

FARM NOTES.

Plenty of milk is good for all kinds of poultry, but will not take the place of water which must also be furnished.

Don't keep a lot of fighting male birds in the pen with the laying hens. They will keep the flock constantly stirred up and reduce the egg yield.

Don't forget to furnish cabbage, mangels, or something of that kind to take the place of the green food which the fowls get in summer on the range.

Geese and ducks may go out in all kinds of weather without suffering harm, provided they have a wind-proof, dry, well bedded house to go into when they desire.

It is a good plan to have some good liquid disinfectant on hand to use occasionally in keeping the feed and water dishes and the house itself from becoming foul.

It is a good plan to mix beef scraps and dry wheat bran in equal proportions and put the mixture in hoppers, so that the fowls can constantly have access to it to balance their own rations.

Many poultry keepers clear away the snow from the fronts of their poultry houses and put a little straw or hay on the ground, so that the fowls can get some outdoor exercise on warm, sunny days.

Here is a new solution of the problem of how to overcome the scarcity of help on the farm—go into the dairy business and give a man employment twelve months in the year, and the men will come your way.

The only kind of a lamb that a man wants to feed and finish on grass is a heavy shearer of the Merino type. And the heavier the fleece, the slower the fat will go on. But at the same time they will give as large a return for feed consumed as the open wools. When a feeder crowds the limit with grain, he is in constant danger of over-feeding and loss. So if hay and fodder or corn stover are abundant, it is best to limit somewhat the grain and depend more on the roughage.

The safest way to feed corn is to give such an amount that every lamb will come to the racks when the corn is thrown in, and in the evening come with a rush so that the feeder will have a struggle to make his way to them.

For a little State New Jersey flies high with chicken wings. It claims to have \$10,000,000 invested in poultry, yielding an income of \$3,000,000.

But righteous discontent is said to be a good thing and New Jersey not being satisfied with its winged income has made a legislative appropriation of \$15,000 for the establishment of a poultry department at its College Farm and an additional \$3,000 for annual expenses.

The point that interests the farmer's wife, however, is the fact that about two-thirds of the applicants to this new class were women. This goes to prove that women want to take their share of the economic growth of the country and are clever in choosing an adaptable calling—one that in no way militates against the success of men in the business world.

One of the greatest failures to get winter eggs is the lack of good drinking water at all times. It should be the first thing given the hens in the morning. If the weather is cold, the water should be slightly warmed and should be supplied throughout the day. The hens should have a chance to drink after they have their evening meal. The drinking dishes should be emptied, rinsed out and turned down so they will be ready in the morning. Never turn cold water in their dishes when there is ice in them. If you forget to empty the drinking dish and it forms ice, thaw it out and clean the dish before putting more water into it. If we could have running water where our poultry could get to it, it would be a great problem solved; but with most of our poultry houses that would be impossible. So we must come as near the right as we can and supply what they need.

The most popular theory regarding the moulting of chickens and for hastening the laying after moulting is to starve the hens for a time. When it is noticed that feathers are being shed the hens are placed on short rations. The small amount of food given them is only enough to keep up life, noneto be taken for continued growth of feathers. As a consequence the feathers lose vitality and drop out faster. At the same time, of course, there is not enough nourishment for egg formation, hence the hens cease to lay altogether. When most of the old feathers have been shed and a new crop of feathers begin to grow, the hens are placed on heavy feed again and given all they will consume of feed rich in protein, which is one of the compounds for feather growth. They are then kept on this heavy and nutritious diet so that egg laying will begin as soon as there is a surplus of nourishment from animal maintenance and feather building for egg production. Those who practice this method of forced moulting aim to have the period over early, so that the hens are full feathered before the coming of cold weather.

Salting every few days is sufficient for the needs of the sheep, but it is not as good a method as keeping salt before the sheep all the time, for when a rush of work comes or a visiting time comes salting the sheep is one of the things neglected. When salt is given after a period of neglect the sheep are so eager for it that they take too much, and large quantities of water are needed to wash it out of the system, some of this being drawn from the tissue of the body to the detriment of the sheep.

Rock salt is preferred by some to the coarse stock salt. Many use medicated salt, which serves a double purpose in supplying the sheep's need for salt and preventing worms. When it is weeds, as Canada thistle, the sheep desired to clean out a patch of bad thistles may be salted on them and will keep them gnawed down to the ground and eventually kill them out.

However, the man who loves his sheep, and who therefore has the first requisite of a good shepherd, need not be reminded to salt them, for it will be done without fail, just as a hundred other things are done for the good of the sheep. Watchfulness is that man's great and valuable asset, and he sees many things that need doing where the more careless man sees none.

