

UNIVERSITY FARM PRESS NEWS

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

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

Steensson's New Bill
Congressman Halvor Steensson has introduced a bill which prohibits the use of the mails for the circulation of medical advertising that contains false statement or representation in regard to medicine or the treatment of venereal diseases.

Power of Repetition
Successful advertisers are those who keep everlastingly at it. They understand the value of repetition and never let up.

Good Chance for a Hustler
Another newspaper—this one in a town of 1,000 in the richest and most prosperous part of southern Minnesota—is offered for sale.

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Laborer Worthy of Hire
Beginning April 1, the publishers of the Waseca Herald advanced rates for display advertising to 25 cents an inch, with 10 per cent extra for special position.

Alexandria Papers Merge
The Alexandria Citizen and the Alexandria Post-News have consolidated. The Citizen editors, J. A. Kinney and son, will publish the combined paper.

Merchants Catching On
A dry goods company at Ellsworth, Wis., has faith in the returns that can be secured from a liberal use of printers' ink.

Labor Jinx Banished
William E. McKenzie, president of the Crookston Times Printing Company, believes he has solved the labor problem.

THREE SPRAYINGS NEEDED FOR APPLES

Proper pruning and spraying are necessary for the production of good apples. Trees should be sprayed, says R. S. Mackintosh, horticulturist with the extension division of the Minnesota college of agriculture.

Minneapolis Journal To Share Host Honors At Editors' Course

The Minneapolis Journal is going to share the honors as host at the annual short course for editors to be held at University Farm, between the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, April 29 and 30, and May 1.

The short course will open at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 29, and "right off the bat" will take up discussion of problems of vital interest to newspaper publishers.

and satisfactory footing, will be one of the speakers, and F. W. Beckman, who has done splendid work for the press of Iowa as head of the department of journalism in Iowa State College at Ames, will be the other.

Other features of the program for the dinner will be announced later.

The other evening features of the course will be a revival—a real "brass tacks" discussion of the one sound system of conducting the publishing business and making it pay.

and satisfactory footing, will be one of the speakers, and F. W. Beckman, who has done splendid work for the press of Iowa as head of the department of journalism in Iowa State College at Ames, will be the other.

These two features of the course alone will be worth vastly more than the moderate cost of attending.

The University Farm Press News, on behalf of the Minneapolis Journal, extends a cordial invitation to the editors of Minnesota to attend the dinner Thursday evening, and, on behalf of the University, an equally cordial invitation to hear Mr. Borden and Mr. Beckman on Friday evening.

Special invitations with programs will be sent out within a few days.

PAYS TO DEHORN MARKET CATTLE

Dehorned steers or heifers not only can be handled more conveniently on the farm than cattle with horns, but if put on the market either as stock calves, feeders, or finished fat cattle, will sell for an average of one-half cent a pound more.

The best time to dehorn is when the calf is from 10 days to one month old. The horns can then be easily killed, and with very little inconvenience to the calf, by rubbing them with a stick of caustic potash until they show a red surface.

Mr. Peters warns that purebred cattle should not be dehorned. The shape, size, quality, and position of the horns are characteristic of certain breeds and naturally have a bearing on the selling value.

MUDDY BARNYARDS SPREAD DISEASE

The season of muddy barnyards is here. Perhaps it will be next to impossible to do very much toward draining them or hastening the drying out process.

At this season one can study the course of natural drainage to the best advantage. If there is any tendency at all toward natural drainage, one can readily see how it can be improved either by deepening the open ditches already existing, or possibly by laying underground tile lines, with surface manholes opening into them for collection of the surface water before the frost has left the ground.

At any rate, it is not profitable to allow cattle and hogs to drag themselves through mud belly deep for a month to six weeks every spring. Filthy barnyards are one of the most common causes of an outbreak and spread of foot-rot in cattle and cholera in hogs.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN

April 15 to 22

Uncover the strawberries before the leaves become white.

Set out a good small fruit garden right now. A few plants do not cost much, considering the return you can get from them.

Do not remove covering from perennials all at once. A small quantity taken off at a time is a better arrangement.

Plant that everbearing strawberry bed now. It will give you returns this fall. Progressive and Minnesota 1017 are good varieties.

Don't delay seeding those bad places in the lawn: Grass seed sown now has a much better chance to grow than it will a month from now.

Plant peas, radish and lettuce now. If the ground is still cold and moist it will be well to use some kind of smooth pea, since they do not decay so easily.

Small onion sets give more green onions per quart of seed and are just as good as the large bulbs sometimes purchased.

Don't plant more apple or plum trees than you can use the fruit from. But plant that many. Perhaps it will be a dozen or two dozen, but have some on the place.

A good lawn is best made of 80 per cent Kentucky blue grass and 20 per cent of white clover and red top. The red top and white clover are temporary grasses and soon give way to the blue grass. They do give a good quick lawn.

Potatoes were selling at a dollar a peck the other day. Many town and all farm homes could well raise their year's supply at much less than one dollar a peck.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN

April 22 to 29

Start the lawn mower early before the grass is very high. It helps to level and smooth the lawn.

Cress makes a fine salad. It grows quickly and delights in cool weather.

