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NEWAYGO COUNTY TO HAVE ONE OF LARGEST ORCHARDS IN MICHIGAN

By H. J. DANIELS.

One of the largest orchards in Michigan is to be planted in Newaygo county, southeast of Fremont 34 miles. The orchard will be located on the Jennings farm, a farm of 4,000 acres, and probably the largest of its kind in western Michigan. The orchard will be set to apples and peaches and will be only a step in the planting of the whole farm to orchards. In order that they might find out how to make their farm pay the highest revenue, the owners, wealthy Chicago men, called in an expert from the Michigan Agricultural college. After looking over the place carefully the expert advised fruit growing, which advice is to be followed by the owners. Work is now in progress in fitting the land and getting it ready for spring planting.

The Jennings farm is a small village in itself. Big barns for all kinds of stock, shop, tool sheds, houses for the hands, a company store and a fine residence for the manager. Dairying has been the leading work on the farm, but last summer 32 head of fine cows, part of them registered, were killed after responding to the tuberculin test.

The planting of this huge orchard, promoters of the Muskegon-Cadillac-Saginaw railroad say, will further their project, as the railroad will run near the farm and would furnish a lot of shipping facilities in the fruit season.

PRODUCES BEST POTATOES.

That Wexford county produces the best potatoes grown anywhere in the state of Michigan was made very plain by the expert judges at the state potato show held at Kalamazoo ten days ago. Farmers of that county secured more money in prizes than those from any other county. The fact that the potatoes from Wexford county should be selected from the large number of exhibits as the best grown in Michigan, well indicates the grade of potatoes being raised in that section of the state, and is a decided compliment to Wexford county farmers and to their ability as potato growers.

St. Clair county took away the second largest number of prizes and Iron county was third in that respect. That the result of the potato show will widely advertise Wexford county is certain. The prize potatoes will next be taken to Chicago where they will be entered in the United States show. A large number of the delegates to the Kalamazoo meeting were anxious to secure the names and addresses of Wexford prize potato growers so that they might send for pure, clean, disease-free seed potatoes.

FARM RECORDS VALUABLE.

Last spring records pertaining to receipts and expenditures on 100 farms were taken in Newaygo county by C. P. Reed of the department of farm management at the Michigan Agricultural college. The past summer these records were tabulated and worked out and the farmers whose records were taken have been sent a copy of the same showing their income. This month in Fremont Mr. Reed will meet these farmers and take up the matter of the records, each fruit record being compared to the best ten dairy records with the ten best fruit records.

The department of agriculture at Washington requires that records be taken of these same farms for five consecutive years and each year the enumerator will meet the farmers and make general suggestions as to the future work on the farms. Much interest has been shown by the farmers in regard to the result of the work and many of them have been sure that pleases every man that owns one. The result is that the teams are not earning their keep so far as road work is concerned. The man in the picture marketed his wool at Lake City after pushing through the sand for 18 miles, a feat that would have "bushed" his team with the great effort it would have been put to.

SHEEP TO PAY FOR BOY'S EDUCATION

"Little Pete" and His Flock of Sheep.

In the accompanying picture is Little Pete and his flock of sheep given him by L. P. Haight, the "sand lot farmer" and woolen manufacturer of Muskegon. He owns a large area of cut-over lands and believes that the lands are good for grazing. He gave Little Pete ten sheep and told him that if the boy would care for the sheep he would give him all the income from wool and lambs, and that by the time he was ready to go to college he would have the money ready.

Little Pete, who lives near by, is sticking well to his job, and now in the second season has several lambs to show for his pains, and has made some money selling mutton.

There are several Little Petes that Mr. Haight is thus helping to get an education.

A 65-POUND STURGEON.

Seeing is believing, and that is the best proof of the great fishing stories

Lake Michigan Fish Caught at Beaver Island.

that come from the resorts in northern Michigan. Sturgeon is the favorite fishing around the Beaver islands, off from Charlevoix, where many years ago the notorious King Strang of Mormon days held forth. Fish that measure four feet long and weigh 40 pounds are very common, while a big fellow like the one in the picture, five feet nine inches long, weighing sixty-five to sixty-eight pounds, is not uncommon.

