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ORCHARD AND GARDEN

November 15 to 22, 1919

Keep the vegetable cellar at an even temperature; between thirty-three and thirty-five is good for most crops.

Leaves raked from the lawn and put in close piles soon decay and furnish fine humus for the garden.

Burn all rubbish from the garden. Its value as compost will not offset the damage from the insects and disease found in this trash.

Gladioli may be cleaned and put in paper sacks or boxes. They should be stored in a cool cellar. The temperature of a potato cellar is good.

Strawberry patches that are free from sod and weeds this fall will be easier to care for next year and perhaps will have fewer insects in them.

The Easter lily crop this year was cut off by about one million when a ship carrying the bulbs was sunk at sea. Easter lily bulbs are especially hard to get this year so that a loss of that sort is keenly felt.

Shelled popcorn was selling in St. Paul during October at twelve and one half cents a pound. A good variety of rice corn would not be a bad crop for some of the small boys on a farm or country town to grow. Popcorn of good quality can usually be readily sold.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN

November 22 to 29.

Put protectors against sunscald and rabbits on the trees now.

Watch the squash and cabbage stored in the cellar. Both are apt to decay at this time of year.

Roses should be laid on the ground and covered with straw. Put boards or heavy paper on to shed the rain and snow. Rose foliage must be kept dry.

Keep potted bulbs in a cool dark place until they are well rooted. An early top growth means poor weak flowers.

Butternuts will keep over one or two years if well cured and kept in a cool dry place. This is especially fortunate, as we seldom get two good crops in succession.

Be sure to have a good supply of potting soil where it will be easy to get at next spring to use in hot beds or starting early plants in the home. A loam soil is to be desired.

At present prices greenhouses cost about 75 cents a square foot to build or nearly \$32,500 per acre of ground covered.

There seldom has been a season when garden vegetables have been of so uniformly good quality as this year. Why not use more vegetables and less of more expensive foods.

The first snowfall is a good excuse to go rabbit hunting. A thorough job now will prevent girdling of your apple trees and tender shrubs later. Besides, rabbit meat is excellent right now.

A blue and a brown dye is made from the leaves of the Ginnala maple. It is also one of the very prettiest colored foliage trees of autumn. Its native home is Siberia, Korea and China.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

FARM CO-OPERATIVES MAKE BIG PROFITS

The annual volume of business of farmers' co-operative companies in Minnesota increased \$60,450,000 from 1913 to 1917, according to Bulletin No. 184, entitled "Farmers' Co-operation in Minnesota," prepared by John D. Black and Frank Robotka of the division of research in agricultural economics of the Minnesota experiment station. The number of creameries increased from 613 to 643 and the volume of business from \$21,676,252 to \$31,012,000 in the interim specified; elevators from 270 to 360 and from \$24,000,000 to \$45,000,000; livestock shipping associations from 115 to 400 and from \$6,000,000 to \$33,000,000; cheese factories from 34 to 52 and from \$637,224 to \$985,000; telephone companies from 600 to 950 and from \$900,000 to \$1,200,000; fire insurance companies from 154 to 159 and from \$696,732 to \$712,606; miscellaneous organizations increased from 86 to 275; co-operative stores showed a loss of 13 in number, but an increase in business of \$2,250,000. Potato warehouses showed a loss of five in number, but an increase in business of \$200,000. The gain in the total number of organizations was 950. The bulletin considers the essentials to successful co-operation and takes up in turn the various farmers' organization conspicuous in the co-operative movement. Copies of this bulletin may be had on application to the Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

HENS KEEP PURSE OF OWNER FULL

The Barnum poultry demonstration community, "where the laying hens grubstake the woodland settlers," continues to demonstrate. Abraham Nasenius' flock of pullets, which never numbered more than 110 and declined to 80, laid 19,346 eggs in the year closing with September, or an average of 190 eggs a hen. According to information received by N. E. Chapman, poultry specialist of the extension division of the University of Minnesota, Mr. Nasenius received \$734 from the sale of eggs and paid out \$214.78 for feed, leaving him a profit of \$520.20. April and May were the best months. In April 105 pullets laid 2,433 eggs, which sold for \$87; in May 104 pullets laid 2,368 eggs, which brought \$105. Although he sells only butterfat and eggs, Mr. Nasenius uses letter heads and other up-to-date stationery in order, he says, that his boys may feel that farming is a real business. J. P. Peterson, in the same community, reports the receipt of \$1,122.19 in a year from a flock of 200 hens. His expense for feed was \$495.68 and his profit \$626.51. April and May likewise were his best months—April with receipts of \$155.76 and May with receipts of \$146.22.

