

THE FARM FRONT

John Russell

"Don't plant weed seeds in 1950," is the timely advice handed out by an agricultural expert, who goes on to say that the use of good seed is all-important in the matter of weed control. And really modern farmers don't need to be told that weed operations will pay bigger dividends than a thorough job of cleaning and treating small grain seed.

If a small fanning mill and homemade seed grain treater are available, cleaning and treating can be done at home. A couple of short trials with the fanning mill will give you an idea of the proper seed and a uniform rate of speed helps you to get best results. Don't overlook using proper sieves and screens.

There are certain advantages to home cleaning and treating — also certain disadvantages. For one thing, home cleaning can be done at your convenience, and requires little or no cash outlay, and there is no danger of mixing varieties if you clean the mill thoroughly following each run. Also, if the acreage to be planted isn't too large, the job can often be done more quickly at home.

On the other hand, proper cleaning and treating demands good equipment and is more of a technical job. Many seed houses and elevators have the skill and the machinery to do it better than most folks can at home. However, there is usually a last-minute rush, and it's best to be in the early hours to wait when the ground is ready for seeding.

Main reason for cleaning seed grains, of course, is to get rid of weed seeds. Most grain comes from the threshers or combine, and would probably be illegal for commercial sale, as it contains too big a percentage of weed seeds.

A number of tests showed that weeds which contained over 10 per cent of impurities to begin with had just over one per cent after a single step in cleaning. The biggest portion of what was removed consisted of seeds of lamb's quarters, fathead, wild rose, smartweed, barnyard grass, mares' nest and the like.

Tests on flax indicate that one cleaning can cut the weed seed content from 10 to 14 per cent, down to one or two per cent. Another reason for cleaning seed is to remove sticks, chaff, diseased and underweight kernels. This means that you get more uniform seedling, stronger stands and, naturally, fewer weeds and bigger yields.

Just a word of warning about the screenings might not be amiss. Burn them! Don't feed them, unless they are very finely ground, and feed them as fertilizer. If you feed the seeds without grinding many weed seeds are bound to pass through the animals intact, then get hauled out to the fields with the manure to bother you again.

Out in the middle west — Iowa particularly — they're looking for a big jump in goose raising. Up to now, geese haven't been very popular down there. Most are raised either under the goose herself, or under hens — an expensive proposition, since a hen or goose is out of production for the five weeks of incubation and for several weeks aren't much for laying either.

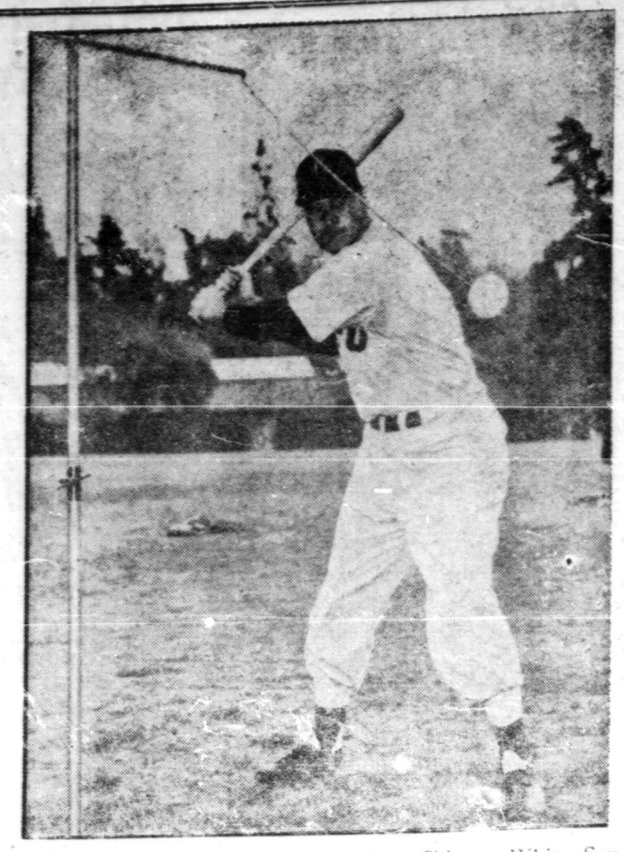
In the past, artificial incubation of goose eggs didn't seem to work so well. But now, it seems, an incubator will work as well for geese chickens. One man has been operating goose incubators successfully for several years, get better.

Geese are good eating and, even more important, they're easy to raise. Even the usual custom of fairly late hatching will produce well-matured geese by fall, so that they fit well into the holiday season.

Goslings are hardy, and can be brooder-reared in two or three weeks. They are easily confined by a one-foot board fence and are easy users of forage crops. They can live entirely on pasture, if necessary, and are quickly fattened on grain plus pasture or hay.

