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Remember the Orphans

THE North Carolina Orphan Association has sent out an S. O. S. call. "The 'ox is in the ditch' and the condition of the orphans' home in North Carolina is more serious than usual," says a letter from the association.

The depression has dealt a hard blow to the orphanages just as it has to numerous individuals, and many of us, with attention glued on worries closer home, have become forgetful of the fine work being done by these institutions. Meanwhile, the orphanages not only have suffered heavy losses in income, but they also have had greater demands made upon them, for many parents, unable to provide for their children, have sought to have them placed in these institutions.

The fact that we have more local need for charity is no reason why we should give less assistance to the homes for homeless children.

This year the Orphan Association requests that on Thanksgiving each individual looking for a worthy outlet for the joyful spirit of the occasion contribute the income of at least one day to some orphanage in the state. It is a fine cause and we can think of nothing that would give a body a better feeling than to comply with this urgent plea.

Let's Do Both

THE National Association of Farm Equipment Manufacturers in convention recently at Chicago adopted resolutions "demanding a reduction in the cost of government so that, when farm prices do improve, farmers may enjoy their rightful share of restored prosperity."

The resolutions stated that in some sections taxes are so high the farmer pays for his land all over again in taxes every nine years; that taxes often over-top any reasonable rental for the land and that on the present basis of taxation farmers work one year out of every five to pay taxes alone.

Of course, the interest of this association is not so much centered in the welfare of the farmers as it is in the declining ability of farmers to buy agricultural machinery. But despite the increasing burden of taxes and the decreasing prices of agricultural products and nearly every other commodity not protected by high Republican tariffs, the farm equipment manufacturers have failed to make any sizeable reductions in the cost of their machines. In some notable cases they have even increased their prices. Certainly the comparative prices, based on the value of the crops these machines help to produce, have doubled or tripled.

The manufacturer of farm machinery merely raises his price to meet higher taxes. The farmer, unfortunately, has to sell at whatever price his stuff will bring.

Congressman Zebulon Weaver, in a recent address in Franklin, pointed out that under the present tariff an eight-foot reaper made in the United States sells in this country for \$250, while the manufacturer sells the same machine for \$100 less in South America, where it is used to produce grain in competition with our own farmers. The tariff protects the manufacturer, but it works against the farmer.

Yes, a reduction in the cost of government and a lowering of taxes are sorely needed, as the Farm Equipment Manufacturers Association recommends; but lower prices on plows, plow points and agricultural machinery would be of almost as much benefit to the farmer.

Editorial Clippings

ANIMAL POWER ON THE FARM

It is reported that the depression is causing a return to the use of horses and mules on the farms. Everywhere there has been a supplanting of these humble, age-old friends of the human race by automobiles and trucks which are deemed more suitable to hurrying, restless America. Yet our wealthy and socially-elect have always kept horses in their stables, as they have a zest for hunting, riding to the hounds, coaching, polo, and driving—all of which are healthy, as well as reminders of the country gentry of "Merrie England." On our large farms tractors continue to do the greater part of the work. However, the small farmer seems to be discovering that a horse or mule is what he really needs. A recent market-news letter says that "many farmers are again turning to horse and mule power because such power requires no cash outlay for fuel and can utilize surplus food supplies of the farm." But how far the present depressed agricultural conditions will restore the age-old glory of the horse and mule remains to be seen.

The New Orleans Times-Picayune tells us that "this report recalls an earlier one, brought to New Orleans by a returned motor tourist. He told of encountering on the highways a quaint vehicle locally known as the 'Hoover cart.' Its origin was explained thus: When a farmer in those parts has run his automobile, acquired in more prosperous days, until it will run no longer and is beyond repair, he junks it. But having no cash wherewith to finance its replacement in kind, he salvages the wheels, attaches them to a wagon box or improvised cart body, hitches a horse or a mule thereto and rolls more or less merrily along. The appearance of the 'Hoover cart' in numbers sufficient to provoke comment and inquiry from wayfaring strangers confirms to a limited extent, at least, the news of the come-back of 'four-legged power' to the farms."

However, despite all of this, Thomas D. Campbell, a Montain wheat king, predicts that the "mechanized" farm on a huge scale will ultimately come back. At present Mr. Campbell is farming only 20,000 acres of his 95,000-acre farm. But he uses tractors continuously by day and night shifts and is saving expenses thereby. Thus he believes in exclusive use of motor power. Yet he admits that the small farm will survive as best adapted to farm conditions in "the greater portion of the country." And with it may survive animal power.

