

The Athens Reporter
ISSUED WEEKLY

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C. G. Young, Editor and Proprietor

Demonstration in Agriculture Held at Nearby School

Short Course at Spring Valley by Messrs. Neff and Keeler.

Spring Valley, March 24.—On Friday last E. F. Neff, agricultural representative of Leeds County, and F. C. Keeler visited the local school and gave us very interesting talks accompanied by lantern slides. In the morning Mr. Neff dealt with the housing and feeding of poultry, to produce the best results. Mr. Keeler's subject was "Horticulture." He showed how to choose and plant apple trees, and told what varieties yielded best in this locality. During the noon hour a demonstration of pruning apple trees was held in Mr. Tackaberry's orchard, which was very much appreciated by the men of the district. In the afternoon Mr. Neff gave a practical demonstration of poultry culling, and a talk on "The Growing of Alfalfa." Mr. Keeler's subjects were: "Small Fruits Produce More Profits Than Hay," and "Beautifying the Home." The latter was accompanied by lantern slides, after which motion pictures of the ploughing match, held at Sarnia last year, were shown. At the close of the meeting a vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Tackaberry and seconded by Mr. Stewart.

Mrs. William Clow and Edgar spent the week-end with her daughter, Mrs. Harold Moorehead, Glen Buell.

Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Davis spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Avery, Mallorytown.

Mr. and Mrs. George Boyd entertained a few neighbors on Thursday afternoon and evening.

Mrs. John Gilroy, Brockville, spent a few days, the guest of Mrs. Anson Gilroy.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Deir and Margaret, Fairfield, visited at E. Deir's on Sunday.

Thomas Murray is in Seely's with his brother, John Murray, who is critically ill.

Mrs. Albert Davis spent Thursday in Brockville.

Mrs. Joseph Darling was the guest of Mrs. James Simpson, Lyn, on Thursday.

Miss Alther Pettum spent Wednesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Anderson.

Albert A. Davis, was at Horton Davis', Bellamy's, on Sunday.

Mrs. George Green spent last week in Lyn, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Hanna.

Mrs. E. Westlake spent a couple of days last week with her daughter, Mrs. William Clow.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Darling, Brockville, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Darling, on Sunday.

A number of people in this district have tapped and report an extra good run.

CHARLESTON

Charleston, March 30.—R. Foster is making some improvements at the Harbor View Hotel prior to Mr. Kelsey taking possession.

A number from here attended the funeral of James Roman at Athens on Monday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Heffernan are visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Hayes at Solvay, N.Y.

The roads here are very bad after the heavy rains of last week.

School closed on Wednesday afternoon for the teacher and pupils to see the Ontario better live stock at Athens. The farmers, too, turned out in large numbers.

Colds are very prevalent in this section.

Master Charlie Hudson spent the week-end at R. Foster's.

Button Removed From Lansdowne Girl's Throat

Gwendolyn Moxley Taken to Kingston for Treatment.

COMMUNITY NEWS NOTES

George Gilroy is Buried at Lansdowne Under Auspices of Orange Order.

Lansdowne, March 25.—Little Gwendolyn Moxley, who swallowed a button which lodged in her throat, was taken to Kingston on Thursday and had it successfully removed. She returned home on Saturday.

Charles Quinn, Toronto, was in the village for a couple of days last week.

Robert Foley, Town Line, has purchased the farm of Clark Slack.

The first maple syrup of the season was brought to the village on Monday and sold at \$2.00 a gallon.

Mr. and Mrs. William Austin, and Mr. and Mrs. S. Grey and family, who spent the winter in Florida, returned home on Saturday.

Mrs. Edward Earl had the misfortune to fall in her home and dislocate her shoulder.

The funeral of Mrs. Herbert Leacock, who passed away on Tuesday morning, will be held on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at St. John's church.

A number from here went to Rockport this morning to attend the funeral of Joseph Clirtwell, who perished in the St. Lawrence in Thursday's storm and whose body was found on Monday. Solemn requiem mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Scott.

Mrs. R. Leeder, Lyn, was a recent visitor of her daughter, Mrs. W. A. Deir.

E. E. Johnston and George Potter spent a few days last week in Montreal.

The Wide Awake Y's held a very successful Shamrock Tea on Saturday afternoon in the Methodist Sunday school hall.

The W.C.T.U. met on Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. D. Haig. The Women's Institute met on Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. Fred McConnell.

Fairfax Presbyterians are to present a play on Saturday evening, the 28th and Monday evening, the 30th. Mrs. Hugh O'Malley has returned from the General Hospital, Kingston. Mrs. James McDonald and Miss Marie were week-end visitors with friends in Brockville.

The funeral of George Gilroy, who passed away on Thursday, was held from 9 to 11 o'clock at the Orange Order on Saturday afternoon under the Orange Order to the Anglican church. He leaves one sister in Buffalo, N.Y., and several nephews and nieces.

