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Ruth Has Some "Dressed-Up" Pictures Taken

1. I had some dressed-up pictures taken this time because some of you folks have been writing and talking like I didn't have anything but overalls. I'll show you that I've got some really young lady clothes.

2. I've got brand new shoes, too. See how they shine. And I'm careful not to get 'em dusty. And I've got a new parasol, too, white with blue dots on it. And a new hat that's real stylish.

3. The dress is pretty in the back too. Just see. And it's got a white sash with a big bow. And I'm going down in the flower garden to pick one of papa's white flowers to wear to Sunday school.

4. Well, it's time for Sunday school now, so I've got to be on my way. I'd like to go in the class with my big sisters, but they went and put me in the infant class, because I'm only two and a half. RUTH.
"Give-Away-Day" at the Shenandoah Nurseries

1. The children waiting for the distribution to begin. Over 200 were there waiting when the doors opened, and hundreds more came soon after.

Shenandoah is a great town for trees and shrubs and flowers and vines and pretty lawns and everything of that kind. Of course, this is partly due to the fact that the Nurseries and Seedhouses have always played a prominent part in the life and development of Shenandoah, but in addition to that, the people here seem to take naturally to that sort of thing.

We have a park commission now, composed of three prominent and public spirited citizens, who serve without pay and put in lots of time improving the parks and street parkings and such as that, as there is provision under the Iowa laws now for such commission in every town.

I don't know whether the idea of the "Give-Away-Day" originated with the park commission or with the nurserymen, but anyway, one evening Elbert Read of the park commission came down to my house and said he had just been talking to Dave Lake, the big nurseryman here, and they thought it would be a splendid thing to have a donation party and give every child in Shenandoah a bundle of trees, plants and shrubs and bulbs if they would promise to plant and care for them.

Of course, I agreed to go in with him and help boost the thing along and we called up Ed. Welch of the Mt. Arbor Nursery, and he was in for it too, so we arranged it for Saturday afternoon and announced in the newspapers and through circulars distributed at school that every child in Shenandoah could have a bundle of first class trees, shrubs, vines and bulbs to plant for his very own and that they would be distributed Saturday morning at the front door of Lake's big nursery warehouse across the street from out seed house.

We picked Lake's warehouse because it was centrally located and had a good wide street in front of it where there was plenty of room to accommodate the children.

Lake furnished the trees, Ed. Welch furnished the shrubs and vines, and I furnished the bulbs.

I don't know just how many children there are in Shenandoah, but I believe most of them were there when the doors were opened Saturday morning, or if they were not there then, they came within a very few minutes afterward. The records show the names of over 800 children who registered, and there were lots more that got the bundles and got away so fast that we couldn't get the names down.

You never saw such excitement in your life. It was worse than a bargain sale. Most of the children carried their bundles home afoot, but some of the smaller ones had a pretty hard tug getting them home, but they wouldn't give them up under any consideration, and by resting occasionally they generally got home with them all right, or sometimes a passing automobile or wagon would give them a ride. Some

2. Dave Lake and Ed. Welch watching the fun. The children swarmed around like bees around an overturned hive.

4. The nurserymen and park commission lined up with the children and their trees. Notice that every child has a bundle of trees and a package of bulbs.

of them had little wagons and baby carriages and such as that to haul their trees in.

The nursery stock was put up in uniform bundles, all just alike, each bundle containing a complete assortment, and ready to hand out as fast as the children could get out of the door with them. It certainly was a great event.

I drove around town that afternoon to see what was becoming of the trees and it seemed like there were children at work in every yard planting trees. They went to lots of trouble to get them planted just right too and I believe every tree will live.

The distribution this year was such a success that it probably will be made a permanent institution. One that will make a more beautiful town of Shenandoah and better citizens of the children.

There is no patent on this idea and nothing to prevent other towns doing the same thing if they feel like it.
Some Husky Iowa Boys

Last fall I published a picture of a family of 9 boys from Colorado. Here is a pretty good match for that picture. These are the eight sons of Mrs. F. H. McBroom, Kellogg, Iowa, and Mrs. McBroom herself. She writes that she also has 8 girls, but did not have room for them in this picture. That certainly is a family to be proud of and if the girls are as good looking as these boys, they would make a great picture all together.

How to Kill Melon Lice

"Dear Sir: I thought perhaps you might be interested in my way of fighting melon lice, as it is somewhat different from what you recommend in your garden leaflet. My experience with dope is that it is impossible to kill all the lice and what are left leave the vicinity of the dope as soon as they can fly and make matters worse, as wherever a female settles she starts a new colony. My plan is as follows and has proved very successful.

I looked over my vines every few days for signs of lice and if any are found they are covered with dirt, vine and all, if in early part of the season. Later on as the vines spread over the ground it is sometimes possible to save the infected vine if only infected around the roots, as that is often where they start. Just cover up with dirt the part of vine infected and the lady bugs will clean up any stragglers that might be left, provided you can coax enough bugs around. I used to gather them by hand from the cane, but that was slow work. Now I use different plans, one is to sow a strip of cane close by the melon patch and mow it for hay about the time the vines cover the ground. Then I plant a good sized roasting ear patch close and cut for fodder as soon as the ears are picked. The lady bugs are always in the corn by the thousand and as soon as the corn is cut will leave and go to the melons. Last year they apparently cleaned up all the lice in the cantaloupes and left the patch, going into a later patch of roasting ears. In the course of a few weeks there were some spots got started and threatened to take the whole patch, as the lady bugs had nearly all flown, but I come another scheme on'em. I took my corn sled and rake, cut and loaded the corn and shocked it up close to the lousy spots. That brought the lady bugs back and they kept the lice under control the rest of the season (by my aid in shoveling dirt on a few of the worst spots).

Another point or two: When covering with dirt bespice and scare the lady bugs out first. Also fall plow your ground and disk once or twice before planting. This disturbs the ant noes where the lice are kept over. Don't plant close to a strip of uncultivated land, as the ants will carry the lice several yards and possibly rods and locate them on the vines. This sounds fishy, but I believe its true. Will close by stating that from two acres of cantaloupes last year I sold $500 net worth of melons in spite of lice.

Please try this plan out and write me later what you think of it. Hope this may be some help to you or your customers.

Your Early June tomatoes make a fine crop here when others fail. I bought three ounces of seed this year, have set out two acres (they are in bloom now) and sold twenty dollars worth of plants. How is that?

Yours truly.


Good Alfalfa in Alabama

"Dear Sir: When you sent me that sample of alfalfa seed, you made the statement that if it grew 18 inches high the crop was worth $50.00 per acre. I planted the seed and am so well pleased with the plants that I am sending you one shoot, just an average one and I would like to know what you think about it. You see it just measures 29 inches.

I hope you will excuse me for taking so much liberty, but I just wanted to show you how well alfalfa would grow here.

-Kamala Roberts, Toxey, Ala.

Another Iowa Family

This family runs about like ours, mostly girls, but we can beat these people two on girls. We have two boys and seven girls. These people I see have two boys and five girls. Their girls are larger than ours though, so I guess they are about even with us after all, for ours are mostly small yet.

This picture was sent by Mr. and Mrs. B. P. Shilling, Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Too Many Seeds to Suit This Man

"Gentlemen: My package of garden seeds and seed corn arrived O. K. today and you have got me into a nice fix. You sent me so many packages of fine seed that I have not half room in my garden for them and of course wife wants to plant all of them, so that means more work for me. Why I certainly never ordered half of the seeds you sent and perhaps you have made a mistake in my order. Anyway, we thank you for your liberality and promptness and we will be boosters for your seeds.

Mr. A. L. Graves.

There is a bunch of strawberry plants on a ear with the others received. We have been "fooled" a good deal with seedsmen and were a little suspicious, but now we have a firm we can trust and you can look for more orders from us. I gave the catdog away before I read it, so please send me another one.

W. H. Ergan, Rt. 1, Doniphan, Iowa."

A Fine Strawberry Patch

"Oh yes, I have been intending for "stem" months to tell you about your Senator strawberries I got of you in 1913. Of the 100 plants about 35 quietly bid this world adieu and composed themselves to slumber. I got a dozen from my sister and filled in the biggest gaps, kept the blossoms picked off and just let them go to it as they saw fit. Last June they were a solid mass 8 or 6 feet wide and 50 long and we gathered 100 quarts of fine berries as one need to ask for. How's that for a "Fish Story" about strawberries.

Well, I got your letter O. K. and thankyou very much. Now, I have taken it into my wise head to change some items and have added one or two so that $20.00 wouldn't hardly fill the bill and so am enclosing check to cover the order. Of my little 40x60 seed roll patch I think I will plant it about equally to onions, radish, and peas as early as the ground can be worked. Would that agree with your judgment?

