

# MICHIGAN FARMER

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## Some Opinions on "The Cost of a Crop."

It never seemed to me that it was a good policy for us farmers to tell how cheap we can do things, and as far as I am concerned I should be glad to let Mr. Crum's article on "The True Cost of a Crop," published in a recent number of the Michigan Farmer, stand and be handed down to posterity just as it is, but since I am requested to do so, will state where, in my opinion, Mr. Crum is in error, and that is in giving the potato crop such splendid care, with such careful attention to details, i. e., hill selected seed, 10 bushels, 10 hours for which he charges seven and one-half cents per hour, reasonable; he treats seed, cuts carefully by hand, sprays, cultivates thoroughly, is liberal in allowance for plant food—he does all of these things and then credits only an average crop of 100 bushels. If Mr. Crum gives his crop such care, and does not get on the average 200 bushels per acre, he should change his location if he desires to continue in the potato growing business.

If any other crop were figured out on the same basis, i. e., charging the expense of growing in the very best possible manner, with high-class seed and care throughout, and then crediting only the average crop of the country, it would be manifestly unfair.

There is one item which, were I making the report, I should have to enlarge materially, and that is the charge for use of tools. This item is but \$2.00 in Mr. Crum's report. My special potato tools are as follows, with prices of similar tools, new, attached:

|                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Machine seed cutter .....       | \$ 15.00 |
| Potato planter-fertilizer ..... | 90.00    |
| Power sprayer (horse) .....     | 80.00    |
| Digger (four-horse) .....       | 125.00   |
| Elevator sorter .....           | 35.00    |

Total .....\$345.00

This gives an interest charge of \$20.70, and if we allow the customary 10 per cent for depreciation, (which is, in my opinion, altogether too high where tools are well cared for), we have an additional charge of \$34.50, or a total of \$55.20 for use of tools. With these tools, I cut the estimate made by Mr. Crum of the expense of planting, digging, storing and sorting so much that I refrain from giving the figures, and besides, as I said on the start, in these times of so much complaint about the high cost of living, it ill becomes any farmer to dwell on how cheaply he can produce any certain crop.

After an experience of over 20 years with all the common farm crops of Michigan on land fairly well suited to the potato crop, with the assistance of special potato machinery and with the price 50 cents per bushel, and raising on the average twice the average crop, I have found nothing as profitable. Some years we do not get that price, some years we get more, but if I were sure of 50 cents every year and could not make money out of the potato crop, I would be at a loss to know what to turn to.

Of course, if anyone was not going to raise quite an acreage, it would not

pay to get these tools, but the man with them can starve the man without them, and the more acres the less the cost per acre of owning them. A great many potatoes are raised in Michigan which cost more than 50 cents per bushel to grow, but the man who goes at it on business principles can flourish at that price.—A. B. Cook, Shiawassee County.

### Grows Big Crop with Profit.

"The True Cost of a Crop," in a recent number of the Michigan Farmer, was read with interest by all of our family. Now we claim to know something about raising potatoes, as I have raised them for 27 years on this farm, and my sons have helped to raise them as long as they can remember. I therefore send you a photo of our last year's potato field, taken

from 10 cents to 50 cents per bushel on what potatoes we sell. I have seen the time when I received only \$60 from the same field of potatoes, but that was during the panic, and the year before, I received only \$20 from the field next to it, which in every way is equal to it, but that year the frost struck us hard in the month of October. Since then I have always tried to get my potatoes planted early, so we can get at them early in the fall. Now, Mr. Editor, I will close for this time and go to work to prepare the ground for another crop of potatoes.—Wm. J. Nielsen, Montcalm Co. Midsummer Application of Fertilizer Increased Profit.

I read Mr. Crum's article in your issue of April 25, also your editorial in the same number. It seems to me



Wm. J. Nielsen, Montcalm Co., Found this Crop Profitable—240 bu. per acre.

when we were digging them. We dug that potatoes can be grown cheaper than Mr. Crum's estimate of \$67 per acre, and as proof of same I give below the cost of growing three acres of potatoes during the summer of 1913: Plowing three acres two days at \$3.50 per day .....\$ 7.00 Dragging three times in one day at \$3.50 per day..... 3.50 Marking out half a day with one horse ..... 1.25 Distributing fertilizer, one man seven days ..... 10.50 Planting three acres, seven days ..... 17.50 Cultivating five times, one day each ..... 12.50 Digging, one man and one boy, 12 days at \$2.50..... 30.00 Drawing to market eight miles,



A Good Stand of Potatoes is the First Essential of Low Production Cost.

|                                    |       |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| 500 bushels .....                  | 40.00 |
| Cost of 1,800 lbs. of fertilizer.. | 22.50 |
| Cost of seed, 40 bushels at 20c... | 8.00  |

Total .....\$152.75

The foregoing expenses were carefully kept and are accurate. I and my son, a lad of 12 years, did all the work. In all the work we never put in more than eight hours per day. My family lives in town and my farm is eight miles out. We prepared our own meals and likely did not get in as much as eight hours every day. I have therefore charged \$3.50 for a man and team for eight hours' work, \$2.50 for a man and one horse each day, and \$2.50 per day for myself and son each day. However, in drawing to market I drew the 500 bushels in 10 days and have charged \$4.00 per day for this work.

Perhaps it would not be amiss to state some facts as to the quality of the land, the manner of planting, cultivating and digging. And in advance will say that all the labor was simply crude, hard work. The land was what is known as red shale in this locality, considered to be the most desirable land we have for the production of potatoes. It is a loose loamy red soil with some flat stone in it; most people from the middle west would call it very stony. This special three acres had been in meadow for two years, was rather a light sod, a little disposed to be wet and soggy in places, and was in a poor state of fertility from having been badly farmed in recent years. It was plowed early and nothing more was done to it till May 28, when I went over it with a spike-tooth harrow. On June 10 I sowed by hand, broadcast, 750 lbs. of fertilizer. The next day I thoroughly harrowed with a spring-tooth and on June 16 I marked out some 10 rows with a one-horse singe shovel, making a deep furrow. I then put about a tablespoonful of fertilizer in the furrow, spacing it about 20 inches apart. My son followed after me with a three-foot section of a log chain to which he attached a leather strap, pulling the chain by the strap. I might add that I put some half-dozen six-inch bolts through the links of the chain, so as to thoroughly mix the soil and fertilizer. We then dropped our potatoes about 20 inches apart and covered with a hoe. The seed was small, much of it so small that I hesitated about planting it. These potatoes were of a variety known as the American Beauty in this locality, a very shapely white potato. We finished planting on June 28. In about 10 days I set my spike-tooth harrow at an angle of about 45 degrees and ran over the patch. This broke the crust that was forming and in a few days all came up nicely. I never saw a better stand. The weather was ideal for growth for the next 30 days and the vines grew rapidly. I cultivated with a five-shovel cultivator four times. Just before cultivating the second time I sowed about 200 lbs. per acre of fertilizer by hand along each side of each row, and then immediately followed with the cultivat-



or, so as to mix the soil with the fertilizer. There were two rows in the patch from which I withheld this side distribution of fertilizer and these two rows at digging time were short fully one-fifth in yield, as compared with the rows that had fertilizer along each side. The last cultivation was with a wide-bladed, single-shovel plow which ridged the soil high around the vines. As stated, weather conditions were good till the potatoes were about one inch in diameter. After that we had but little rain. But in spite of the drought I had a fair yield, 500 bushels on the three acres, while my neighbors had to be satisfied with a yield of about 50 bushels per acre. I used in all 1,800 lbs. of fertilizer on the three acres. All digging was by hand.—W. W. Hedrick, Tioga County, Pennsylvania.

#### Why Know What it Costs?

I want to ask a question. Here it is: "What will it profit me or the average Michigan farmer to know what it costs to produce any product that we grow to sell?" What difference does it make to me or the average Michigan potato grower whether it costs \$14 or \$67 to produce an average acre of potatoes?

Now, in the light of all that is being written and printed regarding the advisability and necessity of farmers keeping books and knowing the cost of everything they produce, these may seem like "fool questions." But, I assure you, they are not. They are very reasonable and sane ones, as you will see when we add a clause to them, thus: "What difference whether it costs \$14 or \$67—so long as the size of the crop and the market manipulator fixes the price we must accept for our product,"—so long as we must take what we can get, whether above or below cost?

We average farmers, you must observe, have come to look upon such problems as this from, at least, a semi practical standpoint. We know, in a general way, that we produce crop after crop for less than cost of production when we charge all the items of cost against the crop. If the Agricultural College is privileged to produce baby beef and sell it for less than cost—and make money, why may not we farmers deceive ourselves in the same manner and with the same philosophy? Why should everyone in every other line of business, jump onto us and call us names and make faces at us because we elect not to know the exact amount of our contributions to those who stuff their stomachs with what we produce? Why should we burden our already weary shoulders with a complicated and elaborate system of accounts when we are helpless to add one jot or tittle to the price of what we sell, or to affect the final result between cost and selling price?

You are aware that we have a State Potato Growers' Association, composed largely of "middlemen," commercial fertilizer agents, agricultural college field men and U. S. Department of Agriculture experts; that we have a National Potato Growers' Association, composed of the same interests, and you doubtless know that they have started a nation-wide campaign to increase the potato crop. It is given out that Michigan must produce ten million more bushels than last year. The same movement is on in other states, backed by the same crowd. If they succeed in increasing the production of potatoes to the extent they desire, we shall have around 500,000,000 bushels, in place of 328,000,000 last year, and they will not sell for enough to pay the freight for hauling them 200 miles.

Now, "what will it profit me and the average potato growers to know whether it cost us 14 cents or 67 cents per bushel to grow these potatoes when we are obliged to haul them to market for 10 cents per bushel or leave them rot in the pits?

I can comprehend to a considerable extent the advantages of book-keeping and a knowledge of cost of production when applied to practically all other lines of business, where a definite amount of materials and labor enter into the production of an article of use or ornament—and the producer thereof places the selling price on the same. I can understand the "necessity" of the man, who makes a plow, to know the cost of material, labor, interest on investment, etc. But in order to have his knowledge count for anything, I can also understand the "necessity" of the maker having the power to put a price on the plow sufficiently large to cover the items of cost. If the retailers' association fixed his price one year so that he realized 10 cents per day for his labor, and another year compelled him to lose both labor and interest on investment, and then, because he stopped making plows sets a price that gives him \$20 per day for his labor, and the next leaves his products in his shop a dead loss, his position would approach that of the potato grower—or the average farmer, with the exception that the farmer is reasonably secure in his feed and fuel items, which makes him more careless about cost in his business. Even though he may be compelled to donate his labor and other items of cost to the consumer, he is reasonably secure against starving or freezing, a security not enjoyed by the plow maker, because he cannot eat plows, the article he produces.

But let us not get too far away from the real question that I want answered. Let me repeat with slight variation: "What will it profit me in dollars and cents to know whether it costs me \$14 or \$67 to grow an acre of potatoes, if Mr. Mumford and his men, the fertilizer agents and State and National Potato Growers' (?) Associations succeed in inducing farmers to produce 500,000,000 bushels of potatoes this year, and I am obliged to sell my acre of potatoes for \$10?"—C. W. Crum, Montcalm County.

#### FARM NOTES.

##### Seeding Clover in Corn.

Please advise if mammoth clover sowed when I plow my corn for the last time, will be fit for hay the following summer, or for seed.

Van Buren Co.

F. M. D.

Clover may be successfully seeded in corn under favorable conditions of moisture, but it is useless to sow it at the last cultivation of corn unless the soil is sufficiently moist to insure its early germination and rapid growth. We have seen excellent stands of clover secured in this way, but many more failures. Two years ago the writer seeded alfalfa in standing corn at the last cultivation and secured a perfect stand, due to exceptionally favorable moisture conditions. Last year a similar experiment failed of results, and this is a common experience in seeding clover in this manner. For this reason it is necessary to exercise good judgment in attempting this method of seeding to insure its success.

##### Seeding Alfalfa After Oats and Millet.

I have a field of eight acres which was in corn last year and fall plowed. I have sown four acres to oats and peas; the other part I intend to sow to millet. Will it do to sow it now or should I wait until June. I want it for hay and would like to cut it as early as possible. The oats and peas I want to seed to alfalfa. Would it be best to cut the crop, then disk it and sow, or would it do to sow it now with the crop? The oats are up now.

Ionia Co.

J. O. S.

Millet may be sown at any time after danger of frost is past. It does better when sown in warm weather, but in a favorable season it may be sown with fair results soon after corn planting time, but it will take it longer to reach maturity than when sown under warm weather conditions. The ordinary period required for it to de-

velop sufficiently to cut for hay is about two months under favorable conditions. If sown during the latter part of May, it might be possible to get the crop off during the latter part of July in time to seed alfalfa with a fair prospect of success, although it is not a safe proposition to sow alfalfa after the first of August in the ordinary season, since it will not have time to develop sufficient root and top growth to stand the rigors of winter if sown later than that in an ordinary year, and it is preferable to get it in somewhat earlier if practical. Alfalfa could not be successfully seeded with millet, and oats and peas make too dense a shade to make it a very practical crop with which to seed alfalfa, especially if not sown until after the other plants have started. It would be better to wait until the crop is harvested, then fit the ground and get the alfalfa in as soon as possible.

##### Commercial Fertilizer for Potatoes.

I have some special potato fertilizer that I want to use this spring on corn stubble. Have 250 lbs. that I want to experiment with. Is that enough for half an acre? Will someone who is posted in the use of commercial fertilizer please advise through the Michigan Farmer as to the best method of applying same for best results?

Benzie Co.

W. A. M.

Where one expects to apply fertilizer at the rate of 500 pounds per acre, the best way is to apply it in the row, although it may be sown broadcast and harrowed into the soil with fairly good results. Some of our most successful potato growers use 400 to 500 pounds of fertilizer per acre in the row, preferably distributing it with a horse planter, although it can be applied in any way which will mix it with the soil about the potatoes. Where applied broadcast, larger applications are sometimes made, depending upon the soil conditions.

##### LILLIE FARMSTEAD NOTES.

This wet weather has delayed putting in the balance of the spring crops. Those farmers who only had a few oats to put in, of course had them all in before this rain, but those with a larger acreage did not get them in and the balance is not in yet, May 7. It is quite late for oats, but I consider this a very late spring. We have had very little warm weather up to date, only a few warm days and they were exceedingly warm, it is true. The pastures, meadows and new seeding clover have made but little growth. In putting in a crop one must not go by the calendar, but by nature itself. Those that were put in early are just nicely up. The 15 acres of peas for the canning factory which we got in before the rain, of course are all up. The first field is up nicely. Some of them are injured by excessive water. The rain came down so fast that the water ran into the low places, and even over tile drains, was not taken off in time but what some of the peas were drowned. This would not have happened if the peas had not just been in the right condition. They were germinated, and yet not above the ground, and the water coming on I think literally smothered them or drowned them. Those that were sown a few days later and were not so far advanced are all right and are coming up nicely. There is a fair stand over the entire field with the exception of a few spots. Quite a heavy crust is forming after the heavy rains especially on the clay and I was worried just a little about it, but today another rain has softened that crust and I think will make everything favorable.

The new seeding has made start enough now so that one can see what we are to expect from this year's crop. I have examined one field carefully and am positive that it will not pay to leave it and attempt to mow it. There is a large area on this 20-acre field where there is practically no clover at all. This is the first time

in my farming experience, when I have had to plow up a new seeding of clover. This, as I have explained before, is due to two causes, one is the extreme dry weather, but this is not the sole cause. I think it was the way we sowed the seed a year ago. As I explained before, we did not get our seed sown before the ground became settled and the frost all gone. Then we harrowed the field and sowed the seed and harrowed it again. It is the judgment of all the farmers in this vicinity that this is not the best way to seed clover on our kind of land. The best way is to seed it in March or early in April before the frost is entirely out of the ground. Then the freezing and thawing of the soil buries the seed and we almost invariably get a catch, at least I have never lost one before, and last year being compelled to sow late I have lost the seeding. There may be another cause for this, and that is the seed was not real prime seed. The seed was grown the year before but there was such a second growth of clover and it was so late and the season was so moist that I am of the opinion that this seed was not all prime seed, that it didn't have the germinating power. Neither do I believe it had as much vitality as seed grown under more favorable circumstances, and I lay the loss of the seeding to all three causes, rather poor seed, too late seeding, and an extremely dry summer. At any rate, we have lost the seeding and we have got to plow the field this spring and put it into some spring crop. Of course, it will be too late to put it into peas or oats or anything of that sort, but we can grow ensilage corn and it will furnish more feed even than as though this field was into hay, although we certainly want a certain amount of hay to feed with the corn silage. My plans now are to put about half of it into lima beans and the balance of it into sweet corn and we will sell the ears of the sweet corn to the canning factory and put the stalks into the silo. I will put a portion of it, however, into soy beans and cut them for hay just as an experiment.

We have an unusual amount of labor this spring in disposing of the manure. Some years the ground is dry enough in late winter and early spring so that we can haul it direct to the field at all times, but this year it was soft and the manure spreaders would not work, the roads were soft, and we had to haul it quite a distance to the back fields. The consequence is that we have an accumulation in piles and this must be spread. At one time the roads go so very bad in the fields that we simply dumped it in the yard and we have quite a large accumulation of manure in this yard. It all must be hauled out before we plow the fields for ensilage corn. Of course, it won't take long to spread this manure when all hands go to work, when we once get at it, but we cannot go at this work until we get the field of peas and oats sown for the cows and the balance of the peas in for the canning factory. Then we are ready for the ensilage corn and the sweet corn and the manure must be hauled before the ground is plowed. With favorable weather, however, the work will all be accomplished rapidly. If this continued wet weather occurs it will take much longer.

Very few gardens are planted yet in this vicinity, in fact, the ground is so cold that there is little use in planting. Garden vegetables ought to make a rapid growth in order to be succulent and tender and it pays to wait until the weather gets warm enough so that these vegetables will grow from the start if you want choice vegetables. There are a few early potatoes on sandy land and some gardens on sandy spots that are above ground at the present time, but they are not growing as they ought to on account of the cold weather.

COLON C. LILLIE.



## Practical Science.

### THE MOISTURE CONTENT OF BUTTER.

BY FLOYD W. ROBISON.

(Continued from last week).

Competition is very keen in the butter market and when creameries are paying the dairymen just as much for fat as they are receiving in the market for the finished product, it is very evident that the finished product, butter, must have mixed or incorporated in it some materials in some considerable quantities not ordinarily present in the milk fat. These in the main, are salt and water. Of course, the more salt and water that may be incorporated in the butter, the greater the margin of profit for the creamery, providing the butter maker does not change the quality in such a way as to get an appreciably lower price for his finished product. Probably 20 per cent increase over the original weight of fat in the milk would be satisfactory and a fair margin for the creamery. This means that out of every 100 pounds of butter-fat the creamery will send out 120 pounds of butter. Consequently it thus becomes possible for the creamery to pay as much, or even more, per pound of fat received as the creamery received per pound for its butter. In some co-operative creameries the butter maker is paid a certain flat sum per pound for the manufacture and marketing of the product and all that is left is paid to the different patrons according to the content of fat which they have contributed.

With competition as keen as it is in the butter business, naturally one creamery is striving to secure as great an amount of substances other than fat which are natural to the butter as is another creamery. We think altogether too much stress has been laid on this point by butter makers. If butter makers would give attention to the quality of the product they manufacture, first, all these other things should be added unto it.

#### Quality Controls the Moisture Content.

Undoubtedly a study of the proper manner of incorporating the moisture content of butter may indicate what is the most desirable method of churning and working of the butter to produce the highest grade product on the market and which will carry a reasonably high moisture content, for the temptation is greater when it is seen that by a certain manipulation, perhaps, the butter may be made to take up and hold varying high percentages of moisture. The temptation, we say, is very great, to secure a high over-run in this product and we therefore think that the regulations of the Internal Revenue Bureau are just and should be rigidly enforced.

