

Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union of America

Matters of Especial Moment to the Progressive Agriculturist

Let not the sun go down upon thy mistakes. Intolerance wins neither friends nor success. "Dollar vision" is the enemy of real co-operation. One can't set the world on fire by shooting hot air. Flattery may be nice but its purpose is questionable. Honesty as a "policy" only is unprofitable business. The discouraged man always has the hardest row to hoe. Go after the dollars, the pennies will come tagging along. It's the top dollar that puts the cream into the cream check. Law suits are dear at any price. Avoid them if at the expense of your own dignity. Instead of worrying over past mistakes, brace up and resolve to do better in the future. Don't expect to have a bright and happy home without good books, music and friends. You will be much happier if you don't try to get even with the man who has injured you. We are all inclined to consider a man a fine fellow if he is a good listener to our hot air. You have heard much about the high cost of living but what about the high cost of being a sport? It is an old axiom, that it is hard for an empty sack to stand straight; but still harder for a lazy man to succeed as a farmer. We have come to the conclusion that a man who has got a bad heart doesn't need medicine—he needs religion or a good beating. Every "sure thing" has a string tied to it somewhere, and some tricky person at the other end of the string is bound to jerk as soon as the innocent party grabs for it. The most efficient school is the school in which the farmers and their wives take a keen interest. The teacher deserves co-operation and should have it if you want the best results.

GIVE PREFERENCE TO COTTON

Many Ways in Which Merchants and Others Can Help Greatest Industry in United States.

One of the great flouring mills has adopted the policy of using cotton bags for its flour wherever the trade can be induced to accept them. This should be perfectly easy, except in certain foreign lands where the people, for some reason, prefer jute bags. American merchants can help the greatest industry in the United States by pushing on the market the beautiful and bed clothes made of cotton. They are fully the equal of linen in appearance and in serviceableness. Cotton wrapping twine has been adopted by the government departments at Washington, instead of the hemp and jute fibers. For all purposes for which cotton is adapted in price and quality, cotton should be given the preference. "Buy a bale" is a good slogan, but the millions who can buy only a tiny fraction of a bale may do so by giving preference to cotton where possible. By so doing they will serve the nation's greatest and most depressed industry—and save money.

CAREFUL PLANS FOR FARMING

System May Be Mapped Out That Will Cover Considerable Period of Time—Means Success.

The successful business man is not a mere opportunist. He makes careful plans, constructs a careful system, which may cover a long period of years. Circumstances may arise which cause him to alter his plans in details, but rarely in the larger outlines. Like any other sort of business, highly successful farming requires careful planning. A system may be worked out that will cover a considerable period of time. To make no plans beyond a single season is to invite loss and possibly even disaster. The successful farmer lays plans for cropping systems, crop rotations, the raising of live stock, the improvement of his property, advertising, and numerous other matters. With this as a basis, he moves confidently into the future. Conditions may necessitate alterations in details, but the plans if properly laid will remain in large measure the same and will lead to increasing success.

Distance for Planting.

Currants and roseberries, three to four feet apart. Raspberries and blackberries, three to five by four to seven feet apart. Strawberries for field culture, one to two by three to four feet apart. Strawberries, garden culture, one to two feet apart.

Profitable Farm Building.

There is probably no farm building that pays a better profit dollar for dollar than the shed that keeps machinery from the weather.

Peanuts for Forage.

Experiments recently completed by the department of agriculture show that peanuts can be profitably used as forage for cattle in the south Atlantic states where they grow so abundantly. Animals display an almost human fondness for peanuts and thrive on them.—Missouri Stockman.

Substitute for Alfalfa.

When properly handled sweet clover makes a very good substitute for alfalfa or clover hay, its nutritive value being about the same.

FAILURES IN CO-OPERATION

Invariably Traced to Bad Management or Graft, or Both—General System is Approaching.

In the United States there are a large number of co-operative associations. Not all of them have succeeded by any means but where there has been a failure it invariably can be traced to bad management, or graft, or both. We do not have however, anything approaching a general system of co-operation in this country, but in my judgment we are evolving toward that condition, writes T. A. McNeal in Farmers Mail and Breeze. The fact that the competitive system, if it can be called a system, is wasteful, uneconomic, brutal and finally leads to the destroying of the government, war and finally anarchy, is gradually permeating the minds even of men who have themselves profited most from the system. When a Guggenheim declares that "every worker is entitled to a job and that the government should see that he gets it" with a good deal more along the same line it would seem that new light is dawning.

