

OUR COMIC SECTION

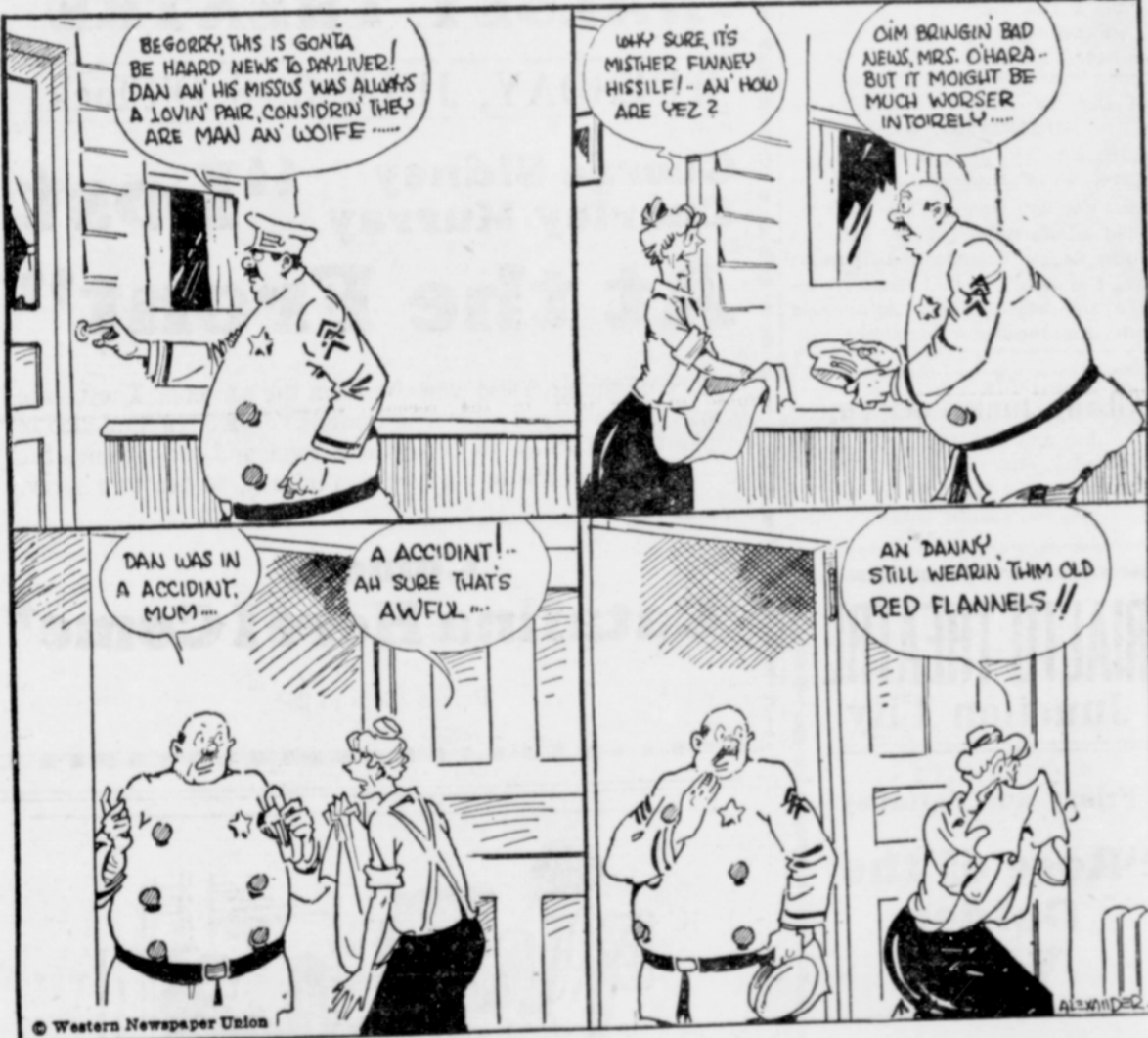
Events in the Lives of Little Men



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FINNEY OF THE FORCE

Tragedy At Its Worst



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THE FEATHERHEADS

Just Good Clean Fun



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Horticultural News

MOSAIC MENACE TO RASPBERRIES

Much of the difficulty in maintaining quality and yields of raspberries, particularly red raspberries, in New York, has been attributed to what is called "running out," but it has been found that an infectious disease known as mosaic is responsible. Also, it is now known that healthy stock can be kept reasonably free from this disease. Thus it is possible to grow any variety and obtain its usual yield and quality, says W. H. Rankin of the experiment station at Geneva who spoke recently at Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Mosaic spreads from plant to plant only when plant lice carry it. The lice themselves do no harm. A plant once inoculated is diseased throughout and becomes less productive, although it may live for several years. This mosaic disease has caused growers to give up raspberries as unprofitable, so the present raspberry acreage in New York is low.

