RAMBLING 'ROUND NEW YORK with HUGH KENNY

Among the hobbies that are ridden hard in New York, is one that nearly any one with an ancient attic-full of nick-nacks might start — old phonograph record collecting. And it can become as fanatical as stamp collecting. Old cylinder records of "Waltz Me Around Again Willie," up the scale to the classics. And incidentally, there's a shop in New York that sells nothing but records and phonographs, while the New York Pubic Library has an endowed record booth that listeners book up two weeks in advance.

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While going musical, it might be well to remark the enthusiastic comment of the critics and New York editorialists for the American opera, "Merry Mount" which made its debut recently at the Metropolitan. The work of Richard L. Stokes, librettist, and Dr. Howard Hanson, composer, was occasion for fifty curtain calls on the afternoon of its premiere.

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Diego Rivera is again in the news. He's the artist whose fresco in Rockefeller Center Building was covered up because he had included a large portrait of Lenin in his mural composition. And now the fresco has been destroyed, bringing forth the moot question, may art, legally acquired, be disposed of at the pleasure of the owner? Or does it possess an intangible value which should legally restrain an owner from destroying it? . . . Well, Rivera's in the news.

* * *

Of all futile things for a woman to do, we can think of none more futile than a forty-year-old telling an eye specialist she's thirty. For with one glance the eye specialist knows she's told a lie . . . And now, Dr. Felix Bernstein of Columbia University, says that he can tell from an eye examination approximately how long a person has to live—barring accident. It seems that the "accommodating power" of the eye lens diminishes constantly until death.

* * *

Rather good looking girls in every theatrical cafe at dinner hour. They listened to that insidious suggestion: "You ought to go on the stage." . . . And who among them will go home a failure? Instead they stay on, going from one less expensive room to a lesser, drifting slowly down the scale. Some with real talent. Thousands without.

Clean Brooder House For Healthy Chicks

The greatest chick losses occur during the brooding period which makes it necessary to clean the house thoroughly before the chicks are placed in it.

"To go about having a sanitary brooder house the poultryman should first scrape all the old manure and dirt from the lower side walls and floor of the house and clean the water containers, mash hoppers and other equipment used in the house," declares H. C. Gauger, associate professor in the poultry department of State College. "After this thorough mechanical cleansing has been done, the lower side walls, floor, water containers, feeding equipment, brooder stove and canopy should be scrubbed with a lye solution made by dissolving one pound of lye in ten gallons of hot water. A stiff bristle broom may be used to apply the solution. This lye mixture will not only further cleanse the house but it also has germ-killing power. Where the poultryman has a fire gun, he may use this instead of the lye solution."

After the brooder house has been thoroughly cleaned, it must be cleaned again at intervals during the brooding period. If the house has a dirt floor, remove the top few inches and replace it with clean dry soil, sand or gravel.

Mr. Gauger also advises the use of wire frames on which to place the feeders and water containers. The house needs to be free from drafts and if it is movable, it is well to take it to a new location after cleansing.

Do not crowd the chicks in the house, Gauger says. About six square inches of floor space per chick is necessary for good health.

Top-Dress Grain To Restore Growth

Investments in nitrogenous fertilizers for spring application to small grains are among the most profitable that can be made with these crops, according to Dr. H. B. Mann, associate agronomist at N. C. State College.

Top-dressing with soluble nitrogen fertilizers this year should yield better results than usual, due to the greater need for restoring small grain which has been heavily damaged by the cold spells during the past few weeks.

During recent years the North Carolina experiment station has found by tests the relative value of various nitrogenous materials. With wheat, for example, a spring top-dressing of 15 pounds of nitrogen (equivalent to 100 pounds of nitrate of soda or 75 pounds of sulphate of ammonia) to the acre has increased the yield by five bushels.

On heavily acid soils nitrate of soda produces larger yields than sulphate of ammonia. On soils that have been moderately limed there is little difference betwen the two materials. Sulphate of ammonia, however, gives best results on soils where excessive amounts of lime have been used.

At present prices, 100 pounds of nitrate of soda cost about $1.75 and sulphate of ammonia about $1.50 Five bushels of wheat valued at 90 cents a bushel are worth $4.50, or $2.75 more than the cost of nitrate of soda and $3 more than the cost of sulphate of ammonia.

