

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS

RASPBERRY CULTURE

In most farm gardens that contain a patch of red raspberries, they are growing in a thicket rather than in rows. The plants handled in this way rarely produce as much fruit as they would produce when grown in rows. It is much better to plant in rows seven and one half feet apart and then keep down all shoots that come up between the rows, by cultivating the canes at frequent intervals. If the rows are so situated that they cannot be cultivated by horse drawn cultivators, the next best thing is to put on a straw mulch of some kind. Enough material should be put on to make a covering from four to six inches deep. Any old material from the straw or hay stack will do. This mulch will not only smother all the grasses, but will keep down most of the sucker plants that tend to make a thicket of the berry patch, and will also smother most of the larger weeds as well. Any plants or weeds that do get through the mulch can be quickly clipped off with a sharp hoe. While doing this one should thin out surplus plants that come up in the row, ordinarily the plants are spaced 30 inches apart in the rows. After they have had one or two seasons' growth, the tendency is to make solid or hedge rows. Too many plants should not be allowed. The canes can be kept in clumps, or from four to seven of the strongest canes. Or one can maintain solid rows of about the same number of canes. The extra canes that were not cut out during the summer can be removed during the pruning season of March and April. Usually one will get a large growth on fruiting canes where they are thinned during the summer months. Red raspberries need a certain amount of pruning during the dormant season. The amount of wood to be cut off will depend somewhat on the growth made during the previous season. Strong growing varieties like the Latham, which sometimes makes growth of canes six to eight feet high, should have the terminal growth cut back to a height of three and one half to four feet. Less vigorous growing varieties may be cut back to 30 or 36 inches. In pruning red raspberries, one should be on the lookout for canes that have been winter injured. One cannot always tell early in the season. However, much damage has been done. For this reason it may be desirable to delay pruning until the canes start to grow. A few growers are now making a practice of laying down the canes and covering with earth in the late fall. When so treated, there is no killing back, due to adverse winter conditions.

PREVENT CHICK LOSS

Cleanliness is the first essential, when it comes to success with your chicks. Have clean chicks to start with. And this can be accomplished only by setting eggs from hens tested for and free from bacillary white diarrhea, says a fancier who is making the chicken game pay. I always give my incubator a thorough cleaning before setting. This is done by scraping, scrubbing and disinfecting. The brooder house should be in readiness for the chicks when they hatch out. Thoroughly scrub it out with soap suds to which a small amount of lye has been added, and then spray the inside with a disinfectant. I use a 3 to 5 per cent solution of standard stock dip. On many farms, it is customary to use the barn floor chaff in the brooder house. I have found this plan none too good. The chaff is usually foul before it is used, for often the old hens have scratched around in it. Many cases of disease and losses in chicks can be traced to musty or contaminated litter. I prefer sand, chopped wheat straw or shavings for litter. This litter should be cleaned out after the first 10 days, and every week afterward. Just as soon as the chicks are dry, we put them in the chick boxes, which are properly ventilated. The chicks are set in a room where the temperature is about 90 degrees Fahrenheit until they are 48 hours old. Then they are removed to the brooder and are ready for their first meal. In the meantime, the brooder stove should be regulated so the heat is between 85 and 100 degrees at the outer edge of the hover, about two inches off the floor. It is a good plan to place small mesh wire, say 12 inches high, about a foot from the edge of the hover and all the way around, to teach the chicks the source of heat. Feed is given on clean newspapers for the first two or three days. After the chicks have learned to eat, feed is given in hoppers. The first feed is a mash consisting of 300 pounds of ground yellow corn, 100 pounds of wheat bran, 100 pounds of wheat middlings, 100 pounds of meat scraps, 50 pounds of alfalfa meal, 20 pounds of alfalfa meal, 12 pounds of bonemeal and 7 pounds of salt. This is all the chicks need except water and sunlight. If the sun does not shine directly on the chicks (and this doesn't mean shining through ordinary glass), mix in 2 per cent cod liver oil. From the moment the chicks are started on this keep it before them all the time. Too much stress cannot be laid on keeping the feeding troughs and drinking devices clean all the time. Cleanliness is one of the prime essentials in growing healthy chicks. Chicks tend to pile up in the darkest corner of the house—which is usually that corner farthest from the door. They pile up because they are too warm more frequently than because they are too cold. To keep them from piling up, open the house about 5 o'clock, and give it a chance to get quite cool inside. This makes the chicks appreciate the stove, and they will draw in around it. Then darkness comes on, after which there is little danger from piling. The best preventives for toe-picking are plenty of room and plenty of feed. For this reason, little toe-

picking is noticed where the chicks have feed before them all the time. See that the chicks have plenty of fresh air.

