



The grape fruit is to us a disappointment—the poorest of the citrus fruits.

Everybody is cutting down trees, and but very few are planting them. This will make America a treeless country before long.

The serum of tuberculosis in the human family used to inoculate cattle conveys the disease, whether the inverted proposition is true or not.

If your bees go out on the public highway and sting a team you are liable for all damages; also should your dog frighten a team or bite a person using the highway you are responsible for all damage.

Try changing your seed oats this coming year. Send 400 or 500 miles to the north of you and get your seed. We will almost guarantee, if this is done, an increased yield sufficient to pay all expenses and \$25 per day for 111 time taken if twenty-five acres are sown.

Western dairy farmers should raise more of the protein foods needed for their cows upon their own land. The continued outlay for bran and gluten feeds to balance the ration is a heavy one. It is possible to provide more sheep, more clover hay and on many farms alfalfa.

What the schoolhouse and church do for a community in an educational and religious way the creamery does for it in an agricultural way. The more good butter and cheese there are made the richer the people and the land becomes. We never knew a poor, down-at-the-heels dairy community.

A lady friend who is successfully keeping a hundred fowls wishes to increase her flock to 400 and wants to know how to proceed. Such an increase in the number will compel division into flocks, an enlarged runway and more systematic care and attention. Four hundred fowls cannot be kept profitably in one flock.

Rabbits are great pests in the young orchard unless the trees are protected. Along in November we commence war on these rodents and try to exterminate them in the vicinity of our orchard. With ferret, trap, dog and gun we have been able to clean them out. As the trees grow older and the bark becomes rough the rabbits will not bother them.

He was a good worker when he would work. He husked corn for a neighbor of ours three days and drew his pay, \$4.50, and straightway went to a pool room and blew it all in inside of three hours and had to borrow a dollar besides. This fellow is a forerunner member of the poverty gang, whose wife in the future will have to take in washing to feed the family, who will live in an old place, beating the storekeepers and respected by none.

A friend inquires why it is that the varieties of potatoes in common use so seldom perfect seed balls when that is the natural method for the potato to propagate. The why of this thing is not clear to us. We notice, however, that any new variety of potato only a year or two removed from its origin from the seed will always bloom much more profusely and perfect more seed balls than one long in cultivation. Possibly the exclusive propagation of the potato plant from the tuber instead of the seed tends to destroy its seed bearing functions.

The first and most important factor in securing better country schools is more children. There is a great lack of the old fashioned families—those with from five to ten children—too many married folk fussing around just like an old hen with one poor little chick, and there are altogether too many useless old bachelors in all communities—fussy old cranks who tell you that the reason they have never married is that they cannot find a wife, when they have never made the least effort, being too everlastingly dead and lazy. It is hard to raise the grade of the country school where only five children can be got as pupils.

Land within the corn belt which is good enough to produce twenty bushels of wheat to the acre can one year with another be made to produce fifty bushels of corn, which, if converted into some form of meat product on the farm, will produce nearly twice the revenue to be derived from a wheat crop and prove far less exhaustive to the soil, while furnishing a valuable fertilizer. The rotation with corn is better clover, barley or oats and pasture than wheat. Men in the corn belt cannot successfully produce what in competition with the rich lands of the Dakotas, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma, and they will have to quit it before long.

Even in a first class field of corn there will be found but few perfect ears.

Low priced condiments, jellies or preserves are almost invariably adulterated, and often entirely unfit for food.

A car load of virgin North Dakota soil was recently shipped to Illinois for the purpose of making some comparative tests with the soils of Illinois.

The majority of men are followers, not leaders. This is true on the farm. If men would do more original thinking and less imitating, it would be better for them.

Five sheep of the large mutton breeds can be kept on the food required by one cow and, taking one year with another, will bring in as much money as the cow, with less labor and with more benefit to the soil.

We have a chronic dislike to paying interest and rent; had rather do a smaller business and be rid of them both. We can never quite get over the notion when doing it that we are working for some other man.