Curiously enough, our reasons for this are that in our opinion it is vital to the butter industry itself that the moisture content be kept below 16 per cent. What, then, are the factors which control the moisture content of butter?

Several different state stations have inaugurated extensive studies to determine this factor, but one of the most thorough experiments along this line was conducted by the Purdue Experiment Station and is described in Bulletin No. 160, from that station.

#### The Finding of Purdue.

In the course of this series of experiments it was found that the temperature of the churning of the butter is a very great factor in retaining uniformly a high moisture butter. The richness of the cream or the degree of sourness of the cream do not seem to exert any constant influence on the

moisture content. Pasteurization of the cream does seem to decrease to some considerable degree the moisture content. The most influential factor, however, in increasing the moisture content in butter seems to be the rise of the churning temperature. In practically every instance, other general principles being regularly followed, increasing the temperature at which the churning is conducted will produce a butter with a higher moisture content. This, provided the grain and general quality of the butter is not impaired, is a legitimate operation and we think will not yield a butter with a content of moisture as high as 16 per cent but if prolonged churning is attempted a more or less salty condition of the butter is produced whereby the grain may become seriously injured and this product then will hold almost any content of water which may be mixed with it. An ordinary judge of butter, however, will pick out such a product every time. This same condition of saltness is produced by prolonged churning when maintaining even a low temperature, and will be followed by a high content of moisture in the product. The temperature of the water used for washing alone does not affect the moisture content but working the butter in the presence of an excess of water, as has been done in some creameries, will produce a high content of moisture and many times an abnormal content of moisture.

#### The High Salting of Butter.

The desire to increase the over-run of butter, because as we have explained before, it is the over-run that introduces the element of profit, has caused butter makers to resort to every expedient possible to retain in the butter a high moisture content and a high salt content. The objection, however, as we have stated, to the use of a high content of salt is that its taste is disclosed in the product. One agent for a salt manufacturer some time ago thought he had hit upon an ingenious plan for encouraging the taking up of large quantities of salt with the butter without its being apparent to the taste. His instructions to the butter makers were to soak the salt overnight in hot water and in the morning pour off the brine and use the remaining salt for salting the butter. Of course, the butter maker in this way was using a larger quantity of salt but if he had taken the pains to taste the finished product he would have found that one pound of salt which had been soaked over night was just as salty, and no more so, than the pound of salt which was thrown into the sewer from the brine. Salt is salt, and one portion of it is just as completely soluble as another, and there is no selective absorption by a preliminary treatment with water. If he had a salt which was high in insoluble materials, such as calcium sulphate, and the like, which was left after a preliminary treatment with water, it would, of course, not be so salty as the portion which dissolved out, but it would have been even more objectionable because of its insoluble nature.

"Farm Structures," by K. J. T. Ekblaw, M. S., Associate in Agricultural Engineering, University of Illinois. This volume is prepared for both the teacher and the progressive farmer who recognize the advantages of good farm buildings. Chapters are given on building materials, location of farm buildings, building construction, estimating, design and construction of farm buildings, ventilation, lighting, heating farm houses, providing water supply, plumbing and sewage disposal. There are 322 pages and numerous illustrations to make clear to the reader the contents of the book. It is published by the Macmillan Company, New York.

## "Sure, I did it!"

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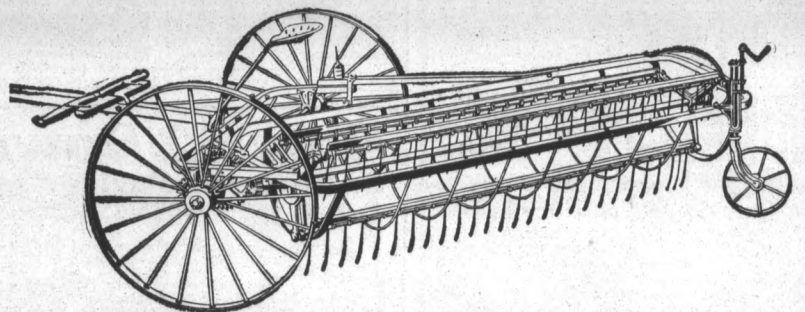
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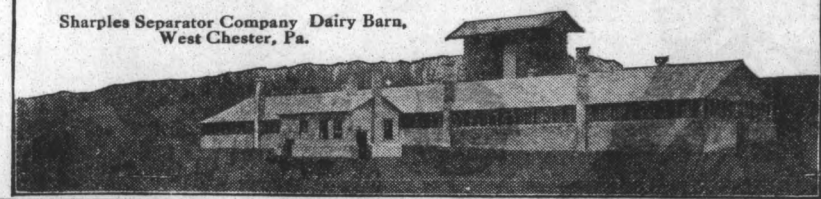
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## Dairy.

CONDUCTED BY COLON C. LILLIE.

### PROTECTING WIRE FENCES FROM UNRULY COWS.

I frequently see in the Michigan Farmer inquiries about the best way to prevent a cow from reaching through a wire fence. I have had some experience along that line, and I will undertake to give that experience to the readers of The Farmer. I take a heavy wire and make a wire circle to put around the cow's nose. Be sure to make it large enough so that it will not bother her about feeding. Then I bring another wire over the neck just back of the ears, and fasten it to the first wire on each side, making a wire halter. I wrap the second wire around the first two or three times, and leave an end sticking out on each side about two and one-half inches in length. These ends I fashion into hooks.

When a cow puts her head through the fence and undertakes to draw it out she will get caught by the hooks nearly every time. She will frequently work for several minutes before she gets loose. I never knew a cow to try this more than two or three times. They soon get afraid of the fence. In making such a halter it is policy to make it large enough so that it can be pulled off from one cow and put on another.

Branch Co. O. A. VANDERBILT.

### CREAMERY MEN MEET.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Michigan Association of Creamery Managers and Owners was held at the Bancroft House, Saginaw, on May 7, 1914. A large number of the managers and owners were present and topics relating to the industry were freely discussed by the membership.

The most important thing that seemed to be on the minds of the membership was the quality of Michigan butter. With the new tariff law in effect it seems to be a point of absolute necessity that the creameries of Michigan must produce better butter if they are to stay in business, and the industry be placed on a permanent basis. The cause for complaint on Michigan butter seems to be the quality of the raw material. The members were not inclined to place all the blame on the farmer. For several years past most everybody seems to have bought most anything that looked like cream, but it is a very general sentiment among the owners at this session that a better price must be paid for good cream and a lower price for bad cream, and with the enforcement of the new Insanitary Cream Law, both the producer and the buyer will be compelled not to handle the low grade cream as they are liable to prosecution by the State Dairy and Food Department.

Arrangements were made by the owners to systematize a plan of education among their patrons to have them take proper care of the cream and thus be able to get a higher price for it, and now, more than ever the organization wishes to urge upon the patrons the necessity of keeping their cream in a clean, cool place and deliver frequently to the buyers.

### WHEN TO PLANT SOY BEANS FOR SUCCOTASH SILAGE.

Can you give me advice as to the proper time for sowing soy beans for silage to mix with corn, when the corn I raise takes from 120 to 125 days from planting until it is fit to cut for silage?

Saginaw Co.

G. G.

Soy beans mature in about the same length of time as ensilage corn. Some people mix the soy bean seed in with

the ensilage corn seed, planting them both together. Sometimes they plant the corn and then go over the rows with a hand-planter and plant the soy beans. Sometimes they plant the soy beans first and then go over the rows and plant the corn. Where the soy beans are grown on a separate piece of ground I would recommend that as soon as you get through planting the ensilage corn that you plant the soy beans. I would try and fit the ground for the beans at about the same time I did for the corn. Right after planting corn plant the soy beans and you will find that they will mature at just about the right time so that they will go into the silo in excellent condition.

I believe it would pay G. G. to try some soy beans both ways; that is, plant some of them with the corn and some of them in a field separate, and see which he considers to be the most profitable way. We need some field experiments along this line. The question is, if you have a good stand of ensilage corn and a good growth, can you at the same time grow soy beans to amount to anything right with the corn? If not, of course it will not pay to plant them. On the other hand there is a theory that soy beans, being a plant of a different kind, that is, one of a different botanical family, that this plant will grow with corn better than we can grow the corn thicker. It is the same with hay. You can get a larger crop of hay if you mix the grasses than you can if you have either one of them separate. The different kind of plants work together. It is on the same principle of mixing a little spring wheat or a little flax in with the oats. Then you can raise just as many oats and get the spring wheat, the flax, or the barley extra.

My past experience has been that if you have a good stand of ensilage corn that there isn't much chance for anything else to grow in the field, not even weeds. I planted some soy beans in with the corn last year and in some places where the corn was rather thin the beans did fairly well. I have tried other crops to grow in with the corn, but never succeeded in getting a very good growth if I had a good growth of corn. On the other hand, where the soy beans are grown in a separate field in rows 28 inches apart, and properly cultivated, they make a luxuriant growth. The probability is that if you have never raised soy beans before it will pay you to inoculate the soil. You can get soy bean nitro culture from the experiment station or you can send somewhere and get a little soil where soy beans have been grown successfully and inoculate the seed. The cost and the bother is so small that it certainly should not be omitted. Many people think soy beans are going to prove a valuable forage crop, but what we want is a number of experiments scattered around among practical farmers so that we will know what we are talking about.

### CATALOG NOTICES.

"The James Way," is the title of the new 256-page catalog published by the James Mfg. Co., Ft. Atkinson, Wis. This is unique, not only in size but in make-up. It is handily bound in stiff covers, and has many full-page illustrations showing the James equipment as installed in dairy barns, also showing details of construction, methods of installation, operation, etc. In addition to listing the full line of James barn equipment, this book contains much of valuable information relating to the construction of dairy barns, and will prove a valuable addition to any farmer's library. When writing for same, mention the Michigan Farmer.

Harris stalls, stanchions, litter and feed carriers, manufactured by the Harris Mfg. Co., Salem, Ohio, are illustrated and described in a folder sent by this company upon application.

Stover Ensilage Cutters, manufactured by the Stover Mfg. Co., Freeport, Ill., are illustrated and described in detail in a folder sent upon application to above address.



# Live Stock.

## Rotation of Crops for Hogging Down.

THE following is an abstract of a lecture on the above subject delivered at farmers' institutes during the past winter by Hon. Jason Woodman, County Agent in Farm Management work in Kalamazoo county, and the information given is the result of his observation and study of conditions in that county and the state at large:

Many Michigan farmers raise clover, alfalfa, rape, cowpeas, rye or corn and hog down these crops. Farms can be found in almost every neighborhood in southwestern Michigan, where one of these crops is raised every year, and profitably harvested in this way. Occasionally I have found two of these crops used for this purpose on the same farm, and on a very few farms I have found a rotation of three.

A proper combination of three or four of the crops mentioned, can be raised with profit on a large proportion of our farms. During the past winter, various combinations suited to different soils and conditions were discussed at our institutes. Following are some of the rotations suggested by farmers interested in this proposition:

For smooth land that is not too sandy, first year corn, second year cowpeas, third year rape, sown early, clover and alfalfa sown with the rape, fourth year clover and alfalfa. Rye should be sown in the corn about September 1. The cowpeas can be planted in rows 28 or 30 inches apart and cultivated, and rye cultivated in between the rows in September.

The first crop turned on in the spring would be rye. Next, about May 10, the clover and alfalfa. About June 10, the rape would become available; about August 10 or 15, the cowpeas, and September 15 to 20 the corn would be ready to finish the hogs. The fields should be so arranged as to be accessible to water and to each other.

It will be observed that as the spring pigs increase in size and more feed is needed, this plan provides it. The clover and alfalfa field is available for pasture from May 10 to the end of the season. To this pasture the rape field is added about June 10, and can be used until it is necessary to turn off in the early fall, to give the clover and alfalfa seeded with it, a chance to get sufficient growth to go through the winter. The middle of August, when it is needed, the cowpea field is added to the feeding area. The cornfield following in September, finishes the young hogs for the market.

There is no theory about this proposition. There is not a single feature in it, that is not in successful operation on farms with which the writer is familiar. On one of these farms a medium sandy loam, for nine years satisfactory seedings of clover have been obtained, where clover was sown in the spring with rape, and the rape fed off by hogs. If these fields are limed or marled, alfalfa can be seeded with the clover, and enough alfalfa can be grown to more than pay for the small additional expense involved.

Clover, alfalfa and cowpeas enrich the land, and rape, while not a legume, is a deep rooted plant, and adds to, rather than depletes, the fertility of the surface soil.

On light sandy lands, where clover cannot be depended upon, a rotation of cowpeas, corn and rape can be used, with rye as a catch crop between the other crops, and while a larger amount of supplementary feed

would be needed for the hogs, especially during the earlier part of the summer, still there can be no question as to the fact that the land would grow better under this treatment, and the hogs would return a good profit. If the rape is sown in rows and cultivated on these lighter soils, a larger growth can be secured in a dry year. The writer knows this from observation. Rye can be cultivated in between the rows of rape about September 1, adding to the pasture available and serving as a cover crop.

Where land is rolling and there is danger of gullies forming if it is cultivated, the corn crop can be omitted from the rotation, and the other crops sown broadcast; that is to say, with all the "feeds" of the drill sowing.

On light sandy rolling land, where a catch of clover cannot be depended upon, cowpeas, rye and rape can be used in rotation, the cowpea field disked up in the latter part of September, and a thick seeding of rye put on, to be used first for early spring pasture, and what is left hogged down after it ripens and reseeded to rye for a cover crop to be plowed under for rape the next spring.

The value of the cowpea as a forage crop for hogs, is fully shown by the experience of farmers in this county, and for that reason is suggested for use in the plans outlined in this article. It is possible, however, that within a few years, the cowpea will be largely replaced by the soy bean; when the best methods for handling the latter crop have been worked out.

A small portion of the tilled area of a farm can be used for this hog rotation, while the bulk of the land is used for general farming.

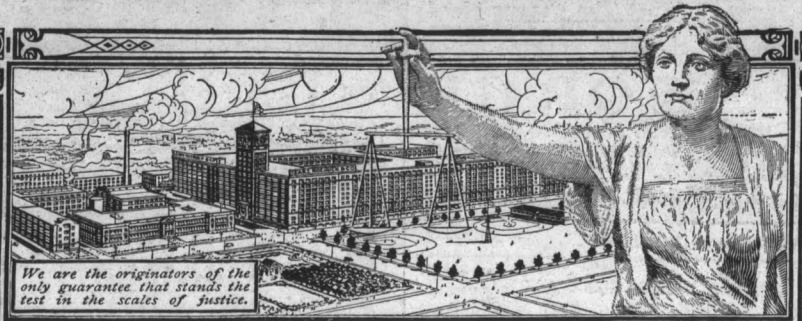
The time has come when, in considering the advisability of any agricultural practice, its effect on the soil must not be forgotten. Probably 60 per cent of the pork placed on the market in the United States is the product of corn and other grains. As a rule these hogs go to market, leaving the land on which their feed is grown, less fertile. The rotation of forage crops suggested in this article will build up the soil, and at the same time, properly managed, will produce a satisfactory revenue.

### LIVE STOCK NEWS.

The recent large demand at various points for high-class breeding cattle is significant as pointing to a revival of the beef cattle industry. Sales of the several breeds this year show average advances of 25 per cent over previous prices, the demand coming from all directions, including buyers owning large tracts of cut-over lands in Michigan and Wisconsin. Much of these lands are priced at comparatively low figures, yet they are capable of being put to good use in raising cattle. At the Denver sale of breeding cattle in January buyers purchased breeding bulls by carloads at \$400 down to \$150 per head.

Sheep and lambs carried through the winter in states where the sheep industry flourishes have been largely marketed, and good markets should be witnessed from now on. Iowa went into sheep and lamb fattening more extensively than ever before, one great stimulus being inability to secure the usual supplies of stock and feeder cattle last autumn, so that many stockmen switched over to mutton production, with good results in a great majority of cases, notwithstanding the dearth of feed.

The Chicago packers have been discriminating against hogs held by speculators, and the latter have had a hard time in disposing of the second-hand hogs. Packers are fighting the upward tendency of the market, but so far they have not accomplished much in holding down prices.



## David Bradley Little Jap CULTIVATORS

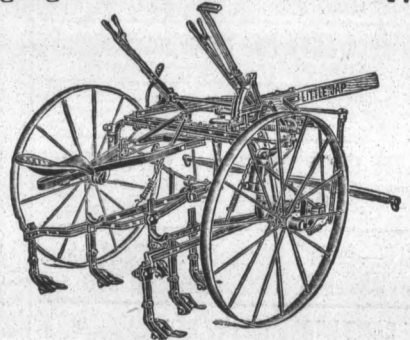
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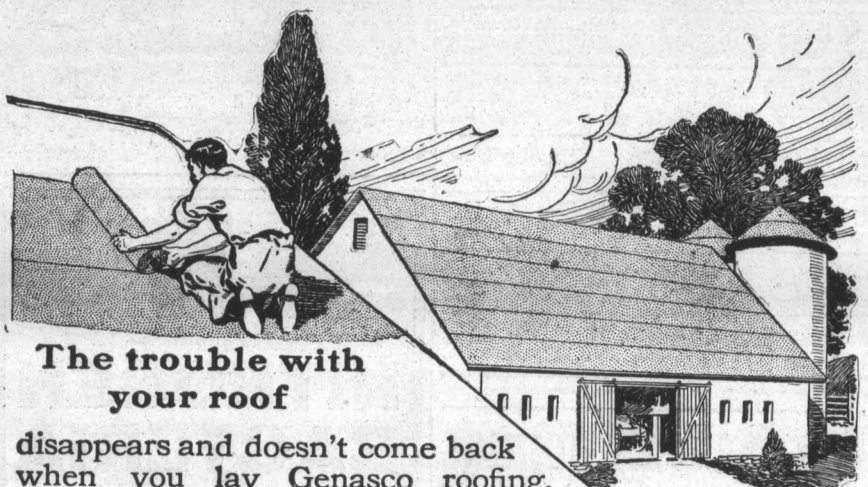
NO other farm implement of modern times has so clearly demonstrated its superiority over all others of its kind. The patented Pivot Axle Seat Bar Lever Dodging Device can be obtained only on the Little Jap. It is the only cultivator perfectly adapted for either hillside or level ground use—among straight or crooked rows. A boy can operate it as easily as a man—weight of operator makes no difference.

The Little Jap is the easiest of all cultivators for the team to handle.

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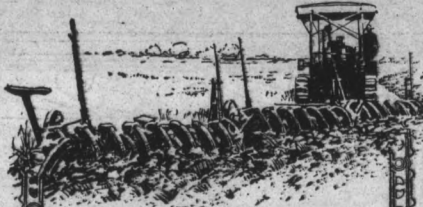
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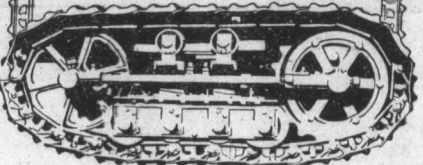
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## Poultry.

### ABOUT GEES.

For many years there has been sufficient demand for goose flesh as to assure high prices. The feathers have also commanded a high price and the breeder of geese can always derive a considerable profit from this source. Bearing these facts in mind and considering how easy the goose is to raise, and how cheap its food, more farmers would find it a profitable side-line. All breeders of long experience with whom I have talked say that there is more money in geese than in any other class of poultry. The risk of loss is smaller than with ducks, turkeys or chickens. They are the healthiest and heartiest of all fowls, seldom dying from diseases.

