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CANADIAN NATIONAL

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR THE BUSY FARMER

RAISE YOUR OWN LIVING
Whether willing or not the majority of farmers are now obliged to supply more of their own needs. The following list may provide suggestions for further economy:

1. Milk a few good cows; feed recommended rations.
2. Fatten one pig for every two adult members of the family; cure the meat properly.
3. Keep at least 100 good hens, correctly housed and fed.
4. Raise a good garden; water from windmill if possible.
5. Plant only cash crops, which show little or no surplus.
6. Grow your own stock feed.
7. Butcher fat cows and steers; trade meat with neighbors.
8. Raise your own living; keep your roof tight.
9. Get down to earth and do the best you can today.
10. Drive a horse until you can afford to buy gasoline.

IT PAYS TO DIP SHEEP
In discussing the fact of parasites on sheep and methods for their control, a Canadian authority gives four good reasons as to why it pays to dip sheep. These are:

1. Sheep that are free from ticks and lice grow more and better wool.
 2. A clean flock requires less feed and is more easily kept in good condition.
 3. The lamb crop is stronger, ewes milk better, and lambs grow more rapidly.
 4. Parasites are a source of serious discomfort to sheep. The good shepherd should be mindful of the comfort of his flock.
- He also points out that as a result of dipping the saving in feed and increased weight of lambs and wool may easily amount to from 50¢ to \$1.50 per ewe. The cost of dipping under ordinary conditions should not exceed three cents per head.

WINTER BROODING OF CHICKS

The poultrymen with proper equipment can handle chicks in mid-winter with as little mortality as with April chicks. He may not get as high percentage hatch as later on, but even the hatchability of eggs is being controlled by the feed. January chicks will cost more as eggs are higher priced to start with. Then it will take more fuel than with spring brooding. But there is more time for looking after the chicks; there may be less disease and mortality; broilers will catch a high market, and pullets should be laying early in the fall or even in late summer when egg prices are at their peak. Of course, if many started hatching all their chicks in January the higher prices for broilers and eggs would be wiped out, and chicks hatched at some other season would find the best market. Brooder houses unsuited for prolonged zero weather and the higher price for chicks will limit the number going in for January chicks. Nevertheless there should be good returns for the few who do, and they can prolong the use of their equipment, as those who have another hatch in the spring so as to have pullets coming into production at different seasons. January chicks will go on to range early in the season, or they may be raised indoors until ready for the laying pen.

FIELD ROOTS FOR HORSES

Turnips and carrots are the most commonly used of field roots as feed for horses. There is no question as to the value of field roots as feed for horses, a value which is too little appreciated.

Roots are rarely sliced or pulped when fed to horses for the reason that the outstanding virtue in root feeding is the beneficial effect on the teeth and gums resulting from the necessary biting into the whole root. The principle values of roots in the ration for horses are:

1. Increase palatability.
2. Form a succulent addition highly desirable, forming as it does a

food in the natural or unchanged form.

3. Assists in or increases the digestibility of coarse fodders.
4. Benefits the teeth and gums.
5. Are slightly laxative.
6. Cheapens the ration.
7. Form a splendid tonic or conditioner.

THE USE OF POTASH

It is the light, sandy and gravelly soils and muck soils that as a rule are markedly deficient in potash, and on which profitable returns may be expected from the application of this element. The rate of application will, of course, depend on a number of factors, chief among which are the character and fertility of the soil, and the nature of the crops to be grown. For most grain crops an application of muriate of potash of 50 to 75 pounds per acre will be found sufficient. For clover and alfalfa these amounts might be doubled with profit. For potatoes, roots, corn and leafy crops generally, 100 lbs. of muriate of potash per acre may be considered an average dressing, but frequently 200 pounds may be profitably used. As a rule it will be found more advantageous to use potash with forms of nitrogen and phosphoric acid than alone and it is always advisable to try out the fertilizer on a small scale before making large purchases.

The Measurement of Fuelwood

Fuelwood is sold by the cord or by the wagon box load. A standard cord is a pile of wood 4 feet high, 4 feet wide and 8 feet in length, giving a total volume of 128 cubic feet. The amount of solid wood in a cord varies considerably. Crooked sticks, small diameter of the sticks, loose piling and prominent knots are common characteristics that reduce the volume of solid wood in a cord.

It is customary in many localities to sell wood by the short, face of running cord. A short cord of wood is a pile 4 feet high, 8 feet long and 12, 14 or 16 inches in width depending on the market requirements. A

standard cord of 4 foot wood is equal to 4 cords of 12 inch wood or 3 cords of 16-inch wood, although a standard cord will seldom give 4 full cords of 12 inch wood because the shorter sticks pile closer.

ALFALFA A VALUABLE CROP

Apple growers have found that in order to get sufficient color and maturity for the fruit, it is necessary to keep the orchard in sod, breaking up only at intervals of five or six years. And for this purpose the best crop to use is alfalfa.

Alfalfa, being perennial in nature, remains in the ground year after year. Its roots penetrate the soil much deeper than those of the apple tree and, therefore, do not consume much of the moisture supply available to the tree. Furthermore, the roots open up the soil, making it porous, thereby allowing the air to penetrate the soil, which in turn stimulates bacterial action.

This plant is capable of taking nitrogen from the air and storing it in the roots as nitrate fertilizers early in the spring, to promote rapid growth, and to stimulate blossoming. A crop of alfalfa is an extremely cheap source of nitrate supply. Alfalfa, being the heaviest yielder of all legume and grass crops, may be cut twice a year. The cuttings, which are allowed to remain under the trees, make an excellent mulch, which conserves moisture and keeps weeds down.

No horse can go as fast as the money you bet on him.

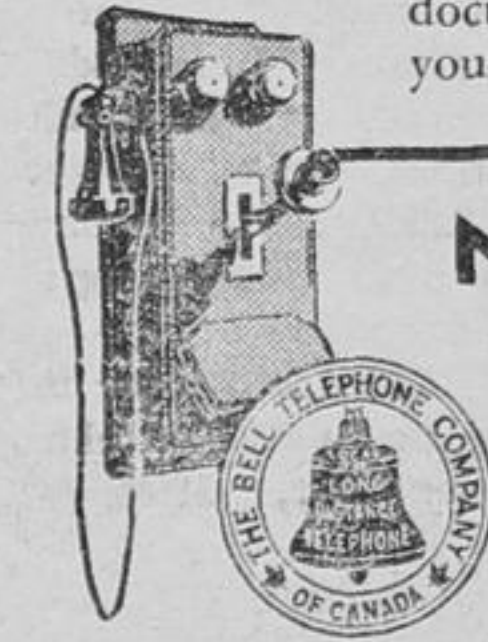
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