

Weekly Bureau of Information for All Who Till the Soil or Are Interested in Making Homes

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

All inquiries and communications addressed to The Times-Dispatch will receive prompt attention. This department will appear each Monday, and contributions or suggestions will be welcomed.

Facts for Farmers, Stock Breeders, Poultry Raisers, Orchardists, Truckers and Gardeners—Queries and Answers

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

- Asparagus, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrot, Celery, Corn, field, Corn, pop, Corn, salad, Mushroom, Mustard, Parsnips, Parsley, Potato, Spinach, Egg plant, Endive, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Tomato

All the above vegetable seeds should be sown in the open ground where the plants are to mature. Thin out the plants if they come up too thickly. Sow once if not already in the ground.

Two sowings of peas should be made in trenches, where they are to grow in the spring. If the first sowing has not been made, sow immediately and make two more sowings in May.

Three sowings of radishes should be made in April and also in May. Two sowings of sweet corn should be made during April and two more during May.

By making several plantings a succession of the crop is had during the season. Squash, melon, okra and pepper can be safely started in April only in hotbeds or a greenhouse.

Cress can be sowed every week in greenhouse or frame. During May, Pole and lima beans, Mustard, Beets, Nasturtium, Parsnips, Parsley, Pumpkin, Turnip, Cress, Seakale, Spinach, Squash, Mangels.

All these vegetables may be sown in the open ground where the plants are to mature. Thin out where plants come too thickly.

French artichoke, Celery, Broccoli, Egg plant, Brussels sprouts, Kohlrabi, Cabbage, Lettuce, Cauliflower, Onion, Cauliflower, Pepper, Tomato.

During May sow the above in seed bed in the garden and transplant to permanent place. During May make two sowings in the open ground of bush beans, sweet corn, lettuce, okra and peas. Sow thinly so as not to waste the seed.

Three sowings of radishes should be made. In answer to the question often asked, "Does the small vegetable garden do the city back yard?" the following experience is offered:

The plot in question was about 25x55 feet, and as soon as the ground could be worked in the spring, having and one end well prepared for early plantings of lettuce, radishes, onions and peas. Several varieties of peas were planted from the "First of All" to the "Late of All" in early June.

The lettuce, the plan of early and late varieties was followed, giving a season which lasted from the third week of July until early September. However, do not grow corn where the soil is very limited, since it grows tall and shades the rest of the garden.

The space occupied by peas, lettuce and other early vegetables was worked over as soon as possible and replanted with pole and lima beans, egg plants, etc., not allowing any space to go long unoccupied.

In a neglected corner of the yard two or three hills of cucumbers were sown with a most gratifying result. As the back yard is usually away from the rear of the house, watering became necessary, a fifty-foot hose was attached to the faucet and the irrigation plan carried out on a small, but none the less, a useful scale. Needless to say the plants looked fresh and green, even through the driest spell.

On existing accounts in the fall, it was found that the cucumbers had cost from \$15 to \$20, to say nothing of the satisfaction in gathering the fruits of one's labor. Then, too, the beautiful outdoor exercise was a small asset. Assuredly the small garden does pay—E. J. Owen.

We raise mushrooms and mushrooms very successfully. Our plan is to use a box about twenty inches square, knocking out the bottom and filling it with manure. A half log is also good, since the logs are the depth of a little more than the ground.

Plants for Shady Places. Numerous requests for plants for shady places will be answered by the following list. All these plants do well in the shade.

Good shrubs for shady places are artemisia abrotanum, azalea mollis, berberis vulgaris, ceanothus americanus, cornus japonica, cornus maxima, hydrangea, japonica, ligustrum, lonicera, morhonia aquifolium, philadelphus, rosa rugosa, symphoricarpos. The hardy bamboo will also be found useful.



Attractive group of Rhododendrons.

PLAY AND PROFIT FROM MY GARDEN

Two years ago we moved into our present home in the country. At that time I knew absolutely nothing about gardening. The first year I raised a few perennials from seed and was fairly successful.

Last spring I decided to plant a few sweetpeas and see if I could make a little money from the sale of flowers. On March 21 I planted six rows of Spencer in heavy clay soil, which my husband and I spaded. On April 15 I planted fourteen more rows, each of Seckel pear trees. The second planting was in fairly good loam that had been turned over to the depth of the spade, though the patch had previously been ploughed by a neighbor.

In the second planting I put two inches of leaf mold and covered it with four inches of soil. Then the Spencer seed was planted in double rows, eight inches apart, and covered to the garden level, firmed down with the back of the spade. When the peas showed above ground my husband brushed them with kerosene.

The patch in the heavy soil did not do well, but the second patch between the pear trees had plenty of light and sun, and only a few rows that were very heavily shaded failed to produce a good crop.

