

FARM FIRE LOSS ENORMOUS SUM

Large Percentage of Farm Fires Are Preventable—Guard Gasoline.

LIGHTNING RODS ARE HELP

Schools and Farm Organizations Should Have Fire Prevention Programs Regularly.

Farm fires cost about \$20,000,000 a year—\$18,166,710 in 1918. Of the fires that year 33 per cent were from causes classed as preventable, 37 per cent from partly preventable causes, and 30 per cent unknown but believed to have been largely preventable. With inadequate fire-fighting equipment on farms, fires are hard to control. Prevention is the best way to deal with them.

Defective chimneys and flues took toll to the extent of \$1,962,031; sparks on roofs, \$1,181,171; careless use of matches by smokers and others, \$1,071,987; petroleum and its products, \$732,067; and stoves, furnaces, boilers, and their pipes, \$674,968.

The largest item listed as partly preventable is lightning, \$3,933,950.

Fire Prevention Week should be made a special time for looking over the premises to see that the buildings are in the best practicable shape to prevent and resist fire; that inflammable rubbish is cleared away; and that habits of safety are instilled in the handling of matches, lamps, stoves, and kerosene and gasoline.

Gasoline has come to play such an important part in farm life that special care should be taken to see that it is not stored in inflammable buildings, and is never opened in the presence of uncovered flame.

Watch the Lantern.

Fire Prevention Week ends on the semi-centennial of the great Chicago fire. While occurring in a great city, the traditional cause of this fire was one which is liable to occur in the country—the upsetting of a lantern in a stable. If lanterns must be used in barns, they should be kept in good condition, set or hung in a safe place, and never filled or lighted in the barn.

Numerous disastrous fires are caused by threshing machines, both by scattered sparks and embers and by dust explosions in the separators. All smokestacks should have spark arresters, and the ground around the boiler should be kept clear and wet down if necessary. Grain dust explosions are largely preventable. The United States department of agriculture has made exhaustive studies of the subject and is prepared to recommend adequate safeguards.

Serious losses are caused by sparks from locomotives, which ignite dry wooden shingle roofs and start many fires in straw, stubble, and grass during dry seasons. If a railroad runs through the farm, it will pay to plow a few furrows along the right of way as a fire break.

Kerosene lamps should be examined to see that the burners are in good condition, and should never be left where they may be upset. Kerosene and gasoline receptacles should be kept apart and should be so different as to avoid possibility of a mistake.

Friction Matches Dangerous. Ordinary friction matches should be kept in safe receptacles, away from children, and never carried loose. Smoking in barns and garages never should be permitted. Fire marshals of western states report greater fire losses in grain and straw the past season from carelessly thrown matches, engine sparks and automobile and tractor backfire, than ever before.

Buildings may be made safer by seeing that the chimneys are without cracks and free of soot, which may take fire and scatter sparks on dry roofs. Flues which may become hot should be covered with asbestos and any near-by walls and ceilings protected. There should be a sheet of metal under every stove.

Out of all the losses by lightning, not one was on a building protected by lightning rods. It is now definitely known that lightning rods afford protection. If installed intelligently they reduce the risk from lightning almost to the vanishing point.

Public schools may well devote an hour or afternoon to a special fire prevention program. Some prominent citizens could be called in for a talk. Essays and, perhaps, a playlet by the children would help impress the matter on their minds. Some schools already have a weekly 15 minute lesson on fire prevention. The plan is admirable.

Meetings of farm organizations are particularly proper occasions for fire prevention programs. These organizations frequently have a fire insurance feature, and every fire loss means larger premiums for the mutual insurance associations.

The lesson of fire prevention should be taken to every rural home and community. Precautionary measures will do much to cut down a loss that takes millions of dollars out of the possession of rural Americans every year and leaves nothing in its place. Prevention is better than regret.

