

Horticultural Advice

SACKING OF FRUIT ORCHARDS

Cheesecloth Coverings Recommended as Protection Against "Seventeen-Year Locust."

The sacking of the orchards will begin in many sections of the United States about the third week in May—not as the Huns did it in the fruit lands of France, but a protective sacking, literally, with cheesecloth, against another ruthless horde, to wit, the "seventeen-year locust." This pest will occur over 21 states, coming out perhaps the last week in May. The injury inflicted by it consists in splitting the tender branches of trees for depositing eggs. The greatest damage is to very young fruit trees. Expert advice has usually been to defer the planting of young fruit trees until another season; but the United States department of agriculture realizes that where trees have been bought and the ground prepared, would entail a considerable loss. Therefore the advice offered is, defer planting until 1920 if feasible. Otherwise put out the trees and protect them with cheesecloth coverings. Such protection can be made practically absolute. The coverings need not be put on until the insects have emerged from the ground, when it can be determined whether or not they are sufficiently numerous to make covering of the trees necessary. Once put on, the coverings should be allowed to remain until the insects are gone. The protection can be made practically absolute. The cheesecloth should be gathered and tied in below the branches and extend upward to cover practically all the foliage, being gathered in and tied at the top in such manner as to leave a small cluster of leaves free. This method can be applied, if necessary, to trees of last year's planting. In areas likely to be heavily infested pruning should be postponed until the insects have disappeared, when pains should be taken to remove injured wood and to reshape the tree where necessary.



a, adult; b, same, side view; c, shed pupal skin.

ARSENATE OF LEAD HARMFUL

Sprays Should Be Applied With Caution, as Foliage of Stone Fruits Is Tender.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The foliage of stone fruits, as cherry, plum and peach, is on the whole quite tender, and the arsenical sprays should be employed with caution. Arsenate of lead is least likely to do harm, though more than two applications especially to peach, may cause shotholing and dropping of leaves, and burning of fruit.

SETTING OUT BERRY PLANTS

Those Which Grew the Preceding Year Are Generally Used Except in Autumn Season.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

In setting out raspberries, blackberries, dewberries, and strawberries, young plants which grew the preceding season are generally used, except when they are planted in the autumn. In that case plants of the current season's growth are used.

CURCULIOS MAY BE REDUCED

Insects May Be Removed by Jarring Trees in Spring and Collecting From Sheets.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Certain insects, notably the plum and quince curculios, may be much reduced in number by regularly jarring the trees in the early spring, collecting the insects as they fall on sheets or special cloth-covered frames.

SPRAYING OFTEN NEGLECTED

Of All Orchard Work, It Is Most Likely Slighted—Fruit Grower Should Study Subject.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Of all orchard work, spraying is most likely to be slighted or neglected. It is important, therefore, that every fruit grower make a study of the why and wherefore of spraying and have an intimate knowledge of spraying materials and machinery.

The KITCHEN CABINET

And 'tis my faith that every flower enjoys the air it breathes.

GOOD MEALS FROM LEFTOVERS.

Take the leftover mashed potato and form it into cakes or croquettes, adding an egg yolk for food value; season with salt and place in a pan to bake. Just before putting into the oven, brush with a beaten egg white, which will brown with a good color. Serve hot for a supper dish.

Oriental Stew.—Simmer gently together two cupfuls each of cooked mutton cut in cubes and cooked potatoes diced, one cupful of water, two tablespoonfuls of fat, one chopped onion, one cupful of cooked peas or cooked string beans; season with salt, pepper and a very little curry powder. While the stew is cooking cook a half-cupful of rice. When it is tender, place on a hot vegetable dish, and in the center turn the stew.

Put thinly sliced stale cake together sandwich fashion with any preserve or jelly, then serve with whipped cream or a fruit sauce, if preferred.

Rice With Bananas.—Peel, scrape and mash three bananas; add a few drops of lemon juice and sugar to taste, with a pinch of salt. Stir this fruit into one cupful of nicely cooked rice and serve with cream and sugar.

