

A SOILING CROP.

Rye Gives Satisfaction on Fertile, Well Drained Soil.

I have been growing rye for the past five years. So far as my experience goes, any soil that is well drained and fertile will produce a good crop of rye, says an Ohio farmer in American Agriculturist. I plant rye almost entirely for soiling purposes. The crop is all plowed under with the exception of enough for seed. As soon as any crop is taken off the land it is disked and sown to rye. I broadcast it and harrow it.

Time of Sowing.

The crop is put in any time from June to November, depending upon the character and nature of the crops taken off. My crop varies from two to twelve acres each season. As the crop is plowed down, except enough for seed, I have no record of the yield, per acre, but I always have a splendid stand. I sow the seed thick and see the results in other crops.

Applying Manure.

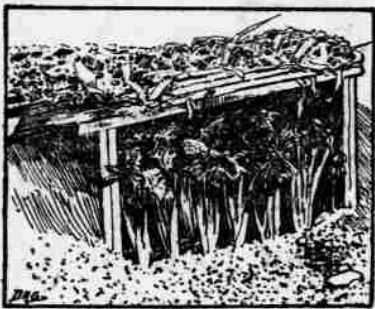
All manure is applied in the winter and plowed under as for corn. No commercial fertilizer is used on the rye crop. I usually harvest rye for seed purposes in July. It ripens about the same time as wheat in this section. I consider it one of the most important crops I raise, and from records of farmers in this section about twenty bushels per acre would be a fair average here.

CELERY PRACTICE.

Methods of Banking, Trenching and Storing the Crop.

Celery will withstand considerable frost, but its keeping qualities as well as flavor will be impaired if it is allowed to freeze. It may be banked up with earth and the plants covered with coarse stable manure, straw or corn fodder held in place by stakes or old boards. The celery can be removed from these ridges as needed, but will be found to be very inaccessible during the time when the ground is frozen hard.

Large growers handle the last of the crop by the method known as "trenching." The celery is partially banked with earth and allowed to remain where grown so long as there is no



CROSS SECTION OF HOTBED PIT.
(Storage of celery on a small scale.)

danger from heavy frosts. As soon as there is danger of the celery becoming frozen it is lifted and eight or ten rows are brought together and set with the roots bedded close together in the bottom of a shallow trench. Where blanching boards are available two parallel rows of the boards are set along the sides of the trench and the space between them is filled with celery. The earth is then banked up along the sides of the trench and a covering of boards, straw or some similar material is put on. These trenches are usually made only fifty or sixty feet in length and are small enough to permit the removal of a whole trench at one time.

The unused pit of a permanent hotbed may be utilized as a storage place for celery by removing the surplus earth and substituting a covering of boards for the sash. The celery is stored in the same manner as in the trench, and the bed may be covered with any material which will keep out frost. A cross section of a hotbed used for this purpose is shown in the figure.—W. R. Beattie.

Value of Beet Sugar Products.
Some idea of the magnitude of the beet sugar industry in the United States can be given by estimating the value of the beets sold by the growers to the factories and of the refined sugar placed on the market by the factories last year.
If we assume that the average price paid for beets in 1906 was \$5 per ton, the total value of the 4,236,112 tons of beets harvested is \$21,180,560. If we estimate the value of the sugar at 4¢ cents per pound, the 967,224,000 pounds of sugar manufactured were worth \$45,325,080. Probably the assumed prices both for beets and for sugar may be a trifle below those actually received, but these figures are sufficiently accurate to indicate the magnitude of the industry.—Charles F. Saylor.

Examine the Trees.

Every apple tree in the orchard should be examined for borers before frost gets into the ground. The knife and the wire method of exterminating these pests is old, but it is the surest, says a writer in American Cultivator. Neglect of this duty till spring may cost the orchard a number of valuable trees through girdling.

Japanese Millet.

Japanese millet is a stiff, coarse plant that looks like common barnyard grass, of which it is only an improved variety. It is quite drought resistant. It is considerably later than some other varieties of millet.

Sweet Potatoes.

Sweet potatoes should be perfectly dry when put in storage, and they should be kept dry in order to prevent rot.

A FRENCH WEDDING.

The Way a Marriage in the Country Districts is Conducted.

Sometimes a country wedding passed, and that was always a pretty sight. A marriage is always an important affair in France in every class of life. There are long discussions with all the members of the two families. The cure, the notary, the patron (if the young man is a workman), are all consulted, and there are as many negotiations and agreements in the most humble families as in the grand monde of the Faubourg St. Germain. Almost all French parents give a dot of some kind to their children, and whatever the sum is, either 500 francs or 2,000 francs, it is always scrupulously paid over to the notary.

