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VER RAILWAYS

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Boundary

ERNATIONAL  
RATES ON TRAFFIC

Knapp and Chair-  
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Purpose of Devising  
and Means

TON, July 14.—An interna-  
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ent in the appointment of  
artin Knapp, of the Inter-  
Commission, as the re-  
of the United States to  
G. F. Mabee, chairman of  
Commission of Canada, on  
of the joint control of in-  
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Mr. Mabee will take place in  
States or Canada, or both,  
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ment of Judge Knapp and  
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from points in the two  
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ES INCORPORATED

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ordon B. Richards, M.D.,  
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ion, this appointment to  
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rt to be Mining recorder  
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Baker of Trail, to be a  
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able to be deputy  
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assigned; Walter Prescott  
provincial constable, to be  
recorder for the Queen-  
ing division, with sub-  
at Jedway; and An-  
son, M.D., of Powell river,  
health officer for the  
district.

VIATION FEATS.

OUTH, Eng., July 15.—  
Oswell, a son of Anthony  
London and Philadelphia,  
uch aviator Leon Moran,  
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local authorities have  
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upon which the new city  
once erected.

# RURAL AND SUBURBAN

## ROSES, PINKS, AND LIQUID MANURES

Donald McDonald, F. L. S. in the London Daily Telegraph.

Many who are growing the newer rambler and climbing roses are unconsciously training up canes which emanate from the stock on which the named rose is budded. They must be followed back to the base and cut out. Hiawatha is particularly subject to this trouble, but is easily distinguishable, as its foliage is small and of neat growth, while the usual one is robust with no sign of blooms.

### The Garden Pink

Although flowers of large size and brilliant colorings have been popular in recent years, I think that, for giving touches of beauty in a flower garden, the fragrant and pretty pink should not be despised. It is truly one of the hardest of hardy flowers, and, though a severe winter may brown and disfigure the plants, there is a wonderful tenacity of life about them, and, as soon as the moving influences of the returning spring are felt, they begin to put forth growth, form their flower-buds, and develop their sweet blossoms. In many old cottage gardens one can see clumps of the common white pink, and some other more or less dark in the centre. They bloom with amazing freedom, and, being left alone for years, increase and cover a great space of ground. In May and June the tufts of green foliage are hidden from view by the plenteousness of their flowers. Then there are some colored varieties to be found in borders, having flowers of dark-centred, rosy purple. One of the most popular of border pinks is the large white variety, known by the name of Mrs. Sinkins, and some newer types are seedlings from it. All have fringed petals, and all are more or less apt to split their calyx, or pod—a common fault with pinks; the petals fall down on one side, and the flower is robbed of half its natural beauty.

By many years' careful selection, the florist has, for two generations past, grown a race of pinks denominated laced, and in general large, full-petalled flowers, and, in addition to a rich, dark centre, have broad, marginal lacings of some shade of pale, pinkish rose or lilac rose, red purple, and black. Fifty years ago pinks were much grown for exhibition purposes, and shows were numerous throughout the country. Then came a period of neglect; but now the flower is receiving more attention, and pink shows are spoken of again.

### Exhibition Pinks

Those who grow the flowers for exhibition aim to get large blooms, full, and handsomely laced on the petals. In August and September they prepare their beds by richly manuring the ground, and then form them 4 ft. or so in width, and raised about 6 in. above the level of the ground, in order to throw off wet during winter. The bed is planted in October, when the young plants are well rooted; some fine sandy soil is placed about the roots to induce them to start into growth, the soil being pressed firmly about the plants. Any long shoots they make are carefully secured lest they should be broken off by the wind. In spring, when the plants begin to grow vigorously, a liberal top-dressing of well decayed manure is given, and this greatly assists in the formation of large, handsome, and finely-laced blooms. It is also helpful to perfect lacing to shade the flowers from hot sunshine.

Pinks do well in a good loam, especially if a little sandy. There is, however, scarcely a garden anywhere in which pinks cannot be grown. They do not thrive so well in a light soil that is firm, because it is too open, and a soil that is firm about the roots is better than a loose one. They plants should be put in the border in early autumn, the soil being pressed firmly round the roots to hold them in security during the winter. Should they be divided, they can be lifted and divided into two large pieces, and it will be found that the divided pieces possess roots. The plants are propagated by means of cuttings or pipings, struck during the early part of July. Large growers root their cuttings in a gentle bottom heat, but they can be rooted in the open air quite well. They may be put in just beneath the shade of some of the border plants, for it is requisite that the cuttings should be shaded from the sun. The pink, with its grey-green foliage, make a very good edging plant. Here are the names of a dozen good varieties: Albino, Excelsior, Delicata, Ernest Ladhams, Gloriosa, Her Majesty, Marion, Progress, Snowdrift, Sam Barlow, Mrs. Moulard, Favorite.

