

## UNIVERSITY FARM PRESS NEWS

Published Semi-Monthly by the University of Minnesota, Department of Agriculture, Extension Division.

VOL. XI

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL, MINN., JUNE 1, 1920

NO. 11

Entered as Second class matter anuary 15, 1910, at the postoffice at St. Paul, Minn., under the Act of July 16, 1891.  
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 29, 1918.

## EDITOR'S COLUMN

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

## How to Get Inch Costs

Here is a method used by a New York state editor in determining the cost of producing an inch of advertising: Take the figure representing the total gross cost of running the newspaper for any stated period, deduct from it the total circulation receipts and divide the result by the total number of inches or lines of advertising carried during the period. The figure thus obtained will be the cost of producing a line or an inch of advertising for that period. What do Minnesota cost specialists think of the plan?

## Make Every Page Interesting

The editor of the Service Sheet, published at Cornell University in the interest of the editors of New York, holds that it is anything but fair to advertisers to crowd the inside pages with ads, with a fringe only of plate matter which, it is easy to believe, only a comparatively few subscribers read. A little study and figuring, says the Service man, would make every page a local page and give all the advertisers a "fair shake."

## Editor Counts His Rewards

Good old "Deacon" William C. Palmer, when retiring as editor of the Jewell County (Kansas) Republican, said in his farewell to his readers: "I have put more than 36 years of my life into the paper. Some folks say a man is a fool to put so much into a little country newspaper; but I say they have been brief and happy years and that they have brought me a great reward—the reward of enjoying everyone of them, the reward of happiness in my work and the reward of having a conviction that I was trying to serve a community and a people for whom I have a deep and sincere affection. What greater things has this world to give any man than these?"

## Reporting Should Be Profession

Prof. Willard B. Bleyer, director of the course of journalism at the University of Wisconsin, believes that newspaper reporting ought to be made sufficiently attractive financially and otherwise to be regarded as offering an opportunity for a life career to well qualified men and women. "As long as young men and women," says Prof. Bleyer, "know that there is no permanent career for them as reporters on the average paper, they will regard their work simply as a means of securing positions in publicity and advertising or some other profession."

## Journalism Students Offer Services

Several journalism students in the University of Minnesota are looking for summer jobs. They have had a year's work in general reporting and covering news runs. Their names are: Vernon R. Hauge, age 21, of Ashby, Minnesota, a junior in the University. Address 1115 Fourth Street SE, Minneapolis. Sylvan L. Lyksett, age 26, Fergus Falls, a junior. Address 819 Union avenue south, Minneapolis. Mr. Lyksett has been working on the Minnesota Daily for six months. Miss Ehrma Lundburg, 21, sophomore, address 2621 Fifteenth avenue south, Minneapolis. Editors who wish to get in touch with these students may address them directly or write to Norman Radder, Course in Journalism, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

## Short Course Praised

The editor of the Lakefield Standard, who attended the short course given for newspaper men on April 29 and 30 and May 1 at University Farm, gives it a strong endorsement as follows:

"If the editors of the state realized how much value they could secure by attending these short courses they would drop everything and go. One editor said he had quit the railroad business a little more than a year ago to take up newspaper work, and he felt that the instruction he received at the short course the previous year had made his business a success."

The editor of the Osseo Review said, "A lot of good business knowledge was garnered at the sessions and many able speakers delivered addresses. The entire meeting was a source of much interest and benefit. Look for us again next year."

## ORCHARD AND GARDEN

June 1 to 8

Squash may still be planted with success. Use the small Hubbard if the seed can be obtained.

Keep garden crops free from weeds and well tilled these days. It's lots easier to kill the weeds when they are small.

Late celery and cabbage may be set now. Plant plenty of each. Good home gardens are going to be valuable parts of the home this year. Better have one.

Nurseries have not been able to get enough Beta Grape to fill their orders this year. People generally have done more planting than usual.

Early flowering shrubs on the campus this year in the order of bloom were Mayday tree, Juneberry, golden currant, redberried elder, and double flowering plum.

Plant a good supply of musk and water melons today. A bushel of well rotted manure in each hill will insure a good growth of plant.

Again the Mayday tree and the flowering currant have demonstrated their value in home ground plantings. They were the first shrubs out this year. The dense foliage of the Mayday tree adds to its value.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

## ORCHARD AND GARDEN

June 8 to 15

Give the peonies plenty of water at blooming time.

