

## SUGGESTIONS FOR APPLE GROWERS

HOW THE APPLE CROP SHOULD BE MARKED.

### PICKING, GRADING AND PACKING

Fruit Should be Carefully Sorted and Securely Packed—Size of Boxes and Barrels—Some Valuable Advice—Secure Best Price.

Prof. H. A. Surface, economic zoologist of Pennsylvania, who is greatly interested in the progress being made in fruit growing, is sending directions to owners of state model orchards telling them how to pick, grade and pack apples so as to realize the greatest returns for their efforts in growing fancy fruit. The instructions given will be of benefit to all orchardists.

All fruit, says Professor Surface, should be most carefully hand-picked when fully grown, and red varieties well-colored. The color should be of high quality and color, and also the fruit spurs, while too late reduces the keeping qualities. The exact time of picking can be determined by the full development of the fruit, and an occasional specimen beginning to soften or show the yellow color, or drop from the tree. In picking, the apple should be grasped in such a manner that the forefinger touches the stem, then by a rolling and bending movement the apple will be unjointed at the fruit spur. Careless and hurried picking often destroys the fruit spur or pulls out the stem, breaking the skin at the basin and otherwise bruising it. Injured fruit will not keep so well and its value is thus reduced.

A padded half bushel basket with a swing handle is the best receptacle into which to pick the fruit. Leaving apples in the basket with hot sun beating on them, reduces their keeping qualities. Instead they should be immediately cooled after picking, especially during warm weather.

#### Method of Grading.

To aid in assorting apples to uniform sizes for boxing, a sizing board with a row of holes will be helpful. These holes should be about 2 1/2 inches to 3 inches in diameter, representing the different sized apples that are put into boxes. The grader will soon become able to dispense with the sizing board except when in doubt. The apples are held up to the hole, but never dropped through. An ordinary table cover with a layer of canvas or soft cloth can be used on which to spread the apples in grading. Winter varieties can be assorted into four grades:

First. The finest for boxes. This should consist of well-colored and finest fruit of high quality varieties free from blemishes and of fine finish and uniform size.

Second. First grade for barrels. Next sizes to box apples, free from blemishes and bruises and of uniform size throughout the barrel.

Third. Second grade for barrels. Second grade includes the smaller sizes of sound fruit, free from blemishes.

Fourth. Culls. These include all the rest of the fruit, and usually should not be sent to market to compete with the better grades, but used for evaporating, canning and cider.

The art of packing apples in boxes is not easily described in writing, but must be learned by teaching and practice. The object is to adopt the styles of arrangement of the apples according to size so that the box is filled, the fruit projecting slightly above the top of the box at the ends and about an inch in the middle. When the ends are nailed the bulge in the middle is distributed between the top and bottom.

#### Styles of Packing.

- Four layers of six boxes of four apples each, 96 apples in the box.
- Four layers of eight rows of four apples each, 128 apples in the box.
- Five layers of seven rows of five apples each, 175 apples in the box.
- Five layers of ten rows of five apples each, 250 apples in the box.
- Three apples in the first row, two in the second, and three and two alternating to complete the tier. The second tier starts with two apples in the first row, placed in the intervals of the three of the bottom row, three in the second, etc. The third tier is like the first—2 1/2 apples in the first row, two in the second, and three and two alternating to complete the tier.
- In this style of packing three apples in each row alternate with the adjoining row. Each tier alternates with the tier below, so that the apples in the third tier are directly above those of the first, and those of the fourth tier above the second—72 apples to fill the box.

**Barrel Packing.** The standard American barrel contains three bushels and measures 17 1/2 inches across the ends, 23 1/2 inches across the center, and has staves 23 1/2 inches long. Second hand sugar barrels and smaller or "cider barrels" shall not be used.

Take out the bottom head and stand the barrel with the top head down so as to pack the top end first. A corrugated paper or some other cushion to protect the head layer should be laid in position and on this placed a fancy paper cap. Pack the layer of "facers" stem ends down in circular rows, fitting tightly together. A second layer of apples of the same kind is similarly placed in the depressions of the first. The facers are the same grade as the rest of the apples in the barrel but are of the best colored. Over the facers pour gently a half bushel of apples at a time shaking the barrel to settle the fruit. Fill the barrel to just above the ends of the staves, facing the top layer stem ends up, covering with a padded head to prevent crushing. Press down and drive the hoops into place and nail the head in.