### Geese Easy to Keep.

Some people are of the opinion that a goose will eat as much as a hog, but this is not true. Old geese are strictly grazing creatures when pasture is available, and the goslings can be grown to five months of age with less than one peck of grain each. The principal ration of these fowls during the summer and fall months is composed of grass, weeds and insects, sheep for cleaning up weeds.

On nearly every farm there are a few places that are worthless for cultivation. All such places could be utilized for a goose pasture with profitable results. Low, marshy ground makes a good run for both old fowls, and goslings if they can have a dry spot on high ground for a resting place during the day and at night. It must not be understood, however, that waste ground is essential for the raising of geese. They will thrive upon any pasture suitable for cattle, sheep or hogs. Cattle and geese will run peacefully together, but overpasturing with geese is bad practice since the fowls soil the grass so badly that cattle do not like to graze after them, and if confined in a small pasture they will soon kill it out. Geese can be raised successfully without water to swim in, but if a small stream runs through the pasture, or if there is a spring pond, all the better. Ponds that are simply accumulations of stagnant water are not desirable.

### Confining Geese.

The chief objections to geese are their noisy and dirty ways. And in fact, they are a nuisance if allowed to run where they please, as they are sure to be destructive to growing crops and they will dirty the drinking water for the stock. But as a rule they are easily controlled, especially the large varieties. Geese will not thrive in close confinement, but they should be fenced away from the yard, garden and stock tanks. A three-foot wire netting fence will hold most of the breeds.

Experienced breeders of geese say that it is best to purchase breeding birds in the fall, as it takes some time for geese to become accustomed to each other and they will not mate up until they become thoroughly acquainted. The choosing of mates generally takes place about the first of February. Geese are naturally monogamous in their wild state, but under artificial conditions a gander will mate with several partners. But for good results the gander should never be mated to more than three females. Geese are very faithful and will live in families for years, the same mating taking place each spring year after year. But it is not desirable to use ganders over four years old. Young ganders are more active and insure greater fertility in the eggs than old birds. The latter also become quarrelsome and ugly with age.

The females are good for breeding

purposes for 10 or 12 years, or even longer. They are long-lived and have been known to produce hatchable eggs up to 30 years of age. Two-year-old females can be used for breeding purposes, but they reach their best at three years of age. The eggs of yearling geese seldom hatch well. Once the foundation is laid for goose farming there is no advantage in selling off the old stock of females until they reach a ripe old age, as they are the best for breeding purposes and the young birds bring the best prices in the markets.

Indiana.

W. F. PURDUE

### UNCROWN THE ROOSTER.

Mr. Rooster, monarch of all he surveys, and absolute boss of the flock, is surely a prepossessing fellow and at certain times of the year he is as useful as he is beautiful. But at other times he is of no earthly good. Therefore, he had better be in chicken heaven, for all he does is bother the hens, eat, look nice, and fight when opportunity offers.

Under natural, or jungle conditions, the rooster undoubtedly was useful as well as ornamental throughout the entire season. He kept diligent watch and protected the members of his harem even to the point of giving up his life for them. But since man has taken a hand in running things in general on this earth, he furnishes this protection and has brought the hen to be an efficient producer of material wealth. In order to do this he has regulated her habits and for his own advantage he has put a limit to her breeding season. The middle of May is considered by those who know, the latest that it is profitable to breed hens in this state. After that the hen should keep happily busy laying hen fruit for human production.

### Infertile Eggs Preferred.

Buyers will pay a premium for infertile eggs, because, if they can be assured that the eggs are infertile, they can be absolutely sure that they will get egg, all egg, and not some chicken. Because the egg shell can cover a multitude of natural developments, the farmers in this state are losing about a half million dollars a year and the producers of good eggs have to suffer with those selling poor ones, because the buyer is taking chances when he buys. It is the element of uncertainty and the lack of faith which brings down the price of any commodity. Both of these are involved in the buying of eggs during the warm weather.

You may not intentionally sell chickens in original packages, but if the eggs your hens lay are fertile they may develop conditions, which buyers greatly dislike while standing on the railway platform, in the store window, or even when in the nest where several hens are laying. It does not take very much when it is 90 in the shade, to start the germ on its way to feathers. The trouble is that it never gets there. Usually it just about gets started, and then it gets cold feet and dies.

### Dispose of Rooster.

Therefore, if you wish to get better prices for your eggs and at the same time help bring the egg business to a standard of certainty and faith, uncrown King Rooster and do it before the first of June. He can be given a fitting and useful end by gracing the Sunday dinner table, provided he is boiled long enough.

You may have a rooster which is royal blooded enough that you are willing to pay his board bill throughout the season so that he can be the father of quality stock the next spring. Then consign him to comfortable bachelor quarters where he can do anything he pleases and not bother the women of the henhouse. At any rate, for the good of the egg business, the hens, and yourself, have your flock roosterless after the first of June.



Sections, Foundation, Bee Veils, Smokers, a complete line of supplies for bee keepers, ready for immediate shipment. 40-page catalogue free. **Bees Wax Wanted.**

**A. G. WOODMAN CO.,** Dept. M. F., Grand Rapids, Michigan.



# Horticulture.

## SPRAYING AFTER THE BLOSSOMS.

Without a doubt the spraying after the blossoms is the most important application on all tree fruits for the production of good fruit. The time and method of application for this spray will determine more than anything else, the freedom of the fruit from insect and fungus injury. Of such value is this application that in some places the growers will rely entirely upon one thorough application at this time to keep their fruit clean.

### Spraying Apples and Pears.

It is also probably the hardest spray to apply because of the limited time one has to apply it for the best effect, especially in the case of the apples and pears. It is most essential in the case of these fruits to apply the spray before the calyx cup closes as it is known that about three-fourths of the first brood of the codlin moth, by far the worst insect pest of these fruits, enter the fruit through the calyx. Therefore, if one has considerable spraying to do it is advisable to start when the petals are dropping freely and about half of the petals are off.

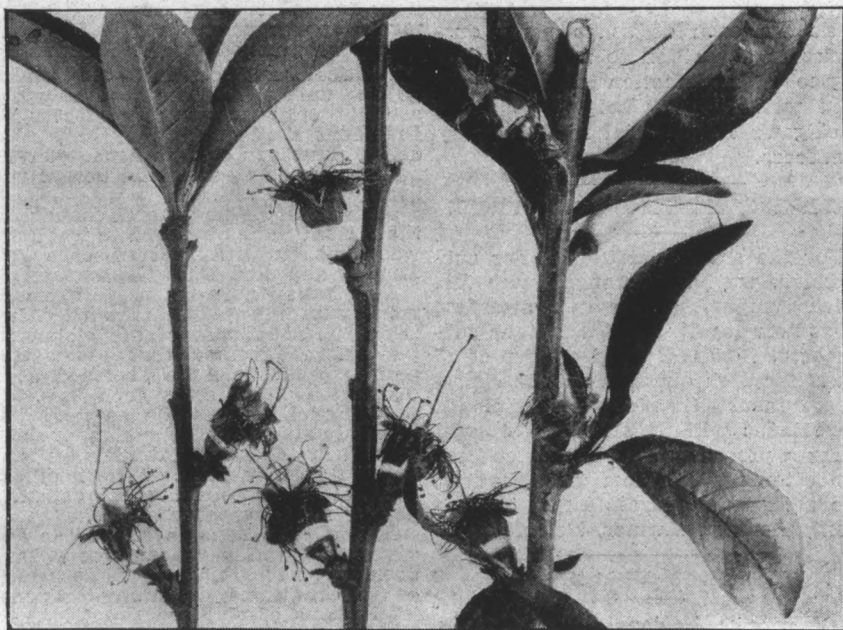
### Spraying Plums and Cherries.

In the case of the stone fruits, the plums and the cherries, an application should be made just after the blossoms drop, but there is more lati-

ent this spraying may be omitted. Another application should be made in about two weeks after the first, and a third about a month before the fruit ripens. The materials to use for all of these applications are arsenate of lead and self-boiled lime-sulphur.

The self-boiled lime-sulphur is made by starting eight pounds of fresh lime slaking, and when it is boiling well throw in eight pounds of flowers of sulphur, which has been sifted. Water should be added gradually through the process but care should be taken to keep from adding too much water and in that way drown the lime. After the action of the lime has ceased plenty of water should be added to cool the mixture. If allowed to remain hot for some time the lime and sulphur will go into chemical combination as in the case of the regular boiled lime-sulphur. This is liable to cause serious burning of the foliage. The above amount is enough for 50 gallons of spray; to it two pounds of arsenate of lead should be added.

It is rather hard to make the self-boiled lime-sulphur satisfactory in such small amounts as one must be careful in slaking the lime in such small quantities. Made in 150 or 200 gallon lots the mixture works up nicely. However, if the smaller amount is all that is desired, warm water should be used in the process of slaking the lime. The mixture should be



Peach Buds in Condition for First Spraying.

tude in the time of application than in the case of the core fruits. Some growers wait until the shucks are coming off quite freely, but in waiting that long one is liable to have trouble with curculio; also, for fungicidal purposes it is not advisable to leave the trees unprotected so long.

### When and How to Spray Peaches.

The summer spraying of peaches has not become a common practice yet, but it will soon be that all growers will realize its value. The peach scab, or black spot, the curculio and the rot, are the chief peach troubles controlled by spraying. In some high locations, which have good air circulation and drainage, the fungus troubles do little damage except in unfavorable seasons. Spraying tests in such places failed to give results because the unsprayed fruit was as free from blemishes as the sprayed. However, it has been found that sprayed fruit will hold up in shipment better and will keep longer than unsprayed fruit. For that purpose alone the spraying will be worth while.

The spraying for the peach should not be done immediately after blossom petals fall, but when most of the shucks have fallen. This spraying is most important in the control of the curculio and if that insect is not pres-

strained before putting it in the spray tank and good agitation is necessary while spraying.

### The Best Spray Material.

The commercial, or boiled, lime-sulphur and arsenate of lead are the two best spray materials to control the insect and fungus troubles of the other tree fruits mentioned. For apples the lime-sulphur should be used at the strength of one to 40, while for the other fruits one to 50 will be found efficient. In all cases the arsenate of lead should be used at the rate of two pounds to 50 gallons of spray.

Some believe that the Bordeaux mixture is the best for plums and peaches because they think it controls the fungus troubles better. Observations and experiments by competent investigators show, however, that lime-sulphur will control these troubles on plum and cherry as well as Bordeaux, and, as it is handier and more economical to use it should be preferred.

Thoroughness, is, of course, an essential factor in all sprayings but in this application it is most important because at this time of the year conditions are favorable for the development of the fungi and the fruit is very susceptible to its attacks.

## America's Telephones Lead the World Service Best—Cost Lowest

from *London Daily Mail*

Why is it that Government ownership and management of the telephones is practically always a failure? Why is it that throughout the length and breadth of Great Britain and the Continent hardly a single efficient long-distance service is to be found? Why is it that in New York one can get a message to London in ten minutes?

from *"Electrical Industries"*  
(London)

THERE is a certain amount of satisfaction in the fact that Mr. Winston Churchill got so angry over the freaks of the telephone the other day that he flung his receiver on the floor. As a member of the Government which purchased the telephone system, he deserves all the torture that Post Office working can inflict. But his rage, doubtless, was not wholly unavailing.

From *"Le Petit Phare de Nantes," Paris*

"But today I found I had to talk with Saint Malo, and, wishing to be put through quickly, I had my name inscribed on the waiting list first thing in the morning; the operator told me—though very amiably, I must confess—that I would have to wait thirteen hours and ten minutes (you are reading it right) in order to be put through."

Dr. R. Luther, in the *Dresdner Anzeiger*

"In the year 1913, 36 years after the discovery of the electro-magnetic telephone, in the age of the beginning of wireless telegraphy, one of the largest cities of Germany, Dresden, with half a million inhabitants, is without adequate telephone facilities."

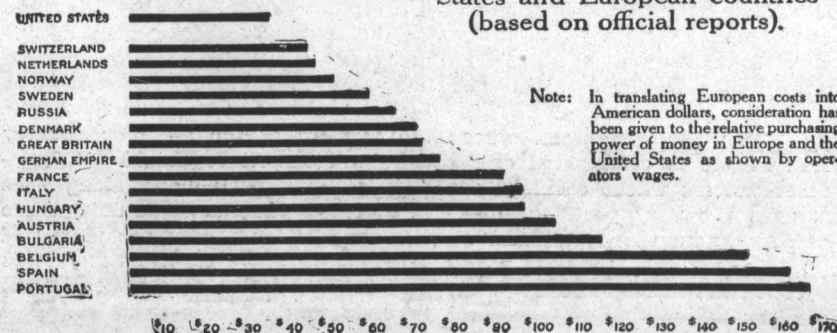
Herr Haberland, Deputy, in the *Reichstag*

"The average time required to get a connection with Berlin is now 1½ hours. Our business life and trade suffer considerably on account of this lack of telephone facilities, which exists not only between Dusseldorf and Berlin and between Berlin and the West, but also between other towns, such as Strassburg, Antwerp, etc."

Herr Wendel, in *The German Diet*

"I refer here to Freiberg. There the entire telephone service is interrupted at 9 o'clock p.m. Five minutes after 9 o'clock it is impossible to obtain a telephone connection."

### Real Average Cost of Telephone Service per year to a subscriber in the United States and European countries (based on official reports).



Note: In translating European costs into American dollars, consideration has been given to the relative purchasing power of money in Europe and the United States as shown by operators' wages.

These are the reasons why there are twelve times as many telephones for each hundred persons in the United States as in Europe.



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AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

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One System

Universal Service

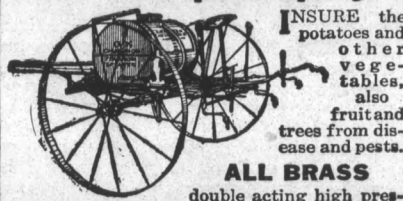
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LAKE SHORE STONE CO.,  
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INSURE the potatoes and other vegetables, also fruit and trees from disease and pests. ALL BRASS double acting high pressure pump with relief valve. Absolute satisfaction. Write today for our DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE, ETC. FREE describing Sprayers, Planters, Diggers, etc. **Champion Potato Machinery Co.,** 145 Chicago Avenue, Hammond, Indiana.

## ELECTRIC Steel Wheels Save YOUR Back

Don't rut roads or fields. Save draft—save repairs. Write today for free illustrated catalog of wheels and wagons. **Electric Wheel Co.,** 35 Elm St., Quincy, Ill.

### The "Berlin Quart"



### The White Basket

That secures highest prices for your fruit. Write for 1914 catalog showing our complete line and secure your baskets and crates at WINTER DISCOUNTS. **The Berlin Fruit Box Co.,** Berlin Heights, Ohio.



### The ACRE-AN-HOUR Sifter

Beats every hand implement for killing Potato, Melon Bugs, Cabbage Worms, etc. Applies Plaster, Lime etc., mixed with Paris Green or Arsenate of Lead. Regulates to cover big or little plants, also to apply any quantity of any kind of manufactured dry insecticides. Will operate as fast as desired. Better, easier and faster than any \$5, \$10 or \$15 spray pump. Insist on your dealer showing you this wonderful little implement. Prepaid, 75c. Agents wanted. Circulars. **ACRE-AN-HOUR SIFTER CO.,** DEPT. E. POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.

## ALFALFA SEED

We are offering the finest grades Western Grown Alfalfa, grown on unirrigated land and especially adapted for Michigan seeding. Type sample submitted to Michigan Agricultural College shows purity test of 99.9-10 per cent on only 1-10 of 1% impurities. Analysis shows no trace of noxious weeds. This is as pure a seed as can be grown. Price per bushel \$9. Bags free. **REID & McCABE, Emmett, Michigan.**

**Soy Beans**—Great soil improvers, heavy yielders, high feeding value, best variety tested Agricultural College, \$3 per bu. C.D. Woodbury, Lansing, Mich.

**Early Triumph AND NANCY HALL SWEET POTATOES**, succeeds anywhere. One hundred plants delivered, 50c. Other Plants, PROF. WAUGHTEL, UPTONVILLE, GA.

**SEED CORN**—Mich. Yellow Dent, home grown, fire dried, tested, Golden Fleece and Reg. Swedish Select Oats. Send for sample and circular. F.A. Bywater, Memphis, Mich.

**Seed Corn**—1000 bus. 1912 crop. Imp. Early and White Cap. Finest quality, germination perfect. \$2 per bu. Catalog free. **THEO. BURT & SONS, Melrose, O.**

**WHITE CAP DENT SEED CORN**, fire dried, 98% germination, \$2.50 per bushel shelled, bags free. **ALFADALE FARM, St. Johns, Michigan.**

**SWEET CLOVER**—SEED, pure white and biennial yellow. Prices and circular how to grow it sent on request. Everett Barton, Box 129, Falmouth, Ky.



## BEE HIVES, SECTIONS, BERRY BASKETS

Comb Foundation.

etc. We sell everything for the bees. Also Bees and Queens. Catalog free. Beeswax Wanted. **M. H. HUNT & SON, Box 525 LANSING, MICH.**

## BERRY BASKETS and CRATES.

Send for price list. We sell 200 Wax-lined Paper Berry Baskets for \$1 post paid.





## The Michigan Farmer

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Entered as second class matter at the Detroit,  
Michigan, postoffice.

DETROIT, MAY 23, 1914.

## CURRENT COMMENT.

The leading article in this issue is a symposium on "The Cost of a Crop," which we believe will prove interesting to Michigan Farmer readers. Not the least interesting of the opinions published under this head is that presented in the last section of the article, in which the gentleman whose previous article is commented on by the other writers whose opinions are given, asks the very pertinent question, "Why know the cost," and attempts to prove that there is really no object in the farmer knowing what it costs him to grow crops in general or the potato crop in particular.

While there may be very good reasons, as stated by one of the contributors to this discussion, why it ill becomes a farmer to dwell on how cheaply he can produce a certain commodity, we do not believe this writer's position that it will prove profitless to a farmer to know what it costs to produce any product which is grown for sale on his farm, to be well taken. In fact, to use the comparison presented in the article referred to, it would seem even more essential that the farmer should know what any given crop produced on his farm costs in money, time and labor, than that the plow manufacturer know exactly what his product costs him. The apparent reason for this statement is that the farmer is engaged in a complex business, some departments of which may be conducted at a profit, while other branches are carried on at a loss, and an accurate knowledge of costs would enable him to reduce or eliminate the unprofitable or uncertain items of production and specialize more particularly in the more profitable lines to which his farm is adapted. It is true that under present conditions the farmer has no power to fix the price at which his products sell on the open market and that his market is far more uncertain so far as stability of price is concerned than is that of the plow manufacturer, for instance, and yet the plow manufacturer has the power of fixing prices only within narrow limits, since there are always competing producers in his field, and as he produces but a single article the only way in which an accurate cost record will help him in the making of a profit is in enabling him the better to analyze costs and perhaps materially reduce them without lowering the value of his finished product. While little emphasis has been placed on this feature of a cost record for the farm, it

will have a measure of the same advantage for the farmer in this respect that it has for the manufacturer, and this is but another argument in its favor.

It is true that the price which the farmers of the country receive for any special product, such as potatoes, for instance, depends principally, as this writer has well said, upon the size of the crop, and that an excessively large crop may bring less money to the producers than a normal or short crop. But this would not appear to be a good reason for deprecating the work of the potato growers' associations, even if the question mark used after growers were wholly appropriate, and although some of the influences identified therewith may be working toward the stimulation of greater production. Some of the work already attempted in certain sections of Michigan by this organization is undoubtedly well calculated to benefit producers, especially the standardization of the product which is the line along which most of the initial work seems to have been done. And if there are possibilities of a broader benefit to producers from the work of such an organization, as we believe there undoubtedly are, all the potato growers have to do to realize them is to affiliate with the organization and assume its direction along the desired lines.

