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SCHEDULE

IN EFFECT DECEMBER 1st, 1912.

Steamer will leave Baltimore, Pier 7, Light St. Wharf, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 11.00 A. M., weather and tide permitting, for the following points: Rock Hall, Queenstown, Bogles, *Spaniard's Point, Cliffs, *Indiantown, *Ashland, Quaker Neck, Booker's, *Riverside, Rolph's, *Piney Grove, arrive Chestertown about 5.30 P. M.

*Stops on Signal.

Returning, steamer leaves Chestertown for Baltimore, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8.00 A. M., weather and tide permitting, stopping at the above landings, arriving in Baltimore about 2.00 P. M.

Steamer will leave Baltimore, Pier 7, Light St., weather and tide permitting, Wednesday at 3.00 P. M., stopping at: *Spaniard's Point, *Cliffs, *Indiantown, *Quaker Neck, *Booker's, *Riverside, *Rolph's, *Piney Grove, Chestertown, *Buckingham, *Deep Landing, *Spry's, Crumpton.

*Stops on Signal.

Returning, steamer will leave Crumpton, weather and tide permitting, for Baltimore, Thursday at 12 noon, Chestertown, 4.00 P. M., stopping at the above landings.

This time-table shows the times at which steamers may be expected to arrive at and depart from the several wharves, but their arrivals or departures at the times stated is not guaranteed, nor does the Company hold itself responsible for any delay or any consequences arising therefrom.

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GROWING OATS

October the Best Month for Planting Oats in the South—Compares Well in Profit with Corn

[By G. H. Alford, of I H C Service Bureau]

From October 1 to November 15, according to latitude, is the best time to sow oats in the cotton belt. The area in oats should be fully as large as that in corn. Great enthusiasm now prevails in regard to corn, but let us not forget that as a feed for stock and cash crop, oats is one of the best crops that can be grown in the south.

The chief crops grown all through the cotton belt are cotton and corn. As an average, for the period from 1900 to 1909, there was planted from ten to fifteen acres of corn for each acre of oats in the various cotton belt states. During the same time, the average value of the oat crop per acre was $10.09, while the average value per acre of corn was $11.02. Figuring the cost of growing an oat crop and a corn crop we find that the oat crop was the more profitable.

There are several important reasons why we should sow millions of acres of oats in the cotton belt. It would reduce washing and leaching to the minimum, furnish grazing, add to the deplorably deficient supply of humus, and add to the always short supply of feed stuffs.

Of course, there are better winter cover crops than oats. Burr clover and crimson clover and the vetches, and in some cases some of the other winter cereals are better. We do not claim that oats alone, or that oats and hairy vetch combined should be grown for the sole purpose of supplying a cover crop. However, in view of the fact that oats will grow on poor land, poorly prepared, and that it costs little to seed an acre, it is a good winter cover crop.

Two and one-half acres were planted in oats at the experiment station at Baton Rouge, La., for grazing experiment on September 28. On October 29, seven poland china pigs, weighing in total 276 pounds, were put on this plat and were given no feed but the green oats during the winter. By February 17 the pigs weighed a total of 568 pounds. There was an average gain of .37 pounds per pig per day for 110 days. From October 29 to January 1, forty-five head of sheep were pastured on this same field. Of this number eight ewes and nine lambs were pastured continuously thereafter until February 17, at which date the lambs averaged sixty-eight days old and weighed 35.5 pounds each. Allowing six cents per pound gained by the lambs, we have a return of $13.40 per acre, plus the pasturage of sheep not considered in the estimate.

The loss of humus from the soil results in decreasing its power to store up and properly supply crops with water. Soils with a liberal amount of humus are capable of more effectually withstanding drought than similar soils with less humus. The oat crop fills the soil full of roots, and the stubble also adds much humus to the soil.

The oat grain is a very valuable feed, especially for young animals, because of the moderately high content of protein and the large amount of ash or mineral matter. Pound for pound, oats are not as valuable for feeding mature animals as corn, four pounds of corn being equal to about five pounds of oats.

In attempting to build up worn out cotton lands we must depend very largely upon the leguminous crops. Now the oat crop is harvested early enough to permit the growing of a leguminous crop. The leguminous crop may be plowed under or it may be used as feed, and the manure returned to the land. If we are going to build up our soils and raise good stock we must grow oat crops and follow with legume crops.

Oats will prove about the best paying small grain crop that can be grown over practically the entire cotton belt. The same soil that will produce one bale of cotton or forty bushels of corn per acre will produce sixty bushels of oats per acre. At an average price that has prevailed for oats during the past five years, the sixty bushels will sell for from $36 to $40 and the straw when baled will often pay for growing the grain.

After using the disk harrow to cut the corn stalks or cotton stalks, plow the land deep, then disk and double disk and harrow and cross harrow until every inch of the soil has been stirred and broken as fine as possible.

