

THE FARM

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times before they blossom, after which they are killed. The potato bug (Colorado beetle) and the blight are the chief troubles of the potato grower, for the former Paris green is applied three times during the growing season, and about half the farmers make the last two applications in conjunction with the Bordeaux mixture for the prevention of blight. The harvesting of the early crop begins about the middle of September, and of the main crop about October 10th. The picking is generally done by a gang of from four to eight who go from farm to farm during the digging season. The potatoes are dumped into a two-wheeled cart, and hauled direct to market or to the place of storage, which is almost always the cellar of the farm house. They are tipped into it through a hatchway and shovelled back into large bins, where they remain till they are used by the farmer himself or hauled away to market. Large quantities of them are used by the farmer himself or hauled away to market. Large quantities of them are used by the farmer for the feeding of pigs, sheep, and, if the price is low, of cattle. No steps have yet been taken by the Department of Agriculture of the Island to facilitate the marketing of potatoes.

When ducklings are reared with a hen there is no better system than to have a butch shaped coup with a wooden bottom over which can be spread a little dry soil and chaff. To this can be attached a pan about 6 ft. long and 3 ft. wide. The coup is set back to the south, and with the run to the north of it. Thus the boarding shades a part of the run, and if that is not sufficient a sack can be laid over half of the rest during the heat of the day. The coup and run must be moved once daily on to clean short grass. There is often an orchard

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near to the house, which is most suitable for the purpose. On the ducklings are old enough at three weeks old in late spring, they can be transferred to a wired run of by a fifty yard roll of wire netting a yard long. This can be erected in a few minutes.

The wire must be pegged to the ground, so that they cannot creep under. With a small movable poultry house set in the middle of the run, the youngsters will do splendidly. Very large runs are not advisable, as they race too much from one end to the other. The best kind of a feeding trough is of the nature of a rack, so that they can only get their heads in. The same applies to the water trough, as it is necessary for them to get their heads in so as to keep the nostrils clean.

They should always have clean water before them, renewed several times a day. When feeding they like to run backwards and forwards from the food to the water. Earlier in the year, when the weather is cold, they are best housed for a few weeks in a light roomy shed, on an earth floor, which is kept covered with short straw and kept quite dry and clean.

Ducklings which are reared artificially used the same heat as chicks to start with, that is about 90 degrees, but they can be cooled down more rapidly. A similar run can be attached to the brooder, and the ducklings can be transferred to the large runs when they can do without heat. The floor of the brooder can be covered with dry sand and hay seeds, but there should be a greater proportion of the hay seeds (or very fine chaff), ducklings being much more inclined to peck it solid than to scratch it up. For food there can be chicken meal and wheat, or such food as we give to a laying hen. But it pays to give them puddings, made of wheat, rice, groats cooked in milk, once daily for the first month. The proportion of animal food required is greater than with chickens.

They will be better for plenty of variety of green food. Any of the cabbage tribe can be cooked and mixed in the mash will be found that this supply of green and animal food gets them not only heavier but forward in the feather than when they are chiefly fed upon grain. Very early in the season, when the prices are ranging high it may be best to sell at eight weeks old, but buyers require more weight later. When catching to examine the state of the feathers begin to come in freely, they by the neck. They should be marketed at the least sign of the appearance of the pin feathers. If these are allowed to get long and the second growth of feathers begin to come in freely, they go off in flesh, both in weight and quality.—George A. Palmer, in Farmer and Stockbreeder.

BUILD A GREENHOUSE.

There are doubtless a large number of people both in the city and country who would enjoy a small greenhouse where they could grow plants during the Winter, but who dismiss the thought of building one with the idea that the cost is prohibitive. A small greenhouse, however, can be attached to a dwelling house at comparatively small cost, provided the owner does the work himself.

The simplest type of greenhouse is the "lean-to," a shed-like house, which may be attached to the south side of a dwelling or other building. A greenhouse of this kind 10 by 16 feet will cost for materials \$75 and up. Where second hand material can be secured this figure may be reduced. If wooden construction is used, most of the material can be secured locally but if the more durable iron construction is wanted, the framework will have to be ordered from one of the greenhouse companies.

In building such a house the foundation and outside walls are best made of concrete or brick, though board walls with a "dear air space" will serve. These should be built two and a half or three feet above the floor level. On top of the walls is placed glass sash, making the height from the floor to the eaves five or six feet. The glass for the roof should be 16 by 24 inch double strength to give a maximum of light and guard against breakage. Ample provision must be made for ventilation.

The greenhouse may be heated by the same system used in heating the dwelling or a specially designed heater found on the market may be used. Hot water or steam heat is best for the greenhouse.

Such a greenhouse can be used for several purposes, and if properly handled can be made to pay divi-

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dents. In addition to furnishing flowers, bedding plants, etc., for the owner, plants like geraniums, coleus, pansies, astors, tomatoes and cabbage may be grown to supply the demand that will come for such plants in the Spring, when those living in the neighborhood learn that they can be had. Moreover, the greenhouse furnishes a pleasant place to work during days in the Winter when there is little that can be done outside.

