

--When attending a farmers' institute recently, Professor G. L. Martin, head of the dairy department of the North Dakota Agricultural College, was asked the question. "How much should butter be salted?" His reply was, "For ordinary marketing, from three-fourths of an ounce to one ounce to the pound of but-

-The people of the United States spend about \$200,000.000 every year for paint and varnish, the three items-white lead, zinc oxide and linseed oil-covering \$40, on farm buildings, fences, etc. The rail-roads pay yearly about \$20,000,000 of this sum-one-tenth of the country's annual paint bill.

-One of the effects of the use of salt on land is to increase the capacity of the soil for retaining moisture. About one barrel per acre has been known to benefit grass during periods of drought, the salt being applied in May. Kainit contains a large proportion of salt, as well as about 12 per cent. of potash, and may be used in preference.

-Soil that has produced a crop of scab-by potatoes should be used for some other by potatoes should be used for some other crop for several years, because the scab spores live over in the soil and will at-tack subsequent potato crops for five or six years afterward. For potatoes, select, if possible, a northern slope, since the crop will suffer less on such slope during hot, dry weather.

-Horses which have vicious habits are frequently broken of them by harsh treat-ment, followed by kindly treatment. Howment, followed by kindly treatment. How-ever, in such cases the horse retains an ill-will for the man who broke him, and if he dare would take revenge. He may fear to manifest his feelings, but he still has the vicious feeling, and such a horse has not the desirable temperament.

-Experiments maae at the Pennsylva-nia Experiment Station show that hill strawberries are not larger and better formed than those grown in matted rows, provided the matted row is a narrow one. Both hills and matted rows produced fruit somewhat inferior to that from nar-row matted rows. It is evident that dif-ferent soil conditions and cultural meth-ods, especially in the matter of manur-ing, would change these results some-what more favorable to the hill system. -Experiments maae at the Pennsylva-

-Colts should have plenty of exercise to make bone and muscle, and should be to make bone and muscle, and should be allowed to run on pasture or the winter wheat field as much as the weather will allow. They should be salted frequently and given plenty of good, pure water to drink. They should be kept in warm stalls when the weather is too severe to allow them to run out. There is no animal on the farm which will return so animal on the farm which will return so good a profit as the young colt. If it is developed properly it must have plenty of feed and attention.

-The Bureau of Animal Industry. United States Department of Agricutlure, gives the following recipe for hog cholera, which is claimed by many who have tried it to be invaluable in warding off the dis-ease: One part wood charcoal, one part sulphur, two parts salt, two parts baking soda, two parts sodium hyposulphite, one part sodium sulphate, one part anti-mony sulphate. Pulverize and mix thor-oughly. Dose, one tablespoonful for each 200 pounds weight of hog, once a day. -The Bureau of Animal Industry,

Then the grim boar's head frowned on 16 to 1, are O. K. Republic safety, dehigh, national silver dollars. Crested with bays and rosemary.

Well can the green barbed ranger tell How, when and where the monster fell, What dogs before his death he tore And all the baiting of the boar

The wassail round, in good brown bowls.

Garnished with ribbons, blithely trowis. There the huge sirloin reeked; hard by Plum porridge stood and Christmas ple. Nor failed old Scotland to produce At such high tide her savory goose

Then came the merry maskers in. And carols roared with blithesome din If unmelodious was the song.

It was a hearty note and strong. England was merry England when Old Christmas brought his sports

again 'Twas Christmas broached the mightiest ale;

'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale; A Christmas gambol oft could cheer The poor man's heart through half the

year.

-Sir Walter Scott.

THE WREN BUSH.

An Old Custom Still Observed In Ireland at Christmas.

Among the many odd customs still observed in Ireland at Christmas few are more curious than the practice of carrying about "the wren bush" on St. Stephen's day, and antiquaries are puzzled to explain why the poor little "king of all birds" should be put to

death on the festival of the first martyr. The most probable explanation is that the wren was sacred to the Druids and was used by them in divination

and other pagan rites at the festival of the winter solstice, which almost coincided with Christmas, and consequent ly the clergy urged their converts to destroy the birds which were associated with such unholy rites, just as St. Patrick's relentless destruction of the images of serpents, used in the aucient pagan worship of Ireland, gave rise to the legend that he-

Gave the snakes and toads a twist And banished them all forever!

This seems the more likely because "drean." the old Irish name for

"wren," also means "a Druid." and old folk still call "Jenny" the "Druid bird" and say that she has the gift of prophecy and that those who can interpret her twitterings as she hovers about a house or flies from bush to bush can read the future. In the library of Trinity college. Dublin, there is a curious document describing how to interpret the notes of the wren .-Maud E. Sargent in Longman's Magazine.

days, while the bees are flying. At no other time must they be disturbed. Medical. Crying for Help

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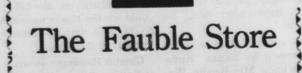
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