BRITISH COLUMBIA FRUITAND FARM

MAGAZINE

Vol. VI, No. 8

MAY, 1915

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BOXES

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CONTENTS for MAY

-1915



Synopsis of Coal Mining Regulations

Coal mining rights of the Dominion, in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories and in a portion of the Province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of \$1 an acre. Not more than 2,560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the district in which the rights applied for are sit-

uated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal subdivisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be staked out by the applicant himself.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of \$5, which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of

five cents per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the Agent with sworn returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mined and pay the royalty thereon. If the coal mining rights are not being operated, such returns should be furnished at least once

The lease will include the coal mining rights only, but the lessee may be permitted to purchase whatever available surface rights may be considered necessary for the working of the mine

at the rate of \$10 an acre.

For full information, application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or to any Agent or Sub-Agent of Dominion Lands. W. W. CORY,

Deputy Minister of the Interior.

N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.—58782.



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BRITISH COLUMBIA

Fruit and Farm Magazine

A Monthly Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Man on the Land.

Vol. VI.-No. 8.

Vancouver, British Columbia

[\$1.00 per year in Advance

FARMING UNDER FIRE

By Private W. F. CHAFFEY

Of the 72nd Seaforth Highlanders of Vancouver, B. C., First Canadian Contingent, British Expeditionary Force

THE above title may sound rather startling; but to the farmers who have their worldly wealth wrapped up in their farms, and who could not afford to leave them unless literally "shelled out," it is taken quite as a matter of course.

The farm where we are billeted—about a hundred and twenty of us—apparently has no special name, and is so like the hundreds of other farms which are scattered all over the country in every direction, that a description of it will give a general idea of them all

The farm house, barn, woodshed, stable—and, in fact, all the farm buildings—are under one roof, and are built in the form of a square, enclosing a courtyard about seventy-five feet each way. The buildings—or perhaps we should say the building—is substantially constructed, with brick walls and tiled roof. The farmer and his family occupy practically all of two sides of the square, and the rest is devoted to the use of the horses, cattle, chickens, etc. We pay many visits to the kitchen, which is at once kitchen, living-room and dining-room. The most noticeable feature about this, as well as all the rooms I have seen on these farms, is the very low ceilings—barely seven feet high in some instances.

Strange as it may seem, the courtyard is used in the winter to accommodate a manure pile. The utter lack of sanitation would astonish most Canadians. The family well is in the same courtyard; and also a sort of bricked-in hole, in which all the washing water, etc., from the house is thrown. In spite of all this, the people living in these surroundings seem very healthy. However, I am not at all keen on trying the effect in hot weather, and hope that before summer comes we will be far away

It is very interesting to watch the dogs, which are used to turn the feed-cutters. They run round inside a big wheel about twelve feet in diameter, and can turn a root-cutting machine

which would be hard work for a man. They are big, heavily built dogs that would weigh about eighty pounds, I should think. They are kept chained up all day long, so are only too eager



Mural Shrine in a French Country House

to have a little run in the wheel. They are very knowing about it, too, and seem to quite enter into the spirit of the game. When the chopper is filled up with turnips or mangels, they puff and pant, and go quite slowly; then if the machine is allowed to get empty, their legs have to go like mad to keep them on their feet!

On "our farm" there are eight milch cows, which are a dark red color and are like big Holsteins, only more beefy. They seem to be more fitted for beef cattle than for milk, as they do not give a large amount, and the butter made from the cream is very poor.

On most of the farms around us the farmers are busy plowing and putting in crops, together with numerous notices in English requesting the soldiers to "Please keep off the growing crops." As we are only about half a mile from the trenches, and there are emergency trenches dug across "our" fields, they have made no effort to plow them. In fact, it would be very risky to do so, as a good many stray bullets come this way!

The orchard contains trees varying in age, apparently, from about two years to fifty years. One of the largest I measured with my arms roughly, and judged to be about eight feet six inches in circumference. The usual custom seems to be to take a wild apple tree, about two inches through, and let it get a good start after transplanting; then graft it about eight feet above the ground, using mud as a grafting wax. This makes a very high headed tree, and serves the double purpose of keeping the branches and fruit out of reach of cattle and letting the sun get at the grass which grows between the trees. There are some fine big elm trees planted along the road, and these are kept trimmed close about three-quarters of the height of the tree, probably for the same reason—to allow the sun to get at the crops. Also, the trimmings are carefully done up in bundles for fire wood. In this country nothing

To make my title of "Farming Under Fire" more appropriate, I had better say that German shells are dropping intermittently during the day and night—sometimes unpleasantly close. One of our batteries is "annoying" the Germans from a well-concealed position a few hundred yards away, and they keep trying to locate it. A couple of days ago some pieces of shrapnel broke some tiles on the roof and put a few holes in the greenhouses! This morning a big piece of steel casing of a shrapnel shell, which was fired at an aeroplane, fell with a whiz and thud just behind the buildings. One of the

men picked it up as a souvenir; but I doubt very much if it will be carried far, as our packs are quite heavy enough as it is without adding to them at this stage!

France, April 1st, 1915.

Dear —:

Am just writing a few lines to let you know that we are still O.K., and —"taking one consideration with another"—are having a good time.

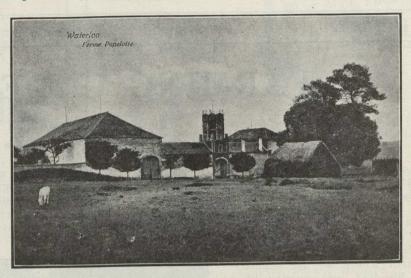
We are at present in quite comfortable "billets" in a small town, and are spending all our time getting our feet into shape for marching, as the trench work is very bad for them. Spring is at last really here, and it is very nice marching through the country and seeing the different farms and villages. Some of the grain crops are showing a couple of inches above ground now, and the farmers are busy planting potatoes. I should really say the farmers' wives and daughters are planting potatoes, as they do practically all the work—especially now, as all the available men are fighting.

The roads here are very good, and certainly are a credit to the people—when one considers the difficulty of obtaining good drainage. Some of the drains have to be made six or eight feet deep to get rid of the water, and even then the ditches are full of water all along the roads. The main roads are made of blocks of hard stone about seven or eight inches each way. In spite of the enormous amount of traffic which has passed over them in the last six months, they show hardly any signs

of wear.

One of the things which first attracts the attention of a stranger in this country is the number of chapels along the road. They are hardly worthy of the name of chapel, as they are only about six feet by ten feet on the ground. The front is open except for a light iron

Almost every house has a crucifix placed above the door or under the eaves of the roof. This religious atmosphere seems rather contradictory to the real state of affairs when the sound of artillery, or the sight of an ambulance filled with wounded, makes



Typical French Farm House

gate, which leaves the exterior exposed to the view of the passerby. They usually have a small altar with crucifixes and artificial flowers on it, and various statues of different saints. A great deal of trouble seems to have been taken with the decoration of them, and the building itself is substantially constructed of stone or brick, with a good tile roof. I am still at a loss to know exactly what they are used for, as I have never seen anyone near them, and my French is not equal to the task of finding out from the townspeople.

one realize what a terrible war is in progress within a few miles.

Editor's Note:—Private W. F. Chaffey, who wrote the above, was one of the heroic 16th Battalion who offered such gallant resistance to an overwhelming force of Germans on their front, left flank and rear, in the recent battle of Ypres. At time of going to press an official statement reports that as yet nothing is known of the ultimate fate of this battalion—whether they were annihilated or taken prisoners.

Red Cross Appeal to the Farmers

Our country, with its Allies, is waging a great war for justice, for the protection of small nations in the enjoyment of their rights, for continued and growing freedom, and for the maintenance of its pledged word of honor. Much destruction and desolation are being caused. Lives are being lost by the thousand. Canada's First Contingent is now in the thick of it. Some will fall sick; many may be wounded; some will pay the last full measure of devotion to their country and its cause.

The Red Cross Society exists to sucsor the sick and wounded in war. The need of Red Cross Service is great and growing greater as the war goes on. The price of progress towards lasting peace is very, very dear. It cost lives, homes, health and much besides. Canada's part in the process of payment, through giving for Red Cross work, is mercifully light and easy, even when all have given to the extent of really feeling it.

The soldiers and sailors pay the price exacted by the desolating struggle from week to week. What they paid in blood and did in sacrifice a month ago was not enough for them. Shall we say it was enough for us? What they are doing and suffering and achieving has made them put aside, for the time, all their thoughts and plans for individual welfare, comfort and safety. They don't hesitate to establish precedents. But they are precedents of heroic sacrifice for our country and its cause, for our principles and ideals that they may be upheld.

Farmers, individually as well as through their Institutes, Clubs, and Cheese and Butter Factories, are in a position to help very greatly. Their business does not suffer from the war. Prices of nearly all farm products have gone up. While labor is scarce there is time to think of the boys at the front and to send the Red Cross Society a gift to be spent for the sick and wounded.

Farmers are generous in sentiment and generous in giving when their hearts and heads point the way. This is a case when they do so point clearly, persuasively and urgently. In this crisis, in the lives of nations and in the lives of stricken soldiers, none can pray too much, do too much or give too much.

I appeal to farmers to send me sums from \$1 to \$50, during the first part of May. Every \$50 provides one additional hospital bed with the giver's name over it. By sending me about \$10,000, you would serve your country well, bring credit to yourselves, and make all of us very proud of you. For the sake of the wounded boys, make the gift substantial. It will be an investment towards the recovery of some Canadian soldier who stood in our stead that our cause might be upheld.

Faithfully your friend, JAS. W. MORRISON,

Chairman,

Red Cross Society at Ottawa.

Farm Drain Tile---How to Buy It

There is always a tendency on the part of most of us to do the easiest thing, and the easiest thing when we undertake to drain the farm is to drive to the nearest sawmill and buy lumber, with which to build the drain. However effective such a job may be, it can

Showing Clover and its total roots, grown on well-drained soil

only be regarded as temporary, and in a few years the work has to be done again. The proper material with which to construct farm drains is a good well-burnt clay tile. The expense is greater in the first instance, but in the long run it pays.

Soft, medium and hard-burned or vitrified clay tile are made. It costs less to make the soft-burned than the hard-burned tile and the selling price is lower, but the quality is not so good. Soft-burned tile have done good service, however, and when put under ground below the frost line have lasted indefinitely. The best tile are burned to a cherry red, and when struck by a piece of steel, give a sharp, metallic ring. In the colder localities, where they are laid above the frost line, only the hard-burned tile should be used. Hard-burned, or vitrified tile, are prac-

tically non-porous; thus they absorb little moisture and unless water stands in them they are not injured by freezes. A tile that cracks and shatters from the weather is not fit to use above the frost line, and is not the best under any conditions.

Previous articles in this magazine have dealt with the need of drainage, and the method of carrying it out. We now come to the purchase of the tile. Drain tile prices for the farmer have been largely reduced within the last year, owing to the freight rate reductions. In order to take advantage of these, however, it is necessary to buy in carload lots. In such a case combination between farmers in a district is useful, and Farmers' Institutes can do good work in this direction by promoting co-operation between their members in the purchase of carloads. Following the Western Freight Rates Enquiry of the Dominion Railway Commission held last year, the freight rates quoted below were put into effect in British Columbia on carloads of farm drain tile:

							Per 0 11	
For	distances	not	over	3	miles		3	c
""	"			10	"		33	4c
"	"	"	"	25	"	*****	- '	c
"	"	"	"	30	"	******	5	c
"	"	"	"	40	"		6	c
"	"	"	"	50			64	6c

These rates have therefore been in effect on the C. P. R. since September 1st,

1914. The B. C. Electric is not under the control of the Dominion Railway Commission, but this railway also put into effect the same scale. These rates encouraged the manufacturers to revise their prices in order to place burned clay tile within the reach of the farmers and they have therefore made the following prices for tile, one foot long:

3 inch Drain Tile, \$23.50 per thousand 4 " " 30.00 " " 6 " " 50.00 " "

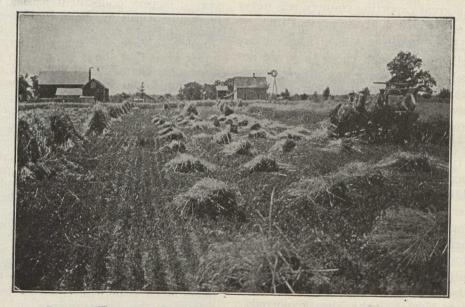
Hence it is a comparatively easy matter for anybody to reckon the cost of tile at the nearest station by getting the local agent of the railway to give them the mileage of their station from the tile plant. A minimum carload is 20 tons, and the following quantities of tile make about a minimum car:

 3 inch Tile
 6,500 or

 4 " " 4,950 or

 6 " " 3,000

Now is the time to sit down and figure what you are going to do in this matter. Spring or Autumn is the time to do drainage work. The Spring is gone, but Fall work should be now decided upon. Don't wait until the harvest is in before you start to figure. Get your calculations made, and see to it that you and your neighbors have a car of tile delivered all ready to use after the crop is in. The work can then be done before the worst of the Winter arrives, and then just watch the 1916 crop off the same land.



Results of Drainage—Cutting Wheat on a farm which was a "mud-pond" before it was underdrained

Canada's Opportunity in World's Food Supply

By W. MILLER HIGGS

Raymond Leighton, a native son of British Columbia, who went with the first contingent to fight for our Empire, sends home the following letter, which appeared in the Ashcroft Journal of March 27th, written from Pewsey, Wiltshire, England, where the Canadian Cavalry Brigade, to which he was attached, consisting of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, King Edward's Horse and Lord Strathcona's Horse, was in training a few weeks ago: "We are very comfortably billeted here on English people, who are paid 75 cents per day for our keep, which is a Godsend for some of the poor people here who are beginning to feel the pinch of the war . . . bread has doubled in price and meat is nearly out of reach. We are billeted at a butcher's . . . he has to pay 12¾ per lb., live weight."

Such a letter as this should make every Canadian farmer think, and think deeply, too. Patriotism in the men, who from many causes are not able to take up arms in the Empire's defense, is none the less real and true and those who labor and toil to increase the output of foodstuffs from this country are doing a very great deal for the Empire. Their opportunity to bring Canada still further to the front as a great exporting country was never so great as it is at the present time.

If the poorer people of England are feeling the "pinch" now they are not likely to experience any different conditions for a long time to come and now is the time for the Canadian farmer to fully realize the true situation.

In order that our readers may at once grasp the magnitude of the possibilities which exist for the development of Canadian agriculture, we would point out that the British Isles spend on imports of foodstuffs and products of the soil, the sum of 333 million pounds sterling each year. In wheat alone the United Kingdom imports 37% of all the wheat exported by the exporting countries of the world put together. Then Germany, which

in the past has been nearly self supporting in regard to her human food supplies, importing only 15% of the supplies given by exporting countries, after this devastating war, will not be for many years in that same fortunate position. France, which normally imports about one-third of Germany, will need to vastly increase her importation, and so will Austria, whilst in Belgium, where the greater part of the country has been laid to waste and ruin, that country which in times of peace imports just double the importation of France, will have to very greatly increase. We have not mentioned Italy and such countries under semi-mobilization such as Holland, Switzerland and Denmark, all of which, in all probability, will be very short on their annual production.

