Injurious Little Prairie Dog

GRAZING ON NATIONAL FOREST

RAISED ON NATIONAL FOREST

ATTEMPTS made last spring at poisoning prairie dogs in national forests on an extensive scale seem to have been highly successful in ridding selected areas of these small pests, and plans are now being made to carry on the work much more widely next year.

The first experiments in this line were made in New Mexico by a stockman who has since entered the forest service. In 1901, Dr. C. Hart Merriam, chief of the division of biological survey of the department of agriculture, made a report upon "The Prairie Dog of the Great Plains," in which the damage done by the dogs was pointed out, and various methods of poisoning them were suggested. This report of Doctor Merriam's may be said to have blazed the way for practical work in prairie dog extermination.

Prairie dogs are very obnoxious to the stockmen, for they devour much grass and undermine the surface of the ground with their burrows. Where they establish themselves the destruction of the range is only a question of time.

Range improvement in national forests is one of the chief objects of regulating the grazing. For this reason the forest service is leaving no stone unturned to prevent range deterioration. Stockmen who had suffered heavily from the prairie dog pest were solicitous to have the work taken up, and gladly offered to co-operate with the service in furnishing men and horses to distribute the poison.

To ascertain what success could be had in ridding considerable areas of the pest, a selection was made of parts of the Leadville and Pike national forests, which were badly infested. The region in these forests upon which the dogs were located aggregated 300 square miles or more. In order to demonstrate the effectiveness of the work, an area of some 60 or 70 thousand acres of actual dogtown was selected for the test. From 80 to 90 per cent. of the dogs were killed with the first distribution of the poison. It will be necessary to go over the ground a second time and by "spotting" the occupied holes the remaining dogs will easily be killed with a very small amount of the poisoning material. The average cost per acre for the poisoning material was only one and one-half cents, and even then it was found that more material had been used than was necessary.

The poison is prepared by coating wheat with a preparation of strychnine, cyanide of potassium, ahise oil and molasses. When a sufficient quantity is ready, the poisoned wheat is carried to the field of operations. There the stockmen supply men and horses, the wheat is given out to the riders, and distribution begins.

Each rider carries the wheat in a tin pail supported by a gunny sack slung across his right shoulder and hanging at his left side. His left hand is free for the reins. With his right hand he uses a tablespoon to measure out the poison and drop it near the entrance of the holes. A little practise enables the men to drop the wheat while keeping their horses at a sharp trot. By crossing the town, to and fro, like a man sowing grain, they can cover a large area in a surprisingly short time.

The action of the poison is almost instantaneous. Most of the prairie dogs in a town are dead within an hour or two after the bait is dropped.

The work is considered to have demonstrated the entire feasibility of fighting the prairie dogs in this way. It was found, however, that to be successful the poison must be scattered in the spring, when the dogs first come out from their winter quarters and before the green grass is offered to appease their hungry appetites. Next spring the poisoning will be undertaken much more extensively. A well-known stockman in northern Arizona writing to the forest service of his stock range on the great Canyon Diablo plateau, says: "Five years ago such a thing as a prairie dog was unknown here. Two years ago there were a few widely distributed over the range. Last year they became numerous, in fact, quite common. If something is not promptly done to destroy them they will do great harm to the range."

It is expected that the campaign against the dogs in the Arizona and New Mexico forests will be most successful, as it has met with universal favor among the stockmen who are giving every assistance to the forest service men.

Stockmen and others who wish to try the poisoning on their own account can obtain the formula for its preparation and direction for its use from the district forester at Albuquerque, New Mexico, or from the forest service, Washington.

A Long-Lived Race.

Lord Knollys, who, after serving the late king for forty years, has been appointed private secretary to King George, comes of a singularly long-lived race. His father served as controller of the Prince of Wales's household until his eightieth year, and lived for six years after his retirement, and his grandfather likewise attained a great age. His ancestor, William Knollys, who also served in the household of two monarchs, Elizabeth and James I., died at the age of eighty-five, and, according to Dugdale, "rode a hawking and hunting within half a year of his death." Sir Francis Knollys, the distinguished statesman who founded the family fortune, was eighty-two at the time of his death.—London Chronicle.

