

Our Farm Department

Devoted to the Interest of Those Who Till the Soil

CONDUCTED BY J. M. BEATY

What Humus Does for a Soil.

1. A new ground never packs or runs together; it never suffers from drought; it never suffers from wet weather; it can be cultivated soon after heavy rains; it can be stirred during the long drought; and there is no difference between it and the old land except TRASH—vegetable matter, humus.

2. Therefore in plowing do not forget to add trash and turn it into the soil. The analyses of soils show that they may contain tons and tons of plant food and yet not yield good crops—simply for the lack of trash—vegetable matter, humus.—Union Farmer.

Comforts and Conveniences.

In one of our city papers the charge is made that farmers as a class do not keep up with the times in providing modern improvements for their homes. This was said in explanation of some facts stated by a lady who has recently visited considerably in country neighborhoods, and found a condition of things that led her to say she knows why the boys leave the farm; they and the girls, as well as the rest of the family, are not made comfortable there. This lady goes on to say that the family in cold weather is huddled into one room, the kitchen perhaps, as that and possibly one other are all that are kept warm. The parlor hall and bed rooms are cold as out doors, and there is poor opportunity for reading, study or amusement. The family must retire and rise in cold rooms. The editor goes on then to enumerate other hindrances to comfort and conveniences in the farm home. Among these are the outdoor well instead of an indoor pump; absence of sink and drain pipe; the wood house or coal shed, furnace, and other improvements that are deemed so essential in city homes, owned by people of even the most moderate means. We fear that there is too much truth in these assertions. While there are many well appointed farm homes, there are probably many more in which the conditions described still prevail, and which need not be so if the owners could be prevailed upon to make certain changes and improvements, which they are abundantly able to afford. Too many farmers live along with the inconveniences and discomforts referred to, merely from the force of habit. It is the way their fathers and mothers lived, and the way in which they spent their childhood and have lived thus far. They do not need to live so, and ought not to deprive themselves and their children of the comforts and conveniences—not luxuries—that modern invention has put within their easy reach. Farmers are too much inclined to save up their money for some unknown purpose in the distant future, rather than for the comfort and enjoyment of themselves and families in the present. The children want games, music, interesting reading matter and social amusement, and those things should be furnished, together with pleasant and comfortable homes, and these they must have if they are to be contented and stay on the farm willingly.

All readers who wish to know how to improve their surroundings, provide modern conveniences and make their homes what they really ought to be, should write for farmers bulletin No. 270 issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It will be sent free, upon request to Hon. Jas. Wilson, Washington, D. C. It is very complete and valuable, especially as regards devices for water supply, house sewerage and heating.—Indiana Farmer.

Something About Sugar.

We would not believe it, if anybody less worthy of belief said it, that we as an average American citizen disposed of over 82 pounds of sugar each year. That is over three and one-half ounces a day, almost a quarter of a pound, nearly half a teacupful. The Bureau of statistics in its recent report shows that the total consumption of sugar in the United States during 1907 was over seven billion pounds.

"Calculating this enormous total at the average retail price of 5 1/4 cents a pound," the report states, "we get a total of \$372,000,000 as its cost to the consumer, or more than \$1,000,000 for each of the 365 days of the year."

The statement shows that 21.3 per cent of the sugar consumption of the country, was home production; 17.7 per cent was brought from our insular possessions, and the remaining 61 per cent, came from foreign countries. Forty-three million pounds was the aggregate of the exportation of sugar from this country.

The United States sugar record for 1907 shows that the quantity of that product imported from foreign countries was larger than ever before; the quantity brought from our island possessions was larger than in any

previous year; the quantity produced at home exceeded that of any other year; the quantity exported was larger than in any year of the last decade, and the per capita consumption was the largest ever recorded, an average of 82.6 pounds for each man, woman and child of continental United States.

An equally interesting feature of this record year of 1907 was the fact that the production of beet sugar for the first time exceeded the production of cane sugar, the product of the year being: Cane sugar, 544,000,000 pounds; beet sugar 967,000,000 pounds.

The world's production practically has doubled in the last twenty years having grown from 17,000,000,000 lbs. in 1887 to 32,000,000,000 pounds in 1907, and, while the United States consumed about 18 per cent of the total world's production of 1887 it consumed 22 per cent of the greatly increased production of 1907. Beets now supply one-half of the grand total produced, while twenty years ago they supplied but about one-third of the total product.—Indiana Farmer.

Straight Talk on Tobacco.