-Frank Graves, Rockton, Ill.

Some Advice on Tomato Raising

"I would like to give your customers a little advice on tomato raising through Seed Sense. I would like you to try it also.

Now, when your tomato plants are large enough to set out, transplant them into rows about 2 ft. apart and the rows about 4 ft. apart. Cultivate and hoe them until they begin to blossom, then get some wheat straw and mulch them. Be sure to get the straw up well around the roots.

If the weather is dry, after the sun goes down, pour two or three gallons of water around each plant two or three times per month. If there is plenty of rain you will not have to water them. There will be no weeds to hoe out, as the straw keeps them down.

Please try the above article and ask some of your customers to try it and write me about your success.

-Isa W. Cook, Rea, Mo.

Strawberries All Summer and Fall

"Dear Sir: I wanted to tell you how well pleased we were with the Ever-bearing strawberries we got of you last year. They certainly were just what you said they were, 'Everbearing.' We had strawberries all summer and last fall when the ground froze up there were still a lot of strawberries from those plants in November. I cannot praise them too highly. This year I am sending for 100 Senator plants and will see what they will do for us. The other garden seeds we got from you were fine and I am sending you another order today. Good luck to the Field seed house. Yours truly,

-F. C. McCann, Raymond, Iowa."
Some North Dakota Boys and Their Garden

This picture was sent me by T. L. Stanley, Garrison, N. Dak., and shows the boys gardening club and their garden. Most of the garden is in back of them, but the center bed is in front of them. They are fine boys and have a fine garden.

Seeds to Plant Now

Your seed planting should not end with the early spring months. If it does, you are going to miss a lot of good things. There is quite a list of vegetables of which successive plantings should be made every ten days or two weeks if you want lots of them and want them at their best.

Take beans for instance. The first planting of green or wax podded beans should be made in this latitude about May 1st, and the last about July 15th. If you want string beans at their best and lots of them, you should plant about every two weeks, commencing and ending with the above dates. Right now is a good time to plant the beans from which you expect to get those you intend to can. You can then do your canning in the fall when the weather is not so hot and you will not have to carry them so long a time before you use them. Some say, too, that they will keep better when canned after the hot summer weather is past.

Then, there is beets. Your wife always insists that I make a planting of beets for canning during the latter part of June or first of July, and “woe is me,” if I happen to forget. It is “woe” in more ways than one, if I do forget. I am forced to go without beet pickles and I would about as soon go without canned peaches.

You can make the first planting of table beets early in the spring as soon as you can work the soil and the last about July 1st. Plantings should be made about once a month during that time, if you would always have them good and tender. For late planting for canning purposes, Eclipse, Blood Turnip or Crosby’s Egyptian are as good as any.

Sweet corn is something we deprive ourselves of as much or more than anything else from successive plantings. Take three varieties, an early, an intermediate and a late, and plant them all May 1st. In three weeks make another planting, using the intermediate and the late varieties. Then, in two weeks make another planting of these two. One more planting can be made of the late one, say in two weeks. Then you will have to drop it, for it would not have time to mature. You can plant a medium early as late as July 1st, and White Mexican with reasonable safety as late as July 10th or 15th.

Sweet corn is good after it begins to harden. By planting some after the plan suggested above you can have good corn every day and the last mess will taste like the first one did. From now on for the balance of this season better plant ear- y and inter- mediate sorts.

Lettuce can be planted as late as August 1st, especially if you have good soil and can crowd it along. Plantings of lettuce should be made every three or four weeks. Just now you should plant such varieties as Hanson and Iceberg, as they stand the hot dry weather much better than others.

Peas can safely be planted as late as July 1st, but owing to the hot dry weather it is pretty hard to get as good a yield or as fine a quality as you can from early plantings. If you want to plant now, select such varieties as Dwarf Champion, Premium Gem and Nutt’s Excelior. They are more likely to be able to pull through hot dry weather.

Radishes should be planted oftener than any other vegetable I know of, if you want good ones. Plant as often as once a week or ten days and not longer apart than two weeks. The time between the plantings depends on the weather and the varieties you are plant- ing.

About July 1st or any time in July or August sow the winter radishes, China Rose Winter, China White Winter and such varieties. Put them away in the cave in the fall just like you do your beets and turnips.

Remedy For Cabbage Worms (Green Ones)

"Two tablespoonsful of Epson salts in two gallons of water. Spray well.  
—Mrs. M. E. Till, Loomis, Wash."

Some Fine Minnesota Hogs

These are part of the “Hay Lake Valley Farm” herd of Registered Poland China pigs owned by G. R. Slocum, Pequot, Minn., who sent me this picture. That is G. R. himself in shirt sleeves, bossing the job, and his son and a neighbor looking on. Mr. Slocum buys lots of canning corn, beans, squash and melons for canning. It is a “cut over” country, and grows good crops of all kinds. Mrs. Slocum sent a box of wild timber flowers to Ruth the other day, most of them strange to me, for I was raised on the prairie.

Potato Diggers

Possibly you have a Potato Digger already, but if not, I believe it would pay you to buy one. I used to think I could dig potatoes as easy and cheaply and as clean with a fork or a plow or a lister, as I could with a digger, but that was before I got a digger. I finally made up my mind to try a digger and I was certainly surprised at the results.

I kept careful account of the cost of digging and picking up the potatoes I found that with a good digger (mine was an “Iron Age”) I could handle the potatoes at a cost of 4c per bu., for digging and picking up as against 8c per bu., the best I could do with either a fork or a lister, and besides, I found that I was getting about 10 per cent more potatoes on account of getting them cleaner.

You see a good potato digger, one that is really built for the busi- ness, lifts the whole row, dirt and all, slits the dirt and drops the potatoes in a narrow band right on top of the loose dirt that has been shaken out. They are all right on top in plain sight in a close row where there is no danger of missing any of them, and where you can pick them up in a hurry.

Of course, if you have only an acre or two of potatoes, it will hardly pay you to buy a digger, but if you have as much as five acres, I believe it would pay you to have a digger and on larger amounts there would be no question about it.

If you feel that you cannot afford one alone, it can very nicely be owned in partnership by two neighbors, and then you can change work when it comes to digging.

In light sandy soil two horses can pull a big digger all right, but on heavy soil, such as we have here, it is best to put on four horses, especially if you have much of a field to dig. I understand, however, that in all potato regions where the soil is light and sandy, two horses handle the digger easily.

There are several good diggers. I have owned at different times a Hallock, a Dowden, an Iron Age, and one other, which I cannot re- member, but I liked the Iron Age much the best of the lot.

I haven’t said anything about potato planters, for it is the wrong time of year to be thinking about them, but there is no harm about planting of early and for next spring and when you come to dig potatoes, you will notice that potatoes planted with a planter will be much easier to dig than those planted by hand; as they are in a perfectly straight, narrow row and all exactly the same depth. This makes a wonderful difference in the digging as in the cultivating.

My experience with potato planters has been that you can get ordinarily about 20 per cent more yield from potatoes planted with a planter than from those planted by hand. Behind the plow in the ordi- nary way. This may sound improbable, but it is absolutely true and you will find it out for yourself when you buy a planter.

Several of the State Colleges, especially in the potato states, have made experiments along this line. The Maine station especially went into the matter very thoroughly, and their experiments were so con- clusive and so clear in favor of potato planters and especially of the “Iron Age” potato planter as compared with others that the “Iron Age" people distributed thousands of copies of the report to pro-ductive customers. The results were absolutely authentic and there was no chance for guess work. I can’t remember the exact figures, but they were surprising to me. It might pay you to write for the report.

You must talk right up in the meeting if you get what you’re looking for.
Summer Vacations

I don't know whether you believe in vacations or not. Some very smart people claim that a vacation is not necessary and that it does more harm than good, but most of us, I think, believe the other way, that a vacation is a pretty good thing for almost any one. I know I enjoy them very much and all our folks do.

We don't believe in the dress-up kind of a vacation, however. We don't like to go off on the train and stay at a high-priced hotel and all of that. My idea of a vacation is to get in your every day clothes, go just where you please and do what you please and come as near getting back to the simple life and natural conditions as possible.

Every summer for several years now we have taken a camping-out trip with the automobile. We wear our every day clothes, take all the children, take a tent and camp outfit and most absolutely necessary things to cook with, travel and camp out for anywhere from three to six weeks. The longest trip we ever made was about 6 weeks. That time we went across Nebraska to Colorado and after traveling and camping up and down through Colorado for three weeks or more, we came out through Kansas and down into Oklahoma and then home from there. We have made two shorter trips to Colorado, and one year we went down to the Ozark country of southwest Missouri. Last year we camped out at the State Fair at Des Moines.

