

Soils and Crops

Address communications to Agronomist, 73 Adelaide St. West, Toronto

Storing Seed Corn.

As soon as the corn ripens, go through the field with seed-picking bags and husk the ears from the stalks that have produced the best corn without having had special advantages such as space, moisture, or fertility.

Avoid large ears on stalks standing singly, with an unusual amount of space around them. Late-maturing plants with ears which are heavy because of an excessive amount of sap should be ignored.

All other things being equal, choose ears from short, thick stalks. These are not so easily blown down, permit thicker planting and, in general, are more productive than slender ones.

Immediately after the seed-corn is gathered, the husked ears should be put in a dry place where there is free circulation of air. Do not let ears touch each other. Good seed is repeatedly ruined, because it is thought to be dry enough when gathered.

The best possible treatment immediately after gathering is to string the ears and hang them in an open shed or loft. Wire racks are more convenient and, in the end, cheaper than binder twine.

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Transferring of Bees.

Transferring of bees from one hive to another should be done any time from the beginning of fruit bloom to the end of the clover honey flow. It is not advisable to attempt to transfer bees during the late summer or fall.

By the direct method the combs are cut out from the box hive or gum and the bees brushed from these combs into a modern hive which is placed in the exact location of the old hive.

The slow method is very popular with many beekeepers because of its simplicity. First remove a portion

Poultry

Market poultry requiring fattening must be fattened in coops or pens where they will receive little exercise. Green food is not of value in a fattening ration. In fact, it will only take up room in their crops which is needed for fat-producing foods. Poultry will increase in weight on a diet of

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of the brood comb from the centre of the hive to be transferred, examine it carefully for disease and if any disease is found this colony cannot be transferred by this method. If free from disease, tip the old hive upside down and set the new hive on top, placing a good cover over it. Before placing the new hive on top remove as much of the wood from the sides of the old hive as possible so as to let the light slip in between the combs.

Make Inventory of Farm Flock.
On some farms at this time of the year the poultry flocks consist of two hundred to five hundred birds of all ages. Some will be early hatched stock of good development and vigor.

It pays to check up all the birds at night and know exactly how many of each sex and age are on the farm. This not only helps to control poultry stealing from thieves and other pests but gives the farmer a definite idea of his poultry business for the coming year.

Check over the cockerels and if none are to be saved to sell as breeders, save the best for home use and market the remainder as soon as they reach the broiler age. This will save feed and give the pullets a better opportunity to develop if both sexes are sporting the same range.

The custom of saving all of the pullets causes poultry losses. Young pullets are always in demand by breeders who have not raised enough for their own use. Nothing is gained by keeping too many pullets for the housing capacity when some of them can be turned into cash while giving the remaining birds a chance to earn more cash.

More profit will come from farm poultry raising when the flocks are culled early in the season. The birds to be saved can be banded and then the remainder can be sold as soon as they reach a marketable age, either for broiler meat or breeding stock.

The high-producing hen has a full, bright, waxy comb and wattles. The face is thin and the beak, eye rings, ear lobes and face are pale. The good hen has a full ear lobe and a bright round eye.

Clean, spray and sun the nests. Then fill them with plenty of clean litter. Half empty nests may result in broken eggs and this often teaches hens the egg-eating habit.

Hens have scaly legs because of a parasite which works beneath the scales. Sometimes wiping the legs with a rag soaked in kerosene oil will effect a cure.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON
NOVEMBER 7TH

Principles of Christian Living—St. Matt. 6: 1-7; 12. Golden Text, Matthew 6: 33.

6: 1-18. Take Heed. Jesus would have His followers sincere and modest. He gives no approval or encouragement to loud profession of piety, or to ostentation or boasting in religion. It is the sincere and simple purpose and desire of the heart that God honors, the play-actors, the pretenses, the religion and morality, of whom there were not lacking examples among the Pharisees of His day.

The model prayer which Jesus gave His disciples (6: 9-13) is short, simple and reverent. It begins with petitions that due honor may be given to the name of God, and that His kingdom may come and His will be done among men, and continues then with the presentation of personal needs of daily food and forgiveness of sins and to be kept from temptation to evil.

6: 19-34. Treasures. There is a difference, surely, between laying up that which is necessary for the main-tenance of good life, for food and shelter and clothing for one's self and children, and the hoarding up of treasure upon which one's heart is set. The former seems an imperative duty and even necessity, too much neglected in these extravagant days.

If Thine Eye Be Single. The Revised Version renders correctly, "The lamp of the body is the eye." The eye here represents the spiritual outlook, the way we look upon and regard the world in which we live. If the outlook be clean and sound, if it be free from unhealthy desire, and greed, and mere self-seeking, the whole life will indeed be bright.

Two Masters. The origin and exact meaning of the word mammon is unknown. Augustine, an early Christian scholar, said that it was a Phoenician word meaning "gain." It may have been used as a title of the god of wealth. Service, Jesus declared, must be rendered to God divided allegiance. One or the other, God or gain, must be first and supreme.

Take No Thought. The Revised Version renders "Be not anxious." The word "thought" in the English of three or four hundred years ago often meant anxiety. Christ does not teach sowing and reaping and ingathering, but that with all this there should be simple trust in the goodness of the heavenly Father, who feeds the birds and clothes the lilies.