Women's tirades against tobacco do not carry much weight with the average smoker; nor do the charges of its harmful effects made by those whose opinions are dismissed as prejudiced, unfounded, and extreme. But fair-minded men ought to be ready to consider statements of scientific fact presented by a trained and scholarly investigator. When one of the leading physicians and nerve specialists of the United States, for example, states that the effect of tobacco upon the heart and blood-vessels has been proved to be that of an active poison; that tobacco is responsible for arterial degeneration in those long habituated to its excessive use, and interferes with the proper function of both lungs and heart, finally paralyzing their central nerves; that it acts upon the nerve-centers, brain, and spinal cord; that it has a powerfully depressing effect upon the nerves of motion; and that its chronic effects are to induce a poison-congestion of the brain, spinal cord and the nerves in heart, lungs, muscles, and skin—it would seem that the rather positive disfavor with which some men and women view the use of tobacco is not so unfounded, after all. The chief excuse for using tobacco is that it is so soothing! The process of degeneration usually is.—The S. S. Times.

Rank Foolishness.

"When attacked by a cough or a cold, or when your throat is sore, it is rank foolishness to take any other medicine than Dr. King's New Discovery," says C. O. Eldridge, of Empire, Ga. "I have used New Discovery seven years and I know it is the best remedy on earth for coughs and colds, croup, and all throat and lung troubles. My children are subject to croup, but New Discovery quickly cures every attack." Know the world over as the King of throat and lung remedies. Sold under guarantee at Hood Bros. drug store. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

Winter Care of Chicks.

Poultry requires a great deal of care in the winter, that is if you are looking out for profit and want to get eggs when eggs are bringing a big price. I do not wonder that some farmers cannot make poultry pay. They could not make sheep or cattle or anything else pay, if they gave them the same attention they do their chickens. They seem to think that if they provide them a place to roost that is sheltered from the worst storms, and throw out a little corn to them each day, more likely on the ear than not, they have done their whole duty, and should be rewarded with an abundance of eggs and when they don't get them they whine around that poultry does not pay.

In the first place they should be provided with a good warm shelter, and in addition to this a light shed where they may remain on stormy days. The shed should have windows, in the south if possible, to give them what sunshine there is to be had for their delight in plenty of sunshine. Then plenty of grit should be furnished. They need this and it also helps to provide them with exercise. If you cannot get anything else, buy the oyster shell that comes for such purpose.

Another thing, their roosting place should be kept clean, nothing makes unhealthy, moping poultry quicker than filth.

Another thing so often neglected and yet very important is plenty of water, and this should have the chill removed; not given ice cold. Always empty the dishes at night, then fill with slightly warmed water in the morning. Now as to feed, corn is good, but a diet of corn exclusively is no better for poultry than a diet of potatoes alone would be for a man.

Feed wheat in the morning and corn at night, but do not feed corn on the ear. The very best way, and one I assure you that the poultry appreciates, is to bake it in the oven; shell while warm and feed. If you never tried this, just do it once and see if the chickens do not almost talk their thanks.

A hot mash once in a while is good for chickens, especially in very cold weather. Bran may be used for this, or if one has many small potatoes, a kettle of these may be cooked and perhaps thickened with bran. About once a week I always give a mash, with a good dose of red pepper in it. This helps to keep the chicks healthy and also warms them up when it is very cold.

Do not neglect to save all the cabbage trimmings and other vegetable scraps from the house for the chicks suffer for want of the green things in the winter. Some farmers raise an extra supply of these things, with the chickens in mind, and I am not sure but it would pay all to do so; but at least do not neglect to use what you have, but save it and put where they can get it.

But this is a lot of work. Granted, but so is anything that brings in the much sought after dollars, and if these suggestions are carried out I think that you will find your flock of poultry bringing in their share of them.—Irma B. Matthews, in Indiana Farmer.

The United States Phosphate Deposits.

According to the United States Geological Survey the large beds of phosphate rock recently found on Government lands in the West are necessary for the maintenance of fertility in the United States, and the President has ordered them withdrawn from entry. It is hoped that they can be kept under Government control and that the exportation of phosphate from them may be prohibited.

In 1907, 2,265,343 tons of phosphate were mined, and of this quantity, 900,000 tons were exported. The Carolina and Florida deposits have reached their maximum production, and the Tennessee fields alone would only last seven years at the present rate of consumption. Hence the necessity for keeping the phosphate at home for our own use instead of exporting it to foreign countries.—The Progressive Farmer.