Lots of people would like to take that kind of a vacation, but are afraid to tackle it for fear they do not have the necessary equipment and for fear they may get into all kinds of trouble in traveling. Both of these are entirely mistaken notions. The first camping out trip we made with the automobile, we started with one days notice and took scarcely any outfit at all, except a small tent and a very, very few things to cook with. Of course, we had plenty of blankets and comforters for sleeping. The first picture at the top of the page shows that trip. Everything we had with us is in sight in that picture. You can see there is not very much of it. It was a very successful trip. We were gone 17 days, traveled 1,700 miles in all and camped 5 days up in the high mountains in Estes Park, rode through all kinds of country and over all kinds of road and did it with an old E. M. F., it was a pretty good old car, but nothing special. Any one who is an average careful driver and has any ordinary car can make the same trip.

The most common mistake that most everyone makes is to take too much outfit. They load the car down with all kinds of junk that is not necessary at all. The car is crowded and the springs and tires are overloaded and as a result they have more or less trouble. One man who has had lots of experience in touring said, the best rule was to make a list of the things you absolutely had to have and then cut that list square in two in the middle.

As our family got larger and we had a larger car, we take a little more outfit now, but nothing very much. We have a big heavy car now that will carry lots of load, but the family just about fills it, so we have a trailer to carry the luggage and camp outfit. In the second picture at the top of the page you can see this trailer in the back ground. We built a grub box in the back end of it with a big door that drops down. We have a little folding table which is very light and takes up very little room. We do not try to eat off it, but use it to set the cattles on and for a place to wash the dishes. We have three or four light folding chairs or stools and a tin cooking outfit that weighs complete about 7 or 8 pounds, a few steel knives and forks, tin spoons, tin cups, tin plates, etc., and plenty of blankets. The tent in a 10 x 14, two-roomed tent with a cloth floor. It is made of very light, but closely woven and waterproof material and has a rope ridge and jointed steel poles and weighs complete about 90 pounds. This we carry in a sack which can either be set on the running board or carried in a trailer. The trailer weighs about 68 pounds and with its load all complete, somewhere near 1,000 pounds. It couples close up to the car behind and makes no trouble whatever in driving.

You don't need to be afraid a bit to start out. You don't need much outfit, and will have no trouble on the road. The roads are getting good everywhere now and any ordinary driver or any ordinary automobile can go practically anywhere in the United States with success. You will be surprised how easy you get along and what a good time you will have.

Take my advice and take a trip of this kind and I am sure you will enjoy it. Don't try to drive too far in a day and don't break your neck trying to make a certain schedule. Take things easy and start and stop when you please and take plenty of time to do your cooking, eating, and sleeping.

A River Crossing in Southern Missouri

Children Wading in the Ford Near Long's Peak, Colorado

The children chased jack rabbits and chipmunks, but they never caught one that I knew of. We saw a deer once up in the mountains, and the children claimed they heard a bear.
Plant Peonies This Fall

Of course you can plant peonies in the spring if you want to. There is no law against it. But if you really want to have success with Peonies, the time to plant them is in the fall, especially in September and October. They are practically certain then to live and bloom, and they will be pretty sure to bloom next spring, which would not likely be the case if planted next spring.

I don't know of any flower more satisfactory to plant than peonies. They are sure to live and grow, they will bloom anywhere and for anyone, and they live forever, getting better with age. They have no diseases and no insect enemies, they are big, beautiful, and fragrant. They bloom in time for Memorial day. A single clump of them on the lawn is a beautiful sight, and a big bed of them is finer yet.

Just notice the picture below showing mine in bloom at the seed house. Did you ever see anything finer? I have probably the finest collection in the country. They are worth coming hundreds of miles to see. I have the varieties that bloom and bloom every year. I can give you any color you want. If you love peonies let me fix you out with a start of really good varieties. You will find a long list of them in the catalog and in the last September Seed Sense, Study over the list. Besides I have over 200 kinds not listed there, I can give you any kind you want. Considering what you get for your money there is no flower so cheap as peonies. You can buy them from 20c up, for good plants. Any one can afford to plant them. If you can't afford to buy them, get them from your neighbor, by all means plant some.

I never felt that money spent for flowers was wasted. It is money well spent and there is nothing that gives so much pleasure and happiness in the world. Some one has said that the peony is a flower for the million and for the millionaire. The millionaire could buy nothing finer, and the millions can all afford to buy them. And I guess that's about right.

If you have been promising the wife some flowers to fix up the front yard, now is the time for you to make good, by spending a few dollars for the looks of the place, to say nothing of the pleasure it will give the wife and the girls.

While always having your eye on the job above—don't forget the one below.—Our Pf.

Peonies in Bloom on the Seed House Grounds

We have several acres of them and hundreds of different varieties. Notice they are all blooming too. We grow the kinds that will bloom every year. How would you like to be turned loose in this patch of flowers?
A Hightoned Holstein Cow

This is Royalton De Kol Canna, owned by L. E. Connell, Fayette, Ohio. I think Mr. Connell told me how many thousand dollars she was worth and how many barrels of milk she would give, but I can't find her letter just now. Anyway, it was a mighty fine record. When I retire from the seed business and move onto a farm that is the kind of cows I am going to keep.

Irrigating the Garden

A few days ago Mr. Dickson sent us the following letter in regard to irrigating his garden.

"Somewa, Ill., April 27, 1915."

Friend Henry: Could you prevail on some of your gardener friends, or a lot of them to give their experience and opinions in Seed Sense on watering a garden with a hose from a city water plant.

We are having a very dry spring and my "garden saxes" is just "pining" for some water, but friends, wife, and all the neighbors tell me to beware of the city water direct from the main, as it is too cold. A few words on this subject from yourself, Eldridge or Mr. Albaugh would be mighty interesting reading for Yours truly, Robert J. Dickson."

In answer to his question will just now doubt be of interest to readers of Seed Sense, so we publish it here.

It would be better if the water was warmed a little before irrigating, however, there will be no direct injury to the vegetables by applying the water direct from the main. Before any vegetable will make growth there must be a certain amount of heat in the soil, so of course anything that keeps the ground cool or cools it off will hinder the growth.

The cold water naturally lowers the temperature in the soil. It will not only lower the temperature in the soil, but it has been found by experiment that it takes more heat to raise the temperature in a pound of water a degree than it does in a pound of ordinary soil the same amount. It has also been found that the temperature at midday in sandy soil fall of water was much cooler than in clay soil. If the sandy soil had been dry just the reverse would have been true.

This being the case, it is easy to understand why the cold water from the city mains would not be best. It will simply hinder the growth of the vegetables a little, because the soil has been cooled off by the water, but not enough. I do not believe, to be considered seriously.

The point in irrigating the garden naturally suggests other interesting and important phases of this question. For instance the following:

How to apply the water.

How much is required? When and how often shall it be applied?

The effects of too much water.

The importance of surface cultivation to hold the moisture.

It will be impossible to answer all the above questions satisfactorily in a short article like this, however giving them as I have will at least furnish you a basis for a more extended study of the subject and the information you may find in this article will serve to start you.

The water may be applied by overhead irrigation, by flooding, and by ditches or little furrows. Overhead irrigation is becoming very popular in the east and in this section of the country. It requires an outlay of expense for pipes to carry the water over the field. nozzles and other equipment, but for high priced vegetable crops it pays. We use it here on the strawberries and other stuff. We run a line of pipe every 40 feet and place a nozzle every 40 feet, with the pressure we have of 60 pounds this covers the ground in good shape. We use city water, so are not out the expense of a gasoline engine, pump jack, reservoir, etc. The pipes can be run on the ground, as we run them or can be placed overhead on posts high enough for a man or horse to go underneath. With us each nozzle is placed on a short piece of pipe about 24 inches long, running up from the main pipe.

Flooding is all right for some crops and soils. Any soil that bakes easy after a rain or any crop that is likely to be injured by the ground baking after water being applied, should not be irrigated by flooding.

Twin Boys From Iowa

These boys are Walter and William Berndt, Correctionville, Iowa. They were 9 months old when the picture was sent to us and certainly are a fine looking pair of boys. The picture was sent by their mother, Mrs. F. G. Berndt.

For ordinary home garden or for a market garden for that matter I believe that as a rule irrigating with the little ditches would be far better than flooding. These little ditches should be run along the rows. Sometimes one on each side of the row and sometimes only one between the two rows. If you have a flat piece of land and it the water will soak through it a considerable distance. In this case these ditches can be farther apart.

The garden is only a foot wide or on an uneven piece of ground it will be necessary to run these ditches so that the water will not have much fall or it will run off before it has a chance to soak in the ground.

