

WATER FED FIRE

Case Where Liquid Was of No Use to Quench Flames.

Metallic Sodium in Vessel's Hold Merely Blazed More Fiercely as Streams From Fire Hose Reached It.

It is said that, for the most part, water if applied in sufficient quantities will eventually quench any fire. In some cases, however, water not only proves ineffectual but actually kindles and nourishes the fire.

When a freighter, the Hardy, steamed out of Le Treport, France, some years ago she carried, besides the mineral water in her hold, a number of small wooden cases marked "metallic sodium."

Now, the channel was rough. The vessel rolled and pitched violently. The captain saw that the ship was listing to port, and suspecting that the cargo was shifting, sent a boatswain below to investigate. As the boatswain entered the hold he saw that several cases of mineral water had broken and that the water was swishing about in the hold. Then suddenly he saw one of the wooden cases marked "sodium" burst into flame.

Immediately he gave the alarm, and the crew rushed to their fire stations. The captain directed the men to turn the hose into the hold. As the first stream of water struck the burning case there were several explosions as package after package within the case caught fire. By this time two other cases of sodium had broken open, and their contents, as they came in contact with the water from the hose, burst into flame.

The crew could not believe their eyes. The more water they poured on the fire, the more intense grew the conflagration. Then suddenly two cases flew into the air, crashed against the overhead beams and spread out in sheets of fire, the smaller pieces dropping back only to bounce and dance about, huge balls of flame in the half-swamped hold.

The superstitious crew was fast, becoming unmanageable, and the captain saw that in any case he must abandon the ship. He ordered the crew to the boats not a moment too soon, for as the boats rowed away from the blazing hulk several loud explosions came from the hold. Then there was one mighty detonation; the freighter broke in two and plunged out of sight.

Japan and Baseball.

Japan is one of the few nations of the earth that has adopted the "national pastime" of the United States, the game of baseball, which grew up, in its present form, in the latter country. The game has been transplanted, has taken root, and is thoroughly flourishing in the island kingdom. But the Japanese, according to one of them, recently traveling in America, are making all their baseballs by hand, not yet having perfected any machinery for manufacturing them. This sojourner, who is a mechanical expert, was much interested, while on his trip, in learning the method by which the balls are made. The playing of the game in Japan, says this traveler, is widespread. A few years ago two of the Japanese universities sent teams to the United States, where they engaged in competition with American university nines. Their ability was marked, and their sportsmanship excellent. The common interest of the people of the two nations in this sport has been recognized as a possible source of increased understanding between them.

Will Never Show.

Joe Hawkins of the Auto Sales company, is a believer that appearance is 95 per cent of the game.

The other day he was demonstrating a very classy six-cylinder car to a man and his wife. The wife was very much taken with the appearance of the car; the husband was still a long way from being sold.

As they were coming down Meridian street one of the cylinders started missing. Hawkins, trying to apologize for the behavior of the engine, said: "One of the spark plugs must be broken for one of the cylinders is missing."

The wife spoke up: "That doesn't matter much, the cylinders are all under the hood anyway, and if one of them is missing it will never show."—Indianapolis News.

Something Missing.

"This catalogue is no good," said a man visiting the art museum, according to a story that has reached us. There ain't any prices on it."

"What," said his wife. "You weren't thinking of buying any?"

"Certainly not," replied the complainer. "But how can you be expected to appreciate pictures if you don't know the price of them?"—Boston Transcript.

Parental Diffidence.

"Does your boy mind when you speak to him?"

"Yes," said Farmer Cornstossel, doubtfully. "But he's got us so impressed with his superior knowledge that we don't often venture to speak to him."

As to Alimony.

"Is there any way a man can avoid paying alimony?" asked the friend who was seeking free advice.

"Sure," replied the lawyer. "He can stay single or stay married."

BULL ASSOCIATION

How They Work Out in Practice.—Helpful to Large as Well as Small Breeders.

Clemson College, April 26.—More and more the usefulness of the co-operative bull associations is recognized as time goes on and its benefits to the dairy industry have a chance to become evident. The full results that can be obtained from such an association obviously can not appear for several years. It is evident therefore that since the bull associations are of only recent beginning, the benefits so far obtained are only the fore-shadowing of greater things to come.

The co-operative bull association has been carefully planned to enable a number of small dairymen and farmers who individually could not afford good bulls, to combine their resources and buy a few really good dairy sires. For example, suppose four farmers each have \$100 to invest in a bull. They are so situated that they can all use the same bull. The association makes it possible for them to pool their resources and buy one \$400 bull, presumably four times as good as any one of the four \$100 animals that they could buy individually. It is gratifying to see that this theory is working out in practice so well that it applies not only to the dairymen with \$100 available for investment in a bull but equally well to the one with only \$10, or on the other hand to the one with \$500.

