



Every farmer who makes a specialty of fancy stock takes pride in exhibiting the finest product of his farm. To show to best advantage, the natural colors of the wool or hair must be brought out; the white in particular must be snowy white and not tinged with dirty brown or yellow.

A BREEDER SAYS OF THE IVORY SOAP:

"I have used it for many years and find it for all practical purposes superior to anything I have ever used. . . . It leaves the skin soft and clear, furnishes life to the coat, produces a beautiful growth . . . and leaves it smooth, glossy and free from harshness. I use it with luke-warm rain water, which I find is the best. This forms a rich, oily lather, and helps loosen all stubborn scales and blotches of the skin.

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FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

NOTES OF INTEREST ON AGRICULTURAL TOPICS.

Lice Upon the Orange Leaves--Poorly Made Straw Stacks--Cauliflower Culture--Beet Growing and Dairying, Etc., Etc.

Lice Upon the Orange Leaves.
The insects upon the orange leaves are one of a number of species of scale lice which are common upon house plants. They are all of similar general nature, and call for similar treatment. Ordinarily, sponging with strong soapsuds is sufficient, but if this should prove insufficient the plants should be sprayed with kerosene emulsion or kerosene and water, if the proper apparatus is at hand. The lice will then yield to sponging, and there will be no further trouble unless the plants are neglected. Wherever there are scale lice, occasional sponging is unavoidable. It has proven possible to completely rid plants of them.—Prof. W. A. Buckhout, Pennsylvania Experiment Station.

Poorly Made Straw Stacks.
Except where the necessities of milkmen require large barns, we fear those of average Eastern farmers are not so good nor so commodious as they used to be when more grain was grown by them. The hay goes into the barn, of course, as being more valuable than straw. The latter is put into a stack, often very poorly made. Straw is so little considered as feed that too many farmers think it matters little if it does get wet, as it is used mainly as bedding for stock. But this same stack, if they can have clean, dry straw, would eat a little straw if only for variety in their ration. If the farmer would buy grain, and especially if he would buy linseed or cotton-seed meal, he could make his straw as good as hay by cutting and steaming it, and then sprinkling one or the other of these meals over it. In this way, hay, which is always reckoned valuable, could be made to go much farther, more stock could be kept, and the manure pile would be many times richer than it is. All this can be done if farmers will save their straw in better shape. Most of the trouble in making stacks is from the accumulation of chaff under the straw carrier. This chaff is much the richest part of the straw. It should be stored in the barn if room can be found for it. With the chaff out of the way, keeping the centre of the stack well filled and packed, and evenly packing all sides, the stack may be built up, so that when cut down in winter there will hardly be found a place where the wet has penetrated.

Cauliflower Culture.
There is a good profit in growing cauliflowers for market if the conditions are all right, but with the culture often given them, they are not a reliable crop. In growing cauliflowers for sale, the first thing to be considered is a market for these luxuries. The crop is not a staple one, like some which are considered necessities of life, and you must find people who want them, and are able to buy them. In most large villages there is a sufficient number of people who want them to make a market for a few thousand heads. In some seasons, and at some times in the year, there is a good profit in growing them to ship to dealers in the cities, but the most money is made by retailing them to villages, where no one is growing them, and therefore no competition.

It is not best to economize too much in purchasing seeds. The higher priced strains of white cauliflowers, where the type has become established by careful selection for several years, are more reliable in heading, and the whiter the heads the better they will sell in the market. The large pure white curds, with the leaves trimmed nicely around them, attract the eye, and people buy them because they "look nice." I make the first sowing of the seed in a hotbed in March; a little later I sow more seeds in a cold-frame, and sow at different times in the open ground from April until June. My plan is to have only a small part of the crop mature at one time, for the leaves will soon grow through the heads if they are not marketed at the right time.—Viek's Magazine.

Beet Growing and Dairying.
The beet sugar movement is bound to do some good, even in localities where hopes of securing sugar factories never materialized. Take, for instance, a great dairy region like Minnesota. During the past few years beet seed has been offered gratis to all farmers who would plant. Hundreds planted the seed and harvested surprising crops. The chemist's analyses were shown to be satisfactory in every report. It has been fully demonstrated that good sugar beets can be grown here and at low cost, but in spite of all favorable conditions, farmers here are as yet unwilling to give the necessary help and encouragement. They are too deeply absorbed in an all-the-year-round industry that is known to be not only a promising but a paying one. The twenty-six successful creameries in my county have proved what can be done in that line. The sugar making industry seems more uncertain.

