

# THE FARM FRONT

By John Russell

Clean your grain before harvest in a piece of advice you probably heard before—but it's such an important matter that another reminder needs no apology. For the insects that lower the grade of your grain, and cause you a loss when you come to sell it, do not get into the bin along with the new grain. In most cases they're in there when you put in the new.

Cleaning and spraying grain bins is insurance against such damage. Walls should be thoroughly swept down. Floors—especially the corners and between the stanchions—should be swept and scraped. And it's a good idea to see to it that the insects are burned, since they are liable to contain eggs and larvae that might get back into the bins.

Steel bins should be caulked to make them more weathertight. Make wooden bins and granaries as tight as you possibly can.

Walls, ceilings and floors should be sprayed with a five per cent DDD emulsion applied at the rate of one gallon per one thousand square feet. You can make a 2% per cent DDD spray by adding two pounds of DDD wettable powder to five gallons of water. This mixture should be applied at the rate of two gallons per thousand square feet.

A problem that frequently comes up on various farms is how to kill stumps and prevent re-sprouting. The following suggestions will be of help—of value.

Amnate (ammonium sulfamate) has been successfully used in many places both to kill tree stumps and to stop any re-sprouting. On freshly cut stumps it can be applied dry at the rate of about one ounce per inch of tree diameter.

You can also use this amnate as a spray for stump sprouts or weeds by dissolving in water at the rate of one pound per gallon of water. It should be applied on cool, cloudy moist days when plants are growing rapidly. Spray sprouts or weeds until they are thoroughly wet.

Some sorts of stump sprouts can also be killed with 2, 4-D, 2, 4, 5-T or a mixture of the two. As 2, 4-D is the cheaper, you might try it first. Then if the sprouts do not react, try 2, 4, 5-T or a mixture of both. A mixture often gives better results than either chemical used by itself.

The fact is that damp hay can cause a fire in wet wood, and cause everyone living in a farming community. Yet for all that over half of all farm fires are not hay fires. And the critical period for spontaneous combustion fires is generally about a month after hay is put into the barn.

How can you tell if your hay is getting too hot? Usually you can smell a strong burning odor in the barn. Later a steam-like vapor may rise from the hay.

Through curing in the field, of course means loss of valuable leaves. But overcuring—aside from the danger to buildings and livestock—can wipe out just as much nutritive value.

Can you tell when hay is safe enough to put it into the barn? Farm specialists say it's safe if the moisture content is under 30 per cent.

A good home-made test still is the old system of twisting a handful of stems in two. If no moisture appears, the hay probably is safe enough to put into the mow.

I didn't accuse anyone of cheating; I just said I hoped they would play the hands I had dealt them.

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# SPORTS & A SIBERIAN

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A writer in the latest issue of the News Bulletin, put out by the Toronto Anglers' and Hunters' Association, brings up a point which should be of interest to many anglers—do harm to the very creatures they try to befriend and protect.

Not long ago a friend brought to me a small young bird which he had found in a stony field near a body of water. From its long spindly legs and marked grey down it was soon identified as a baby sandpiper.

The baby bird had been caught with the best of intentions—its captor believing that it had been deserted by the mother bird. Which brings up the point that has been stressed by all fish and game department lately—that persons in the out-of-doors should not handle or capture the young of any wild creature.

This is because, in many cases—such as that of a young deer—it will be deserted by the mother should she detect on it any trace of human scent. The mother, although you do not happen to see it, is in all probability hiding nearby where you catch the young one.

Every year there are many incidents where kindly and well-meaning sportsmen have done harm by doing a good deed when they rescue the young of some moose, deer or other animal. The mother, when, as a matter of fact, they are really doing harm. And it is also pointed out that it is against the law to take the young of any wild life in the closed season unless you are certain that the mother has been killed by some accident. Even in such cases it is best to get in touch with the local game warden as quickly as possible.

Down at the Polo Grounds in New York this Sunday (July 30) they are going to throw another one of the "Old Times' Days," featuring some of the best of the sport of 30 or 40 years ago against their ancient and bitter rivals of the same time—the St. Louis Gasheuse Gang.

It should be interesting—even if it is only to those who remember those days. The members—to see Mell Ott, Bloddy Ryan, Hughie Critz, Popper Martin, Joe Melick, Leo Danes, and all the rest of them in uniform, once more, even if some of them are now in civilian clothes, trying to reach down for a ground-up, or oxygen treatment after a dash all the way from home plate halfway to first base.

On the mound, as opposing starting hurlers, will be Carl Hubbell for the Giants, and Dizzy Dean for the Cards. The latter is the ball has long been known as the pitching rival, there are few that have matched the spectacular duels which involved this particular pair. Maybe Carl Hubbell was the greatest southpaw that ever lived; but we wouldn't mind making a wild small wager that you can't name three better. In fact, we wouldn't mind making the same bet with regard to Dizzy Dean, as a right-hander.

The Dizzy one broke into the big league ball with a bang. Gaby there are little to learn of the Cardinals back in 1932 when Dean arrived and the newcomer was so cocky and brashly self-confident that for many days had passed everybody on the team, from manager down to water boy, was longing to see him get his come-uppance.

The chance to see that he got just that, and in plentiful measure, came after he joined the team. In an exhibition game the Philadelphia Athletics were giving the National Leaguers a terrific mauling and Dean—sitting on the bench—kept saying: "I just wish I was in there—abandoned!"

Manager Street heard what he was saying and made up his mind to give the fresh horse the lesson of his life. Wang the A's had the bases loaded with nobody out, he turned and yelled at Dizzy: "Get in there and pitch—and I hope you get your brains knocked out."

Nothing abashed, Dizzy confidently strode to the plate and calmly fanned in succession—read 'em and weep—Al Simmons, Jimmy Fox and Black Mike Cochran, about as dangerous a trio as ever loaded a side with potential dynamite. Right away the Cards knew that while Dean might be the world's cham-

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