Tidbits of Kentucky Folklore

By Gordon Wilson, M.D.
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A lazy boy, but all boys are lazy according to their elders, likes to think of something to do to kill time when he is supposed to be working. My brother, the father of seven boys, says that a man and a boy can do nearly as much work as the man by himself; it takes the extra time to keep the boy at it. The boy, if left alone, will work twice as hard as necessary to avoid doing the thing he is supposed to be at. One of the best ways to kill time is to sharpen the hoe, or whatever other tool is in use. Nearly all farms have excellent whetrocks and files and other means of putting a keen edge on tools hence the appropriate way of killing time while seeming to be busy at something good for the farm.

At times I can remember having spent more than half of the time at this task, renewing it as often as the "wore edge" vanished from the hoe. Since there were likely to be a few others around, it was easy to ruin the fine edge and have to reinstall it. How blissful one feels while adding this fine touch to an already sharp tool! It would be almost treason to say that one rests while doing this; for boys are not supposed to rest tired, that is, unless they are expected to be doing something useful.

There were several things that needed sharpening on the old-fashioned farm and many a modern successor. Axes required the grindstone. I cannot feel that turning a grindstone is at all pectic, though, for the man who bears down on the ax is actuated by hose ideas of unlawful good. If a boy had an ax to sharpen, he would have a portable grindstone moved on into the woodpile or to the woods, one that could be run by some sort of machinery, so that there there would be a lot of fun and another occasion for killing time. But when a man, usually one's father, is at the other side of the grindstone and a fellow is the horse power, it is different. Axes are not such fine tools, anyway, for they can do with out a whetrock or a file, the tool sharpeners especially designed to kill time.

Just before hog-killing time, though, it was almost fun to turn the grindstone while all of the butcher knives were put into fine form, to be smoothed off later on the whetrocks. The reason for this was, of course, that hog-killing was a pure pleasure, a sport in which one showed the near neighbors all kinds of skill. With wire-edge knives one can cut out the joints like an old-timer and not be afraid of getting a scolding from one's puppy.

Even before the first tobacco cutting the grindstone may be poetic while the same knives are especially-prepared ones put into shape. The tragedy about tobacco-cutting was that small boys were good only for holding sticks, certainly not so poetic as showing one's skill by splitting the tobacco stalk just right and with a nonchalance exceeded only by the fellow who cut hands at wheat-threshing time.

When we cut wheat with a cradle, it was a tedious but thrilling job to get the blade sharp. Here was a place where genuine sharpness counted, for if the edge got dull, one had to put more weight on the handle—a thing that gets pretty tiresome on a hot, early-summer day. Just what today can equal the pride that the wheat-cutter in the field, though, for the man who bears down on the ax is actuated by those ideas of unlawful good. If a boy had an ax to sharpen, he would have a portable grindstone moved on into the woodpile or to the woods, one that could be run by some sort of machinery, so that there would be a lot of fun and another occasion for killing time. But when a man, usually one's

THE GARDEN

Summer Gardens

By John S. Gardner, Kentucky College of Agriculture

The continued cool weather has been favoring spinach, mustard and tendergreen. However, it being June, warm weather may be expected to put a stop to those "cool" greens almost at any time, and a break will occur in the growth of this class of vegetables, unless something is done to prevent. The gap may be closed by putting in now either of both of the several greens that mature warm weather well. These are Swiss chard and New Zealand spinach.

Swiss chard belongs to the red beet family. It is, in fact, much similar to the sugar beet, except that it makes no root of consequence, but leaves tops of tender green leaves with large fleshy midribs, brittle enough and crisp enough, to be used in a salad. The more general way it is served, though, is as a green, cooked just enough to make it tender, but keeping its original structure.

Apart from its goodness, it is tremendously prolific made so by the special way it is harvested. This is to break off the large outer leaves, but leaving the central bud which produces more leaves to harvest, and so on still another time. A 30-foot row, using one variety thinned to make single hands for a family of five.

Sowing time is any time that there is moisture enough to make seed sprout, though the said. present time. In dry weather it will supply unbroken use when the early red beets were started. The seed should be sown thin—the drill plan is to sow from 10 pairs 12 inches apart, if necessary thinning to one plant at a place, for in rich ground. Successive chard plants become almost as large as those of the first sowing. Rows should be at least two feet other day. apart.

A leaf crop, chard should be given high fertility. Broken stable manure is excellent to work in to the row, one bushel to 10 feet. Or, and in order to bring it on quickly, the rows of seed-lings should be given a solution with nitrate of soda as soon as they come up. One pound to a 100 feet is enough, and repeated again in two weeks.

The variety is Lucullus.

New Zealand spinach is a green of somewhat different nature from the last. It cannot be distinguished from garden spinach, but there the resemblance ends for like Swiss chard, it is a continuous cropper.

The seed is sown in pairs spaced two feet in the row. The rows should be three feet from any other, for New Zealand plants become quite as large as those of early tomatoes, in ground well enriched with manure or with nitrate of soda fertilizer, or with nitrate alone.