We think and we believe, that upon reflection the reader will hold with us, that it is hardly possible that the farmer is an exception among business men in that he can possibly know too much about the details of his business. Nor do we believe that the farmers of the state or country can be too well organized along industrial lines, particularly along lines of special production. "In unity there is strength," and there are plenty of examples to prove that this is just as true in its relation to commercial, as to civic unity.

The "Road Bee,"  
A Road Bee Date where general interest of town and country people  
for Michigan.

alike has been aroused, has proven an effective means of improving the common earth roads in various sections of the country in recent years. Perhaps this form of road improvement has reached its greatest development in Missouri, where long sections of earth road have been worked with the King drag and improved in other ways by the donated labor of interested citizens. In at least one section of Michigan similar results were attained in a similar manner last year. So successful did this effort prove that Governor Ferris has acted on the suggestion of the organization which fostered the movement and other organizations interested in the promotion of road improvement in Michigan by issuing the following proclamation designating an official road bee date for Michigan this year:

In 1913 the townships of Michigan raised \$4,336,029 for the improvement and repair of highways; 44 counties under the county road system levied county road taxes amounting to \$1,621,681 and the state appropriated \$800,000 for the payment of state rewards, making a grand total of \$6,757,710 which was raised by direct taxation and expended on the rural highways. Added to this, many townships and counties raised money by bonding and many public spirited citizens gave freely in money and labor, so that it is a low estimate to say that at least seven millions of dollars were expended on Michigan's roads during the past year.

While this has resulted in the building of more miles of excellent highways than were ever before built in a single year, there is still much to be desired. The people want more good roads and want all of the roads cared for better than they have been in the past.

Last year on June 9 the Huron Shore Road Association observed the first "Road Bee Day" ever held in this state. It was a success; wet pieces of road were drained; logs, roots,

stumps and stones were removed from the roadway; bad stretches of clay were sanded; bad pieces of sand were clayed; gravel was hauled; road drags were set to work, and altogether so much enthusiasm was aroused that many farmers put in a full week instead of one day. By this concerted effort some 200 miles of highway in eastern Michigan, which in some places was very bad, was made into a very passable road.

At the request of the Michigan Good Roads Association, the Huron Shore Road Association and the West Michigan Pike Association, and to the end that this good work may extend over the state and all the people receive the benefits, I, Woodbridge N. Ferris, do ask that the people of the state of Michigan set apart Thursday and Friday, June 4 and 5, 1914, as "Road Bee Day," and as far as possible turn out and work under well planned and competent supervision on the highways of this state in such manner as shall make them more fit, safe and pleasant for public travel.

While the average citizen doubtless feels that he contributes enough in road taxes without making further voluntary contributions of money or time to the cause of good roads, yet it is apparent that all of the common earth roads cannot be improved through the ordinary channels for many years to come, and where there is local enthusiasm sufficient to lead to the making of an effort to secure needed road betterments through a popular donation of work, the vast majority of public spirited citizens will not let the occasion pass without discharging what they feel to be a public duty in helping the good work along. That others have felt repaid for the expenditure of similar effort is attested by the attitude that they have taken in securing the above official action. It will be well worth while for each of us to place ourselves in a position to feel a similar degree of satisfaction over a good deed well done by helping to make Michigan's first official road bee day a success.

## LEGAL QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

For the accommodation of our subscribers, we have arranged with Mr. Allan Campbell, a competent attorney, to answer legal inquiries for our subscribers. For this service a fee of 25 cents for each question will be charged to insure that only questions of importance will be asked. This will bring a personal letter of advice from the attorney, to whom the questions are referred. Address Legal Department, Michigan Farmer, Detroit, Mich.

## HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK.

## National.

An explosion at the plant of the Mexican Crude Rubber Company, at Detroit, last Friday, caused the death of ten men and seriously injured six others. No satisfactory explanation of the cause of the explosion has yet been given.

The U. S. Senate continues to debate the motion to repeal the free tolls clause of the Panama Canal act. Increased public interest is being taken in the discussion.

Astronomers are preparing to make careful observations of the total eclipse of the sun which will occur August 21 of this year, and which can

be observed in Persia, Scandinavia and Russia for the small period two minutes and 13 seconds.

Plans have been filed for reorganization of the Wabash Railroad. The plan contemplates the reduction of over ten million dollars in the capital stock of the company, and an assessment of \$20 per share on all stockholders.

Both Governor Ammons, of Colorado, and the striking miners are anxious that federal troops be retained in the strike district until a complete settlement is made.

A wide interest is being taken by students in the military camps of instruction to be held at Ludington, Mich., this summer and many applications are being received.

## Foreign.

This week representatives of the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Argentine and Chili will gather at Niagara Falls, Canada, to consider terms for peace between this country and Mexico. It is generally understood that the United States will demand as one of the conditions for settlement, that Gen. Carranza, Villa and Huerta all be removed and a new land law enacted.

Vera Cruz is rapidly showing the effects of the sanitation measures instituted by the American authorities. The fish, meat and street markets have been cleaned up, garbage cans installed, and compulsory vaccination is now being planned for.

Last week the Mexican rebels added further victories to their credit. Tampico was taken after a long siege and desperate fighting. Smaller victories in the west were won, while a general engagement is now on for the capture of Santillo. Gen. Villa is directing the attack on Santillo personally.

Hon. F. D. Monk, former minister of public works of Canada, died at Montreal, Quebec, last Friday morning.

Although no political outbreak has occurred, the situation in British politics, as regards the Home Rule question and Ulster, is very acute and much apprehension is felt lest the nation be plunged into civil strife.

Political conditions in Santo Domingo are unsettled. The revolutionists are not only worrying the forces of President Bordas, but they have also defied American custom house officers and smuggled ammunition across the border from Haiti.

John L. Griffiths, general counsel of the United States in London, England, was stricken with heart disease last Sunday and died a few hours later.

The Italian government will experiment with ultra-violet rays to determine the soundness of the claims of an Italian inventor that gunpowder and torpedoes can be exploded at a distance of 13 miles by such rays.

Four members of the crew of the ill-fated steamer Columbian, which burned in the North Atlantic on May 3, have been rescued. Fifteen others were either lost during the catastrophe or from exposure since.

Prison conditions in Mexico as discovered by the American troops, have been very shocking to those accustomed to conditions prevailing in penal institutions of civilized countries. At San Juan de Ulua, where political offenders have been confined for many generations, many of the cells were constructed entirely underground with no provisions for sunlight and no sanitary precautions taken whatsoever. The sights hark back to prison scenes of medieval times.

Large imports of South American beef are over for the season, and during the months of May and June, importations of frozen and chilled beef from Argentina are not expected to more than equal the product of from 1,500 to 2,00 head of cattle weekly, while the midsummer imports will be even smaller in all probability.

THE GREATEST single factor in putting "Truth" into advertising has been the "Square Deal" idea first used by the farm papers.

But today the "Truth" idea has spread so that it now permeates all advertising everywhere—all business everywhere. As a result we see a growing confidence in manufactured products and their advertising—a confidence that insures more value to the consumer and lessened selling cost to the manufacturer.

Truth in advertising is the slogan—and it must win because it is right. Honesty in advertising interests every reader, especially readers of farm publications. The day is past when the advertiser expecting to continue in business can afford to deal other than honestly. Aside from the moral effect which of late very materially enters into its consideration, one of policy and good judgment likewise controls it. At the meeting of the Advertisers' Clubs of America, which meets in Toronto, June 21-25, the question, "Truth in Advertising" will be a subject of much prominence.





# Magazine Section

LITERATURE  
POETRY  
HISTORY and  
INFORMATION

**MICHIGAN FARMER**  
AND *LIVE STOCK*  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY  
*JOURNAL*  
ESTABLISHED 1843.

The FARM BOY  
and GIRL  
SCIENTIFIC and  
MECHANICAL

This Magazine Section forms a part of our paper every week. Every article is written especially for it, and does not appear elsewhere

## A Glimpse at Modern Agricultural Methods in Italy.

By PROF. ALFRED VIVIAN.

NO one is in so good a position to enjoy a trip around the world as the farmer, for he can find in art and architecture all the pleasure that is open to the man of the city, and in addition he can enjoy many things that are sealed books to anyone having no knowledge of things agricultural. Some travelers say that they dread the long railroad rides, and always travel at night when they possibly can, or, if forced to use daylight trains, they long for an interesting novel to help pass the time away. There is nothing to see in the country, they say, and after a short time the view becomes monotonous. How different it all seems when one's major interest is in agriculture!

We have traveled at least five thousand miles by rail since crossing the Atlantic, and only one night (and that was over ground already covered in daylight) has been passed on the train. No novel has been necessary to help pass the time, for we have been reading from Nature's book as she rapidly turned the pages. An amazing amount of agriculture can be learned from the car window if one is an anxious student and applies himself to the task, and some of the pleasantest days of the last few months have been passed in gazing out of the car window at the farms; watching the workers in the fields; and observing the different agricultural practices as the panorama was unfolded before our eyes.

So many things of interest were seen in Britain and the northern part of Europe that the sojourn in that region was extended beyond the original schedule. This change was probably justified as the climatic conditions there met with are such as to make any observations of especial value to one interested in the agriculture of Michigan. On the other hand, this change necessitated a hurried journey through Italy in order to be in Naples in time to catch the boat for the voyage to the Orient. As only a small number of stops could be made we have had to depend to an unusual extent upon the car window method of study.

Italy was entered from Switzerland. After a climb from Lausanne up the beautiful Rhone valley with its snow-capped mountains, the lower reaches of which were covered with grape terraces, the train slips into the Simplon Tunnel. Close your eyes tightly for twenty-five minutes and you will behold the view to be seen while passing through the Simplon! But while your eyes are closed think for a moment of the wonder of it! Here is a tunnel over twelve miles long (the longest in the world) dug right through a lofty mountain. The tunnel itself is 2,300 feet above sea level, but the mountain top is 7,000 feet higher. There are really two parallel tunnels each with a single line of track. The digging was conducted from both ends and when the tunnels met their centers coincided almost exactly. Someone said that there is no inspiration in traveling through a

tunnel, but we never enter one without being filled with admiration for the engineering skill that made it possible.

In the vicinity of Milan was seen the first corn (maize) observed since leaving America. A Michigan farmer would consider the ears nothing better than nubbins and the fodder very small. Evidently much trouble is experienced in curing the corn in this wet climate, for large bundles of it were seen hanging on the porches which are commonly found on the south exposure of the Italian farm houses.

The route from Milan to Venice lies over level country with the foothills of the Alps rising abruptly from the plain a short distance to the north. Mulberry trees trimmed back to queer looking stumps are a prominent feature of the landscape. Grapes, which are found everywhere in Italy, are here planted in rows a long distance apart and ordinary field or garden crops are grown between. A few Brown Swiss cattle are seen, as well as an occasional herd of black and white cattle which, if they are not the same, strongly resemble the Holland cattle.

From Venice to Bologna the train traverses the rice-producing section.

passes through forty-seven tunnels, following each other in such rapid succession that only hasty glimpses can be obtained of the lovely mountain scenery. What wonder that one of the passengers is reminded of the Irishman who stood gazing after an express train which, going at the rate of fifty miles an hour, had disappeared in the mouth of a tunnel. Upon being asked why he gazed so long and intently after the train he exclaimed, "Begorra! I was wondering what would have happened if it had missed the hole!"

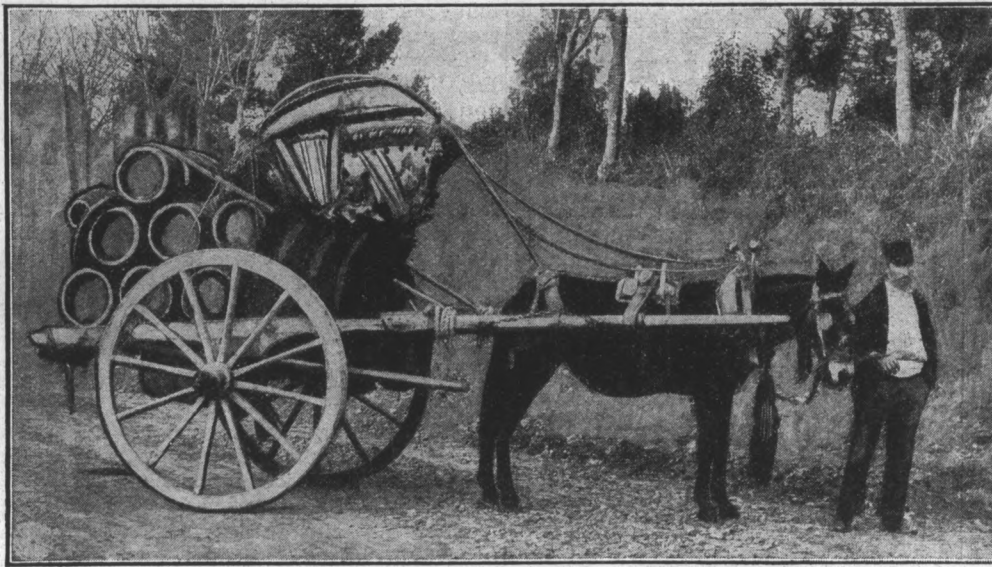
Florence is located in one of the most prosperous agricultural communities to be found in Italy. The foothills of the Apennines produce olives abundantly, and Tuscany is noted the world over for its vintage. All the farmers follow a mixed husbandry, or what Americans would call a mixture of farming and gardening. This system has the advantage that it gives employment the year around and results in a high income per acre. Near the cities truck farming is largely followed, and splendid vegetables are produced. The principal crops raised on the farms are grain, olives (for oil) and grapes. The olive trees are planted chiefly on the rougher ground. The grapes are planted in rows far

practice was elicited from these farmers living here. A tremendous amount of labor is expended in forming these ridges. After plowing and harrowing the ridging is begun with an implement such as is sometimes used in America for opening a furrow for planting potatoes, etc. After that the work is laboriously completed by hand; the soil being thoroughly pulverized during the process. It is said that these farmers are very "set in their ways" and that it is practically impossible to introduce new machinery, or to induce any of them to try new and improved methods of culture.

The land in the immediate vicinity of Rome is the most poorly farmed of any seen since landing on the continent. Apparently not more than one-tenth of it is cultivated, and the rest is inferior grass land. A few flocks of sheep are seen and an occasional herd of cattle, but on the whole it seems a dreary waste although in early Roman days it was a densely populated district. So far the government has endeavored in vain to revive agriculture in this region. One reason for the failure is said to be that much of the land is held in large parcels by men who are independent of any income derived therefrom. One of the most picturesque sights of this locality consists of the long-horned oxen used especially in hauling materials to and from Rome. The horns of these animals frequently measure as much as six feet from tip to tip—an unusual length of horn.

All through Italy are found remarkably good roads and their white surfaces stand out strikingly in the landscape as they wind like long ribbons through the bright verdure. These roads are always kept in good repair, and time and again were seen women carrying baskets of stones on their heads to be used in mending old roads or in the building of new ones.

Some of the most intensive truck farming that can be seen anywhere is to be found in the environs of Naples. We are informed that some of the land on which these gardens are located rent for as much as \$200 an acre, annually. The gardens are irrigated by water pumped from wells, and the old water wheel so often seen in Oriental pictures is found in most of them. Crops are grown the year around in this climate and, as the soil is highly responsive to good treatment, the gardeners make a living in spite of the high rent. Farther from the city on the sides of Vesuvius are found many fine orange groves, and wine, of course, is produced in large quantities. What a lot of wine somebody must drink! You wonder what becomes of it all until you notice that rich and poor alike drink these light wines like water. Wine was advertised in the shop windows at 50 centimes the liter, which means about thirty-five cents a gallon in American nomenclature. Even at that small price a gallon of wine makes a big hole in a day's wage of the laborer—and for what re-



Bringing Wine to the Market in Rome.

Here the land is laid out in regular parallelograms by the rows of mulberry trees. The grape vines are planted between the trees, and are festooned from one tree to another, producing a most picturesque effect. The working animals of these farms are beautiful oxen, with coats as white as snow. The soil must become very hard and compact, for plowing was being done with twelve of these oxen hitched to one plow. In one case were seen five such outfits, or a total of sixty of these fine fellows in one small field, and over fifty teams of twelve, and one of sixteen, oxen were seen during a four hours' journey.

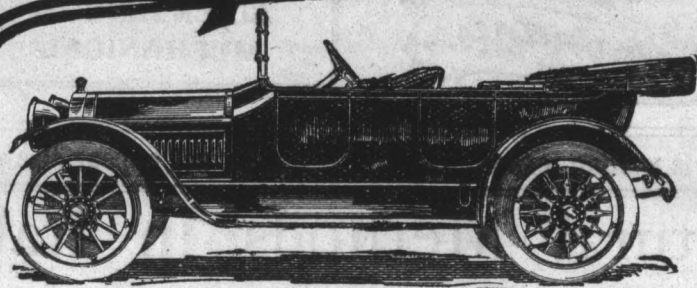
From Bologna the train strikes boldly into the Apennine Mountains and climbs these rocky hills for two thousand feet, only to descend the other side until it reaches nearly sea level at Florence. During the first sixty miles of this journey the train

apart and generally trained to trees which are closely pruned, and a rotation of ordinary farm crops is grown between the rows. In addition, a few pigs and some poultry are raised. Every means is used to add a few dollars to the annual income. Silk is produced, mainly by the work of the women, who are also noted for their skill in straw plaiting at which they can be seen working in their odd moments.

One thing noticed throughout this section was that the ground is all ridged. The ridges are about two feet wide and, as nothing was growing in the bottom of the furrow, the result seems to be that about one-third of the ground is producing no crop. This system is followed on the high and rolling ground as well as on that which is low and flat. Our knowledge of Italian being somewhat limited no very intelligent explanation of this



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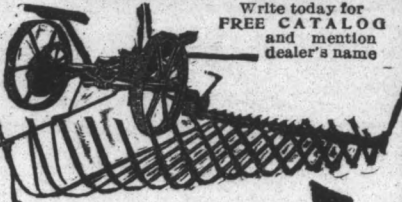
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turn does he spend the money?

No good horses have been seen since reaching Italy. Perhaps there are some, but if so they are not conspicuously in evidence. After some experience with Italian drivers, especially those of Naples, we were glad there were no good horses. As a rule we are "slow to wrath" but "righteous indignation" would but mildly express our real feelings toward these drivers because of the way in which they treat their horses. It may have been just as well that we could not understand each other.

How the Italian likes bright colors! The love of color is seen in their own costumes and in the way they deck out the horses in bright ribbons and cords, and cover them with brilliant red blankets. Even the carts are painted in the brightest of reds or blues, rivaling the tints of the rainbow.

The Italian must be a lover of variety for he seems never to hitch two matched animals to the same wagon or cart. If the team is two horses one is large and the other a mere pony. More commonly, however, the team consists of a horse and a donkey, or one of these hitched with an ox. Any

day in Naples may be seen carts pulled by teams consisting of an ox, a donkey and a horse, and usually none of them is in such condition as to engender fear of death from foundering.

Fresh milk in Naples is true to name. The cows or goats are driven from house to house, and the milking done on the spot. The cow is driven up on the sidewalk, a bottle or pitcher is lowered in a basket from an upper window, and the milking is done under the watchful eye of the customer. The basket is drawn up and returned again with the change. The Neapolitan knows himself too well to have any confidence in milking that is done beyond his range of vision. Even then he is likely to accuse the milk man (or woman) of giving the cows a drink of warm water before leaving home so as to dilute the milk and increase the quantity. The goats were formerly taken up the stairway and milked at the door in the upper hallway, but the municipal regulations now prevent that practice.