**Conservation Delegates.** Governor Tener recently appointed delegates to the national conservation congress at Kansas City, September 25-27. Among them are Prof. Hugh P. Baker, State College; Dr. E. E. Sparks, State College.

It is appalling how many lives were lost within the last two weeks by fires wrecked on railroads, by explosions on vessels, tumbling from airships, and other manner of accidents, in various parts of the world. Anno Domini 1911, has had a more frightful record than any previous year.

### A DESERVED COMPLIMENT.

John A. Woodward Tendered Banquet By State College Trustees.

At the Spruce Creek Rod and Gun Club on Monday, September 25th, there was given by the members of the Board of Trustees and the Faculty of the Pennsylvania State College a complimentary dinner to Colonel John A. Woodward of Howard, Pa., who for twenty-seven years has been a Trustee of the Pennsylvania State College.

President Sparks was toast master and toasts were responded to by General Beaver, Mr. Chester J. Tyson, Dr. Arnsby, Deans Jackson and Hunt and the honored guest.

The trustees present were General Beaver, Judge Orvis, Messrs. Bayard, Lowry, Mitchell, McCormick, and White. The Faculty members were President Sparks and Messrs. Agee, Arnsby, Brennan, Barbery, Braman, Crane, Coche, Frantz, Criss, Gardner, Given, Goodling, Hunt, Madrs, McDowell, Pond, Shaw, Torrence, Thomas, Van Norman, Watts, Walker, S. E. Weber, Whitmore, Colonel Reynolds, of Bellefonte and Mr. C. J. Tyson of Florida.

For forty years Colonel Woodward has taken a deep interest in the college, having in this period missed but two commencements. He was elected a member of the Board of Trustees in 1884. In 1891 he was appointed a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, and in the same year was appointed Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Experiment Station. In these capacities he served continuously until June 30th, 1911. His intense devotion, his good judgment, and wide knowledge of men and affairs combined to make him an important factor in the development of the college in the last quarter century.

While a member of the General Assembly of the State, where he served two terms on the appropriation committee, he succeeded in securing an appropriation for the Pennsylvania State College of \$112,000, which, to that date was the largest appropriation that had ever been secured. He aided Doctor Arnsby in planning and putting into working shape the Allied Agricultural organization of Pennsylvania, with the view of concentrating the hitherto scattered forces of the farmers upon the Legislature to compel larger appropriations for the Pennsylvania State College. The results are well known.

Colonel Woodward's time has not all been given to the college. He was actively engaged in farming at Howard for thirty-six years. For twenty-five years he has been engaged in Journalistic work. He was the first Associate Editor of the Farm Journal, in which capacity he served twelve years. He was appointed Commissioner to select equipment for an agricultural exhibit at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, and again at the World's Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis in 1894. Much of the material was returned to the college, including the Relief Map of Pennsylvania in Old Mail.

While a member of the Legislature, he introduced and secured the passage of an appropriation for the State Board of Agriculture for the purpose of conducting local farmers' institutes. For more than twenty years he has been connected with this movement, both as lecturer and county manager. For an equal period he has been a member of the State Board of Agriculture.

The good roads movement is one of the many movements for the betterment of farm conditions in which he has been a pioneer.

### A HORSE'S PRAYER.

To my master—I offer my prayer: Feed, water and care for me, and when the week is done provide me with shelter and a clean dry bed: always be kind to me; pet me sometimes, that I may serve you the more gladly and learn to love you; do not jerk the rein, and do not whip me when going up hill; never strike, beat nor kick me when I do not understand you—watch me and if I fail to do your bidding, see if something is not wrong with my harness or feet; do not overload me or hitch me where water will drip on me; keep me well shod and examine my teeth when I do not eat—I may have an ulcerated tooth and that you know is painful; do not tie or check my head in an unnatural position, never take away my best defense against flies by cutting off my mane against my wish; when I am thirsty, give me clean, cool water; I cannot tell in words when I am sick, so send for a doctor, and when he leaves you a remedy to give me every hour, do not go out in the field and again, if the fever may run so high that I may die, and if I die, don't blame the doctor—blame yourself; give me all possible shelter from the hot sun and put a blanket on me when I am not working, but when I am standing in the cold; never put a frosty bit in my mouth—first warm it against the fire; if at any moment in your hand and finally, O my master, when my useful strength is gone, do not turn me out to starve or freeze, nor sell me to some human brute to be slowly tortured and stoned to death, but do then my master, take my life in the kindest way, and your God will reward you here and hereafter. Amen.

