Italian Chemist Produces New and Valuable Fertilizer From an Explosive

"Nitrated Peat" is Shown to Have Fertilizing Value Fqual to Sodium Nitrate

"Nitrated peat" is the fertilizer produced by an Italian chemist from explosives containing ammonia nitrate. The explosive is placed in a measured amount of water, which dissolves out the nitrate, and after a short time is decanted as a saturated solution. This is mixed with pent powder and evaporated. The product contains about 43 per cent of ammonia nitrate nad has been shown to have fertilizing value nearly equal to that of sodium nitrate.

South Dakotans to Kill Prairie Dogs

Saved Thousands of Dollars Worth oi Crops

Co-operating with tne Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, the farm bureau of Fall River County, S. Dak., induced the county commissioners to undertake a campaign for the extermination of prairie dogs, and the county agents were placed in charge of the work. More than 30,000 acres of land infested with prairie dogs were systematically covered, and a saving of crops amounting to $17,612 resulted. Next year the work will be resumed on newly infested lands, and all previously poisoned lands will be gone over and policed until every prairie dog is dead. The task will take at least two years more, besides several years of police duty thereafter.

Exports of Domestic Meats are Increasing

Over Three Billion Pounds Last Year

The exports of domestic meats and meat products from this country totaled 3,333,000,000 pounds for the year 1919, a quantity, without regard to kinds of meat as great as pre-war annual consumption of meat in France; three-fifths of that of the United Kingdom; one-half as much as that of former Russia, not including Poland; twice as much as that of Italy, and 45 per cent of that of former Germany. For the year ending June 20, 1917, the total exports in pounds of meat products was 1,950,000,000. In the year 1918, the total rose to 2,216,000,000 pounds. In 1919 exports amounted to the largest in the history of the industry, according to the Bureau of Crop Estimates of the United States Department of Agriculture.

West Virginia Farmers Inaugurate "Better Sires---Be'ter Stock" Campa gn

Hundreds of Farmers Pledge Themselves to Use Only Thoroughbred Sires

Whether bulls, boars, rams or roosters—if they are in the scrub ciass—they must go! This is the declaration of West Virginia which, having joined the "Better sires—Better stock" campaign, is going at livestock improvement with a will. Already hundreds of farmers have pledged themselves to use only pure-bred sires. Feeding demonstrations are to be numerous during the coming months and whole counties are planning to put on campaigns the object of which is to secure more pure-bred stock. It is expected that within the next few months several hundred head of pure-bred sires, and also dams, will be brought into the State as part of the general program to raise the livestock standard. Several counties undoubtedly will be able to show a list of pure-bred sires within a short time.

Grasshopper "Bait" Slaughters Insect

Hundred Million Dollars in Grain Destroyed

A year ago the grasshopper ate up nearly $100,000,000 worth of our winter wheat. Science at once set about devising some scheme to control this pest. They mixed a concoction, on an enormous scale, known as "grasshopper bait," making 4565 tons of it, or enough to fill 183 large railroad cars. To mix this bait they used 500,000 lemons, eighty-three tons of white arsenic and other ingredients in similar proportion. The bait was then scattered over a great area in Kansas. The grasshoppers ate it freely with the expected result. This year there are no grasshoppers in Kansas.

Will Transfer Tea Inspection

The Federal tea inspection service will be transferred from the Treasury Department to the Department of Agriculture at the end of this fiscal year, if the authority of the transfer carried in the pending agricultural appropriation bill becomes law. The service is maintained, not under the Food and Drugs Act, but under a special Tea Inspection Act which, in some particulars confers more authority than does the Food and Drugs Act. Only adulteration and misbranding are included under the Food and Drugs Act, while quality is included under the Tea Inspection Act.

In order to make tea of good commercial quality, the leaves used must be only the young leaves that grow near the ends of the twigs. If leaves are taken from farther down the plant the quality is lowered, and while the tea's purity is such that it could not be excluded under the Food and Drugs Act, the quality is so affected that it can be excluded under the Tea Inspection Act. The two lines of work, however, are similar and it is believed that better results will be obtained by placing the enforcement of the Tea Inspection Act under the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture, which all along has been charged with the enforcement of the Food and Drugs Act. The plan is to take over the organization practically intact from the Treasury Department. Tea inspection offices are maintained at the Ports of New York, Boston, Chicago, St. Paul, Tacoma, San Francisco and Honolulu.