Where is the shortage in Europe's supply to come from? A shortage which may easily be estimated at anything from 480 million bushels to 600 million?

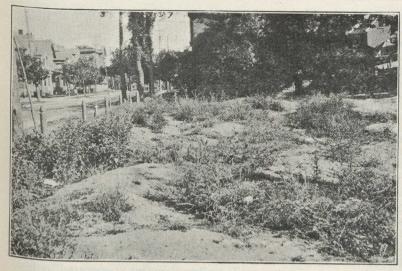
We have heard it said more than once lately, "The Dardanelles will soon be opened by the Allied fleets and then the price of grain will materially drop." Will it? Russia is normally an exporter of 128 million bushels, or 20% of the total export of the world. Roumania, India and Australia each export about 5 to 71/2% of the world's export trade whilst the balance comes from the United States, Canada and the Argentine. By this time next year it is very doubtful if Russia will have any wheat available for exportation, and it might even be that through absence of so many of her men under arms that she is not able to produce more than 75% of her usual crop and should that be the case she would have to import some 160 million.

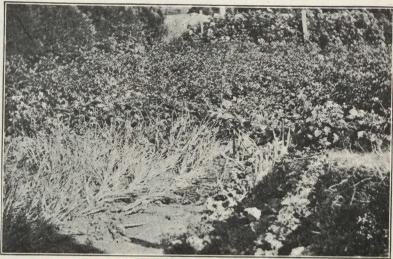
The outlook is none too bright and the costliness of crushing this fearful monster of Prussian Militarism is not appreciated yet as it will be. Now is the time when we turn to the farmers of Canada, of the United States and the Argentina and endeavor to put before them the situation, however feebly, for it is to these men that the world looks to save it from death and devastation through a fiercer enemy than the monster of Prussian power, namely, a famine, the proportions of which have never been seen before. Now is the time for the Governments of these countries to look ahead and assist the farmers in the gigantic task which lies

before them. Now is the time for every available piece of land that can be put under cultivation to be sown. The situation is vital, vital to the Canadian farmer, vital to the prosperity of the Canadian people and Canadian industries, and vital to the prosperity of the Empire. We cannot speak too strongly. Just as "that despicable little British Army" in the eyes of Prussian Militarism has grown under Earl Kitchener's wonderful organization and the power of our Navy under the wonderful seamanship of Sir John Jellicoe is being felt more and more in the world every day in grappling with a situation such as never before was, so we look to our Dominion Government and our Provincial Governments to organize and to legislate for our farmers in such a way that when the call of the Mother Country comes—not this time for men, but for food—we shall be ready to supply that inevitable need and do our share towards the upkeep of our great Empire and at the same time see the development which will take place in our portion of that Empire.

The Government of British Columbia is doing all it possibly can for the agricultural interests of this Province. Costly as the recent Royal Commission on Agriculture may have been, the cost of such a commission was as a drop in a bucket of water compared with the vital issues which are at stake. It is easy for some to criticize. It is vastly different with a Government which has to look ahead and grapple with the future. The recent Agricultural Bill introduced before the House by the able chairman of that Commission, Mr. W. H. Hayward, the member for Cowichan, is a great piece of recommended organization for the prosperity of agriculture in this Province. unanimous and strong recommendations which have gone forward to the Dominion House with regard to the vast importation of foreign, especially Chinese, eggs, unmarked as such, we trust may bring forth immediate legis lation from the Dominion House so as to effectively deal with a condition of affairs which at present is crippling the poultry farmers of British Columbia Yes, our Government is donig all that is possible to be done in view of the great and coming need and it is up to every farmer, generalizing or special izing, to see that he does his duty to the Empire and to Canada and to him self at this hour.

Vacant Lot Cultivation





A vacant lot in a large city. A nursery for weeds and an eyesore.

A vacant lot converted into a vegetable garden. Every foot is made to yield its own produce.

While the Departments of Agriculture of the Dominion and the various Provinces are endeavoring to interest the farmers of Canada in plans to secure increased production of farm crops and live stock, the residents of cities and towns also have a duty to perform.

In every urban community there are vacant spaces which, usually, are allowed to become breeding places for noxious weeds. Our illustration shows

an example from one of our large cities. In this city there are many men out of work. These vacant spaces should be made available for cultivation. The owner may not wish to use the land for this purpose, but that the soil may be made to yield the produce it is capable of, some means should be found to bring together the owner of the land and those who cultivate it. There are patriotic organizations in existence in almost every place of any size, which

might undertake this work. It is patriotic work in every sense of the term, and it would be of great help in relieving want. Our second illustration shows the results which may be secured when the vacant lot is properly cultivated. Every foot of ground is made to yield something, and, from being a sore on the face of nature, it becomes a beauty spot and means of sustenance for a Canadian family—From "Conservation."

Among the Bees

By S. H. BURTON, in "Fruit Grower and Farmer"

After blooming time and just before applying the codling moth spray, bees should be removed from the orchard to their permanent quarters. Here a Permanent shed with an open front should be built for housing the colonies. This shed should either face the south or east, preferably the east, and should have a good waterproof roof and a substantial floor that is at least six inches above the ground. Two feet of lineal space should be allowed for each colony. The shed should be three and one-half feet high above the floor in front and three feet at the rear. Two twelve-inch boards the length of the shed should be cleated together and fastened temporarily in front of the shed from the roof down during the winter. In summer these boards can be removed and laid on 2x4's in front of the hives as an alighting board and to keep the weeds and grass down.

The roof should be hinged in front and raised from the rear for manipulation of the colonies. During warm weather this roof can be partially

raised for ventilation; fastenings of rope or wire should be provided in the ends to prevent the roof being raised further by the wind. With the roof raised, the colonies are easily manipulated from the rear, the hives are always dry and the bees are comfortable the year round.

In the fall, after the honey harvest is over, the boards should be replaced in front, and straw packed between and over the hives at the rear. In spring, about the time of fruit blossoming, this straw should be removed.

Outdoor wintering on their permanent stands is being practiced more and more each year and is found superior to cellar wintering if proper housing has been provided. Before packing the colonies away for the winter, all supers should be taken off the colonies and the honey, section boxes and section holders should be removed. All unfinished sections that contain very little honey should be carefully put away in a mouseproof box and used the following spring as bait sections

when again filling the supers with section boxes. The section holders should be stored in a convenient place, and during the winter they can be scraped of propolis and ready to be used again.

Take the empty supers or rims back to the hives, remove the lid and raise the hive quilt, and smoke the bees off the brood frame. Place a couple of clean corn cobs on top of the brood frames, punch two or three air holes in the quilt with your knife, and spread the quilt over the hive. Place the empty rim back on top and fill with dry leaves and chaff. Fasten the hive lid and super down so that it cannot be slipped about when packing the straw around the hives.

This absorbent above the brood frames is for the purpose of taking up moisture and at the same time providing warmth and ventilation. The cobs across the brood frames are for the purpose of allowing the bees to pass over the tops of the frames in search of food and to provide a clustering space.

All colonies at the beginning of winter should have at least twenty-five pounds of stores to carry them through to the next honey flow. This can be determined by "hefting" or weighing a few hives. If a hive, bees, stores and lid without the super weigh approximately fifty pounds, your colonies are well provided for. In the Central Mississippi Valley States it is seldom necessary to feed in the fall, as the flow of honey from golden rod, aster and spanish needle is quite sufficient for successful wintering.

Feeding sugar syrup is sometimes practiced in the spring to stimulate brood rearing by the beekeeper who wishes to increase his colonies, but it is hardly practicable for the orchardist who does not care to go into extensive comb honey production. In the spring, after the colonies have been taken to the orchard and returned to their permanent location, the packing on top of the hives should be removed, the super again filled with section boxes containing comb foundation starters and placed back on the hives, spreading the quilt on top of the sections and replacing the lid.

From time to time the supers should be examined and, if filled, remove or raise and slip underneath it another containing sections and starters. At the end of the season all can be removed at once at the option of the orchardist.

At the approach of warm weather the hives should be elevated off the bottom boards and one-inch blocks slipped underneath. This largely controls swarming by providing plenty of ventilation. Plenty of room and good ventilation are two prime factors in swarm control. The less swarming the orchardist has to contend with, unless he wishes more colonies, the better off he is, for the colonies will remain strong in bees and store enough surplus honey to amply repay him for all expense and labor he has bestowed on these busy and most useful insects.

What is there unreasonable about letting every ambitious farm boy have an acre of good land, to farm exactly as he pleases? Let him spend a little extra time and money on it. He will be learning all the while, and developing the habits of study and concentration, the lack of which is responsible for most of the failures in the world.

Have a vegetable garden for the benefit of the home table, and grow in it a little of everything that can be grown in your locality. Try some things that you never grew before.

Economic Dairy Feeding

That the dairy cow is the backbone of the farming industry of British Columbia, is a recognized fact. More, it has been and is a highly profitable backbone. The producing cow has fed and clothed the family, has paid off the mortgage, has entered a credit balance in the bank book. She has done all this, and will continue to do it.

But dairying conditions are changing in British Columbia. The city market is no longer abnormal, absorbing the last ounce of milk production at fancy price. For a number of years the demand was almost continuously greater than the supply, with the result that the dairy farmer did not experience the necessity of the practice of truly economical production. Now, however, he is learning that he must adjust himself to new conditions.

This means that greater care must be exercised in the selection and breeding of dairy animals, and in the adoption of feeding methods that will make for the greatest production at mini-mum cost. Hence, today the farmer is investigating the experience of his neighbor with various breeds, crosses and strains, and is studying systems of

He is aware that in practically every developed dairy district on the American continent the practice of intensive systems has become the vogue. Good dairying land is usually high-priced land, and its economic use must be such as to make it sustain the greatest possible numbers of stock. In practically every section of British Columbia it has been the custom to pasture cows for as long a period as possible and to depend on roots and hay for a short winter period. But this experience of progressive dairy farmers has proven that the productiveness of the cow is greatly increased by the feeding of a substitute for green stuff during the winter months.

This substitute has been found in ensilage-corn or clover. The food value of corn is greatly superior to that of clover, and in every place where corn can be grown it is the universal

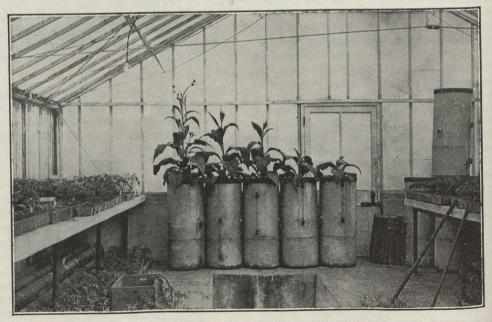
ensilage crop.

True, the silo is not new to British Columbia, nor is the growing of corn. Upwards of twenty-five years ago Mr. A. C. Wells erected a silo on the Chilliwack Valley Farm now operated by his son, Mr. Edwin A. Wells. Ensilage has been successfully used every year since, and the crop has always been corn. And during the last few years a dozen or two silos have been erected. This season there is greatly increased interest in the silo, and many more will be built.

The proper planting and cultivation of the corn is an important factor in securing ensilage of good feeding value, and there is a difference of opinion among growers as to the best method to follow. Putting together the experience of the most thorough-going of these farmers, the following instructions may be taken as sound:

Having selected seed corn and tested it for germinating percentage, plant either in hills or drills, preferably in

AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE VALUE OF GOOD DRAINAGE



The soil in the can with the large tobacco plant was drained three feet deep, that with the small plant three inches deep. The soil in the other, cans was drained two feet, one foot, and six inches, reading from left.

hills. The hills should be three feet apart each way. This distance gives plenty of light and makes cross cultivation possible. The field may be marked off by a simply constructed tool consisting of a long, narrow plank in which are set broad marking teeth at proper distance, the marked to be rigged for hauling with a horse. Plant from four to five seeds in a hill, and be sure they are not too deep-a little less than two inches is found to be good practice under most conditions. If sown in drills, the rows should be from 36 inches to 42 inches apart. Regulate the drill to sow quite thinly, or, after the corn is up, thin out to about eight inches with a hoe. If not well thinned and kept as free as possible of suckers the crop will not properly mature, producing only green fodder.

Ensilage corn is ready for cutting when the grain is fully formed and just beginning to glaze. If grown in hills the cutting may be done with a heavy, short-handled hoe, kept well filed. After cutting, it is well to allow the crop to cure on the ground for two or three days, and it is generally considered best, if possible, that the silo be filled in one day. Two or, better, three men should be kept tramping and distributing during the filling.

As to the best seed to use in the Coast sections of British Columbia, there is still doubt. On the Wells farm "Longfellow" has been used for many years, with satisfaction. Last season Dr. Knight, of Sardis, had splendid success with "Angel of Midnight." Experiments at the Government plot at Chilliwack, under the direction of Mr. H. Webb, indicate that for the Fraser Valley "Minnesota 13" and "Northwest Dent" give the best satisfaction, "Minnesota 13" maturing the earliest of all seeds tried. "Windus" and "Spokane Premium" also did well on this plot.

TO NON-ADVERTISERS.

A hen is not supposed to have
Much common sense or tact,
et every time she lays an egg
She cackles forth the fact.
The busy little bees they buzz;
Bulls bellow, and cows moo;
And watch-dogs bark, and ganders
quack,
And pouter pigeons coo.
Tt.

The peacock spreads his tail and squawks;
Pigs squeal and robins sing;
And even serpents know enough
Yet man, the greatest masterpiece
Will often stop and hesitate
Before he'll Advertise.
—From "The Galloway Gazette."

FALL FAIRS

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e d	Name of Association.	Date	of Fa	ir. Place Held.
khetes1	First Circuit. Parksville Agricultural Association Cameron, Nanoose & Newcastle Agricultural As n Cobble Hill District Agricultural Association Cowichan Agricultural Society Sooke and Otter Agricultural Association Islands Agricultural & F. G. Association Comox Agricultural and Industrial Association N. and S. Saanich Agricultural Society	 	3 15	Parksville Hilliers Cobble Hill Duncan Sooke Ganges Harbor Comox
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Fruit and Farm

MAGAZINE

A Monthly Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Man on the Land

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Copy for advertisements must be in hand by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

All letters and communications should be addressed to, and remittances made in favor of

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Vancouver, B. C.

Seymour 2018

BUY LOCAL BERRIES.

Already there are strawberries in the market—not local berries, of course, and not offered at a price that puts them within the reach of most of us, so we may pass them by. But in a week or two there will be berries in abundance; and thrifty housewives will not only wish to supply their tables freely, but will be thinking about buying for preserving and canning.

We urge them to consider seriously before they purchase anything but B. C. fruit.

Without wishing to decry in any way the fruit imported from across the line, as fruit, we call attention to the imperative duty of all-women as well as men -to keep Canadian money in Canada, and in so doing to help home produc-tion and the farmer. This should be done even if it involves the sacrifice of personal convenience—even if it means waiting a while before using the luscious strawberry as freely as we otherwise should. Our patriotism is of a poor order if it cannot resist the display of Hood River berries and sustain us for a week or two until our own delicious B. C. fruit is to be had-all the more attractive when it appears because of its perfect freshness.