JUNETOWN

Junetown, March 24.—Mr. and Mrs. Harold R. Fortune, Glen Elbe, and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Steacy, Lansdowne, were here for a day's visit last week with Mr. and Mrs. Francis Fortune.

Mrs. Tedford and Miss Grace Ferguson, Delta, spent Sunday with their brother, Ben J. Ferguson.

Miss Arvilla Avery, Toronto, is spending some time here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Egbert Avery.

The Junetown cheese factory reopened on Thursday for the season.

Miss Jane McGuire, has returned from a month's visit in Mallorytown with her niece, Mrs. Clinton Avery.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Graham spent Sunday with relatives in Quabbin.

Misses Maggie and Edna Scott, Lansdowne, were week-end visitors at George Scott's.

Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Avery and son, Bert, of Mallorytown, were recent visitors at Robert Mulvaugh's.

Mrs. Francis Fortune was at Killenny street for a few days' visit last week with her brother, William Green.

Alfred Ferguson, Brockville, spent the week-end at his home here.

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SPRAYING FRUIT TREES

PRACTICAL INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT A VERY NECESSARY WORK.

Have a Good Outfit—Spray as the Calendar Tells You—Keep Tank, Pump and Nozzles Clean.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

1. Do not spray at all unless you are going to try to do it well. It will not pay.

2. You cannot make a success of apple growing without good spraying. 3. You cannot spray well without a good outfit which will give you plenty of pressure. So overhaul the old spray machine at once, or if it is not satisfactory buy a new one with plenty of power.

4. Get a spray calendar from your Agricultural Representative, or from Mr. F. W. Hedgcock, Director Fruit Branch, Toronto, or Prof. L. Caesar, O. A. College, Guelph. Tack it up in the spray shed where it will always be available.

5. Use only the spray material recommended in the spray calendar.

6. Do not spray when it happens to be convenient, but spray at the times the spray calendar says. The time of spraying is of vast importance and the times given in the spray calendar are based on years of study.

7. Omit none of the first three regular sprays, some years the first is the most important, some the second and some the third. Each spray helps to make the next more effective and each must be given to insure clean fruit.

8. McIntosh and Snow trees should always receive a fourth application. Read what the spray calendar recommends under "Extra sprays and remarks" and be guided by it.

9. You will not control San Jose scale on large trees, twenty-five years old or more, unless you first prune them heavily and scrape the loose bark off with a hoe. Then see that every particle of the bark is wet with the liquid; a mere mist or a light spray will not kill the insect. Use lime sulphur 1 to 7 of water, preferably just as the buds are bursting.

10. For scab and codling moth cover both sides of every fruit and also cover every leaf. Scab attacks the leaves, too, and is often washed from them to the fruit. It will require from 7 to 13 gallons for each tree twenty-five years old or upwards, not just 2 or 3 gallons.

11. Be sure the spray reaches right through the trees. To insure this go in, if necessary, underneath the tree and spray the part beyond the trunk first, then step back to the outside and spray the remaining part. Do this from both sides. Remember that it is the centre or shaded part of the tree where scab naturally is worst and poor sprayers nearly always miss this side though they often cover the sunny or outer side all right.

12. A tower, even with a spray gun, is a great help. Often it will suffice to stand on the tank. A railing or support on it removes the danger of falling.

13. Do not use large openings in the discs of either nozzles or spray guns unless you have 225 pounds pressure or more. They are wasteful, make it difficult to maintain high pressure, and give too coarse a spray.

14. In many cases better work will be done with a rod and three angle disc nozzles than with a gun. In any case use some system in spraying so that you will make sure everything is being covered in a methodical way.

15. Have a handy place to fill the tank. Ten minutes should be long enough for any tank.

16. Do not stop spraying because rain threatens. Go right on until the rain has well begun. It is rain and moisture which cause scab outbreaks.

17. Do not stick to an eight or ten hour day when spraying, but make every effort to get it done as soon as possible without sacrificing thoroughness. If the second spray is not finished before the blossoms open, omit the poison and go on until it is finished.

18. Wash out the tank and pump clean water through the machine and nozzles at the close of each day.

19. Remember spraying gives healthy foliage and is a great factor in producing annual crops as well as giving clean fruit. Even trees that are not bearing should be sprayed to keep them healthy.

20. Get a new spray calendar each year.

21. When in difficulty consult your Agricultural Representative or write to Prof. L. Caesar, O. A. College, Guelph, or W. A. Ross, Vineland.—L. Caesar, O. A. College, Guelph.

Dairy Notes.

Raw milk as delivered to dairies is not likely to remain sweet longer than 12 to 24 hours, whereas when pasteurized and cooled it will be good and sweet for two or three days. This is a decided advantage for the milk dealer and also for the housewife, who is frequently troubled with sour milk when the produce is handled in a raw condition.

Free access to water or watering cows three times a day will increase the profits from winter dairying.

Many people have an idea that sheep are hard to raise. They require no more care than other classes of stock. If farmers would give sheep the care and attention that they give other stock, few farms would be operating without them.

