

### NOW IS TIME TO FERTILIZE LAWNS ASSERT EXPERTS

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 1.—Home owners who wish to get the best results from their lawns should begin to work on them the last of February or early in March, according to the lawn specialists of the United States department of agriculture. Too many people delay giving any attention to their grass plots until the weather becomes warm and thus lose an opportunity to take advantage of melting snow and the alternate night freezing and thawing of the ground.

If the lawn has not already been fertilized, some form of commercial fertilizer should be used at once. Manure applied this late will not be effective in most cases. Ground bone is probably the best fertilizer to use, although tankage and fish scraps, some of which, however, have an unpleasant smell, also give good results. Prepared sheep manure is an excellent fertilizer for use at this season. Cottonseed meal, where obtainable at a low enough price, may be used to advantage.

#### Use of Fertilizers.

In connection with these fertilizers, however, it is desirable to use some wood ashes or other fertilizer containing potash. As fertilizers with this element are unusually high-priced this year, the natural inclination will be to use minimum quantities. With soils that have been well fertilized in the past, failure to use a normal amount of potash will probably not affect the lawn badly in one season. These fertilizers should be applied at the earliest possible moment.

Before freezing weather is entirely over, fresh grass seed should be sown, for it must be remembered that only by repeated applications of grass seed can a good lawn be produced. The ordinary seeding of grass on a new lawn is one pound of seed to every 400 square feet—that is, in a place 20 feet square. For reseeding a lawn, one tenth to one-half of this amount should be used, according to the condition of the lawn at the time. For the northern part of the United States, Kentucky blue grass and redtop are the standard varieties. However, where there are many bare spaces it will be found well to use some white clover. About one tenth the quantity of clover as of the other grasses mentioned will be required.

#### Applying Grass Seed.

Probably as good a time as any to apply grass seed will be some morning when the ground is frozen, so that when the ground thaws during the middle of the day the sown seed will be covered sufficiently to germinate well. The most successful seeding is that done while the ground is freezing a little each night and thawing again in the daytime. Many people have success in sowing grass seed upon a light snowfall at a time when the snow is likely soon to melt. With either of these methods, however, there is danger that birds will eat some of the seed before it is covered in the soil. In spite of this, however, there is a better chance of getting a good lawn by these methods than when the seed is sown on land that will not quickly cover it.

The last operation in the preliminary spring care of a lawn is to give it a good rolling. This rolling, which should be done with as heavy a roller as can be handled, should not be begun, however, until after the lawn is dry enough so that the roller passes over it without sinking at any point below the general level. If the land is too wet the roller will leave depressions. This rolling should be done just as soon as the land is dry enough to permit it, as rolling compacts the soil about the roots of the plants, brings them into closer contact with the soil and gives them a better opportunity to make a quick start as soon as weather conditions are favorable.

Grass cutting should begin just as soon as the lawn mower can get a good hold. The very early cutting may be made with the lawn mower set close to the ground. As soon as the growth of grass becomes a little less vigorous, the mower should be set just as high as possible. This high cutting should be done as frequently as though the grass were being cut shorter.

### UNIFORM CONTRACT BASIS OF FRUIT GROWERS AGENCY

Membership in the Fruit Growers' agency, recently organized at Spokane through the co-operation of the federal government, is divided in two classes. Active membership is open to all northwestern resident selling agents having a tonnage of not less than an average of 100 cars per season. Individual growers producing one or more carload quantities may likewise and under the same terms be active members. Under a corresponding tonnage condition, a passive membership is open to all local associations, affiliated with selling agencies, as well as individual growers. Maintenance of the Fruit Growers' agency will be borne by the shippers upon a tonnage pro rata basis. Eligibility to membership is confined to certain specific features: Selling organizations must be bona fide northwestern resident bodies; they must be actual agents of the grower and market their output in his behalf; they must use the uniform contract exclusively. All other active and passive members must also be parties to and use exclusively that same contract. The uniform contract is the instrumentality about which the entire movement and organization is constructed.

#### Uniform Contract.

The uniform contract illustrates the general scope of the entire plan. Its conditions which are mandatory upon the selling organizations, constitute the principal great needs of the grower; incidentally they represent the very things the shippers have recognized as vital to the progress of marketing methods, for example, the wider development of markets, the great need for a controllable and economical pioneering of the many foreign markets now unacquainted with northwest fruits, as well as a steady and greatly enlarged distribution in Great Britain, Germany and other export countries. These latter have been handled under a series of almost insurmountable obstacles in the past, due to irregular and uncertain offerings and uncontrolled competition, but which can only be overcome through the employment of joint representatives directly representing the produce of the various districts. The uniform contract is thus the power wheel of the grower, his direct control over the marketing and distributing part to the shipper it is the guide to actual practices as instructed by the grower. Finally, the grower and marketer are thus in harmony in the aim to obtain the widest and wisest distribution with the greatest return at the least cost of operation.

