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SUCCESS AND FAILURE

In Raising Young Pigs for Real Profit.

Fifty Paragraphs Full of Facts About Feeding Them—Fertilizers for Fall Wheat—Pregnant Ewes Require the Best of Care.
 (Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

Causes of failure and success in the feeding of young pigs are pointed out in the following article:
Causes of Failure in Feeding Young Pigs.

1. No one on hand to see that everything is right when pigs are born.
2. Excess of fat in mother's milk.
3. Cold damp, uncomfortable quarters.
4. Intestinal parasites.
5. She are of sweet skim milk at weaning.
6. Ration out of balance.
7. Ration composed of unsuitable grains.
8. Lack of mineral matter in food.
9. Housing conditions unsuitable.
10. Diseases—hog cholera, etc.
11. Neglect to alter male pigs at proper time.
12. Neglect to supply ample feed for proper development, regularity.
13. Working with poor stock.
14. Treating the pig as a general scavenger.

Success in Feeding Young Pigs.

1. Mother's milk normal.
2. Clean, dry, bright, comfortable quarters.
3. Practice of disease preventive measures.
4. Ample yard room, protection from hot sun and flies.
5. Ample clean drinking water and wallow, during hot weather.
6. Mineral matter and conditions supplied during winter when on the soil conditions are not available.
7. Working with well bred, vigorous stock.
8. Ample supply of green forage, such as alfalfa, red clover, sweet clover, rape and blue grass.—L. Stevenson, Sec. Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto.

Fertilizers for Fall Wheat.

Fall wheat must have a strong well-rooted plant to withstand the winter. To insure this there should be an abundance of all kinds of available plant food in the soil. The constituents the wheat plant has the greatest difficulty in getting out of the soil are nitrogen and phosphorus. If the land has been manured and summer fallow or if a clover seed has been ploughed down there will probably be no need of purchasing a further supply of nitrogen and an application of acid phosphate alone will probably be sufficient. If, on the other hand, the wheat has been low out, or if there is any fear that the plants will not develop a good top, then some form of readily available nitrogenous fertilizer may be used to advantage.

Cereal crops have little difficulty in getting their supply of potash, consequently it will rarely pay to purchase a fertilizer containing this constituent for application on the land to be sown to wheat.

The Department of Chemistry at the Ontario Agricultural College has found that an application of from 100 to 400 pounds of acid phosphate and 100 pounds of ammonium sulphate per acre has very much increased the yield of wheat on the clay soils predominating in the Niagara Peninsula and in the area lying along the north shore of Lake Erie. It is probable, however, that when the soil contains a good supply of organic matter, enough to furnish sufficient nitrogen, the ammonium sulphate may be omitted.—Chemistry Dept., O. A. College, Guelph.

Pregnant Ewes Need Best of Food and Care.

Lambing time is perhaps the most important season of the year for the shepherd. A successful lambing period helps to make a successful sheep year. It then behooves every shepherd to have as high a percentage of strong, healthy lambs as possible. The lambs may be born weak and there a ewe, that he will save by good feed and care will simply repay him.

If the ewes are to lamb before going on pasture they should receive some grain about a month before lambing. This insures a good flow of milk. Oats and wheat bran, either half and half or two parts of oats and one of bran, which is lower in price, should be fed. The half pound a day of this mixture for each ewe should prove sufficient.

It is also very important that succulent feeds, such as corn silage or roots, be given pregnant ewes. These keep the bowels in good condition and serve as general tonics and regulators. The weight of the wool can also be increased by feeding good succulence. All winter long each ewe should receive daily from two to two and one-half pounds. After lambing this amount can be increased. It should be remembered that no frozen silage or roots should be fed to sheep. Either is very dangerous. The stock should be supplied with pure, fresh water at all times and barrel salt should be placed within their reach so that they can get it at will.

Small Garden Will Often Pay Big.

It is possible to make the garden pay big dividends for the amount of labor put upon it if that labor is well directed. A space 50 x 100 feet will, if properly planned and worked, give a supply of practically all vegetables, except potatoes and a few other coarse vegetables, for a family of four the whole year. It must be rich soil, well cultivated, and a plan followed that will use the space all the growing season.

Oranges form the leading products in the export from Palestine.

SHORT TERM CREDITS

How the Government Co-operates With Local Associations.

Individual Farmers, the Township Council and the Government Pool Subscriptions—Managed by a Local Board—Ten Associations Already Doing Business.
 (Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

There is one distinctive difference between the system of long-term loans and the system of short-term loans recently inaugurated in this Province. Those who have followed the preceding articles will have observed that long-term loans are made direct by the Agricultural Development Board, 5 Queen's Park, Toronto. In contrast to this, no short-term loans are made by the Board, but are made solely through local associations organized for this purpose.

