

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

BABY CHICKS

BABY CHICKS (Mixed Sexes) No Cripples! No Culls! We guarantee Live Delivery! We pay postage. ATLAS CHICK CO., St. Louis, Mo.

\$3.90

per 100
p'ls

REMEDY

HOSTETTER'S BITTERS

A daily tonic — a real Stomachic

HOTELS

Wabash Ave. Hotel, 27 E. Harrison, Chicago. Near Barn dance. Choice rooms. Daily \$1 up; weekly \$3 up. Paul Marshall, Res. Mgr.

Experienced Travelers Say!

IN ST. LOUIS STAY AT
Hotel Lennox
DOWNTOWN, GOOD PARKING
GOOD FOOD AND REAL SERVICE

AROUND THE HOUSE

Carving lamb roasts is much easier if they have been boned and tied before cooking.

Felt hats can be cleaned by rubbing with a not too fresh or too stale piece of bread.

Save soap scraps, all of them. Put into a pan and cover with cold water; simmer until every bit is melted and the liquid is clear. Put in a jar and keep near sink. It will set into a jelly.

Several thicknesses of old turkish towel together for hot dish or pot holders.

Tarnished egg spoons can be quickly cleaned by washing with a rag dipped in salt.

Threading curtains on to their rods again after washing is difficult—and if they are thin the blunt end of the rod may tear them. Avoid this by fitting a smooth thimble over the end of the rod before threading.

Kitchens should be cheerful and comfortable as well as convenient. A high stool is an aid to comfort in preparing vegetables or mixing ingredients. An attractive corner where the homemaker can sit and read over a new recipe, make out her order list of groceries or wait for a dish to finish cooking adds considerably to a comfortable kitchen.

QUICK QUOTES



APPLAUSE

A PLAUSE means nothing, absolutely nothing, unless you know that you deserve it.—Amelia Galli-Curci, *Opera Star*.

An Open Fire

There is nothing like an open fire—the whole process of making it, poking it, mending it—to comfort the soul of man. There is nothing more friendly than an open fire.—David Grayson.

Beware Coughs from common colds That Hang On

Creamulsion relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to loosen germs, disengages them from the tissue and aids nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes.

No matter how many medicines you have tried, tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creamulsion with the understanding that you are to like the way it quickly relieves the cough or you are to have your money back.

CREOMULSION for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

As We Wish
What ardently we wish, we soon believe.

Black Leaf 40 KILLS LICE
"Cap-Brush" Applicator makes "BLACK LEAF 40" GO MUCH FARTHER
JUST A DASH IN FEATHERS... OR SPREAD ON ROOSTS

BARGAINS

—that will save you many a dollar will escape you if you fail to read carefully and regularly the advertising of local merchants

IN THIS PAPER

Washington — "First in Farming," Too

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

A VIRGINIA gentleman dipped his goose-quill pen into an inkpot and began writing a letter. Now and then he would glance up thoughtfully, his eyes sweeping over broad acres fringing the Potomac. He was middle-aged, of commanding physique, with a stern, yet kindly face.

The letter, dated December 12, 1788, said:

"The more I am acquainted with agricultural affairs, the better I am pleased with them, in so much that I can nowhere find so great satisfaction as in those innocent and useful pursuits. Indulging these feelings I am led to reflect how much more delightful to an undebauched mind is the task of making improvements on the earth than all the vainglory that can be acquired from ravaging it."

Thus in the fullness of his years and honors did George Washington write to his English friend, Arthur Young.

Every American is familiar with "Light Horse Harry" Lee's characterization of Washington as "First in War, First in Peace, and First in the Hearts of His Countrymen." Few Americans, perhaps, are aware that Washington laid just claim to another distinction. He was "First in Farming."

Washington was America's first scientific agriculturist. He preached the gospel of soil improvement in season and out; he made original discoveries in crop rotation, seed selection and live stock breeding; he carried on important experiments in the use of fertilizers; he pioneered in the use of farm machinery.

Made Farming Pay.

The Father of his Country was a shrewd and canny farmer. He made agriculture pay. He became the richest man in the United States by reason of his success with the soil.

At his death Washington, by his will, disposed of more than 49,000 acres of farm land, including his beloved Mount Vernon as well as far-flung domains in Ohio and elsewhere, which were rented or farmed by his deputies. His landed estate was valued at \$530,000, while he had additional buildings, equipment, live stock and other investments worth \$220,000. His slaves were not included in this inventory, for he freed them all in his will.

Washington's serious farming career began in 1759, at the age of 27. He had inherited Mount Vernon, married the charming Martha Custis and received a handsome dowry in lands and chattels. For the 16 years he was to devote himself to the land.

