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The
Modern Farmer
and Busy Bee

A FRIEND OF ADVANCED AGRICULTURE AND HAPPY HOMES.

VOL. XVII No. 9.

Devoted to the Interests of the Farm and Home.

FIFTY CENTS A YEAR.

SEPTMBER



The Editor.

“The longer I live, the more deeply am I convinced that that which makes the difference between one man and another—between the weak and powerful, the great and insignificant, is energy—invincible determination—a purpose once formed, and then death or victory.” —Fowell Buxton.

ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

1906

Dairy Notes

By N. J. SHEPHERD.

A good dairy cow is always a strong eater and drinker.

Any food that produces ill health will lessen the milk flow.

Irregularity in the amount of food given the cow will sometimes cause her to dry up.

The quantity of milk necessary to make a pound of butter varies from nine to fifteen quarts.

The food supplied to the cows should be of the best quality and in the best condition for digestion.

Keep all dirt possible out of the milk and do not depend upon the strainer or separator to take it out.

So long as the milk is warmer than the surrounding atmosphere it is throwing off vapor, and it is thereby purified.

Wholesome food and water are necessary to keep the cow healthy, and only healthy cows can give wholesome milk.

If an old cow is a good eater and gives a fair profit for what she consumes, there is no reason why she should be gotten rid of.

All milk vessels should be thoroughly cleansed; first, being well washed, then scalded with boiling water, and afterwards sufficiently aired.

A really good cow will not fatten no matter how highly she is fed during the first flow of milk, but she may increase in her quantity of milk.

The extra food given a good dairy cow means just so much more butter, milk or cheese, up to the limit of her capacity to digest and assimilate it.

A good cow is a good cow simply because she has an increased capacity for turning raw materials into the kind of product that the farmer wants.

While cottonseed meal produces the largest yield and the richest cream of any food that can be used, care must be taken not to feed too liberally.

Feed has much to do with the quality of milk but the breed of the cow has much more to do with it. A poor cow will give poor milk even with the richest feed, while a good cow will continue to give rich milk on poor feed.

A heifer becomes a cow after she has dropped her first calf and begins giving milk, no matter of what age and the distinction is accepted generally that she remains a heifer until maternal obligations are assumed. The dairy cow is only the medium to turn the feed into milk and unless the quantity and quality of the feed is of the right sort the yield of milk both in amount and quality will not be satisfactory.

Break Ground in the Southwest

The prospects were never brighter than at present. Each season a new record is made in production and output. Farming land is advancing in price as steadily as it produces. Very naturally, then, the time for action—the time to break ground, is now, while lands can be secured for a small fraction of their coming value. The climatic conditions of the Southwest should be taken into consideration, also. The winters are short and the climate a happy mean between the extremes of the North and South. To enable you to investigate the Southwest and to satisfy yourself that they are all they are claimed to be, the Rock Island will sell, on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, greatly reduced tickets to Southwestern points. If you are not satisfied with your present conditions and prospects and want to get "outdoors" for an active life, for a successful career in the NEW SOUTHWEST, write me to-day.

JOHN SEBASTIAN,

**Passenger Traffic Manager, Rock Island System,
CHICAGO.**

The New State of Oklahoma

Bigger than Missouri; as big as Ohio and Indiana combined, with a soil teeming with all the crops that any state raises, Oklahoma—the new State—is destined to occupy first rank in a few short years. Here at the present time over a million people are duplicating the life which is going on in Illinois and Indiana. Their houses; their towns and their schools are newer but in nothing else do their surroundings differ from those in other States. Their cities and towns are growing and expanding with the impetus of a fertile soil, and a pushing wide awake citizenship. Her settlers, mainly from the older States, see the virtue of encouraging enterprises of every kind and the needfulness of getting more and better facilities of getting more hands to develop the country.

In brief, conditions today are simply these: Oklahoma is in need of nothing save people. More men are needed in the cities and towns; more farmers for the vast areas of unimproved land not now yielding crops of which it is capable. There are openings of all sorts, for farmers and artisans, for mills and manufacturing plants, for small stores of every kind.

YOUR OPPORTUNITY IS NOW

The opportune time is now while the land is cheap. The country is fast settling up. If you purchase land now will soon see grow up around you a community of prosperous energetic men who like yourself have seen the brighter possibilities of Oklahoma and have taken advantage of them.

The M. K. & T. Ry. runs through the best section of the new state (see map) and along it is located a majority of the larger cities and towns. If you're in any way interested in the Southwest, I'd like to send you a copy of my free paper, "The Coming Country."

On the First and Third Tuesday of Each Month

You can make a trip to Oklahoma exceptionally cheap. Round trip tickets, good thirty (30) days, will be sold by all lines in connection with the M. K. & T. Ry. at very low rates from Chicago to San Antonio, the rate is \$25.00; from St. Paul \$27.50; from St. Louis and Kansas City, \$20.00. The tickets permit of stop-overs in both directions, via M. K. & T. Ry. If your nearest railroad agent cannot give you the rates, write me for particulars.

**W. S. ST. GEORGE, General Passenger Agent,
M. K. & T. Ry. St. Louis, Mo.**

ST. JOSEPH VETERINARY COLLEGE

A complete theoretical and practical course in Veterinary Medicine. Term of three sessions of six months each. Full information and catalog upon application. Address Dr. C. E. Steele, Dean, 7th and Sylvan Streets.

The Modern Farmer and Busy Bee

PUBLISHED AT ST. JOSEPH, MO., THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH
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EMERSON TAYLOR ABBOTT.....EDITOR AND PUBLISHER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR
N. J. SHEPHERD.....Poultry and Dairy
DEPARTMENT EDITORS
EMMA INGOLDSBY ABBOTT..... Home Department
E. J. WATERSTRIPE..... General Farm Department

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

If this paragraph is marked with a cross your time expires with the number marked. The paper will be stopped unless you send us 25 cents for renewal. DO IT TO-DAY.

EDITORIAL.

With a wheat crop of a hundred million bushels and a corn crop of two hundred millions nobody in Kansas should go hungry for bread this winter, and we hardly think they will.

Theoretically speaking, peaceful methods are always the best, but the "big stick" is not entirely out of place in the economy of government. It frequently happens that a man with a gun in his hip pocket can do more toward the settlement of difficulties than could one with a Bible in his hand, and soft words on his lips. A gun and plenty of soap and water are very good moral reformers up to a certain point.

There are, no doubt, many lessons to be learned from trees and books, but there is nothing to be gained by an effusive sentiment about the beauties of nature. Sentiment which does not take on some form of practical utility is of no value in the everyday affairs of life. It may be good for dreamy boys, love-sick girls and poets, but one cannot eat dreams or weave lawful suits of clothing out of poetry. High ideals are good, yea; they are very good in poetry and song, but what the boys and girls on the farm need to know most is how to earn a livelihood in the country with the least outlay of time and labor.

A dispatch from Washington states that Secretary Wilson has agreed that the labels on canned meat need not state the proportions of the different kinds of meat in the can. We hope this is not true, for one of the aims of the pure food law is to guarantee to every purchaser that he is getting just what he asks for when he makes a purchase. If he buys canned chicken he should know just how much chicken he is getting. Every man who parts with his money has a right to know just what he is getting in return, that he is getting the thing for which he asked, and nothing else.

It pays to discuss some of your business with your neighbors, for it matters not how well anyone may be posted on a subject he is apt to become rusty on certain points, or there may be phases of the subject about which he has not thought clearly, if at all, and a little talk with a neighbor may clear up matters and put one in possession of the very facts needed. We often ask the advice of people who are not supposed to know as much as we do about the subject under discussion, for we frequently get valuable information in this way. If we do not get anything of value, we still have the opportunity of using our own knowledge, and what we have gotten from the other party can do us no hurt, even if it does us no good.

