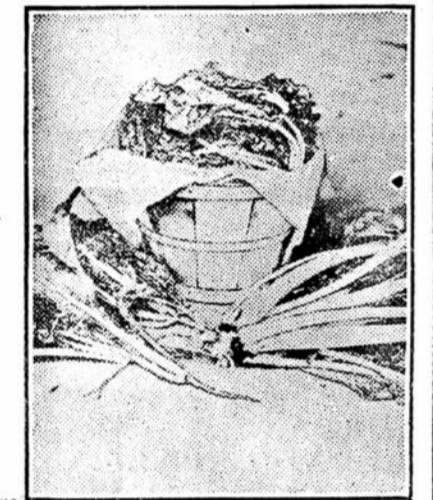


Farm and Garden

GROW GARDEN GREENS.

Plenty of Well Rotted Manure Should Be Worked Into the Soil.
[J. S. Gardner, Missouri station.]
Americans should eat more greens than they do at all seasons of the year, because they are palatable and help to keep one in good physical condition. In the spring many people eat a few meals of the old standby leaf crops, such as spinach, lettuce and dandelion, and then forget that these or similar crops should be grown and eaten throughout the summer and canned for winter use.
When warmer weather makes the spring crops woody or bitter the tops of cabbage and beets may be used, and still later chard or New Zealand spinach may be used because they are able to stand the hot weather, and if they have got a good start in a normally wet spring they will thrive on a very small amount of rainfall. They should be started early in the spring usually about the time early cabbage is set out.
Chard is sown at the rate of one or two seeds per inch in drills at least eighteen inches apart, and when the plants begin to crowd they are gradually thinned out so that they finally stand six inches apart. The plants so removed are cooked and used much as



SWISS CHARD.

spinach is. The leaves of those that are left to reach a larger size may be cooked in the same way, and the stems may be "creamed" and served as asparagus is. The leaves and stems may be canned either together or separately, as greens are needed even more in winter than in summer to vary the restricted diet. In ordering seed no mistake will be made in specifying "Lacinius," which has proved a very good variety.
New Zealand spinach is unlike the ordinary early spinach in the manner of growth and the appearance of the leaves. It is a large branched plant with leafy side shoots, which are pulled and used like those of the ordinary spinach, which is a squatty, rosette-like plant. New Zealand spinach should be thinned to stand twelve inches apart in rows at least two feet apart. Three or even four feet will be better, especially in rich soil. If the narrower spacing is used the plants must be trained in windrows, as sweet potato vines sometimes are. If the plants grow too rapidly the tops may be canned about as ordinary spinach is. The foliage should not be allowed to accumulate too much or stay too long on the plants, for the more greens that are removed the more succulent tops there will be, and with proper management the plants will thrive and produce a great deal of food until frost.
In selecting and preparing the soil for these "greens" see to it that too thin a soil is not picked out and that there is plenty of well rotted manure worked into it both for the sake of the plant food and because it will enable the soil to hold water and withstand drought.

Trees With "Wet Feet."

At no season of the year should water stand around the trees and vines. Their roots will not stand it. There must be proper drainage.

IN THE DAIRY.

The dairy cows should be kept out of a filthy enclosure. If the cow lot is small it should be cleaned every morning the same as the stalls.

The dairy cow needs to be brushed or curried free of all the filth that accumulates on her body before milking time. This promotes health as well as sanitation.

Pure water given to the healthy cow means pure milk to give health to those who drink it and pure butter for those who use it.

Never allow the cats around the barn at milking time. They will be drinking out of the milk bucket before you are aware. They creep around so slyly, as you know. Then you cannot say the milk is certified.

The fellow that has a kind heart is the milkman you need. Pay him a little extra to keep him with you. The scolding, swearing man should be "turned off" tonight. He will whack a cow, yell at her and so intimidate her that she will refuse to give down her milk and become profitless.

TO CONTROL STRIPE RUST.

Regulation issued by the Bureau of Plant Industry.
[Prepared by United States department of agriculture.]

The department of agriculture is taking steps to prevent the spread of the very serious stripe rust of cereals (*Puccinia glumarum*) recently found in this country, but thus far known to occur only west of about the one hundred and fourth meridian. The bureau of plant industry and the federal horticultural board have arranged that no samples of seed collected in this area shall be distributed by the department to points east of the one hundred and fourth meridian in the United States or to foreign countries until all such seed has been inspected and, if necessary, given the following treatment: The seed is soaked five hours in water at 82 degrees F., followed promptly with a ten minute immersion in water at 120 degrees F.

