

# CO-OPERATIVE CREAM SELLING

PROF. POTTS SHOWS HOW GREATER PERCENT OF PROFIT MAY BE MADE

## CO-OPERATION FIRST ESSENTIAL

A Carefully Planned Organization of all Producers in a District Must Be Made if Success is to Be Expected

Throughout Oklahoma and in many states of the Middle West there exists a desire for a more stable and permanent market for cream. This statement is prompted by several hundred inquiries made by cream producers concerning the present cream markets and cream marketing conditions.

In the state of Oklahoma a few centralizing creameries located in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas control the cream markets because approximately 85 percent of the cream produced, which is marketed as cream, is sold to them. These creameries offer two systems of marketing with them, the direct shippers' plan, where the producer ships his own cream direct to them, and the cream agent or cream station plan, where the cream is delivered to a cream station operator and by him shipped to the creamery.

A third system of cream marketing, known as the local or farmers' co-operative creamery, handles approximately 15 percent of the cream produced. This system, being in close competition with the other two systems, has been forced to pay about the same prices. The creameries receiving cream by the direct shippers' plan have usually paid higher prices than those that have the additional costs of operating cream stations.

A fourth system of cream marketing, which has been found to work successfully in a number of communities, is a co-operative plan whereby the cream producers organize a local cream marketing association, pool their cream, operate their own receiving station and sell their cream to the highest bidder.

The advantages of such a system are:

The testing and selling of the cream is done under the supervision of the officers of the local cream marketing association.

Competition in the bidding for the cream obtains a higher market price for cream or a larger commission to the station operator.

The quality of the cream can be regulated by the local association by the establishment of grades and classification of cream whereby a higher price is paid for the higher grade or better quality of cream.

The conditions necessary for the establishment of a co-operative cream marketing system may be enumerated as follows:

A willingness and desire on the part of a majority of the cream producers in a community to co-operate in organizing a cream marketing association.

The perfecting of a local marketing association by the adoption of articles of organization and by-laws, and the election of officers and a business manager.

The equipment of a cream receiving station with Babcock tester, scales, wash sink, etc.

The contracting for the sale of all cream received by the association on the basis of some butter market quotation.

## CATCH CROPS SOMETIMES PAY

ALFALFA COUNTY FARMER HAS REMARKABLE SUCCESS

Gets Good Crops of Feterita, Milomaize and Corn After Cutting His Wheat, in Dry 1913.

While catch crops planted on stubble do not always pay, here is an illustration from the Aline Chronoscope (Alfalfa Co.) showing how one man made it pay:

"J. W. Hertzler raised milomaize, feterita, and June corn after harvesting his wheat. He listed twenty acres to June corn, twenty-five to dwarf milomaize, and twenty-five to feterita, finishing on July 3d. There was no rain for two months but there was moisture enough to bring it up and the September rains made these crops."

With more than three-fourths of the total cultivated area of many Oklahoma counties in wheat, and the soil well filled with moisture now, every farm should have at least a



small acreage of sure feed crops planted on stubble. By disking the stubble immediately after the binder, the moisture will be saved. Then the wheat should be stacked as soon as possible and the crops listed in.

In the absence of chinch bugs, milomaize and feterita are almost certain to mature good crops of grain if planted before July 1st, not too thickly, and well cultivated. Kafir corn will make excellent forage and, if the frost holds off until November, it may make a heavy crop of grain. One pound of good seed to the acre is enough to plant.

If chinch bugs are thick, cowpeas are about the only safe crop to plant. A peck of seed to the acre, listed in and cultivated, is enough. These catch crops become more certain as normal rainfall increases. They are more likely to pay on sandy lands than on hard land. Getting them in early and cultivating to save all moisture possible are important points.

## PREPARE FOR THE FOLLOW CROP

Know in Advance the Next Step in Your Rotation Scheme.

As kafir grows late into the season and uses large quantities of water, the follow crop had best be one which can be put in late, the better to enable the farmer to prepare the soil.

When kafir is grown for green feed, the shaded soil, the repeated cultivations and crop residues, combine to produce a high state of tilth, and ideal conditions are produced for follow crops of cereals.

If the crop is to produce a large yield of seed or green fodder, a bountiful supply of plant food ready for use must be on hand in the surface soil. This means that the crop preceding kafir must not be one which impoverishes the soil.

## BUILDING WIRE FENCE

EXCELLENT SUBSTITUTE FOUND FOR RAILS AND BOARDS.

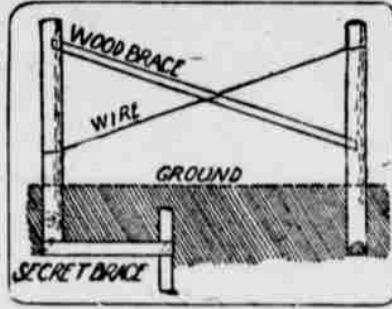
Not Expensive When One Considers Lasting Qualities of Good Heavy Galvanized Wire and Indestructible Cement Posts.

