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VOLUME CLXI NUMBER TWENTY-FIVE

DETROIT, DECEMBER 22, 1923

CURRENT COMMENT

This is the think season in farming. It should be the time devoted to reflection, reading and planning for another season.

Federal wool grades are now ready. We hope these grades will make it less easy to pull the wool over the eyes of the producer.

Another bit of evidence on the matter of the program of our Agricultural College may be seen in the splendid showing made by the College and the farmers of the state who have received the aid of the College men, in both the grain and live stock departments of the recent International at Chicago.

A Sound Moral Issue

SPEAKER George W. Welsh, of the Michigan House of Representatives, injected a new issue into the reapportionment muddle in which the legislature has become involved during the special session, called for the enactment of a reapportionment law as required by the state constitution.

While the provisions of the constitution are somewhat conflicting as related to the manner in which reapportionment of legislative districts shall be made, and while there may be good reason for the opinion that its provision requiring reapportionment be made on the basis of population rather than citizenship, yet its mandates in this regard are plain, and there is food for profitable thought in Speaker Welsh's statement that the moral issue involved is immeasurably greater than the question of adequate representation for Wayne county.

There is no doubt that the representatives who apparently have defeated any reapportionment program at the special session believed they had just grounds for their action in view of the interests of their constituents. There is perhaps little doubt that the present constitutional provisions in this regard are not in line with the best interests of the people of the state at large when all factors are considered. But the constitution is the fundamental law of the state, and a total violation of its provisions by the law-making body of the state does raise a serious moral issue, as Speaker Welsh has so clearly pointed out.

In these days when law observance is so generally lax as to be the subject of serious thought on the part of thinking people, it is a serious matter for a law-making body to make a

"scrap of paper" of our fundamental law. It is a bad example to a population in whom we would inspire a greater reverence for law and order. From this standpoint it is to be hoped that the legislature may yet find a way to get out of the almost inextricable muddle into which it has gotten itself on this question. If the fundamental law is defective in its provisions as to representation in our law-making body, let us amend its provisions, rather than violate them. To do otherwise is to undermine the foundations of democratic government.

To Grandpa's for Christmas

GRANDPA'S house is a favorite rendezvous at Christmas time. We used to go there in the sleighs, whole sleigh-loads of us, snuggled down on the deep, clean straw in the wagon box. Great times were those. Nowadays, we go in the automobile. The piked-up roads and the automobile have well-nigh put the old bob sleds and the merry sleigh bells out of commission. But we have jolly times at Grandpa's house just the same, and that is where most of us will be this Christmas time if we are fortunate enough to have a Grandpa still on earth to visit.

There will be uncles and aunts, and maybe great uncles and great aunts, and cousins and friends galore. And there will be a great table fairly groaning under the spread of good things that Grandma knows so well how to make. There will be the turkey—drumsticks up—on the big platter and done to a turn; there will be brilliant crimson cranberries and sweet potatoes and mince pies and big red apples, and nuts and candy. Over in the chimney corner will be the Christmas tree, festooned with all sorts of pretty things for the kiddies, and gifts for everyone.

The children will revel in all sorts of jolly romps and new games and Christmas stories; there will be music and friendly frolic, and perhaps a rabbit hunt for the young folks; and the height of good fellowship will prevail among the elders. Perchance they, too, will join with the children or the young folks in their joy making, and help to make this Christmas at Grandpa's house one long to be remembered. For, after all, is not that what Christmas is for? The one day of all the year best suited to the renewal of friendships; to the showing of our affection for our own folks; and to the general expression of good-will that is down deep in the hearts of all of us for our fellowman.

Sure enough, these good traits, that may always be found, even in the worst of us, get covered up pretty deep sometimes by business cares and worries, by petty jealousies and grievances, and by troubles of various kinds, but Christmas is a time to put aside such trivial things and let our minds and our hearts dwell upon the good things of life. Grandpa's house and all that attaches thereto, are among the greatest of these good things. Let us make the most of them this Christmas time and store up memories to hand down to our children's children.

A Loss To Horticulture

THE many friends of T. A. Farrand, were shocked at his sudden death in a hospital in Detroit, Wednesday, December 12. Mr. Farrand had gone to Detroit in full vigor and health to have an operation. He went through the operation nicely and was apparently in good health and full of optimism all through his convalescing period. In fact, until within five minutes of his death he seemed in the best of spirits, when suddenly a weakened heart brought the end.

But few are better known in Michigan than T. A. Farrand. His message of better horticulture and his abundant

ing enthusiasm made him lasting friends everywhere. But what will remain in the memory and hearts of those who knew him, more than anything else, was the gospel of optimism which he preached through example. Through all the trials of life, his smile and his laughter were ever present. His enthusiasm and his "never say die" attitude have made him an outstanding figure among those who have worked for better rural Michigan.

T. A. was a self-made man. At one time he was a section hand at South Haven. Then when the local oracles said that he was not capable, he got the position of superintendent of the South Haven Experiment Station and made himself famous as a horticulturist. For a time, he retired to engage in fruit growing at Eaton Rapids, but public life called him again and he became county agent of Eaton county. From there, he went to Van Buren county as county agent, and later became extension specialist for the horticultural department at M. A. C. He was always an enthusiastic worker in the interests of the Michigan State Horticultural Society and several years ago became its secretary. His activities at the time of his death were in this dual position of extension specialist and secretary. Besides, he had his fruit farm and greenhouse at Eaton Rapids to look after.

We know of no couple who have radiated sunshine and exemplified the happy habit as have Mr. and Mrs. Farrand. It is hoped that, with her helpmeet gone, Mrs. Farrand's cheerful courage will stand by her in this time of trial. We can assure her and her family of the heart-felt sympathy of thousands of friends.

For The Want of Water

IN Jackson county nearly \$125,000 has been expended in cleaning up tuberculosis from its herds of cattle. Two tests have been made. The first test showed 5.25 per cent reactors. The second indicated but 1.8 per cent reactors. Although the expensive part of the campaign has been performed and paid for, the board of supervisors of the county has refused to appropriate the funds for the third test which, without doubt, would place the county on the modified accredited list.

We are reminded of the automobile owner who was having trouble with his new battery. He had invested plenty of good money in the original purchase of the article and then refused to secure a little distilled water to keep it up, and as a consequence the plates warped and the battery soon became useless.

The general move toward economy in government is important. This must be done to hold the faith of the masses in democracy. But, the economizing, to be successful, cannot be done ruthlessly. Rather, the wisest statesmanship is needed at this time to the end that we may conserve the good things already done, as well as economize in the business of running our local and state governments.

Corporation vs Cooperation

WITH the coming of large corporations, American business is making great strides in efficiency. The larger units are able to use the services of experts which the smaller companies were unable to take advantage of. The increased volume of business has made standardization possible and advertising profitable. New and greater markets are found for the products to be merchandised. All these are factors in modern business successes.

In farming, they are also essentials of success, but the corporation idea will probably never be successful in farm activities. At least we hope that corporation farm successes will not prevail, as the individual farm home is the place where is preserved and

kept alive the spirit which made possible the American Republic. We feel sure that the greater the number of prosperous farm homes we have, the more certain can we be that this government will continue to progress.

Thus, with the necessity of smaller units in farming, cooperation must do for farming what corporation does for industry. Only in this way can each individual farmer become part of a larger unit so necessary to produce volume and make possible the efficient use of standardization, advertising and expert knowledge.

So it seems that without regard to the successes or failures of agricultural cooperation in the past, cooperation will be the big thing which will put farming where it will hold its ground with any other line of endeavor.

So, then, from an altruistic motive as well as a selfish one, should not all agriculturally-minded men foster the spirit of cooperation and seek the knowledge of what constitutes successful agricultural cooperation, so that each may help to make such cooperation a success? The cooperative spirit should grow stronger, for apparently cooperation is the only way out for agriculture.

Almanak

I'VE been readin' some since the plow got froze in the ground and icicles got hangin' on my nose, and I've been wonderin' why all the professors and scientiks is spendin' so much time findin' out things when you kin find everythin' what is in the almanak.

This almanak book tells what you are and what you are goin' to be, and what your wife should be but ain't, and what to do fer the baby when he is cryin', and how to plant the potatoes in the full of the moon, and what it means when you dream a elephant is sittin' on your stomach, and how many pints is in a bushel, and what Poor Richard says about gettin' up in the mornin', and how to be happy and married by takin' Paragoric's Protoplasm, and when the Fourth o' July comes every year.



Maybe these books says things alright, but I kin tell you somethin' about these subjects myself. For inst., I kin tell by lookin' at the moon that I'm goin' to be a dead man some day, but when it comes to woinin, they're always a puzzle, includin' Sophie. But babies is differunt. When a baby is cryin', make him stop, except if you like to hear him cry.

As fer potatoes bein' planted in the full of the moon, I ain't had time to go up to the moon to see how it works. But when it comes to dreamin' a elephant is settin' on yer stomach, just turn over so he kin set on your back. How many pints is in a bushel, depends on how much stuff you need to hide the pints you got in it.

Me and Poor Richard don't agree about this gettin' up business. To get out of gettin' up in the mornin', I'd stay up all night. This gettin' up is the most disagreeable exercise a man kin take. The almanak clock has stopt me lots o' times from makin' a million dollars, or havin' a dance with the fairies. Almanak clocks is a shock to the system, anyhow, and I don't like to be shocked, but Sophie likes to see me get shocked, so every night she sets the clock up to doin' it.

I got married without takin' Paragoric's Protoplasm, so I don't know nothin' about its disastrous effects. And speakin' about Fourth o' July, I wanta say "Merry Xmas to you. Here's hopin' you will get Xmas bills paid by Fourth o' July so you kin celebrate." HY SYCKLE.

The Problem of the Woodlot Owner

Buyer's Tactics and Slashing, Sound Death Knell of Woodlots

By F. H. Sanford

THE timber buyer has three or four choice plans for his deals with the farmer who wants to sell his timber. First, and probably the best, is the lump sum plan. The farmer needs money. The buyer has found this out. He has also found out that the farmer would like to get some of that money from his timber. Usually the first step made by the buyer is to quietly determine, by cruise or otherwise, just how much timber the farmer owns, the various kinds, its condition and all about it. The next step is to call upon the owner and "feel him out." If he finds the owner anxious to sell he may immediately make up his "lump sum offer" of so much for "everything." The owner usually begs for time to consider and the buyer leaves him to think about it for a day or so, when he returns and usually closes the deal.

The second plan used by the timber buyer differs from the first in that the owner may make certain restrictions and exceptions. These are all well thought out beforehand by the buyer, while the owner usually trusts to his "own good judgment." The most common reservation includes "all of the tops." Very naturally the average owner's "good judgment" tell him that this means a great amount of fuel, since only the good logs will be taken by the buyer. In this particular many a farmer has been disillusioned when it was too late.

The safest restriction which the owner may place upon the buyer, is the "cutting to specified diameter," and even in this the average owner may lose out at the hands of skilled timbermen.

The third plan gives the owner a contract for logs to be cut according to certain specifications. This has the advantage of giving full responsibility for damage to young growth to the owner who has himself to thank if damage is done. However, it is not without its advantages to the buyer also. An example of this came to the writer's attention just at the close of the war when prices were falling and the buyer was anxious to be relieved of his contract, which was made a year before and carried higher prices. The writer was called upon to make inspection of several hundred thousand feet of logs that were delivered upon the railroad siding ready for loading. The owner wished to force acceptance of the logs by the buyer. The buyer refused to load, and based that refusal upon a single clause in the complicated contract. The owner

had used his "own good judgment" again, instead of referring the contract to an experienced timberman or to an attorney who understood the technique of logging. The result was that the owner lost out while the buyer who drew up the contract for his mill saved many hundreds of dollars to his employer by his shrewdness and skill in the matter of knowing his business.

There are many other devices and wrinkles used by timber buyers to enable them to gain their ends by shady methods, but they are not of concern to us at this time, because it is not necessary for the timber buyer to be dishonest in order to beat the farm woodlot owner. The owner allows himself to be beaten. And the sad part of it all is that usually he cannot help himself.

The reason for this condition is



Thousands of Acres of River Flats in Michigan Are Suited for Growing the Commercial Willows Used for Making These Baskets.

readily apparent to anyone who is willing to look into it a little and then do a very small amount of thinking. A very few years ago the price of California oranges fluctuated through a wide range during the year and was invariably lower than at the present time. The orange growers of California organized and not only corrected price conditions, but tremendously increased production.

Education of the farmer has gone by leaps and bounds in this matter of production and marketing of food-stuffs and essentials of life generally,

but it has not yet reached the producer of timber.

Cooperative marketing of farm forest products in Michigan is badly needed. It calls for serious attention from those who direct other forms of extension work. It is a matter that cannot be long delayed for the reason that lack of state-wide markets is forcing farmers to clean cut, rather than to handle on a periodic crop basis. It also enables the timber buy-

er sold on the buyer's lump sum offer, with a "take it or leave it" thrown in for good measure.

And so this whole matter comes back on the farmer and upon those who are helping to work out his salvation. It may be that the minds who direct these lines of betterment of rural conditions have never realized the tremendous part that wood in all its forms plays in the lives of people.

There are, however, many among the busiest business men of today in the cities and towns of the nation, who do not realize the value of wood in our every-day lives, and they are playing no small part in the gradual building of a widespread sentiment for timber conservation. But to those owners of timber in small patches called farm woodlands this realization of both the present and future value of timber is very slow in coming. The cold facts regarding increasing timber shortage do not seem to reach them, although they are devoting over half a million acres in the southern seven tiers of counties of this state to timber production. An impending scarcity of pork or mutton is followed directly by an over-production of hogs or sheep but the very certain and sure scarcity of all kinds of timber, as indicated by the climbing prices of everything made of wood, is failing to impress farm timber owners. Instead they beg for buyers to come and pay prices that would little more than pay the freight on the same kinds of material if those buyers were to buy from other states.

Systematic group marketing of timber products must constitute the first lesson for farmer woodlot owners to learn. The farmer groups of co-ops, so-called, must first be taught that scientific marketing is absolutely essential to the perpetuation of the farm timberland. Without it the present program of individual selling to the quiet buyer will soon denude the farms of Michigan. The second lesson will follow easily and naturally when the classes graduate from the first.

Our first conservation advocates have come to realize that thirty-three states of the Union are unable to produce their own agricultural and industrial needs for wood, and Michigan is one of these. New York is usually considered to be the greatest producer of farm timberland products in the Union, and she produces only one-tenth of the lumber she uses, while only five states produce more lumber than they use.

Michigan Exhibitors Triumph

Wolverine Entries of Hay and Grain Take Lion's Share of Money at International

By H. C. Rather

WHEN in 1922 Michigan farmers carried away over fifty per cent of the prize money for which they competed at the International Grain and Hay Show, it was thought that the zenith of their achievement had been reached. But when they return, as they did during the show just passed, compete with the largest and best array of crops samples ever gathered together, and win greater honors than ever before, who can say to what heights the star of Michigan producers of quality crops will rise.

Witness the oat class. Michigan here competes in Region 2 which, besides the southern half of Michigan, includes parts of such states as Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York. Prior to 1922 the best achievement of her farmers in this class was two or three places well down the line. Last

year Wolverine farmers made a real showing, winning eighteen of a possible thirty-five places, but in 1923 they were not contented until fully twenty-seven of the honor ribbons decorated Michigan entries.

Now turn to six-rowed barley with competition open to all United States and Canada. One prize was the best previous showing of Michigan entries. This year they carried away eleven of a possible twenty-five.

Not contented with carrying away major honors in their own classes, Michigan farmers, for the first time, made entries in Hard Red Winter Wheat, with a new variety, Berkeley Rock. Berkeley Rock is a hybrid wheat developed by Professor F. A. Spragg, prominent M. A. C. plant

breeder. It was first grown on a field scale in Michigan during the past season, with highly pleasing results as to yield. At Chicago two entries of this wheat were made, one by John Shoemaker, of Hudsonville, the other by Arnold Callen, of Caro. Because of the quality, high protein content and texture of Berkeley Rock these entries were classified by government inspectors as Hard Red Winter wheat, and, competing with the best of hard wheats from Kansas and the northwest, both entries placed well up on the honor roll for this class.

This winning is particularly significant when it is brought to mind that wheat of such quality really makes possible the manufacture of flour from Michigan wheat which will equal any

flour in the country for bread-making, and Michigan farm communities which will standardize on this new wheat should have their home market considerably improved.

Through the International, Michigan is fast acquiring a reputation as a corn state, too. Here, again, her farmers compete in Region 2, but despite the fact that this region includes states more commonly called a part of the corn belt than is Michigan, thirteen of the twenty-five prizes, including the first nine, were grown and exhibited by Michigan farmers.

The new class for field beans found Michigan at the top with the first three of five places. Six of ten places in soy-beans, all five places in white winter wheat, the first six on timothy hay, the first four on mixed hay, nine straight places on red clover beginning with second, and eight on alfalfa,

shows the varied nature and superior merit of this representative outlay of Michigan crops.

Yes, Red Rock wheat and Rosen rye, old favorites, were there and on top as usual. The first sixteen places on soft red winter wheat went to Red Rock, twelve of them including the first six coming from Michigan. George and Louis Hutzler's Rosen rye from South Manitou Island won back the honors which Canada last year took from Michigan, while fifteen other entries from this state placed.

While the list of winners includes a great number who have had previous prominence, such as Charles Laughlin, of Dansville, corn breeder; A. W. Jewett, Jr., of Mason; P. A. Smith, of Mulliken, a prominent grower of Duncan corn; George and Louis Hutzler, who have made South Manitou Island famous for Rosen rye; C. D. Finkbeiner, of Clinton, Red Rock wheat grower, and G. D. Dailey, of Kalamazoo, it is also noteworthy for the number of new exhibitors on it.

Martin Peterson, of Bruce Crossing, and Adolph Trousil, of Ewen, brought the Upper Peninsula into prominence by winning first and second on field

peas. These growers represent a community in Ontonagon county working under the direction of County Agent W. N. Clark, which is destined to become famed for quality seed peas.

Fairgrove farmers who made their first entries at Chicago, lived up to early promise, Henry Lane taking third in barley and R. C. Davis placing high in oats. Others of their neighbors who placed were Fritz Mantey, Reid Kirk, Rudolph Mantey, J. R. Scott and Ed Coler.

John C. Wilk, of Alma, too, deserves special mention. This young farmer is not only supervising activities in seed production on his farm, but is completing a four-year course at M. A. C., where he was a member of both the live stock and crops judging teams. His entries placed in six different classes.

Other new winners were D. C. Seaman, of Jackson; J. I. Hazelitt, of Ionia; C. H. Giles, of Napoleon, and M. J. Smith, of Springport.

The following list of Michigan winners should be a source of pride and inspiration to every farmer in the state, the list of varieties a real lesson in (Continued on page 651).

if this condition is as general as it appears now, high-grade seed corn will bring a very satisfactory price in the spring.

