

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., January 2, 1903

FARM NOTES.

Oats are a greater producer of milk than corn, when fed to dairy cows. They contain more protein and are not so heating. The cow rarely tires of them and they give a delicious flavor to the milk and an aroma to butter. Users of oats claim there is nothing that can be fed to cows so continuously and with such beneficial results. The question of their use, however, must be regulated by their cost.—G. H. Marsh, in *Farm and Home*.

There are two most important things to be kept in mind by the fruit raiser—pruning and mulching. If these two duties are well performed success is nearly always certain. If well mulched, the fertilizing material is thus supplied by filtration from the mulching down to the feeding roots, which is the very best self regulating method of fertilizing. By allowing this mulching to remain in winter and early spring the roots are kept moist and vegetation prevented from springing up around bushes or a heavy sod from forming.

The age of sheep is very easily shown by an examination of the teeth. A lamb has the first pair of permanent front teeth when about ten months old, the second pair at about eighteen months, the third pair at twenty eight months, and the fourth at about thirty-three or forty months. When the whole of the permanent front teeth have appeared the sheep is in its fourth year. The Merino matures its teeth later than the other breeds; the Cotswold and Southdowns and other highly improved mutton sheep are some months ahead of a Merino, but at four years every sheep has its full mouth of teeth. Later, the age is known by the appearance of the teeth, which gradually lose their sharp edges and become worn down smooth. A healthy sheep will keep its teeth good until ten or twelve years old, if the pasture is not unusually bare, and the soil sandy, so as to wear the teeth excessively.

In order to get the best and quickest results from hogs, begin fattening the pigs as soon as they are born. I raised pure-blooded Poland-Chinas of medium size, and never attempted to keep them any other than a thrifty condition. They were not fat, but are far from being poor. I fed a little whole corn and a slop made of rye meal and milk.

When the pigs begin to try to eat (and they will do this when only a few days old) I fix a place where they could go and eat by themselves. I first give them skimmed milk and then gradually add rye meal increasing the amount as the pig grows. As soon as they are large enough to eat it, I add a little corn, but I find that I can make the most rapid growth with rye meal if I have plenty of milk to go with it. If the meal is fed alone, it is in my opinion too concentrated. I raise two litters of pigs each year. They generally weigh from 275 to 300 pounds at seven months old.

The tripod device for setting trees is all right, but I have used the notched board and find it much more simple and less expensive. I begin by selecting the orchard site. Then plow the ground, harrow and plank it thoroughly. Line off both ways and set a stake where each tree is to be placed. Take a board five to six feet long, five or six inches wide and one inch thick. Notch it having the middle notch exactly half way between the notches on the ends. Place the center notch against the stake where the tree is to be planted, then set a small stake in each of the other notches.

When ready for planting, dig up the center stake and prepare the hole for the tree. Then in setting the tree, put the notched board in position with the end notches opposite the two other stakes. Set the trees so that the trunk will rest in the middle notch. This will insure an absolutely straight row both ways. The device is so simple that it hardly seems necessary to describe it. Many, however, continue to have crooked rows simply because they have not thought of this plan.

CURING PORK FOR HOME USE.—After killing and dressing, the hogs should hang until thoroughly cooled. Operations are usually begun early in the morning and there is ample time to cool before night. There is greater demand for bacon than for salt pork, hence the sides of all hogs which are not overfat should be converted into bacon. For salt pork, fresh roasts, etc., the hog is first split along the back, the cuts of meat being removed from the loin and shoulder portions, and the belly strips used for bacon. When bacon only is desired, the hams and shoulders are first removed, after which the spare ribs are cut away. Bacon strips about three inches wide are cut around the body, and these strips cut in two.

The hams and shoulders are cut short of the leg joint, well rounded and trimmed. Lean trimmings are made into sausage or head cheese. Choice lard is made from leaf lard and trimmings only, second grade lard from gut fat, leaf lard and trimmings. The hams, shoulders and bacon are rubbed with salt and placed on edge in layers in a barrel, which should first have a layer of salt sprinkled over the bottom. For each 100 pounds meat make a pickle of 10 pounds salt, 2 pounds brown sugar, 2 ounces saltpeter, 1 ounce red pepper, and from 4 to 4½ gallons water. Put these ingredients in an iron or tin vessel, place over a fire and boil 10 minutes. Stir while boiling and remove the scum.