It is said the average vegetable in the humid section requires about 1 inch of water per week during May, June, July and August, and unless rainfall amounts to this much it should be applied artificially. It should be done by flooding, for this is the ripening period for most vegetables and water at this time should be used very lightly, if at all in most cases. Evaporation also is not so great at this time as earlier in the season and especially as during the summer.

To cover an acre with an inch of water requires about 5,920 gallons or 823 barrels and an inch of water will not last long during dry weather. Out west they figure from 22 to 24 inches for the season. If your garden spot is four rods wide and ten rods long it will require over 200 barrels of water to cover it one inch deep. You can readily see by the above that it would be no small job to irrigate this garden spot. It is not a job that can be left until after your days work is done to be finished up after you are through with the chores.

Sandy soil will not hold moisture as well as other soil. Clay soil is considered best of all in this respect. This does not necessarily mean that you can grow a larger amount of truck from clay soil than on other. A black loam containing plenty of humus will retain the moisture fine. All things considered I believe this is the best soil for garden, even though it will not retain the moisture quite so well as clay.

The annual rain fall here in this section of the country is usually sufficient to mature a crop if it was distributed just right. The trouble is that we have periods of abundant rain fall then a period of drought. A great deal of water is lost by running off and by evaporation. If you have a good soil containing plenty of humus and plowed deep you can carry a great deal of this excess water under the time when it will be needed. Frequent shallow surface cultivation will hold this moisture and sometimes carry your crops over a dry period when they otherwise would be lost. You should go over the soil once a week and keep about two inches of loose dirt mulch to hold this moisture.

Here in the humid section the amount of irrigation needed depends on rainfall. It also depends on the vegetable, for some require a great deal more water than others. The season and stage of growth must be considered too. Generally speaking after about ten days or two weeks of dry weather garden crops show the need of more water. You might once a week or ten days during the growing season in dry weather would be a pretty close guess at what the ordinary crop of vegetables could use.

The wilting of the leaves is no sure indication that the plant needs water. On hot days when the evaporation is greater than usual, the leaves, especially of cabbage, corn and such plants, will wilt down while there is plenty of water in the soil. In this case the plant cannot stand it and will wilt up as fast as it is used. After this period has once continued for a time, however, more water will be necessary. Some can tell when the plant needs water by the shade of green the foliage shows. This sign is, however, not altogether reliable except for an expert.

Every irrigation should be followed by working the surface soil just as soon as you can get on the ground or you will lose a great deal of the water by evaporation and the ground will become crusty and bake. This is very important. You cannot afford after the hard work and expense of watering the crop to lose any of the results of this work.

W. W. Pitten.
Field's Seed Sense

Field's Seed Sense
FOR THE MAN BEHIND THE Hoe.

Published Monthly by the
HENRY FIELD SEED COMPANY
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HENRY FIELD, Editor. ROSCOE ALLISON, Managing Editor.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 25 cents per year or 5 years for $1.00.
ADVERTISING RATES made known on application.

Get Ready For Alfalfa

It is a safe guess that at least two thirds of the alfalfa seed that is sown in the cornbelt is sown in the months of July, August and September, most of it during the month of August. This is a good time to sow alfalfa. The only thing to remember is to have the ground in first class condition. Most of the failures in growing alfalfa are due to the poor preparation of the soil before the seed is sown.

Remember that alfalfa does not catch well on freshly plowed ground. If you plow the first week as soon as the grain is off and work it, you will be far ahead of the crowd. If possible you should begin getting the ground ready now, although you can of course put the alfalfa in following a crop of wheat or oats, if you will plow the ground just as soon as the grain is off and work it and get it down in good shape.

Remember that we have the very finest alfalfa seed for sale and will be glad to fix you out. Our seed is all sold subject to your own test and approval, and subject to the test and approval of any state college or experiment station. We do not handle imported seed or low grade native seed. We have the finest quality of native American seed. This seed is selected from Kansas, Dakota or Montana, whenever you prefer. We will tell you exactly where the seed came from and tell you the truth about it. We will guarantee our seed free from deadly weeds or adulterations of any kind. The market on alfalfa seed is advancing, but we have made no change from our last months' prices. These prices are good until July 1st. Send along your orders. See page 15.

No Issue of Seed Sense For July

Perhaps you remember that last year we shipped the July number of Seed Sense. We are not going to do the same thing. We are going to skip the July number.

There are several reasons for this. For one thing you are all too busy and hot to do much reading; and we are busy invoicing and there are a lot of other things that I have to do and work for. We will just skip the July number and come again in August.

Your time will be extended so that you will get the twelve numbers by getting an extra month at the end of your time, so nobody will lose anything.

Sow Rye and Vetch Together

Don't forget that one of the best winter cover crops to put in would be rye and vetch in about equal parts. Use the regular winter rye, such as we have for sale. Sow 30 pounds of rye per acre each of rye and vetch any time after the first of August. They will stay green all winter, make a splendid cover crop and make a big crop of hay very early in the spring or they will make a splendid crop of green growth to plow under to fertilize the ground.

Of course you can sow the vetch separate, but it seems to do better when mixed with rye. We will have plenty of seed of both and you will find prices in the regular monthly price list.

Free Sample Alfalfa

I will send free to anyone, a small sample of alfalfa seed for testing. Send it to your experiment station and ask them if it is good; if it has dodder or any other bad weed in it; if it is good, bright, sound seed that will grow.

An experiment station bought seeds from a dozen more seed houses and tested it. They reported that mine was the best and only one they would care to plant for their own use. Small sample free.

I am willing to have my alfalfa seed put to any test you want—examine it yourself, let your neighbors look at it, send it to your State Experiment Station if you want to. If the seed isn't right I don't want you to lose a cent for it; I'll send it back at my expense. But I think I am safe when I make this offer, for I know the seed is the best that you or I, or anyone else, can buy.

Order Fall Bulbs Now

Don't forget that if you want tulips and hyacinths and narcissus and snowdrops and the rest of the so-called Dutch bulbs, you must plant them in the fall in Sept., Oct., and Nov. You can order them any time now and we will send them to you when they arrive from Holland, which will be about October.

Time Yet to Sow Sudan Grass

Don't forget that there is plenty of time yet in almost any part of the United States to plant Sudan grass and fetitera.

Ordinarily, either one of these will mature a crop in less than the very earliest varieties of field corn, and you know we very often plant early varieties of field corn as late as the last part of June.

Fetitera is especially valuable for a crop of grain. It makes good fodder, but other crops will probably do as well for fodder. For grain, however, fetitera can't be beat. It will yield more than field corn and more than any of the grain sorghums. Sudan grass on the other hand is especially valuable for fodder. It makes a fair yield in seed which is of good feeding value, but has never been used much yet for feed, because it has been more valuable for planting purposes, but great thing it is planted for is for fodder. It will make more fodder and better fodder than any seed you can plant. It is much finer and juicier than cane, corn or kaffir. It curcs easily and is relished by stock of all kinds.

Both Sudan grass and fetitera should be put in thin. Most people are liable to make mistakes in putting it in too thick. You should not use more than three pounds per acre, or at the very outside five pounds per acre. Three pounds would be better, I believe, to try it. Lots of people do not plant over two pounds per acre. Plant in rows, regular corn row width and cultivate just the same as you would corn. Seed should be planted rather shallow and anywhere from two to four inches to the foot of row.

We can furnish plenty of seed of both Sudan and fetitera and you will find prices in last months Seed Sense or on page 15 of this issue. Send along your order.

Mixed Bedding Hyacinths

An extra good mixture, good sized bulbs and good colors, all sound bulbs, guaranteed to bloom. Fine for house culture, but specially intended for bedding out and at our low prices can be planted in large lots. These can be furnished in separate colors, as listed below:

White Blush White Red Pink Deep Blue Light Blue
7c each, 6 for 40c, 12 for 75c, 25 for $1.50, 100 for $5.50.
Special Offer: Mixed bedding Hyacinths, all colors mixed, 6 for 35c, 12 for 65c, 25 for $1.25; 100 for $4.50.
These should be planted in October.

Olive Oil Direct From Producer

My brother, S. E. Field, Jr., is manager of a big olive ranch at El Toro, Calif., and he writes me that owing to the war or something else the market on olive oil is demoralized and that they have a surplus of the very finest of pure olive oil which they would be glad to sell at a reasonable price. They can supply it gallon, half gallon, or quart cans, and will guarantee it extra high quality and absolutely pure. If you are interested in olive oil, I believe it would pay you to write them for prices. He also writes that next year he will have a big crop of pickled olives, both green and ripe, to sell, that this year's crop is all gone now except the oil.
A Load of Our Outgoing Mail

This picture was taken at the back door of the Shenandoah postoffice along in April during our busy time and shows a load of mail going to the 2:35 train. Practically all of it is our seeds and plants. Notice the nursery packages sticking out of the sacks.

