

# 'RE-CREATE!' TIME SPENT IN RECREATION IS GOOD INVESTMENT

BY J. W. BURGESS.

Before me lies a letter from the wife of a farmer in which is this passage: "It is seldom that my husband and myself take a vacation. We do not feel that we can afford it. I cannot understand how so many afford it. They usually come home more tired than they go. I can rest better in my own home if I can get my work done so that I can take the time."

Oh, the pity of it! Can you not see the colorless lives of those two; the ceaseless grind, grind, grind, days merging into weeks, these into months, months into years, with life and the whole world circumscribed by the boundaries of their little farm and the rising and setting of the sun! They even question the economic right of other people to let go of the plow handles and put away the dish mop for a little while. They regard such action as sheer waste of time. They have fallen utterly to grasp the problem of life in its larger aspect. Not consciously selfish, they are living for themselves alone, and for themselves not well. They are a type. In the busy parts of the city I have heard men boast they had not been away from business for a day in twenty years, and when asked why, the answer has been invariably the same: "Can't afford it."

Hardly less pathetic than the above letter is this one from another part of the country: "In my twenty-two years of married life I have had two vacations. When we had been married two years we took a carriage drive of forty miles, taking in a fair and visiting relatives on the way; we were gone six days. Eighteen years later, when my husband was in the legislature, I went back with him and stayed a week." Thirteen days away from home in twenty-two years!

But even worse than this is a third letter: "I have been married twenty-four years and have never made a visit of more than a day away from home, with one exception, when I visited my sister for one week." Think of that! One week in twenty-four years!

It has never occurred to these people to look at this question from the other view-point. It is not a question of whether they can afford to take recreation, but whether they can afford not to take recreation. "Wear out but not rust out," is good as far as it goes. But a lot of people are wearing out and rusting out at the same time and the dual process brings an early ending.

Recreation is as essential to the mental, physical and moral development of the human being as is food, drink and proper protection from the elements. The life of the locomotive which seldom gets to the shop for overhauling and repairs is short, while the life of the locomotive which goes into the shops at the end of every run is almost indefinite. The human machine is not different from any other machine. To secure its greatest efficiency it has got to be well oiled, well handled and protected from undue strains and neglect.

Recreation comes from the word re-create—to make new. It does not necessarily mean an expensive trip, but rather a change of scene, or occupation, the inspiration of new thoughts and putting aside of old thoughts and commonplace, everyday duties for something quite out of the monotonous routine. Perhaps what this means cannot be better expressed than in the following extract, a letter from one of our Western farm wives:

"At times during the summer we find leisure for a several days' fishing trip with friends, a very pleasant diversion during the season of hard work. Last summer we spent a week with the children camping. Every few years my husband and I enjoy a trip for pure pleasure and sightseeing. This is usually of several weeks' duration. The children will have such opportunities later in life. Just now occasional visits to some friends in the city, picnics, or a day or afternoon off for fishing, are sufficient reasons for better and more willing service."

Make this woman's experience your own. You owe it to your health, Mr. Farmer, you owe it to your wife, you owe it to your neighbors, to take some form of recreation and to see that your wife participates in it.

It is commonly stated that people are rated by their bank account only. This is largely true, much to the detriment of society.

We wish to call your attention, especially the attention of young men, to the bank account and its significance.

Start a bank account, even if you have but a few dollars to put in now and then. The young farm hand has little expense and his earnings should be almost clear profit. The place for every dollar of surplus is in the bank. When it has accumulated in sufficient amount then buy land. But you will never get the land unless you have first formed the habit of saving by putting money in the bank.

Banking has a peculiar influence upon a man. It creates a desire to see his account grow. He at once begins to save money although his necessary expenses are the same as before he opened the account.

With money in the pocket one is sure to spend it foolishly, unless he be a miser by nature. With money in the bank the temptation is removed and the foolish spending is almost stopped.