A mixture of 300 pounds of sixteen per cent acid phosphate, 100 pounds of cotton seed meal, and 200 pounds of potash, followed in March with a top dressing of fifty to seventy-five pounds of nitrate of soda per acre, is good fertilizer for oats on average soil.

The best varieties for fall sowing in the south are of the red rustproof type. The original red rustproof, the Appler and the Bancroft, are so nearly alike that no one can tell them apart if sown side by side. The Burt oat is for spring sowing.

There are three methods commonly practiced in planting oats—sowing broadcast, open furrow, and drilling. Drilling of the seed is to be preferred, since considerably less seed may be used if drilled by machine; the seeds are covered at a uniform depth, come up, grow, and ripen uniformly; the small ridges made by the drill afford a slight degree of protection from cold; and the yield from drilled oats is usually greater than from broadcast oats. The seed saved, and the larger crops that usually result from drilled oats will soon pay for a good drill on the farm.

Handsome Trophy for Best Corn.

The American Land and Irrigation Exposition company, whose general offices are in the Singer building, New York city, is offering a handsome trophy, valued at $500, to the farmer growing the best 30 ears of Indian corn of any variety with the largest yield per acre. The corn must be grown in the United States. Rules and shipping instructions and particulars for making entry for the privilege of competing in this contest can be secured by writing Mr. Gilbert McClurg, General Manager of the Exposition, Singer building, New York.

GUMBO SOILS

O. J. Berger, of Eudora, Kansas, writes: "I am on gumbo land, and it is not very well drained. I am told this land would improve if properly drained, and some say it can't be tiled, for a paste forms around the tile and the water can't get through it. How would concrete tile do? Can you give me any information on this subject?"

What we usually refer to as gumbo soil is a very heavy type of soil. In some localities is is very dark in color, while in other places it is slightly grayish in color. In the state of Iowa the gumbo soils are very dark and usually very heavy, while in parts of Kansas, also other parts of Iowa, the gumbo is of a light color, often of a reddish cast.

One of the first steps to take in attempting to handle gumbo land is to see that it is well drained. The very close grained, finely textured gumbo soils of Iowa have been drained successfully both by using open ditches and by using tile drain. In fact, some of the gumbo soils that have been tile drained often sell as high as $200 per acre. The experience in handling the heavy, sticky soils indicates that it is not necessary to place the tile, as one would naturally think, close together and as shallow as first consideration might indicate. The experience of farmers in the heavy, waxy soils of Iowa shows that the tile lines are often placed ten to twelve rods apart, which is ample distance even in some other types of soil. The best way to settle this matter, inasmuch as these soils vary considerably, is to put in as many lines of tile as you can conveniently and watch the effect, or use only one tile line and note the distance it drains on either side. This would take but a short time for the effect can usually be noticed on close observation.

Proper Treatment for Gumbo Soil

It is highly important that you have a good outlet in attempting to use tile. After the land is well drained, the next important step is that of tillage. It has been found that for all kinds of conditions fall plowing is the best for gumbo soils. The action of freezing and thawing during the winter months renders the seed bed much more friable and reduces the clods in a way that cannot be accomplished by mechanical means. Care should be exercised not to plow or to cultivate this type of soil when it is unusually wet for it puddles very quickly, forming clods which can be reduceed only by freezing and thawing.

One of the objectionable features of gumbo soil is the tendency to shrink when drying out, thus injuring the crop materially. The time that this occurs is usually during the summer months. This objection may be overcome by surface tillage, using the spring-tooth, peg-tooth or disk harrows, together with cultivators, or any other means of maintaining a surface mulch to a depth of three or four inches.

Gumbo soils when well drained and in a good state of cultivation, which may be maintained as stated above, give splendid yields; in fact, better than some other kinds of soils in the corn belt. A frequent application of stable manure is also beneficial to these soils, inasmuch as it supplies vegetable matter, thus rendering the soil lighter and putting it in a better physical condition.

Some claim that the cement tile are more porous and thus permit a freer movement of the water than the clay tile, but in reality there is very little difference. As far as the pores of the tile becoming filled is concerned, one would probably fill up about as quickly as the other. A large percentage of the water that enters the tile goes through the joints and does not soak directly through the tile. You will find that well vitrified tile or carefully made cement tile will serve your purpose satisfactorily. In cases where the trouble from alkali is exceptionally severe, it may be best to use the clay tile in preference to the cement.

Yours very truly,
I H C SERVICE BUREAU.

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

The next session of the Wilmington Conference will begin March 19th, 1913. Bishop Berry will preside, and the session will be held in Crisfield.

Chestertown M. E. Church, Rev. L. E. Barrett, D. D., pastor—Services next Sunday, Jan. 5th, as follows: 10.30 A. M., preaching by the pastor, subject; "A New Year's Question," 2.15 P. M., Sabbath school and pastor's bible class; 7.00 P. M., Epworth League song service, followed by preaching by the pastor, subject; "Joseph," No. 2. All invited.