#### Terms of Contract.

In consideration of the mutual advantages to be derived herefrom, it is agreed between the parties to this contract as follows:

1. The grower shall have the exclusive right and authority to fix the price at which his products or any part thereof may be sold by the selling agent, but in event the price so fixed shall be higher than the best market price obtainable after offering the same, the selling agent shall in no wise be held responsible for failure to negotiate sales at such prices.

2. It shall be the duty of the agent to co-operate with all growers' resident selling agents who are members of the Fruit Growers' Agency, Inc., for the following purposes:

(a) To secure information as to crop conditions in order to determine the economic values of the varieties and grades.

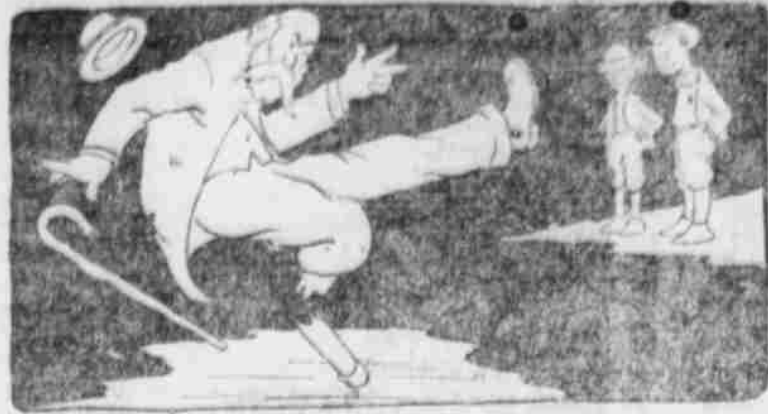
(b) To work in close harmony with growers with the aim of securing uniform methods in harvesting, grading, packing and the physical handling of the fruit from tree to car, and to secure a standardization and enforcement of the grading and inspection rules of the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana.

(c) To agree upon a date after which no contracts for tonnage shall be entered into.

(d) To discuss in confidence market conditions and experiences with various mediums used in the markets for the purpose of ascertaining the most efficient agencies and market outlets for the economical performance of their mutual contract.

(e) To secure improvement in

### WOODEN LEG FAMINE IN ILLINOIS TOWN AROUSES CITIZENS TO "PREPAREDNESS" PLAN



CARTHAGE, Ill., Mar. 1.—Carthage has all other "preparedness plans" backed off the boards. A group of prominent citizens here are preparing to lay in a stock of wooden legs—and mighty quick, too. Here's the reason: Carthage has nine more or less prominent citizens who wear wooden legs, and they drew up their prepar-

ation and storage service and conditions.

(1) To work on definite plans for the development of various domestic and Canadian markets, utilizing experienced men and the combined resources of the said agents.

(2) To develop foreign markets along the following lines:

To Conduct Investigations.

(1) To conduct comprehensive foreign investigations for the purpose of knowing trade demands and making reliable trade connections.

(2) To see that the fruit is prepared for market so that the grade and pack may be in accordance with the best trade demands.

(3) To supervise the physical handling of the shipments through to final destination and to secure adequate insurance so that the hazards may be reduced.

(4) To secure capable foreign agents to conduct sales abroad.

(5) To expand old markets and develop new ones by direct contact and through the solicitation of special agents.

(6) To devise ways and means to safeguard and secure prompt collections.

(7) To secure adequate transportation facilities, by underwriting steamship charters and promoting new fruit trade routes.

(8) To pool proceeds of sales and share pro rata, any loss sustained in the development of new markets according to the varieties and grades over definite periods, so that profits and losses therefrom may be equalized.

(9) To secure the standardization of accounts, accounting records to the extent that all accounts issued by the said shipping agencies will be figured on the same basis and in such manner that they will be uniform, allowing true comparisons to be made by the grower between the services rendered and prices secured by the different agencies.

(10) To secure an annual audit of the sales records of the current season's business of said agents by firms of certified public accountants of recognized standing, the reports of these audits to be available to the growers not later than one month prior to the closing of the contract period for the next season.

(11) To make all possible legal and banking arrangements for the financing of the growers.

(12) Advancements shall in no case be made in such manner as to pass title of the crop.

(To Be Continued.)

### PARSONS REGARDS EXCHANGE ACTION AS A STEP BACK

To the Editor: Will you kindly clear the atmosphere of a recent misstatement which evidently originated in the Rogue river valley and has to do with my connection with the Rogue River Fruit & Produce association and the Northwestern Fruit Exchange. In this item, which has gone the rounds of the northwest, the statement was made that I looked with favor on the withdrawal of the association from the exchange. This is of course, absolutely untrue and is entirely contrary to the spirit and efforts I have tried to make ever since I bought Hillcrest orchard, which are aimed toward the wide and comprehensive distribution of our fruits; as only by this method can we growers in Rogue river fully succeed.

