

CROP ROTATION SUCCESS SECRET

Diversity Makes Majority of Farms Pay Well.

IMPORTANCE POINTED OUT.

Agricultural Expert Warns Against Specializing and Makes Known His Reasons—Every Farmer Should Grow Everything That Is Needed on His Place and Not Buy Supplies.

New York.—How shall a man make farming pay, how make it return besides interest on investment a reasonable country salary of \$1,000, how manage it so as to use one's time, energy and capital to best advantage? These were some of the considerations in a lecture by John H. Barron of the state department of agriculture.

"Wide studies show that usually the most profitable farms follow a diversified type of agriculture," he said. "In the state of New York forty-nine farms have been studied on which labor incomes of \$2,500 or more are being made. That is, on these farms enough is made to pay all expenses and interest on the investment at 5 per cent and leave the farmer a salary of \$2,500 or more. These farms sell from one to six major items, amounting to \$500 or more each and in addition several minor products. The figures show that on the average there were three major and four minor sale products and besides usually some feed for farm animals. Generally then diversified farming is likely to be more profitable than specialized farming.

"Specialized farming has some advantages. It may allow the development of considerable skill in the production of one or two things. A small amount of capital may be sufficient to develop one enterprise quite efficiently, whereas it would not develop several. In specialized farming large fields can be laid out and buildings so planned as to facilitate labor greatly.

"Diversified farming has many advantages which outweigh the advantages of specialized farming, for the majority of farmers find it better to have several important products as sources of income rather than one product. Diversification allows of a rotation of crops which is all but absolutely necessary for the permanence of any agricultural scheme; it usually forestalls total failure, for in no season is it likely that all crops will be poor; it distributes the income over the year; it stands for economy and efficiency and provides work for man, machinery and horses a greater portion of the year than does most specialized farming.

"In the establishment of a plan for diversified farming the rotation of crops must first be given attention. Most farming will get its profits from animal products and crops. The maintenance of soil fertility is of paramount importance, for without it any farm scheme is ultimately doomed to failure. It follows, then, that a good rotation will meet at least three general requirements: First, it must maintain and increase fertility; second, it will produce feeds which will nourish animals as economically as possible; third, it will furnish cash crops for sale.

"To feed animals as economically as possible a good quality of roughage must be produced. For this purpose some succulence is desirable and also the products of leguminous plants, like clover, alfalfa, peas and soy beans.

"In much of the dairy section of the state a good rotation is corn, oats, clover, timothy. The corn, oats and clover are fed on the farm and the timothy sold. Where the farm is not heavily stocked part of the area otherwise devoted to corn can be used for potatoes and then oats and hay follow the potatoes or corn in the regular fashion. This combination is usually better than the one first given, because it provides for two cash crops instead of one, but it cannot be developed too far, because corn and potatoes are competitive crops as to time of planting, cultivating and to an extent in harvesting.

"In the planning of crop schemes it is necessary to keep a good work balance, or there may be a poor distribution of work, too much at one time and not enough at another. Noncompetitive enterprises should be chosen and at the same time enterprises which have some interdependence and relation to each other. A good scheme of farming will generally have several sources of income. In a word, it may be said to consist of a well chosen line of specialties."

HELD UP BY A WOMAN.

New Yorker Hands Over \$47 and Runs For the Police.

Philadelphia.—Arthur Law of New York acknowledged that he had been held up and that, after delivering his bank roll, consisting of \$47, to a woman, he had fled at her command, when he appeared before a magistrate and testified against May Howard, the amazon who he said did the holding up.

Law said that he started to take a stroll and that when he reached a dark spot a woman confronted him.

"Come across with what you've got or you'll get yours," she told him. He produced the \$47 and ran to the nearest police station. The police caught the woman, who was held without bail.

UNEMPLOYED GET WORK ON FARMS

State Lends Aid In Solving Vexing Labor Problem.

EXAMPLE FOR ALL CITIES.

Following Recommendations by Governor Glynn of New York, Labor Bureau Sends Jobless Men to Farmers, Who Find Great Difficulty in Obtaining Laborers.

Albany, N. Y.—In his efforts to solve the problem of providing labor for the vast army of unemployed men in New York and in order to set an example for other cities where similar industrial conditions exist Governor Glynn and his investigators have hit upon a novel scheme and one which, it is hoped, will in a measure solve the vexing question.

Investigators for the state get into communication with farmers who need farm hands. Their expenses are paid to the farms, and the men accept jobs that pay from \$20 to \$35 per month, including board.

This was the first practical application of Governor Glynn's plan of solving the problem of unemployment in the cities and meeting the unprecedented demand for labor in the rural districts. Two car loads were shipped first under the direction of C. W. Larmon, deputy state commissioner of



Photo by American Press Association.
C. W. LARMON.

agriculture, in charge of the state's labor bureau, and it is expected that they will be followed by many more before the supply in New York city is exhausted.

