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EDITOR'S COLUMN

PUTTING THE BEST SIDE OUT

The country editor is criticized because he gives the local news out sugar-coated. Always, every home talent play is presented by amateurs who do as well as professional thespians. The ball player who bobbles his plays has the mantle of charity thrown about him. The home boy or girl appearing in vocal or instrumental recital is reported to be—well, you know how the home-town editor stands by the home town through thick and thin. And it is kindly and neighborly to do it this way, even though the report is sometimes rather inaccurate, don't you know.—Jordan, Minn., Independent.

Of course it is; the principle has always been well recognized and handed down. A managing editor will tell his copy readers to "overhead" their stories rather than "underhead" them. In items touching the welfare of the community it is always better to "overpaint" rather than "underpaint." The thing to do is to put the best side out every time, and to stand up for one's home community.

The editor is in on safe ground when he idealizes the town hall into an opera house, the village green into a park, comfortable dwellings into mansions, and geese in general into swans. The aim is not the unworthy one of deception, but the nobler one of making the best of things. It is all a sort of grown-up game in which the editor and his staff of correspondents ought to be the older children amusing the younger ones.

Must Be Interesting

It is the business of an editorial writer to make himself read, and it may be set down at once that, if he is not read, he is a failure. Several things are necessary to his success. He must, of course, have knowledge; but a man might be a walking encyclopedia, and still not be a success. To knowledge, he must add the right spirit, a spirit of optimism and human sympathy, and a will to know and a power to discriminate among the projects of progress. But even that is not enough. To knowledge and spirit, he must add a certain literary skill. He must have the ability to present a matter in attractive guise, for it is no less the business of the editorial than it is of the news story to be interesting.—Osman C. Hopper.

A Voice for the Homemakers

Any farm that can afford a silo can afford a bathroom and a septic-tank sewage-disposal system. Any farm that can afford a cream separator can afford a washing machine. Any farm that can support pumping and storage facilities for the livestock can afford running water, hot and cold, in the house. Any farm that can maintain a manure spreader can afford an electric lighting system. Any farm that can afford self-feeders for the cattle can afford vacuum cleaners and electric-saving devices for the women. Any farm that can justify binders, silage cutters, hayforks, pumping engines, shredders, side-delivery rakes, corn harvesters, potato planters, and finely equipped barns can afford every modern convenience for making the home a good place for woman to live, work, rear children, and develop in them the love for farm life.—Herbert Quick.

L. P. Hunt Dies at Seattle

L. P. Hunt, at one time a leading country editor and publisher of Minnesota, died last month at Seattle. He was connected with the Free Press at Mankato many years and made a record for ability and enterprise. He had a liking for politics and served several years as postmaster at Mankato. Being ambitious to enlarge his business interests he disposed of his newspaper property and went to Alaska to engage in the canning business. He is survived by a brother at Mankato and a sister in New York City.

Your Name in the Paper

Every man and woman likes to see his name in the paper and the editor likes to print it. Some say they object to publicity. But do they? The Atchison Globe tells of a young man who entered its office. "I was intensely shocked to read a notice of my engagement," he said. "I cannot tell you how shocked I was. I was positively chagrined. My fiancée was chagrined. We were all chagrined. How much for 50 copies of the paper?"

Fred E. DuToit Lays Down Pen

Fred E. DuToit, editor of the Herald at Chaska, former sheriff and legislator and a Union soldier in the dark days of '61, is dead at the age of 76. He was probably the oldest editor actively connected with the Minnesota country press. In his prime he was a community leader and was highly influential in development tasks confronting the pioneers of Chaska and Carver county.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN

June 15 to 22

Black leaf 40 and soap and water will remove the aphids from shrubs and hedges.

Window boxes require a great deal of water and rich soil for the plant growth.

Keep seed pods off all plants if you would have the best development.

One hundred sixty varieties of iris were shown at the iris society show in St. Paul June 1 and 2.

Mildew on roses may be kept in check by spraying with one half ounce sulphate potassium to a gallon of water.

When flowering plants are forming their buds is a good time to apply fertilizer and, if the season is dry, water also.

Spring flowering shrubs should be pruned as soon as they are through flowering. The purpose is to shape up the plant and encourage the natural growth.

A planting of Golden Bantam sweet corn may be made now for fall use.

Country people deserve as attractive home surroundings as do those who live in the city. It is just as easy to make them so. Besides it pays in dollars and cents.—Le Roy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN

June 22 to 29

Gladiolus planted now will bloom nicely next fall.

