

# AGRICULTURE

- OF LOCAL INTEREST TO -

## WAYNE COUNTY FARMERS

### Farmers, Do Not Plant Imported Potatoes.

There is great danger of disease and loss of crop in planting imported potatoes for seed.

Because of a shortage in the American crop last year millions of bushels of potatoes have been imported from Europe.

In many potatoes grown in Europe there are potato diseases that are more dangerous than any we now have in this country.

Even with the careful and expensive methods of cultivation and disease prevention used by the farmers of Europe these diseases cause great losses.

If these diseases get in this country they will result in tremendous losses to American potato growers.

If no imported seed is planted it may be possible to prevent their introduction.

Some of the diseases in question will live in the soil for years, and after introduced the only way to eradicate them is to stop growing potatoes and put the land in pasture or other crops for five or ten years.

Once introduced, it is probable that American soils would never be free from these diseases.

Some of the worst European potato diseases liable to be imported are: Potato-Wart or Black Scab, Spongospora Scab, Black Leg and Leaf Curl.

These are described in Circular No. 93, Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Write for it and ask for any further detailed information desired.

### THE USE OF DYNAMITE ON THE FARM.

Why plow around that old stump another season? Get a little dynamite, bore a few holes in its old roots and blow it to smithereens.

Mr. Farmer, do you know that an old stump occupies as much ground as six hills of corn? The corn from six hills would in a few years pay for enough dynamite to blow out many stumps and boulders.

When cut-over land, which is covered with stumps and boulders, can be cleared, and turned into farms at a profit, it is hard to understand why anyone should let stumps and boulders take up valuable land, plowing around them year after year. A lot of time is wasted swinging around even a few stumps and boulders when plowing a field, to say nothing of the damage to plow, harness and team if a root is struck. Besides this, each medium-sized stump, with its spreading roots, or even a comparatively small boulder, will take up the space of many stalks of corn or of other crops.

One suggestion which should be made to those who have land to clear is: Always do your stump blasting, if possible, when the ground is wet. Almost every kind of ground when it is wet, offers stronger resistance to the action of dynamite than it does when it is dry. Therefore, when the ground is wet a stump or boulder can be blasted out with less dynamite than when the same ground is dry.

One of the most objectionable methods of trying to get rid of stumps is burning them out. When stumps have been blasted out and split up with dynamite, it is an easy matter to heap up the pieces and burn them, but to burn a standing stump is a difficult proposition. Those who have tried it can testify to the time spent in keeping the fire going, and that it is practically impossible in this way to get rid of much of the stump below the surface of the ground. Probably the worst feature of burning out stumps is the damage done to the ground by the fire, which burns out the humus to such an extent that it requires much cultivation to bring the ground where the stump was burned into good condition. The following from the Tacoma, Washington, Ledger, explains very clearly the damage done to new land by burning out stumps:

"Last summer Professor W. J. McGee, of the Department of Agriculture, in co-operation with Professor Henry Landes, Dr. Benson and Dr. Fry, of the State University, studied the best methods of utilizing cut-over or logged-off lands. Professor McGee gives some of the findings, and they argue strongly against burning cut-over lands. Fire destroys the humus in the soil, and when the humus is gone, the fertility is greatly lessened. The danger of burning logged-off lands is that the fire will burn the humus some distance below the surface. When the humus is burned out it takes time to build up a fertile soil again. The fire destroys the work it took Nature many years to do."

The implements needed in stump and boulder blasting are few and inexpensive, and most of them are always to be found on the farm.

For medium-sized and smaller stumps, a two-inch wood augur to drill under the stump, and into the tap root if there is one, is necessary, and a crowbar with one pointed end and one chisel end is very useful. One of the most important implements used in stump blasting, is the tamping stick. This must have no metal about it. For tamping the holes under the stumps a stick five or six feet long and one and a half inches in diameter is large enough.

Precautions must be taken in using dynamite otherwise accidents may happen. When tamping be sure it is done with a wooden stick. Never use a metal bar or anything having metal parts.

Precautions to be Observed in General With Regard to Explosives.

DON'T forget the nature of explosives, but remember that with proper care they can be handled

with comparative safety.

DON'T smoke while you are handling explosives, and DON'T handle explosives near an open light.

DON'T shoot into explosives with a rifle or pistol either in or out of a magazine.

DON'T leave explosives in a field or any place where stock can get at them. Cattle like the taste of the soda and saltpetre in explosives, but the other ingredients would probably make them sick or kill them.

DON'T handle or store explosives in or near a residence.