In a few weeks the market will be full-glutted, perhaps-and fruit will be offered cheap by the crate. This is the time when the housekeeper looks to buy her strawberries for preserving. We urge her to make a point of enquiring, before buying, whether the berries are B. C. grown, and to refuse them if the answer is not in the affirmative, and confirmed by the name on the crate. In doing this she will be benefitting the fruitgrower greatly and, indirectly at least, she will be benefitting herself and family. For if the farmer thrives, the country is prosperous—and if the country is prosperous, the family welfare is assured.

BEE-KEEPING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Although honey production as a recognized British Columbia industry is in its infancy, splendid advance is being made, and the intelligent observer, looking forward, can see the Province in the not-far-distant future one of the greatest honey-bee districts on the American continent.

The development in production in the last five years has been, to say the least, remarkable. In 1910 the yield was so small as to be considered negligible—the product of perhaps a dozen or so small apiaries. By 1913 it had grown to fifty tons. In 1914 the production was no less than one hundred and fifty tons.

Government inspectors and other students of bee-keeping pronounce the possibilities of the industry to be magnificent, the grounds for prophecy being the success of presently established apiaries; the magnitude of honey sources, notably the fire-weed, so wide-spread and prolific in bloom, and the wide fields of white clover and alfalfa; and the favor British Columbia honey enjoys on account of its fine quality and distinctive flavor.

It is conservatively estimated that there are now twelve hundred beekeepers in British Columbia—approximately 800 in the Fraser Valley, 280 in the Interior and 120 on Vancouver Island.

There is a wonderful increase in interest in bee culture this season, and the number of beginners is quite large. All, of course, are starting in a small way, usually with one or two colonies, which is enough for the novice to undertake at the outset. With attention a person should become proficient in hive management in two years, and then may safely enlarge the scale of operations.

The 1915 production prospects are most excellent. The average colony as early as the first of April was as strong as is usual a month later, due to the open winter and early spring. Where maples abound, skillful bee-keepers had secured supers of honey from strong hives as early as April tenth—a novel experience. In May there was a strong yield of honey from fruit blossom and dandilion sources.

ARBOUR DAY OBSERVANCE SHOULD BE GENERAL.

Arbour Day is not observed in Canada to the extent which its importance warrants.

British Columbia must ever keep in mind her dependence upon her forests. With practically eighty-five per cent. of her area suitable only for forestry purposes, it is essential that the value

of trees and their protection should be thoroughly impressed upon Canadians.

There is no official recognition given to the subject of Arbour Day in British Columbia, although there seems no doubt that public opinion favors its establishment as a holiday and its observance. The observance of Arbour Day should be general throughout this country. There is need in every part of Canada for the education and instruction which Arbour Day represents. The day should be observed as a public holiday, at a time most suited to the climatic conditions of the locality. Public recognition should be given to Arbour Day, and the planting and protection of shade trees, the preparation of flower and vegetable gardens, and the thorough cleaning up of homes and surroundings should be advocated as special duties for the day.

Arbour Day has its justification in the value of trees, from whatever point of view they may be considered. Nothing contributes so much to make the world a pleasant place to live in as trees. The true home feeling is not satisfied without the presence of the trees, with their shelter and shade, their beauty of form and leaf, their blossom and fruit, their varying shades with the passing of the seasons, and their fulness of color in the autumn days. They also afford homes and shelter for our feathered friends—the birds—during their annual visits to us.

There is nothing which will add beauty and value to a home or the schoolhouse more than the presence of trees; there is likewise nothing which adds more to the comfort of the pedestrian than shade trees on the roadside. The way may be long and dusty, but under the cool shade of the trees relief is found.

It is hoped that steps will be taken towards the institution of Arbour Day, and that its observance will become general; that the planting and care of trees and shrubs around schoolhouses, homes, public spaces and by roadsides may have the effect of developing a keener appreciation of the value and beauty of trees; and that in thus enlarging the field of Arbour Day activities, greater interest may be created in the protection of our Canadian forests from the reckless destruction by fire and the axe with which they are threatened.

RESIGNATION OF MR. ROBERT'SON.

The resignation of Mr. R. Robertson, manager of the Okanagan United Growers' Association, should not, we think, be regarded, as the Calgary Herald seems to suggest, as the failure of the central selling organization idea. The Okanagan Growers are having

the same difficulties which have confronted fruit growers in other districts; and they will doubtless have more problems still to solve before they reach a satisfactory basis in the selling of their fruit.

Mr. Robertson gave to the organization a very wide experience in fruit marketing; a keen, analytical mind in the solving of their problems, and an enthusiasm and optimism that was infectious. It is regrettable that the work of the organization could not have been carried along without an interruption in this service; but that is a matter for our friends in the Valley, and doubtless they will evolve a good working plan.

A PROGRESSIVE ORGANIZATION.

Of the agricultural problems to be solved in British Columbia, one of the most important is successful marketing. The ideal condition would be absolute certainty of a profitable market for everything the land produces, both directly from the soil and indirectly in the form of live stock, milk products and poultry products. Such a condition may never be attained, but it can be closely approached; can be so nearly attained that the hazards of agriculture and kindred industry would be eliminated.

And the men on the land are fast realizing that this greatly-desired condition can be brought about only by themselves through combination—cooperation. The fact that many farmers' co-operative associations have failed in their purpose is no proof that the scheme is fundamentally wrong. Co-operative failures are traceable to various causes—lack of sustained interest in the undertaking; lack of executive ability on the part of managers; lack of support of and confidence in able managers.

In this Province there are a number of co-operative organizations that have attained success to a degree and are, under able direction, cautiously but steadily progressing toward the goal of their ambition. Prominent among these is the Chilliwack Producers' Exchange, a co-operative company of two hundred and twenty stockholding members, or-

ganized less than two years ago under the Agricultural Societies Act. The Chilliwack Exchange presently finds market for fruit, vegetables, poultry and yeals, and supplies to its members feed imports at cost.

The prime object of the organization is the encouragement of greater production of cash crops by finding carlot markets for the products—markets that individuals could never successfully reach.

During the first twelve months of its existence the exchange did a business of approximately \$80,000, marketing products returning \$35,000, and purchasing feed for members costing \$45,000. In the first six months of its second year the organization's business aggregated \$50,000, an increase of 25 per cent, over the average business of the first year.

VARIETIES OF GRAIN FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA.

In Bulletin No. 81 of the regular series issued by the Director of the Dominion Experimental Farms and entitled "Division of Cereals; Summary of Results, 1914," Dr. Charles E. Saunders, Dominion Cerealist, recommends the following varieties of grain for the Province of British Columbia:

Winter Wheat—Kharkov or Turkey Red (especially where the winter is dry), Egyptian Amber, Dawson's Golden Chaff, the last mentioned for pastry or biscuit flour.

Spring Wheat—Red Fife, Marquis and Huron,

Oats—Banner, Ligowo; for very short seasons and fair rainfall, Daubeney and Eighty Day.

Barley — Manchurian, Odessa and Ontario Agricultural College, No. 21, six-rowed varieties; Swedish Chevalier, Early Chevalier and Canadian Thorpe, two-rowed varieties.

Peas — Arthur Selected for early ripening; Chancellor, Golden Vine and Prussian Blue among best other varieties.

Owing to the varied climate of British Columbia only a few general suggestions are here made.

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POULTRY SECTION

How to Raise Young Ducks

Whether Profits Are Made or Not Depends Upon Food and Care-Make the Right Kind of a Start.

The nature of the times is such that ducks are bound to come to their own. There is going to be a greater demand for fowl of all kinds as the scarcity of other meats increases, and there is no meat that can be raised so easily as that of ducks.

With ducks, as with cattle and hogs, the greatest profits are made by getting them off to the market at the earliest possible moment, especially as they are such heavy feeders and take on flesh so readily that in eight or ten weeks from hatching it is quite easy to have them run the scale up five and six pounds.

The prices range all the way from 25 to 35 cents a pound. At that price big interest can be made on your money.

The term "green duck" is applied to young ducks when they weigh from five to six pounds.

The best breed of ducks for the average person going into the business are the Pekins. They are cream-white, lay a good large white egg and are not given to setting. To twelve females there should be three drakes. It is best to keep the birds separate till breeding time. After mating it is best to wait a week or two before beginning to save the eggs for hatching purposes.

It takes four weeks to incubate the eggs. When the eggs are hatched, the young should have no food for seventytwo hours, but should be given plenty of clean water for drinking. If many ducks are raised, it is best to keep them in flocks of twenty or so in a pen, and as they grow increase the number of pens, decreasing the numbers in them.

Feed Properly from the Start.

The first feed should be bread crumbs or oatmeal, or finely-ground oats, just dampened. Supply it in shailow troughs and keep food before them all the time. As they increase in size and can eat more, add cornmeal, wheat and low-grade flour and small grit. Give fresh water many times a day, for ducks foul it readily. It is their habit to eat a few bills of food and then go to the water-trough to wash it down. But only breeding ducks require a quantity of water to play in. In fact, young ducks take on flesh more rapidly if kept out of the water and kept quiet. As a relish, green food should be fed

each day. Chopped green corn, lettuce. cut alfalfa, or green sprouted oats may be used. Of these green foods alfalfa is the richest in protein, and this is the substance from which flesh and muscle are made. Green food also makes the grain foods more easily digestible. Ducks are able to eat large quantities, and the more they eat the faster they take on flesh and attain market size.

The birds must have dry, clean and sanitary quarters at all times. Once a week a little charcoal should be put in their feed and water.

Finishing the Birds for Market.

Two weeks before it is time to market the ducks they should be shut up in small pens, so as to keep them quiet. An excellent fattening ration consists of a mixture of crushed corn, wheat, bran and low-grade flour, to which has been added some succulent green stuff, such as alfalfa or clover. The birds should be fed all of this they will eat.

To kill ducks, hang the bird up by the feet; insert a sharp penknife into the mouth, and cut well up in the head so as to strike the main artery. This allows free bleeding, and gives the best appearance to the body. Pluck the down off, leaving the coarse feathers on the tail and wings.

Do not draw the birds. Buyers prefer them this way, and it saves a lot of work for those who sell them. Cool the bodies well, if possible over night, and market next morning.—Canadian Countryman.

CLEAN EGGS, CLEAN NESTS.

Poultry-keepers may easily reduce the percentage of dirty or soiled eggs and loss entailed to insignificant figures. First, an ample number of nests is, of course, necessary, but an ample number means no more than, and probably not as many as, are usually directed by poultry writers. Laying houses are as a rule provided with a sufficient number, but where the keeper falls down is in failing to supply enough nesting material and floor litter.

Obviously, the nesting material must be clean or the eggs become soiled by contact, and it must be sufficient in quantity or the eggs are often broken by dropping upon the hard floor of the nest. In houses where the dropping boards are above the nests and the custom is to sand the boards, small stones often dropped into the nests, and A. E. Smith, Victoria

breakage results when newly laid eggs fall upon them. The condition of the nests should be noticed daily, and the nesting material replenished when necessary. Plenty of nesting material prevents breakage and ensures clean

An ample and clean litter on the floor is also very essential when an A1 clean product is sought. Particularly is this true when the hens are allowed outdoors during wet weather. The litter acts as a footmat for the hens on their way to the nests.-Weekly Free Press and Prairie Farmer.

EGG-LAYING CONTEST.

Interest Sustained in Competition at Exhibition Grounds-Close Race Among Weight Varieties.

The following are the results up to April 14th of the fourth international egg-laying contest which is being held under the supervision of the Provincial Department of Agriculture at the Exhibition grounds. In the non-weight class, the pen belonging to L. M. Ross, of Cowichan, has a commanding lead, but among the weight varieties there is a keen contest for first place between birds belonging to D. Gibbard, of Mission City, and G. D. Adams, of Vic-

Results to date:

Class I.—Non-weight Varieties, Six Birds to a Pen.

	Tota	.1
Owner,	Eggs	
L. M. Ross, Cowichan	61	6
E. W. Estridge, Duncan		
H. A. Hincks, Langford Station	52	
Koksilah Poultry Ranch, Cowichan	52	
R. W. Chalmers, West Kootenay	19	
G. O. Pooley, Duncan	48	
Norie Bros., Cowichan	47	
A. Unsworth, Sardis	46	
J. C. Butterfield, Saanichton	43	
L. H. Ashby, Cowichan	41	
W. Senior, Victoria	40	
Mrs. A. Brooke, South Vancouver	37	
W. J. Miller, Comox	36	
Seymour Greene, Duncan	32	
O. P. Stamer, Cowichan	32	
T. H. Lambert, Cortes Island		1
L. F. Solly, Westholme	31	
P. B. Darnell, Royal Oak	28	
J. A. Thurston, Central Park		9

Class II .- Weight Varieties, Six Birds to a

D. Gibbard, Mission City	
G. D. Adams, Victoria	
Deep Drog Kontings	•
Dean Bros., Keatings	•
R. N. Clarke, Vernon	
V. T. Price, Cowichan	
G. T. Corfield, Koksilah	
S. Percival, Port Washington	
P. S. Lampman, Victoria	
M. H. Ruttledge, Sardis	
I II Conttondon Weathington	٠.
J. H. Cruttenden, Westminster	
E. D. Read, Duncan	
A. W. Cooke, Kelowna	
F. W. Frederick, Phoenix	
W. S. Stewart, Victoria	
Jones & Rant, Sidney	•
C. W. Robbins, Chilliwack	٠.
C. W. Robbins, Chiliwack	٠.
Reid & Greenwood, Victoria	
W. H. Van Arum, Victoria	
Mrs. J. H. Gillespie, Victoria	
W. R. Moore, Okanagan Landing	
A E Smith Victoria	

Turkey Raising

A Few Pointers by One Who Breeds Largely.

More perhaps than any other one thing, the future turkey crop depends on the present selection of parent stock. The proper selection of parent stock should be in accordance with several principles. Like begets like, and whatever qualities are wanted in the future crop should be looked after in the parent stock.

Big, heavy, early-maturing young can only be obtained from like old. Birds uniform in size, shape and color can only be had of parent stock of like kind. Healthy, thrifty, vigorous young can only be raised from strong, well-matured old. This is the only sound reasoning, based on common sense, applicable no less to turkeys than to other farm live stock.

Aside from vigor, size is the first quality to be desired in the young. To get this, make sure of big breeding stock. This should mean not only big birds of both sexes, but a big breed and a big strain of that breed. Where one already has good stock, the future breeders, especially the hens, may be chosen from one's own flock. But always these should be the largest and best birds raised. This usually means the earliest hatched, for almost always the earliest hatched of a season's crop make larger birds than those which come out later.

Where one does not have large birds it is better to buy them, even at a rather high figure, than to keep small, inferior birds to produce the future crop. The gobblers, in any case, should be the largest obtainable. The gobbler is half the future crop, and the cheapest means of improving it. In buying a new gobbler, the aim each year should be to obtain something better than that used before, if possible, and price should not too greatly influence one's choice. Unless fancy stock is wanted, weight, aside from pure breeding, should be the main requirement.

Between a late-hatched, 15-pound gobbler at \$5, and an early 25 or 30-pounder at \$8 or \$10, the latter is much the better investment. If a pound or two on each of the young can be gained by taking the larger bird, \$3 to \$5 is not worth considering; the larger bird is worth much more than the difference in price to the turkey raised. However, back of the new gobbler should be a big, vigorous strain, one that will ensure maximum size at full maturity.

