

The Farm

BIRDS AND AGRICULTURE.

Through a large part of the Northern States our ornamental cut leaf birches have been recently destroyed by the yellow bellied woodpecker. This bird taps the tree so freely that death sets in at the top within a year or two. Whole groves of the common birch are destroyed in this manner, and now our ornamental birches must be preserved, if possible, by destroying the birds. Bulletin No. 54 of the Department of Agriculture allows that this bird is a sap-sucker, although it generally lives upon beechnuts and other vegetable matter. It gives the food studies of about thirty grain and insect eating birds, including the crow, blackbird and rice-bird, as well as the more common birds on our lawns. The conclusion seems to be that of five or six species of woodpeckers only the yellow bellied does any harm. Two of the best known species, the hairy and the downy, range over the greater part of the United States throughout the year. A careful examination of the stomachs of these birds shows that their food consists almost entirely of wood boring beetles that live in our trees. No other birds can extract these creatures, nor can we do it ourselves. It follows that we must class the woodpeckers among our special friends, the yellow breasted excepted.

Of other birds commonly supposed to be detrimental to agriculture the Department of Agriculture insists that they are all friends with the exception of the English sparrow. The king bird, which has been accused of eating birds, is found to be one of our most useful friends. Of the two hundred and eighty-one stomachs examined fourteen contained the remains of honey bees, but nearly all of these were drones. The little Phoebe bird should especially be protected, as 93 per cent. of the food of this bird is found to consist of injurious insects and wild fruits. If the blue jay does some damage to our corn, it is a voracious enemy of scale bugs, caterpillars and snails. Where they are to be found, the jay is very fond of acorns and chestnuts. The common crow destroys a very large number of young robins and other birds useful to the farmer; yet he also eats beetles, grasshoppers, caterpillars and cut worms. It is said that the grosbeak is the only one of our common birds that will eat the Colorado potato beetle. The oriole was one of the few birds that would feed on the forest worm during its recent invasion; and that will aid us in destroying the tent caterpillar. The catbird ranks among our best friends; living upon animal and vegetable food in about equal proportions. We can afford to feed him from our berry gardens for his music alone. Where he is quite at home

there is no bird in the Northern State quite equal to the catbird as a singer. If we will take the trouble to plant freely the Tartarian honeysuckle and the mountain ash tree, we shall find that many of our birds prefer to dine from these instead of from our berry bushes.—(E. P. P.)

CANKER SORE MOUTH IN YOUNG PIGS.

This disease is comparatively new in Wisconsin. Where it has appeared it has usually been exceedingly fatal. All farmers receiving this bulletin are urged to preserve it for ready reference should the trouble break out among their swine at some future time. The disease invariably appears in young pigs from the time of birth until six weeks old.

The symptoms are as follows: Large water blisters appear about the lips and snout, rapidly succeeded by much heat and swelling of the parts, and later thick brown scabs appear, which open into deep cracks. These scabs extend over the face, head and even to the body and limbs, the joints of the latter becoming much swollen and inflamed. Ulcers frequently form about the snout and jaws, eating the flesh from the bones. The pigs show dullness, a disinclination to move, often refuse to suckle, or do so in a very half-hearted manner.

To be effective the treatment should be prompt and thorough. Prepare a solution of permanganate of potash, which can be had at any drug store, using one ounce of the crystals dissolved in one gallon of water in a common pail. The young pigs should be dipped head foremost into the solution and kept there for a brief time. Repeat this three or four times, giving the pig time to catch its breath in the intermissions. This treatment given every day for three or four days will usually effect a cure if the trouble is not of long standing. In extreme cases, where ulcers and heavy scabs have formed, use two ounces of the permanganate to one gallon of water, and before dipping remove all the dead and loose tissue that has been eaten away. The sows udder should be bathed frequently with the solution each day.

Remove the sow and pigs to fresh quarters, if possible, and see to it that other successive litters are not farrowed in the pen where the affected pigs were housed until it has been thoroughly disinfected. Benefit will also be derived from a laxative given the sow; a pint of raw linseed oil in her slop or in milk will be suitable.—(W. L. Carlyle, Wisconsin Experimental Station.)