Sentiment is in favor of the con-

tinued use of horses and mules in our rural districts. But we cannot be guided by sentiment exclusively in these eminently practical days. Doubtless mechanical power will predominate on large farms and great estates. Nevertheless there should be much room for the use of our humble animal friends—particularly on the vast majority of small farms. They are economical where their feed can be produced at home. And they are of vast service in many ways. It seems probable that neither trucks nor horses and mules will be used exclusively. But probably both will be found everywhere. — ASHEVILLE CITIZEN.

SOP TO SENTIMENTALITY

Estimates from Raleigh have it that of the four proposed amendments to the state constitution only one appears to have been carried: that which shields from the claims of creditors the cash value of insurance policies made payable to wives and children.

It is impossible, of course, to define the attitudes of the voters generally in respect to the proposals. Many people doubtless examined them and came to the conclusion that to vote approval would cause the deterioration of our state government, increase the expense of it to the taxpayers, violate the sanctity of that immortal document which almost nobody has ever read, and, in short, turn the state over to those legislators at Raleigh who, as is too well known for argument, want nothing so badly as to despoil it and hand over the bare remains to Clucher Ehringhaus.

Whatever there was of reasoned opposition to the three defeated measures which were designed to improve the constitution we immediately back down before. If you, sir, voted against them because upon due consideration you thought they were unwise, you are entitled to your opinion and we should be the last to say that you were not to exercise it just as you saw fit.

But to that suspectedly huge proportion of those who would have only one of the amendments not because they had considered what was proposed but because they are unresponsive to all new ideas, we say that it is a pity there is not some higher qualification required for voting on such things. To appeal to the people who instinctively vote no because they are too lazy to search for reasons why they should vote yes, it is evident that the only effective arguments are those which mention such institutions as Widows and Orphans. If all the proposed amendments had mentioned Widows and Orphans, no matter how irrelevantly, it is believed that they too would have been approved. — CHARLOTTE NEWS.

Pasturing Pigs

FOUR feeding trials conducted by Earl H. Hostetler, in charge of research in animal husbandry for the North Carolina experiment station, indicate that when young pigs have access to grass and pasture before they are put in the feeding lot, the pasture is not so necessary for gains and profits thereafter.

"Our tests show that a well balanced ration will produce just as satisfactory results when pigs are fed in a dry lot as when fed to comparable pigs on pasture," says Mr. Hostetler. "However, we want it kept in mind that the pigs we used in these trials had access to nutritious pasture grasses from soon after birth until they were started on the tests. If pasture had not been supplied during this period, it is likely that the pigs in the dry lot would hardly have had sufficient Vitamin A to carry them through the fattening period."

Mr. Hostetler says the pigs full-fed a balanced ration on pasture did make slightly more rapid gains and were ready for market five days earlier than those in the dry lot. When this pasture was charged at its actual cost, however, the pigs in the dry lot were more profitable.

BLOOD SPOTS IN EGGS

A small blood spot in an egg does not indicate that the egg is stale or bad, says the United States Department of Agriculture, in response to frequent inquiries. Blood spots are found occasionally in fresh eggs although this imperfection seldom occurs in the best grades of eggs that are candled and sold on the markets. Eggs from farm flocks are not so likely to contain blood spots as those from commercial flocks that are fed for maximum production.

The seasons when blood spots are most likely to occur are late spring when the hens are laying heavily and in the fall when the pullets begin to lay. Poultrymen who desire to remove all question-

able eggs from those marketed should candle their entire production and use such eggs at home. Less forcing for egg production and liberal feeding of green feed will tend to reduce the formation of blood spots in eggs.

Muse's Corner

TO THE FREEMANS

Preacher Freeman, his wife, May and Paul  
Made us a visit on a Sunday call.  
The weather was chilly, the rain was strong,  
Nearly enough to kill ye all day long.

And now they're gone to Bethel above,  
To hear a good sermon by the man we love.

And, Oh, what a blessing he has been to us folks,  
Never distressing, and he's filled with jokes.

So here to his family I'll say a little toast:

They're people Jim dandy, I sure like to boast,  
Not selfish or greedy, and stuck up never,  
But helping the needy they are kind and clever.

And, say, what would we do if they didn't come back;  
We would be awfully blue down under our back,  
Because we'd weep and mourn and frown

