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Farm Crop Queries

M. Mc.—I wish to know if ploughing potato stalks under is correct, as some farmers say it poisons the land for a future crop of potatoes. I have about 8 acres of high land, sandy soil, that was seeded to red top and clover after an oat crop two years ago. The clover is poor. I wish to know the best way to improve it.

Answer.—If the potato tops are infected with potato disease, such as late blight, rhizoctonia, etc., there is danger of perpetuating the disease by plowing under the tops.

A very heavy stand of potato tops plowed into a sandy soil may open it up too much for good growing conditions, but this is very unlikely because, if the land is plowed this fall, there is all fall, winter and early spring for the tops to decay.

When green parts of crops are plowed into land, there is a variable amount of sameness produced as the green material decays. This can easily be corrected by a top-dressing of lime, 1,000 lbs. per acre.

Top-dress the clover this fall with 200 lbs. per acre of a fertilizer carrying 10 to 12 per cent. phosphoric acid and 4 to 5 per cent. potash. Harrow it in lightly after scattering clover seed in thin places.

G. B.—How can I get rid of wild morning glory? Also what causes mould on clover while still uncut in the field?

Answer.—Wild morning glory spreads by root stalks. It is very persistent and requires constant care in order to kill it out. If your field is badly infested, sow rape in rows after fertilizing with 200 lbs. acid phosphate per acre. Cultivate the rape with horse and hand, so as to keep down all weeds. Do not cultivate deeply, but sufficiently shallow to cut off plants that are growing without bringing up root stalks. Small pieces of root stalks spread this troublesome weed rapidly. Careful and continuous working is the only thing that will kill out the morning glory.

W. F. K.—What is the best time to sow fall wheat in Ontario to avoid the Hessian fly?

Answer.—The later you can sow the fall wheat and get sufficient top to stand the winter the surer you are to escape the Hessian Fly. If you are located in the southern counties of Ontario, you are fairly safe in waiting till after September 10th to 15th, but you should fertilize your wheat so as to make sure of a good root growth. Use 200 lbs per acre of a 2-10-2.

Poultry

When hens become lame in one leg and rapidly emaciate and die it is usually a sign of tuberculosis. Perform a postmortem and note if the liver is covered with the spots which are an additional symptom of the disease. There is no cure, but the trouble must be controlled by prevention. Isolate any suspected birds as the disease may spread rapidly. If you have a valuable flock it is always best to consult a veterinarian and accept his recommendations after he has inspected the flock and the premises.

Ducks often become weak and die because their ration is too concentrated. Leg weakness in fowls of all kinds is not thoroughly understood and is difficult to treat but can usually be controlled by careful feeding methods and plenty of range. For ducklings a good ration consists of whole bran and low grade flour with only about fifteen per cent. corn meal. Then add a good sprinkling of green rye, cut clover and 10 per cent. beef scrap and five per cent. sand. The sand should be rather coarse. Many ducks receive too much corn meal and do not have a chance to range and exercise enough where the green feed is abundant. Plenty of shade during the heat of the day helps to keep ducks healthy.

Finish Lambs Before Marketing

With lambs selling at from \$9 to \$12 per hundredweight in the fall and higher in the late winter, it would look as if a good profit to the breeder was always assured. Add to this, the steady price that prevails for wool and it would seem that the raising of sheep should long continue to be remunerative. But neither the lambs nor the sheep must be sent to market in a rough state. As the Dominion Animal Husbandman says in his circular on "Finishing Lambs for the Block," well finished lambs invariably command a higher price than mixed lambs varying in size, weight and finish; hence it is always more profitable to hold the lighter lambs and sell only those of uniform weight and finish. Two points made are of particular interest, one is that ewe lambs fit for breeding purposes should be saved and held over for breeding when shearing, and the other, that the proper time to sell lambs is when they are finished, whether this be in November or April, or any intervening month.

Bedtime Stories

A Good Customer.

