

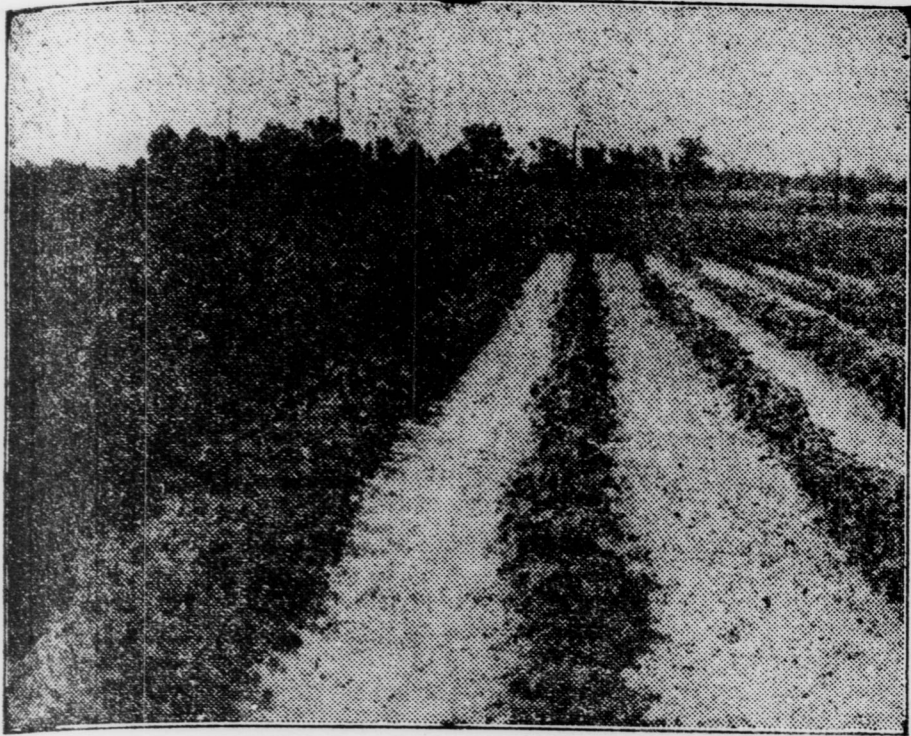
### Soil Improvement Facts

DR. H. W. BARRE, director of the South Carolina experiment station at Clemson, declares that the average yields of crops in the South are not more than one-third to one-half of what they should be. He points out that it is imperative that the fertility of the soil be increased by the use of commercial plant food, by soil improving crops, and by barnyard manure, to where profitable yields can be obtained.

In co-operation with the County Agricultural Agent of this county, we are presenting herewith information based on experimental data developed by the United States Department of Agriculture and the various agricultural experiment stations of the South. We believe that the farmers of this county can profit by studying this information, by consulting with the County Agent, and by working toward improving the soils of their farms to a point where crops can be grown at a profit where they are now grown at a loss and where present small profits can be increased to large profits.

THE EDITOR.

### Experiments Show Value of Fertilizer



Agricultural experiment stations are doing much to develop new facts that are passed on to the farmers. One of the important pieces of work being done has to do with proper amounts and kinds of fertilizer to use on various crops on various soils under different conditions. The picture shows an experiment conducted by the Pee Dee Experiment Station at Florence, S. C., and is typical of experiments being conducted in every State in the South. The cotton on the right received no fertilizer, while that on the left received an application of 800 pounds per acre of an 8-4-4, 8% phosphoric acid, 4% nitrogen, and 4% potash. The difference can be plainly seen.

### LEGUME CROPS HELP INCREASE SOIL FERTILITY

TURNING UNDER GREEN MANURES ADVOCATED AS SOIL IMPROVEMENT PRACTICE.

Green manuring is a practice growing in favor among Southern farmers. Farmers realize that this is an excellent method for increasing the fertility of their crop lands. However, the fact that this is a method of soil improvement and fertilization sometimes leads farmers to try the practice under conditions in which it cannot be successful.

The object in growing a green manure crop, according to forage crop specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture, is to produce especially on poor soil as much material as possible to turn under. On very poor soils it frequently happens that even the strongest feeders can make but a poor growth, and consequently the benefit from the crop is decreased.

Even cowpeas will sometimes make only a poor growth unless the plants are supplemented by commercial fertilizer. When a legume is grown the addition of nitrogen is not usually necessary, as the legume will gather its own nitrogen; but an application of phosphoric acid and potash often increases the crop greatly and thus enables the plants to gather more nitrogen.

