

Watch This Space Each Saturday For Up-to-the-Minute Farm News and Market Activities.

ACTIVITIES AMONG THE FARMERS

Edited by Walter J. Vincent

First Hand News of Farm Bureaus of Northern Indiana and Lower Michigan Fully Covered.

What Will the March of Progress Bring to the Farm Fifty Years Hence? Just a Few Predictions

Smaller Farms, Better Crops, More Conveniences Sure to Come.

What will the future farm be like? Not the farm of tomorrow or ten years hence, but say 50 years from now.

Let us use the imagination of a Jules Verne, who predicted in his "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea" the invention of the "Diflas Green and His Flying Machine" and see if we can picture that which will make the present-day farm with its dances and various athletic games drudgery and uncertainty look like a relic of the dark ages.

The farm of the future will be much smaller in size than the farm of today. Some authorities claim 40-acre plots will be the average. A large variety of crops can and will be planted on them. Future farmers will raise more and more of the things they need for their own table and will buy less canned goods. They will dry and can their own fruits, such as peaches, apples, etc., and the methods used will be less like those of today.

Smaller farms will mean more neighbors and fewer isolated sections. Community spirit will be developed to the extent that Saturday night will not be "town night" any more than any other night.

Every township will have a large community house equipped with up-to-date library, moving pictures and gymnasium where farm short courses, community fairs, dances and various athletic games will give diversions to present-day farmers' travel miles to the cities to enjoy.

Community sales of real value will greatly increase productivity and proportionately increase the value of herds.

City conveniences will be available to all future farms. Radio and other electrical inventions will play a most important part in making the farm not only a convenient, but an ideal place to live.

All available water courses will be harnessed and put to work for the farmer. Streams that can be made to furnish water power will be dammed, and wires strung for miles about furnishing sufficient power at a negligible cost to run all farm machinery and provide light and heat to the farm homes.

Raising seed stations will greatly facilitate larger crop yields. Seeding and planting of only the most perfect seed whether it be potato, tomato, grains or what not will make the small farm of the future return a much greater profit than the largest today.

Practically all public highways will be paved 50 years hence. The high cost of poor roads is becoming more evident daily and the future impassable road will be almost as obsolete as the horse-drawn street car.

Woods will be practically eliminated. Perhaps some chemist will invent a substance harmful to weeds and harmless to the soil that will make the old backbreaking fight against weeds a thing of the past.

Line fences will disappear in general. With four feet on each side of line fences going to waste, hundreds of acres of land now being wasted will be utilized.

More improvements and lower costs for farm machinery will come in the future. The actual energy will be reduced to a minimum, and crops will receive more care and return greater profits.

Is this too much of a stretch for the imagination? If so, let us think back 50 years. Back to the days before the telephone was in general use; before tractors, threshing machines, binders, tedders, stios, potato diggers and the multiplicity of other farm equipment now considered necessary to general farming had been invented.

No doubt our forefathers scoffed at every new invention and every new suggestion that was calculated to make the farm more productive and farm work less distasteful, yet progress marched onward and always will.

Those of us today who are interested in agriculture and not carefully watching the progressive steps being made in that, the greatest industry in the world, will like our forefathers, be the losers.

CLAY COUNTY FARMERS FIND ORCHARD CARE PAYS.

Prospects for an abundant apple and peach crop are good throughout Clay county, says County Agent H. E. Abbott. The farmers are carrying out a complete spray schedule. Clay county probably has larger farm orchards than any other county, it being quite common for an orchard of from 100 to 500 trees to be found on the average farm. These generally have been neglected during the past until the last two or three years when the farmers have been convinced of the value of pruning, spraying, cultivation and fertilization methods necessary for the proper care of an orchard. Many communities are hiring a man to spend his entire time with a corps of helpers and a power spray outfit care for the orchards of that particular community.

FEED LAW PROTECTS BUYING BY FARMERS

Guarantee Provision of Measure Prevents Substitution of Inferior Grades.

Indiana farmers and town poultrymen in 1921 purchased approximately 282,256 tons of commercial feeds at an estimated retail value of \$11,716,745.

Approximately 85,983 tons of this feed having a retail value of \$2,878,717 was poultry scratch feed and poultry mash and was mostly purchased by city and town back-yard poultrymen.

Farmers, as well as back-yard poultrymen, who buy one pound of a carload of commercial feed in Indiana both have the benefit of the Indiana Commercial Feeding Stuffs law, which requires feed manufacturers to attach an official label to each unit of feed. The label on this label the kind of feed that is in the bag.

