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NOVEMBER ORCHARD  
AND GARDEN  
NOTES.

Spray with lime sulphur or other  
fungicide and insecticide.

Make plantings of spring bulbs if it  
is not already been done.

Cover Boston ivy vines with straw  
protection against winter.

Rake up and burn all prunings and  
seeds in the orchard and garden.

As soon as the ground freezes cover  
the strawberry bed and bulb beds.

Place oak boughs that are holding  
their leaves over tender evergreens.

Prune and burn all diseased limbs  
dry fruits clinging to the plum or  
apple tree.

Mulch orchard trees and shrubs  
with manure as soon as the ground  
freezes a little.

Secure plenty of good potting soil  
and leaf mold for planting next spring's  
seeds or for hot-bed use.

Euonymus machii or wahoo is a  
splendid fall plant on account of the  
fruit which hangs on late.

Draw the currant branches together  
and tie them to prevent their being  
broken down by the snow or sleet of  
winter.

Cut and burn asparagus canes.  
Well rotted manure is available  
to mulch the bed well with it, plowing it  
as early in spring as possible.

Place burlap, cornstalks or boards  
on the south side of small smooth-  
arked lawn trees and apple trees to  
protect from sunscald during the winter.

Do not allow house plants to stand  
in water in the jardiniere. Water as  
frequently and thoroughly as the plant  
needs, but keep the jardiniere dry at  
all times.

As by the same time  
loosened at this  
place until toward  
pruning barrel  
days may be made for  
next season's growth.

Put plenty of broken pottery in all  
ots over four inches in depth when  
potting or repotting plants. This will  
sure good drainage which is always  
essential to plant growth.

Cotoneaster acutifolia and Alpine  
urrant have held their foliage through-  
it most of October. The changing  
olor of Cotoneaster has been espe-  
cially pleasing this season.

Send to the Experiment Station of  
the State and to the U. S. Department  
of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for  
bulletins on the subjects of most in-  
terest. Put in a few winter evenings  
studying these and some of the farm  
apers.

Just before snow comes cover the  
wn with well-rotted manure. Rake  
its litter off in the spring after the  
tins have worked the manure into  
e soil. Better sod will result.  
Seeds will be kept in check more  
asily by the grass.

## SAFE ROADS.

New Conditions Raise Requirements.

The advent of motor vehicles brings  
new road problems. For slow moving  
vehicles, of course, almost any  
rade or curve was safe. Horses,  
cyclists and pedestrians are in danger  
of going over declivities or  
through fences on curves, only in case  
of accident.

The greater speed of the automobile  
motorcycle introduces new dangers  
and much stronger guard rails beside  
vines or on bridges are now neces-  
sary, but the greatest change needed  
in case of sharp curves. These  
have always been a little embarrassing  
especially in case the road was  
brow and in some instances drivers  
not see one another until they are  
ss than 100 feet apart on such  
rves, or as they approach the brow  
a hill. If each should happen to be  
aveling at the rate of only 10 or 15  
les an hour, they are approaching  
e another at the rate of 20 or 30  
les an hour, or the speed of a rail-  
ad train. It is not enough to say  
at they should not drive at such a  
speed for the man who approaches  
a point at a safe speed must be  
ected by every possible means  
in the more reckless driver who  
metimes travels 20 or 25 miles an  
ur. These curves are dangerous  
ough at best and should be removed  
ever possible. If they cannot be  
oved they may be made less sharp;  
y be removed.

WINTER OCCUPA-  
TION OF LABOR.

The profitable employment of labor  
during the winter season is one of  
the difficult problems on many farms.  
Unless the scheme of farm organization  
is well balanced the horses needed  
for summer work, as well as the  
men, will be idle during a part of the  
winter. They must be fed and cared  
for and the money invested is costing  
interest all the time. Some way  
should be provided in which they can  
at least earn a part of their board.  
The cost of feeding the horses can  
often be reduced by feeding cheap  
forage and allowing the horses to  
rough it in a lot or shed. It is possible  
in some places to use them in  
hauling building material, cord wood,  
or fence posts. So far as possible,  
bulky farm produce should be mar-  
keted during the winter, thus using  
the horses when the demand for horse  
labor on the farm is not so pressing.

