

## IMPROVED SCHOOLS INSPIRE COUNTRY

Investigations by M. A. C. Show  
Need of Better Rural Edu-  
cational System.

### CONSOLIDATION IS REMEDY

Uniting Little District Schools into  
Big Central Schools Saves  
Money and Builds Up  
Rural Life.

By W. H. FRENCH,  
Professor of Agricultural Education,  
Michigan Agricultural College.

East Lansing, Mich.—The clangor in the shops of armorers, the bugle calls marshaling men for war, the appeals for more food, and the endless additional distractions that have come with the business of preparing for battle have for the time being drowned out the voices of those who speak of and have to do with more peaceful works and issues, but it should not be forgotten that if these issues are to be solved they should not be neglected even now by the stay-at-homes.

The question of revitalizing the rural schools of Michigan for the purpose of better fitting them for meeting modern rural needs has been among these problems that have attracted no small attention from thoughtful dwellers in the country. The country educational system of the state is well deserving of this notice, for if we study the rural school carefully we must conclude that it is ineffective and expensive. It costs more per capita to teach children the eight years of the rural course in hundreds of districts than it does to teach the children in a 12-year course, including the high school, in many cities and villages. That is, it costs more per child per year.

We have discussed with great vigor the question of taxes and equalization, yet there is no tax which the people pay which is so unequal and so unequally distributed as is the school tax. We have communities in Michigan where the school tax runs as high as 6 per cent, and we have other communities at the other extreme where the primary school interest fund from the state practically pays the entire expense. This phase of the rural school question should receive careful consideration at the hands of our rural people.

In Vevay township, in Ingham county, there are six rural schools and the city schools of Mason. The per capita cost in each of these rural districts is higher than it is in the city of Mason. If these six school districts were all consolidated with the Mason district we could reduce the teaching force in the township by three or four teachers, and by transporting the pupils we could additionally give all the children the same educational advantages, and at less expense than is now incurred. This instance could be duplicated in at least 500 townships in the state of Michigan.

Another plan would be to combine the six rural schools into two or three schools, with two teachers in each. These schools would be in the country and could take the children easily through the first six grades. After that they could provide their own transportation and attend the central school without great difficulty and at very small expense. This plan might not decrease the whole amount of the tax levy, but it would distribute the money equitably and increase the community spirit. If we combine districts so as to have two teachers in every rural school we would increase the efficiency of the school by more than 100 per cent, improve the community spirit, and make the school more nearly a real educational center.

These consolidated schools, and particularly those in which an agricultural course is offered, tend to further check the cityward movement of farm boys. I have made careful investigations of the agricultural work in our high schools. One year I found 100 young men who told me that when they entered the high school they had no idea of going back to the home farm, but as a result of their school training in agriculture they had secured a new interest and a new vision of the possibilities of life in the country and they were going back to the farm. Thus, in that year through agricultural training in the high schools we saved at least 100 bright, keen young men for agriculture. This year we have 3,200 boys studying agriculture in the high schools, and five years from now there will not be a reputable high school in the state which will not be teaching this course.

### MAY BE SEED CORN SHORTAGE

Selection of Ripe Ears in the Field  
Suggested as "Safety-First"  
Measure.

By J. F. COX,  
Professor of Farm Crops, Michigan  
Agricultural College.

East Lansing, Mich.—Field selection of seed corn is a practice which large numbers of the state's best farmers have always found to be a money-maker, but there still remain some who cling to the less desirable habit of choosing their seed corn from the crib. This season, however, must see the adoption of more thorough methods, for reports from almost every

corn-growing county have made it plain that the crop is tardy and probably will not mature in much of Michigan. Under these circumstances, a seed scarcity can scarcely be averted, though the man who is forewarned may be able to meet his own needs by careful selection in the field.