### About a Calf and a Watch.

The Renovo News offers the following unseasoned tale, which we pass to the Democrat readers, with the request that they salt the same to suit their individual tastes:

"Last spring, Nela, Manning, a farmer in Ledy township, hung his vest on a fence post and when he returned for it it was gone together with a watch which was in a pocket of the garment and he was unable to find any trace of it. But later it developed that a brindle calf wandered up and ate the vest. The calf, now full grown, was sold to L. Reynolds, the Seventh street butcher, who found the watch located in the neck of the stomach in such a manner that the action of its breathing kept it fully wound up. The works were in a screw case that gave ample protection.

Mr. Manning bought the watch from Smyth Bros. a short time before it disappeared and it was taken to them for examination and they found that it was none the worse for its unusual experience and that it had lost one minute and ten seconds."

### After the Bow-wows.

Three hundred Washington county dogs have been shot in the last few days as a result of a general epidemic of rabies. Fifteen horses and cows have died recently after being bitten, and a general quarantine on live stock is in force in the county for 100 days, or longer, if necessary. A number of valuable animals have been saved by the Pasteur treatment.

### RUN DOWN AND INJURED.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Z. Ripka Victims of Road Accident.

Says the Centre Hall Reporter of last week: Mr. and Mrs. J. Z. Ripka, of near Potters Mills, who were injured by being run down by a Lewis-town party, are improving, but they suffered considerably since the wreck. The couple, who are well advanced in years, on Thursday evening of the Grange Encampment and Fair, were on their way home, and on reaching the hill this side of the Broeckerhoff farm, were overtaken by a large spring wagon, the driver of which is said to have been John Koonsman, and badly booze-soaked. The vehicle smashed, and the elderly couple were thrown out, both receiving numerous bruises, sprains and cuts. They were brought to Centre Hall, where Dr. Allison gave the necessary medical attention and dressed their wounds.

The road was crowded with vehicles at this particular time, and when the intoxicated man failed to stop and assist those whose injury he caused, Robert Glasgow, who was a short distance ahead, leaped from his rig and took hold of the horse, Koonsman, and badly booze-soaked. The vehicle smashed, and the elderly couple were thrown out, both receiving numerous bruises, sprains and cuts. They were brought to Centre Hall, where Dr. Allison gave the necessary medical attention and dressed their wounds.

A settlement was made, the costs and damage being assessed at \$43.50. Mr. Ripka was paid \$26.00.

### TRACK WALKING.

How Every Mile of Track Is Carefully Inspected.

George A. Burns, the oldest track-walker in point of service on the Pennsylvania Railroad, has just put his 177,900th mile behind him. In keeping vigil over the track placed in his care, he has walked the equivalent of 7 1/3 times around the world in the last 35 years. Journeying four times across between Greensburg, Pa. and Youngwood Yard, a distance of 3.5 miles, he has inspected 5,725,800 splice plates on half that many rail joints.

Track inspection is reduced to an exact science on the Pennsylvania. A patrolman registers in the tower at the end of his beat the hour and minute of his arrival; departs on his journey and registers similarly in the tower at the other end. He carries a registering clock, by which his trips can be checked to the minute. His route usually covers about four miles, but in less than half this distance of 3.5 miles, he has inspected 5,725,800 splice plates on half that many rail joints.

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Other things that demand his vigil are out-lying water stations, overhead wires and even the cattle loose in the fields. Some of these pedestrians are on the job every hour in the twenty-four to smooth the path for the hurrying millions gliding over the rails.

