

Home Town Helps

SEE NEED OF GOOD ROADS

"Doughboys" Who Served in France
Impressed by the Excellence of
That Country's Highways.

Signs multiply that the returning soldier is to be the strongest of all apostles of good roads. He knows that except for the network of highways leading to Verdun not even the heroic poilu could have kept the Germans from passing. Day and night, as long as the peril lasted, an unending line of motor trucks rolled into the threatened region and back again. On a scale only slightly less impressive, it was always so when there was a "shaw" in the minds of our soldiers, however, the military need of stone roads seems less important than the commercial need, and always a deep sense seems present of the beauty of the smooth, shaded highway. The *American Legion*, official organ of our army on the Rhine, points out that of the 2,750,000 miles of highway in the United States, less than 270,000 miles, or one in ten, has any form of surface, except the dirt. It becomes lyric when it notes that in France "each road, it matters not how small or how seldom used, has its quota of beautiful shade trees, whose limbs are such to protect the traveler from the sun." The American legion will have posts throughout the land, and wherever there is a post there will be a band of men who know the value of easy communication and who know how to have their way.—New York Times.

FOR MORE COMMUNITY MUSIC

Boston Newspaper Makes Strong Point
of Its Value in Creating a
Sense of Unity.

The growth of community music means many things, remarks the Boston Herald. It means an endless source of pure pleasure to those who listen, and far more to those who perform. It means a mighty stimulus to the love and understanding of good music. It means that at last we are beginning to weary of being entertained by others and mean to create and perform our own music, through our own efforts. Most important of all, it means that America is discovering at last that she is a united nation and is expressing her joyful sense of unity in song.

Let us see that the children have their share in this national awakening, a voice in this national chorus. Let every village, town and city gather its young people and train them for a community chorus or orchestra. There could be no surer means of making them loyal to each other and to their country and of preparing a musical future for the nation.

The word war has taught us, for one thing, how to come together as a community for spiritual expression in song. We shall be the richer if we preserve and cultivate this practice.

For Home Builders to Decide.

The first question to confront the home builders is: "In what section shall we locate?" That is a question for the individual to decide, but the things he should look at carefully and answer before buying are: Is the location a beautiful location? Is the transportation service good? Has the town complete sewerage system? Is the water supply good? Can gas and electric light be supplied at a reasonable price? Are there city conveniences, such as mail delivery, fire and police protection, good schools, churches, clubs, and last but not least, what is the possible future of the place? Is it well protected by restrictions for residential purposes? Will two-family or apartment houses encroach or business come too near? It is the restrictions on the surrounding property that are of vital interest to the purchaser, not the restrictions on the piece being bought. You know what you are going to do, and you also want to know what others in the vicinity could do should they be so disposed.

Primer on Billboards.

A little primer on the city and its billboard problem:

"Haven't the property owners a right to do as they please with their property?"

The United States Supreme court said in a decision in 1908: "The state as quasi sovereign and representative of the interest of the public has a standing in court to protect the atmosphere, the water and the forests and in its territory, irrespective of the ancient or dissent of the private owners immediately concerned."

"But does this right apply specifically to billboards?"

Yes. In 1917 the Supreme court held: "A city, exercising the police power may prohibit the erection of billboards in residence districts in the interest of the safety, morality, health and decency of the community."—Kansas City Star.

Making a Stand.

Cactus Joe announces that he will not play many ante, believing as he does that the game ought to be enough to keep people's minds on it so they won't quarrel.

These Are Real Furs



Just now, with Christmas near, the shops are featuring fur garments and fur sets, knowing by experience that a certain percentage of people will be sure to purchase them as gifts. If you are among the number, be prepared to find prices far higher than you have ever known before, and the prospect of their being reduced is not cheerful. Garments made of the finest and rarest skins are prohibitive, except for the very rich, the price of all pelts and the price of labor having gone steadily higher for several seasons. The finest skins have reached the light and are reported to have made a slight decline, while those that are more common have made an advance all along the line. Wages are not likely to decrease for sometime, and fur-bearing animals grow scarce. In view of these things a good fur garment, or fur set may be considered a fairly safe investment, and nothing in Christmas gifts is more cherished.