Beef Brains.—Brains when nicely cooked and served make a most dainty and digestible dish. Beef brains are firmer than those of a young animal, but any kind from any animal will do. Blanch the brains as one does sweetbreads, adding a tablespoonful of vinegar to a quart of water and salt to taste. Parboil 20 minutes with a blade of mace, a bay leaf, or any desired seasoning; drain and plunge into cold water; wash and remove all membrane and set on ice to chill. Serve cut in dice in a brown or white sauce. They may be served as one does sweetbreads and they are very similar in appearance.

Salmon Canape.—Remove the bones from a moderate-sized can of salmon; pound in a mortar with two hard-cooked eggs, a teaspoonful of mustard, two teaspoonfuls of lemon juice, and a dash of cayenne. Just before spreading on hot slices of toast add a tablespoon of horseradish and set in the oven to heat. Serve with finely minced celery on the top of each.

They are as sick who surfeit with too much, as they that starve with nothing.—Shakespeare.

PRACTICAL IDEAS FOR MAKING HOUSEKEEPING EASIER.

If there are those in the home who persist in using the woodwork for scratching matches smear a little vaseline over the spot generally used. After a few attempts to scratch a match on the greasy surface, even the most persistent offender will desist.

Two holders fastened together with a tape long enough to be thrown around the neck will always be handy when a holder is needed.

A pocket on the inside of the apron will not catch on anything and tear. Put a piece of camphor gum or a stick of camphor ice in the silver drawer; it will keep the silver from tarnishing.

A clothespin bag hung from a coat hanger may be pushed along on the clothesline as needed.

A nut cracker makes a good wrench for small bottles with screw tops. Old wall paper of heavy oatmeal or of light tints may be tinted cheaply with a special tint for use on walls.

The lower stair of the back stairs put on hinges makes a fine place to keep rubbers, overshoes and other things which are so apt to be mislaid. When putting a patch on wall paper to cover a spot, tear the edges, as they are much less visible than if evenly cut.

When stirring in a small dish use a clothespin to steady it on the hot stove. A dried-out half of egg shell with a hole broken in the end will serve as a funnel for filling small bottles.

Metal buttons which can be picked up by a magnet will rust when washed. A sewing machine needle that has become blunt can be sharpened by stitching a few times through a piece of emery or sandpaper.

Rub suede shoes with emery paper to remove water spots.

Nellie Maxwell

Help Wanted.

"Be you the feller that runs the correspondence skule?"