Make plantings of vegetables for early fall use. Another planting of gladiolus bulbs may be made now to advantage.

Swiss chard is a good leaf vegetable for warm weather. It is also an excellent plant to use for a green food for chickens.

It is important in setting a plant in the garden to firm the soil thoroughly about the tips of the roots. Leave the top inch of soil loose.

Cultivation is always of more value than irrigation in the garden. When it is necessary to apply water, see that enough is put on to moisten the roots to the tips.

Spray currant and gooseberry bushes with arsenate of lead or dust them with paris green and lime to get rid of the currant worm. Put enough paris green in air slaked lime to give it a greenish cast.

Roses and other bushy plants may be layered now. Bend the branches to the ground and cover them two or three inches deep with soil. If the wood is hard as is often the case of roses, notch it with a sharp knife.

Ant hills may be eliminated by punching holes in them and placing cotton, which has been wet with carbon bisulphide, in them. The fumes of this material penetrate the hills and kill the ants. Keep the material away from an open flame as it is very explosive.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

EAT, CAN OR SELL  
THE SLACKER HENS

"Watch for the slackers," is the advice given by N. E. Chapman, poultry extensionist with the Minnesota college of agriculture. "The time of year is approaching," he says, "when broody hens and slackers may reduce the percentage of egg production below profitable figures. It should be the aim of every poultry keeper to maintain at least a 50 per cent egg production. The slackers are hens too old or too lazy to pay their way, those using their feed for making fat and those that have finished their year's production of eggs and are beginning to molt. The poultryman cannot reasonably expect to maintain a high production if he has many birds of this stamp. Cull them out at once. They should be eaten, canned or sold. The oldest and fattest are easy to pick out and hens beginning to molt, with legs still yellow and with small, yellow colored vent, are through with this year's production and will take a long and unprofitable vacation if kept on the farm."

RECIPE FOR MAKING  
"SUGARLESS JELLY"

A recipe for sugarless jelly is likely to become popular this season if present prices on sugar are maintained. Members of the staff of the home economics division of the Minnesota college of agriculture have evolved a recipe in which honey or sirup or a combination of both is substituted for sugar. If the fruit juice after straining is thin, it should be boiled down until it is of the consistency of thin cream. For each cup of juice measure out three-fourths of a cup of honey or sirup or a combination of both. The best results have been obtained, it is said, from half corn sirup and half honey. Add sirup to the boiling fruit juice and cook until the usual tests for jelly are obtained.

HOG CHOLERA LOSS  
LIGHTER TO DATE

According to H. C. H. Kernkamp, assistant veterinarian in the division of veterinary medicine at University Farm, hog cholera does not seem to be as prevalent in this state as it was at the corresponding date last year. With conditions so favorable apparently, every effort should be made to maintain them and keep losses at a low point. To do this requires especially good care, sanitation and close observation.

"Pigs that are thrifty, vigorous and rugged," says Dr. Kernkamp, "are not as susceptible to cholera and other diseases as are the unthrifty and stunted ones. Worms and lice are partly responsible for keeping pigs in an unhealthy state. Clean houses, clean pens, feeding troughs and pastures are conducive to good health. However, these alone will not always prevent cholera, but they will go a long way toward control.

"In case any pigs appear sick, their prompt removal and isolation from the rest of the herd is imperative. If animals die suddenly their bodies should be removed from the herd. Burn or bury all carcasses. A veterinarian should be called in to make a proper diagnosis and post mortem if necessary.

"Hog cholera can be checked and controlled by the proper use of anti-hog cholera serum and strict quarantine. Pigs that have not been vaccinated should not be placed on infected premises."

GOOD FEEDING AND  
CARE GET REWARD

Benefits resulting from good care and feeding of dairy stock are brought out clearly in the April reports of Minnesota cow testing associations made to and summarized by L. V. Wilson of University Farm, agent in dairying for the United States department of agriculture.

There are 13 cows in each of two herds in a certain county association. One, the highest producing herd in that association, returned an average of 52.3 pounds of butterfat to the animal. The other, the lowest producing herd, returned an average of only 13.1 pounds of butterfat per cow, or 39.2 pounds less per cow than the average production of the leading herd.

