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J. B. SRAOBS.

THE ABOVE FROM JUDGE STRODE IS BUT A SAMPLE OF THE MANY SIMILAR TESTIMONIALS WE HAVE RECEIVED WITHOUT SOLICITATION AND WHICH WILL APPEAR FROM TIME TO TIME IN THESE COLUMNS.
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THE FARM AND HOME.
EXPERIMENTING WITH IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE.

Tiles Used for Both Purposes With Astonishing Success—Starting a Dairy—Management of Sheep—Farm Notes and Home Hints.

Drainage and Irrigation Combined.
Another investigation undertaken this past year is an attempt to combine drainage with sub-irrigation in the out door garden. In other words, it is an effort to develop a plan for the effective and economical control of soil moisture.

The greatest obstacle to the success of intensive garden culture is the irregularity of moisture in the soil. There is too much at one time and too little at another. In early spring and not unfrequently at other times during the year, the soil is too wet; during summer and autumn it is usually too dry. How to remove superfluous moisture at one time and supply the lack at another, in a practical way, is the problem we are now trying to solve.

The following is a brief outline of the work already done, writes W. R. Hazen in Colman's Rural World. A fairly level spot was selected in the vegetable garden and divided into five plots each twenty-five by forty feet. In plot No. 2, lines of three-inch tile were laid eight inches deep and two and one-half feet apart, the rows extending lengthwise of the plot.

The tile was laid upon an exact level and the ends embedded in cement. At one end of each row or line, an upright tile was placed, into which water could be turned. The opposite ends were all connected with a line of tile which continued beyond the plots and acted as an outlet when the tiles were used as a drain. A valve was placed at the beginning of this outlet so that when desired, water could be held in the tiles. That is, when the soil was too wet the valve was opened and the tiles acted as a drain; when it became too dry and water was turned into the tiles, the valve was closed, and the tiles acted as a reservoir from which the water passed into the soil.

Plot No. 2 was tested in the same way except that only one-half the number of tiles were used. Instead of ten rows two and one-half feet apart, there were five rows five feet apart. In every other respect the treatment was the same. The plots were closely watched in early spring to note the effects of the tiles as to drainage, or the removal of surplus water. While no definite statement can now be made, it can be said in general that the soil of the tiled plots was dry and in a fit condition to work several days before that of adjacent untiled plots.

The following crops were planted, each extending across the five plots: early beets, onions, potatoes and string beans. The early beets matured and were marketed early and but little difference in yield was noted between the tiled and untiled plots. Up to the period of harvesting this crop, there was an abundance, although not an excess of moisture. For the onions and string beans water was turned into the tiles at five different times, and the effect was marked. The former crop yielded an increase of over fifty per cent and the latter was considerably more than doubled in weight. Besides this increase in weight the season was greatly lengthened and the quality of the crop greatly improved. At the above rate of gain, for intensive cultivation, this system of controlling soil moisture is a grand success. It has all the advantages of under-surface watering in the greenhouse, and combines drainage, when an excess of moisture renders this necessary.

Starting a Dairy.
There is no "dairy belt" in this country. Just as good butter and cheese can be made in one state as another. Some of the finest dairies in the country are to be found in Tennessee, Mississippi and Texas, while the West is famous for taking first prizes at interstate fairs. What is needed is plenty of good water for cows and washing utensils. It is a real calamity to run short of water in the dairy, and no one should start without a never-failing supply. Then again it must be conveniently located. Waste no time of man or beast in going after water, make the water come to you. Lead it through pipes in barn and dairy house. Do as little pumping as possible either by hand or power. It is a back-breaking and weary business and in hot days, in summer, cows drink a fearful amount of water. Lead the water from a point on the farm high enough to deliver it up to the knees of the cows as they stand in the stable.

In starting a dairy the first thing to learn is the value of a good stable. It not only does not pay, but is foolish to make milk only in summers. That is the hardest time to make good butter, while the market is crowded and down to the lowest notch in price. Build you a good, tight, comfortable cow stable large enough to hold as many cows as you need and give them plenty of room. Put windows in it for light and have no cracks for the cold wind to get in, and if the cows are properly bedded and kept clean, as they must be, there will be no need for ventilation. Cows can stand six months in the stable with perfect comfort and make more milk than they will if turned out to exercise.

