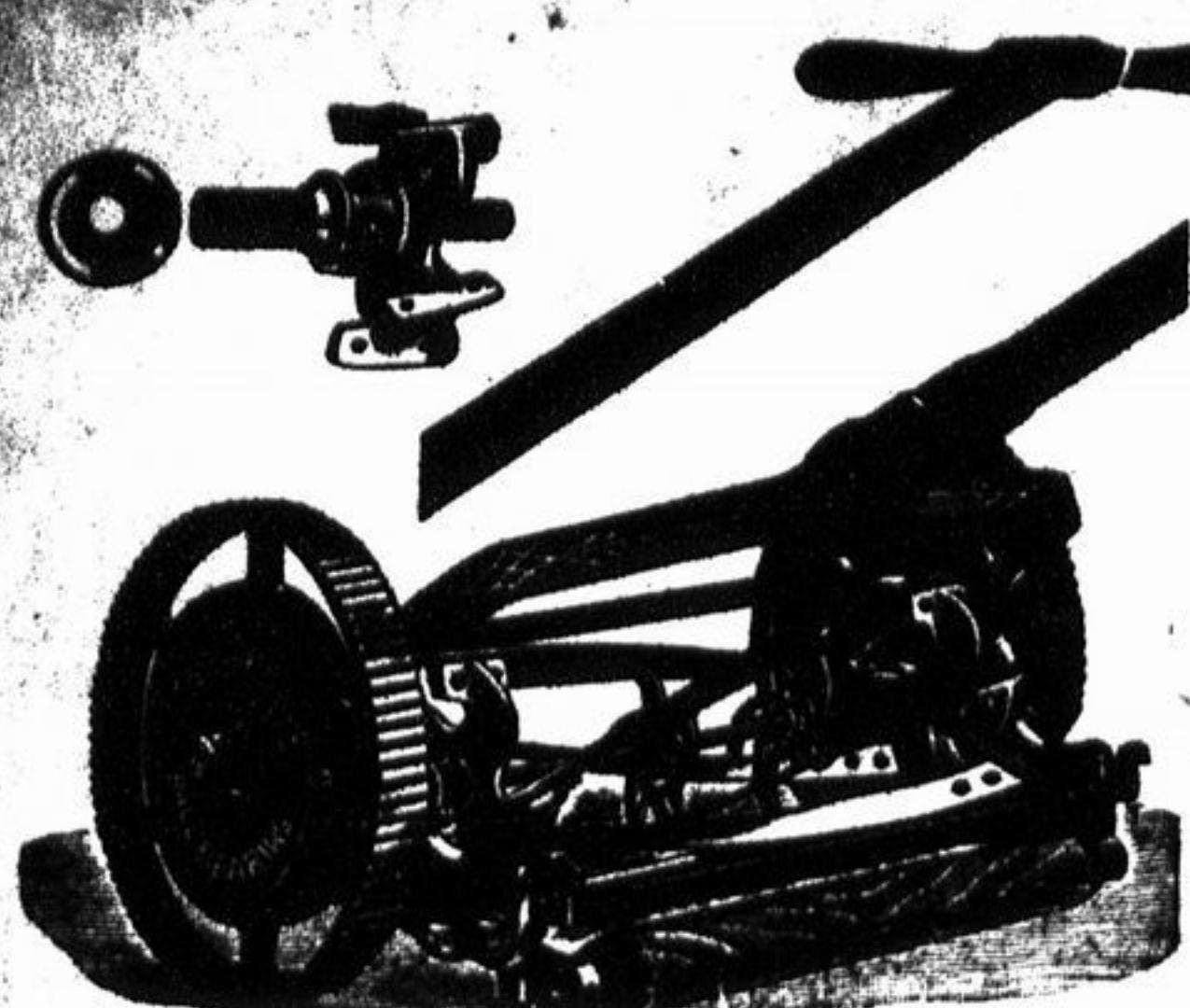


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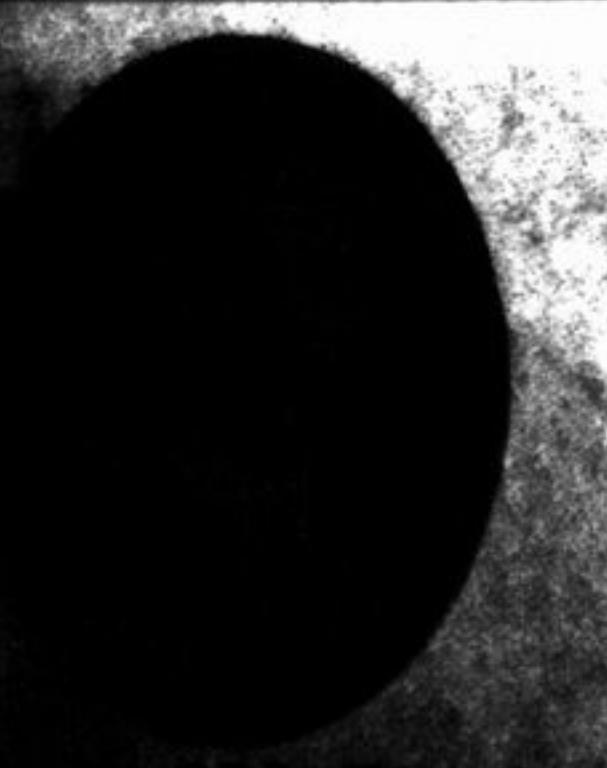
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FARM AND GARDEN

A well kept lawn reflects the good taste and nature of the owner.