It Doesn't Last.

There can be no permanent glory for the man who depends on his clothes or his hair to give him distinction.

Showing Division of Trouble.

As a general rule, a man's hair turns gray five years earlier than a woman's.

Catching Sea Birds.

An ingenious way of catching birds is practised in the Orkney islands. There is a large white bird who travels with an irregular and heavy flight, again and again rising and taking a tremendous plunge into the blue depths of the ocean, where it remains out of sight for the space of 15 seconds or so. This bird is the gannet or solan goose, and it is the only aquatic bird that takes its prey by headlong diving. The wily Orcadian takes advantage of the bird's peculiar plunging habit by painting the portrait of a herring on a piece of plank and weighting it just sufficiently to keep it the right distance under the water. This ingenious counterfeit is placed in a part of the sea infested by gannets, and presently along comes a bird whose sharp eye quickly detects what he supposes to be a fine fat herring. Away up he flies until he has reached a sufficient altitude to enable him to make a successful dive upon his prey. Down, down he comes straight as a plummet, and the sea is ch[illegible]d into foam all around where he entered it. But, alas! he never rises more, poor bird! His sharp beak is firmly imbedded in the piece of timber, and his neck is broken.—London Telegraph.

Carrying Plague From Rats.

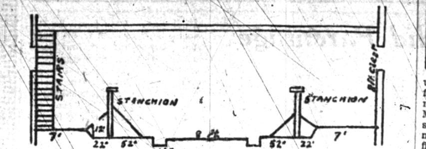
Egyptian or rat fleas had been spread all over the warm countries of the world by the rats which they worry and ride. It has been proved that man fleas and cat fleas can carry plague, but not so strong or deadly as the rat flea's plague. One flea's stomach and gizzard hold 5,000 plague germs, where germs can further grow and keep alive for 15 days, but after 15 days white blood cells in the rat's or flea's blood kill the plague germs. Fleas suck the rat's blood, and so get white cells from the rats. Both rats and fleas become so charged that the plague stops owing to immunity.

Sought Wide Revenge.

A woman named Picot, who was arrested at Cherbourg, France, for hooting the flag, declared that she had become an anti-militarist since she had been jilted by a soldier.

IMPORTANT ESSENTIALS IN COMFORTABLE CATTLE BARN

Light, Ventilation, Warmth and Convenience Are Among Factors That Go to Make Stable Paying Investment.



Plan of Stable Floor.

As the putting in of the crops is completed farmers will be repairing and remodeling and otherwise improving their cattle barns, many will be building new ones. The average cattle barn is not usually laid out for comfort, and without comfort the dairy cow will be far from doing her best. Convenience is also a most important factor in those times of high-priced farm hands.

Light ventilation and warmth—also convenience—are the essentials in a cattle barn. Windows of ample size must extend on every side and end. The barn should be at least 36 feet wide, and length to accommodate what stock is expected to be kept.

So-called mangers are to be avoided. The cows face the sides of the barn, and for purposes of ventilation and general sanitation, this is the only way a stock barn should be made.

The general construction of the floor plan is well shown in the illustration with deails of measurements. The driveway is 8 feet wide between the cows. This is two inches below the general level of the stalls. A gutter, six inches below the driveway and 8 inches below the stalls, is 16 inches wide. This must be watertight to retain the liquids. The stalls vary from 48 inches to 54 inches from the edge of the drop to the stanchions to fit cows of different length. A space of 22 inches is left for a feeding place. A slope rise of 12 inches forms all the manger needed, a space of 5 to 7 feet is left in the front for feeding. The slope partitions should come to within 14 inches of the gutter. The partitions in front should be between every other cow. This allows a water supply for every two cows to drink from. The platform should have a slope of ⅜ inches to the foot to drain the liquid to the gutter.