"Vedi Napoli e poi muori" (see Naples, and then die), is an old saying which the Neapolitans are fond of quoting. We have seen Naples and are still alive to tell the tale.

## An Unfortunate Black Cat.

By MARY L. DANN.

DOROTHY EDMONDS was seated on a low stool by the window, paring the potatoes for dinner, occasionally stopping to watch Aunt Florence making quick passes with her flat iron over the snowy towel, and folding it every corner exactly even.

"Catch it, Africa," she called, tossing a small potato to the sleek, black cat, who was washing his face with his paws, as he sat in a broad shaft of sunlight by the kitchen stove.

Africa rolled the potato about for some time, when it suddenly disappeared. He looked dejectedly down the knot-hole in the floor, which had swallowed his plaything, the pupils of his eyes growing larger and larger from gazing into the darkness.

"Never mind, foolish," said Dorothy, "I'll get you another, but watch you don't do the same thing with that."

Africa fell to chasing his tail and then raced through the rooms in a frenzy of delight. Finally, he again laid down in the sunshine beside the stove, with his small paw thrust down through the knot-hole, which he seemed to regard as the highwayman who had robbed him of his treasure.

The potatoes were pared and Dorothy was shredding the cabbage for the salad, when Africa sprang up with a blood-curdling cry of pain, his one paw still thrust through the knot-hole. He continued to circle about, howling and caterwauling in such a frenzied manner that she did not dare to go near him.

"Help him get his foot out, dear," exclaimed Aunt Florence. However, this command was easier given than executed, for Africa was gyrating about so rapidly and biting and clawing so fiercely at everything near him, that Aunt Florence herself hesitated to make the attempt. At last, she threw her gingham apron entirely over him and tried to lift him up and withdraw his foot from the knot-hole, but was unable to do so. Something held it fast. She removed her apron from the spitting, agonized creature, who seemed to realize that an effort was being made to release him, and he tried to come to her, as far as his imprisoned foot would permit.

"There is something holding him from beneath and it pulls and jerks," Aunt Florence panted, as she once more threw her apron over her pet and tried to extricate him.

"What shall we do? How can we get him loose? There is no cellar under this part of the house, so we can't

go under to see what is there." Dorothy was white and shaking and seemed rooted to the spot.

"Go out on the street and see if there isn't someone passing who will help us, and don't be so frightened. We are going to release Africa somehow," said Aunt Florence soothingly, holding the cat up as far as she could, while he bit and tore at her apron and made life intensely interesting for her.

Dorothy rushed out and called Robert Atwood, a boy of about eighteen, who happened to be going by.

"Oh, Robert, won't you please come and help us," she pleaded, "Africa has put his foot through a knot-hole in the floor and I can't pull him out and Aunt Florence can't, and he's bouncing around under Auntie's apron and clawing and biting and we don't know what can be holding him."

"I'm your knight, fair lady," said Robert, with a great show of gallantry, squaring his shoulders and manipulating the muscle of his right arm. "All black cats are unlucky," he continued, as he followed her toward the house, "Probably a jabberwock has got him. They come up through a fissure in the earth and gobble anything they can get. I'll bet you a quarter it's a Jab."

"Do be sensible, Robert," Dorothy admonished almost tearfully.

Robert, however, continued his running comment: "If it's a jabberwock, you'll have to feed it a bat and a lizard and three pink mice before it will go away. You must stop the opening it came through with a wisp of deadly nightshade, or it will return in thirteen hours, and the next time it comes it is just as likely to get a cow as a cat."

As Robert came up, Aunt Florence removed her apron from the tortured Africa, who spit spitefully at him, and then, as if begging his assistance, looked up in his face with a pitiful meow that would have melted a heart of stone.

"Gee-whiskers, Africanus, I can't see you suffer like this if I have to saw the house down over our heads to get you loose," Robert continued as he tried to pull up the troublesome foot. "Whatever has you, must have come up from China, and probably he has mistaken your paw for a chopstick."

Robert dropped the cat and stepped to the door of the woodshed. He soon returned with a wide chisel and a hammer. It happened that there was a joint in the floor of the kitchen, a



short distance from the knot-hole. Here was the point of least resistance and here Robert made his attack. He forced the edge of the chisel under the end of the board and the matched edges began to give way. Higher and higher he pried the board and now he could see beneath. To his astonishment he beheld a weasel serenely tearing the flesh from the tiny black paw, his bright eyes shining in the dim light, and his slim body almost raised from the ground, as he clung to his victim.

Robert caught up the broom and used the handle as a pry to tear the board from its place. There was the glimmer of a yellow and white body, as it sped past the opening, and Africa was free.

Dorothy and Robert bathed the injured paw in an antiseptic solution and bandaged it carefully. "Take it from me, Mr. Dark Continent," said Robert, "that when you go fishing for weasels again, you had better use something beside you paw for bait."

#### THE MAPLE TREE.

BY MILDRED M. NORTH.

I love it, that stately maple,  
I watch it the whole year through.  
From the springtime bright till the  
ground is white,  
Its beauty is ever new.

'Tis first to awake from slumber  
When grasses are brown and sear  
When its red buds glow, though the  
chill winds blow  
I know the spring is near.

And when the winds blow softer  
Some day before my eyes  
All its tassels swing while the robins  
sing  
'Neath the swiftly-changing skies.

In summer its green leaves whisper  
Of coolness and shade and rest,  
Till I scarcely know as the seasons go  
Which time is, of all, the best.

October comes, when the daylight  
Grows shorter, the nights more  
chill,  
When banners of gold and of red  
unfold  
And are on every hill.

Then my tree spreads out its treasures—  
The gold of the sunlight sweet,  
The rose of dawn and of sunsets gone,  
Are showered at Autumn's feet.

In winter though gray and leafless  
Its graceful branches show,  
I know what its roots and its slender  
shoots  
Are hiding from ice and snow.

And often in morning sunshine  
When the storm clouds roll from  
sight  
Its branches seem 'neath the sun-  
light's gleam  
Like silver burnished bright.

And so from spring to winter,  
From winter back to spring,  
It greets my sight with some new de-  
light,  
A lovely changing thing.

#### FISHING MEMORIES.

BY CHAS. H. MEIERS.

When I walk along the river,  
In the shadow of the trees,  
While the leaves above me quiver  
In the cool, refreshing breeze,  
Fancy brings a boyhood friend  
To me at the quiet bend,  
And once more with him I stray  
In the old free, happy way.

Then we settle down to fishing,  
With our feet hung o'er the brink,  
And the water goes on swishing  
While we rest and smile and think.  
Now a bobber's yanked from sight,  
And I pull with all my might—  
Comes a bullhead, bringing joy  
To a small, bare-footed boy.

Thanks to fancy for the pleasure  
It has seen fit to convey;  
Fishing memories I'll treasure  
As the long years roll away.  
When I walk beside the stream  
I'll be walking in a dream  
Filled with joys I used to know  
In the days of long ago.

If the youth decides to consume all  
his time and strength in making his  
arms big and his legs brawny, he ends  
his career a physical giant, indeed,  
but also an intellectual pigmy.—Hillis.

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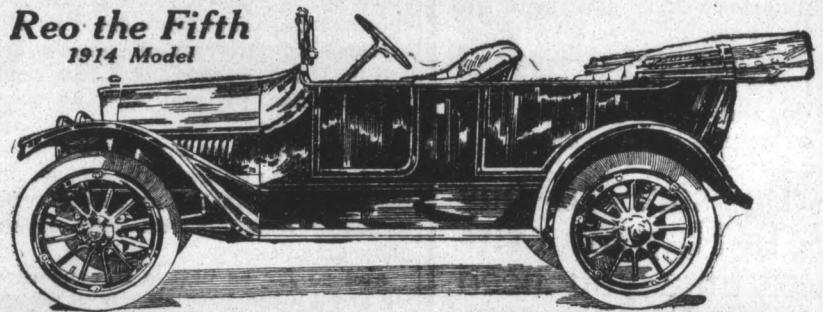
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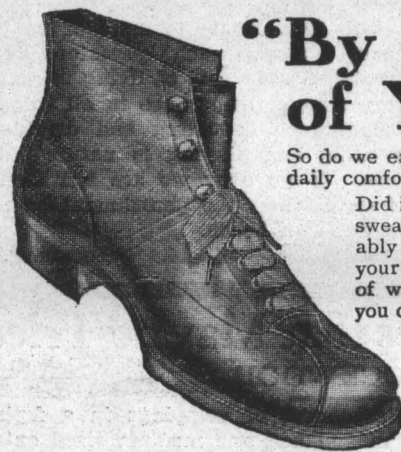
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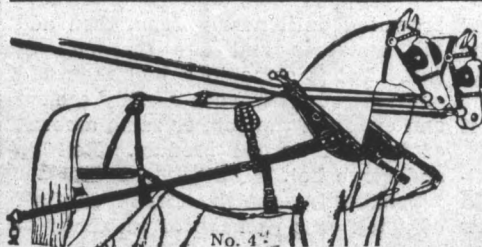
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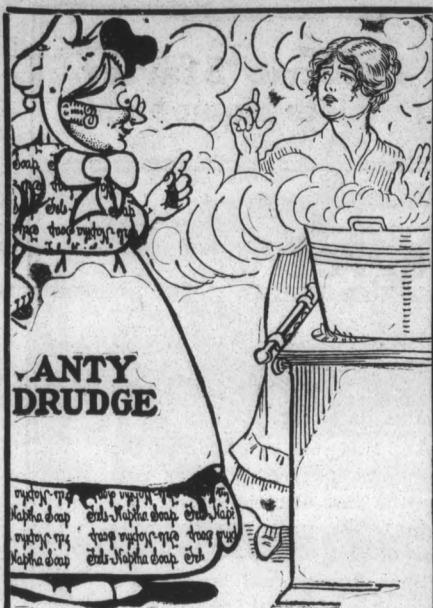
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## A Race of Law Breakers.

**T**HERE is an old saying, heard frequently, regarding the proceedings of justice, "Ignorance of the law excuses no man." We have heard it so often in connection with civil laws that we are ready to concede its inherent rightness. The laws of the state and the nation are spread on the statute books so that he who runs may read. If we break them we do so at our own risk. We can not plead ignorance.

Similarly, nature has made laws regarding our physical well-being, laws which are punished just as swiftly and far more surely than the laws laid down by man. For, while some by luck or acuteness escape the civil law, no one can expect to break a single law of nature and go forever unpunished. And, as in the legal world, so in the natural, we cannot plead our ignorance as an excuse. Not only has the press surrounded us with avenues of information, nature herself has safeguarded us. She sends us warnings in the form of headaches, dizziness, tangled nerves and sleepless nights as first hints that we are infringing on her laws. If we disregard these she has no recourse but to follow them up with more drastic punishments.

And so far as nature is concerned, we are law-breakers all. If in no other way we offend in eating and drinking, afflicting our long suffering stomachs with ill-assorted foods in overabundant quantities, washed down with strong tea and coffee, and perhaps stronger drinks. Because, by reason of abundant strength we have withstood our intemperance we will not admit that we are harming ourselves. "It never hurt me yet," is the ever-ready response of the glutton. There may never have been an absolute breakdown, but over-indulgence acts as an accumulative poison, laying up a train of ills which will surely overtake the persistent breaker of nature's laws.

It is bad enough to see grownups

ruining their own health. But when they deliberately kill their children's chances of health by wrong feeding, what shall we say?

A mother kept her baby on condensed milk until he was three years old. To all suggestions that she ought to feed him cereals, eggs, a bit of meat and other cell-forming foods, she replied that "she hadn't time to fuss cooking stuff for him." The boy cried day after day of hunger, the sickly, sweet condensed milk not only failed to satisfy him, it positively nauseated him. His mother said nothing ailed him but ugliness and if he wouldn't take his bottle of milk he could go hungry. The lad survived, through some miracle, but at seven years tuberculosis of the bone set in. Could anyone make the mother believe that her criminal negligence in those first three years was responsible? Of course not. She blamed the whole thing onto God and railed at a Providence that would send such an affliction on an innocent child.

Most of our railing against fate might similar be traced to the ruthless ways in which we walk over nature's laws. We sleep in rooms which are never aired, sell the eggs we ought to eat, fail to bathe and exercise properly, and then wonder where we ever contracted tuberculosis. We keep up on stimulants instead of nourishing food and then wonder why our nerves get out of tune. We work beyond our strength, not so much because we must, as because we are afraid of the neighbors, and then blame it onto Providence when we break down.

Life is a tangle to most of us because we are such persistent law-breakers. The rule of living is really very simple temperance in all things. Temperance in eating and drinking, working and playing is nature's decree. If we obey we are left alone. If we disobey, the punishment be upon our own heads.

DEBORAH.

## Some Spanish Recipes that May be Tried

By ELLA E. ROCKWOOD.

**N**OT every American palate accepts Spanish cookery with relish. Indeed, for most of us their dishes are too highly seasoned. Chili peppers are standard favorites and their flavor usually predominates. In the far southwest many Americans, however, confess a liking to certain foods prepared a la Spanish and our eastern cooks may be glad to learn about some of them. The following recipes have been placed at my disposal, with the assurance that they are representative of the most approved dishes, adapted to general family use. The Chili peppers can be obtained at many grocery stores. As suggested, they figure largely in the recipes. Chili powder can be had if the whole peppers are unobtainable.

**Tripe Spanish.**—Fry brown in butter one finely chopped onion and add one pound of tripe cut in narrow strips, one cup of water, piece of butter size of an egg, one large tomato. Its equivalent in canned tomato may be substituted. Season with a trifle of nutmeg, same of sugar, and one tablespoon of vinegar. Salt to taste, then add two red chili peppers and simmer one hour.

**Tomatoes with Cheese.**—Put one ta-

blespoonful of drippings in a frying pan and add one medium sized onion cut fine, also three green peppers minced. Fry brown, add eight large tomatoes and cook slowly until done. Stir in one cup of old cheese, grated, salt, pepper and a little sugar.

**Stewed Tomatoes with Corn, Spanish.**—Peel six tomatoes (or take the equivalent of the canned article), press out seeds and cut in quarters. Put two tablespoons of butter in a sauce pan. Add one red or green pepper chopped fine, and cook without browning until nearly done, then add the tomatoes and one teaspoon of salt. Let it come to a boil then add one pint of green corn freshly cooked and cut from the cob, or same amount of the hot canned product. Boil up and serve hot.

**Spaghetti, Spanish.**—Break one-half of a ten cent package of spaghetti in small pieces and brown in bacon fat. Add boiling water and one onion sliced, also three-fourths cup of grated cheese, with salt and chili powder to taste. Set on back of the stove and simmer slowly until tender.

**Spanish Flank Steak.**—Take two to two and one-half pounds of flank and criss-cross it with a sharp knife.

Wash and sprinkle with salt. Cover with one large onion sliced, one lemon sliced, one large bay leaf broken finely, and five whole cloves. Dot liberally with butter and cover completely with tomato catsup, about one cupful. Bake at least two hours in a moderate oven, basting frequently and adding half a cup of water from time to time, as the gravy thickens in the pan.

**Mexican Salad.**—Three cups shredded cabbage, thrown into ice water for an hour. Cut half can pimientos, one large sweet pepper and one dozen olives into small pieces. Dry the cabbage and stir in the above ingredients with mayonnaise dressing, to which has been added a teaspoon of dry mustard and one-half cup of whipped cream. Dress with lettuce and yolks of four hard-boiled eggs put through a ricer, sprinkling it over the top. Cut whites of eggs in rings and garnish with pimientos cut in tiny triangles or rounds.

**Spanish Rice.**—Stir one cup of dry rice in a hot skillet containing a lump of butter, melted. Let brown well, then fill the dish with boiling water and leave to simmer. Add one chopped onion, one-half can of tomatoes, chopped red or green peppers to taste, also salt sufficient, cook all together till the rice is done.

**Chili Con Carne.**—Have ready cooked one pint pink beans. Chop fine three slices of fat salt pork and same amount of beef fat. Fry these together till a nice brown, then drop into the fat one finely chopped onion and brown it. Then put into the fat one pound of Hamburg steak. Stir well till steak is done and browned. Add the cooked beans and two tablespoons (or less) of Chili powder, salt, stir well together and simmer slowly one hour. Have enough water with the beans so no more will be required as the dish must be moist when served.

**Spanish Luncheon Dish.**—Put one-half cup of olive oil in frying pan, with one clove of garlic and one onion sliced. Fry brown. Add one pound of cold roast beef cut in cubes and fry brown in the fat, then add one can of tomatoes and five chili peppers. Meanwhile cook 12 sticks of macaroni in salted water till tender, then add to the meat with one cup of mushrooms and salt to taste. Serve hot, covered thickly with grated cheese.

**Spanish Kidney.**—Boil quarter of a pound of macaroni in salted water till tender. Drain and put a layer in a buttered baking dish then a layer of thinly sliced boiled kidney, then a layer of sliced or canned tomatoes. Season highly and proceed in the same way till the dish is full. Moisten with soup stock and one tablespoonful of Worcester sauce. Cover the top with bread crumbs, moistened with melted butter and bake slowly one hour.

No group of Spanish recipes would be complete without frijoles, pronounced free-holies, which, translated into English, means beans. The Mexicans always use the pink beans.

**Frijoles.**—One quart Mexican beans, washed, one soup bone cut in pieces, one long red chili pepper, discarding half the seeds. Slice pepper in rings thinly and put all into cold water. Cook slowly till meat leaves bones, then remove bone and cut meat in small pieces. Salt to taste about half an hour before it is done, and serve hot. Some recipes substitute a few slices of bacon for the soup bone and use two sliced onions and five or six



ripe tomatoes, with the beans, cooking all together until the beans are done, also using chili peppers as above.

#### A CONVENIENT DRYING RACK.

BY H. L. G.

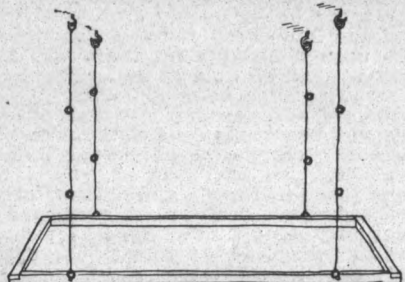
If one does not care to invest in the ready-made devices for drying green corn, apples, etc., a little ingenuity, some strong hooks, window screen, inch boards, etc., will serve to make this very serviceable and efficient adjunct to the kitchen.

First determine where the iron hooks, from which the rack is to be suspended over the kitchen stove, are



to be placed. They should be firmly imbedded into the joists, for the rack, with its contents, will sometimes be rather heavy. The joists may be located by first boring through the plaster with a very small bit. From each of the four hooks, stout glazed cords of equal length are suspended. Each end of the cord has an iron ring, about an inch across, securely knotted into it with as many more rings at regular intervals along its length as one may desire, so that the rack may be raised and lowered at any height from the top of the stove.

The rack is made of narrow pieces one inch thick and joined at the corners as in Fig. 1, nailing securely. Do not make the ends of the rack too long for the width of ordinary window screen. Into the sides of the frame fasten small strong hooks (strong nails bent slightly downward may be substituted), over which the rings are slipped when the rack is suspended. They should be so placed that when the rack is in position, these hooks should be directly below those in the ceiling. Attach screen, having the



tacks close together, on top side of frame, as this facilitates removing the dried products.

A rack five feet long is not difficult for two persons to handle, but one of six or seven feet is very awkward.

Just one last word: When the corn is first put on to dry, the rack may be lowered to within one foot of the stove griddles; but care should be exercised to stir the corn frequently to prevent its scorching. Later, when it is no longer sticky to the touch, it may be raised higher by means of the iron rings knotted along the strings.

