Home Course In Modern Agriculture

XII.—The Selection and Care of Farm Machinery

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THE methods of farming followed today are made possible only by the use of modern labor saving machinery. The farm hand of today needs brains more than muscles. The ability to handle a complicated machine successfully is more valuable than the power to do a hard day's manual labor.

With the coming of improved machinery the problem of what to buy and what to get along without has become a serious one. The farmer has more money tied up in machinery than in any one thing besides his land. Having too much machinery is nearly as bad as having too little. What is needed is a wise selection.

It is always well to do a little figuring before buying a new machine. Dividing the cost of the implement by the number of years it may be reasonably expected to last will give the amount that must be charged to depreciation each year. Add to this an allowance for repairs, storage and each year's share of the interest, and you will have the yearly cost of the machine. A little further figuring will show whether the benefit received from it in a year will warrant this cost.

Machinery may be roughly divided into five classes—tillage, planting, haying, harvesting and miscellaneous. Of the many tillage implements there are some that are absolutely necessary on any farm. Among these are the plows. For the farmer on a quarter section a sixteen inch riding plow will be all that is needed for the field work. In addition it may be well to have a cheap walking plow for plowing the garden, turning out potatoes and for use in case of an emergency. A gang plow requires too many horses to be practicable on the average 160 acre farm. On larger farms, where plenty of horses are available, a gang plow will save the time of an extra man. It is a good plan to have the plow supplied with two or three moldboards of different slants. A steep moldboard pulverizes the soil more and for this reason is a good thing to use on stubble land. On clover sod, however, a longer moldboard should be used in order to lessen the draft.

One of the most important tillage implements is the disk. No other machine will pulverize the soil so quickly or thoroughly. The use of a tongue truck—a small two wheeled arrangement—under the rear end of the tongue is of considerable advantage in taking the weight off the horses' necks. Solid wheel disks pulverize the ground more thoroughly than spaders or cutaways.

A good harrow is a necessity on any farm. The flexible type is best for all conditions, as it gets down into the hollows and rides over trash better than will a solid frame harrow. Spring tooth harrows, rollers and weeders all have their special uses, but can hardly be said to be necessary on the average quarter section.

Next in order come the cultivators, and there are so many styles of these that choosing is a difficult matter. The most important part of the cultivator is the shovels. A happy medium is struck in the six shovel type. The shovels on this can be run deep

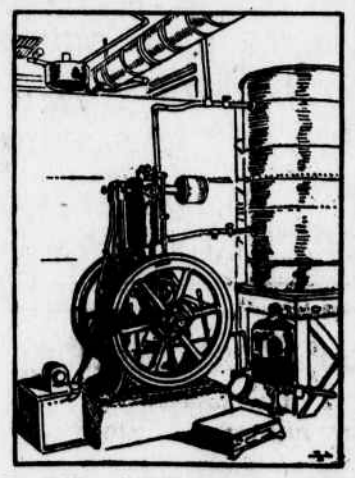

FIG. XXIII—A HANDY TYPE OF GASOLINE ENGINE.

enough to loosen the soil well the first two times over the field and can later be set shallow enough to avoid serious injury to the spreading roots. If you are in the corn business extensively enough to afford two sets of cultivators it is well to have special surface machines for the last two cultivations. Some companies make surface blades which can be attached in place of the shovels when so desired. In the hands of a careful man the two row cultivator does good and rapid work.

First in the line of planting machines come the seeders. While costing a little more at first, there is no better implement for sowing small grain than the disk drill. The disks cut through cornstalks and other trash, and the seed is deposited evenly and at a uniform depth. The resulting evenness of stand will cause an increased crop sufficient to pay the entire cost of the drill in a year or two.

In selecting a corn planter the runner type of furrow opener is preferable to the disk, since the latter is hard to guide. The essential point in planters, however, is the drop. If you are in the habit of grading your seed corn carefully so that the kernels are all about the same size the edge drop plates will give a more even stand than will the round hole drop. Planters in which the plates are turned by a chain from the axle and the wire used only to open the shoe are surer to drop every time than those in which all the work is done by the wire.