Considerable corn of Saginaw county is apparently sufficiently mature to make a good grade of seed corn, but the moisture content runs fairly high. The time is rapidly approaching when every day we may expect heavy freezing weather and unless corn is in such shape that its moisture content is about twelve to fourteen per cent, there is great danger of the germinating qualities being injured by freezing.

The moisture content can be lowered quite rapidly by hanging seed corn on racks in such a manner that there is a complete circulation of air.



WHAT THE 'FRANKING PRIVILEGE COSTS.

IN his annual report, Postmaster-General New reports a deficit in his department of \$24,000,000, but figures that this would be cut in half if postage were collected on the free mail carried for members of congress and the government departments.

TAX-EXEMPT SECURITIES.

THE President's recommendations in favor of the abolition of the right to issue tax-exempt securities has brought this question to the front, with wide differences of opinion among those who claim to represent the farmers. The fact that the farm mortgage bankers' organization are back of the proposition in opposition to tax-free securities is one of the reasons why the farmers are somewhat wary of the proposition. It is asserted that the farm mortgage bankers get their money tax-free through the insurance companies, and would have an advantage over the federal farm loan system if farm loan bonds were taxed. It is also argued that the move to prohibit the

If it is possible to have heat present at the same time, a much more efficient job can be done in a shorter space of time. It will pay every farmer to pick out all the seed corn he can safely handle and put it in condition to go through the winter.—Mills.

PROFIT IN DUCKS.

MR. JOHN WOODCOCK, whose farm is situated in section one of Mt. Haley township, Midland county, raised a flock of 135 pure-bred White Pekin ducks. Without any special conveniences, he experienced no difficulty in producing a flock of this size, using hens entirely for brooders. He says he finds a ready market and the profit good.

issuing of tax-free securities is going in the wrong direction; that all bonds and mortgages should be tax-exempt; that the tax on mortgages is paid by the owner of the property covered by the mortgage and the result is double taxation.

WANT CHANGES IN PROHIBITION ENFORCEMENT.

A CHANGE in dry enforcement, proposed by Representative Cramp-ton, of Michigan, would separate the prohibition enforcement office from the Bureau of Internal Revenue and make a new bureau of it in the Treasury Department.

Amendments to the national prohibition act to provide for heavier fines and prison terms are presented by Representative Stalker, of New York, and Senator Spencer, of Missouri, and Representative Walker, of Oregon, have introduced bills providing for deportation of aliens convicted of violating the prohibition, narcotic or white slave acts.

REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

THE reaction on the message to congress of President Coolidge, on the whole, is favorable. It has given confidence to business and industry, as is reflected by improvement in the stock market and the business situation generally.

Some of the farmers' organization leaders think that the President should have gone at greater length into the discussion of farm problems, and suggested a concrete remedy for the situation, while others are insisting that he went as far as he could within the bounds of sanity and safety; in fact, he said all there was to say.

GOVERNMENT DEBT REDUCED.

THE President's message presenting the annual budget to congress contains highly gratifying information regarding the nation's financial condition. He shows that the public debt at the beginning of the war amounted to about a billion dollars. At the close of August, 1919, it reached its highest point, approximately \$26,500,000,000. From that point it has since been reduced until it now totals about \$22,000,000,000. In less than seven years we have spent \$40,000,000,000, and we have paid off from current revenues \$18,000,000,000, or nearly half of the amount.

A reduction of \$260,365,022 in federal appropriations is provided in the annual budget, and a reduction of approximately \$275,000,000 in the operating expenses of the government is proposed. A reduction in the taxes of more than \$300,000,000 is recommended.

LATE AGRICULTURAL NEWS

RETURN GOOD CROP.

MR. FERD McCRARY, of Bay City, produced 222 bushels of Robust beans from registered seed on seven acres of his farm just north of Hope. This yield was an average of nearly thirty-two bushels, or more than double the general average an acre for this season.

GOOD PRICES FOR TUBERS.

MR. FERD McCRARY, of Bay City, siding in Lincoln township near Averill, reports that he harvested 380 bushels per acre from eighteen acres which is a good average for this season. He has sold two cars of good, marketable tubers, receiving \$1.25 per bushel for the early Irish Cobbler variety, and ninety cents per bushel for the Petoskey Russet variety. His crop was grown from certified seed.

WORKS IN THE WOOD-LOT.

I SPEND a considerable portion of the winter months in the wood-lot where I gather fuel and cut out any ripe timber which is sold or taken to the mill and cut into lumber. Stock is kept from the wood-lot so there is a mass of new growth coming along as fast as we take out some of the larger trees. I give the more desirable varieties of wood every chance to develop by removing the lesser kinds and cutting up into wood. I take pains to cut the brush down to the smallest branches, since, at the present prices of fuel, it pays. In this way a surprisingly large amount of fuel can be taken from a comparatively small area.—R. S. Sampson.

CARO SUGAR PLANT CUTS 45,000 TONS OF BEETS.

THE Caro plant of the Michigan Sugar Company, closed its 1923 season campaign on Saturday, December 8. The last beets went to the slicers and the rest of the week was spent in sugaring, refining and cleaning up the plant.

The tonnage of 45,000 was an increase of 7,000 tons over the preceding year, but fell short of the yield of 1920, which was 78,000 tons. Manager Stewart believes that a larger acreage will be secured next year. About forty-three days were required in extracting the sugar from the raw product, an average of slightly more than 1,000 tons of beets sliced daily. Sugar production this year was 11,000,000 pounds.

Farmers will receive their bonus

checks for the 1923 crop on February 15. New contracts will be ready, the manager expects, before the first of the new year.—M.

CONSERVE SEED CORN.

EVERY farmer who can select his own seed corn should do so this year, is the advice of A. B. Love, Saginaw county agriculturist. He should go further than this and select as much seed as he possibly can. Indications are that there will be a great demand for seed corn in the spring.

The states south of us are apparently going to have a very serious problem in securing sufficient seed for spring planting. Climatic conditions have been such that much of the corn south of Michigan is soft corn, or the moisture content is so high that it is rapidly moulding. This means that

"If you want a thing done, do it yourself"



IT WILL BE A LONG WAIT FOR THAT SHIP TO COME IN.

UNLESS YOU BUILD THE SHIP!



Machine Works Without an Operator

Preliminary Work with Simple Device Suggests Possibilities in Saving Labor

By H. M. Robert

If the hopes of its inventor are fully realized, the synmotor, a machine devised to cultivate the ground over which it operates, will eventually mean the complete emancipation of the American farmer from the drudgery that now attends his work. For this device automatically plows, sows, cultivates and reaps, with only perfunctory attention at the hands of man. In other words, the farmer of the future may be able to sit on his front porch and see his crops planted and grown and harvested without ever putting his hand to the work.

While all this sounds like a fairy story, it is a fact—one of those sub-

stantial facts having length and breadth and thickness. The inventor has given his machine an exacting try-out, with the most gratifying results. For several years he has been using the synmotor to do all of the work of cultivating, etc., on his seventy-five-acre farm, and the ease and thoroughness with which the work was accomplished has been the wonder and envy of the neighboring farmers.

The synmotor consists of a four or eight horsepower gasoline engine adapted to any ordinary agricultural

implement, and with delicate guiding apparatus connected by a broom wire to a drum mounted on a steel post in the center of the field. As the tractor moves, the wire winds about the drum, shortening the radius just enough to guide the working implement into a gently in-winding spiral. The circumference of the drum is thus the width of the furrow or row or swath.

All the farmer has to do is to connect the wire and crank the engine. The synmotor will then work its way around and around without attention, until the small circles near the central post are reached and the field is done. The machine does its work accurately and there is no wobbling away from the rows or any too close approach to them. The distance is kept exactly.

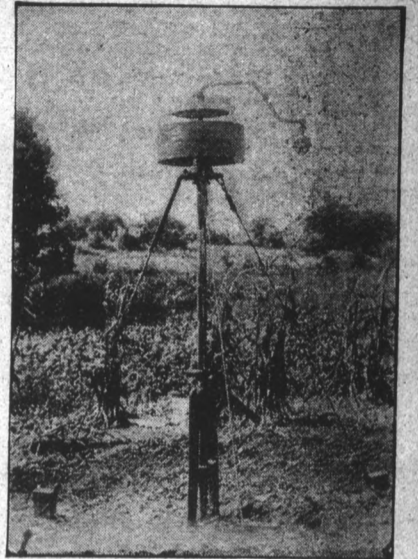
Last summer the inventor worked ten acres at a time, which area he considers should be the standard among farmers using the synmotor. A field of this size requires a cable 371 feet long, although longer cables may be employed if necessary. Almost any farm machine may be drawn by this motor through the simple expedient of giving it a stub tongue. In addition to the plow and cultivator, the disc, potato planter, plant setter, seed drill, spraying machine, etc., may be used. While the work of some of these naturally involves the attention of a man,

in the majority of cases the laborer is excused. The two-man operations, by this method, require but one man.

It would seem that this device is the appropriate accompaniment of the



The Tractor is Guided by Means of a Light Wire Running to the Drum on the Center Anchor Seen at the Extreme Right.



This Anchor Guides the Synmotor on its Spiral Course About the Field.

tractor. Unlike the horse, the tractor can keep on going as long as there is gasoline in the supply tank, so the logical thing is to have a mechanism that enables it to run a working implement automatically. That is what the self-guiding synmotor does.

The 1923 International Makes History

This Year's Live Stock Exhibits Have Never Been Surpassed.—Michigan's Winnings are Surprisingly Abundant

THE grand champion steer of the 1923 International, which closed last week in Chicago, was Broadus White Socks, a pure-bred Angus steer, who was held by Judge Reid, of England, to be the best carcass he had ever seen in his forty years of butcher buying and judging.

This two-year-old steer was fed by an Illinois farm boy, Floyd Armstrong. The boy found time during an exceedingly busy year to cover the shoulders, back, loins, ribs and quarters of this purple-bred animal with a wonderfully deep coat of quality flesh.

The steer had been to the International before. In 1922 he headed a strong class of senior Angus steer calves. He then weighed one thousand pounds. From the time he arrived home until the first of June this year, he was fed a grain ration of crushed oats, corn-and-cob meal, a small amount of wheat bran and soy-

bean meal. For roughage, he got alfalfa hay and silage. During all this period he had the freedom of a lot of considerable size where plenty of exercise was taken.

From the first of last June he has been housed during the day and turned out for the nights. His rugged appetite was, thereafter, carefully satisfied with alfalfa hay and a grain ration consisting of barley, wheat and oats ground together, with a little bran and oil meal.

When the highest honors of all cattledom were placed upon this steer, he was twenty-six months and four days old, and he weighed 1,470 pounds. The steer sold at auction to Sears-

Roebuck & Co., for sixty cents per pound, or a total of \$861.

Turning to the carlot exhibits, where the grand champion class had been discontinued, much to the sorrow of breeders and visitors, we find E. P. Hall, also of Illinois, capturing the championship in the two-year-olds carlot class, with fifteen head of 1,300 pound Angus steers. This distinction in the yearling class was awarded to John Hubly, another Illinois man. Both men are old feeders.

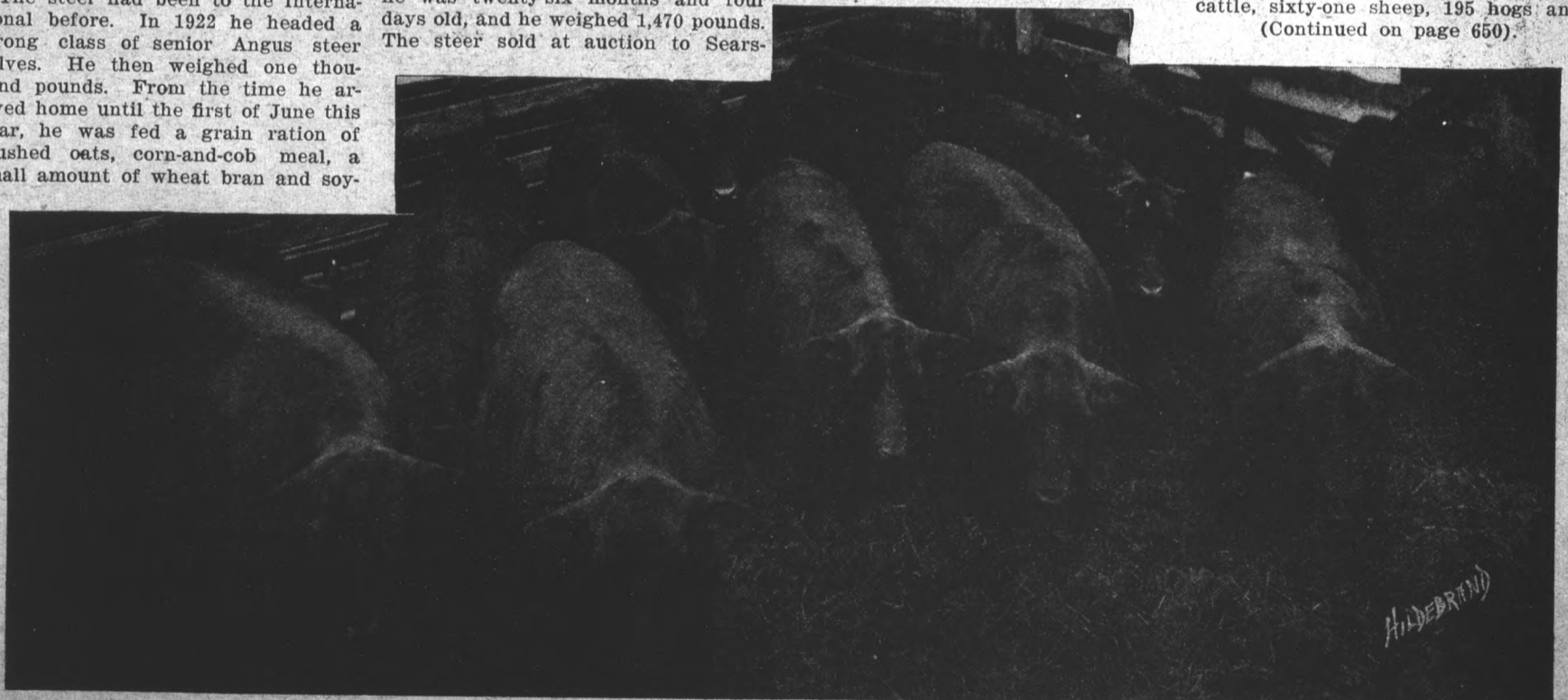
These perhaps, were the most talked-of features of the greatest live

stock show ever held in America, and probably in the world. There were no rag ends. All through the entries in every class, quality made for competition of the keenest sort.

Although Michigan was especially interested in the hay and grain department of the great show, her part in the live stock division was by no means a nominal one, despite the fact that she does not brag about her large live stock interests.

In all, Michigan live stock exhibitors had 342 animals entered in the various classes, including sixty-four cattle, sixty-one sheep, 195 hogs and

(Continued on page 650)



This Carload of Angus Yearlings Bred and Fed by John Hubly, of Illinois, Was Awarded Championship in their Class. They Were Carried Through Last Winter on Shelled Corn, Cottonseed Meal, Molasses and Alfalfa Hay and on Pasture the Past Spring, with a Full Feed of Grain.

OUR SERVICE DEPARTMENT

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RECOVERY FOR DAMAGED MAIL BOX.

My mail box has been knocked down, and it means at least \$5.00 to replace it. The man who smashed it said he would not pay for it. It happened in an accident, one machine passing another. The man's car is insured. What can be done about this? Am I to fight him, the insurance company, or turn it over to the government?—B. B.

The government is not interested. The insurance company has relations only with the insured. The only remedy is an action against the party doing the injury.—Rood.

IS INDORSER LIABLE?

Nine years ago, at public auction, A. bought a young horse for \$165 from B. A young man and I signed the note with A. The young man lives in Colorado now and is married. B. sold the note to a woman, before note was due. A. sold out this fall and moved out of the county, and did not have money to pay all his debts. I was notified by the woman that she expected me to settle for the note. She says there are four years' back interest. She never took action to collect note from A., and note has never been renewed. I supposed note was paid. Am I obliged by law to pay the note?—H. N.

Presentment to the maker for payment at maturity is necessary to

charge the indorser; and unless notice of default is waived in the instrument he must be duly notified or he will not be further liable; and in any event his liability will outlaw at the end of six years from the last payment of interest or written recognition of liability by him.—Rood.

HAS THIRTY DAYS TO REDEEM.

Have we forty days after foreclosure to regain contract? If we pay the principle within forty days, do we regain contract? Or do we lose after the foreclosure is once started—A. A. The statute concerning recovery of possession by summary proceeding by foreclosure of a land contract provides that in case judgment of ouster is rendered for default of the vendee, the justice shall find the amount past due and the vendee shall have thirty days from the date of such judgment in which to pay the amount so found due.—Rood.

DUCK CAUGHT IN TRAP.

A. sets traps along creek on B.'s land (with B.'s consent), one-half mile from farm buildings. B.'s duck gets caught in one of the traps and dies in a few days. Who is responsible? Must A. pay for the duck?—J. O. R.

Permission to set traps implies that

they will be set with such care as not to cause damage to the animals known to be in the neighborhood and that might be injured thereby. The person setting the trap is liable.—Rood.

A RATION FOR HOLSTEIN COWS.

I would like a balanced ration for my Holstein cows. I have some wheat to grind, oats, mixed alfalfa hay, silage with no corn in it. Tell me what feed to buy.—A. W.

As roughage is always cheaper than grain, the cows should be fed all the hay and silage they will eat without waste. Feed them hay twice a day.

One-third wheat and two-thirds oats is about the right proportion to feed these grains for best results. But these foods are somewhat deficient in protein and, for best production results, at least, some food containing a high per cent of protein, like oil meal, cottonseed meal or some other high protein food should be fed. Two pounds per day of these protein foods will do very well.

It will pay to feed some cows one pound of grain per day for every four pounds of milk they produce. That is, if they produce, say forty-eight pounds of milk per day, give them twelve pounds of grain, two pounds of oil

meal, and ten pounds of wheat and oats. But one should watch the feeding of high-priced grain carefully, and if any cow does not pay for this amount of grain reduce the amount.

COMPENSATION FOR LAND TAKEN FOR ROAD.

I would like to know my rights regarding the state changing a road, running it through my farm and cutting down about eighty-five fruit trees, cherries and apples, fifteen shade trees, oak and elms; also the drain tile on the bottom land will have to be changed and the fences. Land adjoining me sells for \$600 to \$1,000 per acre. Farm is in Benton Harbor. Is there an allowance on the strip of land between the old road and the new?—G. H.

Land may be taken for roads as needed by condemnation proceedings, and the compensation paid to the owner of the land for what is taken is the amount that he is injured thereby as assessed by the jury sitting in the case. The owner of the land taken has an opportunity to put in evidence of the value of the land taken and its value in connection with the other land he has which would be lost by loss of the part to be taken.—Rood.