CROPPING AND SOILS

Effect on Soil Properties of Growing Field Crops.

Varied Root Systems of Plants—Grass and Delicate Feeders—Nitrogen-Gathering Crops—Importance of Humus—Banking and Farming.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

The effect which the various field crops have on the physical and chemical properties of the soil is very different. An understanding of the peculiarities of the common farm crops and soils is very necessary to the man on the land in order that he understand and realize the advantages in rotating the grain, grass and cultivated crops.

Crops Vary Greatly in Root System.

In considering the common crops with regard to their growth, effect on physical texture of the soils and the supply of available plant food in the soil, we must give attention to the following groups of crops:—(1) Deep rooted crops; (2) Shallow rooted crops; (3) Grass feeding crops; (4) Delicate feeding crops; (5) Nitrogen-gathering crops; (6) Humus producing crops; (7) Humus destroying crops. Shallow and deep rooted crops are best illustrated by comparing the root systems of wheat and alfalfa. Wheat as a shallow rooted plant exerts an entirely different influence on the physical condition of the soil than does the alfalfa plant with its heavy deep reaching roots. Continuous cropping with wheat, barley or oats on a field will develop a hard pan condition just beneath the furrow slice. Such will prevent the absorption and storage of moisture necessary for full crop production. In contrast to the shallow-surface soil condition we can place the effect on the soil of the deep rooted plants, such as alfalfa, red clover and sweet clover, and see the open porous moisture and air-admitting condition of the subsoil made by these tap rooted plants.

Gross vs. Delicate Feeding Plants.

Gross and delicate feeding crops can be illustrated by comparing corn with barley or oats. The corn plant by means of its strong root system can thrive under more severe conditions than can the barley or oat plants with their slender root systems. The strong root system of the corn plant can prepare its own plant food to a greater extent than the weaker types of crop plants, hence we see corn, potatoes and similar plants flourishing where shallow, delicate feeding grains do not do very well. The gross feeding plants will leave the soil in better physical condition than the delicate feeding types, and for that reason should precede them in the rotation. Gross feeding means a big strong, vigorous root system, which can only be appreciated by examining the entire root of the plant. There is as much of the growing plant beneath the surface of the soil as there is above, but since it is more difficult to see that part below the surface we do not realize the extent of the humus making vegetable matter that is out of sight and plays such a big part in keeping the soil in good physical condition.

The Nitrogen-Gathering Crops.

Nitrogen-gathering crops are generally best known as the clovers, peas and beans. All such are very valuable since they add to the stock of soil nitrogen, and make possible the accumulation of nitrogen salts. Nitrogen existing as a free gas in the atmosphere over each acre of land is available to the legume bacteria that have the ability to assimilate it. The bacteria which are parasitic on the legume plant roots live in great colonies assimilating nitrogen for their own development, and at the same time supplying this very essential element to the growing plant. The legume or nitrogen-gathering crops have a double value as soil improvers in that they supply humus and are also nitrogen-gatherers. For these two very good reasons the farm rotation should favor legume crops. The Importance of Humus.

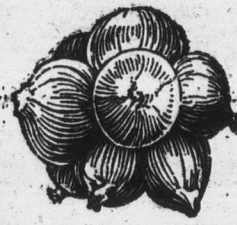
Organic matter during its process of decay in the soil is called humus. Every farm boy that has handled a plow knows the ease with which the plow can be handled in soils containing a large amount of decayed vegetation in contrast with the hard soils of hilltops where the organic matter has been washed away. Humus is very valuable because its presence determines the moisture supply and the ease with which the soil may be cultivated. All plants are humus producers, but not to the same extent, the most valuable being the legumes: Red clover, sweet clover, alfalfa, vetches, peas and soy beans. These legume crops are known as humus producers in contrast to corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, which are known as humus destroyers. Why grow humus destroying crops to the extent that we do when Providence has given us so abundantly the legumes—legumes that will improve the physical conditions and increase the plant food supply.—L. Stevenson, Dept. of Extension, O.A. College, Guelph.

Banking and Farming.

"I would like to put every farmer in a bank for a while and every banker on a farm for a while. The farmer and the banker have and owe each other's job. It is going to be a main task of the American Bankers' Association to bridge this gap."—J. H. Puellcher, President American Bankers' Association.

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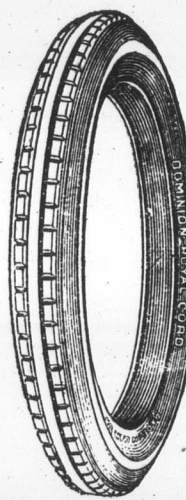
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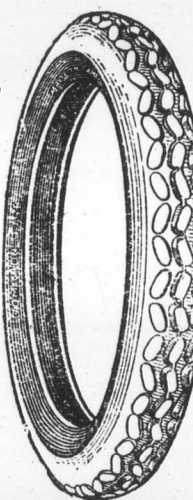
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