

FOR FARMERS, STOCK BREEDERS AND GARDENERS

Getting The Profit

C. E. MACKENZIE

When visiting in one of our manufacturing towns a few years ago I had the pleasure of meeting the owner of a large manufacturing plant and while conversing with him a gentleman walks past, and the manufacturer remarked that he paid that man twenty dollars a day for looking his plant over and finding out if there were any leaks and showing how to stop them and how better and more efficient work could be done.

I was indeed surprised as twenty dollars per day looked big pay to me, and naturally I asked why he did it. The answer was "It pays, we're not for profits and not for glory." I have often wondered since why our country people didn't spend more money for the real thing in business knowledge actually applied to their farm conditions. We have the knowledge and we have the farms, but for some reason we don't get the knowledge applied to the field and the stock and the market.

The bluest man to whom I referred is a veteran in his line. Every year he has a balance on the right side of his ledger, but he sees clearly that the expert he has employed is one of the chief reasons for his business success.

In other words, would it not pay some of our farmers to employ an expert to go over their holdings and help them to better things? I am sure that it would. Thirty years ago the efficiency expert in business would have been laughed at. Then in a few years no doubt we all heard expressions like this expressed. "It's experience that counts."

Practical men today will say this, "It's experience understood and applied that counts."

There has been and is no end of talk for the farmer's alleged benefit. Advice deluges the agriculturist, as with an inky cataract, but the farmer wants not only a demonstration of what others are doing, but he needs someone, in whom he has confidence, to go over his farm with him and from whom he may learn. Better still, each farmer should be his own expert in matters of this kind.

I am of the opinion that it would pay any farmer to spend one half day a week walking over his farm with his hands in his pockets, acting as his own expert.

Not till one commences to enquire will he dawn upon him how few farmers really know their sources of gain or loss. For instance relatively few will weigh their cattle to be fattened, or keep account of the food supplied till they walk off the farm.

Still fewer know the gain or loss made from individuals in the herd. The same is true of bags, poultry, and other farm stock. Let any reader apply this to his own case and let him make casual enquiries of his fellow farmers for a month or so, and he will have considerable net-tracking on hand. Farming today is a fine combination of science and art, and business and common sense. The man who will continue to make a success of it must have expert knowledge in abundance and apply it, and never lie back in the collar till he makes his plan work out. This is the way of business and science and, and farming is no exception to it.

There will soon be a short breathing spell between seeding and weeding. Can it be spent better than looking things over, and so adjusting them that every effort may prove effective. No farmer can afford to face his work without plans—plans that are thought out and pondered over. Try it out!

Gardening

SUPPORTS

Too often the average flower garden is disfigured by odd shaped stakes, hoops and wires used to support taller flowers and shrubs. Much trouble can be avoided by giving things plenty of room so that main stems are stocky and side growth develops, but certain tall plants such as delphinium, phlox, cosmos and dahlias require some support even when grown under the best conditions, otherwise they will fall over or become entangled when hit by high winds or heavy rain. If all stakes used are stained a neutral green or brown, they will blend with the background, and will be practically hidden in a few weeks after placing. As a matter of fact, we should try to make our flowers conspicuous and not our carpentry. For bushy plants like the peony or delphinium, the writer has found a simple galvanized wire circular support sufficient. Use heavy, good quality wire. Cut in pieces of from two to four feet in length, depending on the height required. Put a small loop about an inch in diameter at one end, depending on the height required. Put a small loop about a half inch in diameter at the other end, then bend in a half circle with a foot or so left over which should be turned straight down. This will give you a half circle with support. Do the same with another piece of wire only making the circle in the opposite direction and then fasten both pieces loosely together by putting supporting parts through the loops, thus making a complete circle with two supporting pieces at opposite sides. After a trial or two, the manufacture of these supports will be very simple. Size of the circle and length of supporting pieces will, of course, depend on the size of plant in view. These supports should be placed while growth is still short so that the plant will develop in and around the wire, thus hiding same and getting maximum support. Climbing roses should be attached to a light wooden trellis and preferably kept a foot or more away from stone or brick walls so that foliage and bloom will not be injured by reflected heat. An old tennis net, brush or strings make best support for sweet peas. As a rule, poultry netting should be avoided on account of the danger of cutting foliage and stems during a wind.