The best stanchion is the swing-stanchion fastened at the top and bottom with a chain that allows about two inches of play back and front. For ventilation a space is left in front of the cattle, under the breast-girth (3 feet high), and partitioned off three feet high and three feet wide, so that cold fresh air can pass to the stable from the floor above to second story. These boxes may be 15 to 20 feet apart. Over these openings slide doors control the inrush of the cold air. The air escapes through the roof. These openings serve for throwing hay down to the feeding alley before pitching to the cows.

Haying Machines.

Equally wonderful have been the improvements made in machines for handling the hay crop. The modern mowing machine is a marvel of simple efficiency, says the Ohio Farmer. The old revolving, wooden-tooth hayrake has given place to the self-dump silky steel hayrake. This machine can be operated by a ten-year-old boy, who can do more and better work than could a man using the old method. The hay-tedder enables the farmer to cure his hay quickly and greatly improves the quality of the hay. By means of the hay loader timothy, clover or alfalfa can be taken direct from the swath and loaded on the wagon. With the modern sweep rake the hay can be taken direct from the swath or cock and put into the stack with the hay stacker. The derrick hay fork is also used quite extensively, especially when the hay is to be put away in the mow.

Do not attempt to raise fall pigs without having first prepared a perfect system of housing for the winter.

SECURE STAND OF POTATOES

Potato Grower Should Take Stock of His Success in Work to This Point in Season—Moisture Is First.

(By C. L. FITCH, Colorado Agricultural College.)

This is the time for the potato grower to observe what sort of a stand he has secured, to take stock, as it were, of his success in his work to this point in the season.

In the first place, moisture is necessary. A potato may sprout, but will not root unless it touches damp soil, and if the season and atmosphere be very dry, growth will be backward, even with moisture beneath. The potato ground should have been filled with moisture before plowing, and the moisture held there by stirring the surface shallow, as with a harrow. If, however, the moisture be not there, the potatoes must be cultivated, ditched and irrigated, and then harrowed lengthwise, as soon as horses can be used.

A heavy rain following planting is a great damage, because it sets the soil of the tuber bed and will damage the shape of the crop. Prolonged rains will rot the seed. The best stands are secured on fields that were plowed in good condition, lightly harrowed, quickly planted, and that then happened to secure one long, gentle shower, followed by warm weather.

Examine the hills that come up last, after the run of the thrifty plants. You will find three causes for these tardy arrivals: Some were in a pocket of dry earth of a field not properly and promptly leveled and harrowed; others will be found growing from very small seed pieces—pieces perhaps broken from the others by the planter; but the most of the runty plants will be found coming from rotten or rotting seed pieces. Thus, moisture, good-sized seed, and sound seed are necessary to a vigorous stand. The best crops are secured in years when the seed stays sound until digging.

And back of all is the planter, and the right size of even cut seed for it to handle. Seventy-five per cent. is a fair stand; 95 per cent. is far more profitable. Your planter should not miss more than three or four per cent.

Record Onion Crop.

It is claimed that Charles Volz of the Mission community, Mission, Tex., holds the world's record for profits from intensive farming. He recently sold his Bermuda onion crop on 24 acres for $12,982. Deducting the expenses of planting, cultivating, harvesting and marketing, the crop left him a net return of $9,083. The onion yield from these 24 acres filled 22 cars. The product was shipped to northern and eastern markets. The land could have been bought ten years ago for one dollar an acre.

The First Creamery.

So far as known, the first creamery built in the United States was at Middletown, N. Y., in 1863, the second at Binghampton, that state. The creamery business was for a good many years confined to that part of the country. Not until about 25 years ago were any built out through the west.

