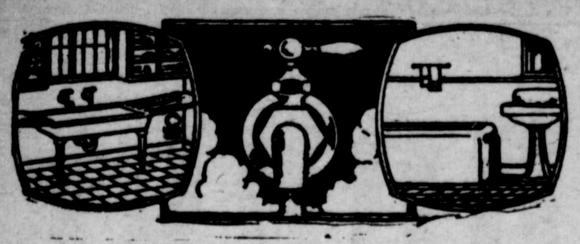

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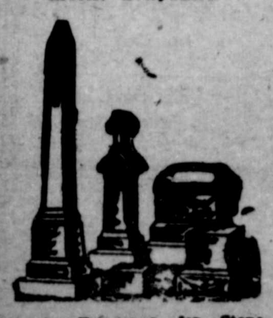

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AGRICULTURAL NOTES

MOST MARYLAND SOILS ARE IMPROVED BY LIME

Practically eight per cent. of Maryland soils are stongly acid and reqire lime for the best production of legume crops.

So far as benefical results on crops are concerned, it makes no difference in what form lime is applied. Finely pulverized limestone rock is the carbonate form of lime to which form all kinds of lime applied to soils will return. Burnt lime and hydrated lime may prove more economical to use under some conditions than the pulverized limestone. Chemically, fifty-six pounds of burnt lime and seventy-four pounds of hydrated lime are equivalent to one hundred pounds of the pulverized limestone.

Lime should be worked into the surface of the soil three or four inches for the best results. It is the contact of lime with soil particles that is important in correcting acid conditons. The fineness to which limestone is ground thus has a bearing on its value. Lime should be applied just previous to seeding and preferably before the legume crop in the rotation.

For the economical application of lime a soil test should be made. Soils will be tested by the county agents or by the Soils Department of the University of Maryland without charge. Lime applied in too small amounts will not produce the desired results while over application is uneconomical.

Harrowing Corn Is Labor Saving Plan

The use of a spike tooth or smoothing harrow for the first cultivation of the corn crop is a labor saving practise that could be more generally employed by Maryland armers, says J. E. Metzger, agronomist for the University of Maryland Experiment Station.

The chief purpose of corn cultivation is the destruction of weeds and this can be done on most fields more effectively and more cheaply by harrowing than by waiting until the corn is large enough for the use of the cultivator ," says Mr. Metzger.

The first harrowing should be done several days after the seed has been planted and before the plants come through the ground. The second harrowing should be done when the plants are two to three inches high. After this time field may be harrowed on clear days between the hours of 10 o'clock in the morning and 4 o'clock in the afternoon until the plants are about five inches high.

Running the harrow across the corn field is easier and quicker than using a cultivator, gets rid of the weeds at at earlier stage and should reduce the number of cultivations after the corn gets beyound the harrowing stage, it is claimed.

Feeding Floors Are Paying Investments

Good concrete feeding floors represent a sound investment on most farms where hogs are raised in addition to being a sanitary precaution, says R. W. Carpenter, Professor of Farm Engineering at the University of Maryland.

Concrete floors are of value because of the feed they save, "says Mr. Carpenter. If hogs are fed on the ground, much of the feed is worked into the soil and consequently wasted. In addition, concrete floors are readily cleaned and the hogs are thus guarded against internal parasites and diseases.

Satisfactory feeding floors can be laid by the farmer himself. The site should be graded so that it is practically level. If the drainage is not good, tile should be laid. A sub-base of several inches of gravel or cinders is sometimes desirable. The concrete, which should be from four to six inches in thickness, consists of one part of cement to two of sand and three of pebbles or crushed rock. No more water should be used in mixing the concrete than is necessary to secure a workable mixture.

Most farmers slope the floor toward one corner with a pitch of one-fourth inch per foot so that the floor can be drained and cleaned.

The concrete, after it has been placed, is finished with a wood float so that it will have a gritty surface that will furnish a firm footing for the stock and yet be sufficiently smooth to be easily cleaned. After the concrete has been placed, it should not be used for two or three weeks.

Dandelion Hard Pest To Control In Lawns

The dandelion is a frequent and persistent pest in lawns and nothing short of a well-directed campaign will eradicate it, says W. R. Ballard, specialist in landscape gardening for the University of Maryland Extension Service.

It is, first of all, important to remember that the dandelion spreads primarily through seed distribution and should therefore be prevented from going to seed. Even this will not eliminate the possibility of seed blowing in from surrounding areas.

A good growth of blue grass or white clover will smother out the dandelion so that every effort should be made to stimulate grass devlopment by the frequent application of fertilizers.

Good results have followed the use of chemicals sprayed on the lawn. Iron sulphate used at the rate of two pounds per gallon of water is the material most commonly used. It is usually necessary to spray four or five times during the season for it to be efective.

Digging out, unless supplemented with other treatments, is ineffective since the dandelion continues to sprout up from the roots. However, the application of a small quantity of gasoline from an oil can to the roots after as much of the plant as possible has been removed seems to give excellent results and is probably the most practicable treatment for small areas.