PLANTS THAT MAKE ONE WELL.

A weed has been defined as a plant when occupying its rightful place, is a most valuable plant very often.

Throughout the summer at one time or another the various weeds will be in prime condition and I would like to make mention of a half-dozen medicinal ones, a knowledge of which would save many a family doctor's bills, avert much suffering, and the users would be far better off by the occasional use of these simples than if they resorted to the druggist for some nostrum.

The roots, leaves and flowers are all used. When roots are to be collected, those of annuals should be dug just before blossoming, while biennials or perennials plant roots should be dug in early spring or autumn. In short, gather the roots when the plant is resting, for if they are gathered dur-

ing the plant's growing season they are deficient in medicinal properties, for the reason that the strength of the plant is then being expended in flowering and fruitage.

After the roots are gathered they should be washed clean and be placed on clean, airy shelves to dry.

When the leaves and flowers are to be gathered locate good, clean, thrifty plants during the summer and then when the time comes to gather them, which will be when just nicely in bloom, you'll know just where to get them. Cut off the plants a few inches above the ground and take them home and hang them up in a cool, shady, clear place. When thoroughly dry or cured, place in clean paper bags, securely tied, and properly labelled, and hang away in a safe place till needed.

The Dandelion.—This is perhaps our commonest weed. If it were less common it would be worth its weight in gold. The dandelion is an exotic, having come to us, like so many other good things, from Europe. It has a long, perennial tap-root, which serves as a great trunk-line for gathering nourishment from the soil. It is a gross feeder, and, of course, a bad occupant in our fields and meadows, but it is, nevertheless, a most excellent plant. The root and flowers of the plant are both used. The root is very bitter, but is invaluable as a tonic, aperient and diuretic, toning the liver and kidneys. Used freely as a drink when diges-

tion is at a low ebb and dyspepsia threatens, there is soon a change for the better. The dropsical may drink it with benefit.

Boneset.—This magnificent weed makes a delightful clean bitter, is gently laxative, always fever and is tip top for breaking up a cold, and generally, if you feel under the weather, a few days' use of a decoction of boneset will put you "right with the world." It is markedly effective where the body is racked with influenza and rheumatism.

Yarrow.—The decoction may be taken internally and applied externally to sores. It is good to break up a cold.

Yellow Dock is a capital drug purifier and a specific in all bilious attacks and skin eruptions.

Mullein.—This weed is highly commended for consumption. A decoction of it builds up the strength, removing the inflammation from the lungs and heals them.

The leaves smoked for asthma, relieves the patient, while the pipe gets choked up.

Smartweed.—A pleasant tea, slightly stimulating and useful to break up a cold, is made from this herbaceous weed.

Pennyroyal.—This perennial plant of our woods and pastures has warm, aromatic and stimulating properties. Excellent for colic, spasms and flatulency. It promotes perspiration. Catnip.—A weak nervine is made

from this plant, which is much fed to babies as it warms and soothes and is entirely harmless.

There are many other weeds, equally beneficial. If you know others, well and good, but if you are strangers to the foregoing be so no longer, but lay in a supply for this winter's use, and hang up this list to jog your memory.

GOOD ROAD FACTS

A community can safely be judged by the kind of highways it maintains. The greatest chasm between the producer and the consumer is the

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mud hole. There is something radically wrong with the farmer, who is opposed to good roads.

Without good roads there can be no development that will be permanent and enduring.

The elementary principles involved in improved highways are social and domestic happiness and business economics.—Maritime Farmer.

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Wake Up! Prince Edward Island! This World War Demands the Supreme Effort of a United Empire Shall Our Province Fall Behind

It should not be supposed that contributions of three or four hundred men a few odd dollars, some bags of oats and boxes of socks constitute our rightful sacrifice. So far not more than a handful of people in all this country have any actual realization of what the war means. These few have given their husbands or their sons to the cause of Empire. The remainder have done nothing in comparison with their abilities and their opportunities.

Our national life, our peace, our prosperity and our happiness are so dependent upon the well-being of the British Empire that only by playing our part in that Empire can we maintain our fortunate position.

Up to the present ninety-nine per cent. of us do not realize what sacrifice means, nor what is being endured by those nearer to the firing line than we are. We must give, not only of our material wealth, but of our blood, and not niggardly, but with a generous hand.

None of us wish to part with our husbands and our children, but it is better that they should serve the Empire and save our homes than that our enemies should triumph and all that we hold dear be taken from us.

"For Romans in Rome's quarrel Spared neither land nor gold, Nor son nor wife, nor limb nor life, In the brave days of old."

The 55th Regiment still requires two hundred men from this Province. These men must be furnished at once, and must be recruited from P. E. Island homes. We cannot ask strangers to take our places. The duty before us is clear, however hard the part may seem. Some will lose their lives; others will be maimed; many will return.

MEN OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—Once upon a time there was a man who said that he would rather be a live coward than a dead hero.

What is Your Choice at the Present Time? The Question is Up to You Today!

RECRUITING OFFICERS:

Major C. Leigh, Heavy Brigade, C. A. Captain W. C. Cook, Adjutant Light Horse