PERSISTENCE COUNTS IN FIGHTING MOTHS

Clothes moths are difficult to oust when once they get the trench system firmly established. The most important factor in such warfare is persistence, says Dr. W. A. Riley, chief of the division of entomology of the Minnesota college of agriculture.

"Brushing and beating of clothing and exposure to the air and sunshine constitute one of the standard and best methods of fighting moths," says Dr. Riley. "When a thorough cleaning up is under way it is often advantageous to put gasoline into cracks and crevices in order to kill the insects that may be hiding there. Fumigation with either sulphur at the rate of two pounds to 1,000 cubic feet of space, or with hydrocyanic acid gas are efficient measures for killing both larvae and moths. This gas is a deadly poison to the higher animals as well as moths and must be used with great caution.

"The use of formalin candles or formalin gas is a waste of time. None of the various methods of protecting clothes by packing in cedar chests is efficient unless the materials are free from eggs or larvae at the time they are stored away."

DRY CORN FODDER IS GOOD FOR SILAGE

In reply to numerous inquiries on the feeding value of dry corn fodder in comparison with the fodder used as silage, H. H. Kildee, head of the animal husbandry department of Iowa State College, formerly chief of the dairy division of the University of Minnesota, says that the fodder put into the silo makes better feed than the dry fodder. Many of the farmers have followed the practice of filling their silos with dry fodder after the silo has been emptied or nearly so. In almost every case the fodder will need the addition of considerable water to make good silage. The water may be put in the fan-box of the ensilage cutter. Many farmers, however, pump the water directly into the silo.

Silage made in this manner is not so good as that made from green corn. Cattle like it and do well on it. It is reported that last year farmers filled their silos as many as three times with dry fodder. The fodder was cut at the same time as the corn for ordinary silage and was left standing in the field until needed.

CREAMERIES SHOULD UNITE, SAYS EXPERT

R. M. Washburn of the dairy division at University Farm believes that the time is ripe for a larger unit in creamery co-operation than ever before in order to safe-guard what has already been gained.

"For several years," he says, "it has been evident that the co-operative creameries of a county or district should form into a single unit for the manufacture of better and more uniform butter, and for the purchase of supplies and the sale of butter to best advantage. Each district should have experienced managers who receive sufficient pay to warrant their giving the work their first attention.

"In Saskatchewan 20 co-operative creameries are managed by one man to the great benefit of every member of the group. One obstacle to such an organization is the desire on the part of many local associations to be independent of their neighbors. Thus rivalry often develops which does not make for progress."

THRIFTY EWES MEAN BIGGER LAMB CROP

Ewes that are thin in flesh because of poor feeding will not return a high percentage of lambs, says Philip A. Anderson, associate professor of animal husbandry at University Farm. Best results from breeding are obtained from ewes that are in a gaining condition. If they are thin from having been kept on short fall pastures, they should have a little grain—from one-quarter to one-half a pound a day. This will put them in good condition and they will breed earlier and increase the 1920 lamb crop. Some fairly accurate record should be kept when the ewes are bred in order that when lambing time approaches the ewes may be separated from the main flock and given extra feed and care. If ticks, lice or scab appear in the flock, the sheep should be dipped even though the weather is a little severe. This is extra work, but the flock will be more healthy and thrifty. A warm place should be provided the sheep until they dry off.

The ram should also receive extra care at this time. In order to keep him active, vigorous and in fair flesh during the breeding season he should be fed a pound or two of grain every day. "Extra care of ewes and breeding ram at this time," says Mr. Anderson, "will insure a larger and stronger lamb crop and well repay the flockmaster for his extra labor."

TULIP LEADS EARLY FLOWERING BULBS

Among spring flowering bulbs, says LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturist at University Farm, the tulip is about the only one that is satisfactory for outdoor planting. The tulip is divided into several classes, the principal of which are the spring flowering and the Darwin type. The single spring flowering tulips bloom very early, usually the first of May. The Darwin types bloom late in May and early in June. They are much larger and longer stemmed and much better adapted for planting in shrubberies or for borders where they will remain permanently.

Mr. Cady says that care should be taken to set the bulbs firmly into the soil so that there are no air spaces around the bulbs. If the soil is dry, water thoroughly. When the ground begins to freeze, cover the bulbs with three or four inches of straw, leaves or straw manure. This will prevent the ground freezing and thawing and drying out during the winter.

