

Farmers Column

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR THE FARMER

The Average Number of Eggs—Bees with Fruit Orchard a Good Combination. The Commercial Fertilizer—The Horse Collar—Other Notes

A crack in a wall is a poor ventilator. Get nitrogen into the soil, and you have humus. Onions should never be handled when frozen, as it will produce rot. The onion is a bulb, a plant at rest and the least warmth starts it into growth. Make an inventory of everything you have on the farm; its conditions and value. More potatoes are grown in New York State than in any other state in the Union. Now is the time to plan for the supply of ice that will make next summer more enjoyable. Farming is a regular business—to make it profitable requires work for the head as well as for the hands. Many a man who makes fun of the book farmer, calling him a theorist and impractical man falls simply because he does not read and study. It is much better that onions should remain frozen through the winter, provided they can thaw gradually, than to put them in a warm cellar. If many of the farmers knew how much it cost to leave their machinery out doors all winter they would be quick to build machine sheds. Do not cut the alfalfa after barley is harvested, let it make root growth. If wanted for hay, cut the crop as it commences to bloom the following year. The skim milk calf becomes accustomed to eating grain and hay early in life, consequently, when it is weaned, the change of feed is not so noticeable as it is with the whole milk calf, and it does not suffer a setback at this time. When ordering harness for the spring work have the collars made to order. Take the horse to the harness maker and get him to make him collars that will fit. There is nothing more annoying than sore shoulders in the midst of harvest. Thousands of dollars are wasted in commercial fertilizer every year, not because we do not know whether the kind we use is the kind we need. It is a great study and one that we must make for ourselves. Make some simple experiments this year. Put in a strip with fertilizer you have been in the habit of using and just beside it another without it. This will be worth a great deal more to you than the opinion of some interested agent. The ideal fruit farm, with its orchards of apples, cherries, pears and plums, is hardly complete without at least a few stands of bees. Properly managed they will not only add to the profits of their owner, but supply his tables with an abundance of the most luxurious of all delicacies; and add materially to the pollen distributing habits that these insects possess, writes D. W. Otis in the Northwest Farmstead. This important feature, however, is generally omitted, or carried on in such a way as to result in very little profit and a great deal of trouble; and usually results in failure in the end; and this in face of the fact that it might easily be made one of the most profitable and fascinating fruit grower's occupations. According to statistics the average number of eggs laid by each hen in this country falls up about five dozen. This is counting good, bad and indifferent. But if the statistics were taken from poultry farm reports exclusively, the average would be ten dozen. The average farmer is careless with his fowls, and does not, as a rule, gather all the eggs the hens lay for the reason that in their free range they have hidden nests and the eggs in consequence are often lost. With the improved methods of breeding, the average with the poultry men will in a few years run as high as 150 eggs per hen per annum. Individual records have been reported that are fast scoring up to the 300 mark, but it is doubtful if they will ever get near it, for a hen must have a sufficient number of days to molt, and the calendar gives us but 305 days in the year.

New Trolley Schedule
On the Lancaster and Mount Joy trolley line, beginning April 20, cars will run on Saturdays every half hour, leaving Lancaster at 6.15 a. m. and up to 7.15 p. m. Leaving Mount Joy at 7.15 a. m. and up to 8.15 p. m. On Sundays cars will also run every half hour, leaving Lancaster at 7.15 a. m. and up to 7.15 p. m. Leaving Mount Joy at 8.45 and up to 8.15 p. m.

Walking over Walkovers
A novel window display is on at Merchant I. D. Beneman's store this week in the shape of a miniature man walking over Walkover shoes in one of his large windows. This is one of the most interesting shoe displays we have ever seen.

Bill Fights for Bill

HON. W. W. GRIEST WANTS CARRIER SERVICE EXTENDED

Speech delivered by Him Before the Committee of the Whole House on the Postal Service Appropriation Bill now Under Consideration

It is desired, for a few minutes, to invite particular attention to the paragraph in the postal-service appropriation bill, now under consideration, which will permit the experimental establishment of mail-carrier service in the towns and villages having second and third class post offices. As fully 300 congressional districts embrace towns which can ultimately secure benefits from this legislation, and as almost every member who votes for this proposition will be doing his own constituents a service as well as giving support to a genuinely meritorious measure, I hope that the entire membership of this House will support the proposition to extend the mail-delivery service to the towns and villages.