GOVERNMENT LINERS FOR PUGET SOUND

Unofficial advices from Washington, D. C., indicate the efforts of Puget Sound cities and other Washington communities to retain five of the government owned passenger and freight 535-foot liners in operation between Seattle, China, Japan and the Philippines will be successful. A hearing was held at the capital, November 15. Portland sought an award of three of this type of vessels, it having none. The vessels serving Seattle are taking thousands of tons of Washington commodities to the Orient, and a regular, fast service is of advantage to every part of the state. Figures were introduced at the hearing to show that five times as much tonnage came into the United States through the straits of Juan de Fuca as moved through the Columbia River, San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego combined and that it is on Puget Sound that the American merchant marine must place its fast vessels to meet foreign competition where it has concentrated because of cargo offerings, superior rail transportation and harbor conditions. Communities as far east as Butte, Montana, indorsed the claims of Puget Sound.

THERMOMETER HAS MANY FARM USES

Invaluable in Dairy, Incubator, Store Room, Veterinary Use and Sick Room.

Hardly a useful instrument around a farm is more neglected than the thermometer. Properly appreciated, it would serve the farmer in many ways. Exact information on the temperature of the air is of importance; but there are dozens of other uses.

Constant Companion of the Dairyman.

A thermometer should be the constant companion of the dairyman. In probably no other department of the farm can a thermometer be used to greater advantage than in connection with dairy operations.

The temperatures at which milk cream, and butter are kept, and at which the various operations of butter making are carried on, are very important.

When milk is to be sold as such it should be immediately cooled. The reason for this is to stop the increase of bacteria as much as possible. Bacteria will reproduce themselves every half hour if the temperatures are favorable.

If milk is to be separated by the centrifugal process, it should have a temperature of about 90 degrees; if by the gravity methods, it should be cooled to 50 degrees very soon after milking. The temperature at which cream is churned is an important item; 52 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit is considered about right. Butter should be stored in a cool place to keep it sweet. For all these purposes it is essential to have a thermometer, and one that can be depended upon for accuracy.

The necessity of maintaining correct temperature in an incubator need not be emphasized. The temperature is correct at 103 degrees, and it should not go lower than that, especially during the first six days. Some incubators have an electric alarm which rings a bell when the temperature goes below 103 degrees.

Clinical Thermometer Useful. In the care of live stock, the clinical or fever thermometer may be found very useful. The following are the normal temperatures of farm animals: Swine, 104; goats or sheep, 102 to 103; cows, 101 to 102; horses, 99 to 99.6; dogs, 99 to 100. A rise of 1 or 2 degrees is unimportant if temporary; but if permanent it indicates a serious condition which needs attention. A rise of 10 to 12 degrees in animals is usually fatal.

In calling a veterinarian by telephone, it is often important to be able to give the exact temperature of the animal. A good clinical thermometer, if available, should be used according to veterinary methods.

The thermometer will tell whether the cellar or storage house is of the right temperature for produce. Apples are frequently stored in outside cellars, where the temperature is best if it can be kept at 31 or 32 degrees; but 34 or 36 degrees will give satisfactory results. If the temperature is to be higher, the fruit should be placed in storage soon after being picked, to forestall preliminary decay. In boiling maple or sorghum syrup, the thermometer can be used to ascertain the density of the liquid.

It is sometimes desirable before planting to test the temperature of the ground. Often insect and disease pests can be forestalled if seed is planted as early as the ground is warm enough to germinate it. Tests with thermometers on various parts of the farm under different weather conditions will give some interesting data on available.

Send for Descriptive Circulars and Price, or call and examine the machine.

SPOKANE SEED CO.

Cor. First Ave. and Lincoln St., Spokane, Wash.

Also dealers in Seed, and Supplies for Dairy, Poultry, Bees and Orchard.

SELECT IN FALL BREEDING FLOCK

Separate Breeder Hens From the Rest of the Flock in Fall.

MATURE PULLETS ARE BEST

General Purpose Breeds, As a Rule, Not Profitable After Second Year.

