

# AGRICULTURE FOR GRADES

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## SAVING THE ODDS AND ENDS



THE saving of the odds and ends on a farm may seem a trifling matter to the average Government employee who has become accustomed to the sight of waste and destruction. Let an employee endeavor to practice economy as it should be practiced in connection with any private business and levity will be indulged in relative to the efforts set forth in saving. This is the last subject in the outline of a four year course in agriculture and is considered the most important by the business farmer. Before launching the subject, let us define it: The "odds" are the portions that are left after the bulk has been applied to its intended use. The "ends" are the remnants caused in a department's productions. Therefore, in dealing with the subject, "Saving the Odds and Ends," we will look to all departments connected with the farm that the loss may be reduced to a minimum.

A herd of swine are money-savers on a farm. What are the odds and ends saved by being turned into pork? From the kitchen and dining-room come many pieces of food and food materials that must be disposed of in some way. There are portions of the garden vegetables that are cut away before sending them to the kitchen. The unused milk from the dairy should not be thrown into the sewer, but added to the above materials for the use of the swine herd. Be sure and keep a sufficient number to consume all the surplus foods. Hogs, properly managed, will bring in a profit that will seem like finding money.

The fertility of the soil must not be lost sight of. All refuse that will add humus to the soil must be saved and prepared for distribution on the land at proper times. All lawn clippings, leaves from trees on the lawn, and bits of sod that have been removed, should not be cast away as garbage, but put with the manure heap to be carried to the fields in the manure spreader. It may seem to be too much trouble to separate the trash from the leaves, etc., but it is trouble that counts for prosperity. There should be a compost heap where all coarse materials from the garden and farm are placed for decay and then used on the garden or fields.

The farm-yard manure must be spread upon the land as fast as pro-