AGRICULTURE — Information for Farmers and Orchardists — STOCK-RAISING

THE EXCELLENCE OF OUR AMERICAN BREEDS OF POULTRY

Pre-eminently Practical and Utilitarian They Also Satisfy the Most Fastidious Fancier—The "Rocks" and "Dottes" and "Reds" Lead the world as All-Round General Purpose Fowls.

By M. L. Longfield.
Author and Practical Poultryman.

America leads the world in the super-excellence of her breeds of poultry. This is not mere spread-eagleism. It is "conformity to fact."

China bred Cochins, Langshans, and Shangais a thousand years. At the end of that time her breeds were little better than mongrels. America has been breeding fowls for about 50 years. And in this half century we have not only perfected many foreign breeds of fowls, but we have originated and bred up to a fixed standard at least three of the greatest breeds of birds in the world.

It is worth while to face this fact. "Imported" is a tag that has smaller meaning than formerly.

The American class includes some 18 different varieties. Every one of them has made its mark and represents quality.

The great Plymouth Rocks probably hold the pre-eminence. As a general purpose fowl the Barred variety is without doubt the most popular of all the breeds of fowls. The Whites and the Buffs and the Columbians are making their way steadily to a front line position.

The Wyandottes stand next to the "Rocks" in popular favor down to the present moment. There are no less than eight different varieties of these splendid birds: Silver, Golden, Black, Buff, White, Silver-penciled, Partridge and Columbian. The Whites have won out against all the rest, though not one has failed to command universal admiration.

The Rhode Island Reds are a more recent breed. For a dozen years they have been forging to the front in mighty strides until they threaten today to supplant even the "Rocks" and the "Dottes" in public favor. They are divided into two camps, the single-comb and the rose-comb varieties. There appears to be little difference in the popularity of these two kinds of "Reds." Under this heading it might be well to mention the "Rhode Island Whites," a breed originated within two or three years, and which gives promise of making a fine showing in the near future.

The Javas, Black and Mottled, the Dominiques, and the Buckeyes, complete the list of the purely American breeds.

Practical and Utilitarian.

The American breeds are built for business. They aim directly at the center of the bull's eye of efficiency and they hit it every time. The "yankee" wants more than frills and furbelows. He wants something that will "stand without hitching" as the western man says, something that you can "tie to." Our breeds of poultry answer completely the universal taste and demand.

The Plymouth Rock is found in American poultry yards most numerously probably than all other breeds of fowls combined. Why? Because it is first of all a utility breed. For the same reason the Wyandottes and the Rhode Island Reds are sweeping to the front in every state. First of all, they have the qualities that win in the markets. The typical American is wise; he seeks first utility and efficiency. Assured of these, he is assured of everything he desires besides.

What solid all-round qualities in these great forefront American breeds! They are medium in size. Standard weight of Plymouth Rock cock, nine and a half pounds. The Wyandottes and the Reds are one pound lighter. Hens are two pounds lighter than roosters. Those weights are ideal for market fowls. The 12-pound bird, as well as the three or four-pound bird, will miss the mark of largest popularity in the broiler or roaster trade. In quality of meat, too, these three great breeds are probably second to none.

In egg production they are among the best in the world, whether for winter or summer. Heavily feathered, yet not burdened; tough and hardy from the shell up; clean legged and golden skinned; powerful and plump of body and abounding in energy and "pep" without being nervous and "scary," the Rocks, the Dottes and the Reds lead the world as all-round general purpose fowls.

But this isn't all.

They Delight the Fancier.

The breeder who wants beauty may satisfy his cravings in the American breeds. The richness and variety of color, the charm and symmetry of outline, the stateliness of carriage and amiableness of temperament, found in most of the American varieties, from the splendid Silver-penciled Wyandotte to the Mottled Java or the Dominique, will be difficult to duplicate among all the more than 100 varieties of standard-bred fowls now on this continent. The almost countless specimens of our famous American birds occupying front lines at every poultry show where hundreds of fanciers wage nation-wide contests, prove this to be a fact.

An ideal Barred Rock is one of the most beautiful birds in the world. Its deep richness of coloring, the majestic bearing, the look of energy and power, the splendid presence, all combine to build up an animal personality of the most aristocratic caste. Again, inspect the fiery red feathering of the Rhode Island Red. There's color for the most exacting. Try the Columbian Wyandotte, with its beautifully rounded rose comb, splendid markings of jet black and snow white, its skin as yellow as gold, and its voluptuous shape ravishing to the sight of every epicure in the land. I believe the Columbian Wyandotte has within it the making of the greatest bird in America, whether for the fancy or the utility class.