### Liquid Manure

The laws which control and regulate the application of liquid manure are for the most part less understood, simply because they are less studied, than are the other many and wise rules which arrange and direct the chief operations in gardening. Ask any ordinary gardener when and how he would apply liquid manure, and he would probably reply, "Oh, put it on when it is ready, and you've nothing else to do, it'll be all right." Ah, but will it be all right? Those off-hand, hit-or-miss, happy-go-lucky conclusions will fail simply because they cannot stand the test of searching inquiry. Nowadays the world is full of people who are not satisfied with such loose, inconsequent reasonings; they insist on having a sound, positive "why" for every one of their "wherefores." Let me see what I can do to throw a little light on the question of applying liquid manure.

First, then, what is it? It is water holding in solution all the chemical constituents of

manure. Being in this state, its action on the crop to which it is applied is immediate, and successful results are attained with great celerity if the liquid has been judiciously used. In order that the fullest effects may be obtained, and that without injury to the plants to which it is applied, it is indispensable that the mixture should be weak, and frequently given; that it should be clear; and that it should only be administered when plants are in full growth. If strong, it is apt to produce injury because of the facility with which it is absorbed beyond the assimilating power of the plants. If muddy or thick, it clogs up the soil, and if it is applied when plants are torpid it either acts as in the case of being overstrong or it actually corrodes the tissues. It must be borne in mind that liquid manure, being an agent ready for immediate use, its value chiefly lies in that peculiar quality, therefore, of weak, that it will continue to do so as the temperature and light required for its action are sufficient. These, then, are the laws governing this important gardening operation. If they are well studied, no mistake can be made. The leading truths to be deduced from these principles are that liquid manure must be applied weak and often, and that it must be given according to the nature of the plant and the object in view.

Having considered the manner of applying, I will state the quantities of certain ingredients which go to make up some useful plant stimulants. The dung of poultry makes an excellent manure if a shovelful in a partly decomposed state is put in thirty gallons of water and given to potted plants at every third watering, and to outdoor crops once a week. Every time it is used the barrel should be stirred up; or a better plan is to put the manure in a coarse bag and drop it in the water to dissolve—sheep's dung at the rate of a peck to twenty gallons of water, and a couple of pailfuls of horse droppings put into a tub and covered with four pails of water makes a useful stimulant for pot plants, diluted before use by four times its bulk. As for the artificial manures—such as guano, nitrates, potash, and ammonia—these require very careful handling; in most cases a teaspoonful to a pail of water is quite sufficient; when used according to some scientific formula they are most serviceable, and each in its proper place is of the greatest help to crops. On a lawn, for instance, where clover is smothering the grass, if it is desired to check its prominence, this can be effectually done by a proper application of certain chemicals, so that it may be safely said that a proper system of manuring quite a revolution takes place in the well-being or otherwise of plants that may or may not be required in certain places. These chemical solutions should be applied to the soil and not poured over the foliage. In the case of plants in pots, it is preferable to pour the liquid into a saucer, or from the bottom rather than apply it to the surface of the soil; the chief point to bear in mind the fact that two weak doses are better than one strong one, he will be more certain of success. Those requiring small quantities only can procure their requirements in tins and packages at Gamage's, Holborn-circus, E. C.

Plants of chrysanthemums ought now to be out in the open, and the more sun and air they have the better, provided they have at all times sufficient root-moisture to preventing the roots drooping, without over-saturating the soil. It is quite time for the plants to be placed in the pots in which they are desired to flower, the size of these being determined by the size of the plants. Numbers are well flowered in six-inch pots, while others need them seven, eight, and nine inches in diameter, according to their vigor. It is most important that the plants are not dry when reported. Turfy loam, with a fourth part of decayed manure and a little bruised charcoal and sand, will be suitable. Only a few of the drainage particles should be removed from the roots, and a little loose soil rubbed off the top of the balls round the stems in potting, and the larger pots given should be clean inside, dry, and well drained, placing a little turf on the top of the drainage before putting in any soil. Press this down firmly, and place the plants exactly in the centre, sinking them so that the top roots are covered an inch deeper than they were before, allowing also another inch for holding water, or, in other words, when the work is finished the soil should be made level an inch below the rim of the pots, and the top roots covered an inch deep with the soil. This must be pressed down firmly or the water will run down through it, leaving the roots in the centre dry. Many failures occur through leaving the soil too light and loose and the roots in too dry soil when placed in larger pots. Water should only be given when the soil crumbles, or the pots give out a rather hollow sound when tapped with the knuckles. If an excess of water is given immediately after potting, new roots do not readily enter the new soil. When they do, then they will abstract the moisture from it, and consequently water will be required the more frequently in dry weather. On bright days some of the plants may require it twice. Stand the pots on ashes or some other base impervious to worms. Some plunge the pots three-fourths of the way up in the ashes; this is a good plan when the plants cannot be attended to during the day. Liquid manure should not be given until the soil is well permeated with roots.