In the spring, as soon as the bulbs start their growth, this mulching should be removed and the bed cultivated. Sometimes it is desirable to add a little commercial fertilizer and, if the spring is dry, it is well to water the bed thoroughly about the time the buds begin to color up. As soon as the spring tulips are through flowering in the spring they may be removed to make way for geraniums or other bedding plants. The Darwin type, as a rule, should remain where they are set for two or three years.

COURSES OFFERED BY CORRESPONDENCE

High school teachers and others who are ambitious to teach trades and industries under the Smith-Hughes act will be interested in knowing that several courses are offered in correspondence by the general extension division of the University of Minnesota. These courses are under the direction of Prof. Arthur F. Payne, in charge of the department of trades and industrial relations in the college of education. Among the subjects treated are "Problems and Vocational Education," "Surveys of Schools and Industries for Purposes of Industrial Education," "Methods of Analyzing and Classifying Trade Knowledge," "Vocational Education" and "Part-time Schools and Classes."

STANDARD BRED HEN BEST EGG PRODUCER

This is the time to secure standard poultry breeding stock for 1920. "As eggs are the foundation of the poultry business, all stock," says N. E. Chapman, poultry specialist at University Farm, "should be not only standard bred, but from high producing strains and families. The Rocks and Reds, Leghorns, Wyandottes and Orpingtons are the breeds that are making good on Minnesota farms."

Mr. Chapman notes an increasing demand for guineas to take the place of wild birds for serving in hotels and cafes. A few breeders should be kept on every farm, he says. The Pearl Grey seems to be the favorite. Guineas are noisy birds and for that reason make good policemen for the farm flock by sounding a warning on the approach of hawks and other marauding birds.

Mr. Chapman recommends the Mammoth Bronze, White Holland and Bourbon Red for turkeys; the Toulouse, White Embden and Grey African for geese, and the White Pekin, Rouen and Indian Runner for ducks.

BUDGETS MADE FOR NORTHWEST PEOPLE

Working in connection with the home economics division of the University of Minnesota, in the ninth federal reserve district, the savings division of the United States treasury department has prepared home budget forms for family costs based on prices prevailing in Minnesota. It is explained that while there is no entirely accurate rule by which the amount of expenditures or savings can be arrived at, and that while it is impossible to make budgets for given incomes which will exactly suit the needs of all families with such incomes, it is believed that the amounts suggested are reasonable estimates for the average family. Home budgets for families of four are proposed as follows:

(On Income of \$100 a Month)

Savings	.....\$ 1.00
Food	.....45.00
Shelter, including rent, taxes, repairs	16.00
Fuel	.....4.50
Current expenses	.....15.00
Clothing	.....15.00
Advancement, church, charity, recreation, education	.....3.00
Miscellaneous	......50

(On Income of \$150 a Month)

Savings	.....\$ 8.00
Food	.....50.00
Shelter, rent, taxes, repairs	30.00
Fuel	.....7.00
Current expenses	.....25.00
Clothing	.....21.00
Advancement, church, charity, recreation, education	.....8.00
Miscellaneous	.....1.00

(On Income of \$250 a Month)

Savings	.....\$40.00
Food	.....60.00
Shelter, rent, taxes, repairs	40.00
Fuel	.....11.00
Current expenses	.....44.00
Clothing	.....35.00
Advancement, church, charity, recreation, education	.....17.75
Miscellaneous	.....2.25

GORTNER EXPLAINS RULES FOR ANALYZING

It is announced by R. A. Gortner, chief of the division of agricultural biochemistry at University Farm, that the division limits its analyses to agricultural products and that it is necessary to make a charge to cover the cost. Persons who present mixtures for analysis should state definitely what they wish them analyzed for. "To analyze for all the materials," says Dr. Gortner, "would often cost a large sum of money, while to analyze for a particular one would be very much cheaper. It is impracticable to attempt the analysis of anything unless we know what it is intended it should be analyzed for."