One can make a very complete job of laying out grounds alone. Where the residence is rented and the tenant does not care to go to the expense of permanent planting, this is about the only course left open, and it may also be adopted for adding a touch of beauty to the summer cottage or any other place of temporary abode. For hedges and for breaking corner and basement lines around the houses, use big bushy stuff like four o'clock, cosmos, tall marigolds, Mexican sunflowers or castor oil plants. For creepers use have scarlet runner beans, sweet peas, climbing nasturtium, hops and many others. We can use any of the medium type annuals such as asters, zinnias, petunias, gladiolus for little screens, clumps and solid beds of one color, while along the edge of borders or walks alyssum, lobelia and dwarf nasturtiums should be put out.

GARDEN ANNUALS

Contrary to general opinion, celery is not a difficult plant to grow and a large quantity can be produced in a very small space thus putting this vegetable in the city garden class. The first rows for early use should be put out any time now, with the main planting about the first week in July. Plants are produced from seed sown in the hotbed, or they may be purchased from almost any corner store at this time. The ideal soil is a very rich well-drained muck, though practically any combination will do, so long as we fertilize well, have good drainage and apply lots of water. Give the plants from six to eight inches each way, and rows may be as close together as we like after making allowances for cultivation. Keep the ground thoroughly worked up all the time. Light applications of nitrate of soda just after the plants are set out and again in two or three weeks will help growth along wonderfully. The simplest way to bleach celery in the fall is to place on both sides of the row, and bank with earth. In the fall plants may be lifted without bleaching and stored, tightly placed together in bushel baskets in some dark place, and they will be white and tender in a week or ten days.

CELERY

Roses require fairly deep cultivation and heavy fertilizing up until the first of July in order to push growth and produce flowers. After this, however, it is advisable to slow down so that the plants may be hardened before the cold weather sets in. To aid in this process, which takes two or three months, it is a good plan to plant a few low-growing plants, such as pansies, calendulas, violas, or dwarf nasturtiums, around the roses, which will brighten up the bed and benefit the bushes by absorbing moisture. At this time a good quick-acting fertilizer is advised. After July, a slower fertilizer, such as liquid manure, or bone meal should be used.

TIMELY ROSE WORK

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DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE ON P. E. ISLAND

From time to time we hear praises of the homes of the country people in Prince Edward Island, meaning generally the farm houses, and it must be admitted by all that these do present, viewed "from the road," a fairly respectable appearance.

But let us take a glance into these houses, and first by the kitchen. It is usually kept clean and tidy and the cooking done therein is "second to none." But it is nearly always too small for its actual purpose for it is really the living room of the farmer and his family. True there is nearly always a so-called dining-room but this is in many cases used only when company comes. Then there is the parlor used only when company comes from Boston or when a member of the family is lying in his or her coffin. These rooms are kept spotlessly clean and what is worse the parlor is all dolled up to such a pitch that no microbe nor any other living creature would care to dwell long therein, especially that species known as mere man or boy.

I have had considerable opportunity of viewing the parlors, stairways and bedrooms of these houses and know quite well what they are like: Bright delicate paper or tints on walls, bright soft carpet or glossy varnish on floors here and there transcendent colors—one would think that ethereal creatures quite unthink of the honest dust of the earth dwell here. But lo, on reflection one remembers that sons of the soil, nature's own gentlemen, live herein, that is in the kitchen for when they become weary of being in the women's way they betake themselves to the woodshed or horsestable to while away a few pleasant minutes whittling or chewing, provided the time be a rainy day in summer.

Let us now visit one of these homes in winter. In the day time you will find it comfortable enough close by the fire if you can manage to keep out of the way of the women of whom it may justly be said none are kinder or more hospitable. But at bedtime count yourself lucky if you do not have to go away from warmth and brightness, through cold winding halls and by richly-carpeted stairways to outer darkness in the north-east corner of the earth as it were, there to dream of snowy blasts and polar expeditions—shades of Scott and Franklin! Here you find that hallways and partitions are your enemies that come between you and warmth and comfort.