Field selection, as compared with the ordinary crib selection method, will usually increase the yield of ordinary corn varieties from seven to ten bushels per acre, if properly performed. Enough corn to plant 20 acres can be easily field-selected in a day's time. With a seven-bushel increase, the corn grower who plants 20 acres of corn will be rewarded with 140 bushels in his next season's crop, or \$70 a day for his labor in field selecting.

In selecting at husking time or from the crib, nothing is known of the conditions of the parent plant which produced the ears, and it is very likely that many of the desirable ears selected owe their good points to very favorable environmental conditions and cannot transmit desirability so gained to their progeny.

The proper time to field-select seed corn is when the corn is mature and ready to husk, though it made immediately, selection should be made immediately. In making the selection, perhaps the best way is to walk down the rows with a sack tied over the shoulders, plucking those ears which are considered desirable. Plants growing at the edge of the field, or where there is but one plant to the hill, or where the soil is exceptionally fertile, may produce desirable ears because of a better environment, more light, moisture and plant food than the average plant received, and not through heredity. These should not be chosen. Only ears borne on vigorous plants growing under average conditions, which have reached proper maturity and size, and which are borne at proper height (about 3½ feet), and with tips slightly drooped, should be selected. The ears should then be properly dried and stored and further selection can be made through the winter or when making the germination test. By proper field selection, every farmer in Michigan has it in his power to markedly improve his corn variety.

### CLEAN-UP TIME FOR POULTRY

Quarters Should Be Put in Shape Now  
for Coming of Snow and  
Winter Laying.

By C. H. BURGESS,  
Department of Poultry Husbandry,  
Michigan Agricultural College.

East Lansing, Mich.—It is an old maxim that the man who expects something for nothing usually gets left, and the rule holds good. The fact is just now referred to for the reason that the man who expects winter eggs from his pullets will be somewhat disappointed if he neglects at this time of the year to give his birds and their quarters a little special attention. This should be house-cleaning time in the hen coop.

As a first step, the floors should be thoroughly cleaned by removing all litter. If the floor is one of wood or cement thoroughly scrape it. If it is gravel or sand, remove from four to six inches of the surface and put in new. Dust the walls and ceiling. Remove the nests to the yard and scrub them vigorously with soap and water. When dry spray them well with a good disinfectant (zoleum or cresol) and allow the sun to get at them from all sides for a number of days. Then spray them again before re-nesting them in the house. Whitewash the walls and ceiling, and the dropping board, if one is used. To the whitewash add a cupful of crude carbolic acid to the gallon. When the house is dry replace the nests and other interior fixtures.

Bring the pullets in from the range before the fall rains and cold nights come on so that they can get accustomed to their quarters before beginning to lay.

If the poultry man will mix ten pounds of corn, ten pounds of wheat and five pounds of oats together for a grain ration and feed 50 pounds of buttermilk along with grit, shell, bone and green feed, and use a mash of five pounds of bran and five pounds of flour middlings, he can expect eggs from matured, well-bred and well-seasoned fowls during the winter.

### Holds Opportunity for Youth.

"The present critical times," said President Frank S. Kedzie of M. A. C., in a recent statement to young men and women throughout Michigan, "offer an exceptional opportunity to the college-trained individual. Young men out of draft age should continue their schooling, and boys just out of high school should attend college if they possibly can. In time of peace this was simply a matter more or less of personal preference. Now it is a duty. The reason is plain. The war has taken and is taking large numbers of trained men out of the country. Many perhaps will never return. If the nation is to continue in its path of progress, there must be others to take their places in the army of industry, in the professions, and in the world of commerce. Youths, therefore, not subject to military duty, should begin now to prepare for the industrial struggle ahead."

At M. A. C. the fall term will open on September 24. Authorities believe there will be fewer students as a result of the draft, but with the exception of those called for service in the army attendance is expected to be about normal.