Breeds and Breeding.

Breed does not matter so much as quality of breed, but it should be some one or another. For the general market one of the two or three largest is advis-

able. Personally, I would prefer the one big kind, which has been so generally tried out, but, whatever the breed, hens and gobblers should be the same.

There is seldom, if ever, any advantage in crossing breeds. As a rule such crosses mean the loss of the best qualities of both breeds, and gain nothing over either. But, aside from this, there is so much more satisfaction to be obtained from a uniform flock, alike in size, shape and beautiful coloring. Pure-bred stock may be obtained so cheaply that there is no reason why any turkey raiser should produce a mongrel or mixed flock.

To obtain vigor, parent stock must be unrelated and well matured. A large, profitable flock cannot be grown from closely related, over-young parent birds. This is another reason why the largest, earliest hatched birds should be chosen for future breeders, and why a gobbler from another flock is generally advisable. There is nothing so disastrous to the future turkey crop as close inbreeding. Even a single close cross will seriously lower the vitality of the young, and continued selection of males and females from the same flock will quickly result in almost total failure. Young turkeys at best are very tender, susceptible little creatures, and require all the inherent vigor possible to give them, in order to keep thrifty, and a weakly, unthrifty little turkey is almost invariably a dead one.

Very immature breeding stock results much the same as inbreeding, though perhaps not to quite so marked an extent. It is a mistaken practice to sell off the oldest of the new flock and keep the youngest for breeders, as so many turkey raisers do. If there is nothing left at this time but these very late, small birds, better kill or sell them on the market and buy one or two good ones unrelated, at several times the value of the others. At least get a new, well-matured gobbler, and another fall save the largest and best matured of the new crop.

In buying a new gobbler, get one as soon now as possible. This is advisable for two or three reasons. Turkeys require quite a little time to accustom themselves to new surroundings, and should be introduced some weeks before the laying season for best results. Again, large, well-matured toms are much easier obtained now than they will be later.

At the beginning of the breeding season it is often almost impossible to obtain a really desirable bird, as breeders are generally pretty well sold out. Again, a new male may be bought cheaper now than at the last minute. There is always a brisk demand, and

such as breeders have on hand then they hold at higher figures, for they know they can get them. I have seen many future turkey hopes blasted by failure to get a good gobbler at a late hour.

The number of parent birds required depends on the size of the future flock desired. As a rule, too few hens are kept. Always it is the easiest hatched poults that pay the best, and the aim should be to keep hens enough to produce the desired number of young from the first two clutches of eggs laid.

Each hen may be expected to lay around 25 eggs in good season for hatching, and ordinarily 10 to 12 young birds may be raised to the hen. For a flock of 100 early-hatched young turkeys no less than seven or eight hens should be saved. One gobbler to this many hens, or even more, is all that need be provided.

Lastly, parent stock should be fed with an aim to their future purpose. This means a variety of grain, rather than a great abundance. Breeding stock should not be fat at the beginning of the season, but vigorous and active.

The object should be to induce early laying of strong, well-fertilized eggs. This means parent stock at the end of winter in normal, active, healthy condition in early spring. Roup is deadly to turkeys, especially to the future flock.—Ottawa Valley Journal.

POULTRY IGEORS &

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BOGUS DAYLIGHT FOR THE HENS.

A certain poultry breeder has stated that by the use of electric light he can induce his hens to greatly increase the output of eggs.

If you would make a living raising hens (An easy matter when you know the way).

You have to give some study to the pens

And teach your fowls just when and how to lay.

Don't say that Mother Nature points the way;

She cares not if you never make a cent.

In winter you've to turn night into day (And then your birds will more than pay the rent).

This is the method: use electric light,
And get your hens up long before
the sun:

Then turn it on before the shades of night

Have warned them that the long day's task is done.

So will they lay when otherwise they'd roost,

And in the laying fill your pocket-book;

And you the while the poultry trade you boost

Have eggs to sell—(p'raps even eggs to cook).

--Weekly Free Press and Prairie Farmer.

POULTRY NOTES.

Give the poultry-house a good cleaning, and spade up the poultry yard as soon as the ground can be worked.

Sunlight and air in large quantities are essential for the health and well-being of chicks. Dampness and drafts are to be avoided.

Do not stint your supply of grit and oyster-shells. Your poultry should have plenty available all the time.

If you are hatching chicks under hens, watch carefully for lice. If the chicks appear dumpish and inactive, their heads should be greased lightly. An application of grease should also be made under the wings and around the vent. Lard, fresh butter or vaseline may be used for this purpose.

Young chicks need bone-making rather than flesh-making food.

When you eat eggs you eat meat minus the bone, without patronizing the beef trust.

Grit grinds the feed of fowls, and also supplies the mineral elements that go to make bone and brilliant plumage.

If you have taken good care of your pullets, you are now being rewarded with generous returns from them by the way of the egg basket.

The fowls should have their breakfast as soon as they fly from their roost, all times in the year; especially is this true during the spring and summer laying season.

Offer for sale only your highest class products and then keep the sale-able products up to that high standard. If you establish a reputation for dealing in the very best of eggs and chickens, you will only lose it through neglect.

It takes two or three years to breed up any flock to good characteristics. Select the breed you admire most and breed your hens to males of that breed, changing them every year. You will note a marked improvement the first year, and each year thereafter will intensify the advance.

Good layers will always be found among the hustlers. If they are active they are almost invariably healthy. Exercise creates in them an appetite, develops bone and muscle, stimulates healthy circulation, and promotes digestion.

CHOOSE BREEDS.

Be sure that the male at the head of the flock is purebred.

The Mediterranean or egg breeds are Leghorns, Minorcas, Spanish, Blue Andalusians, and Anconas.

The American or general purpose breeds are: Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Javas, Dominiques, Rhode Island Reds, and Buckeyes.

The Asiatic or meat breeds are: Brahmas, Cochins and Langshans.

The English breeds are: Dorkings, Orpingtons and Redcaps.

For farm use the American breeds are probably the best.

Purebred poultry means uniformity of products.

Uniformity of products means increased profits, if products are properly marketed.

Given the same care and feed, purebred fowls will make a greater profit than mongrels.

MARKETING EGGS.

Begin marketing the cockerels as soon as they weigh 1½ pounds or attain a marketable weight.

Market white-shelled and brown-shelled eggs in separate packages.

When selling eggs to the country merchant or cash buyer, insist that the transaction be on a quality basis.

Ship or deliver eggs twice or three times weekly.

Small or dirty eggs should be used at home.

When taking eggs to market, they should be protected from the sun's rays.

Infertile eggs will withstand marketing conditions much better than fertile eggs.

CANADIAN HENS LEAD.

1.5

Hens from British Columbia Are Leading in the Panama-Pacific International Egg-laying Contest

The highest pen in the contest to date is No. 25, White Wyandottes, owned by George D. Adams, Victoria, B. C., with a total record of 404 eggs. The second place in the contest to date is held by Tom Barron's English White Wyandottes, pen No. 32, with a record of 371 eggs. Pen No. 112, S. C. White Leghorns, owned by Thomas S. Fitzgerald, Santa Rosa, California, stands third, with 336 eggs to its credit.

The birds in this contest are in good condition, and the records for the month ending March 15, 1915, show some satisfactory results. The highest pen for the month was No. 30, S. C. White Leghorns, owned by Bonny Brook Poultry Farm, Saratoga Springs, New York, which produced 153 eggs. A close second was pen No. 46, S. C. White Orpingtons, owned by Hall & Clark, Victoria, B. C., with a record of 151 eggs, while the third place was taken by pen No. 13, Barred Plymouth Rocks, owned by the Oregon Agricultural College, with a record of 150 eggs.

The pullets in this contest are fed regular rations composed of elements which are not only reasonable in price. but which are so compounded as to produce good results in egg production. The scratch feed is made up of the following feeds in the proportions named: 15 lbs. of wheat, $7\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of barley, $7\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of cracked corn.

This is weighed to each pen, so that an exact record of the amount of scratch feed consumed is available.

The pullets are also given a dry mash made up of the following ingredients: 5 lbs. bran, 5 lbs. shorts, 3 lbs. meat scraps, 2 lbs. Soybean meal, 5 lbs. ground barley, ½ lb. fine charcoal, 1-10 lb. salt.

While it is possible to give these hens other good rations, it is not thought possible to give them a ration which will be productive of best results and which will exceed in economic value the one here named. Fresh water, grit and oyster shells are kept before the birds at all times, and in addition they are given a daily ration of sprouted oats in such quantities as each pen will consume entirely within thirty minutes.

CONDITIONS IN OKANAGAN GOOD.

Mr. J. B. Mather, second vice-president of the Pacific Coast Fire Insurance Company, who has just returned from a tour of the Okanagan district, reports the fruit and vegetable crop in that district in a very promising condition. Everywhere there were evidences that a fine crop could be expected in the valley this year. Farmers are also going into the growing of alfalfa and raising hogs quite extensively. Mr. Mather was accompanied by Dr. W. H. Wilson, president of the company; Mr. W. H. Malkin, first vice-president, and Mr. W. F. Greer, manager.

A. I. Johnson & Co. have recently become successors to W. H. Gunn & Co., handling "Pittsburg Perfect" poultry fencing. Mr. A. I. Johnson brought the agency with him from the Prairie Provinces, associated himself with W. H. Gunn & Co. nearly two years ago, and has been managing the business since that time. Previous to coming to the Coast, Mr. Johnson was for three years sales manager for Ellis & Grogan, wholesale agents, Calgary, Alta.

Hon. Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture, has telegraphed to the Provincial Department of Agriculture that a customs regulation will immediately go into force requiring the marking of country of origin on packages containing eggs. This notification means that the persistent efforts of the Provincial Poultry Association and its thirty-three local affiliations, demanding an Eggs' Mark Act, has been partly successful, and the regulation passed is expected to be of great assistance to the growing industry of egg production in this Province.

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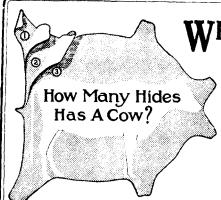
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Now to produce genuine grain leather for upholstery, two thirds to three quarters of this thickness is split away, only the outermost layer being really strong enough.

To save that by-product, however, some manufacturers actually split it into two or more thin sheets, coat and emboss it to make it look like the strong, outermost grain leather. Hence two thirds to three quarters of all leather upholstery in use is coated splits.



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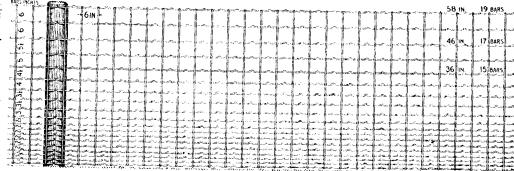
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 D. F. Bush, Minneapolis, Minn. FOR SALE—Cheap; No. 2 Ducrest Stump-Puller with 200 ft. % pulling rope, anchor rope, choker line, two power blocks and shackle, complete, ready to go to work, and nearly new. Apply B. C. Fruit and Farm Magazine, Yorkshire Building, Vancouver.

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ANYONE may take advantage of this offer. It is not necessary to be a subscriber to the B. for, and write to us, giving the prize number or numbers. We will then write to you, giving infor number of receipt forms, with sample copies of the Magazine. When you have got all the subwritten clearly the name and address of each subscriber or renewal; also send a money order for prepaid, the premium or premiums you have earned. Should you decide, after once starting in Any subscriptions sent in which are renewals should be clearly marked as such on the stub of the

This is a splendid opportunity for enterprising people—especially young people. DO NOT The premiums offered below will appeal to the tastes of all members of the family, both children name of which is a sufficient guarantee of the quality of the article. All premiums will be shipped

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Cabinet, mahogany (semi-gloss finish) or quartered golden oak. Diamond Point Reproducer, Model B. Powerful spring motor. Combination worm and gear drive instead of belt puileys, insuring noiseless operation and perfect regu-



Noiseless lation. automatic stop. Plays Blue Amberola Records only, but will play any four-minute record when equipped with a Sapphire Point Reproducer. Size, 171/2 inches high; 16% inches wide: 22 inches

200 subscriptions sent to us will secure this beautiful Phonograph. If two hundred seems too great a number for one person to collect, why not club together? Several families might join and share the Amberola, or members of a club might work together and win it for their club rooms.

PRIZE No. 2

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Purchased from the Singer Sewing Machine Agency, Vancouver, B. C.

A Sewing Machine in the home enables a woman to economize in many ways. It is a real time-saver. subscriptions are needed to put this first-class Singer Sewing Machine in your home. The model we give is Cabinet Table No. 6, seven drawers, embossed, closed case, with rotary shuttle movement. This is a regular sixty-five dollar machine, and will be shipped free

of charge to any point in B. C.

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Purchased from the Hoosie

SPECIAL OFFERS FOR GIRLS

PRIZE No. 6

BEAUTIFUL SILK KIMONA

This Kimona may be had either in China silk or crepe de chine. It is lined with silk, and interlined, and is worked with most beautiful hand embroidery, done by the peasant of Japan. Any girl would be proud to possess such a gar-

12 subscriptions are all that is necessary to procure this Kimona, which will be purchased from Saba Bros., Vancouver, B. C.

In writing, please state what colour you would like your Kimona to be, and whether you prefer China silk or crepe de chine.

PRIZE No. 7 WRIST WATCH

Purchased from Henry Birks &

Sons, Ltd., Vancouver, B. C.

Sons, Ltd., Vancouver, B. C.

A charming Wrist Watch for ladies will be given for 18 subscriptions. This watch has a silver and enamel case, with a silver buckle for the leather strap. It is a reliable Swiss make, and is a superior watch in every way. Should you wish to have a monogram engraved on the back of the watch, Henry Birks will do the engraving for 25c per letter. Send us the extra money and initials required, and we will see that the engraving is done.

PRIZE No. 9 DOLL

For only 3 subscriptions will send you a most beautiful Doll—kid body, unbreakable head with long curly hair. This doll is 12 inches in height, and is of the very highest quality. Purchased from Miller & Coe, Vancouver,

PRIZE No. 8 CHILD'S SINGER SEWING MACHINE

Here is a prize that every little girl would be delighted with, and would find most useful too. This little machine does splendidly for making dolls' clothes, and can be used for larger pieces of sewing as well. Only five subscriptions are needed to procure this prize.

PRIZE No. 10 WAR HERO SPOONS

Made by Canadian Rogers Co., Ltd. Purchased from Paull & McDonald. Vancouver, B. C.

One dozen War Hero Spoons, representing King George, Kitchener, French, Fisher, Jellicoe, Beatty, Ian Hamilton, Smith-Dorrien, Alderson, Grey, Asquith and Roberts, will be given for six subscriptions. The spoons are best quality plate, French grey, with bright finish bowls.

Construction

Light, Golden Oak outside water and steam proof. Ball-bearing casters of high-

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Nickel-plated door fasteners. Nickel-plated outside hinges. Ivory-white inside finish, upper

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Height 72 in, width 42 in., depth of take 72 in, width 42 in. table, closed, 28 in.; open, 39 in. Regular price \$50.00.

Here is an offer that will appeal every housewife. Only 95 subscriptions for this beautiful Cabinet, which is an article of furniture that every housewife longs for. Let every hember of the family help to get prize, which will mean such comfort and saving of time and steps to the mother of the house.