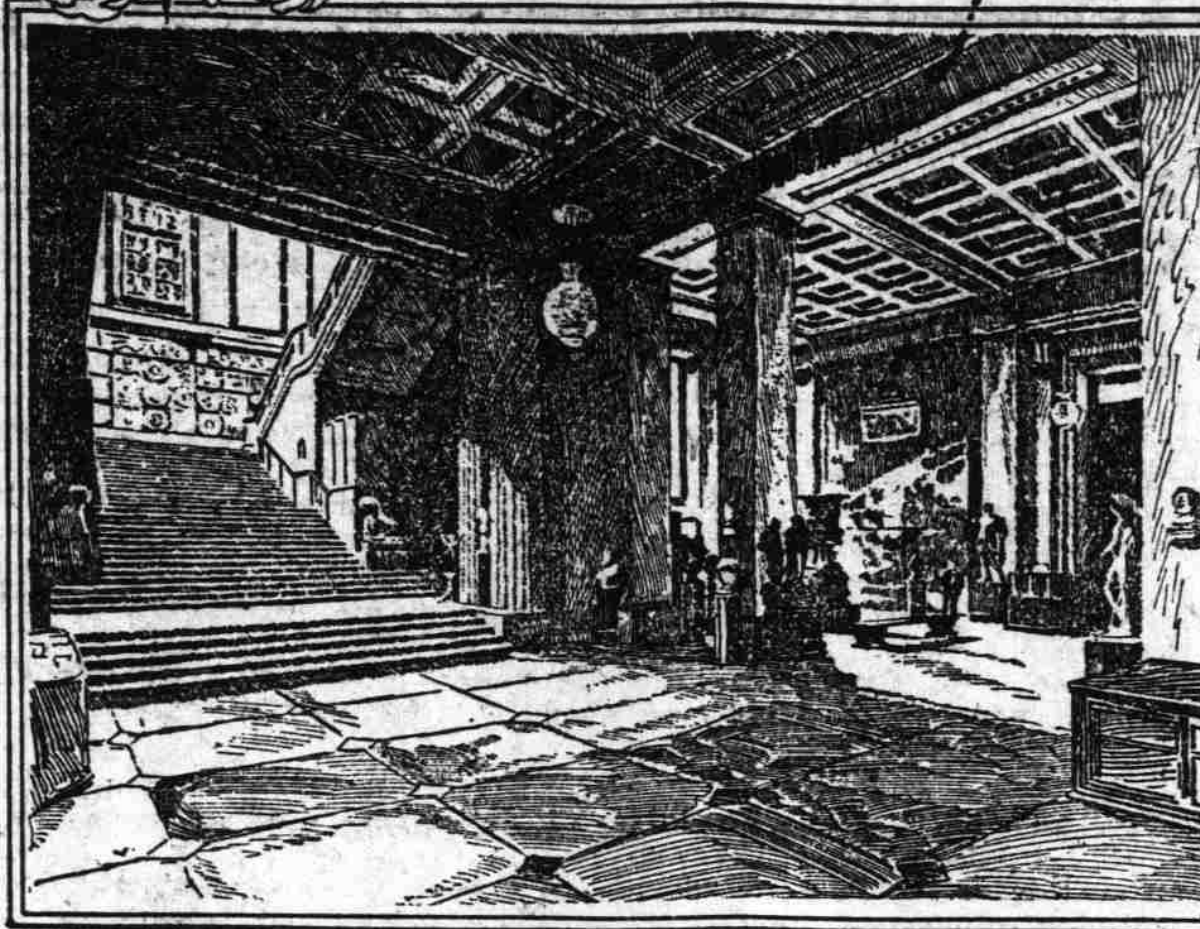
"I am, sir. What can I do for you?"

"Wall, I'd like to take a few lessons. I been wantin' to correspond with the Widder Jones back to my home town, but I'm sech a pesky bad writer I am skeered to tackle it."

One-Sided Proposition.

"Well, I declare," exclaimed Aunt Nancy, gazing at the photograph of a Britisher all dressed up in his monocle, "if these English people ain't the savin'gest fellers! Think of wearin' only one spec' jest to save the other. But then," she added thoughtfully, "mebbe the poor critter is blind in one eye."

British Museum Library



Entrance Hall of British Museum.

IT HAS become customary to start the history of the British Museum library with a transaction which took place between the British government and Sir Hans Sloane in 1753, but, as a matter of fact, the genesis of this library should be recorded 20 years earlier. The event chronicled upon this date of October 23, 1731, is a fire at Ashburnham house which partly destroyed the famous Cottonian library, and emphasized in the minds of influential patrons of learning the absolute necessity of properly housing the great collections which as yet had escaped the same fate, says the Christian Science Monitor.

That portion of the Cottonian collection which was saved from the flames still exists as an important and valuable part of the present British museum. Sir Robert Cotton was a real booklover and a natural collector. When summoned by Queen Elizabeth to Calais as royal commissioner in arranging a treaty between England and Spain, it was with sincere regret that he accepted the appointment, because it took him away from his library and from the research in which he found the greatest delight of life. Later Cotton's political activities aroused the suspicions of Charles I, and, as a result, his beloved library was sealed up and he himself arrested. When later a royal messenger came to him with the message that under certain conditions he might be restored to court favor, Cotton replied: "You come too late, my heart is broken."

The famous library was restored years later to Sir Robert's son and successor, Sir Thomas Cotton, who inherited, also, his father's love of books. From Sir Thomas it came down to Sir John Cotton, who presented the collection to the nation in 1700. The Cotton library, therefore, should be considered the nucleus to which the other collections were added.