When a girl tells a young man she thinks of him every day, it is time for him to say something or give the other fellow a chance.

Britishers Object to American Whi kys

Flavor Doesn't Compare With Scotch

A demand that all American whiskey shall be distinctly labeled when on sale in England is supported by the Wine and Spirit Association, which advocates special regulations.

"Otherwise," said a leading London merchant, "enormous injury will be done to the home trade by the dumping of a class of import which compares unfavorably, to say the least, with genuine Scotch.

"The two do not blend well. American whiskey has a distinctive flavor which does not appeal to the average Britisher.

"Very fiery and comparatively new stuff is arriving in large quantities. The age question might be overcome to some extent by the requirements that spirits must be held in bond for a specified period; but even when it is four years old that particular American whiskey retains its fiery element."

The suggestion that wood alcohol may have found its way among some of the imports is not thought probable by traders.

Prices of Meat Anima's Fall

The advance in the monthly average price of hogs per 100 pounds received by producers, which began with February, 1916, comparison being made with the same month in the preceding year, continued without a break until August, 1919, and the advance was from $7.07 to 19.30. Since August, 1919, the fall from month to month was continuous to $12.66 in December, followed by a rise to $13.36 in January, 1920, or $2.33 below the January price in 1919, according to the records of the Bureau of Crop Estimates, United States Department of Agriculture.

The average price of sheep per 100 pounds received by producers throughout the whole year had an upward movement from 1913 to 1918, from $4.54 to $10.94.

Drat Him

"Pa, what is a 'crepe hanger?'"

"That's a colloquialism, son."

"Yes, sir?"

"And is often applied to the man who goes around telling what a fine mint julep he could make if he only had the ingredients."

"They say some things really are getting cheaper."

Farm Agency is a Great Organization

Renders Invaluable Service to Farmers

America is the land of opportunity, the one place above all others where ability and energy are quickly recognized and rewarded.

This statement is amply verified in the history of the Lewis Farm Agency of No. 580 Ellicott Square, Buffalo. A few days ago our representative, after repeated efforts, succeeded in obtaining an interview with Mr. Henry Lewis, the genial president and guiding sprit of this unique organization.

Some twenty-five years ago Henry Lewis, then an auctioneer, saw the need of an agency where the farm buyer and farm seller could be brought together. He started that agency in a small and modest way. From the beginning he met with success, and today has a farm exchange that does an annual business of over $5,000,000. The staff has grown until it now consists of 28 people. Twelve automobiles are used in conveying clients to see properties. Sub-agencies with resident managers have been established throughout Western New York. Mr. Lewis attributes his success to his strict adherence in the policy of square dealing.

His salesmen graduate from the office force through the hard school of experience. They are men of energy, courtesy and tact, and imbued with the same ideals as Henry Lewis, whom they always refer to as "the chief."

Such is Henry Lewis and the Lewis Farm Agency. Our interview came to an end and we came away with the firm conviction that whether we wanted to buy or sell, we could leave the matter in Mr. Lewis' hands and be sure of quick and satisfactory results.

Getting the Garden Into Good Shape

Ban Put on Free Seeds

Secretary of Agriculture Meredith sent a bombshell into the Congressional camp when he requested Congress to drop the item in the department appropriation bill for free garden seed. This move represents a saving of several million of dollars. Congressmen have used the free seed to further their own ambitions. But the Secretary of Agriculture did not propose that this department should carry election propaganda in the form of free seed.

Sprays for Garden Pests

Good judgment must be used, not only in applying the spray materials but also in knowing when to apply them and the proportions to be used. Spraying is a preventive measure and not a cure. In isolated cases is spraying really a cure or remedy. Insects and plant diseases will very often completely disappear when the spraying has been faithfully and carefully performed.

The following sprays are recommended for destroying garden pests:

Tomato worm, hand pick with gloves or spray with Paris green.

Potato beetle, spray with Paris green and lime, or brush off in a shallow pan and destroy.

Cut worms, mix Paris green and bran and spread as a bait before plants are set. Put paper collars around young plants.

Ants may be controlled by punching holes near their nests, putting in a few spoonfuls of carbon bisulphide and closing the opening.