Since the nitrogen from sulphate of ammonia can be provided at a lower cost, this type of fertilizer is recommended for soils that have been limed recently. On acid soils, however, nitrate of soda is best.

The top-dressings are not fully effective unless applied early. In the Piedmont it should be applied from March 1 to 15 and in the mountain sections between March 10 and 25. In all cases the top-dressing should be applied when wheat first starts to spring growth.

Make Farm Plans According To Needs

Growers who have signed cotton or tobacco reduction contracts will find it helpful to plan systematically for the best use of the acreage rented to the government, says Charles A. Sheffield, assistant extension director at N. C. State College.

One of the best ways to go about the planning is to prepare a table showing how many persons and head of livestock are to be fed on the farm and the amount of food and feed crops each will need.

The total amount of such crops needed can then be compared with a list of all crops grown on the farm last year. If the farmer has not been growing enough of the necessary crops, he has figures to show just what additional foods and feeds he needs to produce.

Since he must not increase the total amount of crops that he has been producing, the grower may find it convenient to reduce a crop of which he has been growing too much, so that he can increase another crop. Or if he likes, he can grow his feed crops on the rented acres and reserve the other land for crops to be marketed. Only crops for consumption at home can be grown on the rented acres.

Mr. Sheffield has prepared a special circular, "Planning for Agricultural Recovery in North Carolina," which tells how to plan for systematic farming and shows how much foods and feeds are required for the healthful maintenance of both people and animals.

The circular may be obtained free of charge by applying to F. H. Jeter, agricultural editor at State College.

Examine Grain Before Replanting

Repeated cold snaps during the past month have severely damaged all kinds of small grain in North Carolina, according to field reports gathered by E. C. Blair, extension agronomist at State College.

However, he said, a top-dressing of soluble nitrogenous fertilizers applied at the rate of 50 to 100 pounds to the acre during the first two weeks of March will do much to revive the plants.

Although the field may appear to be killed entirely, he continued, a close inspection will reveal that in most cases there is still a good stand of wheat, rye, and barley even though the plants are alive for less than one inch above the ground.

Some fields of oats have been killed to the ground, but the plants are still green just under the surface and faint tinges of green will show, in most cases, at the surface.

Where indications are that 75 per cent of the stand is alive, the field should be left to grow, Blair said. Where the stand is from 25 to 75 per cent alive, more seed may be drilled onto that planted without additional preparation of the soil.

If the oats drilled in do not ripen with the oats sown last fall, the field should be cut for hay when the fall oats are in the dough stage, he said. Fields on which the stand is below 25 per cent should be diced and resown outright to spring oats. A top-dressing as described above for wheat, rye, and barley will also help oats.

Baseball's Greatest

NEW YORK . . . John J. McGraw (above), 60, called baseball's greatest figure, died last week with his beloved New York Giants as world champions. It was McGraw who picked and developed Manager Bill Terry and turned over to him the management when health failed in 1932. No man was happier than McGraw last Fall when the fighting Giants beat Washington for the world title.

Kerr Gets Ready To Push His Bill For Tobacco Cut

Following a favorable report on the Bankhead compulsory cotton reduction bill by the committee on agriculture in the House of Representatives, Representative John H. Kerr immediately began laying plans to have his similar bill for tobacco follow hard on the heels of the Bankhead measure, according to a newstory by Robert E. Williams in The News and Observed. Mr. William wrote:

The Bankhead bill as reported has been greatly modified from the original draft and now closely resembles the Kerr bill which was drawn by officials of the department of agriculture. It is expected that the bills will bear even closer resemblance to each other before final enactment.

The original Bankhead bill would have prohibited the ginning of more than 9,000,000 bales of the year's crop. That was changed to a tax measure, the tax being first placed at 12 cents a pound, later reduced to 75 per cent of the value, and in the form reported by the committee still further reduced to 50 per cent of the value, while the amount of cotton to be exempted from tax was increased first to 9,500,000 bales and in the final draft to 10,000,000 bales.