Saving Money.

"My dear, we can't go on in this way. You simply must find some way to cut down your household expenses." "I've been cutting them down right along. Twice last week I refrained from ordering celery, and on Thursday I telephoned to my dressmaker, saving 10 cents car fare that would have been wasted if I had gone to try on my new gown, which wasn't ready. So you see I'm doing my best. But you can't expect me to do all the economizing. What are you doing to reduce your expenses?"

"Me? Great heavens! How can you ask such a thing? I saved \$900 last week." "Six hundred dollars! Why, George you haven't got \$900 to save." "I know it, but I saved it all the same. A friend of mine who claimed to have inside information concerning stocks gave me a pointer, and if I had borrowed \$900 and done as he advised I'd have lost every cent of it."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Classic Central New York.

Here in central New York we have our own peculiar problem. Some one with a devout admiration for the classics got in his work when the business of christening was going on in these parts. Authorities are in dispute as to who this person was. We shall not enter into that controversy, but merely call attention to the fact that in a county containing Apulia, Borodino, Camillus, Cicero, Delphi, Fabius, Manlius, Mycena, Marcellus, Navarino, Pompey, Tully and Syracuse, to say nothing of Joshua and Jordan, there devolves upon the resident citizenship an obligation to use such pronunciation as shall honor the classic heroes and localities so carefully remembered by the pioneers. We have heard Apulia pronounced Apoolybe by the unthinking, and, on the other hand, that honored Scriptural name Joshua is now infrequently stretched into Joshaway, which overdoes it in the other direction.—Syracuse Post-Standard.

A Lawyer's Apology.

Many years ago there was an old judge on the bench in Berks county whose decisions, in consequence of numerous reversals, did not always command universal respect. One day in a case in which he was sitting one of the lawyers lost patience at his inability to see things in a certain light and in the heat of the moment remarked that the intellect of the court was so dark a flash of lightning could not penetrate it. For this contempt the judge showed a disposition to be very severe with the offender, and it was only after much persuasion by friends of the latter that he yielded and decided to accept a public apology. The following day the lawyer accordingly appeared before his honor and made amends by saying: "I regret very much that I said the intellect of the court was so dark lightning could not penetrate it. I guess it could. It is a very penetrating thing."—Philadelphia Ledger.

A Carved Cherry Stone.

Dr. Peter Oliver, who lived in England during the early part of the eighteenth century, tells of seeing a carved cherry stone which would be a wonder even in this age of fine tools and fine workmanship. The stone was one from a common cherry, and upon it were carved the heads of 124 popes, kings, queens, emperors, saints, etc. Small as they must necessarily have been, it is announced on the authority of Professor Oliver that with a good glass the heads of the popes and kings could readily be distinguished from those of the queens and saints by their miters and crowns. The gentleman who brought this little wonder to England purchased it in Prussia, allowing the original owner \$5,000 for his treasure. Think of it—\$25,000 for a cherry seed!

Jewels on an Idol.

The jewels of an Indian idol must be worth stealing if many of those remarkably hideous images possess such valuable head ornaments as one made for the idol Parthasathy, in the Triplicane temple at Madras. The ornament is worth some 50,000 rupees and is made of sovereign gold studded with diamonds, emeralds and rubies, the largest emerald being valued at 1,000 rupees and the biggest ruby and diamond at 300 rupees apiece.

The Money Power.

Braggs—It is positively absurd to talk about a "money power" in this country. There is no such thing. Waggs—I'd just like to discuss that with you. Have you got a minute to spare? Braggs—Not a minute. I've got a note due at the bank, and they're bothering me to death about it.—Life.

The Value of a Secret.

"I'm sure," said an interviewer, "the public would be interested to know the secret of your success." "Well, young man," replied the captain of industry, "the secret of my success has been my ability to keep it a secret."

Obstinacy.

There is something in obstinacy which differs from every other passion. Whenever it falls it never recovers, but either breaks like iron or crumbles away like a decayed arch.

Went Too Far.

An unsuccessful lover was asked by what means he had lost the object of his affections. "Alas," he said, "I flattered her till she got too proud to speak to me."

Cheerfulness keeps up a kind of sunshine in the soul and fills it with a steady and perpetual serenity.

Two Champion Penmen.

