

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., Feb. 23, 1906.

FARM NOTES.

Never throw dry lime in a duck pen; it kills.

It costs about five cents for each pound of duck flesh.

Don't reduce their weight by taking a lamp among them at night.

Feed well your market ducks; let them have their fill—up to ten weeks.

Never select the largest duck eggs for hatching; they are usually infertile.

Keep ducks away from the brook at night time, otherwise you will lose many eggs.

Keep plenty of coarse sand, old mortar and a little charcoal in a box for laying ducks.

Never set a hen on duck eggs in a dry shed unless you moisten the nest twice weekly.

Ducks should never be permitted to run with fowls. They both do best in pens by themselves.

Don't attempt to catch the ducks by their legs. It is much safer to handle them by the neck.

Always provide plenty of carbonate and phosphate of lime to assist shell making. This is found in oyster shells.

Ducks should always be locked in at night, and kept on an absolutely dry, soft floor. They lay best, and the eggs are easily gathered.

Never hurry the laying ducks. It usually injures them; sometimes seriously. When handling ducks, never hold them by the wing.

When sickness attacks ducks, it is useless to doctor. The best remedy for duck ailments is plenty of sliced raw onion in the mash, and an absolutely dry, soft bed.

When you desire Runner ducks for egg production, have four to five ducks with an unrelated drake; two ducks and one drake usually produce too large a percentage of drakes, and they do not lay so well.

To breed the most healthy ducklings, avoid the heavy, fattened, show birds which lay but few eggs, and those are usually infertile. Show ducks are almost useless to breed from. It spoils them for that purpose.

Farmers should rigidly guard their herds against disease by procuring any new stock required only after inspecting the herds from which they desire to select. Never buy from a neighborhood in which disease is known to exist or recently existed.

Whitewashed laths, hung on barbed-wire fence, will make the fence visible to stock and guard against some of the dangers attending the use of barbed wire. The rolling system in place of pasturing is another remedy against the dangers of barbed-wire fences.

A steer that produces the choicest beef is the one that is not only fat, but also well supplied with lean. Tallow often secures the prize at fat stock shows in preference to meat that is intimately interspersed with lean and fat. Weight does not always indicate quality of flesh.

Experiments show that a cow, when in full flow of milk, drinks from 15 to 2000 pounds of water per month, the average quantity, determined by testing a herd being 1000 pounds per cow. This fact shows the importance of unlimited supply of water at all seasons of the year. In every 100 quarts of milk the farmer sells about 88 quarts of water, and when the cow cannot procure water at all times she will fall off in yield.

Glacial is a beautiful group of plants, with large foxglove-shaped flowers of an infinite variety of tints, and produced in great profusion, with a deep rich green, velvety foliage. They flower all the summer and are the finest ornaments of the greenhouse from June until September. The bulbs may be potted in spring, and when done blooming may be placed away during the winter in any warm place until the season of growth commences, keeping them quite dry.

An excellent and clean fertilizer for house plants is to get a pound each of nitrate of soda, superphosphate of lime and sulphate of potash. Do not mix them, but use them as desired. A teaspoonful of each to half a gallon of water will partially serve to protect against insects and provide plant food when used around the roots of the plants. If the leaves of the plants are very green reduce the nitrate of soda one-half. If the stems and shoots are slow in growth slightly increase the potash. When seeds and flowers are forming the proportion of superphosphate may be increased.

When the cream or fat is removed every 100 pounds of skim milk contain about 90 per cent. of water and 10 per cent. of solids. The solids contain about 3.5 per cent. of casein and 4.5 per cent. of milk sugar, with small proportions of fat and albumen, as the fat cannot be entirely removed. The milk sugar remains in the whey when it separates and the casein in the curds or cheesy matter, though both contain small percentages of fat, albumen, etc. The whey will promote the formation of fat, while the curds supply the elements for growth and muscle. It will be an advantage to feed the two substances together, adding bran and season lightly with salt. If the skim milk becomes very sour and begins to ferment it should not be used at all. The proper plan is to use the skim milk when fresh or but slightly sour.

The importance of good seed cannot be too strongly urged. A grower of wheat in several years' experiments found that it paid well to hand-pick his seed wheat. The first year he planted 7 1/2 pounds of hand-picked wheat on one acre, in rows 18 inches apart, and at harvest he threshed out 67 bushels. The next year the yield was 72 bushels, using a little more seed. On a trial row he planted 7 1/2 extra fine kernels of wheat (weighing 45 grains), and the product was 101 pounds, or at the rate of 100 bushels of wheat per acre. The experiments were made many years ago by Professor Binnet, of the Colorado Experiment Station, the seeds being in rows 15 inches apart and 12 inches apart on the rows, a wheel hoe being used for cultivating between the rows. In Belgium all seeds are carefully hand-picked and the wheat crop cultivated, with the result that from 60 to 75 bushels of wheat per acre may be found on nearly all farms.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

A DAILY THOUGHT.

The most fortunate men and women are those who have worthy work to do, and who do it because they love it.

