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Sugar	5½c
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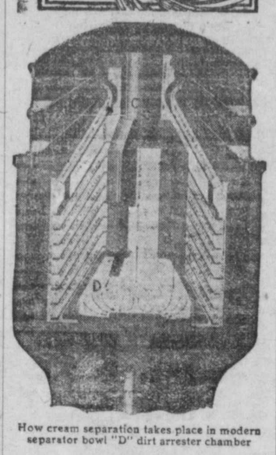
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The dairy maid's friend

HARVESTING OATS AND PLANTING LEGUMINOUS CROPS IN THE SOUTH

By G. H. ALFORD of the I H C Service Bureau

It is now time to plan for the harvesting of our oat crop. If we do not own a good mowing machine, or better still, a good binder, now is the time to buy one. The cradle is too slow and the waste when using a cradle is enormous.

One binder will harvest from 80 to 100 acres—eight acres per day. One or more farmers in every neighborhood should own a good binder. The binder will generally pay for itself in one season.

A mowing machine will often do the work for several farmers in a neighborhood. Where one farmer cannot afford to buy a mower for his own use, several farmers can purchase one. One farmer will often find it profitable to own a mower or binder and work for his neighbors at a reasonable price.

Now is the time to get our mowers and binders ready for work. Let us sharpen the sickles, oil the bearings and test the machines on the grass before our oats are ready to cut. It is also advisable to have an extra binder tongue, a knife, and several extra wings and arms for the reel ready beforehand for repairing breakages.

We should harvest our oat crop early. Cutting should begin as soon as about 75 per cent of the field has turned yellow—just as soon as all the grain is in the dough stage. Oats should not be cut while wet from dew or rain.

There should be a thresher in every neighborhood for threshing all kinds of seeds such as oats, wheat, rye, barley, kaffir corn, sorghum, grass seed, beans, and peanuts.

Many farmers will find it profitable to own a thresher for use on their own farms and they can at the same time be of great service to their neighbors by threshing for them at a reasonable price.

The oats should be threshed as soon as possible, but should not be threshed when grain is wet from either rain or dew.

Store oats in bulk and not over three feet deep. Be sure and examine grain daily for at least three weeks and turn with shovel, if there are any indications of heating.

The packed, crusted soil should not be exposed to the sun's rays a single day after oats are cut. We should use a disk harrow and make the surface for two or three inches as fine as possible for a cowpea, soy bean or peanut crop. By the use of the disk harrow, we can thoroughly prepare several acres of stubble land every day for these crops. At this season of the year we are usually very busy and are often unable to spare the necessary time to break the stubble land with a plow.

These leguminous crops are valuable on account of the nitrogen and the humus-making organic matter they contain. When they are harvested to be fed to live stock, nearly half the nitrogen and humus-making materials are left in the roots and in the bottom of the stems and in the leaves, and other portions of the plants not obtained in gathering the crops. The results of the Calhoun, La., experiment station show that one acre of Spanish peanuts grown on poor pine land contained 192 pounds of nitrogen; an acre of cowpeas, 108 pounds; and an acre of soy beans, 190 pounds. These crops made from two to three and a half tons of feed stuff, richer in food elements than wheat bran. When such feed stuff can be grown after oats and fed to stock without serious loss of fertilizing value, is there any excuse for cultivating poor land and for having poor livestock?

The advantages of growing cowpea crops are briefly summarized by the Louisiana experiment station as follows: First, the cowpea is a nitrogen gatherer; second, it shades the soil in the summer, keeping it in a condition most suitable to the most rapid nitrification and leaves it friable and loose and in the best possible condition for future crops; third, it has a large root development, and hence pumps up from a great depth and a large area the water, and with it the mineral needed by the plant; fourth, its adaptability to all kinds of soils—stiffest clays to the most porous sand, fertile alluvial bottoms to barren upland; fifth it stands the heat and hot sunshine of hot climates; sixth, its rapid growth enables us to grow two crops on the same soil; seventh, when sown thickly, it shades the soil effectually, smothering out all weeds and grasses, and thus serves as a cleansing crop; eighth, it is the best preparatory crop known to the southern farmers—every kind of crop grows well after it; ninth, it furnishes a most excellent hay and a most excellent food in large quantities for man and beast.