"The high herd," says Mr. Wilson, "was fed silage and grain three times a day and hay twice. All feeding and milking were done in a thorough and regular manner. The rations consisted of liberal quantities of bran, corn, oats, oilmeal, and cornmeal. Sixteen pounds of silage of poor quality and containing no corn was fed twice a day to each cow in the low herd. The hay, which was also of poor quality, was fed in a rack in the yard. One and one-half pounds of ground oats were fed. Regularity was not observed and the barn was not kept sanitary. The cows were turned out for the greater part of the day."

While the owner of the highest producing herd had the biggest feeding expense, his comfortable and contented cows returned him almost four times the butterfat produced by the low standing herd.

BEES SHOULD HAVE  
GOOD CARE IN SPRING

Spring management of bees to secure the maximum number for the honey flow should begin, paradoxically as it may seem, the fall before. The following precepts should be observed by beekeepers, according to Francis Jager, chief of the division of bee culture at University Farm:

Give the colony a good young queen early in the fall.

Stimulate the queen to raise brood late in the fall by feeding her in September. Only the last hatched bees will survive the winter.

Give the bees combs of honey from the year before or feed them on every flying day weak sugar sirup in the open in Alexander feeders. Also scatter some rye flour when no natural pollen may be obtained.

Cover up the bees against cold and reduce their room to the minimum and the entrance to the hive to a quarter of an inch; all cracks should be closed to prevent drafts.

Give the colony a clean, dry home—the kind you would care to live in yourself.

## Editors' Course Gains Fame

The Service Sheet, published monthly for newspaper men by the New York state college of agriculture, gives editorial publicity to the fact that an editors' short course has become a regular feature of the year's activity of the department of agriculture of the University of Minnesota and that the average attendance is around 100.

CANNING SUGAR  
BILL CAN BE CUT

Members of the staff of the division of home economics at University Farm are already receiving many inquiries concerning the canning and preserving of fruit with lessened amounts of sugar. Mounting prices of sugar are causing much anxiety and the canning season will only add to the difficulties. "It is possible," says Mildred Weigley, chief of the division, "to can fruit, and have it keep, without any sugar. This method does not, however, produce the best flavor or consistency in the fruit. Excellent canned and preserved products may be made with a much smaller amount of sugar than is commonly used, adding corn or malt sirups in its place." Miss Weigley says the following proportions for sirups for canning and preserving have been tried and found good:

Thick:—1 cup sirup (white), ½ cup sugar, 1½ cups cold water. Medium:—¾ cup sugar, ¼ cup sirup (white), ¾ cup water. Thin:—½ cup sugar, 1 cup sirup (white), 3 cups water. One cup of honey may be used in place of one cup of sugar.

WASTE OF MILK  
CAN BE PREVENTED

When warm weather really starts in, the problem of caring for milk and cream on the farm will become more important than ever. With the present prices for milk and high grade cream, spoilage may soon cause losses much greater than would be the cost of prevention.

"Since the souring of cream," says J. R. Keithley of the dairy husbandry division at University Farm, "is due to the action of bacteria upon some of the milk constituents, the problem of caring for milk becomes one of excluding bacteria as far as possible, and of then preventing the action or growth of those remaining. A knowledge of the sources of bacterial contamination of milk and the requirements for bacterial growth enable the dairy farmers to keep milk and cream in a sweet, wholesome condition. Bacteria are microscopic plants and, like larger plants, require favorable moisture, food and temperature conditions for their growth.

"Bacteria get into the milk from utensils, from the body of the cow, the body of the milker and the atmosphere or air. We can exclude the greater part of the bacteria by keeping these sources clean, but in spite of our best efforts some bacteria will gain entrance to milk. Development of these can be prevented by cooling the milk quickly and holding it at a temperature of about 50 degrees F.

"Probably the most practical method of cooling is to make use of a tank through which cold water can circulate around the cans of milk and cream. This tank need not be expensive and it will soon save its cost by reducing and eliminating spoilage."

HOW TO "BREAK  
UP" BROODY HENS

The time has come, says N. E. Chapman, poultry specialist with the extension division of the Minnesota college of agriculture, when poultrymen raising the larger breeds—the so-called Rocks and Reds—will have more broody hens than they can use for hatching purposes. All such should be "broken up" as soon as possible that they may be returned to the laying contingent of the flock and do their part in maintaining at least a 50 per cent production. Mr. Chapman says the best method of interning a broody hen is to have a well ventilated coop or box with slatted or wire bottom so that the air will circulate freely and thus help to reduce the broody fever. Hens thus incarcerated should be well fed in troughs kept just outside of the coop and also should be given skim-milk or buttermilk. Good feed is essential at this time that the egg producing organs may maintain their force and vigor. The coop may be kept in the poultry house or outside if well protected. From three to seven days confinement should suffice to effect a cure.