In fact the average house on P. E. Island may be described as a large enclosure subdivided into cramped compartments so skilfully that it would seem as though the genius of awkwardness and discomfort designed them.

What is the remedy? Simple enough: Take an axe and smash down these "middle walls of partition" in the lower part of your house. Divide it into two or three real living-rooms. Let them have roominess, convenience and freedom, and beauty too, but let it be that beauty which beautifully does. Let these rooms provide for the beautiful views which one may see everywhere on P. E. Island if they were not so skilfully shut off by designers of houses.

If more ornamentation is desired let the farmers pay more attention to their gardens and hedges, though here again they need not shut off the view of their houses by trees awkwardly placed in front of the house. In short let the country people go in for cultivating a beauty that is in an approachable and useful instead of prohibitive and useless as is now so often seen in the interior of so many of the hospitable homes. Then and only then will the homes and the landscape of Prince Edward Island become what they ought to be, the most beautiful in Canada or even in North America.

Yours sincerely RUSTICUS

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NEWSY NOTES BY AGRICOLA

SCAB ON POTATOES

The Dominion Department of Agriculture has issued a series of "studies in Potato Diseases," entitled and numbered as follows: (1) Late Blight and Rot of potatoes; (2) The Black Leg Disease of Potatoes; (3) Canadian Certified Seed Potatoes; and (4) Powdery and Common Scab of Potatoes. The last, which is just from the press, is Pamphlet No. 134, New Series, and is a production of our esteemed fellow-citizen Prof. R. R. Hurst, B. S. A., in collaboration with Prof. D. J. MacLeod, M. A., of Fredericton, N. B.

There are still, I note, people who refuse to believe in plant pathology, object to the Latin names of the parasitic diseases, and even to the attempts to control the maladies. The scientific names and descriptions of the diseases are absolutely necessary for the collaboration of workers in widely separated lands; and very little thought will enable us to see that it is the controls worked out by these specialists that prevent "epidemics" among the potatoes like those in the years 1840-5.

In the present instance—that of Scab—seed treatment in its several forms is considered. If the scab organism is not already present in the ground, treatment of the tubers will give a clean crop. A common treatment is by means of corrosive sublimate, or as the chemist calls them mercuric chloride "tablets"—which by the way, are very poisonous. On account of the deterioration of the solution while in use, it is to be fortified or strengthened by the further addition of the sublimate for each batch of potatoes, and the means and proportion are succinctly pointed out in the little brochure. For those who prefer the formalin treatment (which is non-poisonous) a note of warning is sounded: an impurity, which is known as paraformaldehyde, sometimes occurs in the formalin, and is capable of producing much injury to the tuber immersed in it. The bulletin shows how this injurious impurity may be detected. Some readers may not have heard of the hot formalin treatment, but we are told that it is gaining popularity on account of its inexpensiveness, simplicity of operation and rapidity with which effective treatment can be accomplished. The last pages of the booklet are devoted to a consideration of the organic mercurial treatments, which are not so poisonous as those with the mercuric chloride.

All the treatments are given with a fulness of detail that will save the potato-grower from mistakes and enable him to disinfect his seed-stock most effectively. It only remains to add that the bulletin is well illustrated, and should be in the hands of every farmer.

STORAGE OF EGGS

It is of course no news to my readers that Biddy, the hen, is falling from her place of pride—with eggs nearing the prices of grandfather's days. The news is, however, that the Saskatchewan farmers are out to get whatever there is in the "hen fruit," and are storing them by the thousand, on the farms, against the time when prices rise. This is a course that the Dominion Live Stock Branch, by circular, is urging on all housewives also, as a means of taking advantage of the present low prices and high quality of this product.

Dr. Frank T. Shutt, Dominion Chemist, recommends the use of lime-water as a preservative, since he finds that it keeps the quality of the egg better than any other agent does. Lime-water is made by putting freshly slaked burnt lime into water at the rate of one pound of lime to five gallons of water. "This will make a suitable saturated lime-water solution sufficient to fill a receptacle capable of holding between 20 and 30 dozen eggs." The receptacle may be a large crock or a small water-tight barrel, and the eggs are to be

BIRDS OF P. E. ISLAND (First instalment.)