We have seen it stated somewhere that the poultry industry of Missouri amounts to seventy millions yearly, and the only encouragement it gets from the state is the paltry sum of \$100.00 from the State Board of Agriculture. The horticultural interests get \$8,000.00, and the fruit experiment station gets \$34,700 of which \$23,000 goes for salaries. What do the people get for this? The fish industry gets \$10,000. Is it worth it? The State Board of Agriculture gets \$44,800, which is money well spent, but why should the old blue hen be left almost entirely to scratch for herself when she manages to dig up about seventy millions yearly for the state? Perhaps it is because she knows more about scratching than she does about machine politics. The Modern Farmer does not believe much in paternalism, but she rises to suggest that the hen be given a fair show in proportion to the revenue she produces, and while our law makers are looking after the hen, let them not forget the busy little bee with her delicious honey and valuable wax.

Corn Improvement-Shows, &c.

P. E. CRABTREE, Hannon, Mo., Vice-Pres. Mo. State Corn Growers' Association.

After passing through the various stages of development of the corn crop until a yield is reasonably assured, what is more natural than for the enterprising corn farmer to desire an opportunity of comparing accomplishments with his fellow workers, both for gratification and self encouragement, and for educational purposes as well?

It is not in the power of one person to carefully try all methods and test all varieties, to say nothing of the altered effects of various soils and climatic conditions, each playing its individual part in the product of intelligent application.

There is positively no better place to get together and compare notes, exchange experiences and measure accomplishments than in the show room.

The desire to advance, the hope to excell, and the natural sense of pride, all demand that the exhibitor bring out his best, and also that it be brought out in the best possible form, and thus is secured a common unit of measure for the advancement of increased corn production, so far as can be determined in the show room. When, then, we come to consider the few utility points of increased corn production, that are not directly determinable in the show room we are forced to admit that the same ambition and enterprise that prompts a person to be a winner in the show room will as surely prompt him to be a winner in the field of utility. Thus it is, that a corn show, accompanied by a suitable programme, and competently judged, answers every possible purpose in the advancement of corn improvement and is a very effectual educator.

During the month of September

we can first handle exhibition ears of corn without harming them. They should first be reasonably well ripened, then can be gathered and placed where the moisture in them will constantly be reduced without again absorbing more. The amateur should remember that the grain first contracts leaving the ear in firm and loose. Soon, however, the contraction of the cob follows and the ear is again firm and in show condition.

It may not be generally known that the various interests now operating have secured premiums in cash and valuable merchandise that will probably aggregate over a thousand dollars, which will be paid, promptly to the exhibitors of the best corn grown and exhibited in our state this year at the State Fair and at the State Show. No entry fees are charged and all are invited to participate. The State Fair will be held at Sedalia, Missouri, September 29 to October 2, 1906. The Annual State Corn Show will be held at Columbia, Missouri, January 7th to 12th, 1907. At each of these events, the premiums are handsome and the exhibits will be among the best in the world. If there is a corn grower who cannot exhibit, he should at least attend and get an object lesson. After the State Fair he should return home and proceed to organize a local association and hold a good corn show in his own county. In this effort he will have the encouragement and assistance of the State Board of Agriculture, through their Secretary Hon. Geo. B. Ellis, also of the State Experiment Station through Dr. H. J. Waters, Dean of the Agricultural College of Missouri, and also of the Missouri State Corn Growers' Association,

through their able and efficient secretary, Prof. M. F. Miller. The address of each of these gentlemen is Columbia, Missouri and inquiries directed to anyone of them, relative to a corn show in your county will be promptly and courteously replied to. Mr. Ellis is director of the farmers' institutes of the state, and in many instances you can secure an institute and hold a corn show in connection therewith and thus secure the services of a most competent corn judge free. Prof. Miller has given a careful and thorough course of training to a most capable class of students in the science of corn breeding and the art of applying the score card in show room work. The farmer need no longer feel that he is unnoticed and alone in his duties on the farm. He can write a few lines to one of those gentleman, telling them his condition and desires and at once be in company with the best, and in touch with the best scientific knowledge on agriculture up to date. Ask Secretary Ellis for a copy of the 38th annual report of the State Board of Agriculture, and he will send you free a handsomely illustrated, well bound book of 478 pages, which contains hundreds of dollars worth of information that no farmer can do without and remain in the front ranks.

Get in touch with these people and their methods and be successful in your business by working to the best possible advantage.

No idle life can produce a real man. A life of luxury calls out only the effeminate, destructive qualities. The creative forces are developed only by stern endeavor to better one's condition in the world.— "Success Magazine."

A Campaign for Better Roads

The Missouri State Board of Agriculture has inaugurated a campaign for better roads throughout the state that is meeting with the approval of farmers and business men generally, and which will, if carried to completion, give to Missouri a road system second to no other state in the Union. A GOOD ROADS CONVENTION, continuing for four days, participated in by road experts from Missouri and other states, was held in Chillicothe, September 3-7, and was attended by several thousand people including more than 200 regularly appointed delegates sent by county courts and commercial organizations of nearly every county in north Missouri. The sentiments of the Convention are expressed in the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by the convention, and which, from comments made by various papers throughout the state, seem to be meeting with public approval.

RESOLUTIONS

“Missouri, the fourth state in the American Union in wealth and population and the first in potential resources, demands and should have a system of public highways fully adequate to her necessities. It is therefore resolved by the Good Roads Convention held at Chillicothe under the auspices of the State Board of Agriculture, September 3-8, as follows:

First. We favor the creation by the next General Assembly of the office of State Highway Engineer, under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Agriculture to co-operate with the local offices in the furtherance of good roads.

Second. To provide an adequate number of trained men for the supervision of road construc-

tion in the various localities of this state, we recommend the immediate establishment of a course in Road Engineering and the equipment of a suitable laboratory for the testing of road materials at the State University at Columbia.

Third. All the people of the state being interested in and benefited by a better system of highways, state aid should be extended to the various counties for the construction and improvement of the public roads, such state aid being provided from new sources of revenue other than those now existing or in the treasury.

Fourth. Redress from the present distressing situation in road maintenance and construction can only come through judicial changes in our state constitution, and such changes being possible more quickly and more surely by the adoption of a new constitution covering adequate sources of revenue than by any amendment to the constitution, we therefore strongly urge upon the legislature the calling of a constitutional convention at the earliest possible moment.

Fifth. We strongly endorse the Drag as the most effective and practical method of maintaining dirt roads and would suggest that some law be enacted whereby its more general employment for this purpose may be effected.”

Secretary Ellis, of the State Board of Agriculture, who has inaugurated this movement, made the following statement:

“The people of this state are aware that good roads cannot be built with paper and straw. In this campaign for better roads, the State Board of Agriculture does not favor extravagant revenues or burdensome taxes, but we do favor the adoption of a

broad progressive plan for road improvement in this state that will give us as good roads as are found in any other state in the Union. The assessed valuation of taxable property in this state is now nearly 1-1/2 billions of dollars. In a state as wealthy as this, a state fund to the amount of 1-1/2 to 2 millions of dollars can be raised annually without hardly being noticed by the tax payers. In the present campaign we are not agitating any particular plan for raising this State Road Fund, but want to arouse the farmers and business men of the state to the necessity of demanding state aid to assist in road improvement. A direct tax of ten cents on the one hundred dollar valuation would produce on the present assessed valuation of the taxable property, nearly 1-1/2 million dollars annually. Others have suggested that franchise taxes, or corporation taxes, or excise taxes might be levied producing ample state funds; while still others have suggested the issuing of bonds to the extent of 25 millions of dollars and making a small state levy to create a sinking fund for the payment of these bonds. This, however is a question of revenue and should be determined by the Legislature.

