

FARM AND ORCHARD

EASY MONEY FOR FARMERS.

National Commission on Farm Finance Studies Foreign Methods.

The finance committee has reported favorably to the United States senate the Gronna resolution. It provides for a national commission on farm finance, to consist of three members and to be limited to one year. It is to investigate and report upon the systems of co-operative land-mortgaging, banking, and co-operative rural credit unions, which have achieved such stupendous success in Europe.

If this class of institution can be enjoyed by American farmers, the result will be of profound importance, says an editorial in Farm and Home. The Nashville conference, which considered this problem, takes the same view. An official report of the British government says that these methods of co-operative rural credit are "a modern discovery which may be likened, as a factor in production, to the discovery of steam."

Some millions of farmers in different European countries are members of thousands of local and provincial credit unions that make a business of seasonable loans to farmers, at reasonable rates. In Germany alone, these rural banks are doing a business of \$5,000,000,000 annually. Foreign co-operative land-mortgage banks do a still larger business, enabling farmers to borrow money on mortgage at 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 per cent and encouraging them to repay it by installments, so that in due time the farmer owns his place free and clear of all incumbrance.

Abroad, these institutions are the outgrowth of over 150 years' experience. Their successful development in this country, declares Farm and Home, may be productive of more good than all of the political reforms now agitating the public mind.

The national commission on farm finance should present all the facts, so that the farmers in the respective states may succeed in their financial co-operation. The report should suggest what state laws are needed and also whether any national legislation is called for to promote the most effective progress of co-operative farm finance.

Insuring Against Hen Lice.

The time to fight lice is all the time. Absolute cleanliness must be maintained at all times. The droppings should be removed at least once a week.

Twice a year, in spring and autumn, a general cleanup should take place. The perches should be removed and burned until the outside is thoroughly charred. The building should be thoroughly whitewashed. For this purpose a spray pump not only facilitates the work, but does a much better job, the spray putting the whitewash into cracks and crevices that would be difficult to reach with a brush.

A good spray pump will do as much in an hour as could ordinarily be done in a day with a brush. The perches should be thoroughly sprayed every week or so with kerosene to keep down the red mites. These mites attack the fowls only at night, and are found on the perches, or in cracks and crevices near the roosting place. Kerosene is an effective remedy, but it should be applied frequently.

The litter should be replaced with clean material at least once a month. The nests should be looked to frequently, as the hollow straws make nice hiding and breeding places for red mites. Excelsior is preferred by many. However, the best material for nesting purposes is tobacco stems.

When the house has been thoroughly rid of the pests the fowls should receive attention. There are many lice powders on the market, but the safest plan is to make your own at home as needed. Farm and Home says the best formula is two ounces crude carbolic acid, four ounces gasoline and one pound air-slaked lime. The carbolic acid and gasoline should be thoroughly mixed and poured over the lime, stirring the whole mass thoroughly. Keep away from fire. After standing for several days a fine powder is the result. Use a sifter-top can. Experience has shown that this powder is very effective.

A thornless blackberry is the latest "amazing" discovery credited to Luther Burbank, who is said to have worked 10 years to produce it. Next he will be heralded as the originator of the seedless orange, an odorless rose, and a bloomless strawberry. Thornless blackberries are not new by any means. The old Wachusett Thornless has been known and grown for over 20 years, says a writer in Farm and Home.

IMPROVE PASTURES.

Sod-Bound Ground Turns Water and Then Dries Up.

Pastures should be improved. If there was a good stand of grass, weeds would not grow. The trouble is, the pasture is packed hard. Water runs off when it rains instead of soaking in. In other words, the pasture is sod-bound.

Here is the way to handle such a pasture: As soon as the frost goes out of the ground in the spring, and before we get busy with the regular farm work, we should use a disk drill and thoroughly cut up the pasture, at the same time drilling in from eight to ten pounds to the acre of red clover seed on the high lands and alsike clover seed on the low lands.

Here is the result: The drill loosens the sodbound condition of the old pasture and lets the air down to the roots, stimulating a more vigorous growth and spreading the plants so that where one plant grew last year, two will grow this year and both of them will grow better. In addition, the clover seeds will fall on those bare spots where weeds grew last year, and clover, one of the best feeds in the world, will grow this year. Cows will be able to secure two or three times as much feed to the acre. They will get growing and milk-forming material—protein.—Farm and Home.

