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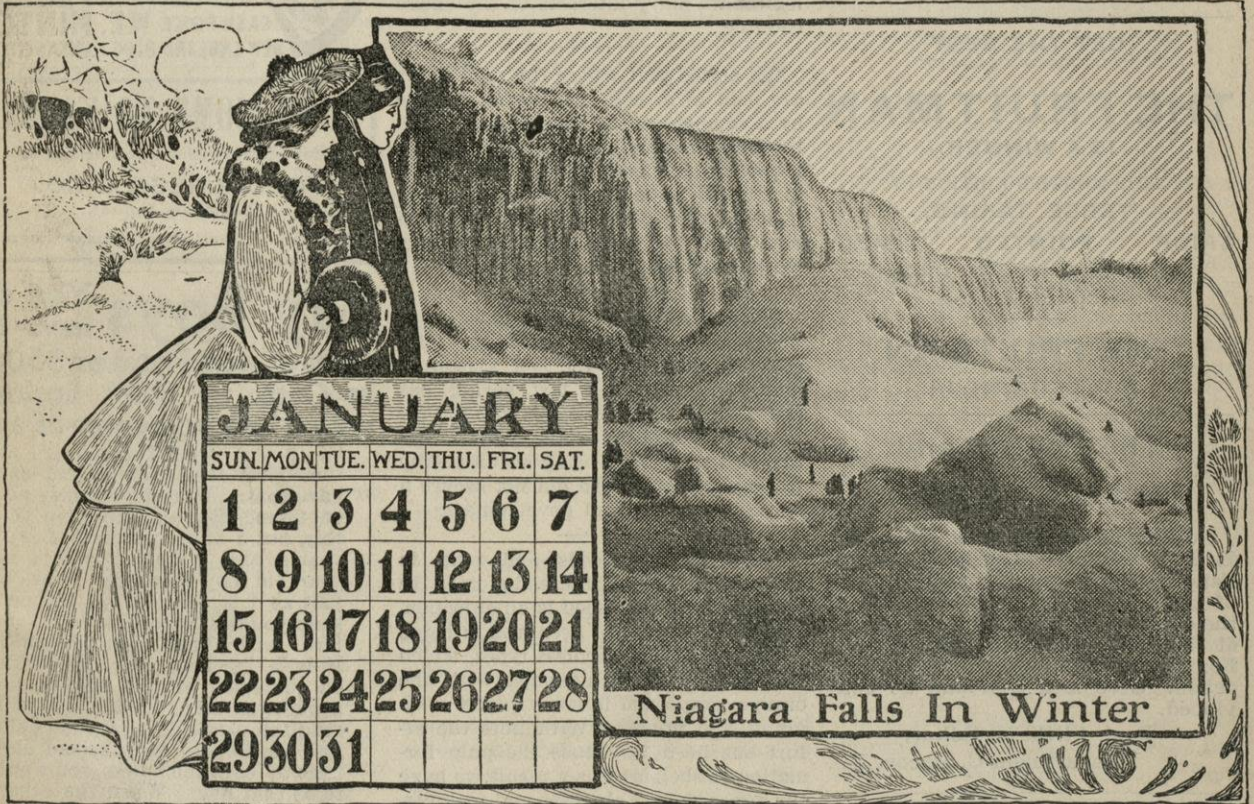
The

MODERN FARMER

AND BUSY BEE.

A FRIEND OF ADVANCED AGRICULTURE AND HAPPY HOMES.

VOL. XVI. No. 1. A Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Farm and Home. FIFTY CENTS A YEAR.



JANUARY

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ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI.

1905

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The Fruit-Grower, St. Joseph, Mo., will issue some very fine special numbers for 1906-January, "Anniversary number," February, "Spraying," March, "Gardening," April, "Small Fruits," each worth 50c, the price of a year's subscription. To secure a year's trial, send 25c and names of ten farmers who grow fruit, and get these "specials" and eight others. Send your subscription today. Eastern edition for states east of Ohio. The Fruit-Grower Co., 365 S. 7th, St. Joseph, Mo.



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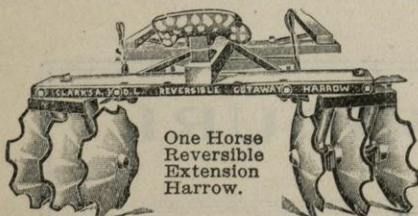
THE FRUITMAN

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Farm Hints.

By J. S. TRIGG.

It is not generally known that millet of the broom corn varieties is largely used as food by many nations, notably by Egyptians, Africans, Chinese and Japanese. It is a staple cereal food in all the Nile country and forms one of the most valued crops of that valley.

Within five years the last tow of logs from the northern pineries will move like a funeral procession down the Mississippi river. The great pine forests of the north country are used up, have been wrecked and slaughtered by ax and fire till only a wilderness of scrub growth remains.

A recent decision from the supreme court of the United States sustains the law subjecting oleomargarine colored in imitation of butter to a tax of 10 cents a pound. Hereafter the oleo will have to be sold white if it would escape this tax. It is a big victory for the legitimate dairy interests of the entire country.

We notice that where the road taxes are paid in money and the work done by a competent road supervisor for the township the public is getting nearly twice as much work done and done in a vastly more intelligent and permanent manner than under the old system of letting Tom, Dick and Harry work out their road taxes.

We are asked why it is that even where seed corn was most carefully selected and cared for last season so much of it planted last spring has failed to grow. We can only account for the lack of vitality on the ground that the season of 1903 being so unusually wet and cold the corn did not secure a normal maturity and development.

The study of seeds and pulp in vegetable life is an interesting one. In all other fruits the seed is an objection, and much effort has been and is being made to originate seedless types, which fact has been accomplished with the orange, grape and in some degree with plums and apples. With nuts the effort has been to reduce the pulp formation or shell, and as a result we have the paper shelled almonds and walnuts.

The milk goats find their best development in Switzerland and the island of Malta, where they are made to serve every purpose of the dairy cow. A large importation of these goats is to be made by the department of agriculture with a view to introducing these valuable animals into this country. Possibly if goats were substituted for cows it might become the fad for our nice American girls to milk them. The finest cheese in the world is made from goats' milk.



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Write at once giving county, township and school-district you live in. Write UNCLE JOE, Spencer, Ind.

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N. J. SHEPHERD.....In Charge Live Stock Department

DEPARTMENT EDITORS.

EMMA INGOLDSBY ABBOTT.....Home Department

E. J. WATERSTRIPE.....General Farm Department

J. O. SHROYER.....Trees, Garden and Flowers

Entered at the Postoffice at St. Joseph, Missouri, as second class matter.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS intended for publication must be written on one side of the sheet only, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer.

REMITTANCES should be made by express or postoffice money order when it is possible. If these cannot be obtained, put the money in a letter and register it. When forced to send stamps, we prefer to have one-cent stamps, and they should be folded carefully, with paper between them, so they will not stick together.

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NOTICE—We have concluded to make the price of The Modern Farmer and Busy Bee 25 cents to all who pay strictly in advance. If you want the paper stopped at the expiration of the time, say so when you send in your subscription. Otherwise it will be sent until you order it stopped and pay all arrears. This will give everyone a chance for his preference.

If this paragraph is marked with a cross your time expires with the number marked, or has expired. Please let us have your renewal at as early a day as possible.

EDITORIAL.

Have you fitted up that ice house yet?

Albert S. Schilstra writes: "I like your paper very much. It gives some practical advice."

Is there not something you would like to tell our subscribers? We could use a lot of short letters or articles.

It is just as impossible to farm these times without thinking as it is to build a fire out of chunks of ice.

A subscriber asks where he can secure the seed of yellow sweet clover. Why do not those who have it for sale advertise it in our "special column?" (25 cents for twenty-five words).

We join with the rest of the world in wishing you a "Happy New Year," but desire to remark in passing that this "happiness business" depends more on you than any one else, if the "happiness" is to be purely personal.

Farmers are sometimes inclined to think that bankers are an unusually shrewd lot of fellows, but what about Mrs. Chadwick and the millions of dollars which she obtained with nothing tangible to show for it. It was not

country bumpkins whom she duped, but men who claimed to be experts in finance. Greed for greater gain has led many a man to over-reach himself.

The thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture will begin in the capitol building, Topeka, Wednesday, January 11, 1905, at 4 o'clock p. m., and continue in session until January 13.

It is customary at the beginning of the year to write a dissertation on the importance of "turning over a new leaf," with a sprinkle of poetic sentiment and soft and tender words mixed in. We will say we have not time or space for a thing of that kind now, but if you will read all of the editorials in this issue we think you will see that there is an abundant opportunity for some people to do a thriving business in this "new leaf" act, according to our way of thinking.

Professor H. W. Quaintance of the University of Missouri finds that twenty-one men will produce the same quantity of our nine principal crops, including barley, rice, cotton, corn, oats, hay, potatoes, rye and wheat as one hundred farmers would fifty years ago. The total saving thus annually effected

in the United States is 450,368,992 days of good honest toil. When it is remembered that under the old order of things it would require nearly fifty million people to produce the crop now raised by ten million of our population it must be admitted that we are making rapid progress in solving the problem of production.

What about that "new leaf?" Are you intending to turn one over, or out, or are you intending to live on the sap stored in the old trunk until the heart decays, the limbs drop off, and you will be left an old half-rotten trunk, only a semblance of what you were once or might have been?

As a fitting tribute to a grand old man the Missouri State Horticultural Society, at its meeting in Neosho, created the office of honorary vice-president, and elected Norman J. Colman thereto as a recognition of his efforts in founding the society and up-building it during the forty-seven years of its existence.