To ascertain the correctness of the feed manufacturer's guarantee, State Chemist E. G. Proulx at the Agricultural Experiment Station in Lafayette, Indiana, has secured for collection in 1921 some 3,125 samples of commercial feeds. These individual samples in many instances represented carload shipments and were taken from every section of the state. An inspection sample was secured for every 21 tons of commercial feeds sold in the state during 1921. Of the 3,125 samples secured, 360 were simple evidence samples, being mostly from shipments previously analyzed and were subject to microscopic analysis only. The remaining 2,765 samples were analyzed and the analysis compared with the guarantee of the manufacturer, dealer and consumer as soon as completed.

PLAN TO IMPROVE COLORADO STOCK

Prizes Offered to Stimulate Use of Good Pure Bred Sires.

To stimulate the use of good pure-bred sires and improve the live stock in El Paso county, Colorado, rules have been formulated and a prize offered by the local farm bureau. In a statement to the United States Department of Agriculture, County Agent J. C. Hale outlines the plan, which is adaptable to many other localities. Following are the essential points:

The contest continues throughout the calendar year 1922.

Any community to enter designation of this work will be brought into the community, together with the names of buyers and sellers and the registry of each sire.

Each community representative, on entering his community in the contest, furnishes the county agent contest, furnishes the county agent his community.

Credits is given for every sire of any age brought into the community during the contest.

Credit is also given for every pure-bred sire of any age bought or exchanged within the county. Sires for which credit is given include stallions, jacks, bulls, bucks, boars, and roosters. A scale of points is allotted to each, stallions receiving the most and roosters the least.

RUN DOWN FARM IS PLACED ON PAYING BASIS IN A YEAR

Purdue Experiment Shows What Scientific Methods Can Accomplish.

What science will do to put a farm on paying basis, even in the trying times of the last two years, is well illustrated on the Moses Fell Annex farm near Bedford, which was given to Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station in 1914 by Moses Fell Dunn and Miss Antonette Fell. "To make a thorough study of the agricultural problems of southern Indiana and to determine profitable methods of soil management, orchard management, crop and livestock production, and such other factors as would contribute to a better agricultural and more satisfying country life."

When work was undertaken the farm waste producing 400 to 600 apples in an orchard covering about 50 acres of land. Peach, plum and pear trees had been planted among the apples throughout the orchard, but nearly all of these and half of the apples were dead. The condition of the orchard was typical of the farm and its equipment. The underbrush, sassafras, hickory sprouts, locust trees, and buckbrush had been removed and dead apple trees replaced with young trees. The orchard now consists of 1100 bearing trees, and more than 1500 young trees planted to fill the vacancies. The old trees which were in poor condition have been brought into vigorous growth and profitable production. From 1000 to 7000 bushels of apples have been harvested each of the last six years.

A two-acre peach orchard set in 1916 to study peach production had its first crop at four years old and produced about 300 bushels per acre. Last year a freeze killed the fruit, but this year prospects are for a heavier crop than two years ago.

Experiments in spraying the control of insects and hickory, fertilization, cultivation, pruning and other lines are in progress.

Two series of soil fertility tests are being started to determine the best method of crop production. These experiments involve the use of limestone, phosphate, manure, potash, and nitrogen alone and various combinations of them. The untreated land has averaged 26.8 bushels of corn, three bushels of wheat and one-half ton of hay per acre.

Manure on each crop has increased its yield to 36.9 bushels of corn, 3.8 bushel of wheat and 6 tons of hay per acre. Phosphate in addition to manure increased the yields to 52.8 bushels of corn, 8.9 bushels of wheat and one and one-half tons of hay per acre.

With corn worth 50 cents and wheat \$1.00 per bushel and hay at \$12.00 per ton, acid phosphate costing \$20.00 per ton, each dollar invested in phosphate has produced crop increases worth \$5.85.

Experiments are made each year to show that manure, limestone and acid phosphates will give best returns on this soil.

A number of variety tests with fruit and field crops are being carried on and in the near future methods of handling pastures are also underway.

Besides this experimental work which has been mentioned briefly a good flock of pure-bred white Leghorn chickens has been developed and a part has been made of Big Type Poland China hogs. Polled shorthorn cattle and a flock of Shropshire sheep. These herds and flocks are being developed from one or two animals the same as the average farmer would be compelled to do on his own farm, thus providing an example of the practicability of the plans as proposed by the Purdue Experiment Station.

LAPORTE FARMERS HIT BY DECISION.

Laporte county milk producers, especially those residing in the northern part of the county, are facing a serious situation as the result of the decision of the South Bend dairymen to sell only milk which comes from cattle that have proved to be free from tuberculosis.