Farmer Washington had plenty to contend with, however. The land he inherited was worn out by a century of tobacco growing. Concentration on this single crop year after year, with no rotation and no attempt at fertilization, had seriously impoverished the land. Unlike the farmer of today who can get advice from his county agent, state agricultural college or experiment station on whether his soil is deficient in nitrogen, phosphoric acid or potash and needs commercial fertilizer, Washington had to depend on talks with his neighbors and his reading of farm papers and books on agriculture published in England, whose editors were unfamiliar with problems in Virginia.

He corresponded frequently with Arthur Young, British agricultural scientist and editor of the "Annals of Agriculture." He collected an extensive library of agricultural books including "Horseshoe Husbandry," "A Practical Treatment of Husbandry," "The Farmer's Complete Guide," and "The Gentleman Farmer."

He spread his seed evenly and effectively. He compared continuously the crops from large and small seeds, and suggested that large potatoes yield better than small ones because, as a rule, produces equal.

He counted seeds.

It is curious, also, to think of the Father of his Country sitting in his study carefully counting the number of seeds to the pound. Yet he found that a pound of red clover contains 71,000 seeds; a pound of timothy, 278,000 seeds; while meadow grass gave 844,000 to the pound; likewise a pound of barley numbered 8,925 grains.

The Revolution halted, for a time, Washington's farm career. For six out of eight long years, as commander-in-chief of the Continental army, he did not even set foot on his beloved fields.

He had ten small boxes made. These he filled with soil taken from the same part of the field so that it would be uniform in composition. One box served as a check plot. Into the other nine he placed different fertilizers such as cow manure, horse manure, sheep dung, mud from the creek, manure from a gully, black mold, and mud from the bottom of the Potomac river.

He divided each box into three sections, planting wheat, oats and barley. He used exactly the same number of seeds of each grain in each box, and planted the rows exactly the same.



WASHINGTON AT MOUNT VERNON, 1787

Mud from the bottom of the Potomac proved good fertilizer. So he built a special scow and hoisted mud. The cost of obtaining it, however, was too great for the results he got.

Washington gave increasing attention to wheat growing as an alternate to tobacco. He tried various experiments such as steeping his seed in brine and alum to prevent smut. He tried also to protect his grain from the Hessian fly.

In 1763 he entered into an agreement with John Carlyle and Robert Adams of Alexandria to sell them his wheat crop for the next seven years. The price was to be three shillings and nine pence per bushel—or about 91 cents.

Considering the difference in purchasing power then and now, Washington was getting the equivalent of at least \$1.80 for his grain.

In 1769 he delivered 6,241½ bushels of wheat. Thereafter he ground most of his wheat and sold the flour. He owned three mills, one in western Pennsylvania, a second on Four Mile Run near Alexandria, and a third on the Mount Vernon estate. The flour graded superfine, fine and middlings. We have Washington's own word for it that his flour was as good as any produced in America—and the Father of his Country was no boaster.

In a charmingly written monograph on "George Washington, Citizen and Farmer," Dr. J. Christian Bay, librarian of the John Crerar library of Chicago, recounts some stories of Washington as a farmer and human being. Describing some of the voluminous notes Washington jotted down in his diaries concerning his agricultural experiments, Mr. Bay says:

"Washington's attention was attracted to the old problem of large and small seeds, and he invented a barrel-seeder to

Washington drew up elaborate plans for rotation of crops on his different farms. Not content with one plan, he often drew up several alternatives. He calculated the probable financial return from each, allowing for the cost of seed, tillage and other expenses.

He was constantly on the alert for better methods of threshing grain than the age-old practice of treading and flailing. He read in an English farm journal about a threshing machine invented by a man named Winlaw. In 1790 he had observed the operation of Baron Poelnitz's mill near New York city, based on the Winlaw model. This mill was operated by two men and threshed about two bushels of wheat per hour.

In 1797, two years before his death, Washington built a thresher, himself, on plans evolved by William Booker, who came to Mount Vernon and directed the construction. In April, 1798, Washington wrote Booker:

"The machine by no means answered your expectations or mine."

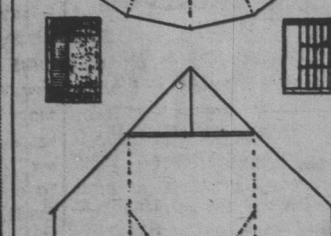
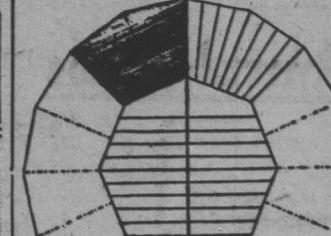
At first it threshed about 50 bushels a day, then fell to fewer than 25, and finally broke down completely, although it had used up two belts costing between \$40 and \$50.

