

AGRICULTURAL HINTS

STEEL TRACK ROADS.

Utility of the System Has Been Demonstrated by Experiments Here and Abroad.

The illustration shows a section of a steel track road without wooden superstructure of any kind. The steel track here indicated consists of a built section as shown, in the detail drawing (Fig. 2), made up of a steel channel riveted on either side to angle irons. This gives a flat surface eight inches wide for the wheels of the vehicle, the rails being laid at a convenient distance apart to accommodate vehicles of a standard gauge. It will be seen that there is a projecting flange which tends to keep the wheels from leaving the track, but being not more than half an inch high this flange does not prevent turning out easily when necessary. The rails are well filled underneath with cement to afford a continuous bearing, while the projecting flanges are securely imbedded in the concrete of the roadbed, insuring rigid immobility.

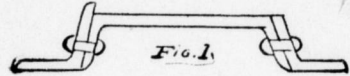


Fig. 1

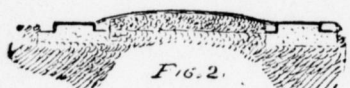


Fig. 2

TRACK AND SECTION OF ROAD.

The rails are not dependent on any system of cross ties for support, but where the ends of the rails are joined the joints are firmly bolted to a common cross tie which also helps to maintain the rails at a uniform distance apart and to keep their surfaces horizontal.

On the score of expense the steel roadway is not extravagant, viewed in the light of the long service and low cost of maintenance that may be expected of it. Of the experimental sections thus far built, it is said that the total cost has been not far from one dollar per foot, but in the event of building such roads on a large scale this cost can no doubt be reduced by at least 30 per cent.

In Europe we may find a few interesting examples of steel road construction in a small way. The road between Grao and Valencia in Spain was completed in its present form in 1892. It is two miles in length and consists of parallel steel rails laid at a suitable distance apart to accommodate the wheels of passing vehicles. At each side of the rails are layers of binding stones, the road between the rails being paved and slightly higher than the face of the rails.

Previous to 1892 this road was constructed of flint stone, and on good authority the expense of keeping it in repair is stated to have been 3,500 pesetas or about \$532 annually. Since the adoption of the steel rail system the annual cost of keeping in repair the central portion of the highway thus relieved from heavy traffic which passes over the steel rails, is stated to be only 2,500 pesetas or about \$380, at the current rate of exchange.

This road has attracted some little attention, and in response to inquiries from various parts of Spain and elsewhere the municipality of Valencia has made a statement to the effect that it is the opinion of its officers that the saving in the cost of repairs by reason of a road of this kind pays for its construction in a short time.

The total cost of the two miles of road was a little less than \$10,000; 3,200 vehicles pass over it daily, and a toll of about three-fourths of a cent is charged each vehicle.

The most interesting fact in regard to this road is that after eight years of service it is still in good condition, the rails exhibiting a wear of not more than three one-hundredths of an inch annually and requiring little or no attention of any kind.—Country Gentleman.

Cows in Hot, Dry Weather.

Cows that are forced to undergo annual periods of starvation, during the annual droughts, must of necessity gradually deteriorate in milking powers. If cow owners would but consider how the poor animals must suffer toiling through the blazing heat trying to gather enough food to satisfy their hunger from the sunburned pastures, common humanity would move them to relieve them. But they do not think, they do not consider, more is the pity. We are glad to know, however, that the number of such inconsiderate cow owners is growing less every year. The practice of providing green food to supplement the pastures during the drought is rapidly extending among cow owners, and especially among owners of Jersey cows.—Jersey Bulletin.

Many Fruits on One Tree.

George Febrey, residing near the College of St. James, Washington county, has a plum tree on which he expects to grow, besides plums, peaches, almonds, apricots and nectarines. He sawed the top off the plum tree and grafted on an almond branch, on which he has now budded peaches, apricots and nectarines. Some time ago he bored a hole through an elm tree and inserted a growing Concord grapevine, which, when it had grown so it filled the hole, was cut off at one end. The vine continued to grow, being fed with sap from the elm tree, and bore luscious grapes.—Baltimore Sun.