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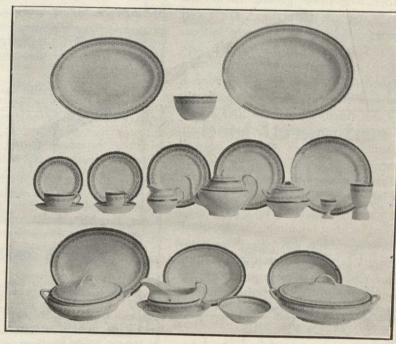
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This splendid Camera will be given, fitted with film cartridge, 6 exposures, for only 20 subscriptions. This is an offer which should not be overlooked

The Camera will be purchased from Bishop & Christie, Vancouver, B. C.

PRIZE No. 5 DINNER SET



Brown Regina.—This is a beautiful pattern with a gold edge, a black key in a quarter-inch brown band, a gold line and a half-inch brown wreath. It is manufactured by Johnson Bros., England, and is a high-class ware with an attractive style throughout. The set is supplied by Miller & Coe, Vancouver, B. C., from whom it may be purchased by the set or by the piece. Regular price for 97-piece set, \$19.75.

The beautiful set of 97 pieces, shown above, will be sent free to you for only 30 subscriptions. This is a generous offer which should be taken advan-

SPECIAL OFFERS FOR BOYS

PRIZE No. 11



FOOTBALL

This Football, purchased from the Fraser Hardware Co., Ltd., Vancouver, will be sent to you free for only 4 subscriptions. This is a splendid chance for an enterprising boy.

PRIZE No. 12

BOY'S CATCHING MIT OR BASEMAN'S MIT

Purchased from Harry Godfrey, Vancouver, B. C.

First-class quality. Only five subscriptions needed for this prize. Boys, don't miss this opportunity

PRIZE No. 14 BOY'S POCKET KNIFE

Purchased from Harry Godfrey's Store, Vancouver, B. C.

We send you this Pocket Knife (regular 75c value) for only one subscription. There is only a limited supply of these knives, so do not delay, or you may be too late.

PRIZE No. 13

No. 1 BROWNIE CAMERA

Everyone knows about the
Brownie Camera: their reliability
is not questioned. They are easy
to work, and inexpensive to use.
We offer a No. 1 Brownie, supplied
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PRIZE No. 15

PRIZE No. 15

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Purchased from Henry Birks & Sons, Ltd., Vancouver, B. C.

(a) A "Birks" Boy's Watch, 16 size, with gun-metal case, will be given for six subscriptions.

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These watches are both reliable Swiss makes, and are dependable in every way. Henry Birks will engrave monograms for 25c per letter. If you wish for a monogram, enclose this extra 25c per letter and give initials required.

Gardening for the Home

By H. M. EDDIE, F.R.H.S.

(Our readers are invited to submit any troubles or difficulties which they may encounter, to Mr. Eddie, who will be glad to give them his advice, the outcome of technical training and practical experience.

Address letters to the Editor.—B.C. Fruit and Farm Magazine).

The exceptionally early spring we have had has been very tempting to gardeners to start planting out tender plants too early. The middle of May is quite time enough to plant out tomatoes; up to that time we are very liable to have frost at night, especially with the clear skies prevailing at time of writing.

Those who have grown their own plants must see that they are well hardened off, that is, thoroughly exposed to sun and air in the frame before planting; too much importance cannot be placed on the hardening off process, for unless the plants are perfectly hardy and sturdy they will suffer dreadfully when transferred to the open. The soil for tomatoes ought to be well prepared by deep ploughing or digging and this preparation ought not to have been left to the last minute. Tomatoes are gross feeders and ought to be well supplied with phosphates and potash salts; as a supplement to the usual dressing of barnyard manure, a mixture of equal parts of superphosphate of lime and sulphate of potash applied at the rate of 3 ozs, per square yard will amply repay the little extra expense.

This fertilizer ought to be harrowed or forked into the surface.

The proper distance apart to plant is 18 inches in the row and 36 inches between the rows, although when cultivavation is all done by hand 30 inches between the rows will be all right.

In planting, the trowel ought to be used in preference to the dibble. If the plants have been pot grown, be careful not to break the ball when turning the plant out, press the soil firmly around

the plant and when finished, if the weather be very bright, stick a shingle into the ground on the south side of each plant until established, which will be in about a week's time, to shade it from the sun. Larger fruit and more ripe ones will be obtained if the single stem system be adopted; each plant has to be supplied with a stout stake to which it is tied as it grows; side shoots are rubbed off as quickly as they appear, and the main stem is also stopped at one leaf past the fourth bunch of flowers when the plant has developed this far.

When the first fruits have set, nitrate of soda given at the rate of ½-oz. per square yard will be of great assistance; four or five applications of this kind given at intervals of two weeks will give greatly increased returns.

It is time now to plant seeds of "cucurbits," that is cucumbers, marrows, pumpkins, citrons, squashes, and I may say that few crops respond better to good treatment than do these. It is a great mistake to grow them between the rows of corn or in any odd corner at all. I consider the above to be among our chief vegetables, especially pumpkins and the hubbard squash, by reason of their long keeping qualities when properly stored, and spare no pains in growing them. Here is a method I have adopted with excellent results: Dig out a hole four feet square and two feet deep, throwing the soil well clear of the hole, and if it isn't all good the bad must be rejected and its place taken by good soil from somewhere else. To every two parts of soil add one part of well fermented manure, chicken for preference; mix the whole thoroughly by turning with the spade, then dust over the surface of the heap one pound of this mixture: 4 parts supersulphate of lime, 3 parts bone meal and 3 parts sulphate of potash; mix the whole again thoroughly and return it into the hole once again. Instead of the bed being moulded in the centre, it ought rather to be basin shaped; this is a great advantage when watering in summer. Plant five or six seeds to the bed, and when the plants are well up thin out to three of the strongest.

Further details must be left till next month, as I must reserve the remainder of my space to the flower garden.

This is a very busy month in the flower garden, this being the time when all kinds of half hardy annuals are planted out. A great deal may be said on this very important matter, but space will not allow. In planting up beds where bulbs have flowered the leaves of the latter ought not to be cut off if they are expected to flower another year; the leaves are really the stomach and lungs of a plant and it must not be permanently deprived of them.

Take the fullest advantage of rainy weather if possible for planting. Keep a sharp lookout now for pests of all kinds, green aphis, rose mildew, and the rose leaf roller. For green aphis the quassia and soap solution is excellent and very safe but is a little If anyone troublesome to prepare. wishes the formula I will give it. Blackleaf Forty is good if strict attention is given to directions. Mildew is the most troublesome rose pest we have to contend with, its cause is so obscure. Where present, spray weekly with a solution of 1 oz. of potassium sulphide to 3 gallons of water, coating the leaves thoroughly, undersides as well as the upper. For the leaf roller and all biting insects, spray with arscenate of lead according to directions.

Errata—The thirteenth line from the bottom of the second column in last month's article ought to read: Beet requires a little deeper drill; and the fifth line from the end of the article ought to read: thinly, as they have to be thinned.—W.M.E.

SEEDS

OF QUALITY

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LOOKING AFTER BERRY BUSHES

If bush fruits are allowed to go over a single season without pruning, they become a tangled mass of canes and produce only a minimum amount of

Unless the small fruits are properly and consistently pruned, their culture will become unprofitable and their presence in the garden or upon the farm unwarranted. Blackberries and red and black raspberries multiply so rapidly that, unless pruning is practiced to keep the plants within bounds. the area occupied by the plants will become an impregnable thicket, with fruit a minus quantity. Large, uniform berries can only be obtained from properly pruned plants.

Pruning the Blackberry.

The blackberry is the rankest grower of all the bush fruits. New canes are produced in superabundance in the hill to replace those that have lost their usefulness, while new plants form roots by the hundreds to reproduce themselves. Severe pruning is necessary With the blackberry, not only to hold the plants in check, but to cause them to bear profitable crops of large berries. The canes that have borne a erop of fruit are no longer of any use to the plants, and they ought to be cut away immediately after the bearing season to give the new canes coming up from the base of the clumps an Opportunity to develop. If these old canes were not cut away last summer or fall they should be removed now when the final pruning is in order.

The proper method to follow in the Pruning of the blackberry is to cut out the tips of the newly developing canes during the summer when they have reached a height of three feet. Since all of the canes do not reach this height at the same time, it will be necessary to go over the plants three or four limes to accomplish this "stopping" operation. Not more than four or five new canes should be allowed to derelop to a clump, and when the numher of young shoots exceeds this number the weaker ones ought to be cut away.

The object of pinching or cutting out the tips of new growths is to check their upward growth and cause laterals to develop. Laterals that develop durthe summer should not be shortened until early spring of the following season, when they should be cut back to fifteen or eighteen-inch stubs. The fruit is produced upon the growths arising from these lateral canes, and by allowing them to develop at will during them to develop at will during them to develop at will during the same the summer and fall they become strong and well matured.

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Strong Geraniums, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 per doz. Lobelia, Stocks, Asters, 25c per doz. Calceolarias, 75c, \$1.00 per doz. Fuchsias, Icy, Geraniums, Cannas, etc.

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Until the buds begin to swell in the spring, blackberry plants may be pruned. This pruning consists of first removing the dead canes—those which bore the last year's crop—a removal of all but four or five of the strongest canes, and then a shortening in of the laterals upon these canes to fifteen or eighteen-inch stubs. If any of the laterals have been winter-killed they should be cut back to live wood. The suckers—new plants that have developed between the hills or clumps—should be cut back to the ground, unless they are wanted for setting new plantations.

Pruning the Black Raspberry.

Summer pruning of the black raspberry consists of tipping the canes when they have reached a height of two feet, to induce laterals to develop from the ground to the tip. With all of the bush fruits it is most desirable to cause them to be self-supporting, and by inducing a low growth of laterals this becomes the case. When proper pruning is practiced there is no need of staking or trellising the plants. Canes that have borne a crop of fruit immediately pass their usefulness and should be removed as soon as the last berries are gathered, to give the new shoots a chance to develop. The laterals are allowed to grow unchecked until the following spring, when they are shortened into twelve or fifteen-inch stubs. Four or five new canes should be left to each clump to produce the coming crop, and all the others cut away at the base of the ground. Black raspberries propagate from the tips of canes coming in contact with the ground.

If new plants are desired, lateral canes that have fastened themselves to the ground should be cut from the parent stock a few inches from the contact with the soil, and these dug and transplanted to permanent situations just as growth begins in the spring.

Pruning the Red Raspberry.

The habit of growth of the red raspberry does not necessitate a shortening of the leading shoots during the summer. If the growth comes too rapidly or the laterals fail to develop as they should, then a shortening in or tipping of the canes becomes necessary. The treatment of the red raspberry is essentially the same as that of the black

raspberry. The pruning consists of a cutting back of the lateral shoots on four or five of the strongest canes to twelve or fifteen-inch stubs.

Pruning the Currant.

The currant may be grown in either bush or tree form, but the former is preferable, especially in commercial plantations. Even in home fruit gardens the tree form is objectionable since it is difficult to renew the old wood which has passed its usefulness. and there is danger of the main stem becoming broken or injured, thus compelling the replacement of the specimen with a new plant. Plants that are grown in bush form need very little pruning during the first two or three years after they are planted, excepting to shorten the new growths slightly after the leaves fall to cause the development of fruit buds along the canes. If this shortening is not done but few fruit buds will develop, and these will be mostly near the extremity of the canes.

MISSION FRUIT GROWERS.

The Fraser Valley Growers (Incorporated) have elected officers as follows: President, J. A. Catherwood; 1st vice-president, M. F. Shook; 2nd vice-president, W. T. Knight; secretary, E. Osborne; treasurer, T. Catherwood; auditors, A. E. Catchpole and E. P. Ferguson; directors, J. Lawrence, A. Brealey, Tom Aish.

COST OF PRODUCTION.

Now that the growers have their returns on fruit and vegetables for the past season, a few remarks on cost may not be amiss.

No doubt all have pondered over their balance sheets with more or less satisfaction, principally less. The season's results, owing to the state of the market and other factors, are not of the best. However, let us not rave at fate, or whatever else you call it, but do a little constructive thinking.

We hear someone lay the blame on our methods of marketing, and they are not perfect, all will admit. Others attribute it to the capacity of the middleman for absorbing profits, and no doubt he deserves a few cracks. Freight

and express rates also come in for a share of the general use of strong language.

But have they not lost sight of another phase of the question, namely, cost of production? Let that term be taken to mean cost of the goods up to the time of delivery at the car door. Feed is high, and this can be remedied to some extent by seeding down to fodder crops land that is unfit or difficult to use for growing fruit. The reduction of freight rates which we desire would also assist to overcome this state of affairs.

The labor question is also involved, that is, the price of hired help. This will adjust itself, as it nearly always does when places get settled more thickly.

These, however, are no worse than if as bad as, the packing question. Many other things bear on the cost of production, but let us devote our thoughts to this phase at present.

It looks as though the box was too expensive a package for some fruits and vegetables. Not only the material, but also the work of packing the goods in them. For instance, take prunes and plums. By the time they are picked and packed in boxes and the freight added, there is nothing left for the grower, or at the best only a few cents. With the intelligent grower there is therefore only one of two alternatives. either quit shipping the goods or cheap en the cost. The former does not appeal to us for several reasons, so we must take the latter course. The elevenquart basket can now be delivered to us for less than the material for the box, so we have a start. Other sizes of baskets can be purchased as correspondingly low prices when we wish to ship in small quantities. There are arguments against the baskets, but the chief and only one of much importance is the liability of loss through pilfering. This has been overcome by making a lattice cover instead of the old style with the piece of netting on the top: also further protection is secured by using four-hook catches instead of two as used formerly.

By the use of the basket, plums and prunes and such could be picked into the basket they are to be shipped in



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We are exclusive Western representatives of the largest Government, Municipal and Corporation Bond firm in Canada. Our list of Bond offerings contains a wide range from which to make selections. Write us for full particulars, which we shall be pleased to furnish. We invite enquiries.

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and the top faced if you wish. This would eliminate the damage and ex-Pense caused by the present method of Picking and putting in orchard boxes, and then packing later at the packing houses.

The same package could be used to advantage for corn, tomatoes, peaches, and apricots. There is another feature that should not be lost sight of, viz., a Person would rather buy stuff in a basket with a handle than a box or crate, simply because it is more convenient to handle. Incidentally there is the fact that the basket will be of use again, whereas the box is not likely to be.

Because a box is superior to a barrel for selling apples in, is no argument that it is the best package to ship all kinds of fruit in. You buy apples in a box and don't need two or three men with a rope and tackle to get it into your storeroom or cellar, as you do with a barrel. What is the advantage? Convenience. Two men are walking down the street together some Saturday night, and a display of fruit in a grocer's window attracts their attention. They remark on the desirability of having fruit to eat. The fruit is O. K. brand, packed in peach boxes and fourbasket crates. It looks its reputation, but they don't buy simply because it is not in a convenient package for carryhome, and express messenger or hired rig is too expensive. Further on they see the same kind of fruit in baskets. Each man grabs a basket, throws the grocer his money, and goes off home highly delighted. Our competitor gets the trade and we are left behind, and the advantage he has is what? Con-Venience. Give the customers what they want. Good fruit at a reasonable price in a convenient package.