The improvident man who sold his heating stove in July because the circus was near and the winter far off differs only in the degree of his shortsightedness from the poultry raiser who waits until spring to select the breeding stock that is to be used to replenish his flock. This important work of picking out the superior birds must be done in the fall to get the best results, for it is then that the greatest contrast between the profitable birds and the poor ones shows up. Of course the culling out of the poor layers shall go on all through the summer and fall, but as last the top-notchers should be selected as foundation for the coming flock, which ought to be better each year.

Never Breed from Immature Pullets.

One good rule to follow is to keep the pullets out of the breeding flock until they are fully matured. An immature bird may be a good layer and may be from the best stock, but still is undesirable. Eggs from pullets not yet fully developed will not produce as large or as strong chicks as those from older hens or fully grown pullets. There is no difficulty in knowing when a bird is mature enough to be used as a breeder, as at that time the eggs laid will have reached the size of the average produced by the general run of hens in the flock.

Young pullets always lay a rather small egg, sometimes very small at the start. Those that mature early may be picked out by keeping track of the birds that start laying first in the fall. These birds may be marked with leg bands, so that they will not become mixed during the winter with those that started their work later.

The late molters are the birds that stick to the job longer, and consequently they make up another group that should be used in forming the breeding flock next spring. Leg bands may be used to distinguish these profitable birds, or better, the early molters may be marketed so that they will no longer have an opportunity to keep down the average egg production of the flock.

The general-purpose breeds, which include the Plymouth Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, and Wyandottes, as a rule are not profitable after the second year. It is therefore advisable to cull out all of the older birds of this class. Of these, the late molters are the ones to select for breeders, just as in the case of fowls of any other breed.

ability of land for crops that are affected by heat and cold.

In the farm home the uses of a thermometer are almost countless.

Buy a Good Instrument.

In buying a thermometer, get a good one, with a tube from 8 to 12 inches long, and, if possible, with the figures etched on the glass, where the scale can not get out of adjustment. Special thermometers are made for dairymen, cooking, outside use, and getting blood temperatures of animals.

For atmospheric temperature of a room the thermometer should be hung, if possible, away from the wall and where it will not be affected by air currents from open doors or windows or from stoves or artificial heat in the cold seasons.

With constant use one becomes acquainted with the instrument, so that dependence will be placed upon it; and with constant use uniform success in operations conditioned on temperature may be hoped for.

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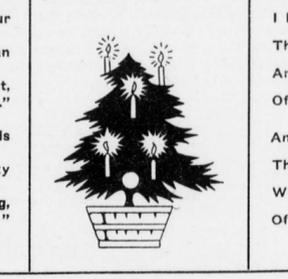
SPOKANE CLINIC

FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF MEDICAL AND SURGICAL CASES

703 South Washington Street SPOKANE

"What means this glory 'round our feet?"
The Magi mused, "more bright than morn?"
And voices chanted clear and sweet,
"Today the Prince of Peace is born."

"What means that star," the shepherds said,
"That brightens through the rocky glen?"
And angels answering overhead, sang,
"Peace on earth, good will to men!"
—Lowell.



I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play,
And soft and sweet their words repeat
Of "Peace on earth, good will to men."

And thought, how as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Would send along the unbroken song
Of "Peace on earth, good will to men."
—Longfellow.

STATE READY TO HELP WITH LOGGED-OFF LAND

Invitation to private capital to cooperate with the state in development of logged-off lands in Western Washington was extended by D. A. Scott, director of conservation and development, at a conference held on Friday, Nov. 8, in Seattle, to devise means of a more intensive reclamation of the logged-off sections of the state for agricultural purposes. Forestry officials and experts in land clearing submitted suggestions on methods of the economic clearing of logged-off

lands. Carl Shuff, supervisor of reclamation said:

"The cooperation of the state department is offered in devising means of clearing cut-over lands in a concrete and comprehensive manner. The state is ready to cooperate to the full extent of the law with private capital and individuals to get these logged-off areas under cultivation. The state department is willing to cooperate by financing any reclamation district in Western Washington by purchasing bonds, provided that private capital is willing to place, ready for production, a percentage of each unit in such re-

clamation district. By interesting capital in this work the state hopes to lessen the tax burden, inasmuch as the success of the plan will obviate the necessity of calling on the taxpayers to finance these reclamation districts in logged-off land sections."