In places where modern hatching methods have been followed by up-to-date feeding ideas, there have been startling results. Some flocks of medium-type Toulouse geese report birds weighing as high as 20 pounds at five months.

A man named George Rollins raises some each of three different breeds — African, Chinese and Toulouse — and he's been able to get early maturity and even some fall hatched goslings. In the past, you seldom heard of eggs being laid



There's a String Attached — Pictured at Chicago World Sox Spring training camp is this "batting tee" — he new gadget for driving flyers "bats".

Outfielder Gus Zenzel is getting exasperated as the ball comes back like a yo-yo each time he hits it, but it helps the young hopeful develop a sharp eye to his left.

Which will have to be all for now, except that maybe you'll get a laugh out of the one I ran across about the Sunday school teacher who was telling her class all about the heavenly rewards and the golden crowns that good people will get. "Tell me," she said at the end of the lesson, "just who will get the biggest golden crown?" "There was silence for a while until young Johnny piped up with, "I guess it will be the guy with the biggest head."

SPORTS & GAMES

This is the time of year when millions of boys troop out to the corner-lot baseball diamonds and start sharpening the batting eye and imitating the swinging arm, returning home in the evening considerably subdued, with a fine assortment of Charlie horses, slide burns and mud sufficient to make millions of mothers wince, once again, just how one small cat can pick up such a vast portion of the earth's surface in so short a space of time.

Or, to put it a bit more tersely, spring has come!

Practically all those kids big visions of some day becoming big league stars (99 and 44-100ths per cent pitching) are so little advice from a gentleman who won National League pennants with Cincinnati Reds and St. Louis Cardinals, might not only be timely, but help a little in filling up a column.

The forecast given is none other than Bill McKechie. The "Deacon" is at present more interested in grapefruit oranges and vegetables than runs, hits and errors. Following a five weeks of production for the first weeks of incubation and for several weeks aren't much for laying either.

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HOW TO FIT — By Harold Arnold

PAINT MATCHING

TO MIX PAINT TO MATCH WORK ALREADY DONE, SWEAR SOME OF MIXTURE ON PIECE OF GLASS AGAINST SURFACE FOR COMPARISON. IF SWATCH DOESN'T MATCH, WIPE IT FROM GLASS BEFORE APPLYING ANOTHER SAMPLE.

HOT PLATE

MAKE HOT PLATE FROM TIN CAN AND HEAT-LAMP ELEMENT. SCREW HEATING ELEMENT INTO SIGN RECEPTACLE TO WHICH A PLEUM AND CORD ARE ATTACHED AND FIT RECEPTACLE OVER HOLE IN BOTTOM OF TIN CAN. LET EDGE OF CAN EXTEND SLIGHTLY ABOVE TOP OF ELEMENT AND PUNCH HOLES IN EDGE OF CAN FOR WIRES TO SUPPORT A GRATE.

JITTER

By Arthur Pointer

BOUFORD

HEMORRHOIDS

2 Special Remedies

By the makers of Mucosa Ointment

Camels Are Desert Newly-Arrived's

It is starting, but uncontestedly, that the camel, which we associate with the desert, was not used in the Sahara until well into the Christian Era. The camel was imported into Arabia from the East and the tardily and gradually. For centuries it was used in Arabia and Africa. It was not until the 18th century that it was introduced into Europe.

The slowness of the process by which the camel, the much-needed animal of the desert, was introduced westward from Asia toward and into the Sahara is a puzzle. One would have thought that this seemingly heavy animal could reach the gold mines of the desert as the Nile so that it might reach the gold mines without risking death by thirst, if they having had no transport but were to carry water for their journeys. By the seventh century B.C. it is noted the limited use of camels in Egypt.

It is small, but significant circumstance which I have noted that the East where camels came, was the father of Rome. It was the East where camels came, and the East where the British Empire was built. The camel is a creature of the East, and it is a creature of the East that has been introduced into Europe.

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Handicapped, But Game—This boy, Robin Sutherland, is crippled but happy. Picture was taken at Blue Mountain camp, near Collingwood.

The Society's annual Easter Seals campaign for funds continues until April 9. Donations may be sent to "Timmy, Toronto."

Searching For "Extinct" Monsters

For many years scientists have agreed that there are more mysterious in the sea than are ever likely to be solved. Unlike the majority of us they have rarely been incredulous of the stories of monsters and mermaids that have entertained us for so long. And they have been even less so since December 22nd, 1938.

On that day they received the biggest shock in scientific history. Unfinished, the mysterious fish was handed to a local taxidermist who stuffed it, throwing the head and entrails away before biologists could examine them.

That is why, early in the New Year, an expedition of twenty-five scientists sailed to discover, if possible, the area where the species, most spurned and also to look for proof of the existence of other strange marine creatures.