There are two haying implements that are absolutely essential, the mower and the rake. Be sure to pick a wide cut mower. Six feet is a good width. The extra draft amounts to little, and considerable time will be saved in going over the field.

Where much hay is made the old way of raking in bunches and pitching it on to the wagon by hand is too slow and laborious. A much better plan is to rake the hay into windrows with a side delivery rake and gather it up with a hay loader. Where the hay is put in the barn a set of double harpoon forks will make short work of the unloading. If it is to be stacked some form of stacker will save a great deal of hard work.

The most important harvesting machine is the self binder. The binder is

FIG. XXIV—LOADING THE MANURE SPREADER DIRECT FROM THE BARN WITH A LITTER CARRIER.

the most complicated machine on the farm and the one most likely to get out of order. In buying a binder simplicity of construction, ease of adjustment and handiness of oiling are important points to look after. A tongue truck is an attachment that should go with every binder. This is the only means of eliminating side draft that has yet been discovered. A tongue truck is rather expensive, but so are sore shoulders and necks on the horses at harvest time.

Where much stock is kept the corn binder is a necessary implement. By cutting a large share of the corn and using it as fodder or silage much feed is saved that would otherwise be wasted. About 40 per cent of the entire feeding value of the corn plant is in the stalk. When these are left standing in the field the greater part of this feed is wasted. The shocked fodder may profitably be run through a shredder before feeding. This will husk the corn and leave the stalks in the best shape to be fed or used for bedding.

One of the most important of the miscellaneous implements is the windmill. No farmer can afford to pump water for his stock by hand when the wind will do it for nothing after the mill has once been put up. In erecting a windmill be sure that it is put on a high enough tower so that surrounding trees or buildings will not cut off the wind. A mill which is geared back so that the wheel makes three revolutions or so to one stroke of the pump will run in a lighter wind than will the straight geared type. A three legged tower is just as strong as a four and considerably cheaper.

A machine that is almost indispensable on a stock farm is the gasoline engine. The original cost of these engines is reasonable, and the amount required for fuel and repairs is small. With a gasoline engine to furnish the power to run a sheller and grinder feed can be cheaply and easily prepared for the stock. The engine will also saw wood, if you are fortunate enough to have any to saw, run the silage cutter, grindstone, separator, churn and washing machine. It may also replace the windmill as a source of power for pumping.

In selecting a gasoline engine be sure to get one large enough to do the required work easily, remembering at the same time that where much light work is to be done a small engine will do it with much less gasoline than will be used by a large one. This objection to a large engine can be overcome to a large extent by so arranging the work that several light machines may be run at the same time. The most reliable type of engine is the four cycle, in which there are two revolutions of the flywheel to one explosion. The water system of cooling is the most efficient, though air cooled engines are all right for light work.

Another necessary machine of the stock farm is the manure spreader. Not only does this save a great deal of work, but it also applies the manure more evenly and will cover a greater amount of ground with a given quantity of manure. There should be little wood in a manure spreader since it rots out quickly.

GRANT SIGNED.

He Indorsed the Order "Till the Day of Judgment."

General Grant has fitly been spoken of as "an unaffected great soldier." It may have been the blending of this large mindedness and lack of affectation that invariably made him so courteously kind to any one who asked his assistance, so generous in his praise of an opponent, even when that opponent was fighting him to the death. The following little story emphasizes all these qualities:

After the fall of Fort Donelson, to prevent the needless violation of property by either the army or by camp followers, protections were issued by the United States government. To Miss C., whose six brothers were fighting in the Confederate army, such a protection was granted. It had been signed by all the commanders of the post in turn—by Buell, Rosecrans, Schofield, Sheridan, Grainger and many others—and the list was long and impressive. At last it became necessary for General Grant's signature to be added.

"When I entered the office," says Miss C., "the general was smoking, his feet higher than his head. But he seemed instantly to stand upright before me, and his cigar was thrown away in a moment.

"I handed him my protection.

"'You have rather a formidable list of names,' he said as he took it from me.

"'And I hope that you will add yours to it and make it even more formidable,' I replied.

"For answer he sat down again, ready to put his signature at the end of the parchment, when he suddenly stopped and looked at me.

"'For how long do you wish this protection for your estate, Miss C.?' he asked.