Yet this movement which has introduced beet culture among the dairymen of this country has not been lost labor by any means. When the trial crops had been grown and there was no market for them the only thing to do was to feed them to the stock. Thus it became known by experience, where otherwise it would never have been, that such root crops are of great value as winter feed for milk cows. It is but a step from the growing of sugar beets to that of growing mangels and

other roots for stock, as similar culture is required for all. Said a prominent dairyman to me recently, "I shall grow beets and other roots just the same whether the sugar factory comes or not. I have a score of factories at home that turn beets into butter. They pay well, too, and the market is right in my own stable." The man was right. This is a great grain-growing region, and our dairy cows, as a rule, get an abundance of ground feed. But no cow will do her best on dry feed exclusively, however liberally fed. When a community has once got into the way of growing large areas of root crops, whether for feeding or other purposes, it is then more easy to get the sugar factory. The pledges, too, of experienced growers will be of the kind best calculated to insure the continued success of a factory after it has been put into operation.—C. L. Hill, in New England Homestead.

Tilling.
If a farmer is ever justified in going into debt, he will find the justification in buying and laying tile on credit, if he must, and has land that needs drainage. The crop losses from undrained land in the West has amounted to many millions of dollars. In wet seasons planting on wet land is sometimes delayed beyond the time when it is possible for a crop to fully mature; and either a wet or dry season, wet, low land requires so much time for the sun to exhaust the moisture and warm up the land; and, of course, it is useless to plant until the soil is warm. Late planting, even if growth is not retarded by subsequent drenching rains, means that the crops will not be as far advanced as they should be when the summer drouth comes on. Undrained soil, if it needs draining, is a menace to good results from the beginning to the end; and all land, if not naturally drained should be put into a condition to readily get rid of the water in the spring and to carry off the heavy rainfall before the water can harm the crop. The winter killing of grain can be largely prevented by tilling, for it lowers the point of saturation to the level of the tile below the plant roots. Nothing can be urged against tilling, if it is done in its favor.

Tilling is too expensive and undertaking to attempt it, however, without knowing just what is wanted and how the work ought to be done. If we bury a lot of tile and a lot of money with it, only to find that our tile is top small, we shall be in a bad fix. The whole subject should be thoroughly compared before the work is begun. If somebody who is familiar with practical tilling can be consulted, it would be worth while to go to considerable trouble and expense to see him, for an article on the subject, however elaborate, may not cover every point. Indeed, it is impossible to lay down rules which will be applicable to every case, for conditions are not the same in every field that is to be tiled. First, the natural course of the water flow should be determined, and this can be done by observing the course of the overflow of low spots in the field, in the spring, unless the land is so absolutely level that the water does not flow at all. When the natural course is found begin at the outlet and ditch upward.—Agricultural Epitomist.

Bean Weevils.
The weevils were unusually plentiful last season in the fields, and from all accounts the whole crop was affected by them. The beans from some parts of the country have been so far injured by them that they are not salable. Dealers in beans are becoming very particular in this respect, and samples of beans that show signs of the presence of weevils are often rejected.

But it is not only the loss sustained by this year's crop of beans that concerns growers, but the threatened damage that may follow next season. Bean weevils, like all other pestiferous insects, multiply more rapidly the second year than the first. That is, they get a fair start the first season, and by the second they are well under way to inundate the country.

The danger comes from the few old weevils which hibernate in the fields, or conceal themselves or their larvae in the seed beans. It is possible that a number of the old weevils will burrow in the ground and sleep through the winter, and when the next crop of beans are put in the ground they are re-enforced with a new brood of young ones. There is only one way to avoid this, and that is to plant the beans on another piece of land as far removed from that of last year's as possible. Plow that field under and plant it with corn or grain. The weevils do not bother either of these plants, and they will either starve out by fall or they will migrate in disgust.

The next danger comes from using seed beans that have the larvae of the weevils in them. Beans gathered from an infected field are sure to contain many weevils inside of them, which hatch out just as soon as the conditions are favorable. Put the beans in a warm room, and the weevils will soon appear in numbers. Most of the weevils remain in the beans through winter, and appear when warm weather comes. One must kill the weevils in the beans the best way possible. Put them in a warm room, spreading them out evenly, and as fast as the weevils appear destroy them. If kept in a cold place neither the weevils nor beetles will appear. The beans must be sorted over frequently, and all that show any signs of the weevils should be thrown away. It takes a good deal of time and labor to do all this, but in the end one is well repaid for it. It is only by exterminating them the first year that one stands a reasonable chance of preventing an epidemic of weevils.—Professor James S. Doty, in American Cultivator.