ANNUAL POTATO CONGRESS.

The first annual potato congress in Cleveland held recently at Menominee not only proved of interest to the upper peninsula and dealers visiting Menominee, but the same exhibit placed later at Milwaukee proved a revelation to both dealer and consumer in that city and surrounding towns.

Not only the potato itself made a favorable impression but the method of wrapping selected varieties in the same manner that oranges and other fruits are shipped made an impression at Milwaukee and was given much publicity. The idea of wrapping potatoes originated with the Upper Peninsula Development bureau, under whose auspices the congress at Menominee and the exhibit at Milwaukee were held. In connection with the wrapping, all potatoes are sorted and carefully graded, which aided materially in introducing Cloverland potatoes in the Wisconsin city.

Menominee county captured first and second prizes in Class I.

BIG CROP OF CABBAGE.

George Mepyans, who owns a farm near Glenwood, Cass county, harvested 15 tons of cabbages from three-fourths of an acre of ground this fall. At the price obtained he says the crop has brought him better than two cents per pound. This should mean a revenue of $400 from the field, and even if the returns were but one cent per pound he would have been making more money than he could make in any other one branch of farming.

Mr. Mepyans raised about four hundred and fifty pounds of peppermint oil this year which is now stored in Decatur. The present low price of oil makes the growing of mint less popular than it was a year or two ago, and the coming year will see the muck land farmers turning their attention to some other industry, possibly celery growing or raising cabbage and onions.

TO HELP DEVELOPMENT WORK.

With the view of aiding in the development of northeastern Michigan, and especially that section tributary to the Detroit & Mackinac railway, that company has established the office of industrial commissioner, and Frank H. Gregory of Bay City has been appointed to the position.

The duties of the office are to aid in locating new industries in towns along the line of the road and to assist in bringing in new settlers to those districts where there are good farm lands, and in this work Mr. Gregory will be a material aid to the Northeastern Michigan Development bureau.

Mr. Gregory has been manager of the Gregory Farm Seed company since the organization of the concern.

MICHIGAN LEADS IN APPLES.

Michigan is one of the twelve great apple-producing states of the Union, and leads in the production of the four most important varieties, according to a recent bulletin of the agricultural department.

During the years from 1909-13 this state produced an annual average of 1,868,000 bushels of Baldwins; 934,000 bushels of Ben Davises; 1,966,000 Northern Spys; 595,000 Greenings and 594,000 Oldenburgs. Michigan produced 17 per cent of the Baldwins, 17.9 per cent of the Northern Spys, 8.5 per cent of the Ben Davises, 5 per cent of the Oldenburgs, 3.7 per cent of the Golden Russets, 3 per cent of the snow apples, and 3.7 per cent of the Wealthies.

MARKETING BY AUTOMOBILE IN MISSAUKEE COUNTY

Modern Methods of Marketing in Missaukee County.

Up in Missaukee county where the roads are not yet built on the state reward plan—not many of them at least—the roads are very sandy and deep. A heavy load makes a team of horses strain to the limit, and a team of oxen earn a good dinner every time they go to mill or town, but an automobile carries a load with an ease

CO-OPERATIVE PLAN OF BUYING STALLION

An Arabian Horse.

Until we begin to pay more attention to the kind of stallions to which we are breeding our mares we will not greatly improve the stock of horses we are growing on our farms. There are scores of good horses in this and in other communities, but for some mysterious reason there are scores of men who will pass these good animals by every spring and lead their mares to some underbred animal whose get cannot begin to compare with that of the real stallions.

Of course it is not so very mysterious after all. The fee is the thing that stands in the way, says an Indiana writer in Farm Progress. It's funny that some men will pay a few dollars less and be fairly contented with a cat-hammed, scissor-hocked colt that will never be in demand by anybody for anything, when they might have added a few dollars to the stallion fee and had a colt that would be far more salable and worth a good deal more money.