The Kerr tobacco bill carries a tax of 25 per cent on the selling price. As both bills now stand they provide for rebates of the tax through certificates to be issued to the growers to cooperate in the reduction campaigns. The provision has also been made as to both crops for the inclusion up to five per cent of farmers who could not qualify, through past average, in the reduction campaigns.

Judge Kerr is now busy lining up the delegations of other tobacco producing bills for his measure. There will be a real fight on the Bankhead bill, but it has been specifically and emphatically endorsed by President Roosevelt and is expected to pass. Judge Kerr feels that after that fight is over there will be comparatively little opposition to his measure.

Both the Bankhead and Kerr bills as they now stand conform substantially to suggestions made to Senator Bailey in a letter from Dr. Clarence Poe and Judge Kerr expects Senator Bailey to take the lead in the Senate for his bill.

Representative Bankhead, who ranks next to Chairman E. W. Pou on the rules committee and frequently acts as chairman, expects to get a rule reported out for the consideration of his bill and Mr. Pou is expected to render a similar service for the tobacco bill.

Both bills are desired by overwhelming majorities of the growers and Representative Kerr said he would not ask North Carolina farmers to come here to testify before the Agricultural Committee unless opposition develops before that body.

Farm Questions And Answers

Question: How can a poultry be rid of worms?

Answer: There are two methods for treating worm infested fowl. One is to place worm-removing ingredients in the mash and the other is to treat each individual bird with medicated tablets or capsules. The individual treatment is best, however, as in this way the poultryman is sure that each bird gets the medicine. These tablets are sold at practically all drug stores and may be bought for both chicks and adult birds. Place the tablet or capsule deep in the bird's mouth and rub the throat downward to make sure the medicine is swallowed. Follow this treatment with Epsom salts at the rate of one-half pound of salts to three gallons of water for every 100 adult birds. The day following clean the house thoroughly and burn all refuse.

Question: What is meant by a full ration for the dairy cow?

Answer: This term, as used by dairymen, means a sufficient amount of feed to maintain the body and produce the maximum amount of milk. This varies with the individual animal but a safe method is to feed the cow all the roughage, including hay and silage, that she will eat. The grain ration is then fed in proportion to the amount of milk produced and one or two trials will determine the proper amount of grain for the maximum production of milk.

Question: How much nitrogen fertilizer should be applied to apple and peach trees?

Answer: The amount of this fertilizer needed may be judged by the diameter of the tree. For apples the general rule is to apply in pounds the amount equal to one-half the diameter in inches. Peach trees get the amount in pounds equal to one-fourth of the diameter. Moderately pruned trees on poor sandy loam soils will require a slightly heavier application than trees on clay soils and orchards in sod require more than those in cultivation.

Home grown Irish potatoes will be tested for seed in Yadkin county again this season against Maine grown seed. The difference in yield, time of maturity and other characteristics will be observed.

The 1500 cotton growers of Cumberland county who signed reduction contracts are in favor of the Bankhead control bill or something "tighter", they voted at a recent meeting in Fayetteville.

Three new bulletins are available free of charge to citizens of North Carolina on application to F. H. Jeter, agricultural editor at State College. The bulletins are: Extension Circular 197, "Spraying For Control of Apple Blight"; Experiment Station Bulletin 292, "Crop Response to Lime and Fertilizer on Muck Soil," and Technical Bulletin 44, "Hematology of the Fowl."

24 Hour Bride

CHICAGO . . . Ione Drew, 26, (above) was married Feb. 14th. That same day hubby "struck" her . . . and again the next day he repeated with a more healthy swat. She filed suit for divorce and was freed in 24 hours by Judge LaBuy Ione claims a record.

Price Fixing Appears Headed For Doorstep Of The White House

WASHINGTON, Mch. 7.—The price fixing issues, in stark and direct fashion, may shortly be placed on the White House door-step. John A. Simpson, militant head of the farmers' union, left tonight for Des Moines, where he plans to attend a conference of western governors, most of whom are already committed, in some degree, to price-fixing with respect to agricultural commodities.

The thing that has given new life to this issue, or demand of the farmers' union, supported by a group of governors, is the decision of the Supreme court in the New York milk case, which upheld the right of the state to fix a minimum price for milk, in the interest of the dairy people, when such action has been taken in behalf of the general welfare. Now Simpson and his associates will take the position, when next they move on Washington, that the opposition does not have a leg to stand on, that price-fixing has the sanction of the Supreme court.

