, from the middle two;
The second pair at seven years;
At eight the spot each corner clears,
From middle "nippers" upper jaw
At nine the black spots will withdraw;
The second pair at ten are bright;
Eleven finds the corners light.
As time goes on the horsemen know
The oval teeth three-sided grow;
They longer get—project—before
Till twenty, when we know no more.
—Dr. David Roberts.

GREATER WHEAT CROP

Helena, Montana, June 23.—It is estimated that the wheat acreage in Montana for this year is 25 per cent greater than that of 1914, which brings it into the neighborhood of 1,200,000 acres. The probable production from this area, will be, it is estimated, close to 25,000,000 bushels. In 1900 the wheat production of Montana was less than 2,000,000 bushels. This marvelous increase is only one of the many facts which go to prove that Montana is the greatest wheat state in the union, and the greatest wheat country in the world.

Not content, however, so long as there are any untilled acres in Montana, those interested in the development of the resources of the commonwealth continue to encourage the farmers to plow more ground and sow more wheat, thus enriching not only the state itself, but its every resident.

With that end in view, and with the further wish of securing a choice collection of wheat samples, both threshed and in the sheaf to be used for the exploitation of Montana's agricultural resources in distant points, the Montana State Fair is this year offering a seven passenger, six cylinder Studebaker automobile of 1916 model, for the best five sheaves and one bushel of Montana grown wheat, from the

same field, and exhibited by a Montana farmer at the State Fair, September 20-25.

The management of the State Fair invites every farmer in the state to compete for this prize, and thus help to maintain the reputation which Montana has won as the best cereal country in the world, by its winning of the grand prize at the Panama-Pacific exposition.

MISTAKES OF HOMESTEADERS

The homesteader usually has a hard battle to fight. He has difficulties to encounter, some of which call for even more courage to meet than is called for in the soldier who goes into the battle field. The latter has the stimulus of comradeship. He knows that he is not fighting alone. The homesteader must usually carry on his contest with the adverse conditions that are always present in a new country almost single handed and alone. The soldier goes into the thickest of the fight under the stimulus of an excitement that of necessity is brief. The homesteader must attack the problems that confront him leisurely and with a persistent patience for they are problems that remain. They do not vanish in a day. His problems cover months and years and because of this a courage is called for to face them, that is of the most patient and enduring kind. It is true, therefore, that the man who goes out into the front and attacks the problems of the wilderness is more of a hero than the man who in the presence of a thousand comrades is called upon to go into battle, which in most instances will last for but a day. The men, therefore, who go out into the wilderness and who know at the same time that they must fight a battle that will cover years, are heroes of the highest type. When medals are distributed for deeds of daring and privation, the daring and courageous homesteader is entitled to a share in these. The homesteader on the frontier who has fought his battle successfully is worthy of double honor, and when medals are being distributed for heroic deeds, this man should not be forgotten.

But all this does not imply that the homesteader does not make mistakes. Oftentimes, he does. And the fair-minded homesteader will be the first to acknowledge the validity of those mistakes. Among these it is probably true that the greatest mistake made by the homesteader is that of inattention to making provision for his own livelihood and that of his fam-

ily. He is ambitious to get a large acreage prepared that will produce a money crop, as wheat or flax. In his eagerness to grow these in large quantity he pays no attention to the obliging hen, the brood sow that in one year would furnish him with meat, and to the cow that would provide himself and his family with milk, at once nutritious and wholesome. He has become possessed of the opinion that his revenues must come from the sale of wheat, flax and other grain products. But he ignores the fact that a dollar saved in his living by producing the equivalent of the same on his farm, is equivalent to a dollar that comes from the sale of grain.

Is it not true that the homesteader especially the homesteader with his family, should make it a first consideration to grow the food for his family as soon as this may be possible. Now, what is to hinder him from doing this the very first season?

Suppose he buys his eggs. Will he not have to pay for them 30 to 50 cents a dozen? Suppose he grows them on his own ranch after his first crop has been reaped, will he not produce them at a cost not exceeding 10 cents a dozen? Suppose he buys his ham and bacon. Will he not have to pay 25 to 30 cents a pound for them? If, instead, after his first crop, will he not grow ham and bacon at a cost not exceeding 10 cents a pound? This would seem to be reasonable when it is called to mind that the whole carcass can be grown at a cost not exceeding 3 cents per pound.