Red clover grows best on the hill-sides and high lands. Alsike clover is a mighty good grass for the low lands, for on such land it will make a wonderful growth and provide remarkable pasturage and hay. Farm and Home also says sorghum makes a good crop for summer feeding of cows. It is a heavy yielder and will furnish feed when the pastures are short.

Farming With Dynamite.

Where the surface soil is underlain with a layer of compact sub-soil or hardpan that is impervious to water and impenetrable to the roots of growing crops, the rain runs off quickly and the land suffers severely in times of drouth.

Blowing up with dynamite this compact subsoil to form underground reservoirs has been tried with good results, says Farm and Home. Bore holes in the ground two to six feet deep and from 20 to 30 feet apart according to the nature and compactness of the subsoil and hardpan. About 80 sticks of dynamite are used per acre, which cost \$1.50, with caps and fuse.

An ordinary two-inch augur with a long handle is used, and a half-pound stick of blasting powder is placed in each hole. The explosion breaks the ground all around for a distance of 10 to 15 feet, makes an opening at the surface 8 to 10 inches in diameter, and forms a sub-reservoir below the bottom of the hole from three to six feet in diameter, with the hardpan shattered into fragments. The openings and holes so created should be partially filled with sand or gravel to keep them opened permanently for the surplus rainfall. The work can be done in leisure time in dry weather. Largely increased crops result. The modern method of tree planting is to blow a hole for each tree with dynamite.

FASHION HINTS



This Dainty collarless waist is carried out on lines that make it good style to wear with the summer coat suit. It is dressy, yet not too elaborate.

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If your dealer cannot supply W. L. Douglas shoes, write W. L. Douglas, Brockton, Mass., for catalog. Shoes sent everywhere delivery charges prepaid. Fast Color Eyelets Used.



DAIRY BUTTER IS PROFITABLE

Lack of Attention to This Product Has Resulted in Increased Manufacture of Oleomargarine.

Farmers have been giving dairy butter less and less attention in recent years and as one result of this oleomargarine, as a cheap substitute, has come into use.

It has been observed during the months of phenomenally high prices that the butter substitutes are flourishing to an amazing extent. They are taking a place in the world's commerce which ought to be held by good, wholesome farm butter. With plenty of choice dairy butter, oleomargarine would be driven from the tables of American families generally. When creamery product is selling at 4 to 50 cents, the oleo comes quickly into common use, because there is not enough dairy butter to meet the demand. The substitutes get their start and hold a large and valuable trade simply because the farmers are neglecting the opportunity to furnish a sufficient supply of fair to choice dairy butter. Not all farmers are located near enough to creameries so that they can deliver their milk once a day without unreasonable travel. Those who are not should keep butter dairies, large or small, according to circumstances, and market their product once a week.

This is in the line of diversification and it is a paying proposition. It should not be all dairy, not all poultry, nor all hogs, nor all corn, but a wise mixture so that the farmer always has something for the high markets. A little pushing along the dairy line just now is justified both by present prices and future prospects. When farmers can get 25 cents or more for a fair quality of butter, as at present, there is money in it for them and they can afford to give that branch of husbandry a great deal more attention than they do.

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Very Good Fit.

Sometimes the blunder of a child seems like the veriest wise man's wisdom. Such might be said of the little fellow in Hutchinson, according to The Gazette, who, desiring some of the boarding housekeeper's delight, commonly called hash, said: "Please pass the trash."—Kansas City Star.

Ventilate the Chicken House.

Chickens breathe 8,278 cubic feet of air in 24 hours for every 1,000 pounds of live weight, while men require only 2,833 cubic feet and cattle but 2,804. Hence for poultry ventilation is a matter of first importance.

Novelties in the Church.

Barbara was comparing notes with a little friend who went to a different church. "Stained glass windows is nothing," she declared triumphantly. "We've got two priests and six acrobats!"

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Wind and Fog in San Francisco.

On some afternoons the velocity of the wind in San Francisco rises with almost clocklike regularity to about 22 miles an hour, and a solid wall of fog, averaging 1,500 feet in height, comes through the Golden Gate, causing a fall in temperature to about that of the sea—namely, 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

Water in bluing is adulterated. Glass and water make liquid blue costly. Buy Red Cross Ball Blue, makes clothes whiter than snow.