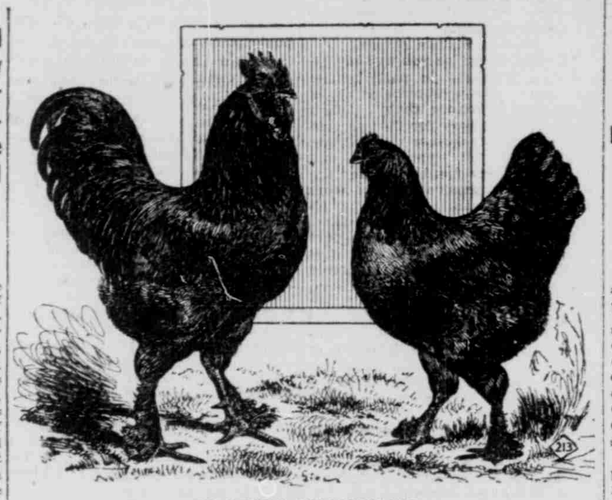
At Home in Every Man's Yard.

That is the American fowl of whatever breed or variety. You can't convince the American farmer that these birds are second to any in the world. They will lay him eggs, they will mother his chicks, they will load his platters with meat fit for the gods, they will boost his bank account, they will keep his wife happy, his children healthy, and himself perennially hopeful. They are his ideal. He desires nothing better, because he can get nothing better.

They are just as much "at home" in the suburban back yard. Set any of these 18 varieties down on any spot between the oceans, north or south, and they will prove to you that they were created to live and thrive just there. Frost cannot harm them; they can live and sing and thrive on a square rod, or rustle for a living over a hundred-acre range.

For egg farming alone we will have to admit that the four-pound White Leghorn has won out against all comers. She eats little and asks no time off for maternity matters. But for an all-round general purpose business, including eggs, meat, feathers, roasters, broilers, capons, incubation and brooding, as well as the highest caste and most profitable form of the fancier's art, the little "egg machine" has not even standing room by the side of the great American breeds.

Every year writes in larger scroll the super-excellence of these splendid fowls. We must have more than eggs. We must have meat in abundance as well. Let every man who can, make the most he can, of the best meat producing animals in the world,—the Rocks, the Dottes, the Reds, the Javas, the Dominiques and the Buckeyes. They should be raised by hundreds of thousands in every state in the Union. The most exhaustive scientific investigations are needed to develop to its highest possible efficiency this rich mine of the people's resources.



BLACK LANGSHANS

About 1872 the first Langshans were sent from northern China to the late Maj. Croad of England, by one of his relatives. The major and his family developed and exploited the breed until they came to be known as Croad Langshans, and as such are spoken of by many today.

Historians of this breed have discovered that it has always been native and peculiar to the Langshan distgict of China. There they are found in their purity, and many importations of excellent birds have been made both to England and America. There are three varieties of Langshans recognized as pure, viz.: Black, white and mottled. We mention the black as the original simply because it was brought to our attention and cultivated several years before any other color was known or considered by the English speaking races. Since their introduction several attempts have been made to create other varieties by crossing. Blues and Cuckoos have been exhibited, but none has ever attained the popularity enjoyed by the Black Langshans.

It is a fowl that has given good service, both on range and in limited areas. It is large, as are all Asiatics, yet it is an active and persistent forager and has proved profitable to many farmers. They are active, vigorous fowls and great layers of dark brown eggs.

When full grown the males weigh from eight to nine and a half pounds, females six and a half to seven and a half pounds, and in plumage both sexes are a handsome deep black, illuminated with a rich, beetle-green sheen.

These fowls have immense length of legs, sparsely feathered, and of late the English faddists have bred them even longer, to such an extent that the English Langshan is a monstrosity.

It is not so generally recognized, perhaps, but one of the crucial phases of the turkey's development begins in October. Turkeys are now on the home-stretch; each moment of the shortening days must be utilized to get them on their way market-ward. Each day lost postpones their shipment, and delays are costly. To make the most of one's flock, the turkeys must be taken in hand early in the fall, which is the subject of next week's article, together with precautions against disease, and suggestions for protection against enemies.