Although Shenandoah is only a small town, about 5,000 population, the postoffice here did over $50,000 worth of business the year just closed, which is more than many good-sized cities. Our firm furnished over half of the total business or nearly $33,000 worth of postage, and besides we received in orders over $6,000 worth more which was not included in the above amount. I do not think there is any seed firm in Iowa or anywhere in the west that does as much postoffice business as we do, and the postoffice business is a good index of the business that is done. For next year we are talking of putting in a branch postoffice in our seed house so as to save time and handling on the mail.

Parcel post is a good convenience and we expect to it more and more, especially in the nearby zones and for small packages in all zones.

Concrete on the Farm

I am a great believer in the use of concrete. Our seed house is built almost entirely of concrete, and all our walks and drives around the building are paved with the same. The hitching posts in front of the seed house are all concrete. In traveling around over the state I notice the farmers everywhere are using more concrete and it is surprising what nice work a farmer can do, even when he has no special experience and is not a professional concrete worker.

I have held a couple of books or bulletins on concrete work the other day that are the finest things I ever saw, and the best of it is, they are absolutely free. You can get them like I did, simply by writing for them. Don't write to me for them, though, but write directly to the people publishing them.


I have seen books on concrete work that cost $2.00 a piece that were not half as good as these. I believe any ordinary farmer could take these two books with the following the descriptions and illustrations given in them build almost anything he wanted to use on the farm. Write for them to the addresses given by all means.

The Striped Melon Bugs

About the worst pest we have on muskmelons, cucumbers and squashes is the little striped melon bug. I suppose you have had a tussle with him already. Maybe you saved your vines and maybe he got them. It is about an even chance. We have had hundreds of letters lately asking for advice about it.

My advice would be to use tobacco dust, lots of it. It is cheap, will not injure the vines in any way, and pretty nearly always it will drive the bugs away. It doesn't seem to kill them, but anyway, they leave. The best way to do is to dust it on when there is dew on the leaves, so it will stick. If there comes a rain and washes the tobacco dust off, put on some more.

You can buy the tobacco dust from almost any seed house. We will furnish it to you at from 5c to 10c per lb., according to quantity.

Our Catalog the Most Interesting

"We are market gardeners, and florists in a small way and we get many catalogs, but yours is the most interesting. One never knows when he will run upon something that will make him laugh. It is good medicine for the blues. Please continue sending your catalogs.

C. W. Shookfield, 1773 W. 48th St., Cleveland, Ohio."

From Our Letter Basket

"Well, I am writing this letter to ask a few questions and also to tell you how well pleased we were with the seeds purchased from you last year. We raised the Baby Golden popcorn, and after we put it on the market here, people would have nothing else. We sold at least $800 or 600 pounds, and we got extra price for it. And as soon as the stores begun to sell the popcorn sender had to sell his stock of white corn, and come to us for the little yellow corn, as all the people called it here. And then we made a hit with your Com-planter corn. People came for miles around for seed. From your Orange cone we made $75.00 per acre. The Shalby was the best ladder we had. We raised ten acres last year. The Field's Early June tomato was a miracle. It was very dry here last year and they just here and bore. We sold a great many and earned 100 quarts, and I believe at least $220.00 worth was left to rot on the ground, as they ripened faster than we could gather them. And those Daisy muskmelons just sold like wild fire, the people came to the house after them. They brought extra prices also. In four years we never got anything from you that was not satisfactory in every way."

T. E. Ronsdell, Wilt, Ill.

"Dear Sir: Please find enclosed a rush order, which kindly do your best to rush back. I bought 2 lbs. of onion seed of you and should have had enough to go over the piece I had, but owing to setting the drill too heavy I run short of seed and as the land was all fitted, took the chance of getting 1 lb. of seed at the store here with the usual result.

The need has been in the ground now for 17 days and no sign of the seed sprouting. Now, I want to take another chance on the lateness of season and try and recut the piece with your seed. I have the piece irrigated and I think I can get a crop of onions off it. The other onion seed I got of you in all up in splendid shape, but the seed I bought here not one has come up and no signs of sprouting. Please find check to cover this order.

Yours truly,

F. A. Duford, Chaumont, N. Y."

"We are sending the names of two of our friends who we are satisfied would be glad to find some reliable firm with whom they could do business. You may say to them that we have found your firm entirely reliable and scripturally honest and that your prices given you will not be misplaced."

J. R. Graham, Mansanolo, Colo.

"The alfalfa seed I ordered from you last spring proved to be good seed and can say that I am highly pleased with the results. I also sowed some seed obtained from another source and can tell to a line the difference in growth. Will recommend your seed to any inquiring friend."

J. D. Newton, Mansfield, Mo.

"Casey," said Pat, "how do ye toll th' age of a tu-urkey?"

"Oi can always tell by the teeth," said Casey.

"By the teeth!" exclaimed Pat. "But a tu-urkey has no teeth."

"No," admitted Casey, "but Oi have."—London Opinion.
A Fine Bunch of Garden Stuff From Colorado

Lots of people think because we are in Iowa that our seeds will not do well in the high altitudes and short seasons of the northwest. But that is a mistaken notion. Some of our most enthusiastic customers are the people out in that country.

This picture shows vegetables grown from our seed by N. Y. Lindburg, Snyder, Colo., at a high altitude. They certainly make a fine showing and would be a credit to any country. It seems to have pretty much everything there from tomatoes to corn.

Has Good Luck With Onions and Radishes

"I bought some radish and onion seed last year and planted a town lot with them. I mixed the seed and drilled them together. The radishes came on and I pruned them and watered them to save rain. In May, I had a team for plowing, boys to help weed the onions later, etc., and had some clear profit besides, just off the radishes alone, and then the onions were clear profit, off which I made over $800.00. This was made in spare time when I had nothing else to do but loaf. Hoping to hear from you as soon as possible, I remain, yours truly.

F. P. Foster, Mt. Vernon, Iowa."

The Banana Squash a Prize Winner

"Dear Sir: Enclosed you will find order for seed, etc. I must tell you about the Banana squash I raised last year from your seeds. They were immense in size and it is the best I ever cooked. Better to my notion than the Hubbard. Took the prize at our county fair last fall. People come from far and near to see them in the garden. The largest one being 3 1/2 feet long. We had a picture taken of the whole bunch that I intended sending you, but it was a cloudy day and the picture was not good. We like your seeds very much, and the novelties last year were very good. We live on the Flathead reservation in a house and will have a fine home when we get things fixed the way we want them. But it takes time and money. We like Seed Sense, of which we have had two copies and we also like the catalog, it is very instructive.

Mrs. S. C. Brooks, Olivedale, Mont."

Likes Seed Sense Better Than War News

"Dear Sir: Enclosed you a small order for seeds, but I guess it will be enough for all the garden. We have had a very good crop this year, had fine prospect last year, but got hauled out, but we have had over seven feet of snow this winter and everybody says that means big crops, so we are going to try some more for a garden and in order to start right will get Field's Seeds.

I am manager for a lumber gap and elevator here and have had some queer experience. The first year we were here, one day there were several farmers in my office and the talk turned to seed houses and seedsmen, and they were pronouncing them a set of crooks. I told them I would not stand that, as my seedsmen was straight and if he ever stung them, for them to come to me and get their money back. We make a long story short, I think you have several steady customers from that talk. Now, a word as to Seed Sense. It is a dandy little paper and if I ever get out on a farm again I am going to take it, but not here.

I have been having it pretty near every month and the only way I can get to read it myself is to lock it in my desk until I get time, and then there is three or four sitting around waiting for it so I get it through. It is really more interesting than the war news and my last issue was snipped before I got to read any of it. Just got to see Ruth's pictures. Well, maybe sometime I will get back on a farm and will need larger quantities of seeds and will sure remember you if I do. But whether I do or not, I wish you the greatest of success.

L. Kennedy, Cushin, Neb."

Alfalfa Grew in Spite of Rough Treatment

"Dear Sir: Received the seeds all O. K. Much obliged for the extras put in. I planted the samples of alfalfa you sent me last summer. It turned so dry that it did not come up, so I paid no more attention to it and the weeds grew up all over it. This spring I happened to notice it one day and there were several rows of nice alfalfa the full length of the orchard, which convinced me that it will grow here if given any show at all.

Fred G. Talley, Mt. Ayr, Iowa."

