

### COUNTY AGENTS' NEWS LETTER

#### Allegheny Regional Advisory Meeting

The Allegheny Regional Advisory Board considered as its main topic at its recent meeting at Washington, Pa. the subject of Agriculture. Car loadings is of prime importance to those farmers who ship in large quantities. The kind of car and time when he can secure it is important because produce should arrive when it is marketable.

Reports up to the present time indicate a short maple sugar season.

#### Spray to Control Aphids on Apples

Indications point to the worst infestation of aphids in five years.

Eggs are scattered in every conceivable place on the limbs and branches of trees. Under such conditions, it is reasonable to expect, that the rosy aphid is going to be a dangerous enemy in apple orchards and attention must be paid to the control of this insect this year.

When buds are in the delayed dormant condition is the time to control the aphids. Use lime-sulphur and nicotine-sulphate. If orchards have been sprayed with oil, the lime-sulphur may be diluted in 1,008 specific gravity, but if oil has not been previously applied, lime-sulphur of 1.03 specific gravity should be used. In either case, add nicotine at the rate of one pint to 100 gallons of the dilute spray.

Oil sprays are not dependable for controlling aphids. The information available concerning the value of oils for this purpose indicates that a general recommendation for their use in the delayed dormant period cannot be given, since these materials under certain conditions have caused serious damage.

Spray the trees thoroughly and aim to hit the ends of the buds, otherwise, the treatment will be unsatisfactory.

#### Prepare Grafting Wax Now For Spring Work

Make your grafting wax now. Grafting is not a difficult operation, but certain principles must be rigidly observed to secure success. One of these is that all cut surfaces must be completely covered with wax to prevent drying out.

Two kinds of wax are in the most general use. The first of these, the melted wax, is made with six pounds of crushed rosin, one pound finely cut wax, and one pint of raw linseed oil. The first two ingredients are melted together, the oil is stirred in, and the wax is ready for use. It is necessary to keep this material in the melted condition either with a grafting pot or some other heating device. Do not overheat as it may kill the tissue when very hot. Melted wax is applied with a brush or ladle.

#### May Use Soft Wax

The soft wax is made from the same materials, but in different proportions. The formula used is four pounds of crushed rosin, two pounds of beeswax, and one-half pint of raw linseed oil. One pound of rendered tallow may be used instead of the oil. The resin and beeswax should be melted together, the oil or tallow added and thoroughly mixed, and the wax poured into a bucket of cold water. The hands should be greased and the wax taken from the water while still warm and pulled until it is fine grained and light amber in color. It is then ready to use.

This wax has the advantage that the heat of the hands is generally sufficient to make it soft enough to be workable and a grafting pot is therefore unnecessary. On rather cold days it may be carried in a bucket or warm water to keep it soft. Melted wax, on the other hand, is more quickly and generally more thoroughly applied, and is better adapted for use on cold days.

Either wax will keep almost indefinitely, and might well be prepared at this time so as to be in readiness when the grafting work is done.

#### Apply Oil to Stop Red Spider Attack

Stop red spider destruction with oil. Either a miscible oil or an oil emulsion may be used. The sprays are applied not later than the time when the ends of the buds are breaking on apples. On peaches the spray is applied while the buds are dormant or not later than when they show signs of cracking.

Lime-sulphur solution applied as a delayed dormant spray will control the spider sufficiently when the infestation is slight, but in most apple orchards where the spider can be detected easily around the buds or on the bark, oil sprays should be applied. On peach trees oil sprays should not follow lime-sulphur applications immediately but may be applied 2 or 3 weeks later. Oil sprays must not be applied in the delayed dormant period for the control of red spider, especially where the buds are so far advanced that the sprays can get into the center of the buds.

In spraying for protection against this insect, thorough applications are necessary. The covering of the under sides of the limbs as well as the upper surfaces to get effective results is urged. The dormant sprays should be followed with the usual summer applications in order to reduce infestation to the minimum.

#### Treating Out Seed Halts Smut Damage

Arrest the oat smut thief.

During the past few years oat smut has been increasing, and it is estimated that this fungus robber reduced the yield of oats in Pennsylvania last year two bushels on the average and in many instances it caused loss of one-third to one-half of the crop.

