

## MARKETS AND FARM NEWS

PAINTING A HOUSE  
TO MAKE IT NEW

Skim Milk and Cement Filled  
the Cracks and  
Seams.

## PROCESS IS EXPLAINED

Worked Well in This Instance  
and Cost Apparently  
Little.

I am a Brooklyn teacher. My wife and I needed a vacation home, and she found an old ruin of a house and bought it away up in the backwoods of Connecticut. The house needed new walls, and there was a great deal of patching to be done from the cellar foundations up to the very comb of the roof. It had been fairly well built at the first and was made of good stuff, but had been badly neglected for eighty Connecticut winters in complete innocence of paint, says James F. Boydston in The Country Gentleman. Imagine its appearance!

We could not paint until there was something to paint; still the time came when we must paint. The siding was so warped, cracked and weather-beaten that the cost of filling seemed prohibitive. Then a neighbor suggested skim milk and cement. He had not only seen others try it, but he had also tried it himself. It would be fine as a wood filler anyway.

We painted a board or two with the mixture to see if for ourselves. We found it would weather. A hammer blow would not break the wood, breaking thru the paint. Finishing showed that the mixture had penetrated the wood to quite a depth. It seemed feasible, from a chemical standpoint, but as I lined up the dries into a skin that acts as a binder, fastening a white lead coating to the wood, the case would be as a binder that would hold the cement.

We got a bag of cement and some brushes, and a neighbor agreed to let us have the milk at three cents a quart. Careful experimenting showed that five pounds of cement to a gallon of milk was about the right proportion for the work we were doing, and by the same method we found the right amount of method for the shade we wanted—a light buff color.

We soon found that experience in painting was almost a disadvantage. Putting on the mixture with a brush was a trouble at first in keeping the mixture right, for cement is heavy and settles fast. We had to get into a way of painting with one hand and stirring with the other. Finally I found it best to use a whitewash brush and an old dishpan. I kept a little of the mixture in the pan, and rocked it about and wet my brush at the bottom. The mixture's efficiency as a filler was remarkable. Almost at will I could turn my "paint" into a paste that would fill cracks, or make a new even plus knotholes as large as my thumb. Last, we got a gallon of milk and a quart of cement. You could find no fault with the way it covered the cement texture. The old house can never be like new, but many years have been added to its life. It is no longer an eyesore to the neighborhood, and it is the pride of my wife, and to me this finishing touch makes the place look like a dream come true. Next summer I shall surround my roof green and shall also "paint" my barn. The cost? Well, perhaps, I might be pardoned for stating this:—  
1 bag of cement, some left over... \$0.50  
70 quarts of skim milk... 2.10  
10 pounds of cement... 0.20  
1 gallon outside white, an extra... 2.10  
Total... \$5.22

## A CONCRETE HOG WALLOW.

"I let my hogs doctor themselves and I am not bothered much by the disease," is the way Thurman Fox, who feeds many hogs on his 216-acre Miami County, Ohio, farm, explains the concrete hog wallow in his hog lot.

This wallow is eight by ten feet in size, about six inches deep at one side and about four at the other. It took five loads of gravel and about five barrels of cement, and cost, he estimates, about \$15 in all.

He keeps it about half-filled with water and a coal-tar disinfectant preparation. The hogs make constant use of it and are quite free from lice.—H. R. O'Brien in Country Gentleman.

For years the government has been trying to reach the farmer by inter-state fairs, but there are still millions of farmers who are not receiving the benefits of the measure of governmental co-operation.

As a means of reaching farmers as they have never been reached before the American Association of Fairs and Expositions has suggested the establishment at Washington of a bureau of fairs, which shall be recognized by and have the active support of all departments of the government. This movement has the support of Mr. Hoover, who told a group of prominent fair officials last July.

"I believe that the fairs should organize a special bureau at Washington to co-operate with my department and other government departments in helping to bring the war to a successful conclusion."

There are something like 1,400 county, district, state and inter-state fairs in the United States, having an estimated attendance of over thirty-five million people, a large percentage of whom are farmers.

The influence of the fairs on the farmers is recognized as being incalculable, as local and state governments have discovered, but so far the national government has never availed itself, in a comprehensive way, of the opportunity of reaching the farmers through fairs.

As a war measure alone it is felt that the government could not obtain greater returns for a comparatively small expenditure than by providing exhibits and demonstrations of war activities at the fairs in 1918.