It takes as much feed and pasture and fully as much care to make a second-rate animal out of one of these mongrel-bred colts as it does to make a real horse out of a colt that has some breeding on the sire's side. Stallion registration laws such as have been passed, but not enforced by many states, would help in wiping out much of this shiftless evil that is really costing many a country community a considerable amount of money every year.

As long, however, as there is a demand for the cheap and underbred stallion's services, and no law to drive him out of the country, he will linger in most communities.

It seems to me that a mare that is worth breeding at all is worth breeding to a horse that is of some value and whose colts have the points that will make for future value in them. What is the sense in wasting good feed and barn room, to say nothing of pasture for two or three years, on a second or third-rate colt, when you might have one that had all the makings of a good horse about him from the beginning?

The difference in the amount that must be paid for the two classes of stallion service amounts to but little in view of the fact that the colt of the really good stallion may be worth twice as much to his owner as that of the underbred horse. It is one of those curious things that help to keep some men from ever getting as much out of their farming and stock raising as they should have.

Of course the co-operative plan of a few farmers in a neighborhood buying a good stallion is an excellent one if the horse is bought of an absolutely reliable dealer and is the right kind of an animal. This plan is being followed in a good many neighborhoods and is working out fairly well. Co-operation will not come, of course, until the people have awakened to the fact that the only kind of horses that are worth the trouble and cost of raising are those that are properly bred.

The man who hopes to make a little money out of the colts he is going to raise ought to travel a long way to reach a high-priced stallion rather than to accept free the services of a poor horse kept on a neighboring farm. It will pay to ride two days, one going and another coming back, to reach the right kind of a horse. The other kind is the animal that is responsible for so many scrub horses at the present time.

TUBERCULOUS HOGS ARE NOT WANTED

Many Dairy Districts Known to Harbor Diseased Cows Being Discriminated Against.

It is a well established fact that hogs contract tuberculosis very readily from tuberculous cattle, being fed the diseased milk, or following stock cattle.

There has been a too-general objection to any method employed to rid the country of diseased cattle. The tuberculin test has been declared a worthless test, the state laws have been drastically opposed as tyrannical. Farmers have declared it was nobody' business if they wanted to keep tuberculous cattle. It is somebody's business, and nobody's more than the farmers themselves. The consumer is milk and meat wants to be satisfied that he is getting wholesome foods, and every honest farmer is anxious to know that he is producing wholesome foods. But aside from this the farmer wants to know that he and his neighbors are producing wholesome foods because of the financial reaction that is bound to come soon if the disease is not stopped.

Just as sure as anything there is a time coming when the farmers will sell their cattle and hogs subject to inspection or not at all if they do not make every effort to get rid of tuberculosis. Many dirty districts now known to harbor tuberculous cows are being discriminated against in the hog markets. Their hogs are not wanted at any price. The dairymen in such localities could do not better than make a great effort to remove every cause for the discrimination. What is true of hogs will be true of cattle some day. Cattle are inspected at the stockyards but the day will come when there will be no buyers soliciting in certain localities where the farmers feel that it is "nobody's business" whether they have diseased stock or not.

Winter Protection.

Tender varieties of blackberries, grapes, etc., may be bent down along the row and covered with an earth blanket for winter protection in severe climates. If a little soil is removed from one side of the roots canes will bend down easier; if necessary they can be held in place with wooden pegs.

Watch Hired Man.

It pays to watch the hired man who is with your horses. If the team shows signs of fear while with him take our advice from a field of experience and "fire" him. A good horse is spoiled when he is a victim of fear.

Satisfaction in Painting.

Neatly painted buildings afford more satisfaction to their owner than almost any other way that a small amount of money can be spent. Two coats of paint should last seven years.

SUDDEN CHANGE OF FEED IS DANGEROUS

Dietetic Disturbances Cause General Disorder and Several Dead Sheep Are Found.

Loss of a few lambs in the feed lots is to be expected. But this loss in some instances is far greater than it should be.

When range lambs are placed on a fattening ration the change of feed is so sudden that dietetic disturbances cause a general disorder and several dead sheep are found in the pens each morning. This invariably leads to the suspicion that they are dying of some infectious disease.