If the sea can hold such a secret for so long, how many more surprises might there be in store for us? Perhaps in the not-so-distant future, the mysterious fish will be thought again about the existence of the Loch Ness monster, for instance.

The laymen—laughed when officers of the Mauretania reported seeing a curious monster, even though their story was supported by passengers. We laughed when Hans Egde, the missionary, touched of one, and even when members of the Zoological Society reported mother.

We were even disbelieving when fifty foot carcasses of unknown species had been washed up on the shores of India and Africa. Scientists, however, have not been so sceptical—at least not since 1938.

But what of mermaids? Both Beche and Barton have reported strange deep-sea fish that looked almost human, seen through the windows of their bathyspheres. At the same time every sailor who sails the seas does not spend his life trying to spook people. Scores of times they have told of mermaids, until constant jests forced them to keep quiet. Yet they cannot all be wrong.

All Nonsense?

In 1891 a mermaid was reported to have been seen off the Orkneys, and all the newspapers carried the story. She was described as having a small black head and a milk-white body with long arms.

Two years later another mermaid was seen by a man and his wife at almost the same spot. They agreed she was beautiful and had lots of thick brown hair.

Of course it is all silly nonsense. So was the atom bomb once. So was the motor car and the aeroplane.

Investigate— Before You Join

Before you invest, investigate. That's the advice of the Better Business Bureau and it makes sense whether applied in purchasing a washing machine, a security of joining some popular movement. It is particularly applicable just now when it's hard to tell a Communist sky-scraper from a genuine social reformer.

Already a lot of organizations with fine democratic names have been exposed as ideological boiler shops. A lot of unthinking liberals and do-gooders who didn't investigate what they were getting into, have been letting the bag. Today there are three or four world-wide Communist sales organizations. All are selling a highly marketable and desirable product — "Peace."

The line is this: "If war comes it will be the fault of the Trumanites. The Soviet Union wants to have the Bomb. The others refuse to do so." In other words, condition our minds to accept the Big Lie, that it's war does come, it will be of our making, not Russia's.

One sales force aims at labor: another at women; a third at the "cultural" level—the arts, science, etc.—and a fourth at youth.

The latter organization is called the World Federation of Democratic Youth. There's also a Women's International Democratic Federation and a World Federation of Trade Unions. The Kingpin is the boss of the Canadian branch, Dr. James Endicott, ex-United Church missionary, was in Moscow recently. His mission: to give a five-hand report on the Canadian Peace Movement.

Recently, the Communist youth movement staged a World Youth and Student Festival in Budapest. Behind the Iron Curtain, a young American who attended, writing in a U.S. magazine, called the festival as "appalling" by what he called the "defamation" of the West.

In a big city department store, a woman was extremely interested in a display of doll houses. She examined each one very minutely. Finally she stood in front of one, and when she read the exorbitant price tag, she was perturbed. The saleslady, noticing her staring at the expensive doll house, asked: "May I help you, madam?"

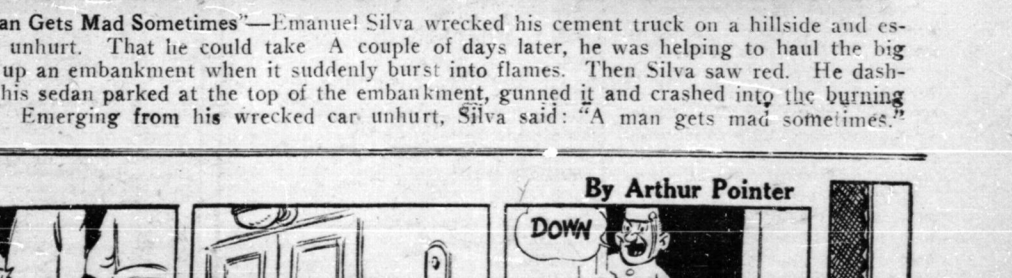
The woman smiled sweetly and replied: "Of course, you arrange for the mortgage on this."

Headed "15,000 Murders a Month," the article expressed the view of a number of prisoners in the institution that programs dripping with guilt and gore occupy a large proportion of the time on radio station schedules.

That is expert testimony. Who should know better what it takes to make a criminal than those who have made the grade, the downgrader?

The men in Wethersfield Prison are paying their debt to society. When will the professional and commercial exploiters of a depraved taste for crime—the producers and sponsors of this vicious glorification of the gunman and gun moll—begin to do as much?

"A Man Gets Mad Sometimes" — Emanuel Silva wrecked his cement truck on a hillside and escaped unhurt. That he could take a couple of days later, he was helping to haul the big truck up an embankment when it suddenly burst into flames. Then Silva saw red. He dashed to his sedan parked at the top of the embankment, gunned it and crashed into the burning truck. Emerging from his wrecked car unhurt, Silva said: "A man gets mad sometimes."



By Arthur Pointer

BLATANT

DOWN

DOWN

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