In the group shown above, a coat, a cape and a scarf and muff set, appear in three of the most popular kinds of fur. The coat at the left, is made in Hudson seal with small mink collar and full mink sleeves. It is a graceful garment, warm without being heavy and may be classed as moderately priced even at some-

thing like five hundred dollars for the finest grade. The coat is a great favorite, and this one is cut on simple and graceful lines that promise well for a day in the future when it may be altered in style.

The glorious cape at the right of the group is made of dark mink skins and has a very large shawl collar. It is fringed at the bottom with long and short tails and there is no skin that can outshine it for beauty. Mink is a durable fur, and there is an advantage in having a cape of it; for capes are never out of style. So beautiful a garment need not concern itself as to whether it is more or less popular than other styles. But such a cape is more than likely to have its price mark written in three figures. It is expressed in terms of thousands, probably, but these are real furs with real values.

The handsome fur set that holds the center of the picture is as rich and as desirable as its companions. It is a short cape-scarf of very dark brown mink, having a round muff matching it, as a life companion. This is a brilliant and very beautiful set, classed as "hard" by furriers on account of the way it resists wear and keeps its luster. It may be counted on to last for years.

Pretty Neckpieces



Do not mistake about neckwear or permit that the neck unadorned can hold its own against one that is clothed with pretty ribbons. As usual, the approaching holidays will see neckwear departments in the stores full of many different materials. Leading off are lace and net, followed by organdie, batiste, scrim and crepe georgette. Then there are narrow silk or velvet ribbons in ties, and an array of knitted scarves. And every article is a possible gift that will bring a joy to its recipient. Just a few pieces are grouped together in the picture above.

The scarf shown at the top of the group, is knitted of light gray yarn and finished at the ends with tied fringes of the yarn. Its special pride and glory lie in the sprays of roses crocheted of the same wool as the scarf and fastened to its ends.

Just below this scarf the collar and necktie are combined in a single one cut of a flannel knitted set with a comb of the flannel. The flannel is bought by the yard, measured into the lengths wanted and cut off. The ends of the collar and necktie are finished with a very narrow edge of flannel and the straight edge sewed to a narrow band of fine batiste.

Organdie both plain and cross barred, is ornamented in several ways with pretty needlework and embroidery in collar and cut sets or with fine embroidery or lace. A long collar of it to be worn with a surplice waist appears at the left of the picture. It is edged with three rows of narrow white lace. At the opposite side of the picture a collar of linen scrim has eye-

lets and hemstitching done in light blue silk. A net gimp worn under this collar, has a high collar finished with narrow heading.

There are a great many ties made of narrow velvet and silk ribbons and ornamented with beads like that shown in the picture. Beads and ribbons of all colors are used in these tiny little neckpieces. There are also very popular vesties and collar sets made of net and lace, organdie and lace or of these fabrics used alone. Wide silk ties for younger girls, and handsome jackets for matrons finish up the display that include something to suit everyone.

Julia Bottomly

Evening Wraps.

The evening wrap is a thing apart. It bears some style relation to the day-time coat, but it has a much broader license in the matters of material, color and line. Rich satin, sumptuous velvet and magnificent brocades are the mediums of expression. And it is the evening cloaks that one finds the subtle drapery hard to describe and even more difficult to imitate. The fact that the ensemble is one of striking simplicity will tempt the inexperienced to essay the making of a similar wrap.

Bloused Back, Flat Front.
Fashions demand the bloused back and flat front.

Simplicity in All Styles.
Simplicity is the keynote of all the new styles.

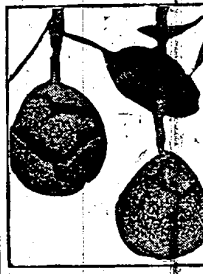
ORCHARD TOPICS

CONTROL OF SAN JOSE SCALE

Minute Insect Is One of Most Generally Dreaded Pests Fruit Growers Have to Fight.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

"The San Jose Scale and Its Control," which is Farmers' Bulletin 650, just issued in revised form, contains a description of the insect, its natural history and habits, means of distribution, food plants, natural enemies and most important of all, ways of controlling it. Attacking, as it does, practically all deciduous fruit-trees, this minute insect is one of the most



Pears Cracked by Scale Injury.

generally dreaded pests with which the fruit grower has to contend. This bulletin says that the insect can be kept well in check by thorough annual treatment during the period when the plants are dormant, and full instructions are given as to how treatment should be applied. The various washes are discussed and conditions outlined under which one may be preferable to the others. Full instructions are given also for making the washes at home, including the materials and the equipment necessary. Various kinds of spraying apparatus are also discussed.