We have seen a dozen orchards lately, each headed for the brush pile as fast as they can go, just for want of proper orchard care. Do not plant fruit trees unless you are willing to give them proper care, for it does not pay.

The farmer who works in the cornfield election day and refuses to vote does his part to insure poor officials, poor government and possibly hard times for himself. It is very hard to make some men appreciate the responsibilities of American citizenship.

A friend from Colorado writes that he has a sure thing for the destruction of the pocket gopher in the shape of a trap which he gets in Chicago, but does not give the name of the trap. He says that out there, where all crops depend upon irrigation, the gopher is a great nuisance, as its burrows divert and waste the irrigating water.

All over the country the horse is very much afraid of the automobile, just as he used to be of the bicycle when it was first introduced. This makes not a little clashing between the old and the new way. In time horses will get used to the machines. In the city of Washington, where the auto is as common as the ice wagon, the horse cares nothing for it.

A reader in Colorado wants a remedy for scabby potatoes. We know of but one—the treating of the seed by soaking it in a solution of corrosive sublimate before planting. A potato crop following other crops and heavily fertilized with barnyard manure will almost always scab badly. Better to take a clover or timothy sod or a blue grass pasture for the crop.

If we were going on a timber tract to open up a farm we should by all means employ a yoke of oxen in preference to horses to do the heavy work. We know this sounds old foggy, but nevertheless the ox has much to commend him in this line. He costs but little to keep, is slow and powerful on the heavy pulling and every way less liable to injury and disease than the horse.

The winter evenings on the farm home should be made an attractive feature of farm life. There should be plenty of good reading matter available, music and plenty of visiting between neighbors. At this season the father and mother need not be too tired to supplement the work of the teacher of the district school with some helpful instruction to the boys and girls. Two hours devoted to the children two or three evenings a week during the winter will accomplish much for them in the line of education.

A coming change in building material is in sight, one which will combine cheapness with durability. Machines which will mold blocks of cement, or rather, blocks made of sand and cement, are doing most economical and satisfactory work. The outlay for the machinery is not heavy, the blocks can be manufactured where needed for use, and the cost of putting them in the wall is only half that of laying brick. The constantly increasing price of lumber as a building material is compelling the adoption of such methods.

The automobile is finding its way out into the west and is being bought by western farmers. It is being hitched up to drags, seeders and plows, is stirring up the question of better highways and looks as though in the near future it would have an important place in connection with farm work. Without displacing the horse entirely there would seem to be a field in the general run of farm work where a ten horse power machine of some sort, self propelling and at the same time available for stationary work, could be made immensely useful, and we believe it is coming in the near future.

Farmers, and especially the sons of farmers, are waking up to the great value of the special courses provided during the winter season at nearly all our agricultural colleges. These courses lasting from two to four weeks and covering the dairy business, stock breeding, feeding and judging, soil economics and farm mechanics. We cannot conceive of a more sensible and practical thing for a farmer to do for his son than to give him the benefit of these special courses. They are given at a season of the year when the time can be spared, the money cost is very small and the boy will return home full of new ideas and enthusiasm.

HARD THINGS TO KILL.