As soon as the flowers were ready I tied them up in bunches of twenty stems each and then looked for a market. The result was finally located near home. The result was a profit of \$21, not including all the flowers that were given away.

The varieties were Countess Spencer, Mrs. C. P. Stannard, Connecticut Blue, King Edward VII, White Spencer and a few plants of the variety known as the "Blue" which are still in flower. This year, April 29 in the latitude of New York, Triteleia uniflora remains in bloom long after the scilla sibirica.

All budding plants in the latitude of New York can be safely planted by the last of May. As the heat is gained and frequently much time is lost by setting out geraniums, coleus and other summer bedding plants too early, the results of a week's cold spell will take a month's time to overcome.

Time for garden use, it is said, will last longer if placed in a solution of alum for a few days.

French sowing seeds of all annuals and planting plants of all perennials.

SPRAY NOW

Now is the time to spray your apples, pears, quinces, peaches, plums, cherries, and gooseberries with lime sulphur solution. This is the "dormant" spray and is used before the buds open, to control San Jose scale. On peaches it will also control peach leaf curl. This spraying acts as a general cleaning agent. It tends to keep in check many of the fungus troubles and leaves the entire surface of the plant protected with an armor consisting of a very thin layer of dried lime sulphur solution. This coat is very elastic and for young San Jose scale and they perish unless they are able to establish themselves upon unprotected bark; hence the necessity of thorough spraying. Scores of fungus diseases are killed if they germinate on this layer of dried spray material.

When we refer to the dormant spray of lime sulphur we have in mind the commercial material, testing about thirty-two degrees "Baume"; this should be diluted about one to ten. This is a general cleaning agent. It tends to keep in check many of the fungus troubles and leaves the entire surface of the plant protected with an armor consisting of a very thin layer of dried lime sulphur solution. This coat is very elastic and for young San Jose scale and they perish unless they are able to establish themselves upon unprotected bark; hence the necessity of thorough spraying. Scores of fungus diseases are killed if they germinate on this layer of dried spray material.

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THE ROSE GARDEN

(By G. W. Fraser, Connecticut Agricultural College.) In planting roses select a site that is protected from strong winds in early spring and summer, but avoid planting under big trees, as too much shade will not give good results, and the roots of the trees are detrimental to rose growth.

The ideal location is a south to south-east exposure, where they can have the sun for at least two-thirds of the day. Any good garden soil will do for roses, provided it is well drained. The fall is the best time to prepare the ground, and in a liberal coating of stable manure, and let stand rough all winter. As soon as the ground is fit to work in the spring the soil can be broken down with a digging-fork and well raked and made ready to plant.

The spring is the best time to plant roses, and two-year-old field-grown plants are the best. In planting be sure that you plant deep enough to cover the bud and graft junction at least two but not more than three inches; bear in mind that deep planting is one of the most essential things in rose growing; make a good, wide hole and place the plant in position in the hole, coating of stable manure, and let stand rough all winter. As soon as the ground is fit to work in the spring the soil can be broken down with a digging-fork and well raked and made ready to plant.

Pruning is one of the most important parts of the rose and the best time to prune is in spring after the frost is out of the ground and the buds begin to swell. In pruning hybrid perpetuals first cut out all dead and weak wood, leaving the main stem, healthy canes; cut these back to five or six buds. If weak growing varieties cut a little closer. Teas and hybrid teas require a little more severe pruning, should be cut down to within two or three inches of the ground after planting.

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MARKET RECOVERS MUCH LOST GROUND

Shares in War Group began 5 to 10 Points, and Other Stocks Swing Upward. NEW YORK, April 30.—Traces of the anxiety which characterized such a depressing influence over the operations of the preceding period were not lacking last week, but the market recovered dividends on railroads, especially the International Mercantile Marine issues, especially the preferred stocks, which rose from 74 to 91 on change of control and imminent settlement of its long-existing legal difficulties.

Another important factor in the rise, perhaps the most potent, was the broad demand for rails, especially the recognized dividend-payers, after a protracted spell of inactivity. March statements of earnings, some of which were marvelous, their gains, helped to swell the inquiry for these shares. Another helpful feature was the action of the Norfolk and Western directors in declaring increased and extra dividends on all stock.

There was, of course, only one opinion regarding the splendid statement of the United States Steel Corporation for the first quarter of the year, but the decision of board directors to make no additional disbursement on the common stock was discouraging to speculative interests and gave the selling element an excuse for further selling. It was particularly disconcerting that its comparative backwardness was attributed mainly to the belief that prominent banking interests had taken over a large amount of stock from foreign investors.

It was partly the fear of further European liquidation that caused railway shares to yield a measure of their advantage toward the close of the week. The market situation particularly the Irish insurrection and more complex conditions in Mexico, caused fresh caution in banking quarters, this feeling being reflected in the more irate course of international exchange.

