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FROM LIVESTOCK TO WHEAT.

And now the announcement is made that many prominent stock growers who have been giving attention to dry farming and its possibilities, are abandoning the former for the latter calling. This change is principally in the central western states, or those farthest east in the arid land belt.

It has been demonstrated that their lands are growing too valuable, they say, for stock raising, though that has not been unprofitable. It is just a case of more money in wheat. Adding wonderfully in this change is the gigantic modern steam plow, which promises to make a class of bonanza farmers on the prairies, plains and desert, that will far outstrip those of the Dakotas and Minnesota, for so long the granary of the United States. For years this great plow has been used in the Dakotas, Kansas, Oklahoma, Oregon and California. Its appearance in that region running from the eastern foothills of the Rockies to the limit of the dry lands in western Nebraska and Kansas is comparatively recent, as is its introduction into Utah's unbroken desert, whose soil it is now beginning to turn in largely increased areas.

For the breaking of the raw, sun-baked prairie soil, a thirty-two horse power traction engine is most popular, though some are now being built with forty horse power capacity. The thirty-two horse power machine will draw three six-gang plows, cutting furrows aggregating 12 feet in width, with two combined pulverizers, and two grain drills plowing, packing, harrowing and seeding from 30 to 40 acres of land in a day, at a total cost, including seed, of less than two dollars per acre. It does the work at less than one-third the cost of ordinary horse power, much more rapidly and in a far more efficient manner. It turns the soil to a depth of from eight to ten inches, pulverizing it thoroughly. The seed being placed in the ground almost simultaneously with the plowing, no opportunity is given for the loss of evaporation of whatever moisture may be in the soil. The packing and harrowing leave the sub-soil fairly compact and the top two or three inches loose, promoting the quick percolation of subsequent rains and melting snows. These conditions, in fact, are ideal, for the storing of an abundance of moisture through the winter to bring the crop to maturity, even should the summer prove to be one of unusual drought.

WAR UPON THE PEOPLE.

We understand dealers in canned meat have raised the price of their products considerably since the pure food law went into effect. Corned beef, for instance, is said to have advanced from \$1.25 for a dozen half-pound cans, to \$1.90, and other goods in proportion.

This is clearly by way of revenge for the passage of the law that requires them to deal honestly with the consumers, to the extent that if they offer veal for sale in cans, not to call it turkey but veal. There seems to be a disposition on the part of dealers in public necessities to avenge themselves upon their patrons every time law-makers dare to demand honesty in business transactions, be it in the form of full weight and measure, or impartiality in the matter of transportation, or frankness as to the ingredients for which money is charged. The raise in the canned meats is but a new evidence of this disposition. It is needless. The prices that prevailed formerly were sufficient to amply cover the cost of honestly put up food.

Consumers ought to take notice. They can, possibly, get along with less canned goods, and thus register an emphatic protest against being held up as to price, because the law makes it a crime to obtain the money under false pretenses. And by and by they will learn to combine and by co-operation become independent of the trusts. There is no reason why the consumers should not, when they know how to conduct, intelligently, co-operative enterprises, produce their own food and clothing, and build their own flats, at a much lower cost than it now takes for each one to maintain himself and family separately. This, evidently, the future solution of some of the economic questions of our day.

NEW YORKERS PROTEST.

It is remarkable that the most emphatic protest against the attack upon the Catholic church in France comes from New York. A few days ago 2,000 persons crowded into the Hippodrome to take part in a demonstration that had been arranged by leading Catholic laymen, and it appears that about 20,000 were turned away unable to get in. Among the speakers were the Archbishop, Bishop Cusack, several judges, and other dignitaries. Archbishop Farley said in part:

"Like her Divine Master in the hall of Calaphas, the church in France has been blindfolded by opaque legislation, stripped of her possessions, buffeted and spat upon, and then, in derision asked: 'Prophesy, who is it that struck thee?' Plus X, like the Divine Master, is maligned and persecuted as the breeder of sedition, as an enemy of law, and Plus X, with the same scorn, huris at his maligners and persecutors the sublime retort of the Master: 'If I have spoken evil, give testimony of the evil; but if well, why strikest thou me?' Plus X has spurned the hypocrisy

of a Herodian government, and has made them feel that meekness is no weakness, that concession is not surrender. His attitude, unchanging and unchangeable, recalls the sublime figure of Gregory VII in times far darker than these; he has been less than XI with Louis XIV, or Plus VII with Napoleon, and as these heroic pontiffs won glorious triumphs, so Plus X and his cause will live when his enemies are forgotten, and their memories held in majesty. Thus will it be with the multitudes of those who have risen up against Zion."

Justice Fitzgerald, of the Supreme Court, contended that the separation law is a "blow at civil and religious liberty." He concluded as follows:

"We place it before our fellow citizens in its true light, and we know that the unanimous protest of the American people generally, without regard to religious differences, will unite with us in denouncing a project which, no matter how plausible it may be set forth by its advocates and defenders, constitutes a bold and a bold conspiracy to stifle conscience and legalize plunder."

The facts sustain this view of the controversy, and that is the reason every liberty loving citizen must sympathize with the Roman church in this struggle. Were it simply a question of separation between church and state, American sympathy would freely be bestowed upon the government. But the proposition is in reality to give to the state the controlling power over ecclesiastical affairs. The suggestions from the Vatican for the removal of that objection have been spurned by the government.

To a superficial observer the church dignitaries may appear to be law-defying. But their attitude is, from their point of view, amply justified by the principles involved.

VALUE OF THE STORM.

The increased precipitation that has come to Utah, in common with all the west the past fifteen months, almost points to the conclusion that there has been a return to the wet cycle from which our climate drifted something over a decade ago. Of course, the year is yet very young, and before its close a deficiency may be shown, but the weather wise do not think so; and it is to be hoped that in this instance they are correct.

All over the Pacific coast region there has been increased rain and snowfall of late, and particularly to the southwest of us. Private letters and other information from Los Angeles tell of constant storm in and about that section. So marked has been the downpour of water near the coast line, and so deep the snow in the interior, that students of climate and meteorology have been vying with each other to account for the wonderful augmentation of moisture. Even in the hot and heretofore always arid Death Valley, heavy snows are reported. It is claimed that the oldest inhabitant has never seen the ground covered with it before. Various causes have been put forth, some ridiculous and improbable. One that some observers advance with more tenacity than certainly that they are correct, is that the Salton Sink, which is rapidly becoming a big inland sea from the uncontrolled and thus far uncontrollable waters of the Colorado river, is responsible for the increased moisture. The great evaporation, they say, comes back in the form of extra precipitation, sometimes as rain and sometimes as snow. Others say that it is simply the return of the wet cycle so long awaited and just as confidently predicted, and which has been the order here since the beginning.

Whatever the cause may be, it is of vast benefit to Utah, and to the other arid land states. To the old line tillers of the soil, it means plenty of water for irrigation the coming summer, and to the new, sufficient moisture on the deserts to make dry farming a greater success than ever. The ranges for livestock, too, will be vastly benefited. Altogether the storms thus far have been priceless in this state.

NO NORTH POLE?

The Washington Herald quotes a Massachusetts minister as having volunteered the interesting information to the world at large, that there is no North Pole, and that expeditions to search for it ought to be prohibited by international agreement. According to his views it "is a waste of time and money and the really sinful endangering of precious lives" to continue the search for the North Pole. He asserts, in fact, that it is useless to try and find something that does not exist.