The horse is man's best friend; therefore he is deserving of a friend's treatment.

The burning of straw and stalks, except in special cases, is a wasteful practice and has no place in judicious farming.

Every farmer should have a pair of scissars. It is the only way for a farmer to know exactly where he stands in his buying and selling.

Farm machinery put in repair before the busy season opens means money in the pocket. When it is out away in the fall is a better time for repairing.

At Candy, Minn., the high school has purchased a ten-acre field near the school property to be cultivated as a fruit and vegetable patch. It is believed this will help solve the problem of keeping boys on the farm.

If you mind your business properly you can, with a good working herd of a dozen milk cows, abstract from the creamery till somewhere around \$70 every month. Then you have the calves besides.

The potato growers of Long Island N. Y., have organized a trust to control the output of the island for the coming season. Growers in the trust will sell their product only through the exchange of one of its shipping stations.

Every farmer ought to have a house for harnesses and carriages apart from the stable. There is something about the chemicals arising from horse stables that will eat the paint off the best carriage and rot leather fast. Can't afford that.

Where an individual pupil in the town or country school becomes a source of more injury to the industry and government of the school which he attends than he derives in benefit from the educational advantages which are available it is time that he was handed his walking papers and told to get out.

A New York farmer reports success in the use of common stovepipe soot as a cure for scours in calves. An old method of preparing the dose was to take a tablespoonful of soot, mix it with the white and yolk of an egg, put it back in the shell and place the filled shell far back in the mouth of the afflicted calf. Another cure for the scour is to put a small amount of formalin in the milk ration.

Root crops—potatoes, turnips, rutabagas and the like—do especially well in sections where there is an abundance of moisture and where moderate temperatures prevail, while corn can get along with some less moisture and needs an abundance of heat to produce the largest and best crops. It is for the reasons mentioned that Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Canada produce the best root crops, while the states south of these to the Gulf of Mexico lead in the production of corn.

Enemies of the Squash.
To keep bugs away from the young plants cover the hills not infested with wire netting, burying all edges under the soil, else they will get under them sure.

The squash is subject to flea beetles and yellow and black striped bugs and these do not like clean cultivation, so burn all rubbish after getting off the crop. Examine the vines twice a day. The bugs gather constantly.

Better plant more seed than are properly developed for emergency cases of destruction by bugs.

Kerosene emulsion will drive bugs from their cover so they can be killed, and that is about the surest practice.

Burn All Dead Animals.

Burning is the surest and safest way of dealing with contagious diseases of live stock. Outbreaks of disease have frequently been traced to the careless disposal of the carcass of an infected animal.

Burning is much more effective than burying, as the germs of some diseases, as anthrax for example, retain their virility for a considerable length of time.

Then in burying carcasses, unless they are placed very deep in the ground, there is always more or less danger of their being rooted or dug up. Dogs will dig open such graves and hogs will root them out.

Those who have attempted to bury a hog or horse will readily appreciate the statement that it is easier to burn than bury them. A little kerosene and a brush heap will soon dispose of a carcass, with the certainty that all germs are destroyed. Some recommend the construction of a specially arranged furnace for this work, but on the ordinary farm this would doubtless be an added expense. It will not be a difficult matter on any farm to gather enough trash, such as brush, old rails, etc., to burn a dead animal, and the expense is incon siderable.

Cutting Corn.

I think not many farmers realize

the value of the main roots of corn or the nature of the growth.

One summer I discovered that the roots of

some of my corn six weeks old were

as long as the stalks, and they spread

out five or six inches in all directions

beneath the surface.

In the first cultivation I hold the shovels as closely

as possible to the young hills of corn

and allow them to go down five inches

or more in order to loosen the dirt and

permit the air to freely circulate in

the soil.

After the first plowing I use my sur-

face riding cultivators with four

blades, two on each side of the row,

about twenty inches long and three

inches wide, that skim under the sur-

face, about two inches, and behind the

blades is a drag which held at a

proper angle by a stiff spring.

This drag should be so set as to level the

ground and at the same time it will

pull to the surface and leave exposed

to the sun all weeds that have been cut off by the knives two inches be-

low. The cutting of the weeds below the surface will destroy the roots and the tops being left on the surface will soon dry out and die.

I don't believe any general rule can

be drawn as to how many times corn

should be cultivated other than to say

again good judgment should be used

according to condition of season and

soil. Sometimes it is only necessary

to cultivate three times; at other times

we must go through the fourth, and

in extreme cases I put men into the

field with single horse and a small five

to eight-toothed surface cultivator

after the corn is well in the tassel.

This latter would occur during an ex-

tremely dry year.

I am not in favor of ridging corn

with our Central Illinois prairie soil

when laying out a field. Instead prefer

to have my mule pull blades set at

an angle which will barely throw a

light covering onto the hills, which

may cover up any small weeds, but not

to make either the wind roll a ridge,

which we very much prefer to ridges, for

the ridge will cut roots down a

considerable distance from one row to the

other, and the ridge will be a great ob-

struction to the growth of the crop.

It is a good idea to have a

small ridge on the hill, but not

so high that it will interfere with the

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