A number of the farm organization leaders have failed to sympathize with the farm relief forces of the administration and some of them take the view that a frank system of price-fixing, going direct to the heart of the trouble, instead of resorting to allotment plans, processing taxes and now the proposal to control cotton production by resort to a prhibitive tax, would be the part of wisdom. They make the point that there is no need of going in for socialism on the one hand, or of facing the possible loss of foreign markets on the other hand, that simple fixing of prices under government supervision on that portion of the crops domestically consumed, selling the surplus for whatever it will bring in the world markets, would be far better.

There is the possibility, therefore, that government price fixing, like a number of other things strange to this country, is just around the corner. In price fixing if it should come, the cost of production should govern—in the opinion of Simpson and his friends, the western governors.

Congress May Adjourn By May 15

WASHINGTON, March 7.—An early order from President Roosevelt for concentration on vital recovery legislation with a view to bringing about an adjournment of Congress by the May 15 dead line he has in mind was foreseen today.

The President has asked for and expects the enactment of a stock exchange control bill and the establishment of the proposed communications commission, but it is becoming more and more apparent the administration wishes Congress to wind up by mid-May.

Therefore, these two measures and the St. Lawrence waterway treaty soon will have to take their chances as primary attention is focused upon the necessary appropriatoin and tax bills and the President's tariff bargaining proposal.

A war debts message will go forward to Capitol hill before long but this is expected to be more in the nature of a report than a request for legislative action.

It is apparent that the President is intent upon fulfilling a recovery program mapped out last summer and is going to focus main efforts of the government upon this.

For this reason some advisers believe he will not be so much concerned about new propositions pending before Congress so long as full opportunity is allowed for advancement of the domestic recovery efforts.

In this connection an extension of the licensing power under the national recovery act is expected to be asked by the administration. This power expires in June.

Mr. Roosevelt himself is saying nothing about his future plans with Congress except that he has completed the presentation of his legislative program. He is watching events on Capitol hill very closely and there are signs he is seeking an adjustment of the veterans economy plan which was wrecked in the senate by votes for increased benefits over the Roosevelt budget. This adjustment will be sought in the impending conferences between the house and senate on this legislation. That is one of the big stumbling blocks in the administration's congressional path.

Mr. Roosevelt has made all plans for the summer contingent on Congress adjourns in time, but he is very much counting on a sea cruise through the Panama canal to the Pacific late in June.

With disposition of the row over veterans' allowances which is now receiving administration attention the only other major dispute expected is over cash payment of the bonus certificates and the senate has already shown its strength against this in one test.

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Fascinating Facts of NATURE

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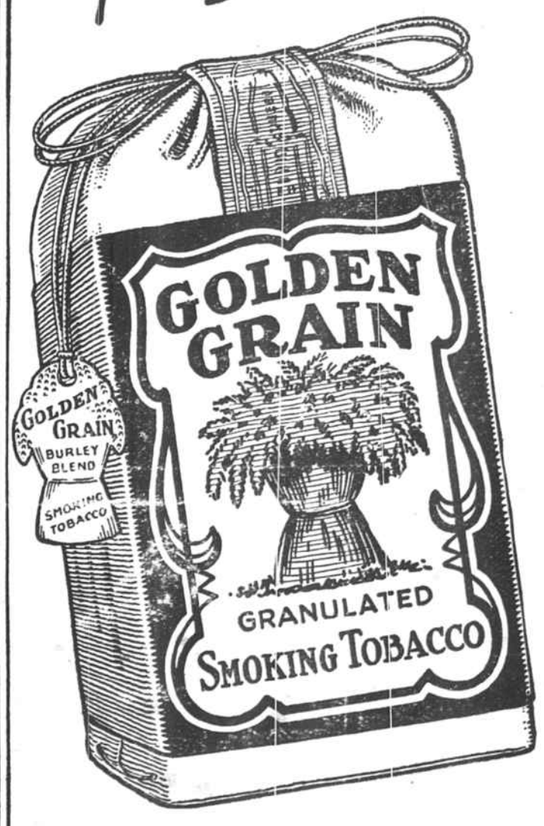

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