

**How the Lien Law Affects Labor.**

(Continued from Page 13.)

duce the negro to produce a greater quantity of crop, but rather I think the tendency is to plant less, entertaining an idea that the merchant will take the crop in the fall as satisfactory payment for supplies furnished in the spring and summer, knowing that he can live during these seasons from the supplies, and in the fall the railroads and lumber business will furnish work sufficient to winter himself on, excepting what with the lean sheep-hound and gun he can get in the way of rabbits, squirrels, and opossums.

**Laborer and Farmer Both Losers.**

The crop lien protects the negro in virtually loafing from one to three days during every week in the year, while if it were not for his obtaining supplies in this fashion it would be necessary to work these one to three days in the crop of his landlord, receiving his pay every day at sundown, and thereby benefiting himself and the farmer. But the crop lien permits him to loaf, and he and the farmer are the losers. There is the merchant's result of the plan. If he collects his bills he is the great gainer of the three that are affected by it; for he generally sells to the crop lien purchaser at an enormous profit, knowing very well that the purchaser is almost compelled to buy his goods. Sometimes he fails to collect his dues, but what remains unpaid for 1906 is generally secure in the lien for 1907. This loafing, superfluous labor is a sore on the prosperity of the country. The crop lien generates indolence, procrastination, and borrowing, and the many other effects of laziness. I have endeavored to show that the negro could live just as safely without the lien as with it, and the farmer could be benefited by his labor, and in the fall he could pocket his crop's worth instead of its being handed to the merchant. And what applies to the negro in regard to the crop lien, applies equally as well to the white man.

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The better class of the country people desire it earnestly. A tax would mean fewer dogs, and fewer dogs would be an inducement to give greater efforts towards sheep-raising, would mean less time thrown away in hunting, and instead of so many dogs being fed more hogs could be raised, and the money raised through the levying of this tax could easily build a high school building in every county in the State in two or three years.

Could not the hunting season be shortened? Would not the two months of December and January be sufficient for any one to hunt? And if the millionaire sportsmen desire a longer season let them pay for a special license permitting them to hunt longer, and let this money be devoted to educational purposes.

The price that land rents for should be increased; everything has increased in greater proportion than rent; the wages of the farm laborer have doubled, while the rent is nearly the same it was ten years ago.