The wedding day is a long one. After the religious ceremony in the church all the wedding party—members of the two families and a certain number of friends—adjourn to the hotel of the little town for a breakfast, which is long and most abundant. Then comes the crowning glory of the day—a country walk along the dusty highroad to some wood or meadow, where they can spend the whole afternoon.

It is pretty to see the little procession trudging along, the bride in all her wedding garments, white dress, white shoes, wreath and veil; the groom in a dress coat, top hat, white cravat and waistcoat, with a white ribbon bow on his sleeve. Almost all the girls and young women are dressed in white or light colors; the mothers and grandmothers (the whole family turns out) in black, with flowers in their bonnets.

There is usually a fiddler walking ahead making most remarkable sounds on his old cracked instrument, and the younger members of the party take an occasional gallop along the road. They are generally very gay. There is much laughing and from time to time a burst of song. It is always a mystery to me how the bride keeps her dress and petticoat so clean, but she does, with that extraordinary knack all Frenchwomen seem to have of holding up their skirts.

They passed often under the wall of the chateau, for a favorite resting place was in our woods. At the entrance of the allée verte, where it widens out a little, the moss makes a beautiful soft carpet, and the big trees give perfect shade. We heard sounds of merriment one day when we were passing, and we stopped to look on from behind the bushes, where we couldn't be seen.—Mme. Waddington in Scribner's.

No Hurry.

The American traveler who endeavors to hasten the comfortably gauged orient against its wish soon comes to a halt. That was the experience of "A Woman Alone in the Heart of Japan."

"Make the rickman hurry. I have a date and can't wait here all day," she said to the "boss rickman" at the station. He blazed like a fiery dragon.

"Vell, you get so mad, you no can wait for dis, you go find nodder rickshaw," he said.

She answered very meekly: "Dear friend, you do not know me. I am not the least bit mad. This is only a gentle American hustle. If you want me to be real mad, I will show you the difference."

"Vell, you vas almos' mad," he insisted. "You seem jus' like mad when you say: 'No can wait. Must have rickshaw quick. Hurry up!'"

A Geyser Clock.

One of the most curious clocks in the world is said to be that which tells the time to the inhabitants of a little American backwoods town. The machinery, which is nothing but a face, hands and lever, is connected with a geyser which shoots out an immense column of hot water every thirty-eight seconds. This spouting never varies to the tenth of a second. Every time the water spouts up it strikes the lever and moves the hands forward thirty-eight seconds.—American Home Monthly.

The Game of Chess.

The game of chess is of unknown origin. It can be traced back some 5,000 years or so to India. From India it advanced to Persia, from which country it passed on to the Arabians. The Spaniards got the game from the Arabs and passed it on to France, Germany and England. It is absolutely futile to attempt to determine the origin of the game.—New York American.

The Ethics of Trade.

The Bird Dealer—It's a bloomin' shime, Jim, swindlin' a pore, 'ard-workin' cove like this.

His Friend—Why, wot's wrong?

The Bird Dealer—Why, 'ere I slaved all day Sunday a-paintin' up a sparrer into a red-headed Belgian canary, an' I'm blowed if the feller as bought it ain't given me a bad 'art crown.—London Sketch.

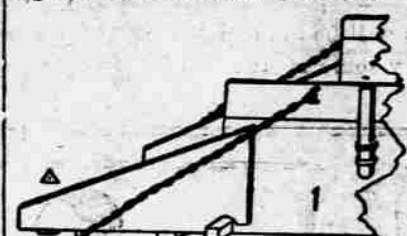
Farm and Garden

SCOOP BOARD.

A Handy Arrangement For Attaching to the Wagon Bed.

In hauling corn, potatoes and other grains and root crops in the wagon box in bulk it is necessary when unloading to either take out by hand enough from either end to permit the use of the scoop or to take out the end gate and let part of the load fall on the ground or floor, causing extra labor in again picking up in baskets and entailing more or less loss—that is, if you have no scoop board on your wagon.

The two drawings in the accompanying cut can give an outline of such a



SCOOP BOARD OPEN.

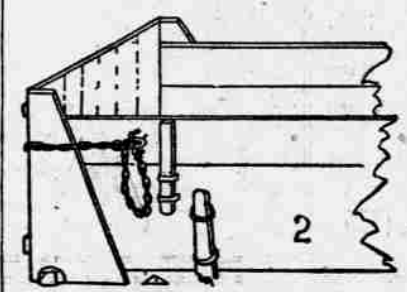
scoop board as we use—one in position for use and the other secured against the end of the box and serving as an end gate. From these drawings can be gained a clear idea as to its construction, so that any man with a hammer and a saw, nails and a couple of pieces of chain can make one for himself. In requires but little lumber, and enough for the purpose may usually be found lying unused about the buildings.