Short Term Credits Described.
 The reason for this difference in method of operation lies in the difference in the nature of the security and the nature of the loan. In the matter of long-term loans, the security is a first mortgage on land, and the personality of the borrower, while important, is secondary. In the short-term loans, the security is a note or lien on chattels, and the personality of the borrower, and his reputation in the community, is one of the big determining factors. Then, too, the loan is usually a small one. With \$2,000 as the maximum, the average loan will no doubt be a good deal under \$1,000. It would, therefore, be physically impossible for any central office to grant and supervise loans in all the different sections of the Province for small amounts. No other system of granting short-term loans on personal or chattel security has been devised for a whole Province in existence. Such loans may, however, be granted with reasonable safety by local committees familiar with all the circumstances.

Not So Difficult.

Accordingly, a plan of organization of local farm loan associations has been devised, and this is not so difficult as might at first appear. A membership of thirty is required, and each member must take one share of stock, value \$100, and make a payment of 10 per cent, or \$10. This stock represents capital, and is held in reserve. There is little likelihood of any further payment ever being required on capital account. After the necessary membership is secured, the township council and the Government are each asked to appoint two directors, and subscribe for one-half the amount of stock subscribed by local members; this to be added to the reserve. When these directors have been appointed, the association elects a president, vice-president and one director. These officers, with the two Government directors and the two township directors, constitute a board of seven, which, thereafter, looks after the business of the association. A secretary-treasurer is appointed, and he is the only one who is permitted. When the association is thus formed it constitutes a body to be known as the "local farm loan association," and the usual annual election of officers, and application for loans can then be made from time to time to the secretary-treasurer who will arrange to have them considered by the directors.

In practice, it will probably be found desirable to have meetings at stated periods for the consideration of the loans. In this way, loans may be passed without any inconvenience either to the borrower or to the directors.

Associations Already Formed.
 Although this plan has been before the farmers of the Province for only a few months, ten associations have been formed, and are doing business, while two others have been formed, but have not yet passed on loans. Loans granted range from \$125 to \$1,000, in individual cases, and are for all manner of purposes in connection with farm work. They are carrying out their business with interest at 6 per cent, but, of course, may be renewed for another year if the directors feel that such renewal is justified.

Each applicant submits to the association a detailed statement of his assets and liabilities, and also signs a promissory note. The application is then endorsed by the president and secretary of the association and sent in to the Board for approval and for issuing of cheques to cover the total amount loaned to an association. While, therefore, the subject is approached from the standpoint of helping the man on the land to carry out his farming operations, it will be seen that due regard is paid to the question of security, and if reasonable discretion is exercised there is no reason why any of the money so loaned should go astray. Well Distributed.

The number of associations now doing business is regarded as a very satisfactory start. With the new system it was not expected that such associations would spring up in a night all over the Province, nor was it regarded as desirable that such should occur. The associations now in existence are well scattered over the province. The Board of Directors selected includes some of the very best farmers in the country. Their interest in the matter and their public-spirited efforts to assist their neighbors in the matter of finance gives the associations organized a good standing in their respective communities.

The future of this plan is now in the hands of the farmers themselves. It was placed on the Statute Book as an alternative system of merit in itself, and of value as an alternative where others were found inadequate or unsatisfactory.

THE COMMUNITY THEATRE AT NARAMATA



THE British people are theatre-loving folk, and have to their credit traditions of the theatre that are greater, and of more world-wide importance than any other country. Therein, no doubt, lies the reason why Canadians today take so much interest in theatricals, and particularly those of the amateur variety. Being a small population lying along-side a great one, it is but natural that Canada's professional stage should be entirely dominated by that of the United States, but it is greatly to Canada's credit that there has come into being an important theatrical movement in this country which is distinct from that of the regular professional stage. Under existing conditions it is only thus that there can be developed a Canadian stage with a literature of its own. Montreal has its group of Community Players, Toronto has its Hart House Theatre, and Winnipeg, Vancouver and Victoria, as well as many other Canadian cities, have their theatrical organizations, all of which are doing an excellent work, but none of them are more worthy of note than the little theatre which has been established in the fruit-growing village of Naramata in the Okanagan Valley, B.C.

