



# Agriculture

Edited under the auspices of the Agricultural Society of State University, and with the official co-operation of the (Ky.) Agricultural Experiment Station.

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## SALUTATORY.

The establishment of this Agricultural Department in The Idea is the result of much earnest discussion and hard work by the members of the Agricultural Society. Official financial assistance from the Experiment Station at last make it possible and it is with great pleasure that the members of the Agricultural Society join hands with the staff of The Idea for a better and bigger University.

For two years or more the members of the Agricultural Society have discussed the advisability of starting an agricultural paper at State University. The final decision was that the various colleges of the University are not yet numerically strong enough to warrant such scattering of effort, the College of Agriculture being no exception, though it is, in numbers, close to the leading position. Ultimately we hope to see the University so big and strong that each college will be really justified in having its own separate publication. Until that time we believe it wisest to co-operate and concentrate all efforts toward building up one really live, interesting paper to represent the whole University. For this end we hope all other colleges will join us in a long pull and a strong pull for the goal.

This agricultural department in The Idea is the product of co-operation. Its policy is controlled and directed by the members of the Agricultural Society. It has the official recognition and aid of the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station. Members of the faculty of the College of Agriculture and of the staff of the Experiment Station will be frequent contributors to its columns, as will also the students in the College of Agriculture. It is the beginning of what the members of the Agricultural Society hope ultimately to see built into a vigorous, successful paper representing the College of Agriculture, and the members of the Society will make every possible effort to lay its foundations so broad and true that it can not fall to attain that end.

The policy under which it will be conducted is one of liberal conservatism. Suggestions and constructive criticism will always be welcome.

Contributions to its columns will be gladly received and will be given the most careful and impartial consideration. If, however, space should require that choice be made between equally meritorious contributions, one from a member of the Agricultural Society and one from a student not a member of that organization, preference will invariably be given to that submitted by the member of the Society.

The columns of this department will always be open for concise discussions of topics within its field, but no wrangling or personalities will ever be permitted.

With this statement of our purposes and hopes we ask the good will and assistance of all those interested in the present and future welfare of the University, and particularly of those who have at heart the sound, healthy growth of the College of Agriculture.

## AFRICAN FARMERS TO INSPECT TOBACCO AND METHODS HERE

Fifty Will Come to Kentucky Next September as Official Representatives of John Bull's Colonies.

### SCHERFFIUS BOOSTS US.

Fifty farmers from South Africa are to come to Kentucky next September to see how we farm here and to investigate particularly the methods of raising and handling tobacco. These men are official representatives of the states composing the South African Union, namely Orange Free State, Transvaal, Natal and Cape of Good Hope. Before coming to America they will visit Europe and see farm methods there.

It is through the efforts of Prof. W. H. Scherffius, formerly of the Kentucky Experiment Station, but now employed by the British Government as a tobacco and cotton expert in South Africa, that these men arranged to come to Lexington. While here they will be guests of the City of

Lexington, and will be entertained by the Lexington Commercial Club.

They will arrive here at a time when the students of the College of Agriculture are just settling themselves for another year's work in school and it will be well worth the while of any student to talk to these progressive South Africans as much as possible. They are from a new, live, wide-awake country and represent the most progressive element of a people whose keynote is progressiveness.

### LOWER FREIGHT ON LIME.

Through the activity of the Iowa College of Agriculture the Iowa Railroad Commission has ordered a reduction of rates that will make it much cheaper for the farmers of that state to get lime and limestone for use on their land. A similar movement in Kentucky has been incubating for a year or two, but no decisive results have yet been secured. This means much to the farmers of probably nine-tenths of the total area of Kentucky, and our students should do everything possible to secure reasonable rates for such shipments.

## FRUIT JUDGING TEAM WINS GOOD PLACE AGAINST HEAVY ODDS

In Spite of Disadvantages State Boys Rank Half Way up Scale in Contest at Washington.

### BIGGEST SCHOOLS ARE THERE

The work of the apple judging team that went to Washington during the recent "Fruit Week," held there while the American Pomological Congress and allied organizations were in session, has been highly complimented, both by members of the faculty and the students of the College of Agriculture.

It is realized that the team from Kentucky State really did very creditable work in entering the ring, for the first time, against teams that had every advantage of our boys in every way. Many of the members of the other teams were much older men, some of them experienced apple judges or even coaches of other judging teams, and all of them were from states vastly more important in fruit growing than is Kentucky. In spite of these handicaps, however, coupled with much shorter work in practice and coaching, the State boys nosed out four of the eight other teams, and ranked fifth in the contest.