Cut back delphinium as soon as they are through flowering. Fertilize and cultivate and a crop of flowers will come on in the fall.

String beans, beets, carrots, rutabagas and turnips may be planted now for winter use.

Early peas may be followed with some late maturing crop like beets or carrots. Iris may be transplanted late this month or early next.

Stop cutting asparagus now and cultivate and fertilize thoroughly. Your next year's crop will be better for it.

Hundreds of fruit trees were saved by bridge grafting this year after the rabbits had girdled them. Better protect the trees with wire.

A few good flowers in a plain vase are much more attractive than an expensive vase jammed full of flowers. Exhibit the flowers, not the vase.

Black Hills and Colorado Blue Spruce are attractive trees, not only now but when winter snow is on them.—Le Roy Cady, associate horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul.

CLUB WOMEN PLANT TREES AND TROUT

Women of Saginaw in St. Louis county who organized a community club with the aid of university home demonstration leaders and agents are doing some telling work for the up-building of the neighborhood. They are not seeking purely personal benefits alone, but have set out trees in the school yards and around the lakes. They have also asked for 60,000 brook trout from the state fish commission and plan to stock the lakes around Saginaw.

ANTS FLEE BEFORE TARTARIC BARRAGE

A small amount of moistened tartaric emetic and powdered sugar in equal parts will drive ants away if placed near their haunts. The mixture should not be thrown out when no longer required, says Mary L. Bull, university specialist in household management, but should be set aside for another emergency. Add a little water and the mixture can be used as before. Care should be taken to keep it out of the reach of little children.

POULTRY COMMUNITY HELPED BY "CIRCLE"

The egg circle founded and fostered at Orchard Gardens, Dakota county, by agricultural extension people of the university, shipped as many eggs in April, 1922, as it did in all the first five months of its existence, June 1 to Nov. 1, 1921. Shipments of last April amounted to 1,200 dozen. The five months period showed a total shipment of 1,205 dozens. Have you an egg circle in your community?

MORE COWS ENTER 1,000-POUND CLASS

William E. Peterson of University Farm, superintendent of official testing in Minnesota, reports two additions to Minnesota's list of cows that have produced 1,000 pounds of butter in a year. Kappine Ondinus Rose, a junior four year old owned by A. J. Lashbrook of Northfield, finished with 23,825 pounds of milk and 1,007 pounds of butter. Bess Ormsby Maid, owned by C. J. Grover of Glyndon, finished with 1,089 pounds of butter.

SCHEDULE ARRANGED FOR 1922 POTATO TOUR

The agricultural extension division of the university, the seed certification office of the state department of agriculture, county agents, and potato growers are cooperating to make a great success of the first Minnesota state potato tour, which will pass through 10 leading potato producing counties between the dates of July 31 and August 5.

All persons interested in potato growing are invited to join the tour. Automobile reservations can be made by writing to R. C. Rose, University Farm, St. Paul. Mr. Rose announces that the following schedule has been adopted: Monday, July 31, Todd and Wadena counties; August 1, Ottertail and Becker counties; August 2, Clay county; August 3, Norman and Polk counties; August 4, Red Lake and Clearwater counties; August 5, Beltrami county.

"The object of the tour," says Mr. Ross, "is to make a field study of the different potato problems. Fields will be visited where various methods are being used to control potato pests. The different kinds of potato sprayers and dusters and other machinery will be demonstrated in the field. Potato cellars and warehouses will be inspected at different points. Stops will also be made at some of the potato fields under state inspection, and special attention will be given to seed plots. In fact, we plan to take in everything of interest to potato growers."

LIVESTOCK SAVES DAY FOR MANY FARMERS

Detailed cost accounts kept for 1921 by university men on a group of 21 farms in southwestern Minnesota show that the average farm in that group yielded but little more than a bare living for the farmer. The excess of receipts over expenses on the 21 farms averaged only \$772.

Summarizing the results of the year's cost studies, Prof. G. A. Pond of University Farm finds that livestock was a life saver for the farmer in most instances. Some money was made on all livestock except beef cattle, he says. The average return per acre over operating expenses for land in crops on the basis of prices on December 1, 1921, was \$1.71, or not much more than enough to pay the taxes.

