

Farm Notes.

During bad weather is a good time to make rollers, drag, etc., to have ready for use when needed.

Determine now and lay the plans to do more systematic and intelligent work than you have ever done before.

The tree butcher who cuts and hacks away the limbs of trees without regard to advantages or disadvantages can do more harm in one day than can be recovered in five years.

Cabbage should be started in the hot-bed early, as they are not as tender as some plants and will stand exposure early in the season. Early cabbage cannot be gotten in the market too soon, and they always bring good prices.

The ground below the surface is still dry. To absorb the most of the spring rains let deep plowing be practiced, and keep the top soil loose during the growing season. Hard and compact soils permit a large proportion of the water to flow away.

Horse breeders need not be alarmed by the incoming of electric carriages. They are not yet a success and are a very expensive luxury. The running of them will cost much, nor can they be successfully used upon roads which are hilly, muddy, frozen or rough.

Keep up the infusion of young blood, for this will steadily enhance the value of the flock. Sheep growers will find it a good rule to sell at least 10 per cent. of the oldest sheep every year, and retain the same proportion of the ewe lambs; and be careful lest there be too much inbreeding.

Without any fear of contradiction, true economy in feeding lies in the shortening of the fattening operations; in other words, early maturity is the passport to success. The successful feeder is the liberal feeder, who feeds for immediate results. Feed is wasted when stock is but holding its own.

Early in the morning give the brood sow that has pigs a mess of bran and cornmeal, scalded with boiling water. It will warm her body, increase the flow of milk, and enable her to better care for the pigs. If they are old enough to eat from the trough the mess will also strengthen and invigorate them.

It requires some judgment to know when the best stage of fattening has been reached and it is easily possible to feed a little too long. Especially is this so late in the fall or the winter, when the weather is cold and considerable food is required to maintain animal heat. On the other hand, it is a loss to sell until properly fattened.

If a cow will give 35 quarts of milk a day it should be an encouragement to farmers to procure stock that will approach such yield, yet that amount of milk was given by a Holstein cow in a public test at the provincial show at Guelph, Canada, with 11 cows competing. The milk was also rich in both fat and solids.

There can be no error in mixing out vegetables and other soft food for the fowls, for their natures crave it. There are eggs in potatoes, and the squash adds a nice flavor to poultry meat. One of the best articles of diet for them is young clover cut fine, and they are very fond of it; malt sprouts and cabbage are excellent.

Any remedy of scours in calves is always acceptable, as it is a difficulty with which every dairyman must contend. A Western dairyman makes known that of all remedies used in many years' experience he finds that a teaspoonful of rennet in the milk of 10 calves is sufficient to prevent any danger from scours. It is worthy a trial, as the cost is but little and the remedy harmless.

One of the best substances for asparagus is soapstone. If a drain can be arranged along a row of asparagus, so as to receive all the soapstone that may be made, the effect will be very beneficial. It may be mentioned that asparagus begins to grow very early in the season, being about the first article that comes from the garden, hence attention to the asparagus bed cannot be given too soon.

When a plot refuses to respond to clover, it indicates that something is lacking. It may be only one substance, such as lime or potash, and the soil may also be well adapted for some other crop. Clover derives much of its nitrogen from the air which is returned to the soil. Lime will prove beneficial to all crops, and for that reason the farmers will make no mistake in using it on any kind of soil.

The loss in the value of manure in six months is estimated to be from one-third to one-half. This may be due to decomposition, ammonia being produced and escaping, or from leaching by water. The manure heap should never be allowed to overheat, and absorbent material should be used freely. Dampness in the heap is an advantage. While a certain degree of fermentation reduces the manure to proper condition, yet it is a process which should be closely watched by the farmer and controlled.

There is a growing feeling in favor of selling eggs by weight, and it is probably a matter of time when that will be the practice. It is absurd to sell the eggs of the Brahma at the same price per dozen as those of the Leghorn. As well sell small peaches and oranges at the same price as large ones. The eggs of the pullet are always smaller than those of the mature hen, but there is no difference in price. There is no inducement to breed for large eggs, as size does not count.

Must Be a Descendant of Methuselah?

Her Eldest Child 88 and Youngest 80—She Has 175 Great-great Grandchildren.

Mrs. Margaret King of Greensbury, Ind., celebrated her one hundredth and ninth birthday anniversary recently in the presence of about 100 of her descendants. Mrs. King was born on Christmas day, 1786, at White Oak, O., and came to this county with her parents when quite a small girl. She married young, and to her 13 children were born, 12 of whom are now living, the oldest being 93 and the youngest 60.

Her mother died in her ninety-eighth year, and her father lived to be 111 years old. She has about 70 grandchildren living, about 200 great-grandchildren and about 175 great-great-grandchildren. Her youngest descendant present at the celebration, was 3 weeks old and the oldest 93 years. Mrs. King's parents were poor, and she married a hardworking farmer.

Notwithstanding the large family which she raised, she indulged in much hard labor on the farm. Such work as plowing, husking corn, shocking wheat and splitting rails was no uncommon work for her in those days. She is now somewhat feeble and childish, but she is enjoying very good health for one of her age. She goes about the premises with ease, waits upon herself, and often does little household duties. It was not long ago that she went out shopping.

She has not worn glasses for 20 years, when she received her second sight, and now she can see as well as ever. For several years she was hard of hearing, but now she can hear quite distinctly. Her memory is wonderfully good for one of her age. It is quite interesting to hear her relate incidents of her early life. She reads her Bible daily, not having missed reading it once each day since she was converted, 90 years ago. —St. Louise Globe-Democrat.