Money Raised by Lottery.

This brings us to Sir Hans Sloane, where the chronicle usually begins. Sir Hans was physician, naturalist, and antiquary, and during his lifetime accumulated an extraordinary collection of books, manuscripts, drawings, prints, together with collections of natural and artificial curiosities. Toward the end of his life he offered them to the British nation, provided the government paid his executors some £20,000, which he estimated to be one-fourth of the intrinsic value of his collections. The real value was probably somewhat less than his estimate, but the price at which the British nation acquired his treasures was surely less than half their value, which made the contribution of Sir Hans a princely one under any circumstances.

To persuade King George II, so indifferent to the importance of letters and so miserly regarding the expenditure of money save for his own pleasures, that so large a sum should be paid was no easy task, and when the memorial was first presented to him he remarked: "I do not think there are £20,000 in the treasury." Fortunately, however, there was influence enough among those favoring the acquisition of this important collection to push the matter to a conclusion. As a result, an act was passed through parliament authorizing the holding of a lottery to raise £300,000, out of which £30,000 should be paid to the executors of Sir Hans and the countess of Oxford, and an additional £80,000 invested at interest in the public funds to provide for salaries and other expenses. Beyond this, an adequate sum was to be devoted to a suitable building for the collections. This act passed parliament in 1753, and marks the definite foundation of the British museum.

Early Restrictions on Users.

The records show that the first building containing the collections which went to make up the British museum was thrown open to the public on January 15, 1759; but the words "thrown open" require some explanation. Today there is no library in the world where the visitor or student is able to inspect and make use of its wonderful contents with greater ease or freedom than the British Museum

library, but originally such restrictions were imposed as to make its use almost inaccessible. In the first place, it was announced that the library would be open "except Saturday and Sunday of each week, except Christmas day and one week after, except the week after Easter Sunday and the week after Whitsuntide, and except Good Friday, and all days which now or shall hereafter be specially appointed for Thanksgivings or feasts by public authority."

If a prospective student were able to master the mathematics of these restrictions, he then presented himself at the porter's lodge, where he was obliged to give his name, condition and address, to be entered in the register. This accomplished, the volume was laid before the librarian to decide whether the person so applying was entitled to admission. If the question were settled in the affirmative, on a second visit the applicant might receive his ticket. Having secured the precious card, he would then present himself for admission, but, as there was a restriction that not more than ten persons should be admitted for each hour the museum was open, it was still problematical whether he would be successful. If so fortunate as to be a member of one of these groups of ten he was then escorted around the library by a guide, with a limit placed upon the time, and with every element created to destroy the pleasure of literary communion with the volumes.

Later, important additions to the Cottonian, Harleian, and Sloane collections include the Royal library of 12,000 volumes, which was eventually turned over to the British museum by George II; the Thomason collection of "Kings' Pamphlets," the da Costa collection of Hebrew books and manuscripts; the Birch collection of biography; David Garrick's library of English plays; Musgrave's collection of biography and manuscripts; the Cracherode collections of books and prints.

Some Great Acquisitions.

All these collections were acquired previous to the year 1807 with no expense whatever to the government, but at this time a grant of approximately £5,000 was made for the purchase of the Lansdowne manuscripts. In 1813 another £8,000 was appropriated for the Hargrave library, and, in 1821, some £13,500 was granted to secure the classical library of Dr. Charles Burney. Two years later the splendid Royal library acquired by George III became part of the British museum. This necessitated larger quarters, and was the beginning of the reconstructed museum. George III's library contained no less than 84,000 volumes. George IV tried to dispose of the collection to the emperor of Russia to enrich his own private coffers, but this plan was frustrated, and the volumes were saved to the British nation.

Francis Egerton was a later benefactor of the Museum library. He bequeathed to it the famous Egerton manuscripts, together with £12,000, the interest on which to be devoted to increasing the collection and maintaining a custodian. Three years later, in 1832, the autograph collection of the museum was enriched by the acquisition of the Arundel manuscripts; and, in 1847, the Rt. Hon. Thomas Grenville presented to the museum his magnificent library, which is still preserved as a unit under the donor's name.

