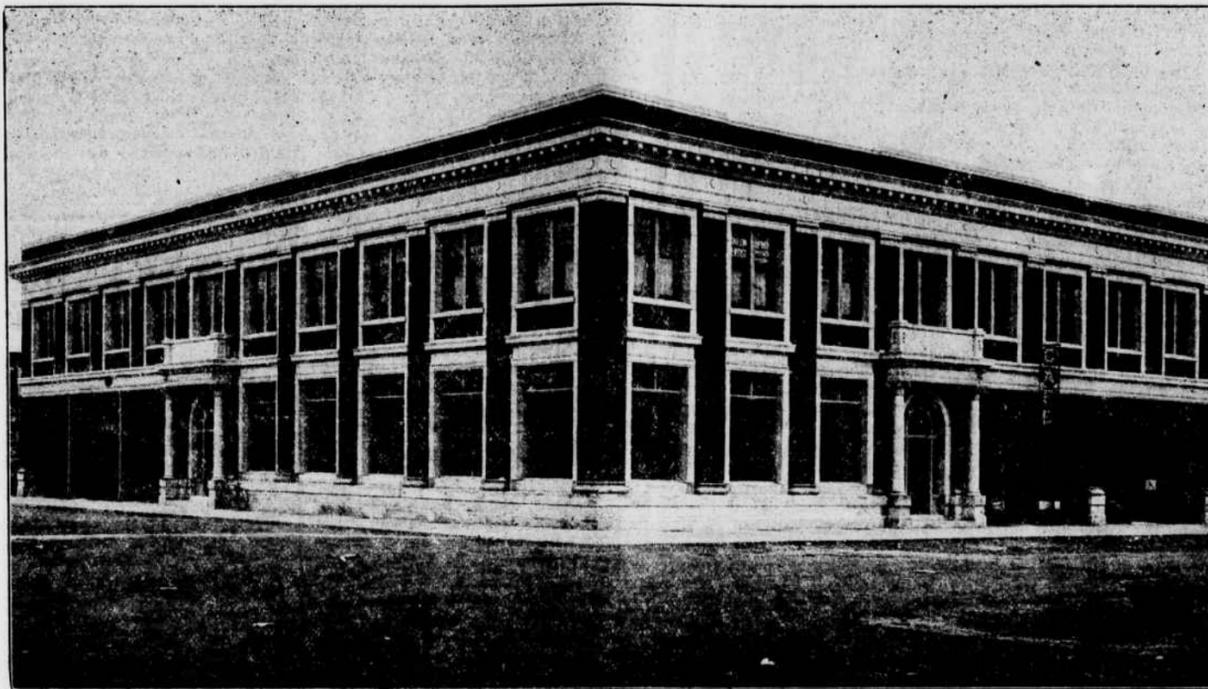


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(NOTE) If you have any idea to offer to the other readers or wish anything to appear in these columns kindly send it in.

DOGS CARRY DISEASE.

The dog in the country is a useful and pleasant adjunct to the farm if he is properly controlled and cared for, but when neglected may readily become a carrier of disease to stock, in addition to gaining opportunity to kill sheep and destroy gardens and other property. Dog ordinances, as a general rule, have been intended chiefly to curb the dog's power of doing harm by attacking, biting, killing or running sheep or stock. The part that he plays as a carrier of diseases to animals only recently has been recognized, according to the zoologists of the department, who believe that when this is better understood, rural ordinances and laws which lessen this danger will gain the support of the community.

Of the diseases carried to stock by dogs the foot-and-mouth disease is probably of the greatest interest at this time. In this case the dog acts as a mechanical carrier of infection. The dog which runs across an infected farm easily may carry in the dirt on his feet the virus of this most contagious of animal diseases to other farms and thus spread the disease to the neighboring herds. In infected localities it is absolutely essential, therefore, to keep all dogs chained and never to allow them off the farm except on leash.

There are, however, many other maladies in the spread of which the dog takes an active part. In Bulletin 260 of the department, "The Dog as a Carrier of Parasites and Disease," it is pointed out that rabies, hydatid, ringworm, favus, double-pored tapeworm, roundworm, and tongue worm are often conveyed by human beings in this way. It occasionally happens also that the dog helps fleas and ticks in transmitting bubonic plague or the deadly spotted fever.

Hydatid disease is caused by the presence in the liver, kidneys, brain, lungs and other organs of a bladder

worm or larval tapeworm. Bladder worms are often as large as an orange and may be larger. A dog which is allowed to feed on carrion or the raw viscera of slaughtered animals may eat all or part of a bladder worm containing numerous tapeworm heads. These tapeworm heads develop into small segmented tapeworms in the intestines of the dog. The tapeworm in turn develops eggs which are passed out in the excrement of the dog. They are spread broadcast on grass and in drinking water where animals can very well eat them and thus become infected. The hog is particularly liable to this disease because of its rooting habits. The eggs may get into human food, and persons who allow dogs to lick their hands and face also run the risk of getting eggs of the tapeworm in their systems.

Prevention on the farm consists in so restraining the dog that he can not get at carrion or raw viscera. Viscera should be boiled before being fed to dogs and should never be thrown on the fields. If not cooked and fed, viscera and carcasses should be burned, buried with lime, or so disposed of as not to be accessible to dogs. Proper feeding of the dog is essential, and the owner who does not feed a dog properly has no right to keep one.

