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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Upon the rural press of America rests the fate of civilization.—Arthur James Balfour.

Northern Editors to St. Cloud

Members of the Northern Minnesota Editorial association will hold their annual convention at St. Cloud January 22 to 24. A. G. Rutledge, veteran secretary of the organization, forecasts a large attendance.

State Editors Plan Convention

The executive committee of the State Editorial association met Friday, January 9, in Minneapolis, to complete arrangements for the annual meeting which will be held at the West Hotel in Minneapolis late in February. Members of the committee were guests at luncheon of Theodore Wold.

Pine Poker Leased

The Pine Poker of Pine City has been leased by its editor, Howard Folsom, to Win S. McEachern for the current year. Mr. Folsom will seek restoration to health by a long vacation and a temporary change of occupation.

New Merger Record—Four in One

Eau Claire county in Wisconsin has established a new record in newspaper consolidation, according to a recent dispatch. All of the English language country weeklies of the county have been combined under the name of the Eau Claire County Union. The merger takes in the Augusta Times, Augusta Eagle, Fairchild Observer and the Fall Creek Journal. The new paper will be published at Augusta.

Rate Advance Justified

"Before the war," says the Glenwood Herald, "we bought print paper at \$48 a ton. During the war it went to \$115. After the war it gradually went down to \$100, but soon began to soar again. The last ton we bought cost \$150 a ton and now we can hardly get it at any price." The Herald should boost its advertising and subscription rates to meet advancing costs.

Journalism Schools Show Worth

Walter M. Harrison, managing editor of the Daily Oklahoman, said in a recent public address that men and women turned out by schools of journalism are becoming more and more in demand by large newspapers. These students, he said, have laid the foundation for successful journalistic work, and advance more rapidly than the cub reporter who must be taught everything by the city editor.

Farmer as Business Man

A closer relationship is developing between the farmer and the publisher. Thousands of farmers are using letterheads and typewriters. Some of the states have special copyright laws for farm names, and these names appear on the letterheads of stock raisers and farmers. The farmer is a man of affairs or business, and is doing more advertising and using more good stationery in conducting his business than ever before. Progressive farmers are fitting up a business office on the farmstead and making good use of it.

Print Names

Print names. Byron said: "Tis pleasant sure to see one's name in print." A certain Dakota newspaper man gave his contemporaries a surprise, if not a shock, by devoting nearly a page of an issue of his paper to the local schools. The names of all the teachers and pupils appeared, and the edition had a tremendous run of popularity.

Make Your Paper Distinctive

Don't try to "daily-fy" your paper is the advice of an old-time New York state publisher. "The country weekly is much more intimate than is the daily," he says. "The day of personal journalism in the daily field has passed, but this is decidedly not true in the weekly field. The country editor should make his paper distinctive. It should have a personality and this should be the personality of the editor." This publisher does not argue against neat typography, nor against conservative headlines which tell the story rather than standing heads, such as "A Pleasant Evening," but he does contend that a dearth of local news cannot be covered up by the use of big display lines in heads.

Press Advertising Best

Display advertising in local and farm papers is shown by a bulletin recently issued by the extension division of the South Dakota State college to be of most value to farmers. Sign boards, posters, and circular letters are relegated to an inferior position.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN

January 15 to 22

Onion seed acreage in 1919 was 6,730 acres and the estimated yield is 2,618,000 pounds.

Bulletin 79 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture tells how Dutch bulbs are raised on a commercial scale in the United States.

Danish Ballhead is one of the best late cabbages and in many sections is taking the place of other varieties.

Wisconsin grew about 22 per cent of the cucumbers of the United States last year. The average yield was 63 bushels an acre. More than 7,500 acres were planted.

Winter window boxes made of evergreen are being used more and more each year. They serve to brighten up dull winter surroundings.

Squash is one of the easiest grown and best of vegetables. There are varieties of winter squash ranging from four or five inches in diameter. The large Hubbard squash must not be frosted in the least if they are to keep well.

The United States uses about \$2,000,000 worth of bulbs a year and produces about \$25,000 worth. United States Department of Agriculture investigators hope to increase the quantity of home grown bulbs.

The Society of American Florists has taken a backward step in advocating through its publicity bureau the use of billboards for advertising. Our country highways should not be lined with billboards and dodgers.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN

January 22 to 30

Seed catalogs make good reading this time of year. Send for some of them.

House plants will not thrive in a hot, dry air. There must be some moisture in it.

The greenhouse vegetable crops of this country are estimated to be worth \$23,000,000. The value of the houses at before the war prices is about \$25,000,000.

The greenhouse vegetable growing industry produces more food per acre per year than any other branch of agriculture.

Keep the scale off ferns by washing them in soapy water and then in clean water once in a while.

