

UNIFORM POTATO GRADES FAVORED



Potatoes Graded and Packed Ready for Market.

Proper distribution of farm products requires, first of all, that a common understanding exist as the basis of negotiations between producers and purchasers. The bureau of markets, United States department of agriculture, is endeavoring to bring this about by the recommendation of grades for fruits and vegetables. No. 2 potatoes should be No. 2 potatoes throughout the United States and not, as at present No. 2 potatoes in one section of the country and No. 1 somewhere else.

Higher Grade Demanded.
During the war period the United States food administration, required licensed dealers to use government potato grades. The results were so satisfactory that when the regulation was canceled the use of grades to a large extent was continued voluntarily. In fact, since that time a higher grade has been demanded to provide for produce of highest quality.

Therefore the bureau of markets now recommends United States grade fancy in addition to grades No. 1 and No. 2.

Grade fancy consists of sound potatoes of one variety which are ma-

ture, bright, smooth, well shaped, free from dirt or other foreign matter, frost injury, sunburn, second growth, growth cracks, cuts, scab, soft rot, dry rot, and damage caused by diseases, insects or mechanical or other means. The range in size shall be stated in terms of minimum and maximum diameter or weight following the grade name, but in no case shall the diameter be less than two inches.

In order to allow for variations incident to commercial grading and handling 5 per cent by weight of any lot may vary from the range in size stated, and, in addition, 3 per cent by weight of any such lot may be below the remaining requirements of this grade, but not more than one-third of such 3 per cent; that is to say, not more than 1 per cent by weight of the entire lot may have the flesh injured by soft rot.

Particulars in Circular.

Complete particulars regarding United States potato grades are contained in Department Circular 96, which will be mailed free upon request to the bureau of markets.

POULTRY

KEEP POULTRY HOUSE CLEAN

Excrement Harbors Parasites, Contaminates Air and Breeds Contagion of Many Kinds.

Everything about a poultry house should be kept reasonably clean. As a rule droppings should be removed daily, for the accumulation of excrement harbors parasites, contaminates the air, and breeds contagion. After the dropping boards have been cleaned they should be sprinkled with road dust, coal ashes, or land plaster, to absorb the liquid excrement, the poultry division of the United States department of agriculture suggests. Nests in which straw or other similar material is used should be cleaned ev-



Handy for Spraying Interior of Hen House.

ery three or four weeks, or oftener if it becomes damp or dirty.

The quarters should be thoroughly whitewashed at least once a year, late in summer or early in the fall. The whitewash can be made by slaking lime in boiling water and then thinning to the proper consistency for applying. The addition of four ounces of carbolic acid to each gallon of whitewash will increase its disinfecting power. The runs should be plowed occasionally in order to bury the accumulated droppings and also to turn up fresh soil.

KILL DEVITALIZING INSECTS

Paint Roosts With Kerosene Oil to Get Rid of Mites—Use Blue Ointment for Lice.

The protection from mites means simply to paint the roosts about once each week with kerosene oil and the lice can be killed off for the summer by giving each bird the blue ointment treatment at the beginning of hot weather. This has been told many times by poultrymen and probably there is no poultry fact that needs more frequent repetition than the best method of killing these devitalizing pests.

CULLING POOR LAYERS

- Cull all hens that show:
1. Well along in the molt with combs and wattles dried up.
 2. All that have lay bones less than two fingers apart and small capacity.
 3. Abdomen and vent dry and puckered.
 4. Yellow shank and beak.
 5. Apply all the test; don't apply just a part of it—do it right.

DRY MASH FEED FOR CHICKS

Animal Food in Some Form, Preferably Buttermilk, Should Be Kept Before Fowls.

A dry mash feed should be kept before the chicks continuously—a mash feed containing animal protein in some form, preferably buttermilk, meat scraps or fish scraps. These elements of animal protein in prepared mash feeds are scientifically dried and do not easily decompose.

GET EGGS FROM TURKEY HENS

Increased Production Can Be Obtained by Feeding Ground Oats, Corn and Other Cereals.

Increase of egg production in turkey hens can be done the same as with chickens, by feeding ground oats, ground corn, kafir meal, barley meal, wheat middlings, linseed meal, and sunflower seed, in equal quantities. This can be fed dry in hoppers, or mixed with milk or water.

MITE IS ENEMY OF CHICKEN

Insect Does Not Bother Other Fowls to Any Extent—Carried About in Empty Crates.

Chicken mites do not feed to any great extent upon other birds when chickens are at hand. They are carried about chiefly by the interchange of poultry and in crates and boxes in which fowls are shipped.

LIE'S LITTLE



HANDICAPPED.

"Didn't young Grabco go away to college last year?"
"Yes. He went to Harvard."
"Fine institution."
"So it is, but young Grabco carried along a Japanese valet, a motor-car and a bulldog. He may have picked up a few crumbs of knowledge, but I doubt it."