A contest in the fine art of penmanship would not arouse much public interest now. But there seems to have been great excitement when Peter Bales was challenged by Daniel Johnson in 1596. Bales was the beautiful writer who could transcribe the whole Bible so that it would go into a walnut shell and who had provided Queen Elizabeth with a specimen of his handwriting which she wore in a ring, a magnifying glass being required to read it. When the contest took place there were five judges and a hundred spectators. The competition included all kinds of writing, the proficiency of the rivals' pupils and the masterpieces of either. Bales won the golden pen, but Johnson declared that there had been trickery. Bales having begged to be allowed to show the pen to his sick wife and having promptly pawned it, whereupon the judges had to declare him the winner to get out of the difficulty. Really the award was privately made to spare Johnson's feelings.—London Spectator.

Fat and Fashionable.

According to the Moorish idea of beauty, a really handsome woman ought to be so fat that she can only waddle, not walk. The fatter she is the more beautiful she is considered. If she can attain 200 or 300 pounds of flesh she is the envy of all her sex. The Moorish shape—if shape it can be called—approaches the perfection of feminine beauty when it resembles, or, rather, exceeds, the circumference of a barrel. What a paradise for the fat woman! There she can eat and drink and feast to her heart's content, denying herself nothing, living an easy, indolent, luxurious life, with no horror of accumulating fat, but rather rejoicing in it. There the ambition of a woman is to acquire bulk. Physical culture she would regard as an enemy to beauty, and to take Turkish baths and diet herself would be considered the height of folly. She wants to be beautiful, and to be beautiful she must be fat.

An Early Street Cleaner.

"One day," Ben Franklin wrote in his autobiography, "I found a poor, industrious man, who was willing to undertake keeping the pavement clean by sweeping it twice a week, carrying off the dirt from before all the neighbors' doors for the sum of sixpence per month to be paid by each house. I then wrote and printed a paper setting forth the advantages to the neighborhood that might be obtained by this small expense. I sent one of these papers to each house and in a day or two went around to see who would subscribe an agreement to pay these sixpences. It was unanimously signed and for a time well executed. This raised a general desire to have all the streets paved and made the people more willing to submit to a tax for that purpose."—Survey.

Grave Humor.

The punster is irrepressible. He even indites his jokes on tombstones. An epitaph in Waltham abbey informs us that Sir James Fullerton died "fuller of faith than of fears, fuller of resolutions than of pains, fuller of honour than of days."

There is another of Daniel Tears: "Though strange, yet true, full seventy years was his wife happy in her Tears."

This was written of an organist: "Here lies one, blown out of breath, who lived a merry life and died a Merideth."

Another says: "Here lies Thomas Huddleston. Reader, don't smile, but reflect as this tombstone you view that Death, who killed him, in a very short while will huddle a stone upon you."—Pearson's Weekly.

A Bright Future.

Once there was a man who yearned to be a millionaire in order that he might help the suffering poor, and one day wealth came to him and landed him high in the millionaire class. He did not forget the poor—not entirely; but, being too busy to hunt them up, he failed not to ask Providence to pity them, "and, anyway," he reflected, "they have a bright future with so much treasure in heaven!"—Atlanta Constitution.

Grapefruit Greenery.

Effective greenery for the dining room table may be made by planting the seeds of grapefruit. Sow them thickly, and in two weeks, if the earth is good and has been kept moist in a warm place, the little shoots appear. Two weeks more and the leaves unfold, and very soon there is a mass of rich, glossy green which is not affected by gas or furnace heat.—Suburban Life.

Forever at Him.

Newitt—Punny! I always associate your wife with a certain episode in my own life. There's just one thing she always reminds me of—Henpeck—I wish I could say that. There's lots of things she always reminds me of.—Philadelphia Press.

No Clue.

"Is the new bookkeeper married?" "I dunno. He's one o' them close mouthed fellows. If he has any trouble he keeps it to himself."—London Telegraph.

Two Barks.

What is the difference between the bark of a tree and that of a dog? One is the product of the bough, the other of the "bow-wow."

There is many a woman whose o' tap ought to be, "Nobody ever sees her hands folded but once."—Tom's Companion.

The Old Order Passeth.

What has become of the old fashioned man who was about to solve the problem of perpetual motion? And where is the old fashioned woman who wore gloves that reached only halfway to the end of her fingers? Can anybody furnish information concerning the whereabouts of the old fashioned boy who wore mittens which were fastened to a long string?—Chicago Record-Herald.

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The only place where there was a suggestion of fullness was in the tunic drapery, which boasted a few folds. That the dressmakers are not enamored of the much-talked-of changes is easily seen, and their clients, who have realized the value of "line," and have achieved it, are loath to return to the frills and furbelows of the mid-Victorian or any other period. The slim silhouette, in addition to being eminently pleasing, is also most suited to this age of rush.

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