

FARM FIRE LOSS ENORMOUS SUM

Larger 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 40 per cent of the \$1,962,031; sparks on roofs, \$1,181,171; careless use of matches by smokers and others, \$1,671,987; 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. In 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 mean millions of dollars out of the possession of rural Americans every year and leaves nothing in its place. Prevention is better than regret.

COAST MEN TO BE INITIATED IN W. S. C. GREEK LETTER SOCIETIES



Pledges have been announced for the 13 men's Greek letter societies at the State College of Washington. The 105 new men to wear fraternity pins are:

Alpha Tau Omega: Ed Williams, Heber Moberly, Spokane; Berl Miller, Pullman; Harold Roberts, Waitsburg; Joe Hungate, Cheney; Ed Schwartz, Tacoma.

Beta Theta Pi: Doyl Starcher, Harold McCurdy, Yakima; Horace Scheyer, Puyallup; Vincent Hayden, Rochester; Clarence Torgeson, Everett; Jake Hoefel, Ritzville; Dave Gilbert, Spokane; Floyd Stevenson, Pomeroy.

Delta Tau Alpha Local: C. E. Johnson, Spokane; Bangt Anderson, Walla Walla; Ernest Betz, Cheney; Leslie Turnahan, Colville; Edward Eaton, Garfield.

Gamma Phi Local: Clarence Billings, Robert Bassett, Washuena; Herbert Saunders, Marysville; Harold Thilbert, Tacoma; Donald Hinderson, Bingen; Elwood Martin, White Salmon; Floyd Palmer, Prosser.

Kappa Sigma: Arthur D. Jones Jr., Ronald Robertson, Sidney Smythe, Spokane; Leo M. Shannon, Wm. B. Steiner, James B. Jones, Pullman; Ralph Corkrum, Walla Walla; Wymond B. Ferguson, Colton; Chas. Rankin, Yakima; Donavon F. Cartwright, Valley; John Pedicord, Colville.

Lambda Chi Alpha: Oliver Triguiri, Roy Powell, Paul Gilfillen, Bellingham; Herbert Voseberg, Pullman; Leonard Morgan, Prescott.

Phi Delta Theta: Thomas Pollard, Delmar Ruble, Ross Tiffany, Earle Hannum, Spokane; Marvin Hales, Dil-

lard Howell, Waitsburg; Howard Slater, Bert Moore, Deer Park; Wm. Kirkpatrick, James Love, Tacoma; Walter Schryock, Okanogan; Ray French, Riverside; Duncan McFaddin, Walla Walla; Gene Gautier, Dalkena; Raleigh Fisher, Touchet; Harry Seales, Sunnyside; Melvin Plasket, Pullman; Edwin Wilkerson, Seattle; Lloyd Hatcher, Twisp.

Psi Nu Sigma Local: Leis Lid, Everett; Norman York, Stevenson; Clarence Hummel, Waterville.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon: Elmer McCarty, Walt Irwin, Frank Walter, Jack Dickwine, Seattle; Ed Williams, Wallace Kelso, Dan Mitchell, Yakima; Walter Gilderstev, Payette, Idaho; Allen Sampson, Spokane; Robert Hiship, Starbuck; Gustore Percell, Chehalis; Bernard Williams, Pasco.

Sigma Chi: Frank Martin, Spokane; Phil Frazer, Seattle; George Staples, Wenatchee; Roland Griffith, Vancouver; Jack Foster, Pomeroy; Carrie Andrew, Walla Walla; Homer Wisner, Sunnyside.

Sigma Phi Epsilon: Cecil Keller, Walter Horan, Everett Minard, Wenatchee; Ralph Malone, Ralph Spencer, Pomeroy; Austin Snell, Long Branch; marion Malsed, Palouse; Conrad Krumm, Colfax.

Sigma Nu: Jack Davis, Ward Parker, John Morrow, Spokane; Joe Chandler, Howard Hughes, Walla Walla; Tom Hunt, Tacoma; Horton Ostrander, Burke, Idaho.

Theta Xi: Charles E. Davis, Leonard Landers, Mark Quinn, Pullman; U. S. Simons, R. L. Thompson, San Francisco; R. B. Leary, Clarkston; D. D. Clemm, Tekoa.

EARLY HOUSED PULLETS LAY MORE WINTER EGGS

To get good results from a flock of poultry during the winter all houses and coops should be in good condition, only healthy fowls placed in these buildings, and good care given to the poultry. As it takes about two weeks for hens or pullets to settle down to their new quarters, they should be moved early. The moving should be done before they begin to lay, for a shift after egg production begins may set them back for a month to six weeks. Moving pullets around from one house to another is the best means of holding back egg production if they are developing too fast. It is highly desirable to bring the pullets in from the range before they begin to lay.

Prepare Houses for the Winter.

The houses should be thoroughly cleaned, disinfected, and made tight for the winter. It is much easier to do this work while they are empty than after they are filled with fowls. If the house has a dirt floor, it is well to remove the top 3 or 4 inches and replace this with dry gravel or sand. If it has a cement or wooden floor, remove all litter and dirt and put in 4 or 5 inches of fresh straw or litter.