It has been suggested that should it be necessary to float a Liberty Loan in the summer of 1918, the drive come from August twentieth to September thirtieth, with county intensive campaigns during the week of the county fair and state-wide intensive campaigns during the week of the state fair.—The Country Gentleman.

LITTLE GRAIN TRADING  
IN WINNIPEG MARKET

Holiday Spirit is in Evidence—Exchange closed down at noon today for the holidays and will reopen Wednesday morning.

It was a short and quiet session today, with the holiday spirit in evidence.

Out futures closed 1/2¢ higher for December, 1/2¢ higher for May, and 1/2¢ higher for July, Barley closed unchanged for December and 1/2¢ higher for May. Flax closed 1/2¢ lower for December, unchanged for January, and 1/2¢ lower for May.

Winnipeg market. Oats, old contract—May closed at 82 1/2¢; Dec., 80 1/2¢ to 80 3/4¢; May, 83¢ to 83 1/2¢; July, 83 1/2¢ to 84 1/2¢.

Barley—Dec. closed 113 1/2¢; May closed 114 1/2¢; Flax—Dec. 33 1/2¢ to 34 1/4¢; Jan., 33 1/2¢ to 33 3/4¢; May, 33 1/2¢ to 33 3/4¢.

Cash prices: Oats—No. 2 C.W., 81¢; No. 3 C.W., 77 1/2¢; extra No. 1 feed, 77 1/2¢; No. 2 feed, 75 1/2¢; Barley—No. 2 C.W., 113 1/2¢; No. 4, 113 1/2¢; rejected and feed, 111 1/2¢.

Oats, new contract—Dec., 80 1/2¢ to 80 3/4¢; May, 83¢ to 83 1/2¢; July, 83 1/2¢ to 84 1/2¢.

Barley—Dec. closed 113 1/2¢; May closed 114 1/2¢; Flax—Dec. 33 1/2¢ to 34 1/4¢; Jan., 33 1/2¢ to 33 3/4¢; May, 33 1/2¢ to 33 3/4¢.

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WHOLESALE FRUIT  
AND VEGETABLES

Most of the wholesalers were busy on Saturday getting the balance of their Christmas orders out—deliveries having been delayed so, the past two weeks, on account of the heavy weather.

Tangerines—Florida Tangerines came in again, White & Co. having a car mixed with Florida oranges, the tangerines selling at \$3.25 to \$3.50 per half strap, and the oranges at \$4.50 to \$5 per case.

Onions—Spanish onions, which have had hardly any sale the past month at all, had declined in price, A. A. McKinnon having a shipment, selling at \$5 per case.

A. A. McKinnon had a car of Ontario potatoes, selling at \$2.10 per bag; a car of New Brunswick Delawares, selling at \$2.25 per bushel.

McWilliam & Everist had a car of Florida oranges, selling at \$5 per case; three cars of Nova Scotia King apples, selling at \$5 to \$5.50 per bushel.

W. J. McKinnon & Co. had a car of New Brunswick Delawares potatoes of choice quality, selling at \$2.25 per bag, also, a car of navel oranges at \$5.25 to \$5.50 per case.

White & Co., Limited, had a car of bananas, selling at \$2.50 to \$3 per bunch; a car of finnan haddie, two cars of halibut, a heavy shipment of home-grown mushrooms, selling at 85¢ to 75¢ per lb. and Brussels sprouts at 15¢ per lb.

Jos. Bamford & Sons had a car of Florida grapefruit, selling at \$4.50 to \$5 per case; a car of navel oranges, selling at \$4.50 to \$5.50 per case.

Dawson Elliott had a car of very fine quality Florida oranges, the H. P. brand selling at \$5 to \$5.50 per case.

Apples—Ontario Snows and Spys, \$5 to \$6 per bushel; Greenings, Kings, Baldwins, Russets, \$4.50 to \$5 per bushel; Tolman Sweet, \$4.50 to \$5 per bushel; other varieties, \$3.50 to \$5 per bushel; British Columbias, \$2.25 to \$2.75 per bushel; Nova Scotias, \$4.50 to \$5.50 per bushel; Washingtons, \$2.50 to \$3 per bushel.

Cranberries—Early blacks, \$15 per bushel; late reds, \$16 per bushel; late Howes, \$24 per bushel.

Grapes—Cal. Emperor, \$5 per bushel; and \$2.50 to \$2.75 per four-basket carrier, \$1.75 per bushel; Spanish, Malagas, \$18 to \$10 per bushel.