After the brine has cooled, pour it over the meat and let it remain from five to six weeks, then remove, drain and wipe the pieces, after which they are ready for the smoke, which should last from two to three weeks. Hickory and birch sawdust, chips and pieces produce meat of the best flavor. The smoke should be kept up constantly, but the meat should not hang near enough to the fire to become heated. The smoke house must be tight and it is best to have a ground floor. The fire should be built in an iron pan near the middle of the building. If a red hot iron is placed in the pan and the sawdust and chips placed over this the smudge will be started easily. An occasional piece of green wood adds to the smoke. After smoking, the hams, shoulders and bacon pieces are sewed up in muslin bags, which are then whitewashed with lime and hung in a dark, cool place.

The salt pork is left in brine until used. It is usually salted more than the hams, and should be placed in a separate barrel made from well seasoned oak. A stone is placed over the meat to keep it under the brine. In the spring the meat is removed and rinsed in clean water and the barrel scalded. The brine is boiled and the impurities skimmed off. The pork is then put in the clean barrel and the brine poured over it. If this precaution is not taken, when warm weather approaches the grease at the top of the brine will putrify and taint the meat.—F. D. C. Field and Farm.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Japanese lamp shades of low, squat shape, with lacquered frames and artistically decorated rice paper between, are in high favor.

In studying to obtain the effect of space in small rooms it is a good plan to cover the walls of two rooms to match. This gives a greater feeling of space.

Mrs. Mary E. Miller, of Lafayette, Col. claims the distinction of being the only woman bank president in the United States. She is at the head of the Lafayette Bank; one of her sons is the vice president, and another is cashier, while his wife is assistant cashier. Mrs. Miller has lived at Lafayette since 1863, when she and her husband arrived with an ox team from Iowa, hauling the first thrashing machine brought into the country. Mrs. Miller died in 1878. Coal was discovered on her land in 1887, and some of the biggest mines in Northern Colorado are on the property. She mines no coal on her own account.

At the last State election Mrs. Miller was the Prohibition candidate for State Treasurer. She is regarded as one of the best business women in the State, and is always foremost in all temperance and reform movements.

The black moire ribbon belt is very smart and well liked already, though it has not been on our shop counters for many weeks. It is four inches broad, heavy and lustrous. The belt almost encircles the waist, but does not quite achieve it, at least, as far as the moire is concerned. Just in front it slopes to a width of two inches, and is met by black silk elastic ends, which strap together in front with a patent adjustable clasp, which appears to be a simple metal slide, but which has a strong spring concealed which grips the loose end of the elastic. An easy movement pushes back the slide and releases the belt end, but it is not likely to slip open of its own strain.

Embroidered and hemstitched silk, linen or canvass cuffs to match the fancy stole collars are the newest. The cuffs also are stoled, some of the tabs running almost to the elbow. A striking set was in pale olive taffeta embroidered and fagoted in pink.

A good housekeeper will not waste the starch, leave her spices uncovered, throw away the stale bread, neglect tea and coffee pots. Leave the refrigerator lid open. Spill rice and sugar in the handling. Set her scrubbing brushes on the bristles to dry. Allow the kettle to boil dry and then fill it with cold water. Stand her brooms on the floor instead of hanging them up.

There have been many rumors about shorter skirts for evening gowns, but here, as in every other department of fashion, there are the usual number of variations.

Some sort of frilly sleeve, usually elbow length, seems to be a feature this season, but there is the short sleeve, too, if you like and the simple frill of lace falling from a band crossing the arm below the shoulder. Another band extends over the shoulder, the arm showing between.

The hands of silk, the top one going over the shoulders, the others falling below with spaces between form a pretty effect. They may be sewn to a chiffon or lace foundation, the ends meeting at either side of the armhole. They all fit the arm closely giving the cap effect so much worn.

There is some great controversy about sleeves. Some French people are wearing their tight and others voluminous all the way down. The Tudor sleeve is making its appearance on velvet models slashed with various kinds of fur and silk. This, in some cases, is becoming, but more often not.

Very small letters are now used in embroidered initials upon fine cambric handkerchiefs. Many of us are glad to receive a new set of dainty handkerchiefs, and those of hemstitched lawn are more welcome by the dozen than a single one of the flimsy and lace edged embroidered squares of lawn.

Mrs. Anna M. Eister, a market woman of Lexington, Ky., has died, leaving a fortune valued at \$100,000, all accumulated by the sale of garden truck. She was ponderous in size, weighing 320 pounds.

Europe's Richest City.

In 124,000 People There are 18; Who are Millionaires.