The best time to teach thrift is when habits of life are being formed.

Factors Clash at Farm Bureau Meet

Annual Session at Chicago Results in Conservatives Holding the Better Hand

THE fifth annual convention of the American Farm Bureau Federation, held at Chicago, on December 10-12, ended with Mr. O. E. Bradfute again elected president, and the conservative group on top. It ended also with the problem of compromise, of harmony on some common basis with the so-called radical group, entirely unsolved.

The history of the past year, of which many of the delegates apparently were unaware, is important as a background of the meeting. During that period, the executive committee has been divided as to the lines of work to be carried on by the farm bureau. One group charged the administration, particularly Secretary Coverdale, with failure to carry out the policies adopted at the previous annual meeting with respect to cooperative marketing. This group believed that cooperative marketing should be the primary object of the farm bureau organization work and desired to make the American Farm Bureau Federation a service station for cooperatives, all such services to be paid for by the cooperatives.

The other group, while not minimizing cooperative marketing, backed up the officials in insisting that the farm bureau should follow a balanced program, laying equal emphasis upon transportation, marketing, legislation and education.

The Farm Bureau and Cooperative Marketing.

The feeling in the executive committee came to a head during its meeting on the Saturday preceding the annual meeting when the resignation of Secretary Coverdale was accepted. On the same day at a conference on cooperative marketing called by Walton Peteet, in the course of discussion of the year's activities, Mr. Peteet made remarks to the effect that the officials of the American Farm Bureau were unfriendly to cooperative marketing.

That sentiment among the delegates was crystallizing in favor of the administration was apparent in the ova-

tion accorded President O. E. Bradfute at the close of his address at the opening of the convention when he made a plea for an end to mudslinging and said that the dispute over cooperative marketing was a difference of opinion as to "who" instead of as to "how," and as to who should reap the glory of the pecuniary profits.

A set program which included reports of the various departments, and many speeches, rather than a discussion by the delegates of the work for the coming year, afforded numerous dramatic moments and opportunities to test the prevalent sentiment among the delegates.

One of these came when Secretary Coverdale presented a report from the records of the organization showing that the states in which cooperative marketing had been stressed as the chief activity had not maintained their membership, at least so far as paying dues to the American Farm Bureau was concerned, as fully as those states in which the balanced program had been followed. Mr. Coverdale also was given a great ovation by the delegates. Following his report, Mr. S. R. Guard, former director of the department of information of the American Farm Bureau, whose resignation was accepted several weeks previously by President Bradfute because of Mr. Guard's opposition to Mr. Coverdale, obtained the floor to present his plan for a general service program for cooperatives to be carried out by the farm bureau along such lines as organization, research, publicity, transportation, legislation, etc., these services to be paid for by the cooperatives as a means of financing the farm bureau.

The climax came on the last day of the session when Mr. Bradfute was re-elected president by unanimous vote. F. F. Reed, of Minnesota, was elected vice-president. The executive committee consisted of A. C. Hardison, of California; Frank Evans, of Utah, and Charles E. Gibson, Jr., of Colorado; Ralph Snyder, Kansas; S. H. Thomp-

son, of Illinois; C. E. Hearts, of Iowa; Frank M. Smith, of New York; George M. Putnam, of New Hampshire; S. McLean Buckingham, of Connecticut; E. P. Cohill, of Maryland; W. D. Faris, of Texas; Edward O'Neal, of Alabama.

Many Resolutions.

Following the election, the resolutions committee presented its report. It included, among other things, a resolution recommending that the state and county farm bureaus should establish service relationships with cooperative marketing associations in order to encourage a more definite relationship between the farm bureau organizations and the commodity organizations than has existed up to date, any services rendered by the farm bureau to be paid for by the cooperatives. Another resolution recommended the discontinuance of tax-free securities, objected to a general sales tax, and a reduction of income taxes.

Cooperative marketing of farm products as offering the most practicable means of stabilizing agriculture on a profitable basis was again endorsed, but no policy of action was outlined. Other resolutions declared opposition to price-fixing, favored a truth-in-fabric bill, adequate appropriations for highway construction, the Henry Ford Shoals Act, the electrification of Class A Railways, an amendment to the Intermediate Credit Act, changing the intermediate loan period from six to four months, limiting re-discounts on loans under the federal reserve act to two per cent above the basic federal reserve rate, favored a merchant marine without subsidy, adequate tariff on agricultural products, limitation of immigration, urged organization as the major activity of the American Farm Bureau for the coming year, urged the adoption by county and state farm bureaus of such methods as are necessary to bring about a full membership dues regularly every month, and immediate adoption by the American government of a vigorous foreign policy.

A final resolution submitted by the resolutions committee without recommendation provided for endorsement of the National Wheat Growers' Advisory Committee, headed by F. O. Lowden, former governor of Illinois. This resolution brought to a head the differences of opinion among the delegates and was finally referred to the new executive committee with power to act. Since this committee is composed mostly of members of the conservative group, this was considered equivalent to pigeon-holing the resolution. The National Wheat Growers' Advisory Committee was not started under farm bureau auspices, although Mr. Peteet was a member of the committee. The U. S. Grain Growers, which was fathered by the American Farm Bureau, has finally begun to function and it was believed by some of the delegates that the interests back of the Lowden committee, which is dominated by the Sapiro-Peteet group, were not favorable to the farm bureau organization.

At the vote referring to the resolution to the executive committee, Mr. Peteet jumped to his feet, and accepting it as a declaration of the delegates that his cooperative marketing program of the past ten months had not been in keeping with their desires, resigned as director of marketing.

The report of the steering committee as to the program for the American Farm Bureau for 1924, which provided for a reduced budget and discontinuance of some of the present activities was referred to the executive committee with power to act. This report provided for a nominal secretaryship to be combined with the office of director of organization.

Illinois and Indiana were closely associated with the Sapiro-Peteet group all through the fight, and it is still uncertain as to how the disagreement will be ironed out by them, or if it will develop into a division in the organization. Ohio and Iowa were leaders throughout in the conservative group.—G.

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ABOUT THE FARM

DITCH CHEAPLY AND QUICKLY CLEANED.

A DRAINAGE ditch between Shiawassee and Genesee counties, four miles east of Durand, had been filled in to a depth of about two and one-half feet with weeds and earth. The ditch was about eight rods long, and a dredge would have had to be brought from a distance of nearly two miles to do the job in that manner. Due to this fact, the drainage commissioners and boards had estimated the cost at \$10 per rod, and the lowest bid they could secure from contractors, who were none too anxious for the job, was \$12 per rod.

Mr. Larry Livingston, land-clearing specialist, was called at this stage. He had described his method previously at a meeting of the drainage commissioners of the state. About forty officials, contractors, and others interested in drainage problems, were present, and all were skeptical as to the success of Livingston's method.

Mr. Livingston and an assistant drilled three rows of holes about forty inches apart, the holes in each row being eighteen inches apart. A stick of fifty per cent nitro-glycerine dynamite was placed in each hole, and the caps set off. The result was that after the explosion, the material which had plugged the ditch was all over the landscape, and the ditch was clear along its entire length for a width of twelve feet and a depth of two and one-half to three feet.

One contractor stated that the demonstration had solved a problem which had given him much thought. He had a ditch-dredging contract which required a ditch through some distance of very wet land. The cost of operating a dredge through the stretch would be very high, if at all possible, and his profits on the entire job might be endangered by this short distance alone. By using the method demonstrated by Mr. Livingston, the entire problem was solved, and the stretch which had been giving him trouble could be dug at a much lower cost than the remainder of the job.

Mr. Livingston and his assistant spent approximately two hours each on the job. Figuring their time at \$1.00 per hour as experts, the total labor cost was \$4.00 for the eight rods, or fifty cents per rod. The cost of the eighty pounds of explosive required figured about \$2.36 a rod, making a total cost of \$2.86 per rod for the job, as compared to the estimate of \$10 per rod by the contractors, which were even then difficult to secure.—B. V. H.

TWENTY-FIVE ACRES OF ALFALFA SELLS FOR \$1,500.

MICHIGAN farmers, and especially those in the Thumb district, have learned that hay, especially alfalfa, is a big money crop.

One of the best showings of alfalfa in dollars and cents has just been reported by A. A. Pattulo, of Decker-ville, Sanilac county, on the crop of a twenty-five-acre field. The first cutting of alfalfa was two tons per acre, the second growth was left for seed and produced forty bushels, which sold to the local elevator for \$15 per bushel.

In hay and seed together the twenty-five acres brought in \$60 per acre, or \$1,500 altogether.—Mills.

A NEW TUBER POLICY NEEDED.

THERE is little reason to think that the potato crop next year will be very small and the price good. Seed is cheap and plentiful and western

farmers, who are sick of cheap wheat, will, in many cases, turn to potatoes as a cash crop.

The salvation of Michigan potato growers it seems, lies in the planting of early potatoes or the early planting of late varieties in order to take advantage of the good August and September prices. This plan, along with the production of a greater variety of seed potatoes for the southern trade, would appear to be the best policy under the conditions.—Mills.

BELLEVUE FARMER GETS BIG BEAN CHECK.

THAT farming can be made to pay has been successfully proven by W. Grant, a farmer living seven miles from Bellevue. He recently received a check for \$1,526.44 for the beans from thirty-six acres, his season's crop. He also has about fifty bushels at his farm for later delivery.

Mr. Grant's success is attributed by him to hard work and experience applied to his operations. He says, "Sure, farming can be made to pay if you go at it in the right way."

An average of twenty bushels to the acre has been his record this year. He planted Robust beans. This was his fifty-sixth year at farming.—Mills.

THOUSAND BUSHELS OF TURNIPS FROM POUND OF SEED.

LAST spring William VanderPol, Missaukee county farmer, sowed one pound of cowhorn turnip seed in with his grass seed. VanderPol let his neighbors harvest the crop, giving them half of the proceeds. As his share the sower has 500 bushels stored in his barn.—Mills.

SHORT ITEMS FOR THE BUSY FARMER.

Certified seed acreage in Michigan for the present year will amount to about 2,000 acres. Of this amount, about one thousand acres were certified through the Michigan Producers' Association, and the remainder by the Michigan Potato Growers' Exchange.

Tests made by the horticultural staff of the M. A. C. show that satisfactory control of cherry leaf spot can be obtained with a lime-sulphur solution diluted to one and one-fourth parts of the standard solution to fifty parts of water.

George Harrison, of Manton, produced 285 bushels of certified Irish Cobblers from ten bushels of the same stock, while Edward Brehm, of Wexford county, planted six bushels of the same variety and harvested 150 bushels.

Most grindstones are equipped with axes which are too short. If these can be made of shafting three or four feet long and mounted in good boxings, the difficulty of grinding long articles, like mower knives, would be eliminated.

In building a feed bunk for the cattle, it is highly important that it be strong. Brace the bunk, both side and end-wise, and use bolts, instead of nails, to hold the legs, braces and top together.

K. K. Vining, the efficient county agent of Kent county, has been re-employed for another year by the Kent County Farm Bureau. This is Mr. Vining's third year in Kent county. He has also served five years as county agent in Emmet county.

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ORCHARD AND GARDEN

A LOWER STANDARD GRADE.

WHILE the question was not brought up in the meeting proper at the recent fruit growers' gathering at Grand Rapids, there was considerable discussion in the lobby regarding what varieties of apples should be entitled to the two and a quarter-inch side for the Standard A. Grade.

There is no doubt but what some varieties do not average up the regular two and a half inch size, and therefore could not be included in the Standard A. Grade unless some exceptions were made. Therefore it is proposed that several varieties be permitted in the Standard Grade when they measure but two and a quarter inches in diameter.

It is very fortunate that most of the varieties which need this lower grade are not very common in Michigan. Such as Golden Sweet, Aiken, Arkansas Black, Winesap, Westfield, Cranberry Pippin, Haas, Lady Salome, Roxbury Russet and Autumn Strawberry, which the growers were unanimous in permitting the two and a quarter-inch grading, are not market varieties in this state.

The greatest point of difference was with reference to the Duchess and Wealthy varieties. There is a strenuous effort on the part of many growers to have these included in the smaller gradings. On the other hand, many apple men say that to put these varieties in the two and a quarter-inch grade would give the Michigan Duchess and Wealthies a bad reputation on the markets. Also, it is argued, that these varieties do not need the lower measurements except in years when the trees are loaded and then it would be better to keep the smaller apples at home in order to keep the market from being flooded with small stuff.

Several wanted McIntosh, Pewaukee, Stark and Wagener in the lower measurement, but others raised stren-

uous objections to any such action.

Undoubtedly this subject will be thoroughly discussed at the mid-winter horticultural meeting, but in the meantime we would like the opinions of our readers on this subject.

GRAPE POOLS PAY.

THE grape pools of the cooperative association at Paw Paw show that the association rendered the growers a splendid selling agency during the past season. The Concord season opened September 18, and continued for thirty-five days. The opening cash price was \$60 in bulk, and the association netted the growers \$67.25 for the first two days' packing. Price then declined and at the end of the second week of picking, cash buyers, were paying \$40 and the association netting around \$44. For the next two weeks the price hovered around these figures but the closing days of the season saw the demand good and the association pool for the last day was \$71.22. The average price for the season paid by cash buyers was \$48.57, and the association price \$53.12. In four-quart baskets the average cash price was 21.5 cents, and the association price 23.4 cents. The association thus made the growers an average profit of \$4.55 per ton on bulk, and 1.7 cents on the four-quart baskets. The association had a splendid year selling grapes for five hundred growers and getting their returns out within a few days after the sales were made.—E. V. R.

A TREE WITH A HISTORY.

NEAR Paw Paw is a Greening apple tree which was brought from New York in an ox-cart by the father of W. L. Lee, in 1840. During the past season, this eighty-three-year-old tree produced forty-one bushels of apples. Does this not indicate that a well-cared for orchard is a good investment for a life-long period?

What It Cost Me to Produce Apples

By Frank E. Warner

THE cost of growing the 1923 apples crop on seven acres, consisting of three hundred seventeen year-old Duchess and Wealthy trees, and eighteen Baldwin trees, is as follows:

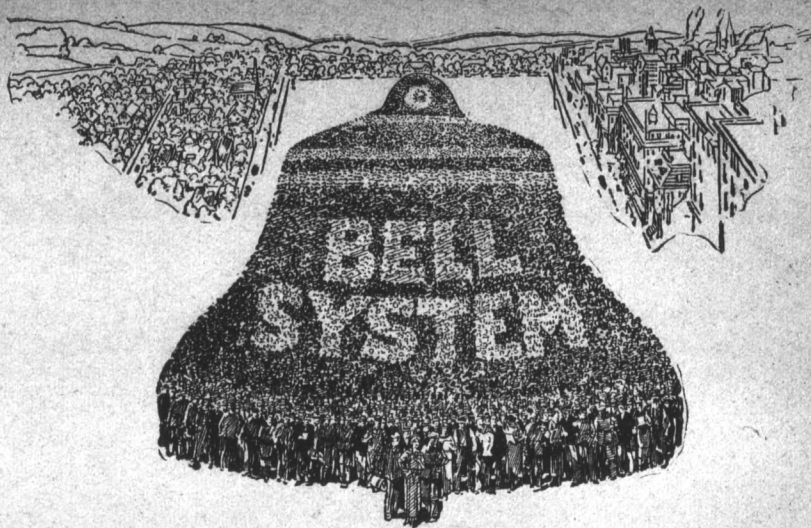
Cost of land	\$2,100.00
Interest on investment at six per cent	126.00
Two tons acid phosphate at \$25 per ton	50.00
1,200 pounds sulphate of ammonia at \$65 per ton	39.00
Pruning, three days, one man (very light)	9.00
Spraying:	
Dormant spray, 1-6 lime-sulphur, 2,400 gallons	52.20
Pre-pink, 1-40 lime-sulphur, 2,400 gallons	9.00
Pink, 1-40 L. S., lead arsenate and kayso, 2,800 gallons	28.98
Calyx, 1-40 L. S., lead arsenate and kayso, 2,800 gallons	28.98
First summer, 1-40 L. S., lead arsenate and kayso, 2,800 gallons	28.98
Second summer, 1-40 L. S., lead arsenate and kayso, 2,800 gallons	28.98
Labor cost in spraying	60.00
Cultivating six days, man and team	36.00
Thinning, twelve days	36.00
Picking at eight cents per crate	255.20
Ten bushels of rye for cover crop	6.50
Sowing the same	6.00
Depreciation on equipment, chargeable to seven acres	42.00
Taxes	127.67
Work of manager, estimated	50.00

Total cost \$1,020.49

Cost of lime-sulphur, fifteen cents per gallon.
 Cost of lead paste, fourteen cents per pound.
 Cost of kayso, twenty cents per pound.
 Total amount of spray used, 16,000 gallons.
 Man and team at \$6.00 per day, applying 1,600 gallons per day.
 Number of gallons of spray per crate of apples, 4.4.
 Total cost of spraying per crate, \$.074.

Production:
 140 trees (Wealthy) produced, crates 1,325
 142 trees (Duchess) produced, crates 1,665
 18 trees (Baldwins) produced, crates 200

Total 3,190
 Cost, \$1,020.49, divided 3,190 gives \$.32 cost per crate.
 The profits from the Duchess and Wealthies were \$72.00. The Baldwins are still in storage.



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Good Christmas Reading

Our Weekly Sermon—By N. A. McCune

I HAVE intended for some weeks to give a list of religious books, suitable for Christmas gifts, and I'm almost afraid I am too late, as this will appear in the Christmas number. However, it is never too late to get good books. Frequently readers write me asking where they can get such and such a book, which I have mentioned. All the books referred to in this department can be had from the book store in your town. If there is no book store, they may be had at the Methodist Book Concern, 28 East Elizabeth Street, Detroit. There are other book firms in Detroit, but I cannot give the street numbers, hence this one firm will be sufficient.

No home that pretends to believe in Christianity ought to be without at least a few religious books. "One reason why some of the younger generation seem to have frivolous, restless and unsatisfied minds," says Henry Van Dyke, "is because so many of our modern homes have no real religious books in them." Doctor Van Dyke then mentions one or two books that he thinks worth while: "A Labrador Doctor," by Sir. W. T. Grenfell; "What Men Live By," by Dr. R. C. Cabot, (Houghton-Mifflin publish it); and "Christ, the Light and Life of the World," Speer, (Publishers, Revell).



A word on the first two. "A Labrador Doctor" is the autobiography of one of the most interesting men of our day. A young British medical graduate, he was converted in an evangelistic meeting held in Oxford, by the late D. L. Moody. He then got a place in a fishing fleet on the North Sea, for a time, as medical attendant. There he saw the tremendous need of these dwellers in the deep. He heard of the isolation and loneliness of the fisherfolk in the far north. He went one summer to Labrador, saw the aching need, and resolved to give his life to those people. He is doctor, preacher, explorer, scientist, mariner, sheriff, all in one. The book is full of startling stories of adventure, some of which I am almost inclined to stop and relate. But get the book and let it speak for itself. A good book for boys, as well as their dads. "What Men Live By," is by a Harvard professor, and is on work, play, love, service.

