

Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union of America

Matters of Especial Moment to the Progressive Agriculturist

Everybody loves a booster. A pig never squeals because he has too much to eat. If a man is a financial success people overlook the means that made him so. It's a waste of time to fix up your statistics for the benefit of the recording angel. Be sure the specifications are correct, when you start building that reputation. Many a man thinks he is a saint because he has dreams of heaven every Sunday. A carefully kept account book saves your head, your hands, and your hard-earned cash. We never yet knew of a law suit that paid anybody in the long run except the lawyers. The man who talks to please himself soon has the audience well pleased with itself. When you hear an extravagant compliment you are disposed to think there is a good deal in it. The man who practices honesty solely as a matter of policy does not know what real honesty is. There are those who work very hard to keep up a home which they never help to make pleasant. As long as farmers can be kept pulling apart the middlemen will continue to get fat on their labor. The average girl treats a new acquaintance better than she does an old friend—so the old friend thinks. Some farmers appear to think when you suggest a new idea to them that you are trying to knock the foundations of life from under them. Don't forget the school children need tools to work with just as much as any other worker. Here surely is not the place to "cut down expenses." Who is not wiser in the fall than he is in the spring has not made the best use of summer, no matter how full his granaries promise to be. We maintain that any man whose farm is big enough to keep two or three hired men busy, can make more money by the use of his brains than by working with his hands. Some of us let mighty good opportunities slip by waiting for inspiration or the psychological moment, all the time forgetting that idleness never inspired anybody to do anything.

BETWEEN CITY AND COUNTRY

Era of Misunderstanding Fast Disappearing and Progress Means Solution of Big Problems.

To the Members and Officers of the Farmers' Union:

Unrest is back of every intellectual or political crusade or tendency in this country today. One need not be a Republican, a Democrat, a Socialist, a Bull Moose or a member of any other party to realize that fact. Look about you and with very few exceptions you will see few people who are satisfied with existing conditions. One party may diagnose the trouble in its own particular way, and prescribe its own particular remedy. Another party may take an exactly opposite course. But the man in the city or the country, if he reads and thinks and observes even a little, realizes that slowly but irresistibly, there is approaching a readjustment in America; and in this readjustment, the main battle cry will be a more equal distribution of the burdens and the rewards, of the penalties and the premiums. The great majority of Americans are discontented with the status as it now is, and the new spirit that is breathing over the face of the waters of thought and sentiment is "the genuine and not the fake brotherhood of man—or at least a condition nearer approximating it than we have seen yet in this nation. In that day of change, of evolution, that is coming, it is to the interest of both town and country to stand as one. In the final analysis, we are all Americans. It is true, that a few prey upon town and country alike. It is against the interest of this few to encourage a thorough understanding between town and country. We must remember, in considering this fact, that the citizen of today was the countryman of yesterday; that the countryman of today is likely to be the citizen of tomorrow; that both are of the same blood, with the same ties and the identical ultimate interest. I am glad, as every thinking American should be glad, that the era of misunderstanding between city and country is disappearing. Progress in that direction means that in the arduous and delicate solution of the problems that beset our common nation, town and country will be arrayed together and battling for human rights, whether in the most popular city or the most sparsely settled country.

CHARLES S. BARRETT, Union City, Ga.

Turkeys Pay.

Early turkeys are what pay, and these can only be had from early laid eggs.

Ventilation Without Drafts.

Good ventilation without drafts is a prime essential of a good poultry-house. Without it, it is difficult to have a house that is either dry or sanitary.

Corn in Poultry Feed.

Corn is a good poultry feed the year round, provided the birds have plenty of green stuff during the warm months.

FARMERS TOO CONSERVATIVE

More Knowledge and Better Business Methods Needed in South—Urged to Rotate Crops.