Some of the common things, and not all of them pests and nuisances either, are remarkably tenacious of life. Among the good things, we mention blue grass, the most insistent and omnipresent as well as one of the very best of all our grasses. It wages a never ending war on all other grasses and on most of our weeds. It comes no one knows just how and pre-emptively every little spot in the forest where a bit of sunlight penetrates. It mingles every roadside and makes velvety every foot path. It will cover the hummocky bog when drained, and builds little mounds of turf and creeps up every craggy hillside wherever can be found a foothold for any green thing. The more it is pastured and fed off the thicker it becomes and the faster it will grow. It is first on deck in the spring and last to give up to the frosts in the fall. When it seems dead by drought it is only resting and asleep, waiting for the first fall shower to begin business again. It keeps green and toothsome under winter snows. If it is turned over by the plow it seems to enjoy it and begins to grow 'tother side up with greater luxuriance than ever. It is one of the persistent good things—insect, drought, flood, blight and frost proof. On the other hand, we have some pests which exhibit the same characteristics. There is the English sparrow, the common victim of cats, owls, traps, poison, guns, halibuts—a tiny mite of vitality, with a body no bigger than the end of one's thumb, always living in the very midst of his enemies, but so shrewd and so prolific enough so that his numbers constantly increase in spite of them, at home as much with the mercury at 40 below zero as 100 above, a forager and scavenger of the first order, always saucily defying man and trap and gun and indifferent to bounties placed on his head. Of the same habits are mice, rats and crows in animal and bird life, and in the vegetable kingdom certain types of weeds—purslane, pigeon grass, cocklebur, morning glory, ragweed, quack grass, thistle—a bold, lawless, indomitable band of farm pests and soil robbers which, coupled with equally tenacious forms of insect life, keep the farmer on the warpath all the time.

Another interesting game of football was played at the fair grounds Thanksgiving day between the first and second teams of the high school, resulting in a score of 6 to 0 in favor of the second team. A game had been arranged between the first team of the high school and the team of Unionville, but the latter team failed to put in an appearance. During the progress of the game Thursday afternoon, a broken collar, a broken bone and Mr. Warrington a broken wrist.

Richard Brown and Carrie Holt were married Wednesday morning at the residence of the officiating clergyman, Rev. M. Downing. They will reside on a farm north of Milton. On Wednesday at high noon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Lanman in Salt Creek township, Lewis M. Hunter of Denver, Colo., and Marguerite Lanman were united in marriage by Rev. M. Downing. The bride and groom departed Wednesday evening for Decatur county, Indiana, where they will visit for a few days with the groom's parents, when they will go to Billings, Mont., to make their future home.

John H. Collins of this city and Will Gleicher of the city transacted business Friday in Moulton. J. J. Miller of Pulaski was a business caller Friday in the city. State Auditor B. F. Carroll transacted business in Bloomfield Friday.

Belknap, Nov. 28.—H. O. Roland, the principal of the school, who was elected county superintendent, has resigned from the school and Mr. Evans of near Belknap, is taking the reins, beginning the first of next week.

Will Orman of Coatsville, Mo., spent Tuesday with his aunt, Mrs. J. C. Thompson, and family.

Paul Amelang of Carbon visited last Tuesday at the home of George Lester.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Glasson of West Grove, visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Munn.

J. W. Bolwar shipped thirty-four head of cattle to Morrell & Co. Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Fleming of Sherman chapel spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Connor.

Mr. Campbell, pastor of the church at Sherman chapel, was a visitor at the Samuel McConnell home one day last week.

The school rendered a Thanksgiving program at the M. E. church last Thursday evening.

James Edwards and family, who have been living north of Drakeville, brought their goods here Saturday and shipped them to Calaway, Mo., where they will make their future home.

Misses Cal A. and Ruth Cree of Bloomfield, visited Belknap friends and attended church services Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Ella Livingston of Bloomfield, spent Sunday with George Lester and family, attending church at a visit with her son George, and family of Sherman chapel.

John Day left last week for Nimrod, Co., with the g. p.

Mr. and Mrs. John Chandler, who are assisting Mr. and Mrs. Ab Downing at the county farm, visited here Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Benar.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Puckett and children spent Sunday near Sherman chapel with Mr. and Mrs. Will Wagner.

Born, Saturday, Nov. 21, a son, to Mr. and Mrs. George Hockersmith.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Connor left Saturday evening for a few days' visit on Soap Creek at the Ed Tillotson home.

George Ehrman and mother of Ottumwa, spent Sunday with their sister and daughter, Mrs. Elmer Ault, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Galpin of Drakeville, spent Sunday evening with Mrs. Galpin's sister, Mrs. Charley Dodd and family.

Mrs. E. A. Patterson and little daughter, Mrs. J. B. Lafferty and Mrs. C. M. Campbell, spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Patterson, north of Drakeville.