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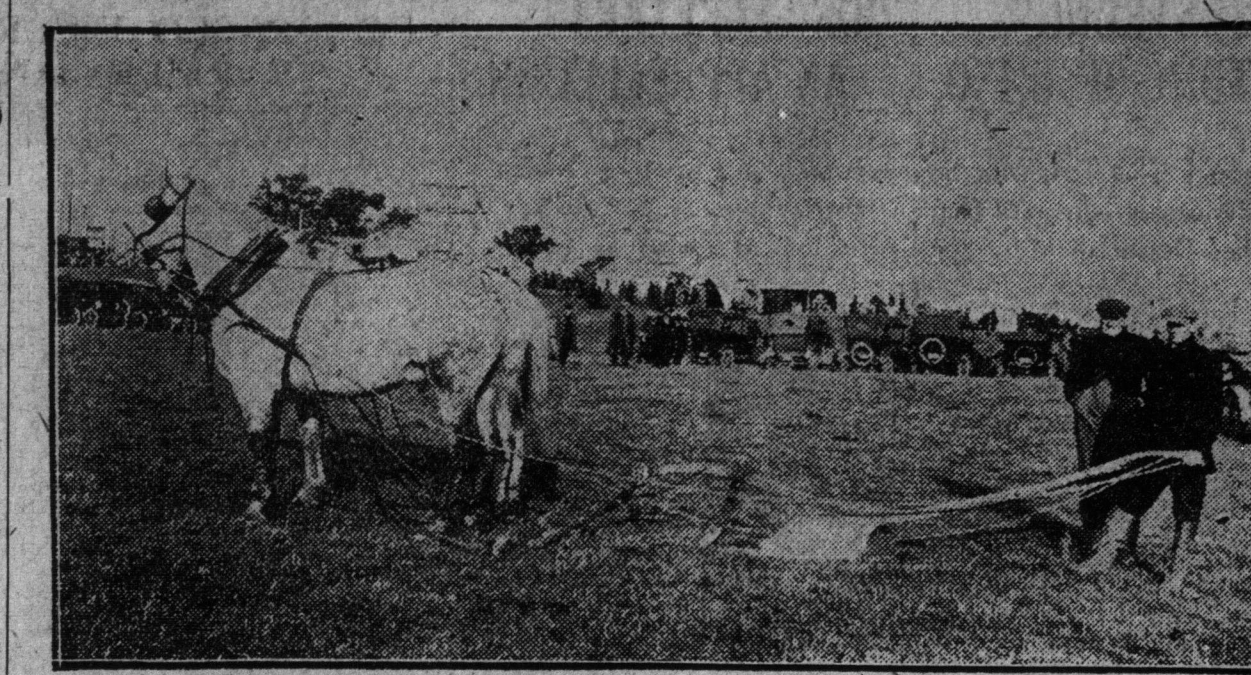
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Bert Kennedy, world's champion plowman, and his trainer, Robert Chapman. Photograph taken at Provincial Plowing Match, Brantford.