Professor Pond believes the outlook for the farmer is decidedly brighter than it was a year ago. In this connection he says: "The farmer who has had the courage and financial support to weather the depression of the last two years, who is continuing steadfastly about his business with his eyes open for every opportunity to increase his receipts and curtail his expenses, and who has productive livestock through which to market otherwise unprofitable crops, seems in a fair way to enjoy a continuation of the increase in financial returns that the year 1921 registered over 1920. The recovery may be slow but it will be sure."

TIME NEAR AT HAND FOR THIRD SPRAYING

Application of the third spray to apple and plum trees must be made soon if the best results are to be secured this year. The third spray is designed to give the apple maggot its quietus and also to aid in controlling the apple scab.

Brown rot in plums can be stopped by spraying plum trees now or in a week or 10 days. This spray will also kill the curculio, which takes a heavy toll of fruit each year unless subjected to drastic treatment.

The currant worm can be knocked out by a spray made up of two or three tablespoonfuls of arsenate of lead to one gallon of water. If left unmolested a few days these worms can strip the currant bushes of leaves. This reduces the yield of fruit and if repeated for several consecutive years may kill the bushes.

That spraying pays in dollars and cents has been demonstrated countless times. Suppose it costs 70 cents to spray a tree that promises a fair to good yield. This expense will be paid back many times over in more and better fruit obtained under the spraying system.

LOW GRADE CYANIDE KILLS POCKET GOPHER

Prof. F. L. Washburn of the division of entomology and economic zoology, University of Minnesota, has been experimenting this spring with a low grade of cyanide coming in the form of thin flakes under the name of rodent exterminator. He finds that this material when placed in the bottom of a branch or main burrow of a pocket gopher and the opening closed, is very effective in clay and loamy soil, but apparently not so much so in sandy soil. The material is cheap, each dose only costing a few cents. It bids fair to be in general use among farmers, says Mr. Washburn.

FEED PROBLEM IN THE NORTH BEING SOLVED

Scarcity of home grown feeds for domestic animals has been and is one of the disadvantages encountered by the settler who is opening a farm in cutover districts. A. D. Wilson, formerly director of agricultural extension for the state university, says this disadvantage will be comparatively easy to overcome. Mr. Wilson ought to know, for he has set himself to the task of converting cutover acres in Hubbard county into a splendidly tilled and arranged farm. In a recent communication he said:

"While the winters are long here and feed is scarce on the new farm, these difficulties are not serious. Good pastures which can be easily secured in a few years shorten considerably the feeding season. Clover hay, fodder corn and root crops produce abundantly when given a chance and a comparatively few acres will supply ample and very satisfactory feed for a respectable herd or flock.

"Then, as the new farm develops and more crop acres are available, the grain feed can be produced by the use of barley, oats, and rye, all of which yield as well here as in southern Minnesota or Iowa. Corn, that is the earlier varieties, matures here very satisfactorily. Corn is sure to be an important feed crop here for both grain and silage."

U. FARM RECIPE FOR BUILDING SHORTCAKE

The strawberry shortcake season is now at its height in Minnesota. Minnesota shortcake is composed of various ingredients that, happily mixed and baked, make a perfect base and resting place for fresh home-grown strawberries (none so good) and cream (whipped or unwhipped). In its presence all the woes enumerated by Hamlet, even death and taxes, are forgotten. Agnes M. Kolshorn of the home economics division, University Farm, recommends the following recipe for this great American dessert:

One cup milk, 2 2/3 cups flour, 7 tablespoonfuls fat, 5 tablespoonfuls sugar, 6 teaspoonfuls baking powder, 1 teaspoonful salt.

Sift the dry ingredients, flour, sugar, salt and baking powder. Cut in the fat with a cookie cutter, or with knives until it is thoroughly mixed. Then add the milk gradually and mix to make a soft, light dough. Roll or pat the dough out to about three-fourths of an inch thick and cut the desired shape. Butter the top, and bake in two layers in a hot oven.

The fruit should be sweetened and crushed and poured between the two layers and on top. After the strawberries are on the shortcake, it should be served at once, before the juice has had time to make it soggy.

STORED FOOD INSECTS; HOW TO FIGHT THEM

"Insects Infesting Stored Food Products" is the title of a new bulletin prepared by Dr. R. N. Chapman of the agricultural experiment station, University of Minnesota. It has been estimated that the damage caused by insects to stored food products amounts to \$200,000,000 each year in the United States, to say nothing of the tremendous loss of prestige and reputation often sustained by cereal companies when the buying public finds insects in the product.