J. M. McCormick returned home from a visit to Kansas City last week, having been called there by the illness and death of his brother.

George Lester and family spent Sunday at the Alex Garretson home near Platt.

Mrs. V. D. Bell is spending a few days at the home of her sister, Mrs. Ella Hockersmith.

YOUTH AND AGE WED

KANSAS 61 YEARS OLD MARRIES DAVIS COUNTY WOMAN OF 28.

J. W. Buzzard of Wamega, Kansas and Mrs. Ida M. Sampson of Drakeville, Who Had Never Seen Each Other Until Thursday, Married.

Bloomfield, Nov. 28.—(Special.)—A pretty romance that reads like a modern novel, came to a happy culmination here yesterday afternoon when J. W. Buzzard of Wamega, Kan., and Mrs. Ida M. Sampson of Drakeville were united in marriage at the county recorder's office, the ceremony being performed by Rev. M. Downing of Bloomfield. The groom, who is 61 years of age, is a retired farmer and never until Thursday evening had he met the woman who yesterday became Mrs. Buzzard. The bride is but 28 years of age and is a pretty and popular young woman.

A son of Mr. Buzzard plays a part in the romance and it was he who first became acquainted with Mrs. Sampson at Drakeville, and wrote to his father telling him of the young woman. The Kansas farmer wrote to Drakeville and a lively correspondence sprang up, out of which grew an affection which, though the writers had never seen each other, resulted in a marriage by mail and a trip to Iowa by Mr. Buzzard. He arrived in Drakeville Thursday evening and at once called on the bride, who was at the county clerk's office, where they renewed their protestations of affection and decided to wed at once.

Yesterday afternoon the two lovers came to Bloomfield and securing a marriage license at the county clerk's office, went to the office of the county recorder's office, where Rev. M. Downing, the veteran preacher and Bloomfield's "marriage specialist," who is also deputy county recorder, pronounced the marriage ceremony.

Other Bloomfield News.

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THE PAST TEN DAYS VISITING WITH RELATIVES.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Radd and daughters Ruby and May, of Drakeville, attended church services at this place Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Youngburg of Ottumwa, spent Sunday with her son, Frank Pettet and family.

Chariton, Nov. 28.—Mrs. Samuel McKiven fell from her buggy yesterday afternoon and broke a rib. She was taken home where her injuries were attended to and she is getting along nicely.

Miss Nora Baker has resigned her position in one of the local stores and will leave Monday for Des Moines where she will have charge of the house furnishing department in a large store.

Miss Gerlie McCullom of Lacona was in the city yesterday on a shopping expedition.

Mrs. Lucy Patterson and daughter, Miss Mary, returned to their home in Russell this evening after a few days' visit with their daughter and sister, Mrs. William Culbertson.

Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Porter of Elliott spent the day yesterday with friends in the city. They were Thanksgiving guests at the home of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Rogers in Lucas.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Lewis of Ottumwa spent a few days this week with Mr. Lewis' sisters, Mrs. W. B. Barker.

Rev. Palmer will deliver the second of a series of sermons for young women tomorrow evening at the Baptist church. The subject will be, "The Young Woman in Society."

George Williamson has purchased the Schilling property in Court street and will sell the same for his residence about March 1.

The "Sunshine Band of Mercy," met with Miss Helene Yost this afternoon. E. E. Pickereil returned yesterday from a business trip through Kansas.

Doubs, Nov. 28.—Robert Wilson and wife, of near Libertyville, were visiting last Thursday with their daughter, Mrs. G. G. Bowers, and family, of this place.

Chas. R. Short, of near Kilbourne, was transacting business in town Thursday.

Miss Stella Siemon, who has been in business at Eddyville, came home for a winter's vacation last week, and was accompanied by her cousin, Miss Maude Elliott, of Birmingham.

W. H. Morrison, of Leando, was in Ottumwa on business from Thursday to Saturday.

H. W. Ritz, of Selma, was at this place and Leando on business last Thursday and Friday.

Wm. B. Crawford went to Washington last week to visit relatives.