“The Chillicothe Convention is the second state road convention held this summer, the first convention being held in Columbia in June, and was called by the county courts, at which 25 counties were represented by regularly appointed delegates. This county court convention declared in favor of state aid and the creation of a State Highway Department and also the appointment of a County Highway Engineer in all counties where road improvement is taken up.

"An important part of the soil can be made into the best roads in Livingston county. The cost of building such roads, when properly equipped with machinery, will not exceed \$125 per mile." Another road constructed during the convention, and which was a very close second to the first prize road, was constructed by the Smith Manufacturing Co. of Kansas City, Missouri, assisted by W. R. Goit of the Dickey Clay Manufacturing Company, who furnished vitrified clay pipe for the construction of a number of drains which were found necessary in this mile of road. Everybody who saw this work complimented Mr. Goit on the excellent manner in which the drainage was accomplished. As a result of this convention, three complete road building outfits were sold at the close of the convention: One to the City of

Chillicothe, one to the farmers of Livingston County, and one to a party in Rolla, Phelps County, in Southern Missouri.

"The State Board of Agriculture is now planning for holding five or six other conventions throughout the state in order to crystallize public sentiment in favor of the two most essential things: That is, for state aid in road construction and for skilled supervision. A final convention is planned to be held in Jefferson City, the State Capitol, during the third week in January, at which time the State Legislature will be in session, and it is hoped, through the influence of these conventions, that a broad progressive system for permanent road improvement will be inaugurated in this state.

Tell your friends about the Modern Farmer.

Some Sensible Talk on Advertising

(From an address on advertising by F. D. Coburn, Secretary of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, at a banquet given at the Auditorium Hotel, Chicago, by White's Class Advertising Company.)

By many publicity and advertising are regarded as synonymous, and publicity looked upon as the aim, purpose and end of advertising. Publicity and advertising, in the more comprehensive meaning of advertising, may be as divergent as the poles. Publicity is advertising, but only in a restricted, narrow, meager sense. Publicity alone may be cold, heartless, and even repellent; it breathes no warmth; it announces but no more. Advertising that does not attract, influence, persuade, tempt, inspire, induce, convince, captivate, that is not magnetic, is the product of an abortion, and still-born. Its usefulness is that of a locomotive without steam, a furnace without

fire, or a woman without a heart.

Half the money spent for publicity might as well be consumed by fire, in so far as are concerned appreciably beneficial results to the spender. Probably two-thirds of the money spent for publicity has been virtually wasted, except as it was a benefaction to those through whose hands it passed or in whose trousers it found lodgment. Yet, not half the money that might advantageously be used to bring buyer and seller together is devoted to such purposes.

All advertising, to accomplish a good purpose, must be built on integrity. Its sponsor must be able to deliver the goods, of the kind and quality promised, in full measure. As to expense, high cost advertising may be entirely reasonable, while that which

looks low-priced may be absurdly high.

Striking illustrations of the idea that half to two-thirds of the money for publicity is thrown away are afforded by calendars, desk blotters, lead pencils, tape measures, fans, badges, and buttons. Well-nigh millions are disbursed every year for gimracks, gewgaws and trumpery of this class, and I believe such expenditures never returned ten cents on the dollar and never will. This too in the face of the fact that usually the recipient accepts, uses, and is in a way thankful for the gift. Yet that it in any effective way persuades him to buy your wares or even makes him specially think of you or of them I regard as a beguiling fallacy. He may have the calendar, blotter or pencil constantly before

him, but the legend or name it bears is read only at the moment, if at all, to forget and never to heed. I use on my own desk for example, the blotters which this or that insurance company supplies in generous bundles, but they are never perused. I never know what company they are supposed to speak for, and I am no more influenced by them than by the paper on the wall. I look elsewhere and not to such sources for information; if I do not read them they do not inform me, and if not informed I am not persuaded to be a patron. Their gift does not, as is supposed, secure my friendship, for no man whose friendship is of any cash value gives it in return for barter so unsubstantial.

I would rather, for business-building and business getting, have three lines of well-placed, favorable reading notice, looking as if they were an expression of

a reputable journal, in the right territory, in the right season, than a bale of blotters, a dray-load of calendars, and a badge or button for everyone silly enough to lend himself as a sandwich man for my uses.

If I ventured to advise the advertiser the advice would be largely "Don'ts", and something like this:

Don't expect too much. Advertising may seem to work miracles in some instances, but miracles are exceptions and not the rule.

Don't lie. Live up to your announcements.

Don't be stingy in your appropriation.

Don't try to tell too much in a small space. Give your announcement daylight and breathing room. A stuffed advertisement is liable to have a short reach.

Don't overlook the value of well made, well printed, convincing illustrations.

Don't publish yourself as "cheap", doing a cheap-John business, by using "cheap" stationery.

Don't fail if not located at a well known point, always to announce your direction and distance from some well known point, and the railroads that reach you.

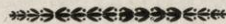
Don't forget the value of the short and friendly reading notice.

Don't forget that they cost the publisher money.

Don't demand something for nothing, especially long-winded puffs of yourself and what you have. Pay your way and pleasantly; the prompt payment is doubly sanctified.

Don't drop out. Keep something doing. Change your copy and stay alive.

Don't forget to award the other fellow the same square deal you ask for yourself.



Books= 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.

In the Designer for October are shown, in addition to many other up-to-date patterns, the newest designs for coats and jackets for ladies, misses, girls and boys.

The strongest feature of the October Delineator, aside from the fashions, which are splendidly shown, is the opening of the Countess von Arnheim's new serial story, "Fraulein Schmidt and Mr. Anstruther."

The September number of the Garden Magazine is an exceedingly interesting one.

The leading article of the month by the late Louis Harman Peet is an exhaustive discussion of the American Beech, the European Beech and its many varieties.

A permanent representation to be maintained at Washington during the sessions of congress, in the interest of the people of the United States, to oppose the lobbies maintained by the "special interests," is

the proposition put forth in Success Magazine for October.

There are a thousand evidences in the very formation of our bodies and brains, that we were planned and equipped in every detail of our marvelous structure to achieve great things, to accomplish something worth while; and it is a disgrace not to live up to our birthright.—"Success Magazine."

Thoughtful readers who are investigating the practical problems of life, especially those relating to mind, will power, thought force, etc., will find much of interest in the September issue of Suggestion, a magazine devoted to practical psychology. The leading article explains the basic law of healing.

If you have never seen a copy of the "Review of Reviews," you have missed a

great deal. Read our liberal offer on the last page with it and other first class publications. We know of no other investment of \$3.00 that would bring you so much solid helpful and interesting reading. Take our advice and accept this offer before it is withdrawn.

"Pearson's" is now \$1.50 per year, but it is improving very rapidly and will, no doubt be able to "deliver the goods," and give excellent satisfaction to those who have the pleasure of perusing its pages during the coming year. Our readers will please notice that all clubbing offers with this magazine are now withdrawn, but we hope to have some new ones next month.

The traditional "business end of a mule" that from childhood we are taught to regard in the same class with lightning and sudden death is shown in the leading ar-

ticle of September Farming, to really consist in trying to swell the farmer's bank account. "Mule Raising as a Business" is written by an expert and is really a revelation of the great possibilities of breeding marketable mules from superior stock.

Beginning in *The Housekeeper* for October is the first of a series of articles on Japan by Marian Bonsall, the associate editor, who has been in that country for practically a year gleaning the material which comes under the general head, *Oriental Ideas for Western Women*. The first article is "The Simplicity of Home Life." As Miss Bonsall had the almost impossible opportunity of being a member for several months of the household of a family of the class from which many of the most famous of the Japanese heroes have sprung, the Samurai, this article is exceptionally instructive and at the same time equally entertaining. The series will continue for several months.