The little shop where Anne's grandmother sold sweets was so hemmed in by other candy shops and by grocery stores that sometimes granny feared that she should not be able to keep on selling the old-fashioned lollipops and peppermint drops and peanut bars that she made in the little kitchen at the back.

Little Anne was thinking about that one day as she stood ready to wait on customers while granny was making a fresh batch of candied apples in the back room.

Who would buy those apples? Anne gazed through the open door, and it seemed to her that all the customers were going into the other stores. Moreover, the school had been moved to another part of the town, and so the children, who used to buy a great deal of candy, no longer came to the shop.

"O dear!" Anne sighed. "I do wish a very rich customer would come in!"

"Bow-wow!" came a voice from somewhere as if in answer.

Anne peered over the counter. A

little white dog was standing up on his hind legs in the middle of the floor. In his red blanket lined with fur, he looked like a prosperous little dog, but it was plain that he wanted some thing.

Just then in came granny with a trayful of candied apples. The dog began to bark, and granny looked at him good-naturedly over her spectacles. "Give him a lollipop, Anne," she said, "and see if that is what he wants."

It was exactly what he wanted. Sitting up on his hind legs, he held the lollipop in his front paws and licked it. Granny and Anne laughed so heartily at their new customer that they forgot their troubles. While they were still laughing a little girl came into the shop, and behind her came a chauffeur.

The man spoke to the dog. "Aren't you ashamed of yourself, Peter Pan, he said, 'to come in here begging?'"

"But he does so love lollipops," said the little girl. "He must have seen them through the window when he was on the seat of the automobile."

"He is welcome to the lollipop," granny said, and Anne smiled at the little girl.

"Oh, look at those fresh candied apples," the little girl said. She bought three of the apples and begged granny to let her pay for the lollipop too. "Peter Pan might want to come in again," she said. But granny would not take any money for Peter Pan's candy.

Then the little girl saw her mother coming out of the shop next door, and she picked up Peter Pan and his lollipop and with a smiling good-bye ran back to the car.

That was not Peter Pan's last visit to the little shop. The very next time that his mistress's car stopped at the shop next door, he came running into granny's shop. With him was a stylish young Airedale that belonged in another car.

When Anne offered lollipops to the dogs Peter Pan took one eagerly, but the Airedale turned away.

Just then a lady and a little boy entered.

"He likes soft candies," the boy said to granny.

So granny offered the dog a square of soft cream candy, and he swallowed it whole.

"I haven't seen cream candy like that since I was a child," the lady said. "May I buy some, please?" And she bought three pounds.

That was the beginning of better times for the little sweet shop. Every time the dogs got a chance they came rushing in. Then their owners would come after them and buy cakes and candy and more customers came, and after a while trade was so brisk that granny had to have another helper.

Anne was singing from morning to night. "It's all Peter Pan's doings," she said.

And every time she gave him a lollipop she gave him a loving pat of gratitude too.—Youth's Companion.

Processing Saves Overflow of Berry Crop

Through the recent discovery of a practical method of preserving fresh strawberries and other soft fruits, berry growers of the Northwest States this year saved the overflow from the retail markets, worth millions of dollars, which heretofore had been lost every season. This year the growers decided to provide a safety valve for their market by devising a method of preserving the fresh fruit.

The new method is very simple. It consists merely of packing the berries in sugar in the proportions of 1 pound of sugar to 2 pounds of berries. Casks of wood holding 500 pounds are used for packing.

Farmers are not corporations and as a result each generation must start out anew, usually going through the three stages of hired man, tenant and farm owner.

Keeping of Sheep

Warm quarters are at no time necessary for sheep. Sheltered sleeping quarters, free from draughts and having a dry floor, are usually all that is required. Dealing with this matter of caring for sheep the Dominion Animal Husbandman, treating of the experiences at the Dominion Experimental Farms and Stations, remarks that a good tight, single-board shed with doors opening to the south, or for the Prairie Provinces, a straw shelter, or even the protection of the bush or the straw stacks, would under average conditions, be ample for this purpose. Cheap, convenient racks and troughs cost little per carload of lambs fed, and, if made portable, they can be used for both summer and winter feeding. No other class of stock costs so little as sheep in the matter of equipment, in tending, as regards buildings, utensils, preparation of feeds, etc. It is not difficult to agree with the Dominion Animal Husbandman when he says that in these days, with labor scarce and dear, sheep rearing should appeal strongly to the farmer who has not sufficient help to go profitably into the dairy industry or into the raising of swine, or even into the breeding and keeping of beef cattle.