W. D. Thomas was a business visitor at Ottumwa Thursday.

A. Siemon and family went to Ottumwa Saturday to visit with relatives.

V. L. Wilson, of Ottumwa, was in town Saturday enroute home from a visit at the parental home near Lebanon.

Miss Recta Siemon, who has been teaching school near Utica, came home Saturday.

Frank Hudson started west Saturday on a trip that his friends hint may be a long one.

Miss Mary Webster, of Leando, went to Fairfield to stay with Mrs. Elizabeth Loring.

Corn gathering is about finished in this city (excepting shock corn), the yield will average about forty bushels per acre and about 75 per cent fairly sound.

Eddyville, Nov. 28.—Miss Emma McElroy of Oakdale, accompanied by her friend, Miss Bertha Grimes, spent Thanksgiving with Miss McElroy's brother, William McElroy, south of here.

Jacob Alder and Allison Rowe were passengers to Ottumwa Thursday morning to spend Thanksgiving with friends.

Lillian, the little daughter of F. D. Corryell, was reported on the sick list a day or two ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Phil Dotts left Wednesday for Conway, Taylor county, to spend a few days with their son, Jno. Dotts.

Mrs. F. S. Converse of Des Moines, arrived Wednesday for a visit with her mother, Mrs. A. Clark.

Miss Florence Ford has been on the sick list suffering from sore throat and tonsillitis.

THE LATTER PART OF THE WEEK FROM PERRY TOWNSHIP, WHERE SHE HAD SPENT ENROUTE HOME FROM KIRKVILLE, WHERE SHE HAD BEEN IN ATTENDANCE AT THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH. HE REPORTS ABOUT TWENTY-FIVE OR THIRTY MINISTERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE.

Mrs. G. N. Carr and son, Keith, went to Bussey Wednesday morning to visit with her parents. They will return today.

Miss Pansy Jameson, south of town, left Wednesday night for Albia, to spend Thanksgiving with relatives at that place.

A daughter of Mike Berto, north of Platt, has been numbered with the sick.

Mrs. Jennie Chitwood and daughter, Freda, left Monday to visit over Thanksgiving with relatives at Albia and Avery.

Fred Shawyer and ladies attended a church social and oyster supper at Chillicothe Monday night.

Harry Hodge went to Ottumwa on Wednesday night and intended after a short visit with relatives there, to go on to Albia to spend Thanksgiving with his sister, Mrs. Walter Coon.

Misses Neva and Frank Penick of Oskaloosa, were down and spent Thanksgiving with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Penick.

Mr. W. M. Davis and children, David, Hiram, Casper and Esther, accompanied by Miss Pearl Shilling, all of Coalfield, spent Thanksgiving with Mrs. Davis' daughter, Mrs. Albert Severs, on Seventh street.

E. G. Kussart and J. W. Oden, across the river, were Oskaloosa business callers last Wednesday.

Miss Fay McIntire visited Thanksgiving with Miss Gerlie McCullom and Miss Gerlie Clark were in Oskaloosa last Monday.

PACKING WAS LIGHT. Morrell Plant Closed Thursday and Fewer Hogs are Killed.

The killing the past week at the plant of John Morrell & Co. shows a slight decrease over that of the previous six days. Thirteen thousand porkers were killed and about the same amount were received. The plant laid off Thursday and for this reason the killing of this week does not show up like that of last.

East End Items. Mrs. Manns, corner of Main and Foster streets, is seriously ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Moffitt spent Thanksgiving in Belknap with friends.

Mrs. Thomas Haddon, who resides on West Hayne street, is reported to be ill.

Ellsworth Hoffman, who has been very ill at his home near Baker's grove is reported as improving rapidly.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. John Henry, who reside in Riverview, is ill, threatened with typhoid fever.

Mrs. W. H. Hornel spoke at the West End Presbyterian church last Sunday on the subject of temperance.

