

IMPROVED SCHOOLS INSPIRE COUNTRY

Investigations by M. A. C. Show Need of Better Rural Educational System.

CONSOLIDATION IS REMEDY

Little District Schools Into Central Schools Saves Money and Builds Up Rural Life.

By W. H. FRENCH, Professor of Agricultural Education, Michigan Agricultural College.

Most Lansing, Mich.—The clangor in the shops of armories, the bugle calls marshaling men for war, the appeals for more food, and the endless additional distractions that have come with the business of preparing for battle have for the time being drowned out the voices of those who speak of and have to do with more peaceful works and issues, but it should not be forgotten that if these issues are to be solved, they should not be neglected even now by the stay-at-homes.

The question of revitalizing the rural schools of Michigan is the one of better fitting them for meeting modern rural needs has been among those problems that have attracted no small attention from thoughtful dwellers in the country. The country education system of the state is well deserving of this notice, for if we study the rural school carefully we must conclude that it is ineffective and expensive. It costs more per capita to teach children the eight years of the rural course in hundreds of districts than it does to teach the children of a 12-year course, including the high school, in many cities and villages. That is, it costs more per child per year.

We have discussed with great vigor the question of taxes and equalization, yet there is no tax which the people pay which is so unequal and so unequally distributed as is the school tax. We have communities in Michigan where the school tax runs as high as 8 per cent, and we have other communities at the other extreme where the primary school interest fund from the state practically pays the entire expense. This phase of the rural school question should receive careful consideration at the hands of our rural people.

In Vevay township, in Ingham county, there are six rural schools and the city schools of Mason. The per capita cost in each of these rural districts is higher than it is in the city of Mason. If these six school districts were all consolidated with the Mason district we could reduce the teaching force in the township by three or four teachers, and by transporting the pupils we could additionally give all the children the same educational advantages at less expense than is being incurred. This instance could be duplicated in at least 500 townships in the state of Michigan.

Another plan would be to combine the six rural schools into two or three schools, with two teachers in each. These schools would be in the country and could take the children easily through the first six grades. After that they could provide their own transportation and attend the central school without great difficulty and at very small expense. This plan might decrease the whole amount of the tax levied, but it would distribute the money equitably and increase the community spirit. If we combine districts so as to have two teachers in every rural school we would increase the cost of the school by more than 100 per cent, improve the community spirit, and make the school more nearly a real educational center.

These consolidated schools and particularly those in which an agricultural course is offered, tend to further check the cityward movement of farm boys. I have made careful investigations of the agricultural work in our high schools. One year I found 100 young men who told me that when they entered the high school they had up their mind to go back to the home farm, but as a result of their school training in agriculture they had secured a new interest and a new vision of the possibilities of life in the country and they were going back to the farm. Thus, in that year through agricultural training in the high schools we saved at least 100 bright, keen young men for agriculture. This year we have \$200,000 studying agriculture in the high schools, and five years from now more will not be a reputable high school in the state which will not be teaching this course.

MAY BE SEED CORN SHORTAGE

Selection of Ripe Ears in the Field Suggested as "Safety-First" Measure.

By J. F. COX, Professor of Farm Crops, Michigan Agricultural College.

Most Lansing, Mich.—Field selection of seed corn is a practice which large numbers of the state's best farmers have always found to be a money-maker, but there still remain some who cling to the less desirable habit of choosing their seed corn from the crib. This season, however, must see the adoption of more thorough methods for reports from almost every

DAIRY FACTS

EXPENSE OF SAVING CALVES

Cost Just as Good to Raise Poor Animal as a Good One—Dispose of Culls Early in Life.