Horse and Cow Manure.

The composition of manure depends upon the composition of the feeding stuff used. The value of the feeds is an index to that of the manure. Some facts as to the composition and effect of different kinds of manure, set forth by the Maryland experiment station are of interest.

Cow manure, it is stated, contains considerably more water than that from any of our other domestic animals. It ferments and heats slowly, and is ranked as a cold manure. A cow will produce 40 to 50 pounds of dung or solid manure per day, and 20 to 30 pounds of urine or liquid excrement. A cow fed a balanced ration will void about one-half of the nitrogen in the urine, (which shows the importance of preserving the urine) about one-fourth in the milk, and the balance in the solid excrements.

Horse manure contains less water than cattle manure, and as the horse has less power to digest cellulose, the manure is more fibrous. Horse manure ferments easily, and hence is called a hot or quick manure. In fermenting, horse manure gives off ammonia or nitrogenous products, and rapidly deteriorates in quality. Because of the rapid fermentation of horse manure, it easily becomes dry and "fires." To prevent fire-faulling and loss through fermentation, horse manure, when in piles, should be kept very compact and moist. It is most valuable for cold, wet soils. Mixing horse manure with cow manure will aid in preserving it, and contribute to the value of both for general purposes.—Selected.

Doctors

say take *Cod Liver Oil*—they undoubtedly mean *Scott's Emulsion*.

It would be just as sensible for them to prescribe Quinine in its crude form as to prescribe Cod Liver Oil in its natural state. In

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the oil is emulsified and made easy to take—easy to digest and easy to be absorbed in to the body—and is the most natural and useful fatty food to feed and nourish the wasted body that is known in medicine today.

Nothing can be found to take its place. If you are run-down you should take it.

Send this advertisement, together with name of paper in which it appears, your address and four cents to cover postage, and we will send you a "Complete Handy Atlas of the World." SCOTT & BOWNE, 409 Pearl St., New York

NOTICE.

The undersigned having qualified as Administrator on the estate of C. M. Kirkman, deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 18 day of December, 1909 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 15 day of December, 1908.
Jas. H. Kirkman, Admr.

NOTICE.

The undersigned having qualified as administrator on the estate of Y. J. Lawhon deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 1st day of January, 1910 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 28th day of December, 1908.
J. S. LAWHON, Admr.

NOTICE.

The undersigned having qualified as Executrices on the estate of L. P. Adams deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to us duly verified on or before the 1st day of January, 1910 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 28 day of December, 1908.
MRS. NANCY E. MASSENGILL,
MRS. NANCY C. ADAMS,
Executrices.

NOTICE.

The undersigned having qualified as Administrator on the estate of I. R. Baker deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 1st day of January, 1910 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 30 day of December, 1908.
Florence E. Taylor, Admr
Jno. A. Narron, Att'y.

FOR RENT—A good two-horse farm, four and a half miles south of Clayton—the Henry Duncan old place Apply to J. D. Parrish, Benson, N. C.

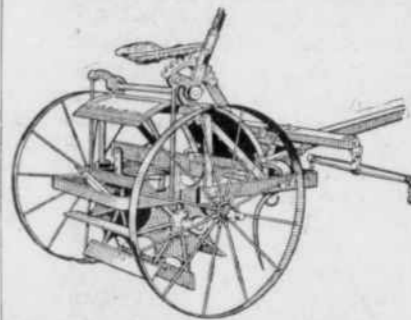
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THERE WAS AN INDIAN,

Who was taken to Massachusetts when four years old. He grew up, not only with the New England accent and prejudices, but saved his pennies to give to missionaries that they might convert the Red Man. "On the plastic mind of a child, you can make impressions that are indelible." If you will teach your child the value of saving his pennies, and show him the importance of a growing Savings Account, you need not give yourself further concern about his future financial salvation. It will help him to build character, too. His account will be welcomed at

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Founders and Machinists, Mill Supplies and General Machinery. We make the most satisfactory STALK CUTTERS in America. Our Cutter won highest prizes at both the North Carolina and South Carolina 1908 State Fairs. The world is challenged to show the equal of the "McK" Cutter. Sold almost everywhere.

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We have opened a full line of Furniture of all kinds, next door to our large Hardware store, and have new Furniture at lowest prices. Buck Stoves and House Furnishing Goods sold from this store. This store is in charge of Mr. Crosby Smith who will be pleased to have his friends and the public generally to call and see him. Don't forget that we have a full stock of Hardware at same stand. The prices are right.

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