The following is a summary of Farmers' Bulletin, No. 326: In 1905 the farm described in this bulletin produced one-fourth bale of cotton and fifteen bushels of corn per acre. In 1906, after a crop of cowpeas, it produced one-half bale of cotton and thirty-four bushels of corn to the acre. After cowpeas and an application of 300 pounds of commercial fertilizer, nearly three-fourths of a bale of cotton to the acre; and after cowpeas and clover continuously for two years, one bale of cotton per acre.

This moving machine, thresher and hay press made it possible to utilize the cowpea grown on this farm not only for feed and seed but also as a source of considerable revenue. The mowing machine, the thresher and the hay press will make the cowpea one of the most profitable crops that can be grown.

The following is a summary of Farmers' Bulletin No. 372: Where intensive farming is followed, the soy bean is the best annual legume to grow for forage in the southern part of the cotton belt. The soy bean whether used as hay, grain, or ensilage is a very valuable live stock feed. Soybean hay is practically identical in feeding value with alfalfa and yields from two to three tons per acre.

Soy-bean grain is more valuable than cotton seed meal as a supplementary feed in the production of pork, mutton, wool, beef, milk and butter. A bushel of soy beans is at least twice as valuable for feed as a bushel of corn. As the grain is hard, it is usually desirable to grind it into meal for feeding. This is best done by mixing with corn before grinding to prevent gumming the mill.

A mowing machine or a binder can be used to harvest the soy bean. A binder can be used only with the tall varieties. The threshing can be done with a grain thresher by using blank concaves and running the cylinder much lower than for small grain. The growing of soy beans after oats and on other land and the use of mowing machines, threshers, and hay presses means rich land, fat stock, and more prosperous times.

The fact that Spanish peanuts will produce good crops on comparatively poor land when well fertilized and cultivated should encourage us to grow them as a substitute for a large part of the corn and hays usually fed to all kinds of stock. Professor Duggar at the Auburn, Ala., station found an acre of Spanish peanuts on poor gravelly land produced 600 pounds of live weight of hogs. This was after the tops had been cut with a mower and saved for hay. The growing of peanuts after oats will add much to the fertility of the soil, promote the raising of good livestock, and add to the bank account.

Planting cowpeas and soy beans in rows about 30 inches apart saves seed and brings greater returns in yields of seed and hay. The experiment station results show that the increase in both seed and hay obtained when the seed is drilled is more than sufficient to pay for the additional expense in drilling and cultivating the crop.

Plant the cowpeas, soy beans and peanuts on the level and cultivate on the level with a disk harrow, a spring tooth harrow, a one or two-horse cultivator or a heel sweep. We can then cut two or three rows at one time with our mowing machines.

We should grow more oats and other small grain crops, and leguminous crops to enrich our lands and furnish feed for more good livestock; and use more labor-saving machinery such as mowing machines, hay rakes, tedders binders and hay presses.

Silent English Crowds.

Silence is a great characteristic of an English crowd, it seems. The English people are generally very quiet. Once I went to Shepherd's Bush with my French friend. He said to me: "Can you believe that there are some 10,000 people in this ground? Just shut your eyes—you would feel you were standing in a desert!" Yes, he was only too true. In France or in Japan they would make deafening noises.—Observations of a Japanese in England.

Wales Was There.

At the fish docks in an English seaport the rather remarkable coincidence was noticed of three steam trawlers lying berthed side by side, their names being respectively Rose, Shamrock and Thistle.

"What a pity that Wales is not represented!" remarked a visitor. "That would have certainly completed it."

"Don't worry about that, guv'nor," replied the man addressed. "I expect there's a leak in one of 'em."

A Barbarous Pun.

An Edinburgh professor once objected to the graduation of a native of Ceylon on the ground that he spelled "exceed" with only one [illegible]

"Well," said another, "you must remember the land of the Transcript.

THE TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland.

Although the Act of the Legislature providing for the creation of a School of Advanced Technology in connection with the Johns Hopkins University did not contemplate the opening of the school prior to October, 1913, the university is anxious to show its appreciation of the trust committed to it by beginning the preliminary work of technical education at the earliest possible moment.