It is harvested by snapping off endcutters of leaves, four to six. At each picking the shoots appear, to be taken as the next harvest. It is obvious that as the plants grow, and more greens are produced and harvested, the supply of greens for the table and a surplus to can will be had.

New Zealand is the variety's name. Somehow as to why these greens are it is to be expected that the plants originated, sometime, become tropicalized, but all are easily dropped with applications of fungicide or spray. Reference is recommended, however, to nature's because of the poisoning danger that may lurk in the use of fertilizer. Rotenone is safe for the human, livestock, but deadly to all insects.

Rotenone dust is mixed, may be procured from all seedmen and druggists, but potenone spray is marketed under several concentrates. Likewise detailed directions who handle gardening supplies.

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Dispelling The Fog

By Charles Michelson, Director of Publicity, Democratic National Committee

It being part of the regular procedure in campaign years for the opposition party to assail the administration in power, we must look forward to some months of ill-tempered criticism of every act or policy the Democratic Government undertakes.

Theoretically politics adjourns at the ocean's edge—and that is the simplest sort of sense at such a time as this—but, because of the adherence of the G. O. P. machine to the doctrine that it must never be admitted that a Democratic President or Congress can ever be right, even our foreign policy is attacked. Fortunately most of the people—Democrats and Republicans alike—understand the situation and pay little attention to this form of guerrilla assault. The country at large realizes that President Roosevelt's handling of the difficult problems arising from the European War would be assailed by some individuals for political purposes, no matter what he did. We would have the same sort of barrage if he were isolationist, or interventionalist. Opinion within the nation runs to extremes.

This was illustrated by District Attorney Dewey in two of his recent speeches, one addressed to delegates to his party's convention in Wisconsin, for example, he said:

> I am convinced that the only way this country can restore confidence and get back to work is to prevent the Government to give all it's attention to foreign affairs. Economic recovery and to keep its hands free to meet any emergency that may take place between warring nations. Now, we are not in that war.

New York City on the other hand, he told the Republican National Convention in Cleveland, is in that war.

> We in America cannot escape being affected by these struggles. Nor can we remain unprepared. We have improved our defenses, but we have not prepared for war, but the simplest insurance that we shall be immune from that danger, however runs the course of the great European struggle. No dictator, stirrer for world domination, is going to tackle us—if he knows that we are ready to protect our shores—and the rest of the Western Hemisphere.

Though the Roosevelt policies have been assailed by various important figures in the minority party, not one of them has come forward with a definite program to supersede the administration's policies. Neither of them has told us what the Republicans would offer in the foreign relations field, should they ever come to power.

While Col. Knox was assailing the Dewey isolationist position in the West, Congressman George Holden Tinkham went after him for his country views in the East. Said the Massachusetts Representative of Dewey publicly indorsed the internationalist policies of President Roosevelt. • • • Such a statement is a repudiation of the efforts of the Republicans in Congress to combat the various attempts of the Roosevelt administration to undermine American neutrality.

So it is evident that no matter what the President says or does the minority party's spokesmen

> will find some way to suggest the American people are being misled. They have learned that the mouthings of this political organization is important in a situation like that which confronts the country today. It is the function through its secretary of state, its ambassadors and its relations and a vast majority of our citizens to speak for the nation as well as his predecessors in that office have done. It is the duty of the party in opposition to criticize, but if he wanted to. That person is the President of the United States. He had the duty in his relations with foreign governments to speak before the American Society of Newspaper Editors in Washington:
>
> "I am a partisan. Yet my every action and attitude toward foreign affairs has been actuated by a desire to stay the wrath of overwhelming majorities now in the land against the entry of America into the war. It may be necessary, will act, to a dilatorious salad when served on lettuce leaves.

Public Approves Brewers Campaign

Public approval of the Kentucky Brewers and Beer Distributors Committee's clean up campaign has been expressed in letters and resolutions received by the committee, through a prolonged drought. Haggai was called to awaken their conscience and to encourage them to action.

I. Consider Your Ways (vv. 2-6, 9-11).

It was not necessary for the prophet to work up any eloquent pleas to stir the conscience of the people. He had to point them to their own ways. They were this faced with three reproving facts.

1. Indifference (v. 2). They were negligent and indifferent, saying the time had not come to build. The same kind of folk today are very sure that the congregation simply cannot afford to keep up preaching of the best and highest in the church for Sunday School.

2. Selfishness (v. 4). They built for themselves ceiled houses and lived in luxury, while God's house lay waste. One is reminded of our own communities, which have money for every conceivable comfort and convenience, but only a few niggardly pennies for God's work.

3. Loss (vv. 6, 9-11). Being stingy toward God is a losing business. He has only to withhold His blessing and we will find ourselves destitute. That is true in the physical realm and is even more true in the spiritual life. Withholding from God will always result in loss (see Prov. 11:24).

II. "Build the House" (vv. 8).

God's work is constructive. He may have to destroy and tear down, but He only takes away the old and undesirable that the new and worthy may be built. Three words stand out here.