Prosperity from the Soil

It is predicted that the winter wheat crop will exceed all, "records;" and corn and cotton are thriving at this writing. It is not merely the farmers who will add to their savings, pay off indebtedness, or take on new property. So long as the crops are good, the fat years will not end. Prosperity comes from the soil.—Everybody's Magazine for October.

If you Love your Baby

Here is some excellent advice clipped from the September Rural Magazine: Don't feed bananas, candy, popcorn, sugar or anything else but milk, unless told

to do so by your physician.

Give it pure air day and night,
Give it no food but mother's milk, milk from the bottle or food directed by the physician.

Whenever it cries or is fretful do not offer it food; give it water.

Be sure that it gets enough sleep—two naps during the day at least.

Do not put too much clothing on it.

Bath: it in a tub every day.

Don't handle it; leave it alone.

Light on Dairying

In one of the model schools in our town, a first grade teacher was having a "lesson on the cow." She was trying to impress on the young minds the various uses of the milk. Butter, cheese, etc., had been disposed of, and she wanted some bright genius to tell how the farmer fed the surplus milk to the pigs. Leading up to this, she asked this question:

"Now children, after the farmer has made all the butter and cheese he needs, and uses what milk he wants for his family, what does he do with the milk that still remains?"

Dead silence followed for a moment, and then one little hand waved frantically. The teacher smiled and said, Well James."

"He pours it back into the cow!" piped James—*Woman's Home Companion* for September.

Quality Tomatoes

Perhaps more than any other vegetable, the tomato repays the home gardener for the trouble of growing. Quality in this particular delicacy is measured chiefly by cultural methods and conditions of ripe-

ness. The very best tomato is the result of strong young seedling plants kept growing from the very earliest stage right through to maturity without a check; grown with abundance of space, giving free circulation of air through and around the plant, plenty of sunshine to give both color (which is appetizing), and sugar (which is essential to high flavor). With these conditions satisfied, then there is this final factor—permitting the fruit to fully ripen on the parent stem, picking it at the acme of condition. An over ripe tomato is mealy and deficient in flavor.—L. and E. M. Barron in the September Garden Magazine.

GLOVERS AND HOW TO GROW THEM, by Thomas Shaw. Illustrated. 5x7 inches. 337 pages, cloth. Price \$1 net. Orange Judd Co, New York, Publishers.

This is the first book published which treats of the growth, cultivation and treatment of clovers as applicable to all parts of the United States and Canada, and which takes up the entire subject in a systematic way. The importance of the various kinds of clover in the economy of the farm is so great that an exhaustive work on this subject will, no doubt, be welcomed by students in agriculture as well as by all who are interested in the tilling of the soil. The whole work is written from the standpoint of the practical farmer and cannot fail to exert a potent influence in the promotion of progressive agriculture.

The Farmer's Home

By Emma Ingoldsby Abbott. A happy, prosperous home means a happy prosperous country

You Get as You Give

Look for goodness, look for gladness,
You will find them all the while;
If you bring a smiling visage
To the glass, you meet a smile.
Do not look for wrong and evil,
You will find them if you do;
As you measure for your neighbor
He will measure back to you.

—Alice Cary.

Silverware will polish more easily if it is first rubbed with kerosene. It is claimed by some that cold water will take off fly specks better than hot water.

Bear in mind that sleeping rooms need ventilation in winter as well as in summer, and do not begin shutting

down the windows the first cold night. The same air breather over and over again is poisonous.

When women learn to take the business of housekeeping seriously and study it from all points, there will be less haphazard work about the homes of the land.

Housekeeping is not only a science, it is an art and it requires long practice and earnest effort to perfect one in the art. Housekeeping is a craft, and girls should begin early to master the trade, as boys are put to learn their trades.

Why is it that a girl will undertake to do housework and demand the highest wages, when she does not even know how to wash dishes decently?

Girls should be made to understand early in life that housekeeping is a science and its principles should be mastered as well as those of any other science.

The horizon of woman's sphere has widened so in the past quarter of a century that some are inclined to think there is no limit and the word "sphere" is out of date, but there are limitations, nevertheless, and when two women engage in a prize fight, as was the case in Philadelphia not long ago, or when a girl goes about with a revolver strapped to her belt and fires at her father's overseer because he made a remark that displeased her, they are surely exceeding the limit. A woman may engage in any honorable occupation without disgrace, but

her influence must ever be toward gentleness and refinement. Otherwise she misses her calling, no matter how successful she may be in a material sense.

Cabbage Salad with Apples.—Chop fine equal parts of raw cabbage and apples that have been pared and cored; season in the chopping bowl with a tablespoonful of sugar, a level teaspoonful of salt and a sprinkle of pepper to each pint; add a tablespoonful of sweet cream and stir all together. Break an egg in a small granite iron stew-pan and beat well; add one-third cup of vinegar and place over a gentle fire; stir until the mixture thickens, but do not allow it to boil. While still hot, pour over the contents of the chopping bowl and mix thoroughly; dish and cool before serving.

In the "Kitchen Kingdom" of the Designer is given a recipe for a dark layer cake that you will like. It is called Prince of Wales Cake, but is quite inexpensive for so ambitious a name. It is given below:

"Three yolks and one white or two whole eggs; one cupful brown sugar; one-half cupful butter; one-half cupful molasses; one cupful sour milk; one teaspoonful each of soda and cinnamon; one-half teaspoonful each of cloves, nutmeg and baking powder; two and one-half cupfuls of flour." I sometimes put all the ingredients in the pan at once and beat all up together.

For Filling and Frosting—Two cupfuls of sugar and one-half cupful of water. Boil until it hairs. Pour very slowly into the whites of two well-beaten eggs; add one cupful of chopped raisins."

How Would You Like This Butter?

The Moor prepares butter in an original way and gets a different taste from the usual one. Fresh butter, ("sibida," as he calls it), as known by us, he despises and uses only for cooking. It must be old if it is to be liked. After it has lain in a hole in the ground for some years and has got a certain appearance it becomes a delicacy. To make butter a goat-skin is turned inside out. It is filled with milk, bound tight and tied to a tree. There it is beaten backward and forward till the butter is made. That is why you cannot get butter in Morocco without hair all through it. The butter is then laid on pieces of wood and the maker goes to sell it. Possible buyers lift the dirty cover, put in their fingers and take out a taste and if the goods do not please, close it down again and the salesman pursues his way.—Exchange.

Business Education for Girls.

Some women may go through life and never feel the need of business knowledge, but there are many who are obliged to manage their own af-

fairs and have found it a great disadvantage to be ignorant of business methods and business forms. If I were educating a girl, I should want her to know a bank check when she saw it, and to be able to draw one and endorse it properly; to know how to make a bill and receipt it; to know how to write a promissory note and a bill of sale in legal form, to keep simple accounts and to be able to make debit and credit entries correctly. Almost all women come to a time when a knowledge of some of these forms would be convenient, and a little instruction along this line would save our sex from the oft repeated fling, that "women have no business sense." It is not sense they lack, but instruction. The multitude of instances where women have managed and are managing business affairs successfully, in spite of the handicaps of business ignorance to start with, proves this.

Even if a woman is never placed where she must do what is considered man's part in money affairs, she may find it advantageous to keep accounts of the household, or the poultry or dairy or other farm industries that are left for her to carry on. She should not only know how to handle

money, but handle some, and not be content to let the barter of eggs and butter at the country store for household necessities be the extent of her business experience. The woman who goes to town with all the cash she possesses tied in a corner of her handkerchief, and who has to have "him" follow her around to give approval and pay for her purchases is indeed to be pitied, but not more so than the man who consents to such an arrangement and is willing to appear in so ridiculous a light. A woman who has had some business training and has been accustomed to handling her own money would never consent to make such a spectacle of herself, but would insist on her right to do her own shopping in her own way. And the majority of women will use more wisdom and good judgment in buying than their husbands.