Will Chenoweth, the little son of Walter Chenoweth of North Walnut street, is lying dangerously ill at his home.

James Hogan, traveling salesman for the Illinois Casing company, was a business visitor at the plant last Monday.

Frank Feeley, who has been laying off for some time on account of ill-health, has returned to his duties in the store room.

John Stiles of the city department, sustained an injury to his left hand Monday. He is able to be at work, however.

B. Morgan, who runs the freight elevator in building "D," had a run-away horse about four o'clock p. m. Monday, and no serious damage was done.

Mrs. E. H. Long of Marshalltown, is a guest at the home of her sister, Mrs. C. E. Hitchcock, of this city. They were visitors at the plant yesterday.

Alex Seaberger of St. Joseph, Mo., an employe of the firm of John Morrell & Co., has returned to this city and is now employed in the cooperage department.

Charles Bullock, son of Superintendent F. G. Bullock, who is attending Iowa college at Ames, is spending the Thanksgiving holiday with his parents in this city.

C. W. Werner of the engineers' department, who was hurt in the face and hand recently by some falling pipe, is again able to resume his duties. Mr. Werner commenced work Monday.

Richard Weidell of the killing gang, and James Conroy, assistant foreman of the dry salt cellars, were sent to Austin, Minn., Monday on business for the company. They will be gone for a period of five or six weeks.

The report that Chester Merritt, who formerly was employed at the plant, was found dead in a box car at Kansas City, Mo., is not true. His father telegraphed to the chief of police at that place and received correct information regarding the rumor.

M. F. Mullins, who has been foreman of the beef killing department of the plant for the past nine months, has severed his connection with John Morrell & Co. and has accepted a position as foreman of the Haviss Packing house in Toronto, Canada. Mr. Mullins has made many friends during his stay in this city, who will wish him success in his new position.

Miss Viola Moffitt celebrated her eighth birthday anniversary last Saturday afternoon at her residence on Walnut avenue. About twenty of her young friends were present and a delightful afternoon was passed in games, music and various amusements. Miss Moffitt received many pretty gifts. A light luncheon was served. Those present were: Misses Louise Fletcher, Cecil Manns, Geneva Morley, Dorothy Morley, Gladys Russell, Liola Givay, Dorothy Fletcher, Lauretta Morley, Estella Buxton, Ethel Schaub, Sylvia Sleight, Mildred Gilliland, Mary Zimmerman, the La D. A. Remedy, Edith Ramsell, Dorothy Hornel.

To Farmers!

If in need of a Wagon remember I have the old reliable

Charter Oak Wagon

that has stood the test for years on Ottumwa streets. None Better Made

Very truly yours, Geo. W. Davidson

Professional Cards.

CHARLES A. BRAUN, Safe and Time Lock Expert. Safe and Bank Locks, opened. 220 Main street, Ottumwa, Iowa.

DR. C. R. PARKER, Welter Instructor and Expert Magician. Vice President Iowa State Ass'n. Magnetic Doctors. Office: Room 12, Baker Bldg., New Union Bldg. Res. 320 Lillian street.

OSTEOPATHY. DR. BELLE H. OLNEY, Osteopath. Rooms 15 and 16, Baker Building. Take Elevator.

DR. J. F. BYRNE, Graduate of American School of Osteopathy, Kirksville, Mo. Rooms 5 and 7 Summers Building. Office hours 8:30 to 12:30, 1:30 to 4:30.

ELIZABETH M. THOMPSON, Osteopathic Physician. Graduate American School Osteopathy, Kirksville, Missouri. Office, 227 N. Court St. Q. R. Phone 804. Hours, 9:30 to 12:30 and 1:30 to 4:00.

LAWYERS. A. C. STECK, Attorney at Law. Rooms 1, 3 and 5, Telephone Bldg., Ottumwa, Iowa.

GEO. F. HEINDEL & J. P. WEBBER, HEINDEL & WEBBER, Attorneys. Rooms 18 and 19 Baker Block, Ottumwa, Iowa.

CHAS. D.