I have been in the farming business and associated with others who dig their living out of the ground for a long time, and I know the conditions and the shortcomings of the people in this line of business. And the thing that impresses me most is that most of us are so apt to go along in the beaten track, doing the things we have been doing and that our neighbors are doing, without even thinking about making any change in the regular program. And there is a good reason for this, too. When we branch out and tackle some new kinds of crops and new ways of doing things, we are pretty sure to strike a snag. Where I was raised, in an eastern state, every farmer I knew in a radius of ten miles planted corn and tobacco, and sowed wheat and oats. Some made money and some did not; it depended on the business methods of the farmer. I thought then, and I know now, that it is foolish for a man to go on doing the same things the others are doing, just from force of habit. And this is notably true of the people in most of the southern states and those bordering on them. But it is quite true also of many farther north. What we need is for men to rise above the level of the daily work and its associations and do some thinking for themselves. I have been in the business most of my life, and my opinion is that the man who gets his living from the soil is more "set in his ways" than anybody in any other business. And there is where we make our mistake. For a third of a century I have been associating with the same men who own farms in one of the oldest states, and I have never known them to make any material change in their methods. Their crops are composed of wheat, oats, corn and tobacco. Their rotation is oats after corn, wheat after tobacco. Some of them save all the manure; all of them buy some fertilizers for tobacco, and some have them for their wheat. Almost all of them sow clover on the wheat, and generally get a good growth of both on tobacco land. They may sow some grass on the oats; but most likely they do not. So it is very natural that the "tobacco lots" are keeping up, and the rest of the land is running down. But there are some who are wide awake, and in some neighborhoods they have taken to sowing Canada peas, as well as the common cowpea, on as much of their land as possible, and I do not know of a man who is a crank on cowpeas who is not making his farm better every year. Some, not so many, sow a good many of the Canada field peas, which come earlier and when there is greater need for something to supplement pasture for cattle or hogs. I have used both these forage crops with great satisfaction, and I am confident that the general adoption of a rotation including one or both of them will do more to cheapen production of pork or of beef and milk than any crop not of the grass or clover kind. If a man is cropping his farm to corn, wheat and oats, with some other special "money crop," he will find that any such crop will make better returns planted on a clover sod or peas than anywhere else; no matter whether it is tobacco, cotton or any of the market crops that prevail in the limits of the corn belt. Both corn and wheat can be counted on for the best yields when they follow any of the leguminous crops. And, if the owner is wise and up to date, no matter whether his main crop is to be corn, tobacco, potatoes, wheat, oats or something else, he will find that stimulating the soil for the improving crop is by far the best method to secure the largest crop of whatever he gets his profit out of. In some tests I have made with corn I found that where the soil was a little thin in spots, and the clover had to be helped by a good application of fine manure, the clover on such places was almost equal to the rest, and the succeeding crop was even better. I like to see a field in any crop, particularly of grain even in growth, color and yield, and I cannot but feel that a man is a mighty careless farmer who will let thin spots in a field mar the beauty of appearance and cut down the actual profits. And it is really surprising how many men seem to be extremely careless about such things. Perhaps, when all the young men in the agricultural colleges get down to practical farming all over the country, their example will stimulate us older ones to adopting better ways.

Cultivator Pays.

Professor Massay says: "The man who walks across the fields four times, or even two times to cultivate each row of corn or cotton, wastes enough labor in one season, if he has a crop of any size, to pay for a two-horse cultivator." If you doubt this statement just take a day off and figure it out with your pencil and paper.

Vigorous Sires.

It is reasonable to concede that animals which are enfeebled either by disease or age are not capable of siring or producing foals, which at maturity will have as much vitality, strength and endurance as the foals sired or produced by the same animals before their vigor is impaired.

Benefit of Co-Operation.

Not the least of the benefits accruing from co-operation will be a better understanding of each other, closer social relations between families of the right sort, and the weeding out of the selfish and undesirable citizens unless they mend their ways. In other words, there will be a development of the farm spirit and a standard of living, moral and social, that will make the unworthy unwelcome and ill at ease in the community.

TURKEYS NEED RANGE

Mistake to Confine Fowls in Small Enclosures.

If Young Birds Can Be Induced to Roost in Large Tree Near Poultry House They Will Do Well—Avoid Damp Quarters.

(By R. G. WEATHERSTONE.) It is a mistake to confine turkeys in small enclosures. By nature they are roving birds and get their feed over a wide range.

Turkeys should be raised with turkey hens because the young poults with chicken mothers will not range as widely as they should.

The young turkeys should be turned out in the fields just as soon as the dew is off the grass and should be allowed to remain out until dark.

If they are driven into the poultry house about dark and given a feed of grain or dry corn meal, wet and squeezed dry, they will, in a few days, return of their own accord.