In some cases the ration is not well balanced to secure the best gains and the conditions of care and handling might be better, but these things will account for only a very small loss.

The change from grass to alfalfa, corn, barley, molasses and straw ensilage, etc., must be made gradually and herein lies the secret of the heavy losses of lambs in the feed lots in the early fall. The desire to get the lambs on a fattening ration as early as possible and failing to appreciate the danger of too heavy feeding and change of ration, has helped to make lamb feeding an unprofitable business in some instances.

A sudden change of feed or overfeeding should be guarded against with all domestic animals. But it is especially important with the horse and sheep.

Hardwood Ashes.

Ashes from hardwoods (deciduous trees) are richer in both phosphorus and potash than those from pines and other softwoods (conifers). Ashes from oak, elm, maple and hickory have more potash than those from pine. The ashes of twigs (faggots for example) are worth more for agricultural purposes than the ashes of heartwood taken from the middle of an old tree. In general, the smaller and younger the wood burned, the better ashes. The ashes of coal do not contain enough potash to make them valuable in this connection.

Silage for Horses.

Silage which is not moldy or spoiled in any way is splendid horse feed in amounts of from ten to fifteen pounds per head daily.

Farmer's Big Loss.

The farmer who failed to go to his state fair has lost many times the cost of the trip and has also lost step in the procession.

Watch Young Colts.

Keep a close watch upon the young colts; a blemish or impure strain may ruin the value of the future horse.

Steady Gait is Best.

A steady gait will accomplish more in the course of a day than rushing for a spell and then resting

Confessions of a Mail Order Man

By Mr. M. O. X.

Revelations by One Whose Experience in the Business Covers a Range From Office Boy to General Manager

HOW WE DIVIDED THE MONEY.

The furniture department in our catalogue was a great and immediate success. The "fake" illustrations caught the eye of the people and the orders poured in with every mail. We found out that whenever a customer ordered one article there were always a number of others included with the first. And the orders were all cash, of course. I don't remember in those days that we ever had an inquiry for credit. They seemed glad to get the goods by paying the cash and they seemed to get the money together in some manner.

We were busy. We moved away from the city where the business was started and now had a big establishment in one of the biggest of the eastern cities. Our tiny leaflet of a catalogue had increased to over fifty pages and there seemed to be no limit to our prosperity.

My work was now almost entirely connected with the catalogue. I wrote the descriptions, ordered the illustrations made by the wood engravers, superintended the printing and mailing departments and was up to my collar in work all the time. Whenever anything of importance arose in connection with the business I was always called into a conference with Y and Z and we settled any question that arose.

One day I was called in and the doors were shut and locked. There was something of importance to be discussed.

"Look here, X, we are going to incorporate this business," said Y with a peculiar expression in his eyes. I had seen this expression before and I held myself on guard, in readiness to be very careful in my speech and action as I knew I had need of caution. It was like the "hands up" of a highwayman, that look was.

"Yes, we are going to incorporate and we are going to take you in as one of the incorporators," supplemented Z.

I held my peace. Here was something worth listening to.

Seeing that I asked no questions and was waiting for them to go ahead they looked at each other until finally Y said: "We are going to incorporate for one hundred thousand dollars." He continued and explained, with interpolations by Z and an occasional question by myself until it came about that they had decided to make me a present of one thousand dollars of the capital stock.

Sounds generous, don't it? Well, it didn't to me. We had always discussed the possibility some day of incorporation and it had always been held out to me that I was to have a good slice of the capital stock. So I took up the burden of the argument. I explained my viewpoint, recited the various services I had rendered, the departments I had introduced, the improvement in the business, etc., for all of which I claimed a good part of the credit. It was due me, too, because I had developed into the handy man about the shop for doing all of the hard work.

We nearly had a row over it. I was determined that if they did not treat me with fairness, that I would withdraw and I knew where I could interest capital if necessary to start another mail order business. In fact, I had the capital myself, for by this time I was drawing a salary of three thousand a year, about $60 per week, and I had saved a good share of my salary. I told them so with all frankness.

