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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Newspapers Necessary to Business

A dispute over print paper charges caused newspaper proprietors of Winnipeg to suspend publication. A recent dispatch from Winnipeg furnishes the sequel. The customary activity and gaiety of the street largely disappeared. Wildest rumors became current as to local and world-wide news development, with the great mass of the population unable to tell what to believe and what not to believe. Tremendous decrease in business was felt. Mercantile houses usually crowded by bargain hunters and other customers at this time of the year suffered great losses. Traction companies, theaters, and other enterprises and industries reported a decline in the volume of business. The conclusion generally drawn from Winnipeg's experience is that business cannot be effectively transacted and the daily life of the city cannot function without newspapers.

Nothing Missed in Community Paper

When the average person reads a magazine he reads the stories and when he gets the daily paper he reads the headlines. But when he gets the community paper he slouches down into a comfortable position and reads every line from start to finish. After he reads it through, he goes back over it to make sure he hasn't missed anything.—Watertown (S.D.) Herald.

\$3 a Year "Sub" Here

The subscription price has been boosted another peg by the Lambertson Star, which now quotes the rate of \$3 a year.

Good for a Stamp at Least

Among "hunches" suggested for newspaper stories by The American Press of New York is the following: "If congress provides for a two cent piece, what can be bought for it in your town?"
It ought not to cut very deeply into the present supply of print paper in this country to answer this hunch in full.

Hint for Berry Growers

Many families in (name of your town) would like to place an order for berries to hold through the season. How can they know that you can furnish them unless you put an ad in The (name of your paper)?

Publishers Glad to Co-operate

Miss Rebecca Whitaker, home demonstration agent in Madison parish, Louisiana, is a thorough believer in publicity, and has always found that the publishers are willing, even eager, to co-operate with her. Miss Whitaker says, "If I fail to turn in any news until late in the week the editor has gotten into the habit of reminding me of the fact. I believe these articles do more to strengthen the foundations of my work than anything else, especially with business men. If there is nothing in the local paper in regard to a local activity, business men are apt to think it is not very active—that, in other words, it is doing nothing worth writing about and therefore is not worthy of their support."

Wadena Paper Tries Experiment

The Pioneer-Journal of Wadena has added an agricultural extension worker to its staff—an experiment which may prove of great practical value to country newspaper proprietors. "Barney" Gustafson, a student of the Minnesota college of agriculture, recently began his duties as country reporter for the Pioneer-Journal. His employers have furnished him with a car and he will spend his time visiting the farmers of Wadena county.

"Our country reporter," says the editor of the Pioneer-Journal, will be qualified to do all things which are being done by county agents. He will work in harmony with our county agent who is in sympathy with our new plan. He will secure news from the farmers and solicit advertising and subscriptions.

"He will be that sort of a man who can give the farmer good advice and will also be capable of assisting the men who are now striving to increase the values of their flocks and herds by raising higher grade animals."

ORCHARD AND GARDEN

July 1 to 8

Cut back the flower stalks of larkspur as soon as the flowers have faded, fertilize and cultivate the plants. Good flowers will appear for cutting in the autumn.

A mulch of well rotted manure may be put on beds of cannas, geraniums, and gladioli. This will add fertilizer, keep the ground moist, and will not require cultivation of the plants.

About 500 pots of Iris were exhibited at the Iris show in the Northwestern National Bank, Minneapolis, June 8 to 9. Hundreds of people other than bank customers visited the show.

Watch for a second crop of currant worms which may be appearing about this time. Spray the bushes with arsenate of lead or dust with Paris green and lime.

Cut out the old canes of currants as soon as they are through fruiting and thin some of the new growth. Remember the fruit is borne on two and three year old wood.

Strawberry weevil has damaged many strawberry plantations again this year. About the only remedy for the insect seems to be to keep the land well cultivated and plant on new land frequently.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN

July 8 to 15

Water gladioli frequently as soon as buds begin to set.

Copenhagen cabbage is one of the best for late use.

The wild cucumber is said to carry the mosaic disease, which injures the cultivated varieties.

Now is a good time to make up a list of bulbs for indoor and outside planting this fall.

Arsenate of lead sprayed on cabbage plants at any stage of growth relieves them of cabbage worms. Paris green and lime are also good.