**How Much to Use**

The phosphoric acid and potash that may be applied for the benefit of the green manure crop are not wasted either, as they will all be available for the next crop when the green manure crop decays. The United States Department of Agriculture says that the fertilizer to use and how much will depend on the soil and on the crop, but generally 300 to 400 pounds of 16 per cent superphosphate and 100 pounds of muriate of potash per acre will be found to stimulate the growth of the green manure so as to produce a larger crop than could have been grown without the fertilizer.

### Vegetables Need Good Land and Cultivation

Whether the truck and vegetable grower has a back yard garden, a small market garden, or a commercial truck farm, there is need of good land, rich in organic matter, heavily fertilized, and carefully cultivated.

Earliness is important in truck and vegetable growing. Well drained sandy soils warm up early and for that reason are popular for truck farming. The organic matter may be secured from stable manure and from green manure crops plowed under. Organic matter, however, does not take the place of fertilizer and fertilizer does not take the place of organic matter. Both are needed, and the more organic matter the more fertilizer can be used profitably.

Proper fertilization is only one of the important factors in successful truck and vegetable production. Good seed, thorough preparation of land, careful cultivation, and control of insects and diseases play their part.

gather more nitrogen than a small one could, and the soil will receive correspondingly greater benefit. It is also good practice to apply stable manure to particularly poor spots, so as to encourage a good growth, and thus bring the field up to a more uniform productiveness.

### COTTON MAJOR CASH CROP IN MANY SECTIONS

WHOLE SYSTEM OF FARMING BUILT AROUND IT - MANY OVERCOME DIFFICULTIES

Southern farmers grow cotton and will continue to grow cotton as a major cash crop. The whole system of farming in many sections is built up around its production. That means that successful farming in the South depends to a large extent on growing cotton at a profit.

It is not always easy to raise cotton, despite a common idea that it is a matter of a few acres of land, a mule, a plow and some slight man labor. The boll weevil, for instance, is now a factor. There are many other difficulties, but, in spite of these handicaps, farmers in large numbers do make a profit every year.

They do this by seeking land that will grow good cotton; by preparing the seed bed well; by securing good seed, cleaned and free from disease; by selecting varieties that produce uniform staple; by using well-balanced fertilizer in liberal quantities; by cultivating at the proper time; and by marketing in a business-like way.

The director of a Southern experiment station has said that "When cotton is to be produced at a low cost per pound, fertilizer is the last point at which to begin economizing." The agricultural experiment stations have carried on many carefully planned experiments to determine the right proportions and amounts of complete fertilizer to use for the most economical growing of cotton. The county agent knows local conditions and can advise regarding the fertilizer requirements of the soils of this county.

### Pure Seed Better Than Impure, Mixed Seed

Any seed improvement program must recognize first that pure seed that are the result of careful and scientific selection are better than impure, mixed or run-out seed, and secondly, that some varieties of pure well-selected seed are better adapted to certain localities than are others, says Frank C. Ward, seed improvement specialist, Georgia State College.

A seed improvement program must provide for the following: Teaching the farmers the greater economic value of pure, well-selected seed over impure, run-out, mixed, unselected seed; teaching them what varieties are best adapted to their local conditions; insuring a supply of seed of known purity of those varieties found to be best adapted; making it easy for the farmers to obtain these seed and an incentive for, and a means of keeping these seed as pure as possible after the farmer gets them.

### Telephone Directory vs. Encyclopedia

By RING LARDNER

To the Editor:

They seem to be a few people in the United States that still think we wasn't justified or something in declaring war on Germany, but I guess these birds would feel different if they stopped to think that it was a German that invented the telephone and if Louvain and the sinking of the Louisiana was a crime, what about the invention of the telephone which comes from the 2 Greek words tele, meaning far off, and phone, meaning sound and maybe it is on acct. of me living in Great Neck which isn't far from the Sound why maybe that is why the telephone service isn't so well you know.

When a man stops to think that the telephones are invented by a German, why you can't help but believe the rest about them for inst. inventing tear gas and etc. but not only that but it also shows how vs. democracy they was when they invented something that nobody but only the leisure class can use because for inst. I and you could not never afford it even if we only figured our time on 10c per hr. which nobody gets as little as that now days only the president of Harvard college or a soldier or something. For inst. if I am out here in Great Neck and want to talk to somebody in N. Y. City why it wouldn't only cost me about \$2.00 to go down there and see them why if I telephoned it would be 30c for the call and 2 days to put it through and if I worked on a 8 hr. basis on 10c per hr. why that would be a total of \$1.50 for the 2 days that it took for them to put the telephone call through where I could go down and see them and get back in 3 hrs. or some such figure.