This view is odd enough when held by an individual claiming intelligence and schooling sufficient to enable him to be a teacher of men; but the strange part of it is, that the clergyman in question maintains that it is the Bible that teaches that there is no Pole. He quotes the verse in the Bible which declares that, "He stretches out the north over the empty place." And then he argues, the north is stretched out over "the empty place" means that there is nothing at the far north, and therefore, there can be no pole. "There is nothing there," he says, "but an empty place. Almighty God tells us this in His Holy Word; and the nations, and especially Christian governments, should join together in legislative prohibition against the foolhardy undertaking of searching for this empty place, and the consequent squandering of time, labor, and money, and the loss of many precious lives. It should be stopped by men who have the Christian spirit and corresponding good sense."

This remarkable fallacy of reasoning illustrates clearly a mistaken use of the Scriptures which is more common than generally supposed. It consists in drawing deductions from Scripture texts and then claiming divine authority for those deductions, as well as for the text. This clergyman did not find a passage of Scripture stating that there is no North Pole, but he found one from which he could draw that inference, and then he issued his conclusion as the word of God. In innumerable instances this mistake will be met with; in fact, a great many errors, especially concerning the Godhead, originate in this way. Many readers of the Word forget that their reasoning is by no means infallible, and that, therefore, their deductions cannot be received as of equal authority with the written word.

The ignorance, the bigotry and the narrow-mindedness of the minister quoted, are, fortunately, not general. That there is more of it than there ought to

be in this enlightened age, is, however, evident from the facility with which anti-Mormon agitators capture the attention of men of the cloth, no matter how much they have proved themselves some of Hell and successors of Ananias. But for ignorance and credulity, such demagogues would not obtain a hearing.

Burglars and real estate are both active.

The Thaw trial is on, and now for a genuinely strenuous time.

For Merritt from bars and revolving cages did not a prison make.

The race question is not to the negroes alone but to the Japanese also.

Don't be too hard on the short weight coal dealer. It is just his little weight.

In spite of race suicide and railroad wrecks the population of the country increases.

The juvenile court judge hangs on to his job like the scent of moth balls to a fur coat.

Nobody is so pleased to think that the Davis-Sweetenham incident is closed as old man Sweetenham.

The Marlboroughs have settled their differences, and the Duchess becomes a peerless American.

May MacKenzie is running Evelyn Nesbit a close second for public attention and notoriety.

Mr. Joseph Choate praises the President, but along with his apples he insists on throwing in an occasional onion.

The big battleships are almost certain to have a big boom now. There is nothing like war talk to help such matters along.

After a railroad merger Lord Dunsire's question always recurs: "Does the dog wag the tail or does the tail wag the dog?"

This talk of war with Japan is all bosh," says Senator Cullom. That may be, but as a rule, where there is so much smoke there is some fire.

All attempts to open the Colorado Mine Owners' safe that contained evidence to be used in the Moyer-Heywood trial, have failed. It has become a question of safe qui puit.

King Edward's chauffeur has been arrested in Paris for exceeding the speed limit. The Prince des Galles was wont to exceed the speed limit in Paris, if all reports be true.

"There can be no doubt that Bret Harte was a real poet. He was unable to provide for his family," says an exchange. At all events he provided a feast for future generations.

Ellen Terry says that this is not a farewell tour, that she is coming again. The statement is unique in its honesty. Come as often as she likes, she will always be welcome.

HOW OLD IS THE SPHINX.

London Globe.
The great Sphinx of Ghizeh bears no inscription by which we can tell its date. In 1816 Cavallia, who in modern times was the first to clear away the sand, found beneath its paws a tablet of the reign of Thothmes IV, and, therefore, it was believed that the Sphinx was carved by that monarch. But in 1858 the excavations of Mariette uncovered a tablet bearing the name of Cheops, on which is a reference to the Sphinx. The inscription is evidently of a later period, but is supposed to be an exact copy of an ancient carving, and the translation seemed to place the Sphinx earlier than the Pyramids, and consequently to prove it the most ancient piece of work in the world. Still there remained four lines carved on the base which could not be read, but M. Darosy has now deciphered them, and it appears that the inscription is in two parts. In the earlier lines there is no mention of the Sphinx, but the lines which date from the Persian occupation mention the repair of the Sphinx. There is, therefore, nothing by which we can tell the date of the monument, and the only evidence we have is the headless of the colossus. Its head is ornamented behind with three bands, a large one between two smaller bands. Now this is a fashion which only existed toward the end of the twelfth dynasty in the reigns of Usurtesen III and Amenemhet III. As this family showed much zeal for the god Harakmut, whose portrait the Sphinx is, it is probable that the monument is the work of Amenemhet III.