A Michigan Man and His Banana Squash

This shows a splendid banana squash grown by Myron S. Black, Newaygo, Mich. He writes as follows:

"I am enclosing one of my pictures with a banana squash over a yard long and weighing 59 lbs. We planted 15 seeds and have 67 big squashes. Yours truly.

M. S. BLACK."

Strawberries Arrive in Fine Shape

"I have for acknowledgment your favor of the 12th and I can say that I have received my Everbearing strawberry plants and set them and I believe that all, but possibly one are going to live and grow. I have Early June tomatoes set in the garden April 10th, and if I do not get caught napping by the weather man some night, I expect to have some early tomatoes.

Thanking you for the nice packing of the good strawberry plants, I am Yours truly.

Jas. H. Shepherd, Ottumwa, Iowa."

Cotton Doomed On This Ranch

"Dear Sir: I guess I will never get through ordering seeds from you this year. I have certainly a fine prospect for a great crop. This time I want some Cantaloupe seed. Say, Henry, you ought to see my stand of onions from the seed I got from you. I guess every seed came. The patch looks to me like 250 bushels from 25 lb. of seed. Me for onions and tomatoes instead of cotton. Cotton is doomed on this ranch. This year 3 ac. muskmelon, Field's Daisy, 3 ac. Field's thoroughbred onions, 7 ac. tomatoes, Mississippi Girl and Early June, 5 ac. pumpkins, sweet potatoes, 4 acres Irish Cobbler potatoes, 12 ac. of peas, 2 ac. beans, 2 ac. sugar beets, 3 ac. Field's table beets, pumpkins, garlic, squashes, peas, etc., all from Field's and they certainly do grow. How is that for myself and wife? I do the bossing and she does the work. Henry, send me 1 lb. Field's Daisy muskmelon as soon as possible. Come down this summer and see a good garden. Yours,

H. A. Randall, Harrah, Okla."

All the Strawberry Plants Alive

"The strawberry plants arrived Friday night and I put them out Saturday. They came through all O. K. in first class condition and not a poor plant in the whole lot. Many thanks for your care in the manner of shipping them as well as the waiting for same. We have 650 plants in our garden and will be planting more. It is very dry here now and has been all through March and so far in this month. My ground was in fine condition and although dry here it was quite moist. I went over the lot this morning and found them beginning to show green and alive. Enclosed please find stamps for the balance of the order.

Henry O. Hiser, Nashville, Ill."

Sweet Corn Up In Five Days

"Dear Sir: One notable thing about your seeds, they all grow and grow quickly. The sweet corn has come up in 5 days time. The Everbearing strawberry plants set out about 25 days ago have young berries now nearly half grown and are blooming right along. They had the largest roots I ever saw upon strawberry plants. Our Senator Dunlap strawberries gotten from less than or about 30 days ago are also all growing. In fact everything which we have so far planted of your seeds, bulbs and plants, are growing. The two everblooming roses came all right and were planted at once, and did not even with a particle. Go ahead with your good work, furnishing plants and seeds which will grow. I wish you continued and increased success.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Doppert, Taylorville, Ill."

"Good Seeds and a Square Deal From Field"

"Your letter of the 19th received, and I received the plants the next day after I mailed my letter to you. The plants came from the east, so I suppose they went around the world, and that is why they were so long in getting here. The plants are O. K., and Field is O. K. Everybody around here says Field is O. K., and you get good seeds and a square deal from Field, so I guess it is so. Well, Mr. Field, when I want seeds I will send to you. Seed Sense is fine. You are a good editor as well as a good seedsmen.

John Beaud, Plano, Va."
A Beautiful Field of Alfalfa

This picture was sent me by W. R. Hubbard, Lane, S. Dak. It is a picture of a field of alfalfa near Aberdeen, S. Dak. It certainly is a beautiful field and would be a credit to any locality or any state.

Mr. Hubbard is a very enthusiastic farmer and a good customer of ours. We sell him lots of alfalfa and sweet clover seed and he is experimenting with Peterita and Sudan. You could just as well have a field of alfalfa like this if you start the right time of the year now to sow the seed, but you must remember that the ground must be in perfect condition to start with. You can't tend alfalfa after it is sown.

Alfalfa Following Oats

I suppose three hundred different people have written me in the last month or six weeks asking about putting in alfalfa on oats ground after the oats have been cut.

Just now, it is just possible you can make it work. I have known it to be a success and I have known it to be as many times to be a failure. It depends somewhat on the soil and more on the season. The trouble is the oats pull the moisture out of the ground pretty fast and the chances are that after the oats are cut the ground will be so dry and hard that it will be a mighty hard proposition to get it worked up into nice shape for sowing alfalfa. You must remember that alfalfa absolutely needs the ground in good condition. That is one point you cannot afford to slight.

If you really feel that you must put alfalfa in following oats, I would suggest you follow the binder with a disc and chop the ground up thoroughly by running both ways. Then plow immediately if the ground is in condition so it can be plowed, and disc and harrow it several times again. Then, let it lay for about a month, discing and harrowing it at intervals to keep the ground loose, the weeds killed and the moisture from going away.

This would throw you to the middle of August, which is a good time to sow alfalfa. If the weather has been good and you have done thorough, careful work, the chances are good for a good stand of alfalfa, but I really believe it would be better to put the alfalfa on ground which has not grown a crop this year at all.

A Live Letter From a Live Wire

"Mr. Field: Well, I guess you've found Millwood is on the map since I hit here. Over $100 in orders for your first year from a town of 8 houses is not so bad. And no one here ever heard of you till I sent for your catalog. But my partner and I both are good and sore at you. We bought one of those Iron Age seeders and it is a dandy. But Lester wanted to plant some of the turnip seed we got of you. Well, when this came up it fell to me to thin them out. He was cussin' the machine, and I said, 'Wait a minute, let us go over here where you planted some of those seeds you sell. (He keeps a store.) You see there is mighty few too many. Now, the trouble lies here, — this machine is shaped to cut one kind of seed, but if you had this patch to thin out you would have a 'kick coming.' "Well," he said, "D— this fellow Fields, he ought to post a fellow on the difference." Well, he grumbled much and when it came to sowing the peas he set the slide for beets and we drilled at 22 inches wide. They dropped about 2 to the inch and you ought to see them. Well, last week we drilled the onions and he shot down to the relay gauge and we planted a fraction over 11 acres with 6 lbs. and dropped about 2 to the inch, 14 inch drills. Examined them this m. and guess 85% is coming, so we will need to thin.

First planting of sweet corn up fine. But the weather is mighty rough and cold. You are going to blow you up a little, for you need it and you need not plead being busy as excuse for not answering a letter fired at you 6 weeks today.

I want to ask — did ask and shall ask again if I have to. The seed you sold me grows fine, and my neighbors' also, and you are getting a fine rep., but I know you are just a blooming "Humming-Bug," for you did not answer my letter. I reckon it went astray.

Here it is: Had an argument with a so-called scientist from the agricultural school — I claimed in sowing Sudan grass — drills 3 feet apart, a seed (that great) every inch is a liberal allowance. (Too much, 2 to 5 is plenty.)


Laurels For Sudan Hay

KANSAS TESTS FEEDING FAVORABLE TO THE NEW FORAGE — RESULTS OF EXPERIMENTS MADE PUBLIC AT THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF CATTLEMAN.

The first commercial test of Sudan hay in America, perhaps in the world, was completed at Hays, Kas., Friday, when results of feeding experiments with the new feeding forage were announced.

The announcement was made by W. A. Cochel, professor of animal husbandry of the Kansas State Agricultural College, at the second round up of Western cattlemen and farmers at the state branch experiment station at Hays. The test showed that cattle could be wintered on Sudan hay more cheaply than on any other forage roughage produced in the sub-humid belt.

Between one hundred and one hundred and fifty farmers and cattlemen attended the roundup, which was presided over by Dr. H. J. Waters, president of the agricultural college.

SUDAN GRASS COSTS LESS.

Professor Cochel, whose work in feeding cattle was the feature of the roundup, told how he began feeding one hundred 2-year-old heifers December 17, in four lots of twenty-five head each. The first lot was fed Sudan hay and wheat straw, all they would eat, and ten pounds of kaffir silage and one pound of limed oil meal daily, each. The second lot got the same ration, except the Sudan hay was changed to kafir fodder. The third lot got rough and discolored second grade alfalfa instead of Sudan or kaffir, and the fourth lot got cane fodder instead of Sudan, kaffir or alfalfa. The silage was fed largely to whet the appetites of the animals. Limed oil was used as being a safer feed for heifers than corrénsed, which might tend to harm heifers in calf.