In all new countries in which farming is reasonably successful, the farmer may grow his own garden products if he will. The soil is new, and under such conditions the garden crop is an assured success if properly cared for. If the homesteader brings but one cow, she will supply his family with milk from the outset. If she produces a heifer calf, the homesteader will soon have two cows. If she produces a male, at the end of one or two years the homesteader has a beef that will supply his family with meat through the winter. In this way the homesteader is assured of a living, even though the crops should fail. Why should he not in every case reach out to secure this living? A dollar saved is certainly a dollar gained; and usually the most certain way in which the dollar may be obtained is through the saving that results from economical methods.

Now the homesteader may grow these products if he will. He may grow them all. He may not do so the first year that he locates on his ranch but he may do so the second. In this way he may save what would otherwise be great outlay. And yet the strange thing is that the homesteader will not do this. He is oblivious of the fact that a dollar saved is a dollar earned. In the Dakotas many of the farmers have continued thus to buy the products that they consume when they might have grown them on their own farm. In a good year this may not matter much. In a bad year it is simply in a sense calamitous.—Prof. Thomas Shaw, in Montana Farmer.

POPULAR SHOW COMING

"One swallow does not make a summer," neither does one comedian make a minstrel show.

Managers of the old school used to contend that one real actor and fifteen on sixteen "sticks" and a band of ten pieces (it was often eight) was sufficient for a minstrel show and that the public would accept them. History proves the truth of their contention, for the public did accept such organizations; whether or not the public were satisfied is a question open to argument.

But there have been vast changes in the last few years. The day of the one-show man is over. The public demands a company of uniform excellence.

Mistakes are to the wise man but stepping stones to success. The management of Richards & Pringle's Famous Georgia Minstrels were the first to realize that if minstrelsy was to thrive and flourish radical and important changes were necessary. Such changes called for the outlay of a considerable fortune, but time and results have testified to the truth of their conviction. This company stands today the acknowledged leader in this branch of the amusement business, and no well-informed student of the stage will challenge this statement. They travel in their own palace cars and number thirty people. Twelve comedians or real reputation vie with each other in the fun making. There are twelve trained singers, a double sextette of nimble dancers, seven big vaudeville acts and a band of seventeen pieces, that is the best ever.

The date of this company's appearance at the Gibson Opera House is Tuesday, July 6th. Seats on sale at Mabee's Drug Store.

Try a Courier Want Ad.

BIG JULY 4th CELEBRATION Glasgow Mont. MONDAY, JULY 5th

PROGRAM OF DAY SPORTS

9:00 A. M.—Band Concert on Front Street.

10:00 A. M.—Base Ball Game—Fourth Game of Tournament—Prize \$225.00.

11:45 A. M.—On Front Street—Sheep Shearing Contest—1st Prize \$10.00, second prize \$5.00.

Men's 100 Yard Dash—Free for All—First prize \$10.00, second prize, \$5.00.

Boys' 50 Yard Dash—14 Years and Under—first prize \$3.00, second prize \$1.00.

Tug of War—Picked Teams—Prize \$12.00.

Catching Greased Pig—Keep the Pig.

Sack Race—First prize \$4.00, second prize \$2.00.

Three Legged Race—First prize \$4.00, second prize \$2.00.

DAYLIGHT FIREWORKS AT THE BALL PARK

2:00 P. M.—Base Ball Game—Last Game of Tournament—Prize \$225.00.

4:00 P. M.—Championship Bucking Contest—First prize, \$100.00, second prize \$25.00.

Roping Contest—First Prize \$100.00, second prize \$25.00.

Steer Bulldogging Contest—First prize \$50.00, second prize \$25.00.

Steer Riding Contest—First prize \$35.00, second \$15.00.

Management not Responsible

The committee will not be responsible for any accident on the grounds through chance or otherwise. All riders and participants waive all rights to damages through accident.

All riders in bucking contests will draw for mounts forenoon of July 5th.

All riding will be done with plain hackamore, one end loose, with chaps and spurs, no quirt, all riding slick.

No Entry Fees Will Be Charged
Something Doing All the Time

BIG DANCE

In the Evening at the Gibson Opera House
CELEBRATE AT GLASGOW



Get a New
Ice Cream
Freezer

and new
Queensware

Ice Cream is a good healthy food to eat during the hot weather, for both you and your children.

Buy an Ice Cream freezer from us and make your own ice cream. Then you know it is pure and good.

Don't use broken or odd dishes when you can buy new, handsome sets from us for a low price.

We are the people whenever you need HARDWARE.

The Coleman
Hardware Co.

Glasgow, Montana