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More Bread and Better Bread



SIR "J. A. M." AIKINS

Many Public Activities in Prominent Westerner's Long Career

Sir James Albert Manning Aikins, M.A., K.C.M.G., is more familiarly known to the people of the Western Provinces as "Jam" Aikins, because of the sequence of his initials, than by his more high sounding title. This is only natural for he has been "Jam" since boyhood. The Winnipeg Telegram says: "Sir James has been for many years one of the most prominent figures in the West, even though he has taken little share in public life. His reputation as a citizen, a lawyer, an orator, is of the highest."

Like so many others of the West's public men, Sir James was Ontario-born and educated. He first saw daylight at Grahamsville, in the County of Peel, Upper Canada, in 1851, and is the son of the late Senator James C. Aikins, who was from 1882 to 1886 Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba. He received his education at Upper Canada College and the University of Toronto.



SIR J. A. M. AIKINS

Onto. He was called to the Bar in One year later he went to Manitoba and was appointed counsel for the Department of Justice, and in 1880 was appointed a Royal Commissioner to investigate the administration of justice in the Territories. From 1881 to 1911 he was counsel for the C.P.R. In the latter year he responded to the call from the Conservatives of Brandon to represent them in the Dominion election, and was successful. Sir James took a great part in the drafting of the Macdonald liquor bill of 1900. He has also taken an active interest in education and represented Canada at the International Congress on Moral Education at The Hague in 1912. He was also a member of the Royal Commission concerning agricultural education in 1902, and chairman of the Royal Commission concerning Manitoba University in 1907. He has been a member of the Manitoba Law Society since 1880, and has served as its secretary-treasurer and president, and also as president of the Canadian Bar Association.

Sir James has figured largely in business life being senior member of the legal firm of Aikins, Fullerton, & Newcombe, and of Aikins, Loftus & Aikins, Winnipeg. He is also president of the General Assets and Agency Corporation, and is director of many companies. In regard to Winnipeg institutions he has figured very prominently and among other offices holds a directorship on the Wesley College, is honorary bursar and member of the Council of the University of Mani-

toos and a member of the Social Service Council. Although a busy public man, Sir James has fostered a variety of recreations and is a good marksman and golfer. He is a student of Canadian and Imperial history. In 1910 Sir James was rated as a millionaire. His oratory is of the perfunctory type.

"STUMPING" MADE EASY

Gasoline Engine in New Role in British Columbia

In the Columbia Valley, B.C., a novel use has been made of a gasoline engine. A 4-horse power was placed on heavy skids and fitted up with a winch and the power increased by pulleys to 32 h.p. A long cable was run out and two chains attached at different lengths for the pulling of stumps and trees. Good size poplar trees, 4, 5 or 6 inches and even more are pulled up easily by this apparatus, and something like two acres a day is being cleared by three men. By standing behind the tree with an axe when it was being pulled and clipping off some of the roots there is no difficulty whatever in pulling everything as it comes. The speed at which the affair works is one of the particularly attractive features of it. Immediately after pulling the tree is so arranged by the use of a ratchet that the cable is released and ready for hitching on to another tree or stump. There is no reason why it should not be used on larger stumps.

WALNUTS AT THE COAST

British Columbia Develops a Fine "Lazy Man's" Industry

Considerable interest has been shown in the planting of walnut trees in British Columbia in recent years, during which time several thousand have been planted in different parts of the Province. As far as can be ascertained, says a farming journal, these trees have all done well. The walnut has been planted in the adjoining states of Washington and Oregon in very considerable numbers, for over twelve years and the harvests have been very encouraging indeed. In planting this class of tree one of the main considerations is the depth of soil. Walnuts thrive best in cool, moist, mellow alluvial soil, rich in humus, but they do well in practically any well-drained soil, where hardpan is not less than 16 feet of the surface. Rolling foothill lands are most suitable for walnut growing. As to distance apart, 40 feet is said to be about right, which means 27 trees to the acre.

As to the variety, after considerable study and trial by leading men, it has been found that only a very few varieties of walnut are worthy of commercial consideration, and among these few the Franquette stands pre-eminent as a profitable commercial nut. The Vrooman strain of the Franquette, originated in France and improved in California, is the best for general purposes.

The harvesting and drying of the nuts, and the total cost of production as far as labor is concerned, should not be more than one-fifth of the sale price of the nuts. Young trees begin to bear at from four to six years of age and bear on an average from 24 to 36 pounds per tree, at from 9 to 11 years of age, which production should be double two or three years later. Young walnut trees want care and training to get the branches well placed and the top balanced until 4 or 5 years' old, after which time they need little attention, hence their being known as the "lazy man's orchard."