Obtaining stock from fields known to be practically free from mosaic is the first step in control. Inspecting the planting the first two years may show a few diseased plants. These should be removed carefully so that the lice are not shaken off. The roots of red varieties must be dug to prevent diseased suckers from coming up. In western New York these measures insure little loss from mosaic.

A few varieties remain free from mosaic or are little damaged by it. Such varieties are recommended, especially for the lower Hudson River valley where mosaic is difficult to control by removing the diseased plants.

Propagating Grapes by Means of Cuttings Best

The accepted and orthodox way of propagating grapes is by means of cuttings. Notwithstanding this, however, the grafting of grapes may be practiced for one or more of several reasons. Established vines of undesirable varieties in the vineyard may be top-worked to more desirable varieties. Invariably European grapes are grafted onto American grape stock in order to offset or avoid the ill effects of phylloxera injury. This is the customary practice whether the grapes are to be grown in America or Europe. The phylloxera is a louse which, during one stage of its life history, attacks grape roots. It is "100 per cent American," and was not known in Europe until after America was explored and some of our native grapes infested with phylloxera were carried to Europe by returning explorers. American grapes have endured its parasitic attacks so long that they have become partially immune to its injurious effects. And this immunity makes American grapes valuable as stock upon which to graft the susceptible choice wine grapes of France and other continental countries.

Pruning When Knife Is Sharp Gaining Favor

Prune when the knife is sharp is a good working rule for the orchard, believes T. J. Talbot of the Missouri College of Agriculture. If the work is done properly, it may be helpful at any time of year. Formation of main branches and the elimination of thick clusters that shade the fruit, as well as the removal of dead or badly diseased branches, may prove profitable at any time of year.

In general, the principal work should be done after the leaves drop in the fall and before they appear in the spring. At any time during the dormant season when men may work comfortably out of doors, the pruning work may be carried on with profit.

Labor is more easily secured in the fall and winter than in the spring so that large commercial orchards must prune when the labor is available. However, pruning can be done at any time before growth is fully started.

Horticultural Hints

If you want good apples, spray. Insects are no respecters of persons.

Planting for best results should be done as early in the season as the ground can be prepared.

In the case of fruit trees as well as practically all fruits in the Middle-West, spring is the best planting season.

One-year-old apple trees cut to 40 inches when set develop more branches the first year than trees cut to 30 inches.

Efficient cold storage plants with facilities for precooling, icing, and recycling fruit have been tremendously developed in recent years.

More bearing apple orchards have been thoroughly pruned this winter than ever before. This should mean a higher percentage of good apples.

Stayman and Delicious apple trees demand well-aerated soil. The fruit becomes small after a few years when these varieties are planted upon soil that is too dense.

The DAIRY

AVERAGE OHIO COW PAYS SMALL MONEY

Owners of average Ohio milk cows are accepting a net profit of 45 cents a year or less, on each cow, whereas they might as well be receiving at least \$84.80 a year. The Ohio State University department of the Ohio State university estimates the average annual butterfat production for all the cows in the state at between 100 and 190 pounds. Records of costs and profits from several hundred members of cow testing associations of the state show that the average cow giving 200 pounds of butterfat during the year returns her owner a net profit of about 49 cents.

If the owners of these cows adopted improved and practicable methods of feeding, management, culling, and breeding, their returns might as well average \$84.80 a cow—the figure for the cow which produces 400 pounds of butterfat a year. It would mean more money spent for feed and upkeep, but would return a greater net profit, to adopt these practices, it is shown in the records from the cow testing associations. The average 200-pound cow in the association cost \$73.77 for feed, and \$132.46 for her entire upkeep. The average 400-pound cow cost \$95.14 for feed and \$173.04 for upkeep total, which included feed cost. But the 200-pound cow's product was worth only \$132.05 and the value of the product from the 400-pound cow was \$257.84. Hence the difference.

General farm conditions, under which the average yield of butterfat for the state is less than 200 pounds per cow, are perfectly suitable for the cow which will give 400 pounds of butterfat, according to members of the dairy husbandry department of the university, and the practices and methods which will bring about the increased yield are perfectly practicable.

There were 2,431 cows in the cow testing associations of the state in 1927. The records kept by the owners in the associations show that the cow which gave only 150 pounds of butterfat during the year cost her owner \$28.40 instead of returning any profit at all. The cow which gave 250 pounds of butterfat returned a profit of \$20.33; the 300-pound cow paid \$44.22; the 250-pound cow paid \$63.15; the 400-pound cow paid \$84.80; the 450-pound cow paid \$110.90; the 500-pound cow paid \$121.88, and the 550-pound cow paid \$135.17.

Of the 2,431 cows whose records were kept and analyzed, 3.16 per cent were in the 150-pound class; 9.6 per cent were in the 200-pound class; 16.4 per cent in the 250-pound class; 23.2 per cent in the 300-pound class; 21.8 per cent in the 350-pound class; 12.8 per cent in the 400-pound class; 7.9 per cent in the 450-pound class; 2.7 per cent in the 500-pound class; 1.6 per cent in the 550-pound class.