NOTE: The numbers prefixed are the reference numbers of the American Ornithological Union. The standard English names only are given. M. means migrant and goes North; R. resident throughout the year; S. R. summer resident; W. R., winter resident, coming from the north. V. visits us occasionally. Those interested in bird life will find these lists useful for reference.

Diving Birds and Swimmers

- (2) Holboell's or Red Necked Grebe. M.
(3) Horned Grebe . . . M.
(6) Pied Billed Grebe ("Dabchick," "Hell-diver"). M.
(7) Loon or Great Northern Diver. S. R.
(11) Red-throated Loon. S. R.
(27) Black Guillemot, ("Sea Pigeon") S. R.
(30) Murre. S. R.
(34) Dovekie ("Sea Dove," "Little Auk"). S. R.
(37) Parasitic Jaeger. . . . M.
(39) Ivory Gull . . . M.
(40) Kittiwake. . . . M.
(42) Glaucous Gull. M.
(45) Kumlien's Gull. M.
(47) Great Black-backed Gull (or "Saddleback.") R?

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NEWSY NOTES BY AGRICOLA

CAREFULLY PLACED IN IT, AND THEN COVERED WITH THE LIME-WATER.

The eggs must not be removed from the solution or exposed to the air till they are wanted for use. Wherever possible use "Extras" for storage. These should not weigh less than 24 ounces to the doz. and when "candied" or held up against a strong light, should show an air-cell of not over one-quarter of an inch. What is worth doing is worth doing well.

A farmer near Salisbury (Eng.) writes me that he sells his eggs at tenpence a dozen, and they are retailed at one shilling per dozen. Young pigs he says are worth 30 shillings each.

CUTWORMS AGAIN

It is possibly going to be a bad year for cutworms: at any rate they have made an early start, and seem to be plentiful in the garden. The hot dry summer of last year and the absence of frost in the ground during the winter must have been most favorable to their multiplication and preservation. Poison bait as recommended in the bulletins is the best method of controlling these pests, where it can be safely applied; and a little thicker sowing of garden seeds etc. will go far to neutralize the losses. Individual plants, such as tomatoes, dahlias and the like, can be readily protected by means of the tin protectors recently mentioned in these "Notes."

TRIMMING THE SPRUCE HEDGE

Today (May 27th) I trimmed my little spruce hedge. It was in an ideal condition for the job: the huds had burst and had thrown out little sprays of green nearly an inch long, and usually in pairs. The branch may be snipped off anywhere, but not behind the last pair of buds.

THE WILSON'S SNIPPE

On a still evening in May (and sometimes in the early morning) one may hear a long-drawn "Who-hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo!" which appears to have its origin at a great distance above the earth. This is the sound made by the Wilson's Snippe (Gallinago delicata), which is said to produce it by "drumming" with its wings. The notes have a rising inflection, and may be imitated musically by rapidly running, say, from G to E above, employing all the semitones, and whistling the syllable "Who" to each.

It is not often that one sees the bird itself as the sound carries a long way at that altitude, and the snippe may be at a considerable distance from its auditor. I once had the opportunity, as a note in my "Bird Guide" records, of examining a specimen which had been taken in a musk-rat trap on Dec. 5th, 1918. Its most prominent feature was the very long bill: this is used to bore into soft ground, where the flexible tip enables it to grasp the worms, insects, and larvae upon which it feeds. Its head was striped black and whitish and the upper parts and wings streaked with black, brown and white.

This is sometimes referred to as the "English" Snippe, but as I have no literature on the birds of the Old Country I am unable to say whether this is correct: in all likelihood it is a near variety. It is a summer resident here, and is valued as a game bird. It winters in the southern U.S., according to Reed.