Local farmers are today facing the loss of thousands of dollars as a result of this action. It is estimated that several thousand gallons of milk have been shipped to South Bend daily from Laporte county, and with this market cut off, it will mean the destruction of large quantities of milk.

BROWN COUNTY FARMERS INTERESTED IN POULTRY.

In Brown county, more interest is being shown in poultry than any other line of farm work, according to County Agent R. E. Grubbs. One feed dealer in the county reported that last year he sold 200 pounds of chick feed and this year over 5,000 pounds of some still was being sold. Other dealers reported larger feed sales than they had expected. The farmers are feeding their poultry because they have come to realize that their hens are returning them a profit. For every dollar invested in poultry in Brown county, the farmer receives \$2.49 for the feed and care given.

SOYBEAN CAMPAIGN SUCCEEDS.

Data gathered in the league campaign in Rush county by County Agent D. D. Ball shows that there will be 388 acres of soybeans to be threshed in the county, 128 acres for hay and pasture, and 1847 acres with corn for hogging off, making a total of 2136 acres. The goal in the soybean campaign waged last spring was 1500 acres.

UP TO THE NECK IN RYE



J. A. Woolman, who lives one and one-half miles north of New Carlisle, is here seen standing in the center of his 50-acre field of rye. This field, which he expects to cut the middle of this coming week, is estimated to yield around 40 bushels to the acre. It has been pronounced by agricultural authorities to be the finest rye field seen in St. Joseph county in many years. Mr. Woolman is a firm believer in plenty of lime and the practice of rotation of crops. This field was previously well limed and planted in corn.

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AGENT A VERY BUSY PLACE

Varied Interests of Farmers and City Folk Keep E. C. Bird Busy.

Hidden away in the basement of the court house is a small office, which few persons, especially city folks, know much about, but it is an office which plays a very vital part in the success of agriculture in St. Joseph county. There is located in this office the county agricultural agent's office.

It is the headquarters for agricultural extension work in St. Joseph county, the state agricultural college and the U. S. department of agriculture.

County Agent E. C. Bird is director of agricultural extension for St. Joseph county, engaged in promoting and better marketing of farm products in this area. Direct contact is here formed between the citizens of the county, the state and the federal institutions, which through research and experiment are daily discovering new farm methods. These when put into practice, make for more efficient production and marketing of farm products.

During the year ending June 1st, there were 4457 office calls received at the county agent's office. The county agent made 568 visits to individual farms, 2211 letters were written on agricultural subjects, 58 circulars with 7901 copies were forwarded, containing definite farm, garden and orchard information. Besides all this, the farm agent found time to attend 127 meetings, mostly held at night, with a total attendance of 5205.

Much information available. A large and complete file of farmers' bulletins are kept for free distribution and an endless amount of office detail is required at all times of the year. During the winter months the institutes and farm meetings are most numerous. Then, during the farming season, a large number of farm visits are made and fewer office calls are received.

Sponsored Tubercular Testing.

The main project of the county agent, together with the farm bureau for 1922 has been the extensive work started in March on testing of herds for tubercularis. Just now approximately four thousand head of dairy cattle have been tested and 278 reactors discharged. The territory of the county is about half covered. It is going steadily forward and by the first of the year all the herds in the county will be free from tubercularis. Service of this nature reaches every home, directly or indirectly and is the biggest step ever taken for protection of the health and prevention of tubercularis among children ever instituted in Indiana.

Every home is indebted to this service for the protection afforded to the milk supply. At the rate of two hundred cows a month, the testing is being continued, bringing with it a thousand and one details which casual observers do not surmise.

Much credit is due Agricultural Agent Bird and his assistant, Miss May Huff for the creditable work they are doing each day.

COW TESTERS IN REGULAR MEETING.

W. R. Beall, graduate of the dairy husbandry department at Purdue university, Friday was elected tester for the LaPorte County Cow Testers' association to succeed Roy V. Keller, who was employed several weeks ago. Mr. Beall will assume his new duties immediately.

Eighteen members of the association were present at the meeting, which was held in the farmers' room at the court house. E. A. Gannon of the dairy extension department, Purdue, addressed the members relative to the work of the association and urged that a greater interest be taken in the organization. He pointed out the tremendous value to be derived from the testing of milk, both to the owner of the cow and to the milk consumer.

SHROPSHIRE SHEEP BREEDERS DISCUSS PROBLEMS AT MEET

Thirty Automobile Loads of Raisers Participate in Day's Discussion.

Thirty automobile loads of Shropshire breeders and their families in Tippecanoe, Montgomery and Fountain counties met at the farm of Richy Cloyd near Stockwell, Ind., recently for their third annual picnic.