She—Some say you married me for my money, and some say you married me for my looks; now, tell me truthfully, what did you marry me for?

He—I'll be blest if I know.

A wife provides for the inner man and a husband provides for the outer woman.

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St. Joseph, Mo.

The Farm in General

BY E. J. WATERSTRIFE

Be regular with the work on the farm. Stop work at a certain hour, and let that hour be a long ways this side of dark. Then do a little more managing and planning.

If you want to be an up-to-date farmer, get a name for your farm, and then have some letter heads and envelopes printed for your correspondence. It will pay you in many ways.

Many go crazy over the hog and think it is the only animal. The hog is all right, but if I had to have only one, it would not be the hog. But the best way is to keep all kinds. Mixed farming for me.

Instead of trying to get more acres, why not try to make the acreage larger by growing two crops each year? This will need no more capital and no more taxes to pay, and the best way to increase the crops.

This is the month when much corn will be harvested. People are learning to save the crop more and more, that is to save more of the crop. I have said that the dry seasons were a benefit, because they make the farmers practice closer methods.

Fruit was plenty this year, and everybody appreciated it. Did you not enjoy it, and during this season of eating of plenty of fruit you will feel better. Let this be a lesson that you will want fruit in the future, and then say that you will set some fruit trees this fall, now is the time to begin.

This is the time when the farmers are making improvements. Many barns are being put up all over the country. There is one thing I want to repeat here, for it is often neglected, and that is only build right, for it is the cheapest in the end. It will cost a little more in the start, but then it is not a continual bill of expense.

The best quality of anything brings the best price in the market, and pays the producer the highest profit. The competition among the manufacturers is to make the best, and the same should be the rule among farmers. The best quality of beef is the most profitable. The best demand is for the best article.

Take my word this time Brother Farmer and do your hauling now before the roads get bad. I know this will pay you at least a hundred per cent. I want to keep out of the mud when hauling. It is the finest place to breed balky horses, and besides this, you can not haul as much, and it is easier on team.

Once more I want to tell you of a fall job you should by all means do. I do not say this for anyone's interest except the farmer's, and I do not expect that you will take warning, but

it will be your loss. I know by experience that reading and keeping up with the times is a thing all farmers should do. Other business men do it, and why not the farmer?

The city catalogue houses are still working, and the home merchant is still fighting. The home merchant who says to spend your money at home, says a little less than nothing when he says it. We have the right to buy where we can do the best, and we should do it. All such talk from the home man is only talk-talking for his own pocketbook. Buy where you think you can do the best.

All animals enjoy a variety of feed. You would not like to have to eat corn bread alone, and all the time. Animals get the most good out of food when it is palatable, and one kind of feed all the time loses its good taste no matter how good it is. Especially should the hens have a large variety of feeds.

Do not get into the habit of buying horses for your own use, but aim to raise them and have some to sell. This plan has too much money going out of your pocket when it could be just as well coming in. You can raise horses as cheap as the other man, and then you know what you have, and when you buy a horse you never know until you have used him for a time.

Keep up the fertility of the soil of the farm. This is the foundation of the successful farmer. There is no better way of making investment. This is the surest way you have, and the safest. We should have a method of farming which will make the farm better, and at the same time give us each year a better profit. This can be done. Keep good stock, and aim to have stock enough to feed all you raise. Then carefully save all the manure and put back on the land.

Do not worry about wanting to go to the city, for there are too many people there now, who would like to get away; yes they would gladly go to the farm if they had one to go to, so better appreciate your farm if you have a good one, and if you have not a good one, then begin and make it good. You may be all right in the city, and yet you may be all wrong. Better be on the safe side, if you never get to be a millionaire. Not all in the city are rich.

How many farm papers do you take? Any besides this one? No time to read you say? How much time do you really waste in a year, which might be profitably put in in reading on your business? None, you say? Lets see. How much tobacco do you use in a year? The time you spent in


earning the money to get it was worse than wasted. That is only one example and I will let you figure out the rest. I am a practical working farmer, yet I get time to review 25 of the best farm papers of the country. No, Brother I haven't any time to chew or smoke.

ROTATE THE CROPS.

What changes are you going to make in your plans next year? Are you going to put corn just where you had it this year, or is some of the corn land getting too poor to grow good crops of corn, and you will have to put part of it in oats; That is the rule with many. Why not change before it gets run out, then you will have a better crop of oats, and you can change back to corn sooner if you want to. The best plan would be to change often, and the more frequently the better. In this way the soil gets the better cultivation, and each crop will be better than if you run each field to a special crop.

Rotation will keep your farm free from weeds or it will help wonderfully; also, it will keep many insects in check. Many of the insects which attack the crop are only found on fields where the crop has been grown for a number of years, and as a means of preventing nearly all the insect pe-

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A safe, speedy and
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culjar to one crop we are advised to rotate.

Frequent rotation of farm crops naturally means that our land will be better tilled, and will be cultivated more, and, if tillage is manure, we will gain in the end. Better tillage, better crops, and more and better feed for the stock which will make better gains. I do not have any special system of rotating for a number of years, but change every time I can, and try to plant so as to get what feed I will need for the stock during the winter.

CATTLE FEEDING EXPERIMENT.

(By Prof. H. R. Smith.)

The Nebraska Experiment Station has just issued Bulletin 93, which gives the results of cattle feeding experiments carried on at that Station during the past winter.

The experiment entitled, "Roughness supplementary to corn for two-year-old steers," is a continuation of the series begun three years ago to compare the efficiency of three forms of roughness common in Nebraska, viz., alfalfa, prairie hay, corn-stover, when each is fed in connection with corn. The last winter's experiment deviates slightly from former tests in certain particulars: the corn was all fed as snapped corn rather than shelled, and the period of feeding was but three months instead of six, during which time grain was used sparingly and roughness liberally, the cattle being finished in a second experiment in which heavy grain rations were used.

In the experiment with snapped corn (ears in the shuck or husk), the roughness in each lot was as follows: Lot 1, prairie hay; Lot 2, prairie and alfalfa hay; Lot 3, alfalfa; Lot 4, corn-stover (stalks without ears); Lot 5, corn-stover and alfalfa; and Lot 6, corn-fodder (stalks with ears attached) and alfalfa. As in the two former tests, 10 steers were fed in each lot and these were selected to make the several lots as uniform as possible. The steers were two-year-old grade Shorthorns and Herefords, from the northwestern part of the state, where they had been reared under semi-range conditions.

Without going into details, which may be had by sending for the bulletin, the general results may be told in brief as follows:

The steers fed snapped corn and alfalfa hay made the largest gains, amounting to 2.06 pounds per day, average for the three months, while those on snapped corn, alfalfa and prairie hay gained 2.01 pounds per day; those on snapped corn, alfalfa, and stover, 1.96 pounds; those on corn-fodder and alfalfa, 1.81 pounds, while the steers fed snapped corn and prairie hay gained but 1.2 pounds per day and those fed snapped corn and stover 1.02 pounds per day. It will thus be seen that in each case where alfalfa formed a part or all of the

roughness the gains were materially increased. This accords with former experiments and emphasizes further the importance of supplying in the ration all the nutrients needed. Alfalfa, being high in protein, supplies that lacking in corn and that lacking in prairie hay and corn-stover. Not only were larger gains made in the lots fed alfalfa, but much less corn was required for each pound of gain when they were thus supplied.