SHROPSHIRE EWE OF QUALITY

The Shropshire ewe, shown in the illustration, owned by George McKerrow & Sons of Wisconsin, is remarkable for quality. She was champion at the 1908 International at Chicago and is considered by many judges one of the very finest animals ever exhibited, says American Agriculturist. She is well developed, with a broad back, short legs and compact fleece.

If a man does not know how to prune a tree, he can with safety at least cut out all the suckers and keep the ground free from weeds and under brush.

WEAK KIDNEYS WEAKEN THE WHOLE BODY.

No chain is stronger than its weakest link. No man is stronger than his kidneys. Overwork, colds, strains, etc., weaken the kidneys and the whole body suffers. Don't neglect the slightest kidney ailment. Begin using Doan's Kidney Pills at once. They are especially for sick kidneys.

Mrs. George Lajoie, 162 W. Gamble St., Caro, Mich., says: "I had lost in flesh until I was a mere shadow of my former self and too weak to stand more than a few minutes at a time. My rest was broken and my nervous system shattered. Had Doan's Kidney Pills not come to my attention, I firmly believe I would be in my grave. They cured me after doctors had failed."

Remember the name—Doan's.

For sale by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

SHOULD HAVE BEEN BUSY.

Old Lady—What are you crying about, my little man?

Kid—Nothin'.

Old Lady—Nothin!

Kid—Yes. Me teacher ast me what I was doin' an' I told her nothin', and she said I ought a been doin' sumthin'—an' give me a lickin'.

SCRATCHED SO SHE COULD NOT SLEEP

"I write to tell you how thankful I am for the wonderful Cuticura Remedies. My little niece had eczema for five years and when her mother died I took care of the child. It was all over her face and body, also on her head. She scratched so that she could not sleep nights. I used Cuticura Soap to wash her with and then applied Cuticura Ointment. I did not use quite half the Cuticura Soap and Ointment, together with Cuticura Resolvent, when you could see a change and they cured her nicely. Now she is eleven years old and has never been bothered with eczema since. My friends think it is just great the way the baby was cured by Cuticura. I send you a picture taken when she was about 18 months old.

"She was taken with the eczema when two years old. She was covered with big sores and her mother had all the best doctors and tried all kinds of salves and medicines without effect until we used Cuticura Remedies. Mrs. H. Kiernan, 663 Quincy St., Brooklyn, N. Y., Sept. 27, 1909."

Merely a Prevaricator.

A doctor relates the following story: "I had a patient who was very ill and who ought to have gone to a warmer climate, so I resolved to try what hypnotism would do for him. I had a large sun painted on the ceiling of his room and by suggestion induced him to think it was the sun which would cure him. The ruse succeeded and he was getting better rapidly when one day on my arrival I found he was dead."

"Did it fail, after all, then?" asked one of the doctor's hearers.

"No," replied the doctor, "he died of sunstroke."

The Dentist's Joke.

At a recent dinner of the Author's club in London to Mr. Owen Seaman, the editor of Punch, Mr. Walter Emanuel, another member of the staff of Punch, referred to the fact that the man with the largest sense of humor he had ever struck was an Englishman—a dentist. He went to him, after suffering long with the toothache. He refused to have gas, and the dentist pulled out a tooth, leaving him writhing in pain, and took the tooth to the window, where he laughed quite heartily. He groaned, "What's the joke?" "Wrong tooth," said the dentist.

Wife and Country.

Paul D. Cravath, the noted New York lawyer said at a luncheon at the Lawyers' club: "Vacation time is here, and already that dreadful song about the wife gone to the country is being resurrected. But a variant to the song was furnished by a conversation I heard the other night.

"'Hello, Smith,' said one man to another, 'I'm glad to see you back at the club again, old fellow. Wife off to the country, eh?'

"'No,' growled Smith. 'She's got back.'"

Important to Mothers

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it

Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

In Use For Over 30 Years.

The Kind You Have Always Bought.

The Ready Theorist.

"You see," explained the scientist, "house flies are dangerous because they carry germs on their feet."