The Fall Wheat Question for 1923

By Henry G. Bell

When the crop is all threshed Ontario farmers will no doubt have invested one of the largest wheat crops in the history of this province.

Good land bore wheat—lots of it. Poot land bore wheat where it was thought impossible to grow it. On June 24th, the writer visited a good farm near Zurich, Huron Co., here a crop that promised at least 30 bushels of wheat was in stocks on land that was reported to be unable to produce fall wheat. Of course the owner prepared the land well, used good seed and manured the land with 250 lbs. per acre of suitable fertilizer. He got not only his first-class stand of wheat, but his clover crop is surely and well established for next year.

The Zurich field like many other fields of wheat will stand closer study. Hessian Fly has ruined not a few promising fields of wheat this year, but it has been the general observation that where wheat received a fair application of good fertilizer last fall there is very little damage from Hessian Fly. Either the crop has been distasteful to this troublesome insect or has been strong enough to withstand his attacks. In many cases he picked out the poor unfertilized wheat for his work of destruction.

If you examine fertilized wheat you will find heavier standing, wider rooting, larger heads and more vigorous crop throughout than you get in the unfertilized fields. Delaware Experiment Station found that liberal fertilization it was possible to increase the standing of wheat 55 per cent. Think what such an increase would mean on your wheat field in 1923.

Many a man is reaping such results from having built up the fertility of his 1922 wheat fields.

Some made the mistake of seeding with "just average" seed. Now, you rarely get prize-winners out of poor unshapely scrub cows. You have just as little chance of getting good wheat crops out of poor seed as you have in the case of the cattle. Good quality

Teaching Music in Public Schools

Teaching music in public schools public sees that the schools are using music to bring sunshine and elevation into the lives of children and to place them in position to spend their leisure delightfully, all opposition to the music programme will disappear.

"There is another large body of fine music which we are neglecting, and that is the negro spirituals. These old songs grew out of the hopes and aspirations of a struggling people. They are practically all deeply religious, and they should be so treated. The practice of making a burlesque of them is, in my judgment, not only short-sighted and misrepresents their spirit, but it is little short of sacrilegious. White people like to sing these songs, but if it is not practicable and feasible to use them to any great extent in the schools, they should certainly be taught to negro children, and in that way keep alive some of the finest creations of the negro race.

"I think we shall succeed in the field of public school music if we are careful to proceed along three lines: "First—We must teach children to sing, and in doing that, use suitable songs.

"Second—The normal schools, which furnish teachers for the public schools, must equip their teachers to teach children to sing.

"Third—Supervisors of music who know music, and especially those who know how to sing, must be employed to direct the efforts of teachers.

"When these three things have been observed and the music period is treated as a recreatory period in which teachers and children enjoy the best of a good time, we need have no further concern as to the success of the music programme; it will find its way into all of the schools, and in a short period of time the people of this country will be singing and taking a delight in it."

Such was the declaration of Mr. T. H. Harris, Superintendent of Education for the State of Louisiana, in an exceptionally appealing address lately to a group of teachers. "If a programme of this kind is put into practice," continued the speaker, "my impression is that music, more than any other subject perhaps, will secure the co-operation of the public. Children will learn in school fine old songs that their parents and grandparents sang and loved fifty or seventy-five years ago, but have forgotten.