THE OLD STAND-BY

An old garden standby, just as popular today as ever—that's rhubarb. Call it pie-plant if you like—it tastes just as good. This delicious, healthful vegetable has long been a favorite American dish, following its introduction into the country by Benjamin Franklin, who sent the first seeds from England more than 150 years ago. Because rhubarb will take a lot of punishment and still grow, it is often neglected. Few vegetables, however, respond more readily to good treatment. If you don't think so, try planting rhubarb in the lower portion of the garden where the soil is more or less moist. Put on a good mulch of well rotted horse manure in the spring; add a side dressing of 4:8:8 fertilizer a little later, and apply nitrate of soda two or three times during the season—and watch it jump! If the stalks get spindling, the canes are the plant is "root bound." To avoid this condition, the clumps should be divided and reset every five years. Dig up the clump in spring soon after growth has started, and divide each clump into as many pieces as there are strong eyes. Leave as much root as possible attached to each eye. Then plant the pieces three or four feet apart. Don't pull any stalks the first season. A warm, sandy soil gives the earliest crop. It is easy, however, to get ahead of the outdoor crop by forcing the roots in the cellar. To get ahead of the season with outdoor planting, set a barrel (both heads out) over a clump before the tops appear in spring, and bank up around the barrel with manure.

PLUM CULTURE

Practically all varieties of American plums appear to be self-sterile, since none of the varieties of this particular type are of any great commercial importance, the question of pollination is of little importance as far as the commercial fruit grower is concerned. Most varieties of Japanese plums are also self-sterile and, therefore, require cross pollination, preferably by a variety of the same species or type. That is, two varieties of the Japanese type, such as Abundance and Burbank, will pollinate each other, but neither one can be depended upon to pollinate a variety of the European type, such as Green Gage or Lombard. Several of the European varieties of plums appear to be partially self-fertile. Among the varieties usually placed in this class are Italian Prune, Reine Claude and Yellow Egg. Most varieties of this type are inter-fertile among themselves, but inter-sterile when crossed with varieties of the American or Japanese type.

FORCING PULLETS

It is usually considered better not to force pullets into premature laying by feeding large quantities of mash. Instead, limit the mash until pullets are quite ready to lay and by feeding a greater amount of grain, to get them fat. Such a ration emphasizes the fat making material and, by withholding the egg making material, removes the danger of a too early maturity. Mash should not be entirely eliminated, as it contains materials needed for building up the muscles of young fowls. Too much of it, however, may precipitate egg laying before it is desirable. Give the developing pullets all the grain they will eat during early fall and after they come into normal laying, gradually decrease grain with a corresponding increase in mash feeding.

WHAT IS A TEST? This cow's cream tests 52 per cent butterfat every week" cried an auctioneer at a public sale, held in my locality, recently. Spirited bidding commenced at once, and the animal soon sold for \$120. Strange as it may sound, she was the poorest milker on the place. The bidders, evidently, were not aware that a butterfat test depends upon the amount of skim milk that gets into the cream can, and that this is controlled by the little cream screw on the separator bowl. It pays to remember this fact when a cow is advertised. Instead of being enticed by a high test, find out how many pounds of butterfat the cow actually produced during the week. Or better still, get her production for the past year. That will tell the tale.

BEEES AID ORCHARDS

It is an accepted fact that bees are essential to the successful pollination of those fruits that require cross-pollination. It is essential, therefore, that plenty of these busy insects be present in the orchard when the trees are in blossom. If the supply of wild bees is insufficient, it may be necessary to bring hives of honey bees into the orchard, just previous to the blossoming period. One strong hive of bees to an acre of orchard is considered ample, while in many cases one hive to three or four acres will insure satisfactory pollination. Some beekeepers have gone into the business of supplying bees to orchardists during the blossoming period, to the advantage of all concerned.