#### EXTERMINATING COCKROACHES.

With the approach of warm spring weather, cockroaches multiply rapidly and leave their winter hiding places. If cockroaches are troublesome in the house the following simple remedy, recommended by one of the Department of Agriculture's scientists, will unquestionably destroy great numbers and keep them in check as effectively as troublesome insect powders and dangerous poisons:

Mix one part of plaster of Paris and three or four parts of flour. Place this dry mixture in a saucer or on a flat piece of wood or tin where roaches are numerous. Nearby place another flat plate containing pure water. Supply a few inclines of wood or cardboard from the floor to the edge of the plate or saucer to give easy access. Float one or two thin pieces of wood on the water so that they will

touch the edge of the dish. The insects readily eat the plaster mixture, become thirsty and drink. The water makes the plaster set in the intestines and kills the roach. Such traps may be placed in pantries, and bakeries in particular, with good results.

There are various poisons which it is asserted are fairly effective as remedies against roaches. The only one of these that seems to give satisfactory results is a phosphorous paste, sold in the form of pills. It consists of sweetened flour paste containing one to two per cent of phosphorous, and is spread on bits of paper or cardboard and placed in the runways of the roaches. As phosphorous is poisonous to human beings and domestic animals, besides being highly inflammable, it should be used very carefully.

Considerable relief may be gained by a liberal use of pyrethrum powder. It is not a perfect remedy, however, and is at best but a temporary expedient, while it soils shelves and other objects over which it is dusted. It should be used fresh and liberally applied. Roaches are often paralyzed by it when not killed outright, and the morning after an application the infested premises should be gone over and all dead or partially paralyzed roaches swept up and burned.

Pyrethrum may also be burned in an infested apartment. The smoke and vapors generated by the burning of this insecticide are often more effective in destroying roaches than the application of the substance in the ordinary way as a powder. There is no attendant danger of explosion, and the only precaution necessary is to see that the room is kept tightly closed for from six to 12 hours.

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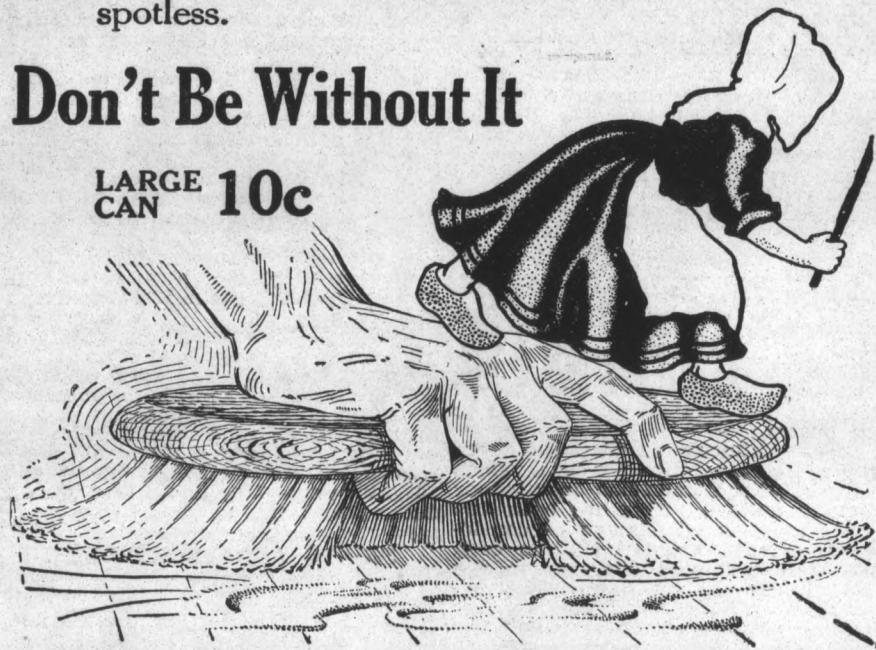
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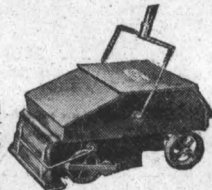
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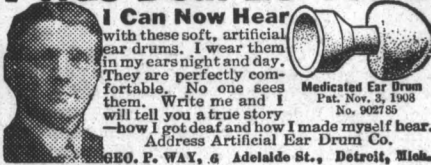


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# Markets.

## GRAINS AND SEEDS.

May 19, 1914.

**Wheat.**—It has been a gentle surprise to outsiders to witness an advancing wheat market at this time. From every side the most flattering reports had been coming and it seemed that prices must go to a lower basis, but notwithstanding this the market has had good support from certain quarters and the past week has added to it. Persistent reports of damage by Hessian fly are coming from gradually widening territory with the center of greatest activity in Missouri and Illinois. While it may be that the injury to the plant has been magnified, it is certain that the work of the fly is reaching over a sufficient field that traders must reckon with the results. Rough estimates have put the probable damage thus far noted at 30,000,000 bushels. Besides this, the falling off in the corn crop of Argentina has added strength to wheat here. A year ago the price for No. 2 red wheat was \$1.07½ per bu. Quotations for the past week are:

|           | No. 2 | No. 1 | Red. | White. | July. |
|-----------|-------|-------|------|--------|-------|
| Wednesday | 98¾   | 97¾   | 87   | 87½    | 87½   |
| Thursday  | 98¾   | 98    | 87½  | 87½    | 87½   |
| Friday    | 98¾   | 98    | 87½  | 87½    | 87½   |
| Saturday  | 98¾   | 98¼   | 89   | 89     | 89    |
| Monday    | 98¾   | 98¼   | 88¾  | 88¾    | 88¾   |
| Tuesday   | 99    | 98½   | 89½  | 89½    | 89½   |

Chicago, (May 19).—No. 2 red wheat 98¾c; May 97¾c; July 88¾c per bushel.

**Corn.**—Although on Tuesday there was a slight reaction in corn values the drift of the trade has been rather strongly upward. This has been due partly to reported damage of considerable extent to the Argentine corn crop, the estimated decrease in the probable surplus of that country being 125,000,000 bushels. Dry weather in some sections of the corn belt has also given support to higher values and likewise a heavy decrease in the visible supply. One year ago the price for No. 3 corn was 57½c per bushel. Quotations for the past week are:

|           | No. 2 | No. 2 | Mixed. | Yellow. |
|-----------|-------|-------|--------|---------|
| Wednesday | 70    | 71½   | 71½    | 71½     |
| Thursday  | 71    | 72½   | 72½    | 72½     |
| Friday    | 71    | 72½   | 72½    | 72½     |
| Saturday  | 72    | 72½   | 72½    | 72½     |
| Monday    | 73    | 73½   | 73½    | 73½     |
| Tuesday   | 72½   | 73    | 73     | 73      |

Chicago, (May 19).—No. 2 corn 71¢; May 69c; July 67½c per bu.

**Oats.**—Trading in this cereal has followed the other two major grains with values ruling above those quoted a week ago. A few reports of crop damage have come in but they have not been of any considerable moment. Visible supply decreased a half million bushels. A year ago the price was 41c for standard. Quotations for the past week are:

|           | No. 3 | Standard. | White. |
|-----------|-------|-----------|--------|
| Wednesday | 42½   | 42        | 42     |
| Thursday  | 43    | 42½       | 42½    |
| Friday    | 43    | 42½       | 42½    |
| Saturday  | 43½   | 43        | 43     |
| Monday    | 43½   | 43        | 43     |
| Tuesday   | 43½   | 43        | 43     |

Chicago, (May 19).—Standard oats 41½c; May 40¾c; July 39¾c per bu.

**Beans.**—Demand has eased off a little. The local board of trade quotes immediate and prompt shipment at \$2.07; June \$2.12 per bu. Chicago reports easy prices. Pea beans, hand-picked, choice, are steady at \$2.20 to \$2.25; common \$2.15; red kidneys, choice \$3.25 to \$3.35.

**Rye.**—This cereal is steady. No. 2 is quoted at 65c per bu.

## FLOUR AND FEEDS.

**Flour.**—Jobbing lots in one-eighth paper sacks are selling on the Detroit market per 196 lbs. as follows. Best patent \$5.30; second \$5; straight \$4.75; spring patent \$5.10; rye flour \$4.40 per bbl.

**Feed.**—In 100-lb. sacks, jobbing lots are: Bran \$28; standard middlings \$28; fine middlings \$33; cracked corn \$31; coarse corn meal \$30; corn and oat chop \$27.50 per ton.

**Hay.**—Good hay scarce, with prices steady. Carlots on track at Detroit are: No. 1 timothy \$16.50 to \$17; standard \$15.50 to \$16; No. 2, \$14 to \$15; light mixed \$15.50 to \$16; No. 1 mixed \$13.50 to \$15; No. 1 clover \$13 to \$13.50.

**New York.**—Prices steady. No. 1 timothy \$22.50; No. 3 to standard \$17.50 to \$20.50.

**Chicago.**—Market steady at unchanged prices. Choice timothy is quoted at \$18.50 to \$19 per ton; No. 1, \$16 to \$17.50; No. 2, \$14.50 to \$15.50 a ton.

**Straw.**—Steady. Rye \$8 to \$8.50; oat straw \$7 to \$7.50; wheat straw \$7 to \$7.50 per ton.

## DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS.

**Butter.**—Market is firm at prices a ½c lower than last week. Extra creamery 25c per lb; firsts 24c; dairy 17c; packing stock 15c.

**Chicago.**—The demand is irregular, therefore market is unsettled. Prices are ½c lower than last week. Extra creamery 25½c; extra firsts 24½c; firsts 21 to 23c; seconds 18c; packing stock 16c.

**Elgin.**—Market is firm at 25½c per lb., which is ½c lower than last week. This market holds up better than was expected.

**New York.**—The market is unsettled, with prices 1c lower than last week. Creamery extras 25½ to 26c; firsts 24 to 25c; seconds 22 to 23c; packing stock 17 to 17½c.

**Eggs.**—Market is firm at prices ¾c higher than last week. Current receipts of fresh stock quoted at 19½c.

**Chicago.**—Market is unchanged. Trading was not as sharp as last week but all grades are selling fairly well. Receipts not as heavy as last week. Miscellaneous lots, cases included 17¼ to 18½c; ordinary firsts 17¼ to 17½c; firsts 18½ to 18¾c.

**New York.**—Market is active, there being a good demand for fresh stock. Receipts are somewhat irregular in quality. Fresh gathered extras 22½ to 23c; storage packed firsts 21 to 22c; firsts 20 to 20½c; extra firsts 21 to 21½c.

**Poultry.**—Firm; prices higher. Live—Springs 18½ to 19c; hens 18½ to 19c; turkeys 18 to 20c; geese 12 to 13c; ducks 17 to 18c.

**Chicago.**—The market is quiet and prices are unchanged. Fowls in the greatest demand. The slow trade in live broilers is due to liberal offerings of frozen broilers. Quotations on live are: Turkeys, good weight 16c; others 12c; fowls, choice 15½c; old roosters 10½c; broilers 1½ to 2 lbs. weight 26 to 28c; geese 10c; ducks 14c; spring ducks 22 to 25c.

## FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

**Apples.**—Market is dull. Fresh southern stuff is hurting the market. Quality is getting poor. Barrel stock quoted: No. 1, \$5.50 to \$6.50; No. 2, \$4 to \$4.50 per bbl. In Chicago an easy feeling prevails on account of slow market. Remaining stock is in few hands who keep price up. Barrel stock now quoted: Spies \$5 to \$6; Baldwins \$5 to \$5.25; Ben Davis \$3.50 to \$4; Golden Russets \$5; Starks \$4 to \$5; Willow Twigs \$5.50 to \$6.

**Potatoes.**—Market is easy at unchanged prices. Demand is only moderate. Quotations. In bulk 62 to 65c per bu; in sacks 68 to 70c per bu. for carlots. At Chicago the market is unsteady. Good stock sold well at last week's prices but poor stuff is hard to sell. Good Michigan round, white stock is quoted at 65 to 70c per bushel.

## GRAND RAPIDS.

The egg market opens firm this week with quotations at 17½ to 18c. Dairy butter is unchanged at 17c. No change is noted in potatoes, sales on the city market being at 65 to 70c. Other vegetables on the market range as follows: Spinach 50 to 60c; pieplant 40 to 50c; asparagus 60 to 70c. The poultry market is easier, the range for chickens being 14 to 14½c; geese 12 to 13c; ducks 16 to 17c. Wheat is worth 92c; oats 39c; corn 65c.

## THE LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

### Buffalo.

May 18, 1914.

(Special Report of Dunning and Stevens, New York Central Stock Yards, East Buffalo, N. Y.)

Receipts of stock here today as follows: Cattle 182 cars; hogs 115 d. d.; sheep and lambs 72 d. d.; calves 2,000 head.

With 180 cars of cattle on our market here today and 21,000 reported in Chicago, all cattle weighing 1200 or over sold strong 15 to 25c per cwt. lower than last Monday, and the heaviest decline was on the best and heaviest cattle. At the close of the market there were perhaps 15 cars of weighty cattle unsold. The handy butchering cattle, from 1100 lbs. down sold steady to about 10c per cwt. lower than last Monday. This class of cattle at the close was well cleaned up, only two or three loads remaining unsold.

Our trade was quite active on all grades of hogs, but the general market about a nickel lower than Saturday. Pigs and lights sold to best advantage, this class selling from \$8.85 to \$9, while yorkers, mixed and heavy, sold at \$8.85 generally. Roughs were extremely dull and best sows were quotable at \$7.50 to \$7.60; stags \$6 to \$7. Market closed fair and a good clearance was made.

The market was slow today on lambs, but active on sheep. Prices 25c lower than the close of last week

on lambs; sheep steady. Choice handy clip lambs selling mostly \$8.50 to \$8.60. We look for steady to shade higher prices last of week with moderate receipts.

We quote: Choice clip lambs \$8.50 to \$8.60; heavy lambs \$7.50 to \$7.75; cull to fair lambs \$6.50 to \$8.40; yearlings \$6.50 to \$7.75; bucks \$3.50 to \$4.50; handy ewes \$5.75 to \$6; heavy ewes \$5 to \$5.50; wethers \$6.25 to \$6.50; cull sheep \$3.50 to \$4.50; veals, choice to extra \$10.25 to \$10.50; fair to good \$8.50 to \$9.75; heavy calves \$5.50 to \$7.

### Chicago.

May 18, 1914.

Cattle. Hogs. Sheep.  
Receipts today..21,000 30,000 18,000  
Same day 1913..21,518 42,761 25,368  
Last week ....38,299 111,337 84,572  
Same wk 1913..39,006 131,594 74,408

The receipts of cattle today were larger than the Monday requirements, these times, and buyers were late in starting out, with prospects for a decline of at least a dime for most kinds, heavy steers especially. Demand centered largely on fat light steers and good butcher stock. Hogs were largely 5c higher, with sales at \$8.25 to \$8.60. Hogs received last week were three pounds heavier than a week earlier in average weight, the average rising to 237 lbs. Today's sheep and lamb market was firmer, with a small supply for the opening day of the week.

Cattle weakened in values by the middle of last week despite continued small supplies, with only a moderate general demand for killing stock, the bulk of the steers crossing the scales at \$8.10 to \$9, while the extreme range was \$7.40 to \$9.45. On Wednesday the highest sale was at \$9.30, and the next best at \$9.15. Choice heavy beefs sold at \$9 and upward and the common to fair class of steers of light weight at \$7.40 to \$8.15, with a medium class of steers at \$8.20 to \$8.55 and good cattle at \$8.60 to \$8.95. Yearlings had to be well finished in order to sell satisfactorily, the better class going at \$8.65 to \$9.25 and common to pretty good lots at \$7.85 to \$8.60. Most cattle sold much higher than at corresponding periods in former years, and this was true of the common and medium descriptions, as well as of better lots. Butchering cows and heifers had a quick sale as a rule, at \$5.20 to \$9, with few selling over \$8.65, although numerous sales took place of yearling steers and heifers mixed, at high figures. Cutters went at \$4.70 to \$5.15, canners at \$3.50 to \$4.65 and bulls at \$5.50 to \$8.10. There was as large trading in stockers and feeders as could be expected with so few offered and further sharp advances in prices, sales ranging at \$6.90 to \$8.65, the highest quotations on record. As has been the case all along, most of the sales at high prices comprised yearling stock steers and stock calves, and packers purchased a big share of the heavy feeders. There was an animated trade in calves, especially in light vealers, these selling at \$10 to \$10.75 for desirable offerings, while heavy calves went at \$6 and over, with stock steer calves in active request at \$7.65 to \$8.75. The milker and springer traffic was livelier at \$60 to \$90 per head, with good cows wanted to ship to Ohio dairy districts.

Hogs suffered declines on several days last week, with much larger receipts than for the preceding week and no corresponding improvement in the demand for choice lots to ship east. General conditions are not anywhere as strong for sellers as they were several weeks ago, and it is necessary for country shippers to act conservatively in the near future if further bad breaks in prices are to be avoided. Recent receipts have averaged in weight 234 lbs., which compares with 242 lbs. a year ago and 235 lbs. two years ago, and prime light hogs sold highest of all, with choice heavy lots going at a discount of 5c or more and packers insisting on big, heavy packer hogs being taken from straight carloads and sold on their merits. Fresh pork still has a good sale, and the trade in cured hog meats is fair for the season. At the close of the week hogs rallied and advanced to \$8.10 to \$8.55 for the commonest to the best, with the top only 5c lower than a week earlier. Pigs closed at \$7.50 to \$8.40 and stags at \$8.60 to \$9.10. Prime heavy hogs sold close to top figures.

Sheep and lambs sold extraordinarily well last week, reaching extremely high prices for everything at all desirable in quality, as the receipts were very much smaller in volume than a few weeks ago, while insufficient offerings caused lively competition between rival buyers. Fair numbers of belated Colorado-fed woolled lambs showed up, but otherwise about everything in the live mutton line came shorn, including many Colorado lambs. Prices were decidedly the best of the year for lambs, which sold far higher than a year ago. Southern spring lambs have begun moving to market,

and the big Chicago packers received fairly large supplies consigned direct to them from Louisville. Shipments of sheep and lambs from here for the week aggregated 20,258 head, comparing with only 8,821 for the same week last year. At the week's close lambs sold 40 to 60c higher, and sheep 15 to 25c higher than a week earlier. Colorado woolled lambs brought \$7.50 to \$9.35, while clipped flocks sold as follows: Lambs \$6 to \$8.50; yearlings \$6.25 to \$7.10; wethers \$5.50 to \$6.25; ewes \$4 to \$6; bucks \$4.25 to \$5.25; spring lambs brought \$8.50 to \$9.75 per 100 lbs.

Horses were not in large supply last week, and yet they were largely \$5 to \$15 per head lower, strictly prime ones excepted, for the latter were comparatively few. Buyers did not want many horses, and sales were apt to drag, with good drafters salable around \$225 to \$250 and better ones quoted up to \$275 to \$300. Light chunks brought \$185 to \$220, with heavier ones taken at \$230 to \$250. Pairs of good farm horses brought \$300 to \$350, and quite a number of farm mares sold singly around \$180 to \$185.

## CROP AND MARKET NOTES.

(Continued from page 561).

**Marion Co.**—Wheat and rye are looking fine, and meadows and pastures are in good condition. Oats are up in good shape, and corn is being planted. A larger acreage of corn than usual is being put in. The fruit trees have blossomed, and there are prospects of a fair crop. Some spraying has been done, but no new orchard are being set out. Pigs and sheep are very scarce articles in this county at present. Eggs 18c; butter 18c; calves 6 to 7c; cows are selling at fancy prices.

### Missouri.

**Vernon Co.**—Small grains are in fine condition. Wheat and rye are heading, and have made an abundant growth of straw, so under favorable conditions we shall have a heavy crop of small grain. Meadows and pastures are doing very well. The fruit seems to be all right, in spite of the cold season. There is some spraying done, but not as much as there should be for proper care of the orchards. A good many fruit and forest trees have died during the past year, from what cause no one seems to know. Some new orchards have been set, and old orchards filled in. Hogs \$7.60; cattle \$6 to \$7; corn 75c; oats 55c; hay \$13; butter \$14; eggs 17c; hens 13c; geese 8c; turkeys 10c; ducks 14c.