But the vital thing for the consideration of the feeder is the relative cost of gains. In the lots fed corn, alfalfa, and stover, in the one case with corn attached to the stalk as fodder, the cost of gains was the lowest, being 4.11 cents per pound of gain in both lots. A little more pork was made where the corn was fed on the stalk and the net profit per steer in that lot was \$4.59 as compared with \$4.20 on corn, alfalfa and stover.

On snapped corn and alfalfa, each pound of gain cost 4.49 cents (net profit per steer, \$3.56); on snapped corn, prairie hay and alfalfa, 4.77 cents (net profit per steer, \$3.10); on snapped corn and stover, 6.97 cents (net profit per steer, 13 cents); and on snapped corn and prairie hay, 7.58 cents (net loss per steer, 8 cents). The cheaper gains made with stover and alfalfa rather than with alfalfa alone or with prairie hay are explained by the fact that corn-stover was figured at \$2.50 per ton compared with prairie hay and alfalfa each at \$6.00 per ton. The snapped corn cost 35 cents per bushel of 80 pounds, and that fed on the stalk, unhusked, was

figured at 31 cents. The results were slightly in favor of feeding as much corn as is possible on the stalk, though this is the first experiment covering this particular question and other tests should be made, as is intended, to make it at all conclusive. Other comparisons in the experiment, inasmuch as they agree with former results, would seem to make the following deductions safe, viz., (1) that prairie hay and corn without further supplements is an unsatisfactory combination both from the viewpoint of gains and that of profits; (2) that alfalfa and corn are capable of giving large gains without additional foods, but that the substitution of corn-stover which has been cut and shocked immediately after the ears ripen may be substituted for half of the alfalfa with greater economy because of the low market value in the corn belt of such roughness.

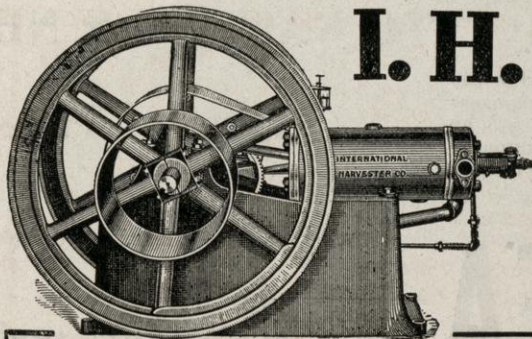
The results of Experiment II, comparing bran, oil-meal, cottonseed-meal, and alfalfa as sources of protein, will be published in the next issue of this paper.

Nebraska Experiment Station.

A First Essay in Housekeeping.

Mr. Jones—What is it, my pet; Mrs. Jones—This rabbit (sob)—I've been plucking it (sob)—all the afternoon, and it isn't half done yet—Punch.

Druggist: "Try it again, little one. What was it your mamma told you to get?" Little Girl (with another severe mental effort): "I think it was 'I died of opiumus.' I want ten cents' worth."—Youth.



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Gleanings in Bee Culture	1 00
The Agricultural Epitomist	.25
Poultry Gazette	.25
One Gold Filled collar button	.25
	\$4.25

All for \$2.00

Tenor (singing). "Oh, 'appy, 'appy, 'appy be thy dreams," Professor: "Stop, stop! Why don't you sound the H?" Tenor: "It don't go no higher than G!"

Addressing a political gathering the other day, a speaker gave his hearers a touch of the pathetic. "I miss," he said, brushing away a not unmanly tear, "I miss many of the old faces I used to shake hands with."

ALFALFA

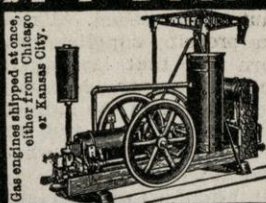
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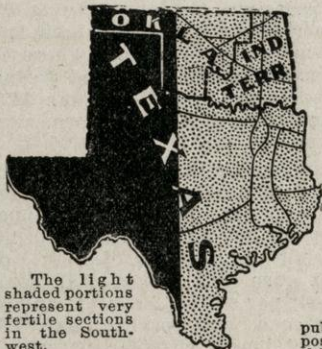
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Farm Beekeeping By the Editor.

Why is it that people will persist in talking about bees eating fruit, when the truth of the matter is that they never touch fruit of any kind until the skin is broken by something else. Then, of course, they will suck the juice as long as there is any to get, as this comes at the season of the year when there is not much else for them to work on. This calls to mind another fact in relation to bees. They seldom sting when away from the hive in search of stores. There were scores of people in our peach orchard during the last two months, and while the bees were there in swarms after the fruit got very ripe, yet we never knew one of the pickers to be stung, nor heard of any visitor or patron being stung. Why is it, then, that we sometimes hear so much about the bees being such a nuisance in orchards? We apprehend that most of this complaint comes from people who are influenced more by their prejudice than they are by the real facts.

Of late we have noticed a good many small flings in the American Bee Keeper, but the following is about the smallest thing we have ever seen on the editorial page of a reputable paper of any kind:

"At the recent meeting of the Pennsylvania Beekeepers Association held at Jenkintown, Pa., one of the 'exhibits' which created much amusement was an old man who went about introducing himself as 'I am Blankety Branch, (we omit his real name) and seeming much exercised and disgusted if the recipient of the 'honor' did not show due delight and adoration. His egotistical antics added much to the entertainment of the visitors. The boys who stay away from the conventions often miss rare enjoyment."

This, we presume, refers to A. I. Root, but there is no occasion for him to borrow any trouble about it, for when the writer of this exceedingly small fling at a brother beekeeper has gone down to oblivion and eternal forgetfulness the name of A. I. Root will be fresh and green in the memories of those who follow our beloved industry. Mr. Root has done more to make beekeeping what it is than a whole field full of such scribblers could do in a thousand years. But why notice such things? Did you ever notice the expression of contempt on the lordly face of a fine, noble new-foundland dog when some little cur ran up and began to bark at him? such flings should receive the same treatment. By-the-way, has anybody ever seen the editor of the American Beekeeper at a bee convention? We never have. He writes sometimes as though he had never been twenty miles from home, and had lived mostly on vinegar and Indian turnips. Eat

a little honey, Brother Hill, breathe deeply three or four times, go out and bask in Florida's blessed sunshine for a time, and then write an editorial offering your best apology for permitting such a thing to appear in the columns of the American Bee Keeper, is our advice.

In a short time every beekeeper will be confronted by the "winter problem," but it will be far from a serious

matter to those whose bees have plenty of good stores properly located in the hive. It is very hard to get some people to understand that a colony of bees must not only have plenty of stores but the stores must be where they can be reached by the bees when they need them most, namely, during the cold weather. Many seem to think that all that is necessary is for the bees to have twenty-five or thirty

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Catalog issued in English or German.

pounds of honey in the hive, and then they will winter all right, but they are just as bad off sometimes with plenty of honey in the hive as they would be if they did not have a pound. If the honey in the hive is not located above the cluster, and there comes a long cold spell, the bees soon consume the honey in the combs on which they are clustered, and then die for want of stores, as they cannot move from one frame to another during very cold weather. It is important, then, to see to it that the bees have an abundance of stores so that there will be no danger of their consuming all the honey in reach, even though the winter is a hard one and we have several long, cold spells. There is no danger of their having too much, and a shortage of a few pounds might cause the loss of the colony. We repeat, what we have said in these columns a great many times, that it will pay to look after the bees properly, even though we have to go to some expense to get them through the winter.

If any of the colonies are weak, they should be united with other colonies and all of them made strong and well supplied with food for the winter. Even though they do have more than they need to winter on, it will not come amiss in the spring, for when brood rearing begins they consume honey very rapidly.

It is not too late to feed bees liquid food and when they need it this should be attended to at once. Any kind of a feeder that will go inside of a hive will answer. The main thing is to use a feeder that will enable the bees to reach the food without danger of their being chilled, if the nights are cold, and one that will not cause the bees to fall in the syrup and die. A feeder made of wood is warmer and better in every respect, as the bees can climb in and out of it without any trouble.