A few cinders or dark stones thrown on the drifts over the overgreens will break up the snow so that in settling it does not crush or strip the limbs.

Now is a good time to make a study of spraying materials and methods. Send for good bulletins on these subjects and be prepared to do the work next spring. This is a good topic for a farmers' club meeting.

Nearly 4,000,000 bushels of Chinese and Japanese beans were imported into the United States the first half of 1919. They can be grown in the Orient for a little over \$1.00 per hundred weight. American beans cannot be raised for this price.

About 47,000 acres of onions were grown in the United States in 1919. California and New York had an acreage of over 7,000 acres, Texas over 6,000; Minnesota grew about 1,200 acres. The yields varied from 140 bushels per acre in Wisconsin to 500 bushels per acre in Idaho. The average yield in Minnesota was 275 bushels per acre.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

NO EXEMPTION ON CHILDREN'S WAGES

In a circular letter addressed to county agents, W. L. Cavert, farm management demonstrator, Minnesota college of agriculture, answers some of the common questions that arise in regard to the income tax as it relates to farmers. Respecting the matter of wages of children he says:

"One cannot claim as a deductible expense, wages paid to children under 21, for the reason that the total income of father, mother, and minor children is taken together in one return as the family unit. Furthermore, in the eyes of the law, the wages of minor children are the property of the parent. In the case of children more than 21, one can not claim wages for farm work for such children, unless wages are actually paid. This ruling should greatly encourage farmers to follow the business-like arrangement of paying children of 21 years of age or over going wages, rather than expect them to get their pay out of the inheritance they may receive from the father's estate."

Income tax returns must be filed before March 15. The full tax may be paid then, or, if desired, in four installments, the first by March 15, the second by June 15, the third by September 15, and the fourth by December 15.

ICE ON THE FARM NO LONGER LUXURY

Ice for use on the farm, especially the dairy farm, is no longer regarded as a luxury. Many thousands of dollars are lost every year, says the United States Department of Agriculture, because of the improper cooling of milk and cream. One-half of a ton of ice to the cow is held to be sufficient to cool cream and hold it at a low temperature for delivery two or three times a week. Around two tons to the cow should be stored where milk is to be cooled. A higher quality of products and the fewer deliveries necessitated are important items in the saving made.

Experiments made at the South Dakota experiment station show that ice can be stored to good advantage in pits in the ground. From one pit 36 per cent of the original amount of ice stored was recovered and used. "A shrinkage of 64 per cent appears large," says the South Dakota bulletin, "but the conveniences and benefits of having ice daily more than repay for the loss."

Good farm ice-houses can be built at low cost, say agricultural engineers at University Farm. When sawdust is used for insulation, around 50 per cent of the original ice can be recovered. If natural bodies of water are not available, ice can be obtained by building ice ponds or by freezing water in cans.

SMALL ORCHARD BEST FOR FARMER

A small orchard, from one-half to five-eighths of an acre having from 25 to 30 trees, is recommended as most desirable on the farm which does a general business. "If the home orchard be restricted to about 25 trees," says W. G. Brierley, of the horticultural staff at University Farm, "it can be kept in good condition with little work. Spraying will not be a tedious job and enough fruit will be grown to supply the home." Mr. Brierley believes that a New Year's resolution to give the home orchard a square deal should include the following items, each of which will require but little time:

Prune either in late fall or early spring.

Disc up the old sod between the rows, then let the grass and weeds grow, but mow these two or three times and leave for a mulch.

Add a light dressing of strawy manure after the discing.

Spray two or three times.

BETTER THE FOOD BETTER THE LESSON

An engine cannot run without fuel. A child cannot grow unless he has the right kind of food. Neither can he learn his lessons easily if only half fed. In one county in Minnesota, 69 per cent of the children in the country and small towns were found to be more than five pounds underweight.

These boys and girls were trying to grow without the necessary material to do it. It was found that their food lacked milk and vegetables, and in many cases they had to rush away mornings without eating enough breakfast. There are 14 hours between supper and breakfast and if the child doesn't get his breakfast he goes 20 hours without food. See that he eats it, and that he gets cereal, milk and some kind of fruit at this meal whatever else he may have.

See that at the other meals he has milk and vegetables and enough of them. Even a fourth meal after school may be a good thing to keep his active body going and growing.—Adele Koch, extension specialist in home economics, University Farm.

CARE NEEDED IN BUYING SOYBEANS

A. C. Arny, who is in charge of farm crops at University Farm, finds that it is rather difficult even at this early date to obtain good soybean seed for planting in corn for silage next year. Because of this scarcity, he says, a Wisconsin company has already brought in two carloads of "Tarheel Black" soybeans from the south. "These beans," says Mr. Arny, "are not considered suitable either for planting for seed or for mixing with corn for silage. Unless they are sold for what they actually are, one should be careful to purchase seed only from actual growers in the state of Wisconsin. Names of actual growers on file may be sent to anyone desiring to secure soybean seed. Only two such growers have been listed to date."