The purpose of the bulletin is to explain what insects are causing the trouble, where they come from and what to do to get rid of them. Sections of the bulletin are given to special insect problems of seedsmen, manufacturers, warehousemen, wholesale and retail grocers, bakers and housekeepers. The various insects which cause all the annoyance and loss are described and full directions given for "sterilizing" and fumigating.

The bulletin is of value to city and country people alike. It may be had free on application to the Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

HOG CHOLERA SPECIAL BULLETIN NOW READY

Hog cholera has cost swine growers of Minnesota sums sufficient to ransom many kings. Special Bulletin No. 52, Dr. H. C. Kernkamp, author, discusses the causes, symptoms, methods of treatment and prevention of hog cholera. The bulletin gives instruction in the use of serum and virus and, in general, covers the whole subject in compact, readable form. Nearly a dozen illustrations serve to give point to the text. A postcard request to the Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul, will bring this bulletin to the farm home.

HORSE'S EFFICIENCY DEPENDS ON RATION

One of the factors that materially affects the efficiency of the work horse especially in hot weather is the feed he receives and the manner in which he receives it. In order that a horse may do a full day's work regularly throughout the summer months and yet maintain a presentable condition he must be fed just about to his full capacity. In order to do this and not injure his health, care and judgment must be exercised in the selection of feeds used.

The feeds best suited to form the principal components of the ration are good bright clean timothy or upland prairie hay and bright, clean, sound oats. The average horse weighing 1,500 pounds will require about 20 pounds of hay and 22 to 24 pounds of oats a day.

There is a wide variation in feed requirements of different horses of the same weight, however. Some do not have the capacity to consume and digest that much feed and must be fed less even though as a result they cannot be expected to work so hard; while others commonly spoken of as easy feeders will keep up and do well on a little less feed than the prescribed amount. The successful teamster or feeder will study the individuality of his horses and feed accordingly.

Horses that are handled quietly and patiently will do much more work and keep in better condition on a given amount of feed than will horses that are abused and continually kept nervous and in fear of the driver.

The ration given above can be improved upon by using one feed per day of good, bright, clean alfalfa or clover hay, or by substituting bran for about 15 to 20 per cent of the oats used. The grain feed should be replaced by a bran mash or feed of boiled barley or boiled oats on Saturday evening. The daily grain allowance should be reduced by about one-fourth on Sunday. Corn can be used in place of oats to constitute one half of the grain ration, though straight oats is conducive to slightly more satisfactory results over a long period of time.

The heavy feed of hay should of course be given at night, while the heavy feed of grain may be given at noon; little or no hay should be fed at noon. Watering both before and after feeding grain is the most satisfactory method. Work horses should also have an opportunity to eat all the salt they care for.—W. H. Peters, chief of the division of animal husbandry, University of Minnesota.

ENGINEERS WORK FOR ALKALINE PROOF TILE

In their efforts to find a tile that will stand up indefinitely in alkaline and acid soils and under deep freezing conditions, drainage engineers of the University of Minnesota are planning to conduct a series of tests with crude water-gas tar such as may be obtained as a by-product from many artificial gas plants.

Recently the bureau of public roads, United States Department of Agriculture, announced that promising results are being obtained from the use of gas-tar on concrete. The treatment consists of simply immersing the concrete in the liquid. Cement drain tile treated in this way and stored from six to eight months in a strong alkali solution has shown no signs of disintegration. Untreated samples, on the other hand, have disintegrated and lost strength.

D. G. Miller, senior drainage engineer of the federal department, has been assigned to University Farm to cooperate with the University of Minnesota and the state department of drainage and waters in studying the question of preserving concrete in alkaline waters and in making laboratory tests of tile and soils. The ultimate production of concrete tile that will stand the action of soil alkalis is confidently expected.

ROADSIDE MARKETS WORTH CONSIDERING

At the proper season many Minnesota farmers and homemakers might do well to consider the establishment of a roadside market. Minnesota is becoming one of the leading tourist states of the union. It has all the natural advantages which attract and hold. Farmers of various eastern states have profited by setting up roadside markets and offering their produce and wares to auto tourists. Honey producers of Connecticut have found the roadside market their best medium for direct contact with the consumer, according to the Connecticut Market Bulletin. Minnesota farmers located on trunk roads can often build up a market at their door for summer produce, also for dainties and delicacies prepared by home-makers.