For many years millions of people residing in the great cities of the United States have enjoyed free mail-delivery service, and during the past decade we have witnessed the installation of the convenient and valuable rural mail-delivery system. These systems of mail delivery have been developed to a high standard of efficiency, and have become indispensable to the American public. But, unfortunately, there exists what is today recognized as a discrimination against the people residing in the towns, and these people, numbering millions, have patiently awaited the elimination of the postal deficit so that modern postal conveniences might be afforded our prosperous towns and villages without serious embarrassment to the Government finances.

Time, as usual, has brought changes, and public opinion today demands that the American people shall be accorded that character of postal facilities which is recognized as essential to the domestic, business, and social welfare of the people. The gross postal revenues are constantly increasing, and business methods are being rapidly applied to the greatest of all business institutions—the United States Post Office Department. Along with the growing revenues and increased business efficiency must come extensions of the mail-delivery conveniences.

Two years ago in an address to this House an appeal was made by me for an extension of the mail-delivery service of the Post-Office Department so as to provide for the collection and delivery of letters in the towns, villages, and boroughs, and as the postal deficit was very great in 1909 it was suggested that the extension should be made as soon as the condition of the postal revenues would permit. The official reports indicate that the postal receipts and expenditures have been so balanced as to permit of service improvements, and an appeal now comes to the Congress from all parts of the country for an extension of the mail-delivery facilities. In illustration of the popular demand for this legislation I need only point to the fact that since I introduced H. R. 16819, in January last for the experimental establishment of a town mail-delivery system a number of petitions, representing a score of States of the Union, have been filed in Congress praying for its enactment.

There is an urgent appeal from the people for an extension of the mail-delivery service to the incorporated cities, towns, villages, and boroughs which have presidential post offices of the second and third classes. The people in cities having less than 10,000 population or less than \$10,000 worth of annual postal business are without mail-delivery service, notwithstanding the fact that many such towns have splendid streets, side-walks, street lighting, and so forth, and give every evidence of true American progressiveness. It is unjust and even unwise that the Government should longer deprive the residents of these communities from the enjoyment of any form of modern postal methods for which they petition. I hope that the Congress will authorize the postal department to provide the people of our American towns and villages with a mail delivery at least once daily.

It is not essential that any particular method shall be pursued or special system be adopted, but it is desirable that initial action be taken, even if the appropriation is not large for the first year. Not less than \$10,000 should be provided if material results are to be promptly attained, and I think that \$200,000 could be well expended for this purpose.

It is pleasing to know that the Post Office Department officials have awakened to the importance of this legislation. They concede to the justice of the popular demand for it, admit its practicability and advisability, and commend to Congress the installation of experimental service. The First Assistant Postmaster General in his last annual report urged the establishment of an experimental service in the following language:

General Renovating and Enlarging

SALE

You are well aware that I have purchased the store stock and fixtures of J. S. Carmany's Store, at Florin. I contemplate giving this old established business stand a general renovating and will enlarge it considerably by erecting a spacious addition. In order to do this I will need room, hence this sale. A reduction sale is something very unusual for this place, but the merchandise I am offering at the prices will make you all sit up and take notice.

I will admit that this is a tremendous price slashing sale, but I would rather have the goods in your hands for a song than pay men to handle them half a dozen times during my rebuilding. I have but one request to make; call at my store. Here are a few prices:

SALE STARTS THURSDAY, APRIL 25, Will Continue 10 Days Only

- Ladies' Shoes**
23 Pairs Women's Dongola, were \$2.00 to \$2.50 now 69c
3 Pairs Dongola, Full Toes 49c
4 Pairs Dongola, Full Toes 69c
7 Pairs Full Toes, Heavy 79c
4 Pairs Full Toes, Button 89c

- Ladies' Slippers**
5 Pairs Ladies' Slippers 39c
19 Pairs Infants' Red Oxfords 19c
6 Pairs Ladies' Sandals 29c

- Misses' Shoes**
8 Pairs Misses' Low Shoes 10c
6 Pairs Cloth Tops, Ladies 19c

- Men's Shoes**
6 Pairs Men's Fine Shoes 79c
8 Pairs Men's Fine Shoes 59c
3 Pairs Men's Fine Shoes \$1.60