"'Until the day of judgment, general,' I answered boldly.

"Then he smiled that sweet, quizzical smile of his that made so many people, even when they were his enemies, love him and said:

"'My dear young lady, you have great confidence in your armies! But with such courage and with such a leader as General Lee I cannot wonder.' Then, with a great flourish, he added the words, 'Till the day of judgment, Ulysses S. Grant,' and handed it back to me."—Youth's Companion.

AUTUMN LEAVES.

The Change of Color From Green to Red or Yellow or Brown.

Despite the commonness of autumn colorings, we do not yet know the full meaning of autumn colors of leaves. We do know that late in the summer the tree is preparing for the leaf fall by drawing the valuable substances of the leaf into the stem. It also ceases to make chlorophyl (the green substance of the leaf which aids in the making of the plant's food), and this gradually fades away in the bright light. By fading it exposes to view any other colors in the leaf, and all leaves contain yellow coloring matters called xanthophyl, whose function is not known, and it is these which give the yellow color to autumn leaves.

The red is formed differently. In bright light and cool temperature a new substance, called erythrophyl, is made from sugar and tannin in the leaf cells, and that has a red color. A brown substance is also sometimes formed, and, besides, the skeleton of the leaf itself turns brown as the leaf dies. It is the various combinations of these substances that give the many shades of autumn colors. Some students think these colors are a useful protection to the living protoplasm (life material) of the leaf after the green disappears, protecting it against the full blaze of light, which is injurious, but others think the colors have no use at all, but are simply the incidental chemical result of the processes in the ripening and dying leaf.

As yet the weight of evidence seems to favor the latter view, but the matter is still unsettled. It is generally thought that frost has something to do with it, but it has not, except to hasten it. Anything which affects the vitality of the leaf tends to hasten it, for which reason an injured branch of a maple will often show red autumn color even in summer.

The colors are brightest where the leaves receive the most brilliant sunshine.—Professor W. F. Ganong in St. Nicholas.

A Slow Horse.

One time when he was quite a young man Lincoln hired a livery stable horse to attend a convention where he expected to be nominated for some office. The horse went so slow that when he reached there the convention was over and the other fellow nominated. On his return he irately asked the stable keeper if the horse was good for anything at all. "Yes, for drawing the hearse to funerals," was the reply. Lincoln advised him earnestly never to send that horse to a funeral, for if he did judgment day would arrive before the corpse reached the grave.

Geese.

A Georgia editor wants to know in what part of the country the most geese are to be found. That is hard to say. Some would suggest California, some Georgia, some Tennessee, some Massachusetts, some New York, and, maybe, some especially mean ones the District of Columbia.—Washington Herald.

His Meek Retort.

"Convicted?" exclaimed the prisoner in disgust. "Well, I'm not surprised. My lawyer made a fool of himself."

"I tried to represent you faithfully," remarked the lawyer mildly.—Judge.

COLLEGE NICKNAMES.

Some Popular With the Students—Objection Made to Others.

Some of the colleges have a great dislike to the way in which they are referred to commonly in connection with athletics. For instance, Wesleyan men don't like to be called "the Methodists," as they appear sometimes.

At the Naval academy there is a strong prejudice against being called "Annapolis." The navy men aren't particularly fond of "midshipmen." They believe the proper name for their institution is "the navy."

Columbia has a great distaste for the name of "Columbians" for their representatives in athletics or other public appearances. At the University of Chicago there is a dislike of the name "Chicago university," sometimes applied.

Although not so strongly opposed to it, students at Pennsylvania do not like the full title "University of Pennsylvania" as well as plain "Pennsylvania." "Penn" is preferred to either.

"Maroons" for Chicago men, "Gophers" for Minnesota, "Badgers" for Wisconsin students, "Cornhuskers" for Nebraska, "Wolverenes" for Michigan, "Illini" for the men of Illinois—all are names that are popular at those colleges and are used by the men there in speaking of their own teams. Indeed, to a man unacquainted with nicknames the average statement regarding a conference college is puzzling because of the almost entire lack of straightout names.—New York Sun.

THE DOCTORS.

Tribute to the Nobility of the Medical Profession.