And now another state has joined the ranks of the clean fair states, at the head of which stands Missouri. The president of the Iowa State Fair Board said a few days ago in a speech: "Fakers and all immoral shows are a thing of the past with the Iowa State Fair, and it should be the aim of all members of this board to conduct its affairs on such a high plane as will meet with the approval of our intelligent and law-abiding citizens."

There are indications on all sides that the time will come when the farmer and his family can attend a county or state fair without being greeted on every hand by the faker and the barker of immoral and disgusting shows.

Mr. Waterstripe suggests in his department that those who have not yet selected their seed corn do so by setting a barrel at the crib door and throwing in the good ears as they find them. We would not do this. Corn that has been frozen is very apt not to grow, and if you have neglected to gather your seed corn early, and stored it in a dry, warm place, it will pay you better now to buy of some one who has looked after it properly. By all means do not plant any or your own seed that has been neglected in this way without first testing it as suggested by Professor Holden in the article in the last Modern Farmer. If you do, you may have a big job of re-planting on your hands.

The Gift I Didn't Get

A Christmas Poem by Peter McArthur

Copyright, 1904, by Peter McArthur



A Girl Who Calls Me Friend

I HAVE presents by the dozen,
 Meant to make my Christmas glad,
 From each uncle, aunt and cousin—
 Best a fellow ever had.
 There's a keepsake from my mother,
 Father sent a check—and yet
 I am thinking of another—
 Of the one I didn't get.

THERE are gifts from all the fellows,
 Pipes and things a chum will send:
 There's a tie, all reds and yellows,
 From a girl who calls me friend.
 You would think me far from slighted
 If you saw them all—and yet,
 I confess, I'm most delighted
 With the one I didn't get.

SHE told me it was ready,
 She'd prepared it long before:
 I'd been calling on her steady
 For at least a year or more.
 She told me all about it,
 And her eyes with tears were wet,
 And I'm happy, never doubt it,
 For that gift I didn't get.

HER attitude was altered
 When I called on her last night,
 But my tale of love I faltered,
 And I guess I did it right.
 And this little rhyme is written
 'Cause I'm full of joy—you bet!
 For a frosty little mitten
 Was the gift I didn't get.



These days when you are sitting by a warm fire in a comfortable home just stop a moment and think if every living creature on your farm is comfortably housed and protected from the storm. If not, resolve to attend to it at once.

* * *

According to Dr. J. C. Whitten of the Missouri Agricultural College the current report that the warm weather has endangered the fruit crop does not coincide with the opinion of the fruit growers throughout the state. "Two hundred growers in attendance at the meeting of the Missouri State Horticultural Society in Neosho, December 20, 21 and 22, decided by unanimous

verdict," says Dr. Whitten, "that prospects in Missouri for all kinds of fruit are the best they have been for seven years."

* * *

A paper should tell something near the truth in its ad columns as well as in its reading columns, and every publisher should see to it that no known false statement has a place in his paper, even though it pays so much per line to get in. Some very reputable papers permit things of this kind. We find an ad in Wallaces' Farmer which says in large, bold type: "Double the food value can be secured from grain fed to live stock if it is cooked." Now, Wallaces' Farmer knows that this

statement is false, and it should not permit any ad to thus mislead, or try to mislead its readers, even if it is a paid ad. Such an ad should not find a place in any paper which makes any pretensions to being truthful, for it has been demonstrated time and again that it does not increase the food value but very little, if any, to cook ordinary feed, and the experiment stations say that it does not pay to do it, even though the cooker people say it does.

* * *

It is reported that the Missouri World's Fair Commission will turn back \$120,000 of the \$1,000,000 appropriated by the state for display, etc., at the exposition. This is not because they handled the money so economically, but because they did not seem to be able to think of enough ways to use up so much money. If \$1,000 or so of this money could have been used to show up the bee and honey industry of the state it would have added very materially to our agricultural display. There was not an ounce of Missouri honey on exhibition at St. Louis so far as we know, notwithstanding the fact that we can produce some of the finest honey in the world, and there are thousands of dollars invested in this state in the industry, with great possibilities of development along this line. A little more honey and less beer at St. Louis would have added materially to the sweetness, moral tone and attractiveness of the big show, if not to its financial income. There was a good deal of "graft" in the agricultural department of the St. Louis exposition, as well as elsewhere, and it was conducted with a view of glorifying a few individuals rather than with a view of helping to benefit the various industries of the state and United States. Surely the bee keepers of the state and nation are not indebted to the commissioners of the state or the management of the World's Fair for any favors shown. They were simply ignored, and beer pushed to the front in their place, because there was more money in it. We wonder if it is not possible to conduct a World's Fair on a moral basis without the faker and beer guzzler.

* * *

The very latest is the National Mosquito Experimentation Society. They held their annual meeting in Washington on December 15. We have not seen a report of the meeting, but we think our readers will be interested in the summing up of the objects of the society as given in an Associated Press dispatch. The object of the convention is the education of the people as to

killing the insects, possible legislation toward their slaughter and co-operation in ridding the country of the insects. Specimens of all kinds will be exhibited, together with the small fish that are active in destroying the larvae.

At first thought one might be inclined to smile at the existence of such a society, but since it has been demonstrated that mosquitoes are the means of scattering the germs which produce all forms of so-called malaria it will be seen that this is an important society, engaged in a very laudable work, for, as the Christian Register says: "We are coming to see not only that 'sickness is felony,' 'but that pestilences will soon be taken to be tokens of stupidity on the part of those who allow them to be spread and fester among the habitations of men. Soon, also, an unhealthy region, which,

ical claptrap about all of this talk. Missouri has been forging to the front for a quarter of a century, but the world seems to have just awakened to that fact. The "ins" and "outs" have very little to do with the development of a state. It is the toiling masses who have brains and energy, and are devoted to the work in which they are engaged that build up the commonwealth, and not the politicians. All the politicians can do is to make laws, and we have more of them now than we need.

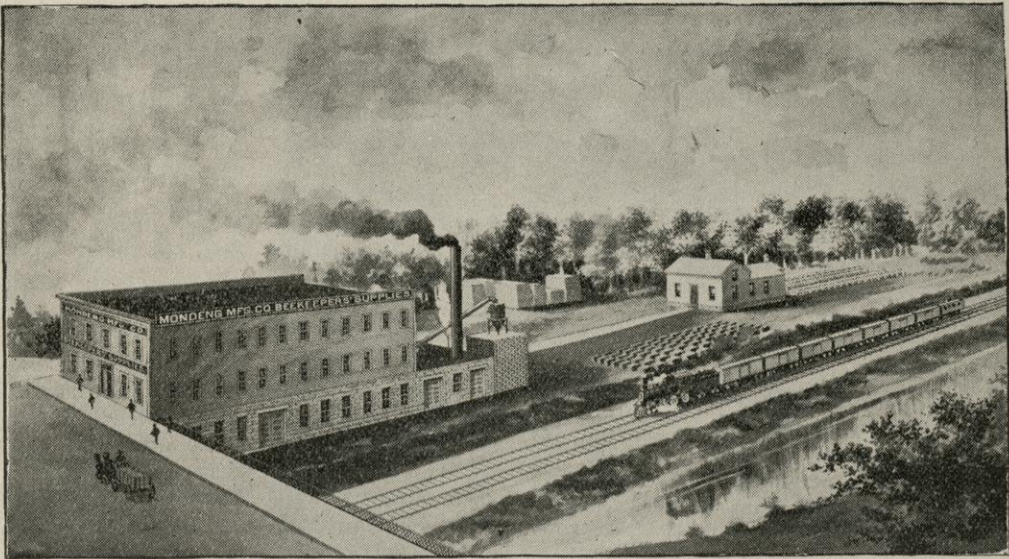
* * *

A bulletin of the United States department of Agriculture says: "From the rather extensive observations and experiments noted on the preceding pages the bureau of entomology concludes that the use of paris green in controlling the boll weevil is abso-

would not know what they meant if they did read them.

* * *

Every boy and girl should be encouraged to select some special line of work out of which to make a living early in life and then be urged to stick to it. There is always danger of failure or loss in a change of occupation. A business which one has thoroughly mastered, even though it be a small one and not so productive as some others, is more likely to prove profitable in the end than one about which one knows but little. Many farmers have not learned this lesson. If they have, they do not seem to profit by it. One year they try corn, another year they try wheat or some other cereal crop, or else they grow hogs for a short time, and because they do not seem to succeed, and hogs are bringing a low



Factory of the Mondeng Mfg. Co. and the Home and Apiary of Mr. Mondeng, Minneapolis, Minn.

by the silent threats of invisible guardians challenges civilization, will be sought as a happy hunting ground for science and humanity."

Long live the mosquito killers!

* * *

There has been a good deal of silly nonsense talked since the election about the "new Missouri," the "redeemed Missouri," etc. We wonder if it has ever occurred to those people that Missouri has been winning prizes over all competitors at World's Fairs for years in almost every department, and especially in the department of live stock. The champion prize winners in the live stock department at Chicago and St. Louis could hardly be said to be the products of this so-called "New Missouri." The truth of the matter is there is a lot of rot and polit-

lutely futile." Then why write a 24-page bulletin about it. Why not tell the story as above, and then spend the people's money to a better purpose? There is a good deal of "graft" in connection with this government bulletin business, and thousands of dollars are wasted every year simply to exploit some man's supposed superior knowledge, or ignorance, as the case may be. Government bulletins are all right in some cases, but the manuscript of a large number of them ought to be consigned to the stove, or waste basket, before it finds its way into print. If this was done many a dollar would be saved to put to a better use, and the people would be none the worse off. Many of these bulletins are never read by anybody but the man who writes them, and the masses of the people

price, they change to cattle, dairying or horses, and so from one year to another they keep changing about from one thing to another, not being thoroughly posted in any special branch of farming or feeling that they are master of the situation in any one productive industry. The man who leaves any industry, or any branch of an industry in which he is posted for one less familiar to him, is always placed at a disadvantage, both as a producer and a seller of any product. One who has spent half a lifetime in growing and marketing sheep need not expect to become at once an expert in rearing and selling white-face cattle. He does not know how to produce the best for the lowest possible outlay, nor how to market them to the best possible advantage when they are produced. In

a word, it pays to know every side of one's business thoroughly, and this is not possible when changes are constantly being made from one business to another, or even from one branch of a business to another.

