

Agricultural Department.

EDITED BY
NELS QUAM, Norway Lake, Minn.

SUMMER PREPARATION FOR BETTER GRASS.

There is a very general impression that a piece of ground must be plowed and cropped before it may be profitably seeded, even though it be needed for mowing. This is all a mistake. Nothing on the farm pays so well and costs so little as the hay crop, if; and here comes in the key to profit in both this and other things, if it be properly grown. One-half to three-quarters of a ton per acre will damage any man, not because the grass may not make good hay, but because in costs nearly as much to produce it as to grow and harvest three tons per acre. Let us suppose taxes, fencing and harvesting amount to \$10 per acre, and nothing is said about fertilizing, two plots of equal fertility being chosen, one well seeded and the other lacking grass plants. If one yields two tons the hay virtually costs that year but \$5 per ton. Which kind of hay can you better afford to feed where you are making two-cent milk? It is no trouble to decide.

Why do so many think it necessary to crop every plowed sod from one to four years before seeding? To get manure into the soil, or from habit very largely? The latter is the reason I fear. Let those who have never tried it take in hand some of their thin grass land this summer and as soon as possible after mowing it plow, roll, harrow and roll it until well fined. Then for a week or two while haying is being completed it may rest and rot. But do not let it alone long. With a sharp Acme or Cut-away go over it each week until September, killing every sign of vegetation. When cooler, moister weather begins seed to herd's grass, using not less than eight quarters per acre. Be sure to smooth out every wrinkle, level every knoll and fill every cradle hole, using a float drag before seeding. Then bush, and leave it perfect for the mower, dicking or rolling in every cobbler stone. In January or February sow ten pounds of sound clover seed—not later. The seed clover will not harm it, while the deep crevices made in the frost-baked earth will swallow it and keep in safe until the freezes of late spring cannot harm it. When it does appear above ground it will have already grown a strong root and will go to work vigorously.

Clover sown in March or April comes up quickly because of shallow covering, and if it escapes the late frosts its shallow growth is often burned to death by the blazing days following the first mowing: Here is land well cultivated, well seeded and productive at slight cost. It has not been robbed by cultivated crops nor idle on expense. The plan permits the hauling of manure upon the soil between August harrowing or cheaply siled as topdressing in winter. Fall plowing sometimes serves for seeding, but is risky, much depending upon the season. No crop pays better than grass for the manure used, but it may be very far from cheap hay if the yield be small. Rich soil well seeded will make a farmer well-to-do, while land just over the fence may run his neighbor in debt. Which side of the fence are you going to be?—Farm Journal.

EXPERIMENTS IN SALTING BUTTER

In 3 separate trials the churning was separated into 3 equal portions, 1 portion being salted at the rate of 1 oz. per pound, a nother at the rate of 1 1/2 oz. per pound, and the third not salted. In one case only 1/2 oz. of salt was used instead of 1 1/2 oz. In 2 of the churning a fourth portion was salted in the churn by the use of a strong brine. The separate lots of butter were all worked as nearly alike as possible, and samples were taken for the determination of water, fat, and salt. The results of the trials, including the analysis of the butter, are tabulated. The butter salted with 1 oz. of salt contained 11.7 per cent of water; that salted with 1 1/2 oz. averaged 9.84 per cent; with 1 1/2 oz., 9.68 per cent; salted with brine, 12.09 per cent; and unsalted, 13.31 per cent. "The amount of salt retained in the butter varied in these trials from 1.35 to 6.02 per cent and seems to be dependent upon the amount of salt added." When the butter was salted with brine "practically none of the salt was retained. Salting by this method seems to be labor and salt thrown away."—Ex.

Legislation has destroyed the parity between gold and silver, and created a parity between overproduction of the necessities of life and famine.—Ex.

A Communication.

Editor, Willmar Tribune: Harvest is soon here, and by all present appearances a most bountiful one at that. With it comes new hopes for the farmer, the ever busy son of the soil. How well he needs these few en-

couragements from the Almighty! They are the only reminders to him of his being worthy of any reward for his incessant labor, and they come directly from the Omnipotent who directs the work of the elements of the universe to his good. God, revealed in nature; reaches out his bountiful hand and pays for the work of these humble servants in nature's own money, not gold coin, but what is better, bushels of golden grain, and other food for man and beast. It is well that the farmer has this Hand to supply him for there are numerous other hands stretched out to him also, but not to give, to reward for labor, but to take, to snatch away in innumerable ways and on many different pretenses, just and unjust, the rewards he has thus received directly from the Source of all Good for his labor. He has to give to his fellow men, his brethren in other vocations, some, or rather the greater part of what he has gathered; and it is-but right that he should do so, provided however that he receive the full value of something else in exchange therefor. The farmer has earned his bread "in the sweat of his brow," and it is a great injustice if he shall be compelled to leave any of it to someone else without getting something back that is of equal value, that is, that which has caused its possessor as much trouble to gain as did the products of the farm cause their owner in obtaining them.

