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COUNTY AGENTS AID FARMER

Specialists in Many States Now Devote Full Time to Management Extension Work.

Twenty-four northern and western states now have 30 specialists to devote full time to farm management extension work. County agents in 895 counties report that they distributed 61,083 farm account books in 1921; 619 counties reported 18,448 books kept, and 444 reported that 8,454 farmers were assisted in summarizing their accounts. County agents in 287 counties report that 2,972 farmers made changes in their business as a result of keeping accounts. More than 800 farm-account schools, with an attendance of 20,000, were held in 1921. The United States Department of Agriculture reports.

VENTILATION DURING SUMMER

Good Plan to Remove Windows From Houses and Substitute Mullin or Fine Meshed Wire.

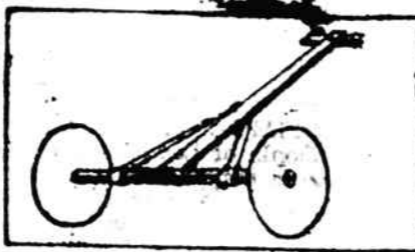
In the summer time it is well to remove the windows from the poultry houses and substitute mullin-covered frames, or fine meshed wire. The wide mesh wire allows the entrance of sparrows, and with sparrows come mites and often chickenpox. They are robbers of the mash box, and pests.

The Simple Life.
 "What defense have you to offer?"
 "Your honor, I couldn't resist the lure of the bright lights."
 "A common weakness. I'll send you to an institution where the lights are turned off promptly every night at nine o'clock and there is no inducement to sit up late."—*Birmingham Age-Herald.*

DEVICE AIDS BERRY GROWER

Rolling Cutter Makes It Easy to Keep Strawberry Plants Confined to Allotted Space.

This device will be found handy in keeping the strawberry bed in order through the summer season. It is a rolling cutter used to cut the runners which otherwise would spread out between the rows and set plants where they are not wanted, writes



Rolling Cutter for Berries.
 D. R. Van Horn in the Nebraska Farm Journal. By running this cutter up and down the rows one can very easily keep the plants confined to the space desired. Such a device is made of two cutters from an old disk mounted on a homemade frame, as shown.

POISON SPRAY NOT HARMFUL

Heavy Coatings of Residue on Fruits and Vegetables Removed by Good Washing.

Poison sprays on fruits and vegetables will not be found by consumers in harmful quantities if growers who use them against pests and diseases follow the spraying schedule recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture. In some instances, because of heavy spraying or spraying late in the season, investigators for the department have found comparatively large quantities of spray residue on fruits and vegetables at harvest time, especially on products grown in dry climates. When heavy coatings of residue were found washing and wiping removed much of it, and peeling all of it.

Experiments along this line were undertaken by the department because of the possibility that spraying of fruits and vegetables might leave enough arsenic, lead, or copper on the surface to be injurious to the consumer. The results, obtained by analyzing sprayed fruits and vegetables from various parts of the country and presented mostly in the form of tables, are given in Department Bulletin 1027, *Poisonous Metals on Sprayed Fruits and Vegetables*. Copies may be obtained by addressing the department at Washington, D. C.

BULL PLUNGES INTO NITRO PIT; STARVES

Terrorized Workers Afraid to Haul Him Out Until He Is Dead.

A bull fell into a magazine of nitroglycerin in the Osage oil field of eastern Wyoming and starved to death before employees mustered up enough courage to haul out the body.

The magazine, owned by a torpedo company, was constructed in the side of a hill several years ago. A small cache was scooped out and the top covered with wood and corrugated iron roofing. This made the roof nearly on the same level as the ground itself. To protect the iron roof from heat it was covered with dirt several inches thick.

As in many oil regions, the Osage field is not fenced off according to leases, and in this field in particular the cattle and live stock roam peacefully among the oil derricks.

This accounts for the fact that one day a black bull with his entire "herd" wandered close to the site of the magazine.

With the usual independent air which might go along with his office as chief bull in the herd, he slowly tripped across the roof to the magazine rather than go around it. The result—one Sultan? bull fell into the "soup." There he stuck. Despite all efforts the animal could not release himself.

Because of the danger of attempting to get him out there was nothing to do but allow him to starve to death. Everybody was afraid the bull might carelessly kick over a can of nitro in the efforts to release him from his prison, and this would spoil both the bull and the rescuer. There were about 350 quarts of the high explosive in the magazine and no operator or friend, much as he wanted to aid the animal, dared to mix bull and high explosive in such careless quantities. The animal starved to death in about fifteen days.