* * *

The free seed distribution is booked to begin early this year, and the cost of same will be about \$300,000, we are told. This is congress' contribution to the political balderdash of the country. These seeds are not worthless, by any means, as we are sometimes told and read in journals. They are nearly always good seed, and will grow better than many seeds bought out of stores, but they are generally ordinary, most of them very ordinary varieties. The writer has planted some of them almost every year for a number of years, and last year was the first time we have found anything very choice among them. These were carrots and onions, both very fine and choice, but we took so little interest in them that we had thrown away the papers which contained the seeds before we knew the character of the vegetable they would produce, so do not know the name of either. However, good or bad, we cannot keep from asking the question every time our attention is called to this seed distribution, "Why not the government give away 'Billy goats' or donkeys the same as they do seed?" Of course the senators and congressmen could not "frank" them through the mails as they do seed, but the railroads, with an "eye to business," would no doubt be glad to deliver them free for the congressmen for "services rendered" the same as they furnish passes for many people who are not generally supposed to pay "value received in the coin of the realm" for them.

* * *

The Kansas Improved Stock Breeders' Association will hold its regular annual meeting at Topeka, in the capitol building, the same week as the State Board of Agriculture (Monday Tuesday and Wednesday, January 9, 10 and 11); the Kansas Swine Breeders' Association will be in session January 9 to 11; the State Veterinary Medical Association, January 10; the State Bee Keepers' Association, January 10 and 11, and the State Poultry Association will be holding its annual poultry show during the entire week.

* * *

The American Forestry Congress, of which Secretary Wilson is president, which is holding its meeting early in this month in Washington, announces its aim as set forth in the call for the meeting, to be:

"To establish a broader under-

standing of the forest and its relations to the great industries depending upon it; to advance the conservative use of the forest resources for both the present and the future need of these industries; to stimulate and unite all efforts to perpetuate forests as a permanent resource of the nation." This being true, then why not ask congress to remove every vestige of a tariff from lumber? It is all folly to talk about protecting our forests while there is a tariff of any kind, high or low, on lumber. If other people want to denude their forests and sell us their lumber cheap, why not let them do it, pray tell? What benefit is such a tariff to the farmers of America? If we are in real earnest about protecting our forests, let us go at it in a sensible way. There will be some big guns at this meeting, why not they fire a broadside at congress while they are there on the tariff question, as it relates to lumber? Will they do it? Not much! They are afraid of treading on somebody's toes. There are a lot of men who believe in reforms if these reforms do not propose to reform them.

* * *

If it were not a matter of such vital importance to the citizens of Missouri, and of the United States, one would be inclined to smile at the indecent and disgusting scramble which is now being made in this state for the position of United States senator to succeed Senator Cockrell, and that by many men whose sole and only qualification to fill the place, judging by the plea which they set up for themselves, is their "loyalty to their party." Has it ever occurred to these gentlemen that there are a number of people now being kept at the expense of the state at Jefferson City, thanks to Governor-elect Folk, and a number of others who are likely to get there soon, who, too, could plead "loyalty to party?" No one has ever thought, at least lately, of bringing them forward as candidates for the United States senate. No, gentlemen, "loyalty to party" is not all that is needed in order to fill with any degree of credit for the next six years the place which will soon be vacated by Senator Cockrell who, if reports are true, will step out of this place into one of equal, if not greater importance. A small calibered man with a "barrel," and plenty of cheek, and "party loyalty" might represent the politicians, the railroads, the express companies and other trusts and combines, but it will take something more than this to represent the people, the toiling masses of one of the greatest, and for years one of the most prosperous, of all the

states of the Union. There are some whose names have been mentioned in connection with this office, like Major Warner of Kansas City, and others who seem, at least, to measure up to the standard of requirements of such a high position, but will they be able to command the necessary votes to send them to Washington? Time will tell, and we shall see! If they cannot, then the purely accidental condition of things which made it possible for any man who claims to be a Republican to be sent to the senate of the United States from Missouri will not occur again in a hundred years. The Modern Farmer is not a political paper, but it believes in the people, the toiling masses, who go to make up the best citizenship of every free state, and it therefore hopes the people, and not the politicians and combines, may triumph.

* * *

Do not waste or dissipate your nervous energy in useless or non-productive work. The writer knows a man who is near the shady side of sixty who has wasted enough nerve force and vital energy in the last ten years dissertating about the corruption found in Missouri politics to have earned him \$15,000 or \$20,000 in cash if he had only spent his energy and utilized his nervous force in the pursuit of some highly remunerative and productive industry. He is educated, a ravenous reader, and a clear thinker, an eloquent and logical speaker, well posted in all current events, and yet he does not utilize any of this for his own betterment or for the good of his fellowmen. He knows the good and bad of all parties, and has belonged to most of them, and yet has never been for any length of time a positive force in any of them, simply because he has never formulated for himself a line of action, and then stood by his guns with a grim determination to carry on the fight along that line with an earnestness of purpose and enthusiasm which means victory or death. Here is where many people fail. They sputter and waste their vital powers on little things which cannot be helped, or on everything in general and nothing in particular until they have but little vital energy and nervous force left for the real work of life, or for the business they have in hand. One should not lose sight of the fact that while this is not an ideal world in every respect it is in all probability about as good a one as he has ever been in or is likely to be in for some time to come, and that he is the wise citizen who takes things as he finds them, and makes all he can out of the material at hand. We need "re-

formers," it is true, but most men, and women, too, are woefully lacking in the material out of which reformers are made, and we need good farmers, efficient doctors, lawyers, blacksmiths, mechanics and what not, and even good day laborers, very much more than we need reformers. There are a great many things which need improving, but the best possible way to improve them, or at least to begin to improve them, is for each individual to select some productive industry out of which to make a living and lay by sufficient to provide for themselves in old age, and then concentrate at least the major part of their energy on that one thing, not forgetting that they are spiritual, moral and intellectual beings as well as wage-earners. The betterment of society will then take care of itself largely perforce of circumstances. If it does not, one is not likely to help it on much by wasting his energy talking politics or moral reform on street corners, or in the field, when the corn needs plowing, the garden needs hoeing or the hay and wheat need to be looked after. Dissertating to those who have time and are willing to listen about the eternal badness of all parties but the one we belong to, and the superbly essential goodness of "our party," will never work any great and lasting reform, and we very much doubt if it ever changed any man's vote. What the world wants and must have is men and women who can do things—do them now, promptly, accurately, with neatness and dispatch, and who wastes but little energy and vital force telling other people how things should be done.

LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS IN BEE AND POULTRY CULTURE.

Here is an opportunity that may not come again during your entire life. Farm Poultry, one of the best papers of its class in the United States, announces in its December 15th issue that it will begin in its January issue a series of lessons for beginners and continue them until every branch of the industry has been thoroughly covered. These lessons will be written by the editor, and will be of very great interest and value to every one who is engaged in the industry, and especially to beginners.

Farm Poultry is published twice every month, and will be found of great value to every one interested in poultry, whether as a fancier or on the farm. The price of it has been \$1.00 per year, but we are now able to offer it and The Modern Farmer both, one year in advance, for only 55 cents. You

must be paid up in order to take advantage of this offer. We begin in this issue a series of lessons on bee keeping, and here is an opportunity to become thoroughly posted in two important minor industries of the farm. It will only cost 55 cents, and we want to say to our readers that they will miss it if they do not take advantage of this offer at once. As we said before, such an opportunity to get instruction from experts in their special lines may never come again, and surely not for the small sum of 55 cents. Send in your subscription at once and get the first part of each of the lessons. Tell your friends about this, and urge them to join with you. You should act at

once, to increase the profits of the general farmer, who is induced to buy better sires for the improvement of his common stock. It is hardly possible for anyone interested in any branch of the live stock business to attend these meetings without being benefited. The slogan of the association is "exterminate the scrub."

Reduced rates are expected on all the railroads, and every breeder is invited to be present.

BENTON GABBERT, President.
GEO. B. ELLIS, Secretary.

A STORY OF GRAFTS.

"Speaking of grafts, that reminds me," said the manager of the Missouri University football team, "of the army



(Courtesy of Col. Willy of Hotel Monthly.)

A HIGH PRICED PONY—A Scene in Krug Park, St. Joseph, Mo. Col. Willy said to the boy, I will give you \$50 for the pony. "You can't buy a hair of this pony for \$50," was the boy's answer.

once while we have copies of the January issue.

LIVE STOCK MEETING.

Please announce that the eighth annual meeting of the Improved Live Stock Breeders' Association of Missouri will be held under the auspices of the State Board of Agriculture in the Agricultural College, Columbia, January 11, 12 and 13, 1905.

The primary object of this association is the development of the pure bred live stock business of the state. In doing this we aim to accomplish two very desirable things. First, to increase the business of those engaged in breeding pure bred live stock. Sec-

ond, to increase the profits of the general farmer, who is induced to buy better sires for the improvement of his common stock. It is hardly possible for anyone interested in any branch of the live stock business to attend these meetings without being benefited. The slogan of the association is "exterminate the scrub."