This regulation is considered necessary because the spores and living hyphae of the rust not infrequently occur within the outer layers of the seed tissue. Seed thus infected, when planted, may start centers of infection in the field or nursery and thus lead to the establishment of this destructive rust in localities where it is now unknown.

No effort should be spared, the cereal specialists say, to prevent the shipment of suspected seed out of the territory where such seed is intended for planting. Wheat from the region under suspicion, when shipped for milling purposes, probably does not figure so prominently as a factor in the distribution of the rust, though no carrier can give absolute guaranty against the spread of this rust along the right of way.

It is urged that all farmers east of the one hundred and fourth meridian avoid purchasing for seed any wheat

known to have been grown west of that meridian. County agents or other agricultural officers should inform growers of the danger likely to result from planting seed the source of which is not known to them. When it is absolutely necessary to ship seed out of the region in question such seed should first pass through the hands of some person, preferably the plant pathologist or the state botanist, capable of passing upon its freedom from rust. Owing, however, to the practical impossibility of detecting infected seed in any samples subjected to infection it is urgently recommended that such seed be given the above recommended thermal treatment as a possible means of preventing the development of the rust from infected kernels. Samples sent for examination by specialists should be mailed in containers which can be hermetically sealed. These containers should be opened under conditions which make the distribution of any rust spores or rusted seed impossible. It is requested that officers of state agricultural experiment stations and other state agricultural officials give this matter special attention.

DAIRY NOTES.

- ◆ Raise calves on clean, warm, sweet skim milk, fed regularly.
- ◆ Only green feeds contain the carotin that makes butter yellow.
- ◆ Early calves are worth money; don't lose them by neglect.
- ◆ Watch the heifers that are coming to the close of their first lactation period. Do not let them dry off until a month or less before calving again.
- ◆ One good cow may produce more than four poor ones and be worth more.

Selecting Breeding Hens.

A method which will improve the poultry stock very quickly and which is within the reach of every farmer is to have a small special mating from which to select his male birds for breeding each year. Select a few, if only four, of your ideal females, the ones which in your estimation are those that you want the whole flock to be like. Every flock has four or five females in it that are best. Put these birds in a separate pen. It is not always necessary to build a special house for them. Any place where they will be reasonably comfortable and separate from the rest of the flock is suitable. To these few females mate your ideal cock bird.

Colors of Young Chicks.

You cannot tell by the color of a chick when hatched how well it will be marked later on. Neither should you judge a chick by the downy covering which it first takes on. The pure white specimens will many times look smutty with dark down on the back. The particular birds will have a mottled appearance that makes the beginner feel dubious about the purity of the strain. But let the birds grow, and you will find that they will come out all right. The chicks when two months old are altogether different in color from the time they were hatched.—Kansas Farmer.

Fattening Fowls.

Caging fowls separately for two weeks while fattening them will produce tender meat, while, on the other hand, where fowls are yarded they are apt to nag and chase each other so that the muscles harden and the meat toughens.

Pays to Pet Sows.

Sows that are petted and used to handling make the gentlest mothers.

POULTRY WISDOM.

Before starting with poultry decide fully the question with yourself as to whether you are after eggs or meat or a combination of both eggs and meat.

Don't force your growing chicks into filthy quarters right after night and then wonder at their not doing as they should.

When space is limited for keeping poultry it is best to select those fowls which do well in confinement.

It is of little moment how large or how small a house may be if it is built with the idea of comfortably housing the fowls.

For eggs, and plenty of them, too, use the dainty Leghorns, Minorcas, Campines, Anconas and any other of their kind.

Laying stock should have all the feed that they will consume. They need it for the heavy production of eggs.

Making the Pruning Cuts.

The method of cutting when pruning apple trees is very important. The best advice is to cut every branch, whether large or small, as close as possible to the part from which it is taken. Never leave stubs, for stubs will not permit the healing over of the wounds, but may induce decay. Make all cuts smooth and close.

Rhubarb Treatment.

If the rhubarb produced small stalks last year dig up and divide the roots, planting in a deep trench, covering with a rich soil.

When flies are bad spray the cows. The cow that has to work continually to rid herself of these pests will not do her best.—Farm Progress.

Scours in Calves.

Castor oil should be given at the outset of an attack of diarrhoea. The dose is from one to four tablespoonfuls shaken up in milk, according to the age and size of the calf. Follow with one or two teaspoonfuls of a mixture of equal parts of subnitrate of bismuth, prepared chalk and powdered rhubarb three times a day in a little water. Increase the dose if found necessary.—Hoard's Dairyman.

Cool the Cream.

It is time to be getting the cream cooling tank ready for use. Cream cannot be delivered in good condition for buttermaking unless it is cooled quickly and kept cool.