The richest city in Europe and probably in the world, is Basel—or Basle is it used to appear in the school geographies—in Switzerland.

The returns published by the tax administrator show the assessed valuation is more than \$175,000,000 and the total population is 124,000, an average of more than \$1,400 for each man, woman and child in the city. The assessed valuation of Basel equals the total revenue of the 88,000 houses and buildings in Paris.

Of the 124,000 inhabitants of Basel, there are 180 who are rated as millionaires. Inasmuch as the amount is reckoned in francs this means that the wealth of these 180 persons exceeds \$200,000. There are 175 who have between \$100,000 and \$200,000; 170 who have \$100,000, and 895 who have from \$20,000 to \$100,000.

Within fifteen years the wealth of Basel has increased \$60,000,000, and the population has almost doubled which is a most remarkable showing for a town that is 1,500 years old. It has always been famous. It was the important stronghold of Helvetia in the eleventh century and Erasmus died there in the sixteenth century.—New York World.

Lynched Wrong Negro!

Kansas Avengers, It is Now Said, Made a Mistake.

It is reported that Joseph Godley, a brother of Montgomery Godley, the negro who was lynched by a mob at Pittsburg, Kan., last week, is wounded and is hiding at Weir City, Kan.

Later investigation of the trouble between Policeman Hinkle and the Godley brothers tend to show that Joseph, and not the man who was lynched, fired the shot that killed the policeman. Two other brothers are in jail at Girard charged with being implicated in murder, but Joseph escaped.

Eruptions all from One Cause.

This is the Belief of Professor Lawson, of California University.

That the recent terrible eruption of the volcano of Santa Maria, in Guatemala, and the previous death-dealing explosion of Mount Pelee and Mount Soufriere, in the Windward Islands, are in a manner correlated and due to the same underlying cause is the opinion of Professor Andrew C. Lawson, head of the department of geology at the University of California.

The geologist further says that until the prime cause of the three great holocausts of the year is removed by the natural cause the earth's crust more of such upheavals may be expected.

As the results of a geological trip made this summer through the region now undergoing such violent commotion Professor Lawson is in a position to speak authoritatively. He said:

"The recent violent volcanic activities which have been made manifest first at Marinique and St. Vincent, and now on the west coast of Guatemala, are in a general way correlated in that same weakness of the earth's crust in the region of all of the volcanoes which has resulted in the eruptions.

"Scientific and local causes in each instance probably disturbed the delicate balance which was already to be affected as the result of the underlying cause affecting all.

"Volcanoes of such explosive types as these are due to the sudden giving away of a portion of the earth's crust which has long been under a strain as the result of the gradual shrinking of the whole sphere.

"When this rupture or flexure takes place the rocks heavily charged with water from near the surface of the ground are thrust down into the region of great heat, thus causing a rapid generation of steam and a consequent violent explosion.

"The line of weakness along which lie all of these volcanoes gave away first at the spot beneath the Windward Isles, and then the weak point in the isthmus where rise the lofty ranges of the great connecting mountain chain.

"Until the earth adapts itself to this 'fault' or slip in its crust there will be continuous volcanic disturbances along the line of its fracture."

Nervous Energy.

Don't Overdraw Your Account in the Bank of Nature.

You have a deposit of nervous energy placed to your account in the bank of your body. It may be large, in which happy case you are a millionaire in strength and accomplishing power, or it may be so microscopic as to need careful husbanding and little expenditure to keep it from dwindling out altogether.

But many millionaires become paupers, and some "dime savings" swell into millions. It depends upon the way the capital is managed. You may think you have so much that there is no need to be economical. You get up in the morning and feel the blood bounding through your veins like mountain cataracts, and you think you can turn the mill wheels of the world.

You work day and night, which is sometimes more exhausting, and go to the limit of your speed all the time. You are over-drawing your bank account of energy, and that needlessly, for you probably have enough to last a long and useful lifetime. It pays to sit down and sharpen your tools, and it adds per cent to your body bank deposit.

Another with not half your brains or bustle will get ahead of you in the end, for he makes every act, every thought, go straight to the mark. He wastes no effort. Everything he does means something. It helps toward some given end. You spend a great deal of ammunition on your quarry because you are over-anxious. He keeps cool, takes steady aim and wings his bird. You get wrinkles and frost tipped temples and become a bankrupt in vitality when you should be in your prime. You have overdrawn the best and most valuable bank account the Lord ever placed on the books of life—the ability "to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars."

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