It is not a local question only, as many are prone to believe. As an individual grower attempting to reach the various markets of the world with his product is hopelessly left at the bottom of the well, so is the local association, to only a slightly less degree, in the same position when attempting to market themselves, from one spot of our entire country. This is not only an individual problem, a district problem, a northwest problem, a world problem; and competition, especially in our apple, with a product of many regions and many climates; a special product in our hands that requires the concentrated financial and moral effort of all the growers of the northwest to get behind and push their product by proper advertising and educative methods, to the end that the consumer of the world may know of our varieties and quality and have his imagination and appetite whetted for the consumption of our luscious fruit. The efforts of the individual, therefore, are those of a pigmy, and of a local association purely illigian and limited from the outset by the quantity of fruit locally produced.

Get to the Consumer.

One of the main, if not the principal object of the producer is to get close to the consumer. When he has a short distance to travel and a small quantity only he can do this best by peddling. When, however, the distance to markets are great and quantity is considered, he must join with every other grower in this same position, and together, through the power of union and practicable co-operation and the use of highly trained individuals as an aid and guide, must support his business with proper outlay of cash in order that he be able to meet the competition of the world, and as far as allowable, control not only the distribution of the fruit, but break away from the present limitations of unguarded profits on the part of the wholesaler and retailer.

In the contemplation, therefore, of this whole problem from the standpoint of the world production, distribution and consumption, of which we are a part whether we will it or not, the individual and the locality is swallowed up in toto. Only "in union is there strength." Disembodiment can spell disaster only.

As a grower, therefore, in the Rogue river valley, and one of the largest producers with the interests of Rogue river always in mind, I cannot view the present action of the board of

### TIME TO PLANT ANNUAL FLOWERING PLANTS IN HOT BEDS

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 1.—Many garden lovers who are envious of their neighbors' earlier blooms fail to realize that they can do many things even in February to give some of their plants an earlier start. Those who own hotbeds or cold frames, the specialists of the U. S. department of agriculture say, should see to it that their annual flowering plants are started at once. This advice applies to those flowers to be used later in beds and to those grown for cut flowers.

Some of the flowers which give particularly good results if started in hotbeds or cold frames are: Ageratum, Alyssum, Aster, Calendula or Pot Marigold, Calliopsis, Campanula, Chrysanthemum, Cockscomb, Cosmos, Four-O'Clock, Godetia, Marigold, Petunia, Sweet William, Scotch Pink, Scarlet Sage and Verbena.

The seed of some of the flowers listed below need not be started in hotbeds but can be sown later in the season in the open ground and then transplanted to their permanent locations. The seed of those flowers should not be sown until the ground is in condition for making a good seed bed and until there is no longer likelihood of a heavy frost in the locality. A good test to determine whether the garden soil can be worked well is to take up a mass of it in the hand and compact it into a ball. If this ball readily falls apart, the ground is dry enough to be worked. It is particularly important in planting flowers to grade up the ground, dig it thoroughly with hoe and rake and remove the stones and lumps from it. The actual surface should be made very fine and soft. In planting each kind of seed the directions as to depth of planting should be carefully followed. Flowers that can be sown in this way are: Ageratum, Alyssum, Aster, Pot Marigold, Calliopsis, Campanula, Clarkia, Godetia, Cockscomb, Godetia, single, Godetia, Calliopsis, Mignonette, Pansy, Pink, Rudbeckia, Snapdragon, Stocks, Zinnias.

Most of these may be sown earlier in a hotbed or cold frame and thus be made to bloom earlier.

### SAYS HOT WATER WASHES POISONS FROM THE LIVER

Everyone should drink hot water with phosphat in it, before breakfast.

To feel as fine as the proverbial fiddle, you must keep the liver washed clean, almost every morning, to prevent its sponge-like pores from clogging with indigestible material, sour bile and poisonous toxins, says a noted physician.

If you get indigestion, it's your liver. If you catch cold easily, it's your liver. If you wake up with a bad taste, furred tongue, nasty breath or stomach becomes rumbly, it's your liver. Sallow skin, muddy complexion, watery eyes all denote liver uncleanness. Your liver is the most important, also the most abused and neglected organ of the body. Few know its function or how to release the dammed-up body waste, bile and toxins. Most folks resort to violent cathartics, which is a dangerous, salivating chemical which can only be used occasionally because it accumulates in the tissues, also attacks the bones.

Every man and woman, sick or well, should drink each morning before breakfast, a glass of hot water with a teaspoonful of limestone phosphate in it, to wash from the liver and bowels the previous day's indigestible material, the poisons, sour bile and toxins; thus cleansing, sweetening and freshening the entire alimentary canal before putting more food into the stomach.

Limestone phosphate does not restrict the diet like cathartics, because it can not salivate, for it is harmless and you can eat anything afterwards. It is inexpensive and almost tasteless, and any pharmacist will sell you a quarter pound, which is sufficient for a demonstration of how hot water and limestone phosphate cleans, stimulates and freshens the liver, keeping you feeling fit day in and day out.

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