Striped cucumber beetle, cover plants with cheesecloth screens, spray with arsenate of lead, five pounds to 50 gallons of water.

Army worms, spray with Paris green, spread bran and Paris green bait or plow a deep ditch with a steep side next to crops and kill them in the trench.

The Proper Time to Plant

Taking New York as the standard, and allowing six days' difference for every 100 miles in latitude, we have the following schedule for planting:

Bush string beans, May 15th to August 1st. Pole beans, pumpkin and squash, May 20th to June 20th. Beets, peas and lettuce (outdoors), April 1st to August 1st. Celery and early cabbage, April. Cabbage (late), May and June. Corn and melons, May 10th to July 10th. Cucumbers, May 15th to July 15th. Egg-plant, tomatoes and peppers (indoors), March, (outdoors), June 1st or later. Potatoes, onions, salsify and Parsley, April and May. Radishes and spinach, April 1st to September 15th.

An olden time rule was to watch the bloom of the fruit trees, as, for example, when the cherry tree is in bloom, sow asparagus seed, lettuce, cucumbers for early use, mangle-wurzel and sugar corn. When the apple tree is in bloom sow first crop of beans, drill onion sets, plant tomato seed in hills and plant watermelon seed. Begin sowing peas when the peach tree is in bloom.

Transplanting rules are: Brussels sprouts, June; egg-plant, about two or three weeks after corn planting; garlic, spring; tomato, cauliflower, cabbage, etc., after settled weather

The Furrow

News and Views About the Farm

When not too valuable for feed, oat straw makes an excellent bedding material, as it is a good absorbent for liquid manure and gives a higher percentage of nitrogen than wheat straw or almost any other bedding material. It is worth more when fed or used as bedding and as an absorbent for the liquid manure. When straw is not available, other materials may be substituted for the purpose of absorbing the liquid manure. Saw dust, shavings, leaves or other coarse organic material may be used. Farmers as a rule use too little bedding. Bedding not only affords comfort for the animals, but it is the easiest and most practical means of conserving liquid manure. All straw and other coarse materials which cannot be fed should be worked through the barns and returned to the soil as manure. Substances of this sort do not decay as rapidly as the manure itself, and therefore tend to keep up the organic matter content of the soil, afterward releasing their own plant food thrrough slow decay.

A broom will last longer if on each wash day, after the clothes are all boiled, it is dipped for a moment in the soapy suds. Then shake it as free from water as possible and hang up by the handle. Slip an old newspaper underneath to catch the drippings. It there is a tendency to lop sidedness, press the broom into shape while it is wet and pliable.

Weeds are enemies of plants. They compete with the plants by taking plant food and moisture the plant needs and using for thorns and thistles. Weeds have advantages of plants in several respects, chief of which are their hardiness and adaptations to endure drouth, excessive rains and other adversities.

The tractor works in less time than horses and does better work by reason of its power. It plows deeper, quicker, and saves man labor. It gets the work done at the most desirable time. It eats only when it works and very little then—works day and night, if necessary. It never gets tired, does better belt and drawbar work and requires no attention when not being worked. It requires less barn room than horses and less storage space for horse feed, while belt work makes it useful the year around.

As a rule deep plowing is considered advisable under most condi-

and the ground is warm.

To prevent current worms from troubling current and gooseberry bushes, dust them with hellebore as soon as the leaves appear, while wet with dew. Make a second application a few weeks later. Hellebore may also be used as a spray.

As a remedy for raspberry canes dying at fruiting time, close inspection of the plants is recommended, and all diseased cane should be promptly dug out and burned.

The plow should not be put in the strawberry plantation, as a rule. Some time plowing is necessary where the soil is a heavy clay.

While it is important to plant good varieties of strawberries, it is equally important to plant good plants of those varieties. Poor plants of a famous kind will not do, and good plants of a poor kind will not, but they should be fine well-grown plants of a reliable variety, well adapted to the soil and climate in which they are to be grown.

Do not set strawberries too deep. The roots should be well spread out and the plant set no deeper than it originally grew in the field.

It is a wise plan to test several varieties of strawberries before setting out a commercial planting in order to ascertain the varieties best adapted to the soil conditions.

To destroy injurious insect pests that infest the strawberries after the crop is gathered, some burn off the trash in case it is dry enough. Others mow and rake the patch.