But it is quite difficult to estimate correctly this relative value of things. In many instances the farmer is cheated in his exchanges, partly because he himself overestimates things he receives, but mostly because the things are overvalued to him and he is left no alternative but to take them at the price set on them or else be without, and as he feels that he needs the wares offered he takes them and is cheated.

Such has been the lot of the toilers for times immemorial, no less in this nineteenth century of education and civilization than ever before. Even in this country of ours, "the country of the free and the brave," this consideration exists to an alarming extent, nor is it on the wane, driven before the mighty power of education to more barbaric countries, but rather on the increase, nurtured by the ever ready tool of the devil, selfishness. We have a very good illustration of this in the numerous trusts growing up like fungi all over this once promising United States. What are they all for, if not to try by foul means to compel the farmer and other toilers to pay unnatural prices for the goods they control? They think they ought to get a little more than their fair share of the farmer's and therefore they have banded together so as to exclude the possibility of a healthy competition, and to create and maintain an unnatural relative value as compared with the products of the farmer.

It will be interesting to see how this year's crop will be gobbled up by those who claim to have a right to take it. One thing is certain that after all bills are paid the farmer will not have much for himself to use for his own enjoyment.

I will not take any more of your valuable space now, Mr. Editor, but if this does not wander into the bottomless pit, I will come again.

E. HEGSTROM.

Wedding stationery at the TRIBUNE office.

What Others Say of Us.

Willmar Tribune is one of the cleanest, well gotten up, and best edited reform journals we receive, and it ought to be read by every friend of reform all over the State. No patent print there. The people out there may indeed be proud that they have in their midst two such able and aggressive reform journals as Willmar Tribune and Reform Advocate of Clarkfield. Martin Tew and Dr. Christian Johnson ought to have special laurel crowns on the day of victory.—Translated from Nye Normanden.

The Willmar Tribune got out one of the finest Fourth of July editions that has come to our exchange table.—Moody Co. (S. D.) Enterprise.

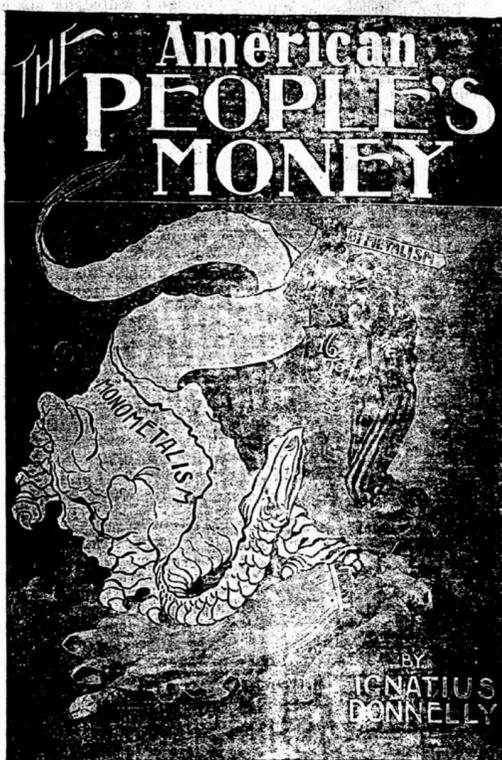
The Willmar Tribune (Populist) comes out with a grand 4th of July edition, printed in different colors. Good! The People's Party stands nearer to the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence than the two old humbugs, called Republicanism and Democracy.—Representative.

We have received a number of published as well as personal complimentary notices of our 4th of July edition, for which we herewith return our thanks.

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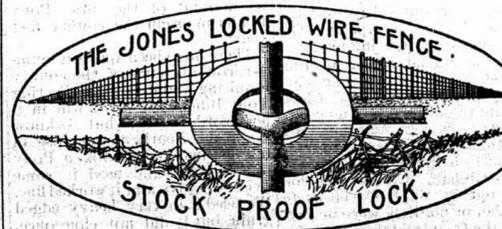
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LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

Good People Offended by a Lawyer's Broad Views and Speech.

Lawyer Augustus E. Van Buren has offended a majority of the religious people of Kingston, N. Y., by giving voice to sentiments which, some professing Christians say, savor too much of Ingersollism.

