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ORCHARD AND GARDEN

October 15-22

Trees and shrubs may be set in autumn, but do better if set in the spring. Flowers of the hardy hydrangea, cut just before frost and put in a dry vase in a cool place, will keep nearly all winter.

Don't be discouraged because the dahlias were a failure this year. Try them again next season. It is best not to plant until June.

The American mountain ash should be planted for their red autumn fruits. Birds also are fond of these.

Trim the grape vines and lay them on the ground ready to cover before the ground freezes. Burn all trimmings at once.

There is still plenty of time to plant hyacinths, daffodils, etc., for forcing in the living-room this winter.

Onions that are exposed to the weather after pulling become rough and unclean in appearance and do not bring as much on the market as those that are kept dry.

Leaves raked off the lawn now may be piled in some out-of-the-way place and will give a supply of leaf mold for next year or the year after. They may be used to cover plants in the garden, although clean straw is better.

The Olmstead County Fair is unique in that it is a school fair, managed very largely by the county superintendent of schools. Entries must be in the name of a child of school age, if there is one in the family. Consequently the children are interested. Another good feature is a long list of prizes, at least eight and often twenty-five, in one class. Eighty plates of Wealthy apples were shown in one class this year.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN

October 22-31

It is late, but not too late, to set out tulips.

Are you making any provision to help the birds through the winter?

Do not use weedy hay or straw to cover the strawberries. Enough weeds will appear without deliberately sowing them in this way.

Many of the improved forms of sunflowers are worth growing for decorative work. They are not so coarse and heavy as the earlier forms.

Autumn-bearing strawberries have done well this year only where they have had plenty of moisture. Nevertheless they are worth growing in the home garden.

Cross an Teplitz rose has given some very nice blooms late this fall. This is a very desirable rose for the whole season.

Go over the shrubbery and tree plantings and locate the plants that are crowding and mark them for thinning late in winter or early spring.

Now is a good time to purchase books and send for bulletins or magazines in order to get new ideas for making the work more profitable next year.

Neat, clean, uniform, average-sized specimens of fruit and vegetables make a better showing and will score higher in contests than uneven and unmarketable specimens. Appearance as well as quality helps to sell goods. County fairs and exhibitions should be one means of advertising good produce and help to create a demand for it.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul.

LEAGUE OF CITIES GIVES OUT PROGRAM

The League of Minnesota Municipalities has just issued the program for its fourth annual convention to be held at Red Wing, October 18 and 19. The league is closely affiliated with the Municipal Reference Bureau of the University of Minnesota, which has arranged the convention program.

Emphasis this year will be placed on financial problems. President Frank L. McVey of the University of North Dakota, formerly chairman of the Minnesota tax commission, will give an address on "Municipal Finances; Some Errors and the Budget System." He will be followed by Joseph J. Ermatinger of St. Paul, upon "Municipal Borrowing." Then will come a discussion under the head of "Some Practical Aspects of Municipal Borrowing," by Arthur J. Edwards, a bond expert of Minneapolis. P. J. Seberger of St. Cloud, chairman of the League's committee on taxation and assessment, will contribute a brief paper on "New Sources of Revenue for Municipalities."

"Municipal and State Civil Service Reforms" will be discussed by Robert Catherwood, president of the Chicago Civil Service Reform League; "What Organizations Can Do for Municipal Development," by Howard Strong, secretary of the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce Association, and by President McVey, and "Street Lighting," by Fred J. Dustin.

WINONA CAREFUL ABOUT ITS MILK

Tuberculosis germs and all other disease-producing bacteria are excluded from milk supplied to the citizens of Winona.

Before milk can be sold within the city limits the herd must be tuberculin tested, under a plan which is approved by the State Live Stock Sanitary Board. Accordingly, no infected animals are admitted to a herd even temporarily until tuberculin tested.