### Y. M. C. A. DOINGS.

A very successful membership contest came to a close last week with a total score of 260 new names secured. The object of the contest was to double the membership by securing 216 new members, but the boys ran 44 ahead of the goal. The men were divided into five competing clubs and captains appointed, as follows: Pirates—Russell Blair, Tigers—H. C. Quigley, Red Sox—William Zarly, Giants—Don Wallace, Athletics—Prof. Nossel, the boys' club, the Cubs, was captained by Chas. Scot; there were also four ladies' teams—Pansies, Roses, Blue Bells and Violets. The campaign was inaugurated and conducted by State Secretary Geo. E. Burgess, who deserves considerable credit for its success. When the final count was made, it was found that the Pirates had won. The members of the successful team were: Russell Blair, Milan Walker, Randolph Dargrett, Hassell Montgomery, Harry Valentine, Louie Schad, Melvin Locke, J. Carpenter, Orvis Keeler and Ted Weston. Russell Blair, as captain of the winning team, received the handsome gold watch valued at \$10, offered as an incentive prize. In addition the lucky Pirates were banqueted by the Ladies' Auxiliary on Friday night, which was presided over by Judge Zuis L. Orvis.

Next Sunday Dr. Yocum of the Methodist church, will begin a series of talks, termed "Four Photographs of the Life of David," to be held on four consecutive Sundays from 4:30 to 5 P. M.

Commencing Tuesday evening, the weekly Bible Class supper will be resumed. Oysters and Boston baked beans will be served. Every man in Bellefonte is invited to come and enjoy the supper and spend an hour at the Y. M. C. A.

On Friday evening of next week a reception will be held for the benefit of new members. The object is to get thoroughly acquainted and have a nice social time. Refreshments will be served during the evening, some athletic stunts pulled off, and everything possible done to make a pleasant time of it.

One of the big events soon to take place will be the initial number on the Star course, to be held in the auditorium, Thursday evening, Oct. 12th. The entertainers will be the "Musical Favorites," one of the best companies on the road. Keep in mind the date—Thursday evening of next week.

**Mule Starts by Electricity.** Supt. Chliner, of the water and light plant in Forest City, Ark., has fitted up an ingenious device for starting a mule, formerly considered the latest in the state. It consists of a small electric battery with a wire attached to the mule's bridle and to a ring on the harness near the tail. When he wants the mule to start he touches a button and there's no whipping or swearing for the mule goes without delay. Mr. Chliner has applied for a patent.

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### SEE THE FUNNY SIDE.

Humor proves to be the saving clause of many a distressing situation. The trouble with most of us is that we take our troubles altogether too seriously. We fail to see the funny side of things that for the moment concern us, even though we are quick to grasp it when we are more outlookers.

In the face of gathered clouds that seem to shut out the sunshine forever it is not a bad idea to remind ourselves that this old mother earth has been revolving on her axis for countless ages, that generations of men have come and gone for thousands of years and that the march of human progress has gone right along in the forward direction despite what seemed to be occasional setbacks.

"Laugh and the world laughs with you." There is humor in nearly every situation if we can only see it from the right angle. Those of us who try to smile in adversity and think how much more laughable it would be if conditions were reversed at least feel less uncomfortable over it and take pleasure in looking forward to the time when the shoe will be on the other foot.

**Not a Bad Record.** New York city has ten times as many Jews as there are in the Holy Land; thirty times as many as are in Jerusalem. There are more than 300,000 Jewish children in our schools. Three thousand Jews are preachers of the Gospel. The Testament is in Jewish language by the million. In our war of the rebellion the Jews were a great help. In the Revolutionary war three Jews were on Washington's staff. A Jew gave Washington \$65,000 to carry on that war. In the Spanish-American war there were Jews in our army. A Jew gave money to Columbus to enable him to go on his voyages. A Jew drew the maps which Columbus used. His doctor was a Jew and so was his interpreter. Not a bad record, is it?

**Carried Six Miles to Court.** Frank Relka rode six miles on another man's back to court. He was dangerously hurt while working in the Glen Run Coal company's mines and in suing for damages. He heard the case was to be adjourned and wished to protest against the delay.

He cannot walk, he owns no horse, so another miner, a neighbor, poor as Relka, offered his broad back as a means of conveyance.

The court provided a horse and buggy to drive him home and promised to send a surgeon to him.

**Largest Artificial Leg.** The largest artificial leg ever made—thirty-nine inches in circumference—is being completed by a Pittsburgh firm for Miss Anna Chelton, of Oil City, who weighs about 700 pounds. The right leg of Miss Chelton, who is 24 and stands 5 feet 6 inches, was amputated last January to save her life, because of elephantiasis. Before the operation she weighed 750 pounds. After it she weighed 100 pounds less, but since then has become heavier.

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ALL DRUGGISTS 11-19

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