Winter Preserves.—Midwinter is not usually considered the proper season in which to put up fruits. Occasionally, however, the most forward housekeeper will have some deficit in the preserve closet; this or that fruit crop was a failure or some member of the family was too ill for her to spare the time when the berries were at their best. Yet, though there are no more cherries on the ornamental or quince jelly of which she is so fond, she may today turn her attention to the tropical and dried fruits now on the market and bring forth results which will please and satisfy all her family.

Orange Marmalade.—Drop any number of fine, juicy seedless oranges into a bowl of cold water, let stand for half an hour, then scrub gently with a soft bristle brush. Discard the peel of every fifth orange. Wipe and cut each lengthwise into quarters, then with a sharp knife cut across in the thinnest of slices. Now weigh, and for each pound of cut fruit allow three-quarters of a pint of cold water. Stir together, cover and let stand in a cool place for twenty-four hours. Bring quickly to the boiling point (using an agate or porcelain-lined kettle) and simmer gently until the rinds are sufficiently tender to be easily pierced with a straw. Cool and again set aside for twenty-four hours. Weigh a second time and to each pound add one pound of granulated sugar. Boil slowly but steadily until the fruit rinds are transparent and the syrup is quite thick, then bottle and seal.

Lemon Marmalade.—Prepare and cook in the same way as orange marmalade, but allow one pound and a half of sugar for each pound of cooked fruit and water. When slicing, put the pits in a small bowl, cover with a portion of the marmalade and let stand. Next day press off the water, squeezing hard and add it to the fruit.

Grape Fruit Marmalade.—Make in the same way as orange marmalade using only half the fruit rind. Allow from one pound to one pound and a half of sugar to the pound of cooked fruit and water according to the acidity of the fruit used.

Preserved Figs.—For this preserve use what are known as bag figs, which have not been pressed to the same extent as the layer figs. Pick them over, remove stems, wash and soak overnight in just enough water to cover. Drain, weigh and allow three-quarters of a pound of sugar to one pound of fruit, and one-half of a cupful of water. Dissolve the sugar in the water and add the figs after steaming them over hot water for fifteen minutes. Simmer very gently until fairly transparent but unbroken, skimming out as done. When all are cooked, boil down the syrup until rich and thick, add the figs, bring again to the boiling point, flavor very faintly with vanilla and bottle at once.

Apricot Marmalade.—Select a fine grade of sun-dried fruit, pick over and wash, then soak in cold water for twenty-four hours. Drain, weigh, and for each pound allow three-quarters of a pound of sugar. To four pounds of fruit add the sugar and one scant cupful of water and cook slowly until reduced to a marmalade, stirring frequently.

Sweet Pickled Prunes.—Pick over, wash and soak four pounds of large prunes for twenty-four hours, then steam for twenty minutes. Boil together for ten minutes two pounds of sugar, one pint of vinegar, one ounce each of whole cloves and stick cinnamon and one quarter of an ounce of ginger. Add the prunes, simmer very gently until tender, then can and seal. What are known as silver prunes are very good when prepared in this way.

Prune Marmalade.—Pick over, wash and soak two pounds and a half of prunes overnight. Steam until tender, using just enough water to cover. Set aside until cool enough to handle, then remove the pits. Return to the fire with six large apples, pared, cored and sliced, one-half of a pound of sugar (more if the apples are very sour) and the juice of two lemons and cook to a marmalade, stirring frequently until the mixture may be smooth. Can at once.

Raisin Jam.—Peel and slice a dozen large tart apples. Put over the fire with one cupful of sweet cider, five pounds of seeded raisins and one pound of sugar. Cook slowly, adding a little water from time to time to keep from burning. Stir frequently and when very soft press through a sieve. Return to the fire until boiling hot then bottle and seal.

Carrot Jam.—Wash and scrape or peel large carrots, cut in inch pieces and weigh. To three pounds allow three pounds of sugar, six large lemons and two ounces of bleached almonds cut into strips. Steam the carrots until tender, then press through a sieve. Add the grated yellow rind and strained juice of the lemons, the sugar and shelled almonds and heat slowly. Simmer for twenty minutes, stirring very often, then put up in jars.

Spicied Pumpkin.—Pare and steam pumpkin until tender, then drain and press through a sieve. Measure and to each quart add the strained juice of two lemons and one pound of granulated sugar and marmalade. Add one-eighth of a teaspoonful each of mace and cloves and one-half teaspoonful each of ginger and cinnamon and simmer for fifteen minutes longer.

Cranberry Conserve.—Pick over and wash sufficient cranberries to weigh five pounds, then chop coarse. Put two pounds of seeded raisins through the food chopper, using the coarse knife. Thinly peel the rind from four large oranges, then take the pulp and juice of five. Boil the rind in water, changing several times until it is very tender and no longer bitter, then chop fine. Put the fruits and rind in a kettle with five pounds of sugar, heat and simmer slowly until reduced to a jam, then can and seal.