Eggs Preserved Now Can Be Used In Fall

Preserving eggs in water-glass or lime-water is one method of evening up things somewhat with the inconsiderate hen that producers eggs too abundantly during the spring and summer and then expects to be pensioned during the fall and early winter, says W. H. Rice, poultry specialist for the University of Maryland Extension Service.

"Thrifty housewives who like to use eggs liberally even in the fall when they are high in price can provide for their needs now by packing eggs in one of the two simple ways that have been found satisfactory," says Mr. Rice.

"It is necessary, however, first of all to be sure that only clean, fresh eggs are used. Cracked eggs should not be used under any circumstances and small, weak-shelled eggs are not desirable for packing. Infertile eggs keep better than fertile ones. Earthenware crocks or wooden pails should be used and these should be kept covered after the eggs and the preserving solution have been placed in them.

"Direction for using water glass usually given on the cans or packages which can be bought at the drug store. To preserve eggs with lime water, slack one-half pound of quicklime in a small quanity of water. Stir this thoroughly into five gallons of water. Allow to stand for a few hours, stirring occasionally. The mixture should then be given time to settle and the clear solution drawn off from the top. Pour this solution over the eggs previously packed in a clean earthenware crock or water tight wooden pail. This quantity of solution should cover about fifteen dozen eggs but larger or smaller quantities may be made as desired. When the vessel is filled, it should be covered tightly, and set away in a cool place until the eggs are ready to be used."

Few crops are superior to the soybean in producing hay of high feeding value in a relatively short growing period, says F. W. Oldenburg, specialist in agronomy for the University of Maryland Extension Service.

"Although the soybean has attained its popularity in comparatively recent years, it is already established as an important crop on many farms and is held in especial esteem by the dairyman who understands how to use soybean hay in connection with other customary feeds," says Mr. Oldenburg.

"Soybeans, like corn, will thrive best on rich or loamy soils, but when inoculated and fertilized will do well on soils too poor to grow corn profitably. An application of from two to three hundred pounds of acid phosphate and fifty pounds of muriate of potash per acre can be applied with good results to soils of the less productive type.

"Two varieties of soybeans are recommended for Maryland conditions whether the crop is intended for hay or seed. One is the Virginia, a brown seeded variety, which matures in about one hundred and twenty-five days. The other is the Wilson, producing black seed and maturing in about one hundred and twenty days.

"Usually the seed is sown about the first of June. However, if weather conditions are unfavorable at this time, planting may be delayed until July 1, or even later, and a fair yield of hay obtained.

"For hay production, soybeans should be sown with a grain drill at the rate of one and a half bushels to the acre. The seed should not be planted more than one inch deep except in sandy soil where a two-inch depth will not be too great.

"It is very necessary to inoculate soybeans to get the best results unless successfully inoculated soybeans have previously been grown on the field. After the beans have been inoculated some care is necessary in seeding them. If fertilizer is permitted to come in direct contact with the inoculated seed as it is being sown, the chances are that the inoculating material on the beans will be destroyed."

OUR TOURISTS FRIENDS

Automobile travel has become so great that the towns and cities are bidding for the tourist trade. Attractive welcome and goodbye signs are to be found at the entrance of towns and large billboard signs advertise the points of interest.

Parking and town ordiances have proved a worry to turists and the town of Cumberland, Md., has a card which is placed in all tourists cars giving a very pleasant impression. It reads: "Cumberland, Maryland—We are glad you come ths way. We greet you. Our parking laws do not apply to tourists. Park where you can and as long as you want. We request that you don't park near fire hydrants and don't speed through our streets. If any one in our city over charges you, please notify the authorities. We want you to come again."

POPOSALS

$10,000 Bonds of the Town of Rock Hall, Maryland.

Exempt from all State, County and Municipal Taxation.

FIVE PER CENT INTEREST.

Sealed proposals will be received by the Mayor and councilmen of Rock Hall at their office in the Town of Rock Hall on Saturday, June 25th. 1927, at 4.00 p. m., for an issue of Bonds to be known as "The Rock Hall Water Bonds."

The issue to be offered will be for $10,000 for the purpose of building, constructing, equipping, maintaining and operating water supply system in the Town of Rock Hall as authorized by an Act of the General Assembly of Maryland, passed at the January session of 1927 and approved by the qualified voters of the Town of Rock Hall at an election held for that purpose on the 30th day of April 1927.

The Bonds will be coupon in form, exempt from all State, County and Municipal taxation and numbered consecutively from one to twenty, both inclusion, and will be of the denominations of $500.00 each and shall bear interest at the rate of 5% per annum, payable semi-annually, on the first day of January and the first day of July of each year.

The bonds will bear date as of July 1, 1927. and will be payable in sums of $500.00 in each of the years beginning with July 1, 1928, and each year thereafter until fully paid with the right to the Mayor and Councilmen of Rock Hall, at their option, to redeem and pay all of said bonds at any time after the expiration of 5 years from the date of their issue.

Bids for the bonds must be accompanied by a certified check of 10 per cent. of the amount of the Bonds bid for, the same to be applied to the purchase price if the bidder be successful, all other checks will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders.