When sowing onion seed for winter onions, plant it thickly, and when the bottoms are about the size of large peas thin them out, saving the small onions for future use. Lay them in a shaded place, spreading them out thinly, until they are dry, when the tops can be removed, and the onions be hung away in paper bags until the next spring. They must be kept dry and secure from frost. In early spring they should be planted in rows in the garden, or set thickly in the hot-bed. They grow rapidly, are ready sooner than those raised from sets, are mild and pleasant in flavor and make a fine appearance when bonched for market. A crop can be had from the hotbed while waiting for the first crop grown outdoors, and if more are planted than are needed for early use they will grow and make fine large onions for cooking. It seems strange that such tiny bulbs can keep in growing condition for so many months, but it is simply a case of suspended animation, so to speak, the onion only waiting for favorable circumstances to again begin its life work.—Ex.

And your household must feel from your daily life, not from your words, that next to dishonoring God you dread nothing so much as failing to do justly. When they see this in your actions, they will have faith in the reality of your religion.

TWICE TOLD TALES.

No Meat Extracted From Them by Some who Most Need the Facts.

We have more than twice told the reader of the fact that he or she may perhaps easily discover the cause of the daily ill-feeling and the experiment is not difficult to make.

But there are readers who think truths are for some one else and not for themselves.

Some day the oft told fact will flash upon us as applicable when the knowledge comes home, that day after day of inconsequence and perhaps of suffering has been endured, the cause not being recognized or believed, although we may have been told of the cause many times over, but never believed it applied to us.

It would startle a person to know how many people suffer because they drug themselves daily with coffee. We repeat it, it is a powerful drug, and so effects the delicate nervous system that disease may appear in any part of the body, all parts being dependent for health, on a healthy nervous system.

Relief from coffee for 30 days has cured thousands of people who never suspected the cause of their troubles.

The use of Postum Food Coffee is of great benefit to such, as it goes to work directly to rebuild the delicate cell structures from the elements nature selects for the work. Relief from a heavy drug and the taking of proper nourishment is the true and only permanent method.



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Until the doctor comes, and for minor ills and accidents, the mother must doctor her family. Tens of thousands of mothers have relied upon JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT, and have found it always reliable. It is used both externally and internally and it is the remedy for inflammation from any cause. Used continually for 90 years as a household remedy, its sustained popularity and increasing use every year are the best possible testimonials to its curative power.

Johnson's ANODYNE LINIMENT

is of greatest value in treating colic, cramps, diarrhoea, cholera morbus, bites, bruises, burns, stings, chafing, colds, coughs, croup, catarrh, bronchitis, la grippe, lameness, muscle soreness and pain and inflammation in any part of the body. Sold in two size bottles, 5c. and 15c. The larger size is more economical. If your dealer hasn't it send to us. Ask first. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.



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Then take another nap while the house is heating.

The drafts on the SUNSHINE regulate the fire so perfectly, that after cooling up you know to within half an hour how long it will burn.

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Year	PREMIUM INCOME (NET.)	INTEREST INCOME.	TOTAL INCOME Premiums & Interest.	ASSETS.	INSURANCE IN FORCE (Net.)
1878	\$45,902.88	\$3,814.84	\$49,717.02	\$113,786.00	\$1,788,000.00
1878	145,922.67	24,124.38	170,047.05	456,839.39	5,344,249.63.
1883	309,376.60	64,006.01	373,382.61	1,149,427.40	11,018,625.00
1888	512,005.46	129,672.17	641,677.63	2,542,041.75	16,616,360.50
1893	796,505.04	185,894.86	982,399.90	4,520,133.04	24,288,690.00
1898	965,626.36	265,971.03	1,231,597.39	6,825,116.81	29,521,189.00
1900	1063748.59	329121.84	1392870.43	7799983.89	32171215.00

Cash Surplus above all liabilities, Government Standard \$505,546.25
 Capital Stock, Paid-up 100,000.00
 Capital Stock, Subscribed, Uncalled 900,000.00
TOTAL SURPLUS SECURITY FOR POLICY HOLDERS \$1,505,546.25
 S. A. McLEOD, Agent at St. John. GEO. W. PARKER, Gen. Agent.