C. W. Fawcett, wool market director of the American Sheep Breeders' federation, was the principal speaker.

Mr. Fawcett himself is a prominent Iowa breeder of Shropshire and is one of the directors of the American Shropshire Registry association located at Lafayette, Ind.

Jess Andrew, vice president of the American Shropshire Registry association was also present. Mr. Andrew emphasized the fact that there was a great shortage of sheep in America. He said he had been in Chicago last week and everything seemed to indicate an upward trend in the sheep business. He further said that wool had been selling as high as 45 cents per pound in Indiana. This season with 2-1/2 pounds of wool commanding \$1.00 and lambs were bringing \$8 to \$10 per head the sheep business was profitable.

Walter B. Krueck, Tippecanoe county agent, discussed the sheep club work in this county for 1922. He said, "every sheep breeder in this county should adopt a boy if he did not already have one and make a sheep man out of him." It was also pointed out that there would be a club show at the Tippecanoe County Fair in 1922 and for the first time in history there was a boys' and girls' club classification at the Indiana State Fair this season.

Much time was spent in looking over the flock of Shropshires at the Cloyd farm. Mr. Cloyd, one of the oldest sheep breeders in Indiana, having been in the business for one-third of a century, gave a discussion of his methods of raising sheep, methods of care, feeding and management proved extremely interesting to all present.

Lawrence T. Foster, president of the Crawfordville Shropshire Breeders' association, presided.

The first woman's club in the United States was founded in Boston by Anne Hutchinson in 1635.

OHIO CHAMPION PIG PRODUCTION WINNER

Ted Kryder and Poland China Litter which weighed 1,926 pounds when 145 days old. At same rate of gain the litter would have weighed 2,409 pounds when six months of age.

Indiana's Hoosier Ton Litter club has 555 farmers who are trying to make a ton of pork from one litter in six months.

The eating of sauerkraut tends to prolong human life, according to some medical scientists.

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FARMERS ON HAND TO OPPOSE ROAD

The first of a series of meetings called by LaPorte farmers to express indignation against the construction of the Boot Jack road was held Thursday evening at a large number of farmers attended and expressed their opinions on the matter, the majority of them vigorously opposing the proposed improvement, which they claimed would benefit no part of the county except Michigan City.

Similar meetings will be held Friday evening and tomorrow in Prairie township and at LaCrosse. Farmers are urged to attend and express themselves on the project, it being the desire of those who have called the meetings to show the board of county commissioners the sentiment of the people on the matter.

A large delegation of farmers is expected to attend the meeting of the board of county commissioners on Sunday when the commissioners will make known their decision on the proposed expenditure. Many farmers who are unable to attend the meeting plan to send written statements setting forth their objections to the building of the road.

CASS COUNTY SOILS NEED LIME OR MARL

Many Farms Tested Show Acidity, Which Farmers Are Planning to Correct.

Tests made during the past four months show that practically all soils in Cass county need lime. There have been over one hundred and fifty tests made on many farms in all parts of the county and on nearly all the different types of soil. It is planned to get several tests of all the various soil types recognized by the U. S. department of agriculture so that farmers in the county can get this information first hand.

The amount of lime required as shown by the tests varies considerably. The black prairie soils of Penn. Pekagon and Edgewood show a requirement of from one to five tons. Many of these soils have been farmed for four or five generations are sour and also run down.

Applications of lime in large amounts have given excellent stands of alfalfa and when plowed after several years, have in turn produced much better crops of wheat, corn and potatoes than had been produced in many years past on these soils.

The level sandy loam soils known as "Oak Openings" show a requirement of from two to three tons of lime. These soils while not farming as well as the black prairie soils, have produced good crops, but are now showing the effect of continuous cropping by smaller yields.

Many of these soils have been put into alfalfa the past five years, and are proving to be excellent for that crop. Drainage is better and humus helps to keep the alfalfa coming.

Probably the largest area of soil which needs liming for profitable crop production are the rolling light sandy loams. It is on these soils that most of the lime tests have been made.

While lighter soils have not been cropped nearly as long as the others they have become unprofitable in many cases. These soils can be brought back only through careful management. The old method will have to be abandoned for the present at least, and a carefully planned system of liming and fertilizing that will meet the requirements as high on these soils but we find that humus is lacking which makes it all the more necessary for careful management. The application of lime on these soils will bring returns to the owner, but the amount used should be fully sufficient to last for several years.

Observation shows that when plenty of good marl or ground limestone is used, alfalfa has done much better than when the same application has been used. The plants make quicker and better growth and did not heave as much.

