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The following is one of many similar letters **The Public** is continually receiving from its Canadian and Old Country readers.

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Gentlemen: Herewith please find enclosed postal order for \$1.50 being amount of my subscription and foreign postage to the best paper on the North American Continent, and for the money the best, cleanest and most informative paper in the English speaking world. This is an expression of opinion from a close student of American newspapers for the past twenty-four years and English, Australian, New Zealand and other British papers for the past forty years. Good luck always to you and Mrs. Post and his associates and more power to his pen.
Yours very truly,
EDWARD C. WEATHERLY

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HORTICULTURE

Our Cover Crops

J. McMein, Simcoe Co., Ont.
If all of Ontario is anything like Simcoe County there will be more orchards cultivated this year than in previous years in the orchards of fruit growers in Ontario. Our fruit growers are beginning to find out that the best orchard is not in it with the cultivated one as a money maker. The question that we are now discussing is what cover crop we shall sow and when we shall sow it.

Our standby is red clover seeded about the middle of July at the rate of eight pounds of seed to the acre. Red clover grows rapidly, enriches the soil in nitrogen and when plowed down forms an immense amount of humus that is one of the very essential things in a cultivated orchard. We have heard of cases where red clover made the soil too rich in nitrogen, and a large wood growth, poor fruit and poor ripening of the wood resulted. The fear of anything like this happening in my orchard would not deter my growing red clover, as a couple of crops of grain taken from the orchard would soon right matters. Most of our orchards are suffering from under-fertilization rather than over-fertilization. Another crop that we have used with great success is the vetch, but owing to difficulty in plowing we do not like it as well as clover.

I sow the clover crop in my orchard, which is a clay loam, the middle of July, or as near to that date as weather conditions will permit. On a lighter soil where the moisture is more scanty it would be advisable to delay seeding two or three weeks later, in fact, I have seen some orchard soils so light that I doubt whether it would be advisable to sow a cover crop at all. On heavy soils where there is a surplus of moisture the cover crop might be seeded the first of July. One must use his own judgment.

The Canadian Fruit Crop

The second fruit crop report gotten out by the Fruit Division at Ottawa sums up fruit prospects in Canada as follows:

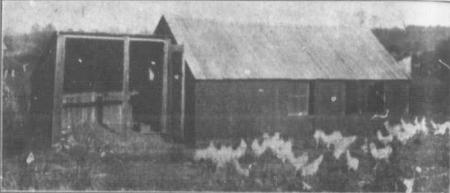
"The prospects for an excellent apple crop are maintained. In eastern Ontario and in parts of Quebec the Tent Caterpillar is doing serious damage. With this exception insect and fungous diseases are perhaps

only normal. The number of well-cared for orchards is on the increase and the results show in the reports of better crops. British Columbia had a very light crop last year and is looking with confidence to a heavy crop this year. Nova Scotia, though it had an exceptionally heavy crop last year, has prospects of almost as good a crop for the present season though there are many contingencies that make the crop still uncertain."

Pears are in good condition, but in many sections of Eastern Canada pear blight has made the pear industry practically a thing of the past. Plums are slightly above the average. In peaches the Niagara district has a good setting of most varieties. South-western Ontario will have a very short crop.

About Spraying Potatoes

Spraying should be commenced when the plants are six or eight inches high, and the treatment repeated at intervals of from 10 to 14 days in order to keep the plants well covered with the Bordeaux Mixture.



A Style of Poultry House that would be Well Adapted to Canadian Farms

The colony poultry house here illustrated is 10 by 20 feet, costs about \$25 to construct and holds 50 to 60 chickens. The open front with the platform in the left hand end makes this house particularly adapted to Canadian conditions. The open shed to the left is for the accommodation of pullets until they reach laying age. See, Tillamash's White Leghorn Ranch, Vernon, Conn.

During epidemics of blight it may be necessary to spray as often as once a week, but usually up to six applications will be profitable.

The Bordeaux should contain four pounds of copper sulphate to each 50 gallons in the first two sprayings, and six pounds to 50 gallons in subsequent sprayings.

The spraying should be thorough, but a heavy spraying once in two weeks will not be as effective as two light weekly sprayings.

If the season is favorable, three sprayings will be sufficient. As a rule, the more sprayings are carried out the greater the profit.

A N. B. Experience

Frank Scott, Honeydale, N. B.
The farm I am now living on was purchased by me a few years ago. It had at that time about 100 apple trees of old varieties, not saleable. I have top grafted part of them and cut down the remainder. In the meantime I have set over 100 young trees, and these are commencing to bear.

For fertilizer I use barnyard manure and ashes, and I try to practice clean cultivation, raising vegetables between the rows. I prune in the spring. I have never sprayed any, and I don't think there is a spraying outfit in this county, but we will have to commence soon as the insect pests are at work. Last season the tent caterpillar was our worst enemy. In the spring of 1911 I set 500 root grafts with the object of raising my own trees for setting.

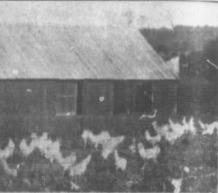
We are well pleased with Farm and Dairy and think it is an up-to-date farm paper.—Peter Muir, Grey Co., Ont.

POULTRY YARD

Skim-Milk for Poultry

J. T. Wilson, Lambton Co., Ont.
During the first two weeks of June our hens, which are pure bred White Leghorns and a few White Wyandottes, were falling in their usual production of eggs. I started feeding skim-milk, and butter milk when procurable. In a few days there was a marked increase; in fact, the increase was about 30 per cent. This shows how by-product of the dairy may be used to good advantage.

During the breeding season, the brooding hens are usually confined in small runs, which do not afford ample ground to feed insects and animal food. Beef scrap is frequently used to supply this deficiency, but by thorough testing, it has been found that the fertility of the eggs is injured by feeding scrap. When milk is used this difficulty is overcome, as it furnishes the animal food required



A Style of Poultry House that would be Well Adapted to Canadian Farms

and does not affect the fertility of the eggs in the least.

Milk in any form is a valuable food for laying hens.

Original and Otherwise

If a thing is worth doing at all, it ought to be done well.

Green food produces fine even-colored feathers. It also saves in the feed bill.

Linseed meal fed to poultry occasionally will keep them in the pink of condition.

Fresh bits of lean meat will keep the brooders vigorous, chicks greening and enables the pullets to lay earlier.

The feeding of poultry should be done with an eye single to profit. Without proper care and housing, it can not be attained.

A little sweet oil will make the shanks of poultry glossy, and if rubbed well into the scales will destroy the scaly-mite.

Poultry diseases are likened to those of the human family,—each requires a specific remedy for its cure. Don't depend too much on the "cure-alls" sold.

Keep that leave their roosting quarters in a "happy hurry kind of a way" are generally those which are healthy—and, if fed judiciously, are profitable.

Keep an eye on the youngsters who have got out in the orchard. Don't let them feed and water. The lack of feed and a little extra care has ruined many promising show birds.

The main thing for consideration in successful poultry culture is health. Lice, stagnant water, lazy fowls, poor feeding and a keeper who is afraid of work don't contribute much towards health in poultry raising.

When summer had they should upon perfectly frequently the just where the cared to the that the handi- is introduced like manner the used without it and lime-washing through clean the rule. away from the because if the l- to the summer will not only fill pre- spirit to l- It is cu- tried to run a- d chickens with longed damp we- the hen is not properly, and so Exercise a little m- after certain W- WATER THE Summer chick- water than sprin- water is not good should be made kept cold. Cold- ed by provid- enare vessels, resels in the sh- especially clear- will frequently.

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