LIOW about it? Can't we do a little improving along this line? Let us keep on, eye peeled on the middleman and our mediums of sale, but don't forget the first person singular, see that he does his part.—Wallace Wright, in The Summerland Review.

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Our artists will assist you in designing a label which will be out of the common; our presses and our skilled workmen will do the rest.

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NEWS FROM FARMERS' INSTITUTES

N.B.—All Subscriptions (or renewal subscriptions) to FRUIT AND FARM, which are forwarded through secretaries of Farmers' Institutes will be accepted at the reduced rate of 75c. per annum, instead of \$1.00.

LANGLEY FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

A meeting of the Farmers' Institute followed that of the Poultry Association, the president, Mr. Mead, taking the chair. Sundry items of correspondence were read by the secretary, and quite a discussion took place on the question of the limits of the Department regulations respecting the supply of stumping powder to members of Farmers' Institutes at the cheaper rate.

Mr. Wright, Holmstead Road, gave a highly interesting address on that (to farmers) all important topic, the eradisation of weeds. As is well known, several varieties of weeds that ought never to have existed here are rather prevalent in our farming districts, and sufficient time and care is not always given to the combating of this source of trouble.

A meeting of the directors of the Poultry Association is being held at Mr. Allen's house for the purpose of framing the by-laws to govern the running of the egg circle, which will be submitted for the approval of the Association at its next general meeting.

BURQUITLAM FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

At a meeting of the Burquitlam Farmers' Institute on Friday, April 2nd, Mr. F. W. Collin in the chair, a communication from the Department re the protection on Canadian apples was laid over for further consideration. Serious concern was manifested, however, at the notification received from the Deputy Minister of Agriculture that the price of powder had been raised from \$5 to \$5.50 a case. It was not considered justified. The Institute went on record as in favor of the Eggs Mark Act, especially in so far as the "country of origin," and whether "cold storage" or "fresh" is concerned.

ROBSON FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

At a meeting of the Robson Farmers' Institute on April 1st, the report of the committee appointed to arrange for the boys and girls' potato-growing contest, to be held under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture, was amended so as to arrange for three awards locally: First prize, \$3; second prize, \$2; and third prize, \$1, the latter to be donated by A. D. Clyde. In addition to the local awards, it is possible, through competition, to win

the Provincial award of a heifer calf, and also the district award at Vernon of \$10, \$8 and \$5 for first, second and third prizes, at the exhibition there next fall.

A communication was read from the Creston Farmers' Institute asking the co-operation of the local Institute in obtaining uniform legislation from Ottawa in the interests of the fruit rancher. A. Hartford presided.

ROCK CREEK FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

At a general meeting of the Rock Creek Farmers' Institute on Saturday, April 17th, it was decided to enter the Government crop competition. members entered the oat competition of two acres, and nine the potato class of half an acre. It was also decided to enter the children's competition again, and Mr. Whiting was requested to get the names of the children wishing to compete, applications of children between the ages of 12 and 18 to be made to him as soon as possible. Mr. Larsen moved that as the secretary was ill, and in all probability would be unable for some time to do the work, Mr. Tate should act as secretary until Mr. Donald was able to do the work. The financial report of the experimental plot on A. D. McLennan's ranch was read.

VERNON FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

A large and eminently successful entertainment was recently given by the Farmers' Institute at Vernon, on

GORDON HEAD FRUIT GROW-ERS' ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of the Gordon Head Fruit Growers' Association was held on Saturday evening, May 1st. It was decided to have a central depot in the district at Gordon Head, and all berries to be assembled there and distributed from that base. The Vancouver berries will be taken direct to the wharf for shipment in the evening of the day picked, and so will be on the Vancouver market next morning, with no intermediate handling here except putting on the boat. This arrangement should greatly assist in the marketing of bevries from Vancouver Island. It is hoped that a good deal may be accomplished towards inducing the British Columbia public to buy home-grown berries, and thereby benefit the Province as a whole.

the occasion of the opening of the Agricultural Hall of the new Court House. The affair was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all, as the music and refreshments, and also the floor upon which the dancers tripped it up to a very late hour, were of a firstclass order. Mr. T. Richmond, president of the Institute, in a few appreciative words, called upon Mr. Price Ellison to formally declare the hall open, which he did, and his speech recounted something of the history of the Farmers' Institutes and of the movement that had led to their increased number and usefulness in this Province. He urged the establishment of a Women's Institute in Vernon. The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Scott, then spoke. He referred to the fact that in 1909 there were only 41 Institutes in the Province, with a membership of 4,120, while five years later, 1914, this number had increased to 124, with a membership of nearly 10,000. He gave information with regard to the advantages accruing to the farmers through the Institutes, and urged the farmers to oppose and overcome the evils of the commercial depression, caused in part by the war and in part by the gambling spirit that had prevailed of late years, by co-operation-Following this speech, President Richmond made an appeal to the young men to join the Institutes—and then invited those present to enjoy themselves, which they proceeded to do heartily. During the evening a short musical programme was given, and dancing was kept up until four o'clock in the morning.

BONDS AS AN INVESTMENT.

Many suggestions have been advanced as to the reason for the present marked demand for Government and municipal bonds.

When war was declared, everyone—princes of finance, merchants, both big and small, and individuals—immediately curtailed their expenditures. Every dollar before being spent was looked at twice. Habits and manners of living were readjusted, while all the savings accounts were increasing at a rapid rate.

Now that the war has ceased to be such a prominent topic and is being considered more as an everyday occurrence, which must eventually be stopped, people are thinking of how they can increase their financial re-

sources, at the same time being commensurate with safety.

A few years ago real estate was the all-important means of adding to one's riches. Many people bought heavily and still own large blocks of property, while others managed to "get from under," and are now considered wizards of finance, when as a matter of fact they were just lucky enough to sell before the smash.

But to the man who is loaded up with real estate the Bond market has no concern, other than the fact that he wishes he had some high grade securities on which he could realize at the present time. Those who have money are slowly gathering together a number of first class investment bonds for which there will always be a market. In real estate, as it has been clearly shown during the past two years, this is not the case.

This is one of the reasons for the present marked increase in the demand for investment bonds of merit, and for the tendency towards higher prices. People who made money during boom times are satisfied that real estate speculation is a thing of the past, for a time at least, and are investing their money in high grade sceurities. With good bonds, the holder can always realize on his investment, and as collateral it is par excellence.

Of course the theory is put forth by some that the future may see another Period very similar to the one through which the world has just passed and through which the credit system of the World has come through unimpaired beyond a slight readjusting; but, financiers the world over declare that the credit system of the universe is so well organized that such a thing would be well nigh impossible, and to substantiate this fact they declare that credits will be so well organized in the future that any disturbance will have little effect on credit conditions. Mr. White, Canada's Finance Minister, has de-clared that Canada's "time of danger" is passed and that investors in Canadian enterprises may look forward to the future with confidence.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

A little tankage or meat meal with its corn will help the pig to make a better hog of himself in less time.

Good farming will pay for an automobile before the other kind has cleared enough to pay for setting the tires on the old buggy.

There will be a number of days this month when the fields will be too wet the working. These are the days when for dragging.

Seed Grain

Now is the time to place your orders. We have ready for this year's big crop:

B. & K. GARTON OATS SWEDISH OATS

MARQUIS AND RED FIFE WHEAT No. 1

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WOMEN'S SECTION

British Columbia Women's Institutes

Motto-"FOR HOME AND COUNTRY"

W. E. Scott, Supt. of Institutes. W. J. Bonavia, Secy. of Institutes.

Advisory Board of Institutes.

Mrs. W. V. Davies, Chilliwack. Mrs. R. L. Lipsett, Summerland.

We are pleased to report four new Institutes within the last three months: Barriere Institute (which had been granted its incorporation papers during the last weeks of 1914 but did not hold the first regular meeting until February, 1915), Mount Ida Institute (also in the Northern Okanagan), Naramata, at the southern part of Okanagan Lake, and West Saanich, on Vancouver Island.

To these new Institutes we extend a hearty welcome and express our pleasure in having the women of these communities join in this splendid work—Patriotism in its highest meaning—the work of raising the ideals of "Home and Country," enabling the children to enter the battle of life well equipped, mentally, morally and physically; helping the home-maker in her daily rouine; assisting those desirous of becoming self-supporting; and among other things, opening new paths into literature, teaching the laws of health, care of the sick, and welcoming newcomers.

The Institutes are understanding the value to them of having their programmes arranged for the year, and we have received from nineteen Institutes very attractive outlines of the meetings

planned for the year.

Programmes have been received from these Institutes in the following order: Cranbrook, Chilliwack, Nakusp, Shawnigan Lake, Oyama, Peachland, Hatzic, Tynehead, Summerland, Kaslo. Keremeos, Robson, Harrop, Langley, Surrey, Barriere, Sooke, Matsqui and Mount Ida.

The Superintendent of Institutes has published the results of the competitions among the Institutes for 1914. Upper Sumas ranked first in average attendance, and Burton City second, winning prizes of \$30 and \$15 value in books for a reference library.

The prizes of \$20 and \$10 in books for a reference library for the best submitted programme for 1914 were won by the Institutes of Chilliwack and Salmon Arm.

Prize Essays: "How the Women's Institute May Live Up to Its Motto, 'For Home and Country'"—1st prize, Mrs. K. Portsmouth, Mission City; 2nd prize, Mrs. Hugh Ross, Nelson.

"The Advantages of a Permanent Home for the Women's Institute, and How It May Be Secured"—1st prize, Mrs. V. H. Johnstone, Nelson; 2nd prize, Mrs. F. Smith, Salmon River Valley Institute.

"How May the Problem of the Home-maker and the Newcomer Be Met by the Women's Institute"—1st prize, Mrs. E. L. Winson, Upper Sumas W. I.; 2nd prize, Mrs. F. A. Williams, Summerland.

"The Woman Citizen"—1st prize, Mrs. V. H. Johnstone, Nelson; 2nd prize, Mrs. K. Portsmouth, Mission

City.

"Hot Lunches for School Children"— 1st prize, Mrs. Ernest Locke, Summerland; 2nd prize, Mrs. W. H. Martin, Salmon Arm.

The first prize was cash to the amount of \$10 and the second prize was \$5.

SALMON RIVER VALLEY.

The Salmon River Valley Institute held its annual meeting at the home of Mrs. Andrews on Jan. 14th, twenty-one members and two visitors being present. The officers for 1915 were elected as follows: President, Mrs. Andrews; vice-president, Mrs. W. F. Smith; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. H. E. Thomson.

The secretary read a very interesting letter from Mrs. Watt, former secretary of our Advisory Board, who is now living in England.

After tea had been served, Mrs. H. B. Rowe favored those present with

several songs.

The report of the secretary-treasurer for the year just closed was very interesting, the total income for the year being \$71.65. Eleven meetings were held throughout the year with an average attendance of thirteen, a splendid average considering the distances that the members have to come each time. Throughout the first three months of the year the Institute co-operated with the Farmers' Institute in holding social evenings once a month at the Silver Creek hall; they also held a picnic there in June. In October a social evening was held at the home of Mrs. Andrews.

No special efforts were made to raise funds during the year, but donations of \$12.50 were given to the Patriotic Fund, to the Red Cross Society \$4.75; to assist a needy member, \$15; to purchase yarn for cholera belts, \$1.75; and \$6

French Dyed Colored Pongee By Mail

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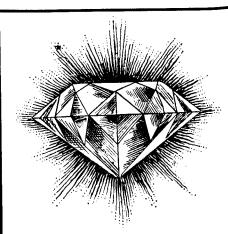
27 inch Pongee, in all shades\$.50
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Vancouver, B.C.

was divided between three schools to encourage the cultivation of gardens.

On Feb. 1st a social evening was held at Morgandale. Those present enjoyed the programme provided and joined heartily in the games. After refreshments the Farmers' Institute gave a vote of thanks to the ladies for the most enjoyable evening.

CRANBROOK WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

The regular monthly meeting of the Cranbrook Women's Institute was well attended, some sixty being present. The meeting opened with singing of "The Maple Leaf." After the usual business Mrs. McFarlane addressed the meeting briefly upon the public market question, urging the women to co-operate with the farmers, and steadily patronize the market week by week, thus assisting in forwarding this movement. She also spoke of the proposed erection of a permanent market hall, and mentioned a Possible site.

A letter was read by Mrs. Palmer from Mr. Upton, the Government Dairy Commissioner of Victoria, speaking of the small attendance at market and warning the women of Cranbrook that if they did not rally around the farmers, thus making the market a success, it might be some years before the scheme would again be attempted.

Many members complained that those in charge of the meat stalls refused to serve customers with small joints, and the President promised to bring up this matter before the Market Commis-

Mrs. Palmer gave a very able and instructive paper on the "Care of Milk and Butter Making." She showed that the main asset of every farmer is "the cow," and gave some interesting points of her experiences in eastern farming.

Mrs. J. E. Kennedy gave a pleasing change to the meeting by her solo. Then followed a demonstration on "Potato Salad" by Mrs. McFarlane. Among the questions in the question drawer was, "Are we not justified in sending money for goods to other towns when our incomes are reduced and we can purchase 50% cheaper?" An animated debate followed, and after tea was served the meeting adjourned.

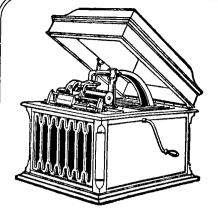
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The Advantages of a Permanent Home for Institutes and How to Acquire It

Prize-winning Essay by Virginia Holmes Johnstone, Member of the Nelson Women's Institute.

Order is one of Nature's first laws, and the Creator of this intricate and interesting world has taken as much care, comparatively speaking, in the fashioning of roses and thistles, as in the modelling of living creatures. Upon infinitesimal particles is left this impress of method and system; and in this grand scheme of order is embodied We would recognize a knowledge. rose were it nodding to us from the top of the Matterhorn; and an African at the North Pole is to us still an African; and also an Esquimo, though out of element at the Equator, is still an Esquimo.

It is this inborn method and system that has given us our family life, and here at the home altar this sacred scheme of order is imbred, and reaches its highest state of perfection.

The great struggle of existing humanity today resolves itself into one continuous and strenuous effort to put things in order for themselves, and it is not a spirit to be despised, for the result of this ambition is progress.

Lined up in this battle array for the prosperity of the world, we find churches, Christian associations, clubs, and affiliations of all sorts; among them our Institutes. With the motto, "For Home and Country," we can claim for it a broad and extensive scope.

Nothing is too small or too great for its adherents to undertake, but its work pertains essentially to the home, and primarily for that reason we should not be in a paradoxical position; but, like Abraham, when he reached the Promised Land, we should "pitch our tent and erect an altar."

An apartment, a flat, or a borrowed house, however charming and luxurious, is not, in the truest sense, a home—the heart is lacking. Let the merest shack become our own, and suddenly we find the interest of love peeping through every stick and stone. Flowers spring up like magic around the doorstep, vines creep lovingly about the windows; joyous voices, merry laughter and happy songs float out from its sheltering roof. Its inmates cheerily and bravely take up the daily burdens of life. What matter the crosses and

vexations of the busy world? They are the things of a day. There is one little corner set apart, and care only comes when trouble steals in there. There are marriages, births and deaths. It is hallowed with associations—it is Home—and its inmates carry that Home in their hearts all the days of their lives. In joy and in sorrow it goes with them, even to the grave, and who knows—perhaps even beyond.

