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ORCHARD AND GARDEN NOTES

August 15

Try budding a few branches of apple and plum. It is easier than grafting. The value of good, thorough cultivation of the garden has been demonstrated this season.

Golden rod and other prairie and marsh flowers may be set out about the home this fall or next spring.

Have the old raspberry canes been cut out and burned? This will destroy many insects and some diseases.

Dahlias are at their best the middle of August. The nicest blooms are produced on plants that have been pruned and disbudded.

The globe tomato is a good one for the garden, although it is not as early as a good strain of Earliana.

Have you noticed the birds playing in the dish of water that you set up out of the way of cats? They enjoy water during hot weather as much as any of us.

Perennial phlox have been at their best this year. There are varieties of these plants in nearly all colors and they add much to any lawn or shrubbery.

One of our neighbors, who has but a small garden space, is growing his cucumber vines on a trellis which will soon make a shady arbor, besides saving land.

Some folks have had early corn several days in advance of their neighbors because they started it in paper pots or boxes in the cold frame. Many garden vegetables may be successfully treated in this way.

The State Horticultural Society will conduct a vegetable show at its December meeting. Better save some of the best vegetables to send or bring to it.

Have the weeds been mowed along the roads and in out-of-the-way places? If they are kept out of the way a few years grass will take their place. It is not only useful but looks better.

The writer of these notes wants to get views of well-planted farmsteads to use in making lantern slides. If you have photographs of pretty places write him or send one.

We are enjoying a planting of morning glory vines that were planted on an old fence early this spring. They are full of flowers of all colors now, and besides cut off an unsightly view. Wild cucumber is another annual vine that makes a good screen.

Strawberries may be transplanted now if the ground is moist enough. They are not always a success set at this time, but if plants are easily available it is worth the attempt.—LeRoy Cady, Associate Horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN NOTES

August 22

Iris may be transplanted now to good advantage.

Country Gentleman and Stowell's Evergreen sweet corn should be at their best in late August.

Rosa Rugosa pips are beginning to turn and many of the maples are adding color to the landscape.

Lawn grass may be sown now or early in September, provided the ground is moist enough.

Geraniums and other plants that are to be kept in the house this winter must be taken up in September.

Are you enjoying muskmelons and watermelons? Hodo and American Beauty muskmelons and Kleckley's Sweet watermelons are quite easy to raise.

Highbush cranberries are about ready for jelly. This plant is coming more and more into favor, both as an ornamental shrub and as a jelly supply.

Onions should be harvested and put on the market as soon as possible. Pull and throw three or four rows together to dry and then clean, and market in 100-pound sacks.

County fairs are beginning. Exhibit some products. It helps make the fair a success and makes you more observing. The fair will mean more if some of your best produce is there. There is also a satisfaction in beating the other fellow at his own game.

As soon as the leaves fall make hardwood cuttings of the currant about eight inches long, and plant them in the garden. They should become well rooted by winter.—LeRoy Cady, Associate Horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul.

IDEAS OF PUBLIC HEALTH CHANGING

"The New Public Health" is a new phrase for a new thing. The phrase originated with Dr. H. W. Hill, executive secretary of the Minnesota Public Health association. As to the difference between new and old ideas of public health, Dr. Hill says: "The old public health imagined danger from disease lurking everywhere. The new knows to a nicety the few definite places where real danger lies and has no fear of the dangerous looking, but really safe places, long terrors to our forefathers. The old dreaded all visible dirt; the new recognizes that visible dirt rarely produces disease. The real danger lies only in a kind of invisible 'dirt,' the germs of disease. The old imagined that disease germs flourished in stagnant water, mud, garbage, and like things. The new knows that disease germs are delicate things, requiring the special food, temperature, and other conditions they seldom find outside of the living human body. The old did not distinguish harmless and useful germs from real disease germs and dreaded all 'germy' surroundings. The new sees that disease breeds in, and comes from, the infected person, not the surroundings. The old naturally made much of external cleanliness. The new concerns itself chiefly with internal cleanliness. In brief, the New Public Health substitutes actual tested-out facts for the often illogical traditions, almost superstitions, that went by the name, Public Health, twenty years ago, even ten, even five years ago."