LARGER LEGHORNS

Due to market discrimination against small fowl, there has been a tendency in recent years to increase by breeding the size of the egg breeds. The English strain of White Leghorns is in general somewhat larger than the American. By selection some of the American strains have been bred up to where it is difficult to make any distinction between those originating in the two countries.

TREATING SEED POTATOES

Seed potatoes treated three or four weeks ahead of planting will show no delay in sprouting as is often the case with seed treated to kill disease organisms it may be carrying. Treating seed that is coming out of dormancy may cause it to become somewhat dormant again. Early treating gives the seed time to come out of dormancy and be ready to grow as soon as planted. Treating seed potatoes has increased the average yield 22 bushels per acre in good potato growing sections.

With That Oriental Motif



Those of the fair sex who love Oriental colorings cannot help but admire the splendor of this creation by Poiret. It makes use of red and gold embroidery on dark blue, the unusual effect of which is to simulate an underblouse and bolero on a navy broadcloth frock.

Road Bond Jokes

From Cedar Rapids Gazette. Citizens who devoted so much of their time to urging public support of the \$100,000,000 road bond issue must have felt yesterday, when word was received that the supreme court had declared the bond act unconstitutional, that the legislature had perpetrated a joke. They must have felt that the joke came pretty high at a cost of \$100,000. The special session amounted to \$27,711.59. Newspaper advertising, printing the measure for general distribution, and attorneys' fees make up the remainder of the \$100,000 expense.

After the legislature's \$100,000 "wise crack" was made public, Attorney General Fletcher evidently decided that he must have his little joke. Accordingly, he issued a statement that, after all, the road program could be put through. He suggested the simple process of converting the road fund into a sinking fund against which warrants could be issued. The road sinking fund would contain money from gasoline taxes, automobile license fees and federal aid. Warrants issued against the fund would bear interest at 4 1/2 or 5 per cent and would be retired 10 years sooner than the bonds contemplated under the act. Thus, the state would save \$38,000,000 in interest.

One wonders why the supreme court didn't wait until April 1 before presenting the legislature's joke to the public. The spirit of that day also would have been more in harmony with the quiet chuckle the attorney general must have enjoyed while explaining how the roads may be obtained for \$38,000,000 less than under the bond issue plan of the legislature.

Now since the legislature and the attorney general have had their little jokes why shouldn't the public be facetious too? Since the legislature held a special session and evolved an unconstitutional plan at a cost of \$100,000, and since the attorney general is now able to suggest, without any cost, a constitutional plan \$38,000,000 cheaper, why not abolish the legislature and appoint the attorney general to take over the work of both houses? Thus the public could have its little joke and things would be even all around.

Arizona Will Fight

From Christian Science Monitor. Arizona's decision to carry its opposition to Boulder dam into the United States supreme court comes as no surprise. For six years the state has steadily maintained that the project infringed its rights and alienated its property. It rejected the Colorado river compact, made in 1922 and originally ratified by the six other states in the river basin, and it fought unrelentingly to prevent congressional authorization of the proposal. Friends and foes of the development have used different terms for Arizona's stand, varying from "courageous independence" to "dog in the manger selfishness."

But judgment of the state's action is hardly so simple. Admittedly it is blocking a vast hydroelectric and reclamation development and a much needed river control project. On the other hand, the building

Reflection?

From Answers. Speaker: These aren't my figure—I'm quoting. They're the figure of one who knows what he's talking about.

First Hand Info.

From Judge. Claim Agent: Are you badly hurt? Accident Victim: Don't know. I haven't seen the paper yet.

Wise Cracking.

From Pele Mcle. He: A penny for your thoughts. She: What do you think I am? A slot machine?

of Boulder dam at this time means that great areas of potentially productive land must remain desert. This is because the dam will develop quantities of water which Arizona is not yet prepared to use and which will be acquired permanently by prior users in Mexico and California. The Swing-Johnson act providing for construction of the dam allots 4,400,000 acre feet of water to California annually and 2,800,000 to Arizona. Moreover, the law carries no guarantee that the state will be compensated for the loss of taxes involved in public instead of private handling of the greatest power development ever planned. Expenditure on its borders of the \$165,000,000 called for by the project should, however, furnish some recompense to the state.

What chance Arizona may have of holding up the project is difficult to determine. The legal issues are many and complicated. The federal government has, under court ruling, the right to improve navigation, but it must be shown that the Colorado is navigable and that

Physicians Protect Monopoly of Radium.