The lime requirement for these soils varies from one to three tons and this will be noticeable even on the same or adjoining farms.

It has been found that marl applied one to two years ahead of alfalfa gives much better results. In looking over some of the crop failures we find that too little lime has been used in many cases. In others the marl and fertilizer applications have been made just previous to seeding and had not been thoroughly worked into the soil.

To sum up the situation in the county, practically all soils are sour and need lime. From one to three tons is required on the lighter and medium soils. The addition of a ton of the coarse limestones or marl will be required for best results where the test is based on fine limestones. The application of lime a year or two ahead of the alfalfa will materially aid in getting a better stand.

On the lighter soils manure plowed in and lime applied later and harrowed in will give better results. The application of lime should precede the use of fertilizers where economical results are desired. Marl, which is so plentiful in the county, is to be encouraged. Where possible to get it out and the haul is not too great marl is profitable and as cheap or cheaper than other forms of lime.

Cass county has unlimited marl beds that await development, every township has some marl deposits. With the modern and better equipment coming on the market many farmers are now seeking to get their marl close by. The marl survey, which is now being made by the farm bureau through the county agent will help many farmers to secure marl.

FARMERS MAKE FRANTIC APPEAL FOR MORE MEN. LAPORTE, Ind., June 22.—Northern Indiana farmers today made frantic appeal to farm bureaus for men to assist in the wheat fields. It is feared thousands of acres of grain will go to waste unless help is secured very quickly. The yield promised to be one of the largest in the history of the state.

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY GRAIN CROPS SOON READY TO HARVEST

This Coming Week Will See Many Binders in Rye and Wheat Fields.

Harvest will soon be on us, sweeping up from the south. Rye is about ready to cut in many localities and next week will see a start in wheat. Wheat is very rusty in some sections and this year rust has hastened ripening. Corn is generally in good condition, considering the lateness of planting. Some localities have been favored with rain while other parts of the county are getting very dry. Weather generally has been favorable for raising and the crop has been above the average.

Peppermint does not look as thrifty as it did last year this time and there are many reports of winter and spring killing. Potato planting is well under way and a normal acreage will be secured. There has been a tendency to bring in Michigan varieties, which is working a marked improvement in old native stocks of seed. During May and early June there was an increase in the annual seeding of alfalfa. Farmers on the lighter soils are beginning to see their salvation in abundant use of alfalfa to add humus to the depleted soils.

Milk grows less plentiful as time and warm weather approach. There will doubtless be a marked scarcity in this territory. The owners of dairy cattle for tubercularis have removed about 200 head from the herds of the county and this means that milk which has heretofore been surplus has been removed from the market.

Wool has practically all been removed and sold to local buyers. Freight rates reduced and effective July 1st amounting to 10 per cent on limestone and other farm products, was made possible by the American Farm Bureau Federation, through the effective work of their traffic department. Brought down to local figures this means that each farmer purchasing a car of limestone after July 1st will have received a return of \$5.00, which is the amount of the membership in the local farm bureau. The present reduction is not the only one for which the organization has been partly responsible.

CHARGES GOSHEN PRODUCE DEALER COMMITTING FRAUD

Says Dealer Is Shipping Eggs Out of State—Unique Business House.

GOSHEN, June 22.—In circuit court here, Florentine Prater, who filed suit against George B. Bond of West Unity, O., a Goshen produce dealer, alleging he had supplied Bond with \$6000 with which to purchase eggs and the Bond property was being moved out of Indiana. A car load of eggs valued at \$3000, standing in the Big Four railroad yards ready for shipment to New York, was seized and held until it was shown it was owned by the State Bank and Trust company, which concern furnishes funds with which to pay for the eggs. The shipment was released.

Discovery has been made that order bills of lading for eggs shipped by the Bond concern have been forged and that in some instances one shipment has been sold to two commission houses. John D. Bond, son of George B. Bond and who established the business here, is under grand jury indictment, charged with embezzling and forgery. The case has been continued until the next term of circuit court.

In many respects the Bond establishment is unique. Each morning Father Bond opens the day's business with prayer. He is in his office and conducts the concern under strictly religious auspices. On the farm's letter heads the following is printed:

"I Love and Honor God, the Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit."

"Psalm 121:6-5. The sun shall not smite thee by day nor the moon by night. The Lord shall keep thee from all evil. He shall keep thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth and forevermore."

"Independent Packing House of A Servant of the Lord Jesus Christ, Goshen, Indiana."

A flower cut in the morning will last twice as long as one cut later in the day when the sun is shining upon it.

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