- Boys' Shoes**
5 Pairs Heavy Shoes \$1.00
5 Pairs Heavy Shoes 1.19
6 Pairs Heavy Shoes 1.13

- Children's Shoes**
8 Pairs Children's Shoes 29c
10 Pairs Children's Shoes 39c
6 Pairs Children's Shoes 59c

- Trousers**
Men's and Boys'
5 Pairs Men's Trousers, were \$1.00, now 75c
2 Pairs Boys' Trousers, were 50c, now 35c
14 Pairs Boys' Trousers 19c

- Men's Gauze Underwear**
2 Shirts, were 50c, now 38c
17 Shirts, were 25c, now 19c
15 Drawers, were 25c, now 19c

- Men's Shirts**
25 Men's Shirts, were 50c to 75c, now 29c
21 Men's White Shirts, 50c to \$1.00, now 17c

- Women's and Children's Gauze Underwear**
12 Drawers, 25c and 35c, now 21c
23 Drawers, were 25c, now 18c
9 Shirts, were 25c and 35c, now 21c
4 Vests, were 20c, now 15c
9 Vests, were 25c, now 18c
13 Vests, were 25c, now 17c
7 Vests, were 25c, now 21c
52 Vests 4c

- Men's, Boy's and Children's Caps**
3 Boy's Caps, were 25c, now 15c
7 Boy's Caps, were 25c, now 15c
2 Men's Caps, 6 3-4 and 6 7-8, were 50c, now 35c
7 Children's Caps, were 25c, now 10c

- Men's Coats**
9 Seersucker Coats, were \$1.20, now 15c
20 Seersucker Coats, were 50c, now 15c

Queensware
My lot of Queensware comprises a variety of very useful household articles and when you learn the prices I know you'll buy.

Do You Need Crocks?
Whether you need them or not you should get a good supply of them at these prices—only 5c each.

Hosiery
138 Pairs Men's, Women's, Misses' and Children's Hose at greatly reduced prices.

Handkerchiefs
Red Handkerchiefs 3 for 10c
Red and Blue Handkerchiefs, large, 5c

Buttons
Your choice of Buttons at 1c per dozen. Buttons, 1c and 2c a card.

Overalls
26 Pairs Overalls were 50c, now 39c

- Dry Goods**
234 yards Percal, was 10c and 12 1-2c, now 7c
16 1-2 yards Mercerized Gingham, was 10c, now 8c
41 1-2 yards Oil Calico, was 8c, now 4 & 5c
19 yards Percal, was 18 to 20c, at 200 yds. Calico, 1 to 8 yds. in a piece, at 4c and 5c
65 yards Dimities, was 12 1-1c, now 8c
4 yards White Swiss, was 80c, now 25c
4 3-4 yards White Swiss, was 65c, now 20c
6 yards White Swiss, was 50c, now 15c
15 1-2 yards White Swiss, was 10c, now 7c
65 yards Figured Lawn, was 10c, now 8c
14 yards Chambray, was 10c now 8c
71 yards Seersucker, was 10c and 12 1-2c, now 7 to 10c
42 yards Satine, was 12 to 20c, now 10c to 15c
1 1-4 to 4 1-2 yards in length.
10 yards Bed Ticking, was 10c to 16c, now 9c to 11c
2 1-2 to 4 yards.

- 87 yards Canton Flannel, 1 yard to 3 3-4 yards, was 10c, now 6c
91 yards Outing and Flannellets 1 1-2 yd. and 6 yds. wide, was 10c, now 8c
40 yds. Cottonade Remnants ranging 1 to 4 1-2, was 12c to 20c, now 10c
14 2-3 yds. Corduroy, was 40 to 50c, now 30c
59 yards Dress Plaids, was 10c, now 8c
7 yds. Henrietta Remnants, was 80c, now 50c
1 1-2 yds. Blue Casmere, was 35c now 24c
9 yds. Slate Cassimere, was 20c, now 10c
81 yds. Brown, Slate and Red Cassimers, was 20c to 40c, now at 121-2c
Above Cassimeres are slightly self worn, but are an exceptionally good bargain.

Men's Hats
Men's Wool and Fur Hats at your own price. Straw Hat time has come at last; come here and get what you need at less than half of what other stores will charge for these reasonable "sky pieces."