Here again the injunction is to put God first, to make Him supreme, to seek before all things to do His will. Seek first the kingdom of God. The best things in human life will come to him who puts the kingdom of God first. Not necessarily wealth, or worldly honor or success, or even long life, but the best will be his. Christ's law, as interpreted by Paul, is that we should be "diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord."

OUT OF SETTING

"What is that square frame leaning against the wall there?" asked one of two boys as they walked down the street.

"That's a window," answered the other. "I saw Mr. George tearing down his workshop the other day. That must be one of the windows that he has brought home for some purpose. Let's go across the street and see."

So across the street the two boys went to examine the object of their conversation.

"Well, it is a window, as I thought." "A window!" exclaimed the other. "It is a funny looking window. I think. You cannot see anything through it. I thought a window was to look out of. It does not keep out the cold. It does not let in the light. I thought that was one of the main things windows were for. It does not give us any security. It is not a part of a house at all. It just stands there all by itself. I do not see how you could have a window without a house. A window cannot be a window standing all by itself. Maybe it was a window once, and it may be a window again; if Mr. George builds his garage in the back yard and puts this frame in one of the walls; but I do not see how you can call it a window now."

structing a building, fully framed together, and He has a place in that building for every one of us. We can be what He meant us to be, only by filling the place that He means for us to fill. Standing alone, you may be the frame of a man, but not until you have found your place in Christ are you a true man as God defines men.

Are you satisfied, then, to go through life alone, the frame of a man but not a man, because you have not

found your place in the plan and purpose of God? You cannot grow into a man outside of Christ any more than a window frame will become a window while leaning against the wall, but you will surely and truly become a man by finding your place in Him.

There is a place and a great need for true men, and there is One who is able to construct true manhood; but it is not possible to be a true man outside of Jesus Christ. God has made us, every one. He has made us, not to stand by ourselves, but to live in Christ Jesus. That was the purpose, the plan, of God. He is con-

Marketing Windfallen Apples

We always had more or less trouble getting rid of windfall apples. Quite often neighbors who had no fruit came along and we gave them many of these apples, and still do, but there is bound to be a surplus in bountiful years overcrowning our generosity.

We have at times turned the pigs into the orchard for a few hours each week, after gathering the best fruit, and let them clean up the surplus. It was a wasteful method, to our thinking, when people were hungry for apples.

It remained for a millhand from the city to solve the problem two years ago. He came out in an automobile to get some canning apples, and asked us what we did with our windfalls. We told him, and he said he would give us thirty cents a bushel for some of them, for he knew where a neighbor near him had a hand-press, and he would make them into cider for a gallon. We soon bargained, and to our surprise, when he came back the next day he brought four other millhands with him, and they took away in burlap bags all they could haul. They came back several times, and brought other workmen from the factory, and kept our orchard cleaned all fall of the objectionable windfalls, which we had not time to take care of in our labor in getting the good fruit cared for and marketed. This season we shall again depend upon these men, for we know they must be getting out of vinegar by this time.

Every Man's Business.

The family is a man's first and most important business. It should be established and run as a business. It should be protected against bankruptcy.

The death of the head of a family should no more bring about its impairment or dissolution than does the death of the head of a bank, a store, or a railroad.

Why, then, should not the business called a family be protected against the earning capacity of the breadwinner? Why is it not fully as reasonable to protect the family as to back up every foreign bill of exchange with a marine insurance certificate? The voyage in the first instance is certainly much longer, surrounded with much greater hazards, and in the case of shipwreck the consequences are definitely more serious.

Why should not the value of one's life be capitalized and protected when we are so careful about insuring our buildings and tangible goods. Certainly the value of the life is far the most important in the great majority of instances. Don't you think so? Is it not foolish for a man to put capital into himself and to build up his earning capacity, gradually from year to year, and then suddenly have all this value snuffed out?

Such values should be capitalized, and from the standpoint of the family such capitalization becomes a sacred duty. Dr. Talmage once said in referring to a person who had this matter explained to him, and who nevertheless refuses to adequately capitalize his earning capacity for the benefit of dependents: "He does not die, he absconds."

Don't be like the farmer who carelessly sows thistle seed and later complains because of a mixed harvest.

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Save Your Cancelled Cheques

A number of years ago I had a settlement with a merchant with whom I had kept a running account for several years. Sometimes I paid the merchant by cheque; at other times I directed that my purchases be charged. Finally there came the time when I decided to close the account and start anew on a cash basis. The merchant gave me an itemized statement. This I compared with my cancelled cheques.

I found every item correct but one—a charge of \$10 that had clearly been paid by cheque. I showed the item to the merchant. He located the purchase easily and called my attention to the fact that it had been marked "Charged." However, my cheque bearing his indorsement was indisputable evidence that he had received the money. He credited me with an additional \$10.

I have found it a wise precaution to retain my cancelled cheques for several years. Nobody can tell in advance just when a cheque may be required as evidence. It is the safest means of guarding against paying an account the second time. My wife is as careful as I am in keeping her cheques. Recently she escaped the second paying of an interest charge because she had the cancelled cheque to show.

Always date your cheques accurately. Without the date the cheque as a receipt is only half good. It is a good plan to note somewhere upon the cheque the purpose for which it was given.

In these long autumn evenings read some good book on your job—farming or housekeeping. Or, if you have a hobby, get a book on that. Learn all there is to know about poultry, for instance, or violet raising, or rug-making, or textiles.

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