Apples ranked ninth in the list of farm crops in the United States in 1919. The total value was equal to that of rice, rye, buckwheat and flaxseed combined.

Do not let too many melon vines grow in one hill. Thin, cultivate and fertilize for best results.

Now is a good time to give some attention to the appearance of public highways in the community. There should be trees and some plantings of shrubbery at places where they will not interfere with traffic.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

MORE PLANS READY FOR FARM BUILDINGS

The division of agricultural engineering at University Farm has prepared further plans for farmsteads and buildings, blue prints of which will be sent on application, when 10 cents is enclosed, to the Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota. Among the blue prints are floor plans of potato warehouses for which there have been many urgent requests.

HARVEST NEAR BY; ARE RACKS READY

Good farming means that machinery and equipment of various kinds should be put in good shape before the harvest rush. Hay and bundle racks are often neglected because they are not used continuously. Then, it is often desirable to build better racks in order that the efficiency of men and teams may be increased.

"The basket hay rack," says H. B. White, of the agricultural engineering division at University Farm, is used in many localities where hay loaders and slings are used, or where at shock threshing a man works alone pitching on the load. The hay and bundle rack finds favor in localities where grain is stacked. It is much easier to pitch to the bottom of a stack from this rack than from a basket rack."

Blue prints prepared by the division of agricultural engineering may be obtained for 10 cents a plan by applying to the Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota. The hay and bundle rack is plan 136; the basket rack is plan 137.

YOUNG HORSES ON FARMS DECREASING

In a communication received at University Farm the Horse Association of America, Wayne Dinsmore, secretary, quotes horse authorities as declaring that the lack of young horses on farms is becoming serious. An Illinois horseman is quoted as saying that foals have never been so scarce as this year. There are lots of buyers, he says, but the farmers haven't any horses to sell. For the future of the farmer and the horse it is strongly urged that every good mare be bred this year.

BUCKWHEAT CAN STILL BE SOWN

Buckwheat may be sown as late as the first week in July and mature a seed crop, according to A. C. Arny, in charge of farm crops at University Farm. In fact it does better when sown the last half of June and the first week in July than when sown earlier. The five-year average yield secured in a five-year trial at Monticello, Minnesota, on a black loam with a gravel subsoil, was 22.7 bushels. Near Anoka, on very sandy soil with less than normal rainfall, the Japanese variety yielded 6.26 bushels and the Silverhull variety 5.16 bushels an acre. On peat soil located only a short distance from the sand the Silverhull variety yielded 18.35 bushels and the Japanese variety 15.01 bushels an acre. The seed weighs 50 pounds a bushel and the usual rate of planting is 3 pecks an acre. The seed is sown with the grain drill.

Buckwheat is usually grown as a grain crop, but may be used for plowing under as a green manure where such practice is necessary. It is not practical to sow grass or clover seed with buckwheat as it shades the ground so thoroughly that the young grass or clover plants cannot live.

Buckwheat is harvested with the binder and shocked. It is usually threshed from the shock. The threshing machine is adjusted for threshing buckwheat by removing the concaves and inserting a board in their place. If buckwheat is stacked, some grass is necessary as a covering to turn the rain.

Mr. Arny finds there is a good market for buckwheat when grown in sufficient quantities in a community to ship in car lots.

GIVE HORSE FAIR DEAL IN HARVEST

Harvest is one of the most trying times of the year for both horses and man on the farm, for there is a never ending amount of work to do in order to save the crops. The hot sun, bad weather and poor machinery seem to unite to harass and aggravate a man until his stock of patience and good humor is quite exhausted. This is one of the many times in common every day events when true manhood is brought to the test. Too often the anger of the man is vented on the horse, already tried almost beyond endurance by the heavy work, hot sun, flies and chafing harness. So, whatever happens, be kind to the horse, remembering that "he that ruleth his temper is greater than he who taketh a city." When you begin to feel angry get down off your machine, lift the collar from the horse's neck to cool his hot shoulder, give him a drink of fresh water and a mouthful of grass. By this time your anger will have vanished and the same amount of work will be accomplished with less expense of physical energy and self respect.—A. D. Wilson, chief of the agricultural extension division, University Farm.