There was a temporary flurry in call money rates which went to 3 1/2 per cent, the highest rate in more than a year, but this proved to be due to a belated inquiry rather than scarcity of supplies. In fact, reserve centers report continued ease of money rates, but mercantile demands for these shares, and a hardening effect in the coming month.

COTTON MARKET MOVES. NEW YORK, April 30.—With many strong features at work last week the cotton market still moved within a narrow range. The ready acceptance of much large May tenders, that had been on first notice for the position, the abnormally cold weather, the better outlook in political conditions, talk of a large increase in the acreage and the continued firmness of the spot market, all failed to move prices except in a small way.

The high prices of the week were made on Wednesday, when prices were 2 to 3 points over the preceding week's close. The low prices were made on Monday when the market took 11 to 15 points under the previous week's final. The net change for the week was a rise of 3 to 8 points.

It was generally considered that the new crop outlook was bullish because of the supposed injury done by cold weather. On the other hand, bearish traders brought forth evidence to show much more extensive planting than had been reported. At the end of the week the consensus of opinion was that the acreage would be increased by at least 10 per cent.

The trade is less inclined to pay attention to international politics than it has been in months, the desire in all quarters being to discount new crop conditions. This week will see the market more of a weather affair than it has been, if political news is not too disturbing. Continued cold, especially if rain falls, would be regarded as highly unfavorable and would stimulate the demand for contracts. On the other hand, warmer weather, without much rain, would be regarded as ideal.

The spot situation will be watched closely, because of the rumor that interior spot houses are trying to operate extensively in this market. If that trade this week will want to see if cotton taken upon May contracts is being shipped out, bearish claims being that a good part of the 2,000 bales taken upon May contracts last week would be rendered against July.

Colored Foliage Shrubs. The following shrubs have beautifully colored foliage throughout the summer: corchorus japonica aurea, artemisia vulgaris, japonica aurea, tolia and longipes, hippocrepis rhamnoides, rosa multiflora, solix regalis and semaripendula, spirea pulchra aurea, symphoricarpos vulgaris, variegata, lamarr, weigela nana and sieboldii variegata.

Field men of the office of Markets and Rural Organization have left Washington to inaugurate the Department of Agriculture's market news service for perishable crops. This year, before the winter crops this year, branch offices have been established in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis and Kansas City to collect and distribute information in regard to marketing conditions. Other men are stationed in the producing sections in Florida, Louisiana and Texas, where onions, tomatoes and flowers of sulphur are being shipped in carload lots to the big marketing centers.

By collecting in this way information concerning conditions in production districts and marketing centers, the market news service of the Department of Agriculture is designed to aid both shippers and dealers in perishable crops. The information collected is sent out free by telegraph to all growers who are sufficiently interested to pay the telegraph charges, and by mail to those who do not care to incur this expense, but have a good reason for wishing the reports. Each of the field men in the marketing and production centers acts as a distributor of this information, and in addition it is sent out direct from Washington.

The reports will deal with carload shipments, receipts and general conditions for the various crops, such as strawberries, peaches, other crops will follow as the season advances, the service being designed to include a total of sixteen altogether. In the opinion of marketing specialists, this work, which was begun last year, has already demonstrated its value in preventing the glutting of markets, in securing more profitable distribution for perishable crops and in avoiding delay and waste through unnecessary diversions of carload shipments en route.

School Gardens. Pupils should have individual gardens. Give each child a plot and have the responsibility his alone if only a single plant can be grown on that plot, or better, not plant. Let the child see the result of his care or neglect. This cannot be accomplished where several children work in the same plot or care for the same plant. Not many grown people, if they are really good gardeners, would care to have each of the neighbors come in and take a hand at his garden. Individual work stimulates the interest and pride in the work, encourages skill and judgment that is entirely lost by collective work and at the same time develops the idea of responsibility.

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Delegates to Roanoke Convention. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) STANARDSVILLE, Va., April 30.—Madison Democrats, in mass-meeting elected four delegates-at-large to the Roanoke Convention as follows: Representative James Hay, E. H. Lovell, N. G. Payne and W. E. Robinson. Regular delegates chosen are R. S. Ute, E. H. Weakley, G. R. Thrift and L. W. Hill; alternates, W. S. Blankenbaker, Wilmer Aylor, W. A. Hood and W. J. Hucklester. R. F. Hill was chairman of the meeting and N. G. Payne secretary. T. J. Twyman offered a resolution endorsing President Wilson's administration, and it was passed by a unanimous vote.

POULTRY BOOK FREE. Contents: Baby Chick, Breeding and Feeding Charts, Cures of Diseases, Timely Poultry Pointers, Plans for Poultry Houses, etc. Free to all who order a copy of Purina Chick Chowder.

Double development or money back. Purina Chick Chowder. These ingredients are scientifically mixed in Purina Chick Chowder and sold less than they would cost separately, even if available. Sold only in checkered bags by leading dealers. If your dealer does not sell them, mention his name in writing for free book.

