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AGRICULTURAL NOTES

(BY COUNTY AGENT McVEAN)

SIGHT SEEING AND INFORMATION TOURS—AUGUST 5TH AND 6TH

KENT COUNTIANS INVITED TO JOIN

Two tours of interest to Kent Countians are in prospect and should be well patronized by those who wish to get away for a "breather."

POULTRYMEN'S TOUR

The Caroline County Poultry Association is staging a two day tour into historic Virginia on August 5th and 6th. County Agent McVean has the itinerary and program. If interested in joining the Caroline group notify him at once. The tour goes by way of Matapeake Ferry to Washington to Warrenton, Va. Visit poultry farms in Rockingham County and Massanutten Caverns. Spend night at Harrisonburg.

Visit poultry plants in morning, do some sight seeing in Washington and return on 8.00 p. m. ferry from Annapolis to Matapeake.

Reduced hotel rates. An economical worthwhile tour.

SEE ELECTRICALLY EQUIPPED FARMSTEADS—AUGUST 7TH

One Day Tour to Electrically equipped Demonstration farms near College Park, Maryland.

Interest has been manifested in a trip to visit the demonstration farms near College Park, Maryland. All sorts of electrical equipment has been installed at several different types of farms—in house, barn, shop, hen house, yards, etc. Each piece of equipment is attached to a separate meter so that detailed records as to cost of operation are available. The demonstrations have been running several years. Much valuable data has been recorded and is available. Electricity is more and more coming into use for light, power, heat, etc. It is well worthwhile to be informed regarding its application to farm and home uses. You will get many worthwhile ideas to apply at home.

County Agent McVean has arranged for a one day tour on August 7th, to visit these farms with engineers from the University of Maryland, who are directing the demonstrations in cooperation with the National Rural Electric Project. Anyone residing in Kent County is invited to attend the tour. Take your car—fill it with friends and join the tour. Notify the County Agent if you plan to go so that complete arrangements can be made. Ask for details.

HORN WORM ON TOMATOES—WATCH FOR THEM

Considerable damage to tomatoes has come from the greedy heavy eating Horn worm—the large green tomato worm—the larvae of which grow to be as large as your finger. If not controlled by stomach poison, dusts, or sprays, they will riddle the foliage, blossoms and tomatoes in a few days.

Doubtless the first generation is pupating and soon the moths will emerge to lay eggs for the next generation. The worms yield to control measures but it requires a close "lookout" else much damage may be done before you are aware of their presence.

The sure way of control is to keep the vines covered with stomach poison, dust, or spray. You may not feel justified in going to this expense but in self defense, you will want to destroy the Horn worm when and if it attacks your tomatoes. Look out for Horn Worm.

PREPARE NOW FOR ALFALFA

Farmers who desire to seed alfalfa this season will do well to make sure of the lime need of the land to be seeded. Send soil samples to County Agent to be tested for lime need. If needed apply as soon as possible.

Plow the land at once and still thoroughly and frequently, to make a fine, firm seed bed with most weeds destroyed. Best seeding time is usually bbetween August 15th and 25th. Innoculation of seed is important unless the land has grown alfalfa successfully recently. Some innoculate anyway, looking on the innoculation as a type of crop success insurance. Twenty (20) pound of known origin seed per acre is recommended. Seed from South Dakota and Utah have been very satisfactory. Common alfalfa has proved as successful as the more expensive varieties such as Grimm alfalfa.

WATCH CROPS FOR BLACKBIRD DAMAGE

If red-wined black birds and other black appearing birds (Grackles, Starlings, Cow birds, Crow Black Birds) attack your crops go after them with your shot gun.

In passed years, starlings have been blamed for considerable damage to corn in the milk stage also to grain in the shock. Investigation shows the red-winged black bird to be the chief offender. The females and young birds are mistaken for Starlings.

Shooting into the flocks for two or three days frequently caused the flocks to stay away from the crops. The black bird responds to control measures (poison bait) if their damage warrants the use of such measures.

Anyone experiencing heavy damage is requested to notify the County Agent. The Biological Survey will send an experienced Biologist to aid in controlling the birds.

CURE SUDAN GRASS IN SHOCKS LIKE WHEAT—HARVEST WITH GRAIN BINDER

Farmers with Sudan Grass will experience difficulty in curing it for hay if the humid, showery weather prevails when they cut it. If such conditions continue, the suggestion is made that the grass be harvested with the grain binder and the bundles set up in small shocks. The hay should sweat and cure in the shock without spoiling or moulding. Having grown the crop it is worth making an effort to save it.