The hot school lunch has made good wherever used in the state. Are you serving something hot to the school children in your district?

Winter protection saves bee vitality, honey, and prevents the formation of a surplus of moisture in the hive.

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Mention your home paper when answering these advertisements

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A Handy Spokane Business and Professional Directory

- AUCTIONEER—LIVESTOCK
- KIRKHAUT AUCTION CO., 711 N. Monroe.
- AUTO TOP REPAIRING
- Fac. Auto Top Co., 610W. 2d. Pho. Riv. 445.
- BATTERY AND ELECTRICAL SERVICE
- Northwest Storage Battery, 1706 W. 1st.
- Empire Electric Service, 2d and Cedar.
- CORSET GLASSES
- DR. HENDRICKS, 507 Riv. Av. M. 637.
- FLOOR AND WALL TILE
- EMPIRE TILE & MANTEL CO., Spokane.
- HOGS, VEAL AND POULTRY BUYERS
- JOHN LEWIS MARKETS, SPOKANE.
- HAY AND GRAIN DEALERS
- CENTRAL HAY & GRAIN CO., Spokane.
- ICE MACHINES
- The FRICK ICE MACHINE, Cooper Ice Machine & Plumbing Co., 1104 N. Monroe.
- ARMSTRONG MCHY. CO., Spokane, Wash.
- HARRIS ICE MCH. H. G. Miller, Spokane.
- LIVE STOCK AND POULTRY BOUGHT
- Zeb & Thompson, Max. 739, 1616 Bridge Ave.
- REPAIRS—A. Brugger, 301-2 Rookery Bldg.
- MED. STREAM-TURKISH-SOAP LAKE BATHS
- Noville's for rheumatism, 319 W. Sprague.
- PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
- L. L. Westfall, 912 Paulsen Bldg.
- PURE CANE AND MAPLE SYRUP
- PURE MAPLE SUGAR, Frisbie, 5111 Madison.
- RUBBER STAMPS AND SEALS
- PACIFIC STAMP WORKS, 516 Sprague.
- SHEET METAL WORKERS
- Wheeler Sheet Metal Works, 9 Riverside.
- STEAMSHIP TICKETS
- Assoc. Steamship Office, 210 Hyde Bldg.
- WANTED TO BUY—POULTRY
- INLAND POULTRY HOUSE, 713 N. Monroe.
- WINDSHIELDS, VISORS, CUT GLASS
- SPOKANE CUT GLASS CO., W. 27 Riverside.
- FREE Mail Order Catalog of Groceries and General Merchandise. Wonderful bargains. Jordan-Lawler Co., 139 W. 2nd, Spokane.
- AUTO TOPS AND BODIES
- Inland Auto Top Factory, S. 211 Monroe St. Recovering, upholstering, repairing.
- N. Reeder, Automobile Trimmer and Mgr. All repairing in my line. 1206 3d Ave.
- MASSAGE SHOPS AND MACHINERY
- OUR MACHINE WORK IS SATISFACTORY
- Pacific Iron Works, Spokane.
- UNION IRON WORKS, Spokane Wash. Pumps, Pipe, Boilers, Engines, etc.
- Western Mach'y & Eqt. Co.—Machines sale or rent. 85 Stevens St. M. 5839.
- Cylinder Grinding a specialty. Overalls Pistons filed. Parts made for all cars. Crescent Machine Works, 515 N. Monroe.
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