To enter the medical profession is to find oneself in most noble company. When Dante was led by Virgil into the presence of "the master of them that know" he saw Aristotle surrounded by a group of the sages of antiquity. Look at them as they are introduced one by one, and you will see that a fourth of them bear names illustrious in medicine. To take note of but one—Hippocrates is there. The student will not turn to his pages now to learn what has to be taught in modern text books or class rooms. Yet he will do well to lay to heart the spirit that guided "the father of medicine" in drawing up the oath imposed on the students of the Hippocratic school. "With purity and with holiness," the candidate was made to swear, "I will pass my life and practice my art. Into whatever houses I enter I will go into them for the benefit of the sick, will abstain from every voluntary act of mischief and corruption."

In the long succession of those who have enlarged the bounds of his science the student will meet with a great army of men who have kept the spirit of that oath under higher sanctions than were open to the pioneers whom the mediaeval poet consigns to a place in his inferno because, though blameless of sin, they had not been baptized.—Sir Alexander Simpson in London Quiver.

The Old Egg.

"New York is no longer young and unsophisticated," said a man who has visited all the old world capitals. "She has now all the weariness and vice of Paris, London and Rome. They who still speak of New York as young, childish, innocent, remind me of Lord Exe of the Carlton.

"Lord Exe, at seventy, tried to lead the life of a youth of twenty-five. He dyed his hair, wore a corset and frequented the music halls, Piccadilly circus and the Burlington arcade. One afternoon as he drove from the Carlton in his brougham a member said, smiling:

"'There goes Exe. He told me over a whisky and soda just now that he felt as fresh as a two-year-old.'

"Another member sneered.

"'He probably meant a two-year-old egg,' he murmured."—New York Sun.

Hugo and Merimee.

It is probable that with the exception of Byron no great literary genius ever was greeted with such a storm of vilification and abuse as Victor Hugo when he published "Les Miserables." While the book took the public literally off their feet, almost all Hugo's rivals united in condemning it and its author.

Prosper Merimee wrote in reference to a dinner given to Hugo at Brussels: "Have you read Victor Hugo's speech at the dinner given to him by Belgian librarians and other scoundrels of Brussels? His statements were without depth, solidity or common sense. He is a man who intoxicates himself with words and does not take the trouble to think."

Victor Hugo retorted by writing to a friend, "M. Merimee is a man naturally vile."

As the Twig Is Bent.

"I hope you were a good little boy while at you aunt's and didn't tell any stories," said his mother.

"Only the one you put me up to, ma," replied her young hopeful.

"Why, what do you mean, child?"

"When she asked me if I'd like to have a second piece of cake I said, 'No, thank you; I've had enough.'"—Harper's Weekly.

Not What She Meant.

Tardy Arrival at a Dinner Party—I'm afraid I am too late, dear Mrs. Smith. Mrs. Smith (effusively)—Oh, my dear, you could never come too late!—London Illustrated Bits.

An Epicure.

The Artist—I want you to pose for my picture, "The Prodigal Son." The Tramp—Can't do it. The Artist—Why not? The Tramp—Veal doesn't agree with me.—London Illustrated Bits.

Desert Land--Final Proof.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE
GREAT FALLS, Mont., April 26, 1909.

Notice is hereby given that
MARGARET R. KINGSBURY,
of Great Falls, Montana, who, on May 17, 1905, made desert land entry No. 1875 (serial No. 0572), for the SE¼ NW¼, SW¼ section 29, E½ NW¼, NW¼ NE¼ section 32, township 21 north, range 11 east, Montana meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final proof to establish claim to the land above described, before the Register and Receiver of the U. S. Land Office at Great Falls, Montana, on the 31st day of May, 1909.

Claimant names as witnesses: Adkin W. Kingsbury, of Great Falls, Montana; Lewis Williams, Fritz Howard and Frederick Flitcher, of Steele, Montana.

J. M. BURLINGAME, Register.

Notice of Final Proof.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE,
GREAT FALLS, Mont., April 26, 1909.

Notice is hereby given that
ARCHILAS BESSETTE,
of Fort Benton, Montana, who, on February 7, 1909, made homestead entry No. 13075 (serial No. 04478), for lot 3, section 35, township 26 north, range 8 east; lots 1, 7, 8, SE¼ NE¼ section 2, township 27 north, range 8 east, Montana meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five-year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Chas. H. Boyle, U. S. commissioner, at his office in Fort Benton, Montana, on the 3d day of June, 1909.