It resulted in their giving me $15,000 of the capital stock and an increase in salary to $5,000 a year. Y and Z took each $25,000, which took out $66,000 of the stock. It was decided to sell out the other $34,000 of stock at par if they had a buyer for cash and of this sum I was to have 15 per cent.

The deal was put through and I found myself a comparatively rich man. Later, when the capitalization was increased to millions, I got my share of the increased valuation so that I have made pretty well out of it. Of course in this matter I am giving fictitious figures. I will not give any more details now because it would be too easy for you to guess more, for it is no part of my plan to tell you too much about the interior workings of our organization.

We have figured it all out many times just what becomes of your dollar that you send in to us with an order.

About one-half of it goes for payment for the goods ordered. The rest is divided into dimes and cents for the payment of postage, printing, maintenance of plant, insurance, office help, etc., and last and best of all into dividends for the stockholders.

The families of Y and Z are now looked upon as merchant princes. They have their yachts, their automobiles, their racing stables, their various establishments. They take their annual tours in various parts of the world and they live off the best the world can supply. And why?

Because you have sent your dollars to the mail order house, established by their fathers many years ago. Each year you send more dollars and the wealth piles up in the banks.

All because of the clever wording of our catalogue descriptions. All because you will have the unreal instead of the genuine, because you will insist on dealing with the unknown instead of trading with your own home merchants. It is human nature for you to do this because the rule of life is to follow the will-o'-the-wisp blindly. Everybody does this, everybody tries to grasp the indefinite instead of grabbing the things at our very home door.

Really it is laughable when you come to think of it. You sent your dollars to us because you fancied and hoped that the distance, which gives enchantment to the view, would send you something in the way of a great prize. Of course we did not.

We spend our dollars like water in foreign lands while at home we do not find so much to interest us—rather we think that we do not. Year after year I have made the pilgrimage into practically all of the foreign lands. It has cost me, I do not care to say how many, thousands of dollars.

Yet all this time I know and realize that we have better things to see, better things to ride in, better things to eat, than any other land. To the crooked and thieving guides in Paris and London and Berlin we are the "easy marks." We are the simple-minded. We are the deluded, the easily decoyed. The gilded palaces of revelry in Paris and Vienna, the unwholesome cabaret of St. Petersburg and Brussels, the gambling hell of Monaco, the glittering vice halls of Cairo—are all maintained by American dollars. We support them. We make them rich. We have made champagne a necessity, we have made truffles and mushrooms both expensive and desirable.

It's the history of life. Every creature shall prey upon the weaker. And we are the weaker who lavish our money on this sort of foolishness. It is really true that it is you, the people of the soil, the dwellers in the country, who are the wiser, after all. We seek dissipation and spend our energy and health as well as our dollars in looking for excitement.

It is to you, in the country, that the nation looks in time of war. Why not in peace also? The strength lies with you. The power is within your grasp. All you must do is to exercise your rights of franchise and your good sense and judgment.

Try it. Get together among yourselves in your scattered communities. Hold meetings. Discuss among yourselves what you ought to do to improve conditions. Talk it over—how to keep the money at home. Simply feather your own nests, that's all. Make your efforts count to your own advantage.

Is it possible that the dissensions and petty jealousies that are popularly supposed to exist in all small communities cannot be done away with so that you can all combine for the good of the whole? What if an armed power were on the way down the county road to burn and sack your town and cut the throats of your women and children? What would you do? Would you sidestep a mass meeting, called to create a defense, because Bill Jones or Hank Buncomb was going to be there? Would you sulk and refuse to have a thing to do with the defense plan just because you had some grievance, real or otherwise, against somebody who would be there?

Not on your life. It would be a grand rally. It would be "Hello Bill" and "Hello Hank." "Gimme a lift with this pesky cannon." "Cut a buckle hole in this strap for a belt to hold up my sword." "Hand over the powder there, I want to fire a few bullets at the enemy."

That's the spirit. Unite for the common interest with "trade at home" as your slogan.

MATTERS OF LEGAL ETHICS

Nice Questions as to Conduct of Attorneys Decided by Committee of Lawyers.