What kind of a churn to use. It makes little or no difference so you get the right amount of agitation. The modern barrel churn that turns end for end works easier than most of them and does as good work. The main point is to have a good-sized

manhole so that the churn can be easily gotten into and freely aired. This last is of vital importance. Nothing takes the life out of cream and makes old tasting and worthless butter as a stale churn. Use the nose freely on the churn and do not spare it—Home and Farm.

Management of Sheep.

A good authority on sheep management says: It is advisable to give sheep access to salt continually. It can be kept in covered troughs from waste by rains. As a partial protection from ravages by dogs, it is well to bell about one-twentieth of the sheep. There is usually a "leader" in every flock. This one should always be belled, if any are. It is thought by many that sheep are more apt to be worried by dogs when pastured in the woods than when in the open fields. The reverse is the case. Sheep-killing dogs, like human thieves, are great cowards. They must see an apparently free way to escape before they will begin to depredate. There is safety in the woods, but more or less danger in the open fields. Sheep are summered continually in a wooded tract of thousands of acres near me, and by diligent inquiry I cannot learn of a case where they have been molested by dogs, although the latter are plentiful around the tract. Sheep are subject to internal parasites much more than formerly, and flocks are often decimated by them. Salt, sulphur and spirits of turpentine are the best remedy. To administer it, take salt, four parts; sulphur, one part; turpentine, enough to very slightly moisten; mix them, and place in a trough when the animals are hungry for salt. If this should be done once in two months, it is believed these vermin would never trouble.

Farm Notes.

Plant the orchards with small fruits on uplands.

Keep an account of farm expenses and receipts this year.

Stock need an increased ration during extremely cold weather.

Don't allow the harness to crack and break for want of occasional oiling.

Don't fail to cut up a big lot of green wood to season for next summer's use.

It pays best to raise the kind of stock one likes best, for he will give them better attention.

The surplus of horses in the country seems to be of a class horse buyers don't want to invest in.

If you keep sheep at all put enough good blood in them to get the best returns from their products.

The big, thrifty lambs will sell readily and handsomely. It is a wonder more don't go into it.

Stock are matured early mainly by proper feeding and care; although it can be aided by proper breeding.

If the ewes are kept too fat before lambing they will secrete too much milk; and this will cause caked bag.

A poultry raiser advises adding hot water to the cold in the drinking vessels. It acts like a tonic to the fowls.

No farm is complete without a good lantern; but great care must be taken to not set hay or straw afire in the barn with it.

The appearance of eggs has a great deal to do with the sale. Even if an egg is fresh it will sell much better if white and clean.

It is claimed by those who have made analysis that the corn fodder from one acre yields as much digestible matter as two tons of timothy hay.

A Rhode Island poultryer says that if onion skins are placed in the nest boxes and then covered with straw or hay, they will be death to lice, as the vermin cannot live where the skins are.

Home Hints.

A large, soft sponge, either dry or slightly dampened, makes a good duster.

Never rub your eyes, nor allow your children to do so from their cradles.

A restaurant keeper says celery wants to lie in cold water an hour before it is chewed.

A tart in great favor is an ice case of puff paste, with the filling of marmalade and whipped cream.

Sweet oil and putty powder, followed by soap and water, makes one of the best medicines for brightening brass or copper.

Silver, brilliantly polished and arranged on the finest of snowy damask, is the chief ornament of the smart dinner table of the moment.

A good remedy for chapped lips is made by mixing together two spoonfuls of clarified honey with a few drops of lavender water. Anoint the lips with the mixture frequently.

It is very vexing and annoying to have one's lips break out with cold sores, but it is better to have them out than in. A drop of warm mutton suet applied to the sores at night, just before retiring, will soon cause them to disappear.

The correct way to use doilies on the table is to place them under finger bowls and other simple dishes for which they are made. If no tablecloth is used, and the surface of the shining mahogany table is exposed, the doilies are placed under the plates in order that the table may not be scratched.

In a charmingly-furnished apartment, where the space is very much limited, the substitute for the cumbersome buffet is a spot of beauty in the little dining room. Two skeleton shelves have been made of walnut, and placed in one corner against a piece of dark red mottling tacked upon the wall. On these shelves, rich blue china is arranged with a most delightful effect.

OKLAHOMA STANDS ALONE.