Of course they must be brought in every night because if they are allowed to roost away from the poultry house they are likely to be destroyed by animals.



Excellent Type of Turkey.

If the young turkeys can be induced to roost in a large tree near the poultry house they will do very well there, because the tree is the natural roosting place for turkeys. We know a woman in Virginia who raised about 200 turkeys every year and they all roosted in two large trees in the yard at the rear of the house. An inclined board is placed against the tree so that the poults can get into it when they are quite young. Many of them continue to walk up the plank to the first branches even after they are fully grown while the others use their wings to reach the branches.

Young turkeys cannot thrive in damp quarters. They should be well ventilated and placed where they will get plenty of sunshine.

Young turkeys should never be hurried or driven home or quickly forced into the poultry house. They are deliberate in their movements and should take half an hour or more to find their roosting places and settle down for the night.

Health and Strength of Wool.

If the animal is in poor health the effect on the growth of the wool is similar to insufficient feed. Sheep often shed or slip their wool as a result of a feverish condition. Any severe illness extending over sufficient time to reduce the animal in flesh will almost invariably cause a weak place in the wool. In the production of good, strong wool the health of the animal is just as essential as proper feeding.

Permanent Pasture for Hogs.

It will pay you to go to some trouble to get an acre lot well set with permanent grass for the boar to run in. Having running water in the lot if possible, build him a shed, tight on three sides and open on the south, and with plenty of grass he will cost you very little feed.

PEANUT BUTTER IS POPULAR

Bureau of Plant Industry Issues Circular Dealing With Its Use and How Manufactured.

Circular 98 of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture, says:

"The growing popularity of peanut butter as a food has led to many inquiries regarding the methods employed in its manufacture. Peanut butter is in reality a very simple preparation, consisting merely of fresh-roasted peanuts ground fine and salted to suit the taste. Several large factories and a large number of smaller ones are now devoted to the manufacture of this product with which to supply the rapidly increasing demand. Some of the larger factories are almost models in their construction, equipment and management, while many of the smaller establishments, which have no elaborate equipment, are turning out an excellent product.

"Peanut butter was first manufactured and offered for sale as a food for invalids, but the article was soon adopted by many persons who for one reason or another, such as preference for vegetable foods only, objected to the use of ordinary dairy butter. It soon outgrew this condition of limited use, and its development on a commercial scale has been a general product. It was never intended that this product should be used as a substitute for or a competitor of butter, but as a luncheon delicacy and to add variety to the diet. Peanut butter is a wholesome and nutritious food product and has become a popular article upon our markets. Last year one manufacturer used over 130 cars of shelled peanuts in the production of 6,000,000 small jars of this food. Other manufacturers used large quantities, the total consumption of peanuts for the manufacture of peanut butter alone amounting during the year of 1911 to approximately 1,000 cars of shelled goods, or 1,000,000 bushels.

"In order to produce high-class peanut butter the manufacturer must employ the best materials. On the other hand, the use of the best stock obtainable will be of little avail unless the work of converting into a salable product is conducted in a sanitary manner."

Youths Come to Grief When They Board Yacht.

Arrests Follow the Looting of Many Vessels at Anchor Off Nyack, N. Y.—Leader Told of Huge Fortunes That Awaited Them.

New York.—Like a black visaged tale of the days when Captain Kidd swept the sea, was the yarn unfolded in court in Nyack when four youths with the lure of the southern seas, strong in them, were arraigned on a charge of burglary following an attempt to steal the \$40,000 yacht of James B. Hammond.

YOUNG ANIMALS ARE MOST PROFITABLE

In figuring on the relative value of young and old cows there are a great many things to be taken into account, says a writer in the Farm Progress. The general impression is that a young cow of the same grade is more desirable than an old one, and with the most breeds this is generally the case. But it is better to purchase an old cow of good grade when a moderate amount of money is to be invested than to purchase a young cow that never would be profitable.

Increasing the Efficiency.

Give the horses some carrots, apples or potatoes two or three times a week. Some people call this fussing, but it pays.

Sheep and Weed Eradicators.

Anything that will destroy weeds is worthy of the attention of the farmer. This is also true of anything that will help maintain the fertility of the soil. Sheep will do both. Why no farmish mutton.