Claimant names as witnesses: Treffle Gillardeau, Alfred LaBarre, John P. Lee and Hilaire LaBarre, all of Fort Benton, Montana.

J. M. BURLINGAME, Register.

Notice of Final Proof.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE
GREAT FALLS, Mont., May 18, 1909.

Notice is hereby given that
FRANK DUFFY,
of Chester, Montana, who, on August 20th, 1901, made homestead entry No. 19,598 (serial No. 0612), for lots 1 and 2, SW¼ NE¼, NW¼ SE¼ section 5, township 31 north, range 6 east, as amended, Montana meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five-year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Maurice Spangler, U. S. commissioner, at his office in Chester, Montana, on the 24th day of June, 1909.

Claimant names as witnesses: Henry C. Evermeyer, John A. Arthurs, David Dutro and Edward Brosnan, all of Chester, Montana.

J. M. BURLINGAME, Register.

Desert Land--Final Proof.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE,
GREAT FALLS, Mont., May 18, 1909.

Notice is hereby given that
BERTHA M. GLAB,
of Highwood, Montana, who, on May 23d, 1905, made desert land entry No. 1879 (serial No. 0624), for lots 1, 2, 3, 4, S½ NE¼ section 1, township 21 north, range 7 east; lots 4, 5, section 6, township 21 north, range 8 east, Montana meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Chas. H. Boyle, U. S. commissioner, at his office in Fort Benton, Montana, on the 24th day of June, 1909.

Claimant names as witnesses: Francis H. McGowan, George T. Murray, Frank Glab and Carl Cook, all of Highwood, Montana.

J. M. BURLINGAME, Register.

Desert Land--Final Proof.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE,
GREAT FALLS, Mont., May 18, 1909.

Notice is hereby given that
FRANK GLAB,
of Highwood, Montana, who, on May 23, 1905, made desert land entry No. 1878 (serial No. 0625), for the W½ section 31, township 22 north, range 8 east, Montana meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Chas. H. Boyle, U. S. commissioner, at his office in Fort Benton, Montana, on the 24th day of June, 1909.

Claimant names as witnesses: Francis H. McGowan, George T. Murray, Bertha M. Glab and Carl Cook, all of Highwood, Mont.

J. M. BURLINGAME, Register.

SUMMONS.

In the district court of the Twelfth judicial district of the state of Montana, in and for the county of Chouteau.

Anna Christenson, plaintiff, vs. August Christenson, defendant.

The State of Montana sends greeting to the above named defendant.

You are hereby summoned to answer the complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the clerk of this court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you in the county wherein you reside, and to file your answer and serve a copy thereof upon the plaintiff's attorney within twenty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