## HOUSE PLANT HELPS

Red spider on house plants: Pick off the worst leaves. Lay the plants on their sides and hose or syringe them thoroughly, then take soapy water and a sponge and hand wash every leaf, and while they are yet wet dust the under sides of the foliage with powdered sulphur.

When plants have been in the indoor window box sufficiently long to fill it with roots, fertilizer must be applied either in the form of bone meal or rotted manure, or preferably by the addition of weak liquid manure. This should only be applied when the plants indicate their need by a check in growth. Such a plan should afford satisfaction.

To grow fine calla lilies, put a thick layer of charcoal in the bottom of a box fifteen inches square and fill with leaf mold and a little sand. Plant a calla in each corner, and in the centre sink a six-inch flower pot, with the drainage hole stuffed with moss, and with a layer of charcoal above the moss, and with a layer of leaf mold until the growth is well started. Fill the six-inch pot once a day with water. If the lilies drink so quickly that the pot is emptied before night, refill. Wash and shower the leaves weekly.

## THE CITY MAN ON THE FARM

(By Julian Burroughs)

To get something out of the soil you must put good man into it. Large sections of the Eastern United States are starving for good men, for men of intelligence and force, with stout hearts in strong bodies, to bring farm life here in the East back to the plane of science, comfort, and right living where it belongs.

Whether or not a city-bred man can make a living on a farm and a success of his undertakings depends almost entirely upon his ability to undergo a complete revolution in his attitude toward all the real things of life; granted this, he can surely make a living in the country, the grade of living depending on his own state of mind, and secondly, on the farm. If there is any place where mind is superior to matter it is on the farm. The two principles a city man must learn are—(1) to do things, and (2) not to try to get immediate results. The country is strewn with wrecks of hopes and fortunes of city people who have gone too quickly into poultry, dairy, fruit, or what not.

On the other hand the city man not only often makes a real success of his farm and farm life, but when he does take root in the soil, learning what to leave undone as well as what to do, he makes an ideal farmer, because he gets into a rut as the average farmer, but he applies his imagination to learning new methods, finding better markets or new products. Near me is a city-bred young man—turned farmer on a backwoods farm of one hundred acres, who learned to preserve his fruits and vegetables in glass cans, putting up something better than anything on the market, and soon establishing a trade that bought his goods eagerly. Last year he made a net profit of over six thousand dollars. Another city man bought a run-down farm with played-out orchards on a hillside a few miles back from the Hudson. He loved apples, he loved his work; he plowed and pruned and sprayed, and in a few years was shipping bumper crops of extra fine apples from the apparently worn-out orchards, buying adjoining farms and making a success of his work in every way. Another city man came into the grape-growing region of the upper Hudson with ideals, growing new and finer varieties of grapes and putting them up in more attractive packages, regaining both his health and finding financial success as well.

Luxury on a Thousand Dollars a Year. On the other hand the city man so often does not see what he has to do—and nowhere is it so necessary to learn what not to do as on the farm. At best the margin of profit is so small that there is room for only the naked essentials. Begin by making the farm pay as it is before trying up money in costly improvements and outlays for scientific farming; of course, save the manure, cut the brush, drain swamps, clear fields of stumps and rocks, and all the other things that the true farmer takes delight in doing, but do not employ a gang of men to do it. Accomplish these improvements slowly as opportunity offers. An expenditure of a thousand dollars a year will keep the average American family in real luxury on a farm, giving liberty to enjoy hunting, fishing a horse to drive, books, magazines, unlimited good food from apples to roast duck, maple-sugar to strawberries.