No library is geographically situated more favorably to be available to the world than the British museum. A famous American collector some years ago bequeathed to it an extraordinary collection he himself had made, which it seemed from patriotic motives should have been turned over to some American institution. After having worked in the British museum, however, and after seeing the cosmopolitan nature of those who visit and make use of its treasures, one is forced to admit that this collection will accomplish its highest good by being where it is rather than consigned to the geographical limitation of any one of the American libraries. In this case an American donor considered his letters beyond the demand of nationality.

FARM ANIMALS

PROTECTION OF FEEDER HOGS

Department of Agriculture Conducts System of Vaccination Against Hog Cholera.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

In an effort to protect the swine industry of the country against the possibility of introducing sick hogs into well herds, and at the same time to permit the shipment from stock yards of stocker and feeder hogs, the United States department of agriculture conducts a system of vaccination against cholera as a part of its inspection service at the various stock yard centers. More than 324,000 hogs were immunized for shipment as stockers and feeders from stock yards of 18 cities during the six months from July to December, 1918, inclusive. To accom-



Inoculating a Hog With Cholera Serum.

plish this without spreading disease, in the face of all the attendant dangers, required, of course, such close care that the wisdom of some phases of the inspection system may not have been always apparent to all concerned.

With swine moving by railroads and trainloads from producing areas into public stock yards of the country, says the statement, the pens of such yards are inevitably infected with the common swine diseases, of which cholera is the most important. Owing to this condition federal regulations formerly required the slaughter of swine received, but after the serum and virus treatment against hog cholera was standardized the possibility of reshipping immature hogs for further feeding resulted in a modification of the rules. Under the plan now in force swine properly vaccinated and disinfected may be reshipped for any purpose, including breeding.

Immunizing hogs against cholera is a veterinary procedure, including the preventive-serum treatment, taking of temperatures and observing the condition of the animal during the test period. Necessarily the official regulations are of technical character, and it has come to the attention of the department of agriculture that in some cases the rules have been misinterpreted so as to make them appear responsible for fluctuation in the stock-hog market.

For the information of the public, the bureau of animal industry outlines briefly the method of inspection:

All public stock yards are considered to be infected and swine are, therefore, exposed to the contagion from the time of their entry into the yards; consequently it is important that they be immunized promptly after arrival at such yards, to protect them against contracting the disease.

For that reason the department opposes the immunization of swine that have been so exposed for more than five days. Hogs, though they may not show physical symptoms of cholera, may in some instances be affected with the disease to such an extent that immunization will not protect them.

It is not permissible to immunize swine for immediate shipment interstate if they show symptoms of contagious or infectious disease.

If a considerable percentage of the animals in a lot is found to have high temperatures, the possible presence of such disease is indicated and the animals are not immunized or permitted to be shipped interstate. It is possible to have hogs with high temperatures as a result of conditions surrounding the shipment to market, in which case they will return to normal within a short time.

LIVE STOCK NOTES

Start training the colt early.

A farrowing rail in the pen is a good thing to protect the young pigs.

Pigs will die if allowed access to their dams after weaning. The old milk is poisonous.

Until the lambs are about three weeks old they should be fed three times daily, one-half pint of milk being given each lamb at each feed.

POULTRY FACTS

SUCCESS OF POULTRY FLOCK

Keep Them Growing and Prune and Cull Vigorously—Give Careful Attention to Details.