Many forms of occupation can be  
devised which will employ the man  
labor on most farms. Caring for live  
stock is one of the most common as  
well as most profitable. What the  
particular class of stock should be will  
depend on the food supply, the mar-  
ket facilities, and the kind of labor  
available. The care of dairy cows  
may be combined with wood cutting  
to advantage in many cases. A flock  
of sheep may be purchased and fed  
out on cheap, rough food and some  
grain. A car of feeder cattle may be  
finished on bundle-corn, thus saving  
the cost of husking and at the same  
time providing winter occupation for  
labor.

The farmer who has a lot of good  
grain or corn on hand may make good  
wages by preparing it for sale as seed  
and putting it on the market as such.  
A few farmers in Minnesota last winter  
increased the price of their seed  
corn from \$3 to \$8 and \$10 a bushel  
by careful selection and making individual  
ear tests. One farmer sold  
\$260 worth of seed corn from a six-  
ten-acre field in this way without de-  
pleting to any appreciable extent his  
supply of feed. He counted his time  
well spent.

Many operations usually conducted  
in open weather can be hastened by  
attention and preparation during the  
winter season. Machinery and har-  
ness repairs, fence and building alter-  
ations or repairs, manure hauling, feed  
delivery and storage, and others will  
come to the mind of the forehand-  
er as he gives thought to the  
matter. All of these items are vitally  
connected with the profit side of the  
financial statement.—Andrew Boss,  
Agronomy and Farm Management,  
University Farm, St. Paul.

## PROFIT IN SPRAYING.

Failure to Spray Brings Loss to  
Orchardists.

Spraying is absolutely essential to  
the production of the best fruit. It  
brings a large profit in dollars and  
cents if up-to-date methods are fol-  
lowed. This is strikingly proved by  
some five-year average figures which  
we quote from the Nebraska Experi-  
ment Station.

During the five years an average of  
four sprayings a year was given to 16  
orchards which had 3,300 trees in all,  
averaging 18 years old. Each year, 13  
gallons of spraying material per tree  
were applied, or 650 gallons per acre  
of 50 trees. The average cost of 100  
gallons of spraying material was 87  
cents, and it cost 98 cents more to  
apply it. From these figures it is  
readily computed that it cost 11.3 cents  
per tree for spraying material, or 24  
cents a year to cover the whole cost  
of spraying a tree when the work was  
done in an orchard of some size. This  
makes a total spraying cost of \$12.00  
for each acre of 50 trees. The benefit  
is indicated by the following figures:

|                             | Unsprayed | Sprayed |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Marketable fruit            | 90        | \$36.90 |
| Culls and windfalls         | 85        | 4.25    |
| Advantage of spraying trees | 100       | 76.55   |
| Average cost                |           | 12.00   |
| Average net gain per acre   |           | 64.55   |

F. L. Washburn, Division of Entomology, Minnesota Experiment Station.

## TAXING BILLBOARDS.

Considerable attention is being  
given to the billboard nuisance of our  
cities and country towns. This nu-  
isance is even creeping into the coun-  
try and spoiling some very pretty  
landscape views. Civic societies are  
considering ways and means of elim-  
inating the billboard with its inartistic,  
undesirable features. As a result  
some of the larger billboard advertis-  
ers are paying more attention to ar-  
tistic effects and featuring less objection-  
able things.