One of the questions submitted to the committee on professional ethics of the New York County Lawyers' association stated that a member of a firm of attorneys recently occupied a high judicial position. While in active practice one of his opinions was cited against the contention taken by his clients in certain litigation. To answer this argument the ex-judge's firm said in its brief:

"It was a member of our firm who wrote the opinion cited against us. When this matter was recently brought to his attention he gave it as his view that the practice which we urge is proper and the motion which we make is made with his express sanction."

In response to the question as to whether such a statement in the brief was proper, the committee said: "In the opinion of the committee, the reference in the brief to the present 'view' or opinion is improper. It is outside of the scope of allowable argument."

The committee also holds it to be improper professional conduct for an attorney to advertise as follows: "Avoid Litigation—I act as adviser, arbitrator, adjudicator and special confidential agent to diplomatically adjust all difficulties and disputes for individuals, corporations or heirs. Bond given when matters of trust are placed with me. Bank reference."

Messages or Cannon Balls.

The habit of sending messages on shells and cannon balls is a very ancient one.

In a museum at Calcutta you may see a silver cannon ball—a real ball, not a modern projectile—and on it are still visible certain engraved characters.

This was picked up in the jungle near the ruins of the old city of Anadnagar, and its history is a strange one.

Many years ago Anadnagar was ruled by Princess Cande. The Moguls invaded India, and, conquering one state after another, attacked Anadnagar. The plucky princess fought to the last, and when all the other metal in the town had been used up, took the gold and silver from her treasurys and had it molded into bullets, on which were engraved maledictions against the oppressor.

These were fired at the enemy, and when at last they were used up, and the town forced to capitulate, the victors found precious little in the way of spoil.

Overdelicate.

It was in a small southwestern town that the town council, which we infer is becoming unduly delicate, caused this notice to appear in the local newspaper when a tax on dogs was imposed: "Tax on each dog—male, one dollar; vice versa, three dollars."—Harper's Magazine.

ROADS AND THE FARM WOMEN

Bad Roadways of Winter Mean Almost Entire Isolation for Many of Farmers' Wives and Children.

In some respects bad roads are a greater disadvantage to the farm woman and the farm woman's children than to anyone else concerned. The bad roads of winter mean almost entire isolation from the neighbors and from the town or village.

Most of us live or have lived in communities where services in the churches must be suspended during the worst part of the winter because of the roads. When the soft dirt roads are worked up during the thaws and freezes of late winter and early spring till even the light road wagons cannot be used, the churches and Sunday schools are forced to suspend. This and the breaking of all other social life in the country at that time proves a hardship to the woman on the farm.

The greatest argument that can be advanced against life in the country is isolation. Isolation in the country is a matter of roads. Where the roads are bad, where the highways are mere trails that become impassable in bad weather, this isolation really exists. Where the roads remain good all the year round there is always sufficient social activity to make country life what it ought to be.

Keep Trough Clean.

The trough in which the pigs are fed should be kept clean.

MAINTAINING EARTH ROADS

Surface Drainage Is First and Last Commandment — Remove All Obstructions—Keep Smooth Crown.

The first and last commandment in earth road maintenance is to keep the surface well drained. To insure good drainage the ditches should be kept open, all obstructions removed, and a smooth crown maintained. Except for very stony soil the road machine or scraper may be used very effectively for this work. The machine should be used once or twice a year, and the work should be done when the soil is damp, so that it will pack and bake into a hard crust. Wide and shallow side ditches should be maintained with sufficient fall and capacity to dispose of surface water. These ditches can, in most places, be constructed and repaired with a road machine.—United States Department of Agriculture.

There are 1,258,575 registered automobiles in the United States.

Progressive Farming Necessity.

Good breaking plows are absolutely necessary for progressive farming. No one can expect to do good work with a poor breaking plow. Whether you use a tractor, a sulky or a walking turn plow you should have an implement that "takes" and "turns" the land to the required depth and one that is economical of horsepower and man labor. Be not deceived; the farm cannot be tilled; must be tilled in a satisfactory way if you expect profit.