The depth of the scoop should be six or eight inches more than the height of the wagon box and wide enough, so that the sides will just pass over and fit snug against the sides of the box.

The chain may be fastened, as indicated, to pieces nailed as cleats on the bottom of the scoop, but we find it better to have the chain pass continuously from one side around under the box to the opposite side. This gives added support to the scoop when down, and the greatest weight is on it. Heavy staples, large enough to receive a second link fastened with an iron pin, as shown in the second cut, should be carefully clinched or bolted through the wagon box.

From the "hinge" a bar is bolted to the bottom of the box, extending two or three inches on either side, over which the end of the scoop side board is set, the board being hollowed out to receive the bar, as is shown, the bar being rounded at that point to allow it to work free and firm in turning up and down.

In lieu of this arrangement for the hinge ordinary strap hinges may be used or hook and eye hinges, that may be purchased at the hardware store or made by a blacksmith, put on, with the hooks both pointing in the same direction, as with these last there is the advantage of being able to slip



SCOOP BOARD CLOSED.

the scoop on or off in a moment without loosening any screws, says a writer in Farm and Fireside.
If an iron corner brace is placed on the outer end outside, the scoop when in position as tall gate will serve as a substantial tail brace against the spread of the end of the box when heavily loaded.

Fencing the Farm.

It costs little money to divide and subdivide a farm by fencing with a good fence, and a good woven wire fence is about as good as can be built. It pays the cost and a good profit right from the start for a farmer to have the farm fenced so that he can keep his stock at home and also to keep other people's stock away. The farmer can then work and not spend all his time in running after his stock, remarks a writer in Farm and Fireside.

In many localities the old rail fence which has rotted down can be used for firewood or built into a fence on some part of the farm where the good fence is not quite so important. The rail and board fences harbor weeds, are subject to decay and are very expensive in the long run. A good woven wire fence is clean and thoroughly satisfactory. By spending a few dollars for good fence the farm will increase in value, so that after all it is a method of saving money.

Sowing Grasses and Grain.

Grasses or grain may be sown either in September or October. Remember that deep and thorough breaking pays and that "each time you harrow the land will add a bushel to the yield for each acre." Try mixed grain and grasses, then when your grain is taken off the land the grass or clover will come right along. Remember that rape, arctic grass, bur clover, red clover and vetch all grow in the winter and all make good food for stock. They all save corn, and corn is money. If you have any to spare you can get the money for it. So with the above crops they all will bring money.—Southern Cultivator.

HEALTH REGULATIONS.

Good Grooming of Cow and Milker. Exact Milk Handling.

The New York city department of health has issued concise rules to farmers and dairymen for the regulation of its milk supply. These regulations are amplified with a number of recommendations, among which are the following:

The cows should be kept at all times in a healthy condition, and an examination by a veterinary surgeon should be made twice a year.

The cows should be groomed daily, and manure, mud or other filth should not be allowed to remain upon their flanks, sides, udders or bellies during milking.

The clipping of long hairs from the udder and the right side of the cow is of assistance in preventing the collection of filth which may drop into the milk.

The tails should be cut so that the brush should be well above the ground.

In winter the tail may be clipped.

The cows should be bedded with sawdust, shavings, dried leaves, straw or some equally clean material.

The use of horse manure for bedding is to be condemned.

To prevent the cows from lying down and getting dirty between cleaning and milking a throatlatch of rope or chain should be fastened across the stanchions under the cow's neck.

The milkers should be clean.

Their hands should be thoroughly washed with soap and water and carefully dried on clean towels before milking.

Clean overalls and jumpers should be worn during the milking of the cows, should be used for no other purpose and when not in use should be kept in a clean place, protected from dust.

The hands and teats should be kept dry during milking.

The practice of moistening the hands with milk is to be condemned.

The first few streams from each teat should be rejected, as these contain more bacteria than the rest of the milk.

All milk drawn from the cows thirty days before and ten days after calving should be rejected and also all milk from diseased cows.

The pail in which the milk is drawn should have as small an opening at the top as can be used in milking. This renders collection of dust less likely.

The milking should be done rapidly and quietly, and the cows should be treated kindly.

Dry fodder should not be fed to the cows during or just before milking, as dust therefrom will fall into the milk.

The milk should be removed as soon as drawn to the milk house and strained and cooled to the proper temperature at once.

If aerators are used they should stand where the air is free from dust or odor, and on no account should they be used in a stable.

New England Milk Producer.

The producer of milk and its products in New England is closer to the consumer than in other sections. Few New England dairymen are located so far away from a center as to be out of reach of the milk car to the city, the cream gatherer for some butter factory or cream shipping station or the cheese factory.