Calf conservation looks like a good thing to many of the wisecracks, says the Farmer's Guide, but is it? Can the farmer afford to care the mostly little specimens of bovinity that occasionally appear in the best herds? There are always some culs that cannot be turned to good account either as breeders or for beef. If every calf that comes to a farm is a high-class individual (that could be raised and fed economically, the situation might be different. It costs just as much and sometimes more to raise a poor calf as a good one, and when you have it raised what is it good for? Let the conservationist go out into the open country and visit a number of farms where he can get next to the actual conditions; then he will study up on the economy of beef production and he may change his mind. Most certainly it is wise to save the good calves, the kind that can be raised into profitable breeders, but the kind had better be disposed of early in life before they have time to become an expense.

SANITATION POINTS

1. Have the herd examined at least once a year by a competent veterinarian. Promptly remove animals suspected of being in bad health. Never add an animal to the herd until certain it is free from disease, particularly tuberculosis. 2. Never allow a cow to be excited by fast driving, abuse or unnecessary disturbance. 3. Clean the entire body of the cow daily. Hair in the region of the udder should be kept short by clipping. 4. Do not allow strong-favored food (such as cabbage or turnips) to be eaten except immediately after milking. Changes in feed should be made gradually. 5. Provide fresh, pure drinking water in abundance.

CLEAN-UP TIME FOR POULTRY

Quarters Should Be Put in Shape Now for Coming of Snow and Winter Laying.

By C. H. BURGESS, Department of Poultry, Husbandry, Michigan Agricultural College.

Most Lansing, Mich.—It is an old maxim that the man who expects something for the winter, must get it ready before the winter comes, and it is just now referred to for the reason that the man who expects winter eggs from his pullets should clean up his quarters a little special attention. This should be house-cleaning time in the hen coop.

As the first step, the floor should be thoroughly cleaned by removing all litter. If the floor is one of wood or cement, thoroughly scrape it. If it is gravel or sand, remove from four to six inches of the surface and put it in new. Dust the yards and colling. Remove the nests to the wall and scrub them thoroughly with soap and water. Wash the floor with a strong disinfectant (zincum or cresol) and allow the sun to get at them from all sides for a number of days. Then spray them again before repainting the walls and ceiling, and the dropping board, if one is used. To the whitewash add a cupful of creosol carbolic acid to the gallon. When the walls are ready for fixtures.

Bring the pullets in from the range before the fall rains and cold nights come on so that they can get accustomed to their quarters before beginning to lay. If the poultry man will mix ten pounds of corn, ten pounds of wheat and five pounds of oats together in a grain ration and feed 50 pounds of this mixture along with his shell, bone and green feed, and use a mash of five pounds of bran and five pounds of flour middlings, he can expect more matured, well-set and well-seasoned fowls during the winter.

HELPS OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH

The present critical times, said President Frank S. Kedzie of M. A. C., in a recent statement to young men and women, "offer an exceptional opportunity to the college-trained individual. Young men not of draft age should continue their schooling, and boys just out of high school should obtain college training as soon as possible. In time of peace this was simply a matter more or less of personal preference. Now it is a duty. The reason is plain: The war has taken and is taking large numbers of trained men out of the country. Many perhaps will never return. If the nation is to continue in its path of progress, there must be others to take their places in the lines of industry, in the professions, and in the world of commerce. Youths, therefore, not subject to military duty, should begin now to prepare for the industrial struggle ahead."

At M. A. C. the fall term will open on September 24. Authorities believe there will be fewer students as a result of the draft, but with the acceptance of those called for service in the military, attendance is expected to be about normal.

WOMEN'S FOOTWEAR

Eclipses Past Efforts Of Shoe Trade Wonderful lines, shades and colorings Characterize New Fall Offerings.

Those of our readers who have had occasion to visit Detroit recently, and recall the invitation of the Walk-Over Shoe Company to visit and inspect their stores and displays, have beheld some of the most interesting and beautiful of women's footwear that has ever been shown in this city. Especially is this true of the women's shoes that have been introduced in the new styles that are being shown in the city.

The new styles that are being shown in the city are the result of the policy and practice of the Walk-Over Shoe Company to introduce new styles of shoes in Fall footwear more beautiful than ever before shown in the city. The styles themselves are alluring, fascinating, striking. The designers have evidently put forth every effort to disregard the ordinary of the "Walk-Over" style.