The wage earner's money is not lost or spent in large sums. It simply slips away in little dribs that are unnoticed at the time. Stop the leak by opening a bank account, and then see if you can't get up a rivalry with some other young man to see who can show the most money in the bank in a year.

When enough has been saved to make a safe investment in farm lands then do that, but refrain from spending it for a horse and buggy, dressy traps and senseless habits. You will be a man in your own estimation and in the eyes of all who know you a great deal quicker by carrying a bank book than by having the best horse and buggy in the country.

It is generally conceded that the farmers of this country are very conservative and clear thinkers. They have won the name because the ones who do the thinking are so conspicuous and because those who do not think stay in the background.

One would naturally suppose that the life of a farmer would develop thinking, and it does in many cases, yet there are many who do not learn how to think clearly. They seem to go along in a rut, doing things as their fathers did before them. They will not read—and right here is the secret. Reading stimulates thought. He is dull indeed who is a constant reader of good farm papers and is not a clear thinker.

You will find men who swallow everything they read until they have mental dyspepsia and suffer financial loss. They become sworn enemies of advanced agriculture, the press and the school. Instead of their reading doing them good it has done them harm.

One has to do some thinking along with his reading. He must reason things out, see if they fit his conditions. While he rides the plow or harvests he can be digesting the things he reads in his farm paper.

There is much room for improvement in arranging buildings, and planting trees and shrubs on the grounds about the house. A lack of division between the farm home grounds and the barn yards is one of the chief causes of lack of attractiveness about so many farm houses. If buildings are already in place, it is possible in most instances to locate the hog yard, calf pens and poultry yards at a point most remote from the house. Then put a street three or four rods wide between the house and the barns and plant shrubs or low growing trees along border of street next to barns. In time a permanent screen will be provided that will shut out any objectionable view from the house.

Where grounds are being laid out an arrangement is to have the home lot on one side of public highway and the barnyards and business side of the farm on the other, not directly in front of each other, having slope if possible from house toward barns.

This is a good time to use paint liberally. Remember that a well kept country home means from \$5 to \$10 more per acre when it comes to the selling time. More home beauty, brethren, means a more contented and happy family. Think on these things now.

Watch the growing crop for indications of lack of soil fertility. In a general way one may know what parts of a field need manuring; but a walk through the growing grain will tell the story in very plain language. Every spot where plant food is lacking shows in both color of grain and height of straw; places that should have been drained are called to one's attention; places that need more water, which can be furnished in a way by supplying plenty of vegetable matter to the soil, all these have their story to tell.

"I'll make a note of all that when harvest time comes," do you say? No, you won't; you'll be too busy.

He felt that he was working too hard for the pay received; he knew better than the boss how the work should be laid out; he caroused on Sunday was fired to the world Monday; he was jealous of the other hired men—he got tired!

He had no regular hours; he shifted teams from one man to another; he spent his time in town; he had plenty of spare room in the house but gave the hired man the best bed in the hay loft; he grumbled about trifles—his hired man quit.

## DAIRYING TAKING CARE OF THE HEIFER CALF: BREEDING HINTS

Chicago Milk Dealers in Hold-Up Game.

COWS AS FERTILIZERS.

BY T. C. KARNES.

Wm. T. Read wants to know how to feed the heifer calf for milk production and the age for dropping her first calf.

In reply I would say that plants or animals result in best specimens in their feeding system. A starved plant or a starved calf will be stunted and make a runt. This is a well known fact.

The calf should have all "first milk" from its mother as a medicine or for sake of digestion. Whether it does this or drinks it does not matter much. Some dairymen think the calf learns the art of drinking best by beginning at once.

Give the calf whole milk for at least ten days if not two weeks. Feed three times a day for that period and then twice, but increase the quantity. Introduce skim milk gradually, a pint at a time, till the change is made. Stir a teaspoonful of flaxseed meal and oil-meal into each skim milk feed to take the place of the absent butter fat. The oil meal tends to prevent scours. Of course, whole milk is better for the calf.