A. D. CARBER, Carmany's Old Stand FLORIN, PENNA.

Extension of the Free Delivery Service
Under the present law, which was enacted in 1887, City Delivery Service may be established in any city having a population of 10,000 or more, at any post office where the gross receipts during the preceding fiscal year amounted to \$10,000. Owing to the increase in postal receipts per capita (in 1887 it was 83 cents; now it is \$2.53) it is not unusual for the postal receipts to amount to \$10,000 at an office in a city having a population of not more than 3,000. On the other hand, there are a number of cities having a population of 7000 or 8000 where the gross receipts are less than \$10,000 annually, and the operation of the law is therefore inequitable. The law could be more fairly applied if it were amended so as to make possible the establishment of Free Delivery Service in any city where the gross receipts of the post office amounts to \$8,000.

The City Delivery Service is now in operation in 1,541 cities, serving more than 46,000,000 people. On the 42,000 rural routes 20,000,000 people receive their mail from rural carriers. This leaves a considerable percentage of our people, the ma-

majority of whom reside in towns and villages, without any form of Free Delivery Service, and under the present laws there is no way by which the department can relieve this inequality. The establishment of City Delivery Service, however, in towns and villages under the present practice of the department and the law governing the employment of letter carriers is not feasible, since the expense would be altogether out of proportion to the benefits conferred. At many post offices, however, serving a population of from 1,000 to 3,000, the postmasters, with a small allowance for the employment of assistance to distribute and deliver the mail, could provide a reasonably satisfactory service for practically all of the patrons. It is believed, therefore, that an experimental service should be authorized.

And the Postmaster General is equally favorable in his report. He says:—

Village Delivery Service
Delivery by letter carrier, except on rural routes, is confined under an existing law to cities and towns having as much as 10,000 population or annual post-office receipts amounting to \$10,000 or more. Thus the

residents of many small towns and villages are obliged to go to the post offices for their mail, while delivery service by carrier is afforded both to the inhabitants of cities and to people residing along the rural routes in sparsely settled country districts. The carrier delivery system is now in operation in 1,541 cities, serving an urban population of about 45,000,000, while rural carriers deliver mail on 42,000 routes that reach about 20,000,000 people. This leaves about 25,000,000 people in the United States, most of whom live in small towns and villages, without any form of mail delivery. The establishment of such a service in these towns and villages under the present law governing the employment and compensation of city letter carriers would be hardly feasible because of the heavy expense involved. It is believed, however, that in many villages not now entitled to free delivery a comparatively small allowance would enable the postmasters to employ the assistance necessary to carry mail to the residences, and an appropriation to cover the expense of such a service is recommended on page 22 of this report.

Acting upon these recommenda-

tions and the public demand that has been aroused throughout the country by the advocates of the town and village mail-delivery service, the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads has recognized the merit and desirability of the proposed legislation by incorporating it in the pending bill.

It is hoped that the amendment will become law and that with a little delay as possible all of the 6,500 towns now without free delivery will be accorded that celerity and certainty of mail delivery which obtains in the cities as well as among the residents of rural routes.

I most heartily congratulate the Democratic majority of the committee in falling in line in the year 1912 with what the Republican national platform advocated 20 years ago in the following language: We approve the policy of extending to towns, villages, and rural communities the advantages of free-delivery service enjoyed by the large cities of the country.

Since the adoption of that resolution by the Republican national convention of 1892, fully 20,000,000 of people living in rural communities have been accorded the advantages of free-delivery service through the

agency of 42,000 rural free-delivery routes. Let the good work be proceeded with so that in a very short time the discrimination now existing against the people residing in the towns will be obliterated by statute.

HOW LATE CAN WE PRUNE
This is a practical question asked at this time of year by many persons. State Zoologist Surface from his office at Harrisburg has issued the following statement: "Pruning can be done at any time of year, but the larger branches should be cut off when they are dormant or nearly so. If I had trees that really needed pruning, I should do this after the time of full blossoming, but should prefer to do it before the blossoms open, and even before the growth has started. The large stubs should be painted with tar paint or oil paint. Be careful about burning brush near the trees as they are easily damaged by heat."

Appointed Assignee
Emory Warfel, of East Donegal township, has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors to Chas. H. Zeller, of this place.