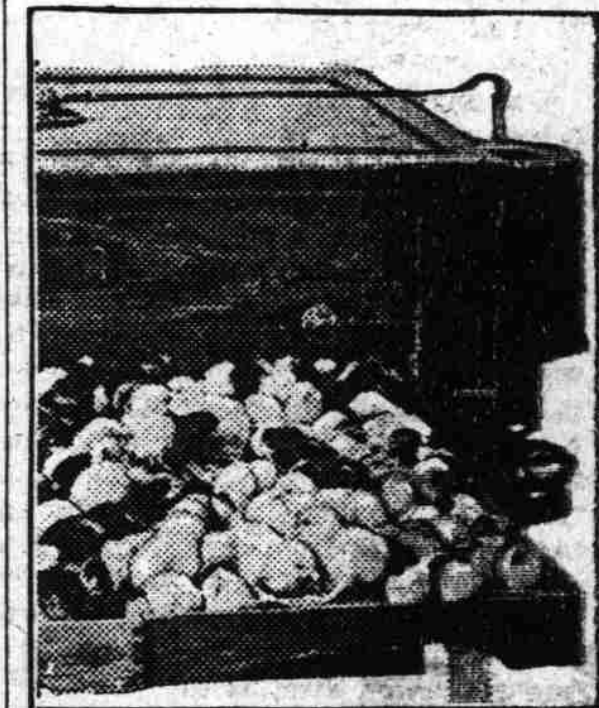
(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The poultry department of the farm establishment must not be forgotten. When pruning or culling fine flocks, spraying the orchard is no more important than spraying the henhouse or dusting or greasing the hen and chicks. Early hatching is one of the prime essentials for success; but early hatching is only the beginning. If you want good, strong, vigorous, well-timed pullets to do the laying for you next fall, you must see that the chicks hatch out at the proper time, and then keep them growing, and prune and cull vigorously. The success of the future depends on the work of today.

Many people think that because they paid attention to details and "put things going" last year they don't need to bother much this season. This is a big mistake. The real results this year were caused by attention to details last year, and next year will depend on this year—which means that careful attention is necessary every year. Those baby chicks, too, must be looked after. Ask your county agent or home demonstration agent for a circular on "First Care of Baby Chicks."

When planning to raise standard-bred chicks, many people mistakenly think that different methods should be used. This is all wrong. To those who have made a success in raising mongrel or mixed poultry—the common "barnyard flocks"—it is necessary only to suggest that the same methods be employed with the standard-bred chicks that were used in raising the mixed or mongrel variety. To those who have not raised poultry, the best advice is, "Give the chicks a good chance and they will do the rest." Do not hamper them with needless restrictions.

Baby chicks are easily trained and will naturally seek places that are warm, but they have no power to sug-



Hatching Season Demands Poultry Raiser's Most Careful Attention.

late the heat or ventilate the room or to supply fresh water. Keep charcoal, grit, etc., before them all the time, or when needed. They naturally have to scratch, and if given a chance will make the litter fly in digging after day morsels. Keep them scratching. This can best be done by not overcovering. Have an outside room that is a little colder than where the brooder is kept, or put the brooder in one side of the building or room. This will leave the other side cooler. Remember that sweating or damp brooders or houses are more dangerous to chicks than cold; but chicks must have a sufficiently warm place to huddle whenever they wish.

To those poultry raisers who handle by the hen all there is to say is to let the hen do the brooding. Keep the hen free from lice and also keep her dry and keep the coop clean. It is no difficult task; all that is needed is thoughtfulness and careful attention. Baby chicks will get under the old hen whenever they feel the need of a little warmth. It is, therefore, very important that the hen should be kept dry. Do not allow the hen her liberty while her brood for at least four weeks. This will give the chicks plenty of opportunity to become strong. Unless the grass is short and conditions favorable, it is better not to turn her out as early as four weeks. The first two weeks, however, are the most important in the life of the chick, and the most important factor is brooding during that period. The hen will do that properly if given the proper place and let alone.

To those operating brooders the best advice that can be given is, "Watch and follow instructions." Don't be too big-hearted and overfeed the baby chicks the first week, as it is a well-known fact that more chicks die as a result of overfeeding the first week or two than from any other cause.

POULTRY NOTES

Beef scraps or sour milk help to fill the egg basket.

Anything that frightens a flock of fowls upsets it to the extent that it reduces egg production.

Chicks should be fed little and often, thus keeping them hungry and busy. A busy chick will keep healthy.