I do not look for general co-operation to be brought about by a sudden revolution. It will come about gradually, spreading until it covers the entire nation. It will not then be one system but a large number of systems working together in harmony. There will be national co-operation, concerning matters that are naturally and properly national. The railroads for example, will be owned by the nation. There will be a system of banks owned and operated by the government to facilitate the exchange of commodities. There will be government warehouses in which commodities that are not easily perishable will be stored. There will be public works to develop such resources as are national in character, such as the building of interstate railroads; the improving of navigable rivers; the developing of the waterpower of such rivers. There will be state co-operation along lines that may be determined properly to come within the jurisdiction of states. Such I think would be the constructing of wagon roads, for example. There will be co-operation in the lesser municipalities such as cities, towns, counties and townships concerning matters that are local in their character and which can be better managed in a local way than by either the nation or the state. All these co-operative units will work together harmoniously but to a large degree independently, each within its own proper sphere, just as there are in the universe an infinite number of systems, each perfect within itself but all moving together in perfect harmony.

FARMERS IN GOOD POSITION

Somebody Must Raise Food Products to Supply European Nations—Demand for Necessities.

The farmers of this country should take courage, no matter how general the effect of the great war. The position of the American farmer is the most secure of all the classes. He is at least sure of a living, with shelter and plenty to eat, says American Cultivator. No other large class can be sure of that much, but there is more than merely security for the farmers. While the rest of the world's producers are fighting and consuming food products, somebody must raise more food, and nowhere else in the world is there such a great area of the best of food-producing land, under intelligent management and worked with modern machinery. Under the spur of high prices the soil of our farms could be made to produce far more than at present. The crop of most farms could be doubled if the price of the product looked attractive.

It seems quite certain that the necessities of life will go higher in price, not only for this year, but for the next. The farmers of Europe who are now in the armies will hardly be able to do much with this year's crop, nor probably with the crop for next year. There will surely be a great difficulty in maintaining the food supply of the populous nations of Europe. There may be difficulty in securing means of shipment, and it may be hard for the buyers to find the cash, but these needs will have to be met by the people of Europe. Both those at war and those at peace must be fed. Our exporters are not very likely to sell anything unless paid for in advance. Several of the nations that are usually the chief customers in food products will be likely to control the sea, and thus allow free shipment of food, at least to their own ports. It will be a time when the demand will be for the necessities rather than the luxuries. There will be, perhaps, less money, both at home and abroad, to spend for fruit and garden truck, but the demand will be enormous for such staples as grain, flour, meats and potatoes, and even for the less needful food articles like butter, cheese and eggs.

May Become Cannibals.

In early spring young chicks confined closely to brooders, the Leghorns particularly, may become cannibals and take to eating each other. Free range is the best cure. Watch for the ringleader and when you find which one starts the trouble cut the ends off his bill, cutting one part a little shorter than the other, so that when the bill is closed a small opening can be seen.

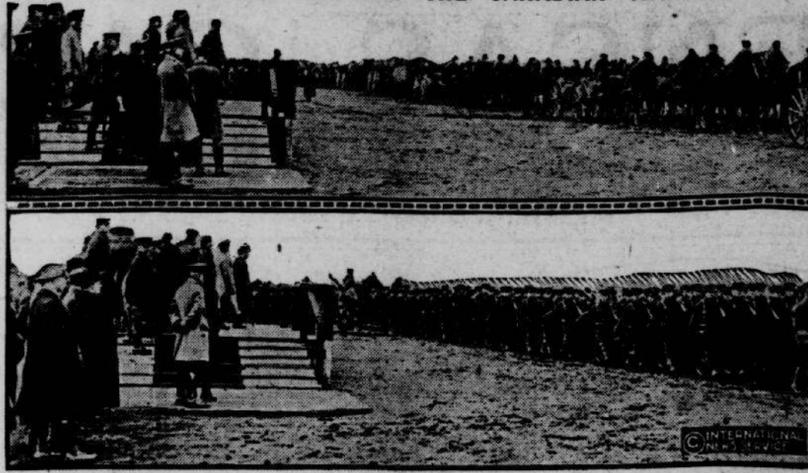
Testing the Eggs.

After eggs have been in the incubator for a week, they should be tested to see if they contain a developing germ. Hold a lighted lamp or candle behind each egg. An infertile egg will be found to be absolutely clear, while a fertile egg will have a dark spot in the center. Infertile eggs should be taken away and fresh eggs, carefully dated, put in their places.

Birds Destroy Boll Weevil.

Sixty-four birds are known to be enemies of the cotton boll weevil.