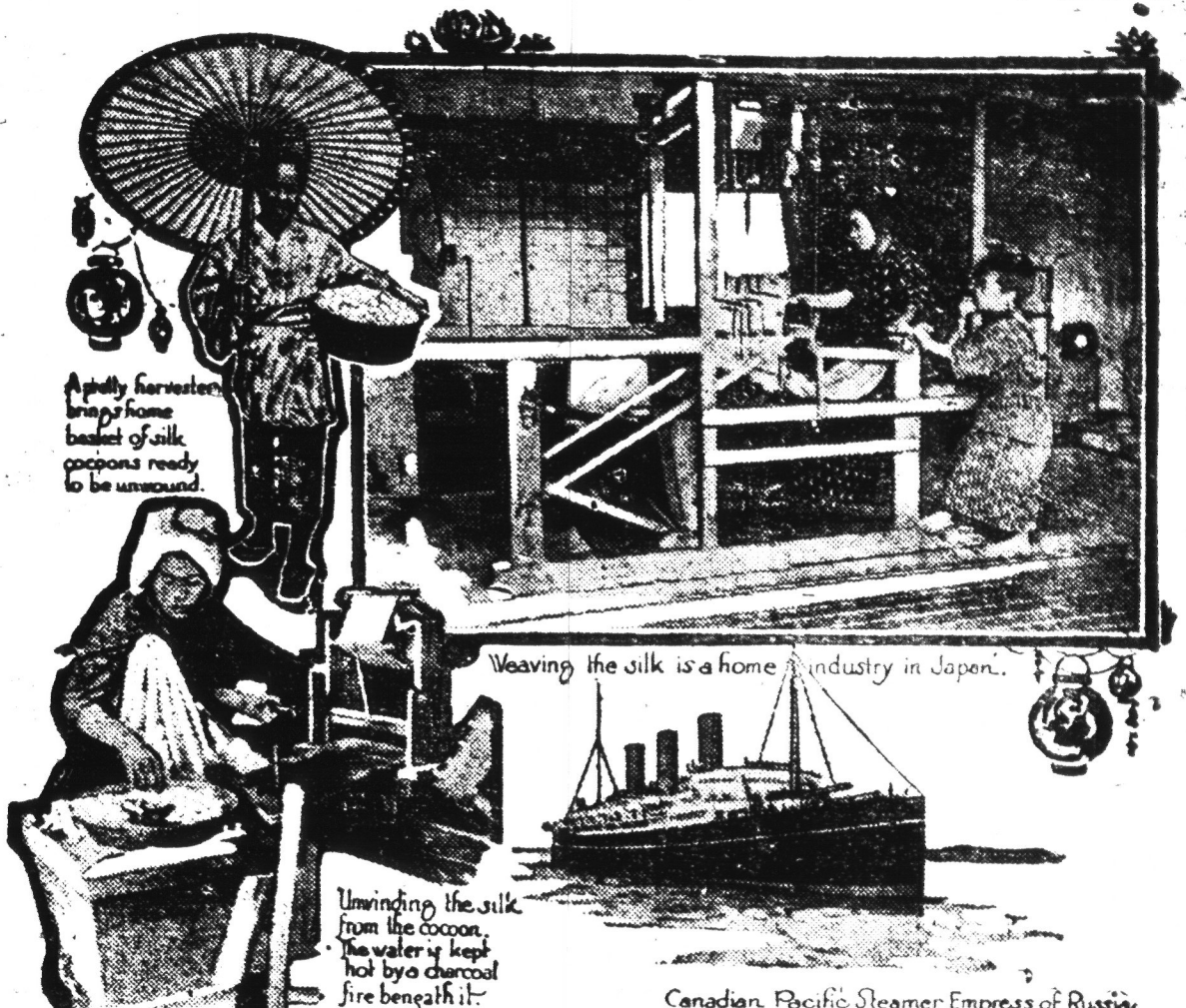
It was built by Carroll Aikins on his small fruit ranch. For years he and Mrs. Aikins had been interested in the theatre. One of his own plays was produced three years ago in Birmingham, and it was because there was no native theatre where Canadian plays could be tried out that the little theatre of Naramata came to be built.

The neighbourhood of Naramata had actors enough. Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Aikins were of the sort that could make actors out of anybody who had a love for that sort of thing. It had to be built, but before that it had to be designed and not knowing so much about what regular theatres had in them, as about what he thought they should have, Mr. Aikins was able to evolve a community theatre that in complete of equipment and simplicity of arrangement does not suffer in comparison with any theatre of the kind on the continent, but which presents many novel and interesting features.

The theatre is built in the spacious upstairs of the fruit ranch packing house. The stage is on the floor level, and the benches rise gradually on shallow steps, but it is in its stage that the theatre is most remarkable. The back wall is a huge plastered dome on which a splendid array of variously colored lights can create any effect desired. There is no space to describe the scenic effects, all of which were designed and built by Mr. Aikins and his assistants. It is enough to say they were simplicity itself and amazingly successful.