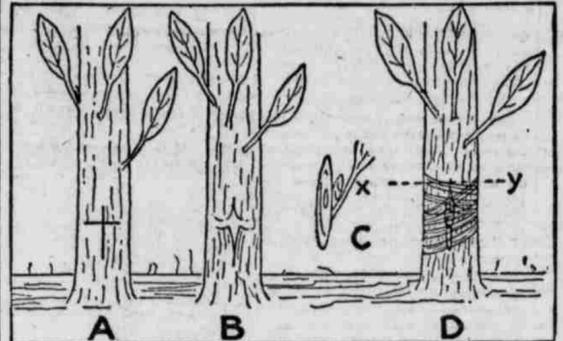
## INFORMATION ON BUDDING FRUIT TREES

We have had so many requests for information about budding fruit trees that we are giving directions in this issue, as it is about the right time of the year to perform this operation. It should be stated, however, that it rarely repays the average man to go to the trouble to bud his own trees unless he has some special varieties or strains which he wishes to perpetuate. Trees may now be procured more cheaply from reliable nurserymen who grow them in large numbers than they can be grown in a small way by amateurs.

For budding, two things are necessary: first, a strong growing sprout or seedling not more than half an inch in diameter from the ground, and sec-

through the bark and just into the wood about one-fourth inch above the bud and cutting downward underneath the bud and out again about one-fourth of an inch below so that the bud has a shieldlike piece of bark and wood attached to it. As the leaf buds are found in the axils of the leaves it is convenient to leave a part of the leaf stalk attached to the bud as shown at X in the cut to act as a handle.

When the bud has been cut raise the bark and force the bud down underneath, as shown at D and tie it tightly with cotton tape or better with raffia which can be procured of any florist. After ten days loosen the tie so that it will not bind the bud too tightly,



METHOD OF BUDDING YOUNG FRUIT TREE.

ond, some well-developed leaf buds from the tree it is desired to perpetuate. For example, plums may be budded on the sprouts which sometimes spring up from the roots of an old plum tree or on small seedlings which have been grown from plum seeds. The amateur should not attempt to bud one kind of fruit on another, for example, plums on cherries.

In the accompanying illustration A shows the young tree or stock with the bark cut through in the form of an upright cross. This allows the bark to be peeled back as shown at B for inserting the bud. The bud as cut for inserting is shown at C. It is cut from the variety wanted by cutting

and again in another ten days, removing it entirely in ten days more. This is all that is necessary for this season. The bud will not grow this fall but will remain dormant the same as if it had been left on the original tree. The following spring if it has been set properly it will start to grow. The stock should then be cut off as shown by the dotted line Y so that all of the strength will go to the new shoot.

The bud should be inserted as near the ground as possible so that the curve in the trunk of the resulting tree will be near the ground. Budding should be done during August or early in September.—National Stockman and Farmer.

## LEGUMINOUS CROPS AID SOIL FERTILITY

Most Profitable to Pasture Land  
and Then Plow Under What  
Remains of Crop.

Every progressive farmer now knows that leguminous crops are an effective way of maintaining soil fertility, and for this reason the acreage in them is constantly increasing. If the whole crop is plowed under, however, it is evident that there can be no revenue from the land that year. It is much more profitable, therefore, to pasture the land and then to plow under what remains of the crop together with the manure that is left on the ground.

Baryard manure contains a large proportion of the fertilizing value of the substances fed the animals. In the effect upon fertility, therefore, it makes comparatively little difference whether the crop or the manure it produces is returned to the soil. What difference does exist is much more than offset by the profit that should accompany the proper management of live stock.

All legumes make good pasture, and their use for this purpose will minimize the need for more expensive feedstuffs. The extent to which this is done is one of the great factors that make for success in the live stock industry. The efficient use of all farm roughage, such as straw and stover, and of leguminous crops will provide the farmer with much valuable feed which may be said to cost him little or nothing, for giving it to animals does not materially lessen its fertilizing value, and under ordinary circumstances no direct cash returns are to be expected from it.

## BLACK ROT IS MOST INJURIOUS DISEASE

Trouble Occurs on Grapes Every-  
where and to Some Extent  
on Different Varieties.