**Warren Co.**—The pig crop is short, and the lamb crop fair. No shearing has been done yet, but there will be a great deal of wool at 20c. There is a large acreage of oats. Wheat, rye, meadows and pastures are fine. Fruit has not been hurt, and will make an abundant crop, especially apples and peaches. All orchards of any size have been sprayed, and a few new orchards have been set. A good many silos are being built. Eggs 17c; butter 25c; hogs \$7.75; wheat 90c; corn 70c; oats 50c; potatoes \$1.10.

### South Dakota.

**Todd Co.**—Small grains have made a fine start, as there is plenty of moisture. Meadows and pastures are looking fine. This is a new country, and there is no fruit raised here. Eggs 13c; butter 20c; hogs \$8; wheat 75c; corn 60c; oats 40c; flax \$1.25; barley 50c.

**Meade Co.**—April was a wet month and May came in cold and wet. Wheat and all small grains look good. Meadows and pastures never looked better. In spite of the cold, wet weather, the lamb crop is numbered by thousands, and are doing fine. Wool prices are quoted at 16 to 17c per pound, but no shearing has been done yet. Fruit trees are looking good; there was some damage to trees by rabbits. Alfalfa is surely a reliable crop, and a large acreage is being sown, most farmers sowing from five to 20 acres. Market prices: Cream 24c; butter 15c; eggs 12c; corn 1.35 per cwt; wheat 85c; millet \$1 per bu; oats \$1.25 per cwt. There is no stock being sold. A few cows are being bought for \$60 to \$70.

### Nebraska.

**Knox Co.**—The weather has been somewhat rainy, and the ground is in fine shape for work. The pig crop is going to be large, but there are no sheep raised in this country on account of the wolves. Every farmer is putting in about 60 acres of small grain, and about 60 to 70 acres of corn. Since the rain, wheat, rye, meadows and pastures are doing fine, and cattle have been turned out on the pastures. Fruit prospects are good, as there have been no injurious frosts. No spraying is being done. Eggs 14c; butter 20c; cows \$70; horses \$75 to \$150; corn on ear 51c; shelled 53c; wheat 70c; oats 35c.

### Kansas.

**Cowley Co.**—There has been plenty of rain, and wheat and rye are in fine (Continued on next page).



## THIS IS THE LAST EDITION.

The first edition is sent to those who have not expressed a desire for the latest markets. The late market edition will be sent on request at any time.

## DETROIT LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

## Thursday's Market.

May 21, 1914.

## Cattle.

Receipts 1368. Bulls dull; other grades 10@20c lower than last week; milch cows \$5@10 lower.

Best heavy steers \$8.75@9.10; best handy weight butcher steers \$8.25@8.50; mixed steers and heifers \$7.75@8.25; handy light butchers \$7.50@8; light butchers \$7@7.50; best cows \$6.75@7; butcher cows \$6@6.50; common cows \$5@5.50; canners \$3@4.25; best heavy bulls \$7@7.25; bologna bulls \$6.50@6.85; stock bulls \$6.50@6.75; feeders \$7.25@7.50; stockers \$6.75@7.50; milkers and springers \$45@75.

Haley & M. sold Rattkowsky 3 cows and bulls av 943 at \$6.60; to Hammond S. & Co. 7 steers av 991 at \$8; to Thompson Bros. 2 cows av 780 at \$6, 1 do wgh 930 at \$6.25, 1 steer wgh 1070 at \$8.25, 3 cows av 993 at \$6.25, 2 steers av 1065 at \$8, 4 do av 787 at \$7.50, 4 cows av 1157 at \$6.85, 1 bull wgh 1250 at \$6.85; to Ogman 5 cows av 980 at \$5.50; to Heinrich 26 steers av 916 at \$8.10; to Bresnahan 11 stockers av 600 at \$7.10; to Kull 8 steers av 792 at \$7.80, 3 cows av 793 at \$6.50; to Newton B. Co. 1 bull wgh 1350 at \$6.75; to Kamman B. Co. 5 steers av 894 at \$7.85, 4 cows av 895 at \$6.25; to Applebaum 2 bulls av 960 at \$7; to Gerisch 20 steers av 860 at \$7.90.

Roe Com. Co. sold Beach 8 feeders av 795 at \$7.65; to Mich. B. Co. 2 cows av 1070 at \$6.75, 1 do wgh 950 at \$5, 3 do av 1090 at \$6.75, 1 do wgh 1100 at \$6, 1 do wgh 1100 at \$5.25, 23 steers av 990 at \$8.25; to Kamman B. Co. 7 do av 967 at \$8.10, 5 do av 930 at \$8, 2 cows av 1200 at \$6.75, 5 do av 1040 at \$7; to Bresnahan 7 heifers av 480 at \$7; to Kamman B. Co. 2 bulls av 900 at \$6.75; to Sullivan P. Co. 21 steers av 982 at \$8.25; to Ogden 3 cows av 1040 at \$5.50; to Thompson Bros 1 do wgh 920 at \$4; to Kamman B. Co. 4 do av 960 at \$6.75; to Rattkowsky 3 cows av 980 at \$6.25, 1 do wgh 840 at \$5.

Bishop, B. & H. sold Sullivan P. Co. 20 steers av 1040 at \$7.60, 26 do av 909 at \$7.75, 20 do av 892 at \$8.10, 10 do av 845 at \$8, 2 bulls av 1410 at \$6.85, 1 steer wgh 750 at \$7, 2 bulls av 1150 at \$6.75, 4 cows av 1082 at \$6.75; to Hammond, S. & Co. 1 bull wgh 1280 at \$7, 2 steers av 1060 at \$8.50, 12 do av 1088 at \$8.70, 1 cow wgh 1290 at \$7, 2 steers av 1245 at \$6.75, 2 cows av 1260 at \$6.75, 1 bull wgh 1360 at \$6.75, 5 cows av 1140 at \$6.50, 23 steers av 1050 at \$8.25, 3 cows av 947 at \$6, 13 steers av 990 at \$8.25; to Mason B. Co. 9 do av 861 at \$8, 1 cow wgh 930 at \$7, 2 cow and bull av 1130 at \$6.25; to Bresnahan 8 steers av 785 at \$7.40, 3 heifers av 503 at \$6.50; to Breitenbeck 3 cows av 960 at \$5, 14 do av 1034 at \$6.50; to Kamman B. Co. 15 butchers av 908 at \$7.90; to Parker, W. & Co. 2 canners av 810 at \$4, 2 do av 685 at \$4; to Mich. B. Co. 2 cows av 985 at \$5.25, 2 cows av 910 at \$6.65, 10 do av 998 at \$6, 13 steers av 1240 at \$8.25; to Ratner 1 bull wgh 1400 at \$7.25; to Parker, W. & Co. 21 steers av 1065 at \$8.25; to Mich. B. Co. 8 do av 940 at \$7, 11 do av 960 at \$8, 5 do av 800 at \$7.75, 1 do wgh 1540 at \$8.50.

Spicer & R. sold Sullivan P. Co. 2 bulls av 1525 at \$7, 3 cows av 1090 at \$6.50, 4 do av 832 at \$6.50, 2 do av 875 at \$5, 1 bull wgh 1180 at \$7.25, 2 cows av 1000 at \$6, 4 do av 955 at \$6.25; to Murray 1 steer wgh 890 at \$8, 1 do wgh 1060 at \$7.85; to LaBoe 1 do wgh 840 at \$7.25; to Beach 6 do av 860 at \$7.75; to Thompson Bros. 1 cow wgh 1310 at \$6.65, 3 do av 933 at \$6, 2 heifers av 815 at \$7.50, 1 cow wgh 850 at \$4.25, 1 bull wgh 1240 at \$7; to Beach 2 stockers av 580 at \$7, 2 do av 450 at \$7.25; to Kull 1 bull wgh 1030 at \$6.75; to Rattkowsky 2 oxen av 1600 at \$7, 4 cows av 952 at \$6.35; to Beach 3 stockers av 617 at \$7.25; to Hammond, S. & Co. 2 cows av 900 at \$5.75; to Parker, W. & Co. 2 bulls av 1090 at \$6.75, 4 do av 1212 at \$6.75, 2 cows av 1125 at \$6.75.

## Veal Cales.

Receipts 1144. Market steady. Best \$10@10.50; others \$7@9.50.

Roe Com. Co. sold Newton B. Co. 1 wgh 130 at \$8, 10 av 149 at \$10.50, 4 av 185 at \$8, 6 av 155 at \$10.50.

Haley & M. sold Thompson Bros. 1 wgh 180 at \$10.50, 3 av 100 at \$7, 1 wgh 160 at \$10; to Newton B. Co. 10 av 145 at \$10, 7 av 150 at \$10; to Applebaum 7 av 175 at \$10.50; to Shapiro 5 av 165 at \$9.75, 8 av 170 at \$9.75, 6 av 130 at \$10; to Thompson Bros 5 av 125 at \$10.

## Sheep and Lambs.

Receipts 1575. Market steady. Best lambs \$8@8.25; fair do \$7@7.50; light to common lambs \$5.50@6; yearlings

\$6.50@7.25; fair to good sheep \$5.50@6; culls and common \$3@4; spring lambs \$10@11.

Bishop, B. & H. sold Sullivan P. Co. 8 spring lambs av 55 at \$10.50, 6 lambs av 65 at \$6.50, 10 sheep av 67 at \$6.50, 16 sheep av 90 at \$4.50, 18 do av 75 at \$4.50; to Hammond, S. & Co. 18 lambs av 73 at \$8.25, 31 do av 82 at \$8.25, 9 do av 75 at \$8.25, 10 sheep av 130 at \$5.50, 9 lambs av 75 at \$8; to Mich. B. Co. 303 lambs av 70 at \$8.25; to Young 40 do av 60 at \$6.60; to Fitzpatrick Bros. 17 do av 55 at \$8; to Harland 8 spring lambs av 62 at \$11, 8 do av 45 at \$9.50; to Fitzpatrick Bros. 9 lambs av 75 at \$7, 16 sheep av 105 at \$5, 22 do av 75 at \$4, 13 lambs av 50 at \$5, 10 do av 70 at \$8.25; to Mich. B. Co. 29 spring lambs av 50 at \$10.50; to Hayes 9 lambs av 65 at \$8; to Fitzpatrick Bros. 10 do av 79 at \$8, 6 do av 50 at \$6; to Barlage 22 wool lambs av 55 at \$8.50; to Young 52 do av 75 at \$9; to Barlage 20 do av 50 at \$5.50.

## Hogs.

Receipts, 7755. Heavy \$8.55; pigs and lights \$8.70; bulk of sales \$8.60.

Bishop, B. & H. sold Hammond, S. & Co. 4390 av 190 at \$8.60.

Same sold Miller & Co. 1012 av 200 at \$8.70.

Roe Com. Co. sold Sullivan P. Co. 617 av 190 at \$8.60.

Spicer & R. sold Parker, W. & Co. 1300 av 190 at \$8.60.

Haley & M. sold same 360 av 190 at \$8.60.

## Friday's Market.

May 15, 1914.

## Cattle.

Receipts this week 1558; last week 1269; market steady. Best steers \$8.50@8.75; steers and heifers, 1000 to 1200, \$8@8.50; do 800 to 1000, \$7.50@8; steers and heifers that are fat, 500 to 700, \$6.75@7.50; choice fat cows, \$7@7.25; good do \$6.25@6.75; common cows \$5.50@5.75; canners \$3.50@4.25; choice heavy bulls \$7@7.25; fair to good bologna bulls \$6.50@6.75; stock bulls \$6@6.50; choice feeding steers 800 to 1000, \$7.25@7.75; fair feeding steers, 800 to 1000, \$7@7.25; choice stockers, 500 to 700, \$7@7.25; fair stockers, 500 to 700, \$6.50@6.75; stock heifers, \$6@6.50; milkers, large, young, medium age \$65@85; common milkers \$45@55.

## Sheep and Lambs.

Receipts this week 1717; last week 3009; market 25c higher. Best lambs \$8.50; fair lambs \$7.50@8; light to common lambs \$6@7; yearlings \$7.25; fair to good sheep \$5@6; culls and common \$3.50@4.50.

## Hogs.

Receipts this week 9371; last week 9177; market steady, \$8.45@8.50.

(Continued from preceding page). condition. Alfalfa will be ready to cut by the last of the month. Pastures have been slow starting, and some fears are felt that last year's drouth has killed the grass. The spring grains will have the usual acreage, with Kaffir perhaps in the lead. About an average pig and calf crop. There are no sheep in this locality. Fruit was hurt by late freezing, but prospects are good for a plentiful crop. Only large orchards are sprayed, and few new orchards are being set. Eggs 16c; butter 14c; cream 21c; corn 75c; oats 44c; hay \$12@16; milk \$1.25; hogs \$7.75; cattle \$3.50@6.

Franklin Co.—Thus far May has been windy and rather dry, but a quarter-inch of rain yesterday freshened crops and pastures up. Few sheep are kept in this county. The pig crop was good, a little above the average. Some lost a good many early during the cold weather, but the rest are growing nicely. There is a greater acreage of oats and corn put in than for the past few years. Oats look fine, and corn is coming up nicely. Those planting corn on sod ground have to replant, as cutworms are bad. Wheat and rye are in extra good shape, and meadows and pastures look fine, but have a tendency to be very weedy. Prospects for fruit seem to be good in most cases, especially for berries, and strawberries will begin to ripen in about another week. About half the orchards are sprayed, and orchardists find spraying very beneficial. Mice did not damage trees to any extent. A few new orchards have been set. Many young trees set last year died, owing to the drouth and had to be replaced this spring. Eggs 16c; butter-fat 20c; wheat 80c; corn 65c; hogs \$8.25; cattle \$8.

## Colorado.

Kit Carson Co.—We have had three days of steady rain, but it is now clear, everything looks good, and there are prospects for a good crop, excepting of late planted winter wheat, which is badly killed. Alfalfa looks fine. There will be a good lot of corn and cane planted, as cane, milo maze and such crops make good roughage.



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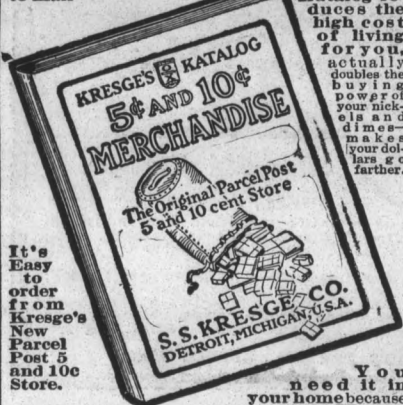
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### Where Experience Counts.

Yes, advertise. Since the days of Benjamin Franklin the business man has been growing more and more wise to the advantages of making his business known. The large amount of advertising space used in periodicals, newspapers, bill-boards, etc., is not the product of an insane mind, but of experience. Business houses many years ago used small advertisements whereas today they want more room for their message to prospective customers. It pays. The test has been made time and time again, and these concerns know about how many dollars and cents they will get in return for every dollar spent in advertising.

And the farmer is learning the lesson. The same road that the business man has traveled, the tiller of the soil will go. But he will go faster. He has the experience of the other to guide him. As soon as he feels that here is something he needs he will seek it out, learn its principles and use it.

### What May be Done at Home.

He will advertise in many ways. The most common of business advertising methods will likely find first place with most agriculturists. The name of the farm will be neatly printed and placed where every passerby cannot help but read, the same as the merchant has the name of his company placed over the door. Such ad-

vertising may have its inception in sentiment, but it will bring business if done half well.

Along with the name, the bulletin board will find a place and thereon goods will be advertised. A rather common thing, and yet for that reason it must be an effective one, or it would never have become common among business men.

### Reaching the Outside Man.

But the above will only reach that class of persons who pass by the farm, so to make the influence broader he will put the name of the farm on his stationery and wherever letters go out from that farm the name goes with it. Cards handed to friends and strangers during moments of travel reaches still further into the outside world. In these things he also imitates the business man.

Then the farmer will add the printed page, and that is the road laid out by the man of affairs. He will buy space and each time he will consider more carefully what he puts in that space—something that will get the eye and hold it till the message is delivered. Here he will widen amazingly the world's knowledge of his farm and the products he has for sale.

And he will exhibit. Automobile shows bring business, why not agricultural shows? At fairs, granges, farmers' clubs, in merchants' windows, at the markets, wherever people congregate, opportunities are offered. People want to see the goods; show them—give them a chance to feel the pull of superior products.

### Holding One's Customers.

Then again, what a tragedy it would be if a satisfied and enthusiastic buyer did not know where to go for more of a product. The business man puts the address upon the goods. He invites repeat orders. He makes the machine or the package carry the message. So the farmer will put his name and address on baskets, barrels, boxes, cans, paper wrappers, wagons, anywhere and everywhere, to catch the eye and fasten the name in the recesses of the buyer's mind as well as the minds of men generally.

It is along these lines that the farmer of tomorrow will work to increase his income. While sentiment may urge him to keep from the notice of the world, business will compel his going forth and heralding abroad, proclaiming wherever he can the virtues of his wares.

## Many Fruit Growing Communities Fraternize.

BENZIE county fruit growers and farmers have organized and will combine the co-operative marketing plan that is followed on the Pacific coast with crop improvement work, such as is being done in sections of Illinois and in other places. A meeting was held at Frankfort and officers were elected as follows: President, A. G. Cornell; secretary, Chas. J. Kinney. A competent manager will be selected, also a soil expert. A central packing and shipping warehouse will be built from which point Benzie fruit and farm products will be distributed in carlots. A standard brand and standard methods of grading and packing will be adopted. Improved general farming methods will be urged, also the development of dairying and hogs, poultry and bees, it being recognized that man cannot live by fruit alone, especially in off years.

Seed, fertilizers, spray material, fruit packages, machinery, etc., will be purchased co-operatively and all unnecessary expenses cut off, as do the

successful corporations and business houses. The by-laws specify that each member shall have one vote irrespective of the size of his farm, but the expenses are borne pro rata based on packages of fruit handled or business handled for each member. A member loses his vote when he sells his farm and the association is bound to pay him for his stock.

Benzie county now has 2,000 acres of fruit lands in bearing and it is estimated that within two years there will be an additional 8,000 acres of tree and small fruits. The steam road which serves that territory has arranged a shipping service this season to meet the needs of growers and it is expected that the boats will also give improved service. Fruit packed today will be put into Detroit, Toledo and other markets early tomorrow morning. Over a hundred growers have already joined the association, or will do so at once.

About 50 Oceana county fruit growers have organized the Fruit Valley

Canning Company and will build a plant at New Era to take care of this season's crop of peaches, apples and other fruits. V. W. Green, a well-known fruit grower, is secretary. No member may hold over \$200 worth of stock.

Osceola county growers have organized under the name of the Evert Fruit Growers' Association. S. F. Postal is president and Robert Rosen, secretary. It is the purpose to grow more fruit, particularly better fruit, and regular meetings will be held for orchard demonstrations and practical discussions.

Recognizing the urgent need of co-operation the farmers of Charlevoix county has taken an option on the old sugar warehouse and lands at Charlevoix and it is proposed to form a \$10,000 stock company with shares at \$10 each and to convert the sugar factory into a cold storage and shipping warehouse. Otto Powers is taking the lead in the movement.

Jackson county fruit growers have re-elected officers for the year and have decided to put on the annual apple show in Jackson this fall, also to make a fruit exhibit at the state fair.

