Efficient Farming

FALL TREATMENT OF NEW SEEDINGS OF GRASSES AND CLOVERS.

Pasturing seedings of grasses and clovers in the fall of the season sown is probably one of the greatest reasons why many promising stands prove a disappointment the following season. Any pasturing to be done the same year as sown must be done carefully and early, so that sufficient growth will be left to protect the stand during the winter. Late, close pasturing or pasturing when the ground is wet should never be practised either with an old or a new seeding if maximum results are to be obtained the following year. Late, close pasturing, particularly of new seedings, lessens the vitality of the plants by removing the protection which full growth furnishes and so exposes the plants to more winter killing than would be the case if some growth were left. Fall growth also holds the snow which is itself a valuable protection from extremely low temperature or sudden temperature changes. Not only will late, close pasturing endanger the stand by weakening the vitality, but even though the plants come through the winter without killing they will not start as early nor make as vigorous a growth as where late growth had been left as winter protection. Where some growth is left the previous season it serves as a mulch under the protection of which the new shoots can make an early and a vigorous spring growth.

Grasses and clovers, particularly the latter, are injured to a great extent by heaving in the spring. This is caused by alternate cold weather and thaws and a mulch of a previous season's growth tends to lessen this loss by protecting the plants from rapid temperature changes in the early spring.

If best results are to be obtained from grass and clover, seedings, particularly new seedings, late, close pasturing must not be practiced, neither must heavy pasturing be done when the land is wet. Certainly what pasture may be available during the year sown will not pay for the loss of feed the following season where a seeding has been pastured late the previous fall.

IF YOUR HORSE FOUNDERS.

The horny box of the horse's hoof is held in place by five hundred or more fleshy leaves called sensitive laminae, each of which is embraced by two horny leaves, or laminae. The disease called "founder," technically *laminitis*, is inflammation of the sensitive laminae, which become engorged with blood and, consequently, enlarged. There is no "give" to the horny laminae and wall of the hoof; hence, the excruciating pain suffered by the affected horse. The forefeet are thrust far forward to remove weight, and the hind ones are correspondingly advanced under the body. The horse tries to stand on his heels. Fever runs high, the pulse is full and bounding, appetite ceases, the horse breathes fast, sweats with pain, and scarcely can be made to move. The attack may be caused by gorging with feed, drinking much cold water when hot, being given an aloes purgative ball without preparation, or driving upon a hard road. Until a qualified veterinarian can be employed much relief can be given by removing the shoes, pulling the horse down on a deep bed of straw in a box stall, and keeping cold or hot poultices or swabs upon the feet. Medicinal treatment consists in giving two ounces of powdered saltpeter, or one ounce of powdered alum in water, and then half-ounce doses every three, four, or six hours, according to the severity of the attack, until the veterinarian arrives. Bleeding is no longer done from the jugular vein, or cutting through the sole of the hoof. Use of saltpeter or alum makes that unnecessary. The veterinarian has also other drugs at his command which hasten recovery.—A. S. Alexander.

Poultry

I think that plenty of new hard corn in the fall ration of the pullets helps to prevent fall colds. It helps indirectly by fattening the pullets and the fat plump pullet seems the most resistant to colds. The birds that sneeze the quickest are apt to be thin, late-hatched pullets that lack a pad of fat to keep them warm on the chilly damp fall days.

One of the bad features of intensive poultry keeping is the fact that nature does not seem to have constructed the nostrils of fowls to live where there is any dust, dirt or respiratory germs. The wild birds live in the open where the ventilation is wonderful and they do not catch cold. The hen catches cold and her nostrils immediately close. The accumulations of mucous begin to gather and the bird has to breathe through its mouth. This increases the danger from bronchitis and pneumonia. The gathering inflammation soon closes one or both eyes and the bird is usually said to have roup. If you give birds the best of care they seem to thrive, but the construction of the nostrils seems to give them a handicap in keeping well unless the living conditions are right. Many failures from large flocks may be due to the constant inroads due to colds and various respiratory infections.

On the sunny fall days use the time to advantage in cleaning the dropping boards, filling mash hoppers, and refilling the nests with straw. Then a day or two of bad weather will cause no trouble in the management of the flock. The poultry keepers who neglect the birds on sunny days because the birds don't need the care, are apt to fail. They are also the same ones who neglect the birds in bad weather because the work is then very unpleasant.

Marl.