(By P. K. EDWARDS, Copyright, 1914.) Pigs and the board fence were the bane of our existence as boys, for no matter how securely we fastened the old boards the pigs would get out just when we were starting for the swimming hole or going berrying. Now concrete posts and wire fencing have become substitutes for the boards and rails and once set up are fortunately there to stay.

"But wire fencing is so expensive!" the reader will say. The reply to that is, "If you do not consider the lasting qualities of good heavy galvanized wire and the indestructibility of cement posts." The writer remembers putting a fifty-five inch woven wire fence around his garden some nineteen years ago, using chestnut posts set twenty feet apart. This fence is still standing and is to all appearances in excellent condition. Regarding the spacing of the posts around this garden, which bordered the highway and required 400 feet of fencing, if we had used a board fence with eight-foot post spacing thirty more posts would have been required, and as these cost even in those days 15 cents each, a saving of \$4.50 was effected. In this particular case the posts being of chestnut (eight feet long) the butts were painted with a creosote preparation and set three feet in the ground.

In using cement posts, which are easily made at home, be sure to have the butts of the corner and end posts extra heavy and then no anchors are needed; also provide for two bolt holes in each post, one near the top, the other near the bottom, to be used for the bolts which hold the wooden strip to which the wire is stapled.

In setting some 800 feet of poultry fencing this past year the writer used modern heavy woven wire, with six foot cement posts set three feet in the ground. To these short posts were bolted five-foot wooden strips three by four inches, to which the



Brace for Corner Post.

wire was stapled. Many of the cement posts in this case had to have extra large butts on account of the hollows in the ground, which had a tendency to pull up the posts.

During this time of the year, when the ground is very dry it is sometimes very troublesome while building wire fence to keep the post from turning at the corners. Anchor the corner post about four feet, then dig a trench the same depth toward the second post, nail a two by four scantling to the corner post at the bottom, have the scantling about four or five feet in length, now attach a two by four three feet in length to the scantling, tamp the dirt over this securely and the post will never slip or turn if properly braced at the top. To properly brace the post at the top the brace should be fitted in the post two and one-half feet from the bottom and top, this brace should be of good material with a cross brace of wire as shown in the illustration.

### Care of Currant Bushes.

For currant bushes that have been neglected and are very thick with dead branches, cut away all the old wood in the early spring, and do not be afraid of it. Be very careful to burn every bit. If bothered with worms or green lice, spray the bushes two or three times with bordeaux mixture. Cultivate well. Do the cutting as early as you like in the spring or even in the late fall, if you prefer.

### To Sow Seeds.

Remember in sowing seeds, to cover them their own depth. Fine, dust-like seed should be scattered along the line and pressed into the soil. Sprinkle sand over the surface and again press the soil. Place a thin piece of muslin over the soil and water carefully. The muslin prevents the seed being disturbed. When the seed breaks the soil, remove the muslin.

### Variety for Sheep.

Sheep are partial to a change of diet, consequently the greater the variety of feed the better the results.

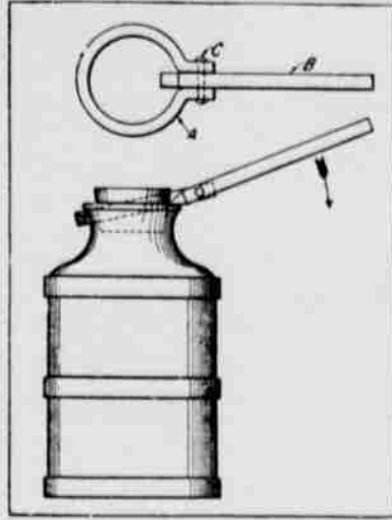
## USEFUL TOOL AROUND DAIRY

Plug or Stopper Removed From Milk Cans Without Tugging or Hammering as Done Hitherto.

A very handy tool to have around where there are milk cans to be opened is shown by the accompanying illustration, says Popular Electricity.

This consists of a steel ring A, and a bar B, which is drawn to an edge like a chisel, these two pieces being held together by a pin C.

To remove the plug the ring is placed over the top of the can with



Handy Dairy Tool.

the edge of the bar against the plug and the top of the can as shown, when by pressing down in the direction of the arrow the plug is pried out of the can.

This is much superior to the method often applied of knocking the plug with a hammer or tugging at it, for the plug is removed with very little effort.

## VALUE OF THE GARDEN CROP

By Careful Cultivation Farmer Can Make Acre Pay More Money Than Anything Else on Farm.

(By J. W. LLOYD.)

No longer do the farmers of the better class content themselves with raising a few rows of potatoes, calling that their garden. It is not necessary longer for the busy farmer's wife to look after these neglected corn and potato spots for the farmer has come to understand that there is good money in them.

Time was when the farmer contented himself with raising grain crops, considering it beneath his dignity to spend time on the garden. If there was a garden on the place it was usually left to his wife and children to pull the weeds and to do any other work that was actually required.

Now, the farmer himself, with a work horse and modern garden machinery, can do more work in an hour than his wife could do in a week, and do it better. By careful cultivation he can make his half acre of garden pay more cash money than any other acre on the farm.

The high cost of living has also roused the inhabitants of the small towns and those who live in the suburbs of the cities make use of every foot of ground possible to produce vegetables to piece out the table supplies and as first aid to their pocket-books.