Making War Indoors on Uncle Sam

Toronto Star: Fourteen tons of explosives in an American munitions factory were blown up on a recent Sunday by an incendiary. A. U. S. freighter with 110,000 bushels of wheat from Duluth sack from some unknown cause Tuesday. A vessel from New York, carrying Italian reservists, took fire at sea. The Austrian Ambassador, organized strikes in American industries. The German embassy and bank, ing agents bought up American newspapers right and left and made each a Teuton ambush against the American Government.

If Uncle Sam has got to take war he might as well make war, too. There is a state of rebellion in the United States to day. A minority is attempting to dominate the Republic, and their threat is that unless they can have their way civil war will break out. But whether it breaks out or not it is there.

The situation appears to be this, that an invading German army corps is muffled, scattered at various strategic points, armed with pens, purses, and incendiary matches, is attempting the surreptitious conquest of the United States.

How To Get Rid Of Mites

In the warm weather there are frequent enquiries as to why hens stop laying. In some cases the hens have laid very well all season, but suddenly the egg yield begins to fall off and sometimes ceases entirely.

It is needless to expect a flock to lay equally well at all times. A flock that has laid heavily during the Winter will generally slow up towards the middle of the Summer and when they begin to moult, but when the egg yield drops rapidly until it practically ceases without any apparent reason, suspect vermin.

Of all the many varieties of vermin that infest fowl the Red Mite is the most troublesome. Unlike the ordinary hen louse they are not as a rule found on the fowl, neither are they killed by dusting, as the ordinary body louse is. These pests breed very rapidly especially during the hot weather, usually in cracks containing filth or in dirty nesting material. They are not red in color as popularly supposed, but gray; it is only after they have come into contact with the fowl and have become filled with blood that they appear red. The young mites are white and have only six legs but after casting their skins, which they do several times, they have eight legs. The cast skins may be seen like a white powder around the perches, this often being the first indication of the presence of mites. They are able to live and reproduce for months without animal food, the first food of the young probably being filth or decayed wood. They thrive best in dark dirty houses, and have been found to exist in houses the following season after the fowl had been removed. They usually attack the birds at night but are sometimes found on laying hens and they frequently drive broody hens from the nest. They pierce the skin with their needle-like jaws and suck the blood, after which they retire to the seclusion of the cracks and crevices of the roosts, nests or other parts of the house. They will bite man or other mammals causing severe irritation, but they never remain on them for any length of time.

If the fowl are not doing well and on examination are thinner than they should be, a sharp lookout should be kept for mites. At night they may be seen either on the fowl or running along the perches; in the day time examine the cracks and crevices of the roosts and walls closely, or lift the roosts and examine the places where they come in contact with the supports. If mites are found to be present the first step in banishing them is to give the house a thorough cleaning. Remove all droppings and nesting material, scrape and sweep every particle of dirt and burrs. Then if you are so fortunately situated that you have water pressure at your command, turn on the hose with as much pressure as you can get, forcing the water into every crack; if, as is the case on most farms you cannot use this method, it is advisable to scrub down the walls with a brush or old broom but in any case they should be thoroughly sprayed or painted with a good strong disinfectant. This wash should be repeated in a few days, to destroy the mites which hatch after the first application. The disinfectant may be applied with a hand spray pump or if such is not available, a brush will do, but in either case the fluid should be used liberally and every crack flooded. Fresh air and sunlight are wonderful disinfectants and combined with clean-

liness are preventives against most of the ills of the poultry yard.

One of the very best disinfectants to use against mites is made as follows: Dissolve one pound and a half concentrated lye in as small a quantity of water as possible. It will be necessary to do this two or three hours before it is required as the lye should be cold when used. Put three quarts of raw linseed oil into a five gallon stone crock, and pour in the lye very slowly, stirring meanwhile. Keep on stirring until a smooth liquid soap is produced, then gradually add two gallons of either crude carbolic acid or commercial cresol stirring constantly until the resulting fluid is a clear dark brown. Use two or three tablespoonfuls of the mixture to a gallon of water.

The foregoing is offered as a most effective remedy against mites; but those who regard the preparation of the mixture as too much work, may use a good solution of "ZENOLEUM" or any other creolin preparation.

Ordinary coal oil will kill mites but as it evaporates quickly the effects are not so lasting. An excellent "paint" to apply to the roosts and nest-boxes is composed of one part crude carbolic to three or four parts coal oil.