Expenditure of 2 to 3 cents an acre for formaldehyde and about three minutes of time in using it would have saved all of the lost bushels.

Treating oats for smut with the latest method of applying formaldehyde is easy and inexpensive. One pint of 40 per cent formaldehyde solution is the right amount to use on 50 bushels of oats to get complete control and yet cause no injury. If more of the solution is used seed injury may result.

#### Spray Solution on Oats

Dilute the formaldehyde with an equal quantity of water and pour into a hand sprayer of one-quart capacity. Dump the oats on a clean barn floor canvas. While the oats are being shoveled from one pile to another, spray each shovelful with the solution. One stroke of the sprayer gives about the right amount.

After all the oats are treated this way, pile in a heap and cover with grain sacks or blankets which have been sprayed inside and outside with the solution. Allow the oats to remain covered for at least five hours, after which they may be bagged and drilled. Treatment may be made at any time before sowing but it is advisable to plant soon after treating. Since the formaldehyde vapor acts as an irritant breathing it should be avoided by holding the sprayer close to the oats and by working from one side of the pile only.

Use of this method will permit farmers to grow just as many oats on nine acres as would be grown on 10 acres sowed with untreated seed. Spending 18 to 27 cents will save working and planting the extra acre, which may be considered as growing nothing when the crop is full of smut. In addition, the oats are more convenient to handle and the straw is clean when the seed has been treated.

C. C. McDowell, County Agent

### Weekly Health Talk

"It was recently stated that the examinations of school children in leading cities of the United States led to the discovery that many of the pupils were suffering from foot ailments. In most cases these conditions were directly attributed to ill fitting shoes that cramped the toes and squeezed the feet into unnatural positions. Such a situation represents downright carelessness on the part of parents," said Dr. Theodore B. Appel, Secretary of Health, today.

"One can not blame children for wearing improper shoes. They do not know any better. On the other hand, shoe dealers could prevent much of it, and parents could eliminate all of it.

"It follows that more intelligent attention must be given by the older folks to the selection of juvenile footwear. It is merely fundamentally humanitarian to do so.

"Permanently injured feet are decided handicaps. They can cause much suffering. But there is even more to the proposition than that. Spinal troubles, neuritis, headache, backache and rheumatism have countless times been directly traced to improper footwear.

"Older people, except that more or less fixed ratio of young ladies who insist on size four when they require a five, are much more sensible regarding shoes than formerly was the case. Style plus comfort, rather than style alone, appears to be today's main idea regarding all apparel, including shoes.

"It seems only to be necessary therefore to follow this excellent rule a bit further by exercising the same intelligent care when purchasing footwear for the youngsters as is displayed when parents are buying for themselves.

"This world demands all the vitality and assets a human being can command. It is not fair to handicap children physically or otherwise. In this connection the shoe question assumes a major importance. Give the children's feet a square deal. It decidedly pays to do so."

### PLAN ALL-DAY PROGRAM FOR SOMERSET GRANGES

County Supt. of Schools W. H. Kretzman and Farm Bureau Agent C. C. McDowell are listed as speakers for the joint meeting of Somerset County Pomona grange No. 39 and Jefferson grange at Bakersville April 20.

### JENNER GRANGE AND FIREMEN HOLD MEET

Meeting in Community Hall at Jenners is Extremely Enthusiastic Despite the Fact that Attendance was not as Large as Had Been Anticipated; Many Angles of Rural Fire Fighting and Protection Discussed—Important Meet of Pomona April 6.

A very enthusiastic joint meeting of members of the Jenner Grange and of the Somerset County Firemen's Association was held in the Community Hall at Jenners on Friday evening of last week, March 22, and despite the fact that the attendance was not as large as it had been hoped it would be, much work in connection with providing the desired rural protection against fire was carried out in excellent form.

The meeting was called to order by Calvin Shaulis, who in addition to taking an active part in the meeting, introduced the speakers. The first speaker of the evening was A. B. Hoffman of Somerset, president of the Pomona Rural Fire Fighting Association. Mr. Hoffman after making brief remarks of a timely nature asked the chairman to call upon Richard Hill, president of the Somerset County Firemen's Association, stating that he (Mr. Hoffman) believed that Mr. Hill was better able to speak along fire fighting lines due to his wide experience in the work, linked with the fact that he was president of the county fire fighting Association.