Copies of the bulletin may be had, free by writing the division of publications, United States department of agriculture, Washington.

CURCULIO IS SERIOUS PEST.

Injurious to Pears, Apples, Peaches and Cherries—May Be Controlled by Spraying.

The plum curculio is a small stout snout-beetle, and is a serious pest to pears, apples, peaches and cherries in addition to pears. The adult beetle winters over and emerges just before the fruit buds open, and feeds to some extent on the buds, and later on the young fruit as soon as it is set. Eggs are laid in the young fruit as soon as it is formed.

There are two kinds of punctures, egg punctures and feed punctures, the former being made by the beetle in depositing her eggs, and are surrounded by a small circular cell. The feed punctures are made later in the season, as a rule, after the adults appear in August.

With regard to control, this insect may be controlled by thoroughly spraying with arsenate of lead (8 pounds to 40 gallons) as the leaf buds are opening and again before and after the blossoms fall.

This insect is a serious one in many localities in certain sections, and only the most careful measures will suffice to control it.

PLAN TO PROPAGATE GRAPES

Small Pieces of Vines Planted in Well-Drained Place Are Ready in About Two Years.

Take small pieces of grapevines about pruning time (during fall and winter) and plant them in a box of sand or in a well-drained place. When they are about two years old they are ready to plant in the vineyard.

In the winter, plant small pieces of grapevines or throw dirt up around the roots of the old vines and they will put out shoots. Pull up these shoots, which should have roots ready for planting in the orchard.

HORTICULTURAL NOTES

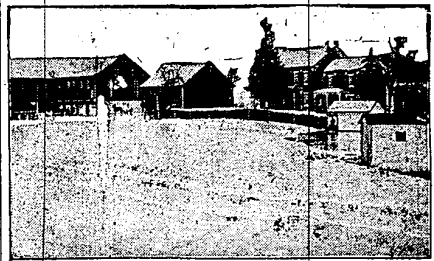
Manure can be applied broadcast over the strawberry rows from the middle of November on.

Yes, the old raspberry canes can be pruned out now, just as well as in the spring. Burn the rubbish.

The drainage of an orchard should be good, but steep, hilly orchards, full of deep washes should be shunned.

Some attention should be given to strawberry beds this winter if the plants are to bear well next spring.

EVERY FARMER OWES HIMSELF DUTY OF STUDYING NEW BULLETINS ON FARMING



A Typical Chimney-Corner College of Agriculture.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The poets, when they got going on the calendar, usually ran to spring and summer months, ending at about "knees deep in June." Thomas Hood did succeed in getting as far as November, but it wasn't a good poem. Oh, it was a clever piece of craftsmanship, and that, but not useful. It was all negative—"No more, no more, no other time of day; no sun, no moon, no other-aside the way"—some such libelous stuff as that about a perfectly gorgeous month. But they didn't write even negative eulogies of December. Poe mentioned it, along with "dying ember," "midnight dreary," and such like gobs of gloom. Just the same, December might be made the subject of a very excellent poem. Indeed, with a verse here and a verse there, it may almost be said that the United States department of agriculture has written a great poem on it—of the didactic kind that, in addition to adorning the tale, points a moral, entitled to be considered poetry because truth is beauty, and beauty is poetry. The theme of the thing must be said to be that December is such a tremendously important month to the farmer.

December Important Farm Month. Now, having pulled up long enough to climb over a period and walk around the neck of a paragraph—consider. Of course, December has not been generally considered an important month in agriculture. On the contrary, it had been a very much neglected month almost a month ago. None the less, it does come very close to being the most important month in the year for the farmer. It is a month of such tremendous potentiality, a month whose usefulness may be so spread out over the year.