But in the case of the leisure class, it's different as the only real work they half to do the whole yr. around is make out their income tax blanks which only takes 3 months to figure out how they can beat the gov't. and if it was not for the telephone they wouldn't know what to do the rest of their time where as now when they get tired of poker and bridge and etc. and have got a few days left on their hands why all as they half to do to kill a couple of days is try and get somebody on the telephone.

But I don't want my genial readers to think this crabby article means that I don't hold no brief for the telephone company. On the other hand, if it was not for a German inventing the telephone why they wouldn't of been no American inventing the telephone directory which is the greatest institution we got left here from a amusement pt. of view.

The telephone directory has never been gave the credit it deserves and personally I have got 1 regret in life which is that I didn't keep all the telephone directories which was ever gave to me as it would save me from buying a cyclopedia which costs \$29 a case which opposed to a telephone directory that don't cost nothing if you ever get it and has got 8 or 9 times as many names in it and besides that the names in the cyclopedia is 90% dead compared to the names in the telephone directory which is only 80% dead when you try and call them up.

I also wished I could bring 4th a modern vol. to prove my assertions, but unfortunately the only telephone books I got in the house is the latest one from Great Neck where you already know the number of the grocery store and the butcher shop and the taxi cab Co. and Mr. Quan who loans you money and also the N. Y. City telephone director of May 2, 1917, and I suppose if I live here a couple more years they will give me a October book of 1917 and keep me up to date.

So I will half to prove my point if any by quoting from the N. Y. City telephone directory of May 2, 1917, as follows as they say:

In the first place it says that useful information can be found on Page 17. So you turn to page 17 and the first thing that strikes you in the eye is a ad that says we sell artificial limbs that fit. Well, suppose that some morning you was to wake up and have a cravelling for a artificial limb that fit you and you didn't know how to go about it to get one and they was not no telephone directory in the home why here would you be at? You would half to call up and ask for information which is another word for practical joke and they would finely give you a firm that sold artificial limbs that didn't come near fitting and you would buy 1 and half to walk down the st. all out of kilter and people would look at you and make you feel like a fool.

On Page 22 they give you information for telephone users which they don't claim is useful but it says you can call information free of charge and also the Co. wants criticism but it should always be made by telephone, why by the time you reach the party it would be 3 or 4 yrs. later and the management would of changed.

All told, it looks to me like the telephone which was made in Germany was enough excuse for us fighting them where as the telephone directory which was made in America is a work that ought to go down in history like "Huckleberry Finn" or "Casey Jones" or something.

P. S. The book also says that they have got rest rooms for operators but don't say nothing about rest rooms for birds that call up.

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### SANG AT HER WORK



"She's so cheerful—always sings at her work."  
"That's fine—what's she doing?"  
"Studying for grand opera."

### BLIND



"Did you hear that blind man? He said 'Thank you, pretty lady.'"  
"I tell you blindness is a terrible thing."

### ENGAGED TOO LONG



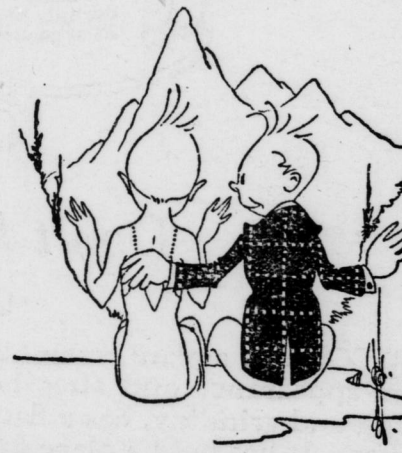
He—Seems to me we've been engaged long enough to get married.  
She—Too long.

### SUCCEEDED



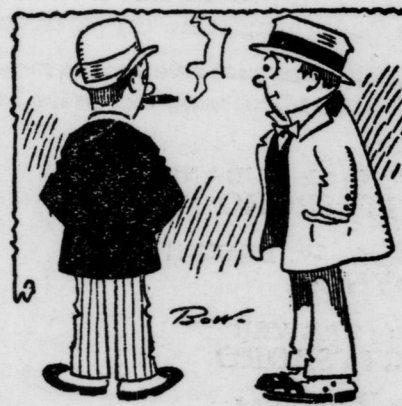
"Is that dumb son of Jake's still in college tryin' t' get somethin' into his head?"  
"Naw, not any more, he committed suicide last week."