DON'T leave explosives in a wet or damp place. They should be kept in a suitable, dry place, under lock and key, and where children or irresponsible persons cannot get at them.

DON'T explode a charge to chamber a bore hole and then immediately reload it, as the bore hole will be hot and the second charge may explode prematurely.

DON'T do tamping with iron or steel bars or tools. Use only a wooden tamping stick, with no metal parts.

DON'T force a primer into a bore hole.

DON'T explode a charge before every one is well beyond the danger zone and protected from flying debris. Protect your supply of explosives also from danger from this source.

DON'T hurry in seeking an explanation for the failure of a charge to explode.

DON'T drill, bore or pick out a charge which has failed to explode. Drill and charge another bore hole at least two feet from the missed one.

DON'T use two kinds of explosives in the same bore hole, except where one is used as a primer to detonate the other, as where dynamite is used to detonate low powder. The quicker explosive may open cracks in the rock and allow the slower to blow out through these cracks, doing little or no work.

DON'T use frozen or chilled explosives.

DON'T use any arrangement for thawing dynamite other than one of those recommended by the dynamite manufacturers.

DON'T thaw dynamite on heated stoves, rocks, sand, bricks or metal, or in an oven, and don't thaw dynamite in front of, near or over a steam boiler or fire of any kind.

DON'T take dynamite into or near a blacksmith shop or near a forge on open work.

DON'T put dynamite on shelves of anything else directly over steam or hot-water pipes or other heated metal surface.

DON'T cut or break a dynamite cartridge while it is frozen, and don't rub a cartridge of dynamite in the hands to complete thawing.

DON'T heat a thawing house with pipes containing steam under pressure.

DON'T place a hot water thawer over a fire, and never put dynamite into hot water or allow it to come in contact with steam.

DON'T allow thawed dynamite to remain exposed to low temperature before using it. If it freezes again before it is used, it must be thawed again.

DON'T allow priming (the placing of a blasting cap or electric fuze in dynamite) to be done in a thawing house or magazine.

DON'T prime dynamite cartridges, or charge or connect the bore holes for electric firing, during the immediate approach or progress of a thunderstorm.

DON'T carry blasting caps or electric fuzes in your pocket.

DON'T tap or otherwise investigate a blasting cap or electric fuze.

DON'T attempt to take blasting caps from the box by inserting a wire, nail or other sharp instrument.

DON'T try to withdraw the wires from an electric fuze.

DON'T fasten a blasting cap to the fuze with the teeth or by flattening it with a knife—use a cap crimper.

DON'T keep electric fuzes, blasting machines or blasting caps in a damp place.

DON'T attempt to use electric fuzes with the regular insulation in very wet work. For this purpose secure those which are waterproof.

DON'T worry along with old, broken leading wire or connecting wire. A new supply won't cost much and will pay for itself many times over.

DON'T handle fuse carelessly in cold weather, for when cold it is stiff and breaks easily.

DON'T store or transport blasting caps or electric fuzes with high explosives.

DON'T store fuse in a hot place, as this may dry it out so that uncoupling will break it.

DON'T "lace" fuze through dynamite cartridges. This practice is frequently responsible for the burning of the charge.

DON'T operate blasting machines half-heartedly. They are built to be operated with full force. They must be kept clean and dry.

DON'T cut the fuze short to save time. It is dangerous economy.

DON'T expect a cheap article to give as good results as a highgrade one.

DON'T expect explosives to do good work if you try to explode them with a detonator weaker than a No. 6.

Engagement rings are still popular in court circles.

## Honesdale District Sunday School Convention

Seelyville, Wednesday, May 15, 1912.

10:00 A. M. Prayer Service.  
 10:15 A Word of Welcome Rev. W. H. Swift, D. D.  
 10:30 "An Up-to-Date Sunday School." Rev. Geo. G. Doney.  
 11:00 "The Little Folks and the Sunday School."  
 Miss Carrie Clark  
 Miss Susan Brown

11:30 Open Conference, led by  
 11:40 Roll Call; Reading of Minutes.  
 Appointment of Committees.  
 Collection.  
 Dinner.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

2:00 P. M. Prayer.  
 2:15 "The Why and How of the O. A. B. C." Joshua Brown  
 2:30 Open Conference.  
 2:50 "How to Organize and Keep up a Home Department,"  
 3:10 Open Conference.  
 3:25 "Why Not a T. T. Class in Every S. S.?"  
 Rev. Geo. G. Doney.

3:55 Discussion.  
 4:10 Report Cards and Finance.  
 Dr. Otto Appley  
 Mrs. W. H. Swift.