What is true of individual and family life is true also of business and social life. What a reign of chaos were the marts of our congested centres continually shifting. Our thoughts dwell with peace and comfort upon the old landmarks, and from sheer force of habit our minds and hearts turn in their direction, and what a spirit of desolation sweeps over us when we occasionally find them uprooted and torn from their moorings! Imagine, if you can, the feelings of the Belgians when they view their ruined and desecrated towns! The influence of our social affiliations, such as the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., the churches, etc., would sink into insignificance were they deprived of their permanent homes. They have laid their corner-stones, and we know that they have come to stay, and that we may safely place our trust in them. They stand as monuments to the courage and will-power of their supporters, and that alone bespeaks a confidence for their undertakings. They have a roof-tree, they are organized families; they do not have to meet here, there and everywhere; their meetings are not controlled by the good-will and renting dates of the owners of halls, and each meeting does not demand a tribute.

As influences upon the destinies of mankind, these institutions have a recognized and exalted position in the world, and among them we must place the Women's Institutes; but we can never reach the fulfilment of our aims until we draw the magic circle of Home about us.

We have for years now put our strength and interest in arranging and setting to rights the homes of other people; but it has not yet occurred to us seriously that we needed to set our own house to rights, that we are like the cuckoos homing in the nests of others.

Our position is unfortified and assailable. A permanent Institute home, however, is a fortress, and without

such a bulwark our work is lacking in efficiency; and though our heads and hearts are full of schemes, they must "gang aft agley" for need of necessary equipment.

The Government officials have been sending us valuable literature, which should be kept on file, but we have no library; demonstrations are often not just properly carried out; enterprising schemes fall through as impractical on account of outlay. The need of a home, from a practical point of view, is ever before us; and when we consider the ethical side of it, who, indeed, can estimate our loss. We need the dignity, the protection, and the inspiration of permanent homes ourselves before we can, as a body of intelligent women. fare forth and battle with evils that beset other homes. We must have proper equipment and a suitable working base.

Dr. Forbush, in "The Coming Generation," tells us that "no social or moral progress can be made without preserving the home, its integrity, sanctity and power," and someone else has pointed out that "the sacred duties of home life are too often farmed out to various institutions of society."

As home-makers we, too, of the Institutes, realize the powerful influences of home, and it is our chief concern to utilize every means in our power for the uplifting, beautifying and idealizing of home life. We would like to draw together in our Institute homes the mothers of our community, and encourage them by every means in our power to make their homes the dearest and best on earth.

Such a course of action is surely full of wonderful possibilities, with no hint of the danger of encroaching upon the relationship or authority of parents. We feel that when we improve and educate the makers of homes, we are elevating the nation.

To be successful in such undertakings, we certainly require suitable quarters, where we can demonstrate, by example in our home, what can be done in the homes of others.

That a permanent home for Institutes, from a practical point of view, is required and expedient, is surely a self-evident proposition.

As a financial problem, the solution is entirely in favor of owning our own homes. If it is bad finance to pay rent

on your own dwelling-place, it is surely an unwise policy to follow a similar plan in the case of the Institute, an association which has come to stay; the fountain head, as it were, for the individual homes about us; the leader of the way; the blazed trail through rough ground for homesteaders to follow. To be of actual benefit in and under all circumstances, we must have an absolute right-of-way.

If the rent money and interest thereon were calculated from the dates of
the inception of the Institute, I am
confident the amount would astonish
you. Add that to the unheld meetings
—"sins of omission," we might call
them—and the loss is incalculable. In
our childhood we were taught by
Mother Goose:

"That for every evil under the sun There is a remedy, or there's none. If there is one, try and find it; If there is none, never mind it."

That paying rent for Institute homes is an evil we must acknowledge, and the remedy we know; but to apply the cure, and carry it to a successful conclusion, requires the unanimous cooperation of each Institute member. Even one unsympathetic person can do a world of mischief in dividing a house against itself. It will be difficult work, but, with many shoulders to the wheel. heavy burdens have been known to roll away. The larger the community or town, the greater will be the problem of financing; for while there are more People, there are more schemes to sup-Port, and the interests are greatly divided. But our Institutes, I am sure, are among the most substantial, and have a broader scope, and should—and will, I dare say-show a larger membership roll.

I think we can safely assume that the matter of a permanent Institute home has resolved itself into a financial question—one that we women will have to solve. Once the will is aroused, the way will not be too difficult, for some women are born financiers.

Indeed, when we look about us and see the well-fed, well-clothed, and altogether prosperous looking families, and figure out the small salaries that have had to provide all this, we might draw the conclusion that she is nothing short of a financial genius. The men know it, too, though we often think them a bit grudging in acknowledging it. However, unconscious praise is the highest tribute, as in the case of the good wife who, in fear and trembling, asked her lord and master for a little money. "Money!" he remarked. "What did you do with the dollar I gave you last week?" "Well, you know, John, I had to buy Willie a pair of shoes,

Mary some stockings, Jimmie a cap, you some socks, and there was a little castor oil, and I put 10 cents in the church." "But what," he thundered, "did you do with the change?"

The men smile and make joking remarks about our "teas," bake-sales, and what-nots--"money catchers," they style them, but you will find us nowadays figuring largely as auxiliaries to man-managed affairs; and let me tell you (sotto voce), these "money catchers" have been thankfully received. On occasions we have also been recipients of compliments to our ingenuity in this line, such as "We will just leave that to you women and trust you to get up something clever and new and catchy"-and, do you know, I really think it is just the wisest course to pursue in connection with the financing for our permanent homes. But the position of an Institute in a fairly large town is difficult and will, I am afraid, require higher financing than the "money-catcher" system, and we would almost need to begin on borrowed capital, putting up a fine twostorey building on the main street, with the lower floors fitted out for up-todate shops, and have the rentals, assisted by our personal efforts, pay off the total indebtedness. This should prove a tempting offer to drygoods merchants and others who cater to the trade of women, for it would carry with it the patronage of the Institute members, and their influence.

We could make our proposition reasonably safe by securing promises of tenants before letting our contracts, but the "field is not white for harvest yet." There is much preliminary work to be done. Each member must be convinced of the necessity and importance of this line of work, and the effort must come from the heart, and on this subject, an absolutely united membership, for we are not yet strong enough to work successfully without complete harmony.

However, this terrible war, this discord of nations, has surely drawn us more closely together. The awful loss of life, the desolation, the horror of it appalls us, and it seems as if the whole world is standing still, waiting for the issue of this gruesome combat.

Our souls are sick of sorrow and bloodshed, but our labors for the Red Cross and Patriotic Funds have united our sympathies, and I think we surely will be quite content, when it is all over, to work in harmony, happiness, and peace, in our own home affairs.

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Domestic Science Department

Edited by KATHLEEN FERGUSON

ON JAM MAKING.

I do hope that the above title does not give my readers a shock. It seems early to think of jam; but by the time this article appears we shall have the strawberries very near us, and the other fruits quickly follow.

I do hope that many of my readers took advantage of my hints on "mar-malade making" and have a good supply in their cupboards. I shall now give all the help I can on preserving, as it was called in the olden times, before the bottling of fruits was thought of. This article is only going to deal with jam making—that is, the boiling of fruit and sugar together, without any water. First of all, a very safe measurement of sugar to put is 34 lb. to every lb. of fruit. Many oldfashioned recipe books give 1 lb. of sugar to 1 lb. of fruit, but in the olden days the method of sealing jars airtight was not so perfect as at present, and more sugar was needed and longer boiling was necessary to insure the jam keeping.

Be very careful of the vessel you boil jam in. Of course, personally, I prefer aluminum to anything else; but I quite recognize that aluminum is much too expensive for many housekeepers, above all if one is constantly changing from place to place. Good enamel is quite all right for boiling jam, but iron saucepans should not be used, as, first of all, iron discolors the jam, and also there is danger of the acid of the fruit forming a poisonous substance when in contact with the iron. Copper pans are excellent, if kept properly clean; no sign of dirt or stain should appear. Even if the copper looks clean, polish it well inside with "Dutch Cleanser" or "Bon-Ami" to make it shine before putting in the jam to boil.

One point of warning I wish to give—that is, while making jam, never leave the kitchen for any length of time. I have known an entire house to be burnt to the ground by a fire caused by jam overflowing on the range. Many housekeepers do not think of this. In fact, one housekeeper lately said to me she did not think it could do any harm. The sugar and fruit are most inflammable, and I cannot impress this matter too deeply.

As to sealers for jam, I do not recommend any special kind—every house-keeper has her own special choice; but this much I shall say, that, above all this year, when money is scarce, gather every jar and crock available and seal in the old-fashioned way, cutting a round of white paper about 1 inch

larger than the round of the opening, brush the paper with white of egg, and place the side you have brushed next the jar; press down tightly with the hands, and the jar or crock is air-tight. Label your sealers with the name of the jam and the date when made, and try and use the jam in rotation, thus avoiding keeping any jam too long; though, if properly sealed, the jam keeps well over a year.

When filling the sealers, it is not necessary, as in bottling, to sterilize the jars. Have them hot, placing them near or over the range. Then, before filling with jam, place the sealers in hot (not boiling) water, in a bowl or basin, allowing the water to come halfway up, and then pour in the hot jam. and there is no danger of the vessel breaking. A large funnel is very useful when filling sealers with jam; it avoids much unnecessary mess made sometimes by jam flowing over the sides of the sealer. Keep jam in a dry, dark place (the light spoils the color of the jam), but avoid a damp cupboard, as with the greatest care damp will penetrate and mould the jam.

Strawberry Jam (1)—Hull the strawberries—that is, remove the stems and weigh them; allow 3/4 lb. of sugar (the ordinary granulated sugar is best) to every 1b. of fruit; place the fruit in a large jar or crock, put the sugar over it, and allow all to stand overnight. Next day put all into the preserving pan and boil for three-quarters of an hour from the time the jam boils. Put some jam to cool on a saucer, and, if it is inclined to become slightly stiff, take up the jam and put it into scalers, as directed above. Label the jam when cold and put it away in a dark, dry place.

Note:—People's taste differ with regard to the consistency of jam. Personally, I like it on the liquid side; others like it very stiff. To make it stiff, boil some time longer.

Strawberry Jam (2)—Another method is to hull and weigh the fruit, boil the fruit by itself for one-quarter of an hour, then add the sugar, previously heated through in the oven; boil both together for one-half hour.

Strawberry Jam (3)—Hull and weigh strawberries, add sugar and put all at once into the preserving pan and boil sugar and jam for three-quarters of an hour from the time it boils.

This last method is the old-fashioned one, the quickest, and gives very good results.

Note:—Be sure to use a silver, wooden or granite spoon, or a clean piece of board does very well to stir the jam when boiling. Stir from time to time to keep it from burning.

(Continued on page 620)

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THE STOREROOM

Edited by "Deborah"

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A good deal of the matter put away for use in the Storeroom I have gathered while visiting my Favorite Family. It occurred to me that my readers would enjoy these visits almost as much as I do, and might like to make the acquaintance of my Favorite Family. May I tell you something about them?

Of course, my Favorite Family lives on a farm. They could not be what they are if they didn't. But their farm is on a good road and not so far from the city that I cannot, when I feel like it, get into my little run-about after breakfast and be with them in a couple of hours or less. I must admit that the Goodman farm is not a fully up-to-date, scientifically equipped and superior establishment, although if its owner had his way and the cash to realize some of his day-dreams, it would be. Daniel Goodman worked hard and long years to win a farm from the forest. So much he has done. Yet there still remains much to do, and his hair is grey and his strength not quite what it was—I fear it will not all be accom-Plished in his lifetime.

Still it is a prosperous looking farm, and the buildings, nested in trees, have an inviting, home-like look which never fails to awake a warm feeling of anticipation in me, as I turn my machine through the gate and move along the drive at slow speed. To be sure, the fact that my Favorite Family lives there might account for the feeling.

It is a perfectly normal family, almost ordinary. Nothing out-of-theway about them except their general satisfactoriness. Year in and year out on a Monday you may see the family Wash waving on the line. On Tuesday there is a shaking of rugs from the up-Stairs windows, and if you should chance into the kitchen on a Wednesday, the smell of hot irons on clean linen would greet your nostrils, faint and pleasant; but not nearly so enticing as the delicious aroma that meets you if you are a Saturday visitor and happen to put your nose inside the pantry door, where the weekly baking is set out on the shelves to cool. Perfeetly normal, you see—and yet there is a difference.

A big family on a farm is always poor, I fancy—poor in money, though ite Family is no exception to the rule. They have enough for necessities, but own making, or else are those which

are free to all, "without money and without price." Such are the beauties of earth and sky and the changing seasons-the joy of congenial work-the pleasure of home and friends, and the comfort of religion. These are the things that cannot be bought with much money, and yet are all that make life worth living. Strange that we persist in placing value only on the things that gold can purchase, and often overlook altogether the good things that are free for all and all should share, which, with health and a bare sufficiency for our bodily needs, includes all the necessary elements of happiness. Well, my Favorite Family has these things and they all enjoy life. There are seven of them-father and mother, big boy and little boy, big girl and little girl, and Granny-not such a big family after all.

The last time I went to see them was to make an afternoon call and not to spend the day. Only mother and the eldest girl—Sallie—were in sight as I pulled up in front of the square frame house whose only attraction lies in the shrubs and creepers around it.

They were on the porch, which is the pleasantest place to sit in the spring weather, for the afternoon sun shines on it. Sallie waved a grey sock at me, for she was knitting.

"Hallo, Auntie Deb! Come and sit right down and join the family council."

"What is it?" I asked—for I saw that mother's face, generally so cheerfully placid, wore a grave and anxious look.

"Peter's enlisted!" Sallie blurted out.

From where they had placed a chair for me I could see the distant figure of father, ploughing a long burrow. A little bent, he looked a little old—and I noticed that his voice, as he called to the horses, had lost the ring of youth—even of manhood in its prime.

"I don't think Peter ought to go," I exclaimed. "He's needed at home."

"Yes—but father won't say a word to stop him. I've urged and argued that he can serve his country better by working the farm right here where he's so badly needed, growing stuff to feed some of the hungry people in the world, than by being a soldier and shooting Germans. But, of course, he won't listen. How can I expect him to?"

"I'm glad he won't!" asserted Sallie. "I wouldn't myself if I were a boy."

"He's too young!" I objected.

"Eighteen his next birthday—and he looks twenty," said mother proudly.

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We talked about the matter for some minutes, till Granny came around the corner of the house, carrying an old pudding dish which had been full of a crumbly mixture of corn meal and chopped egg that had just been fed to the incubator chicks, which were Granny's especial care. The pudding dish now held an assortment of weaklings, three or four, that had been culled from the hatch. These Granny was mothering tenderly under her withered old hand.

"More sick babies, Gran?" said

Sallie.

"Why not wring their necks right off and put them out of their misery?"