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Handle Fruit Tenderly and Avoid Killing Buds.

SOMETHING IN STRAWBERRIES.

BY WESLEY J. GRIFFEN.

Now when nature is putting forth every twig, leaf or bud, if not located to suit the system of training, it should be removed. The wound will soon heal and a new bud will put out in another place, which will, when developed, make the tree a shapely one.

The surplus buds rubbed off just as they start out will leave no scar.

This is a good time to examine the cherry trees, plum and quinces for aphides (plant lice). These soft bodied insects, of which there are many colors and which prey on nearly all fruit trees, shrubs and vines, are easily destroyed. A solution of tobacco made of stems boiled down until a dark brown extract is obtained, put on with a sprayer with a fine nozzle. One thorough application is sufficient.

Be careful in picking the cherries that the fruit buds for next year's crop are not injured. A great deal of the crop may be destroyed by pulling off the stems in bunches. The best way to pick them is to have a small pair of blunt pointed scissors and clip the stems.



THE MINNESOTA CHAMPION COW.

Northfield, Minnesota, is the home of Ester Piebe De Kol, No. 66,791, the champion cow of Minnesota. Ester is a young cow six years old and produced 108.9 lbs. of milk in one day; 747 lbs. in seven days and 2,885 lbs. in thirty days. While the writer does not know the exact weight of the cow as Mr. Schilling, the owner, did not care to disturb her while on the test to get her milk, it is safe to say she does weigh over 1,300 lbs. in good working condition.

Thin the fruit.—Next to good cultivation, nothing contributes more to the size and quality of fruit, and to give it a handsome appearance, than thinning the young fruit on the tree. If crowded it is small and often comparatively worthless, overbearing always injures the growth of the tree. Practice thinning.

The Raspberries.—Pay close attention to the pinching off of the tips of the vines when they are about two feet tall, then you will have nice tree shaped bushes instead of long straggling vines laying on the ground.

As soon as fruiting is over, cut out all old canes and young shoots, but three or four of the strongest. This gives those left a chance to develop into good vines and to have a good growth of vine.

Grapes.—Cut back straggling shoots. Let the strength go into a few, the fruit bunches will be larger and more compact. Bag a goodly number of bunches. They are awfully nice after you get them home. It keeps the insects off and prevents decay.

It takes a great deal of moisture to produce a good growth of wood in the fruit tree so do not let any waste by fruit toward starting up fertility in the ground. If you cannot cultivate, keep the ground covered with a mulch of cut grass or rotten straw.

Nothing that will do more good toward starting up fertility in the soil and putting an orchard in proper shape than a crop of cowpeas in latitudes where this legume will grow. Give them a wide row, and let them make such a fine place to turn in a few hogs. Then the vines turned under do much good.

The strawberry king, H. Jerolman, says: "The strawberry is a vigorous feeder, and should have plenty of plant food when it needs it most. Put it on liberally. Spade or plow it under and work the soil until it is well distributed."

In the famous strawberry section about Hilton, N.J., many growers set out new beds the last of July or early August. Beds thus set are fruited the following year.

Immediately after the crop is harvested, which usually ends about the middle of July, the strawberry mulch is raked off and the soil worked with a hoe or rake. Runners for new plants are put out and layered in the usual way. As soon as they are large enough they are set out in the new beds.

After the plants are started, put some fine, well-rotted manure or compost around each plant. This may be troublesome but it pays. It not only fertilizes the plant, but protects it during the winter. My rows are 2 feet 10 inches apart and the plants are every 15 inches in the row. With this method I have no trouble in getting 6000 to 8000 quarts an acre."

If the plants are set during a hot, dry spell, they should be watered. Mr. Jerolman always puts a pint of rain water to each plant. After dropping the roots in the hole made with the hand, the water is poured in, and the dirt drawn around the plant. Each plant should be shaded in hot weather during the middle of the day after it is set, at least two days. Strawberry baskets are turned upside down over each

## HORTICULTURE THIS YEAR'S CARE WILL HELP NEXT YEAR'S CROPS

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## POULTRY LATE HATCHERS NOT ALTOGETHER UNPROFITABLE

Turkeys Will Be Late and Scarce; Kerosene's Uses.