(Clemson College Bulletin.)  
The black rot is the most common and most destructive disease of grapes that we have. It occurs everywhere and to some extent on all varieties. Where the most resistant varieties have not been selected and proper control measures have not been instituted against this disease it has become impossible to grow grapes successfully.

On the leaves it causes a characteristic leaf spot which is grayish-brown to dark brown in appearance. In the center of these spots the small black spore-producing bodies are formed. This phase of the disease is frequently very destructive to the foliage of the grape and sometimes is found causing trouble on the leaves of the bunch grape. These spots develop on the leaves soon after they unfold in the

## "MURDER ROOM" NOW IS BRIDAL CHAMBER

Man Acquitted of Killing Wife Re-  
turns With New Bride and  
Occupies House.

St. Joseph, Mo.—The room in which Mrs. Harriet Moss McDaniel was murdered a year ago became a bridal chamber, last week.

Oscar D. McDaniel, former prosecuting attorney of Buchanan county, who was arrested and later acquitted of the charge of murdering his wife, returned this week from a honeymoon trip through the East with his new bride and occupied the house in which Mrs. McDaniel was murdered.

The marriage of McDaniel and Miss Zora Cook, twenty-one, one of the leading society girls of the city, last week, furnished another link in one



Mrs. McDaniel Was Murdered a Year Ago.

of the most mysterious murder cases in the history of the country.

Beginning with the murder of Mrs. McDaniel a year ago, continuing with the trial and acquittal of her husband, then adding more tragedy when John E. Krucker shot and killed his wife and committed suicide, the case now takes a new turn with the marriage of the principal figure.

Mrs. Krucker had been called "the woman in the case," Miss Cook is the daughter of C. A. Cook, manager of the Bell Telephone company here. He was one of the two men arriving first at the McDaniel home after the murder.

Miss Cook gave testimony for McDaniel. Following the trial rumors that the pair were to be married were persistently denied by both. Miss Cook is a graduate of St. Joseph Central High School and is noted for her beauty and musical accomplishments.

Directly across a narrow hall from McDaniel's office is the office of Bart M. Lockwood—the man who as special prosecutor caused McDaniel's arrest on the murder charge.

## ARRESTS SELF WITH HIS OWN HANDCUFFS

Indianapolis, Ind.—Abe Brown is a most accommodating man; he handcuffed himself and made his arrest a simple matter.

Brown had visited the home of James Fleming frequently. Several articles were missed and suspicion pointed to him. He gathered with the family one evening for a friendly chat and proudly exhibited a pair of handcuffs he had purchased. "Show us how they work," said Mrs. Fleming.

"Simple, just like this," said Brown, and he accidentally locked them.

"We'll call the police to unlock them for you," said Mrs. Fleming.

"Fine, thanks," answered Brown, jovially.

And when the police came, Mrs. Fleming told the police not to unlock them until she had put a charge of larceny against Brown.

## SHOT SELF WHILE ASLEEP

Girl Believed to Have Been Dreaming  
When She Placed Revolver  
Against Head and Fired.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—Miss May Wilson, twenty-five years old, is believed to have been asleep when she placed a revolver against her head and fired a fatal shot. She had often told how she was moved by dreams, and her friends declare she must have been having a nightmare when she fired the shot.

Miss Wilson lived with her father, James R. Wilson, and always kept a revolver under her pillow. She was found on her bed with the revolver lying beside her. Only one shot had been fired and no one heard it.

## MEANS END OF ARMY MULE

Mechanical Substitute, It Is Said, Will  
Do Away With Need for the  
Animal's Services.

It has been said of the army mule that he absorbed more food, endured more blows, stood for more profanity and performed more work than any other creature that ever came in contact with man.

Now if we are to believe certain rumors in the newspapers, the time is at hand when there isn't going to be any army mule. He isn't even to be taken into the military service to maintain a tradition, to provide veterans with stories or to develop the art of cursing. If our troops, like Uncle Toby's comrades, swear terribly in Flanders it will not be because of the long-armed, long-legged, sure-shot kicker who, in previous wars, has worn men's tempers to a frazzle. It will have to be something else.