Chairman Shaulis complied with the request and called upon Mr. Hill, the latter responding with an excellent talk in which he outlined the fire fighting work from many different angles, emphasizing the fact that one of the best ways to eliminate heavy fire losses was by preventing fires. Mr. Hill also spoke at considerable length on his experience as a fire fighter, reciting a number of cases where the firemen performed excellent service. The speaker also urged all farmers to get back of the movement now under way to bring better protection against fire to the residents living in the rural sections of the county. Mr. Hill's talk was very timely and was much appreciated by all those present.

The next speaker was Herman Balis of Somerset, chairman of the Rural Fire Fighting committee of the Somerset County Firemen's Association. Mr. Balis, in his customary jovial manner very forcibly brought to the attention of those present the need of providing better protection in the rural districts against fire. He spoke at considerable length on the financing end of the work and during his address offered a number of very valuable suggestions along the line of raising the money needed to push this work to a successful culmination. Mr. Balis urged that the ministers of the county be interested in this work, as well as all other men and women engaged in public welfare work. His expressed his belief as favoring a membership fee rather than by raising money by the levy of a tax. Mr. Balis has been working hard on the rural end of the fire protection for the past year or more, during which time he has gained much information of a valuable nature, and his talk at Friday evening's meeting proved to be both interesting and quite valuable to those who were present to hear it.

Teddy Mills of Central City gave an excellent talk. Mr. Mills is perhaps one of the oldest firemen in the county in the point of service and his experience in fighting fires has been extremely wide with the result that he is always prepared to give out plenty of good advice when it comes to the matter of combatting fire. Mr. Mills spoke on the hardships which the firemen were often forced to undergo in their work of fighting fires and he also mentioned the need of hearty co-operation among the firemen and farmers of the county, urging upon all present to get back of this work of providing the rural residents of the county with better protection. Mr. Mills' talk was very timely and much appreciated by those present.

L. L. Sprowls, president of the Boswell Volunteer Fire Department, was the next speaker of the evening. Mr. Sprowls spoke of farm life and of the inconveniences twenty to thirty years ago as compared with the present-day improved state. He spoke of development along fire fighting lines and of various other phases of the work having to do with the combined efforts of the firemen and members of the Grange in this county in establishing better protection against fires with their attending losses. Mr. Sprowls, as in the case of the preceding speakers urged all to get back of the movement and force it to a successful culmination.

Frank Stoner, of Markleton, secretary of the Pomona Rural Fire Fighting Association, was the next speaker of the evening. Mr. Stoner spoke briefly of the work and urged all to fall in line with their membership dues. Following his remarks, Mr. Stoner stated that he was in a position at that time to take the names and issue receipts to all those who were present and cared to join the organization. From the manner in which he was approached by many of the gentlemen present following the meeting it was evident that quite a number of new members were secured.

John S. Rhoads of Jenner township then gave a fine talk in which he stated that he favored the membership plan rather than in securing the necessary financial aid through taxation. Mr. Rhoads was very enthusiastic in advocating support by everyone in behalf of this worthy cause. His talk was much appreciated by all those present.

Much credit is due the progress which has been made thus far, in providing the people living in the rural sections of the county with better protection, to the Somerset County Firemen's Association, while a lot of the credit for this progress is also due the members of the Grange and men like Mr. Hoffman, Mr. Stoner and countless others who are giving freely of their time and ability in promoting this worthy cause.

The annual meeting of the Pomona Rural Fire Fighting Association will be held at the courthouse in Somerset at 8:00 P. M. on Saturday, April 6. All members are urged to be present at this meeting.

### Health Promotion by Advertising

Modern advertising has improved the health of Americans within the last two decades, as well as having lightened the toil of the housewife and the husband, according to the findings of Ernest E. Calkins, who has been making a comprehensive study of the effects of national advertising for the Woman's Home Companion.

The contribution of advertising to national health is found by Mr. Calkins in one instance, in the elimination of guess-work in the improvement of home cooking materials and methods, for example bread, which can now be produced with uniform excellence. "The greater baking companies, nationally advertised," he declares, "can make better bread than Mother used to make; not better than some exceptional housewives, but better than the average. In the old days there was at least as much poor bread made as good."