### Experience Essential.

No farmer who has not tried it should engage in the cattle-feeding business on a large scale at the start. He will find, and generally at pretty high cost, that experience and good judgment are needed as much as corn to lay the fat on a bunch of steers at a profit.

### Success With Poultry.

Success with poultry is in the man, and in the hen and in the feed, and in a lot of other things too tedious to mention, but not too tedious to the right man who will master it if he will.

### Increases Milk Flow.

Spraying the cows with a fly repellent is a bit of trouble and a not too pleasant job, but it makes the cows comfortable and adds to the milk flow.

### Time for Thinning Apples.

When thinning apples thinning should be done when the little apples are about one inch in diameter. Do not leave any apples nearer together than four inches.

### Rye Meal for Cows.

The Pennsylvania experiment station has found that rye meal as a part of properly balanced ration for dairy cows is equivalent in milk and butter production to an equal weight of corn meal.

### Keeping Colts in the Barn.

Remember the spring colts are better off in the barn than following the mother around over the fields these days. They get into the way and expend all of their energy in worrying and annoying the mother. To allow this means loss of energy to mother and colt. Keep them in the barn away from the flies.

## NECESSITY OF FALLOW

QUESTION NO LONGER DEBATABLE IN GRAIN SECTIONS.

When Properly Prepared and Cared for It Enables Settler to Store in Soil Large Amount of Moisture —Keep Weeds Down.

In eastern Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Oregon and Washington and parts of Montana, districts of very low rainfall, usually less than fifteen inches annually, 75 per cent of which falls during late autumn, winter and early spring months, and a large per cent of which is snow, the importance of the summer fallow is no longer debatable, says Denver Field and Farm. It is known to be an absolute necessity to profitable grain farming, and undoubtedly will continue to be so long as wheat growing remains the basic dry farm crop, or until drought-resistant and early-maturing strains of inter-tilled crops, such as corn, alfalfa, Canada peas, Mexican beans, potatoes, sorghums, etc., can be discovered or developed to take the place of the fallow. The great concern of every farmer operating in this region is moisture. In years of abundance of rainfall like the present one crops are usually good, no matter what system has been followed.

Profitable crops are produced in such years even when wheat has been stubbled in after wheat, but in dry years such practice results in failure and the country is condemned because it is too dry to produce crops, when in reality the fault is not with the country but with the man. It has been thoroughly demonstrated that the summer fallow when properly prepared and cared for enables the settler to store in the soil a large amount of the moisture of two years' precipitation for the production of one crop and through its use profitable crops can usually be grown, even in years of the most extreme drought. Although the summer fallow enables one to produce bigger yields during favorable years than is possible by any other system of farming its real merits are only brought out in dry years.

Summer fallow or summer tillage consists in plowing the land thoroughly to a good depth, seven inches or even deeper, either in the fall or in the spring as the weather, soil moisture conditions and the disposition of the farmer's time will permit, and leaving it lie over during the summer in cultivated condition free from vegetation of any kind until seeding time in the fall. The deep plowing facilitates the storing of summer rains and the surface cultivation checks its evaporation from the soil until it can be utilized by the growing crop. Weeds, volunteer grain or any form of vegetation must not be allowed to grow on the fallow, because they drink from the land as much moisture as a crop of wheat.

In a very large measure the settler can control these by proper methods of farming and the summer fallow belongs in this category because it is the best known way of utilizing the scanty supply of precipitation. There is one possible way in which farmers operating under a low annual precipitation can produce profitable crops of wheat every other year without the use of the fallow, and that is by the substitution of inter-tilled crops for the fallow. By the growing of such crops as corn, sorghums, potatoes, Canada peas, Mexican beans, etc., the land can often be made to produce profitable tilled crops and at the same time put the soil in fair condition for wheat.

The main drawback to such a system at this time lies in the fact that most of the inter-tilled crops now available are not very drought-resistant and are late maturing—too late for the short growing season common to the semi-arid lands.

## SOIL TEXTURE AND MOISTURE

All Productive Soils Are, as a Rule, Composed of Combination of Sand, Silt and Clay.

(JAMES D. MARSHALL, Colorado College.)

The term texture when applied to the soil refers to the size of the soil particles. Generally speaking there are three main classes of soil based on texture, sand, silt and clay, and all productive soils are, as a rule, composed of combinations of the above classes.

The amount of movement and the rate of movement of soil moisture are governed to quite an extent by texture. In sand we find that the action is rapid but lasts but a short time. On the other hand, the movement in clay is very slow, but the water travels through a much greater distance. In soils of medium texture the action is intermediate throughout. In the average soil, movement of water is confined to a few feet, but in some of the fine textured soils it may travel a considerable distance.

## PROF. BLACK'S GOOD WORK



There's hope for a better agriculture on The Plains when teachers generally become interested in such practical subjects as the selection and improvement of the seed of the kafirs. President Black of the Panhandle Agricultural Institute has been giving instruction in this subject and in the use of the Babcock tester at the teachers' normal schools in Beaver and Texas counties