| Farm Produce, Wholesale.               |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Butter, creamery, fresh—               |                    |
| made, lb. squares.....                 | \$0.48 to \$0.50   |
| Butter, creamery, solids.....          | 0.44 0.46          |
| Butter, separator, dairy.....          | 0.44 0.46          |
| Oleomargarine, lb.....                 | 0.22 0.24          |
| Pure Lard—                             |                    |
| Theresa, lb.....                       | \$0.22 to \$0.24   |
| 20-lb. pails.....                      | 0.22 0.24          |
| Shortening.....                        | \$0.24 0.26        |
| 20-lb. pails.....                      | 0.24 0.26          |
| Eggs, No. 1, dozen.....                | 0.28 0.30          |
| Eggs, select, dozen.....               | 0.28 0.30          |
| Eggs, new-laid, dozen.....             | 0.28 0.30          |
| Cheese, old, lb.....                   | 0.65 0.70          |
| Cheese, new, lb.....                   | 0.24 0.26          |
| Cheese, new, twins, lb.....            | 0.24 0.26          |
| Honey, 10-lb. lb.....                  | 0.22 0.24          |
| Honey, 5-lb. lb.....                   | 0.22 0.24          |
| Honey, comb, per cone.....             | 0.22 0.24          |
| Fresh Meats, Wholesale.                |                    |
| Beef, hindquarters, cwt.....           | \$18.00 to \$20.00 |
| Beef, forequarters, cwt.....           | 17.00 20.00        |
| Beef, medium, cwt.....                 | 14.00 18.00        |
| Beef, common, cwt.....                 | 12.00 14.00        |
| Lamb, spring, lb.....                  | 0.24 0.26          |
| Yearlings, lb.....                     | 0.23 0.24          |
| Mutton, cwt.....                       | 13.00 15.00        |
| Veal, No. 1, cwt.....                  | 19.00 21.00        |
| Veal, common, lb.....                  | 11.00 14.00        |
| Hogs, 120 to 150 lbs., cwt.....        | 22.00 23.00        |
| Hogs, heavy, cwt.....                  | 23.00 24.00        |
| Hogs, light, cwt.....                  | 19.00 20.00        |
| Poultry Prices Being Paid to Producer. |                    |
| Live-Weight Prices—                    |                    |
| Chickens, milk-fed, lb.....            | \$0.21 to \$0.22   |
| Chickens, ordinary fed, lb.....        | 0.19 0.20          |
| Powls, 3 1/2 lbs. and under, lb.....   | 0.19 0.20          |
| Powls, 3 1/2 to 5 lbs., lb.....        | 0.19 0.20          |
| Powls, 5 lbs. and over, lb.....        | 0.20 0.21          |
| Ducklings, lb.....                     | 0.17 0.18          |
| Geese, lb.....                         | 0.14 0.15          |
| Turkeys, young, lb.....                | 0.25 0.26          |
| Turkeys, old, lb.....                  | 0.22 0.23          |
| Dressed—                               |                    |
| Chickens, milk-fed, lb.....            | \$0.28 to \$0.29   |
| Chickens, ordinary fed, lb.....        | 0.25 0.26          |
| Powls, 3 1/2 to 5 lbs., lb.....        | 0.20 0.21          |
| Powls, 5 lbs. and over, lb.....        | 0.21 0.22          |
| Ducklings, lb.....                     | 0.18 0.19          |
| Geese, lb.....                         | 0.15 0.16          |
| Turkeys, young, lb.....                | 0.26 0.27          |
| Turkeys, old, lb.....                  | 0.23 0.24          |

Hog Prices  
12 Months Hence

Canada and the United States are asked to increase their hog production as greatly as possible in order to help meet the grave shortage of meat in Great Britain, France and Italy.

The shortage in Europe is the best guarantee of the stability of the hog market during the next twelve months. There are 115,000,000 fewer stock animals in the herds of Europe than before the war. The hog shortage alone is 32,425,000 animals—about ten times the total number of hogs in Canada to-day.

In the United States, there are to-day ten per cent. less live hogs than there were a year ago. Further, the American packers' cellars have never been so bare of hog products at the inception of a winter packing season as this year. During October, 21,000,000 pounds of meat were taken out of Chicago warehouses alone, and a similar raid was made at other points.

Hog Receipts  
Decreasing

Another indication of the decrease in hog production is in the receipts of hogs at Stock Yards in the United States:—

To the end of October, 1916, they were 33,035,831 hogs.

To the end of October, 1917, they were 28,314,698 hogs.

This shows the great decrease in 1917 of 4,721,233 hogs.

Taking the month of October alone the receipts in 1916 were 3,592,018 hogs. For the month of October, 1917, the receipts were 2,488,244 hogs. This shows a decrease of 1,093,774 hogs for the last month for which we have figures.

In Canada, the receipts at Stock Yards from the first of January to the end of November, 1916, were 988,131 hogs. For the same period in 1917, the receipts were 885,198 hogs. This shows a decrease in Canada of 102,933 hogs.

While the supply of hogs in Europe and America has been rapidly decreasing, the consumption of bacon and hams overseas has increased enormously since the beginning of the war. Here is the statement of the British Imports:—

In 1913 they were... 638,000,000 lbs.  
In 1914 they were... 694,000,000 " "  
In 1915 they were... 896,000,000 " "  
In 1916 they were... 1,006,000,000 " "

With the enormous shortage of hogs and other stock animals in Europe, and a marked decrease in the number of live hogs in North America, there appears to be no reason why there should not be high prices and a stable market for hogs during the next twelve months and longer.

maintained in a ratio to feed prices that will cover not only costs of production, but proper remuneration to the producer.

"By a system of license control of manufacturers and distributors the Food Administration will further help the producers. This system will tend toward the abolition of speculation, the punishment of profiteering, and the assurance that the consumer receives the product at a fair rate of the producer's price, and that, vice versa, the producer receives a fair interpretation of the consumer's payment."

OFFERINGS SCANTY,  
CORN PRICES RISE

Improved Weather Conditions  
Favor Bears in the Early  
Trading.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—Scantiness of offerings brought about a slight advance