"When the children begin to sing these songs in the homes, their parents and grandparents will join them. The home will be made brighter and better for their doing so, and its co-operation with the work of the school will be secured. The public has not endorsed the music programme enthusiastically because it has not seen the wisdom of spending money upon that branch of study; but when the

Little Hog Cholera in Canada

Dr. F. Torrance, Veterinary Director General of the Dominion, attended the 44th annual meeting of the Ontario Veterinary Association in Toronto recently, and was able to make the gratifying announcement that it was necessary to spend only five thousand dollars in Canada last year in compensation for swine slaughtered in the work of checking the spread of hog cholera. He also made the statement that the regulations of the Dominion Department of Agriculture had been so thoroughly enforced that serious outbreaks had been prevented in most years. Dr. White, of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington, stated that hog cholera is far more prevalent in the United States and has meant the loss to farmers last year of \$33,000,000. In addition there was spent \$10,000,000 on serums.

Jehovah will command the blessing upon thee in thy barn, and in all that thou puttest thy hand unto, and he will bless thee in the land which Jehovah, thy God, giveth thee.—Deuteronomy, XXVIII.

Clothes do not make the man, but a change is often a factor in mental recreation. Moral: Dress up whenever opportunity offers.

God of the Open Air

There are things I prize And hold of dearest worth; Light of the sapphire skies, Peace of the silent hills, Shelter of forests, comfort of the grass.

Music of birds, murmur of little rills, Shadows of cloud that swiftly pass And after showers, The smell of flowers And best of all along the way, friend-ship and mirth, So let me keep These treasures of the humble heart In true possession, owning them by love; And when at last I can no longer move Among them freely, but must part From the green fields and waters clear, Let me not creep Into some darkened room and hide From all that makes the world so bright and dear; But throw the windows wide To welcome in the light, And while I clasp a well-loved hand, Let me once more have sight Of the deep sky and the far smiling land— Then gentle fall asleep, And breathe my body back to Nature's care, My spirit out to thee, God of the open air!

—Henry Van Dyke.

Hand Camera for Snapshots or Motion Pictures

There is now being manufactured a camera which can be carried in the pocket, operates automatically with the precision of a high-grade watch, and takes either motion pictures, snapshots, or time exposures by pressing a button. No tripod or hand crank is required, the camera being held in the hands and the image located by either of the two methods provided. A metal spring propels the film at the same time opening and closing the shutter. Loading is accomplished in daylight by means of special metal magazines, six of which are supplied with each camera.

Says Sam: There's three kinds of folks; those who think things couldn't be worse; those who allow that after all, things might be a lot worse, and those who roll up their sleeves and say, "Things can be bettered."

SMOKE

in 1/2 lb tins and 15¢ pkts.

OLD CHUM

The Tobacco of Quality

The Sunday School Lesson

SEPTEMBER 10.

Teaching the Law of God, Neh. 8: 1-3, 5, 6, 8-12. Golden Text—Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; And I shall keep it unto the end.—Ps. 119: 33.

Lesson Foreword—Ezra's most important work—his inducement of the Jews to make the law of Moses regulative for their life—is recorded in to-day's lesson.

From the books of Ezra and Nehemiah it would appear that Ezra spent some time, possibly a number of years, in Jerusalem before the national assembly was convened for the purpose of formally accepting the law. The Jews who returned from Babylon, of whom Ezra was the leader, were the most zealous for the adoption of the law. Life in the Exile had probably convinced them that the Law was their only safeguard against national and religious disintegration among the heathen.

R. Reading the Law, 1-3.

V. 1. All the people gathered themselves. To the later Jews, this assembly was known as the "Great Synagogue." They considered it one of the most important gatherings in their history. It would be composed of the people of Jerusalem and of representatives from the outlying Jewish communities in Palestine.

Into the street . . . before the water gate. The Hebrew word for "street" here means literally "the broad or open space." (See ch. 3: 26 and 12: 37.) It was in the vicinity of the temple. They spoke unto Ezra. The initiative appears to have been taken by the people.

The book of the law of Moses.

This is generally considered to be a section or the whole of the first five books of the Bible. It was set forth the historic origin of Israel's institutions as well as guidance regulative for conduct and belief.