The substitute for the mule's heave is a mechanism that looks like a brass drum with a pair of wheels. It is said to be just iron and power, with an incidental thirst for liquid fuel. It is warranted to pull entire trains of wagons, to make armies hump to keep up with it. Tests with it have shown that by its sole efforts it will carry the provender and equipment of an entire regiment, and think nothing of carrying the regiment along too. This possibly is exaggeration. But it is plain enough that the army has become emancipated from the mule. The fellow could do wonders, but this tractor affair will do miracles. And that is what army men pray for.

We can imagine that some old soldiers will sorrow over the passing of the mule. They remember his virtues well and have forgotten his teeth and his hind feet. Man cherishes the picturesque, lets time wipe out exasperation. But this is a new kind of war and his engines must live by petroleum and not by horse feed.—Toledo Blade.

## Town Clerk Bears War Load.

War-time tasks have so hardened some of the town clerks in England that one, at least, has protested, asserting that he now works from nine o'clock in the morning until 11 o'clock at night, and that if the authorities add to his already multifarious duties, he will have to go without sleep. In his protest he gives the following list of wartime duties to which he already was required to attend:

National registration, wartime cookery demonstration, war hospitals, food economy campaign, local flag days, national service, occasional baby weeks, communal kitchens, allotments, potato spraying, local coal supplies, maternity and child welfare, local distribution, and separation allowances.

A proposal to require him to administer food supplies aroused his revolt.

## Time, Please.

A few nights ago a man rang up the office of the Western Union Telegraph company at Evansville, and was angry because he could not get the office immediately. "I want you to understand," said the man to the night clerk, "that when I ring up there you are to answer promptly. I do not want to wait several minutes before you answer me; the next time this happens I will report you to the manager." The clerk was polite and told the man that all lines had been busy, and that he had answered him at the earliest possible moment. The man at the other end grumbled again and said he wished to know the time. He got what he wanted and did not even thank the clerk.—Indianapolis News.

## Flower Hints.

Always pull the leaves off the stalks of flowers before putting them in water—those leaves which would be in the water, not those above it. And with flowers from any hard-stalked sort of shrub the bark should be peeled off as well as the leaves.

## Agreed.

"In the time it takes me to tell you how to do the work I could do it myself." Housewife—"Yes'm, and in the time it takes me to listen to you, so could I!"

## DETROIT MARKETS.

CATTLE—Best Steers	\$10.00
Mixed Steers	8.25 @ 9.00
Light Butchers	7.50 @ 8.00
Best Cows	7.50 @ 8.00
Common Cows	6.50 @ 8.00
Best Heavy Bulls	7.50 @ 8.00
Stock Bulls	6.50 @ 8.25
CALVES—Best	15.50 @ 16.00
Common	7.00 @ 14.00
HOGS—Best	16.75 @ 17.75
Pigs	15.00 @ 16.00
SHEEP—Common	5.00 @ 7.00
Fair to good	8.50 @ 9.00
LAMBS—Best	18.00 @ 19.00
Light to common	11.00 @ 12.00
DRRESSED CALVES	.19 @ .20
Fancy	.21 @ .22
LIVE POULTRY—(Lb.)	
Spring Chickens	.27 @ .28
No. 1 Hens	.26 @ .27
Small Hens	.24 @ .25
Ducks	.24 @ .25
Geese	.18 @ .17
Spring Geese	.18 @ .19
Turkeys	.24 @ .25
CLOVER SEED	12.85
TIMOTHY SEED	3.90
WHEAT	2.15 @ 2.10
CORN	2.23 @ 2.25
OATS	.81 @ .83
RYE	1.85
BEANS	7.25
HAY—No. 1 Tim.	16.50 @ 17.00
Light Mixed	14.00 @ 16.00
No. 1 Clover	13.00 @ 13.50
STRAW	9.50 @ 11.00
POTATOES—(Bu.)	1.50
BUTTER—Creamery	.39 1/4 @ .41 1/4
EGGS	.36 @ .38

## NEW RUSS REVOLT MENACES FREEDOM

KORNILOFF, ARMY CHIEF, FIRED  
BY KERENSKY, REFUSES TO  
RESIGN COMMAND.