Culture has been recommended as a cure for gonorrhea, and now work is prescribed for the woman who thinks she is worn to a frazzle. She may be exhausted, but she probably needs a change of work more than a rest from work. Consider the strenuousness of the Christmas shopper. A day's housework would wear her nerves to tatters, but battling with crowds does not, in the language of the streets, "feaze her a little bit."

A WEEK'S NEWS CONDENSED.

Wednesday, February 14.
Governor Stokes, of New Jersey, has appointed Edward G. Roberts a member of the state board of education.
William M. Evans, a prominent furniture merchant of New Castle, Pa., was killed by a fall down a cellarway. Boys and girls under 18 years of age will not be allowed in Chicago dance halls unless accompanied by their parents.

The John M. Smith Lumber company, of Nashville, Tenn., has filed a petition in bankruptcy, with \$300,000 liabilities.
A bill has been introduced in the Kentucky legislature to erect a Lincoln memorial tablet at Hodgenville, the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln.

Thursday, February 15.
The Christian Herald of New York has contributed \$10,000 for the relief of the famine stricken Japanese.
The Kentucky legislature passed a bill prohibiting the operating of pool rooms and fixing the fine at \$1000 to \$5000.

Levi C. Hay, foreman of the job printing department of the government printing office, Washington, D. C., has resigned.

Because he was deficient in conduct and studies, Midshipman William P. Bowen, of Columbia, Tenn., resigned from the Annapolis naval academy.

A fast mail train on the Missouri Pacific railway was ditched near Jefferson City, Mo., three cars being burned and several trainmen injured.
Friday, February 16.
General Fred Walsen, a famous Colorado pioneer, died at Denver of dropsy.

Shadrach Bray, the last survivor of the Seminole war of 1836, died at Fort Payne, Ala.

Mrs. Aaron Blair, a sister-in-law of General Lew Wallace, died in Washington of apoplexy.

The Riggs National Bank of Washington was awarded \$1,000,000 4 per cent. Philippine bonds at \$1,083,747.

While responding to an alarm of fire, Chief William T. Cheswell, of the Boston fire department, died of heart disease.

Saturday, February 17.
Three children of Joseph Rodis, of Traverse City, Mich., were burned to death in a fire which destroyed their home.

It is rumored in San Francisco that James J. Hill intends to run a line of steamers between that port and Honolulu.

Rev. H. Lee Harrel, a Presbyterian preacher, of Monticello, Ga., was accidentally shot dead by a friend while bird hunting.

While driving across the railroad tracks near Columbus, O., in a buggy, Miss Maude Kille and Miss Georgia Robinson were struck by a train and killed.

Warrants were sworn out at Charleston, S. C., for the officers of the defunct Columbian Trust and Savings Bank for accepting a \$100 deposit after they knew the bank was insolvent.

Monday, February 19.
The beet sugar industry has increased 22 1/2 per cent. in product and 23 1/2 per cent. in value of product since 1900.

Trainman Jacob Koontz was killed and three passengers were injured in a wreck on the B. & O. near Johns-town, Pa.

Three men were killed and 20 girls were slightly injured by an explosion at the Hercules Powder Works at Louisiana, Mo.

Elmer E. Strawn, aged 37 years, was caught in the machinery at the Bethlehem Steel Works, Bethlehem, Pa., and crushed to death.

Tuesday, February 20.
Mary Wilkes, widow of Rear Admiral Wilkes, U. S. N., died at Florence, Italy.

Joseph T. Osborne, an actor, was accidentally thrown from a train at Chicago and killed.

Rear Admiral E. Longnecker, on duty at League Island, has been placed on the retired list.

Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte addressed the alumni association of the Catholic University at Albany, N. Y.

In saving her friend from being crushed by a train, Miss Anna M. Meigs was struck by the locomotive and instantly killed at Glasgow, Mo.

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Medical.
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Medical.

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The finest new crop New Orleans—a rich golden yellow and an elegant baker. That is the report our customers bring to us. Fine Sugar Syrups—no glucose.

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These Nuts are clean and sound, heavy in the meats and in every way very satisfactory. We have some very good California Walnuts but not equal to the Marbols. Fine Almonds and Mixed Nuts.

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Peaches 10c., 12c., 15c. and 18c. per pound. Apples 15c., 18c. and 20c. per pound. Prunes 5c., 8c., 10c. and 12c. per pound. Raisins 10c. and 12c. per pound, either seeded or unseeded. Currants 10c. and 12c. per pound. Citron, Orange and Lemon Peel, Dates, Figs and fine Table Raisins. All these goods are well worth the prices named on them and will give good satisfaction.

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The foundation of our Mince Meat is good sound lean beef, and all other ingredients are the highest grade of goods. It represents our best effort and our customers say it is a success, and at 12c. per pound is very reasonable in price.

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We are now receiving some of the finest California Naval Oranges and Florida bright and sweet fruits. This fruit is just now reaching its very finest flavor. They are exceptionally fine and at reasonable prices. Lovers of Grape Fruit can be nicely suited on the fruit we have. Lemons for some time past have been a difficult proposition, but we now have some fine fruit.

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