It usually takes about five years to tan the skin of an elephant.

GERMANY IN NEW GUINEA.

The German New Guinea Company Will No Longer Rule the Country.
The German New Guinea Company has given up the arduous task of governing the large territory confided to it and Emperor William's Government will now administer the affairs of the country itself. The New Guinea Company had exercised such control over the region as the East Indies Company once possessed over a large part of India. It has had trouble with the natives. It is now to be relieved of the responsibility of maintaining order and will devote itself to its commercial interests.

New Guinea is the largest island in the world. The western half of it, as far as the meridian, 141 degrees East, belongs to the Dutch. The southern half of the remainder is British New Guinea, and the northern half belongs to Germany, and is known as Kaiser Wilhelm Land. Hamburg is the headquarters of the New Guinea Company, and the products it has been raising, particularly New Guinea tobacco, have often been advertised in the German press. The company has also done much to explore the coast mountain ranges, and has ascended some of the rivers for a considerable distance. It was on the Kaiserin Augusta River that its explorers reported the natives as having splendidly developed arms, while their legs had rather less than normal strength, and they attributed this to the fact that the natives were almost incessantly on the water plying the paddle in their canoes, and thus giving their arms a great deal of exercise at the expense of their legs.

Some of the most important efforts of the company to develop the country have been centered at Astrolabe Bay, which is one of their chief ports. This bay will always be historic as the place where the Russian ethnologist, Dr. Mikichko Maclay, was put on shore from a schooner about fifteen years ago to study the natives. No white man had ever been there, and he expected to live there alone for a long time. The schooner sailed away in the darkness, leaving him on the beach, and when the natives saw him there next morning they thought the strange object had dropped from the sky. They nearly killed him in their experiments to determine whether he was a god. They imprisoned him in a hut and watched him day and night. They nearly starved him, because a god should not require food. They tied him to a tree and shot arrows close to his head and neck, because if he were a god he should not be frightened. Two of the arrows inflicted severe flesh wounds upon the helpless captive.

Then they pressed their spears against his teeth to make him open his mouth, and in many other savage ways sorely tested his temper, courage and strength. At last they decided that he had dropped from the moon, and that he was not a god because his wounds bled and he needed food, but they voted him a good fellow and grew daily more and more fond of him because he was always cheerful however much they annoyed him, and many of their sick soon recovered under his skillful care.

For two years Dr. Maclay lived among these savages, feeling amply repaid for all his terrible sacrifices by the wealth of scientific facts he was able to collect. Money could not have tempted him to jeopardize his life and give up every civilized comfort. But the facts he gathered were needed to complete his long studies among the races of the western Pacific, and, with the ardor of the born devotee of science, he was eager to make any sacrifice that would yield him the knowledge he sought.—New York Sun.

Sphinx and Man.

Now, for the first time, a photograph of the Sphinx with one man standing on top of it and another half way up the front, has been taken, showing at a glance the tremendousness of this monument which is more than six thousand years old. Figures give so poor an idea of size that they hardly convey anything to the mind. Close your eyes and try to imagine a figure sixty-five feet high, and its body a hundred and eighty-nine feet long; each ear is two yards wide, the nose is five feet long, the mouth is seven feet wide, large enough to swallow a six-footer if it were opened, and the distance across the face from one cheek to another is fourteen feet.

If a five-story flat house were built by the side of the Sphinx the top of the house would be below the crown of its head. Yet this wonderful statue was cut out of the living rock as long ago as 4,000 years B. C. There must have been some great artists in that day to think of so big a work, which has never been since equaled.

The meaning of the Sphinx is one of the hardest problems of scholars. Some say it is the statue of some old Egyptian god, others that it is a symbol of the rising sun, but the most probable explanation is that the Sphinx is the statue of some of the Pharaohs of old Egypt. Its head is that of a man, and the body of the lion was only a symbol of the power of the mighty king who had it hewn. There are any number of Sphinxes in Egypt, but this one is the largest and finest of them all.

Monkey D.istry in a Street Car.