The total outlay for wintering the entire herd was $1.84 a head, which sum was spent entirely for oil meal. All the other feed was raised on the station farm and was the same kind of roughage that is burned by the thousands of tons following every good crop year in Kansas. The Sudan-fed lot cost $6.81 a head to feed; the kaffir lot, $6.93 a head; the alfalfa lot, $7.53 a head, and the cane lot, $6.85. In figuring this cost the labor of keeping the records of the test and feeding were included. The silage fed was valued at $3 a ton; the Sudan at $5 a ton; the kafir fodder, $3 a ton; straw, fifty cents a ton and limed oil meal $1.54 a hundredweight.

The test ran from December 17 to April 15. The average gain of the cattle was eighty pounds a head, the gain being the same in all four lots.

Kansas City Star.

Cow Feeds Two Months From One Packet

"The sugar beets were great. One, the largest, weighed 17 lbs. 2 oz., and two weighed 16 pounds each. I got enough from the ten cent package to give my cow two good messes every day for two months. Planted them between rows of asparagus. From the grass alfalfa I have a fine row 30 feet long.

— F. L. Stone, Pendleton, Ind.

Seed Corn Does Well in Arkansas

"The seed corn that I ordered from you last spring (White Elephant and Cornplanter) made a good crop, although we had a very poor season. We had no rain from May 18th until July 24th. I had one ear of White Elephant that made 70 bushels. Also one of Cornplanter that made 100 bushel. I have sold most of my crop of both varieties for seed at $2.00 per bushel.

— W. H. Gohr, Waldron, Ark."
A Bright Kansas Girl
This is Elsie Seymour, adopted daughter of Mrs. Sarah Seymour, Mankato, Kansas. Mrs. Seymour has raised a big family of children all grown and married and gone now and she says that she got lonesome without children around, so four years ago she adopted Elsie, who was just 5 days old then and an orphan. She was 3 years old when this was taken.

A Kansas Boy
This is James Woodrow Paradise, son of Mrs. James Paradise, Greeley, Kansas. She writes that he is 3|/ months old and is walking. It sure looks that way in the picture, but I am afraid she is stretching it just a little about his walking. He does stand up perfectly good though.

A Wyoming College Football Star
This is Henry Olin Parsons, 3| years old, son of F. S. Parsons, who is the agronomist at the Wyoming State Experiment Station. He is named after Prof. W. H. Olin of the Colorado State College.

A Couple of Oklahoma Girls
These are Dorothy and Carolyn Northup, daughters of Frank D. Northup of Oklahoma City. He is manager of the Oklahoma Farm Journal, and of a big daily paper besides, and these girls look like they had inherited their father’s hustle.

A Missouri Girl
This picture was sent me by Mrs. Henry Garrett, Sedalia, Mo., who writes as follows: “This is our daughter Margaret, 10 months old. She is some fine girl, at least we think so, for she is our only child. She was 10 months old when this was taken, and weighed 21 lbs.

Why Your Picture Is Not Here
I suppose you wonder why the picture you sent in is not here, but if you could see my desk you would understand. I actually have over 1,000 pictures that have been sent in within a year. May get yours after while.

A Bright Arkansas Boy
This is Orval Douglas Sharp, son of Mrs. Oscar Sharp, Prairie Grove, Ark. He will be 3 years old this coming July, and is certainly a mighty bright looking boy.
Our Young Friends

Iowa Triplets
This picture was sent to me by Mr. and Mrs. J. Willis Riles, Grand River, Iowa, and shows their triplets, Rene, Roy and Ruth. Mrs. Riles did not say how old they are, but I judge they must have been about a year old when this picture was taken. They certainly are a bright looking bunch. They look like they are good babies though and of course that will help some.

A Husky Iowa Boy
This is Johnnie P. Meggers, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Meggers, Dennison, Iowa. Mrs. Meggers writes that he was 7 months old when this picture was taken and weighed 34 lbs. and that he is the fattest and cutest baby in Crawford County. He certainly looks like he was well fed and was enjoying life.

Some Young Missouri Farmers
This picture was sent to me by Mrs. J. R. York, Stockton, Mo., and on the back of the picture it says they are Roy, age 18, Irma, age 10, Marian, age 12, and Pauline Warren, age 11. They certainly look like they enjoyed life.

Three Girls From Indiana
These are the three daughters of Mrs. Clarence M. Cook, Columbus, Ind., but she don't say what their names are or how old they are. She says that she has three boys too, but couldn't get all six of them into the picture. Sometime she will have to send another picture showing the boys.

A Pair of Fine Iowa Boys
These are the two sons of F. N. Ahern, Guthrie Center, Iowa, who writes as follows: “I will send you a postcard of my two boys, Robert and Albert, and their dog Bouncer taken two years ago.”

An Iowa Cow Boy
This is William P. Applegate, 6 years old, of Knoxville, Iowa. He makes a very fine looking cowboy. The picture was sent to me by his mother, Mrs. Linda Applegate, and she says he is the youngest of 6 boys and their father died when this boy was 6 weeks old.

Another Iowa Girl
This is little Olive Whitford, granddaughter of Mr. Henry Whitford, of Volga, Iowa. Mrs. Whitford writes as follows: “Little Ruth makes us think of our little granddaughter. We have raised a family of boys and girls, three of each. Our oldest boy lives on a farm near us. They have two children, a boy and a girl. I am enclosing a picture of the little girl.”

A Missouri Girl
This is Florence Ruth Fortney, Stockton, Mo. The picture was sent to me by Mrs. T. J. Fortney, who writes as follows: “I am sending you a photo of my 6 months old baby. She is the finest girl in Missouri.”
Field's Seed Sense For June

An Arkansas Boy and His Corn

"Dear Sir: I am sending you a picture of my boy (George Bean) and some ears of corn that were raised from your Complanter corn in spite of the bad worms working on it heavily. I grew and made 30 bushels per acre, and that is a good average crop for Arkansas. I also used your Yellow Pizetother and Red and Yellow Wethersfield onion seed and it did well. On a plot of ground 12 by 15 feet, I gathered 5 bushels of onions."
—J. P. Bean, Greenbriar, Ark.

Seed Sense Put to a New Use

"I make a resolution each year that I will get my order in early next year, but—well, say, you can't very well expect a person to become enthusiastic over a garden catalog, when one has to contend with a mess of mud and water and slush and snow from one to four feet deep until nearly April 1, as we have this year.

I picked up your catalog expecting to make up my order in a hurry, but, say, it was about an hour before I reached the first price list. I intended to send you a quarter for Seed Sense, but as the order amounts to $2.00 I find that I am entitled to it at a premium, but if you think that I ought to send you the quarter just let me know. We can't read and don't care to look at the pictures, but the copies come in handy to hang over the torn places of the wall paper. Have been a customer of the Henry Field Seed Co. for a number of years and have always been well pleased with the treatment given me."
—A. S. Bluhretti, DeWitt, Nebr.

Minnesota No. 13 Corn Does Well in Nebraska

"Well, here we come again this year with another order. We sent you our order last year because J. Brinkman and S. E. Taylor, neighbors, recommended you so highly. We got good seed that grew well, and today we had some of your battered parenas for dinner and they were just fine. I got some of your Minnesota No. 13 corn last year, 50 lbs, sent by parcel post, and we had the earliest corn in the neighborhood and it was so fine for cattle feed that I fed it all winter to my fat cattle besides oats, millet, silage and shelled corn and oil meal. We are very well pleased in ordering from you. I ordered some cow peas of a Lincoln firm and specified that they should be climbing peas, so as they would vine up around the fodder corn that I wanted to put into the silo, but when they came up they were dwarf bush variety and the binder never touched them.

Congratulations on that new baby girl, evidently you don't believe in the race suicide in the Field's family. I do enjoy Seed Sense and to read your catalog is as refreshing as to meet a watermelon on a thirsty day."
—Charles M. Turner, R. 1, Fairport, Nebr.

Volga Cabbage Makes 18 Tons Per Acre

"Two years ago I raised from an acre of your Volga cabbage 18 tons of fine cabbage and got $190 from them. It was the finest acre of stuff I ever saw. Looked like J. Salter's famous pictures. Think of it, 18 tons off an acre patch."
—J. B. Trush, Silver City, Nebr.

Two Kansas Boys and Their Dog

They are Lewis Edward Thurman, 5 years old, and Howard Lee Thurman, 3 years old, of Labette, Kans., and their dog Hobson. Their mother writes that these boys are natural musicians and they both sing fine and the oldest one has already begun to play on the piano.

A Fine Garden From Field's Seeds

"This is the third year I have sent you my order for garden seeds. After ordering first from one seedsman and then another, and never being entirely satisfied I sent you a small trial order, and was so well pleased that last year I sent for all my seeds. I ordered the ones you especially recommended, and had the finest garden, and the most of everything in it that I had ever had. I never grew such seeds before, and from May until it froze up in the fall our garden furnished a large part of our living."