HERE are some more. "Mary Slessor of Calabar," by W. P. Livingstone, (Doran). The record of a white woman who went to one of the most hopeless sections in Africa and lived there, alone, for thirty years, among the black tribes. Some of the adventures she went through are almost unbelievable. There is not a dull chapter in the book. It shows what a person who is consecrated to God can do with his life. The life of David Livingstone, by Horne, (Macmillan), would be a welcome visitor in many homes. The story of the greatest of missionary explorers is told in a new way, by the famous English preacher. "The Story of John Frederick Oberlin" is a book I like to turn to, ever and anon. It is very refreshing. Oberlin is the most famous rural minister of whom we have any record. What he did among the poor mountaineers in northern France deserves emulation. Get this book and make a present of it to your minister. It will be worth more to him than a smoked ham and a dozen Hubbard squash.

The Boreham books are all excellent. Boreham is an Australian writer. Here is one, "A Bunch of Everlastings," published by the Abingdon Press. This will delight any one who loves the Bible, and I shouldn't won-

der if it helped others to love it. It consists of brief chapters on famous texts, such as, Martin Luther's text, Sir John Franklin's text, (this chapter alone is worth the price of the book); Sir Walter Scott's text, and so on. Boreham has almost a dozen other books. He never disappoints. What is the matter with America? We are all asking that. Something seems to be the matter. "United States Citizenship," by Dr. G. P. Mains, deals with this subject, from a Christian point of view. A good book.

THERE are big little books. Such as "What it Means to be a Christian," by Bosworth. (Pilgrim Press). This came out last year. A splendid little book, very simple and easily understood. "The Meaning of Prayer," "The Meaning of Faith," are two tiny books by Dr. H. E. Fosdick. They have been sold into the hundreds of thousands of copies. Arranged for daily reading. He also has one on "The Manhood of the Master." Evolution bothers many people. They declare that one cannot be a Christian and believe in evolution. "I believe in God and in Evolution," by Dr. W. W. Keen, (Lippincott's), is on this subject. It is a very small book, and can be read in an hour or so. But it is very interesting and helpful. The author is one of America's most celebrated surgeons, now past eighty years of age, and still going strong. People who are perplexed by evolution may well read this.

Roosevelt is loved by many, and hated by some. There is a one dollar edition of his life, by Thayer. (Grosset and Dunlap). This is not a religious book, exactly, but it contains much more moral dynamite. The Bible is still the best selling book, far outdistancing all others. "How we Got Our Bible," is a small book, telling the story of how the Bible came to be.

(James Pott, publishers). Every home ought to have a good copy of the Bible one that has good paper and clear type. A catalog of Bibles will be sent by the firm mentioned at the beginning of this article, or one can look up Bibles in some of the mail order house catalogs, if he does not have access to a book store. Many people like the newer translations of the New Testament, such as Weymouth's, or Moffatt's. These are printed in various sizes and at different prices. Some are printed in pocket sizes. There is another that has just come out, translated by Dr. Goodspeed, of Chicago. These are very helpful, in getting at the meaning of the New Testament. People who object to new translations of the Bible forget that if it had never been translated it would still be in Hebrew and Greek. The people of this generation have just as much right to do their own translating, as had the scholars in the days of James I.

A VERY remarkable life of Christ has come out within the past year. This is Papini's Life of Christ. Papini is an Italian, and the leading literary figure of that nation. He was not a Christian, for many years. But the Great War got him to thinking. He says, "In 1917-18 I studied the history of all the races of the earth, and became convinced that the only solution of the evil of the world is the transformation of human souls; that this cannot be brought about except by religion, and that the most perfect and suitable is that taught by Christ." This is a great book. After beginning, one can scarcely lay it down.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON FOR DECEMBER 23.

SUBJECT:—The universal reign of Christ. Isa. 9.6,7; 11.1 to 10, and Psalms 2.1 to 12.

GOLDEN TEXT:—Ask of me and I will give thee the nations for thine inheritance, and the uttermost part of the earth for thy possession. Ps. 2.8.



BE SENSIBLE ABOUT CHRISTMAS DIET.

I HOPE that your celebration of this Christmas season will not necessitate a visit to the doctor. Take counsel with me as to your diet, and perhaps we can manage to keep other doctors away.

Everyone likes to humor his palate a little at the festive Christmas season. I am a believer in it, myself. A lot of the joy and good cheer that exhilarate one at the Merry Christmas time, and make one feel that, after all, life is worth living, are closely associated with the savory smell of cooking and the spicy taste of unusual "once a year" sweets and dainties. It is all right, but be moderate. Don't run to excess.

One of the commonest forms of excess at the Christmas season is in the use of sugar. Pies and puddings and cakes, desserts and sweets and candies are at the top notch of recognition. In many families they are not confined to Christmas Day, but run riot throughout the week and reach a grand finale of destruction on New Year's Day, unless the subject of the sweet indiscretions has succumbed before that time.

Four ounces of sugar is as much as one strong, healthy person can dispose of properly in a single day. This does not mean four ounces in addition to the amounts used on cereals and in tea or coffee. It means a total of four ounces. I am not ignoring the fact that all starchy food changes to the

sugar form during digestion, but I refer now to the sugar that is eaten in the sugar or candy form.

So, in advising moderation in your diet for the Christmas holiday, it is against sugar that I especially warn you. Close to that will come excessive eating of meat foods. Have a good meal, by all means. But give special attention to the many tasty vegetables and salads with which you may adorn your table. Let the helping be moderate in meats and large in vegetables.

Make a point of having fruit and nuts for the desserts. The sugar in a sweet apple is much more easily cared for than that taken in the form of candy. There are many varieties of nuts and fruit that add greatly to the pleasures of the table and do it without menace to the digestion.

WHAT IS EXOPHTHALMIC GOITER?

Will you please tell me what is meant by a goiter of the exophthalmic variety, and the cause and the result? —E. L. C.

An exophthalmic goiter is so-called because of the way in which it affects the eyes. It is quite different from ordinary goiter and the iodine treatment that is so helpful in the simple form is generally worse than useless. Many cases of exophthalmic goiter respond very favorably to the rest and body-building treatment that is used in tuberculosis. I advise that this be given a thorough trial before anything else is done.

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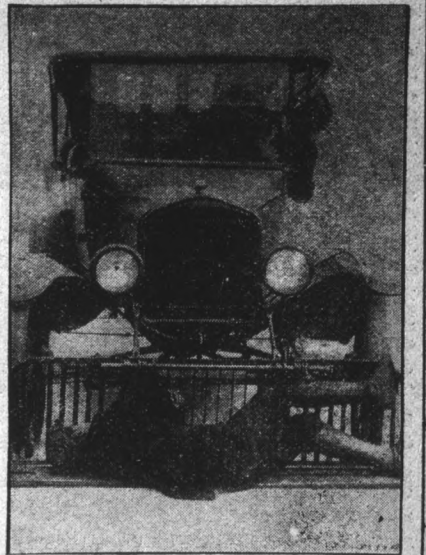
WORLD EVENTS IN PICTURES



May Robinson is heiress to \$1,000,000 because her grandmother took kinks from Negroes' hair.



This is the all-Philadelphia hockey team that lined up against the Chicago team for the Inter-City Field Hockey Tournament. An English team is included in their contestants.



New auto fender requires no action by driver, but works automatically by slight pressure.



At a "radio party" given at Long Island, New York, the guests danced to music played by a band in London, England. A special new set was designed for the occasion.



The Army Mule and the Navy Goat eyed each other threateningly and promised each other defeat in their foot ball game at the Polo Grounds, which turned out to be a tie 0-0.



Leona Coyle, orphan, inherits oil lands worth a quarter of a million, and dedicates it to the task of finding the man who slew her father.



Senator Shipstead, of Minnesota, is uncertain whether he will sit on republican or democratic side.



Martha Mansfield, leading woman of "The Warrens of Virginia," recently died of burns suffered while the picture was being filmed.



President Coolidge declared the lists closed with the entry of this beautiful white collie as a Whitehouse dog. There are now three dogs in the President's kennels.



Norma Niblock, "paintless" Canadian girl, won first prize in the beauty contest held in New York. Miss Niblock may get a three-year movie contract in support of Rudolph Valentino.

"Oh, if you care to." Barry felt that she was truly disappointed that he wasn't at the point of death, or at least somewhere near it. "Where's Ba'tiste?"

"Out looking after his traps, picking them up I think, for the summer. He'll be back soon. Is there—"

"No. I usually come over every day to see him, you know." Then the blue eyes lost their diffidence to become serious. "Do you remember yet who you are?"

"Less right at this minute than at any other time!" spoke Barry truthfully. "I'm out of my head entirely!" He reached for the flowers.

"Please don't joke that way. It's really serious. When I was across—army nursing—I saw a lot of just such cases as yours. Shell shock, you know. One has to be awfully careful with it."

"I know. But I'm getting the best of care. I—ouch!" His interest had exceeded his caution. The unbandaged hand had waved the flowers for emphasis and absently gripped the stems. The wild roses fluttered to the ground. "Gosh!" came dolefully, "I'm all full of thorns. Guess I'll have to pick 'em out with my teeth."

"Oh!" Then she picked up the roses and laid them gingerly aside. "You can't use your other hand, can you?"

"No. Arm's broken."

"Then—" she looked toward Lost Wing, hunched on a stump, and Barry's heart sank. She debated a moment, at last to shake her head. "No—he'd want to dig them out with a knife. If you don't mind." She moved toward Houston and Barry thrust forth his hand.

"If you don't mind," he countered and she sat beside him. A moment later:

"I must look like a fortune teller."

"See anything in my palm besides thorns?"

"Yes. A little dirt. Ba'tiste evidently isn't a very good nurse."

"I did the best I could with one hand. But I was pretty grimy. I—I didn't know," and Barry grinned cheerfully, "I was going to be this lucky."

SHE pretended not to hear the sally. And in some way Barry was glad. He much rather would have her silent than making some flippant remark, much rather would he prefer to lean comfortably back on the old bench and watch the quiet, almost childish determination of her features as she sought for a grip on the tiny protuberances of the thorns, the soft brownness of the few strands of hair which strayed from beneath the boyish cap, the healthy glow of her complexion, the smallness of the clear-skinned hands, the daintiness of the trim little figure. Much rather would he be silent with the picture than striving for answers to questions that in their very naiveness were an accusation. Quite suddenly Barry felt cheap and mean and dishonest. He felt that he would like to talk about himself—about home and his reasons for being out here; his hopes for the mill which now was a shambling, unprofitable thing; about the future and—a great many things. It was with an effort, when she queried him again concerning his memory,

The White Desert

By Courtney Ryley Cooper

that he still remained Mr. Nobody. Then he shifted the conversation from himself to her.

"Do you live out here?"

"Yes. Didn't Ba'tiste tell you? My house is just over the hill—you can see one edge of the roof through that bent aspen."

Barry stared.

"I'd noticed that. Thought it was a house, but couldn't be sure. I thought I understood Ba'tiste to say you only came out here in the summer."

got them when he first came down here from Montreal. He wanted Lost Wing as a sort of bodyguard. It was a good deal wilder in this region then than it is now, and father owned a good deal of land."

"So Ba'tiste tell me. He says that practically all of the forests around here are yours."

"They will be next year," came simply, "when I'm—"

She stopped and laughed.

"Ba'tiste told me. Twenty-one."

The Spirit O' Christmas

By James Edward Hungerford

Christmas comes but once a year,
Bringing heaps o' joy an' cheer!
Bringing happiness an' smiles;
Blotting out the frets an' riles;
Bringing hope to hungry hearts;
Binding up the wounds an' smarts;
Filling folks with love an' peace—
Lighting homes with Christmas trees!

Loving ones, with trusting prayers,
Ask for surcease from their cares;
Others ask for gifts o' gold;
Some for warmth, instead o' cold;

Some are seeking gifts o' love,
From the Giver up above;
Strength an' courage; hope an' cheer—
Is what they are wanting here.

'Tain't the gift, that makes for joy;
Precious jewel, or tinsel toy;
'Tain't the present, rich an' fine,
Stirring your heart, friend, or mine;
It's the spirit back o' it—
How it's give—that makes a hit!
If the gift is backed by love—
It comes straight from up above!

"I did that when I was going to school. Now I stay here all the year 'round."

"Isn't it lonely?"

"Out here? With a hundred kinds of birds to keep things going? With the trout leaping in the streams in the summer time, and a good gun in the hollow of your arm in the winter? Besides, there's old Lost Wing and his squaw, you know. I get a lot of enjoyment out of them when we're snowed in—in the winter. He's told me fully fifty versions of how the Battle of Wounded Knee was fought, and as for Custer's last battle—it's wonderful!"

"He knows all about it?"

"I'd hardly say that." Medaine reached under her cap for a hairpin, looked quickly at Barry as though to ask him whether he could stand pain, then pressed a recalcitrant thorn into a position where it could be extracted. "I think the best description of Lost Wing is that he's an admirable fiction writer. Ba'tiste says he has more lies than a dog has fleas."

"Then it isn't history?"

"Of course not. Just imagination. But it's well done, with plenty of gestures. He stands in front of the fire and acts it all out while his squaw sits on the floor and grunts and nods and wails at the right time, and it's really entertaining. They're about a million years old, both of them. My father

"He never could keep anything to himself."

"What's wrong about that? I'm twenty-seven myself."

"Honestly? You don't look it."

"Don't I? I ought to. I've got a beard and everything. See?" He pulled his hand away for a moment to rub the two-days' growth on his face. "I tried to shave this morning. Couldn't make it. Ba'tiste said he'd play barber for me this afternoon. Next time you come over I'll be all slicked up."

Again she laughed, and once more pursued the remaining thorns.

"How do you know there'll be a next time?"

"If there isn't, I'll drive nails into myself, so you'll have to pull 'em out." Then seriously, "You do come over here often, don't you?"

"Of course—" then, the last thorn disposed of, she rose—"to see Ba'tiste. I look on him as a sort of a guardian. He knew my father. But let's talk about yourself. You seem remarkably clear in your mind to be afflicted with amnesia. Are you sure you don't remember anything—?"

"No—not now. But," and Barry hedged painfully, "I think I will. It acts to me like a momentary thing. Every once in a while I get a flash as though it were all coming back; it was just the fall, I'm sure of that. My head's all right."

"You mean your brain?"

"Yes. I don't act crazy, or anything like that, do I?"

"Well," and she smiled quizzically, "of course, I don't know you, so I have nothing to go by. But I must admit that you say terribly foolish things."

LEAVING him to think over that, she turned, laughed a good-by, and with the rolling, bow-legged old Lost Wing in her wake, retraced the path to the top of the hill, there to hesitate a moment, wave her hand quickly, and then, as though hurrying away from her action, disappeared. Barry Houston sat for a long time, visualizing her there on the brow of the hill, her head with its long-visored cap tilted, her hand upraised, her trimness and her beauty silhouetted against the opalesque sky, dreaming—and with a bit of heartache in it. For this sort of thing had been his hope in younger, fairer days. This sort of a being had been his make-believe companion of a Castle in Spain. This sort of a joking, whimsical girl had been the one who had come to him in the smoke wreaths and tantalized him and promised him—

But now, his life was gray. His heart was not his own. His life was at best only a grim, drab thing of ugly memories and angered determinations. If a home should ever come to him, it must be in company with some one to whom he owed the gratitude of friendship in time of need; not love not affection, but the paying of a debt of deepest honor. Which Barry would do, and faithfully and honestly and truthfully. As for the other—

He leaned against the bark slabs of the cabin. He closed his eyes. He grinned cheerily.

"Well," came at last, "there's no harm in thinking about it!"

CHAPTER VI.

IT was thus that Ba'tiste found him, still dreaming. The big voice of the Canadian boomed, and he reached forward to nudge Barry on his injured shoulder.

"And who has been bringing you flowers?" he asked.

"Medaine. That is—Miss Robinette."

"Medaine? Oh, ho! You hear, Golemar?" he turned to the fawning wolf-dog. "He calls her Medaine! Oh, ho! And he say he will not marry, not for love. Peuff! We shall see, by gar, we shall see! Eh, Golemar?" Then to Barry, "You have sit out here too long."

"I? Nothing of the kind. Where's the axe? I'll do some fancy one-handed woodchopping."

And while Ba'tiste watched, grinning, Barry went about his task, swinging the axe awkwardly, but whistling with the joy of work. Nor did he pause to diagnose his light-heartedness. He only knew that he was in the hills; that the streets and offices and people of the cities, and the memories that they carried, had been left behind for him, that he was in a new world to make a new fight and that he was strangely, inordinately happy. Time after time the axe glinted, to descend upon the chopping block, until at last the pile of stovewood had reached its proper dimensions, and old

AL ACRES—Slim Gets an Early Christmas.

By Frank R. Leet



Ba'tiste came from the doorway to carry it in. Then, half an hour later, they sat down to their meal of sizzling bacon and steaming coffee—a great, bearded giant and the younger man whom he, in a moment of impulsiveness, had all but adopted. Ba'tiste was still joking about the visit of Medaine, Houston parrying his thrusts. The meal finished, Ba'tiste went forth once more, to the hunt of a bear trap and its deadfall, dragged away by a mountain lion during the last snow. Barry sought again the bench outside the cabin, to sit there waiting and hoping—in vain. At last came evening, and he undressed laboriously for a long rest. Something awaited him in Tabernacle—either the opening of a book of schemes, or at least the explanation of a mystery, and that meant a walk of quite two miles, the exercise of muscles which still ached, the straining of tendons drawn by injury and pain. But when the time came, he was ready.

"Bon—good!" came from Ba'tiste, as they turned into the little village of Tabernacle the next day, skirted the two clapboarded stores forming the "main business district," and edged toward the converted box car that passed as a station. "Bon—the agent he is leaving."

Barry looked ahead, to see a man crossing an expanse of flat country toward what was evidently a boarding house. Ba'tiste nudged him.

"You will walk slowly, as though going into the station to loaf. Ba'tiste will come behind—and keep watch."

Barry obeyed. A moment more and he was within the converted box car, to find it deserted and silent, except for the constant clackle of the telegraph key, rattling off the business of a mountain railroad system, like some garrulous old woman, to any one who would listen. There was no private office, only a railing and a counter, which Barry crossed easily. A slight crunching of gravel sounded without. It was Ba'tiste, now lounging in the doorway, ready at a moment to give the alarm. Houston turned hastily toward the file hook and began to turn the pages of the original copy which hung there.

