INDUSTRY WILL BRING RETURNS

Opportunities in Many Lines for Men of Initiative Who Seek Advancement

The sage who said that "Opportunity waits for no man," didn't know central West Virginia. For Old Man Opportunity has been very patient with his laggard seekers who have passed over the wonderful and varied resources of this section of a state as yet but partially developed. He has waited without complaining, and now rightfully feels that rejuvenation and restoration of youth which comes from quickening pulses of activity. For he is being discovered, and the good things which he has scattered along the way for men of initiative and ambition to pick up will soon be developed into big, vital industries.

For years the raising of beef cattle has been a considerable business in volume of turnover. The stock is raised in the back counties in the mountains and brought down to the limestone blue-grass country as yearlings to be fattened for the market. Black polled Angus and Herfords do well in this section, and there is plenty of room for enterprising breeders who understand the business and who have sufficient capital to establish themselves. Baltimore, New York, Philadelphia and Pittsburg are constantly looking to central West Virginia for supplies of superior beef, and an output can be absorbed to more than double or even treble the present volume.

As with cattle so with horses. The famous Morgan strain reached its highest development here, and stock bred in the central West Virginia counties is constantly in demand in all sections of the East and middle West. Dairying offers possibilties which have been exploited in a measure, but there is plenty of room for markets of a largely increased capacity of production. It is necessary now for ice cream manufacturers to look to Ohio for their cream supply, or at least a portion of it, and with true West Virginia loyalty they would prefer to buy it at home if possible.

Orcharding is another undeveloped industry that needs only attention and skill to put it among the income producing activities of the section. P. M. Robinson, vice-president of the Union National Bank, told a writer for the Telegram recently that a farmer recently brought to him specimens of Northern Spy apples which were equal to any ever grown in New York state where they are famous and top the price quotations in the markets. Peaches, pears and grapes all thrive in the central counties of the state, and with scientific selection in the matter of soils, location and cultivation each can be made a source of profit to the grower.

Future years are bound to see many industries working the base metals, many of them, perhaps, small compared to the gigantic plants of the big corporations, but which, nevertheless, should be profitable because of the advantage of cheap fuel. If it should come to pass that the central West Virginia natural gas supply shall follow the course of other fields and eventually decrease in volume the section will still be the home of the cheapest fuel possible. Producer gas will solve the problem which will then come. Scientists have gone on record with statements that on a large scale gas can be secured from coal at a cost of six cents a thousand cubic feet. This will involve operations on a huge scale, but the demand which will be already existent will justify investment of unlimited capital.

The business man, manufacturer, orchardist and dairyman who is looking for a location is doing himself an injustice if he does not investigate what is offered here before making final decision. He will find a people ready with welcome and eager to co-operate in any way to make his venture a success. In the end it is up to the individual, but brains plus capital plus ambition will find here encouragement and these ingredients mixed in the laboratory of industry are bound to produce enjoyable and enduring prosperity.

SAFE INDUSTRY

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es his quarry from every angle and omits no detail that will prevent defeat. He looks the ground over carefully and thoroughly and maps out his procedure of entrance, attack and escape with uncanny skill; and he brings to his work the best and most improved methods of science. The expert burglar of today uses every means to avoid bravado, brute force or gun-play and only resorts to them as a last defense of his life and liberty.

Reading the daily papers, with their accounts of the many successful burglaries of banks, one is apt to believe that there is no practical burglar-proof construction. This, of course, is erroneous. A close investigation of these robberies discloses the fact that in no case did the robbed party have modern protection of the best type. In fact, their so-called security was obviously so inadequate as to invite burglarly.

The trouble really lies with many of our banking institutions. They will not spend the necessary money to secure real protection; they simply want the appearance, and that is all they get. It is really a form of dishonesty which cannot be stopped and is morally as culpable as the commission of the burglary.

Very Young Industry.

The guardian of funds, failing to safeguard them with the best security obtainable, is the real culprit in event of robbery.

The safe industry as known today is a very young industry, commencing not quite back at the beginning of the present century. What I mean by this is the building of steel and iron-clad safes and vaults. In fact, the great development has been coincident with our modern method of steel making.

In 1845 the security safe was practically our present fire-proof safe, which was considered invulnerable. The thief began to attack this with the drill. It was then found necessary to have a construction that would be drill-proof. With the improving of the steel processes and the incident discoveries of a drill-proof steel was evolved. The safe builders were quick to seize on this and for another period the burglar was frustrated.

The key lock, however, was a weakness, with its wide open hole, and proved a good receptacle for gun powder. The burglar was now in his glory, having a good, quick, effective weapon, and the safemarker was in despair. His was a dilemma for which there seemed to be no solution.

This condition continued for some time until the invention of the combination lock. The invention of this lock was the real beginning of burglar-proof construction as known today. As may be expected the first combination locks were not perfect by any means, but the principle was evolved by which the present perfection was attained. Here at last was an unpickable lock, without any orifice or opening into which powder could be introduced.

Time Lock's Birth.

With the advent of the combination lock began the building of heavy steel security safes and vaults, each passing year bringing some new improvement and invention.

When it was found that the combination lock had its limits, as the custodian of the numbers could be forced to open it by the threat of death from the robber, the time lock was brought out. Under this guard the structure can be locked up for such periods of time as may be desired and cannot be opened until the time lock releases at the set time. This is also a safeguard against inside robbery or collusion, as it is impossible for anyone knowing the combination numbers to burglarize between working hours if the time lock is applied.