This action is divided in said complaint into two causes of action which are therein separately stated. Both of said causes are for a decree of divorce and dissolution of the marriage of plaintiff and defendant. First cause of action alleges that plaintiff has been a resident of Montana for more than one year next preceding the commencement of this action; that plaintiff and defendant were married at St. Paul, Minnesota, May 11th, 1898, and ever since have been and now are husband and wife; that April 20th, 1904, at Mallard, Minnesota, defendant, without any just cause or reason therefor, and with intent so to do, and against the will and without the consent of plaintiff, wilfully deserted and left and went away from and refused to live with plaintiff, and that defendant has ever since so continued to wilfully desert and abandon plaintiff with intent so to do, and without any just cause or reason and against her will and without her consent; that plaintiff never consented to, acquiesced in or condoned or forgave any of said offenses, and plaintiff and defendant never entered into any agreement or understanding that one of them should commit, or appear to have committed, or to be falsely represented in court as having committed, acts constituting a cause of divorce, for the purpose of enabling the other to obtain a divorce. Second cause of action alleges that plaintiff has been a resident of Montana for more than one year next preceding the commencement of this action; that plaintiff and defendant were married at St. Paul, Minnesota, May 11th, 1898, and ever since have been and now are husband and wife; that for a period of time commencing November 11th, 1898, and continuing until April 20th, 1904, and during all of said time, defendant, in violation of his marriage obligations, and without cause or reason therefor, at various, and divers and numerous times during said period, struck plaintiff with his fists upon her head and body hard, injurious and damaging blows to plaintiff and repeatedly threw plaintiff prostrate upon the floor, thereby bruising her, and cursed and abused plaintiff and called her vile and slanderous names, and broke and destroyed dishes used by plaintiff and defendant for housekeeping, and on several occasions forcibly compelled plaintiff to go away from the rooms where defendant and plaintiff were keeping house, and said wrongful and unjustifiable acts caused plaintiff great and grievous mental suffering and injury and caused her to worry and become ill, and said acts of striking and throwing plaintiff upon the floor caused plaintiff physical pain, injury and suffering, and bruised and wounded plaintiff; that plaintiff never consented to, acquiesced in or condoned or forgave any of said offenses, and plaintiff and defendant never entered into any agreement or understanding that one of them should commit or appear to have committed, or to be falsely represented in court as having committed acts constituting a cause of divorce for the purpose of enabling the other to obtain a divorce; that plaintiff and defendant have not lived or cohabited together since the termination of said period by reason of the fact that defendant deserted and abandoned plaintiff at the termination of said period and has ever since continued to desert and abandon plaintiff, and that said desertion and abandonment is and has always been without the consent and against the will of plaintiff and without just cause or reason therefor.

Witness my hand and the seal of said court this 4th day of May, 1909.
(SEAL) CHAS. H. BOYLE, Clerk.

F. N. Utter, attorney for plaintiff.
First publication, May 7, 1909.

Citation.

In the District Court of the Twelfth Judicial District of the State of Montana, in and for the County of Chouteau.

In the matter of the estate of John Lepley, deceased.

The state of Montana to Charles Lepley, Jr., William Lepley, Amelia Mayn, Carrie Heitman, Clara Manger, nee Lepley, Emma Main, nee Lepley, Henry Keiser, Emil Keiser, George Keiser, Charles Keiser, William Keiser, Elizabeth Beal, nee Keiser, greeting:

You, and each of you, are hereby cited to be and appear before this honorable court on the 1st day of July, 1909, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the court room thereof, in Fort Benton, Montana, then and there to show cause, if any you have, why the fourth annual account of the trustees under the residuary clause of the will of said John Lepley, deceased, this day rendered and filed in this court, should not be allowed.

Witness the Hon. Jno. W. Tattan, judge of said court, this 26th day of April, 1909.

(Seal) CHAS. H. BOYLE, Clerk of said Court.

HAGEN & FRY

If you are going to put up a building, construct a pumping or current wheel irrigating plant, put in a steam or gasoline engine, steam or hot water heating plants, or build a bridge,

SEE US FIRST,
And let us Figure with you.

If your gasoline engine needs repairs or attention of any kind, see us. We furnish all kinds of supplies.

Cor. Main and St. John FORT BENTON

LIVERY AND FEED STABLES

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Hacks Meet All Trains

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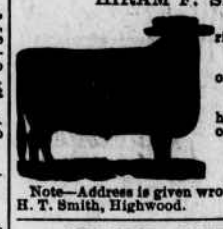
Opposite Park Hotel,
Great Falls, Mont

Our specialty is buying sheep on orders for our customers. If you have any for sale for delivery in the spring, or after shearing, write us giving description and price.

We make no charges.

HIRAM F. SMITH.



Cattle branded on right ribs.
Horses same brand on right shoulder.
Vent for cattle and horses, same brand on right hip.
P. O. address—Whitlash, Mont
Note—Address is given wrong in brand book as H. T. Smith, Highwood.

MILNER CATTLE CO.
M. E. MILNER, Pres. and Manager, Fort Benton, Montana.

Main brands as shown in the accompanying cuts.
Also own all cattle bearing the single "square" brand, and all rebranded cattle bearing only cross F.

Also own brand on right hip called "square 2."
Horse brand on left thigh.

Range from Bear Paw mountains eastward to Fort Peck between the Milk and Missouri rivers. Also south of the Missouri river, between Arrow creek and Belt creek, Shonkin rang

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WHO KNOWS?

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