A moment of searching and he leaned suddenly forward. Messages were few from Tabernacle; it had been an easy matter for him to come upon the originals of the telegrams he sought, in spite of the fact that they had been sent more than two weeks before. Already he was reading the first:

Barry Houston,
Empire Lake Mill and Lumber Co.,
212 Grand Bldg., Boston, Mass.

Please order six-foot saw as before. Present one broken today through crystallization.—F. B. Thayer.

"That's one of 'em." Houston grunted the words, rather than spoke them.

"That was meant for me all right—The second one was before him now, longer and far more interesting to the man who bent over the telegraph file, while Ba'tiste kept watch at the door. Hastily he pulled a crumpled message from his pocket and compared them—and grunted again.

(Continued next week.)



Doings In Woodland

Bruin's Friends Search for Him

AFTER the little stranger squirrel came to Rolly Rabbit's with Bruin's message for help, he knew he must do something right away if he were to aid his friend. And he could not do it alone. To get Bruin out of a big trap, he must have help.

"Little squirrel, run as fast as you can to Willie Woodchuck's house and bring him with you to the big tree where you left Bruin. I will hop over to Frankie Foxy's house and tell him. Frankie Fox and I will meet you there," said Rolly.

"Are you sure you know where to go, Mr. Rabbit?" asked the little stranger squirrel.

"Quite sure," said Rolly. "It is about fifty hops south of the big elm tree near the edge of the old frog pond.



The Trap Was Open and Bruin Gone. Now run! We must get there before the man does."

And off they both scampered as fast as their short legs could carry them, and that is much faster than you or I can run with our longer ones.

Frankie Fox and Rolly Rabbit had much farther to go than their two companions, but Willie Woodchuck was so fat he just couldn't run fast.

At the cross-road, they met Rolly and Frankie Fox, and all four ran on as fast as they could.

"I left Mr. Bruin just around the corner," panted the little squirrel as they passed the big elm tree and were near the last bend in the road. And

now how they did run, to think they were nearly there.

But as they turned this corner, each slackened his pace and stopped right by the big trap that had held Bruin's foot. It was wide open, and that told the story. Someone had helped Bruin out, and taken him away.

Rolly Rabbit bent his head to the ground. "Sniff, sniff." Then he went on a few steps and examined the leaves carefully. In a few minutes he came back to his friends.

"Two men have taken Bruin away. They will shut him up. We must find him. Who will help me?" he asked.

"I will," chorused his friends, and even a little bird up in the tree who had heard the story, chimed in, too.

A NOTE FROM AUNT MARTHA.

Dear Little Folks:

If Old Santa tries to get all the things in his bag that the boys and girls have told me they want him to bring them, I am afraid it will be too heavy for him to carry, or it will burst open.

But I believe if you have all been good boys and girls all the year, he will bring you most everything you want.

Anyway, I hope he does and that each of you have a real Merry Christmas. In our own happiness may we not forget other little boys and girls who are not so fortunate as we are. The giving and sharing with others makes our own Christmas even more happy.

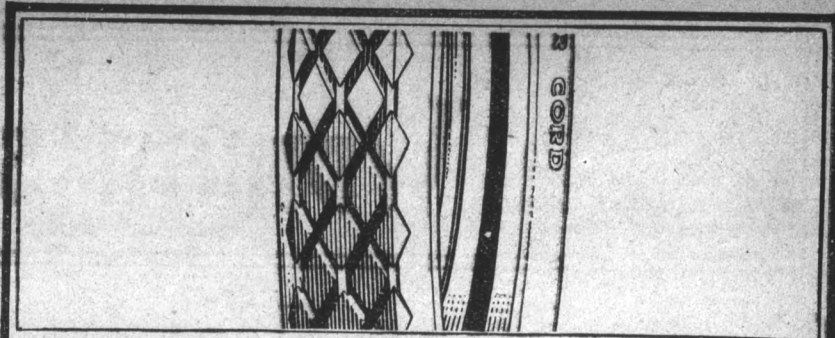
Sincerely, Aunt Martha.

BROTHER WANTS A GUN.

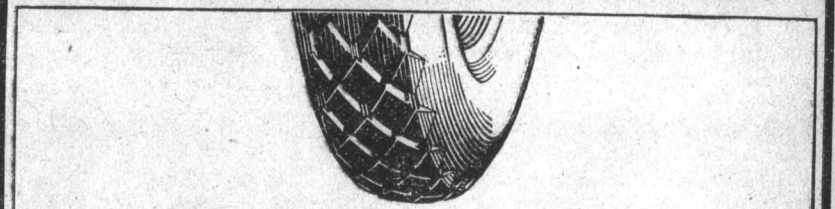
Dear Aunt Martha:

I thought I would write you a few lines and tell you that I haven't all my Christmas things picked out yet.

I want a great big doll they are selling tickets on at the store. I want a nice story book, too. My brother would like a gun and a row of trains and a story book, too.—Yours truly, Mira Stonge, Detour, Mich.



The Tread That Is Sure and Safe



Your car will hold its pace more surely on a slippery road, or come to a stop in minimum distance in any emergency, if you give it the benefit of the Goodyear All-Weather Tread.

That gripping tread provides the utmost of tractive power and safety.

Its big, thick, sharp-edged blocks grip hard and hang on, setting up a wedge-like resistance to skidding or sideslip.

It puts security under you all the time, and develops the maximum traction, efficiency and economy in both tire and engine performance.

Coupled with superior traction the improved rubber compound in the new Goodyear Cord Tire with the beveled All-Weather Tread adds thousands of miles to the wear of this tire and makes it the most durable tire Goodyear ever built.

Made in all sizes for
Passenger Cars and Trucks

GOODYEAR

MILLER TOPS

Make your Ford car into a sedan and your roadster into a coupe.

Sedan \$87.50
Coupe 65.00

All F. O. B. Caro. Tax extra.

Fits All Ford Models From 1915 To 1924

If you already own an open Ford buy a Miller Top and enjoy the comforts of an enclosed job at a moderate cost.

If you are going to buy a new car make arrangements with your Ford Dealer to have a Miller Top installed on it. The saving between a Sedan and open car plus a Miller Top is something like \$230.00. This is worth saving, especially since the comforts and conveniences in the two are similar, and besides, a touring car is more practical for rural use.

Write for free Miller Booklet.

MILLER TOP & BODY MFG. CO.,
Caro, Michigan

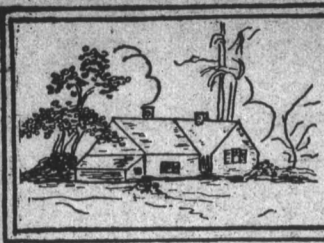
New 2-ton Trucks at 1/2 Price

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Real 2-ton truck performance at far less than the average 1-ton truck costs. Real 2-ton truck performance at lowest 1-ton operation, lowest 1-ton upkeep, 1-ton overhead, 1-ton fees. You can do it with Warford Auxiliary Transmission on the Ford truck. Thousands have proved it. See your Ford dealer or write us.

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AUXILIARY TRANSMISSION



Woman's Interests



Get Xmas Table Fixin's from Woods

A Trip to Woodland Will Furnish You With Abundant Decorations for Which Our City Cousins Pay A High Price.



THERE is small excuse for any Christmas table in the land to go unadorned—although the country woman is particularly fortunate, for she is rich in woodland treasures, which make charming table decorations. The most effective ornaments are often the simplest. The orange bittersweet, blue-gray barberries, shining black dogberries and misty juniper berries combine wonderfully with trailing ground pine, glossy laurel and pine twigs.

One of the most attractive decorations which nature affords, is the small pine trees which may be found in any woodland. They are most suitable for table decorations if not more than eighteen inches high.

Nothing will delight the kiddies more than a make-believe winter landscape scene. These are very simple to make. The lake around which the scene should be built, should be put in place first. A table mirror is the proper thing for the lake, although any small mirror will do. Group tiny pine or cedar twigs, small stones and moss about the mirror. Sprinkle liberally with artificial snow. The result will be a very realistic out-of-doors Christmas scene and the lake will look like a veritable glittering surface of ice. It will greatly add to the joy of the children if a miniature Santa Claus may be seen peeping out from behind the little trees.

Of course, fruit is always appropriate as a Christmas decoration. A centerpiece of this kind may be made up of well-polished apples, bananas, grapes and winter pears. Trailing ground pine may be combined very effectively with fruit.

If oranges are combined with bayberries and arranged in a rich brown basket, they will look their best, while white or green grapes will be charming with trailing ground pine when placed in a small glass basket. The pine should be festooned up the side of the basket and allowed to droop gracefully at the opposite side.

But the table is only a small part of the Christmas decorations. When father or the boys go to the woods for the Christmas tree, ask them to take the wagon and get plenty of extra pine for decoration purposes. Let it be piled above the living-room door, massed behind the large pictures and artistically grouped and festooned above and about the fireplace mantle. Small pine trees placed at suitable salient points or vacant nooks take the place of rubber plants, palms, etc., at little or no cost, but if one is crowded for room, this is not advisable as the little trees will have a tendency to make the room look smaller.

So few of us farm women appreciate the decorative possibilities of nature's simple treasures that many of our city sisters envy us! I think we will all do well to put our wits and

ingenuity to work and endeavor to make our home the very embodiment of Yuletide cheer this year.—N. P.

KEEP THE SINK SHINING.

SOAP jelly, which is made by dissolving a large bar of soap in two quarts of boiling water and two table-spoonfuls of kerosene is a great help in keeping the sink white and shining. I keep a glass of soap jelly on the sink shelf, and when the dishes are finished put a little on a cloth, kept for that

melted and blended with the flour. Add the cream and milk, a little at a time, and cook until mixture boils—five minutes. Grease a baking dish. Put a little sauce in the bottom, cover with oysters. Repeat until supply is exhausted. Cover top with crumbs and bake thirty minutes in hot oven.

Coffee Caramels.

Put one pound of light brown sugar into a granite saucepan and add one cup of strong clear coffee mixed with one tablespoon of cocoa, one-half cup of sweet cream and one

dressing in the center and around the edge of each pineapple.

Cheese and Pepper Salad.

1 cream cheese
2 green peppers
1/2 tsp. finely cut onion
1/2 tsp. paprika
1/2 tsp. salt
1 red pepper (canned)
1 head lettuce
French dressing

Mash cheese and if dry moisten with cream or French dressing. Add seasonings and red pepper which has been rubbed through a sieve. Wash, cut slice from the top and remove the seeds from the green peppers. Fill solidly with the cheese mixture and chill. Cut in slices and serve on lettuce with French dressing.

Lemon Ice.

1 pkg. gelatine
7 pint cold water
8 lemons
1 1/2 lbs. white sugar
1 qt. water

Dissolve gelatin in a pint of cold water. Press juice out of lemons and mix sugar with it. Pour a quart of water on sugar and lemons. Add one and one-half pints of boiling water to gelatin and when thoroughly dissolved add to rest of ingredients. Strain and let cool. Whip for fifteen minutes and freeze. This is more delicious than ice cream.

LAST MINUTE GIFTS.

IF a name has been accidentally rubbed from your Christmas list, and at the last minute you find yourself in need of one more gift, why not make

Merry Christmas To All

To Our Readers—A Merry, Merry Christmas is my holiday message to you. It is a message of love and faith and charity, as befits the Yuletide season. Love unbounded, in memory of the Babe of Bethlehem; faith, unscathed by the hands of time, and charity, inspired by a true spirit of unselfishness.

May you have a stockingful of blessings to help brighten each cloudy day.—Martha Cole.

purpose, and rub well over the sink. Then wash with clear water and the sink looks as if I had given it a good scouring.

HOLIDAY RECIPES.

Escalloped Oysters.

1 qt. oysters mixed
2 tb. butter Salt and pepper to
2 tb. flour taste
1 1/2 c. cream and milk Buttered bread crumbs

Put butter and flour together into a saucepan and cook till the butter is

teaspoon of butter. Put over the fire and boil without stirring until it hardens when dropped into cold water. Pour into greased dishes and mark into squares.—M. P.

Poinsetta Salad.

1 can pimentos
1 fresh pineapple
1 head lettuce
Salad dressing

Cut the pineapple in thin rounds, lay a slice on a lettuce leaf. Using a pair of scissors, cut pimentos into petals and shape a poinsetta on each side of pineapple. Put a teaspoonful of salad

A Help at Butchering Time

AT butchering time there is always an over-supply of fresh meat. To prevent a loss by spoilage the family must increase their daily consumption of this food or give a portion of it to the neighbors.

But why not have some of the nice tenderloin in March, or a meat loaf all ready to serve by merely heating when unexpected company happens in for dinner next August after you have spent the morning working in the

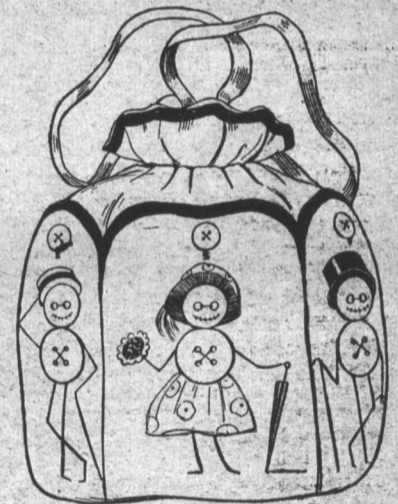
garden and are all tired out.

It is a big saving both in time and money to have the beef or pork all roasted and ready to serve, when heated, to the hungry threshers.

A bulletin telling how to cut up, can and cure all kinds of meat may be had by sending five cents to cover postal and mailing charges, to Martha Cole, Michigan Farmer, Desk M., Detroit, Michigan. Send for your copy now so you will have it ready.



(Credit for cut to U. S. Dept. of Agriculture).
Home-canned Pork Chops and Tenderloin will Make Tempting Additions to the Spring and Summer Menus.



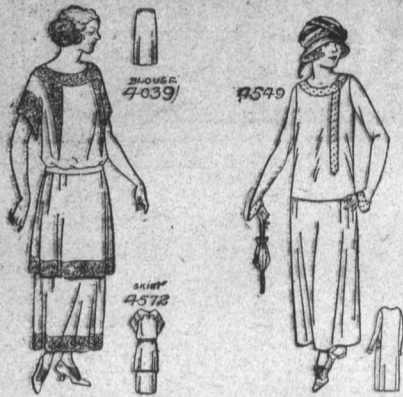
one of the novelty work bags illustrated here.

Each of the five lower sections are four inches wide and five inches high. These are sewed to a pentagon-shaped base. The top section is then attached and finished with a draw-string. Each of the sections and the top are bound in a contrasting color. Various sized buttons form the bodies of the characters on the sides. The faces may be painted on these with enamel or black ink and the rest completed with outline stitches. Many clever designs can be worked out by those who are handy with a needle.

Remember that farm vegetables and fruits make splendid Christmas gifts. A basket of celery or apples, a mammoth squash or a prize pumpkin would be equally welcomed, and how much more sensible than a bit of carelessly selected bric-a-brac.

One reader tells of solving the gift problem by filling odd-shaped jars with jams, preserves or jellies. These she enamels in contrasting colors, ties with Christmas trimmings.—M. C.

Michigan Farmer Pattern Service



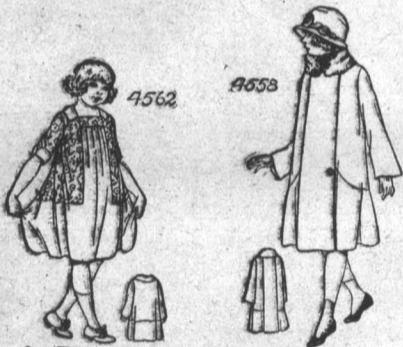
No. 4039-4572—A Stylish Gown. The blouse, 4039, cut in seven sizes, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Skirt, 4572, cut in seven sizes, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35 and 37 inches waist measure. To make the dress for a medium size will require six yards of 40-inch material. The width at the foot is 1 1/2 yards. Two separate patterns, 12c for each pattern.

No. 4549—Misses' Dress. Cut in three sizes, 16, 18 and 20 years. An 18-year size requires 3 1/2 yards of 40-inch material. The width at the foot is 1 1/2 yards. To trim as illustrated requires 1/2 yard of contrasting material 40 inches wide. Price 12c.



No. 4263—Ladies' Apron. Cut in one size—medium. It requires 1 1/2 yards of 32-inch material. Price 12c.

No. 4162—Ladies' House Dress. Cut in seven sizes, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48 inches bust measure. A 38-inch size requires 6 1/2 yards of 32-inch material. The width at the foot is 2 1/2 yards. Price 12c.



No. 4562—Child's Dress. Cut in four sizes, 4, 6, 8 and 10 years. A six-year size requires 2 1/2 yards of 36-inch material. Price 12c.

No. 4558—Girls' Coat. Cut in five sizes, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. A 10-year size requires 2 1/2 yards of 54-inch material. Price 12c.



No. 4196—A New Doll Set. Pattern comprising the Doll and garments, is cut in three sizes: Small, 12 inches; medium, 16 inches; large, 20 inches in length. The Doll requires for a medium size half a yard. The Rompers 1/2 yard. The Suit and Hat, 1 1/4 yard of 27-inch material. Price 12c.

No. 4565—Child's Dress. Cut in four sizes, 2, 4, 6 and 8 years. A four-year size requires 2 1/2 yards of 27-inch material. Price 12c.



HOUSEHOLD SERVICE

Use this department to help solve your household problems. Address your letters to Martha Cole, Michigan Farmer, Detroit, Mich.

PAPERING KALSOMINED WALLS.

How should a kalsomined wall be treated before papering, if such is necessary?—Mrs. W. M. L.

It is best to have the greater part of the kalsomine removed from the wall, otherwise it may cause the paper to cleave from the wall.

If there is a thick coating of kalsomine, remove as much as possible with a knife or sharp-edged instrument, being careful not to mar the plastered surface. Then wash the walls well with a strong solution of vinegar. When this is dry, sweep the walls down well with a stiff brush. A small amount of alum added to the paste will make paper stick better.

GERMAN PRETZELS.

Will you please send me a recipe for making old-fashioned German pretzels?—Mrs. J. B. B.

Has one of our readers a recipe for making these pretzels? If so, just send it to this department and it will be forwarded to Mrs. J. B. B.—Martha Cole.

HOME-MADE FURNITURE POLISH.

Would like recipe for furniture polish which I can make at home.—Mrs. R. W.

For a good home-made furniture polish, add beeswax the size of a walnut to one cup of turpentine. Into this stir one and one-half pints of paraffin oil. Mix and shake well. Apply with a soft cloth, and be careful not to use too much. Rub well.

MASHED POTATO CANDY IS FINE EATING.

FOR those who wish an inexpensive but finely flavored candy, Mrs. C. L. B. sends this recipe. The kiddies

will enjoy it, too, and it will not be as harmful to them as some of the other kinds of sweets.

Mashed Potato Fondant.