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of grafters that besieged us at the Missouri-Kansas game this year. One fellow came to me and said he represented two state senators and that they wanted four tickets each. If they did not get them he said it would go hard with the university when the next appropriation bill came up. Another grafter said that he was sent to me by the Metropolitan Street Railway Company officials, who said if they didn't get a certain number of tickets free they wouldn't put on extra cars for the game. I convinced him that it was more to the Metropolitan's advantage to have these cars than it was to mine, and he went away. But the prime feature of the day was when a minister of

the gospel approached me and said he was going to lecture on the evil of football and wanted a ticket for himself, so he could see the game actually played."—Missouri University Bulletin.

What is football itself but a "graft," and one of the worst type? There was a time when young men and women went to universities to prepare themselves for the practical duties of life. It was well put by the chairman of the curators of our own university a short time ago when he said: "The primary function of the university is to give an education. The object of our being here is not to make football players, but to make students into useful citizens." However, the highest ambition of some students now seems to be to learn how to kick a rubber ball around scientifically (?) whatever that may mean. We wonder what this has to do with university work, anyway. The writer was talking a few days ago to a young lady who had just returned home from the University of Missouri to spend the holidays, and the thing that seemed to have impressed itself on her mind the most vividly while she was there, judging from what she talked about, was the football games she had

witnessed. She discoursed very fluently on the scientific way she had seen some of these games played. Has science degenerated to this exhibition of beastliness and brutality, and is this what we send our boys and girls to learn and pay our taxes to perpetuate in the state of Missouri? The Modern Farmer hopes not. Some of the eastern colleges have drawn the line at football and the gambling which always goes along with it when conducted in a professional way, and we hope the day is not far distant when our own university will do the same thing. We have no hesitancy in saying that such manifestations of the gambling spirit and beastliness as generally accompany such games is no credit to the powers that be at any university, even though these things may bring a few more students. A daily or weekly horse race, a prize fight, or a Spanish bull fight would no doubt bring more students, and one is no more demoralizing and disgusting than the other. They are all a relic of barbarism, and ought to be discarded by men and women of intelligence and culture.

the publishers say, "We are going to rise or fall on this principle." Good for Poultry! We hope the readers of the Modern Farmer will remember this and select Poultry in their clubs when they are sending in their subscriptions. Let us stand by the papers who keep their pages clean and free from fakes.

It is seldom that one sees in a single issue of a magazine three such clever articles by women as Elizabeth M. Gilmer, Eliza Calvert Hall and Anna A. Rogers contribute to the January issue of "The Twentieth Century Home." The first takes "Some Women We Could Do Without" as her topic, the second, "How to be a Successful Old Maid," and the third, "Navy Women." Aside from the subjects, the style of their treatment is such as to make their perusal a pleasure and a profit.

A press bulletin from the Texas Experiment Station says that the people of that state are beginning to turn their attention to the cultivation of alfalfa, and in view of the fact that much of the seed of alfalfa is adulterated, the Station proposes to make free examinations of any samples of seed mailed them by any citizens of the state. The bulletin contains much valuable information about alfalfa seed, but it is too long to reproduce in our columns. A copy of it can be had by addressing Prof. John A. Craig, director, College Station, Texas.

Another important bulletin of the same station is entitled "Experiments in Steer Feeding," and both of these bulletins will prove of special interest to our Texas readers.

About Books and Periodicals.

By the Editor.

We want this department to be of permanent value to our readers. We, therefore, invite publishers to send us copies of books and periodicals of special interest to farmers. They will receive careful attention in this department. Always mention *The Modern Farmer* when writing to publishers about any book or periodical mentioned here.

Pearson's Magazine for January presents a remarkable collection of interesting special articles and clever short stories, numbering in all eighteen.

Bulletin No. 59 of the Bureau of Animal Industry treats of the farm separator and its relation to the creamery patron. It should find a place in the library of all those who patronize creameries.

Few people have any idea of the millions of dollars which are wasted by the modern society men and women in pandering to their love of luxury. "The Reckless Luxury of Modern Hotel Life" in the January Woman's Home Companion gives a glimpse of this expenditure that will startle the average reader.

"The Cosmopolitan" is running a series on "The Great Industries of the United States" which is arousing much interest. The January issue describes the manufacture of musical instruments, and most people will be surprised to learn of the magnitude of this important business in this country. Very interesting pictures especially taken for this article accompany the text.

A small house for the country or suburbs that unites practical and artistic

features in an effective manner is illustrated in the January Delineator and will prove interesting to intending home builders. The wide veranda—a point of note—is of field stone, which is carried around on one side to inclose a well. The interior treatment of woodwork gives a dignified setting to the furnishings and simplifies the problem of wall and door hangings, red oak being employed throughout the first story and carried up the stairway. Long window seats, quaint mantels and leaded glass windows supply an atmosphere of individuality, and the floor plans in their economical arrangement are especially suggestive.

"Samuel Gompers, Representative of American Labor," is the subject of an interesting sketch in the January Review of Reviews by Dr. Walter E. Weyl. The recent reelection of Mr. Gompers to the presidency of the American Federation of Labor, in connection with the strongly organized opposition to the Federation and to unionism in general on the part of the employers' associations, gives special point to Dr. Weyl's article.

Poultry for December is a gem and full of good things, but the thing that strikes us the most favorably is all told in a few words. "Patent medicines do not go into Poultry," is what

"Bacteria, Yeast and Molds in the Home," by Prof. H. W. Conn. Published by Ginn & Co., New York. Price \$1.00. Cloth. 300 pages.

There are a multitude of books published every year, some of them worthless, or nearly so, some of them fairly good, and some of them very good. Others are so timely, helpful and suggestive that they become at once almost an absolute necessity to a large number of people. The above book belongs to the latter class, and we wish it might be read by every head of a family, and every housewife in the land, as well as by every young man and woman who wishes to keep abreast of the times. Molds, yeasts and bacteria probably have about as much to do with the weal or woe of humanity as any other three things which can be named, and yet there are, no doubt, scores of people who would be inclined at first thought to say with regard to this book, "That is nothing that I care about. What have I to do with these things?" There might have been some excuse for such a remark some few years ago, but the last decade has witnessed many demonstrations of the fact that micro-organisms play a very important part in the economy of the home, either as a friend or enemy of the human family. There is no housewife but what has to do with molds, helpful or injurious; with yeasts that aid her in bread making, and in other ways; and with bacteria, good and bad, that aid her in a multitude of ways, or else sow seeds of decay and death

in the physical organs of her loved ones. To know the life-history of these organisms, to know which are good and which are bad, to know how to aid their growth or to check their development when they are not wanted, or are destructive in their nature, is of vital importance to every one who has the care of a modern home. All of this, and more, too, will be found in this carefully written book of about 300 pages. While the book is accurate from a scientific standpoint, it is written in such language that any one can understand it, and it should be read and studied in every home.

DO NOT GIVE MONEY TO STREET BEGGARS.

"Money should never be given to street beggars," says Theodore Waters in "Six Weeks in Beggardom," in *Everybody's Magazine* for January. "It is impossible for the average person to discriminate off-hand between the genuinely needy and the professional panhandler. There are many over-kind people who prefer to give to all rather than that one go hungry, and if there were no depots of immediate relief such as I have already described, this might prove a good rule. But in the existing conditions the possible consequences are too fraught with danger to the genuinely unfortunate for the practice to be continued by any right-thinking persons.

"The danger of giving the unfortunate money off-hand is that you may force him into the ranks of professional beggardom. However honest he may be in first intention, unless he have a definite goal before his eyes—and men who are down and out seldom have such—he will more than likely

return to the same free fountain at which he so easily quaffed his initial thirst. There are many cases to prove this. I know of one man who until a year or two ago owned a profitable little fruit-shop in a side street far down town. One night, having locked up the shop and being ready to start home, he found himself by accident without money to pay his carfare. He stopped a man on the street and asked him for five cents. He got it so easily that he determined next day to tell the story often and get many nickels. He did so, and the practice became so remunerative that despite his wife's pleadings and protests he sold the little shop and became a regular beggar."

Poultry Feeding and Fattening. A handy book for poultry keepers on the standard and improved methods of feeding and marketing all kinds of poultry. By George B. Fiske. Published by Orange, Judd & Co., New York. Price 50 cents.

The subject of feeding and fattening poultry is prepared from the side of the best practice and experience in this country and abroad, both the underlying principles and science of feeding is explained as fully as is necessary in such a publication. The book tells how to feed all kinds of poultry, including chickens, broilers, capons, turkeys and water fowl. How to feed them under various conditions and for different purposes. The subject of capons and caponizing is treated in detail. A great deal of practical information and experience not readily obtained elsewhere is given with full and explicit directions for fattening and preparing for market. Poultry raisers of every kind and description will find this a valuable and handy book. It may be ordered through this office.

rinse off and wipe the hands dry. It will make them smooth and soft.

The *Journal of Agriculture* tells us that vinegar that is exposed to the light becomes flat and tasteless. If this is true the vinegar cruet should not be left standing on the table, but be put away in a dark cupboard when not in use.

One need not ask for a more delicious dish than are the best California prunes cooked properly. Wash them in two or three waters, cover with cold water and stand them in a covered stewpan on the back of the range and let them steam, but never boil, for a half-day, or longer, until they are plump and tender as the fresh fruit. No sugar will be needed, unless one's "sweet tooth" is abnormally large.

It is a good thing to find some use for the fiery liquid that "damns mens' souls," and the Texas Stockman gives us the following:

"When it is necessary to clean winnows in damp weather use a little methylated spirit and you will polish the windows in half the time, as the spirit evaporates and dries the superfluous moisture as it goes."