Marl deposits are not uncommon in the older farmed sections of Ontario. While discussing soil problems with many visitors to the O. A. College exhibit at the County Fairs many farmers mentioned that they knew of deposits of marl in their own districts that were lying unused. Many do not realize that marl is quite equal to the best grades of crushed limestone or hydrated lime as a corrective for soil acidity. The use of marl from a local deposit if such is available, will save the purchase price and the transportation costs on other forms of lime. October and November are usually good months in which to excavate and team marl to the fields where soil acids prevent the luxuriant growth of clovers.

When You Husk Corn.

Don't forget to wear gloves or mittens. If you don't your hands will look as if they had been in a wreck. Buy good gloves or mittens and use plenty of hand lotion and your hands will call you blessed.

Sheep Notes

The flock owner who is so situated that he can provide his flock with adequate protection against adverse climatic conditions will find mating for early lambs profitable. Lambs dropped during the late winter and early spring months require extra care, but under favorable conditions have the advantage of getting a good start and, coming to market maturity early in the fall, command a higher price than lambs dropped later in the season.

Ewes generally will mate as soon as cold weather arrives. Some breeds of sheep, for instance, the Dorset, will mate much earlier in the fall than other breeds. However, the flock owner who wishes to have his lambs dropped during the months of March and April will find, if his ewes are in good breeding condition, little trouble in mating. Failure to breed at first matting, I think, is largely due to the ewes not being in good condition.

For lambs to be dropped during the months of March and April the ewes should be mated not later than the first of December. The gestation period of ewes varies somewhat, but on an average it is 152 days. Ewes that are in good flesh and gaining are more sure to take the ram and become pregnant at the first service than if low in flesh or over-fat. It has been my experience in handling sheep under average farm conditions that to mate the ewes so as to have the lambs come a few weeks before time to turn the flock to pasture is most profitable.

Farmers' Investments.

Not long ago a young fellow drove up in a nice car and in a very confidential manner began to tell me of a wonderful investment scheme. This glib-tongued worker was going to let me and a few other investors in on the ground floor, and the offer would soon be closed. Fortunately for me, I had heard of the trick before. I know of one man who lost $1,000 in this way.

A moment's reasoning will convince any one that such an investment is a fake. If there is such a splendid chance to make big interest on these investments, the smooth talkers are not going to have to peddle them out to the farmers. When in doubt about investments in stocks and bonds of any kind, consult your banker.

One of the best pieces of advice I know of is for a farmer to look about his own farm, and see if there is not somewhere that he can invest any surplus cash in improvements that will not only lighten the daily chores or work, but will add to the charm and comfort of the home.

Electric lights, a water system, modern bathroom equipment, shrubs, vines, fences, barn equipment, purebred livestock—there are dozens of places to use the money which may pay direct dividends in cash, improved health or living conditions, and contentment.—J. L. J.

These Boys Will Win.

To show how keen some of our young farm boys are, we observed, the other day, two with bags going to and fro through the corn field gathering ears from a good stand on their father's farm. When asked about their work, we were informed that they had been reading of the probability of a seed corn shortage this next spring and were getting ready to take advantage of the situation by laying in a supply now. First they were setting aside sufficient to provide for the home farm needs, and then whatever else they could gather and cure would be for sale to their less enterprising neighbors. The business acuteness of these lads should not only be simulated by other boys, but by adult farmers as well.—D. S.

When you haul corn from the field and throw it into the crib, sprinkle a plateful of salt over each load. Do not use more than a plateful (not piled up) on each load, nor any less. That is the right quantity. If you follow directions your corn will be free from weevil.

A Witching Witch.

She does not wear a scarlet cloak,
This witch of Hallow Eve,
Or by a pumpkin-lantern's glow
Her spells unholy weave.
No black cat perches on her back,
No broomstick does she ride,
No goblins gambol at her heels
Or caper by her side.

She's young and fair and dewy-lipped
And most demure and meek,
And has a bashful air belied
By dimples in her cheek;
And though a limpid baby-blue
Are her expressive eyes,
A roguish sparkle in their depths
Forewarns me she is wise.

She scorns to melt the cryptic lead
Or candle weird to light;
A look, a word, a smile are each
With her a mystic rite.
I feel my errant pulses leap,
My breast tumultuous heave,
So much I fear her potent charm—
My witch of Hallow Eve.

—Minna Irving.

Bedtime Stories

HALLOWE'EN.

Hallowe'en comes in October,
It's oodles and oodles of fun
To pretend we are witches and ghosties
And shriek when we make the folks run.
We'll duck for a tubful of apples,
Our mother'll tell fortunes in tea,
Big sister will go downstairs backward
To see who her lover shall be!
They tell me All Saints' Day was one time
The name that they gave Hallowe'en,
But the saints all seem to have scattered
Since children appeared on the scene.
Grandma, she thinks it is dreadful
To play I'm a witch, so she'll run
But I'm only pretending to scare her—
It's oodles and oodles of fun!