### PETROGRAD IN STATE OF WAR

Revolt Threatens to Undermine the  
Armies, As Cossacks Are Loyal  
to Korniloff.

Petrograd—New chaos engulfs Russia. On its crest rides civil war.

General Korniloff, caught in a plot to overthrow Kerensky and appoint himself military dictator, has been ousted as commander-in-chief. Embattled at army headquarters, surrounded by loyal lieutenants, backed by his devoted Cossacks at the front and the powerful Prince Lvoff-Milutskoff party at home, he refuses to resign and defies Kerensky to force him out.

General Lokomsky, one of Korniloff's right-hand men has turned down Kerensky's offer to succeed Korniloff. So he too, stigmatized as a traitor, is ordered to resign. He too is defiant.

Petrograd, in the grip of famine and panic, has been declared by Kerensky to be in a state of war. This includes the whole district of the capital.

Facing open rebellion, this time by part of the army, Kerensky, with the consent of the provisional government, has assumed the absolute powers of a czar. He announces he will not yield one iota to the counter-revolutionists but will "cut at the roots" of the Korniloff movement.

What effect the deposition of Korniloff will have on the army is as yet incalculable. Certain it is, that the Cossacks, the only part of Russia's army never affected by the wave of cowardice and treachery, idolize him. He is himself of Cossack blood.

As long as Korniloff refuses to relinquish the chief command—and thus far no way of forcing him out seems practicable—a fatal dual regime threatens to undermine the armies at a moment when Hindenburg is counted on to strike his master blow.

### SEVERE FROST HITS MICHIGAN

Millions of Dollars Damage Done to  
Beans, Corn and Potatoes.

Lansing—Twenty days ahead of the average date of the first killing frost in Michigan in the last 20 years, freezing temperatures Monday and Tuesday nights nipped millions of dollars from the state's bumper crops of beans, corn and potatoes.

It will be several days before the real extent of the damage is known but the gravity of the situation can be more fully realized when the bean acreage of Michigan is considered. This acreage, as counted by the agents during the planting season, was 636,000 acres.

August 1, W. J. Orr, head of the Michigan Bean Jobbers' association, figured that 500,000 of this acreage was still good. A 50 per cent or a 25 per cent injury to that acreage means a loss which will run into the millions. As far as is known here at least 90 per cent of the bean fields are at such a stage that a frost will do untold harm. Very few of the fields have matured so far as to be safe, because nearly all were planted late because of wet weather.

### TO FIX COAL PRICE THIS MONTH

Fuel Dictator Will Set Retail Price for  
Every Community.

Washington—Retail coal prices will be announced for every city and community in the country before the end of the month. Dr. H. A. Garfield, fuel administrator, announced. They will be fixed on the recommendation of local committees, to be named by state fuel administrators.

"It is obvious," Dr. Garfield said, "that the prices will vary considerably between localities and between city and country districts. Care will be taken to include all items which ought to be included, for there is no disposition to deprive the local dealer of his fair measure of profit. It may be necessary to make the prices tentative as in the case of prices fixed at the mines."

### Guard Faces Death Penalty.

Mobilization Camp, Grayling—After having been arrested in Erie, Pa., on a charge of failure to register for the selective draft, Hill St. Clair, a private in Company C, of the Thirty-first, faces the death penalty on a charge of desertion from the United States army. St. Clair, it is contended, failed to report to his company this summer when President Wilson called the guard into the United States army. St. Clair's case is the first of its kind to come under Michigan jurisdiction.