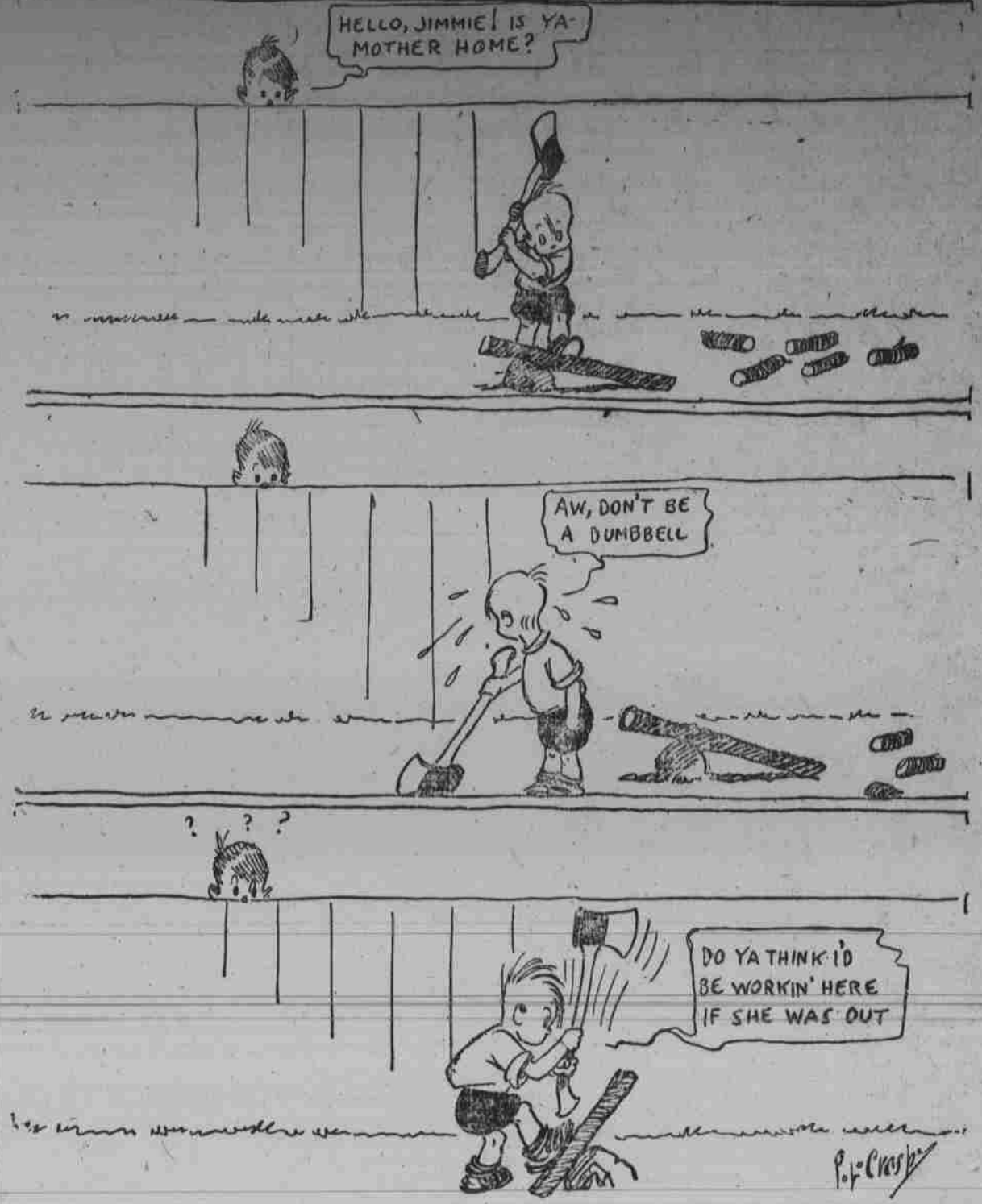
To see no more Freemans around in our town.  
—Troy Horn.

Macon county farmers recently unloaded a car of 34 tons of ground limestone to be used under wheat and rye this fall to be followed by legumes next spring.

The wheat acreage of Buncombe County was increased by 75 per cent this fall as the result of a special "grow more wheat campaign" conducted by the farm agent.

When There's a Boy in the Family.

By PERCY CROSBY



Your Farm - How to Make It Pay

Fruit Essential

IT IS not necessary to have an elaborate orchard to secure an adequate supply of fruit for the farm home. A few trees of desirable varieties may be planted about the yard and outbuildings and in addition to serving as shade and ornaments, will give a food source now lacking in many homes. — H. R. Niswonger, extension horticulturist at State college, says it is just as essential in supplying a well rounded diet for the farm family to have a few fruit trees and vines as it is to have a supply of vegetables from the home garden. So often when an acre of land is planted to the orchard, the trees are neglected. The present neglected home orchards in this state are examples of this.

Therefore a good plan is to plant a small number of the different kinds of fruits and set them in such a way as to fit in with the planting scheme for beautifying the farm homestead. Niswonger says pear and cherry trees may be set in the rear or at the side of the farm dwelling and will serve as shade trees in addition to bearing fruit as they mature. The beautiful blossoms will add to the beauty of the place. Apple, peach and plum trees may be set near the other farm buildings or along the side and rear line of the garden fence. Here they provide an attractive setting for these usually unsightly buildings.