London. —The English medical profession has rebelled against the high cost of radium, the therapeutic properties of which make it one of the most efficient agents known in the cure of cancer.

Tired of paying around \$120,000 for a teaspoonful of radium, the British physicians, led by Sir Berkeley Moynihan, president of the Royal College of Surgeons, and Lord Knutsford, chairman of the great London hospital, are demanding a governmental inquiry. At the same time an effort is being made to have the matter taken up by the League of Nations, on the grounds that it is of international concern.

It is asserted by the British doctors that a Belgian company has acquired a monopoly in production as well as a corner in the existing world supply of radium, that unlike the British monopoly in the production of diamonds or the corner which the English tried to maintain in rubber, radium is humanity's chief hope of deliverance from the cancer scourge, and its unfettered exploitation for commercial purposes is something which all civilized governments should resist.

Q. Please tell what the curb market is, G. D.

A. Curb is the abbreviation of the word curbstone. A curb market is one wherein the brokers buy and sell securities on the curbstone or in the middle of the street, as in the curb market in New York. It is in this market that stocks of a great many companies are dealt in which have not applied to the New York Exchange for listing, or where can not be listed there, and where stocks are dealt in "when issued," that is, between the time of their issue and listing on the New York Stock Exchange.

Laugh That Off.

From Passing Show. "My father is richer than your father. He's got three houses and yours has none." "I know, but my father has the mortgages on your father's houses."

Q. Are scientific discoveries ever accidental? F. S.

A. They often are. They are usually made by men trained in the line of scientific invention or observation. Oxygen, discovered by Priestley, calcium carbide by Willson, vulcanization by Goodvear, X-rays by Roentgen, and radioactivity by Becquerel fall in this class.

Farm States Need Sharp Wits

For Log-Rolling on Tariff Bill

From Chicago Journal of Commerce.

That the Midwest will have to look sharp in order to procure a fair share of the tariff favors to be distributed at the coming special session of congress is made continuously more evident by the trend of affairs at Washington. The east, and particularly Pennsylvania and New England, are so set in their determination for higher tariffs on their main products that it is overwhelmingly probable they will get what they want. As for the west, an attempt will be made to limit it, so far as possible, to moderate increases in the tariffs on farm products. The west's farms, not the west's industries, will participate in the tariff increases, if the views of some of the influential men in the next administration are triumphant.

An example of the special deference to be shown eastern industry is afforded by a Washington dispatch in which the proposed duty on cement is discussed as an instance of the attitude of the forces that will control the framing of the new tariff law. Cement, now on the free list, is to be given a duty. "The point is," says this Washington dispatch, "that foreign cement has been pouring into this country, and has been virtually putting out of business some of the American cement mills located close to tidewater. The foreign cement has been coming over as ballast and consequently getting a very low rate for transport."

The cost of transportation being the dominant factor in the price of cement, it follows that only the cement mills located close to tidewater are affected by the foreign competition. The demand for a duty on cement, then, is exclusively an eastern demand. It is to be granted. If in some indirect manner cement mills located elsewhere in the country should be slightly benefited (which is not probable), the benefit which they receive will be incidental to the eastern benefit. The tariff will be granted because of an eastern demand.

The case of cement, small as it is, affords an example of the trend, which is to provide increases in industrial tariffs when they are insisted upon by eastern industry. In the east, the economic importance of industry has given industry a political dominance. What eastern industry demands will therefore be granted, if the senators and representatives from that section have their way. In the west, on the contrary, industry often has a lesser political influence than other economic elements. Consequently the demands of western industry are not supported with absolute firmness by the senators and representatives from the west. Many of these, indeed, will care little about tariff rates on any other product, provided they succeed in satisfying the farmers by procuring increases on the products of the farms.

Thus, as between the insistence of the east, and particularly New England and Pennsylvania, for higher industrial tariffs, and the relative apathy of western senators and representatives, the western manufacturers may find themselves receiving little except the incidental benefits resulting from tariff increases demanded by eastern manufacturers in the same line of business.

Bureaucracy

Extract from Address in U. S. Senate by King of Utah

Mr. President, the expenses of the federal government are increasing out of all proportion to the service rendered and the duties performed. We have been led to believe by repeated promises from the party in power that there would be a great reduction in federal expenses but the promises have not been fulfilled and our republican friends with the greatest cynicism now declare that expenditures will increase. Of course, that will involve an increase in taxation and will result in imposing heavier burdens upon the taxpayers of the United States.