The ideal farm is one on which everything needed is produced. The average farmer makes the great mistake of sticking too closely to a staple or specialty, neglecting to grow fruits and vegetables for his family, or feed for his stock. Take the dairy farms of Delaware County in New York, for instance, to whose owners the rise in the price of milk has brought feed and then waste the manure. Not only that, but few of them, though they have a hundred or so acres, have a garden worthy of the name, or grow any small fruits. Salt pork, potatoes, pancakes, with some cheap store groceries, comprise their food. The city man on such a farm would at once see where the mistakes were being made.

There are some fundamental truths that we Americans will soon have to learn, among them being a more efficient and less wasteful agriculture, the saving of our woods. Life on the soil demands much self-control, bodily strength and skill along with the knowledge of

how to develop and conserve it, imagination, resourcefulness, power to grasp the possibilities of any situation. Hand-to-mouth living won't do. Our farm reflects our character; we must love the soil, and in so doing make it worthy to be loved and ourselves worthy of it.

There are two salient points concerning farm life that the city man is quite likely to entirely overlook, and the first of these is the question of help. Now, help of any kind, and especially efficient, capable, trustworthy help is painfully scarce throughout the country. Provide them with good tools, let them finish one job at a time, have but one boss, don't quibble over a few minutes of time, or a few cents of pay. Treat the men and their work seriously. Practically all farm hands are eager to learn and want to become skillful workers with a reputation as such, and this fact must be taken advantage of by every successful farmer.

### The Middleman Gets the Profits

The second point is that the city dweller is likely to judge the prices the farmer receives by the prices he has to pay for his supplies. Nothing could be more erroneous. With the exception of butter and eggs and a few other staple articles of high value compared with their weight in bulk, the big middleman's profits, made necessary by waste and high rents, the cost of transportation and package, are by far the largest items in cost of production. I can think of a number of products in which if the producer could get one-half of what the consumer pays he could make a fortune. For instance, in the summer of '09 tons on tons of strawberries went to waste in the Hudson Valley simply because it did not pay to ship them; a neighbor of mine pulled up and dumped down the bank a carload of beautiful celery for the same reason, and another neighbor shipped three hundred half-barrels of lettuce which cost him thirty cents each to place on the market and which the commission man sold for twenty cents a basket. I shipped at one time fifty crates of choice Delaware grapes which I might better have fed to my chickens. This may sound discouraging, but the truth is that not only is there a constantly growing chance for the city man on the farm to find ways of supplying city dwellers direct with dependable goods, getting retail prices, which means a big profit on any well-managed farm, but the steady advance in value of staple articles—like grain, cotton, meat, eggs, butter, wool, etc., means a better living for the distant grower of staple products. The taking up of all the Western lands, and this very advance in value of farm products will turn more and more people to farming.

Does farming pay? Yes, the poor on the farm can enjoy many of the luxuries of the rich in the cities, and for people with eyes and ears and souls the beauties of Nature, the constantly changing seasons bringing an endless variety of out-of-door work, the freedom, the interest of the farm stock and pets, the pleasure of providing and enjoying an abundance of good food of your own raising, the freedom from high rents and high prices make up four-fold for the things of the city.

At the farm is the place for children—how they do enjoy the apples, peaches, pears, strawberries, melons, and so on; the milk and fresh vegetables, the swimming and fishing in the summer, the sledding and skating in winter, the feeding and raising of farm pets! The farm is the place for the boys to learn independence and resourcefulness, to become men, sturdy, alert and brave.

### The Mainspring of Farm Life

Though many men have made fortunes from the soil, others, like Luther Burbank and John Muir, both fame and fortune, it is not with hopes of this that we should turn to farming—rather do for ourselves the best life on one hand and on the other help to build up the rural communities. A wide-awake agricultural class should be the mainspring of farm life. All this talk about the higher cost of living is nonsense—it is the artificial standard and not the higher cost that is killing the Americans. Some of us must learn to go back to the farm, learn to make real homes there, bringing to country life its due, raising sturdy sons and daughters to be farmers and farmers' wives in turn. It can be done—only the right kind of men are lacking.—Outdoor America.

### BLACKLEG OF THE POTATO

Professor W. J. Morse of the Experiment Station at Orono, has published Bulletin No. 174 from the station giving an account of a new disease which is appearing to a limited extent among potatoes grown in Maine. Prof. Morse gives the following summary of this disease in his bulletin, which we reproduce in full: "Blackleg is a bacterial disease of the stem and tuber of the potato. A similar appearing malady caused by bacteria has been reported from Canada, and another from England, Germany, France and other parts of Europe. Preliminary studies of the organisms associated with the disease indicate that they are closely similar troubles elsewhere, but whether they are identical with any of the described species of bacteria is not fully determined.