Three Dairy Barn Labor-Savers.

Most dairymen welcome labor-savers. One of the big labor-savers is the individual watering cup for each cow. Besides doing away with the chore of watering, these cups are sanitary and enable the cows to get water any time they want it. This fact, no doubt, tends to increase milk production. The time it takes to water a large stable of cows in the course of a year would pay for the installation of this watering system. Those who have tried the watering systems are loud in their praises.

The litter carrier, which is nothing more or less than a large steel box that is supported on a carriage that runs on an overhead track, is another very handy device. This makes an easy job of cleaning the stable, and with the carrier the litter can be carried some little distance from the barn, to the manure pit.

A feed carrier can be operated on the same track, or one of the same kind as that of the litter carrier. This is an exceedingly handy item of equipment and few dairymen with large herds can afford to be without it.

To freshen butter that has been packed or become rancid, place on stove and melt slowly until it is oil. Drop slice of lightly browned toast in it. Let set a few minutes, then put in warm milk (separated milk preferred) and churn until smooth (about ten minutes). Butter will be fresh.

There is a paint remover on the market which can be applied to old paint or varnish and within a short time the paint can be scraped off. A putty knife can be used for removing the paint. It is best to wash the surface with alcohol or benzine after the paint has been removed, and allow the surface to dry before putting on new paint.

The Sunday School Lesson

OCTOBER 28

The Stilling of the Storm, Mark 4: 35-41. Golden Text—What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?—Mark 4: 41.

I. THE DISCIPLES' EXTREMITY, 35-38.
II. THE MASTER'S OPPORTUNITY, 39-41.

INTRODUCTION—The purpose of the Gospel of Mark is to show Jesus in his character as the Son of God. As Son of God, or Messiah, he is Lord over the human spirit, and accordingly we have seen him casting out demons, and in other ways asserting the supremacy of the spirit of God in human life. Mark alludes to this supernatural or divine "authority" of Jesus over the human spirit as the most notable feature of his ministry, Mark 1:27. But the disciples came to see Jesus as Lord over nature, as well as over the mind of man. They experienced through him, a deliverance not only from the inward terrors of conscience, in other words, from the power of sin, but from the fear of outward things. This was brought home to them very notably through a deeply religious experience which befell them on the Galilean Lake. A sudden storm threatened to engulf their boat and all aboard, but Jesus, summoning them to instantaneous faith in God, asserted the control of his will over the terrifying forces of the storm, made them feel that they were safe in God's hands, allayed their fears, quelled the violence of the elements, and made them feel as never before, the sovereign greatness of his personality. The disciples as a result are driven back upon themselves for still deeper explanations of the mystery of his mind and will.

I. THE DISCIPLES' EXTREMITY, 35-38.

Vs. 35-36. The proposal of Jesus to cross to the eastern shores of the lake was occasioned doubtless by the need of rest. The work made heavy demands on Jesus' strength, and on the strength of his disciples, and solitude and quiet were absolutely necessary. Jesus is here entering with his followers on a religious "retreat."

V. 37. Sudden and dangerous storms were apparently of frequent occurrence on the Galilean Lake. Winds descend with great force through the funnels of the surrounding valleys, and in a few seconds the quiet surface of the lake is lashed into fury. The boats conveying Jesus and his companions would be tiny skiffs, and would be in such circumstances be exposed to extreme peril.

V. 38. It indicates the habitual composure of Jesus that at this moment he is sleeping on the cushion at the stern. He is exhausted with the labor of healing and teaching, but he knows that the everlasting arms, which uphold creation, are underneath. God's power will not fail him till he has finished the work which the Father has given him to do. Meantime his disciples are in an agony of fear for their lives and the sleep of Jesus is interpreted as meaning indifference to their peril.

II. THE MASTER'S OPPORTUNITY, 39-41.

V. 39. Jesus, awakened out of sleep, reproves the raging elements, and at the same time the panic-fears of the disciples are allayed. Jesus' words of rebuke to the storm are similar to those which he addressed to the demented spirit of the demoniac in Mark 1:25, and the attitude of his mind is similar. As in the former case, Jesus asserted the control of God's Spirit over the mind, so here he asserts it over the physical elements. An impression of the wonderful transcendence and majesty of Jesus in the face of nature is produced, and creates in the minds of the disciples, a deep religious awe.