An itinerant musician who daily grinds out operatic airs and popular songs on a street piano at Bridgeport, opposite Norristown, and his monkey were a miserable pair as they sat in a trolley car on the way to this city the other morning. The monkey was squealing and holding one of its paws to its mouth while tears flowed copiously. The master could not console the animal, and a well dressed man who sat opposite asked what caused the monkey's suffering. "He gotta da

pain in da toot," was the reply. "I think he goin' to die, but wanta ta get him to city." The questioner asked permission to examine the monkey's mouth, and after looking at it he produced a vial and allowed a few drops of liquid to fall on the gums. The animal ceased squealing. Then the sympathizing man got the Italian to hold the monkey's mouth open, when he inserted a pair of forceps he took from his pocket and drew out the troublesome tooth. The monkey yelled once, and then showed the relief it felt. While the owner was wiping the blood from its mouth the dentist left the car and shook his head good naturedly when the street musician called after him: "Comma back an' gitta you mon."—Philadelphia Record.

THE CHINESE JEWS.

Mystery of Their Origin.—Their Synagogue in Kae-fung-foo.

Among the most remote colonies are the Jews of China, who have aroused interesting inquiry and been the theme of many French writers. Early in the seventeenth century, and shortly after the Italian missionaries had come to Peking, one of them, Matthew Ricci, received a morning call. His visitor wore the gorgeous Chinese dress, including the queue, but the figure and face were not Mongolian, and the smiling countenance was not in keeping with the dignified solemnity of a Chinaman. The gentleman's name was Ngai, and he had heard of the arrival of some foreigners who worshipped one Lord of heaven and earth, and who yet were not Mohometans; he belonged to the same religion, he explained, and had called to make their acquaintance. Now, Master Ngai made it clear that he was an Israelite, a native of Kae-fung-foo, the capital of Honan. He had come to Peking to pass an examination for a mandarin degree, and had been led by curiosity and brotherly feeling to call at the mission house.

In his native city, he said, there were ten or twelve families of Israelites, and a synagogue which they had recently restored at the expense of 10,000 crowns, and they had a roll of the law four or five hundred years old. The missionary's letters described this synagogue. It occupied a space between three and four hundred feet in length by about a hundred and fifty in breadth, and was divided into four courts. It had borrowed some decorative splendor from China. The inscription in Hebrew, "Hear, O Israel; the Lord our God is one Lord, blessed be the name of the glory of His kingdom for ever and ever," and the Ten Commandments were emblazoned in gold. Silken curtains inclosed the "Bethel" which enshrined the sacred books, and which only the rabbi might enter during the time of prayer. Every detail of this place, with its incense, its furniture, and all its types of good things yet to come, is interesting. There in the last century the children of Israel at Kae-fung-foo worshipped the God of their fathers with the rights that pointed to the Messiah, of whose advent, as far as it can be ascertained, they never heard until the arrival of the Italian missionaries.

Learned men have entered into discussions as to whether these people were Jews or Israelites, whether they came to China from the Assyrian captivity or the Roman dispersion. They themselves say that their forefathers came from the west; and it is probable that the settlers arrived by way of Khorassan and Samarcand. They must have been numerous in the ninth century, for two Mahometan travelers of that period describe a rebel, named Bao-choo, taking Canton by storm in A. D. 877 and slaughtering 120,000 Jews, Mahometans, Christians and Parsees. More than one Jew of Kae-fung-foo is known to have gained the right to wear the little round button on the top of his cap so dear to the ambition of a Chinaman. The T'ai-ping rebellion dispersed the settlement, and the remnant who remain faithful to the memory of old traditions are chiefly poor and distressed.

Humorous Geese.

Of barn yard fowls the geese are the most intelligent. It is related of a pair of geese that they used to round up the chickens which strayed in from the neighbors and play pranks with them for the fun of it, says the New York Sun. One day a dozen of a neighbor's hen flock came visiting and the geese entertained them. The chickens were corralled in a fence corner, and the geese flapped their wings and hissed, showing great joy when the chickens exhibited fear. Just then the farmer came out and began to feed his flock. Between hen-baiting and eating these geese did not know what to do. They wanted to eat and would begin to eat. Then the chickens would start away. That made the geese so uneasy that they could not eat. After a bit the chickens started along the fence toward a little stream of water with eighteen inch high banks. On seeing this the geese stopped eating and went to the stream and swam down toward the spot for which the hens were headed, and ducked their heads so that the chickens couldn't see them. Arriving at the crossing place the geese jumped into the air with flapping wings and tried to catch one of the chickens, but they were too slow, and the chickens went over the fence like scared crows. If the geese had caught the chicken the feathers would have flown, for the geese delighted in plucking the feathers out of a captive.

Treasure in Paris Sewers.