Probably Insurmountable Objections to Including the Territory in a State.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Most of the arguments, written and verbal, thus far presented to the senate committee on territories for the admission of Oklahoma as a state, have advocated that the lands of the five civilized tribes be included in the boundaries. However desirable such a consummation may appear—and in fact would be—there is the very gravest danger that persistency of effort on these lines will postpone Oklahoma's admission for some time. Lawyers of standing in the house and senate even hold that the supreme court would declare the act invalid by reason of the explicit declaration of the treaties that the lands in question should never become part of any state or territory without the consent of the Indians.

There are immediate practical difficulties no less formidable than the more distant legal ones. General Wheeler, chairman of the house committee on territories, without specifically defending his own position yet says those treaties create an insurmountable bar and the lands of the five tribes cannot be added to the proposed state without trampling those treaties ruthlessly under foot.

POPULIST INCOME PLANS.

A Substitute for a Graduated Tax to Be Laid Before the House.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The Populist members of the house have arranged with Representative Richardson, presiding officer of the committee of the whole, for the recognition of one of their number to move the substitution of their provision for a graduated income tax in place of the fixed tax of two per cent in case the income tax feature is added to the Wilson bill.

The substitute measure has been prepared and is now ready to be offered at the first opportunity. Instead of 2 per cent on all incomes over \$4,000, this amendment proposes a graduated increase, fixing the tax 1 per cent on all incomes between \$2,500 and \$10,000; at 2 per cent on incomes between \$10,000 and \$30,000; at 3 per cent between \$30,000 and \$60,000; at 4 per cent between \$60,000 and \$100,000, and at 5 per cent on all incomes over \$100,000.

OIL STRIKES IN KANSAS.

Nineteen Flowing Wells in Wilson County—Gas Also in Quantity.

NEODESIA, Kan., Jan. 28.—An oil company of Pennsylvania, which has been prospecting for oil and gas near this city, has drilled twenty-one wells and only two have proved valuable. Five wells have been "shot" with nitro glycerine causing them to flow in great quantities into large tanks. One of the wells has yielded oil at the rate of twenty-four barrels per day. The average depth of the wells is 855 feet.

Two gas wells have been sunk with capacities equal to any of the great gas wells of Indiana or Ohio. The engineer in charge of the works claims that this will be the most valuable oil and gas field west of the Mississippi river.

TO AVOID THE LYNCHERS.

A Negro Arrested for the Vernon Outrage Spirited Out of Springfield.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Jan. 29.—Yesterday a message was received that Katie Jacobs, the girl brutally assaulted at Vernon last Sunday, would arrive here to-day to identify the negro Barclay arrested here. The officers to-day said the girl was too sick to come and that the negro had been taken to Mount Vernon, and that she would go to that point to see him. It is, however, asserted that the girl was in town to-day and recognized the negro, and that the officers are taking him to Kansas City to avoid lynching.

BANDITS FOUND GUILTY.

The Three Lincoln, Ill., Train Robbers Convicted in Short Order.

LINCOLN, Ill., Jan. 29.—The case of the Peoria, Decatur and Evansville bandits was to-day given to the jury and within one hour it decided that all three were guilty.

VanMeter was sentenced to ten years in the state's prison. Woodward and Howe, having proved that their ages were 19 and 18 respectively, were sentenced to the reform school.

PLEASURE VOYAGERS LOST.

Eight of a Party From Milwaukee and Michigan Drowned Down South.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Jan. 29.—Mrs. Robert Lund of this city received a letter to-day saying the schooner Florence of Holland, Mich., had capsized above New Orleans, La., in the Mississippi, and eight persons on a pleasure trip to Florida had been drowned.

A Prominent Divine Dead.

DELAWARE, Ohio, Jan. 29.—The Rev. Alexander Nelson, D. D., for more than forty years a Methodist preacher, former president of Washington female college, Baker university, Baldwin, Kan., and Iowa Wesleyan college, died this morning, aged 89 years.

An Arkansas Bandit Convicted.

NEWPORT, Ark., Jan. 2.—The jury in the case of Thomas Brady, on trial for participation in the recent robbery of the St. Louis and Iron Mountain train at Oliphant and also for the murder of Conductor McNally of the train, this morning brought in a verdict of guilty of both charges.

A Bandit's Wounds Prove Fatal.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 29.—Postoffice Inspector Johnson received word to-day that Willis Brown, a member of the Seminole band of train robbers, who was shot at the capture of the gang last Tuesday near Vinita, died last night at Fort Smith, Ark.

Girls Horsewhip a Standover.