How effectively other disease-producing bacteria are excluded from the Winona milk supply is shown by a series of bacterial counts recently made by the Winona dairy inspector. Eight different dairy supplies were examined; the lowest count was 2,400; the highest was 72,000. All the others ran extremely low—8,000, 9,000, 18,000, 24,000, 31,000, 33,000.

According to Dr. I. J. Murphy of the Minnesota Public Health Association, Duluth is the only other city of this state having a milk supply that is equally well safeguarded. Over half of the dairies within the Duluth limits produce milk that counts below 10,000 bacteria per cubic centimeter. All of the Duluth milk that counts more than 100,000 is pasteurized before being sold. The bacterial counts for St. Paul and Minneapolis are much higher than for Duluth and Winona.

PREPARING COWS FOR WINTER DAIRY

The manner in which cows are fed and managed during the six to eight weeks' period prior to calving has much to do with their year's production. Improper feeding or failure to give proper rest between lactation periods usually results in a decreased production for the lactation period.

It is a good plan to have a small pasture so that cows due to freshen in the summer or fall may have an abundance of grass and not be molested by other cows. In addition to this a few pounds of ground oats, which is one of the best feeds for pregnant cows, and in some cases a small quantity of cracked corn and bran will be sufficient. For cows that are to freshen during the winter months, corn silage makes an excellent substitute for pasture grass and in summer it should oftentimes be a supplement to pasture grass. In fact it is impractical and unprofitable to attempt to run a dairy farm in the corn belt without corn silage. A ration made up of 20 to 30 pounds of corn silage, all the alfalfa or clover hay they desire and a grain mixture of three parts ground oats, two parts bran and one part oil meal, will prove very satisfactory. The amount of grain per day should be governed by the individual animal. A small quantity of corn may be given to animals thin in flesh, but they should not be crowded

U. FARM CRITICS FULLY ANSWERED

A. F. Woods, dean of the College of Agriculture, and director of the Minnesota Experiment Station, has answered recent charges which were grossly misleading as to conditions at University Farm. The charges referred to a rented acreage used for the disposal of waste from University Farm dining hall for the feeding of hogs, and not to University Farm or the Experiment Station at all. But even as to the rented acres they were unfounded, unreasonable, and very largely untrue, says Dean Woods. The charges were:

That 69 hogs had been allowed to starve.

That a sow with a broken leg had gone unattended.

That a boar died from lack of water and its carcass was sold.

That 4 hogs had died recently from an unknown disease.

That the potato patch and strawberry patch on the plot were covered with weeds.

That the buildings were dilapidated.

After an investigation, Dean Woods in a report to the regents made the following statement:

That the hogs had not been starved and that most of them were in good condition and in good health.

NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR GRAIN SURVEY

Exactly what the grain situation in Minnesota is, is something every farmer would like to know, and W. L. Oswald in charge of the State Seed Laboratory, University Farm, St. Paul, will try to answer the question. He is sending out to high school agriculturists throughout the state a letter asking each to send him samples of grains—wheat, barley, rye, alfalfa, clover and timothy—from six or more farms in the vicinity of his school. These samples will be analyzed and the results will be tabulated by counties. The outcome will be a survey of the situation such as could hardly be made otherwise.

Mr. Oswald, however, wishes to make the survey as complete as possible. Consequently, he calls for volunteers to send him samples of the grains named for investigation. A handful of each grain will be sufficient. The samples should be forwarded to the State Seed Laboratory, University Farm, St. Paul.

5 SHORT COURSES FOR CREAMERY MEN

Five short courses for creamery men will be offered by the Department of Agriculture of the University of Minnesota this fall and winter as follows:

Regular dairy school for creamery butter-makers. Opens November 20 and closes December 16. (For those who have had one year or more of experience.)

Regular dairy school for factory cheese-makers. Opens November 20 and closes December 16. (For those who have had six months or more of experience.)

Advanced creamery course. Opens December 5 and closes December 16. (For experienced creamery men.)

Ice-cream course. Opens December 18 and closes December 22. (No entrance requirements.)