MOWING MACHINE NEEDS CARE NOW

Farmers will agree with L. B. Bassett of University Farm that the mowing machine should be in first class repair before the haying season starts. "In overhauling the mower," says Mr. Bassett, "it is a good plan to start with the drive wheels and see that there is little play. Otherwise, the pawls may slip and wear. See that the pawl cases are free from foreign substances and that the pawl springs are not broken or weakened. If the driving shaft boxes are badly worn, causing imperfect mesh of gear, they should be renewed. The bearing in the lower end of the crank shaft should be examined. When this is badly worn it causes the mower to pound and breaks the sickle head."

"The ledger plates on the guards should be replaced if badly worn or dull. The guides on top of the sickle bar should be properly adjusted. Sometimes these guides are pinched down so tight as to cause the sickle to bind or to open so wide that it has too much play. The sickle bar should be in perfect alignment, which means that when the mower is standing on the floor the outer end of the sickle bar should be about one to one and one-half inches ahead of the inner end. The points of alignment are the outer end of the sickle bar, the connection at the pitman end and the connection at the crank shaft. These three points should be in a straight line."

"It is important that the sickle be kept sharp. Dull sickles cause excessive wear on the mower, do a poor job of cutting and require more power."

Dahlias and other flowers will give larger single flowers if all but one bud is taken off the stem.

Plant sweet corn, carrots, beets, etc., for fall and winter use now. Gladioli may also be planted for late fall flowers.

HOW TO RESTORE DAMAGED PASTURES BETTER THAN A CESSPOOL

Many Minnesota farmers were forced in the spring to turn their stock out to pasture early notwithstanding the fact that grass started slowly. The effect of this early pasturing may be seen now in short pastures which, in some sections, are beginning to burn out. A pasture that is eaten down close during the early spring is sure to go into the hot weather of summer in bad condition. The roots of the grass are not protected by the leaves and blades as they are intended to be and evaporation from the soil is rapid and the roots are usually badly damaged. In such condition grass can make but little growth.

Andrew Boss, veteran farm manager with the Minnesota Experiment station, says such pastures can be saved to some extent by proper care. Where the acreage of pasture is sufficient and with a little to spare, many of the bare or thinner spots can be top-dressed with good barnyard manure to advantage. The top dressing will protect the roots somewhat, and in the course of a month or two a decided improvement in quantity and quality of grass will be noted.

"It is good practice," says Mr. Boss, "to divide the pasture into two fields, if possible, and pasture alternate weeks, or for alternate longer periods, depending on the quantity of grass and the condition it is in. A part of the pasture should be allowed to make good growth and be held in reserve until the hot weather of July and August comes on. During the fly season it is difficult enough to keep stock in good condition even when they are on good pasture, and no pains should be spared to have at least one or two good pasture fields for this season."

ROTARY SHIELD BEST FOR WEEDY CORN

Excessive rains have prevented cultivation of corn in some parts of the state. In such localities the fields are generally very weedy. If the corn is small and the ground is wet and the weeds have a good start, the use of a shovel seven or eight inches in length, or about the size that is ordinarily used on the three-shovel gang cultivator, is recommended by L. B. Bassett, of the farm management staff at University Farm.

"Much better work can be done," says Mr. Bassett, "if the machine is equipped with the rotary shield. With this shield properly set, it is almost impossible to cover the corn. Not only this, but the operator can get a little fine dirt around the corn no matter how wet the field. This is important as it is the only way the weeds around the hills can be covered. "Where the field is in good condition much better results can be secured by the use of what is commonly known as the hoof shovel, sometimes called the spear point shovel. This has a wide point and a narrow mould-board. If the thistle sweeps are sharp and properly adjusted, no tap rooted weeds will escape. However, thistle sweeps are not satisfactory where the ground is heavy or in fields infested with quackgrass."

STOMACH WORM LOSS PREVENTABLE

Animal husbandry division men at University Farm say that sheep owners of the state have suffered great losses among their flocks by reason of the stomach worm. The lambs suffer the most. These losses can be reduced by treatment that is inexpensive and easily administered.

"The best preventive and the one most easily given," says Philip A. Anderson of the division, "is copper sulphate or blue stone, as it is often known. Make a 1 per cent solution by dissolving one-quarter of a pound of the blue stone in a pint of boiling water, adding cold water to make three gallons, being sure that a clear solution is obtained and always using an earthenware or a wooden receptacle. The dose for lambs, according to size, is three-quarters of an ounce to one and one-half ounces; for older sheep, two and one-half ounces to three ounces. An ordinary tablespoon holds one-half ounce.