For the rose and raspberry slugs, spray or sprinkle with powdered white hellebore, two or three heaping tablespoonfuls in a pail of water. For the

bered in breaking land late in the spring.

A well matured animal will always show a higher percent of dressed weight than a young immature animal.

Merino is the wool sheep, Shropshire the all-purpose and Southdown the best mutton sheep.

One who has sucessfully tried it says that a choked cow may be relieved by tying a stick in her mouth to hold it open for a while. Her efforts to dislodge it will start the obstruction in the throat.

Sheep will improve weedy pastures but poor pastures will not improve the sheep unless the sheep are fed liberally from other sources.

soil needs considerable weathering to make it suitable for the roots of plants. Unless the subsoil is exposed long enough for it to become mellow and pliable under the force of rain, sun and organic life, it is not likely to be fertile. This should be rememtions when done in the fall or winter. Subsoiling or very deep plowing is seldom advisable late in the Spring, though no rule can be followed. Sub-

rose bug or beetle, a mixture of arsenate of lead is necessary, one-half pound in eight or nine gallons of water.

Garden Facts Worth Knowing

Frequent garden cultivation is very essential in seasons of frequent showers or heavy rains. Special pains should be taken to keep the soil mulch on the surface of the garden soil and thus prevent the weeds from making a start. This will require diligence when showers are frequent and the ground is in serious danger of baking should it not be cultivated after the rain. Cultivation will also help tender garden plants to make better growth, as air, sunshine and plant food are supplied better by frequent cultivation.

Such vegetables as cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce and oinons utilize to the best advantage heavy applications of manure.

Tomoto plants respond better to fertilizer if it is applied and worked into the row a week or ten days before the plants are set. In the trials at some of the experiment stations nitrate of soda alone and potash alone show a very marked increase. One of the good results from fertilizing tomatoes is the earlier maturing of the fruit, a difference of three or four weeks being observed in many cases.

A parson is always the best man at a wedding. He gets the coin.

All is not gold that glitters. Sometimes it is merely an indication of guilt.

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Price, Guard & Co. say that the strength displayed b y the Oil securities indicate the shortage of the reserve supply of crude oil. In their opinion, the higher grade oil securities merit the investing public's attention.

The recent advance in gasoline prices bears out the prediction of Mr. Phelan, th e Shipping Board Oil Expert that 40c. gasoline is a possibility by August of this year.

The oil stocks should become leaders in the market action.

Wild Herd Increase in Decade

In the ten years since the Montana National Bison Range was established the 37 buffaloes with which the herd was started have increased to 296. In addition there are on the range 125 elk (not including calves of last year), 33 antelope and 15 mule-deer. It is believed that the range is large enough to support 800 bison, 400 antelope, 500 deer, and 800 elk.

Filing Teeth

The practice of filing the teeth is quite common among the tribes of Sumatra. The operation, which is an extremely painful one, is begun at an early age and continues until maturity, when both sets of teeth have been completely filed down to the jawbone.

The custom originated as a form of personal adornment, but the reasons do not seem to have been inherited with the practice itself. Although their usual food of rice, syrup and finely chopped meat and fish is soft and easily digested, their inability to chew is a serious physical disadvantage.

On the Other Side

Little Philip had cried all night with toothache and upon receiving a nickel the next morning he went as usual to get candy again. His auntie, on coming home, and finding he had bought candy with her nickel, asked him: "Why, Philip, I thought you weren't ever going to eat candy again?" To which he replied: "Well, auntie, I'm not eating candy on the toothache side."

A Final Favor

"My darling," said a fond mother, who believed in appealing to children's tender feelings instead of punishing them, "if you are so naughty you will grieve mamma so that she will get ill and have to lie in bed in a dark room and may die and have to be taken to the cemetery, and be buried, and you"——

The child had become more solemn, but an angelic smile overspread his face at his mother's last words, and, throwing his arms about her neck, he exclaimed:

"Oh, mamma, and may I sit beside the coachman?"—Exchange.

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Outlook for the Motors

IN the general rehabilitation of nation-wide transportation facilities, the motor industry has before it a commercial opportunity that is the subject of a leading article in a current number of our Market Review. In this connection there is specific reference to conditions surrounding three important motor industries:

General Motors

Willys-Overland

Bethlehem Motors

A copy containing this article will be sent to anyone interested on request for X-502.

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