PRIVATE DAIRYING.

Where It Is Conducted Properly the Results Are Bound to Be Reasonably Satisfactory.

As a matter of fact the private dairyman has a decided advantage over the creamery butter-maker, so says Mrs. Carrie Wilson in a paper read before the Vermont State Dairy association. He controls the feeding of his cows and the handling of the milk until the time it is drawn from the cow until the butter is made. The patrons of the creamery always have among them one or more who are not as careful or as cleanly in their methods as they might be, nor does the carrying of the milk or cream one to three miles on a hot day add to its desirable qualities; but the creamery buttermaker is an expert; he is methodical, exact, and knows how to offset to some extent the carelessness of his patrons. Hence his product is more even in quality and flavor than that of the average private dairy. If all private dairies were conducted on the same lines as the most successful creameries, then the product of the former would be nearly every instance excel that of the latter. This is not written in the way of disparaging the creamery. Quite the contrary. It has been a main factor in improving the quality of the dairy herds, the methods of the dairyman and the quality of the butter made in this and other states. It would have required long years, perhaps a generation, to bring about the improvements in dairying that the creamery has done in the past ten. We only wish that every poor buttermaker in the state would become patrons of a creamery. It would not only help the quality of the butter market, but it would be a great help to the market by ridding it of the vast amount of wretched stuff which now crowds it and depresses prices. But the private dairyman, just the same, has advantages which the creamery cannot, from the nature of the business, enjoy.

LOCK FOR MILK CANS.

A Device That May Prove Quite Popular in Large Cities Where Petty Thieves Abound.

Many housekeepers know by experience how disagreeable it is to wake up in the morning and find the milk can and contents gone, or perhaps the drained can is left to tell the tale of a petty thief. Here is a cheap and simple device which will prevent the theft of the milk without making it any more



LOCK FOR MILK CANS.

difficult for the housekeeper to take in the pail in the morning. The cut shows a small casing, which may be attached to the door frame at the right height to place the pail within convenient reach. A small opening in the top of the casing allows the shank of the angle iron on the can to be inserted, while a sliding catch at the rear of the casing engages a notch cut in the side of the shank. The latch extends backward to the edge of the door, so that when the latter is closed it prevents the latch being drawn backward to release the shank. Besides preventing theft this device also supports the can in a position to remove the danger of tipping it over with the foot, and there will be no milk stains to clean up, as is often the case when the can is placed on the steps. The inventor is Louis Munch, of Philadelphia.—Chicago Daily News.

Study the Market Reports.

Every orchardist should make himself familiar with the fruit-crop conditions of each year. In that way only can he know how valuable is the fruit hanging on his trees. A few years ago, when everything pointed to the probability of high prices for apples, the farmers in some counties almost gave away their apples. Buyers that understood the conditions bought up crops on the trees at ten cents per bushel and made enormous profits out of the transaction. The growers thus failed to get their part of the profits. What shall it profit a man to spend money and time in planting an orchard and bringing it into bearing and then give away its product? The grower should get more out of it than any other person; yet it is too often the middleman that gets all the profits.—Farmers' Review.

Bees Carry Heavy Weight.

Observations made to test this question showed that bees can carry with ease twice their weight in honey. Several bees were caught as they returned to their hives laden with honey, and, after inclosing them in a little box, they were carefully weighed. When the bees unloaded their honey, they were again caught, placed in the same box and weighed a second time. This experiment showed that the bees when laden weighed three times as much as when empty. It was therefore proved that a bee can carry twice its own weight in honey, and can fly very long distances with that weight.—Rural World.

How is the strawberry patch set last spring? Have you kept the weeds off? If not, it is time you were about it.

HOW TO MANAGE A MAN.

The Perfect System Has Been Evolved by a Resourceful Little Woman.

All the women at the church social had acknowledged their utter inability to manage their husbands, when a timid looking little matron was observed fidgeting in her chair, says the Chicago Chronicle. At last she spoke, at first with hesitation, but growing bolder as she progressed. "My system is an old one," she said. "It's based upon the natural born contrariness of the human male biped."