To one cup of warm mashed potatoes, add one-half teaspoon of salt, three pounds pulverized sugar. It will become watery, but keep kneading until you can knead in no more sugar. Add vanilla, preserved pineapple, citron, and other fruits, with broken nutmeats. Press into a shallow pan lined with paraffin paper and let stand for

Mistakes

WE all make mistakes. Experience has taught us this. It is not always easy to acknowledge them, but their discussion may help others to avoid the ones you have made.

With the closing of the old year, it is a fitting time for these discussions, that we may side-step as many as possible in 1924.

For the five letters best describing the mistakes you have made in the management of your home, the care of your children, or other branches of your activities, we will give a stack of mixing bowls in five graduated sizes. Address your letters to Martha Cole, Michigan Farmer, Detroit, Michigan, before December 28.

twenty-four hours. Cut as for caramels. Any desired coloring may be added.

(Members of the office force recommend mashed potato fondant as a fine filling for the sweet tooth, for Mrs. C. L. B. sent along a sample with her recipe. We all wish to thank you very much, Mrs. C. L. B.—Martha Cole).

New Things for the Needle

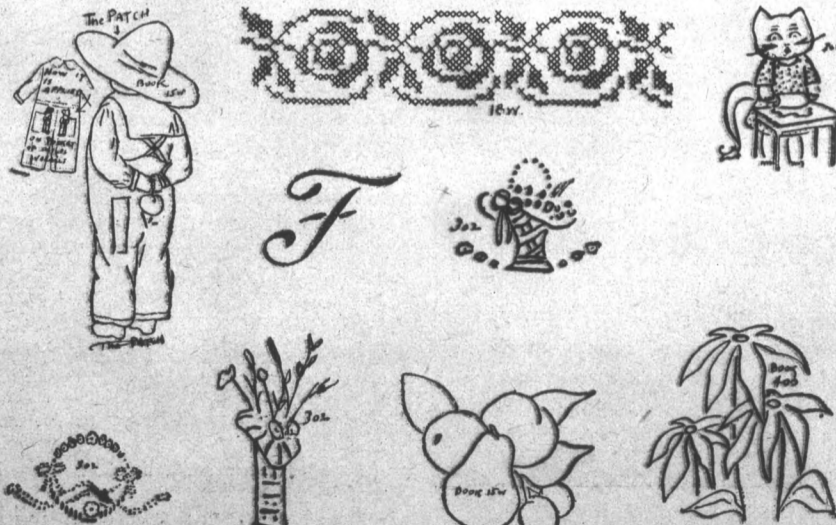
THE numerous requests for special designs in needlework has led to the establishment of a needlework service in this department through which our readers may have a larger variety of patterns than we are able to furnish through the columns of the paper. By means of this service we can supply you with booklets giving designs and directions for any kind of fancy work you wish to make. Below are illustrated some of the designs found in the books.

The little boy with his straw hat makes pleasing pockets on a little fellow's play suit. It is found in Book No. 15, which contains other designs for applique and embroidery on chil-

dren's garments and pillow tops. The pretty little basket designs are from Book 302, which is a hot-iron transfer group and contains some sixty or seventy lovely patterns.

Every maker of fancywork will want some of these cross-stitch designs. They are simple to make and very effective on children's frocks, towels, or as runner borders. Book No. 18 contains a great number of these dainty patterns that are so popular right now.

The poinsetta design at the right is found in Book 400, which contains a wealth of hot-iron transfers for applique work in sizes adapted to quilts, and new unbleached muslin spreads.



NEW LAMP BURNS 94% AIR Beats Electric or Gas

A new oil lamp that gives an amazingly brilliant, soft, white light, even better than gas or electricity, has been tested by the U. S. Government and 35 leading universities and found to be superior to 10 ordinary oil lamps. It burns without odor, smoke or noise—no pumping up, is simple, clean, safe. Burns 94% air and 6% common kerosene (coal oil).

The inventor is offering to send a lamp on 10 days' FREE trial, or even to give one FREE to the first user in each locality who will help introduce it. Write today for full particulars. Also ask us to explain how you can get the agency and without experience or money make \$250 to \$500 per month. Address

J. O. Johnson, 809 W. Lake St., Chicago, Ill.



COLDS

Relieve children's and adults' colds easily, safely with Muco Salve. Insert in nostrils to clear the head. Rub on chest to relieve congestion. Indorsed by physicians. Ask your druggist.



We are Featuring the Following in Lb. and 2-Lb. Boxes

Swiss Style Milk Chocolate, Per Lb. \$1.00
Chocolate Cherries in Cream, Per Lb. 1.00

Charges Prepaid
If Your Dealer Can't Supply You, Mail Us Your Order Direct
STRAUB CANDY COMPANY, Traverse City, Mich.

115 lb. box Large Newly Frozen Herring \$4.35
Send for Complete Price List.
CONSUMERS FISH CO. Green Bay, Wis.

"A Quart for a Quarter"
Instantaneous and permanent. Just mix with boiling water. Send 25c stamps or coin.
BLACK FOX INK CO., Wrentham, Mass.

Free Information On Fur Tanning



You furnish the raw beef or horse hides or raw furs; we do the tanning in our own plant. We make up coats, robes, gloves, mittens, caps, vests. The finest kind of fur work done on ladies' fine furs coats, capes, chokers, horse hide shoe leather, coats, finest of sheep lined coats.

Send for circulars, tell us what you have to tan. We answer.
W. W. Weaver, Reading, Mich.



OUR BOYS AND GIRLS



OUR LETTER BOX



Dear Uncle Frank:

Oh! but you don't know how glad I am, but I have the dishes done, and only a little after seven o'clock.

Say, you don't know what a teasing brother I have! He is right out of one thing and into another, but he is old enough to know better.

I got my report card tonight and got pretty good marks for a poor little eighth grader like me.

Say, my mother just came to send us all to bed and found it was only half-past seven. Ha! Ha!

My baby brother is asleep now, so



It Makes me Shudder to Think that Verda Cole, of Mt. Pleasant, or Anybody Else, Feels Like this when W. B. Gets Her Letter.

I won't have to hold him and write, too.

I would like to have another photo contest. Wouldn't you? I would like to send a picture of my baby brother.

Please, Mr. Waste Paper Basket, pass me by for once, and I will feed you well afterward.

Well, I must close. From a long-haired niece, Edna May Holmes, Howell, Mich., R. 4.

You must have an in-and-out sort of brother. You had the laugh on your mother for once, didn't you? We'll have another photo contest sometime soon.

Dear Uncle Frank:

I received my membership card. I am going to try to live up to it.

I had just come in from milking and was reading the "Boys of '61." Grandma said, "Did you see the letter from Uncle Frank?" I said, "No." She went and found it for me. I danced for joy when I saw the membership card and pin.

I wrote once before but did not see my letter in print. But I will try, try, and try again until I win out. I hope this misses that "Horrid waste paper basket."—Yours sincerely, Jack Hamilton, Bellevue, Mich., R. 3.

To have you get a thrill out of getting a Merry Circle membership after reading the thrilling experiences of the boys of '61, pleases me. Keep a coming, Jack.

I will say Dear Mr. Frank, as I do not know what your other name is. And as I am not a M. C. it would not be right for me to say Uncle Frank.

My, but I hope it will not be long until I can call you Uncle Frank.

We girls in the school would like to have an M. C. Club, and, of course, someone always has to be first. So here I go.

As I am sending the answer to the read-and-win question, I will describe myself. I am twelve years old and am in the seventh grade.—From a want-to-be cousin, Lillian M. Detwiler, R. 1, Petoskey, Mich.

You need not be a Merry Circler to call me Uncle. I really would prefer it, as Mr. sounds too formal. It pleases me that you are making a start for a club in your school.

Dear Uncle Frank:

I am writing this in school so please excuse the poor writing. I hope this letter sticks to the spot of glue on your desk.

Now, Uncle Frank, I think your picture in the paper was nice. You look something like your baby picture, don't you think so?

I send my best regards to Mr. W. B. From Clara Moore, R. 8, St. Johns, Michigan.

Isn't it funny that my picture should look like my baby picture? It's of the same baby, only several years older. I am giving Mr. W. B. your regards.

Dear Uncle Frank:

Say, Uncle, can you ride a bicycle? I can. My brother taught me how.

For about two weeks after I had learned to stick on a bicycle, I never got off by myself, I just fell off. And the first time I rode down a large hill, I never put my feet on the brake, and when I hit the loose gravel, well, I couldn't ride a bicycle for nearly a week. The kids used to laugh to see me wheel the bicycle down a large hill. Those days are gone forever, because I can ride down large hills at last.

When I learned that some girl had voiced her dislike of your photo, I could have pulled her hair. I wouldn't want you to look any different.—Myrtle Dupont, Allegan, Mich.

Yes, I used to ride bicycles before autos were known, and I've done stunts similar to the one you have done. I am glad you do not want me to look any different, because I want to look with my eyes the same as other folks.

Dear Uncle Frank:

I wonder if the Rex Ellis that

wrote the poem entitled, "Memories," is the same Rex Ellis who belongs to the Merry Circle?" If so, must be he intends to be a poet. He has gained quite a start, already. Don't you think so, Uncle Frank? It was pretty good, just the same.

I wish I could have been as talented as most of the Merry Circlers are, but I am not the least bit talented. All I can do is wash dishes. Can you wash dishes, Uncle Frank? I hope so.

Say, maybe I am inquisitive, but isn't "Aunt Martha" your wife? Now, if she isn't, don't get angry, because, you know the only way to find out is to ask questions.

Well, I must close and get my Latin. I have ten sentences to translate tonight.

So good-bye, from your "Old Pal," Evelyn T. Brooks, R. 2, Clarksville, Michigan.

Yes, you guessed right about Rex but not about Aunt Martha. Auntie and Martha Cole are the same. Yes, I can wash dishes but I would rather dry them. Pardon me, but I think your letter shows you have talent.

Dear Uncle Frank:

What is your opinion about young men smoking, also young girls? I don't approve of it myself, neither getting drunk on hard cider.

Hoping to be a M. C., I remain, Ethel St. John, R. 2, Barryton, Mich.

I don't think getting drunk on hard cider is any better than getting drunk on anything else. I think smoking meat is all right, but smoking cigarettes, cigars, etc., never did anybody any good. I feel sorry for the boy or girl who does not know any better than to smoke or drink.

Dear Uncle Frank:

This is the first time I have ever written a letter to you. I am not an M. C. but would like to be one. I have been reading the Michigan Farmer for over a year and like it very much.

For pets my sisters and I have a shepherd dog and a little pup. We have three kittens and a pig, which we named Stubborn. We also had some rabbits but the dog got in the pen and ate them, so, "Yes, we have no rabbits today." I have five chickens, also.

We have a big swing and we rake up a lot of leaves and swing high, then jump out in them. It's lots of fun.—Your niece, Wilma Van Order, R. 1, Okemos, Michigan.

Apparently your dog made rapid work of the rabbits. Take a swing and jump for me.

Among the Club Workers

Mary A. Piechowiak Tells of Her Club Experiences

I HAVE been in club work for four years and I believe that in those four years I have had the best time that I shall ever have in my school life.

I belonged to the gardening club in my first year. In my second year I belonged to the gardening and can-

ning clubs, and my third and fourth years were devoted to the canning club work.

One day in spring, about four years ago, a man came to our school who said that he wanted to teach us some songs. All the upper grades gathered together and we were taught the song, "Old McDonald Had a Farm." We were all taken up with that song, as anybody would be. Then, we were told of the club work, and most all the boys and girls were very enthusiastic about it. A gardening club was started in our school and it proved very successful.



May is State Club Champion.

great times at that beautiful college. While at M. A. C. we organized a state club of the county champions. We elected officers and we have state club pins. I think that all the boys and girls who have enjoyed themselves at M. A. C. during club week ought to thank the good state leaders.

The trip to Chicago was great. I had a good time at the Live Stock Show and I enjoyed meeting club members from all parts of the country. I think all the members enjoyed the luncheons and dinners that were given in our honor, and we also enjoyed going sight-seeing.

The trip to the State Fair, at Detroit, was interesting. We were sent there to demonstrate. We enjoyed seeing all the displays, and meeting friends whom we met at M. A. C. during club week.

Club work has taught me how to economize and to earn money without putting much into a thing. For instance, in my gardening work I bought my seeds at a very low price and when my crops were sold I had enough money to start into the canning club the following year.

During my club work I made enough money to start me in college. I think any boy or girl can do this, go into club work, sell the products, and save the money for an education.

Club work has made me like farm life so well, that if I should ever get a chance to be a county club leader in a farm community I would not hesitate for a second.

I don't think club work could be criticised in any way, for it helps the members in every way it can.

I think boys and girls ought to take up club work, because it will teach them what it has taught me, and help them as it has helped me. It will teach them to economize and to do things efficiently; it will help them to get an education and start them on the rough road of life.

I am very much interested in the boys' and girls' page and the Merry Circle, for I think it will help the boys and girls in their club work.—Mary A. Piechowiak, 1206 South Henry St., Bay City, Michigan.



The Canning Club Exhibit at the State Fair.

Tongue Twisters

By the Prize Winners

The sea ceaseth and sufficeth all who husheth and say swiftly, "He saw-ed six, long, slim, slick, slender sap-lings."—Frederick Reynolds, M. C., Waldron, Michigan.

Some shun sunshine; do you shun sunshine?—Phlamenta Falls, Carsonville, Michigan, R. 3.

I saw Esau kissing Kate. The fact is, we all three saw. I saw Esau, he saw me, and Kate saw I saw Esau.—Edgar Macdonald, North Branch, Mich.

A tutor, who tooted a flute, Tried to teach two young tooters to toot, Said the two, to the tutor, "Is it harder to toot or To tutor two tooters to toot?"—Irene Lewis, M. C., Britton, Mich.

A THREE-TOED TREE TOAD'S ODE.

A tree toad loved a she toad That lived in a tree; She was a 3-toed tree toad, But a 2-toed toad was he, The 2-toed tree toad tried to win The she toad's friendly nod;

lakes Farm, or Whittaker, had this strain.

Quite a few answered question number one by saying that the American Radiator Company paid for itself in the fuel it saves. Instead it was the Arcola, a furnace made by the American Radiator Company.

A few said that Mr. Milton S. Hershey was the \$60,000 sire, in answer to question number five. Of course, he was not. He was a man who made himself famous making and selling chocolate, and when he died he gave his fortune, \$60,000,000, to an orphan institution. Besides, he was a bachelor. The \$60,000 sire was Financial Sensation, whose son, Financial King Sensation, is owned by the Coldwater Jersey Farm.

Those selected as having the neatest papers among the ones having all answers correct, as the following:

Flashlight.

Kenneth Bucknell, Centreville, Mich.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

TO those who are, and to those who want to be, Merry Circlers, I wish a Christmas full of the real spirit of the occasion. It is my hope that during the coming week M. C. will mean Merry Christmas to you all, and that at this "holy day" time each will double his efforts to fulfill the Merry Circle requirements of spreading happiness and good cheer.

May you enjoy in full measure the mental and spiritual, as well as the physical festivities of the occasion.

I hope that old Kriss Kringle will be good to you all.

UNCLE FRANK.

For the 2-toed tree toad loved the ground

That the 3-toed tree toad trod; But vainly the 2-toed tree toad tried— He couldn't please her within; In her tree toad bower, with her vetoe power,

The she toad vetoed him. —Ruth Howd, Breckenridge, Mich.

Pretty Polly Perkins playfully put pucky persimmons in Peter Potter's patched pink pants' pockets.—Elaine Johnson, Rapid River, Michigan.

Twenty twisting tongue twisters, twisted the tongues of twice twenty twittering twin sisters.—Stuart Brown, R. 7, Hastings, Michigan.

Five fat fishermen fried five flat fish for five foolish flappers.—Mildred Lucille Rush, R. 3, Clarksville, Michigan.

Mischievous misconceiving mean Michigan men make money manufacturing musty miserable measly moonshine mash, making many million mothers marvelously mad.—William Danes, Lake Mine, Michigan.

Betty Botter bought some butter, but she said, "this butter's bitter, and if I put it in my batter it will make my batter bitter. But a bit of better butter will make my batter better. So she bought a bit of butter, better than the bitter butter and put it in her batter, and it made her batter better."—Bertha Waltz, 199 Griswold Ave., Hillsdale, Michigan.

THE AD. CONTEST RESULTS.

THIS contest brought a great many replies but I believe it will also bring many disappointments, because so many of the papers had the questions wrongly answered.

This contest, more than any other, showed that the questions were not carefully read. For instance, question seven asked, "What burned and blistered?" Many replied "Musterole." Now, would you think that Musterole would advertise that it burned and blistered? Certainly not. Instead, they wanted to let us all know that the old-fashioned mustard plaster did and that Musterole should be used instead.

Question nine asked who had the best color and egg strain in Michigan. A great many gave the reply, "Whittaker's Rhode Island Reds." That told what the greatest color and egg strain was, but not who had them. Inter-

Janette Dewey, New Era, Mich.

Fountain Pen.

Eliza Turner, Brutus, Mich. Sylvester Ingles, R. 1, Galien, Mich. Lewis L. Tripp, Shepherd, Mich. Candy.

Irene Oscar, R. 2, Suttons Bay, Mich. Mary A. Flewry, R. 2, Avoca, Mich. Charles Kehrer, 10126 Traverse Av., Detroit, Mich.

Josephine Frantz, R. 1, White Cloud, Mich.

Bernice Wright, R. 2, Saranac, Mich.

AD. CONTEST ANSWERS.

THE following are the correct answers to the Ad. Contest which appeared in our issue of December 8:

- 1. The Arcola—17-597. 2. Nitrate of soda—590-10. 3. Postum—590-10. 4. R. R. Howell & Co.—15-595. 5. Financial Sensation—602-22. 6. Imported Melotte Separator—596-16. 7. The good old-fashioned mustard plaster—596-16. 8. Air Friction Carburetor Co.—598-10. 9. Whittaker's Interlakes Farm—600-20. 10. Winter—7-587.

New Year's Scramble

PERHAPS you would like to send New Year's Greetings to some fellow Merry Circler and would like to receive some from other M. C.'s. To give you this opportunity I am making this a New Year's Greeting Scramble, which is very much like the regular Correspondence Scrambles, except, I think, the letters should be confined to simple expressions of good wishes for the coming year.

After you have written your New Year's letter or card, stamp and address an envelope to yourself. Enclose these in an envelope addressed to Uncle Frank, Michigan Farmer, Detroit, Michigan. On the same envelope put "New Year's Scramble" in the lower left hand corner, so that I may know it is for the Scramble.

These greetings will be "scrambled" on Friday, December 28, so that everybody ought to get theirs before New Year's Day.

Don't forget to put your name and address on your letter or card, because the one who gets your Greeting may want to write to you.

Michigan Farmer Club List

THESE PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

EXPLANATION:—Figures in the first column represent the regular price of other publications.