The actors are the fruit pickers of the neighbourhood, reinforced by a number of enthusiasts from various parts of Canada who have gone to Naramata to study stagecraft. It is Mr. Aikins' hope that this number will grow, and that his splendid little theatre will have an opportunity of giving a first production to new Canadian plays by Canadian authors. The theatre has already become the most important place in the country side, and will continue to make life more worth the living in beautiful Naramata.

The Silk Worm and His Product



JAPAN has a monopoly of the silk industry of the Orient. The Japanese have achieved this triumph as the result of an early appreciation of the value of organization and standardizing, and by reason of their skill in perfecting a raw silk adapted to high power American machines. Silk is the chief Japanese export.

The silk worm therefore is the special pet and pride of the Japanese people, and all thought and care is devoted to making his surroundings such as will conduce to his comfort, health, and happiness. This is no slight task. At least 4,000 years of breeding for silk alone has told on his probably once robust constitution, and the silk worm is now a temperamental little fellow, subject to devastating epidemics and greatly influenced by atmospheric changes of an unfriendly nature. It is only fair to say, however, that while with us he devotes his little mind entirely to business, and wastes not one of the comparatively few moments granted him in this life. He comes into the world as a tiny pink egg accompanied by five or six hundred brothers and sisters, and for a few days rests in the dark of small trays covered with paper in which tiny holes are made. On emerging from the egg his attention is attracted by the bright lights of these pin-holes. He climbs up to acquire what they mean, and working his way through them finds himself betrayed into a world of toil and trouble, as many a human being has been and will continue to be as long as bright lights glow.

The only thing he brings with him is a first class appetite, and the mulberry he loves must be chosen with tender care in order to work up his strength to the task of producing a fine strand of silk. For about a month he devotes his entire attention to meals, which amount to a practically continuous performance, with the exception of three or four short periods during which he changes his skin to one that more comfortably conforms to his fast increasing bulk. At these times care is taken to keep him from disturbing noises, although modern writers on the subject do not state that he is inspired to greater effort by music served with his meals. If not, it is perhaps because Oriental music would more favor distraction than the contemplative calm most conducive to the silk worm's task of putting on weight.

Having become a full-grown silk worm, he sets about the serious business of life, the spinning of the cocoon and eight to twelve hundred consecutive yards of silken thread. This takes three or four days, and in most cases, his life shortly afterwards ends in hot water, as might be expected of one so early showing a predilection for bright lights. The hot water end the silk farmer to easily unwind the cocoon into a skein of glossy, golden colored, raw silk all ready for the mills.

A few of his relations are picked out to carry on the good work, but even for these life has few joys. It is a long sleep of several months, an emerging from the cocoon as a winged moth that cannot fly, and the immediate setting about the business of laying another five or six hundred tiny eggs. When that supreme task is completed the little life goes out, probably tired of a world in which most of the fun has to be got out of eating. But the silk it leaves lives on, and its first few weeks of life are swift. There are a dozen processes of winding, washing, weaving and coloring through which it must go, and the less time that these processes take, the better. A train load of silk represents a great amount of money. The interest on its value, and the premiums on its insurance total up tremendously. That is why every effort is made to get the finished product into the dealer's hands at the earliest possible moment.

A record in the trans-shipment of silk from Japan to New York was recently made by the C.P.R. On April 29 the Canadian Pacific steamer "Empress of Russia," left Yokohama carrying in her cargo 3,000 bales of silk for New York. Two minutes later the "Bay State," another Pacific liner, left a nearby dock with 1,500 bales of silk bound for the same destination. It was a race across the Pacific Ocean and the American continent, and silk and shipping men of two continents watched for the result. On arrival at Vancouver the "Empress of Russia" silk was placed on a special train, which was ordered to make all possible speed to New York. The silk was delivered there at 5:20 p.m. May 2, while the cargo of the S.S. "Bay State" was delivered 7:30 a.m. May 15, the Canadian Pacific through time from Yokohama to New York having been 62 hours and 10 minutes faster than that of the rival line, and a record established. Despite the fact that it was a 17 car train, the time consumed between Vancouver and Prescott, Ontario, was only 3 days, 17 hours, and 57 minutes. Canada's fastest regular passenger train is the O.P.R. "Trans-Canada Limited," which runs from Montreal to Vancouver in 98 hours, and from Toronto to Vancouver in 88 hours, leaving both cities daily. The shipping of this silk has definitely settled the supremacy of the Canadian route as the quickest to and from the Orient, and means much to the future trade of Canada.

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