KING GEORGE REVIEWS THE CANADIAN TROOPS



Above, Canadian artillery marching past the reviewing stand at Salisbury Plain. Below, an infantry brigade from Canada. In both photographs King George and Lord Kitchener are to be seen in the reviewing stand.

BEARS KILL SALMON

Alaskan Bruin Slays Them for Food and Sport.

Can Eat 500 Pounds at One Meal—Gulls and Terns Also Among Causes for Waning Fish Supply in Northern Rivers.

Bears that fish in shallow water and gulls and terns that pluck out the eyes of their prey are destroying millions of Alaskan salmon, according to E. Lester Jones, deputy commissioner of the bureau of fisheries, who was sent to Alaska last summer to investigate the causes of the waning salmon supply. The bears, he says, are the worst offenders, because they haunt the shores of streams during the spawning season, and besides killing huge quantities for food, slay many thousands of others just for the pure joy of the sport.

The commissioner in his report tells how at Black Bear creek in the Cleveland peninsula he found the shores for 150 feet on both sides littered with hundreds upon hundreds of humpback, silver and chum salmon that had been tossed out of the water by bears. Hardly any of the fish had been mutilated except by the marks of the bear's claws on their backs. All that was eaten was the "cheek" of the salmon, the bear, according to Commissioner Jones, being very fastidious and preferring that part to any other.

As the bears in Alaska are the largest in the world and are noted for their ravenous appetites, it is easy to realize how much damage they can do. On Kodiak island, where the full-grown bear weighs three-quarters of a ton, the deputy commissioner learned from a native that one of these giants could eat a third of his own weight in salmon in a single day. "As in other parts of the territory," Mr. Jones remarks, "this bear also throws considerable numbers of fish out of the water, many of which it may never care to touch for food."

While wolves and even eagles are also doing much harm, Mr. Jones found that still greater destruction was caused by gulls and terns. Describing his visit to Sierra creek on a rainy day at low tide, he says: "My attention was first attracted by a movement of birds in the water and

MRS. M'CANN AND HER BOYS



America's first (and only) "Twilight Twins" had their initial ride in an automobile, when their mother, Mrs. Bessie M'Cann of Brooklyn, took them to a "Twilight Sleep" lecture held at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, under the auspices of the "Twilight Sleep" association. The "Twilight Twins" are both boys—and two more healthy boys cannot be found. They were born in the Kings County hospital a month ago, while their mother was under the influence of the new method as practiced by the Freiburg specialists of Germany. The association is planning a tour of the more important cities in the United States in order to educate women to the advantages of the Twilight Sleep and see that physicians use none but the approved method in administering the scopolamin-morphin treatment. Twilight mothers will be the principal lecturers.

AUTO CONQUERS ANGRY BULL

Foolish Picnicer Sets Stage for Tragedy, but Quick-Witted Chauffeur Averts Disaster.

West Orange, N. J.—Thirty members of a Bible class of a Newark church had a fall outing in the Pleasantdale section of the Orange mountains; several had narrow escapes from death; an anti-social was damaged and one man lost a set of false teeth, all because one of the picnicers

MRS. S. W. GROTE



Mrs. S. W. Grote left New York recently on the steamer Hellig Olan for Riga, Russia, where, in fulfillment of her husband's last request, she will sprinkle his ashes on his old homestead. Twelve days after their wedding Grote, fearing the time might come when she would no longer love him, ended the honeymoon by suicide. Her husband was the brother of the imperial physician of the czar's court. Mrs. Grote, who is known as Doctor Grote, is a woman of unusual charm and is of Swedish birth. Grote left all his property to his wife.

along the banks. As I drew nearer I saw thousands of salmon fighting their way up the shallow stream, and among these fish were the gulls, picking out first one eye and then the other. I flushed this enormous horde of gulls, which I believe numbered at least 10,000. Going closer to the stream, I found humpback salmon flopping everywhere, with their eyes gone and otherwise mutilated from the picking and clawing of these birds. I estimated that on this creek alone there were within sight 5,000 fish either dead or dying that had never spawned."

To remedy this condition Mr. Jones makes several novel suggestions. The case with which the bears and gulls prey upon salmon, he says, is due in large measure to the number of obstructions in streams which they frequent in the spawning season. Besides the falls and other natural barriers, some of the rivers have not been kept clear of timber and other obstructions, and are consequently providing ideal fishing grounds for the natural enemies of the salmon. Whole schools are halted on their way upstream by these obstructions, with the result that the fish fall back exhausted into shallow water, only to be preyed upon by bears and gulls.