The following, by F. G. Herman, in the Farm Journal, will be of interest just now:

"Every spring, reports from all parts of the country tell of extensive losses of bees.

No colony should be considered safe unless it has stored in the combs at least twenty-five pounds of honey and sealed most of it over.

The arrangement of this food is a matter of some importance, for if the bees are crowded upon a few frames, and fed liberally, they will fill every available cell with syrup, and then be compelled to cluster during the winter upon sealed combs instead of upon empty cells, as is more natural, and having stores above and around.

With the movable-comb hive the arrangement for the combs is a simple matter. If feeding is continued up to the middle of September, and the proper amount of food is then given, the bees will arrange it around the brood (which gradually diminishes by the bees hatching) convenient for their comfort and need.

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If the combs are arranged by the beekeeper, the center one should have sealed stores about half way down, the amount of stores increasing to the outside of the brood-nest.

Bees often starve in the midst of plenty. They winter in lots called seams between the combs, and may be seen packed like slate upon a house roof, the top row removing the food from the cells above them to feed themselves and to pass it down to those below.

While the weather remains mild, the bees are able to move about from comb to comb in search of food, or with the object of bringing to the center combs food stored in the outer frames.

But this activity ceases as soon as really cold weather sets in, and they then pack themselves close together for mutual warmth. When the food around them is consumed, they die, simply on account of the cold air by which they are surrounded; they can not pass around or under the frames to a probable abundant supply close by.

Though they are prevented from going around or under the frames, a provision may be made for allowing them to pass over the top bar into the warmest part of the hive. This is done by giving what are known as winter passages.

The old method, now almost discarded, was to cut a hole through the comb in each frame near the top bar. A more effective passage could hardly be devised; but apart from spoiling the combs it is a tiresome and troublesome operation, and is therefore not recommended.

A simple plan is to lay across the top bars four pieces of wood half an inch square and about six inches long, half an inch apart. If the quilts are then evenly laid across, effective passages for the bees will be provided.

Then, again, a cake of candy laid upon the frames when closing up the hives in October will be equally satisfactory, for passages will be formed as the candy is consumed over the bars."

THE BEES' MARKET BASKET.

Every bee carries his market basket around his hind legs. Every one examining the body of the bee with a microscope will observe that on the hind legs of the creature there is a fringe of stiff hairs, approaching each other at the tips so as to form a sort of cave. This is the bee's basket and into it, after a successful journey he will cram enough pollen to last him for two or three days.

We clipped the above from the St. Joseph Weekly Observer. If we did not know that editor Cochran is a better lawyer, politician and editor than he is a farmer we might wonder why the above found place in his excellent publication. First, the bee that carries a pollen basket is not a he but a she. In the second place, she does not eat pollen, but uses it in

preparing food for the young. She eats honey. If a host of humans would follow her example they would feel better and live longer. Thirdly, every bee does not carry a pollen basket, only the workers; the drones and queen do not have anything of the kind.

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THE FRUITMAN

MT. VERNON, IOWA.

There had been a dressmaker in the house and Minnie had listened to long discussions about the very latest fashions. That night when she said her prayers, she added a new petition, uttered with unwonted fervency:

"And, dear Lord, please make us all very stylish."—"Under the Spreading Chestnut Tree," in Everybody's Magazine for October.

Farm Poultry

By N. J. Shepherd.

It pays to keep the very best.

Soft soap is a good remedy for scaly legs.

Mark the date on each egg when put under the hen.

The best kind of charcoal for poultry is parched corn.

Never pick out a hen for a setter that is naturally quarrelsome.

Whitewash is a cheap article and can be used frequently to advantage.

A little carbolic acid in the whitewash will give the house a healthful odor.

Coal ashes should not be used in the dust bath until the cinders have been carefully sifted out.

A dust bath almost every day is necessary to the health and happiness of a hen, and she should have it.

There is nothing about the care and management of poultry that a woman can not attend to as well as a man.

Oat meal, millet seed and cracked wheat can in many cases be fed to a better advantage than too much soft feed.

Bone dust supplies an abundance of bone making material, and animal food and counteracts any tendency to diarrhoea.

With the early setting hens at least, food should be placed within their easy reach so that they need not be long in quest of it.

Whatever breed is selected exercise the same care in selecting individual fowls, keeping only those that show marks of good percentage.

It is very essential that the quarters for the fowls be dry. Chicks will endure much cold, but readily succumb to disease superinduced by dampness.

One of the objections to feeding soft food to young chickens is that they are so apt to eat too rapidly and become gorged, even to the extent of sometimes killing themselves.

Hens which are slow in moulting and which go about late in the season with pin feathers showing indicate lack of vigor, even to produce feathers, and will be still less likely to produce a profitable number of eggs.

Fresh earth in the henary for dusting and scratching is indispensable; it will cleanse the feathers and skin of impurities, effete matter and lice. The supply should be changed every few days in order to prevent becoming too foul.

In the general management of the flocks the keeper should always en-

deavor to promote and maintain the health and thrift of his fowls, for whatever conduces to their well being will have a proportionate effect on the profits.

Pekins are the handsomest of all the different varieties of ducks; their white or creamy white plumage contrasting with their reddish-orange marks and deep yellow bill, and their upright station all combine to make them general favorites.

The main advantage that April chicks have over those two or three months later is that the former get their permanent feathers before cold weather sets in while July and August chicks must pass through their feather producing stage in cold weather.

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Natural History.

De birds is all a-chirpin'
As hard as dey kin go,
De bees dey is a-hummin'
While dey carries to an' fro,
De bullfrog is a-croakin'
When de day is growin' dim,
An' de politician's talkin'
'Cause it's natural to him.

De watchdog is a-barkin'
At de moon dat rise so high,
An' de crickets is a-chirpin',
An' de hoot owl stahs to cry,
An' de whippoorwill's a-singin'
Jes' to keep his voice in trim,
An' de politician's talking
'Cause it's natural to him.
—Washington Star.

The Garden of Sleep.

In the grass of the cliff, at the edge of the
sleep,
God planted a garden, a garden of sleep.
'Neath the blue of the sky, in the green of
the corn,
It is there that the regal red poppies are
born.
Brief days of desire and long dreams of
delight,
They are mine when my poppy land com-
eth in sight.
In music of distance, with eyes that are
wet,
It is there I remember and there I forget.
Oh, heart of my heart, where the poppies
are born,
I am waiting for thee in the hush of the
corn!

Sleep! Sleep!
From the cliff to the deep,
Sleep, my poppy land,
Sleep!

In my garden of sleep, where red poppies
are spread,
I wait for the living, alone with the dead,
For a tower in ruins stands guard o'er the
deep,
At whose feet are green graves of dear
women asleep.
Did they love as I love when they lived
by the sea?
Did they wait as I wait for the days that
may be?
Was it hope or fulfilling that entered each
breast
Ere death gave release and the poppies
gave rest?
Oh, life of my life, on the cliffs by the
sea,
By the graves in the grass, I am waiting
for thee!

Sleep! Sleep!
In the dews by the deep,
Sleep, my poppy land,
Sleep!
—Clement Scott.

The Man Behind the Hoe.

Let no one sing of slanted brow
On him who tills the soil,
The farmer loves the fruitful earth
And loves his daily toil.
'Tis true his back may curve a wee,
By bending over so,
But all his heart is straight and true—
The man behind the hoe.

Let no one sing of narrowed soul
Of him who turns the sod.
'Tis his to breathe the virgin air
And feel the kiss of God.
'Tis his to see the mysteries
Of nature come and go,
The budding plant, the perfect seed—
The man behind the hoe.