HIGH PRICES EXPECTED

Wheat May Go to $2 a Bushel This Winter.

The wheat has all been harvested, and the latest government crop reports indicate a total production of not more than 650,000,000,000 bushels. This will leave but little wheat for export, and on account of the foreign demand it will be natural to expect high and increasingly high prices. It would not be surprising, indeed, if wheat reached extreme figures during the coming winter. some people are whispering "maybe two dollars a bushel." Corn usually trails along after wheat; hogs are over 10 cents, now, with every prospect of going higher. On the whole, it looks as if we're going to have a very comfortable season for the man who has something to sell. For the buyer—well, he must be getting used to it by this time.—Fame Life.

WHEN TO PICK PEACHES

Degree of Maturity Indicated by Color of Specimens.

The degree of maturity is indicated by the color of the individual specimens. This can only be determined by experience. The following "symptoms" are given in Farm and Home by C. J. Hayden, and if followed carefully there should be little excuse for putting hard green peaches on the market.

As a rule, white peaches should be gathered when the shady places turn to a creamy white. Where the fruit is solid red, such distinguishing characteristics are not marked. Yellow varieties, such as the Elberta, turn from a green to orange yellow. Some varieties, especially the early maturing ones, must be gathered promptly, while others have a longer ripening period. The color is the best and only practical index to the maturity of peaches, and for that reason, pickers should not be allowed to press the fruit with their hands.

GETTING ALFALFA STAND

This Man Sows About the Middle of August.

I have had best success with alfalfa by sowing about the middle of August or a little later on well-prepared land and using about 10 pounds clean seed to the acre, writes G. A. Borlesch of Missouri in Farm and Home. I sow it with a hand seeder. So as not to lose a crop I plow wheat or oats ground as soon as the crop is off, plowing it 10 to 12 inches deep. I then level it with a harrow and drag and if any grass or weeds come up I cultivate the ground and kill them. I make the seed bed loose on top by harrowing just before sowing. Alfalfa will grow on any land that will grow good red clover.

I have sown one way and cross sown the other way using five pounds each time and got a good stand. After the seed was sown I double harrowed and I never have failed to get a good stand. I generally have a good pasture in the fall and if weeds come up I harrow or pull them out. My young crop never have failed to stand the winter.

APPLE CROPS BELOW 1915 BUT NEAR AVERAGE

Michigan Produces 34 Per Cent More But Other Interior States Show Less.

The September forecast of total apple production this year in the United States, as reported by the bureau of crop estimates, United States department of agriculture, is 67,679,000 barrels of three bushels each (agricultural and not commercial basis) as compared with 76,670,000 estimated produced last year of which not quit 65 per cent were sold.

In the past 10 years estimated production has exceeded the present forecast five times. Taking the country as a whole, it thus appears that the apple crop will be nearly an average, but 12 per cent smaller than last year's large crop. The crop is larger than last year in the Atlantic coast states, including New York and Pennsylvania, and in the Pacific coast states, but smaller in practically all the interior states except Michigan, which has about 34 per cent more than last year. For the first time this year an attempt has been made to forecast the crop by important varieties.

Here Are Estimates.

The following estimates are based upon reports from special lists of apple correspondents to the bureau of crop estimates:

Baldwin appears to be the leading crop this year, with a forecast of 9,302,000 barrels, an increase of 12 per cent over last year's production. New York forecast is 3,841,000 barrels, an increase of 42 per cent over the estimated production last year; Pennsylvania, 933,000 barrels, an increase of six per cent; Massachusetts 672,000 barrels, an increase of 16 per cent; Ohio, 566,000 barrels, a decrease of 51 per cent; Michigan, 561,000, an increase of 59 per cent; Maine 469,000, an increase of 108 per cent; all other states, 2,260,000, a decrease of six per cent.

Ben Davis, which was the leading variety as to quantity last year, falls to second this year, with a forecast production of 9,245,000 barrels, which is 17 per cent less than the production estimated last year. In Missouri, which leads in the production of this variety, the present forecast is 1,060,000 barrels, a decrease of 41 per cent from last year. New York forecasts a production of 865,000 barrels, an increase of 61 per cent; West Virginia, 837,000, an increase of 18 per cent; Virginia, 766,000, an increase of 33 per cent; Illinois, 642,000, a decrease of 52 per cent; Kentucky, 547,000, a decrease of 33 per cent; Ohio, 504,000, a decrease of 30 per cent; Pennsylvania, 410,000, an increase of 28 per cent; Arkansas, 395,000, an increase of two per cent;; Indiana, 399,000, a decrease of 51 per cent; all other states 2,826,000, a decrease of nine per cent.