The spirit referred to is what is known as wood alcohol, which is generally understood to kill quicker than the other kind.

The following is quoted by the *Farmer's Voice*, and is too good to pass unnoticed. We many times allow little, insignificant annoyances to vex us, and cry out at little stabs from ill-tempered people that in a day or a week are forgotten. If we would learn to let them pass, as we do little pin pricks and scratches, without making a fuss about it, we would be the better for it:

"Somebody who writes with a keen appreciation of the things which most undeservedly but none the less surely annoy and vex us has given this sage advice, which is worthy of more than a passing consideration: The art of not hearing should be learned by all, There are so many things which it is painful to hear, very many which, if heard, will disturb the temper, corrupt simplicity and modesty, detract from contentment and happiness. If a man fall into a violent passion and calls all manner of names, at the first words we should shut our ears and hear no more. If in a quiet voyage of life we find ourselves caught in one of those domestic scoldings we should shut our ears as a sailor would furl his sail, and, making all tight, scud before the gale. If a hot, restless man begins to inflame our feelings we should consider what mischief the fiery sparks may do in our magazine below, where our temper is kept, and instantly close the door. If all the petty things said of a man by heedless and ill-natured idlers were brought home to him he would become a mere walking pincushion stuck full of sharp remarks. If we would be happy when among good men we should open our ears; when among bad men shut them. It is not worth while what our neighbors say about our children, what our rivals say about our business, our dress or our affairs."

THE FARMER'S HOME.

EMMA INGOLDSBY ABBOTT, Editor

A happy and prosperous home means a happy and prosperous country.

"If I have faltered more or less
In my great task of happiness;
If I have moved among my race
And shown no glorious morning
face;
If beams from happy human eyes
Have moved me not; if morning
skies,
Books and my food, and summer
rain,
Knocked on my sullen heart in vain;
Lord, thy most pointed pleasure
take,
And stab my spirit broad awake."

Ordinary metal polishes do not affect galvanized iron when discolored, but if it is first rubbed well with coal oil, or kerosene, and then washed with strong, clear suds it can be made to look like new.

It is a dangerous practice to use galvanized iron water pails for drinking water. Muriatic acid is used in the process of galvanizing, and this poisons water that stands in the pails for any length of time.

Wool underwear irritates some skins so that wearing it is torture. The heaviest cotton cannot equal wool in warmth, but if a light cotton garment is worn next the skin and a medium weight wool over that, one will get the warmth of the wool without its discomfort.

If you have a jelly press or potato ricer press your squash or pumpkin through it when making pies. It will do the work as well and in a fraction of the time it takes to put it through a colander. If you have no jelly press you can save time by mixing the milk with the pulp before putting through the colander.

Pass a good thing along. The papers this winter are all recommending salt to prevent chapped hands. This is good, and is always handy. After washing the hands, and before drying them, rub salt over them, working it into the tips of the fingers if they are prone to crack and get sore. Then

THE FARM IN GENERAL

E. J. WATERSTRIPE, Editor.

Are your cattle well protected for the winter?

Water the horse at least twice a day during the winter.

Don't require the hens to plow around in the snow, or the eggs will be minus.

Get a sack of crushed oyster shells if you want more eggs. Keep before the hens all the time.

Save the manure and haul it out and scatter as fast as made. What pays better than manure?

Do not sell your clover hay off the farm. It is too valuable as a feed, and worth much as a fertilizer.

Saw your wood during the odd hours. You will feel better after sawing wood for an hour if you have nothing else to do.

If you did not select your seed corn while gathering, be sure to do it now by placing a barrel at the crib door and throwing in the selected ears while feeding during the winter.

Resolve to do better farming this year than the last. Adopt better methods, and aim to grow more corn and grass to the acre. Make your plans this winter.

Probably many subscriptions to farm papers have now expired. If you like the paper be sure to renew it, so as to not miss a copy. Don't neglect the supply of farm literature for the coming year. You cannot tell what it will be worth to you.

It has been found out at the Missouri experiment station that cheap gains can be made on cattle by feeding a small amount of corn with a good quantity and quality of clover hay. The feeding of seventeen pounds of clover hay and six pounds of corn each gave a daily gain of two pounds. Clover is valuable in meat producing, and this should set farmers who feed cattle to thinking. The aim of the feeder should be to produce the cheapest gains. Cheap gains mean profit, if the

market is not so high. Even if corn is fed in larger amounts it will be economy to feed some clover hay. It also serves to make a better quality of meat.

Some people will preach that you must patronize home trade. I take no stock in such talk. I have just as much right to send my dollars to the large city as my home merchant has. If not, why not? The home merchant takes a profit out first, and when I order goods I keep that profit in my pocket. Do not let the home merchant

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Agricultural Epitomist,
The Mayflower, and
Ten Beautiful Bulbs

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make you believe that you will get a cheap grade of goods put off on you. There is not as much danger in trading with a good, reliable city house as at home. Does not the home merchant beat you sometimes? Do not be afraid, Brother Farmer. You can order goods just as well as your home merchant can. Buy where you can do it best.

"Now, Tommy" how often do you want me to speak to you about your misbehavior?"

"I ain't partic'lar, ma. Suit yourself."



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to give satisfaction.**

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NORMAL . . . ILLINOIS.

Farm Live Stock.

Conducted by N. J. SHEPHERD, Associate Editor.

There is no question but that when hogs are given a good variety of food suited to their wants we shall reduce the risks of loss from disease and greatly cheapen the product.

Horses that are judiciously fed and well groomed will stand double the amount of hard work that they would under careless treatment, and, as a rule are liable to live to a much greater age.

No aged sow that has proved herself a good breeder and suckler should be disposed of to make room for new and untried sows as long as she will raise large litters of good pigs.

By breeding to young and immature sows from year to year the herds can easily be injured, as each succeeding generation will be smaller and less hardy than the preceding.

The secret of profitable pork production consists in pushing the animal when young, so that it is ready for market early, and giving food adapted to the wants and condition of the animal.

With all classes of stock, and at all times it is of the highest importance to make a wise selection of food, that the animal may have what will economically supply its needs and conform to its natural tendencies.

Everything else being equal, the preference is always in favor of the handsome, stylish, good-looking horses, and those who want to raise the taking kind of horses must bear this in mind when selecting the brood mares or stallions.

One strong argument in favor of quick growth and early maturity is the fact that the younger the stock the less per cent of feed it requires in proportion to weight to secure additional weight and the less risks of loss.

With the young brood sows, during the winter, feed as is necessary to keep thrifty and such food as will produce growth of bone and muscle, and in some way compel exercise, which is absolutely required to produce a healthy and strong frame.

No matter how well you may feed your horse, the feed will not amount to anything unless the animal has a good appetite and digestion. You must have a good appetite in the animal, if you expect to have stamina and vigor of constitution.

Animals breathe, as it were, through the pores of the skin, as well as by means of their lungs. Dirt stops up these pores and throws greater burdens upon the lungs, promoting disease and acting prejudicially to the products as food for human consumption. There

should be a free and constant communication between the air and the pores, which is prevented by dirt on the skin, and for this reason the air in the stables should be pure. Rubbing and grooming promotes healthfulness in the skin by keeping it clean.

An animal that is fed in winter only enough to keep him from losing will be no better in the spring than five months previous, and unless the price per pound has raised in the meantime your feed and care have been wasted.

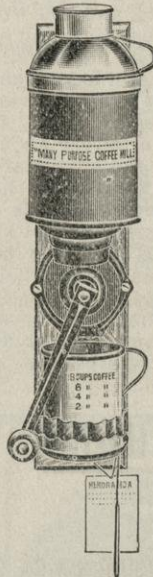
It takes a certain amount of feed and care to keep even, and the profits, if there are any, are to be obtained only by extra pushing.

The only gain the farmer has in feeding his animals, otherwise than in giving milk, is the growth and increase in flesh. This constitutes most of the profit, and is produced by such food as will enable the animal to consume the largest amount possible without waste.

Mares in foal should have exercise and moderate work, but under no circumstances should they be subjected to harsh treatment, nor should they ever be allowed to go where they are in danger of being frightened or startled.

Breakfast Luxury

Assured by using the MANY PURPOSE COFFEE MILL. Keeps unground coffee in air tight canister, feeds it to mill as needed.



Your breakfast drink always the same.

Working parts of the mill are of chilled iron—very durable. Thumb screw adjustment for changing grind from coarse to fine.

Various parts of the mill may be used as cookie cutters, gravy strainer, measuring cup etc.

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PUBLISHER'S DEPARTMENT.

We are willing to do all we can to make the ads of our patrons attractive, but no free "readers" will be given to anyone.

We have no editorial opinions for sale at any price.

All reading notices will be placed on this page, or the ones immediately following.

All advertising must be paid in advance when satisfactory references are not furnished, and then collections will be made monthly, and all bills are due as soon as a copy of the paper containing the ad is received. Send references when you send your ad and save time. We want them to protect our readers as well as ourselves. If you do not pay your bills promptly, we do not want your patronage.

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AGRICULTURAL EPITOMIST, SPENCER, IND.

BEEKEEPING ON THE FARM.

BY THE EDITOR.

The second annual meeting of the Kansas State Beekeepers' Association will be held at the State Capitol building, Topeka, Kans., January 10th and 11th, 1905.

O. A. KEENE, Sec'y.

Editor Modern Farmer:

Will you please insert notice of the Annual Convention of the Wisconsin State Beekeepers' Association to be held at Supervisor's room, court house, Madison, Wis., February 1 and 2.