Saves the Good Bulls.

The money advantage is the first thing which attracts the farmer's attention to the bull association, but by far the greatest advantage of the organization is the exchange of bulls every two years by means of which continued use of bulls can be had until their value is proved. Statistical figures indicate that bulls owned by individuals are used only to an average age of about three years. At this age it is impossible to have any production records of the offspring, which is the only real test of a sire's value. Because of this short life of the bull it happens over and over again that dairy farmers have discovered, after the daughters had finished a record, the exceptional prepotent qualities of their sire; and then, on looking around for that sire, have made another discovery, a sad one, that the search was futile, for the sire had gone to the butcher.

Beneficial to Family Cow Owners.

The average herd of all the members of these associations consists of six cows. Inasmuch as there are many herds with ten or a dozen cows, it follows that there must be a great number of herds with less than six cows each. In fact, town people owning family cows are often members, paying their share or assessment of five, ten, or whatever number of dollars is required for each cow; and for this payment they have the use of all the bulls in the association. Thus a family cow owner may for a \$10 investment have for a period of 10 years the use of such bulls as freely as though he owned them himself.

Leads to Keeping Purebred Cows. The claim is made in behalf of the bull association as an institution that it opens up an opportunity for the small dairyman to do pure breeding. The figures gathered in the 1919 directory of bull associations show that while the number of organizations, the number of members, etc., have increased less than 77 per cent as compared with 1913, the increase in number of purebred cows owned by members went up 240 per cent, showing plainly that the bull association does help the small breeder to do pure breeding.

No Chance of Loss.

We have still to get the first report from a farmer to the effect that he has lost money on his investment in a co-operative bull association, says J. P. LaMaster, Extension Service dairy husbandman. The greatest loss that can be sustained from a disbanded association is that the wrong impression which the community and other communities may receive may prevent them from organizing other associations of the same kind. For this reason, we are anxious to see all associations organized on the right basis and properly looked after, so that none of them will disband.

Suggestions for Success.

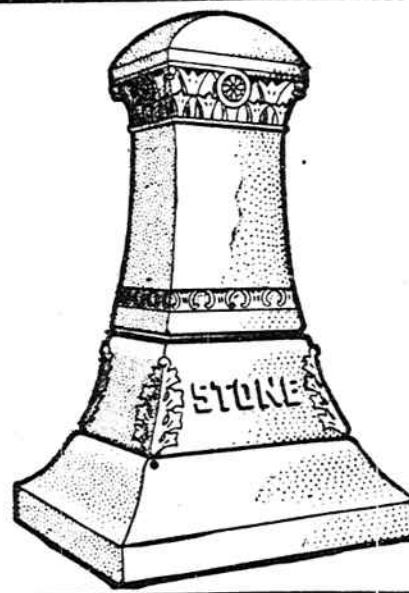
The principal points to keep in mind for building a successful association are as follows:

1. Have the blocks well organized, principally with reference to satisfactory location of members and the place to keep the bull.
2. Have the association well organized, with carefully selected officers, the principal one of whom is the secretary. The secretary is the life of the association. He should be a dairyman interested in the breed selected and in breeding generally, and a man with good business ideas.
3. Buy the best bulls possible with the available money.
4. Provide a good place for the bull, and keep him properly.
5. Hold at least two meetings a year, the regular annual business meeting and the annual picnic.
6. Cooperate in all this with the county agent and the state specialist in bull association work, and you will have an organization that will exert a tremendous influence for the improvement of livestock in your community, far-reaching in its benefits.