The Winesap forecasts a production of 3,794,000 barrels, a decrease of 32 per cent from last year. The Virginia forecast is 911,999 barrels, a decrease of 27 per cent; Kentucky, 502,000, a decrease of 45 per cent; Tennessee, 242,000, about the same, Missouri, 185,000, a decrease of 59 per cent; North Carolina, 178,000, an increase of nine per cent; Illinois, 158,000, a decrease of 56 per cent; Indiana, 155,000, a decrease of 63 per cent; Kansas, 152,000, a decrease of 52 per cent; Arkansas, 109,000, a decrease of 11 per cent; all other states, 1,204,000, a decrease of nine per cent.

Greening forecast is 3,739,000 barrels, an increase of four per cent over the estimated production last year. In New York the forecast is 1,764,000 barrels, an increase of two per cent; Pennsylvania, 546,000, an increase of 24 per cent; Michigan, 258,000, an increase of eight per cent; Vermont, 206,000, an increase of 296 per cent; Ohio, 144,000, a decrease of 46 per cent; Iowa, 81,000, a decrease of 53 per cent; all other states, 740,000, an increase of two per cent.

Northern Spy forecast is 3,692,000 barrels, an increase of 25 per cent over last year's estimated production. In New York the forecast is 1,225,000 barrels, an increase of 61 per cent; Michigan, 711,000, an increase of 43 per cent; Pennsylvania, 619,000, an increase of 10 per cent; Vermont, 186,000, an increase of 162 per cent; West Virginia, 177,000, an increase of 113 per cent; Ohio, 149,000, a decrease of 50 per cent; Indiana, 42,000, a decrease of 64 per cent; all other states, 493,000, an increase of one per cent.

The Wealthy forecasts a production of 2,863,000 barrels, a decrease of 13 per cent from last year's crop. Michigan forecasts a production of 495,000 barrels, an increase of 33 per cent over last year's estimated production; New York, 389,000, an increase of 57 per cent; Iowa, 290,000, a decrease of 48 per cent; Wisconsin, 215,000, a decrease of 43 per cent; Pennsylvania, 177,000, an increase of 39 per cent; Minnesota, 140,000, an increase of one per cent; Ohio, 124,000, a decrease of 17 per cent; Illinois, 85,000, a decrease of 63 per cent; all other states, 948,000, a decrease of 15 per cent.

The Rome Beauty, with a forecast of 2,770,000 barrels, is 21 per cent short of last year's estimated production. West Virginia forecasts a production of 572,000 barrels, an increase of 27 per cent for that state; Ohio, 548,000, a decrease of 38 per cent; Kentucky, 278,000, a decrease of 35 per cent; Indiana, 146,000, a decrease of 59 per cent; Tennessee, 96,000, an increase of eight per cent; North Carolina, 93,000, an increase of 35 per cent; Pennsylvania, 92,000, an increase of 14 per cent; Missouri, 76,00, a decrease of 57 per cent; Illinois, 71,00, a decrease of 69 per cent; all other states, 798,000, a decrease of one per cent.

Jonathan Reduced.

The Jonathan variety forecasts a production of only 2,432,000 barrels, which is a reduction of 46 percent from the estimated crop of last year—and this notwithstanding a material increase in the Pacific northwest. The Missouri forecast is 303,000 barrels, a decrease of 64 percent from last year's estimated production; Kansas, 197,000, a decrease of 69 percent; Illinois, 136,000, a decrease of 76 percent; Iowa, 129,000, a decrease of 65 percent; New York, 105,000, an increase of 24 percent; Ohio, 96,000, a decrease of 53 percent; Indiana, 56,000, a decrease of 69 percent; Nebraska, 62,000, a decrease of 69 percent; all other states, 1,348,000, a decrease of five percent.

The York Imperial forecast a production of 2,403,000 barrels, which is two percent less than last year's estimated prodruction. Virginia forecasts a production of 778,000 barrels, an increase of 32 percent over last year; Pennsylvania, 365,000, an increase of 18 percent; West Virginia, 287,000, an increase of 66 percent; Maryland, 237,000, an incease of 59 percent; North Carolina, 92,000, an increase of 33 percent; Ohio, 94,000, a decrease of 49 percent; Indiana, 93,000, a decrease of 57 percent; Missouri, 86,000, a decrease of 54 percent; Iowa, 50,000, a decrease of 57 percent; Illinois, 47,000, a decrease of 58 percent; all other states 274,000, a decrease of 21 percent.