GUS DITTMER, Sec'y.

The annual meeting of the Nebraska Beekeepers' Association will be held at the Experiment Station at Lincoln, on Monday, January 16, 1905, at 2 o'clock p. m. This will be one of the first meetings in the weeks series.

E. WHITCOMB, Pres.

L. D. STILSON, Sec.
York, Neb.

The editor of The Modern Farmer made a hasty trip to Minnesota last month and visited the annual meeting of the Minnesota Beekeepers' State Association. He found about as live a set of beekeepers as one ever meets. It was our first visit to Minnesota, and to say that we enjoyed it would be putting it very mildly. We have attended a great many meetings during our time, meeting many strangers, but we were never in a place before in our life where we felt more at home than we did among the beekeepers in Minnesota. The result was we had a thoroughly enjoyable visit, and only regretted that our stay with those people could not be longer. When we came away we felt that we were parting from friends we had known a lifetime. Minnesota beekeepers know how to make strangers feel at home.

There are two bee hive factories in Minneapolis, but we only found time to visit one of them while there, The Mondeng Manufacturing Company. Mr. M. is an old hand at the business, is an excellent mechanic, as well as a practical beekeeper, and an untiring worker. We greatly enjoyed our short visit with himself and family at his home. Their factory is all new and well-equipped. Mr. M. has two excellent, live, energetic young men associated with him in the business, and they deserve to succeed, and we can see no reason why they should not. We show on another page an illustration of their factory, Mr. H.'s home, and apiary of fine bees, where he raises choice queens.

John Doll and son own the other factory, known as the Minnesota Beekeepers' Supply Company, one of our valued advertisers, but we did not have time to visit their factory. We met the son, however, and his excellent wife, and have no hesitancy in saying that if the rest of the firm are as pleasant and affable as Mr. D. and his wife seem to be they, too, deserve abundant success. The night we came home Mr. Doll and his wife went with us to our train, and

we thoroughly enjoyed our visit with them until time for us to leave. We shall surely make an effort to meet with these good people another year, as it does one good to come in contact with such live, energetic men and women who are so thoroughly devoted to the industry in which they are engaged.

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We will send the Modern Farmer free to every woman who is a member of the National Bee Keepers' Association. All she has to do is to say on a postal card, "I am a member of the National and my dues are paid up to— (and give the date). The paper will be sent to her until that time, and when she renews her membership, we will renew it if she will write us a card as before. If not, the paper will be stopped at the end of the time.



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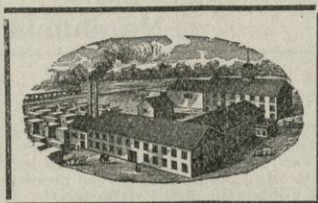
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GUS DITTMER,
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LESSONS FOR THE BEGINNER IN BEE-KEEPING.

Introduction.

A writer on how to cook a hare began by saying, "First catch the your hare." This is very good advice and may well be used as the basis for the first lesson in bee-keeping. First get your bees. But, says one, "Are there not different kinds of bees?" Yes, there are different kinds of bees, but you can learn some things from the kind you have, or can get with the least trouble, and after you have learned these things you will be in a better position to decide which is the best, and select the kind you want. Suppose, before you read any further, you take your pencil and write down a list of the kinds of bees you know anything about, and also of the good and bad things you know about them, and then mail this paper to the editor of the Modern Farmer, and any questions you want to ask. This is to be a school for those who want to learn bee-keeping, and a teacher in any well ordered school in these times does not do all the talking. You must have your say and think, especially your think, as we go along, for, as Maeterlinck says, "It is with them as with all that is deeply real; they must be studied, and one must learn how to study them."

Well, there are good bees and bad bees the same as there are good and bad people. A good bee is one that does not resent being handled in a proper and intelligent way. Do not overlook "proper" and "intelligent" handling? Can you tell? A good bee is one that remains quiet on the combs when the hive is opened and the frames are handled; one that does not fly up into your face, nor run all over the hive, and finally pile up with its sisters in one corner of the hive. Why do we say "sisters?" Are worker bees male or female? A good bee, as represented in the queen, is one that lays a great many worker eggs and but few drone eggs. Have you ever seen a queen and can you write down what she looks like? Do you know how many kinds of eggs a queen can lay? Tell us on paper. A good bee is one that gets out early in the morning and works late at night, one that brings in plenty of nectar, some pollen, but little propolis. Can you tell what propolis, nectar and pollen are? A good bee for the production of comb honey is one which caps its honey over white, and goes into the supers readily, is prolific, as represented in the queen, and yet is not given to too much swarming. Do you know what makes bees swarm and what bees go out to make up the swarm? There are other things which go along with these we have mentioned to make up the sum total of what we may call a good bee, but we will learn this a little farther on. How many things can you write down now which you think go to make a good bee? Write them down and mail them to the editor. A bad bee is one that is inclined to sting everybody and everything which comes near it. Do you know how a bee stings and what makes the sting hurt? A bad bee is everything which a good bee

is not, and is the very opposite of the qualities which are commendable in a good bee. Bees are big and little, according to the kind, and are different colors, but color is not necessarily an index to good and bad qualities. What is the color of the best bees you know anything about? Tell us about them. If you have any bees now, try and find out by what has been said above, whether they are good or bad bees. If you do not have any, wait until spring, about the time fruit comes into bloom, and then buy you just one colony of the very best you can find near home. See that they are in a good movable frame hive. Do you know what a good hive is? If not, we will try and find out before we get through with these lessons. The spring is the best time to buy bees, as they are then ready to begin the season's work. If they are fairly strong at the beginning of fruit bloom, they will soon build up into a strong colony, if they have a good young queen, and soon throw out at least one swarm. They will also

gather a goodly quantity of surplus honey if the season is at all favorable, and they are properly handled. A colony of good bees in a good hive will cost you anywhere from \$4 to \$6, depending on the kind of hive they are in, locality, and the character of the bees, variety, etc. In our next lesson, we will take up the study of the individual bee and see how a bee is built, etc. How many kinds of bees there are in a colony, what they are there for, etc. Then a little later, we will discuss the varieties of bees, find out which is the best as near as we can, and then we will be ready to take up the practical side of the question. It will probably then be late enough for you to purchase your first colony, if you do not have any now. We have probably given you enough to think about for the next month and by the time we have read the answers which you are to send in to our questions, we will be in shape to learn some things which you must know to make a success of bee-keeping.

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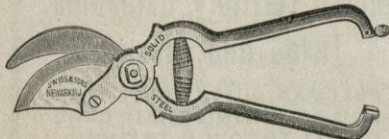
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SOME THINGS OUT OF JOINT.

The following, which is condensed from Commercial Poultry, seems to fit the condition of things which prevails in the National Bee Keepers Association so perfectly that we reproduce it here, and our readers can label it poultry or bees, which ever they prefer:

As the American Poultry Association is conducted today it is not a representative association; it is not serving the purpose for which it was organized; it is not a champion of the masses, but of the classes.

Its affairs are dominated by less than a half dozen members who seem to have lost sight of the fact that each individual member has rights and privileges that should be considered, and demands that should be satisfied. It is not surprising that accusations of cunning and intrigue are hurled at some of its members when the events of the past year or two are reviewed. It is not surprising that some of the most prominent poultrymen in the country refuse to affiliate with the association. It is not surprising that so little interest is taken in the association by so many of its members.

It is surprising, however, that an intelligent body of men (and women) will sit in silence and allow measures to be adopted that are contrary to reason, and antagonistic to their best interests, without making a protest.

This is where the membership—the rank and file—is at fault. There is only one way to make the A. P. A. a representative association, and that is for each member present to carefully consider each and every question that comes before the body—asking questions necessary, and demanding a thorough discussion before a vote is taken.

* * * At the recent meeting held in St. Louis we saw members voting against their own interests, unconsciously, simply because they had not given the questions at issue the consideration and thought they deserved. They seemed to take it for granted that because a question was supported by those prominent in the affairs of the A. P. A., and in the poultry industry, it must be right, and they fell into line without a murmur, voting with those they have come to regard as leaders, without consulting their own best interests.

The rank and file seem to be awed into silence, while a few—a half dozen or less—run things to suit themselves, regardless of the interests of the great army of breeders and fanciers which they represent. It would be the easiest thing in the world to change this state of affairs if each member would consult his own interests and the interests of his brother fanciers, and vote according to the dictates of his own reason and intelligence, refusing to be influenced by those who have personal ends to gain, and who are prompted in their endeavor by mercenary motives.

It is indeed time that the A. P. A. had a housecleaning. It is time that the "common people" had their interests protected and advocated. It is time that the members arose in their might and demanded their rights. There should be no place within the A. P. A. for cliques, rings, or demagogues, and when the association washes her hands

of all these, she will be infinitely better off, and every member can hold up his head and take pride in the fact that he is a member of so grand an organization.

It is up to the members to see that this is done.

Will they do it?

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To the person sending the best list of names we will present \$25.00 in gold; 2nd best \$15.00; 3rd best \$10.00.

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Remember—Send just ten names from one P. O. Do not send names of children or people not interested in farming. We give away the \$50 in order to get select lists and you cannot get your share of it unless you choose your names carefully.

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SHOOK OR SHAKEN.

Editor York and Dr. Miller seem to be somewhat troubled because Editor Root persists in using the word "shook" in speaking of artificial swarms made by shaking the bees off of the combs, and their nerves seem to be somewhat "shaken" by the persistent shaking of this word under their noses.