My Early June tomatoes, and Mississippi Girl tomatoes were grand. I had radishes, lettuce, and string beans when the ground froze, and had them all summer, planted at intervals, and saved a good many seed for this spring planting. There are no seeds like Henry Field's.

Because my garden was so fine, my daughter has ordered her seeds from you this spring.
—Mrs. Emma Litchford, Ossian, Ia.

Some Large Red Mangels

"I beat the picture of Long Red Mangels last summer. I had what you call the Giant Shadstrup, and weighed four which weighed 68 pounds. Last summer was a hot dry one, and if this season is fair, I will beat 68 pounds I am sure."
—Jas. W. Limiting, Gridley, Ill.

A Cure For Cabbage Worms

"Dear Sir: I see in Seed Sense you say you find no real cure for cabbage worms. I am an old fogey in my 85th year have seen and raised cabbage every year of my life and have used all kinds of dope for cabbage worms and find black pepper the only sure cure. But you must sprinkle it on when you first see the white butterfly hover over the cabbage bed. Give it a good sprinkling. Sometimes once is sufficient."
—Mrs. Geo. Millard, Atchins, Minn.

Feterita Makes Fine Crop of Chicken Feed

"Dear Sir: I am sending you a small order for garden seed rather late but the weather has been so bad, and is yet, that I have not much heart to think of planting garden. But I have been waiting to tell you what a fine crop of rape and feterita we had last year from seed bought of you. We lived then at Freemian, Mo., on a farm, nothing could be better than rape for making hog gro. It kept growing and green till heavy frost, died down some when so dry, but the first little shower brought it all out again and the feterita is out of sight. We had only two acres, but the prettiest sight when all headed out, just loaded with seed. It is the finest there ever was for chickens and everything likes it. The horses and cows eat the fodder stalks and all in preference to good hay. I have only a garden this year, but will plant feterita around in part of it. Everyone was talking of it and said they would sure plant some this year. I told them where I got my seed. I hope they sent for some of yours, too. We still have 20 sacks of the heads after feeding all winter. Am keeping this for my chickens and have sold some for seed here."
—E. Speikes, Milan, Mo.

Seeds Do Well In High Altitude

"Gentlemen: Enclosed find order for a few strawberry plants and some seeds we neglected to order. We are more than pleased with your seeds. They always grow even at an altitude of 6,500 feet in the Big Horn Mountains."
—Mrs. H. E. Hatfield, Ten Sleep, Wyo.
Wholesale Net Prices for June, 1915
Good to July 1st, 1915 (Subject to stock unsold.)
on Clover, Alfalfa and other Grass and Field Seeds Which Fluctuate in Price

Address all orders to Henry Field Seed Co., Shenandoah, Iowa

Time Limit. Note that these prices are good only till July 1st, 1915, and if you do not buy in that time you should write for our new prices. We reserve the right to cancel these prices when stock on hand is sold. These prices are f. o. b. Shenandoah, customer to pay the freight. If you want delivered prices we will make a special estimate for you on request.

No extra charge for sacks. All seeds are sold “sacks weighed in.” Remember this when comparing prices.

Prices are strictly net, spot cash, and no discount.

Sale arrival guaranteed. Clover and alfalfa seed are generally double sacked, and everything is well packed. We guarantee that all seeds will reach you in good order.

Sold on approval. These seeds are priced and sold with the understanding that if not found perfectly satisfactory they may be returned at our expense and your money will be refunded. You can be the judge of quality.

One grade only. We quote on one grade only, the highest possible grade. We do not believe in low grades, and do not wish to encourage the use of them. Good seed is the cheapest in the long run.

Subject to inspection. Any seeds (especially clover, alfalfa, and grass seed) purchased from us may be submitted to any State or National experiment station for test and inspection, and if they do not report the seed first class it may be returned at your expense and your money will be refunded.


Free Samples. We will gladly send free samples of any kind of seed quoted here.

Subject to sale. All prices are subject to stock being unsold on receipt of order.

Iowa grown. Wherever possible these seeds are Iowa grown. On special inquiry will gladly tell you where the seed is procured if not Iowa grown.

Tested Seed. All seed offered here is first tested by us for germination and purity in so far as is practicable. We do not intentionally offer any seed that does not show high test for purity and growth. On most seeds we also get U. S. and state tests to verify our own.

Order early. When you are ready to order you should let us know it as early as possible.

Shall We Fill Exact Amount Ordered or According to Money Sent?

There is always trouble about people who order on an advancing market, from price lists which have expired. We will stick to the time limit as given at the top of this sheet, but after the time has expired, new prices, higher or lower, as the case may be, will govern. In that case we will send you the amount of seed the money sent will pay for, unless you instruct otherwise.

So when you order, be sure and specify whether we are to fill for the amount of money sent, or ship exact amount ordered—difference in price, if any, to be adjusted afterward.

But you can always avoid trouble of this kind by ordering inside the limit given above.

No Change in Seed Corn Prices This Month
The prices printed in the catalog on seed corn and also illustrated in the February and March price lists of seeds corn will stand through May and June. No change whatever.

Remember that all our seed corn is sold subject to your own test and that if it absolutely and satisfactorily can be returned at our expense and your money refunded. You can have as long as you like to test it and examine the seed. That is anything in reason. If you decide to keep it and plant it, as I am sure you will, its all up to you and the weather man then. I can’t promise you a full stand in the field. No one could do that. It depends too much on weather and deep planting and bugs and wire worms and all the rest of the different troubles.

But we do promise that we will send you seed corn that has shown very high test for us, (98% or better), and that should show high test for you. If it don’t, you can fire it back.

If you think I’m bluffing, order some of it and see. You’ll find that as usual I’ve “got the goods.”
Four Little Indians

They are not really, truly Indians though, but only four of the little Field girls, Josephine, Jessie, Mary, and Ruth, dressed up in their new Indian play suits, all just alike. Ruth was evidently mad about something and didn’t want to be in the picture. She sure looks like a bad Indian. We have seven girls in all. Two, Faith and Hope, are older than these four, and Georgia, the baby, is younger.

June, the Month For Cultivation

While it is true that June is known as the month of roses, and the month of June brides and sweet girl graduates, I have always thought of it more as the month of weeds. There is no month in the year when weeds grow like they do in June, and no month when it is so easy or so important to kill them.

Practically all my life I have fought weeds. My wife says that I can’t walk through the flower garden without having a knife in my hand and whacking at the weeds wherever I see one peeping out from under the plants. I suppose it has got to be a habit with me. An old aunt of mine, who was visiting me, noticed me dodging down after a weed and remarked that it reminded her so much of Sol (my father). She said he was always doing just that very same way.

Well, anyway, I believe it is a pretty good habit, for unless we are everlastingly fighting the weeds, they will surely get the better of us, and it seems like they grow twice as fast in June as they do any other time. If you let them once get the start of you, it will be uphill business getting them corralled.

The experts tell us that it is very important for crops of all kinds that the ground should be constantly stirred, and that weeds are really a blessing in disguise; that if it wasn’t for the weeds we wouldn’t stir the ground half enough; that in chasing around after the weeds and digging them out we are compelled to stir the ground constantly and that really is more good than bad.

And, I suppose they are about right. When you figure it out there is generally a reason and excuse for almost everything that happens in this world, even weeds, so we will agree to call weeds a blessing in disguise, but just the same I hate weeds and always will, and you may rest assured I will keep chasing them as long as I am able to go, and I guess you will agree with me on that.

My idea of a perfect garden is one without a weed in it, and with the ground so thoroughly and constantly stirred that a weed doesn’t have a chance to start.

My father always used to say that the time to kill a weed was before it came up. He was a great believer in a rake as a principal gardener tool. He would always keep the ground stirred every two or three days with his rake, so the weeds never got a chance to even sprout, and his garden always looked mighty clean and nice, too.

Of course, you don’t need to have me tell you anything about cultivation or tending garden. You know it already from your own experience, but it won’t do a bit of harm to remind you of it occasionally, so my advice for the celebrating of the beautiful month of June would be to keep everlastingly at it with the hoe and the rake and the wheel hoe and the cultivators and keep the top two inches of the ground rolling around till a weed doesn’t have a chance to grow, and if one does get a start and shows its head, chase it like a mad dog. If you once get through June with the garden and the corn, the rest of the season will be easy and in July you can go fishing or camping.

Right now as I write I can see two or three weeds out in my garden, and I have got to go out and see to them.

P. S. Don’t forget that a wheel hoe is the nicest thing in the world to kill weeds with.

Henry Field Seed Co.