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In the Field of Agriculture

PLANNING THE GARDEN

With the approach of spring those persons who are expecting to grow a garden can well afford to spend some time in planning it, says R. B. Cruickshank of the college of agriculture, Ohio state university. Almost every farm has a garden and it is profitable to make it go as far as possible in supplying the needs of the table by growing a variety of vegetables. The gardener should draw a plan of his garden, outlining the season's planting. Consideration should be given to the kinds of vegetables, the season of planting the length of time required for their maturity and the amount of each. Vegetables which will be planted about the same time may be placed in the same or adjacent rows. Those which require the same sort of culture and have about the same length of growing season should also be placed together. For the grower who wishes to produce the greatest amount on a given area, companion and succession cropping may be practiced. By knowing the nature of the various vegetables the grower can get two or three crops from the same space, either at the same time or following each other. In the first case, two are selected, one of which will mature and be removed before the other needs the space; in the second an early crop is harvested in time to sow a late one. Garden planning, if done intelligently, will mean economy of time, labor and money in the carrying out of the actual work in the spring and summer.

A COMMUNITY BUILDING

One of the first community buildings in this country was opened by the board of trade at Washington, Washington county, Pa., on October 24, says a United States department of agriculture bulletin. The purpose of the building is to furnish a general meeting place for town and country people and to bring them in closer touch. In the general meeting room on the first floor are telephone facilities, magazine and writing tables, sets of all available farmers' bulletins, the experiment station bulletins of the state, and blanks upon which application may be made for those desired by individuals. Another large room on the first floor is suitable for luncheons, illustrated lectures, and local corn shows, apple shows, demonstration meetings, etc. On the second floor are two large rest rooms for women. Those in charge of the enterprise hope to be able to employ a woman attendant and provide her with facilities for caring for small children of visiting shoppers. The building also contains offices for the board and the agricultural bureau.
Back of the building is a hitching ground, with ample space for 50 teams, with a good brick wall to the building. Country people can hitch their teams, leave their wraps, arrange appointments by telephone, etc., and then, go about their duties in town.

COTTONSEED MEAL FOR BOSSY

With dairy feeds at the present prices, cottonseed meal should be used more extensively by Nebraska dairymen, according to the department of dairy husbandry of the college of agriculture. It is by far the cheapest source of protein in concentrated form that it is possible to sup-

ply the dairy cow. In buying cottonseed meal at this time, the dairyman is not only helping himself, but is doing a good turn for the south in its financial crisis.

Where the dairyman produces an abundance of alfalfa hay, however, he will need only a limited amount of cottonseed meal; but where he must buy all of his protein feed, this source of supply should not be overlooked.

LIMING LAND IN WINTER

As the full benefit of a dressing of lime is not realized in some months, the sooner it is put on the land the better. In fact, under ordinary conditions we would spread the lime in winter if by so doing we could save the time in the spring. The New York state agricultural college says on this question: It is probably advantageous if the lime can be intimately mixed with the soil when it is applied to the land; but we are coming more and more to believe that the question of just when and how lime is applied is of less account than the advantage gained by doing the work at a convenient time, and when other work is not pressing.

WHY FARM LABOR IS SCARCE

During at least six months of the past year, Nebraska farmers have had difficulty in securing competent help at any price. In view of the fact that during the same period there were many unemployed in the cities, why is it so difficult to bring the waiting job and the jobless man together? According to the department of farm management of the Nebraska college of agriculture, "The competent farm hand can no longer be classed as unskilled labor. The man

who stands in the city bread line is not the man who can drive a four horse team, set cultivator shovels, run a binder, shock grain, or husk 80 bushels of corn a day. The farmer could hardly afford to board him in return for his labor. Long practice is required to acquire skill and dexterity in handling horses and machinery which the successful farmer must possess.

"Another factor which makes farm labor scarce is the fact that comparatively few farmers employ labor for the entire year and that suitable accommodations are seldom provided for the hired man's family. Farm labor will be scarce in spite of the fact that farm wages have increased more rapidly than city wages until the majority of farmers arrange their system of farming to provide work for the entire year and employ married men."

PREPARE NOW FOR DEAR EGGS NEXT FALL

If the farmer wishes to benefit by the high prices that eggs are certain to bring next fall and winter, he should begin to get ready for them at once, say the poultry specialists in the United States department of agriculture. The way to have eggs late in the year is to hatch pullets early. It is the early hatches from which the early pullets are derived that are the largest money makers for the poultry producer. The early hatched cockerels can be marketed in almost any market in America when they attain a weight of three-fourths of a pound to a pound and a half each, which they should reach at about 6 to 10 weeks of age, respectively, at a greater profit to the producer than at any other time of their lives. The



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