Now, Webster gives "shook" as an obsolete or poetical past participle of shake, and the Century Dictionary speaks of it as a dialectical form. The adjective form "shaken" is defined as follows: "Cause to shake, agitated, cracked or checked, split, impaired as by a shock," which, is not, correctly speaking, what we mean when talking about bees. Now, since this form of shake has come to have these special meanings, which do not express the idea at all that we want to express about bees, why try to give this word a new meaning, or another meaning? Why not revive the word "shook," which was formerly used in that way and is now permitted when used poetically or dialectically, according to Webster and the Century Dictionaries, and use it to express this new condition of things which it will express fully and clearly? Our advice to Editor Root is to stand by his guns, for, up to date, we believe he has the best of the argument on his side.

Editor York seems, also, to be troubled because Editor Root uses the word "claws" in speaking of the wax press. He says: "He 'claws' the hot stuff." Editor York says: "We sometimes think that the material under consideration would be loosened up just as much if stirred with a stick as if clawed." Not by any means. "Claw" means "to scrape, scratch or dig with a claw, or with the hand as a claw," and "stir" would not be a strong enough word in this case.

If two darkies got in a fight and one "clawed" the other's eye out, you would not think of saying that the fellow had his eye "stirred" out. Stir would be tame. You might stir syrup, but you must claw beeswax refuse.

SUGAR SYRUP IS NOT HONEY

Editor Hutchinson of that excellent but sometimes slow-going magazine, the Bee Keepers Review, for reasons not clearly apparent to the general public, but perfectly clear to those of us who remember that he was once an enthusiastic advocate of what was then wrongly called "sugar honey," seems to be unduly troubled over what he is pleased to name "reckless assertions." The last number of the Review contains quite an editorial on the subject, which evidently was intended as a fling at the editor of the Modern Farmer. However, we are not greatly troubled about it, as this is not the first "reckless" fling that has come from the same source. As the thrusts have acted as a boomerang, and have injured the flinger more than they have any one else, we would pass this one by if it did not mean so much, and if we did not fear that the public might not see clearly the real facts in the case, and thus an injury might be done to our industry. We have asserted a

number of times, and we assert again that sugar syrup fed to bees and stored in the combs is not honey, and bears no more relation to the honey produced by bees from the nectar gathered from flowers and stored in the combs, than charcoal or graphite does to a diamond, and we defy the editor of the Review to controvert this assertion. A young chemical student who has only learned things from the standpoint of chemistry might say that charcoal or the pencil we write with is the same as a diamond, but the most veritable ignoramus in the land would not exchange the diamond for charcoal, or claim that he could manufacture a diamond out of powdered charcoal by mixing it with paste. The substances are identical from a chemical standpoint, but men cannot make diamonds because there is lacking a certain "vital energy" which makes things what they are and differentiates them from all other things in the making. Dr. Wiley has never said that sugar syrup stored in the combs by bees becomes honey, as one might infer from this article. Editor Hutchinson's talk about the "positive knowledge of scientists" is mere rot, and there is nothing in it. No scientist has any "positive knowledge" that bees can store sugar syrup in the combs, and in the process make honey out of it, and the sooner editors stop talking that kind of nonsense the better it will be for our industry. That bees make some chemical changes in the nectar of flowers before, or after it is stored in the combs, no one denies, but none of the learned gentlemen whose names appear in the article referred to know exactly beyond a doubt just what this change is, and exactly how it is made. Professor Cook has theorized as to how it is done, but the late Prof. Cheshire, who was

equally as well equipped as Prof. Cook, and from whom Prof. Cook got a good many hints, if nothing more, on the subject of bees and honey, said that it is not that way at all. So, there you are! and we shall go on saying that bees do not, and cannot, make "honey" out of sugar syrup.

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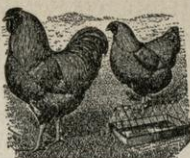
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FARM POULTRY.

IT PAYS TO KEEP THE BEST.



The Kansas City Poultry Show will be held on January 24 to 30 in Convention Hall. Liberal premiums and liberal patronage may be expected by all poultry fanciers who attend. P. H. De Pree is secretary and H. H. Borgman, superintendent, to whom all stock should be shipped.

A gentleman in California has sent us a series of questions relating to the special subject discussed in this department to be answered by our readers, and suggests that we publish one at a time, and ask every one who reads this department to send in brief answers to it. Here is his first question: "What class of hens are most desirable for the production of eggs?" Now please tell us what you know about this subject in a brief way, not using more than ten or fifteen lines of space, and we will soon have some very interesting and helpful reading matter in the poultry department.

Pigeons have one great advantage over other poultry for the amateur, they are among the few domestic fowls that feed their own young. Both male and female have the power to secrete a digestive substance, sometimes called "pigeon's milk" on which they feed the nestlings exclusively at first, adding gradually hard grain until the young are strong enough to find for themselves.

Feeding the old ones is quite a simple matter. Cracked corn, Canada peas, or Kaffir corn are all good for them; in fact, the three grains mixed and fed daily make a good staple diet. For other feeds, use wheat, hemp-seed, and, one day in the week, stale bread. Let there be plenty of grit with all the feed and see that there is always a boxful in the yard and house, and another of broken-up rock-salt.

The house and nests must be kept absolutely clean. Go the rounds once a week and remove all droppings (to be carefully saved, of course, for fertilizing). Empty the bedding from each nest from which squabs have been taken, giving the earthen dish a wash in hot water and soda. Wash out the compartments the nests were in with whitewash. When dry return the nest to its place, and put a small handful of tobacco stems or pine needles into it. They make a soft foundation for the egg and destroy vermin.—Pearson's.

FIRST COST OF DUCKS.

A trio of good, ordinary market stock should be purchased for about seven dollars. Ducks are not like hens; they do not lay all the year round, but when they start they are attentive to the business of egg production daily, so that a couple of mature Pekins will provide you with a setting in six days. As you will want to keep some of the young ones for next year's stock, ask

the breeder you buy from to ship you birds two years old, as their progeny is stronger.

Pekins never want to sit, so hens must be used for hatching until your stock is large enough to fill an incubator in a few days; artificial duck raising is without doubt the best. Think of one farm in Massachusetts that markets forty-five thousand ducks annually, sells two tons of feathers, and keeps twelve hundred breeders! Would such an immense business be possible in the old way?

Though Pekins don't need water to swim in, they must have quantities to drink, always fresh and clean, which means that drinking pans must be re-



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filled three times a day, and be so constructed as to enable the bird to submerge the whole bill in the water. Why? Because there are two small holes at the base of the bill which become clogged with feed or mud, and unless they can rinse these out when drinking the poor things smother.

A man who had a broiler farm near

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Fairview, Kan.

our place, three years ago, bought a hundred ducks' eggs, hatched out a fine lot of youngsters, and lost every one within two weeks through using a water fountain in the brooder that was too shallow. As I had lots of ducks at the time, he brought some over for me to see. There was nothing whatever the matter with them except that their little nostrils were all stopped up with the food. So pray remember this very important direction when you are arranging drinking water for ducks, young or old—they must not be able to get into the pan with their feet or bodies, but their entire heads must have free entrance.—Pearson's.

CHICKENS AND COWS.

Many persons want to know if the poultry business runs smoothly with the dairy business. In my own experience it is just the thing as a side industry in connection with dairying. We raise Bronze turkeys, Pekin ducks and Brown Leghorn chickens with success. A dairyman can create the same demand for his brand of eggs as he can for his butter, by having every egg fresh and from one breed of fowls, so that eggs will be of one color and size. Customers will pay an advance over store prices for eggs they can depend on being fresh. The same rule applies to broilers and roasters. They will be in demand for the reason that the dairyman furnishes choice butter and eggs, and of necessity his chickens must be choice.—Hoard's Dairyman.

EGGS IN WINTER.

Educate your hens to be winter layers. There is no need to let the male birds in with them unless you want eggs for hatching, but some people claim that the males do not improve by resting. Do not stimulate the hens to laying by feeding them cayenne pepper, ginger and other condiments, but keep them scratching all day for not enough grain to satisfy their appetites and then at night give them their fill of a warm supper mixed with green feed, some preparation of meat and bran. The writer has been experimenting now for twenty-five years and is firmly of the opinion that her way of feeding is as good as the best. With this feed, hens lay because they have to, and they live healthy lives, little subject to disease. If their quarters are warm and they are not allowed out in the snow and cold, they lay in winter just the same as in the spring and summer.—Mrs. Mellette in Western Poultry World.

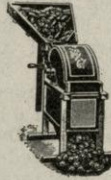
PREPARING FOR WINTER EGGS.

E. Franklin Kean says in the Rural New Yorker:

This is the way I care for my White Wyandottes when I want eggs through the winter months. My laying stock is put in Winter quarters about November 10, and feed as follows: Morning, whole wheat and oats, equal parts; noon, a small feed of whole oats and all the green stuff (cabbage,

beets, etc.) they will eat; night, a mash consisting of ground oats, wheat bran and cornmeal, equal parts, to which is added a little animal meal. Grit and pure water are kept before the fowls at all times. I keep 20 hens in each pen 12x12 feet. I do not keep my houses heated artificially, but manage to keep the hens warm by letting them work for all the whole grain they get, having scattered it in

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The Modern Farmer,

ST. JOSEPH.

MISSOURI.

a thick layer of chaff. A dust box is also furnished each pen. By this method of caring for my stock, and with a strain of poultry bred especially for winter laying, I have no trouble in getting eggs through the Winter months."

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LETTERS.

WHY PEOPLE GROW THE KIEFER PEAR.

Belleville, Ill., Nov. 14, 1904.