To fully realize what is being done by the security safe and vault builder one must visit a modern plant, such as is operated by the Diebold Safe and Lock Company at Canton, O. This enormous factory covers over sixteen acres under roof and is considered the largest and best equipped in the world.

Here one finds every part of safe construction in progress; also locks of all description, whether key, combination, time or automatic motors. It is a wonderful object lesson.

A modern safe plant must have its trained corps of expert engineers and also a thoroughly equipped laboratory for the full testing of every known device and material that may add security. In this factory every class of burglar-proof construction is proved and labeled before being placed on the market.

In discussing burglar-proof construction it must be borne in mind that what a man builds he can demolish. It is simply a question of time, tools, knowledge and skill.

The burglar can pick his own tools and means of attack. During the last few years he has usually resorted to nitro glycerin. This is really the most dangerous method of attack known at the present time. It is easy to handle, powerful and quick in effect. There are some other agencies, newly discovered, that when developed more perfectly will become dangerous weapons in the hands of the yeggman.

The security vault builder must checkmate all this and in doing so must encompass the whole field of human endeavor.

He has the following problems to solve, which would seem almost impossible of human accomplishment.

The structure must be proof for a given time against fire, drill, ram, torch and explosives.

The joints must be liquid-proof and the locking devices such that they cannot be picked or forced.

The improved modern bank vault has the finish of a jewel aside from being of impregnable strength. One of the finest feats of mechanics is the construction of the present vault entranceway with its massive circular door. These mammoth doors are built of a solid thickness of from ten to twenty inches with a clear entrance thickness of seven feet or more. The door when closed fits into its jamb with a stopper and almost molecular fit.

The locking devices consist of heavy crane hinges and they have unpickable combination locks, quadruple time locks, powerful automatic motors and anti-explosive dead-locking devices.

And these enormous doors weighing fifteen tons or more, are so balanced and adjusted on heavy crane hinges that they will remain stationary, where opened, and a child of seven years can easily move them.

With all its handicaps there is no line of manufacture wherein such perfection has been attained; and if the purchaser is honestly seeking the best he can feel fully assured that the expert safe builder at the present time can give him absolute mob and burglar-proof protection.

The day is not far distant when the woods and streams of central West Virginia will be as well known as its coal mines and glass factories. Up to now there has been no concerted action in advertising these advantages to the world, but steps are being taken for the exploitation of the sport and recreation sections of the entire state. In the virgin forests and elsewhere in the partially settled regions there are locations which anywhere else would have long ago been famous as summer resorts or as hunting and fishing camps. The tired business man in Clarksburg, Fairmont and other central cities knows about these delightful places, and is willing to spread the good news.

TANK BLOCKS OF AMERICAN CLAY

Clarksburg Maker Achieves Independence of European Material for Product

Tank blocks are today strictly an American product. Until the European war broke out it was the general opinion that good tank blocks could not be made except with imported clay. The Willetts Company were the first and eventually one of the largest users of imported clay in this line of business, but the same keen farsightedness which caused them to use imported clay, also caused them to be prepared against the day when the imported article could not be procured. They experimented with American clays and found a number of good ones, one in particular which not only equalled, but surpassed the imported; in all, over 600 varieties or samples were tested. Hence, when the change became absolutely necessary they were not left groping in the dark, but proceeded without delay to make use of the knowledge they had acquired.

Willetts tank blocks are the result of exact formulae, perfected methods, skilled workmanship, and scientifically correct blend of clay. In quality, all Willetts blocks are exactly alike. How to produce ideally perfect tank blocks is the problem to which the Willetts Company has bent every energy for thirty long years. The clay must be of such nature, and the moulding and firing so done, that the finished blocks will not chip, scale, crumble nor in any other way discharge particles of themselves into the molten glass.

The wash of the glass and the terrific heat are the influences which cut down the life of a tank. Willetts blocks, therefore, must resist these destroying agencies to the extreme limit of possibility. Willetts blocks must be true to size. They must fit. And they do fit—a fact to which many of their customers have testified.

Two Generations of Knowing How.

A part of the reason for the excellence of Willetts tank blocks is wrapped up in their history. The Willetts Company was founded some thirty years ago by Jesse Willetts, Sr., ather of the men who now control it But for many years prior to the establishments of this business, Mr. Willetts was recognized as a master maker of clay products for the glass ndustry. Moreover, he was a glass manufacturer himself, prominent among all his contemporaries for his accurate judgment and shrewd understanding of glass-making principles.

One cannot fail to get the importance of this fortunate situation. It means that Mr. Willetts was enabled to study his subject from both sides. He knew just what practical glass-making demands of a tank or pot. Then he experimented until he satisfied this demand. As soon as he evolved an idea in his clay factory, he took it over to his glass factory and tried it out. Thus he was able to shade his blends, modify his working methods, and regulate his firing intelligently—always knowing how any given change would result in the finished product. It is not too much to say that these ears of scientific experiment have exerted a pronounced influence in the subsequent history of the entire tank and pot industry.

Succeed d by Sons.

Mr. Willetts continued in this work until the end of his life, since which the business has been conducted under a reorganization by his sons. These men have grown up in the business. From their father they have inherited an understanding of tank block manufacture which was exceed ed by none in his day. To this they have added the new discoveries and new methods of the later generation.