News Item.

"Pearls have gone up."
"What's that?" inquired his wife.
"The pearl necklace that cost \$1,000 four years ago now costs \$5,000 or more."
"There, now, John. You see what you missed by not buying me one then."

Considerate.

"I hope the movie stars you employ try to make your business as pleasant for you as possible?"
"Oh, yes," replied the producer, ironically. "They seem to have an idea that the larger the salaries they demand the easier it is for me to figure out my income tax."

Strangers.

"Is that a popular novel you are reading?"
"Not with me," replied Mr. Giltchery. "I picked it up because I liked the picture of the heroine on the cover, but after reading a few chapters I discovered that the author and the artist had never met."

Artful Candidate.

"But you can't run for two offices at the same time."
"You don't understand politics," said the veteran campaigner. "I'm going to ballyhoo for one office while I'm pussyfooting for the other. In that way I can't lose."



HER IDEA.

He—How would you like to live in a cottage by the sea?
She—By the sea, yes, but why a cottage?

American.

He has no need of greater pride Nor bigger work to brag Who keeps his conscience for his guide And serves his country's flag.

Simple.

Mrs. A—I can't understand why your daughter jilted a rich man to marry a poor one.
Mrs. B—It is very simple, my dear. With the one she would have had everything to lose, but with the other she has everything to gain.

Busy Life.

"You think eight hours a day is enough work for any man?"
"Plenty," answered Cactus Joe. "That leaves him only sixteen hours to play poker and get a little sleep."

Great Execution.

"The violinist's execution was simply marvelous."
"Wasn't it, though? You could see the audience hanging on every note."

Educational.

"Is this an educational film?"
"Well, you might call it so. Has some very interesting studies in feminine anatomy."

The Varieties.

"What are the fruits of practical politics?"
"So far, I have come across only two varieties—lemons and plums."

The Difference.

"Last year old Slick was paying court to Miss Smarty."
"And this year he is paying her alimony."

Why Not?

"What are you working on?"
"You remember those old remedies advertised as good for man or beast?"
"Yes."
"I'm working on an anti-freezing mixture, good for man or motor."

His Argument.

"Why have you turned footpad?"
"Your honor, I used to be a panhandler."
"I know that."
"But nobody would listen to a hard luck story in these times."

IS WELL DRESSED FROM TOP TO TOE



TO THE mother or anyone else who sponsors a little girl's clothes, a photograph of a real dress on a real girl means more than any other sort of picture. The merciless camera records what is before it, refusing to be kind to shortcomings and imperfections. When the plain, unvarnished tale it tells is a pleasing one, it is reassuring to know that it can be believed. Above is a picture of an everyday or school frock for a little miss, portrayed with entire faithfulness. It is a model that may be made up in either cotton or wool fabrics and will interest the woman whose responsibilities include choosing the outfit of a little girl.

These practical dresses for children make their appearance far in advance of each season, so that school days may find them all ready in the fall and vacations need not be delayed in the summer. This is one of several very happy combinations of plain and plaid materials that are prettier when they join forces than either can possibly be alone. Those old and reliable friends—gingham and chambray—defy anything to be more pleasing than they prove in this frock and there are plenty of colors to choose from. In the picture a fairly light green, something like jade, predominates, with gray, black and white giving it variety.

There is not much to say of this frock that is not fully told by the photograph. Its vest, collar and cuffs, girdle and upper part of the skirt are all of the solid color. A very little stitchery in simulated buttons and buttonholes, done with black and gray cotton yarn, add a pretty, painstaking touch appearing on the collar and cuffs.

Once more the joyous hair-bow of gay-striped ribbon is poised on the head of youthful wearers, and it is a most important item in their outfitting. Little girls delight in these crisp bows and soon learn to appreciate their smartness. From top to toes this young lady is well dressed, in unpretentious, neat and carefully selected things, that educate in her a "sense of clothes."

What Will We Do Now?

MANY earnest and broad-minded women struggled manfully to win the ballot and many had it thrust upon them. But the agitation for it, before it was achieved, won over most women to a whole-hearted belief in the justice and the desirability of woman suffrage. And now that millions of women have the privilege of voting they are asking themselves just how they are going to go about exercising it intelligently. Likewise sundry politicians are anxious to know just what this new voting power will do

to them. It may be some time before women will make this new power felt—as something to be carefully reckoned with.

About the first thing that concerns them is familiarity with questions that are vitally interesting to them as citizens—and as women. They have had much experience in women's clubs and through them have brought about many noteworthy reforms. It is through these already established organizations that they can carry on campaigns of education for themselves and for others. Regardless of this or that party, women must make up their minds as to what sort of legislation they want and then undertake to get it by means of political parties. In local and in national affairs they must first inform themselves as to worthwhile issues and help to inform others. It is a game of publicity—the spreading of information, keeping an eye on the performance of men in office and public officials of all sorts and keeping informed, through newspapers and magazines on policies that are beneficial for all the people.