If good, drying weather prevails, it should not be necessary to employ the above means of saving the crop.

WHY MILK SIX COWS? WHEN ONE GIVES SAME PROFIT

In a study of the records made in the Kent Dairy Herd Improvement Association, the herds were groupe according to their production into three groups. The production of the five high herds was totalled and averaged, as were the middle five and the low five herds.

Seventy cows in the five high herds paid for their feed and averaged $115.62 worth of product at actual Cooling Station prices (basic and surplus) per cow over and above their feed cost.

Seventy-seven cows in the five low herds gave an average return over and above feed cost of $62.58.

Now to compare the profits of the upper and lower groups if we assume (as is commonly thought to be fact) that feed cost is but one-half the cost of keeping a cow, we find the cows in the lower group are not quite boarders. The average value of their product was $120.16 with a feed cost of $57.57. This means each cow averaged $5.01 more than twice the feed cost and this is perhaps profit per cow (labor and overhead amount to as much as the feed bill.)

The average cow in the upper group produced $200.49 worth of product with a feed bill of $84.875 per cow. Each dollar spent for feed brought $2.36 worth of product. This means that each of these better cows gave a profit of $30.72 after apying labor and overhead charges.

The answer is this:—$5.01 compared to $30.72 is roughly a one to six ratio. In other words, six of the lower producing cows yield the same profit as one of the better cows. The logical qustion then is the caption of this article—Why milk six cows, when one yields the same profit?

Here is another thought, backed by these Kent County records, for those who think it does not pay to feed a small margin above feed cost on a small feed bill leaves a mighty small profit—while a good margin on a good sized feed bill makes a nice profit per cow and herd. Which man is getting somewhere, the man who feeds or the man who does not? Total dollars of profit talk in terms of good feeding to good cows. "Can the boarders."

BEGINS TOUR HERE SATURDAY

EXAMINATIONS ARE FREE

Schedule Of Visits Is Given

The Healthmobile is coming. Beginning Saturday, August 1, the State Department of Health will operate the Healthmobile in Kent county for a period of 15 days.

The purpose of the visit of the Healthmobile is to intensify the work of the annual preschool summer roundup throughout the county. The work is in charge of the State Bureau of Child Hygiene in co-operation with the Kent County Health Department. Traveling with the Healthmobile will be a children's specialist, a dentist and a nurse.

There is no cost in connection with the examinations made by the Healthmobile staff. Reports will be sent to the fami lyphysicians.

While the examinations are open to all preschool age children and infants it is hoped that those children who are to start school this fall will especially avail themselves of the opportunity of an examination in order that they may enter school without physical handicap if possible.

The schedule for the Healthmobile during its stay in Kent county is as follows:

Monday, August 3
Rock Hall, white, 9:00 A. M.
Chestertown, colored, 2:00 P. M.
Tuesday, August 4
Skinner's Neck, white, 9:00 A. M.
Piney Nerk, white, 11:00 A. M.
Sharptown, colored, 2:00 P. M.
Wednesday, August 5
Fairlee, white, 9:00 A. M.
Georgetown, colored, 2:00 P. M.
Thursday, Ahgust 6
Galena, white, 9:00 A. M.
Georgetown, white, 11:00 A. M.
Oliver Hill, colored, 2:00 P. M.
Friday, August 7
Golt, white, 9:00 A. M.
Golt, colored, 2:00 P. M.
Monday, August 10
Millington, white, 9:00 A. M.
Millington, colored, 2:00 P. M.
Tuesday, August 11
Chesterville, white, 9:00 A. M.
Blacks, white, 11:00 A. M.
Butlertown, colored, 2:00 P. M.
Wednesday, August 12
Betterton, white, 9:00 A. M.
Coleman, colored, 2:00 P. M.
Thursday, August 13
Pomona, white, 9:00 A. M.
Cliff City, white, 11:00 A. M.
Broad Neck, colored, 2:00 P. M.
Friday, August 14
Sassafras, white, 9:00 A. M.
Sassafras, colored, 11:00 A. M.
Chestertown, white, 2:00 P. M.

Pretty Face Saved the Timber

By CHARLES SLOAN REID

(©, 1931, McClure Newspaper Syndicate.) (WNU Service.)

"SON, I want you to go over to Lige Mason's place, and tell John Hawks that he must stop cutting timber on my land. He has a wood-cutting privilege from Mason; but the timber is better across the line on my place; and he persists in getting over." The elder Lanier plainly was peeved.