At best the billboard is undesirable  
and inartistic and some means of en-  
tirely suppressing it should be found.  
The French Parliament provided a  
law, which went into effect last June,

taxing the billboard from ten to eighty  
dollars a square yard, according to its  
size. The larger the billboard, the  
heavier is the tax. If it bears two ad-  
vertisements, the tax is doubled and  
if three, it is trebled. It is said that,  
since the passage of this law, no new  
billboards have been erected and it is  
quite likely that, after the three years  
of grace given to those already in  
use are past, the billboard nuisance  
will be almost entirely done away with  
in France.

It is said that in New York alone  
the revenue derived from the billboard  
amounts to nearly a million dollars  
annually. These boards are even built  
in open violation of laws regulating  
their construction and are unsafe and  
unsightly. Scarcely a trip is made on  
the street cars or railroad trains, or  
even public wagon roads, without passing  
through lanes of flaming advertisements  
which very often, especially in the  
rural districts, cut off pleasant  
views of field and forest.

Why not tax this nuisance enough  
to put it out of business, or at least  
reduce its use very greatly?—LeRoy  
Cady, Horticulturist, University Farm,  
St. Paul.

POINTED PARA-  
GRAPHHS.

"Lives there a man with soul so dead,  
Who never to himself has said  
This is my own my native farm,  
Where I may live all safe from harm?"

Why not possess your own farm and  
operate it? The people of the land  
are destined to be the people of the  
future. America is building up all  
too rapidly a landlord-tenant system.  
Begin now and get a farm.

Fall plowing produces better crops  
than spring plowing.

Why did you burn the straw piles?  
Did it ever occur to you that in burning  
a ton of straw valuable plant food  
was lost? The soil suffers in physical  
condition as well as available plant  
food when humus is destroyed. A ton of wheat straw has 220 pounds of  
nitrogen, 80 pounds of phosphoric acid,  
and 240 pounds of potash; oats straw has  
240 pounds of nitrogen, 80 pounds of  
phosphoric acid, and 360 pounds of  
potash. Why throw this plant food  
away for the sake of illuminating the  
prairies? Scatter it over the field and  
plow it under.—C. P. Bull, Associate  
Professor of Agronomy, University Farm,  
St. Paul.

## HAVE A LEADER.

Farm Specialties May Pay Well.

Every progressive merchant, no  
matter how large his stock in trade,  
caters to the public with some par-  
ticular part of his stock as a leader.  
Likewise, sensible farming may call  
for a diversity of lines, but he is a  
poor workman who does not show apti-  
tude for some particular thing, and indeed  
a poor farmer if one cannot find  
something to commend. If your apti-  
tude leads you toward dairy stock,  
horses, hogs, corn, turkeys, or what-  
ever else, follow it to the extent that  
it brings you not only satisfaction and  
success, but financial return as well.  
Do not, however, permit it to so far  
outweigh the other lines you are fol-  
lowing that it will unbalance your sys-  
tem of farming. One-sided farming is  
dangerous to follow, and is seldom a  
lasting success.

Your leader should be one that will  
attract the attention of your neigh-  
bors and set the pace along that line  
in the community. Not only will it  
set the pace of the community, but if you  
are made of the right stuff, it will  
mark the pace for the other lines you  
are following, and raise your standard  
along all lines.—O. M. Olson, Extension  
Division, University Farm.

## PURE SEED POINTERS.

Have you saved and cured your seed  
corn? Don't fail to do it. The present  
indications point strongly toward a  
repetition of last spring's scarcity  
and poor quality.

Have you got your clover, timothy  
and alfalfa seed for next spring's seed-  
ing? Now is a good time to get it.  
Write the Secretary of the Minnesota  
Field Crop Breeders' Association, St.  
Anthony Park, Minn., for a seed list.  
You can then buy directly from the  
producer. Experiment Station im-  
proved strains are advocated.

How about the seed wheat? Have  
you a pure variety and a clean lot  
of seed? If not, ask yourself why.  
You can save what seed you will need  
from this year's crop and still be able  
to sell the rest on the general market  
for as good a price as though the best  
had not been removed.