A Double Holdup.

"My wife," began Hicks, "dropped in to see me at the office today, and—"

"Sorry, old man," interrupted Wicks, "but my wife held me up before I left home. I can't lend you a cent."—Catholic Standard and Times.

The Blame Not His.

"Why are you here, my poor man?" asked the prison visitor.

"Through no fault of mine, sir," replied the convict.

"No?"

"No. I ain't had a single chance to break out."—San Francisco Examiner.

Something in a Name.

"Circumstances," exclaimed the summer boarder. "That is certainly a queer name for a mule."
"Oh, I dunno," rejoined the old farmer. "Didn't yew never hear uv circumstances over which a feller ain't got no control?"—Detroit Tribune.

The Real Thing.

Mrs. Brown—How did you like Signor Tun's singing, Mrs. Jones?
Mrs. Jones—Oh, I think he is heavenly, transporting, a real prima donna!—Harper's Weekly.

PHILOMATH SNAPSHOTS.

Christmas Shopping Now—Visitors and Other Things of Interest.

W. N. Altord arrived home from Bellfountain last Friday.

A number of young people from the burg were entertained at a "Donkey party" at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Todd at Beaver Creek last Saturday night. Games and music were the features of the evening. A delicious lunch was served at midnight. Among those present from Philomath were the Misses Eva and Bessie Pugsley, Faith Kezzel and Messrs. Alva Dunn and Arthur Pugsley.

Christmas shopping is the order of the hour and our merchants are busily engaged in supplying the wants of the many different agents of the yuletide saint and many little folks are putting in orders to be filled by Santa Claus.

The Misses Cora and Metha Fehler have opened a holiday bazaar at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge Hartless. They have holiday novelties including cards, booklets, calendars. The pyrographic display of numerous articles by Miss Metha is very artistic.

Last Wednesday Mesdames Sarah Mitchell and Martha Sargeant, accompanied by Mrs. Sargeant's little granddaughter, Mildred Hatfield, arrived in Philomath to visit for a short time at the home of their father, Reuben Gant, who is an honored pioneer of Oregon, having been among the first to enter the valley over the so-called Barlow route. Although almost a nonagenarian, his familiar form and patriarchal face is seen almost every day on our streets. The children recognize him as the local Santa Claus and he has been accosted as such by strange children. May his kindly face be among us for many years, is the wish of all who know him.

Miss Nora Mann, an employee of Kline's big store, came to our burg last Thursday evening to be initiated into the mysteries of Women of Woodcraft. Arrangements are being made for the Camp and Circle to have a joint entertainment each fifth Friday of the month's of the ensuing year that have that number of Fridays. A joint installation by Camp and Circle will occur early in January.

During the past week the downfall of rain caused a rise of all the streams, so that each little gully was a raging mountain torrent and where there was no water in a ravine during the summer, shallow water widened to fifty or sixty feet. The waters have subsided, however, and no apparent damage has been done.

Miss Ethel Burr was the guest of Corvallis relatives last week. She expected to arrive home Saturday.

Mrs. John Foss who has been in Albany for medical attendance arrived home last Wednesday, but is still in very poor health.

Mrs. Anna Fehler and Miss Metha Fehler arrived home from a prolonged visit at Salem and Portland last Wednesday.

Miss Faith Kezzel is now a student of the college of music at O. A. C.

Rev. W. N. Davis of the Baptist Church from Alsea, is organizing a choral class at the new Radical U. B. Church. A preliminary meeting was conducted last Friday evening and another meeting is scheduled for next Friday evening to perfect the organization. All interested are invited to attend and join the class.

Miss Evadna Springer will have a Christmas fist-pond and postal card office at her school in Evergreen on Friday.

M. E. Dittmer, a mining capitalist, and editor of Miners' Wealth, a monthly magazine devoted to the interests of mining in Northern California, and a resident of Redding, is expected to arrive this week for a visit with relatives. He will be accompanied by his little daughter, Aileen, who will remain here while Mr. Dittmer goes East on business.

F. R. Becker, of O. A. C. was an over Sunday guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Becker.

J. G. Becker is afflicted with a very lame back. He is scarcely able to be about.

Miss Hazel Merryman contemplates visiting relatives at Salem and other points in Marion county during the holidays.

Mrs. R. Gant, Miss Alta Wright, Mr. Minshall and Miss Ora Henkle were amongst Corvallis visitors Wednesday.

The various public schools will celebrate the approaching holiday in an appropriate manner. In the Philomath school Prof. White, Miss Merrick and Miss Cronquist will decorate trees and Prof. Watkins will have a Christmas fish-pond.

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