The lines of the new fall Walk-Over boots are what is known as "flowing" from hip to the new lines in brocade harmony and rhythm. Another dramatic display has a week's engagement at the Washington theatre district. "The Bar Sinister" a story of the modern south, is presented.

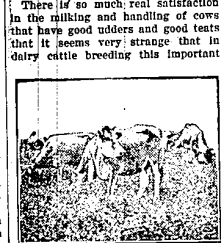
NEW ADAMS THEATRE

Romance of the southwest Southern quality is presented in "Bonnie and Clyde" by Marjorie Thompson, which Vaughan Glaser has brought to Detroit for its second week at the Adams theatre. "Bonnie" does not pretend to be anything but a love story in which respect it more than fulfills expectations. It is a young Northern man who has been injured in an automobile accident and is confined in the hospital. His constant nurse is Bonnie, a girl who has been engaged to marry another man. Bonnie is preparing for her wedding journey to California. She is anxious to take all her relatives as well as all the afflicted pets on the estate, and when Alvin declines, she suddenly comes to the conclusion that she doesn't love him and returns to her home. This is the end of the story and the end of the play.

IMPORTANT FEATURE OF COW

Good Udders and Teats Are Often Overlooked by Dairy Cattle Breeders—Lack Wedge Shape.

There is so much real satisfaction in the milking and handling of cows that have good udders and good teats that it seems very strange that in dairy cattle breeding this important



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feature has been so much neglected and by this seeming neglect far too many cows have small udders and consequently small, short teats. It will nearly always be noticed that cows with small udders, even in the best dairy breeds, usually carry too much flesh and lack that double-wedge shape which is so desirable in the eyes of the modern and progressive dairyman.

TAINT OF MILK AVOIDABLE

Unclean Utensils Are Common Source of Trouble—Particles Get Into Seams or Joints.

Unless some unusual food has been eaten, milk is delivered from the cow free from taint. It is also free from bacteria. Between the cow and the consumer it picks up a multitude of the latter and sometimes more or less of the former. The milk can be a common source of both. Minute particles of organic matter get into the seams or joints of the cans, where they become the habitation of countless bacteria. Disagreeable odors arise as a result of the decomposition which ensues.

HELPS GROWTH OF BACTERIA

Warm Milk Offers Splendid Medium for Growth of Organisms—Handle Milk Carefully.

The warm milk as it comes from the cow offers a splendid medium for the favorable growth of all kinds of bacteria that may gain access to it. To prevent this development milking should be done as carefully and quickly as possible and the milk should be strained and set away as required.

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DETROIT

"Turn to the Right" the reigning success story of the original company is to be presented at the Detroit Opera house next week. It has been played in those two great theatres during the last year. The play is in a prologue and three acts and the stage settings are of exceptional beauty.

GARRICK: Alice Nielson returns to light opera at the Garrick theatre Monday September 17, in "Sweet Kitty Bellairs." Miss Nielson is supported by an exceptional cast of musical players. Among them are Eugene Hall, Edwina Espero, Junette Plech, and others.

MADISON: "Mac March Stars in 'Holly of the Circus.'" An elaborate screen presentation of Margaret Mayo's drama of circus life, the first of the drama discussed Golden productions, will be the feature attraction at the Madison theatre for this week. Mac March is the star.

WASHINGTON: "The Bar Sinister" Heads This Week's Attractions. Another dramatic display has a week's engagement at the Washington theatre district. "The Bar Sinister" a story of the modern south, is presented.

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Large advertisement for Bond's clothing featuring the headline "Here is the Ideal Combination" and "Strictly Dependable Quality at a Low Price". It includes a large price tag showing "\$17 1/2" and the slogan "Never Before Such a 'Style Show'". The ad describes the quality and variety of Bond's clothing and provides contact information for various locations including New York, Cleveland, Detroit, and Pittsburgh.