"A veterinarian's syringe can be used, but care must be exercised in not pushing the plunger of the syringe too rapidly, as the solution may enter the lungs and give trouble. This treatment should be repeated in ten days or two weeks, or, if the flock is badly infested, two or three times during seasons at intervals of 30 days."

Plan and work now for a good exhibit of fruits, flowers and vegetables at your county or state fair. Preparing and exhibiting for prizes is a good method of learning something about your crop. Try it.

With running water provided in the home provision must be made for the resulting waste. Lacking a sewer system, the discharge is often into the common cesspool, which is merely a cistern or storage pit, in sandy or otherwise porous soil, three or four feet square, 12 to 20 feet deep and loosely curbed with plank. No provision is made for carrying off the waste from the cesspool, as it is expected the liquid waste will readily seep into the surrounding soil.

H. B. Roe, agricultural engineer at University Farm, finds the drawbacks to the cesspool quite definite. A suitable soil in which to dig it is not always present; in time the surrounding soil becomes saturated or plugged with the solid or semi-solid waste matter; the cesspool is then quickly filled beyond its capacity and overflows the surface with offensive liquid waste so that a new pit must be dug and curbed from time to time; seepage of the waste through the soil is apt to cause serious pollution of well water strata in the vicinity.

A practical alternative to the cesspool is the septic tank, says Mr. Roe. The tank, which usually has two chambers separated by a baffle, consists essentially of a watertight concrete box set below the ground to exclude all the light and most of the air. The raw sewage or waste from the house is carried into the first of sludge chamber where it is held from 12 to 36 hours. Most of the solid waste is broken up by natural bacterial and chemical action into liquids and gases. The final discharge is from the second chamber either in a slow, steady flow or intermittently every 12 to 24 hours by means of an automatic or hand operated valve. The nearly purified liquid thus discharged may be carried direct into a little drain or into an absorption system of drain tile laid with open joints near the surface, where the purification is completed by the sunlight, air and leaching action in the soil, or it may be discharged upon the surface or into a ditch at some distance from the house where an open stream dilutes and carries it away.

The engineering division at University Farm, St. Paul, will furnish more detailed information on request.

SAVE BLUEBERRIES BY MAKING JELLY

A good jelly can be made from blueberries, according to Miss Lavinia Stinson, instructor in foods and cookery in the home economics division at University Farm. Much of the loss and waste of the blueberry harvest might be avoided if the fruit was turned into jelly. Blueberries are rich in pectin. Although their juice is fairly sweet to taste, yet it is sufficiently acid to yield jelly of good texture when the proportion of sugar to juice is one to one. When this proportion of sugar is used the time for making need not exceed 10 minutes. The following recipes are recommended by Miss Stinson:

No. 1.—Cook and drain the fruit. Set over a quick fire and heat to boiling point. Let boil six or seven minutes. Add one cup of sugar, made hot in the oven, for each cup of juice. Let boil one or two minutes, then pour into the glasses.

(Note: The glasses must be ready in a pan of hot water, as mixture will often jelly in the saucepan if there is a moment in turning it into the glasses.)

No. 2.—Cut a large lemon into very thin slices. Let stand over night in cold water to cover. Add the lemon and water to three quarts of blueberries. Let cook and drain in the usual manner. Finish as in recipe 1.

No. 3.—After the juice has been drained from the blueberries, turn the contents of the bag into a saucepan. Add water to cover, and lemon cut in slices, if desired. Mix thoroughly and let cook slowly until boiling. Drain and measure. Let boil 10 minutes then add about a half cup of sugar for each cup of liquid. Boil until the liquid gives a jelly test.

THIS RECIPE CUTS OUT SUGAR, HEAT

A recipe for preparing prunes for the table without the use of any fuel to speak of and without sugar was presented in a late number of The Journal of Home Economics and has been tested at various agricultural colleges, including Minnesota's, and pronounced good. Cover the prunes with cold water, says the recipe, drain and pour boiling water over them. Let stand three minutes, drain and barely cover with cold water. Twenty-four hours later they will be ready to serve, sweet and delicious in flavor and with rich juice.