In the course of an address before members of two literary societies composed of students at the Kingston Free academy Mr. Van Buren gave the following advice to his youthful hearers: "Go battle for liberty of conscience, for the right of a man to worship God as he deems proper. Remember that the vast majority of mankind do not believe as you and I. Remember that there have been Nazarenes in many countries and in many climes and Calvaries have been the landmarks of each succeeding page of human story. Beware of dogma and creed and dogma. They have drenched the world in blood. If you must have a creed, open your New Testament and take the only creed that the Master ever delivered, 'Brethren, love one another.' That is a creed upon which the whole world can stand. That is a creed that will bring about the federation of the world."—New York Sun.

OUR TOUGHEST TOWN.

Of Lemont's Nine Thousand Inhabitants Four Thousand Are Lawless.

The toughest town in the United States today is Lemont, only 25 miles from Chicago. It had 5,000 population before work on the drainage canal began. Now it has 8,000, of whom 4,000 are gamblers, thieves, murderers or disorderly women. There are 100 saloons, 40 gambling houses, 20 dancehouses and three theaters, all supported by the 5,000 men working on the drainage canal. Everything is running wide open and licensed. Mayor McCarthy says the money is used in street improvements.

Within three months 30 dead bodies have been found in and about Lemont, and no one has been punished. Ten bodies have been found in the rocky channel of the canal, and five men were shot in affrays. Of the 30 dead 18 are marked "unknown."

Smoky row is the toughest street in Lemont. The saloons and dancehouses bear such names as these: "Little of Hearts," "Sweet Alice," "Kiting Casino" and "Ben Bolt."

Every Sunday excursions of the worst classes go to Lemont from Chicago.—New York World.

A NEW MAN.

Strange Change in a Seventy-seven-year-old Citizen of Great Falls, Wash.

A 77-year-old citizen of Great Falls, Wash., is undergoing a peculiar process of physical regeneration. About a year ago he contracted pneumonia, and his life was for some time despaired of, the doctors saying his right lung was hopelessly wasted. He recovered, however, but when just able to hobble around he fell and broke his thigh bone and was confined to the hospital again for six months.

Since leaving, however, his physical condition has improved remarkably. His lungs began to open up until they became almost as well as ever, his skin shed off, and a new skin grew, and his hair and beard, which were a snow white, are coming out a jet black. His limbs and muscles have limbered up, and he started a week or so since to take a herd of young horses across a long trail to market. He says if he continues to grow young he will get married again and grow up with the country.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

The Latest in Trolleys.

A "palace" trolley car is the latest novelty in electric street railroad equipment. Such a car, built on the Pullman plan, with compartments fitted with tables and easy chairs, opening from a center aisle, with an adequate wine and food locker, and with dazzling illuminations and gorgeous furnishings, has just been put in service on one of the Philadelphia trolley roads running far out into the suburbs. It is intended for the use of private parties, who can charter it by the trip or the day.

Trolley parties, for excursions to suburban resorts, are becoming quite a social function in Philadelphia. San Francisco has a trolley funeral train, with hearse and mourning coaches, appropriately furnished and decorated, which is now being quite generally used between the city and an outlying cemetery.

Tribby's Latest.

Tribby's latest appearance is in the role of defendant in a criminal court. Her name was used by a San Francisco lawyer a few days ago to cover the exigencies of legal requirements as a designation for a defendant whose real name he did not know, just as John Doe figures in the police courts. The case in which she is thus mixed up is the notorious Pacific bank scandal.—New York Sun.

No Chicken.

An Irish judge, in reprimanding a prisoner who was accused of striking his wife with an ink bottle, remarked, "Ye might have known it wud hev been loike to hatch mischief, becuz it wuz wid the 'ink-you-bater-er.'"—Rome Sentinel.

To Make the Name Fit.

It would be rank folly for Uncle Sam to consider the suggestion that he name his new cruiser Kentucky unless he should decide to discard twin screws and use oarscrews instead.—Exchange.

Recollection of the Glorious Fourth. The sentiment against Chinese cheap labor finds many new recruits every time the firecracker season comes around.—Washington Star.

To Bloom or to Bloomer.

Mr. Mangasarian says the first duty of the new woman is to be beautiful. This is a hard blow to bloomers.—Chicago Post.

A lawn wicket. At the ceremony performed under a tree, it reported from Long Island. And now that sort of thing may be kept up all summer. It is to be hoped at least that lawn weddings may not be productive of more grass widows.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The Difference Between Them.

In St. Louis they are dropping city employees from the pay rolls for not voting. In Chicago they used to be dropped if they did not vote several times the same day. St. Louis always was behind.—Chicago Dispatch.

New London Dept.

The following list of New London firms respectfully solicit the custom of TRIBUNE readers.

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