Paris sewers are being searched carefully for treasure trove, owing to the recent discovery by a workman under the Rue Montmartre of a bundle containing \$120,000 in securities.

There are 278 members of the privy council of England and Ireland. The members are entitled to be called "right honorable."

The Ascent of Woman.

In an article in The Young Woman for February on "The Ascent of Woman" we are told that whereas the census taken six years before Queen Victoria came to the throne contained no occupations for women except domestic service, there were at the date of the last census 61,000 women dressmakers, 70,000 employed in the public houses, 4,721 in mines. Even the postoffice, edged about with red-tapism as it is, has nearly 30,000 women as clerks, telegraphists, sorters, etc., and there are included in these figures no fewer than 160 head postmistresses and 5,250 sub-postmistresses. Where there was one lady clerk in 1871 there are now four; and to take two industries only—there are now 121 women per 100 men in the tobacco industry, as against 42 per 100 in 1871; while in hemp and jute the women workers have increased from 67 per 100 men to 195 per 100. There are throughout the kingdom nearly 130,000 women engaged in teaching, almost three times the number of men; and 200 women have worked their way into government departments as typists. It is significant of the part that woman now plays in British commercial life that in a recent year there were 758 women bankrupts, whose aggregate liabilities amounted to £316,000.

Stole a Tooth as a Souvenir.

"People chip off fragments from gravestones," said a traveler, "to carry away as souvenirs, and twigs and leaves from trees, and that sort of thing, so that it is sometimes necessary to protect these objects to save them. But the most curious thing I ever saw in the way of souvenir grabbing was in the catacombs of Paris, where one of a party of sightseers, following a guide along the passages lined with human bones, pulled out a tooth from a skull."

FINAL FATE

Of Coup's Rolling Palaces, That Were Once the Rage.

For a long time nearly everybody in the south knew about "Coup's Rolling Palaces," but probably none know exactly what became of them. The rolling palaces consisted of a train of cars specially built so as to be connected at will into one long pavilion. Inside was a museum, a huge aquarium, a congress of freaks and finally an auditorium department, where brief vaudeville performances were given. The whole thing was most elaborately got up, was brilliantly lighted by its own dynamos and cost \$100,000 to construct. It was the idea of Coup, the veteran circus man, and he had been gradually figuring it out for years. When he had it perfected he had no money, and was obliged to take in what show people call "commercial capital." In other words, business men backed it, and were foolish enough to insist on doing the managing after Coup had taken it through the south for one extremely profitable season. The thing was a huge moneymaker, properly handled. The people would be let in at one end and kept moving until they emerged at the other, and many would make the circuit two or three times. Under the business men's management it lost heavily, however, and finally, after innumerable vicissitudes, the train was brought to Chicago and sold to a variety theater manager for \$7,000 cash. He broke it up and peddled off the cars one at a time. Fragments of the old outfit are now wandering about through obscure country towns, piloted by fly-by-night showmen, with all sorts of strange freaks. That was the end of the great rolling palaces that are still distinctly remembered in scores of smaller southern cities. It was a grotesque fate for a really big amusement idea.

A mule costs \$75 in Malta.

PREPARE for the turn of life. It is a critical period.

As indications of the change appear be sure your physical condition is good. The experience is a wonderful one and under some circumstances full of menace. Mrs. Pinkham, of Lynn, Mass., will give you her advice without charge. She has done so much for women, surely you can trust her. Read this letter from Mrs. M. C. GRIFPING, of Georgeville, Mo.:

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—The doctor called my trouble ulceration of womb and change of life. I was troubled with profuse flowing and became very weak. When I wrote to you I was down in bed, had not sat up for six months; was under a doctor's treatment all the time, but it did me no good. I had almost given up in despair, but your Vegetable Compound has made me feel like a new woman. I cannot thank you enough. I would advise any woman who is afflicted as I have been to write to Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., and get her advice and be cured as I have been."

MRS. F. H. ALLEN, 419 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, Ohio, writes:

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—Change of life was working on me. My kidneys and bladder were affected. I had been confined to the house all summer, not able to stand on my feet for any length of time. Terrible pains when urinating and an itching that nearly drove me wild. I had tried many remedies. I told my husband I had great faith in yours and he got me a bottle; am now on my fourth bottle. I feel that I am entirely cured. I can work all day. I can hardly realize that such a wonderful cure is possible. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is the best medicine for women."

Don't wait until you are prostrated with the mysterious condition known as "Change of Life." Get Mrs. Pinkham's advice and learn how other women got through.