The farmers round about Fond du Lac, N. Y., were on hand to offer the men jobs as soon as they arrived. A part of the courthouse was set aside to accommodate the influx of farmers and job hunters, and the local grangers made all the other arrangements for the bringing together of the men who want work and the men who want workers.

Two or three of those who started are married men, and they were permitted to take their wives with them, as there is opportunity for women to get work on the farm as house workers.

"I have every reason to believe that this plan will succeed," said Larmon. "Most of these men are honest men very eager for work. The vagrants and the perennial out-of-works don't care to go out into the country to work on a farm. Of course, I am not egotistical enough to think that this is going to immediately remedy the whole unemployment question in New York, but even if we only send up state 4,000 or 5,000 men it will help.

"Just as the supply of laborers is greater in the city this year than ever before the demand for laborers in the country is greater than in any year I can remember. As soon as the laborers arrive in these places they will be met by an agent from the department of agriculture and they will be at work a few hours later. We are sending, naturally, only such men as we are satisfied will make good on the farm.

"What we are doing in the majority of cases is simply correcting the fault the men made when they drifted to the city. We are carrying them back again from where they started and, contrary to a prevalent belief that they won't want to go, they are enthusiastic about it.

"The department feels humiliated to see eggs, meats and all the farm products coming in from the Argentine and even from countries as remote as Siberia. There is no reason why there should be such a falling off in agricultural production. During the past year there has been a decrease of 45,000 in the number of cows kept in New York state. This example is typical."

The financial loss resulting from the destruction by fire of Wellesley college, at Boston, will be heavier than at first thought. The insurance is said to be only one-fourth of the sum necessary to rebuild the structure.

IRRIGATION CONGRESS ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS

Ask That Postal Savings Funds Be Invested in Irrigation District Bonds.

Denver, Colo.—With sectional lines on every vote closely drawn between the mineral and agricultural states and with the mining communities putting through all of their resolutions by a vote of 9 to 6, the Transmissouri irrigation conference adjourned here. Simultaneously the conference of western governors also adjourned, after deciding to oppose the Ferris land leasing bill, now pending in the lower house of congress.

Before adjournment, the irrigation conference gave voice to many demands, including the following:

That postal savings funds be invested in the bonds of irrigation districts.

That grants of non-mineral lands be made to states wherein there yet remain large tracts of the public domain, for the purpose of creating trust funds to be used on irrigation projects.

That grazing lands be thrown open to settlement in reasonably large tracts.

That congress grant relief to settlers in irrigation and reclamation districts, where projects have failed.

That the government take as compensation for its irrigation and reclamation work the bonds of the districts involved.

That governors of the 16 western states participating in the conference appoint a committee composed of three members from each state to form an interstate irrigation committee, to consider all projects and submit findings to the secretary of the interior, with recommendations concerning the government's connection, financial or otherwise, with the projects.

EXPLOSION, CARELESSNESS

Jury Says Men in Charge Should Be Held Criminally Liable.

The Dalles, Or.—After a probe covering four days Coroner Murget and jury who have been investigating the explosion on The Dalles-Celilo canal last week, when four were killed, reached a verdict that the fatal accident was due to the carelessness and inexperience of the men in charge of the powder work on the big project. The men in charge the jurors contend should be held criminally liable for the loss of lives. It is recommended that the federal war department investigate the explosion, learn who is responsible for the calamity and then no longer allow an "incompetent man to continue in this work and further endanger the lives of the hundreds of men who are working on the canal project."

TWO TRAIN ROBBERS CAUGHT AND BEATEN

Seattle.—One passenger was shot and two highwaymen were severely beaten when they attempted to hold up a Tacoma-bound interurban train near Riverton station, eight miles of Seattle Monday night. The robbers were captured and brought to a hospital in Seattle.

A terrible beating was given the two highwaymen.

That they were not successful was due to the presence of mind of J. Rose and F. Smith, employes of the traction company, who led the attack on the bandits.

The bandits boarded the train at Chicago avenue, in south Seattle. After the train had left the city limits the men masked themselves with handkerchiefs and started to rob the passengers. Commanding everyone to hold up his hands, Trew walked toward the smoking compartment. Just as he entered the compartment he turned and looked at his companion following him down the aisle. Trew turned his back to the men in the small room.

Smith, wielding a steel drill, hit Trew a stunning blow over the head. Immediately all the other men rushed to Smith's aid and in a short time both highwaymen were disarmed, lying bruised and bleeding on the floor.

McAdoo Wedding is May 8.

Washington.—Although there has been no formal announcements from the white house of the date of the wedding of Secretary McAdoo and Miss Eleanor R. Wilson, the youngest daughter of the president and Mrs. Wilson, friends who are in a position to know say Friday, May 8, has been tentatively selected.

Eye Grafting Succeeds.

Baltimore.—The success of the operation performed several weeks ago at the Baltimore eye, ear and throat hospital, in which the cornea of a pig's eye was grafted onto the blind eye of David Kane, a six months old infant, is now practically assured.

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