Collection.

Supper.

### EVENING SESSION.

7:30 Prayer and Song Service J. A. Bodie  
 8:00 "The Influence of the Thoroughly Equipped Modern  
 Sunday School." Rev. G. G. Doney  
 8:45 Your Opportunity to Speak. Delegates  
 Report of Committees.  
 Collection and Adjournment.

## ARMY'S NEW FILTER OR "WATER WAGON."

It Enables Troops to Drink Water Wherever It is Found.

The army filter, or "water wagon," recently adopted is designed to fill an important gap in the hygienic equipment of the army in the field. It is claimed that its use will insure the purification of any water found on the march and thus solve the principal camping difficulty. It is on a one ton chassis, and its operation is simple, requiring no skilled attention. Five minutes after the command is given the machine, being near the stream, can deliver from 500 to 1,000 gallons of pure water an hour from any convenient number of sprockets. A master sprocket controls the pump, which is connected with the engine of the car and requires a half horsepower to operate. The filter is cleaned by reversing the flow and is sterilized by feeding it a bucket of limewater.

The water is drawn upward through a series of filters, means being provided for the deposits of varying matters below the filters proper so that they do not enter or clog them. The filtering materials used by chemical reaction coagulate organics in solution, forming a gelatinous film, over which water passing leaves sticking to it fine particulated matter and bacteria that otherwise would remain in the water. The gelatinous film also possesses the power of absorption, which plays an important role in this process of purification.

According to an army surgeon, the effectiveness of a modern army is measured more by its physical condition than by its moral courage.

Lives and fortunes have been spent in the solution of the water question, but it appears to have remained for the advent of the automobile to make it possible for an army to be able to go anywhere where water exists and to have pure water to drink, no matter what its source. What was wanted was a practical means of removing all suspended matter, including bacteria and colloids, from the water ordinarily found in public streams, for immediate consumption. The army filter is said to meet that important demand.

### Conundrums.

Why is education like a tailor? Because it forms our habits.

Why is a nobleman like a book? Because he has a title and several pages.

Why are the legs of an ill bred fellow like an organ grinder? Because they carry a monkey about the streets.

Why is a blackboard like a safe steed? Because one is a horse-shoer and the other is a sure horse.

Why are photographers the most uncivil of all tradesmen? Because when we make application for our photographs they begin with a negative.

Where does charity begin? At C (sea).

Which is the strongest day in the week? Sunday, because all the others are week days.

Which is the easier to spell—fiddle-de-dee or fiddle-de-dum? The former because it is spelled with more e's.

Why is an elephant like a wheelbarrow? Because neither can climb a tree.—Philadelphia Ledger.

### Big Salary Explained.

"And how is your excellent son, the divinity student? He graduated from the theological academy about a year ago, I believe?" "Yes, just a year ago. And he's doing so well! They pay him a wonderfully large salary and next year he's to get more." "Indeed! That's very unusual. Perhaps it is his excellent delivery that nets him the large emolument." "Yes, that's it. He's one of the pitchers in the big league."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### Arthur Felt Bad.

Small Arthur complained of feeling badly, and his father said he might be taking the chickenpox, then prevalent in the neighborhood, but Arthur laughed at the idea.

Next morning he came downstairs, looking very serious, and said: "You are right, papa; it's the chickenpox; I found a feather in the bed."

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## SPENCER

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would like to see you if you are in the market for

JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, WATCHES,

CLOCKS, DIAMONDS, AND NOVELTIES

"Guaranteed articles only sold."

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## THIS and THAT

WHERE one man gets rich through hazardous speculation a hundred get POOR.

WHERE one man stays poor by his slow methods of saving, a hundred get RICH.

The wise man chooses the better plan and places his money in this bank.

## HONESDALE DIME BANK,

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## Menner & Co. Our Great Spring Menner & Co. SHOWING OF

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The largest and most complete assortment of these rugs we ever had for your selection. Only the best dependable qualities in newest styles and colorings; every size can be obtained from 18X36 in to the largest room size.

## Body Brussel Rugs

We are showing these rugs in many new colors and designs. We have a large variety to select from. 27in. by 54in. up to 11ft. 3in. by 15 feet.

## Axminster Rugs

We carry all sizes in stock in different qualities from mat sizes to large room sizes. Inspection invited.

## Tapestry Brussel Rugs

Seamed and seamless, in new styles and colors. Big selection, and in qualities that will stand the hardest of wear. Sizes 6X9, 7-6X9, 8-3X10-6 9X12, 11-3X12.

## Menner & Co's Stores