Grimes Golden forecasts a production of 2,050,000 barrels, a reduction of 30 percent from last year's crop. Ohio forecasts a production of 264,000 barrels, a reduction of 29 percent; West Virginia, 212,000 barrels, an increase of 10 percent; Indiana, 182,000, a decrease of 49 percent; Pennsylvania, 167,000, an increase of 22 percent; Missouri, 148,000, a decrease of 58 percent; Illinois, 106,000, a decrease of 59 percent; Virginia, 106,000, an increase of 15 percent; Arkansas, 106,000, a decrease of nine percent; Kentucky, 79,000, a decrease of 45 percent; Iowa, 70,000, a decrease of 46 percent; Kansas, 68,000, a decrease of 54 percent; all other states, 542,000, a decrease of 11 percent.

Oldenburg variety forecasts a production of 2,004,000 barrels, which is eight percent less than last year. Michigan forecasts 505,000 barrels, an increase of 30 percent; New York, 395,000, an increase of 144 percent; Iowa, 218,000, a decrease of 47 percent; Wisconsin, 195,000, a decrease of 39 percent; Pennsylvania, 140,000, an increase of 52 percent; Illinois, 60,000, a decrese of 68 percent; Ohio, 53,000, a decrease of 51 percent; all other states, 435,000 barrels, a decrease of 16 percent.

Stayman Winesap forecasts a production of 1,380,000 barrels, a reduction of 22 percent from last year's crop. Virginia forecasts 251,000 barrels, a decrease of 20 percent; North Carolina, 113,000, an increase of 14 percent; Kentucky, 93,000, a decrease of 51 percent; Pennsylvania, 91,000, a decrease of one percent; Missouri, 53,000, a decrease of 62 percent; New York, 74,000, an increase of 23 percent; all other states 705,000, a decrease of 20 percent.

Limbertwig Production.

Limbertwig forecasts a production of 1,318,000 barrels, a reduction of 13 percent from last year's crop. Tennessee forecasts 363,000 barrels, an increase of three percent; North Carolina, 227,000, an increase of 10 percent; Virginia, 223,000, an increase of 38 percent; Kentucky, 103,000, a decrease of 29 percent; Georgia, 74,000, a decrease of 36 percent; Arkansas, 73,000, an increase of 46 percent; Missouri, 56,000, a decrease of 64 percent; all other states, 199,000 barrels, a decrease of 38 percent.

The Yellow Newton (Pippin) forecasts a production of 1,277,000 barrels, which is four percent less than last year's crop. Virginia forecasts a production of 383,000 barrels, a decrease of 14 percent; New York, 78,000, a decrease of 17 percent; Washington, Oregon, and California (combined) 584,000, an increase of 22 percent; all other states, 232,000, a decrease of 24 percent.

Tompkins King forecasts a production of 1,174,000 barrels, an increase of 20 percent over last year. New York forecasts a production of 446,000 barrels, an increase of 31 percent; Pennsylvania, 149,000, an increase of 22 percent; Michigan, 133,000, an increase of 36 percent; Maine, 47,000, an increase of 114 percent; all other states, 399,000 barrels, an increase of two percent.

Wagener forecasts a production of 1,020,000 barrels, an increase of 24 percent over last year. Michigan forecasts 244,000 barrels, an increase of 39 percent; Pennsylvania, 241,000, an increase of 43 percent; New York, 168,000, an increase of 65 percent; Ohio, 28,000, a decrease of 51 percent; all other states, 329,000 barrels, an increase of 10 percent.

YOU KNOW IT!

You've often heard the quoters say
That every canine has his day.
But when it's time to light the lights,
Dogs must subside—cats own the nights!

—Farm Life.

Wilson Administration Has Been Big Boon to Farmers, Backward Glance Reveals

In no equal space of time in the history of the world has one-tenth as much been accomplished in a legislative and administrative way for the benefit of the farmer as has been done during the Wilson administration. A simple review of its record demonstrates beyond question the fact.

Financial and Commercial.