Any one at all familiar with the teamwork done by women in their clubs and various organizations, will acknowledge that they are always interested in benevolences; therefore it is safe to assume that they will undertake to reform abuses and to institute various improvements when they become convinced that they are needed. It appears that the thing most useful to them at this time, is as clear an understanding as possible of the plans of the two great political parties and a definite knowledge of the things they want to see accomplished, both in their own local affairs and in national affairs. Busy as they are, they really have more time to devote to the study of public questions and of politics than men have, for many men are too much tied down to business, to bread winning, and cannot find time for anything outside. It is possible, however, even for busy housewives, to set apart some time for this undertaking. Their time is their own and managed by them, which is an immense advance. It may fall to their lot finally to gather and spread information that will bring about, through the education of public sentiment, the things that are desirable for the welfare of human beings. Already certain large organizations of women have got together and agreed upon certain issues that they wish to see placed in party platforms. The things they have agreed to advocate are all beneficial to themselves and to their children and therefore to the whole country.

Julia Bottomley

Drawn Thread Is Well Liked

Simple Removal of Strands Affords Means of Decorating Household Linen of All Descriptions.

Drawn thread-work has, for a long time, enjoyed great popularity as a means of ornamenting household linen of all descriptions, and many people are proficient in this form of needlework. It occurred to one enterprising person that drawn thread-work would be a very effective way of adorning her summer cotton dresses, and forthwith she experimented with ratine. Success attended her efforts, and the thread "drew" from the material with the greatest ease. The color of the ratine was blue; round the hem she worked about three

quarters of an inch of "drawn" work, catching the threads down the middle in the way so often seen in this kind of stitchery, while a line of similar "drawn" work was placed just below the waistline of the "one piece" dress, on the big side pockets and around the collar.

Pleasant Lace Collars.

If one has been fortunate enough to cherish and preserve old pieces of good lace, another new wrinkle is to sew them together as artistically as possible in some original design. These then make exquisitely dainty and rich-looking collars. Some of them, made of seven or eight different varieties of laces, sell as high as \$40 in the downtown shops.

MAKING FINE RECORD FOR IMPROVED SIRES

Virginia Leads Country in Effort to Discard Scrubs.

Many Farmers of Pulaski County File Declaration They Will Follow Methods to Further Live Stock Improvement.

With over 10,000 head of domestic animals in addition to poultry enrolled in the "Better Sires—Better Stock" movement, Virginia leads all other states in the nation-wide effort to rid the country of scrub and other inferior sires. The stock mentioned is owned by 670 farmers, of whom 354 are in Pulaski county, Virginia. All of these live stock owners have filed with the United States department of agriculture declarations that they will not only use pure-bred sires, but will follow methods leading to further live stock improvement.

The bureau of animal industry, which is handling the enrollment records, received from Virginia recently 72 pledges in one day. Of this number 18 contained statements that purebred sires, including rams, boars and roosters, would be purchased. Cases of this kind show that the movement is not only educational, but is gradually resulting in the replacement of inferior males with purebreds.

THIN ALL PLANTS IN GARDEN

Tall, Spindly, Unhealthy Conditions Result Where Practice Is Not Followed.

Nearly all home gardeners plant more seed than necessary, in order to get a full stand of plants. As soon as these are large enough to handle easily, all excess plants should be pulled out, leaving enough space between the plants remaining for the vegetables to develop properly. If this practice is not followed, not only do the crowded conditions cause tall, spindly, unhealthy growth, but the excess plants act as weeds, using up the plant food and moisture that should be available for the crop.

VEGETABLES STORED FOR USE IN WINTER

Good Time to Begin Plans for Saving Garden Truck.

Money Will Be Saved and Variety Added to Menus by Preparing Room in Basement or Outdoor Cellar or Pit.

One of these nights not far distant there will be a frost. That means, does it not, that huge basket of pumpkins, squash, beets, onions, tomatoes, apples and other vegetables and fruit grown in your garden and orchard, must be brought in and saved for winter use?

Before that time the question of storage must be settled. If you have never had them to store before or did not have success in the methods used last year, or want to know more about the subject for general information, send for a copy of "Home-Storing of Vegetables," Farmers' Bulletin 879, United States department of agriculture.

Different types of inexpensive and reliable storage places, the room in the basement of the dwelling, the outdoor storage cellar or cave, the bank or pit, are described in detail. The saving in money and the additional variety in your winter menus will more than pay you for spending time in preparation for good, careful storage.

CLOVER SEED IS PROFITABLE

Vigorous Second Crop May Be Obtained by Cutting Early and Given Light Dressing.

Clover, if cut and given a light dressing of land, or of any fine compost, will give a second crop of seed. Every farmer might raise his own clover seed by this method. The seed comes from the second crop and not from the first crop.

Plaster is the best and most economical mineral fertilizer to use.