The 300-pound group, which was the largest, paid \$44.22 a year on their board bill, and the 350-pound group, which was the next largest, paid \$63.15. These two groups included 45 per cent of all the cows in the association herds. For the 300-pound group the feed cost was \$80.86 for the year, the total cost of upkeep was \$150.11, the value of the product was \$194.33.

In all groups the cost of feed and the total upkeep cost rose with the increased production, but the value of the product rose more rapidly than these factors, with the result that the more money spent on feed and upkeep returned a greater proportional net profit at the end of the year.

Ten Feeding Hints

1. Good roughages lower the cost of producing milk—feed all the cow will clean up, part of it being legume hay.
2. Include silage, beets, or beet pulp.
3. The cows need the succulence and will produce milk cheaper on account of it.
4. Feed a balanced ration with plenty of variety.
5. Feed grain according to production: 1 pound of grain to 3 pounds of milk for Jerseys and Guernseys; 1 pound to 4 for Holsteins and Ayrshires.
6. When pastures are short, feed grain; a 12 to 16 per cent protein mix will be satisfactory.
7. Silage crops or silage helps fill the pail during short pastures.
8. Milk is 87 per cent water—see that the cows have plenty of it at all times.
9. Cows need salt—one or two pounds per hundredweight in the ration is sufficient.
10. Study your cows' likes and dislikes and cater to them when possible.
11. Know your feeds—the cheapest are not always the most economical.—C. B. Bender, in Farm Life.

Too Rich Cream

There are no advantages in producing a cream testing higher than 45 per cent. Too rich cream is undesirable because it tends to clog the separator; it increases the loss in handling due to sticking to the receptacles; it makes difficult accurate sampling and thereby tends to yield incorrect tests. It is desirable to produce somewhat richer cream in summer than in winter to prevent excessive souring in summer and difficult handling in winter.

Mercury's Many Uses

Mercury is a heavy, silvery-white liquid metallic element. It is used in barometers and thermometers and for other scientific purposes. It is also used for extracting gold and silver from their ores (amalgamation process). Its compounds are used in medicine as purgatives, alteratives, and especially as antisyphilitics.

Infant Spared by Wolves

Carried off by wolves from its home at Chandipos, near Kalunga, India, a year-old child was later recovered from the jungle uninjured. When the wolves were seen with their prey, villagers started off in pursuit. They found the child on the ground with two animals standing over it.

"Thunder" Stolen

"Stealing the thunder" was coined in an early English playhouse. The material placed inside a cylinder to simulate thunder was taken out, with the result that the ominous sound was lacking when the cylinder was rolled. Some one had "stolen the thunder."

Wasteful Ancients

Modern gold-mining companies are finding it profitable to work over the tilling piles of ancient gold mines. In Greece have been found tellings in which the ancients left most of the gold. Original ore bodies had been exhausted by them.

In the "Good Old Times"

In 1678, when a patent was granted for "a new spinning engine" one of the advantages claimed for it was that with it a child of three or four years of age could do as much work as a child of seven or eight.—Exchange.

Learn to Hate Fear

I vehemently hate these miserable fears; they do not arise from the greatness of our distrust. Why should we fear the conquered world, when we have the conqueror on our side?—Luther, to Melancthon.

Not Edible Shellfish

Clams found in the rivers of Wisconsin are chiefly used for the commercial production of pearl buttons. These are large clams and are not edible. They are also used for commercial clam meal.

Early American Newspaper

There is record of the existence of a newspaper in the United States prior to 1728. The earliest was entitled Public Occurrences. It was issued in the year 1690 in the form of a small quarto sheet.

Ask Him, He Knows

Ask a man for information, says a woman critic in the American Magazine, and no matter what the subject, nine out of ten of them will have a beautiful time enlightening you on it.

New Brougham Sweeps Clean

"The new brougham, fresh from the factory, skidded," says a Jersey Journal story, "and plunged into a cluster of pushcarts, sweeping them over one by one."—Farm and Fireside.

Legislative "Steerers"

In the senate there are 34 and in the house 45 standing committees. It is usually the case that every member shall be placed on one or more committees.

Blessed by Nature

Madagascar, off the east coast of Africa, is the only island, except of course, the Green Isle, characterized by an absence of poisonous serpents.

It's Here

A scientist tells us that broadcasting of heat is a possibility. If he means hot air, it is already here.—Atlanta Constitution.

Boss' Faux Pas

Employer—I have culled you in, Brown, to say that when I am not here you are the laziest man in the office.

Soaring

A child is certainly a fine investment. Its deeds form the strongest bonds and yield the greatest interest.

Obelisk Set Record

The Egyptian obelisk is probably the best example of a large rock quarried and moved by man.

No Escape From Toil

If you want knowledge, you must toil for it; food, you must toil for it; toil is the law.—Ituskin.

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