"Ah!" exclaimed the ready theorist; "then the remedy is simple. All you need to do is to make them wear overshoes and leave them on the porch when they come in."

A woman's idea of an intelligent man is one who can tell whether or not her hat is on straight.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.
For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

No other man appreciates a helping hand like a man in trouble.

GRAND TRUNK STRIKE IS ENDED

WAGE SCALE PREVIOUSLY OFFERED ACCEPTED; PROMISE OF MORE IN 1912.

FORMER EMPLOYES TO BE PUT BACK TO WORK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Settlement Brought About by Efforts of Canadian Officials; Strikers' Express Satisfaction.

The strike of conductors, trainmen and yardmen which began on the Grand Trunk and Central Vermont systems on July 18, was officially called off.

Under the terms of the agreement signed by President Hays, for the railroads, and all the union officials, the men will receive, dating back to May 1 o fthis year, an advance of approximately 18 per cent, and beginning January 1, 1912, a rate of wages slightly below the eastern association schedule, for which they struck, but an advance in many instances of over 30 per cent.

Much credit for the successful outcome of the peace negotiations is given to W. L. Mackenzie King, Canadian minister of labor, who has persisted in his efforts to bring the men together despite discouraging setbacks.

The agreement follows:

"The company will put back as soon as possible the men other than those who have been or may be found guilty of acts of violence or disorderly conduct, the understanding being that there is to be no coercion or intimidation towards the new men.

"The company will put into effect from May 1, 1910, the rates named in the schedule of rates dated July 18, 1910, those rates to be embodied in the present schedules now in effect on this line, it being understood that those rates shall in no instance affect a reduction in any existing rate.

Put in C. P. R. Rates of Pay.

"The company will on January 1, 1912, make effective in train and yard service on the Grand Trunk railway the rates of pay and the rules contained in the schedule or agreement on that date in effect on the lines of the Canadian Pacific railway east of Fort William."

In the case of the Central Vermont the same settlement applies, with the exception that the standardization to be applied on January 1, 1912, is to be that of the Rutland railway, a road in the same territory, and not that of the Canadian Pacific, which will only apply to the Grand Trunk system.

The news of the ending of the Grand Trunk strike was received with considerable satisfaction by the strike leaders in Detroit. The men were instructed to report to work at once, and some of them did so. From now on the trains will be in charge of the regular crews, and already the strike breakers are being dropped, more or less quietly.

"The strike has been settled on a basis satisfactory to the officers in charge of the organization," said E. P. Curtis, vice-president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen. "The back pay on the difference in the old and the new scale, dating from May 1, will amount to a considerable sum. However, if I had my way, there would have been no compromise. We could have won all we wanted."

Grace Whitney Sinks; Two Dead.

Run down by the steamer Ogdensburg, about three miles below Bar Point light, the wooden barge Grace Whitney was sunk in nearly 30 feet of water. Mrs. Heath, wife of Capt. Rose Heath, Marine City, master of the barge, and Frederick Heath, their little 9-year-old son, went to their death in Lake Erie.

Michael Lynch, 369 Macomb street Detroit, and Horace Heath, Marine City, late of the Whitney, and father of Capt. Heath, were aroused from sleep by the crash. They leaped into the lake and narrowly escaped with their lives. Members of the Whitney's crew place responsibility for the accident on the steamer Ogdensburg.

Ask State to Set Rates.

Following agitation over the electric lighting and power rates in Saginaw and as the result of the Eastern Michigan Power Co. taking over the Bartlett Illuminating Co. and the installation of the former's rates, in many instances higher than the old company's, the common council decided to ask the state railway commission to investigate and establish an equitable schedule of rates for this city. The mayor and city attorney were instructed to appeal to the commission at once and work or preparing the appeal was commenced today and it will be forwarded to the commission as soon as posible.

Railroad Have Own Tax Boards.