### GORGEOUS GORGE



She—Isn't the view gorgeous?  
He—Naturally. A gorge is bound to be gorgeous.

### NO FRIENDS



"You say he has no friends among the girls now?"  
"No, he couldn't keep up the payments on his car."

### Orgy of Birthdays

By RING LARDNER

To the Editor:

Well here it is the open season for picnics again and on Monday morning our front yard looks like the cha-tauqua had stayed a couple of weeks extra. Last Sunday they was 10 or 11 of them little what nots from Detroit parked in line along the road and several passerbys thought we must be having a auction or something and come up to make inquiries and I was about ready to get sore when a kid about 13 yrs. old that belonged to one of the picnickers pointed to our cow and says oh look mamma they have got a cow on that estate.

Well you can't stay very mad when they call your joint a estate and if one of them will pull something like that every Sunday I will try and not make no holler about them upholstering the front lawn with bread and sardine cans, but I can't help from wondering what that boy would of called the Swope place next door where they have got a 4 or 500 ft. front and I suppose he would of nicknamed it Asia.

Speaking about the cow this ain't Flossie the one we had, but a bran new one as Flossie had finely became just a ornament. The new one don't seem to be no special brand and ain't got no family tree or nothing. She is plain black and when we first got her we left it to the kiddies to give her a name and they thought it over all one day and then give her the name Blackie.

Kids will think of the d—t things. But for some reason another Blackie don't seem to like her name, at lease she acts mad all the time and has showed signs of a vengeful spirits. It seems that on some parts of the estate they's quite a growth of what they call wild garlic which now cow could possibly enjoy eating it but Blackie eats it to get even and I will say she gets even. Sometimes you can shut your eyes while imbibing the oatmeal and pretend you are enjoying the \$1.00 table de hote at Madame Gall's.

A few days of warmth and sunshine certainly made the estate look beautiful when all the flowers and blossoms was out. All told they was in bloom at one time (4) hyacinths, 2 crocusses, a 1/2 dozen tulips and the fruit orchard. The last named is unluckly hid behind the garage so as the picnic parties can't enjoy it. Last yr. it yielded pretty near a strawberry box full of plums which come as a big surprise as when we bought the place they told us it was a cherry tree.

Annual work started last wk. on the tennis court. The men promise to have it ready by Sept. this yr. as they ain't nowhere near as much to do to it as other yrs. as this winter only 1/2 of it caved in. Personally I ain't in no hurry as I agree with the U. S. tennis assn. that a man can't write and play tennis both and it is a whole lot less trouble to write because when you play tennis you half to wear special white shoes and pants and shirt but you can write in a kimona and slippers and in fact some of my best writings has been done entirely bare foot.

Three of the 4 kiddies was born in the spring time so we been having quite a orgy of birthdays and generally when they's one in sight we ask the hero of same what he would like for presents and most always the reply is a pony or a sail boat or a parrot or something else that they ain't no chance of him getting.

But the 2d. boy is different and today is his birthday and we asked him a wk. ago what would he like and he says he would like something that would clean the rust off his bicycle. That is the way he has always been and will always be the same way, not wanting nothing and nothing is probably what he will get.

The Mrs. decided a while ago that it was about time we was getting a new vehicle to ride the kiddies back and 4th. to school and back as the one we had been using for that purpose the last 3 or 4 yrs. was acting kind of sullen so we called up the man and told him to bring something around and so we asked him could we trade in our old one and he looked at same and kind of swallowed hard but says yes he would half to take it over to Port Washington to get it appraised.

So we was scared to death for a 1/2 day as Port Washington is 4 miles from here and the betting was even that the good old wagon wouldn't never complete the round trip, but she done it all right and the deal was closed and the papers signed and now the kiddies is squawking because all the fun has been took out of their daily trips to and from school.

They always insisted on setting in the back seat of the old car and about 2 days out of every 5 the machine would part in the middle either going or coming and when the driver got to school or home and turned around to let them out they wouldn't be there but would be a mile or 2 up the road in the back 1/2 of the car, laughing at him.

That is about all the Great Neck news only that everybody is tickled on acct. of the spring rains being over which means that the electric lights will probably stay on pretty regular unless they's a breeze or it gets cloudy or something.