FUR OF THE RABBIT IN SHARP DEMAND

Muskrat hides used in making the so-called "Hudson seal" are becoming so scarce that the market for rabbit fur has been stimulated in a marked degree. F. L. Washburn of the division of entomology of the Minnesota college of agriculture says that at a recent fur auction in the city of New York the hides of domestic rabbits, such as Belgian hares and Flemish giants, sold at a price increase of 80 per cent. Skins of these rabbits are clipped and dyed and made into "electric seal" or "sealine." Even wild rabbit skins, which are used by hat makers, have increased in value 40 per cent. "Despite these prices," says Mr. Washburn, "I would not advise any inexperienced person to go into the rabbit business on a large scale, expecting fabulous financial returns. It would be much safer for the beginner to start with a few rabbits, content to use them for home consumption to reduce the high cost of living."

PASTURE GRASS BEST STOCK FARM ASSET

Pasture grass constitutes a balanced ration in itself for livestock, says Carl W. Gay of University Farm, and is therefore the foundation of the stock farm. The late Joe Wing declared that no land is too good or too high-priced to be used as temporary pasture at least. "Good pasture management," says Dr. Gay, "calls for the regular rolling, harrowing, reseeding and fertilizing that the other farm crops receive. It is only by this method that a good sod can be obtained; once secured, there are few crops on the stock farm that will justify its breaking up. Fully as important as the good pasture itself is the management of the stock placed upon it. Many pastures never have a chance on account of early and over stocking. The pasture should be permitted to get such a start that the stock will never catch up. By keeping the growth of grass ahead of the grazing the greatest total yield is secured and the pasture is left in best shape for the winter."

Date for Big Congress of Farmers Set

The date for Minnesota's annual congress of farmers and home-makers at University Farm has been set for the week beginning December 29. It is expected that not less than 2,000 farmers and home-makers will gather for the conferences, state meetings and demonstrations which mark this, the greatest of all of Minnesota's short courses.

The program will include, beside the regular class work, the annual meeting of the federation of farmers' clubs, a conference of the state's county farm bureaus, state-wide livestock meetings, and state-wide meetings of many other organizations. Mass meetings to be held in the evening will be addressed by men and women of national fame.

Bulletins giving the full program are being prepared and will be issued soon.

DAIRY BULLETINS TO BE HAD FOR ASKING

C. H. Eckles, head of the division of dairy husbandry at University Farm, has compiled a list of publications and bulletins by the United States department of agriculture and various state agricultural colleges, all bearing on the dairy industry and useful for the dairy farmer and the manufacturer of dairy products. This list is contained in special circular No. 2, which may be obtained without cost on application to the Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

EDITOR'S CORNER

How to Win and Hold Circulation Among the Farmers

Because they fail to make the kind of paper that appeals to farmers, or because their system of salesmanship is defective in some vital part, many editors have failed to solve the problem of winning circulation in country districts. The kind of paper that the farmers want, says Frank W. Rucker of the Independence, Mo., Examiner, must carry the news in which he is most interested—the news of the county court, the rural schools, the country churches and the Farm Bureaus and other farm organizations. Here are some points made by Mr. Rucker in a recent address:

It is important not only to give to the farmer the kind of paper he wants, but also to let him know that you are straining every effort to do it.

News is not all the farmer appreciates in the newspaper. It is not the only pulling force in building circulation. He likes good advertising.

The farmer wants a clean, well-printed news sheet. The farmer likes to have his news headed up and featured for easy reading as much as the city man.

We have always featured strongly the work of the Farm Bureau in our newspaper, believing it to be a splendid work as well as good news stuff.

The farmer appreciates special sales days. You do yourself a favor, as well as your merchants and the farmers, when you promote special sales days.

The farmer appreciates special attention of any kind.

There are three ways usually suggested, says Mr. Rucker, for getting subscriptions—sample copies, circular letters and personal solicitation. Neither standing alone, he says, is likely to win. Follow your sample copies and circular letters with personal solicitation, he adds, and you will do business.

Here is a proposition advanced by Mr. Rucker which will strike many old-time publishers as revolutionary in character:

"I believe that the country editor who gives columns of space to worthless items of country correspondence would find it profitable—even though it cost him from \$100 to \$125 a month more—to dismiss his country correspondents who work for free subscriptions to the paper, and pay a real salary to a real man who can gather rural news that is news and get subscribers at the same time."

Summing up, Mr. Rucker says: "There are certain p's and q's to the problem of reaching the farmer. The p's I would say are psychology, patience and persistence. The q's are quality, acquaintance and quest. Give the farmer the kind of news and advertising he needs, cultivate his acquaintance, seek his subscription, his farm advertising and his job work with the same zeal and salesmanship that you do the business of your town merchants and I verily believe you will find him as loyal and as profitable a patron of your office as your average merchant."