Noah's Struggle.

It was only with the utmost difficulty that Noah was able to control himself, as the two mosquitoes of the ark waxed red and corpulent on the back of his hand, gorging themselves to repletion. "If it wasn't for the grudge I have against my posterity," he rasped through his clenched teeth, "I'd smash your infernal carcasses!"—Puck.

Under Suspicion.

"I am afraid that man we sent to congress is losin' his sympathy with the plain people," said the backwoods constituent. "What has he been doin'?" "Tuckin' his napkin under his chin an' usin' a knife instid o' pickin' his pie up with his hands."

Caution.

"I wish," said the dashing bride, "that we could arrange to take our wedding trip in an airship." "I don't know," replied the cautious youth, "whether it would be well to take chances on being obliged to take our first falling out so seriously."

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

Happiness Transmitted.

Happiness, at least, is not solitary. It joys to communicate; it loves others, for it depends on them for its existence. . . . the very name and appearance of a happy man breathes of good nature, and help the rest of us to live.—Stevenson.

Escaping an Infliction.

"Isn't that Miss Yawler singing across the way?" Yes. I wish she belonged to the grand opera company." "You surely don't think she can sing?" "Not at all, but grand opera companies never come to this town."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

You Can Get Allen's Foot-Ease FREE.

Write Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y., for a free sample of Allen's Foot-Ease. It cures sweating, hot swollen, aching feet. It makes new or tight shoes easy. A certain cure for corns, ingrowing nails and bunions. All drug-gists sell it. 25c. Don't accept any substitute.

Off With the Old.

The latest fashion in New York, we are told, is for an engaged girl to wear the portrait of her sweetheart on her slipper. An ingenious bootmaker, we understand, has invented a contrivance by which the portrait can be frequently changed without injuring the shoe.—Punch.

Wonders Within Ourselves.

We carry with us the wonders we seek without us; there is all Africa and her prodigies in us; we are that bold and adventurous piece of nature, which he that studies wisely learns in a compendium what others labor at in a divided piece and endless volume.—Sir Thomas Browne.

Try Murine Eye Remedy for Red, Weak, Watery Eyes and Granulated Eyelids. No Smarting—Just Eye Comfort.

Severe Criticism.

Dr. Hedge and Dr. Bartol spent a summer together down east. One Sunday Dr. Bartol preached to a congregation largely composed of fishermen. Dr. Hedge was curious to know the effect upon them, and asked one old salt what he thought about the preaching and the sermon. The reply was: "Well, his idea was absurd, and his language was preposterous."

Aroused His Congregation.

There is a story that a preacher pawned his watch and the following Sunday preached four hours because he had no timepiece. At the conclusion of the sermon there was a special collection raised and sent to the pawnbroker.



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—if he hasn't got it he will get it for you. It's good for you 3 times a day. And remember that there is no substitute for 3 G's.

New York's Greatest Borough.

Manhattan, one of the five boroughs comprising greater New York and its most important borough, is approximately fifteen miles in length, from the Battery to the city line, and about five miles at its greatest width. Its frontage on the water, together with the shipping facilities of the entire city, is 444 miles, or equal to the distance between the city and Buffalo on Lake Erie.

Don't buy water for bluing. Liquid blue is almost all water. Buy Red Cross Ball blue, the blue that's all blue.

Virtue in Compulsory Work.

Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do that day which must be done, whether you like it or not. Being forced to work and forced to do your best will breed in you temperance and self-control, diligence and strength of will, cheerfulness and content, and a hundred virtues which the idle never knew.—Charles Kingsley.

MEXICAN MUSTANG LINIMENT

FOR SORE SHOULDERS.

Jas. Beck & Son, Centerfield, Utah, writes: "We sell Mexican Mustang Liniment and have a good sale for it, especially in threshing time for horses' sore shoulders." It contains no alcohol and so cannot sting in cases of open wounds. Soothes and relieves strained ligaments at once. 25c, 50c, \$1 a bottle at Drug & Gen'l Stores

Church Information Wanted.

Why are there so many churches in New York without a sign to know their denomination or who preaches, or any sign of anything except the abode of the sexton and undertaker? Nobody is anxious for the undertaker, and everybody, as a rule, scolds the sexton. Give denomination of the church, time of service and name of pastor.—From a Letter to the Editor of the New York Press.

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