Creamery managers' conference. January 3 and 4, 1917. (Designed especially for the officers of cooperative creameries.)

These various courses are in charge of R. M. Washburn, University Farm, St. Paul.

GRAIN SHOW AT FAIRMONT

Crop Improvement Association Will Hold Exhibit There

The Minnesota Crop Improvement Association's annual grain show will be held at Fairmont, Minn., in February. The Fairmont Commercial Club and Martin County Crop Improvement Association will cooperate with the Minnesota association in securing attractive exhibits and a large attendance. Persons desiring fuller information should address Secretary of Minnesota Crop Improvement Association, University Farm, St. Paul.

GOOD INVESTMENTS FOR THE FARMERS

Some good brood sows.
The feeding of balanced rations.
A cow-testing association.
A farm accounting system.
Shade trees for live stock.
A knowledge of judging live stock.
A membership in the state live stock breeders' association.
A good agricultural journal.
A silo.
A live stock shipping association.
Close relationship with the Agricultural College and Experiment Station.
ATTENDANCE ON FARMERS' AND HOME-MAKERS' WEEK AT UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL, JANUARY 1-6, 1917.

GOOD RESULTS BY SERUM METHOD

A recent federal report indicates that losses are very small in cholera-exposed herds of hogs which are treated by the serum-only method. Treatment on a large scale in many counties and several states, in which accurate records were kept, was followed by only .35 of 1 per cent of losses. The very reasonable inference from this is that the serum-virus method is not necessary, even for exposed herds; that is, herds in which no disease has appeared but which are near sick herds. Careful records kept of the treatment of sick herds, also, shows that, with work carefully done, about 72 per cent of hogs sick at time of treatment may be saved. This result was arrived at from averages for 53,485 hogs, treated by the serum-only method. Of 40,462 apparently well, given serum-only in sick herds, nearly 85 per cent were saved.

The report, furthermore, supports previous conclusions in Minnesota work, that the serum-only treatment, properly administered, does not produce either abortion or sterility.

SHORT COURSE FOR MINNESOTA'S EDITORS TO BE OFFERED BY THE STATE UNIVERSITY

A short course such as was suggested by one of Minnesota's editors at the last annual meeting of the Minnesota Editorial Association will be offered Minnesota's editors by the University, February 11-16, 1917.

Arrangements are in the care of the Department of Journalism of the University and the course will be given on the Agricultural College campus.

The program will include a large amount of very practical work. Problems of importance to the editors of the state will be discussed by men who have made a special study of them and who have tried out their

solutions in actual practice. Cost accounting, advertising selling, advertising design, circulation building, editorial management and back shop methods will all be discussed. To relieve the monotony of too much work, inspirational and instructive addresses by some of the nation's leaders in the newspaper profession will also be given. Some man of acknowledged leadership will be on the program for every day of the course.

The editors in attendance will take their meals in the east dining hall on Agricultural College campus and every evening's dinner will be sort of a banquet to be followed by brief

addresses by representatives of the state's press. This daily social feature is looked upon as one of the attractions of the general plan.

A series of contests may be held. Those in charge are considering plans for a contest with prizes for the best front page make-up for a country weekly. Details as to these contests will be announced before long.

It is the purpose of the University to provide such a short course every year and it is the desire of those in charge to make this first course so good that every editor in the state will be eager to be present.

SCHOOL ROOMS FOR ANEMIC CHILDREN

Special rooms for anemic school children and children otherwise predisposed to tuberculosis are more urgently needed than special rooms for backward children, declares Dr. I. J. Murphy of the Minnesota Public Health Association.

Moreover, contrary to popular belief, a special room properly equipped for such a class is not expensive. The important item, the admission of fresh air, does not cost anything.

Wherever fifteen or twenty anemic, undernourished or otherwise predisposed children can be grouped together, they should be placed in a fresh-air room. Many of the graded schools and all the high school districts of the state furnish enough material for one special room.