V. 40. Jesus rebukes the disciples for their want of faith in God. He asks: "How is it that you have no faith?" Their fears are unreasoning and unworthy. Should they not have realized that God holds his people in the hollow of his hands and that, no matter what happens, they are safe with him? In the present case, the confidence of Jesus is inspired specially by his consciousness of a mission from God which concerns not only himself, the Messiah, but also his followers who are engaged with him in the work.

V. 41. The lordship of Jesus in the world of nature is the abiding religious impression left by the experience in the minds of the disciples. This authority, this sovereignty of Jesus, calls for further explanation. "What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?" What gives him this confidence, this consciousness, by which even the physical elements are subordinated to his holy will?

The disciples, in the strength of the new experience, are on the way to a deepening understanding of the person of their Lord.

THE SEA OF GALILEE.

"When we sailed upon the lake, coasting along the western shore from north to south, we found ourselves far removed from anything we had seen or experienced before," wrote Dr. Kelman about the Sea of Galilee. He describes the utter and abject desolation and the haunting silence of the place. Villages here and there! But what villages? With the exception of Tiberias they were brown slabs of flat-roofed cubical hovels, let into the slope of the shore or the foothills." Closer view showed a ring of ruined architecture from end to end: "A continuous ring of towers, columned, broken and tumbled, but showing elaborate carved capitals, aqueducts and retaining walls; fragments of all sorts. Foliage is scanty, save for the thorn trees and bamboo caves in which the carved stones are often half buried."

"All this impressed one in quite a unique way. You try to reconstruct the past,—rebuild the castles and synagogues and palaces, and imagine the life that sent forth its fleets upon the lake in the days of Jesus. Or you more daringly attempt the future landscape and imagine these hillsides as scientific cultivation and the withdrawal of aggressive government may yet make them." That was in 1902. "But from it all you are driven back upon the extraordinary present, petrified, uncanny, spectral,—a part of the earth upon which some spell has fallen, and over which some ghastly influence broods, silencing the daylight, and whispering in the darkness."

In the time of Christ, however, the Sea was surrounded by several important cities with quite large populations, and the fishing industry was extensive and famous. As a result of the height of the mountains surrounding the lake, sudden changes of temperature give rise to unexpected and violent storms. To this day, such squalls frequently occur.

When a chameleon is blindfolded it loses the power of changing its color, and its entire body remains of a uniform tint.

A Town and Country Hallowe'en

BY MARY GOW GRANT.

A town in Central Iowa has been successful in its plan for entertaining the young people and keeping them out of mischief on Hallowe'en. The committees in charge, appointed by the community club were fairly successful with their first attempt, as both young and old had no end of fun and no property was destroyed.

Previous to the celebration, notice had been inserted in the local papers extending an invitation to the public in general to be present at the "big doings." Much to their pleasure and surprise they found the town filled with cars and the farmer folk for miles around joined in the evening's fun. The following year the committee in charge visited the farm bureau and the district and consolidated schools and gave a special invitation to be present.

"And what can we do to help?" was the common question asked. This, of course, meant a larger and a better celebration.

DECORATING THE STREETS.

The celebration was a big undertaking for those in charge; streets were decorated with corn-stalks and the merchants' windows displayed witches, black cats and spooks against backgrounds of autumn leaves or orange and black crepe paper, and grotesque faces were painted on the globes of the street lights. The school children, who had been encouraged to make their own costumes, paraded the streets in fantastic array, enjoying the music and the treats which rained upon the crowds from the big and appropriately decorated truck that made its way up and down the main street. Those who lived in outlying districts were asked to furnish material for the decorations, pop-corn balls and apples. The children from these districts also appeared in costume and met with the town children in one of the school buildings where, under the guidance of their teachers, they formed in line for the parade. On the day before Hallowe'en, there were "talks" in all the schools, explaining the origin of the celebration and stressing the difference between real fun and the destruction of property.

HOT COFFEE FOR EVERYBODY.

Although the weather on the day of the last celebration proved to be cold and cloudy, long before dark the crowd began to assemble and parking places were filled. From all appearances the older people were fully as much interested as the younger ones. While seeing the funny sights, listening to the music by the bands and the singers stationed at the street corners, no one realized how cold and damp it was until it was announced that the woman's club was serving hot coffee in the Armory.

This town and country celebration has been an annual affair for three years and grows in popularity. The added interest in farm clubs and the new members added to the chamber of commerce and the woman's club are the direct results of better acquaintance, and it is hard to determine who receives the greater benefit, the town or the farmer folk, while all the children look forward to the celebration with gleeful anticipation. I don't see how we could get along without this event.

TRAINING OUR CHILDREN

The "Old Woman's" Discipline

BY HELEN L. FISHER.