Figures in the second column give our prices for subscription to the Michigan Farmer and the other publication for one year.

Figures in the third column give the prices at which other publications can be added when more than one is wanted in combination with the Michigan Farmer.

EXAMPLE:—We will send the Michigan Farmer and Detroit Free Press, each one year, for only \$4.50. If the same party wishes Today's Housewife it will cost sixty cents extra, or \$5.10 for this combination.

ABOUT DAILY PAPERS:—Our rates on daily papers are made for subscribers living on R. F. D. routes only, or in towns where the daily does not maintain regular newsboy or carrier service. If in doubt, send us your order, and we will have it filled if possible. Our rates on Michigan daily papers apply to the state of Michigan only.

Table with columns for publication names and prices. Includes sections for DAILY (6 a week), Poultry Guide, and HOUSEHOLD MAGAZINES, ETC.

SEMI-WEEKLY (2 a week).

Table listing semi-weekly publications and their prices.

WEEKLY.

Table listing weekly publications and their prices.

CATTLE, SHEEP, SWINE, POULTRY, ETC.

Table listing various agricultural and farm-related publications and their prices.

Add fifty cents to any second column price and the Michigan Farmer will be sent two years; add \$1.00, and the Michigan Farmer will be sent three years; add \$2.00, and the Michigan Farmer will be sent five years. If you order Michigan Farmer for more than one year, you will be entitled to order other papers at third column price, quoted in Michigan Farmer club list for the year in which you order other papers. If you do not find the publication of your choice listed in the above list, we will gladly quote you a price on any club you desire. Write us.

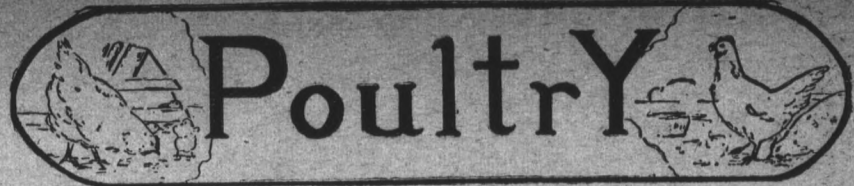
Coupon form for ordering Michigan Farmer and other publications. Includes fields for name, address, and payment information.

WYNGARDEN'S "EGG-BRED" BABY CHICKS



Are the best laying strains on earth. Genuine Barron English White Leghorns, Brown Leghorns and Anconas backed by 19 years' actual breeding on our own farms. Experts cull out our flocks yearly, and mate them with large, vigorous 280-288 Egg Pedigreed Males from Hollywood & Funk Farms direct. This guarantees — not a few high record birds — but an extraordinary flock average. During 1924 we will sell 30,000 weekly of these active, healthy, carefully hatched baby chicks — the kind that will keep your Egg Basket full. Hundreds of our customers are making Big Profits. It will pay you to buy our Egg-Bred Chicks. Our 1924 catalog tells the whole story. It's free — write for your copy tonight.

WYNGARDEN FARMS & HATCHERIES
Box M Zeeland Mich. U.S.A.



FILL THE GRIT HOPPER.

ON many farms the hens obtain plenty of grit while on the range, but when housed for winter the grit supply is forgotten. If a barrel of fine gravel has not been saved for that purpose it pays to buy the commercial grit. Hens cannot obtain the proper nourishment from the hard grain and bulky mash unless they have grit to grind it up.

I once visited a flock of hens that were supplied with plenty of mash, scratch grain and green food, but the owner had not been able to go to town for commercial grit for several weeks and the hopper had been empty. The birds were on a board floor covered with straw, so had no chance to dig gravel from the floor, as they often do in earth floor houses. The hens seemed lacking in appetite and vigor.

The ground was frozen and covered with snow, so we could not obtain gravel. But we did find an old cracked earthen jug. This was cracked up by hammering the broken chunks on a chunk of wood. The small square bits of the jug were placed in a shallow pan and given to the hens. As we thought, they were starved for grit. They ate down the grit like corn, and in about five minutes the jug was gone. The example proves the strong craving for grit that exists when hens are deprived of it. It is evidence of the fact that they cannot thrive without it. Before the roads are blocked with snow it always pays to inventory the poultry supplies and be sure there is sufficient grit to keep the hoppers filled.—R. G. Kirby.

with an abundance of feed and water at home. The best method is to fence the roadside so all the poultry will be turned back on the home farm before entering the road. This saves losses from collisions with motor cars, and keeps the birds from joining the neighbor's flocks. More poultry fencing throughout the country, especially along the frontage, is a great help in obtaining satisfaction from the business.

GOOSE WITH WEAK LEGS.

I have a goose which became lame in one leg. I put her by herself, but after a while she became lame in the other leg, too, and now she sort of creeps along with her foot and leg up to the first joint, resting on ground. Her appetite seems as good as ever. Can you tell me what is the trouble, and suggest a remedy?—Mrs. H. B.

Birds are subject to leg weakness when the weight of the body seems greater than the strength can bear. The trouble is not thoroughly understood and cannot be treated with medicine. The only remedy is to isolate the bird from the flock and give it the best of rations and often the trouble will disappear. Lameness might be due to rheumatism caused by spending the night in damp, undrained places. Geese can stand a lot of cold and dampness during the day, but should have a dry, well-drained resting place at night.—R.

BLOOD SPOTS IN EGGS.

I have been troubled with my hens' eggs having little blood specks in them about the size of a pin head. Could you tell me what causes it and what could be done to prevent it?—R. R.

Small clots sometimes appear in the first eggs laid by pullets. They are most apt to occur in hens' eggs when the birds are laying heavily in the spring, or when being forced for eggs with concentrated rations.

Such eggs are all right to use, but have to be candled out when sold to a high-class trade, as they will not grade as high-class stock. The condition may be caused by small ruptures due to the strain of laying. Hens that continue to lay eggs of an objectionable nature can be removed from the flock by the use of trapnests.

GROUND WHEAT IN RATION.

I want to feed my hens the balanced ration. Will ground wheat replace middlings and bran? How many pounds of wheat would it take to 100 pounds of meat scraps, corn and oats?—Mrs. C. E. P.

In the frequently recommended laying mash containing 100 pounds each of bran, middlings, ground oats, ground corn and beef scrap, it is possible to substitute 100 pounds of ground wheat for the middlings and obtain satisfactory results. However, I think it best to use the bran in the ration as it keeps the mixture from becoming too concentrated and bran seems to have a better effect on the digestive tract.

A scratch grain mixture for winter containing twice as much corn as wheat, is frequently recommended. Because of the price this winter many farmers with plenty of wheat will reverse the ration and use twice as much wheat as corn. This will probably give fairly good results.

GOOD CORN.

WHAT is said to be the lightest land in Greendale township, Midland county, produced for C. E. Freeman, the owner, an unusually large corn crop this year. The secret seems to lie in the fact that a crop of green fertilizer was turned under.


DON'T LET THEM DIE!
ACT QUICK! SAVE THEIR LIVES BY USING SMOKE EM.



DON'T LET YOUR VALUABLE CHICKENS DIE WITH COUD, CANKER, DIPHTHERIA, OR CHICKEN-POX WHEN FOR A FEW CENTS YOU CAN CURE THEM WITH "SMOKE EM," THE MOST SCIENTIFIC CURE EVER INVENTED. Recommended by the California State Board of Health as genuine testimonials. Sold under a money-back GUARANTEE. Write or wire today for low prices and large poultry catalog that is worth money to you. Live dealers wanted.

The H. M. Spahr Breeding Estate, Dept. 38-R.
Post Office address, Spahr, Frederick Co., Maryland.
TELEGRAPH OFFICE, THURMONT, MARYLAND.


WHY NOT PUT THIS NEW ALBION MILL ON YOUR OLD TOWER



Albion steel and wood mills are quiet and powerful. One-third the working parts of any other mill. Only main Pinion bearing subject to wear. This is oilless, and easily replaceable. Governed by dependable weight without springs. Fits any 4-post steel tower. Why not shorten your chow hours now with a good Windmill? This is your chance—F. O. B. Albion. Erect it yourself. Ask your dealer, or write direct to

Union Steel Products Co. Ltd.
Dept. 44, Albion, Michigan, U.S.A.


WINTER EGGS ARE PROFITABLE



McCurdy's gable top bar Feeders and winter Fountains will produce Winter EGGS. Open construction, sanitary, economical. No waste. Feeds from both sides. 3-Peck, 25-inch feeding space, \$3; 6-peck, 50-inch feeding space, \$4; 3-but., 92-inch feeding space, \$7.50. Send for catalogue of larger Feeders and winter Fountains. Freight prepaid at catalogue prices east of Mississippi River.

THE McCURDY MFG. Co., Box B, Ada, Ohio.

MAKE MONEY RAISING CHINCHILLA RABBITS



The Chinchilla, whose fur is almost priceless, is nearly killed off. Chinchilla Rabbit Fur, a close, beautiful imitation, is in great demand. Chinchilla Rabbits can be easily raised anywhere in woodshed or barn, and litter four times a year, 5 to 10 a litter. Steady market, high prices, big profits. Pure stock of prolific breeders vital to success. Write for our GUARANTEE PLAN.

Wilkinson-McGee Co.
Grand Rapids, Mich., Powers Bldg., Suite 250

JUST RITE BABY CHICKS



PEDIGREE, EXHIBITION and UTILITY METINGS
20 popular breeds, high power layers, 20 rare breeds, 4 breeds lacking. Nabob Quality, none better at any price. 97 per cent live arrival guaranteed; Postage Paid. Free Feed with each order. Catalogue free, stamps appreciated. Nabob Hatcheries, Ave. 20 Gambier, Ohio. Member International Baby Chick Association.

Grow Lay Pay

Whittaker's R. I. Reds

Michigan's Greatest Color and Egg Strain. Both Combs. Our cockerels will improve your flock in color and egg production. Write for prices.

Interlakes Farm, Box 39, Lawrence, Michigan

OLD ROOSTERS AS BREEDERS.

Is a rooster which is now two years old valuable for breeding purposes another spring?—H. C.

A two-year-old rooster is sometimes used another year for breeding purposes if he has special value due to his type or pedigree, and has been producing chicks of fine quality. Poultrymen usually find that cockerels are the most vigorous and are apt to produce the largest per cent of fertile eggs. But an old bird that is healthy and vigorous may produce very satisfactory results.—K. R.

TURKEY WITH SWELLING.

I have a hen turkey with a bladder of water under the neck in the gill. What is the cause? Is there any cure? Will it hurt the turkey?—A. H.

A swelling of this type is probably caused by inflammation due to a cold caused by exposure to wind and dampness. At first it contains a colorless material which later may develop into a cheesy pus similar to roup. Lance the swelling to give free drainage and then wash the wound with a solution of potassium permanganate or one of the commercial coal tar disinfectants. If the bird is otherwise healthy, a quick recovery may result. Sometimes it is necessary to drain and disinfect such a wound several times before healing results.

KEEPING DUCKS AT HOME.

Will you please tell me some remedy to keep my ducks at home? They seem to be determined to go to the neighbors.—C. T. W.

Both ducks and geese often show a tendency to wander to a nearby neighbor's farm, usually because of some attraction like a pond of water or the regular feed and water supply that is provided by the neighbors for their own stock.

In such cases they can usually be broken of the habit by repeatedly driving them back and providing them

The Michigan Farmer
Will Solve Your Xmas Gift Problems

Send two of your friends yearly subscriptions to Michigan Farmer, remit but \$1.00 for each subscription, and your own subscription will be extended 1 year in advance.

This Makes A Present For Yourself

Remember four of your friends with yearly subscriptions. Send \$4.00 with order, and your own subscription will be extended three years.

Christmas will soon be here. Make up your list and send today. We mail to your friends letters telling them of your gift, and expressing Christmas Cheer.

CUT OFF HERE COUPON CUT OFF HERE

MICHIGAN FARMER, Detroit, Michigan
Gentlemen:—Enclosed find \$..... for which send Michigan Farmer 1 year and your letter announcing me as the giver to the list of friends, whose names and addresses I have listed below.

Name R. D. or Street P. O. State

My Name is.....
R. F. D. P. O. State.....
My Michigan Farmer expires Date



NOW ALL GOOD COWS MAY GET RECOGNITION.

DAIRY cattle breeders in Michigan are to have an opportunity to list their best cows upon a record of performance register under the supervision and control of the Michigan Cow-testing Associations and the Dairy Extension Division, Michigan Agricultural College, according to an announcement made at the college recently by Prof. O. S. Reed, head of the college dairy department.

Certificates will be issued for all animals that qualify and a year-book will be published giving the records of the cows winning a place on the "Record of Performance," thus forming an honor-roll as an annual record of the best cows in the Michigan Cow-testing Associations.

Requirements which must be met to win a place on the roll and a certificate of merit will be as follows: Two hundred and eighty pounds or more of butter-fat for heifers calving under three years old; 310 pounds or more for cows calving under four years old; 345 pounds or more for cows calving under five years old, and 385 pounds or more for cows five years or older. All cows enrolled in regularly organized cow-testing associations in the state will be eligible for entry.—Benj. V. Halstead.

MICHIGAN JERSEY QUALIFIES

VARIELLA'S CREAMPOT 538801, by producing 8,214 pounds of milk and 507.05 pounds of fat in 365 days, at two years, two months, becomes a silver medal cow in the herd of Mr. H. F. Probert, of Jackson, Michigan. This fine cow is out of Champion's Creampot 377815 and by Variella's Flying Fox 168679 having two Register of Merit daughters to his credit.

DAIRY BOOSTERS TO MEET AT KALAMAZOO.

THE annual convention of the Michigan Allied Dairy Association goes this year to Kalamazoo, where the sessions will be held February 5-7. For forty years men interested in the dairy business of the state have met in annual convention to improve the

status of this most important industry. The February meeting is to be a home-coming, and every person at all concerned about the big doings centered about the dairy cow is invited to join in the activities of the session. The secretary is R. F. Frary, Lapeer, Michigan.

PROTEIN MUST BE ADDED TO MAKE WELL-BALANCED RATION.

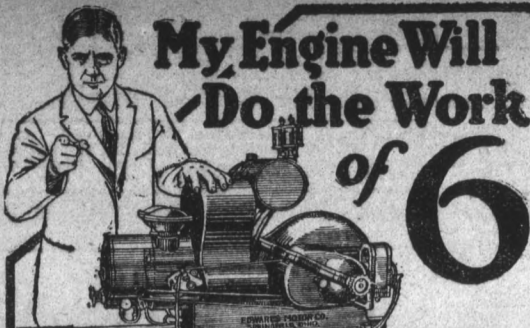
I have no silo, but feed cornstalks, some alfalfa, clover and timothy. I do not wish to buy grain. I have corn, oats and rye and wish to feed these mixed. Please advise me the right proportions. Corn is on the cob, and I prefer to grind it, cob and all.—R. C. F.

Cornstalks and mixed hay are deficient in protein to make a balanced ration. A balanced ration is one that contains the food nutrients in the proper proportion so they will be consumed without waste. Experiments show that this proportion is about one of protein to six of carbohydrates. Clover hay is a good example of a balanced ration. The only difficulty is that it is too bulky. Cows can hardly eat enough of it to do their best.

The concentrates, corn, oats, rye are also deficient in this element, protein, to make a balanced ration. You can feed enough so the cows will get a sufficient amount of protein, but if you do there will be waste of carbohydrates. Oats are your best food here and the more you feed the nearer you will come to a balanced ration. If you do not buy a little cottonseed or oil meal then you should feed at least as much oats as you do corn and rye combined. Say, 200 pounds of oats to 100 pounds of corn and 100 pounds of rye.

It is not advisable to feed the cob as your ration is bulky enough without it and there is little or no food value in the cob.

Two pounds of cottonseed or oil meal per day per cow, or wheat bran mixed with corn, oats and rye in the proportion of 200 parts of bran, 100 of corn, 100 of oats and 100 of rye, will make more of a balanced ration. It might pay to sell some of the rye and buy some of these foods. You could easily tell by trying it out in a small way at first.



My Engine Will Do the Work of 6

"I set out to build a farm engine that would have every feature the farmer wanted and none he didn't want. It has now been on the market six years. Thousands of satisfied users tell me I've succeeded. I'm proud to have this engine bear my name." —A. Y. EDWARDS

EDWARDS FARM ENGINE

Try This Remarkable Engine FREE

There is no other farm engine like it. Simple in construction and easy to operate. It is only one engine, yet it takes the place of six engines. It will give from 1 1/2 to 6 H. P., yet it is so light that two men can carry it easily. Set it anywhere and put it to work.

Change Power as Needed

It is a 6 H. P. when you need 6, or 1 1/2 H. P. when you need only 1 1/2. It uses very little fuel. I run a 28-inch cord wood saw, a washer, a pump, and a grinder, and it sure runs them fine. It has perfect running balance, and it sets quiet anywhere.

Burns Kerosene

Operates with kerosene or gasoline. Easy starting, no cranking. The greatest gas engine

value on the market. And you can prove all of these statements to your own satisfaction.

What Users Say

Ivan L. Blake, of Hannibal, New York, says: "Only engine economical for all jobs. I run a 28-inch cord wood saw, a 24-inch rip saw, a washer, a pump, and a grinder, and it sure runs them fine. It has perfect running balance, and it sets quiet anywhere."

Clarence Rutledge, of Manitoulin Island, Ontario, says: "Have given my Edwards four years' steady work and like it fine. It uses very little fuel. I run a 28-inch cord wood saw, also a rip saw, 8-inch grinder, ensilage cutter, line shaft for shop, churn, washer, separator and pump. Have had ten other engines and the Edwards beats them all."

Frank Foell, of Cologne, New Jersey, says: "It's a great pleasure to own an Edwards engine. I run a wood saw, cement mixer,

threshing machine, etc. Do work for my neighbors. Easy to move around and easy to run. I would not have any other."

Free Trial Offer

Now—I want to prove my claims to you. I want to send you an Edwards Engine for absolutely free trial. Just write your name and address on coupon and mail. I will send at once complete details about my farm engine and about my free trial offer. No cost or obligation. Mail coupon now.

MAIL THIS COUPON

EDWARDS MOTOR CO., 119 Main Street, Springfield, Ohio. Without cost or obligation, send me complete description of your engine, also details of your free trial offer. Name: Address:

ICE FLOWS TOOLS Wm. H. Fray, Mfr., La. Grangeville, New York

Advertisement for Galloway Separator, featuring an illustration of the machine and text: "GALLOWAY SEPARATOR Pays for Itself... \$5 DOWN... FREE TO Customers... Wm. Galloway Co., Dept. 183, Waterloo, Iowa."

HIDES TANNED \$3.50 to \$5.50 Tan Hide and Make Robe Complete, using No. 1 Flush Lining, \$10.00 to \$12.50. All work guaranteed. Write for samples and prices. Badger Robe & Tanning Co., Stevens Point, Wis.