Editor Modern Farmer:

Answering your inquiry on page 4 of the Modern Farmer for November, in regard to why more Kiefer pears are planted than any other kind, will say that it is simply because the Kiefer does not blight as badly as other varieties. I have planted about all the leading varieties known and all will blight and die soon after beginning to bear. The Kiefers some years blight also, but not to the extent all other varieties do. And though not a first class pear, if ripened as it should and can be, is a deal better than no pear at all. Success to the Modern Farmer.

Yours truly,

E. T. FLANAGAN.

North Yakima, Wash.

Editor Modern Farmer:

We are trying to organize a Washington Beekeepers' Association, and would like all the information we can get on the subject. We want to petition the legislature for laws on foul brood, etc., to protect beekeepers. Also an appropriation to enable us to make exhibits at fairs. In fact, we want protection in all things pertaining to bee culture. We have had a very good honey season the past year, better than the year before, some reporting as much as eleven tons of honey from six hundred colonies of bees. The largest yield we got from one colony was one hundred pounds. This is an irrigating country, so the flowers bloom until frost. We have the finest fruit here on earth, when properly cultivated. We have a neighbor who says his peaches brought him over \$300 an acre, and one-fourth of the ground was in apple trees. Some people mix their orchards here.

We like The M. F. very much. Respectfully yours,

SUSAN C. THORNTON.

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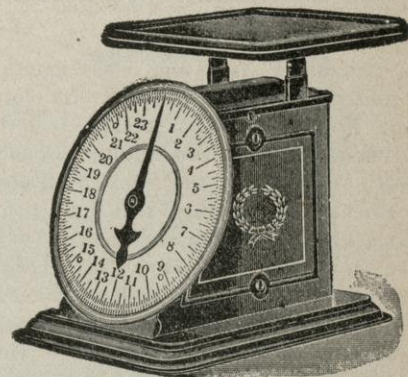
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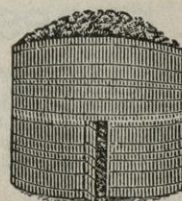
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New subscribers to the American Bee Journal can have the book, the Modern Farmer and the Bee Journal, all for \$1.60. The regular price would be \$2.50. Address all orders to

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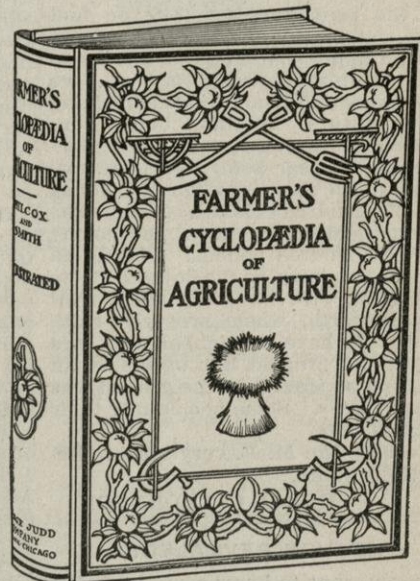
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RAISING PIGEONS.

To insure a profitable return pigeons must be adequately cared for. A small house, built almost like chicken quarters, eight by twelve, with a yard as long and as high as the cash to be expended on wire netting permits, will accommodate twenty-five pairs. There must be a window facing south and two feet from the roof in front, an opening two feet long and one high, with an eight-inch board running along it inside and out, as a platform for the birds to rest on; this opening should have a shutter to close on very cold nights.

For inside fittings, provide small boxes two feet long—empty egg crates are just the thing, the dividing partitions being already there—an eight-inch platform running in front or perch extending a foot out in front of each compartment. These individual houses must be arranged two feet apart around the walls about three feet from the floor. Put up two or three roosts in the middle of the floor. Whitewash everything thoroughly, and, when dry, put an earthen nest in each compartment; they cost a dollar a dozen, and are better than any contrivance, because they are so easily kept clean. Cover the floor with gravel; have a good drinking fountain into which the birds can get nothing but their bills; add a pan about two feet square and four inches deep as a bathtub, to be used in the house in winter and in the yard in summer. A bunale of hay and straw is advisable; some Homers are ambitious and like to make their own nests. Have the ground in their yard ploughed, or dug up; fix a few general perches, and all is complete.

You may ask, "Why not fix up the loft over the stable?" Simply because that would necessitate such a high yard that it would cost more than the small house and be nothing like so convenient. Further, a covered yard is imperative, if you don't want to lose half your birds in seed and harvest time.

There are many breeds of pigeons, but, for squab-raising, Homers are quite the best. The young common pigeon weighs only six to eight ounces at market age and is hard to sell at a dollar a dozen; the Homer at the same age weighs from twelve to twenty ounces, and is a plump, appetizing morsel that sells quickly. Good stock will cost two dollars a pair. Remember that it is no use to buy birds that are not mates, for pigeons remain in pairs for years unless separated, and if a couple are parted they often refuse to mate again that season. One unmated male will break up most of the other couples, so be sure and deal a very reliable person when purchasing your stock. Returns come so quickly you can afford to be generous in your outlay.

As soon as the pigeons become accustomed to their new quarters the hen will lay two eggs, with a day between. Incubation takes eighteen days. Young squabs are marketable when thirty days old; before then, the second nest has two eggs hatching by the mother bird. This is why it is necessary for each pair to have two nests.—Pearson's.

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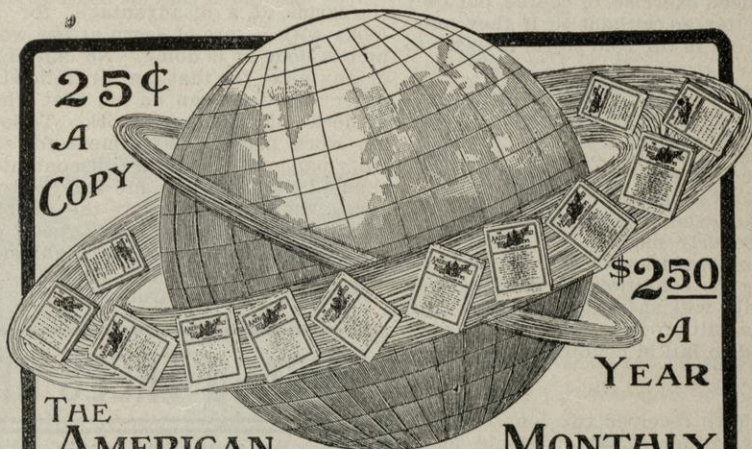
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Dairying on the Farm

While new and improved dairy paraphernalia lessen manual toil and make dairy work much pleasanter than it used to be, they do not relieve dairy managers of the need to employ skill, care and energy.—S.

As the udder becomes extended and filled with milk, the desire on the part of the cow is to be relieved of its contents, and she is willing to submit to milking for the relief it occasions. The constant practice of being milked at stated intervals impresses itself strongly upon her and she will seldom offer resistance without a cause.—S.

Do not neglect the dairy cows during January and February. These are two of the hardest months in the year in this locality on cows, and there are few nights, if any, during these two months when cows will not do better in a stable than they will if left without shelter. In fact, they should be kept up day and night when the weather is not bright and the sun warm. Cows need exercise, of course, but they had better go without it, if they must be left out in the cold storm in order to get it.

It is a mistake in management to allow cows to go dry too long before they are due to calve. A profitable dairy cow should give a profitable amount of milk at least ten months out of the year, and she will do this if well fed and properly managed. Even when dry she should be so well fed as to be gaining in condition all of the time. Not only will she bring a better calf, but she will produce more milk than if allowed to fail in condition, as is often done. S.

We have received two long communications, either of which would make two pages of reading matter in the Modern Farmer on the St. Louis cow demonstrations, one from the Jersey people, the other from Holstein-Friesian people, both of which try to prove that their favored breed came out ahead in this contest. We desire to say, first, that we do not have room for such long articles, and, second, that we do not have any interest in such contests, for on general principles they do not prove of any value to the farmer. If any of the friends of these, or any other breeds, want to tell us in brief, pointed articles about their breed, and why they think it is the best for the farmer, we shall be glad to publish their articles, and we are sure they will be read with interest and profit by our subscribers. We cannot, however, publish long articles on the merits and demerits of any contest, World's Fair or otherwise.

The advantage of having a cow with a known pedigree rests in the fact that there is a tendency in all animals to produce offsprings like themselves, also a tendency, and sometimes a very strong one, to variation, but the longer any animal has been bred along certain lines

the stronger the first named tendency becomes, and of course, the less tendency there is to variation. One might have an extra good dairy cow of no known parentage, and breed her to what seems to be an exceptionally good male without a pedigree, and yet not know whether he would get a worthless scrub or a good animal, but when one breeds a good female that has a known pedigree for several generations back and of good type, to a male with a similar pedigree, the law of "like produces like" is very apt to prevail, and the product of the union prove to be a good animal in its class. It therefore pays to keep purely bred pedigreed stock, if one wants to meet with the best possible success.

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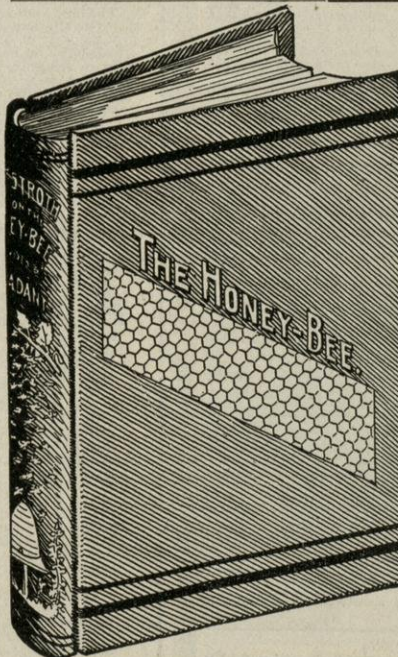
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