1. "Go." The Lord commands His people to get into action. Haggai was interested in getting things going. And below his example.

2. "Bring." We are not to come to the Lord's service empty handed. Only as He blesses do we have anything to bring, but often we fail to bring even that which He has given us.

3. "Build." God's work is committed to us. We are to be His builders.

III. "The People Obeyed" (v. 12).

"Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams" (I Sam. 15:22). God is looking for obedient people, and is ready to bless and use them. The response to Haggai's message came in

1. **The Governor.** One wonders what progress America would make if it came back to God if its rulers were to lead us in obedience to His commands and in seeking His face in repentance and prayer. Thank God for every truly spiritually minded national leader, and pray that others may yield themselves to the control of the Lord. Then came

2. **The High Priest.** All too often religious leaders have actually hindered the work of God—and what a hindrance they can be! We read that Haggai's time the high priest obeyed. Christian leaders, are we going before our people in unquestioning obedience to God? If not, why should we not begin now? With such leadership, we are not surprised to hear that

3. **The People** Also Obeyed and Feared God. Many capable Christian workers believe that the youth of America of our day, far from being worse than their fathers, are actually seeking for real spiritual leadership.

False Christs Shall Rise

And then, if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or lo, he is there, believe him not. For false Christs, and false prophets shall rise, and shall show signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect—Mark 13: 21, 22.

Speaking the Truth

I had rather suffer for speaking the truth, than that the truth should suffer for the want of my speaking.

MONEY TALKS

By Frederick W. Stamm, Economise and Director of Adult Education, University of Louisville

That the European war has not greatly affected the American mode of living is well illustrated by several interesting reports recently released.

The Automobile Manufacturers Association stated several days ago that 1,767,485 passenger cars have been sold during the first four months of 1940. This is 105,601 more than were sold during the first four months of 1939. General Motors Corporation recently reported that its automobile sales for the first four months of this year were the largest for any comparable period in the company's history. This means automobile dealers in every community should be happy and prosperous.

Gasoline sales have been increasing, which indicates that Americans are actually using more gasoline than ever.

Home building, in city and hamlet, is continuing on a large scale. Many of these homes are built on borrowed money. To pay off mortgages these people must have steady jobs for years to come. These individuals must have faith in the stability of our economic system.

The third barometer of public spending is movie attendance. Around $5 million admissions a week are paid by movie patrons.

These facts show the American family pocketbook has been little affected by the European conflict as yet. Few persons can accurately predict the future, but I believe it is safe to say that our economic and social system can withstand the shocks of war abroad and that our standard of living will change but little.

Hogs On Alfalfa Demand Less Feed

Hogs required less corn when running on alfalfa, in feeding tests made at the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station. Three pastures were tested—oats and rape, bluegrass and alfalfa. Average daily gains were about the same on all these, but hogs on alfalfa required less feed for each 100 pounds of gain, with bluegrass ranking next and oats and rape pasture last. Corn, tankage and mineral were self-fed to all lots.

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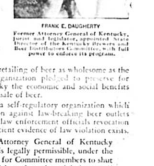

FRANK E. DAUGHERTY
Former Attorney General of Kentucky, lawyer and legislator, appointed State Director of the Brewers and Beer Distributors Committee. He is a full time worker to enforce its program.

THE great majority of beer retailers in Kentucky are respectable and law-abiding citizens. But there are a few whose practices are offensive to the public, a menace to their own communities and to the entire state, but a discredit to the beer industry as well.

For all too long these undesirables have used the privileges of their retail beer licenses to cloak illegal practices or anti-social activities. Their disregard for the law is opposed to the public welfare and casts an unfavorable reflection on the industry. The revenue derived by this state will over $1,000,000 in taxes each year, employs approximately 15,000 workers and has an annual pay roll of approximately $10,000,000.

Now the time for "Clean Up or Close Up!" action has come.

To this end, the Kentucky Brewers and Beer Distributors Committee has recently been formed, and will seek the cooperation of all decent citizens in eliminating beer retailers violating beer retailers, the further to protect them from the menace of law-violating outlets. It is an organization which merits this business; an organization that is determined to cooperate fully with state and local law enforcement bodies in keeping the retailing of beer as wholesome as the beverage itself, an organization pledged to preserve for the citizens of Kentucky a temperate and law-abiding industry which accrue from the sale of beer.

The Committee is a self-regulatory organization which proposes prompt action against law-breaking beer outlets by seeking from local law enforcement officials revocation of licenses where sufficient evidence of law violation exists.

Already the Attorney General of Kentucky has ruled that it is legally permissible, under the laws of Kentucky, for Committee members to shut off the supply of beer from law-violating retail outlets. The Committee hopes it will not be forced to invoke this measure, but stands ready to do so if necessary.

Such a program merits the support of every clear-thinking, conscientious citizen. Every one can cooperate by patronizing only those retail beer outlets which are conducted in accord with the public sentiment in your community, and by reporting to the Committee any conditions which seem to warrant correction.

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