Assuming that poorly cooked foods had a deleterious effect upon the health of the nation, Calkins points out what has been done in other lines of foodstuffs. Once, he says, vinegar was made from otherwise unused apples and "home made" brands of the most clearly marked contained impurities and varying degrees of strength and excellence. A nationally advertised pickle company, finding that it could not maintain a set standard with such a product, began producing its own vinegar, ageing it in the wood like wine and using only selected apples. Likewise, packers found it more profitable in the long run to select the finest of fruits and vegetables for the market instead of canning "leftovers" as was the old home custom.

As one walks there is much to see. One moment it is the curling surf thundering on the reef, or the inspiring view of the toothed island of Moorea; again it is the medicinal micro, or the pander producing outa. On every hand the breadfruit shares yard and roadside with the prolific mango; over wave-washed shore and high on breezy hill lean the nut-borne palm; and afar, on mountain slope, branch the glossy fel (a type of plantain).

After sundown one may experience one of the greatest pleasures of the tropics—travel by moonlight. When the elements of the air are in a placid mood, an evening stroll is a delight. Waving palms and all their glistening wind, roar of surf on distant reef, and ceaseless wash of tide, combined with the greetings of young and old from roadside and dooryard, produce sensations foreign to the most radiant day.

Travelers must put up for the night in native homes. If the house of a reasonably well-to-do family is chosen it will probably be a one-story, unpainted wooden structure. The floor and walls will be bare, and the roof will be of galvanized iron sheeting, the common covering for wooden buildings in the South Pacific.

All Tahitian villages have only one street, and along the seashore that is part of the island's main highway. On each side of this is an irregular row of houses, the best one belonging to the district chief.

Chinese Are Storekeepers. In tramps in Tahiti it is difficult to know when one has crossed what might properly be called the line between village and plantation. But practically every village center is marked by a group of two or three smoky-looking Chinese stores. Whenever they stand, there is the village square, where the gossips gather; and, in the harvesting season, the perfume of vanilla beans drying on can-

### IN TAHITI



Native Tahitian Man and Woman.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

EVEN a short visit to Papeete, capital of the island of Tahiti, while the steamer pauses, is interesting; but to really understand something of life in this gem of the South Seas one must journey inland. The usual method of travel is by carriage but more enjoyable to many is a leisurely walk with a guide, pausing at native villages.

Any guide one chooses is likely to carry along his meager belongings some sort of musical instrument, for all Tahitians love music. They delight in singing, and from ancient days have drawn sounds from crude bums and wooden instruments. The favorite instruments now are the accordion, harmonica, and jew's-harp. One sees the first in all parts of the island. In Papeete groups of young persons of both sexes will be seen squatting on lawn or street, wreathed with flowers and accompanying an accordion with voice or limb.

The way out of Papeete lies between coconut groves and banana fields; beside coral-littered beach: in the shade of the flowering purau (wild hibiscus), and past the lowly sensitive plant. In alarm at one's tread, hundreds of land crabs run in ungainly fashion to their holes, some raising militant claws, others bending all their energies toward flight. Under foot tiny ants forage; in the shallows of the beach, the blue otu fishes for its breakfast; farther out brown fishermen poised pronged spears from reef or boat; to the right and to the left the leisurely inmates of thatched homes prepare their breakfasts or saunter about with an air of luxurious ease. Both young and old among them salute passers-by with the national "Iorana!" and the curious stare with questioning eyes.

Sights Along the Way. As one walks there is much to see. One moment it is the curling surf thundering on the reef, or the inspiring view of the toothed island of Moorea; again it is the medicinal micro, or the pander producing outa. On every hand the breadfruit shares yard and roadside with the prolific mango; over wave-washed shore and high on breezy hill lean the nut-borne palm; and afar, on mountain slope, branch the glossy fel (a type of plantain).