Even after the house has been cleaned, the cracks in the roosts and nest-boxes should be flooded at regular intervals throughout the Summer either with the forementioned "paint" or with coal oil. This will go far to keep the pests in check but it must be regarded simply as a check and the thorough or annual house cleaning described above put into effect as soon as possible.

To facilitate the ease with which this house cleaning may be done all fixtures such as roosts or nest-boxes should be made movable. If they are stationary at present advantage should be taken of the first rainy day to change them. It will be time well spent.

After spending four months in a New York prison and making daily protestations of his innocence of the charge—forgery—Otto Kuhl, a clerk, eighteen years old, was released on Thursday after the real culprit confessed to the crime. The boy left his cell like a broken old man. The fact that he was free and exonerated seemed to mean nothing to him. His only desire was to get far away from New York and, somehow, start all over again.

Earl Kitchener says that it is only fair to acknowledge that, judged from a humane point of view, the methods of warfare pursued by the Turks are vastly superior to those which have disgraced their German masters. Letters from soldiers at the front have commented on the same fact, some of them praising the Turk for being a brave and fair opponent.

He Swore Off

The artist was painting—sunset, red, with blue streaks and green dots.

The old rustic, at a respectful distance was watching.

"Ah," said the artist, looking up suddenly, "perhaps to you, too, Nature has opened her sky pictures page by page? Have you seen the lambent flame of dawn leaping across the islets floating in the lake of fire in the west; the ragged clouds at midnight, black as a raven's wing, blotting out the shuddering moon?"

"No," replied the rustic shortly; "not since I signed the pledge."—Tit-Bits.

German Obstructionists

New York Commercial. American citizens of German birth or blood should behave themselves like those of English, French, and Canadian descent. They can sympathize with the Fatherland but they should let the rest of us alone instead of bullying us as if this were a conquered province. Germany got her ten-million-dollar loan in peace. Surely we can raise another loan to help our farmers sell their produce when the prosperity of the country depends on the marketing of this year's bountiful crop. Such interference with the domestic affairs as German agitators have inflicted on us is unbearable, and we have never submitted to outside interference since 1776.

Ice Running Out of the Arctic

Seward, Alaska, Sept. 21.—The steamer Corwin, here to-day from Nome, reported that the ice pack from the Arctic was setting south into Behring Sea earlier this year than ever before. Captain Healy, one of the most experienced navigators in the Arctic, predicted that navigation in Behring Sea would close unusually early.



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HOW COW TESTING PAYS

The records of two Canadian herds of dairy cows owned by two neighbors a striking example of the utility of dairy records to the man who really wants to build up a good herd. The first man has been cow-testing for four years and has selected his cows carefully, studying their various preferences and capacities, each one as an individual. He raises heifers from his best cows; four two-year-olds gave in the last year an average of 7,144 pounds of milk, while his herd of ten gave an average of 8,059 pounds of milk and 259 pounds of fat. The neighbor considers it simpler to buy just what cows he can. He does not raise any calves. In one year his nine cows, all upwards of six years old, except two heifers, gave an average of only 4,240 pounds of milk. This is only just about one-half as much milk per cow as in the first herd. The best cow gave only 6,355 pounds, less than the average of the four heifers in the first herd. He has nothing of which to start building up a good dairy herd, unless it be his judgment in "picking a winner," which judgment, by the way, does not appear to be of A1 quality. The owner of the first herd has the advantage of four years of dairy records, practically indispensable to the real dairy farmer, besides matured judgment in handling cows to better advantage. Cow testing pays.

PERSONALITY OF COWS

Government Advice is to Give Each Cow Individual Care

It is still possible to find dairymen who never dig deeper than the surface knowledge of the whole herd giving so much milk, counting simply the total weight sent to the factory one day, or per month, or again simply the average yield per cow for the factory season. A plain fact that cannot be impressed too strongly is that cows have individuality, says a communication from the Dominion Department of Agriculture. What makes two cows yield quite different weights of milk and fat when all conditions are practically equal? Even supposing a cow's interior economy were made visible and luminous, has any man the requisite knowledge to fathom all the mysteries of milk manufacture? We do know this, the yield of milk and its percentage of fat are apt to vary from day to day most strangely. The first half of the milk drawn may not contain more than half as much as the latter half; the cow may have some slight sickness; some of her delicate nervous functions may be deranged temporarily; extremes of weather, undue exposure, excitement, may all influence the yield of milk and the test. Hence it is clear that the sensible way to judge a cow's performance is not by any test or weight, but rather on her total yield for the season.