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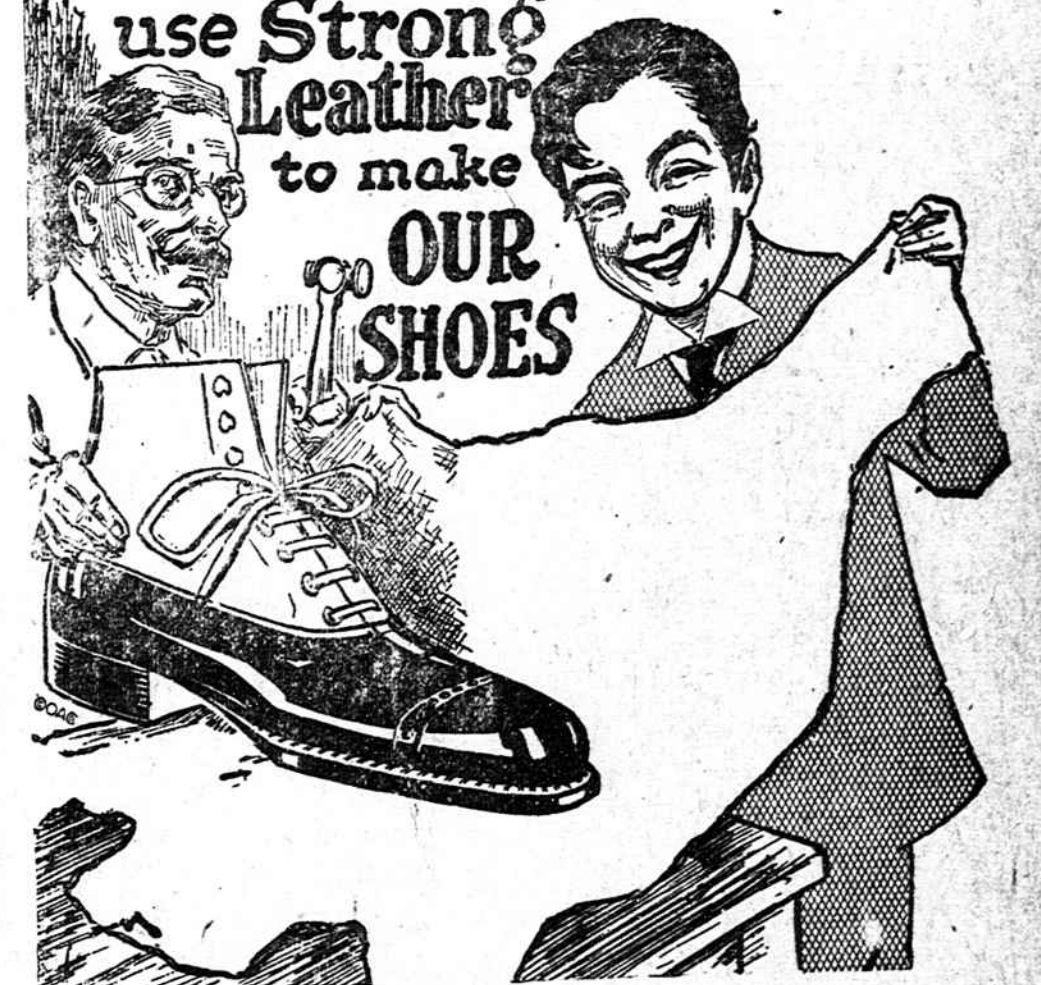
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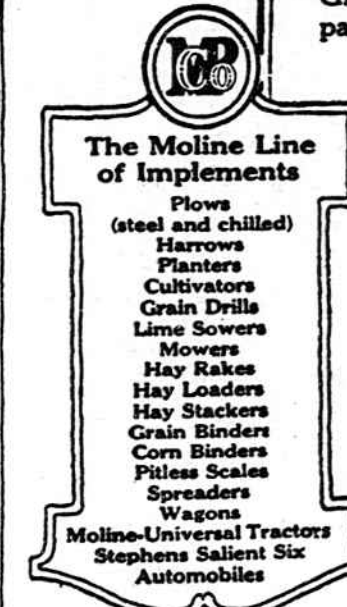
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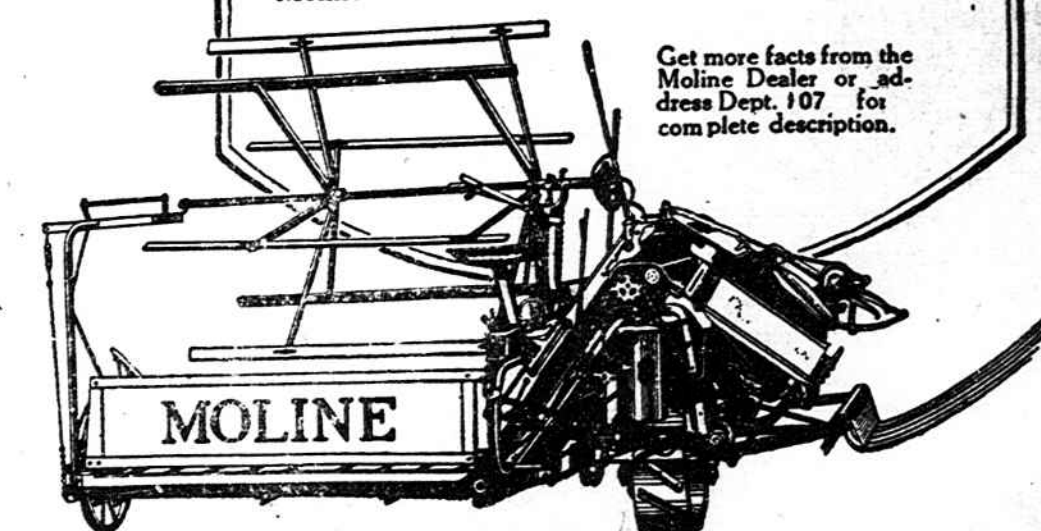
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