"We will suppose that I am just perishing for a new tailor made dress, although I have one that Jack thinks ought to see me through the season. Very well. I make up my mind to have a new tailor made dress, and I hunt around my women friends to find out who has recently acquired a stunning tailor made dress. I tell her my little scheme and she comes and visits me while Jack is home, and she wears her new tailor made dress. She looks tremendously fetching in it, of course. When she goes I don't say a word. I wait for Jack to say what I know he's going to say."

"By Jove, my dear," he's bound to remark, "wasn't that a swell rig, though, she had on? Say, I wonder how much those togs cost—anything within reach?"

"O," I say, "\$45 or so, but I wouldn't care for a dress like that; it's too tight and too conspicuous, don't you think?"

"No, I don't think anything of the sort," my brave Jack is almost bound to say. "I think it's just the real thing, and it's a wonder you wouldn't dress the way I want you to dress, my dear. Now, I like that dress, and I'm blamed if I'm not going to have you get one just like it," etc. Result: I get the dress, which is just exactly the kind of a dress I am perishing for.

"Another case. Supposing I am particularly anxious to see some theatrical star who is going to be in Washington next week and I feel that Jack isn't very enthusiastic about going."

"I see So-and-so is going to be here next week, Jack," I say, casually, "I never thought much of his—or her—acting, did you?"

"Jack drops his paper and regards me from a very great height indeed. "Now, my dear, that just shows how vitiated you have permitted your theatrical taste to become," he will reply in nine cases out of ten. "So-and-so's way at the top in my estimation and I wouldn't miss seeing him—or her—next week for anything. What's more, I'm just going to take you along to see if you can't learn to appreciate," etc., etc. Thus I go to precisely the theatrical attraction next week that I've been waiting to come around this way all the season.

"Still another illustration: Supposing I want to go to the seashore this summer instead of to the mountains. I begin about now attacking the seashore to Jack—not violently, but in a mild sort of way."

"I think it is stupid at the beaches," I say to him, and I keep on saying similar things until he bursts out with: "That's a queer way to talk, isn't it? If it's so stupid at the beaches then there must be millions of stupid people in this country that have all kinds of fun at the seashore every summer. I don't know where you're going this summer, but I'll tell you one thing, I'm going to put in my vacation at the seashore." Thus that is accomplished.

"The poor human male biped can't help it; he's born contrary, but he's so dreadfully, hopelessly easy when you know how to make out of his very contrariness a tool wherewith to manage him."

"I had a very successful day shopping," said Mrs. Woody, boastfully. "I managed to secure a very costly and elegant vase."

"Indeed," replied Mrs. Pepprey, who believes in calling a vase a vase. "I suppose you'll keep it in a glass case."—Philadelphia Press.

Cautious Man.

Brown—Did you notice what a black eye Smith had?
Robinson—I saw it, but I make it a rule never to notice such things.—Boston Transcript.

NEBRASKA THE LAND OF PLENTY

I wonder why it is that so many men spend their days working hard on rented farms, barely making enough to get along, with no great prospect ahead of owning their own homes, when within a few hours' journey is a land of plenty—Nebraska—where all kinds of grain and fruit can be raised with the least amount of labor; where cattle and hogs fed on corn bring a handsome profit; where the climate is healthful and churches and schools abound; where land is cheap and can be bought on very easy terms.

Think of this, and if you want information about the country send to me for "The Corn Belt," a beautifully illustrated monthly paper that tells all about Nebraska, and also for "The West Nebraska Grazing Country," an interesting illustrated booklet containing a large sectional map of Nebraska.

On the first and third Tuesdays of each month during the balance of this year cheap excursion tickets will be sold over our road to Nebraska, so that people may go and see for themselves. Ask your ticket agent about this.

P. S. EUSTIS, Gen'l Pass. Agt. C. & O. R. R. CHICAGO, ILL.

IT GOT HIM A LICKING.

An Ohioan's Hard Luck When Starting Out as a Newspaper Reporter.

