

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., July 31, 1896.

FARM NOTES.

Professor Byron D. Halstead, botanist of the New Jersey Agricultural College experiment station, in a series of talks to the students of the University Extension society, of Philadelphia, speaking of fungus diseases of plants, said:

Fungus parasites form a vast group of plants, many of them microscopic. Fungi are the lowest of all plants, and one of their peculiarities is that they exist upon organic material either of plant or animal origin. The family is large and of a heterogeneous character. To it belong the good mushroom and the bad toadstool, the puff ball and the mischievous enemies of crop growers, the various rusts, smuts, mildews, molds and blights. A potato rot fungus brought a famine to Ireland, and a grape mildew sometimes ruins entire vineyards. Nearly every kind of fruit and vegetable is attacked by several of these enemies. So on the whole the family is more to be despised than respected.

Smuts are among the most noticeable of the fungus parasites destructive to crops. The one of the corn is a good example. The sooty mass in the ear is made up of millions of microscopic spores, each of which is able to grow and produce the smut in a young plant the next season. It has slender threads which run through the tissues of the corn plant, and finally produce the spore in the forming ear. A similar fungus causes the wheat smut and another that of oats. As a remedy, Dr. Halstead suggests that as it is known that inoculation takes place when the plant is a seedling, by briefly soaking the seed in hot water the adhering spores are killed and much smut prevented. Smutted ears or heads of grain should be gathered and destroyed so that the spores may not get into the soil and produce infection from them. The piles, rusts are another group of fungus enemies to crops which prey upon the field grains and orchard fruits. The spores are often orange-colored, giving the common name of rust to the affected spots. Many of the rust fungi live upon two widely different plants. The rust of the apple thrives also upon the cedar, causing brown galls, which have orange masses of spores.

Another enemy which the wide-awake farmer is continually fighting is mildew. There are two classes of mildew, Professor Halstead says. One is entirely superficial—that is not penetrating the interior tissue of the leaf or stem. Such give the affected parts a dusty appearance, and are the powdery mildews. They have multitudes of summer spores of small size and for immediate germination. Later in the season a second form of spore is slowly formed and surrounded by thick walls for enduring the winter. These superficial mildews are easily reached by fungicides.

Downy mildews are deep feeders, and only come to the surface to bear their summer spores upon the tips of slender stalks which project from the stomata. These mildews are among the most destructive of our fungus enemies, including potato rot, grape, lettuce, onion, cucumber, apple and other mildews. Preventive measures in the form of fungicides can be employed with advantage.

Black knot is a most conspicuous enemy of the plum and cherry, and illustrates a class of deeply seated perennial fungus parasites not easily reached by spraying, but should be removed with the knife. "Plum pockets" are caused by a similar fungus, and should be gathered and burned.

There are many diseases grouped under the general name "blight." Thus there are at least two of the pear, one of the foliage and fruit, causing the spotting of the one and the cracking of the other. This can be controlled by spraying. The second is a more obscure malady, and attacks the twigs, working destruction rapidly, and not reached by remedies. Remove the blighted parts and burn them.

Club-root is one of the troublesome diseases caused by a fungus which produces enlargements of the roots and finally their decay. The enemy is confined to the cabbage family, but growing upon some of the common weeds as shepherd's purse and helig mustard is not easily eradicated. Burn all rubbish at harvest time, and susceptible crops should not succeed each other upon the infected soil. Lime may be used to advantage upon the land.

There are many kinds of decays known as rots. Those of the sweet potato are familiar ones. The soft rot is most abundant in the bin while the roots are moist. The mold causing this decay is a rapid grower, but can be controlled by drying the potatoes. Black rot is caused by a fungus that attacks the growing plants, and may begin in the hot-bed. Reject all sets that show the black streaks. Soil rot is a third enemy of the sweet potato, so named because the attack is made from the soil, where the germs accumulate. Rotation of crops seems the wisest action for this enemy. Stem rot causes the young plants to decay near the surface of the ground. Dry rot is still another decay of the sweet potato, but not yet troublesome.

There are many decays of the succulent parts of the plants due to micro-organisms known as bacteria. Carrots, turnips, beets, and particularly Irish potatoes are destroyed by these germs.

They attack celery and various fruits and vegetables, while several green-house plants suffer from their inroads as the violet, carnation, geranium, etc. The fire blight of pears is caused by bacteria, as also some of the diseases of oats, sorghum and corn. Similar organisms cause the scab of potatoes, and this last can be checked largely by soaking the seed in a solution of corrosive sublimate. Aside from the various preventative measures previously mentioned, the leading direct treatment of fungus enemies is spraying. This consists in placing a thin film of a fungicide upon the suspected victim. The spraying is accomplished in various ways, but a force pump, hose and nozzle to make a fine spray are leading essentials. Every part of the plant should be wet thoroughly, but not drenched with the misty spray.

It is of great importance to begin spraying early in the season, and with trees and shrubs as soon as the buds begin to open. The number of times to spray will depend upon circumstances, as when a heavy rain soon follows an application it should be quickly repeated. The point is to keep the thin film of the fungicide upon the surface and thus prevent the spores from gaining a hold. Spray—spray early—spray thoroughly, the learned Professor said.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

The Pennsylvania Railroad's Popular Excursions to the Seashore.

\$8 For Twelve Days.

The next of the Pennsylvania railroad company's series of popular ten-day excursions to the seashore will leave Pittsburg on August 6th.