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### Jurors Are Drawn For County Court

The following list of grand jurors have been drawn to serve the week of April 29 for the Somerset Criminal Court:

- Irma B. Pile, housekeeper, Somerset Borough.
- Ida Belle Specht, housekeeper, Stoystown.
- Ada Knoll, housekeeper, Rockwood.
- Stella Dull, housekeeper, Hooversville.
- Frank Driggs, laborer, Boswell.
- Edna L. Waterman, housewife, Somerset Borough.
- Mary Ann Ankeny, teacher, Jenner Township.
- C. C. Schmucker, carpenter, Stonycreek.
- D. B. Augustine, agent, Addison.
- Melvin Lindeman, laborer, Meyersdale.
- Nannie Nicklow, housekeeper, Upper Turkeyfoot.
- Nellie M. Bell, housekeeper, Jenner Township.
- Jennie Sechler, housekeeper, Somerset Township.
- Olive Hall, housekeeper, Upper Turkeyfoot.
- F. C. Warner, miner, Paint Township.
- Miriam Wilson, housekeeper, Shankville.
- Ralph J. Egoft, laborer, Somerset Borough.
- Helen Fike, clerk, Somerset Borough.
- H. E. Miller, farmer, Allegheny.
- W. G. Fritz, miner, Berlin.
- Emma S. Knepper, housekeeper, Brothersvalley.
- Henry Berkebile, laborer, Central City.
- Annie Brant, housekeeper, Somerset Township.
- S. D. Glessner, farmer, Brothersvalley.

#### Civil Court Jurors

The following list of 50 jurors were drawn yesterday by Jury Commissioner James I. Weigle and Frank B. Fluck and Sheriff Lester G. Wagner to serve at the April term of City Court, which convenes at Somerset on Monday, April 29:

- Mary R. Brubaker, housekeeper, Berlin.
- Ruth Friedline, housekeeper, Jenner Township.
- Charles C. Cable, laborer, Shade.
- Paul Miller, Jr., miner, Boswell.
- Erma Croner, housekeeper, Brothersvalley.
- D. C. White, salesman, Berlin.
- Leona Miller, housekeeper, Somerset Township.
- Jonas Platter, lumberman, Addison.
- Ada Craig, housekeeper, Brothersvalley.
- Minnie Bowmanster, housekeeper, Meyersdale.
- Binnie Gordon, housekeeper, Central City.
- Sarah Estep, housekeeper, Central City.
- Melda Schramm, clerk, Salisbury.
- Mary M. Murray, housekeeper, Jenner Township.
- Howard Mazer, farmer, Larimer.
- George Scott Hissong, laborer, Windber.
- Madison J. Romesberg, farmer, Black.
- Charles F. Grasser, contractor, Conemaugh.
- F. R. Penner, meterman, Windber.
- Nancy Mognet, housekeeper, Somerset Borough.
- Evelyn E. Hartley, bookkeeper, Meyersdale.
- William M. Smith, farmer, Southampton.
- Henry G. Hankinson, merchant, New Baltimore.
- Charles Deist, foreman, Salisbury.
- E. J. Rhodes, clerk, Windber.
- A. A. Sherlock, mine foreman, Windber.
- Vivian Philippi, housekeeper, Somerset Township.
- Amie C. Bare, housekeeper, Greenville.
- Esther A. Shank, housekeeper, Stoystown.
- Gilbert O'Baker, laborer, Wellersburg.
- William B. Putman, section foreman, Casselman.
- H. G. Peck, farmer, Elk Lick.
- Annie Gifford, housekeeper, Somerset Borough.
- Edgar Glotfely, carpenter, Elk Lick.
- Neva Lantz, housekeeper, Berlin.
- Ernest F. Swank, farmer, Somerset Township.
- John F. Rhoads, lumberman, Jenner Township.
- Walter Mong, architect, Somerset Borough.
- Verna O. Ream, housekeeper, Paint Township.
- William H. Price, mine superintendent, Meyersdale.
- Lillian M. Keim, waitress, Jenner-town.
- Cora A. Edgar, housekeeper, Confluence.
- David M. Baker, miner, Berlin.
- Arthur Brougher, farmer Middle-creek.
- Verna Metzler, housekeeper, Somerset Township.
- Bertha Vought, housekeeper, Milford.
- Walter E. Saylor, carpenter, Conemaugh.
- George F. Johnson, laborer, Stoystown.
- P. P. Lambert, garage man, Shade.
- Ernest Griffin, vulcanizer, Somerset Borough.

The girl who paints herself ought to remember that the zebra is beautifully striped but remains a jackass just the same.