SITTING HENS IN SUMMER.

BY IDA E. TILSON.

Late Hatches.—These are not generally advised, but this season has been so peculiarly late, cold and unfortunate, that many must raise late chicks, or none. If late chicks have to be raised, they must be raised with care and attention. They are well fed, they make good Thanksgiving fowl, and are prompt layers next spring, when in the months of March, and April, they often pay for their whole raising.

Turkey Lice.—Turkeys will be late and scarce, too. Much greasing of turkey poulters sometimes kills the poulters quicker than lice. Use only a little on top of heads. Rely on lice powders to keep the pests away, and keep the poulters clean from common fowls. Chickens naturally have more lice and can stand them better than do poulters.

Uses of Kerosene.—Kerosene is death to mites and lice. If sprayed on walls, roosts, and corners. Except when setting hens there, sprinkle the bottom of nest boxes with it, and cover with a heavy coating of straw. If kerosene is used freely on roosts once a week, there will be no scaly legs, either. Apply in the morning, so there may not be the other extreme of too much oil getting on legs, causing lame fowls. One tablespoon of kerosene in a pint of lard is a good ointment, in limited quantities, on the heads of chicks and poulters. With a half teaspoon of sulphur added, we have a good ointment for faces and nostrils of adult fowls. When the weather is cold, feed a tablespoon of kerosene in three quarts of warm mash. It will put new life in chickens. We do not ordinarily put enough grease in our poulters' feeds. It aids digestion. When fowls begin to sneeze and show signs of cold or roup, use a tablespoon of kerosene to a gallon of water for drinking purposes. The oil floats. If no other drinking water is allowed, it laves and cleanses the nose and throat.

The Remedies.—Crystals of permanganate of potash added to drinking water till the water begins to grow reddish, is also a good canker remedy. Whitewash prevents both parasites and diseases. The government whitewash is fresh hydraulic cement of any good standard kind (not the costly imported kind), three parts, and one part of clean, fine sand mixed well with cold water and immediately applied. In its application, the walls are first wet with water, which makes its adhesion to the wash stronger than to a dry surface. Thus applied, it adheres well, and has not so glaring a look as a wash made from lime.

White Diarrhea of Chicks.—The Health of Animals Department of the Agricultural Department in investigating this disease, finds that most of the suffering chicks have their bowels distended with undigested egg-yolk, so nothing can pass them. Many of these chicks are anatomically imperfect, and nothing can be done, says the report. I will add that too early feeding of new-hatched chicks, in my opinion, often causes this trouble. Wait till they are at least 36 or 48 hours old. The disease is certainly more prevalent in cold, unsettled weather, and ceases, no doubt, to throw birds from surface clog bowels and render them inactive.

Catarrh of the Bowels.—Mrs. J. G. G.

A number of my hens have died this spring. I have changed their feed and saved none all that I know for them, but the trouble still continues. They first become lame in one leg, then have bowel trouble and lose all use of themselves, and die in about a week. Some die suddenly and some have the same symptoms without the lameness. What will help them?"

Ans.—By Mrs. Tilson.—The disease

co-operate when we buy, goods can be bought more cheaply. If farmers will take this hint and co-operate in draining their lands, better drainage systems can be laid out than are possible, and a man who owns a farm through which a natural water course passes is required to tile his land as best he can.

The value of sulphate of ammonia as a fertilizer was demonstrated in some German tests where much land were fertilized with nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia. With both soils and better the plants receiving sulphate yielded much more than those receiving nitrate. These results indicate that on marsh lands containing a liberal supply of lime, sulphate of ammonia may be advantageously substituted for nitrate of soda, and confirms the wisdom of the practice common in Germany.