The rural credits law, inaugurated and enacted by the Wilson administration, affords to the farmers of the country equal facilities in the matter of borrowing money as are afforded to other business men. Not only will they be able to borrow money as readily as others, but on the same terms, and the lowering of the interest rates and the cutting out of commissions and expenses which result from this law, will annually save hundreds of millions of dollars to the farmers of the nation. This law alone merits for the Wilson administration the cordial support and approval of all farmers and farm owners.

This sentence from Pres't Wilson's speech of acceptance states only an accomplished fact:

"For the farmers of the country we have virtually created commercial credit, by means of the federal reserve law and the rural credit law. They now have the same standing as other business men in the money market."

The federal reserve act helped a great deal the farmer, along with all other business men, by making a market for hundreds of millions of dollars worth of farm mortgages and negotiable paper based on livestock. Further, it will be recalled how promptly the secretary of the treasury in this administration furnished all the money needed and at a low rate, to move the crops to market.

The Wilson shipping or merchant marine law means not only assured transportation to foreign countries, free from foreign control or interference, but lower rates of freight to the farmer for the tremendous tonnage of agricultural products he ships to nations abroad.

In the revision of the tariff in the Wilson administration very careful attention was given to the needs and rights of the farmer and his special interests cared for. On the free list are placed agricultural tools, implements and machinery and animals imported for breeding purposes, while the tariff was lowered on other articles he has to purchase.

A division of markets and rural organization has been created to study and disseminate information to the farmers as to the best methods of transportation, storage, marketing and distribution of agricultural products. How often have farmers seen their products rotting in cellars or barns, or used in unprofitable ways, when there was a crying need in many places for those very things; or have seen markets glutted until fruits rotted in warehouses or commission houses, or sold for less than storage charges or even were given away, when at the same time other markets were in want of those very products? Such mistakes, such waste, such loss need never occur again. Information of the needs of the various markets are at the farmer's command, as well as instructions as to standards, transportation and storage.

Stock—(not livestock) brokers, dealers in grain and cotton, meat products and other commodities (after they have left the farmer's hands) have long had daily information of market conditions and quotations. The Wilson administration puts the farmer on a par with them. Another instance of democratic "equal rights to all."

The grain standard law insures uniformity in the grading of grain, and affords a great protection to the grain growers. The cotton futures law goes far to protect the cotton growers from the dishonest practices of cotton exchanges and manipulations of the market. The warehouse act makes possible the issuance to and use by the farmer of negotiable warehouse receipts, thus enabling him to hold his grain for a favorable market, and yet, in the meantime, have the use of the greater proportion of its value.

The appropriations for eradication of cattle tick were doubled; that for hog cholera serum quadrupled. Four and a half million dollars were spent to fight the foot and mouth disease. The total agricultural appropriations were increased 5 per cent.

Good Roads.

The national encouragement to and financial assistance in the building of good roads, whereby $160,000,000 is distributed among the several states for road building, brings the benefits of the Wilson administration to the farmer's very gate. And this is but a step in a great movement.

Transportation is of vital importance to the farmer. The load of grain or potatoes or tobacco or bale of cotton is worth to the farmer its value at the market less the cost of getting it there, including the cost of hauling to the railroad station from the farm. This is the dollar and cent value of good roads. But an even better education, the easier access to church and school, the bettering and increasing of the social life of the farmer, his wife his boys and girls.

The commission on rural life in America (and due credit is willing given the republicans for this preliminary survey), in its report, laid special stress on good roads, largely in view of their effect on the social life of the country districts. The report was made to the republican president and congress in 1909. It was received; it was filed; it was published. All action on the matters it dealt with has been by the Wilson administration.

Vocational Education.

The rural life commission laid great stress also on the need for vocational education for the farmer's boys and girls. The Smith-Hughes bill will put a vocational course of training in every high school in the country. It is an extension and an elaboration of the system by which the national government now aids each state in the maintenance of its agricultural colleges and experiment stations.

Agricultural Extension Act.

Last in the list but not least in importance is the agricultural extension act which provides for cooperative agricultural extension work between the agricultural colleges and experiment stations of the several states and the federal department of agriculture. It is backed by an appropriation of $8,600,000, and will place two agricultural experts in every county in the nation. It will be of immeasurable benefit to agriculture and agriculturists.

Thus again the Wilson administration showed its true estimate of the value of the farmer to the commonwealth, and paid him the attention that is his due.

Conclusion.