It is the purpose of this department of the University Farm Press News to show how the New Public Health has simplified the problems of healthy living and the avoidance of disease. It will contain plain talk, but in such matters plain talk is needed.

RURAL FLY WORSE THAN CITY FLY

Death or disease caused by flies is confined chiefly to rural districts, says Dr. H. W. Hill, executive secretary of the Minnesota Public Health association. The house-fly never bites like the stable-fly, but carries germs on his legs and feet and leaves them lying about in fly specks. He does little harm in the city or village that has a good sewage system, because in well-sewered communities the dangerous discharges which the fly might carry to food are largely taken away by the sewers, which the fly can't get into.

In the country this matter is left in out-door closets. No harm would follow if the closets were fly-proof, but too often they are not. The result is that each summer there is carried to the food of the country dwellers material from out-door closets. If typhoid or dysentery germs are put into the closets by sick persons—strangers, or others—then the flies carry those germs to the food, just as they would carry anything else put there.

To fly-proof an out-door closet, adds Dr. Hill, see that the house and the ground are in contact all round. Bank up the building with a few shovels of earth to secure this if need be. Then cover knotholes and cracks with boards, shingles, anything a fly cannot get through. Put fly-net or wire screen over ventilators or windows. Finally put a spring or weight on the closet door to keep it shut. Then when you find a fly on your food or in your milk, you will know one place that fly did not come from.

HARVEST HANDS CARRY TYPHOID

Typhoid fever and harvesting often go together, says Dr. H. W. Hill, executive secretary of the Minnesota Public Health association. Records of the State Board of Health in Minnesota show that the extra help hired often brings germs to a farm, adds Dr. Hill. Sometimes such help is just recovering from a siege of typhoid, sometimes just sickening for an attack. Sometimes also such a person is perfectly well. He may have had the disease years before, or may never have had it at all, for typhoid germs will sometimes grow in a person without making him sick. Such persons are just as likely to give the disease to other people as those who have had typhoid.

For example, a woman (many typhoid carriers are women) in North Branch, Minnesota, washed milk cans for her sons. She had typhoid fever twenty-seven years ago. No typhoid developed in the village for seventeen years before she came, nor after she left, five years ago. But while the woman lived there, twenty-one cases of ty-

phoid with several deaths occurred among people who used the milk from the milk cans she washed. The germs were in her bowel discharges; therefore, sometimes on her fingers, and so sometimes in the milk.

The danger in harvest time comes from the hands of strangers using the family roller-towel, dipping into the family drinking-pail, handling the family food, and from the use by the strangers of the family closet, especially if it is not fly-proof. Beware of the stranger who does not wash his hands well before he eats or drinks with you, and beware of the non-fly-proof closet, especially in harvest time.

TO MINNESOTA'S EDITORS

THE UNIVERSITY FARM PRESS NEWS, published semi-monthly, by the Extension Division, Department of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, contains news intended to be helpful in building up a better agriculture in Minnesota. Your co-operation in using as much of the material as possible will be of help in making the work of the University's Department of Agriculture state-wide, and will be a real service to the State.

If you have suggestions to offer in order to make the University Farm Press News of greater value to your paper, write the editor and tell him about it or see him in person at Press Headquarters at Minnesota State Fair, September 7-12.

"BOOST" SEED CORN WEEK

Date to be announced later.

GOOD CORN BRINGS SETTLERS TO STATE

Each succeeding year at the Minnesota State Fair visitors have marveled at the growth of the corn show. Although the corn displays at the fairs of a few years ago were not very large, the exhibits of the last two or three years have been features of the agricultural department.