"No, no; I'll give them a chance. There's one of them at least will make a fine bird yet. Look at the big fellow he is-only a wee bit spread-legged"and she put a large weakly chicken on the ground for us to see; there he made a few feeble efforts to stand on his feet and finally sat down resignedly and picked at the sand.

"What do you say to the boy's doings, Deborah?" asked Granny of me. Sallie had taken the sick chickens and was cuddling them, without another thought of wringing their necks.

"What do you think yourself, Gran-

ny?" I temporized.

The old lady sighed and looked across the field towards her grey-haired son-and at his wife, who was bending over her sewing. Then she braced herself-she is a tall, gaunt woman-and

answered with spirit.

"I think we must all do our partyoung and old. If the German women and the French women can work the farms while their men go away to fight, why, I guess we can too. Sallie's as strong as a boy-and "I'm good for something yet, to help."
"But why? Why?"

I protested. "But why? "Our need is not the same as theirs-

"It will be on this farm," the old woman answered grimly, as she gathered the chicks into the dish again and marched indoors.

"What finery is this you're making?" I asked mother, to change the conversation, fingering the white silk that she

was daintily smocking.

"Only making a dress for my latest god-child," was the reply, and she added, laughing, "They will ask me to stand for half the babies in the neighborhood-and of course I have no money to buy silver spoons and mugs. So I get a dollar's worth of white silk and smock a little frock that lasts a long while and looks pretty. The work is quickly done."

At this juncture the children arrived from school. They were Tom, aged fourteen, and Nell, a year younger. Wholesome, healthy-looking children, but not models by any means, or they would not have thrown their school-

bags on the porch floor as if that was where they belonged. They greeted me politely but without effusiveness, and then asked the familiar question:

"Anything to eat in the house, Mother?'

"Why, yes; there are fresh yeast buns in the pantry. Don't take more than two each, or it'll spoil your supper," she called after their fast retreating forms.

Then she folded her work and got

up briskly.

"Of course, you'll stay to supper, Deborah. The evenings are long now -it will be light enough.'

I demurred.

"Yes, yes, Auntie Deb-you must. Father wants to talk to you. And you must see Peter in his uniform. He'll be home tonight. Such a handsome boy! I'm proud to be related to him!"
"The socks are for him, of course,"

said I, admiring the lately-acquired skill with which Sallie was making the

needles fly.

"Well-not this pair-they're promised to someone else. Sallie laughed and blushed. "But Peter will be well supplied when the time comes, never fear."

"Granny's knitting too," said mother. "She knits alternate pairs, for the soldiers and for Daniel."

"Granny is very patriotic," put in Sallie. "Of course, she was born in the Old Country."

"And you, dear-are you patriotic?" I asked, putting my arm around mother as we went through the door together.

"I'm ashamed to say it," she whispered, "but my patriotism is chiefly limited to the family and the farm.'

"Two worthy objects," I assured her, with a sympathetic squeeze. She is my

oldest and dearest friend.

When we were all in the plain old kitchen-which was the original log building to which Daniel Goodman had brought his bride years ago-Sallie began in her usual joking way:

"Father wants to talk to you about potatoes, Auntie Deb. He knows you write for Fruit and Farm, and is sure you are interested in such things and might make an article out of his experiences.'

"Potatoes!" I ejaculated. "I know nothing about them."

"I told father that you were only concerned about domestic mattersand what do you think he said?"

'Well?'

"He said, 'Well, Sallie, if you can show me anything more thoroughly and completely domestic than a potato, I'd like to see it."

We all laughed-and then Mother gave me the following hint, which I pass on to my readers as she told it me.

"I made a discovery this morning, Deborah; and, knowing how much you

are addicted to bran, and how you believe it to be a cure-all for every ill that modern nerves and stomachs suffer

"Oh, not quite all," I interrupted, "but a good many-

"Well, anyway, here's an easy and quick way of making bran muffins. I discovered it by happening to notice some pancake batter left from the day before—just as I was about to collect the ordinary ingredients for muffins

"Another of Mother's inspirations!" laughed Sallie.

"The batter was made from prepared pancake flour and I hated to waste it. At the sight of it an idea popped into my head. I first added a tiny pinch of soda, in case the batter had soured a little. Then I thickened it with bran. You know I don't have to buy the expensive bran in cartons like you do, Deborah. Daniel always brings me the best from the mill himself. I made the batter thick enough to drop and put in a few raisins—we always put them in our bran bread since you told us about them, Deborah. The whole business didn't take more than five minutes and the muffins baked beautifully. Everybody liked them, too, better than the old kind."

"But we can't all have pancake batter left over just handy for our bran muffins," I objected.

"No, but you can always mix it fresh, you know. And be sure to mix it thin -water will do as well as milk either for pancakes or for muffins.'

Children's Corner

SPOILING THE WHEAT.

Peggy and Frank were searching for some interesting way of spending the afternoon. Life was very pleasant in their Australian home, and they had passed a happy morning. First there had been a game with the kittens in the barn; then they had played hideand-seek in the hayloft; next, after building a two-storied house out of fruit boxes, they had dressed themselves elaborately with streamers from the weeping willow trees and lived stylishly in the top story of the box house, until the whole thing fell down over their heads. A little disconcerted, they had then climbed the mulberry tree and eaten mulberries till the din ner bell rang. Now, after an almost too hearty meal, they were looking for some new and exciting game. They had reached the apricot shed—that is, the shed where the apricots were cut into halves and spread on trays to dry, The apricot crop was now finished, and the shed was empty. Before them lay

a field of ripening wheat. The grain stood four feet high, and made an ideal place for hide-and-seek.

Frank kept looking at the field, and then said—softly, as if he were afraid of being overheard-

"Let's play hide-and-seek in the wheat."

Peggy looked scared and said quickly-

"But father said that we mustn't play in the wheat, because it tramples it down."

"Oh, we'll be very careful. It won't hurt-just for this once." Frank's tones were very persuasive, and Peggy, too easily swayed, gave in with a faint

Soon the game was in full swing. The children romped around, tracking one another by the sound of the swishing ears of corn. It was not long before quite a large area of grain was badly trampled down. Presently Peggy stepped out from the tall stalks into the clear space under the shed. On seeing the dreadful havoc that they had wrought, she began to be overcome with penitence, and thoughts of father's annoyance made her feel frightened.

"Oh, Frank, look what we've done!" she cried, as her brother came up, Panting with exertion.

"It does look rather bad, doesn't it?" said Frank, slowly, as he looked at the ruined wheat. "Let's try to straighten it up.

However, trying to straighten it was useless. The stalks would lie where they had fallen, in spite of all efforts to raise them. At last the children gave up in despair, and sat down to think over their disobedience.

Presently Peggy said solemnly:

I think that we've been very naughty children. We'd better say our prayers."

"P'raps we had," said Frank.

Then they both knelt beside an apricot box, and both said the only prayer that they could remember just then. These were the words:

"Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray thee, Lord, my soul to keep: If I should die before I wake,

pray thee, Lord, my soul to take." Then they got up, feeling very much relieved, and walked back to the house.

They couldn't understand how it was, but they did not feel the least bit afraid when they walked straight up to mother and told her all about it. Of course, mother spoke very seriously about being disobedient, and gave them each a task to perform, to make them remember what she had said. But they were really sorry, and the bunishment seemed to them almost too slight for the enormity of their crime.

LANDS FOR PRE-EMPTION

On May 18th at Vancouver, Alberni. Fort George, Fernie and Quesnel, the Government Agents will open to preemptors about 700 parcels of surveyed lands which have been in reserve and have been subdivided for settlement. The lands are located at points ranging from about 30 miles from Vancouver. near Sechelt, to Sunderland Channel, along the Mainland coast; on Malcolm, Nootka, Redonda, Cortes and Thurlow Islands; adjoining the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway in the valley of the South Fork of the Fraser; in Canoe River Valley, and at various points in East Kootenay.

On the coast and islands numerous tracts of logged-off lands, former timber licences, which, in accordance with the policy of the Government to render timbered agricultural lands available to settlement as soon as the timber is cut, have been surveyed into tracts averaging 40 acres in extent. These will be opened to pre-emptors at the office of the Government Agent in the Court House at Vancouver on May 18th. These blocks of lots are situated near Sechelt, in vicinity of Lund on Malaspina Peninsula, on Redonda, Thurlow and Cortes Islands and on Jackson Bay, Sunderland Channel. A pamphlet describing them has been prepared by the Department of Lands containing maps and full particulars regarding these

On Malcolm Island, 247 lots, each of 40 acres, and 40 lots of 40 acres each on Nootka Island, will be opened to settlement on May 18th at the office of the Government Agent at Alberni. Malcolm Island, a timbered, low, undulating plateau divided from Vancouver Island by Broughton Strait, was reserved in 1901 as a Finnish colony. The colony continued for some years, operating and carrying on business on a community basis. Circumstances finally caused the abandonment of the community system, and the greater number of the original settlers took up land individually, others locating on Vancouver and various places in the vicinity. There are now living on the island about 250 people, chiefly members of the original Finnish colony. The main settleemnt is at Sointula, where there is an excellent school, having an average attendance of 47 pupils, a Government wharf, post office, and co-operative store. During the past summer about 10,000 acres was subdivided, and is now being opened to settlers. The lots on Nootka Island, where there has been much settlement during the past few years, are subdivisions of former timber licences.

At Fort George on May 18th about 30,000 acres, divided into lots averaging 160 acres in extent, situated between

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Paper Dealers VANCOUVER, B. C. Guilford and Tete Jaune Cache, adjoining or close to the G. T. P. Railway on the South Fork of the Fraser Valley, and 39 lots, bottom land, fronting on the river in Canoe River Valley, will be opened to settlement. Last season some 80,000 acres, containing about 550 pre-emptions, were opened to settlers on the South Fork of the Fraser. These lots, and those to be opened on May 18th, are in a belt covering three miles on either side of the railway placed in reserve for settlement in 1907, some years prior to the construction of the railway.

At the office of the Government Agent at Cranbrook about 12,000 acres of logged off lands, and at the office of the Government Agent at Fernie, about 1,000 acres of similar lands will be opened to pre-emption on May 18th. The lots comprised are subdivisions of former timber limits in various parts of these districts, near Cranbrook, Kimberley, Fort Steele, Mayook, Wardner, Ryan, Tochty, Colvalli and Waldo. Last year about 10,000 acres of similar lands were opened in this district. A lot on which the reserve has been lifted in Cariboo will be open to pre-emption at the office of the Government Agent at Quesnel on the same date.

Pamphlets dealing with the Mainland Coast lots, with Malcolm and Nootka Islands, the South Fork of the Fraser and Canoe River lots, and with those in East Kootenay, containing maps and detailed information, have been prepared by the Department of Lands, and can be obtained on application to the Department or to the Government Agents in the several Land Recording Divisions.

Domestic Science Department

(Continued from Page 616)

Bottled Strawberries—Select highly colored, clean strawberries. To 10 lb. of berries, add 3 lb. to 5 lb. of sugar; mix thoroughly in a preserving kettle; allow to stand 5 to 10 hours (depending on ripeness of berries), until the juice begins to run into the sugar; place on stove and bring to boil; simmer for 15 minutes, keeping berries under the syrup with spoon or paddle, and removing scum. Have ready hot sealers; fill and cover.

To Prepare Jars for Bottling Strawberries—Wash in warm water. Immerse jars completely in boiling water, on their sides, for a full minute, seeing that the water covers the jars completely inside and outside all at one time, so that they heat through evenly. Wrap warm jars with a hot towel, and pour in the boiling fruit; seal at once. Do not place the hot jars on a cold or wet surface, or in a draught. Both jar and fruit must be boiling hot.

Note:—Always remove scum rising on jam or fruit when boiling. This leaves the jam a clearer color.

In our next issue, I shall give some further methods of using that most delicious of all fruits, the strawberry.

STUMP CHARRING DEMON-STRATION.

On Wednesday and Thursday, April 14 and 15, Mr. Wm. Middleton of Vancouver, an expert in pit or stump charring, came to Aldergrove under the auspices of the Farmers' Institute, who hired him for these days, and showed them how to destroy huge stumps by charring them. Mr. M. A. MacKenzie's lot was chosen for this purpose, and three stumps of different sizes were selected. These having four crotches on each stump, the bark was hewn off and the wood laid bare by silcing it with an axe until the pitch was reached. A good fire of dry fir wood was then kept burning until sufficient coal was obtained to ensure a good burning, when the fire was gradually covered by damp clay over a good base of firm sods. When all was safely covered another fire was started in the other crotch, and so on with all the other stumps. When the clay baked white and dry, more was added, gently dropped off the shovel without pressing down or disturbing the other. When the fire spread to the roots, these too were outwardly covered to a certain height, the idea being to char downwards instead of upwards. From all the stumps a large volume of steam had arisen, not smoke, which was as far as possible confined to the interior and helped with the live embers to consume the stumps. So far as can be now ascertained, this method, likely to be a success, cannot fail to help the farmers, as it costs them nothing but their own labor for the first two days, especially when the fires after then need replenishing but once or twice per day. It, however, needs patience and perseverance. One is not likely to become an adept at this work in a few days, and should not be discouraged even if his first attempts are a failure.

Twenty-three persons were present at the experiment, and it is interesting to relate that some of these have since started fires on their own land in imitation of this method.

Paull & McDonald, jewellers, who have been established for eight years in Vancouver, have recently moved from their former quarters on Carrall Street to a new and beautifully arranged store on Hastings Street. The store is fitted with the newest approved lighting system, and the appearance is most attractive throughout.

NEW BOOKLET ISSUED.

The B. C. Fruit and Farm Magazine has just received a new booklet issued by the Department of Natural Resources of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Calgary, Alberta, describing the Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and setting forth the terms on which the company's lands are offered to actual home-makers in these Provinces. The folder contains a vast amount of useful information, such as the averages of all leading grain crops in the three Provinces for a period of years, the average prices for the last five years, the elevator, flour mill and oatmeal mill capacity, statements of temperatures and precipitation, live stock stables, general information covering such points as customs, quarantine and transportation regulations, public worship, school systems, agricultural education, railway facilities, public roads, system of taxation, voting regulations, rural telephones, water supply, system of land survey, cost of implements, building material, harness, furniture, dry goods and clothing, meat and groceries, and the capital necessary for a settler to make a proper start. The booklet is illustrated with 40 photographs of actual farm scenes in Western Canada, and included in it are maps in two colors of Alberta and Saskatchewan. All persons interested in opportunities afforded to home-makers in Western Canada should make a study of this folder, which may be had free of charge by addressing the Publicity Branch, Department of Natural Resources, Calgary, Alberta.

LIME IN AGRICULTURE.

One of the principal functions of the Chemical Division of the Dominion Experimental Farms is to attempt the solution of problems connected with the maintenance and upbuilding of soil-fertility.

Among the many valuable results 50 far obtained in these investigations is the demonstration of the vital part played by lime in the increase of a soil's productiveness.

The subject is treated in an interesting and practical way in Bulletin No. 80 of the Experimental Farms regular series by the Dominion Chemist, Dr. Frank T. Shutt, who discusses it under the following heads:

The nature of lime and limestone.

The agricultural functions of lime and its compounds.

Comparative values of lime compounds.

The application of lime compounds. The use and misuse of lime.

Those interested may obtain a copy of this bulletin by applying to the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.