The reason of the great favor in which these excursions are held is easy to see. The rate of \$10 for the round trip is phenomenally low, considering the distance and the high character of the service; the limit of twelve days just fits the time set apart for the average vacation, and the dates of the excursions are most conveniently adjusted. There is also the widest field for choice in the selection of the resort. Atlantic City, Cape May, Sea Isle City, and Ocean City are the choicest of the Atlantic coast resorts, and any one of them may be visited under these arrangements.

A special train of parlor cars and day coaches will leave Pittsburg on the above mentioned day at 8:55 a. m., and connect at Philadelphia with special train via the New Delaware river bridge route, landing passengers at Atlantic City in twelve hours from Pittsburg; or passengers for Atlantic City may spend the night in Philadelphia and proceed to destination by regular trains from Broad street station or Market street wharf the following day. Passengers for the other points above named will use regular trains from Market street wharf the following day.

Tickets will also be sold for regular trains leaving Pittsburg at 4:30 and 8:10 p. m. from all stations at which they stop, and from stations from which regular connection is made with them. These trains have Pullman sleeping cars attached and arrive in Philadelphia next morning, whence passengers may proceed to the shore on any regular train that day.

Tickets will be sold from the stations at the rates named below:—

Rate.	Train leaves.
Altoona (stops for dinner).....	8 00 12:45 P. M.
Martinsburg.....	8 00 10:25 A. M.
Holidaysburg.....	8 00 11:08 "
Bellwood.....	8 00 12:56 P. M.
Carwinstown.....	9 15 9:15 A. M.
Clearfield.....	8 90 9:31 "
Philipsburg.....	8 35 10:14 "
Houtzdale.....	8 45 8:30 "
Ocoola.....	8 25 10:23 "
Tyrone.....	7 65 1:08 P. M.
Philadelphia.....	4 46 "

For further information apply to the ticket agents, or Mr. Thomas E. Watt, District Passenger Agent, Pittsburg.

Tammany Hall, the greatest Democratic organization in the United States, is rallying to the support of Bryan and Sewall, the Democratic nominees for President and Vice President. Hon. John C. Sheehan, the head of Tammany, in a recent letter to the New York Journal, says: "Tammany is for the Democratic ticket, and unless a change of sentiment occurs between now and election day, Bryan will sweep the State. You may call it a 'razz,' or what you will, but the people are behind it. They are being educated, and the most frantic efforts of the opposition cannot stem the popular tide. Bryan will carry New York by a larger majority than did Cleveland in 1892."

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Wallace—I can tell a gold man as soon as I hear him speak.
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If you wear "sleeve bustles," for goodness sake cover them with some thin lining before sewing them in your sleeves; otherwise, when the light shines through they look like a base-ball mask being "sneaked" out for a Sunday game.

—When is a cow not a cow? When it is turned into a pasture.

Business Notice.

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Replying to your inquiry, as to testimonial with my signature, published by Dr. Salm, will say, that I was under his treatment for 10 months for my hearing. It was catarrh of the middle ear, and like yourself, could hear better some days than others, could hear better in noise. My hearing was very much improved by the treatment, and I have no doubt, but that he can help you. Dr. Salm appears to be an honest man, and he will tell you the truth, whether he can help you or not. If I were you, I would certainly consult him. I was longer afflicted than you. My hearing was bad in one ear for about 35 years, and in the other for about 24 or 25 years. Hoping that your hearing will be entirely restored. I remain, Ben Limbert. Bedford, Pa., Bedford Co. Isaac Pierson.

Case of Catarrh Cured by Dr. Salm. Rev. J. D. Leister, Swales, Pa.

Yours came to hand to-day. Dr. Salm treated my 13 year old boy for catarrh in the head, and cured him in 6 months. I don't know whether he can cure you or not, but on examination he will tell you the truth. I know a man here, that he examined, and he told him that he could not be cured. I know other people, that he done a great deal of good in other cases. Ben Limbert. Madisonburg, Centre Co., Pa.

Granulated Lids Cured by Dr. Salm.

For the last four years I have been troubled very much with granulated eye lids; it partly blinded me. Doctors here did me no good, it also seemed to affect my general health. Dr. Salm has cured me. I can again see splendidly, and feel better than ever. BESSIE THOMAS Indiana, Pa., Dec. 5th, 1894.

Thought I Would Lose my Mind, but Dr. Salm Cured Me.

For years I have been suffering with catarrh and ear trouble, and was miserable indeed. I thought sometimes I would lose my mind on account of the fearful noises in my head, and then my hearing was leaving me rapidly, and there was an organ about me that was out of shape. But to-day, thanks to Dr. Salm, all those fearful noises have left me. Can hear well, no more catarrh, and feel as well as any one of my age could expect. June 12th, '96. Mrs. Emma Brant, Shanksville, Somerset Co., Pa.

Four of the Best Doctors in the County Said She was Incurable, but Dr. Salm Made a Healthy Woman of Her.

For over five years I have been suffering with heart trouble and a bad case of dropsy. We went to four of the best doctors in the county for relief but all of them said a cure was impossible. At times I felt so bad that I was certain I had to die. I fainted away very often, and my friends told me afterwards that every moment would be my last. And I hereby affirm that had it not been for the splendid treatment received from Dr. Salm, who has entirely cured me of that great trouble, I would have been under the sod long ago.

Attested by her husband, Henry E. Ross, Leechburg, Armstrong Co., Pa.

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