Col. N. S. Jones, who presides over the matrimonial bureau of the probate court, had his newspaper aspirations chilled in a moment when he was starting out in life. He was living in the little town of Genoa, O., and the proprietor of the country weekly asked him if he would not write a "squire" occasionally, says the Toledo Bee. The colonel promised, as he saw an opening in the newspaper field, and had long yearned for a chance to secure a place in the profession which seemed to him to offer many inducements. Consequently he wrote up several items. Hard luck came at the start. Among the first of his items was the following:

"Our esteemed friend and fellow townsman, Seth Bennett, is the greatest man in the world. He licked his wife the other night and came out without a scratch."

Hardly had the paper appeared on the street before Seth was on the lookout for the colonel, and found him. Now all that the colonel remembers of the fray was that he gave Seth a harder fight than Seth's wife had done. But he severed his connection with the paper immediately. He carried scars for weeks to remind him of his first and only experience as a molder of the public mind.

I do not believe Piso's Cure for Consumption has an equal for coughs and colds.—John H. Boyer, Trinity Springs, Ind., Feb. 15, 1900.

Wise Proprietor.

"See here!" exclaimed the disgusted guest, "this meat's simply awful. Where's the proprietor of this joint?"

"He's gone out to lunch, sir," replied the waiter.—Philadelphia Press.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

Fun in a Restaurant.

Chef—That's a swell order. Who is it for?
Waiter—Judge Courtwright.

"Oh, I see. There's going to be a dinner in his honor."—Chicago Evening News.

Hall's Catarrh Cure

Is taken Internally. Price 75c.

We are ever ready to confess our imperfections so long as others are ready to contradict us.—Ran's Horn.

Sweat and fruit acids will not discolor goods dyed with PUTNAM FADELESS DYES. Sold by all druggists.

It is better to make mistakes in trying than to make the mistake of not trying at all.—Ran's Horn.

The stomach has to work hard, grinding the food we crowd into it. Make its work easy by chewing Beeman's Peppin Gum.

If you would be somebody in the world begin by being yourself.—Chicago Daily News.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

Genuine Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Must Bear Signature of *Ascutt Food*
See Fac-Simile Wrapper Below.

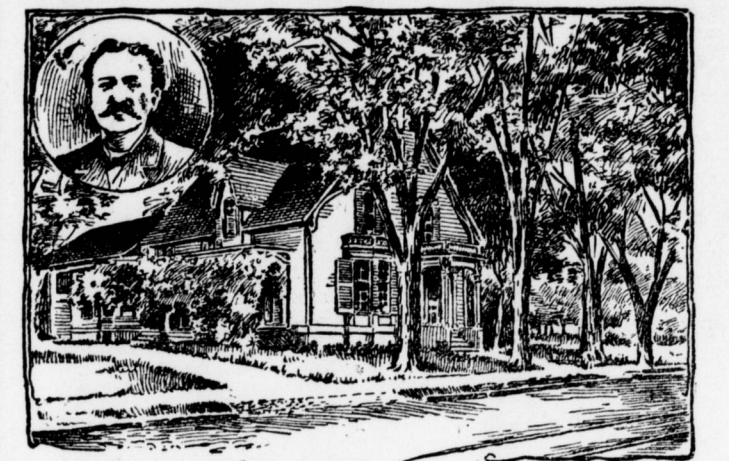
Very small and as easy to take as sugar.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

FOR HEADACHE. FOR DIZZINESS. FOR BILIOUSNESS. FOR TORPID LIVER. FOR CONSTIPATION. FOR SALLOW SKIN. FOR THE COMPLEXION.

Price 75 Cents. GENUINE MUST BEAR SIGNATURE. Purely Vegetable. *Ascutt Food* CURE SICK HEADACHE.

THE DEWEY HOMESTEAD.



The above picture shows the house where George Dewey was born December 26th, 1837. It was occupied by the Dewey family until after the death of the Admiral's father. It then came into the possession of Captain Edward Dewey, who sold it to its present owner and occupant, T. R. Gordon, Esq., in the summer of 1889. Mr. Gordon moved it to its present site in the following February 1890, and has occupied it until the present time. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon are unflinching in their courtesy to the thousands who visit this shrine, the birthplace of Admiral Dewey.