The right to reject any and all bids is expressly reserved. The bids will be publically opened and read at a meeting of the Mayor and Councilmen of Rock Hall at their office in said Town on the day and at the hour above stated.

JOSEPH B. DAVIS, Mayor,
CHARLES JUDEFIND,
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WM. FRAZIER RUSSELL, JR., Att'y.

Chestertown, Maryland

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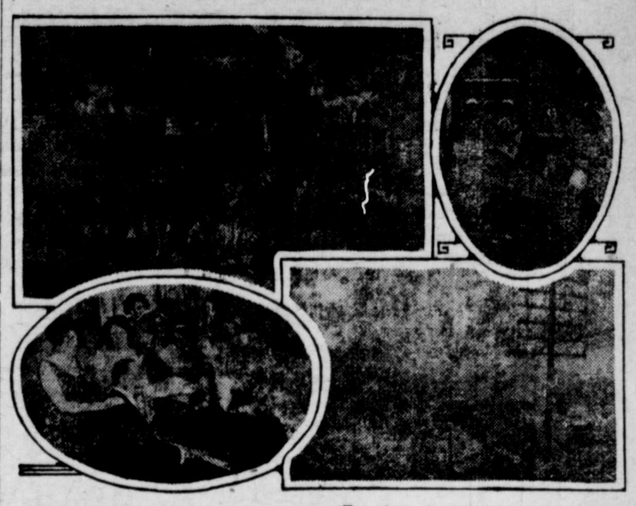
Now More Than 50,000,000 Miles of Wire Connect the 17,500,000 Telephones of the Bell System. About 6,500,000 Miles of Copper Wire Expected to be Used This Year



(Top photo, Henry Miller Photo Service)

Listening to Roxy and his gang over the radio is a popular pastime for fans in every section of the country. The stations broadcasting chain programs are dependent on telephone lines for such features.

Wireless and radio accomplishments are so featured in the day's news that many pesple have the idea that it will be only a matter of time when there will be no need for wires in the communication field; that all messages will soon be transmitted via wireless, overlooking the fact entirely that even radio programs, transatlantic radio telephone conversations and the transmission of pictures by radio are all dependent on the use of wire.

From every microphone, telephone or picture transmitting station, wires are necessary to the operation of the apparatus. In fact without wires there could be no broadcasting, no transatlantic telephone, and no transmission of radio pictures.

When broadcasting stations from coast-to-coast and lakes to gulf are on the air with a nation-wide program the stations are tied together by wires. Such features would not be possible without the use of wires and in this way telephone lines play an important part in present day achievements, even though they are much in the background.

Wire is still a very neecssary part of the world's communication system. In the Bell System alone there are more than 50,000,000 miles of wire connecting over 17,500,000 telephones. The manufacturer of this very important part of telephone plant is one of the major jobs of the Hawthorne works of the Western Electric Company, where the greater part of the telephone apparatus used in this country is turned out.

Telephone companies are among the largest users of copper in the world. Most of this copper goes into wire. It is estimated that the Bell System will use about 6,500,000 miles of copper wire to meet the requirements for exchange and toll telephone growth this year. This does not include the requirements for apparatus.

The largest telephone line wire used is about one-sixth of an inch in diameter and the finest magnet wire is about the size of a human hair, but the system requires large amounts of practically all sizes. The problem of having so many sizes readily available in adequate amounts for routine work, as well as for emergencies, has been greatly simplified by a rod rolling and wire drawing mill for copper, recently set in operation at the Hawthorne plant. The annual output of the mill is about 42,000,000 pounds of all sizes of telephone wire.

NOVEL TYPE TELEPHONE BUILDING MEETS REQUIREMENTS OF RESIDENTIAL AREAS

In This Office Terminal Frames Will Be in Living Room; Storage Batteries in Dining Hall and Heating Plant in Kitchen

This building was designed by architects Voorhees, Gmelin and Walker. R. L. Olson, engineer of buildings, Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company supervised the construction.

A novel type telephone building is now being erected at Silver Spring, Md., by the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City.

The company's engineers, in looking for the proper wire center for the section to be served, found that the most suitable location was a residential neighborhood. Accordingly, the architects planned the telephone building so that the structure, with its surrounding grounds, from all outward appearances would look just like another one of the handsome residences in that section of Maryland.

The building will be brick and of colonial residence type. Upon entering the new exchange, the space which would ordinarily be taken by the living room will be used to house the terminal frames, cable racks, ringing machines and testing equipment—apparatus necessary to the operation of the central office. In the front where the dining room might be located in the average home is the room in which the engineers have located the huge storage battery tanks that furnish the energy for operating the telephones and switchboards. To the rear in place of the kitchen and pantry, will be found the heating plant.

Ascending the stairs from the entrance hallway one will enter the main operating room where will be located the switchboard from which the operators will establish daily the thousands of connections that will be made by the telephone users served by this section. Adjoining the operating room are attractive rest rooms provided for the convenience of the operating forces when not on duty. These rooms will be furnished with comfortable chairs, setees and reading facilities. There will also be lockers for the young women to care for their outer clothing when they are on duty at the switchboard.

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