For the special room, it is best to select a southeast corner above the first floor. No expense is necessary in equipping this room. Extra lunches are not necessary. All that need be done is to have the windows of the room left wide open. The children, of course, will have to wear their out-of-door wraps while in school, unless special wraps for sitting in the open air are provided.

For all other types of handicapped children, Minnesota is doing more than any other state in the Union. When it comes to the children predisposed to tuberculosis, however, the state is behind many of the other states, particularly Wisconsin and Michigan.

PECULIAR BORER INJURING OAKS

The flat-headed borer is the cause of the blighted appearance of the tips of twigs shown by many of the oak trees, especially in the vicinity of the Twin Cities, before the leaves began to turn.

Two years ago the same blighted appearance was noticeable in the late summer and early fall. The cause was the same as this year—the flat-headed borer. A small metallic beetle laid its eggs singly in the tips of oak tree twigs. The eggs soon hatched and the worms girdled the tips of the twigs. They then continued on down the twig and in many cases limbs even five feet long were girdled and killed.

The beetles were very abundant again this year and the effects will be seen more fully next year.

The way to prevent further ravages, says A. G. Ruggles of the Minnesota Experiment Station, is to remove dead limbs during the growing season or any time from the present until August 1, 1918.

QUALITY NOT SIZE COUNTS IN SEED

In this season of seed selecting and many fairs the man selecting seed for next year's planting should avoid the too frequent mistake of putting excessive emphasis on size, says M. J. Thompson of the Northeast Experiment Station at Duluth. Select not the massive, unshapely hollow potato, but the shapely, true to type, medium-sized tuber, continues Mr. Thompson. When we grow mangels, turnips, or rutabagas for livestock, we consider size of prime importance, but when we grow such roots for the table we look more for smoothness, quality and uniformity. For fodder corn we wish a plant of heavy leafage, of moderate height, and some degree of maturity before frost time. For ear corn we prefer a small ear that matures and hardens before killing frosts come. The tendency to grow a large number of crops is also rather unwise. Nothing is to be gained by trying to force a crop that does not belong in one's county to the neglect of crops that grow well.

Earth is about the best material for covering grapes, raspberries, and even roses, over winter. The plants must be well-drained. No water can be allowed to settle over them.

That the sow which was said to have a broken leg had really a sprained leg, and that a veterinarian from University Farm had given her all of the attention necessary. She has now recovered.

That no sick hogs on the plot were neglected. They were given proper care and treatment under the direction of competent veterinary advice.

That the boar which died did not die from lack of water, food, or attention, but from digestive trouble intensified by severe heat.

That the carcass of this boar was not sold for food, but for soap or fertilizer, and was actually turned into fertilizer.

That no hogs had died from an unknown disease. That the cases of those which died were diagnosed by a veterinarian of University Farm.

That the potatoes owing to unfavorable weather did not form enough tubers to warrant continued cultivation and the patch was consequently allowed to grow up to grass and weeds, which have since been mowed and burned; and that similar conditions existed in the strawberry patch.

That the buildings, not being the property of the state, the state was not warranted in making the repairs that would have been demanded by their condition, had the state intended to occupy them permanently.

In conclusion, Dean Woods says: "The people of the state demand much more of the Experiment Station than of farmers in general. If we are to continue to conduct a hog-feeding farm, it should either be on land under long time lease which can be improved properly, or on land owned by the state."

TANGLEFOOT VS. THE CANKER WORM

In the fight against the canker worm which has been doing much damage to trees in Minnesota, many property owners have been using tanglefoot. The female worms come out of the ground after the first frosts in the fall, or else early in the spring, climb the tree trunks, and strip off the leaves. To stop them the tanglefoot is smeared around the trunks to catch the worms as they climb.

But now come those who say that the tanglefoot is injurious to trees, especially to hard maples, and owners are in doubt.

A. G. Ruggles of the Minnesota Experiment Station says it is safer to stick to tanglefoot than to let the worms have their way, at least until a case is made out against tanglefoot. Experiments will be made to determine whether tanglefoot works any harm to trees.