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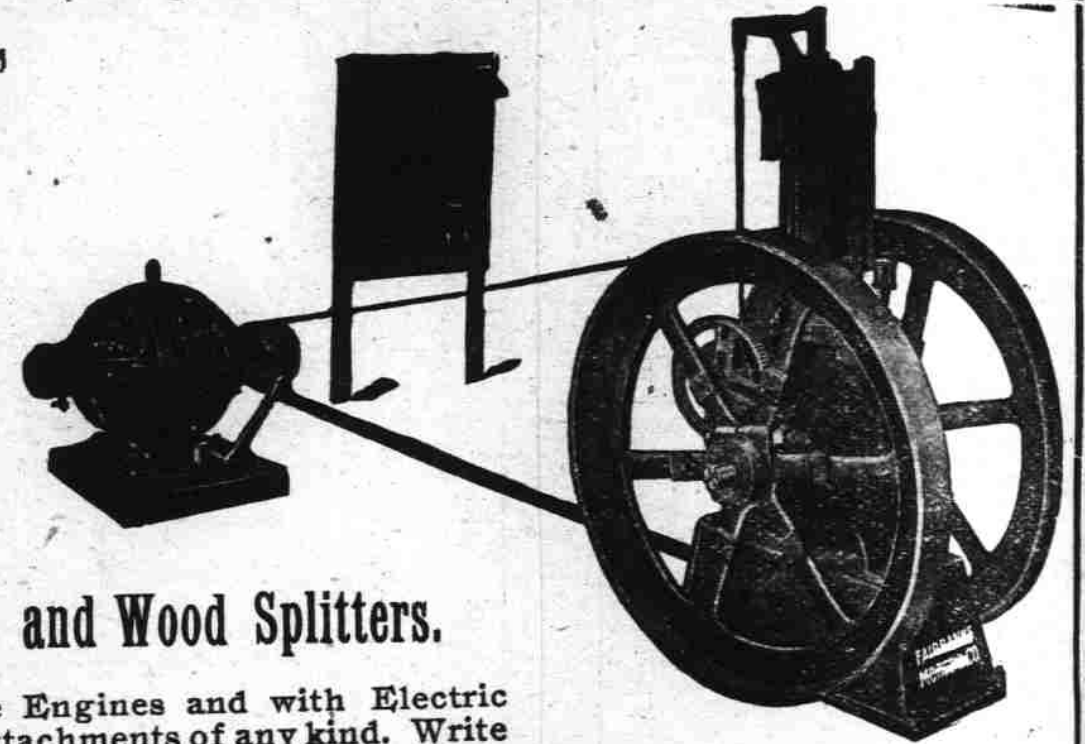
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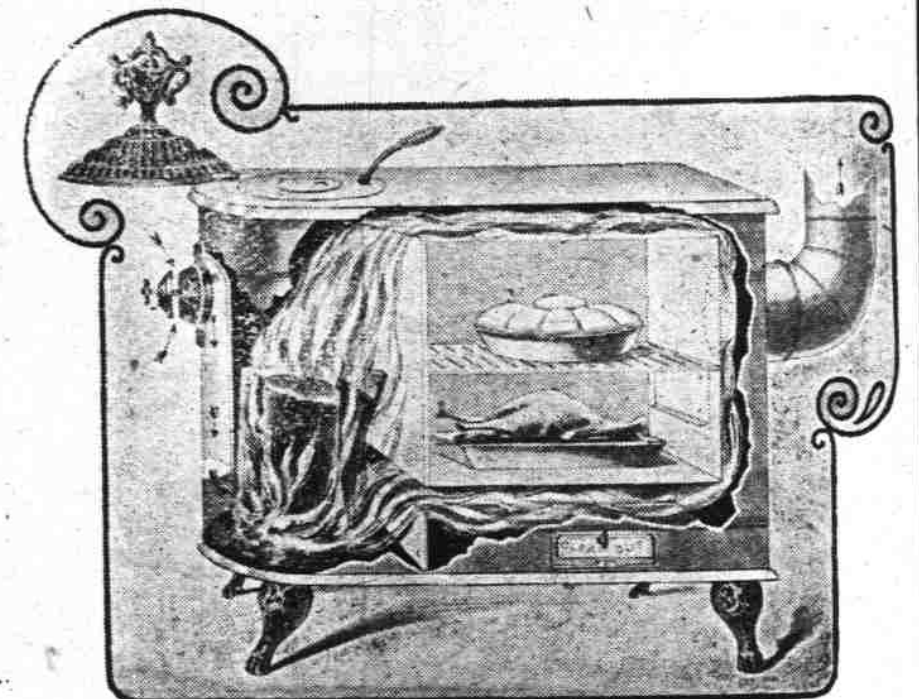
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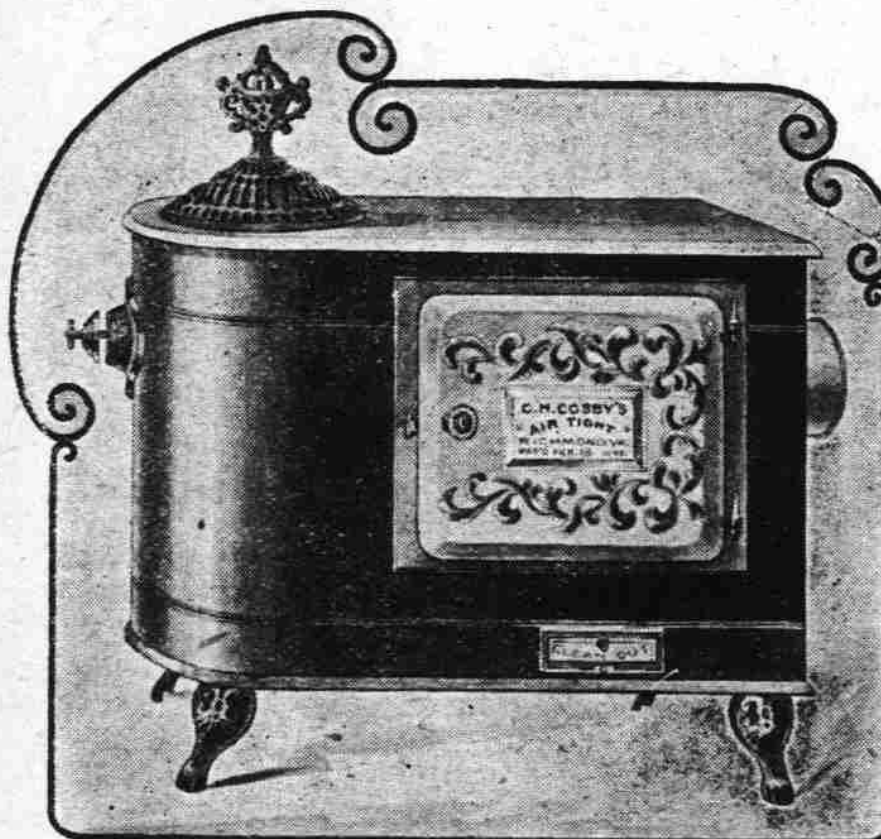
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