HOLDS DAREDEVIL RECORD

Ohio Youth Has Long String of Adventurous Experiences.

Clarence Myers, eighteen years old, of Elyria, O., has had a more adventurous experience than any other youth of his age in these parts.

When a mere lad he was sent to the state reformatory. Two years ago he shot a boy companion with a rifle. Three months ago his motorcycle collided with an auto, as a result of which the autoist took a vacation in a hospital.

Two months ago Clarence was scorching when a government mail plane lost in a fog, was wrecked while landing and was damaged by fire when the gasoline tank exploded.

Now Myers faces a charge of reckless driving. His motorcycle crashed into a bicycle. During the collision John Schoenfeldt, rider of the bicycle, sustained a fractured skull and was taken to Memorial hospital in a dying condition.

The police decided to hold the adventurous young Mr. Myers.

FOUND DOLLAR AT LAST

It Was Spent Years Ago and Came Back in Change.

A dollar spent twenty-seven years ago at Lancaster, Pa., returned to its original owner in Montezuma, Wash., recently.

When Mrs. Torrence Hagerman was seven years of age her father gave her and her sister each a dollar coined in the years of their birth. Mrs. Hagerman's dollar was coined in 1887. The sisters carved each other's initials on the Goddess of Liberty's head on the dollars and the dollars were spent. Since then Mrs. Hagerman has been looking for her dollar.

She made some purchases here this week and a dollar she received in change was identified by the date, 1887, and her sister's initials, "I. P.," to be the dollar her father gave her twenty-seven years before.

Mrs. Hagerman says she will never spend the dollar again.

ROBINS HATCHED ON CAR

Mother Built Nest in a Dangerous Place and Cares for Them.

On the brake rigging underneath the passenger coach which, with a locomotive, comprises the "Doodlebug," a shuttle train making three daily trips from the Railroad Young Men's Christian association, in Elk Run, to Rikers, Pa., two miles distant on the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh railroad, is a robin's nest containing three small robins.

Mother Robin began building her nest in this precarious place some weeks ago. She started her construction work early in the morning, and when the train pulled out left the nest and flew with the train to Rikers. There the coach was placed on a siding until noon and in the interim the nest building was continued.

A few days ago three lusty robins were hatched from the eggs, despite the migrations of the coach.

Splinter in Foot Causes Baby's Death.

A tiny piece of a splinter in her foot, which caused lockjaw, caused the death of Betty, the thirty-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Piper of Elkhart, Ind. Part of the splinter had been removed, but an unsuspected part remained and was not discovered until the child became seriously ill.

STARCHY EARED CORN SUSCEPTIBLE TO ROT

One of Most Useful Discoveries Recently Made.

Means Provided in Selecting Seed That May Do Away With Necessity of Testing Each Ear—How to Distinguish.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture)

In the study of root, stalk, and ear rots of corn, one of the most useful discoveries that has been made is a very noticeable difference between starchy ears and horny ears in the frequency of infection and in the vigor of plants produced. These differences are discussed in Department Bulletin 1062, *Relation of the Character of the Endosperm to the Susceptibility of Dent Corn to Root Rotting*, by John F. Frost, assistant pathologist. The investigations were carried on jointly by the United States Department of Agriculture and Purdue university agricultural experiment station.

Ears of the dent varieties that have starchy kernels have been found to be infected with root-rot organisms more frequently than ears in the same seed lots that have horny kernels. This provides a means of selection that may help to do away with the necessity of testing every ear to determine whether from the standpoint of root-rot infection it is desirable to plant. Starchy kernels are easily distinguished from those with horny endosperms. The horny kernel is more or less translucent; that is, it lets the light pass through in the same way that oiled paper does. Starchy kernels are opaque—like a piece of chalk.

Starchy ears of dent varieties produce larger numbers of weaker growing plants, more susceptible to root rots in the field, than do ears of more horny composition.

There is an impression among corn growers that the depth of the dents is an indication of the starchiness of the kernels, but this has not been shown to be true. Chaffy kernels are usually very starchy, but starchiness is not necessarily associated with normally-matured ears that are rough.

The bulletin may be obtained by addressing the department at Washington, D. C.

FIXING GRADES FOR MOHAIR

Federal Wool Specialists Are Making Careful Study of Output in Texas.

Investigations looking toward the establishment of grades for mohair are now being made by the United States Department of Agriculture. Federal wool specialists are making a careful survey of the various kinds of mohair produced in Texas.

How Children Take Cold.

Children are burdened with excessive clothing and in the city homes kept in too warm rooms. These two things are among the most frequent reasons for their taking cold so easily.

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