The parasite which causes gid in sheep somewhat resembles the hydatid worm. A dog allowed to eat the brain of a giddy sheep may swallow this parasite and later distribute the eggs of the resulting tapeworm over the pasture. Sheep while grazing swallow the eggs with the grass which they eat. In the case of sheep dogs it is important to administer vermifugus often enough to keep them free of these worms. In the case of sheep measles, the bladder worm in the meat, typical of this disease, is swallowed by the dog and again the tapeworm eggs are passed by the dog to

grass or water, and there are eaten by sheep.

Of the external parasites which dogs may carry to animals, fleas and the various kinds of ticks are both troublesome and dangerous. The remedy is clear. The owner must keep his dog clean, not merely for the comfort and happiness of the dog, but to prevent it from becoming a carrier of disagreeable and dangerous vermin.

CUTWORM REMEDIES.

Tomatoes, cabbages, sweet potatoes and other vegetables and garden plants, and especially those which are started under glass and transplanted, are subject to serious injury by cutworms. These pests appear sometimes in great numbers in the spring and early summer, and frequently do severe injury before their ravages are noticed. Their method of attack is to cut off the young plants at about the surface of the ground, and as these caterpillars are of large size and voracious feeders, they are capable of destroying many plants in a single night—frequently more than they can devour. Every year these insects, working generally throughout the United States, have destroyed hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of crops. By the timely application of remedies, however, as has been demonstrated through field agents and other entomologists of the department of agriculture, they readily can be controlled, and large areas have been successfully treated. The usual method of control is by the use of poisoned baits.

Take a bushel of dry bran, add one pound of white arsenic, or Paris green and mix it thoroughly into a mash with eight gallons of water in which has been stirred half a gallon of sorghum or other cheap molasses. This amount will be sufficient for the treatment of about four or five acres of cultivated crops. After the mash has stood for several hours, scatter it in lumps about the size of a marble, over the fields where the injury is beginning to appear and about the bases of the plants set out. Apply late in the day, so as to place the poison about the plants before night which is the time when the cutworms are active. Apply a second time if necessary.

When cutworms occur in unusual abundance, which happens locally, and sometimes generally, in some seasons, they exhaust their food supply and are driven to migrate to other fields.

This they do literally in armies, assuming what is called the army-worm habit. At such times it is necessary to treat them the same as army-worms. While the methods which have been advised are valuable in such cases, they may be too slow to destroy all the cutworms, and other methods must be employed. These include trenching, ditching, the plowing of deep furrows in advance of the traveling cutworms to trap them, and the dragging of logs or brush through the furrows. If the trenches can be filled with water, the addition of a small quantity of kerosene, so as to form a thin scum on the surface, will prove fatal to the cutworms. In extreme cases, barriers of fence boards are erected and the tops smeared with tar or other sticky substances to stop the cutworms as they crawl over.

In extremely severe attacks by cutworms to choice plants there is sometimes an opportunity to prepare the poisoned bait. In such cases an arsenate of lead or Paris green spray will answer quite as well. In one instance a parsley field was sprayed with four pounds of arsenate of lead to 50 gallons of water; this killed all the cutworms, whereas, if they had been left alone for a day or two longer the field would have been destroyed. The result, however, was a perfect stand—the best ever made by the grower. In this case five applications were made.

Clean cultural methods and crop ro-

tation are advisable, as are also fall plowing and disking, to prevent recurrences of cutworm attacks. Many cutworms can be destroyed where it is possible to overflow the fields, particularly where irrigation is practiced.

THE CHRISTMAS GROUCH.

The Christmas grouch dies hard. There is scarcely a family but has a Christmas grouch—some one who thinks gifts are foolish and that a great deal of money is wasted at the season now open before us. He hates to see money wasted; he hates to see the Christmas trees cut down; he thinks it is a sin to tell the children the legend about Santa Claus; he scolds about shopping; he is sorry for the postman who carries so many packages; he says everybody runs into debt at Christmas and that the new year gets started in all wrong on account of the debts; he says the sentiment has all gone out of Christmas on account of its being commercialized and that Christmas trees are a menace to life and that once he knew of a house that caught fire from a Christmas tree; he says it is a sin to spend money for flowers at Christmas.

The Christmas reformer has hundreds of ideas about how Christmas can be improved. He says the Christmas holidays never mean anything to him and he will be glad when they are all over.

But Christmas remains Christmas

just the same, for all the grouch's protests, and will be the same forever; will laugh at the grouch and his follies in such a wholesome hearty way that he will grow ashamed and will join the merry making in spite of himself.

Representative N. E. Matthews, of Ohio, represents one of those numerous Congressional districts in which the sugar beet industry has made considerable progress. When the Democratic tariff law was passed, many of the farmers discontinued the raising of sugar beets and some of the factories closed down. The beginning of the European war revived the industry. As an indication of the importance of this industry to any community, Mr. Matthews gives figures showing that one small factory at Paulding, Ohio, paid out \$302,250 for a portion of the crop of beets harvested in October of this year. Had the Democrats accomplished what they expected to with regard to domestic production of sugar, this and other factories of a similar nature would not have been in operation at all this year.

CONTENTMENT.

My home is on the mountain steep;
I seine for rabbits in the deep,
And as I pluck them from the boughs,
I feed them to the angry cows,
Then to my Eulalie I hie,
And drink a slice of catfish pie.

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