### SOME PARCEL POST HINTS.

The following hints on packing parcels for delivery by parcel post have been sent out by the postmaster at Washington, D. C.:

Pack and wrap your parcels securely.

Most of the damage and losses are due to insecure packing.

Address your parcel correctly and plainly.

Write your own name and address in the upper left hand corner.

Packages containing eggs should be marked "Eggs."

Packages containing perishable matter should be marked "Perishable."

Packages containing liquids, jellies, etc., should be marked "Fragile."

Don't pack eggs, berries or similar produce in a thin pasteboard box.

Eggs wrapped separately and surrounded in cotton or excelsior and packed in a strong corrugated pasteboard, wooden or metal box can be sent any distance.

Do not put any writing in the package unless it is a bill for the goods, or a description of the contents of the package.

Do not send perishable matter so it will arrive in the city on a Saturday evening or on Sunday—unless you use a special delivery stamp.

Consult your postmaster as to the best time for mailing country produce so as to reach the city at the best hour, the quickest time and in the best condition.

### LIVE STOCK NEWS.

Wisconsin buyers report a short crop of marketable calves owing to a disposition among dairymen to retain the female calves for maturing purposes. At such central points as Fond du Lac offerings of calves have been falling all of 40 per cent short of the normal figures, and the chances are that veal is going to sell at high prices in the future. There is a marked shortage of milch cows nearly everywhere, and the maturing process has become highly profitable.

Within four weeks receipts of foreign beef in New York have aggregated 31,226 carcasses, the greater part going into coolers for future consumption. Warm weather from now on will cause much decreased importations. The Argentine beef has met with an unfavorable reception in Chicago and other western markets, where it has been sold by retail markets close to the prices asked for good domestic beef, although it is much inferior in quality.

There is a wide-spread demand for cattle for grazing, and the call is especially large in districts where few young cattle were wintered because of the light supply of feed resulting from last year's drought. The largest demand by far is for yearling light stock steers, and these are bringing very high prices.



## Crop and Market Notes.

## Michigan.

**Gratiot Co.**—Oats were late, some being sown the first week in May. The acreage of oats is above the average, and more barley is being put in than usual. Corn ground is being prepared, but a great deal of it will not be planted before May 20. Wheat is in good condition. Peppermint promises to be a factor in this section of the county, as a great many are getting enough roots this year to plant several acres next year. This crop proved a paying venture to those who began last year. Fruit, except peaches, is in good condition. Many new orchards were put out. Beans are quoted at \$2. Some are leaving them out of the rotation this season, but the acreage promises as large as usual. Eggs 18c; butter 16@22c; hogs \$7.75.

**Mecosta Co.**—Fall seeding is looking good. There were not as many oats sown here as usual. Fruit prospects are not very bright. Spraying is somewhat neglected. A considerable number of fruit trees are being set. Pasture is coming along rather slow. The pig crop is good. Horses and milch cows are scarce and high. There are quite a good many potatoes still in growers' hands for the time of year. Eggs 17c; butter-fat 22c; butter 18@20c; potatoes 50c; there is not much live stock marketed; hogs 8½c; veals 7c.

**Hillsdale Co.**—Recent rains have produced ideal conditions for meadows, pasture fields, wheat, rye, and oats, and all these crops are looking unusually promising. About the usual acreage of oats were sown, the crop for the most part being sown in good time, due largely to the extensive acreage of fall plowing. Preparations for corn-planting are now in progress, and the acreage promises to be large. Fruit trees are blossoming full, and barring detrimental frosts, the trees will probably be laden with fruit, as the weather is ideal for the blossoming time, fairly warm, with plenty of sunshine. About the usual number of young trees have been set this spring, mostly peach, plum and cherry. But few new apple orchards are being set. The work of building and repairing roads is under way in many localities. The number of young pigs and lambs is as large as usual. The number of pigs will probably exceed that of recent years, due to the fact that cholera has not made its appearance for many months, in localities hitherto affected. The output of wool is about normal, 22c being paid for good quality. Wheat is quoted at 93c; rye 62c; oats 38c; potatoes 55@65c; hay \$11; straw \$4@6; live chickens 15c; eggs 18c; butter 20@22c.

## New York.

**Columbia Co.**—We are having a late spring, and there are some oats to be sown yet. Pastures and meadows are promising. About the usual amount of crops will be grown. Fruit, except peaches, will be a fair crop; fruit trees are not yet in bloom. There is some spraying being done, while a few orchards are being set. The pig and lamb crops are normal. Wool 25c lb; butter 35c; eggs 20c; potatoes retail at \$1.25.

**Orleans and Niagara Co.'s.**—Farmers are somewhat discouraged over the outlook, as very few spring crops are in, and very little ground is prepared, as we have had considerable rain. Winter wheat and grass are looking fine. Apple trees will blossom full, and the prospects are good for a full crop, while peaches will be almost a total failure. Other fruit seems to promise well. Spraying is about completed, although it has been accomplished under difficulties.

## New Jersey.

**Monmouth Co.**—Pigs are scarce and high, selling at \$4.50@5 each at six weeks old. Very little wool is produced, price 20@22c. Only a small acreage of oats has been put in. Wheat, rye, meadows and pastures are looking well. Fruit prospects are good and considerable spraying has been done. Fruit trees were damaged by rabbits and mice. There are not many new orchards being set. Eggs 18c; butter 30c; veal 10c; wheat \$1; corn 75c.

**Morris Co.**—The weather is very warm and there is plenty of rain. Only a few farmers are through seeding oats, and some have started to plow for corn. The season is about two or three weeks late. Prospects for all crops of fruit are excellent. The pig crop is good, and six weeks-old pigs are in great demand at \$7.50@8 per pair. There was no winter damage to fruit trees by mice, but snowbanks ruined a few by breaking them down. A few fruit trees are being set out, but no large orchards are being put out. Butter 33c; eggs 22c; corn \$20 per ton; wheat \$1.

## Pennsylvania.

**Lancaster Co.**—The pig crop is slightly under normal. There are al-

most no lambs raised. About the usual acreage of spring grains being put in. Wheat, rye, meadows and pastures are in excellent condition. Fruit prospects are very good, as the blossoms do not seem to be injured. Some spraying has been done. Fruit trees were not damaged by mice, but some were killed by rabbits. Few orchards are being set. Eggs 18c; butter 29c; chickens 12@14c.

**Erie Co.**—Everything is very backward for the time of year. There will be the usual acreage of spring crops. The pig crop is very short. Wheat, rye, meadows and pastures are in fine condition. Fruit prospects look very good. Eggs 18c; butter 26c; veal 7c; oats 50c; potatoes \$1.

**Bucks Co.**—We are having a wet and late spring. Oat sowing is not all done yet, although there will be the average acreage of oats and corn. Grain and grass look good. Fruit trees are in bloom and prospects are for a good crop. Many trees are being planted every year, and most every farmer sprays. No winter damage to fruit trees is reported. Choice timothy hay 70c per cwt; meadow hay 45c per cwt; eggs 20c; butter 30c; potatoes \$1; corn 82c; oats 52c; milk at creamery \$1.25; in city 4c per qt. Pigs are scarce and high.

## Ohio.

**Carroll Co.**—We have had a few light frosts, but the fruit has not been injured. The recent showers have started things growing nicely. Farmers have a lot of plowing to do yet; on account of the wet weather farmers are behind with plowing, and very little corn has been planted. There are not many sheep to shear this spring.

**Columbiana Co.**—As the weather has been wet, some farmers have not finished sowing oats, and some have their corn ground plowed, but it is still too cool to plant. There is going to be a good acreage of potatoes planted. Wheat is making a splendid growth. Pasture is good, and many farmers have turned their stock out. There is a fine prospect for fruit this year, but not much of the spraying has been done. Several are setting out new orchards. Sheep are about all sheared, and wool prices run from 18@22c; eggs 18c; butter 24c; chickens 18c; wheat 98c; corn 72c; hogs \$8.75.

**Crawford Co.**—We are having a late spring. Wheat, meadows and pastures are in good condition. The usual acreage of spring crops will be put in. Corn planting will begin as soon as the ground is prepared. Some fruit trees are in blossom, and the buds are not damaged by the frosts we had. Some spraying is being done. A large amount of wool will soon be ready for market, and buyers are now offering 20c. The pig and lamb crop is large, with few losses. Eggs 17c; butter 22c; butter-fat 24½c; hogs \$8; calves 8c; wheat 90c; corn 60c; oats 36c; hay \$12.

**Hancock Co.**—Wheat and rye will make a good crop. Pastures and meadows are a little short yet, but will make a heavy growth if warm weather continues. There are more spring pigs, and probably fewer lambs than usual. Wool is selling at 21c. On account of the wet weather fewer oats than usual were sown, and a larger acreage of corn will be planted. Fruit prospects are good. About one-half the farmers have sprayed their trees. Many water-bound pikes will be built this summer. Eggs 18c; cream 24c; butter 20c; hogs \$8.35; cattle \$7@8; wheat 92c; corn 60c; oats 42c; hay \$8@10.

**Holmes Co.**—The weather is warm, with plenty of rain. Pastures are good, and many farmers are turning out their stock. Wheat prospects are fine. There is not much alfalfa raised here. The average acreage of oats and corn will be planted. Some corn has been planted. The pig crop is fair, and the lamb crop very good. Wheat 93c; oats 43c; corn 75c; hay \$12. Some spraying has been done.

## Illinois.

**Marion Co.**—The pig and lamb crops are up to the average. The wool crop is short, and the price offered is about 20c. The usual acreage of spring grains is being put in, though the season is late. Wheat, rye, meadows and pastures are good. The fruit crop will be somewhat below the average; 75 per cent of the orchards are being sprayed. Very few new orchards are being set. Eggs 16c; butter 22c; hogs 8c; corn 80c; oats 52c.

**Perry Co.**—The pig and lamb crops are short. There is about an average crop of wool and the price is 20c per pound. On account of the wet weather, there will be less than the average acreage of spring grains. Wheat, rye, meadows and pastures are fine. Fruit prospects are good. There is not much spraying done. The fruit business here is on the decline, on account of serious damage from the scale. Eggs 18c; butter 17c; corn 80c; oats 50c; wheat 86c; hogs \$8.

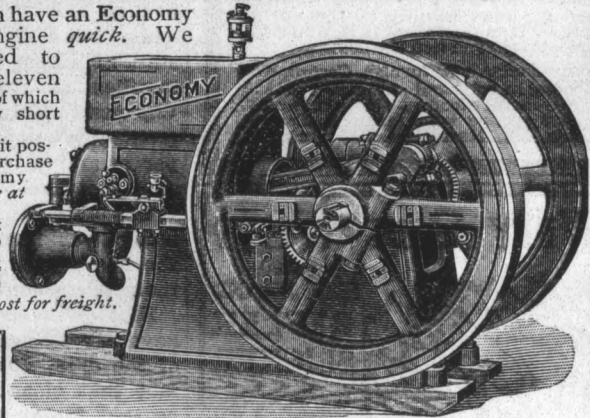
(Continued on page 558).

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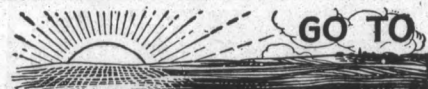
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## Grange.

### INTERESTING PROGRAM AT CLINTON COUNTY POMONA.

Members of Clinton County Pomona Grange, and visitors, were the guests of Wacousta Grange, Wednesday, May 6, and were accorded a hearty welcome by the Master John Espie, who gave a splendid address at the opening of the meeting.

Wacousta is a comparatively new Grange, having been organized in March, 1912, by M. T. Middleton, of Flint. Mr. Middleton evidently, in his work of organizing and installing new Granges, believes in starting with a "large quantity of charter members of good quality." In this particular Grange this precept was exemplified and seldom do we find such a substantial class of farmers and their families as formed the nucleus of Wacousta Grange. The local programs that appear in the weekly paper is ample testimony of the leadership that has been developed.

The entertainment of readings and music was furnished by members of the home Grange and was a credit to their talent and ability.

E. A. Winegar, of Wacousta Grange, gave a very practical talk on the care of the dairy cow, and emphasized the fact that cleanliness is the most important factor in caring for milk and cream.

Oscar Clark discussed the future of fruit growing and believed that there are great possibilities in fruit growing for the man who makes a study of the subject and cares for his orchard properly.

"What is our progress in government reforms?" was the next question for discussion and was ably handled by G. F. Ottmar, who said: "We have quite a number of radical reforms. Some are not an improvement but a change. One reform that is of great benefit to the farmer, is the parcel post. While it is true that the express companies have cut rates, yet they do not bring parcels to our door, nor take them away, as does the parcel post. Since the reduction of rate and increase of weight has taken effect it is not only a great improvement, but a great convenience to the farmer as well as to others. Direct nomination of United States Senators is also a great improvement over the old system. As for the bank reserve, time will serve to show whether it is an improvement or otherwise.

The brother to whom was assigned the topic, "Father's Example in Citizenship," not being prepared, E. A. Holden, of Capitol Grange, and commissioner of Schools T. H. Townsend, of Clinton county, were asked to make some remarks along this line. Mr. Holden said that more and more we are learning that the prime object of education is to make better citizenship. The churches, the schools, the Sunday schools, the Y. M. C. A. are training people to be better citizens, are training them for a life of usefulness. Today we are measuring men and women, not by their wealth but by what they are doing to raise the standard. The father's acts and words have a vast influence on the citizenship of the future. The father's influence in the home goes forth and extends to the community, the state and the nation. A father's good name is a better legacy to his children than a bequest of gold or silver. Our lives are rendered more valuable, as we are able to uplift and build up the lives of others. Our farms are far more valuable if the boys and girls of the community are educated, refined and industrious. The most valuable asset of the community, state and nation is good citizenship.

Mr. Townsend expressed great

pleasure in having the opportunity of visiting a Grange meeting in his old home town, and urged co-operation between the Grange, the Farmers' Clubs and kindred organizations, they should go hand in hand, side by side, all working with the same high and worthy motives. It is good to be here and catch the spirit of the day and carry it back with us. He paid a high tribute to "Mothers' Day," and the splendid proclamation of Governor Ferris. The language used, and the thoughts expressed. The man is not a good man, not a good citizen, we might say, who is not willing to sacrifice some personal pleasures to please the home—to build up the home. Fear was expressed that there is a gradual drifting away from example set by fathers and mothers in the pioneer homes; where the family were wont to gather by the fireside. There was then an hour set apart, sacred to the family, when the few books and papers were read and discussed. They often gathered around the old organ and sang the old familiar songs, and in other ways shared life's pleasures together, not each one going separate ways, seeking for pleasure and entertainment. The civilization of that day was of the nature that cements home ties, or, in other words, we had a cementing civilization. Today we are participating too much in a diverting civilization. Mr. Townsend concluded by giving "A Message to Garcia," which well illustrates that good citizenship means being equal to the occasion.

Mr. May next gave a few remarks concerning "Community Life." Mother's Day was then appropriately observed, followed by luncheon, served by sisters of Wacousta Grange.

Ingham Co. MRS. E. J. CREYTS.

## Farmers' Clubs

### YEARLY PROGRAMS.

#### Ingham County Farmers' Club.

The annual program of the Ingham County Farmers' Club for 1914 is a neatly bound booklet, the cover page of which bears simply the name of the Club and the year for which the program serves. At the head of the title page appears two dates, one in each upper corner, which express volumes in the matter of Club experience. The first of these is 1872, the date of organization of this pioneer among Michigan Farmers' Clubs. The other is the year for which the program serves. At the bottom of the title page is the announcement that the regular meetings of the Club occur on the second Saturday of each month. The next page is devoted to a list of the officers and directors of the Club, while the page following gives a list of the standing committees of the Club which, besides the usual committees on program, location of meetings and music, includes a floral committee, a memorial committee, a corn club committee and a committee on domestic science. The balance of the booklet is devoted to the presentation of the monthly programs for the year, one to each page. At the head of each of these appears the date, including the day of the month on which the meeting will occur, the name of the host and hostess who will entertain, and the farm name of the place of meeting, in most instances. Next follows a quotation appropriate to the season or the occasion. Then comes the program proper, in which the subjects for discussion and the titles of addresses or papers are given. The musical numbers are arranged by a special committee of one for each meeting, whose name is given on the program for the month. An announcement of the personnel of the table committee for the month completes the printed pro-

gram. Special features include a Temperance meeting in March, Dairy meeting in May, Young People's Day in September, Women's Day, in November, and a meeting devoted to the Boys' and Girls Agricultural Clubs, in November, which meeting is held at the Court House at the county seat. Meetings are held every month in the year with the exception of July. The Boy and Girl Club work was inaugurated by this Club last year with such success that it was made a feature of Associational work this year through the influence of the Ingham County Club. On the last page of the program appears the motto of the Club, "Growth is better than permanence, and permanent growth is better than all." The spirit expressed in this motto no doubt explains the noteworthy growth and permanence of this pioneer among Michigan Farmers' Clubs during the 42 years which have elapsed since its inception.

### FARMERS' CLUBS IN MINNESOTA.

While Michigan is the pioneer state in the Farmers' Club movement, Minnesota has recently outstripped her in the work of organizing active Clubs. The reason for this is the fact that the organization of Farmers' Clubs in Minnesota has been fostered by the agricultural extension division of the University of St. Paul, while the development of the Michigan Farmers' Club movement was entirely spontaneous and due to the initiative of the Club workers themselves. Some statistics recently compiled show that on February 1, 1914, there were 625 active Clubs in the state of Minnesota. Most of these Clubs meet once each month, having similar meetings with a similar program to those usually held by local Farmers' Clubs in Michigan. A review of published reports of many of these meetings shows, however, that the members are making their work broad from the standpoint of education as well as entertainment. During the winter season, considerable attention was devoted to co-operative work, and egg selling associations and other similar organizations were built up from the Club memberships, while in some Clubs co-operative buying was made a factor of the work. With the coming of spring, bird study clubs have been organized in several localities, while as entertainment features, the old spelling contest was reinstated in many Minnesota communities through the medium of the Farmers' Club.

We shall be glad from time to time to publish little features of interest relating to Farmers' Club work in Minnesota, as these may be helpful by way of suggestion to Michigan Club workers.

### CLUB DISCUSSIONS.

**New Club will Hold Corn Contest.**—The May meeting of the East Nankin Farmers' Club was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Jorgensen, Tuesday evening, May 5. Mrs. O. N. Webb, of Grosse Ile, gave an interesting talk on the Farmers' Club proposition. She advised holding of monthly meetings, holding no meetings through the summer, but having a Fourth of July celebration and a Club picnic. She considers the question box a great help in promoting interest and helping the farmers buy and sell their produce, etc. After the talk by Mrs. Webb, an interesting discussion was held on her subject, and she gave many valuable pointers. The Club voted to hold a corn contest this summer, taking into consideration the best ten ears selected from a measured acre, the total yield on one acre, and the cost of production. The Club voted to join the State Association of Farmers' Clubs. After adjournment a bountiful supper was served, which was enjoyed by all. Cyrus Lathers, Secretary.

**Discuss Farm Topics.**—Fifty members of the Hadley and Elba Farmers' Club met in April with Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Phelps and had a very pleasant time. Bert Bullock and Mr. Hutchings gave a fine paper on potatoes and alfalfa raising. Reading by Jennie Phelps, music by Harland Phelps.—Flora Pierson, Cor. Sec.



mention The Michigan Farmer.



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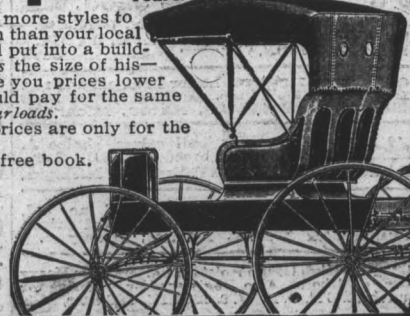
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