Don't set strawberry plants below the crown. They are pretty apt to decay if this is done.

Head lettuce thrives best in cool moist weather. It cannot be grown to advantage in hot weather.

Horseradish roots should be planted early. Use roots about the size of a lead pencil and set them straight into the ground.

Make frequent sowings of peas, carrots, beets and spinach this year. The root crops are always more tender if grown rapidly.

Cabbage and cauliflower can be set out now. They are often set much earlier. Tomatoes and plants that are apt to be frosted should not be put out till the middle of May.

Plant a good supply of annuals for cut flowers in the home this year. Sweet peas, nasturtiums, phlox, zinnias, candytuft, and mignonette are all good.

Ventilate hotbeds and cold frames carefully on warm days. Open the sash on the side away from the wind. A little too much sun will do much damage to plants in frames now.

There are few prettier trees in bloom than apple or plum trees. The May-day tree, a form of cherry, is one of the earliest lawn trees to bloom and on the campus has proved excellent for shade as well as flowers.

COWS AND CHICKENS GRUBSTAKE SETTLERS

In December, 1919, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Simpson, settlers on a 40-acre cut-over farm in Carlton county, had a net income of \$254.74 from 350 pullets and five cows. Accurate accounts were kept of feed costs which were deducted from gross receipts, the remainder being the return for labor and investment.

"Many others," says N. E. Chapman, poultry extensionist of University Farm, "should be encouraged by the experience of the Simpsons to keep a few good dairy cows and a flock of chickens while they are clearing land and building homes in the north."

Clover and rutabagas are grown on this little farm in what was once the forest primeval, with a few acres of potatoes as a money crop.

THRIFT TAUGHT BY CLOTHING SPECIALIST

"It is a pleasure to clean and renovate old clothes when you know how," writes Mrs. H. Person of Kelsey, Minn., to the office at University Farm of the state leader of home demonstration agents.

Miss Mary Bull of the agricultural extension division went to St. Louis county and with Miss Mary Stilwell, the county's home demonstration agent, gave demonstrations in making over clothes. The women formed a sewing club and the patterns left by the state specialist are being passed on.

Mrs. Person writes further: "We are glad to know now that we can use our old material and make over our out-of-date suits. It is also easy to color our waists and thus have them new, instead of buying new ones all the time."

"It is groups like this," says Adele Koch, assistant state leader, "that are helping break down the high cost of living, and they get real joy in doing it."

CREAMERY AS MART FOR EGGS INDORSED

University agricultural extensionists advise farmers to market their surplus eggs and poultry through the creamery or cheese factory. Not all creameries are equipped for this new business, but those which have engaged in it have given a good account of themselves and many others are preparing to follow their lead.

N. E. Chapman, poultryman with the extension division, says that 90 per cent of all farms that buy creamery butter are in the market for high grade eggs. Co-operative creameries are therefore in position to make money in eggs for themselves and their patrons.

Creameries buying eggs must secure a license and candle eggs received. The state dairy and food commissioner, St. Paul, will give information as to licensing and candling. Information concerning the handling of poultry products through the creamery may be obtained by addressing Mr. Chapman at University Farm, St. Paul.

HOGS SHOULD HAVE FIRST CLASS PASTURE

A plea for real hog pastures, not simply hog yards, is made by Forest Henry of Dover, Minn., a well-known institute leader for the agricultural extension division of the Minnesota college of agriculture. Mr. Henry believes in giving the hog a goodly modicum at least of the treatment and attention accorded other farm animals.

"The most profitable hog pasture is a pasture so large that the hogs do not eat one-half of it. If it be alfalfa or clover, what remains uneaten at haying time can be cut and cured into hay. An acre of alfalfa or clover will make as much pork, so far as it can be used, as an acre of corn. The one builds up the farm and requires very little labor; the other reduces farm fertility and requires much high-priced labor."

"U" FARM SOYBEAN SEED EXHAUSTED

According to A. C. Arny, in charge of farm crops, many inquiries regarding soybean seed are being received at University Farm. A small supply of the Chestnut variety was exhausted before the first of the year. It is, therefore, impossible, says Mr. Arny, to supply any soybean seed from the farm. Furthermore, Mr. Arny announces that soil for inoculating purposes cannot be furnished from the farm this year on account of a shortage of labor. Those who need inoculating material should get in touch with their county agents.

WHITE SHRIVELED KERNELS DANGEROUS

Farmers are warned by Frank Frolik, extension division pathologist at University Farm, to look out for the white shriveled kernels in wheat seed. These kernels, he says, are infested with the scab disease (sometimes called blight) which did a tremendous amount of damage to the Minnesota wheat crop in 1919. Whether or not the scab disease will be serious again in 1920 will depend largely on weather conditions.

"The scab fungus lives in the soil as well as in the seed," says Mr. Frolik, "and, therefore, is difficult to control. The following precautions, however, will go a long way towards eliminating the disease:

"All wheat seed should be thoroughly cleaned on a good fanning mill, to remove all of the white, diseased kernels. Wheat should not follow corn because scab fungus develops especially well on corn stubble. If wheat has to follow corn, it is likely that Preston or Bluestem would be less injured than Marquis, which is very susceptible to the disease."