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SUMMER BIRDS

Sir,—May I have space in your valuable paper to "Say thank You" to the prize donors in the "Feed the Birds" Contest. I did not have any visions of a first prize when I started my letter. After telling you what I had learned about winter birds—I continued with the summer birds that I might tell you about this large bird that Mr. Osgood had seen. One of our neighbors has also seen this bird, and gives the same description of it, only that he got quite near and could see that it has a very long hooked beak, and he feels quite confident that it is an "Eagle" Heron as is common in Cavendish as "pretty sunsets." I'm very fond of birds but I have not as yet fallen in love with "Mr. Owl," for the owls that nest in Cavendish do not always wait for the darkness of midnight before starting to work, and we know of their having chicken on their menu. One very warm evening last summer, we left out little chicken house open planning to close them at bed time, and we heard a terrible commotion among the chickens, and mamma and I rushed out, and "Old Hootie" took to his flappers and perched on the pignoise. If daddy had been home and had the gun loaded I expect he would have given him a hasty send off. With many thanks I remain your sincerely, MABEL E. SIMPSON CAVENDISH, P. E. I.

WHY LAYING STOPS

There are times in the experience of farmers and poultrymen when with mysterious suddenness, and without apparent cause, laying comes almost to a complete stop, and this at a time when the poultry flock is not moulting. At such times George Robertson, Assistant Dominion Poultry Husbandman, states it is well to suspect the presence of vermin. The two types of vermin which seriously affect laying hens are body lice and the red mite.

For the control of body lice a mixture of 1/4 pound of flour of sulphur to a quart of road dust applied to the fluff and underneath the wings, is inexpensive but satisfactory. While there are other cures the simplest and most satisfactory remedy is the use of Black Leaf 40 (nicotine sulphate), which may be produced from almost any poultry supplies or seeds merchant. The particular advantage in using this remedy lies in the fact that it is very effective and does not necessitate the treating of the birds of the flock individually.

In the evening immediately before the flock goes to roost paint the bottom and lower sides of the roosts with Black Leaf 40. In the morning it will be found that the lice will have been killed by the fumes and will have fallen onto the dropping boards.

COLONEL AUBREY 2.10 2-5

Colonel Aubrey—Reg. No. 3940—leaves home on Thursday, June 11th, via O'Leary to C. McEwen's, Portage, noon; thence to Romanus McDougall's, Grand River overnight, leaving at noon Friday, June 12th to Nell McDougall's, Summerside, overnight; thence to J. F. Keough's, Cape Traverse overnight, Monday, June 15th to B. McArthur's, Kensington, overnight; Tuesday, to John McKinnon's, New Annan Race Track overnight; Wednesday to Summerside, noon; thence via ferry to James McIntyre's, Bayside overnight, Thursday, June 18th to Edgar Milligan's, Northam noon; thence to Shelton Sharpe's overnight, Friday, to James Palmer's, Inverness, noon; thence to George Skerry's, Goff's Bridge overnight, Saturday, to Vernon Metherald's, Fortune Cove overnight, thence to owner's stables, Elmsdale. Leaving Monday, June 22nd to Michael Murphy's, Greenmount noon; thence to Tignish overnight. Returning Tuesday to owner's stables. This route will be continued fortnightly till close of season. This horse needs no recommendation in this Province, for by his own performances, also that of his colts such as, Major Aubrey 2.11, Lucky Lindy 2.12, Aubrianna 2.15, Raymond Aubrey 2.22 and a number of others he has been proven a wonderful fast speed sire. He has also a number of other promising colts training at present on the different tracks. Col. Aubrey has won two first prizes in succession at the Alberton Exhibition as a carriage stallion, any age.

Dairy Cattle Wanted

A few real choice Holstein, Ayrshire, Guernsey and Jersey grades, from 5 to 7 years old, due to freshen from June 20th to September. Apply W. R. SHAW, Provincial Dept. of Agriculture.