The commissioner mentions a number of streams where this is especially true, and urges that the government appropriate sufficient money to have the worst obstructions removed. The falls in many places, he says, could easily be blasted to give the salmon a free passage. In other places, where dynamite is impracticable, the construction of "fish ladders" is recommended.

"The investment of a few thousand dollars on all of these streams," says the commissioner, "would mean a great return in the future as the result of opening up additional natural spawning grounds as yet almost wholly untouched."

Farewell to White Bread.

Berlin.—The proprietor of a prominent Berlin restaurant recently gave a "white roll" banquet at which the white bread was served for the last time, its consumption being forbidden.

Germans Confiscate Copper.

Amsterdam.—To provide against a copper famine in Germany the Kaiser's troops are said to have confiscated all brass doorknobs, chandeliers and other brass and bronze fixtures in Belgian cities.

Use New Shield.

Petrograd.—The Russians are using a new form of shield which runs on wheels, covers six men abreast and stops rifle and Maxim bullets.

Feathers for Relief.

Each South African ostrich farmer will give one pound of ostrich feathers to the British and Belgian relief funds.

SAVED LIFE OF BABY

Weary German Soldiers Forage for Starving Little One.

Sturdy Warrior With Pitcher of Milk Plays Nurse and Scolds White Tears Roll Down His Cheeks.

Berlin.—How German soldiers saved the life of a French baby is told in a letter written by an alderman of a West Prussian city who is serving as a battalion adjutant at the front.

"We had taken the village by storm," he writes. "The enemy had to be driven from every single house, every barn and every shed. Still we were within the reach of their field guns and so it was impossible for our commissary department to furnish us anything to eat. We had to subsist on what we could find in the village. Luckily we discovered a cow in one of the barns, some of our men were fortunate in capturing two pigs and the following night two steers were brought in from the pasture outside the village. So the most question was solved for some days to come.

"But we had hardly anything to drink, the water was dirty and scarce. Besides, our men expected something better and stronger.

"We searched every house, went into every cellar, crept through every garret and found nothing. Finally one of our men called my attention to another house which we had missed. It was badly damaged by shells. The stables were mostly burned down. The yard was covered with French uniforms, bloody clothing, guns and the remnants of slaughtered animals.

"In the collar of this house we discovered human beings. There were six women and eight children huddled together. I asked them whether they had had anything to eat and they told me the German soldiers had given them bread, soup and some meat.

"While talking to the women I heard the faint cry of a baby, and in looking around I discovered in one of the corners a young mother holding a six months' old child to her breast. I inquired whether the child was sick and the mother told me it was starving. It had not had any milk for two days.

"It seems the women had told our soldiers about the baby, but they had not understood what was wanted. Then I remembered we had kept the cow we found two days ago in our barn. So we went for the cow.

"One of my men volunteered to milk and got busy. But there was no milk. I ordered another soldier to milk, but the result was the same—negative. The idea struck me that where so many soldiers wanted milk for their coffee the cow might have been milked dry. So I placed a guard in front of the cow's stall and ordered him to let no one come near the animal.

"Three hours later we tried again and were overjoyed when we obtained a pitcher full of milk. Immediately we made haste for the cellar where the baby was still crying. It did not cry very much longer.

"The women were profuse in their thanks and one of my men who carried the pitcher scolded them for making so much noise. He was mad because tears were rolling down his cheeks. He himself is a father of several small children."

Girl Fights in Many Battles.

Petrograd.—Olga Krasnikoff, a nineteen-year old girl, fought in 19 battles in Poland before she was wounded in the foot and her sex was discovered. A fourth degree St. George's cross has been awarded her in the Moscow hospital.

NOT FOR THE STOUT

SHORT, FULL SKIRTS ADAPTED FOR SLIM FIGURES.

Average Woman of Middle Age Will Find It Hard to Wear the Coming Styles—One of the New Picture Hats.

Although the outline of the moment cannot be said to be "early Victorian," because of the generous dimensions of the waist, it is yet true that from the waist down the newest outline recalls the quaint fashions which were in vogue when the great Queen Victoria was a young girl.

There is the same very short, and very full skirt and—more often than not—the same shapeless coat which opens in front over a little lace or tulle chemiselette.

It may be said at once that the gowns of the immediate future will be exceedingly attractive when worn by just the right girl or woman, but it is hard to see how they can be made possible for the average woman of thirty-five or forty.

Of course, it is true that our dress-makers are clever at arranging and altering existing styles to suit individual forms, but at the same time the fact remains that a very short, full skirt can never look really well on a stout figure.