NO SEAT, NO FARE.

New York Evening Post.
The work of the "No seat, no fare" ordinance in Jersey City, which goes into effect at midnight, will be watched with interest as the best practical application of a remedy for street railway congestion that has long been discussed in a mildly academic way. At first blush it must be confessed, the scheme appears impossible. Ifoplan, that is in fact due to the hopelessly cynical state of mind into which we have grown with regard to conditions of city transit. Of course, Glasgow may have a two-cent fare and Paris double-deck cars, but such blessings are not for us; and there is as much pride as sorrow in the fact that we are so big that we cannot hope to be comfortable. We have been told so often that we are a long, narrow island, with business interests concentrated in one small area; we have been so often persuaded that it is our natural port to be a ship of fools, and tramped upon that very fact are optimistic enough to conceive of any mode of travel except strap-hanging. All of this may be true, and yet another reason remains for seeking the ideal in the hope of arriving at the merely tolerable.

COMPETITION IN BATTLESHIPS.

San Francisco Call.
President Roosevelt declares that the navy must have more big ships. We must keep abreast of the English and the Japanese in building 20,000-ton battleships. Three ships of the Dreadnought type are already on the stocks for the British navy, and Japan, having launched the Satsuma, is preparing to lay down another of the same size and equal equipment. Our own navy department is preparing to ask for bids for a ship of equal size, and it is quite within the range of possibility that the contract

may come to San Francisco. But wherever built, it is obvious that this monster will be only the first of the future type of our battleships. This may be taken as the line of assured development, although it is true that these ships are as yet only in the experimental stage. In fact, the Dreadnought has developed a serious defect in that she draws three feet more water than was designated. She was planned to draw twenty-six and a half feet, but now it is found she will have great difficulty in getting through the Suez canal and few of the dry docks will hold her.

Captain Mahan, the leading authority on sea power, says we shall be building 50,000-ton battleships before this competition in naval armament is ended. Then we shall have to rebuild all our drydocks and the canals will be useless for naval purposes. Presumably the United States can stand this kind of competition as long or longer than any other nation, but it seems like a silly waste of money. The cost of one big battleship would endow a university.

JUST FOR FUN.

When the Pendulum Swings Back.
Another generation had come and gone; a generation of lofty endeavor. "These jumbles, dearest," he was saying, reaching for his fourth, with evident relish, "are just like my mother used to consider herself created for something better and higher and nobler than to make."—Life.

Casting Bread on the Waters.
The latest case of gratitude is that of the poor man to whom Mayor Stotes Johnson lent \$10 a few years ago, and who has now returned it with the information that with this \$10 as a starter he has since rolled up a million by betting on horse races. Be kind to the poor and sporty!—Boston Herald.

More Detail.
She (at the recital)—He's been divorced three times, wears silk underwear in winter and summer, won't trim his finger nails on Friday, and—Her friend—What's he playing now? She—You must think I know everything. Here's the program.—Puck.

"The Whiting to the Snail."
Jehu, to sarcastic person turning the Embankment corner—"Cab, sir?" Sarcastic Person—"No, thanks, I'm in a hurry."—London Globe.

A Paradox of Ambiguity.
"I never saw any one so stuck-up as Markley," began Popley. "Last night he—"

"Why," interrupted Godart, "that's not like Markley at all. He's the best natured fellow—"

"Of course," continued Popley, "but last night he came to my house with molasses candy for the children and let them sit on his lap while they ate it."—Philadelphia Press.

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