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### Anatomy of One Reel Comedy

By RING LARDNER

To the Editor:

In a recent letter I give my readers the story of a friend of mine name Joe Cooper that was not getting along so good in his regular job and finely began to take correspondence courses by mail in other lines like short-story writing and expert acct and cartoonist and etc., and after a while he got so as he was knocking out close to 50 thousand per annum for his spare time.

While they's still another field yet that Joe hasn't went in it and that is writing photo plays and great big money is promised for good ones because god knows they are a rare bird and if they is some of my readers that finds trouble making both ends meet the other and could use a couple 100 thousand a year extra earned in their spare time, why here is the field to go into.

You can pick up most any magazine and find a dozen ads of correspondence schools that learns you how to write photo plays or movies as I have nicknamed them, but how are you going to know that the people that runs them schools has ever wrote a photo play themselves and for all as you know you may be paying your tuitions to a bird that ain't done anything all their life but pluck pimples off a putting green.

So in order to protect my readers from these kind of vipers I have made it up in my mind to start a school of my own along these lines and my qualifications is that I have wrote 2 photo plays and they both flopped like the sure thing and my system of teaching will be to learn my pupils to write photo plays opposite to like I wrote.

The big money in the screen game today lays in 1 reel comedys. The things that is necessary in writing 1 reel comedys is (1) a catchy title (2) a funny idea (3) plenty of laughs (4) witty sub titles. As a sample of what will go and go big, the Ring School of Photo Play Writing gives the following specimen of a 1 reel comedy.

As a title for this picture we have chose "The Finny Tribe" which in itself will knock them for a goal.

Characters:  
GEORGE WOTTLE, a fishmonger (comedy lead)  
GERTRUDE WOTTLE, his wife, (comedy lead)  
MINNIE QUAGMIRE, her rival (soubrette)  
AL SWAMP, a private detective (heavy comedy)  
BABY WOTTLE, the Wottle baby, (Juvenile)  
A Minister of the Gospel, Wottle's clients, etc.

Continuity:  
Scene 1—George is in his store sorting fish. A client comes in and looks over the stock. Sub-title: "The customer asks for a founder." George picks up a fish and hits the client in the eye with it, knocking him down. Sub-title: "I guess that will founder you." Another client comes in the store. Sub-title: "The customer asks for finnan haddie, but George tells him he only keeps weak fish." The client falls down and tears his trousers.

Scene 2—Gertie is at home sitting on the lounge and pulling superfluous hairs out of Baby Wottle's head. The telephone rings. Gertie goes to answer it. Sub-title: "The wrong number." Baby Wottle falls off the lounge and lands on his bean. Sub-title: "Oh, what a headache."

Scene 3—George and Minnie are spooning in the hammock on the Wottle porch. Gertie comes out of the house and catches them. Sub-title: "Caught in the act." The hammock breaks and the lovers set down suddenly on the floor. Sub-title: "It couldn't of been a very good hammock."

Scene 4—Gertie goes to Swamp's detective agency and hires Al Swamp to take up the case. Al puts on his shoes and starts out with Gertie. Sub-title: "The plot sickens." As they are leaving Al's office a swinging door hits them in the eye and knocks them down. Sub-title: "In again, out again, Finnegan."

Scene 5—George and Minnie are spooning in the fish store. Minnie steps on a eel and falls down. Sub-title: "Minnie says her eel slipped. George tells her she ought to wear rubber ones." Al and Gertie come in the store and surprise the lovers. George runs to a fish box and sets on a perch. George tries to get down but falls and tears his trousers. Al tries to pick him up but slips on the slippery floor and tears his trousers. Sub-title: "Al thinks they's more to be patched up than the marital affairs of the Wottles."

Scene 6—They all go to the Wottle home. Minnie loses her interest in George and falls in love with Al. They decide to get married. Sub-title: "Al asks the fair Minnie to become his bride. She says O. K." Al summons a minister and him and Minnie are married with the Wottles as witnesses. Sub-title: "The knot is tied."

Scene 7—The party adjourns to the dining room where a fish breakfast is served. Sub-title: "London Bridges is falling down." In the midst of the hilarity, Baby Wottle chokes on a fish bone and croaks. Sub-title: "Eat jelly fish. No bones."

There you have got your catchy title, your funny idea, your laughable situations and your humorous subtitles. Further and more the construction is perfect you might say.

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