PLANS FOR FARM  
BUILDINGS READY

Various blue prints for farm buildings and equipment have been prepared by the division of agricultural engineering of the university, and may be secured at 10 cents per sheet by addressing the Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul. There are comprehensive plans for farm houses, barns, implement sheds, hog and poultry houses and for farmsteads facing north, south, east or west. Poultry building plans comprise a colony house on runners for chicks, a two pen shed roof building and a two pen broken gable roof building.

RAPE HELD BEST  
FORAGE FOR PIGS

"The best annual forage crop for swine in the northern United States," says H. W. Vaughan, in charge of swine husbandry at University Farm, "is Dwarf Essex rape. Many who have made use of rape pastures declare they are second to none among all pasture crops for hogs. Rape is the best emergency crop of any. It may be sowed as early as the land can be plowed in the spring, and does best when sown early, but may be sown at any time up to about August at the rate of four or five pounds of seed to the acre. The seed is quoted at about 12 cents a pound this season.

"Rape seeded early will grow until fall if not pastured down to less than four or five leaves to the plant. The crop is especially useful during the hot, dry months. It will grow until heavy frosts come and may be pastured from early June to the middle of November, or about six months.

"Leaves of rape are high in percentage of protein to dry matter and pigs fed corn or barley on rape pasture do not need more than one-twentieth tankage or its equivalent in oil-meal, buttermilk or skimmilk to balance the grain. There is no loss of the land for one season in seeding to rape, as is the case with alfalfa. Winter killing is not a source of trouble with rape, clipping is not required and over-pasturing is not so harmful as with alfalfa because rape is an annual crop anyway.

"In two Iowa trials rape produced more pork to the acre than alfalfa. A summary of three Iowa and three Kansas trials showed that the two crops are practically equal in efficiency.

"A good pasture cheapens pork production. Succulent feed and exercise make thrifty, healthy pigs."

HOUSEWIVES PLAN  
TO LIGHTEN TOIL

How long does it take you to prepare three meals a day, set the table, clear it, wash the dishes and clean up? How far is your storage space from your kitchen? Where do you keep your cooking utensils and where your dining-room dishes?

Women of Waseca county are asking themselves these questions, and in getting the answers are finding out how to reduce the time spent in the kitchen.

Besides trying to shorten the distances, they have discovered that a plan of work makes a great deal of difference, and next month they are going to determine the importance of a plan of work in the management of a home. Have you a plan? Is it a good one as a time and strength saver?

Five groups in Waseca county are studying household efficiency. This work is being conducted by the Farm Bureau. Mrs. L. J. Sheldon of Waseca is chairman, and is being assisted by Adele Koch, assistant state home demonstration leader from the agricultural extension division of the University of Minnesota.

WHY IT PAYS TO  
CLEAR UP LAND

Land-clearing promotion work, which is now being done in northern Minnesota by the co-operation of the Minnesota college of agriculture, the Farm Bureau, and business men and railroad corporations of the Twin Cities, is strongly endorsed by men who have had experience in clearing land and who know what the soil will do when once cleared of the forest growth.

The value of cleared land depends, of course, upon the value of the crops that the land can produce in a series of years under a practical system of farming. The land at the North Central experiment station at Grand Rapids is typical of a large area of northern Minnesota. A system of dairy farming has been practiced at the station for the last 20 years under a three year rotation of grain, meadow and cultivated crops. The average yields from the most important crops for the last 10 years are given by Otto I. Bergh, superintendent, as follows:

Oats, 48.03 bushels an acre; barley, 33.64 bushels an acre; winter rye, 23.41 bushels an acre; potatoes, 270.47 bushels an acre; rutabagas, 16.80 tons an acre; clover and timothy, 2.58 tons an acre in one cutting or 3.70 tons an acre in two cuttings.

These 10 year averages, says Mr. Bergh, which can be duplicated by farmers of this territory under the same system of farming, are the true indication of the value of cleared land in this district. The fertility of the land increases year by year under a short rotation where the crops produced are fed to livestock on the farm.