The Wilson administration challenges comparison with its predecessors. Let the farmers of the nation fairly and justly compare their conditions now, the prices they are receiving for their cattle and agricultural products, with those of 1912 or other years. Let them compare the legislation in their behalf of the Wilson administration with that of any other. Let them consider the assured improved prospect ahead of them under the laws passed by the Wilson administration in their financial, their business and social life.

WHEN TO CUT SILAGE

Weather Conditions Should Be Taken Into Consideration.

It is wise to consider the weather, as well as the condition of the corn, when you are cutting for silage. More people, we think, cut too early, rather than too late. The rule is to cut when the grains have become dented, and the bottom blades are becoming dry.

After the corn has quit growing it stores up starch and protein during the ripening period, and these elements have great feeding value. Even if the corn becomes quite dry, so that you have to add water in the silo, it makes excellent silage. In fact, dry corn fodder from the shock or shed has been found to make excellent silage.

It is probably a good plan for the man who has plenty of stock to feed and not much silo room, to save some suitable dry corn fodder for winter filling. On the I. H. C. demonstration farm in South Dakota it is reported that silos thus refilled in January and March made very satisfactory feed. Of course plenty of water must be added as the dry stalks are put in the silo.—Farm Life.

Fifteen years ago the total annual cost of the British army was only a little more than $85,000,000. The present war is costing Great Britain $15,000,000 a day.

SELLING IS BIG FARM PROBLEM

How to Market Crops Deserves Lot of Planning and Thought.

Finding buyers for their products has long been a source of trouble to farmers. Farm and Fireside tells how a man by direct sales found the solution. The writer says:

"The job of raising and harvesting most farm produce always requires a certain amount of planning and brains. But the job of selling is where most of us fall short, and the peculiar thing about it is that we usually know it. We pay the price the dealer asks for what we buy and take the prices the dealer offers us when we sell.

"Our particular line of farming runs to vegetables and small fruits. Of the vegetables we sell more onions than any other thing. For a year or so after we started this crop we had to deal with commission men in Toledo, Cleveland and Pittsburgh when we had a surplus. Since our local market seldom uses more than 500 bushels in the year we usually had a surplus. So the plan of discovering a market for this crop and others whereby we could sell direct to the grocer or user of the produce occurred to us.

"It so happened at this time that a coal miner from the southern part of Ohio moved in our neighborhood and was able to suggest names of men located in the thickly populated mining districts of Ohio who were absolutely straight in their dealings and who bought large amounts of farm produce.

"Correspondence was started, and 200 bushels were sold the first trip. Many satisfactory deals were made after this. Even this year this man telegraphed us for a car.

"There are several advantages in such a deal. We usually ship the onions sacked. He sells to the trade, and is able to keep these empty sacks for us and return a couple hundred sacks after a few weeks at a freight expense of 25 cents. Since sacking costs us about three cents a bushel, it pays to look after this. Having a store of his own, there is no drayage at the other end. The money is ready as soon as the produce reaches him. In fact, we could draw on him at our bank with the shipping bill and contract before the goods were delivered to him.

"Direct sales are the only outlet for the farmer so far as I can see. There is the same chance to buy directly, but that is another story."

PHOSPHATE FERTILIZER

Should Be Put on Ground When Wheat Follows Corn.

In putting corn ground to wheat it is well to remember that the supply of available plant food in the soil has been largely depleted. The practice of supplying 200 or 250 pounds of acid phosphate to the acre is to be recommended, especially where no manure is available.

The phosphate fertilizer will help give the wheat crop a start in the fall that will not only enable it to get a stronger growth that will tend to prevent winter killing, but this mose vigorous growth will also enable the wheat to resist the attacks of the Hessian fly.—Farm Life.

Japan's most expert wrestlers are men who have inherited their ability from ancestors who made wrestling a profession for generations.

Pronounced "RU" as in RUBY
RU-BER-OID
ROOFING
COSTS MORE - WEARS LONGER

Used by the World's Largest Poultry Farm

"We use RU-BER-OID Roofing", writes Reese V. Hicks, General Manager, Rancocas Poultry Farms, Browns Mills, N. J., "because we have found that it gives the most years of continuous service without repairs. Roofing that we put on more than ten years ago is still practically as good as new. It keeps our 15,000 White Leghorns warm in winter and cool in summer and helps us to secure more than one million eggs annually."

For Roofing *Your* Poultry Houses

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