Remove the roosts and scrape the dropping boards, wetting them down if necessary to loosen refuse which has caked and dried on. Sweep the walls and ceiling with a broom, and clean out all old nesting material. The house is now ready to be disinfected. Mix up a batch of whitewash or other disinfectant. Put a peck or more of fresh-burned lime in a tub or barrel and pour on it enough water to start slaking. Stir occasionally and add more water to prevent burning. Keep the vessel covered with an old sack to retain the heat. After the lime is thoroughly slaked dilute it to the proper consistency and strain it if it is to be applied with a spray pump. Add a quart of crude carbolic acid to each bucketful of wash. Other effective disinfectants are lime-sulphur mixture used for spraying fruit trees, coal-tar preparations, or the approved cattle dips.

With a whitewash brush or spray pump apply thoroughly to the inside of the house—walls, ceiling, floor, dropping boards, and nests, as well as the roosts, which should be placed out of doors in the sun for a few days.

Remove Sick Birds Promptly. If any of the birds develop colds, put as much potassium permanganate as will remain on the surface of a dime into a gallon of water and keep this material in their drinking water for several days, or until the symptoms of the colds have disappeared. Remove any sick birds from the flock as soon as noted and treat them in coops by themselves or kill and bury them if they are not worth treating.

Business men who are financing members of the boys and girls' clubs, are building permanent monuments for good in the future.

FEEDING YEAST TO HENS UNBENEFICIAL

Yeast in Wet Mash Found Harmful—No Perceptible Increase in Egg Production.

Preliminary tests have been carried on by the poultry husbandry division of the United States department of agriculture in the use of yeast as a feed for laying hens, the theory being that this material was extremely high in vitamins and particularly valuable in the dietary of laying hens. In the initial test the yeast was dissolved in warm water, added to the mash, and the mixture allowed to stand for 24 hours until the yeast had thoroughly permeated the feed. While the hens ate this mash fairly well, with the result that their egg production was slightly increased for a short period, apparently they soon tired of the mixture and did not consume it with a relish. Subsequently, decreased egg production resulted, and the mortality among the fowls which received the yeast was noticeably higher than in the pens not receiving it.

It is thought that this mortality was due to changes occurring in the mash which developed while it was being held in a moist condition for the 24-hour period previous to feeding, rather than as a result of the yeast itself. The moist mash was discontinued and the experimental pens were put on a dry mash containing 1 per cent of dried fresh yeast. The condition of the flock improved materially with this change, and the birds soon resumed their normal appearance, with fair egg production.

However, the egg yield was not greater than that from check pens without the yeast. Thereafter, 3 per cent of yeast which was air and sun-dried and fed in a ground condition was used in the mash without any perceptible increase in egg production.

The by chance by-gosh way of producing will have to stop if the farmer wants to make any money.

BETWEEN CURTAINS AT SEATTLE PLAYHOUSES

MOORE THEATRE

Persons in this community may purchase seats by mail to the Moore theatre in Seattle.

The Orpheum Orpheum Circuit program for the week of October 16 has four big features. Whiting and Burt in "Several Songs" will offer a startling repertoire of the latest New York hits.

"Indoor Sports," called "a comedy of lovers," is a very funny and novel playlet.

Moran and Mack in "Two Black Crows" have a big delightful comedy skit which guarantees laughter every minute they are behind the footlights. Schiet's Manikins have been termed "The Royal Wonderettes." This is a special European feature in which these wonderful manikins portray parts so human-like that they have startled audiences wherever they have performed.

Adams and Griffith in "A Music Lesson" have a tuneful number which has good music, clean comedy, and some fast dancing.

"Dance Fantasies," a delightful terpsichorean novelty, is enhanced by beautiful settings.

"East and West" is another act above usual vaudeville standards. Topics of the Day; Aesop's Fables, Pathe News and the Concert Orchestra are regular attractions found on the bill each week.

"CAMILLE"

A rare combination of an international star and an international play comes to the Clemmer the week beginning October 15, with Nazimova in "Camille."

"Camille" really needs no introduction to the public; its story of how through love the young artist sacrificed his career, for one of the most notorious women of Paris, who in turn gave up the gilded hectic life of Paris.

STAR OF "EVERYWOMAN" JOINS WILKES CAST

Adele Blood, who was the star of "Everywoman," and who is known to Eastern theatregoers as America's most beautiful blonde, joins the Wilkes Stock company in Seattle next week as leading woman, making her first appearance in Frances Nordstrom's delightful comedy, "The Ruined Lady." Tom Chatterton, an actor who is celebrated in pictures as well as on the speaking stage, joins the company at the same time as leading man.

"The Ruined Lady" is a wholesome, clever play that will give Miss Blood an opportunity to wear some of her most stunning gowns. The piece will open Sunday afternoon, October 16, and continue for the week with other matinees on Wednesday and Saturday.

APPLE ORCHARD SELLS FOR UNUSUAL PRICE

The record sale of apple land for the Okanogan valley, and probably for all of north central Washington, was made at Tonasket when Dr. H. B. Clough sold his orchard to Oscar C. Erickson for \$35,000. The orchard has 19.2 acres of bearing trees, mostly Jonathans, Winesaps, Stayman and Delicious, which makes the price average \$1876 an acre. The purchaser has had a lease on the orchard four years and the apple crop this season alone is estimated conservatively at over 6,000 boxes, which will bring at least \$12,000.

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