A Few Facts About Venezuela.

The area of Venezuela is 682,000 square miles, larger than that of any country in Europe except Russia, and larger than that of any State in the United States. The area of Texas is 265,000 square miles.

The population of Venezuela by the last census was 2,550,000. This is more than Denmark's and less than Switzerland's. It is about the same as that of Massachusetts. The last official estimate of the population of Massachusetts, made on January 1, 1894, was 2,472,000. By the federal census of five years ago the population of Massachusetts was 2,238,000.

Caracas, the capital and chief city of Venezuela, has a population of 70,000, or less than that of Fall River. It is built on an elevation of 7,000 feet above the sea level. It was founded in 1567. Caracas is an Indian name—the name of the Indians of the neighborhood which the Spanish pioneers affixed to the original title of the new town, Santiago de Leon. In 1812, the year of the latest American war with Great Britain, an earthquake in Caracas buried 12,000 persons in the ruins of a part of the city. The date of this earthquake was March 26.

There are 200,000,000 acres of forest lands in the Republic of Venezuela. Rosewood, satinwood, mahogany, and white and black ebony are found. The distance from New York to La Guayra, the port of Caracas, is 2,200 miles. In addition to coffee, gold, and fine woods, Venezuela exports, hides, coconuts and cattle. The distance from La Guayra to London is nearly 5,000 miles.

Making Marriage Easy.

A London weekly says some wise things concerning the need of an "ideal matrimonial agency" for the timid man and the woman whose manner may be interpreted as repellent. According to the brilliant originator of the plan, such an agency would not only serve to break the ice between the constitutionally timid, but otherwise estimable, but would also serve to widen the circle of acquaintances of those who planned marriages of convenience. "For," says the writer, "if there were no marriages in England except among parties of whom each was in love with the other, there would, we fear, be an abnormal number of celibates among both sexes."

Her Dilemma.

Mrs. Newrich—[declare to goodness, I don't know whether to give some afternoon treat or a big evening deception.]

Cottolene.

Shorten it with Cottolene instead of lard and see what a crisp crust it will have; how delicious and wholesome it will be. Pie made with Cottolene will do a dyspeptic good. Do everybody good because it is good. There is only one secret in cooking with Cottolene—use but two-thirds as much as you would naturally use of lard. Follow this rule and Cottolene will do the rest.

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The Armenians.

The Armenians are a civilized people, a people of great natural gifts and a people who have played a considerable part in history, says the "Century." Since their ancient monarchy, which had suffered severely in the long and desolating wars between the Roman and Persian empires from the third to the seventh century of our era, was finally destroyed by the Seljukian Turks, a large part of the race has been forced to migrate from its ancient seats at the headwaters of the Euphrates, Tigris and Aras.

Some of them went southwest to the mountain fastnesses of Cilicia, where another Armenian kingdom grew up in the 12th century. Others drifted into Persia. Others moved northeastward and now form a large, industrious and prosperous population in Russian Transcaucasia, where many have entered the military or civil service of the Czar and risen, and the Armenians used to rise long ago in the Byzantine empire, to posts of distinction and power. Russia's three best generals in her last Asiatic campaigns against the Turks were Armenians.

Others again have scattered themselves over the cities of Asia Minor and southeastern Europe, where much of the local trade is in their hands. But a large number, roughly estimated at from 1,300,000 to 1,700,000, remain in the old fatherland, round the great lake of Van, and on the plateaus and elevated valleys which stretch westward from Mount Ararat to Erzeroum and Erzinghian.

Here they are an agricultural and (to a less extent) a pastoral population, leading a simple, primitive life and desiring nothing more than to be permitted to lead it in peace and in fidelity to that ancient church, which has been to them the symbol of nationality, as well as the guide of life for 16 centuries.

"JACK THE GIANT KILLER."—The child's story of "Jack, the Giant Killer," furnishes a striking illustration of the efficacy of small agencies towards the suppression of great evils, when judiciously used. The daring exploits of brave little Jack remind us, in their results of the wonderful achievements of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets in battling with the giant, disease. Relatively, the proportion between the youthful hero, and the old Bristle-bore, is apparently not greater than that between the little "Pellets" and the relentless monster which preys upon the vital. Yet, the "Pellets" comes off conqueror of constipation, sick headache, biliousness and kindred ailments every time. If you are suffering from either acute or chronic disorder of the digestive organs, try this sure remedy.

—The man who smiles sweetest on womankind is sure to be ugly with his nose outside is often mean at home with his pennies.

The woman who is always sweet and sympathetic to strangers is apt to be a perfect rock of indifference when her own folks need her attention. The child who smiles and looks loving and lovely in company is often a small demon when at home.

And so it goes very often—"The angel of the streets is the devil of the household."

—Backward, turn backward, oh time in thy flight; feed me on gruel again just for to-night. I am so weary of sole leather steak, petrified doughnuts, and vulcanized cake; oysters that splot in the watery bath, butter as strong as Goliath of Gath; weary of paying for what I don't eat, chewing up rubber and calling it meat. Backward, turn backward, for weary I am! Give me a whack at grandmother's jam; let me drink milk that has never been skimmed, let me eat butter whose hair has been trimmed, let me once more have an old fashioned pie, and then I'll be ready to curl up and die.

—Exposure to cold, damp winds, may result in pneumonia unless the system is kept invigorated with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

—"A man dat am allus lookin' foh er argymint," said Uncle Eben, "am in frequent cases de mau dat orter be lookin' foh work."

—What word may be pronounced quicker by adding a syllable to it? Quick.

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