The federal government is extending its activities; it is projecting itself into fields where it is an active and where, under the constitution, it has no jurisdiction. The executive departments welcome the conference upon them of additional authority and many of them are constantly intriguing to secure additional power and to multiply the activities with which they shall be concerned. Where the end will be it is not difficult to foresee. Bureaucracy, like the rolling snowball down the hillside, increases in size and in momentum. Sooner or later it reaches the bottom. It may be in peace for a while; more often it is dashed to pieces; sometimes it waits the scorching rays of the sun to destroy it. Bureaucratic government is always the most oppressive and the most extravagant. Often they meet a premature end. History supports the statement that bureaucrats thrive in liberal and democratic governments, but with their increase in authority the cause of liberalism is diminished and the interests of democracy are imperiled. But I return to the subject before us.

Mr. President, the American people do not appreciate the tremendous burdens under which they labor to meet the expenses of the military arm of the government. No country in all the history of the world has ever expended so much for military purposes, except in time of war, the amount which the United States has been expending during the last five or six years. We often hear of the military character of the German empire during the years preceding the World war, but we are often told that the military expenses of the German government during the period mentioned were enormous. Mr. President, we will appropriate very much more for our army and navy for the next fiscal year than Germany expended in any year preceding the outbreak of the World war in 1914. My recollection is that Germany's budget for military purposes in 1913 was considerable less than \$500,000,000. We cannot justify the enormous appropriations which are being made for military purposes. The overhead of the army and navy is entirely too great. It is inconceivable that we are appropriating for the small army that we have the stupendous sum carried in this bill. As senators know, the expenses of the federal government for all purposes in 1900 were considerably less than \$700,

000,000 and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, they were but slightly over \$1,000,000,000.

Big Figures

Will Payne in Saturday Evening Post

With, say, \$10,000,000,000 of investment money accumulating every year it is reasonable to suppose that more and more of it will go into common stocks and that ownership of corporations will become more widely scattered.

That ought to have some important results. In fact, it is having some important results now. Twenty-five years ago nearly everybody was pointing with alarm to big corporations and big fortunes. Corporations and fortunes are much bigger now than they were then, but in looking over current literature it strikes me that very few people are much excited about it. There is a different attitude toward large accumulations of capital.

One reason, no doubt, is that people aren't so scared of monopoly as they were a generation ago. Corporations have got bigger, but since the World War, prices have gone down. Motor cars have been a big corporation industry and a big profit industry, but many people know by experience that in spite of a rise in wages and cost of materials, they can buy a much better car for \$1,000 now than they could have bought for \$2,000 twenty years ago. They are not afraid of big figures.

But there is another reason. Hardly more than twenty years ago, driving a car in the country, I got a look from half the people I passed on the road—and for a very good reason. They were driving horses, and many country-bred horses would still shy at a motor car. Decidedly, cars were not popular in rural districts.

All that has changed simply because farmers themselves now own cars. No stockholders ever shied at an extra dividend from his own company. Diffusion of ownership brings a different attitude toward corporations.

+ THREE KINGS ENLIVEN +
+ CAIRO WINTER SEASON +
+ Cairo, Egypt, (AP)—Cairo's winter season, now in full swing, will soon be featured by the arrival of three foreign sovereigns, the king and queen of Belgium and the new shah of Persia. They will be the guests of King Fuad of Egypt. +
+ American visitors are pouring into the country. The new American minister, Franklin Gunther and his wife, are expected to arrive shortly. Cairo never presented a gayer aspect. +
+ Rumors have been current of the presence in Egypt of an epidemic of dengue fever. The Egyptian government denies these rumors, claiming that few cases have appeared. +

The Mother Tongue.

From The-Bits. A vaudeville artist was singing "Baby Face," only he pronounced it "Bibby Face." "This wasn't going at all well with his audience, so a brother performer told him to sing it in better English. "Yes," he replied, "but, you see, 'Baby Face' doesn't rhyme with the next line—'Take your place!'"

Q. What country is called the Switzerland of the Tropics? L. N. A. Theodore Roosevelt gave this name to Porto Rico because of its high, mountainous interior and beautiful scenery.