

HOUSE AND FARM.

A Dangerous Paper.

The green paper used to wrap about lozenges, sold in shops, railroad cars, and on street corners, has long been suspected to contain arsenic, and with the view of ascertaining the facts by analysis, we recently purchased a roll of lozenges covered by this paper.

A qualitative examination of the papers afforded all the characteristic reaction for arsenic and copper. The wrapper contained twenty square inches of paper. Of this sixteen were taken for quantitative analysis. The result of the examination showed this portion contained 1516 grammes, or 2.34 grains of metallic arsenic.

This is equivalent to 2.94 grains in the whole of the wrapper, a quantity sufficient to destroy life in an adult person. Children in all parts of the country are allowed to purchase the lozenges covered with this poisonous paper, and the rolls are often put into the hands of infants, as a plaything. As everything goes into the mouth of young children, it is easy to see that no more dangerous substance can pass into a family than packages of confectionery. It is quite probable that instances of poisoning have occurred from this cause, which have been of a serious or fatal character. There should be laws prohibiting the use of poisonous papers for any purpose.—Journal of Chemistry.

Cooking Food for Stock.

The advantage of cooking food for stock, especially milk cows and young stock, is fast becoming one of the settled questions in agriculture. We hardly know a dairyman who does not pour boiling water over his cut hay and meal or bran, even if he does not cook it by steaming. It is found to economise feed, to increase the flow of milk and promote appetite. Cows will eat much more of cut hay and feed steamed or moistened with boiling water, than they will of dry food; and we hold it is the true policy of the dairyman to induce his cows to eat as much as possible, as the more they take in by the way of food, the more will be given out in the form of milk. To stint cows at all in an ample supply of proper food to keep up nutriment, and promote milk secretion, can only be called "a penny wise and a pound foolish" policy. It will not pay. When roots are also boiled or steamed, the nutritive matter they contain is more fully developed, and the same weight of roots produces larger results, both in the condition of the cow and in her milk secretion.—Practical Farmer.

Hints for Housekeepers.

Frozen custard is a nice dish for dessert and easily prepared. Boil two quarts of rich milk. Beat eight eggs and a teaspoonful of sugar, stirring all the while. Pour the whole mixture into your kettle, and let it come to a boil, stirring it constantly. Then take it off the fire, and let it become cold. Flavor it with whatever essence you prefer. Then freeze it.

A Pennsylvania lady, after an experience of twenty-two years, gives the following method of treating milk for making butter in winter. Strain the milk in the tin pans, filling only half full—a little more or less will make no difference, then as soon as convenient set the pans of milk on the stove, where let them remain until a roughness or wrinkled appearance on the top of the milk is noticed (if the milk gets too hot the only harm will be less cream), then take it in the milk room or cellar in a cool place until the next day, when it is generally ready to skim. When treated in this way it will not do to skim much under forty-eight hours.

My plan is to skim morning and night's milking both at the same time in winter. It does not hurt butter for the cream to sour—rather aids in churning, making butter come sooner. The cream kettle I keep in the cellar until the day of evening before I wish to churn; then, if convenient, set near a coal stove or one that fire is kept in all night. In the morning, before churning, try with a thermometer; it should be at the temperature of sixty-two

degrees. If not convenient to set the cream near a warm stove, setting the kettle in hot water will answer every purpose. Many persons object to heating the milk, because the milk sometimes burns to the bottom of the pans.

To avoid this, set pans containing water on the stove and place the pans with milk in these, and the difficulty is at once avoided. If butter needs coloring I would prefer carrot, which is prepared by scraping off the outside and washing, then grate into a small portion of the cream and strain this into the whole. I would say never wash butter, use as little water about butter as possible. This is my experience, having washed butter to my satisfaction, always having it go strong in a few days after. I have tested many ways to avoid heating milk in winter, but have found nothing as satisfactory as what I have given.

Agricultural Exhibition.

If a man goes to one of these exhibitions with his eyes open, he will learn, more than in any other place, the importance of combining brain and hand labor. It is by the application of brain and hand labor that the horses, cattle, sheep and swine, have attained a state of perfection. By spending a day among the best specimens of these animals, a farmer even of moderate brain capacity will learn the ways and means of improving his own stock, and of raising larger crops at a less expenditure, and gain much other useful information.

The occupation of the farmer develops the whole man. Though he may not know it, or be able to define any of the sciences, he must, to some extent, become a chemist, botanist and naturalist; this, too, while working year after year without opening a book on any of those subjects. Labor and thought should go hand and hand, lending their aid to each other. And as he labors and thinks, he will occasionally catch an idea of the source of that sunshine that lights up even the log cabin, as nothing but a faithful and loving wife can do. It is as much a duty and should be the pleasure of every farmer to seek, by all laudable means, to increase and prolong these beams of sunshine, as it is to provide food and shelter for those dependent on him.

As a means to this end, he should encourage every effort made by wife and children to make and exhibit at these gatherings such articles of utility and taste as may come within their means. They doubtless would like to enjoy becoming part and parcel in these agricultural jubilees. What a change from the routine of daily toil to ride a few miles to see what others have done in the various departments of industry, and learn at what a trifling expense many things can be made that will contribute to the convenience and adornment of the house!—Lansing Republican.

Cross Breeding of Hens.

In deciding whether we are to keep pure or cross breeds, we are to keep in view our particular aims. If the purpose is to obtain eggs, it is generally better to use the pure breeds, because the most eggs are produced by those species which do not set, and this trait is very apt to disappear in crossing; at least it is not regularly preserved. A sitting and a non-sitting breed, produce a cross that sits in almost every case; two non-sitting breeds produce a cross of which by far the greater part are sitters. If it is intended to raise fowls for the table, there is much advantage in making a cross, or at least no good reason for keeping the races pure. The first generation from a proper cross produces hardy chickens, of rapid growth and good constitution. Beyond one generation, however, it is not advisable to continue the cross.—The Poultry World.

A puddling without eggs can be made by taking one cup of rice to one half gallon milk and one cup of sugar. Bake until the rice is done. I think it much nicer than with eggs. Flavor to your taste.

When we cannot rejoice in God as our song, let us stay upon him as our strength.

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