Fertilizers may be divided into two general classes—direct and indirect, or nutritive and stimulant. A direct or nutritive fertilizer is one which furnishes nourishment to the growing crop. Nourishment means simply nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. These are the three ingredients which must be renewed through the medium of manures and fertilizers. A stimulant or indirect fertilizer is one which does not furnish an actual plant food to the soil, but by its stimulating action renders available some plant food which previously existed in the soil in an insoluble or unavailable condition.

In breeding profitable horses care should be taken to select animals known to possess desirable qualities. Vicious mares should not be bred. Every year bad-dispositioned horses send quite a number of persons to premature graves and cripple others, while

the material damage they do is quite considerable.

Lime is a stimulant fertilizer. If the soil is sour an application sweetens it; if too heavy, lightens it; if too light, renders it more compact.

A writer in the Cement World shows the economy points to the use of a tapering post, which, fortunately, offers no difficulties in the way of molding. All things considered, wooden molds will be found most suitable. They can be easily and quickly made in any desired size and form.

According to the writer posts may be molded in either a vertical or horizontal position, the latter being the simpler and better method. If molded vertically a wet mixture is necessary, requiring a longer time to set, with the consequent delay in removing the molds.

A gang mold with a capacity of four posts has been used with much success.

How many men while cutting hay in the sweltering heat remember the motive power of their machine—the horse? If the man gets tired sitting on the machine the chances are that the horse would appreciate a rest. If he gets thirty doing his share of the work about the middle of the morning, perhaps he'll like a swallow of water, take not a great draught, just a little sip to get the bad taste out of their mouths. Chances are they'll glance around after such a treat to see if it's not yet time to start. Try it once—again. Give the suggestion a test. It is worth thoughtful consideration.

is probably catarrh of the bowels. It is probably cholera, but does not come in hot weather, like latter, and is less fatal and contagious. It has been common this spring, but will be less so as warmer weather comes. It is cold on the bowels. Changeable, cold, wet seasons, like the present, are hard on fowls, do one's best. A neighbor who overfed his hen had the same trouble among her flock. Oil meal is nourishing, but should not constitute more than one-twentieth of a pudding or mash. Improperly cured partially decomposed food, or too liberal feeding, help on the trouble. When bowels are already inflamed, a chill is hard on that weak, undefended spot. Give a warm bath, and a little oil meal. Give each sick fowl a white of an egg, poured down her throat whole, unbeaten. Make lime water for fowls to drink, just slightly milk looking. After a day or two, change to baking soda water, a teaspoon to a quart of

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## AGRICULTURE CO-OPERATION THE KEY TO SUCCESS IN IRRIGATION

Drainage Necessitates Joint Action by Neighbors.

MAMMES FOR CHEAPER PURCHASE.

BY OTTO O. UHLHORN.

By drainage is meant not the digging of one or two open ditches for the purpose of carrying off surplus water, but the installation of a good and efficient tile drainage system. Install a system that will keep the land in that state of porosity during wet seasons that no surface water will collect on any part of the farm and all surface water which may collect in sloughs and ponds will be removed within 24 hours after the rain has ceased, should there ever come one heavy enough to fill the depressions in spite of the tile. Such a system cannot always be installed by one man, for he may not have an outlet for his tile on his own land, and, if he had, he might by so doing cause damage to lands lying below. Therefore, the property owners should consider the tile or water course as common property, and the water flowing over the same as a common attacking enemy. They should consider that the way to combat a common enemy is by uniting their forces and making a common defense. They should co-operate by laying a main tile large enough to drain both surface and ground water of the whole farm.

Co-operation has proved to be of value to the elevator and creamery men, by enabling them to secure better prices for their products, thus proving that in unity there is strength. Through co-operation better prices can be secured when we sell, does it not seem reasonable to assume that if we

co-operate when we buy, goods can be bought more cheaply. If farmers will take this hint and co-operate in draining their lands, better drainage systems can be laid out than are possible, and a man who owns a farm through which a natural water course passes is required to tile his land as best he can.

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