Grape vines may be planted along the front line of the garden fence and strawberries and other small fruits may have a place in the garden.

Mr. Niswonger therefore recommends trying these plantings: Six apple and peach trees; three plum trees; three cherry trees; 10 grape vines; 100 strawberry plants. Other fruits such as figs and Japanese persimmons may be added where their growth conditions are favorable.

Makes Hens Lay

AN EXPERIMENT in feeding fermented laying mash to hens conducted at the coastal plain experiment station near Willard during the past year has indicated that the addition of yeast to the regular ration will give an increased number of eggs without adding to the cost of feeding.

The test was conducted under the direction of Roy S. Dearstyne, head of the poultry department at State college. He selected 114 pullets and 36 mature hens and divided the chickens into two even lots. Breeding and laying ability were considered in making the division as near equal as possible. The first lot was fed the regular laying mash and scratch grain, while the second lot was given this regular ration in addition to all the fermented laying mash the hens would consume in thirty minutes. Mr. Dearstyne prepared the fermented mash by taking two cakes

The Farmer's Question Box

Timely Questions Answered by N. C. State College Experts

Question: Is it too late to sow cover crops?

Answer: No—with the exception of crimson clover. Austrian Winter peas, vetch, wheat, oats, barley, and rye can be sown during the month of November in practically all parts of the state. These crops will come in good time for spring grazing turning under for soil improvement, and will also make a fair crop of hay or grain from the late planting.

Question: How can I get rid of lice on my beef cattle?

Answer: Dip or spray the animals with any coal tar dip or nicotine sulphate solution. Dipping gives the best results but where there is no dipping vat available each animal should be sprayed with a hand machine until wet to the skin. Any of the commercial dips can be used but as all vary in strength it is important that directions on the containers be followed. Repeat the treatment in 14 or 15 days for thorough control.

Question: What is the best age to breed dairy heifers?

Answer: No arbitrary age can be set for breeding as this is governed by the maturity of each animal and the breed. Heifers that are fed a liberal grain ration in addition to their roughage will mature rapidly and can be bred earlier than the slower maturing animals. A good rule to follow is to breed Jersey and Guernsey heifers to freshen from 24 to 30 months of age with Ayrshire and Holstein heifers bred to freshen from, 27 to 32 months of age.

Question: What kind of lime is best for acid soils?

Answer: Where lime is used simply to neutralize acidity, it is best bought on the basis of calcium carbonate equivalent and the fineness of grinding. On sandy soils, subject to magnesium deficiency, however, it is best to use a dolomitic limestone which carries magnesium.

The hens were tested from September 17 to February 3 and then started again on May 28 and continued until September 15. A careful record was kept of all feed consumed and all eggs laid. The birds fed the fermented mash were of improved physical appearance

Keep a Few Cows

DAIRY development in North Carolina has reached the point now where there is a nearby market either in the form of a creamery, milk plant or cheese factory available to every farm in the state.

"For that reason every farm should keep a few cows," declares John A. Arey, dairy extension specialist at State college. "Last year the production of cheese in the state was eleven million pounds short of actual consumption while production of butter was 16 million pounds short. This means but one thing. We can still expand our dairy industry considerably before even our local market is supplied. One of the best ways to do this is in the form of farm dairying. By this I do not mean that one must become a professional dairyman but that he should keep at least five cows or more depending on the supply of home-grown feed produced and the pasture available."

Mr. Arey says further that this kind of dairying furnishes a good market for home-grown feeds and provides paying employment for all the farm labor throughout the year. When cream is sold, the skim milk is left for poultry and hogs and every farm with five cows should stock at least 100 hens and one good brood sow. Usually the returns from the cows, poultry and hogs will equal the operating expenses of the farm and will thus leave the income from the cash crops as profit.

While the number of cows which may be kept in this kind of farming is determined by the amount of home-grown feed available, still one should not keep less than five. The expense of handling and marketing the product from a smaller number will be too great for the margin of profit available. Success in this kind of dairying depends on the farm operator himself, on the quality of his cows, the feed available and the equipment for handling the milk, Arey says.

and seemed to have a higher vitality when the test was concluded. Those hens fed the fermented mash consumed 6,319 pounds of mash and 5,993 pounds of grain as compared with 5,476 pounds of mash and 5,677 pounds of grain consumed by those hens getting the regular ration. The birds fed the fermented mash laid 18,396 eggs and those fed the regular ration laid 15,885 eggs. The feed cost for the birds in the pen fed fermented mash was 12 cents a dozen eggs, while the feed cost of those fed the regular ration was 11.9 cents a dozen.

Plowing under a field of vetch increased the resulting corn yield by 1.8 bushels an acre as compared with where no vetch was planted, according to results secured by Jesse Cornelius of Terrell, Catawba county.