Students of immigration declare that the corn shows at the State Fair have induced thousands of farmers from Iowa, Illinois, and other parts of the corn belt, to buy farms in Minnesota. Two years ago the immigration department featured the corn display, and the results were exceptionally good.

This year, in addition to the regular corn show, which promises to be larger than last year, a boys' corn show is to be held, in which boys who were in the 1913 acre-yield corn contest may take part. Liberal prizes are offered to boys winning places. This show will be an annual feature.

The Minnesota State Fair authorities have always emphasized the value of early selection and type. No seed corn should be bought unless the buyer knows that it will mature in an ordinary season, and is of a type suitable to Minnesota, and it is this kind of corn that is given the preference by judges at the State Fair. The aim is to present a blue ribbon sample to the farmer that will help him in fixing in his mind a type that should be followed when he picks his corn early in the fall.

Remember to insist on all groceries and meat and fruit markets being properly screened to keep out flies. Disease germs may be deposited upon the food exposed for sale, and if not properly cooked before it is eaten, one of the diseases carried by flies may be contracted.

CORN CAMPAIGN SHOWS RESULTS

Minnesota's constant and unrelenting campaign for more corn and for better corn—to be continued in another "Seed Corn Week" this year—is beginning to show wonderful results. The campaign was begun several years ago, but when Minnesota No. 23, a variety early-maturing enough to ripen before frosts in northern Minnesota, was developed at the State experiment station, the campaign received a new impetus. It has been achieving larger and larger results from year to year.

Following this preface, W. P. Kirkwood, agricultural editor at the College of Agriculture, called attention to some figures he had gathered from the national government's Agricultural Year book. The figures are worth studying by anyone interested in the subject of corn or in that of the State's possibilities in agriculture. Here they are:

Corn in Minnesota			
Year.	Total Acres.	Total Bushels.	Bushels to Acre.
1900.....	963*	31,794*	33.0
1901.....	1,361	35,797	26.3
1902.....	1,484	33,827	22.8
1903.....	1,439	40,727	28.3
1904.....	1,554	41,809	26.9
1905.....	1,508	48,997	32.5
1906.....	1,493	50,149	33.6
1907.....	1,615	43,605	27.0
1908.....	1,615	46,835	29.0
1909.....	1,690	58,812	34.8
1910.....	1,724	56,375	32.7
1911.....	2,200	74,140	33.7
1912.....	2,266	78,177	34.5
1913.....	2,400	96,000	40.0

* 000's omitted.

It is seen at a glance that the acreage of corn in the State has grown from less than 1,000,000 in 1900 to close to 2,500,000 in 1914, and the increasing impetus is going to add largely to the acreage.

Larger Yields Possible

There is another thing also that will add to the acreage. This is the fact that more—much more—corn can be grown to the acre in Minnesota than was supposed. While a few years ago the yield was much lower than today and fluctuated a great deal, it is now large, ranking with that of the best corn states, and is growing. More corn to the acre means more dollars to the acre, and more dollars will induce men to grow more corn. Moreover, there is a constantly increasing demand for corn as silage, and for its immense value in the crop rotation system adapted to most of the areas of Minnesota.

But it is worth while to note the average yields for recent years. Since 1908 it has not been below 30 bushels. It is doubtful whether any other state can show such a record. And last year the average to the acre was 40.0 bushels, which was close to the top for the whole list of states, Wisconsin, with a much smaller acreage, alone being higher.

Publicity Has Aided

The thing that has done this—increased Minnesota's corn acreage so fast and built up its average yield in so short a time—has been the propaganda for more corn and for better corn, the center of which has been the College of Agriculture and the Experiment Station of the University of Minnesota.

Remember seed corn week is coming, and make ready.