Big Profits Selling Hardy Michigan Grown Trees also grape vines, berry bushes, roses and shrubs, spring delivery. Our stock is fast selling, healthy and true to name. Write now for our handsome color catalog and Liberal Agency proposition. Prudential Nursery Co., Box 306 Kalamazoo, Mich.

CLOVER CHEAP Samples Free—with lowest wholesale prices. We expect much higher prices later. We can save you money on best tested seed. We bought early big stocks on lower markets. Our prices amazingly low. Don't buy your seeds until you write for our prices and samples on Clover, Alfalfa, Timothy, Sweet Clover or any seed needed. Our big Seed Guide Free. American Field Seed Co., Dept. 131, Chicago, Ill.

Color Your Butter "Dandelion Butter Color" Gives That Golden June Shade which Brings Top Prices

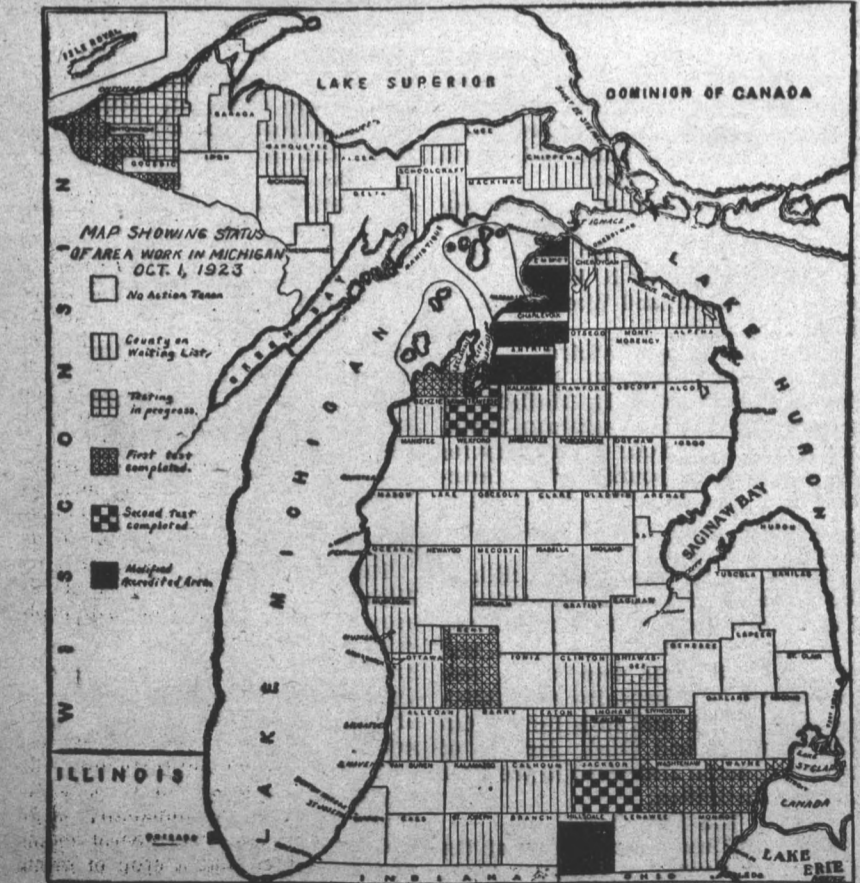
Before churning add one-half teaspoonful to each gallon of cream and out of your churn comes butter of Golden June shade. "Dandelion Butter Color" is purely vegetable, harmless, and meets all State and National food laws. Used for 50 years by all large creameries. Doesn't color buttermilk. Absolutely tasteless. Large bottles cost only 35 cents at drug or grocery stores. Wells & Richardson Co., Burlington, Vt.

Free Trial for 30 days on this Milker

Advertisement for a milker machine, featuring an illustration and text: "No money down—no C.O.D.—no deposit. At last—the milker for the larger dairy man also for the man with 5 or 6 cows! Does the work and does it right. No electricity, no gas engine. Run by hand. Nothing to install. No bother, no expense. Comes complete and ready to use. Simple, easy to clean. So easy to pump a child can do it, thanks to patent spring and vacuum. Tremendous improvement in machine milking. Try it on your cows 30 days and see; return at our expense if not satisfied after trial. Only \$123!!—think of it. Special offer; rock bottom price direct. And on easy monthly payments. Yes, we'll make that milker pay for itself every day as it goes along. SEND FREE BOOK FOR our free book on milking. An education in milking machines. Write while this special offer lasts. Burton Page Co., 661 W. Lake St., Dept. 4709 Chicago, Ill."

Advertisement for Brooks Appliance, featuring a portrait of Mr. C. E. Brooks and text: "DON'T WEAR A TRUSS BE COMFORTABLE—Wear the Brooks Appliance, the modern scientific invention which gives rupture sufferers immediate relief. It has no obnoxious springs or pads. Automatic Air Cushions bind and draw together the broken parts. No salves or plasters. Durable, Cheap. Sent on trial to prove its worth. Beware of imitations. Look for trade-mark bearing portrait and signature of C. E. Brooks which appears on every Appliance. None other genuine. Full information and booklet sent free in plain, sealed envelope. BROOKS APPLIANCE CO., 323 State St., Marshall, Mich."

Advertising that Pays TRY a Michigan Farmer Classified Ad. to sell your surplus poultry, or to get that extra help. They bring results with little cost, see rates on page 653 of this issue. The Michigan Farmer, Detroit, Mich.

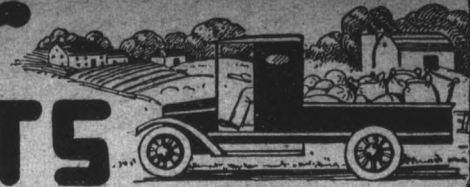


This Map Shows at a Glance the Progress Made in this State in the Fight Against Tuberculosis in Cattle.

Advertisement for Howell Portable Saw Mill, featuring an illustration and text: "SAW YOUR OWN LUMBER with a Howell Portable Saw Mill. Turn your standing timber into high price building lumber at the mere cost of sawing. Big demand for lumber, lath and shingles. Keep your engine busy the year round making Big Money in Custom Sawing for your neighbors. Howell saw mills are made in several sizes suitable for tractors of any size. Also Edgers, Planers, Lath and Shingle machines. Write for free Catalog, B-8. R. R. HOWELL & CO., Mrs. Minneapolis, Minn."



THE LATEST MARKET REPORTS



GRAIN QUOTATIONS. Monday, December 17.

Wheat. Detroit.—No. 1 red \$1.11½; No. 2 red \$1.10½; No. 3 red \$1.07½; No. 2 white \$1.11½; No. 2 mixed \$1.10½. Chicago.—December at \$1.05½; May \$1.09½; July \$1.07@1.07½. Toledo.—Cash \$1.11½@1.12½. Corn. Detroit.—Cash No. 3 yellow at 78c; No. 4 yellow 74c; No. 5, 68@69c; No. 6, 64@65c. Chicago.—December at 70½@70¾c; May 73½c; July 74½c. Oats. Detroit.—Cash No. 2 white at 50½c; No. 3, 48½c. Chicago.—December at 42½c; May 45½c; July 43¼c. Rye. Detroit.—Cash No. 2, 73½c. Chicago.—December 68¾c; May at 74¼c; July 74c. Toledo.—73c. Barley. Barley, malting 75c; feeding 71c. Buckwheat. Buckwheat.—New milling \$2 cwt. Beans. Detroit.—Immediate and prompt shipments \$4.85@4.90 per cwt. Chicago.—Choice \$5.70; red kidneys at \$8.20. New York.—Choice pea at \$5.50@6; red kidneys \$7.50@7.75. Seeds. Detroit.—Prime red clover cash at \$13.10; alsike \$9.45; timothy \$3.80. Hay. New Hay.—No. 1 timothy \$23.50@24; standard and light mixed \$22.50@23; No. 2 timothy \$21.50@22; No. 1 clover mixed \$21@22; No. 1 clover \$20@21; wheat and oat straw \$11.50@12; rye straw \$12.50@13. Feeds. Bran 33; standard middlings \$32; fine do \$34; cracked corn \$37; coarse cornmeal \$35; chop \$33 per ton in 100-lb. sacks. Apples. Chicago.—Barrels, "A" grade Greenings \$5@5.50; Jonathans \$4@5; Grimes \$3.75@4.25; Spies \$4.50@5.50; Kings \$4@4.50; Baldwins \$3.75@4; Spitzenberg \$4; Wagener \$4. WHEAT. The advance in wheat prices a week ago was short-lived and most of the gain has been lost. On moderate dips, sufficient speculative support develops to prevent any severe decline, but the large quantity of wheat in commercial channels in this country, Canada and elsewhere, is too much of a burden for a decided upturn. Mills claim that choice wheat is scarce and such grades are bringing substantial premiums, suggesting that a large fraction of the visible supply consists of undergrades. The international market for wheat is dominated by the heavy offerings from Canada and the knowledge that a large surplus is still available in that country and that both Argentina and Australia will begin to ship generously from their new crops shortly after the first of the year. Based on the rate of disappearance to date, importing countries will require 30,000,000 to 50,000,000 bushels more wheat than they were expected to take earlier in the season.

CORN

Receipts of corn are running slightly heavier than last year and above the average for the corresponding period in the last ten years. Most of the supply has been promptly absorbed as numerous holes in trade channels created by high prices on the old crop were to be filled up. The visible supply is gaining, however, and probably will continue to mount for two or three months. A small amount of corn is being sold for export as prices are on a competitive basis. It is reported that remaining stocks in Argentina are extremely small and exports from that grower have fallen off during recent weeks, but this deflection is partly offset by liberal shipments from Danubian countries.

OATS

Oats are not reaching primary markets as fast as they are disappearing, and reserves accumulated at terminals are being whittled down steadily. The visible supply has dropped from 20,488,000 five weeks ago to 18,058,000 bushels at the present time.

SEEDS

The clover seed market is dull and little activity is expected until after the holidays. Prices are lower than a week ago, as retailers are slow to provide for their spring requirements. On the other hand, shipments from producing sections are light and it is believed that most of the high quality seed in foreign countries has been cleaned up at recent offerings, have not been satisfactory.

FEEDS

Deliveries of wheat feeds by flour mills are rather heavy, although the rate of production is not high for this season of the year. Fresh offerings are liberal from both domestic and Canadian mills. Demand is only fair, although a little improvement has been noted in the southwest. The linseed meal market is not particularly brisk, but taking the small cotton crop into account, the total supply of high protein feeds is not excessive. Winter weather is likely to bring some improvement in the demand so that the entire feed market is probably on a stable basis.

HAY

The hay market is a stereotyped affair, firmness ruling at most points as a result of light receipts. Demand is limited in most cases although alfalfa suitable for dairymen finds a rather broad market.

BUTTER

Butter prices were unchanged last week, although the undertone gradually weakened. Stocks moved slowly as consumptive demand slowed down. Production reports indicated a small increase in the make, which will probably continue to grow larger from now on. With the approaching holidays consumptive demand is expected to show greater activity and lower prices are not generally anticipated. Arrivals of foreign butter last week included 1,252 casks of Danish, 3,248 boxes of Argentine, 500 boxes Irish, and 118,140 pounds of Canadian butter. Much of this was offered at attractive prices compared with domestic and, with the exception of the best Danish, competed mainly with the medium grades of domestic which were in liberal supply and hard to move.

Prices for December were: Creamery, 92-score, Chicago at 53½c; New York 54c. In Detroit fresh creamery in tubs sell for 57c.

POULTRY AND EGGS

Prices on fresh eggs declined four to nine cents last week in one of the sharpest breaks of the season. The receipts were heavy and advices from the country report increasingly heavy

production in many sections. Colder weather late in the week strengthened the market slightly and checked the decline. Many dealers look for improved prices. Prices of storage eggs declined to the low point of the season as the movement out of storage was slow and receipts of fresh eggs were plentiful. The outlook for the Christmas turkey shows no improvement. The supply is exceptionally large, dealers are slow to take hold, and in some sections prices are so low that producers have refused to sell.

Chicago.—Eggs, miscellaneous 40@42c; dirties 25@27c; checks 22@25c; fresh firsts 43@44c; ordinary firsts 35@39c. Live poultry, hens 19c; springers 17½c; roosters 12½c; ducks 18c; geese 17c; turkeys 20c.

Detroit.—Eggs, fresh candled and graded 43@46c; storage 26@28c. Live poultry, heavy springers 20c light do 15@18c; heavy hens 22c; light hens 20@21c; roosters 13@14c; geese 18@20c; ducks 21@22c; turkeys 25@30c.

POTATOES

The potato markets were steady to firm last week. Shipments from producing sections showed a further falling off and have been light long enough to affect receipts at the leading cities. Northern round whites are quoted at \$1@1.10 per 100 pounds for U. S. No. 1 sacked, and \$1.30@1.40 in bulk at Chicago. Maine, Idaho, Colorado, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan are the leading shippers at the present time and in the approximate order given.

APPLES

Carlot shipments of apples declined slightly last week but are considerably above normal for this season of the year. Prices were steady and the prevailing level probably has fully discounted the large crop. Shipments of barrel apples have declined more sharply from the high point in October than have boxed apples. New York Baldwins are quoted at \$4 a barrel in eastern cities and mid-western Jonathans at \$5@5.50 in Chicago.

BEANS

There is nothing new in the bean trade, except that the receipts are on a fairly sizable scale. Just now sales are not large, but holders seem satisfied not to push matters, and prices, as a result, are being maintained. In New York, the best inquiry is for pea beans and these are usually procurable at six cents per pound. Red and white kidneys are held at recent prices, but trading is sluggish.

WOOL

A steady demand for wool is reported in seaboard markets. Manufacturers wish to provide for their require-

ments during the heavyweight season before the market becomes entirely bare, even though the good market is rather unsatisfactory at present and there was more or less over-production during the heavyweight season last year. The principal encouragement comes from foreign primary markets, which show a consistent upward tendency and where American buyers are taking fair quantities. Mills seem to be turning toward lower grades in order to reduce costs.

GRAND RAPIDS

Farmers who sold their supply of turkeys at Thanksgiving found this week that they showed good judgment. The market in Grand Rapids early this week was unsettled and bidding uncertain from day to day. Bidding at the start was around 20@22c a pound, live weight, or 28@30c dressed. Then prices advanced slightly as buying became more earnest. Poultrymen frankly admitted the holiday trade has been disappointing and the turkey deal has not been near as profitable as at Thanksgiving or a year ago. The market was steady on other fowls, ducks and geese selling quite readily around 16@20c per pound. Springers were steady at 12@20c per pound. Eggs displayed a slightly stronger tone at 40@42c per dozen. Celery was in good demand for the holiday trade at 20@60c per dozen. Potatoes were dull at 45c per bushel. The bean market was quiet and inquiry was light as the trade is neglecting the crop in an effort to reduce stocks at inventory time. Jobbers state that the bulk of the so-called distress beans now are out of first hands and the balance of the crop is held by growers who are in a position to sell orderly and maintain a steady market. Prices to growers this week were mostly at \$4.50 per cwt. for white, and \$6.50 for red.

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

The encouraging symptoms shown in the last two weeks include an increase in buying of steel for forward delivery and a reduction in excess production of oil. Automobile companies are enlarging their schedules for next year, even though production of cars and trucks in 1923 will reach 4,000,000 cars. Large sales of copper have been made. Wholesale trade in some lines has grown dull because of the approaching inventory period while retail buying is brisk because of holiday trade. The drop shown in the last report of car loadings was partly due to a holiday and partly to a normal seasonal tendency.

More fundamental signs as to the character of 1924 are to be found. One of these is the ease in money markets, which is the basic factor. There is no dearth of money for sound borrowers, and little danger of forced liquidation as long as manufacturers avoid over-production and the distributors follow present policies of cautious buying. Foreign trade is swinging around from an import balance in the early months of 1923 to a substantial export balance. In November our exports were the largest since February, 1921, and foreign countries sent us over \$39,000,000 in gold, adding further to our already large reserves. Throughout the past year, foreign ability to take our goods has been far larger than expected.

Assurance of good business probably in increasing volume as far ahead in 1924 as the momentum of present tendencies will carry us, means continuation of the high rate of consumption of such farm commodities as meats, dairy and poultry products and choice vegetables and fruits, which are in demand when pay rolls are fat. It also means, however, that the products which farmers themselves must buy will not cheapen much, if any, during that period.

COMING LIVE STOCK SALES.

Durocs. Feb. 5.—Detroit Creamery Farm, Mt. Clemens, Mich. Poland Chinas. Feb. 20.—Detroit Creamery Farm, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

One of the sad things about diversified farming and live stock raising is that one gets so closely acquainted with the animals that he saddens when it is time for them to travel to the big market.

Live Stock Market Service

Monday, December 17.

DETROIT

Cattle.

Receipts 1,517. Market is slow and steady. Good to choice yearlings \$9.50@10.00. Best heavy steers 8.50@9.00. Handyweight butchers 7.00@7.25. Mixed steers and heifers 5.50@6.00. Handy light butchers 4.50@5.25. Light butchers 3.50@4.25. Best cows 4.75@5.50. Butcher cows 3.25@4.50. Cutters 2.75@3.00. Caniers 2.00@2.50. Choice bulls 4.50@5.00. Bologna bulls 3.50@4.50. Stock bulls 3.00@4.00. Feeders 4.50@6.00. Stockers 4.00@5.75. Milkers \$45@75.

Veal Calves.

Receipts 635. Market steady. Best \$12.00@12.50. Others 3.00@11.50.

Hogs.

Receipts 2,896. Market prospects: Mixed \$7.40. Yorkers 7.25. Pigs 6.50@6.75.

Sheep and Lambs.

Receipts 2,148. Market is 50@75c lower.

Best lambs \$12.00@12.35. Fair lambs 10.50@11.50. Fair to good sheep 5.00@5.75. Culls 1.50@3.00. Light to common 6.50@9.50.

CHICAGO

Hogs.

Receipts 70,000. Market steady to strong; bulk to shippers, traders and small packers; good packers holding back; few bids lower. Bulk 225 to 300-lb. butchers at \$7.15@7.25; prime heavy butchers held higher; 180 to 210-lb. average mostly at \$6.90@7.05; packing sows generally \$6.50; tops at \$7.50; pigs scarce; few strong weight at \$6.60@6.75.

Cattle.

Receipts 27,000. Market slow and uneven. Best steers, fat she stock generally steady to 25c lower; lower grades showing decline. Best yearlings early at \$11.50; some held above \$13; steers \$7.25@9.25; choice weighty steers \$11; bulls are showing decline; vealers 25@50c off; bulk around \$8.50 to packers.

Sheep and Lambs.

Receipts 24,000. Market very slow. Few early sales of fat lambs to packers \$12@12.50; few to city butchers at \$12.75; looks 25@50c lower, sorts considered; fat handyweight ewes at \$7; feeding lambs \$11.25, weak to 25c lower.



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