MAISON CITY, W. Va., Jan. 29.—Last night Anne Carmant and three other girls took Richie, Keller out of his boarding house and, tying him to a fence, cowhided him unmercifully. Keller's offense was circulating evil reports about Miss Carmant.

THE WILSON TARIFF BILL.

VERY FEW AMENDMENTS MADE IN THE HOUSE.

TWO IMPORTANT CHANGES MADE.

The Sugar Bounty Knocked Out and Wool to Be Free Immediately on the Passage of the Act—Representative Burrows Speaks of the Plan of Campaign of the Republicans.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The Wilson tariff bill emerged to-day from the ordeal of amendments to which it had been subjected the last two weeks and is now in its perfected form so far as the house can perfect it. The additional days of debate next week, will be given exclusively to the income tax. It has been so difficult to keep track of the different amendments from day to day that the ways and means committee have not copies of the perfected bill.

Of the two material alterations in the bill—sugar and wool—that on sugar is of far reaching consequence. The committee had decided to gradually extinguish the sugar bounty by taking a part off each year for eight years. But the radical anti-sugar element succeeded in passing their amendment doing away with the bounty at a single stroke. The radicals also amended the bill so that refined sugar, as well as raw, goes on the free list.

The wool amendment changes the bill so that free raw wool and reduced duties on manufactured wools go into effect as soon as the tariff bill becomes a law. The bill had fixed August 1 as the date for free raw wool to take effect and December 1 as the date for the reduced duties on manufactured wools. But the radical element would accept no delay, and as a result, there is no postponement of dates in the woolen schedule. The difference of four months between free raw wool and reduced duty on manufactured wool was given in order to allow the trade to adjust itself to the change.

Among the lesser amendments made are those raising the duties on diamonds from 10 per cent under the bill to 30 per cent and the specific repeal of the reciprocity clause of the McKinley bill.

Representative Burrows, Republican, of Michigan says: "The Republican members of the house will have no caucus on the tariff or income tax questions. Neither have they agreed on a policy. There is no need of an affirmative policy. We are simply passive while the majority proceeds to execute its commission. We recognize it would be futile for us to attempt to execute any affirmative policy. We have offered amendments, but they have failed of recognition, or have been defeated by the majority. What need, therefore, is there on our side of the house of a policy? We will quietly wait while the other side furnishes the policy."

Representative McMillen, in charge of the income tax bill, said as to the prevailing reports that the income tax might defeat the tariff bill: "I would be the last to jeopardize the tariff bill by an income tax or anything else. But I am absolutely positive that the bill as a whole—tariff and income tax—will pass."

NO CHANGES IN LEAD.

The House Refuses to Alter the Wilson Schedule—Cockran Gives Up.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—In the house to-day all the amendments to the lead schedule were defeated after a debate of only an hour.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—After the reading of the journal in the house this morning, Mr. Haines of New York made the point of no quorum and the speaker ordered the roll called. This was in pursuance of a policy decided upon by the New York members to filibuster against an order from the committee on rules extending the tariff debate authorizing the offering of the internal revenue bill as an amendment to the tariff bill. The call developed the presence of 181 members and the filibustering came to an ignominious collapse.

The speaker recognized Mr. Outwaite of Ohio from the committee on rules and he reported the special order for the Wilson bill and income tax amendment providing for a vote thereon February 1 and he demanded the previous question.

The opponents of the income tax realized their helplessness and did not even make a show of resistance. Mr. Cockran of New York, however, suggested a slight modification of the order, so as to close general debate on the internal revenue amendment on Tuesday. To the other terms of the order he had no objections. "We can make but a poor show of resistance," he said, "against both the friends and enemies of the main bill who have united on the income tax proposition and this slight modification is all we ask."

Mr. Hatch of Missouri loudly demanded the regular order and, although appealed to, refused to withdraw it. Without further ado then the special order was adopted.

The house then resolved itself into committee of the whole and the consideration of the tariff bill was resumed, the pending amendments being those relating to the lumber schedule. Mr. Doollittle, Republican, Washington, made a strong plea for the substitution of the lumber schedule of the present law for that of the Wilson bill. Free lumber, he said, would force the laborers of his state into competition with the cheap Chinese and Japanese labor employed across the Canadian line.

James McCallough, who was postmaster at Waverly, N. J., under Harrison, has been arrested for refusing to give up the office to his successor.