One of the greatest surprises ever encountered by the officials at Lansing was when it was made known to the state tax commission that the various railroads of the state have formed a "tax commission" of their own.

It appears that for some time the railroads have been quietly working on the scheme, have perfected their plans, and already have a force of men working throughout the state verifying the sales of general properties and comparing them with the tax assesments.

The special bond election for a high school building, at Monroe, carried by a vote of 192 against 143. Fifty thousand dollars' worth of bonds were authorized. The school trustees have a fund of $50,000 in addition to the amount authorized by the election.

"The state of Michigan does not owe a cent outside of the regular running expenses for the month, such as salaries, etc., and more than that, the state is not only out of debt, but is in the million-dollar class, having a cash surplus on hand of $2,304,000." Such was the statement made by Auditor-General Fuller.

At the annual meeting of trustees of the Epworth Heights Assembly association and the Resort association held at the resort near Ludington, J. S. Stearns of Ludington, E. Lennox of Eaton Rapids, C. E. Piper of Chicago, and J. H. Grant of Manistee, were re-elected trustees for three years.

Heavy rains have extinguished all forest fires, which were particularly threatening in some districts of the iron country. In the Keweenaw peninsula there are no fires and all smoldering blazes through the woods in Houghton, Baraga and Keweenaw counties have been put out.

WELL QUALIFIED.

Squilbob—That fellow over there would make a splendid magazine poet.

Squilligan—A genius, eh?

Squilbob—No, but he has dyspepsia so bad that he would't get so hungry living.

Clever Joke of Kind King.

King Edward's good nature was illustrated the other night by a London correspondent at the Press club in New York.

"The king," said the correspondent, "was visiting Rufford Abbey, and one morning, in company with his host, Lord Arthur Savile, he took a walk over the preserves.

"Suddenly Lord Arthur, a big burly man, rushed forward and seized a shabby fellow with a dead pheasant protruding from the breast of his coat.

"'Sir,' said Lord Arthur to the king, 'this fellow is a bad egg. This is the second time I've caught him poaching.'

"But the king's handsome face beamed, and he laughed his gay and tolerant laugh.

"'Oh, let him go,' he said. 'If he really were a bad egg, you know, he wouldn't poach.'"

A Protection Against the Heat.

When you begin to think it's a personal matter between you and the sun to see which is the hotter, buy yourself a glass or a bottle of Coca-Cola. It is cooling—relieves fatigue and quenches the thirst. Wholesome as the purest water and lots nicer to drink. At soda fountains and carbonated in bottles—5c everywhere. Send 2c stamp for booklet "The Truth About Coca-Cola" and the Coca-Cola Baseball Record Book for 1910. The latter contains the famous poem "Casey At The Bat," records, schedules for both leagues, and other valuable baseball information compiled by authorities. Address The Coca-Cola Co., Atlanta, Ga.

FIND OUT THEN.

Hicks—Some men never realize the true value of money.

Dicks—Until they try to make a touch.

Yes, Indeed.

Hostess (at party)—Why, so silent, Miss De Muir? You've scarcely said a word since you came.

Youthful guest—Really, Mrs. Leader, I am having a very enjoyable time, but my father has told me 100 times never to say anything unless I have something to say, and I suppose—

Hostess—But, my dear child, think what a stupid and tiresome thing society would be if everybody followed that advice!

Quanity Not Quality.

Teacher—Willie, have you whispered today without permission?

Willie—Yes, wunst.

Teacher—Johnnie, should Willie have said "wunst?"

Johnnie (triumphantly)—No, ma'am, he should have said twist.

Know How To Keep Cool?

When Summer's sun and daily toil heat the blood to an uncomfortable degree, there is nothing so comforting and cooling as a glass of

Iced Postum

served with sugar and a little lemon.

Surprising, too, how the food elements relieve fatigue and sustain one.

The flavour is delicious—and Postum is really a food drink.

"There's a Reason"

POSTUM CEREAL CO., Ltd., Battle Creek, Mich.