Purina Chicken Chowder. Scratch, Babo Chick and Pigeon Feed. IRVIN L. SUTHERLAND, 414 N. Sixth Street, Richmond, Va.

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HOTELS. TURKISH AND ROMAN BATHS. THE JEFFERSON. The most magnificent hotel in the South. European plan. Rooms single and en suite, with and without baths. Special sample rooms.

THE JEFFERSON. RICHMOND, VA. The most magnificent hotel in the South. European plan. Rooms single and en suite, with and without baths. Special sample rooms.

SUMMER RESORTS—Atlantic City. Hotel Dennis. Superior location with an unobstructed view of beach and boardwalk. A recognized standard of excellence.

FRANK W. LAUGHTON. Fire and General Insurance. 907 Times-Dispatch Building. For SAFETY and SERVICE. Phone Randolph 4644.

"Safe and Conservative Banking." THE BROAD STREET BANK. (In the business and shopping center.) Commercial and Savings Accounts Solicited. 3% Interest Paid on Savings Accounts.

LOANS. on Approved Real Estate Negotiated. Apply to Cashier, ANDREW M. GLOVER. W. M. Hableston, President. J. W. Rothert, 1st Vice-Pres. John G. Walker, 2d Vice-Pres. E. L. Word, Asst. Cashier.

Your Money is Worth 7%. WE WILL LEND IT FOR YOU ON REAL ESTATE IN ATLANTA AND VICINITY AT THIS RATE OF INTEREST WITH ABSOLUTE CONSERVATISM. WE HAVE INVESTED THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS FOR VIRGINIA CLIENTS IN THE PAST TWENTY YEARS WITHOUT A DOLLAR LOSS.

GREEN, TILSON & MCKINNEY, 1701-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9 Hurt Bldg. ATLANTA, GA.

Our New and Modern Dry Storage Plant is the Logical Place for You to Store Your Merchandise.

Richmond Cold Storage. Cold and Dry Storage. Bonded Warehouses. Eighteenth and Clay Streets. Phone Randolph 1728.

One Thousand in Gold. was picked up on a country road the other day tied carefully in a bag. The finder promptly carried it to a Bank and deposited it. Evidence showed that it was the property of some miser who did not believe in banks—consequently the OTHER FELLOW BANKED HIS MONEY.

The American National Bank of Richmond, Virginia. gives its depositors a complete financial service.

AUCTION SALES—Future Days. BY SUTTON & CO. INC. Real Estate Auctioneers, 16 North Ninth Street. COMMISSIONER'S SALE. THAT LARGE DETACHED BRICK DWELLING ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF BROAD STREET, BETWEEN FOURTH AND FIFTH STREETS, DESIGNATED AS No. 2305 E. Broad St.

Woodland Heights Residence. At the request of the owner, we will offer for sale at Public Auction on the premises, on MONDAY MAY 1, 1916, at 6 P. M., that very desirable eight-room stucco, hot-water-heated residence, next to corner of Thirtieth Street and Bellevue Avenue, Woodland Heights. Lot 461-2 feet by 148 feet. TERMS: Announced at sale. J. A. CONNELLY & CO., Auctioneers. 1115 Main Street.

Public Auction. on the premises, on MONDAY MAY 1, 1916, at 6 P. M., that very desirable eight-room stucco, hot-water-heated residence, next to corner of Thirtieth Street and Bellevue Avenue, Woodland Heights. Lot 461-2 feet by 148 feet. TERMS: Announced at sale. J. A. CONNELLY & CO., Auctioneers. 1115 Main Street.

THE HIGHEST BIDDER. DESIRABLE DETACHED DWELLING. No. 427 S. Pine St. By virtue of a deed of trust, dated October 30, 1915, and recorded in 1916, Madison Chancery Court, Deed Book 155-4, page 409, the undersigned trustee has certain real estate in default being made, and being required to do, I will sell at public auction on the premises, on Tuesday, May 2d, at 6 P. M., a lot of land, with improvements thereon, beginning on the east line of Pine Street, 64 feet 3 inches north of Spring Street, and extending northwardly along Pine Street and fronting 24 feet 3 inches and extending back eastwardly between parallel lines 19 feet 6 inches to an alley 19 feet wide. TERMS: Cash as to expense of sale and all past due taxes, if any, to day of sale, and to pay a note of \$1,000, with interest, from August 4, 1913, and balance 1 year. EDWARD H. BROWN, Trustee.

SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES \$3 PER YEAR AND UP. FIRST-NATIONAL-BANK. NINTH AND MAIN.

RICHMOND BANK & TRUST COMPANY. PIONEERS IN THRIFT. 1115 MAIN STREETS. UPTOWN BANK BUILDING. 137 W. BROAD ST.