The illustration shows one of the new picture hats made of white velvet. The flat brim is double and the trimmings consist of a quaint cockade made of black moire ribbon and sable. This model has been carried out in dark blue moire velvet and also in a heavy make of black satin.

The important point is that the trimming should be quite small, but uncom-



An Early Spring Model by "Jane," a White Velvet Hat With a Double Brim and Quaint Cockade of Sable and Moire Ribbon.

mon and original. Flat brimmed hats of this order will be very popular all through the spring and summer. They will not be exaggeratedly large and the trimming will always be of the simplest description.

This is a shape which may be said to be universally becoming, and for this reason we find it revived again and again.

LAST WORD IN RIBBON STYLES

Masters of Importance Which Women Will Do Well to Keep in the Memory.

Watch out for velvet ribbons. They are to be used very freely this spring and summer for dress trimmings.

Also be on the lookout for taffeta ribbons in narrow styles not over an inch and one-half wide with corded edges and rather thin texture.

These will be broadly used and especially smart in the new colorings.

In the millinery field, the vogue for ribbon trimmings will follow that which now exists for vegetable trimmings.

Plaided effects will enter as well as satin ribbons in black and in black and white effects.

It is possible for hat trimmings to become very dependent upon ribbon trimmings this season.

The band and streamer styles are indicated as well as brim facings of ribbons.

Bengaline and voile ribbons are also on the tapis.

Embroideries of narrow velvet ribbon and soutache braids will be smart trimmings for cloth, muslin and silk dresses.

NOT HARD TO CLEAN HATS

Little Need to Despair When Matter of Renovation Becomes a Pressing Necessity.

A quick and effective way to clean white felt hats is to make a paste of flour and gasoline, rub it into the hat and hang it in the air. When dry it will look just like new, with all dust and finger marks gone.

To clean white plumes, take one quart of gasoline and divide it into

COMMENT ON SPRING STYLES

Designs Vary Greatly From Those That Have Been Popular During the Winter Months.

The new spring dresses represent change in silhouette, crispness of materials and novelty in designs. As the season advances the skirts are growing wider and wider, having already reached the three-and-one-half-yard width. The normal and the high waist line are both seen.

Coat dresses include military effects, bolero jackets and various Dutch, Russian and peasant effects, suggesting the coat in the bodice of the dress. Taffeta and faille constitute many smart models with boleros braided in gold, silver or in matching soutache. Flounces, ruffles and even draperies are used. When the skirt does not reach below the ankles, the waist line is shortened. With longer skirts the normal waist line is used.

AFTERNOON MODEL



Worth model afternoon gown. Skirt is of blue taffeta with red flowers, very full skirt, shirred; dark blue satin waist and band around skirt. Hat is Napoleonic shape from Worth, color of the ruche in the skirt, with corse velvet trimming. Parasol is of dark blue silk.

two parts, just a little more in one part than in the other. Take one cup of flour and mix with the larger part, then shake the plume thoroughly in this part and rinse it in the smaller part. Shake well in the air to dry and to destroy the odor of the gasoline. The tinsel braids and ribbons that are so much used at present can be cleaned or refreshed by washing them with a toothbrush that has been dipped first in suds and then in ammonia.

A good way to clean children's bonnets made from Angora wool is to dust talcum powder through them, rubbing them in the hands as if washing. Lay them away for half a day, then remove all traces of powder by shaking. They will be as white and fluffy as when new.

DESIGNED FOR THE EVENING

Costumer's Triumph Made Manifest in Selection of Colors for This Charming Gown.

The evening gown shown in the drawing would have been striking whatever colors had been chosen for its design, but developed in black and white it has acquired distinction. The graceful fall of lace over the shoulder



with the rich black velvet of the "corselet" grille showing through, a most artistic effect has been achieved. The fall of lace over the shoulder has been weighted on the points with pearl tassels. The little tucker which shows at front and back of the corselet is of shirred white tulle. Of this tulle is formed and joined to the bodice at the line of the hip with a full, rouching of the same. This tulle is spangled with silver sequins to the depth of a foot from the lower edge. The skirt of white satin is caught in the back drapery with pale yellow roses.

Taffeta Petticoats.

For the first time in several seasons the taffeta petticoat is again fashionable. Now that the distended dressmaker are becoming the vogue, the demand for the taffeta petticoat must surely follow. By way of compromise, deep taffeta sources are used on petticoats of the softer silks. Usually such combinations of materials are made in matching colors, as it is undesirable to call attention to the difference in the texture of the fabric.