While it is clearly impossible to organize and open the School of Technology in October, 1912, the university authorities have decided to take the first step at once. There are now in the university courses of instruction which are essential to technology. Properly qualified students planning to enter the School of Technology, when it is organized, will be admitted in October, 1912. They are advised to take the regular entrance examinations of the university. Those unable to meet the entrance requirements in full, but who pass satisfactory examinations in English, in Mathematics or Latin and in French or German, will be admitted to such courses as they are prepared to enter. (See catalogue of the College of Arts and Sciences, 1912, page 60.) In order to enable worthy and deserving students to enter the courses preliminary to technical education this year, the university has also determined to offer to a limited number of young men in Maryland temporary or special scholarships providing free tuition. The temporary scholarship will be purely voluntary on the part of the university and will not be the scholarships provided by the law establishing the Technical School. The holders of these special scholarships, however, may be eligible to compete later on for the regular scholarships as provided in the law. The special scholarships will be good for one year. It will be obviously difficult to apportion them on any systematic basis. It is suggested, therefore, that any young man in the State whose preliminary education is such as to qualify him to take the special courses referred to, and who desires to enter the university in the fall of 1912, shall communicate with the registrar of the university and receive from him the necessary blank form of application. In case the candidate wishes to apply for a scholarship, he should give his reasons and state all the facts bearing upon the matter. In September the application will be considered on its merits.

CHURCH WORK.

Preaching services at the Presbyterian churches as follows: Westminster at 10.30 A. M., Grace at 3 P. M., Worton at 7.45 P. M., Sunday school every Sunday morning at 10 A. M. at Worton.

The weekly meeting of the Methodist Protestant Ministers' Association, of Baltimore, was held aboard the steamer Louise on Monday. The ministers and their wives went to Tolchester for their annual outing. At the close of the meeting the ministers adjourned their meeting until September.

Rev. J. L. Nichols, pastor of Centreville M. P. Church, and Miss Laura Belle Wilson, daughter of Mr. J. W. Wilson, of Quinton, near Pocomoke City, were married on Wednesday of last week at the home of the bride. The ceremony was performed by Rev. G. I. Humphreys and Rev. J. M. Straughn, of Laurel, Del., was best man.

Salem M. E. Sunday school will go to Tolchester July 25, 1912.

Union M. E. Sunday school will hold their picnic in B. F. Rash's grove Aug. 7, 1912.

Rev. W. M. McCann will preach at Salem M. E. Church, Fairlee, at 10.30 A. M. and Union M. E. Church at Worton at 3 P. M., Sunday, July 21.

Chestertown M. E. Church, Rev. L. E. Barrett, D. D., pastor. Services next Sunday, July 21, as follows: 10.30 A. M., preaching by the pastor, subject: "I Go a Fishing;" 2.15 P. M., Sabbath school and pastor's Bible class; 7 P. M., Epworth League song service followed by brief sermon by the pastor, subject: "How a Major General Was Saved." This is the third in the series of twilight sermons. Last Sunday evening, on account of the storm, no service was held and the subject for that occasion will go over to another time. All invited. Come and spend the hour with us.

Services at the M. P. Church, Kennedyville, next Sunday, the 21st, as follows: Sunday School, 9.30 A. M.; sermon by the pastor at 10.30, subject: "The Tenderness of the Almighty." Service of song and brief sermon in the evening at 7.45. All most cordially invited. Let the young people fill the choir corner. Whole service 45 minutes.

The Cortland (New York) Standard of Monday evening, July 15th, says: "H. K. Miller, Ph. D., of this city, who recently preached two Sundays for the Jackson Baptist Church, Tompkins county, has declined a call to its pastorate on the ground that twenty-five years in the ministry places him beyond the 'dead line' and entitles him to exemption from its duties. Mr. Miller retired from pastoral work a year ago on the advice of physicians in order to lead an outdoor life, and has since been engaged in selling goods on the road for the Baltimore Optical Co."

The M. E. Sunday school went to Love Point on the annual picnic on Wednesday. Notwithstanding the threatening weather of the morning a good crowd enjoyed the day. Union M. E. Sunday school in Queen Annes joined the Chestertown Sunday school, and about 500 made the trip.

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