ANOTHER COUNTRY LIFE CONFERENCE

Another country life conference will be held at University farm, St. Paul, next year. Minnesota's first conference of the kind was held the last week in July. A good many people seem not to know that anything of the kind ever took place in Minnesota, to say nothing of the fact that it marked the beginning of a movement by which eventually all of the workers for rural development will unite for a federation of work, or at least for well-planned co-operation. Yet a conference did take place, aroused much enthusiasm, and brought a request from those in attendance that a similar conference be held at about the same time next year. The plan for next year as it will be developed by country life workers in co-operation with Dean A. F. Woods, of the department of agriculture, University of Minnesota, will call for an enlarged program, which will take in, in a more comprehensive way than that of this year, subjects of special interest to women.

Unfortunately no reports of the conference can be sent out, but possibly as a means of arousing interest something of the kind will be sent out after the conference of next summer.

SEED CORN, PROSPERITY, PATRIOTISM

Plans for the State's fifth annual seed corn selection week, which will begin about the middle of September, are under way. No one in the State is to be permitted to escape an interest in the week's work, says A. D. Wilson, director of the extension division, department of agriculture, University of Minnesota.

Every agency possible will be used in order to call the attention of the people to the week and to its significance. Every community will be asked to get together on the plan and become a center for the spread of the better-seed-corn gospel. Out of such centers will work bankers and business men of all kinds, commercial clubs, farmers' clubs, schools, high school agriculturists, county agents, development associations, county superintendents, rural school teachers.

Churches May Help

Even the Sunday schools and the churches will have an opportunity to assist in arousing the enthusiasm of the people in a week of service to the State, which is patriotism, and of promotion of the common good, which is christianity. The telephone companies will call up their patrons and urge them to remember seed corn week. Of course, the support of the agricultural papers and of the press generally can be counted upon. These agencies did wonders a year ago.

Why the Church and Sunday School?

Some might say, continued Mr. Wilson, that the subject is not one for the Sunday school or the church. But it is hard to see how Sunday school or church can couple up the religious life with every-day life in a better way than by taking hold of something intensely practical like this which will help people to help themselves, will help to promote the prosperity of all and hence that of the churches. This is patriotism, and the church has been one of the greatest agencies of patriotism in history.

It has been suggested that when the dates of seed corn week have been definitely settled every town and village in the State stretch banners across the main entrances from the surrounding farming areas to the town, reading like this:

REMEMBER SEED CORN WEEK

Sept. to

By the arrival of the date for seed corn selection week, with such a plan universally followed by towns and villages, there would not be a farmer in the State who would not be ready to select seed corn when the time came. Back this with the work of the other agencies used and the man who does not select his seed corn early won't have much company.

MORE CORN WILL MEAN MORE BEEF

The fact that the total production of corn in Minnesota has doubled during the past ten years is perhaps the most significant thing in the agricultural development of this State. No farm crop is capable of furnishing so much fattening material at so low a cost of production as this cereal. The stalks properly cured in the shock, or what is better, in the silo, provide an extremely valuable adjunct for cattle feeding, says H. R. Smith, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

Mr. Smith found after a series of experiments, covering a period of ten years, that beef can be produced in Nebraska at the lowest cost and with the highest profits on a combination of the corn plant and alfalfa hay. In every experiment where this combination was fed, there was found to be a substantial profit over and above the cost of food, even at times when other combinations were fed at a small loss.

Clover belongs to the same family as alfalfa, and can also be used to excellent advantage in connection with corn. Both hay plants supply the nutrient which is lacking in corn, namely, protein, to give a well-balanced ration, though alfalfa is somewhat richer than clover in this.

The growing of more corn means cleaner land in Minnesota, and when fed to livestock, as should be done to be most profitable, it is certain to encourage the growing of more clover and alfalfa for use as a supplementary feed. Both add greatly to the fertility of the land, making it possible to increase the yield to the acre.

With increased corn production naturally follows more livestock, adds Mr. Smith. It is especially favorable to the production of beef cattle because of the roughage such cattle consume in connection with grain and because a large number can be fed on the farm with but little labor.