STOCK CAN'T THRIVE ON FROZEN SILAGE

Frozen silage can be fed in moderate quantities without much real danger of injury to cattle, says W. H. Peters of the animal husbandry division at University Farm.

"While frozen silage can be used," says Mr. Peters, "the frost adds to the labor and costs of getting the silage out of the silo. Difficulty is also experienced in breaking up the silage into even feeds. Freezing also detracts from the palatability of the silage. Again, its consumption in good sized quantities will chill the animal and its feeding value is therefore lowered. It also has a tendency to cause a too laxative effect.

"To prevent silage from freezing, the silo should have an air-tight roof and doors which are kept closed throughout the winter except when opened to throw out silage at feeding time. Another practice that will help to prevent freezing is to make a canvas mat that will cover the exposed top surface of the silage. This cover will aid in keeping the warm gases from escaping and thus prevent the silage from freezing. Another practice that is especially valuable with thin walled silos is to set poles around the silo, about two feet out from the wall; string woven wire around the outside of the poles and fill in between wire and silo wall with straw."

CO-OPERATIVE SPIRIT NEEDED TO SUCCEED

Real co-operative spirit is essential to successful co-operation even where there is a sound economic need for a co-operative company and where there is assurance of enough business to warrant such venture. Keep interest in the business is vital, and so, too, is leadership. These points are emphasized in Bulletin 184 on "Farmers' Co-operation in Minnesota," which can be obtained on application to the Office of Publications at University Farm, St. Paul.

BEES FOR SALE? INFORM BEE CHIEF

The division of bee culture of the Minnesota college of agriculture is in the market for more bees. Those having bees for sale are requested to notify Francis Jager, chief of the division, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn., at the same time giving information as to the number of colonies for sale, variety of bees, health condition, style of hives and combs and the lowest price f. o. b.

STOCK BREEDERS ELECT OFFICERS

(To Editors—Annual meetings of many livestock breeders' associations were held at University Farm during Farmers and Home-makers Week. Some of your subscribers or readers may have been elected officers of such associations. The list is given below.)
Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association.—President, T. E. Cashman, Owatonna; first vice-president, Charles Crandall, Randolph; second vice-president, Finlay McMartin, Claremont; Secretary, W. A. McKerron, University Farm, St. Paul; treasurer, C. W. Glatfelter, Waterville; directors: Percy Young, Prosper; L. E. Potter, Springfield; James L. O'Connell, Le Sueur; Center, M. D. Munn, St. Paul; D. D. Tenney, Minneapolis; Leslie Smith, St. Cloud; F. E. Millard, Canby; George P. Grout, Nickerson; N. P. Hanson, Westby; J. H. Bobendrier, Rogers.

Minnesota Horse Breeders Association.—President, L. W. Orr, Hastings; vice-president, G. A. Hurd, Monticello; secretary-treasurer, J. E. Kuehn, University Farm, St. Paul; directors, C. B. Crandall, Randolph; A. F. Noltmier, St. Paul Park; Carl W. Gay, University Farm, St. Paul; N. P. Grass, Amboy.

Minnesota Swine Breeders Association.—President, H. A. Deventhal, Wyckoff; vice-presidents, W. J. Gregg, Mound; F. S. Vanderhyde, West Concord; L. A. Howe, St. James; Clarence Zupp, Blue Earth; J. R. Bendzick, Le Sueur; secretary-treasurer, H. W. Vaughan, University Farm, St. Paul.

Minnesota Sheep Breeders Association.—President, J. L. Morton, St. Cloud; vice-president, W. Nankeman, Beardsley; secretary-treasurer, Philip Anderson, University Farm, St. Paul; member of executive board, J. L. O'Connell, Le Sueur.

Minnesota Jersey Breeders Association.—President, T. T. Bacheller, Forest Lake; vice-president, H. W. Van Valkenburg, Osakis; secretary-treasurer, George S. Taylor, Withrow.

Minnesota Guernsey Breeders Association.—President, George P. Grout, Nickerson; vice-president, E. R. Frissell, Hopkins; secretary-treasurer, L. V. Wilson, University Farm, St. Paul; directors, George Richardson, Garden City; A. L. French, Anoka.

Minnesota Brown Swiss Breeders Association.—President, Joseph Segner, Maple Lake; vice-president, A. Lily, LaCrescent; secretary-treasurer, Lucius F. Brunold, Rochester.

Minnesota Ayrshire Breeders Association.—President, Arthur H. Barnard, Minneapolis; vice-president, J. Harry Bull, Stacy; secretary-treasurer, George Chambers, Owatonna.