Dairy Herd Profits.

The best way to get a profit producing dairy herd is to use only good, pure bred sires, take good care of the cows and keep the calves "coming" right from birth.

EFFECTS OF LIME.

It may be said briefly that lime has two principal effects upon soil—it sweetens sour soil; it improves the physical effects. Crop will not do well in sour soil. This is readily shown in alfalfa and clover. The leaves turn yellow and the plants look sickly when the soil is sour. Such soil needs lime to neutralize the acid. Heavy, cloddy, clammy soil will not yield well. Such soil does not easily admit air and water and does not support soil bacteria, so important in a fertile soil. Use lime if you have such soil.—Farm Progress.

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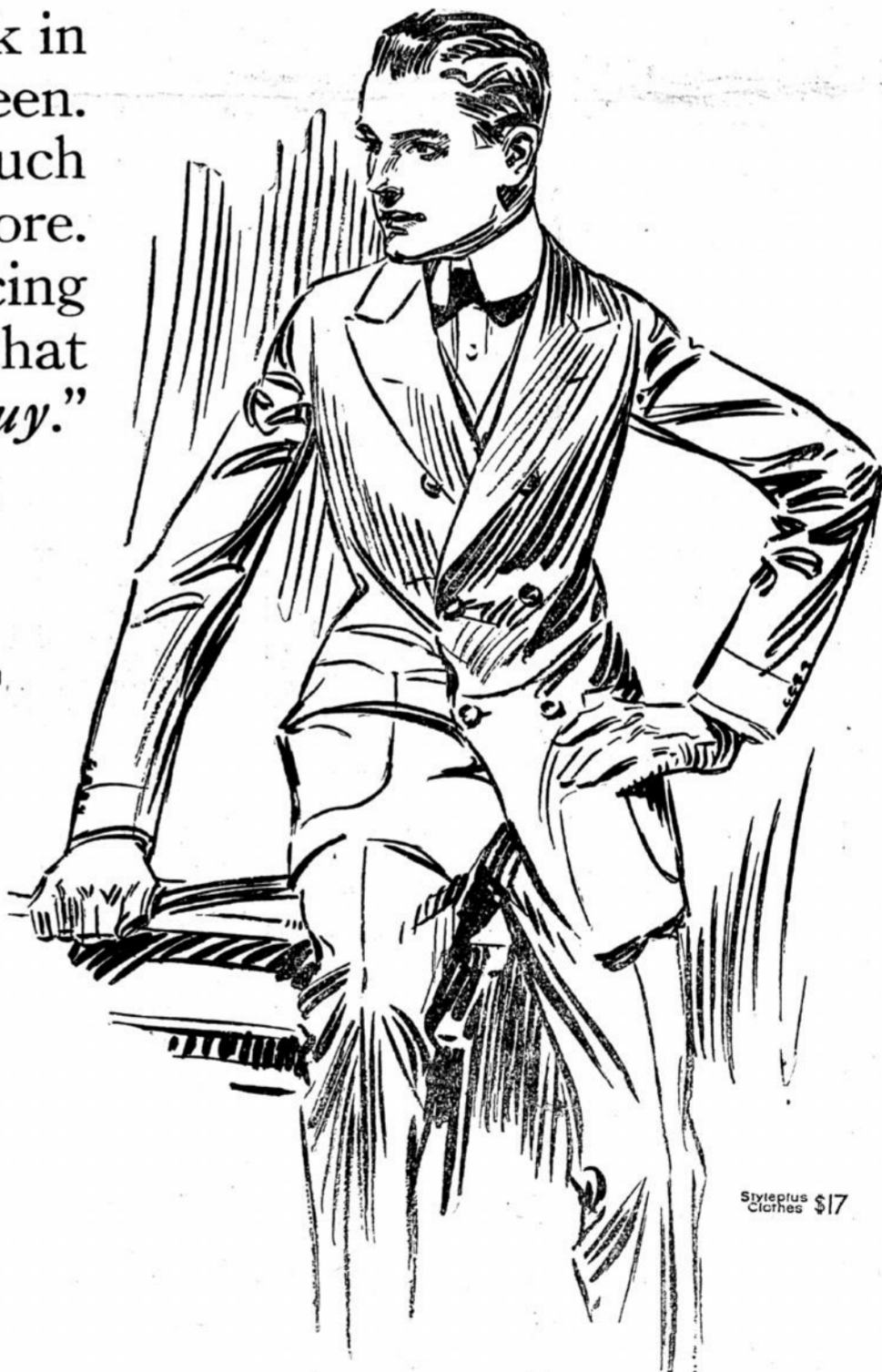
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