Christ Church Sunday school sang their annual Christmas carols Sunday evening in the presence of a large audience and never did this live school sing better. The choruses were finely rendered and especially the chorus by forty men's voices. The orchestra, composed of Prof. Kemp Bordley, Warren Hurlock, Jos. N. Wheatley, violins, Arthur Bacon cornet; and Miss Clara Usilton, organist, accompanied the singing. Addresses appropriate to the occasion were made. The program was as follows: Orchestra selection; the song, Carol by the school; responsive reading, Prof. Charles F. Wheatley, leader; the Lord's Prayer; Song of Joy, school; Address of Welcome, Roy Barnett; Sing with the Angels, school; recitation, The Shepherds, Frances Howard; The Child, school; recitation, Sally White; exercise, four little girls; Breeze of Midnight, school; Sharing Xmas; Dorothy Woodall, Harriett Reed; Xmas Lullaby, school; Xmas Star, seven little girls; song, Follow the Star.

Emanuel P. E. Church, Dr. H. B. Martin, rector, held their annual Christmas treat Monday evening. Under the able direction of Misses Adele France and Isabel Beck, the Sunday school rendered a playlet entitled "A Christmas Joke." Those who took part and the characters represented were as follows: Harriett Welch, Mother Goose; Alice Hynson, Mother Hubbard, Annie Duyer The Old Woman Who Lived In The Shoe; Julia Bell, Humpty Dumpty; Gilbert Byron, Georgy Porgy; Eloise Wicks, Wife; Ricard Duyer, Tommy Tucker; Richard Twilley, The Bachelor; Esther Urie, Polly Findeps; Lloyd Connelly and Gladys Beauchamp, Jack and Jill; Ellen Beck, Mischievous Jack; Elizabeth Wickes, Rock-a-Bye-Baby; Katherine Beck, Miss Muffett; Helen Simpers, Contrary Mary; Mary Simpers Curly Locks; Mary Beck, Bettie Blue; Mary Jones, Tom the Piper's son; Helen DeCourse, Boy Blue; Frank Hines, Jr., Simple Simon; William B. Usilton, Jr., Jack Horner, Mary Hynson, Bo-Peep; Simon Westcott, Old Kris.

Christ Methodist Protestant Church, Rev. Dr. W. R. Graham pastor.—There will be a New Year's service next Sunday 10.30 A. M., and 7.30 P. M. The pastor will preach a special New Year sermon at the evening service. Sabbath school 2.30 P. M., Junior meeting at 6 o'clock, Christian Endeavor service 6.45 P. M., Mid-week service Thursday evening at 7.30 o'clock.

Rev. E. S. Fookes, of the Maryland Conference has resigned his pastorate at Bivalve, Md., and accepted a charge in Pennsylvania in the Pittsburg Conference. Rev. Mr. Fookes thinks the change will benefit his health.

Revival services will begin in Christ M. P. Church on Sunday, January 12th. The pastor Rev. Dr. Graham will be assisted by the noted evangelist, Rev. Louis Shelhorn,, of New Jersey.

The Chestertown M. E. Sunday school held its annual Christmas treat last Friday night with appropriate exercises.

Sacred Heart Church held its annual treat on Wednesday.

MAKING GOOD IN WEST.

Galena Boy is Now the Sport Expert on One of the Leading Western Newspapers.

Mr. George L. Starr, son of Mr. George W. Starr, of Galena, who went west sometime ago to make his way in life, is making good as the sporting editor of the Star-Journal, one of the leading newspapers in the west. This paper contains the following complimentary reference to Mr. Starr's good judgment:

"Score two more for the Star-Journal's sport expert—George L. Starr.

"While a majority of all writers of sporting news, even in San Francisco, were picking Ad Wolgast to successfully defend his title against Willie Ritchie, the coast scrapper, Starr predicted that there would be a new champion after Thanksgiving day.

"In view of the fact that he was defeated by Mandot on Labor day, a majority of the critics of the fight game considered that Joe Rivers was due for another defeat yesterday, Starr said River would win.

"Not only were most fight experts wrong on these two great bouts, but the odds were at times 2 to 1 on Wolgast, while Mandot also was favored in the betting.

"There were no 'ifs' in Starr's dope on these fights. On Nov. 17, he wrote, in the Star-Journal:

"'After taking everything into consideration, the San Francisco boy is a fit opponent to fight the champion for the crown. The writer believes that Thanksgiving night we will have a new lightweight champion.'"

"From the Star-Journal Nov. 11, more than two weeks ago:

"'Will Rivers make good the assertions that he will take the measure of Mandot Thanksgiving day? The writer believes he will turn the trick, but at the same time he is fighting a dangerous boy. For Mandot fought Wolgast gruelling rounds in New Orleans last Monday night to a draw, and from reports blood was spilled.'

"It is almost needless to add that the Star-Journal picked the Red Sox to beat the Giants and a lot of other winners in big sporting events."

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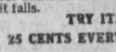

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