There is no end of things that should be done in December besides getting ready for Christmas. That, however a phrase from a very old charge on duty, "is not on any account to be neglected," but it is due to be coordinated. You have read in the old pioneer stories that the boys had to work in the clearing all summer, started to school in the winter. That ought to be true still for every farmer, no matter how old or young he is. December is the season in which the school session in his school. His school-house may very well be in his own chimney-corner. He has not much time to read all spring, summer, and fall. Now, he begins to have a little leisure—that that he has any time to loaf, but he has his heels on the ground. During the year there have been printed a considerable number of gold textbooks on farming. Special lists of the United States department of agriculture and other specialists at the state agricultural college have embodied in bulletins the result of long and patient labor on various things pertaining to farming, have put in type what will mean dollars to the farmer who learns them and puts them into practice.

Public Study What They Like. By contrast, this chimney-corner school of agriculture allows its students a lot of leisure. The curriculum is largely elective. The farmer may study this and leave out other lessons, and his interests may dictate. But there will be enough bulletins that are of interest to him to make a pretty full course of study. If he has neglected his education at all and up to this time, there may be a "late" winter. The United States department of agriculture has been publishing bulletins for a great many years. There are more than a thousand farmers' bulletins now on the list, and every one of them discusses something that means money to a large class of farmers. Many of the subjects have been so elementary and so plain that they are being studied by the state department of agriculture. There is absolutely no reason why any farmer may not have all the scientific information that he needs on all phases of agriculture that mean anything in his particular operation. All he has to do is to go to school, to himself by his own desire. If he needs tutoring, then he can consult when he goes to town on Saturday—or he might possibly have the agent out to supper and a session by the fire.

Permanent pastures produce prosperous people. Heavy long costs more now but less in the long run. The lasting qualities of manure when applied to land are considerable. A little land well tilled will produce more profit than more land neglected.

Every farmer owes it to himself and his family to find a little time to go to school every winter—to read half a dozen, or a dozen, or 20 bulletins that will help him make better crops, to keep his live stock in better condition with less feed, to carry on his operations with less exhausting strain on himself.

It should be mentioned, too, that this chimney-corner college of agriculture is co-educational. A very large proportion of the bulletins are devoted to household subjects. They contain information that will enable the farmer's wife better to carry her half of the load—to feed the family better with less work, to realize more for the product of the farm output that comes under her direction, to have the minimum of inconvenience in the house and to get the maximum of comfort out of it—a thousand things that will help along making farm life pleasant and profitable.

MAKE PROPER STUDY OF RABBIT PROBLEM

Attractive Possibilities Are Quite Often Misleading.

Before Starting on Enterprise It Is Advisable to Consider How Animals Can Be Disposed of to Best Advantage.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The attractive, not to say startling, mathematical calculations which are sometimes made in estimating the possibilities of raising rabbits not infrequently have led persons to engage in rabbit raising without proper study of the problem. Before starting on this enterprise, it is advisable also far out to consider how such rabbits as can be raised may be disposed of. In the vicinity of towns where there are restaurants, hotels and boarding houses, arrangements can usually be made to furnish market pens and to handle a regular number of rabbits weekly. But one should not begin raising rabbits on a large scale in a locality where people are unaccustomed to eating them. No breeder can expect to make a profit until he has developed a market. He can demonstrate the desirability of the meat of young rabbits to his neighbors and sometimes to other agencies. If a breeder is not to others again, he is better off to make a regular campaign singly, he should endeavor to organize with others in such an undertaking. By combining they can save cost in advertising and stabilize their output.

Rabbits of recognized breeds conforming in size, build and color to accepted standards are always in demand for breeding stock. These born and bred parents are preferred and are spoken of as "pedigreed." They can be registered if the owner so desires. The cost of keeping pedigree or registered stock is no more than that of ordinary stock and the returns are considerably greater. Such stock can usually be disposed of by advertising in poultry and pet journals. If there is not sufficient home demand, rabbits for meat are sold at great profit when from two to four months of age. Ordinarily they are shipped to market alive in crates, like poultry.

GENERAL FARM NOTES