"There was an old woman who lived in a shoe,
She had so many children she didn't know what to do;
She gave them some broth without any bread,
And whipped them all soundly, and sent them to bed."

Can you picture the poor distracted mother? She deserves ysmpathy, no doubt, but did you ever stop and consider the children? I often wonder what they thought about it. Did they understand why they were put to bed? If you were to ask them why they were sent to bed they would quite likely say, "Mother couldn't stand the noise." Mother couldn't or wouldn't, which?

Such is often the state of affairs in our present day home. Father comes home from work tired and nervous. Bobby and Jane are busily engaged in a game of circus. In due time (and a very short time at that) father demands angrily that the noise cease; he informs mother that the place is like a boiler factory, and the result is that two small children give up their game.

Father is not always the one to put a wet blanket on the game. I have in mind a friend of mine, a mother of three small, healthy, growing children. I can see her plainly, seated in a chair, one eye on her book and the other on the children. When the noise reaches a certain point, down goes the book, up rises Mother and three sulky little people are sent to bed.

Children will generally obey because they understand that it is expected of them but they often do so with resentment and anger. They "stop" because Mother said they must stop, and, in the words of the children, they will "catch it" if they don't.

The parent who deals with the children in this way is so concerned over the peace and comfort of the household for the time being that he forgets to consider the effect of his tone and actions upon the children. He forgets that it is character that is hourly being built up, and that upon character depends conduct.

The result of such a type of discipline is disastrous. Instead of the children acquiring habits of consideration and truth they will develop habits of indifference and slyness. Habits, good or bad, are very easily formed. Every parent should strive to understand and guide his child and should refuse absolutely to have "nerves." Calmness is strength; excitement is weakness.

HOME AND COUNTRY

They Got a Present of a Kitchen.

Eastern Ontario women, especially those along "the Front," are becoming more and more alive to the possibilities of beauty, progress, and the right kind of sociability in their own local centres.

The Women's Institute at Farran's Point, a pretty village on the bank of the St. Lawrence, near Cornwall, carry their working principle of co-operation to some very effective conclusions in community as well as in individual home-making. At the monthly meetings, programs for which are planned and for the most part carried out by the members themselves or in co-operation with the Institute Branch of the Ontario Dept. of Agriculture, they study together the various problems involved in achieving better homes and a better community.

One outcome of this was the giving of prizes to assist the School Children's Summer Fete.

Another was the assistance to a mother and her five children given until they could be placed on the Mothers' Pension List.

Still another was neighborhood recreation. The Dominion Government own a charming strip of river bank above the locks. This was leased by the Institute at a nominal rent and a good-sized pavilion, which can be closed or open according to the weather, erected there. The Daughters of the Empire contributed a covered well. Here parties for the young people were held on each Wednesday and Saturday evening, as the result of the study of recreation for home and community. These begin at 7 p.m. and end at 10.30 p.m., never under any circumstance later than 11, and are always chaperoned by members of the Institute. Naturally they are popular. This year the Institute Park was made available as a motor camping site. In the pavilion too are held the District Annual Conventions of the home-makers, the College Extension Courses, and sometimes lectures. So impressed was the Dominion Government by the good use being made of the place that they donated a kitchen.

ANNUAL CONVENTIONS.

Preliminary plans for the Annual Conventions of the Women's Institutes throughout the Province are now under way. The dates suggested are as follows:

Eastern Division, at Ottawa, October, 28th, 29th and 30th.

Western Division, at London, November 4th, 5th and 6th.

Central Division, at Toronto, November 18th, 19th and 20th.

Recommendation and suggestions for programs should be sent to the secretaries, as follows:

Dryden Convention—Mrs. R. G. Wigle, Dryden.

North Bay Convention—Mrs. M. J. Nixon, Sault Ste. Marie.

Ottawa Convention—Mrs. G. R. Bradley, 152 Third Ave., Ottawa.

London Convention—Miss Alberta Venner, Hyde Park.

Central Ontario Convention—Mrs. F. D. Aikens, Grimsby East.

Getting November Eggs.

Properly matured pullets are the cash producers in November. The birds of that type are the result of six or eight months of steady work. They are not produced in a few weeks. If your pullets are not ready for production now you can profit by the experience next spring. Remember that early hatching and plenty of feed are essential for November eggs.—R.

Make a paste of one part of barium carbonate, ground fine, four parts of corn meal, and sweet oil. Use enough oil to make a paste. Let the rats help themselves.

Before hewing down for firewood the live trees in your woodlot use all the dead-wood that is there, thus improving the woodlot, conserving your wealth, and maintaining a home for your friends, the birds.