Is your farm free from wild oats,  
Canada thistles, and mustard? If not,  
why not? Pure seed from a small  
separate seedplot and rotation of  
crops will solve the problem for you.  
—C. P. Bull, Associate Professor of  
Agronomy, University Farm, St. Paul.

CO-OPERATION FOR  
GOOD SEED.

The Community Fanning Mill Helps in  
Seed Selection.

Cereal improvement is part of farm  
progress. The methods to be used are  
still unsettled in the minds of many  
farmers. The most technical and  
complicated methods of plant breed-  
ing must be left to experiment station  
men who devote their lives to the  
study of the problem.

The fanning mill is certainly practical  
on any grain growing farm. It  
should be used to remove light ker-  
nels, weed seed and trash. The heavier  
kernels selected by the fanning  
mill are usually more productive;  
and all agree on getting rid of the  
weed seed and trash.

We have said that the fanning mill  
was practical on the average farm and it  
ought to be used there. One great  
obstacle to such use arises from the  
fact that few men know how to make  
the fanning mill clean and grade the  
grain as they want it to. Many have  
had poor fanning mills. Others do  
not have the necessary room to make  
grain cleaning convenient.

Why not clean grain in the same  
way that we thrash it? Every com-  
munity has some mechanically in-  
clined farmer who can handle the fan-  
ning mill outfit better than anyone  
else in the community. Let him clean  
and grade the grain. He can equip a  
tight bottom, low wagon with two  
good sized fanning mills operated with  
belts by a small gasoline engine. With  
such an equipment he might go  
from farm to farm, take the grain from  
the bin, clean, grade and return it, all by the use of machinery.

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plow it under.—C. P. Bull, Associate  
Professor of Agronomy, University Farm,  
St. Paul.

THE FARM TOOL  
CHEST.

Pleasure and profit meet in the  
farm tool chest. The good workman  
takes a just pride in bright, well kept  
tools. They cut down repair bills.  
They avoid the delay and cost of  
sending for a carpenter. They are  
especially needed at this time of the  
year in repairing buildings for the

The exact tools to be provided vary  
with the nature of the work to be  
done, the size of the farm and the  
means and personal tastes of the farmer.  
Every farmer should have at least

the following tools:

|                                     |                           |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Hammer                              | Chisels 1/2 and 1 1/2 in. |
| Rip saw                             | Mallet                    |
| Hand saw                            | Drawknife                 |
| Jack plane                          | Screw driver              |
| Square                              | Rule                      |
| Ratchet brace                       | Marking gauge             |
| Expansive bit                       | Wood rasp                 |
| Bits 1/4, 3/8, 1/2, 5/8 and 3/4 in. | Oil stone                 |

Buy good tools. Cheap materials  
even at a little lower first cost, do  
not mean economy here. Have a  
place for every tool and every tool in  
its place. It does not take long to  
lose quite a bit of money if tools are  
carelessly thrown about by children  
or hired help.—H. B. White, Agricultural  
Engineering, University Farm, St. Paul.

MORE SKILLED  
FARMERS.

Cheap land suitable to the produc-  
tion of staple crops is no longer gen-  
erally available. Agricultural lands  
have increased rapidly in value, and  
population has increased more rapidly  
than food production. Urban popu-  
lation has increased relatively more  
rapidly than rural, and we may fairly  
expect that the higher prices for agri-  
cultural products will be permanent.  
It is an economic law of agriculture  
that cheap labor, cheap methods,  
cheap lands and cheap products go  
together.

The unsound, unbusinesslike, un-  
skilled must and do constantly give  
place to the scientific, businesslike,  
skilled workman. The great problem  
that is before us in agriculture is the  
production of these skilled workmen.  
This does not mean simply skilled

operatives or factory hands. It means  
men and women trained in agricultur-  
e, home making, rural life affairs,  
business methods and broad citizen-  
ship. This requires the co-operation  
of many agencies. The work involves  
experiment