OMISSION OF COMMA COSTLY

Fire Insurance Company Rejoices While Kansas City Man is Much Depressed.

Kansas City, Mo.—The absence of a comma in an insurance contract cost a Kansas City man \$7,000. Had the comma been placed after one word in the contract, J. Sidney Smith would have received the money. The court decided it would have punctuated the sentence differently and, as a

GENEVIEVE CLARK AND HER CURL



MISS GENEVIEVE CLARK, daughter of Speaker Champ Clark, is the possessor of a natural curl which adorns her head just below the right ear. This has set a new style for the younger sets and is known as the "Genevieve curl."

"PIRATES" ARE TAKEN

But their elation had overstepped caution and they had sent postal cards to friends in Long Island City telling of the scheme and that they intended to load the vessel with all the booty stored in the cave. These postal cards fell into the hands of the police.

ORIGIN OF THE CRESCENT

Was Once Emblem of Byzantine Empire and Eastern Church—Now Regarded as Mohammedan.

London.—Though now regarded as essentially Mohammedan, the crescent was Christian in its origin. A crescent moon was the emblem of the Byzantine empire, and the eastern church, and the Turks adopted it as a badge of triumph after the capture of Constantinople in 1453.

GOLD DROVE HER TO DEATH

Buried Treasure, Undiscovered, is Cause of Woman's Suicide at Council Grove, Kan.—Worry over her inability to find \$2,000 in gold which she knew to be buried in an iron pot on her farm is believed to have caused a fit of despondency which led to the suicide here of Mrs. Joseph Rutledge, who shot herself through the head.

CURIOSITY BRINGS ODD RIDE

Man Peers Into Barrel, Loses Balance and Rolls Down Street—Nails Cause Him to Howl.

Williamsburg, Pa.—An animated barrel rolling along Kent avenue, near South Tenth street, caused pedestrians to pause in open-mouthed wonder. From the headless end of the barrel protruded a pair of legs. From the general interior issued muffled howls for help.

BABY IS SHOT BEFORE BIRTH

Born With Bullet in Side, Little Fellow Will Live—Man to Be Charged With Attempted Murder.

Honolulu.—To come into the world with a .38 caliber bullet in his side is what baby Cavalho did, and two hours after birth the little fellow was successfully operated upon by surgeons who now say that he will live.

VENTILATION WITHOUT DRAFTS

Good ventilation without drafts is a prime essential of a good poultry-house. Without it, it is difficult to have a house that is either dry or sanitary.

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SUICIDE

Mystery Widow Ends Life Milford, Conn. Cemetery.

Kneeling in Prayer, Woman Said Be From New York, Shoots Herself in Graveyard—Leaves Note Explaining Act.

Milford, Conn.—"I am going to be my husband. Please bury me beside him."

With only the pencilled note to indicate her motive, Mrs. Alice Devine, knelt beside the grave of her husband in the cemetery here and killed herself, putting a bullet in the temple. Her body fell across the grave of the man from whom she could no longer remain separated, the note was found there.

None of the employees of the cemetery had seen her enter, nor had anyone known that she had committed suicide, until her body was found. On the earth stains on her skirt showed that she had been in the attitude of prayer.

To the dramatic manner in which Mrs. Devine took her life is added the mystery of her identity. Although her clothing indicates that she had been in comfortable circumstances there was no jewelry, or any paper bearing an address. The note was addressed to an undertaker, E. J. Nettleton, who had buried her husband's body.

The only information Mr. Nettleton and John Ives, the medical examiner, who took charge of her body, could gather, was that Mr. Devine, who once lived in Milford, had told the few persons in this town who knew him, that he had married a woman residing in New York city. Her address there he did not tell, but he had said that she had lived at various hotels with relatives, and had no permanent home.

Soon after their marriage those who knew Mr. Devine said the couple moved to Ohio, where Mr. Devine died. His body was brought to Milford by the widow. So far as known there were no children.

Mrs. Devine, who was of medium height, with dark eyes and brown hair, apparently was about thirty-eight years old.

How long the couple had lived in Milford, whether Devine had any relatives here and who are Mrs. Devine's relatives in New York city are questions the medical examiner is trying to solve. As no one appears to claim Mrs. Devine's body Mr. Nettleton buried her at his own expense and granted her dying wish.

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