"Washington was essentially America's first conservationist," an official of the Middle West Soil Improvement committee pointed out recently.

"The Father of his Country realized that man owes a duty to the future as well as the present welfare of his soil," he said. "Washington's primitive attempts to put back into the soil the fertility that had been depleted by constant cropping are testimony of this characteristic."

As a public man, Washington was eager to improve the lot of agriculture. In his last message to Congress he recommended the establishment of a "Board of Agriculture" to collect and diffuse information, and by premiums and small pecuniary aids to encourage and assist a spirit of discovery and improvement.

But nearly a century passed before anything so important was done by the federal government to promote the development of agriculture.



Part of Washington's plan for his sixteen-sided barn.

ever convinced of the desirability of pastures and of live stock for conserving the soil. He was more wide awake to the need of better tools.

The run-down condition of his soil, however, was a cause of increasing concern. Unfortunately for him fertilizers, as we know them today, were not in existence.

As a soil conservation measure, Washington began to experiment with clover and other grasses. He was prompted to do this at the urging of Noah Webster, newspaper reporter, editor, and famous as the compiler of a dictionary. Webster had expounded his theory that some plants have the power to reach into the air and extract nitrogen fertilizer which their roots fix in the soil.

"Nature," said Webster, "has provided an inexhaustible store of manure which is equally accessible to the rich and poor and which may be collected and applied to land with very little labor and expense. This store is in the atmosphere, and the process by which the fertilizing substance may be obtained is vegetation."

Washington tried every kind of legume known to Virginia farmers, and imported many kinds of seeds from England. In this way he introduced timothy to his countrymen. He early discovered that clover and peas had a soil enriching power. In an English journal he read about a new legume—alfalfa—which had been brought from Switzerland. He found that alfalfa, too, could enrich the soil, but it never proved profitable for him.

Even while serving as President from 1789 to 1797, Washington found some time to keep an eye on his farming operations. He had extensive experiments conducted in grain and live stock breeding. He imported new strains of wheat from South Africa and Siberia, neither of which proved as good as his Virginia grain.

Rotation of Crops.

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"Age will not produce a systematic change without public attention and encouragement; but a few years more of sterility will drive the inhabitants of the Atlantic states westward for support; whereas if they were taught how to improve the old instead of going in pursuit of new and productive soil, they would make those acres which now scarcely yield them anything, turn out beneficial to themselves—and to the community generally—by the influx of wealth resulting therefrom."

Beauty Treatment For an Old Chair

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS

HERE is proof of what a beauty treatment and a new costume will do for an out-of-date chair. Its new dress is very chic. The material is a soft old red cotton crash with seam cordings and binding for the scalloped skirt in dove gray.

An inch was cut from the back legs to tilt the chair for greater comfort. The carving at the top



and the upholstery on the back and arms were left in place, but the lines of the chair were completely changed by padding with cotton batting. Unbleached muslin was then stretched over the padding to make all perfectly smooth.

NOTE: Mrs. Spears has prepared four booklets for our readers containing a total of 128 thrifty homemaking ideas; with step-by-step illustrated directions. Each book contains an assortment of curtains; slip-covers; household furnishings; rag rugs; toys; gifts and novelties for bazaars. Books may be ordered one at a time at 10 cents each; but if you enclose 40 cents with your order for four books (No. 1, 2, 3 and 4) you will receive a FREE set of three quilt block patterns of Mrs. Spears' Favorite Early American designs. Address: Mrs. Spears, Drawer 10, Bedford Hills, New York.

"I have one of the most convenient barns in this or perhaps any other country, where thirty hands may, with great ease, be employed in threshing," he wrote a friend. "Half of the wheat of the farm was actually stowed in this barn in the straw, by my order, for threshing. Notwithstanding, when I came home about the middle of September, I found a treading yard not thirty feet from the barn door, the wheat again brought out of the barn and horses treading it out in an open exposure, liable to the vicissitudes of the weather."

What Washington said to the overseer on this occasion has not been recorded for posterity. But it is a safe bet that the man remembered it for the rest of his days.

"What is the price of this?" he inquired.

"That," replied the assistant, "is \$250."

The young man's eyes popped. He whistled loudly and long—then pointed to a second ring.

"And this one?" he asked.

"This one, sir," said the assistant, eyeing the price-tag, "is two whistles!"

The young man had just proposed to the most beautiful girl in the world. She had accepted him, and now he stepped into a jeweler's to buy an engagement ring. He examined various rings, and finally picked up a beautiful diamond.

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