BUD AXWORTHY REGISTERED

Sired by Guy Axworthy 4 (2.08%), also of four trotters with records better than two minutes, viz: Lee Axworthy (1.58%), Guy McKinley (1.58%), Mr. McEwin (1.59%), Arion Guy (1.59%), Guy Axworthy's fee is \$2,000.00. Bud Axworthy is a son of this two-minute sire, and a full brother to Lee Axworthy (1.58%), Dan Gentry Lee (2.16%), and Guy Axworthy (2.05%). Bud Axworthy has extreme speed, he has been halter in one minute flat, on a clay track, and quarters on ice, in 1929, in 2 1/2 seconds. He is a bright bay, sound and kind. Guy McKinley (3) (2.04%), (4) (1.58%), World's Champion (1 year old trotter 1926) son of Guy Axworthy and half brother to Lee Axworthy and half brother to Bud Axworthy, Guy McKinley fee \$200.00, winner of Hamiltonian stake No. 1, the richest purse ever won by a harness horse. Does it pay to breed to the best, when you are getting the service for the fee of an ordinary road horse? Bud Axworthy colts are worthy of note as they are large in size, well made with the best of feet and legs. Perfectly clever in every way, 2 year olds weighing 825 lbs. to 850 lbs. in road cart shafts. Needless to say anything further. Bud Axworthy's speed for he has as much speed as his full brother Lee Axworthy (1.58%), Bud worked a full mile over Alberton track in 1930 in 2:11, the last 1/2 in 1:01 1/2 to a road cart. Minnie Axworthy, Bud's first colt (3) year old won her race in Summerside in 1930 and won 2nd money in Charlottetown winning the 3rd heat in 2:24 1/2. Mr. Frank Metherald has just sold a 2 year old for the sum of \$300.00, full brother to Minnie Axworthy. Does it pay to breed to the right horse's come and see him. Guy Axworthy sired a two-year-old that got a mark of 2:07 in 1929 and sold for \$25,000; and Mr. McEwin, a half brother to Bud Axworthy, had a two-year-old that won nine races in 1929, and got a mark of 2:03 1/2, the world's champion two-year-old trotter in a race. BUD AXWORTHY will leave the owners stable Monday 4th for George McNeill's, Kensington, noon, thence through Margate to Mr. E. J. Anderson's Stanley Bridge overnight, Tuesday, May 18th, through Hope River and New Glasgow to Mr. Norman Ling's, Wheatley River, at noon; thence to Farquharson's, Liberty, Charlottetown, remaining till Thursday morning, May 21st; thence to Bonshaw noon; thence to Mr. Proffitt's, Victoria, overnight; Friday, May 21st, from noon; thence to Charles Crossman's, Cape Traverse, overnight; Saturday, May 22nd, to John Davidson's, Bellevue, noon; thence home to Owner's Stable, Summerside, Monday, May 23rd, to William McGregor's, Lot 16, noon; thence across Ferry via Park Hill to Wm. McNeill's, Tyne Valley, overnight; Tuesday, May 24th, thence to Harry O'Brien's, Alberton, overnight; Wednesday, May 25th, to Mr. Frank Metherald's, Cape Wolfe, noon and overnight till Thursday morning, May 26th, to O'Leary at or near Verne Matthews' overnight; Friday morning, May 27th, to George Wm. Robinson's, Mt. Pleasant, overnight; Saturday, May 28th, to John Small's, Miscouche, noon; thence to Summerside remaining at owner's stable until Monday, May 31st. These trotters will be continued fortnightly throughout the season, health and weather permitting, in a race. Terms: \$15.00 for season, \$5.00 at time of service, \$10.00 November 1st. Or \$25.00 to insure, \$5.00 at time of service, \$20.00 March 1st, 1932. Mares at Owners risk. JAMES T. WAITE, Owner.

Spinning and Weaving

Send me your wool to be spun into yarn and wove into blankets. Single yarn is 25 cents and doubled 26 cents per pound. Blanket \$2.25; it takes five lbs. of wool to make a blanket. They will all be laundered unless ordered otherwise. Wool must be well washed and all dirt and burrs picked out. The size of single yarn is medium and double yarn, fine, medium and coarse. Put shipper's name on all parcels and owner's name, address and instructions inside; otherwise we will not be responsible for losses. Send by mail or freight. Freight will be paid on 100 lbs. W. M. LANDRIGAN, 65 Queen Street, Charlottetown, 4327-5-1-thurs4months

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