A recent letter from T. R. Gordon to the Peruna Drug Mfg Co., Columbus, O., reads as follows:

"It is with great satisfaction that I find myself able, after an extended trial to write you in this emphatic manner of the good your Peruna has done my wife. "She has been troubled with catarrh from childhood, and whenever she has a cold, or any unusual condition of the weather it was worse than usual, and seemed more than she could bear. The drooping in her throat at night prevented refreshing sleep, in fact, we had come to look upon it as incurable, and from the many remedies used in vain, we had reason to say, "We are thankful and happy to say that your "Peruna" has been of great benefit to her, and I confidently look for a complete and entire cure. High praise is not too much to bestow upon your remedy." T. R. Gordon. Address The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O., for free book on catarrh.

Most everybody knows something about Old Virginia Cherooots as 300,000,000 of them are being smoked this year. Ask anybody about them, if you have never smoked them yourself. They have made their own reputation and their own place in the cigar trade, wholly on their merits. Three good smokes for five cents, and no waste!

Three hundred million Old Virginia Cherooots smoked this year. Ask your own dealer. Price, 3 for 5 cents.

CHICAGO TO OMAHA

Double Daily Service

New line via Rockford, Dubuque, Waterloo, Fort Dodge and Council Bluffs. Buffet, library-smoking-cars, sleeping cars, free dining chairs, cars, dining cars. Send to us for a free copy of Pictures and Note-En-Route illustrating this new line as seen from the car window. Tickets of agents of I. C. & O. R. R. and connecting lines. A. H. HANSON, G. P. A., Chicago.

RHEUMATISM

Van Buren's Rheumatic Compound is the only positive cure. Past experience speaks for itself. Depot 50 S. California Ave., Chicago.

PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION

CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.

ROOFING

The best Red Rope Roofing for 1c. per sq. ft. Cuts and nails included. Substitutes for plaster. Samples free. THE FAY MANILLA ROOFING CO., CAMDEN, N. J.

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Conducted by the Sisters of the Holy Cross. Chartered 1855. Thorough English and Classical education. Regular Collegiate Degrees. In Preparatory Department students carefully prepared for Collegiate course. Physical and Chemical Laboratories well equipped. Conservatory of Music and School of Art. Gymnasium under direction of graduate of Boston Normal School of Gymnastics. Catalogue free. The 46th year opens Sept. 4, 1900. Address, DIRECTRESS OF THE ACADEMY, St. Mary's Academy, - Notre Dame, Indiana. A. N. K.-C 1828

LADIES! When Doctors and others fail to relieve you, try N. F. M. R. It never fails. Box free. Mrs. B. A. Rowan, Milwaukee, Wis.

He thinks he lives, but he's a dead one. No person is really alive whose liver is dead. During the winter most people spend nearly all their time in warm, stuffy houses or offices or workshops. Many don't get as much exercise as they ought, and everybody knows that people gain weight in winter. As a rule it is not sound weight, but means a lot of flabby fat and useless, rotting matter staying in the body when it ought to have been driven out. But the liver was overburdened, deadened—stopped work. There you are, with a dead liver, and spring is the time for resurrection. Wake up the dead! Get all the filth out of your system, and get ready for the summer's trials with clean, clear blood, body, brain free from bile. Force is dangerous and destructive unless used in a gentle persuasive way, and the right plan is to give new strength to the muscular walls of the bowels, and stir up the liver to new life and work with CASCARETS, the great spring cleaner, disinfectant and bowel tonic. Get a box to-day and see how quickly you will be

BROUGHT BACK TO NEW LIFE BY

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CANDY CATHARTIC

10c. 25c. 50c.

BEST FOR THE BOWELS

ALL DRUGGISTS

To any needy mortal suffering from bowel troubles and too poor to buy CASCARETS we will send a box free. Address Sterling Remedy Company, Chicago or New York, mentioning advertisement and paper.