V. 2. Ezra the priest.

In the previous verse he was called a scribe—one who was devoted to the study and teaching of the law. From Ezra 7: 11, we learn that he was both a priest and a scribe. Brought the law; the book of rolls in which the law was written. All that could hear with understanding; all who had attained to the years of mature intelligence, all except children. The first day of the seventh month. The first of the month would be a new moon day and the new moon was usually observed with a festival. (See 1 Sam. 20: 6; Isa. 1: 13; Hos. 2: 11, etc.) The people were probably gathered for the festival of the new moon when they decided to enquire of Ezra regarding the law.

V. 3. He read.

The reading would consume from five to seven hours. In all likelihood, some of his associates would relieve Ezra for short intervals in the reading.

V. 4. Accepting the Law, 5, 6, 8.

V. 5. In the sight of all the people. According to v. 4, Ezra stood on a pulpit or raised platform within sight and hearing of the concourse before him. The people would see him open, that is unroll, the book of the law. All the people stood up; to show their reverence for the Law, just as slaves remained standing in the presence of their master. Standing was often the posture assumed during praying. (See 1 Sam. 1: 26; 1 Kings 8: 22; Luke 18: 11, 13.) Standing during prayer was the custom in the old Scottish churches. To this day standing is the attitude adopted during the reading of the law in the Jewish synagogue.

V. 6. Ezra blessed the Lord; praised and thanked God for his gift of the law to Israel.

The people answered, "Amen." By responding "Amen," the people signified that they accepted and ratified the Law. Lifting up their hands. This may be interpreted as a posture of supplication and adoration in prayer (just as Moses held up his hands when he prayed, Ex. 17: 11) or, more probably, as a token that they were taking a vow on themselves to accept and observe the law.

V. 7. From this verse one would infer that the reading of the law was broken at intervals to allow of an ex-

HAVE A DEFINITE PROGRAM

Dr. David Forsyth of London is authority for the statement that a man cannot be "head over heels" in love with more than one woman at a time.

"A man," Dr. Forsyth is quoted as saying, "can be half in love with two women, one sixth in love with six women, and one-twelfth in love with twelve women."

That's logical, whether it's true or not. And it's probably true: Certainly it is true of other relations in life, and there is no reason to suppose it isn't true of love. A man has only so much energy. If he devotes it all to a single task, he is giving everything he can possibly give to that one thing. Whatever energy he directs to other tasks takes away just so much from that one.

But it is stupid to attempt, and impossible to achieve, the complete devotion of all your energy to a single task. If your work is mental, you must reserve enough energy to apply to physical recreation to keep yourself physically fit. If your work is physical, you must reserve enough energy to let your mind play a little, if you would not grow sodden and stupid. Aside from this it is very true that you cannot successfully divide your energies between jobs and expect them all to show equal results. If you are selling canned soup, your canned-soup selling is bound to suffer some. "A house divided against itself must fall" is just as true of an individual as it is of a family or of a nation.

Energy alone will not do the trick, however. You have seen some men of seemingly boundless energy out-distanced by men of very limited energy. The reason was that the small-energy man knew where, when, why, and how to concentrate his energy—in other words, had a definite mark to shoot at; whereas the other man just fumbled around.

When the Transcontinental leaves the Windsor Station, in Montreal, everybody abroad, everybody connected with the railroad, and everybody who ever heard of the train knows that it is going eastward to Vancouver and no place else. Or other trains may go to Halifax, Toronto or Ottawa, but it is going to Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia.

If you could have as definite a program as that on which to say, "I am going to Success in the Farming Business, which is one step on my way to the station of Self-Reliance in the Province of Old Age," you would know how to direct the energy you have to make it do the most good.

We, therefore, paraphrase Dr. Forsyth, and say:

"A man cannot be 'head over heels' in love with more than one job at a time. A man can be half in love with two jobs, one sixth in love with six jobs, and one twelfth in love with twelve jobs, but he won't get so far with any of them as he would by devoting himself chiefly to the most important one of them."

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