'Tis his to feel the spring's first thrill,
With hint of bluebird's wing;
'Tis his to smell the clover sweet
And hear the thrushes sing;
'Tis his to see the meadows wave
Like rippling waters slow.
All sweetest sights and sounds are his—
The man behind the hoe.

'Tis his to watch the springing corn
And feel the freshening rain;
'Tis his to smell the blossoming grape
And see the ripening grain;
'Tis his to pluck the golden yield
From fruit trees bending low—
Why, heaven itself lies all about
The man behind the hoe.

Oh, blessed the man whose lot is cast
Thus close to nature's heart.
What need has he of millions stored
Who of the whole is part?
What need has he of bank or bond
Who works to make things grow?
The only freedom on the globe
Is his behind the hoe.
—Townsend Allen in Boston Courier.

Postponed—A bashful young couple
who were evidently very much in love,
entered a crowded street car in Bos-
ton the other day. "Do you suppose
we can squeeze in here?" he asked,
looking doubtfully at her blushing
face.

"Don't you think, dear, we had bet-
ter wait until we get home?" was the
low, embarrassed reply.—Life.

"Did she make you feel at home?"
"No, but she made me wish I was."—
Brooklyn Life.

"Could you suggest some suitable
badge for our 'Don't Worry Club?'"
asked the typewriter boarder. "How
would a pine knot do?" asked the
Cheerful Idiot.—Indianapolis Journal.

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Washington, D. C.

Miscellaneous Selections

If you own a runaway team, take out an accident policy. These two go together.

It is always a good idea to tackle the hard end of any job first and leave the easy end until last.

The best celery lands near Kalamazoo, Mich., which originally were just peat swamps, rent for \$30 to \$40 per acre.

If there are only one or two stalks of corn in the hill which should have two and three stalks, that corn crop will be one-third short.

A truck farmer in Texas cleared \$700 this year on two acres of Bermuda onions, which makes a ten dollar crop of wheat or corn look sick.

Try redtop and alsike clover for all those spots on the farm which are too wet for cultivation. This makes an excellent combination of grasses for such spots.

Not all the suckers are raised on the farms, for the fakirs find mighty good picking in all our small towns, where smart Alecs flourish like dandelions on a town lawn.

It is but little use to meddle with purslane in the garden or field when the weather is wet. It seems to father enjoy being pulled up so that it may turn over and take root again.

It is impossible to get the tenant who rents a farm for a year to take any interest in keeping the farm up. All he cares for is to skin it of the last bushel of grain at the least possible expense.

Wisconsin is paying more attention to the development of the cranberry than any other state. Much of the waste bog land in that state is specially fitted for the culture of this delicious fruit.

The harvest of the sea on the Pacific coast is an important one. During 1903 the value of the salmon product alone was over \$3,000,000, while the catch of other varieties of fish runs into large figures.

We know of no way in which a farmer can better give evidence of his patriotism and public spirit than by dragging the highway which borders his land after every hard rain. It costs but little and accomplishes so much.

Read our ads. They are all clean.

CANADA THISTLES.

The old question of how to get rid of a patch of Canada thistles is before us again. This pest throughout the north-west seldom reproduces itself from seed, but spreads by an underground system of sucker roots like quack grass and bindweed. Constant plowing or hoeing during a dry midsummer is one of the most effective ways of getting rid of it, but this method is a total failure if it is wet. Heavy fertilizing and the seeding of the land to some sort of smother crop, such as sorghum, rape or sowed corn, will often dispose of them. A small patch may be got rid of by a heavy mulch of straw, corn-stalks or tanbark, the secret of getting rid of them being to prevent, in no matter what manner, the growth of the thistle above ground, for it cannot grow under ground when thus prevented.

CARE OF HIGHWAYS.

Replying to an interesting letter relative to the suggestion that in some cases it would be a good plan to let the farmers owning the land take care of the highways unless the said farmers are real public spirited men, taking a pride in their farms and in the highways and willing to donate quite a little work during the season to carry out their ideal of good roads, where a man's interest in the highways is strictly limited to the amount of his road tax he had better pay it and let the road supervisor do the work.

FARMING IN ALASKA.

Some very misleading statements relative to the agricultural possibilities of the Alaska country have appeared from time to time. While there is a narrow strip bordering the ocean where grass will grow and some few vegetables and cereals mature, the great area of the territory is an agricultural blank save for a few weeks' pasture which may be secured during the brief summer. It is all folly for any man to go there with the idea of working a farm—too far north, too cold, seasons too short.

A case where the laws are utterly impotent is that of a friend of ours who had a pair of pet gray squirrels killed by a town poacher while the family was absent from home. We had the same mean game played on us some years ago with some red squirrels which were the children's pets. A public whipping post would fit this and a few other offenses which are common, such as wife beating and maiming domestic animals.

Love.

Let me but love my love without disguise,
Nor wear a mask of fashion old or new,
Nor wait to speak till I can hear a clew,
Nor play a part to shine in others' eyes,
Nor bow my knees to what my heart de-

nies;
But what I am, to that let me be true,
And let me worship where my love is due.
And so through love and worship let me rise,

For love is but the heart's immortal thirst
To be completely known and all forgiven;
Even as sinful souls that come to heaven,
So take me, love, and understand my worst,
And pardon it, for love, because confessed,

And let me find in thee, my love, my best.
—Henry Van Dyke in Outlook.

A Happy Life.

How happy is he born and taught
That serveth not another's will;
Whose armor is his honest thought,
And simple truth his utmost skill!

Whose passions not his masters are,
Whose soul is still prepared for death,
Untied unto the world by care
Of public fame or private breath;

Who envies none that chance doth raise
Nor vice; hath ever understood
How deepest wounds are given by praise;
Nor rules of state, but rules of good;

Who hath his life from rumors freed,
Whose conscience is his strong retreat;
Whose state can neither flatterers feed,
Nor ruin make oppressors great;

Who God doth late and early pray
More of his grace than gifts to lend,
And entertains the harmless day
With a religious book or friend;

This man is freed from servile bands
Or hope to rise, or fear to fall;
Lord of himself, though not of lands;
And having nothing, yet hath all.
—Sir Henry Wotton.

The Mysterious Traveler.

He travels every morning, and he travels every night,

As if not whim it was to him, but duty and delight.

He seems to make, for some one's sake, of life a strenuous strain,
And shows he's much in earnest when he tries to catch a train.

He holds big bundles in his hands and packed upon his knees—

He never needs the baggage car for trifles such as these.

He's no commercial traveler, well paid as on he speeds,

Who in time tables' tangled lines his Tex. Commandments reads,

But thus he rides, week in, week out, and piles up miles on miles,

And, though he must be tired, and dust begrimes his eyes, he smiles.

Yet, traveling daily as he does, there's something very queer—

He's never been a dozen miles from home in all the year.

'Tis the same road he travels o'er, again and yet again,

Though he is neither brakeman nor conductor of the train,

But up and down, 'twixt home and town, he twice a day must ply—

He knows each house and fence and tree the cars go rushing by.

Then who is he who fun can see where we'd take small delight?

The braggart's bid for laugh—the brave suburbanite!

—George Birdseye in Boston Globe.



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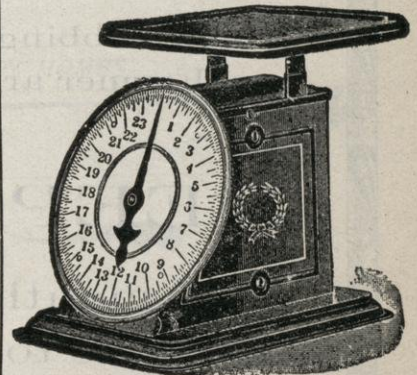
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