Minnesota Hereford Breeders Association.—President, L. E. Potter, Springfield; vice-president, F. E. Millard, Canby; secretary-treasurer, J. S. Jones, University Farm, St. Paul; directors, J. F. Montgomery, Owatonna; L. L. Riley, Fergus Falls.

Minnesota Holstein Breeders Association.—Directors: E. D. Scott, Minneapolis; Ray Donovars, Rochester; A. R. Knutson, Pelican Rapids; E. C. Schroeder, Moorhead; Egil Baekman, White Bear; John B. Erwin, Minneapolis; Rudolph Mortig, West Concord; A. J. Lashbrook, Northfield; W. F. Moscrip, Lake Elmo; J. M. Hackney, St. Paul; E. J. Brostus, Stillwater; E. T. Winship, Owatonna; Alex. Hanson, Savage; V. S. Culver, Austin, and Henry Borgmann, Sauk Center.

Minnesota Aberdeen-Angus Breeders Association.—President, E. W. Brown, Luverne; vice-president, R. W. Keeler, Chokio; secretary-treasurer, W. E. Morris, University Farm, St. Paul; directors, Ed Osmundson, Dawson; H. E. Hansen, Mapleton.

LIGHT WEIGHT SEED GOOD FOR PLANTING

Tests made at the Minnesota experiment station at University Farm and by farmers over the northwest have shown that in a normal season a seeding of light weight wheat, oats, or barley of strong germinating power gives as large a crop and of as good quality as the same number of pounds of heavy weight seed. Enough of the light weight seed should be used, however, to give a seeding of the usual number of pounds to the acre.

This is the answer of experiment station men to farmers having light weight seed who have been asking, "Shall I use such grain or shall I pay a premium for high grade seed from other sections?" To meet the seed conditions confronting farmers as spring approaches, the Minnesota college of agriculture suggests the following:

1. Use standard varieties of wheat, oats, and barley, reasonably free from mixture, that have been tried in the locality and found to be successful.

2. If you have home raised seed of suitable varieties fan out the best of your own wheat, oats, and barley, or buy the best home raised seed available. It is thought that heavy seed is preferable when available, as it will probably give a stronger plant growth under unfavorable conditions for growth.

3. Make a germination test yourself or send a double handful of seed to the Seed Laboratory, University Farm, St. Paul. The seed laboratory will test these samples for germination, free of charge, but a much more prompt reply will be secured early in the winter than just previous to seeding when there is usually a great demand for this service.

4. Give all the seed grain the formalin treatment just before seeding. Full directions are given in Minnesota Special Extension Bulletin No. 16.

5. Make certain at once that you have a sufficient quantity of seed wheat, oats, and barley. If it must be bought, contract at once with a neighbor for the needed supply.

6. If the needed supply is not available in your locality, consult your county agent as to where seed may be secured.

"HOGGING OFF" CORN WINS NEW CONVERT

Otto Larson of Milan, Chippewa county, Minn., will let his hogs do the most of his husking hereafter. A "hogging-off" corn demonstration conducted on his farm in cooperation with the Farm Bureau has convinced him, says the Montevideo News, that hogs at 13 1/2¢ a pound are money makers.

Fifty-two spring pigs were given the run of the demonstration plot, six and a half acres of corn and soybeans, on September 27 and were kept there 40 days. During that time they made a total gain of 3,744 pounds, each acre producing 576 pounds of pork. At \$13.50 a hundred pounds, Larson's gross return was \$77.76 an acre. Deducting from this \$18 for land rental, seed, plowing, harrowing, wear and tear on machinery and other expenses, his net profit amounted to \$59.76 an acre.

The practice of "hogging-off" corn was approved long ago at University Farm as an economical harvest system, a time and labor saver. The planting of soybeans with silage corn has also been found to be in line with a safe and sound farming policy.

DOLLAR DECLINING IN TERMS OF CAKE

The 45-cent chocolate cake, a recipe for which was printed in the Press News of January 1, was based on prices for ingredients ruling last July, says Lavinia Stinson, instructor in foods and cookery at University Farm. Money put into cake now will not go so far as it did in midsummer last year. The dollar, it seems, has depreciated still further. It should have been stated that chocolate cake No. 2, the recipe for which was also printed, could have been made last July at a cost of only 30 cents. The cost today, says Miss Stinson, would be around 40 cents; the cost of the 45-cent cake would now be about 60 cents.

GOOD FOOD VALUE FOUND IN POPCORN

Because popcorn has a low moisture content it has a relatively high food value, says Miss Mildred Weigley, chief of the home economics division of the Minnesota college of agriculture.

"A pound of popcorn," says Miss Weigley, "gives 1826 calories, or about 200 calories more than would a pound of corn flakes. In comparison with a pound of white bread it gives one and a half times as many calories. One-ninth of the calories are from protein, one-ninth from fat, and the remainder from carbohydrates."