"The attacked plants are usually unthrifty, light green or even yellow, and undersized. The branches and leaves have a tendency to grow upward, forming a rather compact top, often with the leaves curled and folded up along the mid-rib. The most characteristic thing about them is the inky-black discoloration of the stem, at or below the surface of the ground, but frequently running up the stem from one to several inches above ground. The seed-piece from which the attacked plants

spring is invariably attacked with a soft-rot, and the disease appears to start on the stem at its junction with the diseased seed tuber. The germs of the disease are capable of causing a rapid decay of the young tubers, and these are sometimes attacked also.

"The evidence thus far obtained indicates that blackleg is largely distributed by means of germs carried in wounds, cracks and decayed areas of seed tubers. On account of the readiness with which the organisms are killed by drying there is little to fear from sound, smooth stock, but this should be treated with a disinfecting solution as a matter of precaution. There is some reason to think that blackleg was introduced into Canada from England and from there to the United States.

"Blackleg is apparently becoming quite widely distributed throughout the eastern part of the United States. In most states it is not common enough to attract attention, and in no region has it done much damage, although it may become a serious pest in some sections. It is not believed that it is likely to do much damage in Maine, except in low, wet soils or during abnormally wet seasons. The similar appearing trouble caused by Bacillus solanacearum, Harrison is widely distributed in Canada, and is there claimed to be of considerable economic importance as a cause of tuber decay.

"The propagation and spread of the disease probably can be controlled largely by the selection of seed from fields free from the disease, the rejection of all seed tubers which have wounds, cracks or decayed areas and treating the remainder with corrosive sublimate or formaldehyde solutions, or with formaldehyde gas as is done for potato scab. It is not known whether or not the disease germs will remain alive in the soil to infect future crops of potatoes, but as a precautionary measure the land on which the disease occurs should be kept in grass, clover, cereals for as long a time as possible before planting it to potatoes again."

## THE SUCCESSFUL FARMER

Ever and anon we hear of the successful farmer and in imagination we wander away to broad-tilled acres, large red barns, large houses with beautiful lawns, fine stocks, etc., but we do not stop to consider the enormous amount of real hard work that was entailed in bringing about this condition of things. There are no hard and fast rules whereby success can be assured in this great profession, but there are certain principles that make for success and to these the following bear loyal tribute:

I shall name a few elements which a farmer cannot well do without to be successful. Make farming a speciality. I have been farming for twenty years and I never have found much time to devote to any other profession. I have stuck close to agriculture and stock raising, and I think I have been rewarded for it. I well remember when I was a small boy of hearing the saying, "Jack of all trades, and master of none." Ever since I have kept that in my mind. I would rather be a special somebody than a general nobody. The different sciences are so deep and so wide that one person cannot master them all, or even many of them.

A successful teacher makes teaching a speciality, a successful lawyer makes the legal profession a speciality. I know there are some good farmers who are lawyers, good teachers who are farmers, and good farmers who are doctors, but if you should ask them if they thought they would not be more successful if they should make their chosen profession a speciality, they will tell you yes. The most successful men we have today in any profession are specialists. This is an age of specialists.

Many times since I have been farming, other things have been presented to me, with offers of good wages, but I could not spare the time off the farm, which needs my undivided attention. The right thing to be done is to do well, my work was not satisfactory to myself. I believe the keynote to success in farming is to do the right thing at the right time. I have never well done anything but that I was rewarded, and well pleased with my work.—Maritime Farmer.

## FEEDING POTATOES TO LIVE STOCK.

Owing to unsatisfactory prices received for potatoes, many farmers are feeding them to stock, especially swine. A Vermont farmer in the vicinity of Montpelier is reported as having 1,000 bushels in his cellar, and is boiling them at the rate of 25 bushels daily and feeding them to cattle and hogs. In that vicinity potatoes are retailing only 20 to 30 cents. Some argue that potatoes are worth 30 to 35 cents a bushel for feed, considering the high price of grain. However, it is doubtful if the farmer can get that much value from his tubers, even though they are cooked for the stock.

## POULTRY NOTES

Don't be afraid to make a start in pure-bred poultry. You will never go back to the mongrel if you buy carefully.

Don't keep your breeders and broilers together. Free range for the former means dollars in your pocket.

It takes a bit of time to keep the nest boxes clean these days, but if you only know how much happier a hen is when she finds a nice clean place to lay in you would not begrudge the few minutes it takes to keep them so.

The farm poultryman has usually very poor and incorrect ideas about breeding. He jumbles everything together and is constantly introducing new males to recover his flock from its run-down condition.