"All right, dad; I'll go today," agreed Tom Lanier, as his father paused.

"I have sent Hawks two or three messages," continued Lanier; "and I am pretty sure that he got them. But Milam was here today from Satterfield's mill; and he said Hawks was cutting pines across the line."

"I'm gone, dad. I'll give this Hawks person a jolt that will jar the ground in that God-forsaken neck of the woods."

Tom went out, leaped into his roadster, and drove away.

Lanier's timber tract lay far back from the highway; so Tom decided to leave his car at Scatterfield's mill, and cut across country on foot, a distance of two miles. In this way he would pass directly through the section of woodland where Hawks had been cutting. The country was rough, and Tom had had more than one ungraceful tumble before he reached the back of the timber tract. Here he encountered signs of the depredations of Hawks. He looked about him. He saw dozens of stumps from which large pines had been cut.

"The dirty scamp!" vituperated Tom mentally; "I'll stop this business, or know the reason why."

He swung into a trail which led through a narrow belt of timber to the edge of an open field, in the center of which Hawks lived as a tenant on Mason's place. Reaching the clearing, Tom halted. Half way between himself and the house was a woman at work with a hoe.

"Hawks' wife," Tom decided. "Well, she may as well have the first installment.

"Good morning, madam," he said.

The woman visibly started, then turned about. Tom Lanier caught his breath. It was the face of a girl of eighteen that looked out from under the arch of her sun bonnet—and such a face! There was a rich glow in the cheeks, and the eyes were glorious, large and brown.

"I—I—beg pardon," stammered Tom; "I—I am Tom Lanier, and—"

"I am Sarah Hawks," the girl volunteered, in a voice that aroused still greater interest, for it fairly radiated soft music.

"You are Mr. Hawks'—Mr. John Hawks' daughter?"

"Yes; were you looking for dad?"

"Er—not exactly. I have been walking, and should like a drink of water. Is there a well—a spring near?"

"Oh, yes," answered the girl genially. "There is a splendid spring just down the hill there." She pointed toward a densely timbered bluff. "But," she added, dropping her hoe, "I will go and show you—I should like a cool drink myself."

"Thank you; you are very kind."

Tom followed the girl down a little winding trail which led to a rock-rimmed spring at the foot of the hill. Sarah Hawks threw off her bonnet, and sat down upon a tree root. Her hair, which had been bobbed at one time, had grown out until it now fell about her neck and ears in brown wavelets.

"How long have you lived here?" asked Tom.

"Three years."

"You have to—you work in the field regularly?" he asked.

"During dad's busy season, yes. We are very poor."

"You talk well. You have attended school?"

"Yes; finished high school at Greenville last year."

"Why—I was in Greenville a great deal last year; I—I didn't meet you?"

"No. I didn't stay in town. I went in on the school truck every day. It was pretty hard at times. I had to walk through by Satterfield's mill, going and coming, to catch the truck at Martin's cross roads. But I am very grateful—dad made many sacrifices."

There was a little fremor in her voice, and she turned away her head for a moment. Tom took a step toward her. He wanted to lay his hand upon her shoulder

"I have seen you a number of times," continued Sarah, looking up into his face again, "in the oratory contests at Greenville."

"My goodness! And I failed to find a girl like you in those audiences? I must have been scared silly!"

Tom closed his hand upon hers gently. "I am going now," he said; "but I am coming back—Sunday?"

"But you wanted to see dad today, did you not?"

"No. There may be a time when I shall want to see him on important business."

All the way back through the woods Tom Lanier's whole frame was glowing from a decidedly new thrill. When he reached home, the senior Lanier promptly queried:

"Well, did you see Hawks?"

"No, dad; he was away from home. I left word with a member of the family that I would come back Sunday."

"Good. I want you to keep that in memory."

"Leave it to me," declared Tom with decided warmth.

Ground Hog Superstition

The Scotch say, "If Candlemas is fair and clear, there'll be twa winters in the year." There is a Latin proverb of the same import. The French have a similar rhyme and so have the Germans, and peoples of other European countries, for according to the superstition, the ground hog, or some of his kind, performs on this day. In Germany it is the badger whose shadow portends cold weather; in France, the marmot; in England, the hedgehog; and elsewhere the bear. American pioneers merely fastened upon the ground hog an idea brought from abroad.

Dr. W. H. Moyer

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