Prof. C. W. Mathews, who secured provision for this judging team, and made the trip possible, accompanied the boys to Washington. Assistant Professor Hoffmann also went with them and did some extra coaching even while en route. The members of the team were Paul D. Brown, A. L. Breuckner and Leon Leonian.

## NICHOLLS' DAIRY COMPLIMENTED BY GERMAN PAPER

Leading Agricultural Journal of Kaiserland Praises Work of Prof. W. D. Nicholls and Brother.

### HAVE WON BIG PRIZES

What is probably the highest compliment that has ever been paid to Kentucky dairymen has come to Prof. W. D. Nicholls, of the Department of Dairy Husbandry, and his brother, Mr. D. D. Nicholls, as the result of their excellent work in conducting a dairy near Bloomfield, Ky. The "Illustrated Agricultural Times," of Berlin, the leading agricultural journal of Germany, recently published a highly complimentary article about the Nicholls dairy and illustrated the feature with photographs of the dairy barn, milkhouse, silos, etc., and also of the handsome Nicholls residence.

At the milk show in Chicago this fall the Nicholls brothers won first on both milk and cream, and were awarded a blue ribbon for special merit. The bacterial count was remarkably low and this is the first time the same competitor has ever captured both prizes.

Are you reading your own Idea? You are not? Well, why don't you?

## SOCIETY WORK MAY GET MORE CREDIT NEXT YEAR

For the remainder of the college year of 1913-14 the members of the Agricultural Society who regularly attend the meetings of that body will receive 5 tenths of one credit toward graduation. This was unanimously voted at a recent meeting of the faculty of the College of Agriculture, after a request that this credit be granted had been submitted to Dr. Joseph H. Kastle, as dean of the College of Agriculture, by a committee from the Agricultural Society.

The members of the faculty of the College of Agriculture recognize the really earnest and efficient work the members of the Society always try to accomplish and the faculty members declared they believed all possible assistance should be given the students who are trying to build up their own work and that of the agricultural students in general by firmly establishing this society.

It is stated by members of the faculty that if the trial of the plan proves successful during the remainder of this year the credit for the work may be increased to 1 next year, instead of .5. In order to make the attendance and interest in the Society really worthy of credit the members immediately adopted rigid rules for the keeping of a roll and the payment of dues.

## ADVOCATES RAISING BEEF TO KEEP UP SOIL FERTILITY

An article of special interest to students specializing in beef cattle breeding is that of Mr. Samuel W. Allerton, stock farmer and packer, which appeared as the leading feature of the Thanksgiving number of the "Breeder's Gazette."

To the Kentucky farmer, particularly the man who must operate on a comparatively small scale, Mr. Allerton's figures will seem rather out of line with practical results, but since Mr. Allerton is owner of 25,000 acres of rich corn belt land, under the plow, and is a noted stockman, his statements are well worthy careful consideration.

Apparently he looks at the matter through the colored glasses of the packer, in which business he is interested, but he also drives home some excellent blows into the man who "mines" his land instead of really farming it intelligently.

The article is, apparently, a most excellent piece of work in the campaign of publicity the packers recently launched to induce the small farmer to increase his beef production because of the tremendous shortage of beef cattle, and Mr. Allerton presents the packers' side of the question in most attractive colors. But whatever the motive of the article, it is well worth reading.

"We're goin' to be rich at our house," boasted William, age six, to a companion. "Aunt Mary's got 'lectricity in her haid and granny's got gas in her 'stumuk."

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A flea and a fly in a flue,  
 Were imprisoned, now what could they do.

Let us flee said the fly,  
 No, let's fly said the flea,  
 So they flew through a flaw in the flue.

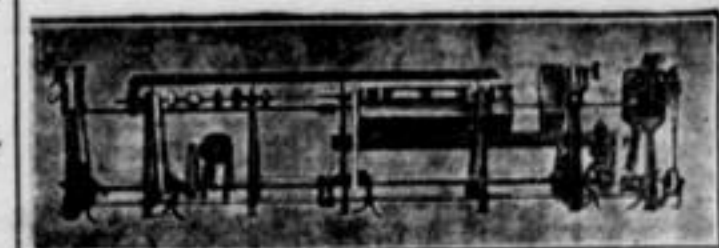
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(Continued from page 2).