

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

NOTES OF INTEREST ON AGRICULTURAL TOPICS.

Finding the Live Weight of Cattle Feed—Your Corn—Use Greed Bone to Increase Egg Supply, etc.

Finding the Live Weight of Cattle.
There are several methods of finding the live weight of cattle, but the following is probably the most correct: Measure the girth around the beast just behind the shoulder blade and the length of the back from the tail to the fore part of the shoulder blade. Multiply the girth by the length and if the girth is less than three feet, multiply the product by eleven and the result will be the number of pounds. If between three and five feet, multiply by sixteen; if between five and seven feet, multiply by twenty-three; if between seven and nine feet, multiply by thirty-one; if between nine and eleven, multiply by forty.

Feed Your Corn.
A lover of statistics has figured out that of the 250,000,000 bushels of corn produced in Nebraska all but 70,000,000 bushels was fed in the State, the balance being all that found its way into the general market. This is an evidence of the enormous improvement in the stock feeding industry of the State during the past few years. Of the wheat crop, just one-half of the whole was milled in the State, the balance going to Chicago and other points. This makes a good showing for local consumption. The statisticians agree that the largest profit accrues in farming from the feeding of the cereal crop and not in its sale. According to that standard, Nebraska is pretty well off.—Omaha Trade Exhibit.

Use Green Bone to Increase Egg Supply.
In recent years the practical poultryman has been able to double his egg supply in the winter by a careful study of egg producing foods. Prominent among these must be placed green cut bones, a food that is undoubtedly the greatest egg producer ever fed to hens. The bone, when finely cut while it is still green, supplies that element of animal food so needed and so relished by fowls, taking the place of the bugs and worms which hens devour so greedily upon the range. Moreover, the bone supplies the mineral matter needed for egg formation, the lime, the phosphate, the magnesia, and is, in short, an ideal egg food.

(This lends us to advise poultrymen and farmers to purchase bone cutters, and to utilize the bones from the dinner table and meat blocks, instead of throwing them to the dogs. Here is poultry food of great value daily wasted which can be quickly turned into money and profit by the employment of an inexpensive machine and a little thoughtful saving.—Ed.)—Up-to-date Farming and Gardening.

Cut Nails for Shingle Roof.
In having a barn reshingled recently we took note of a fact that may be of some benefit to others, and that was the wire shingle nail is not nearly so durable as the cut nail. The roof we had to replace was not so badly worn out, but having been put on with wire nails, they had all rusted off, and the shingles just dropped out, and so the roof had to be renewed. No matter how good the shingles are, they will not stay on the roof long if the nails are not holding them, for the wind will find the loose shingles, and unless promptly repaired the roof will soon let in sunshine and rain. Wire nails are all well enough in their way, but it is not their way to hold shingles on for any great length of time securely. They draw out of the sheeting, too, much easier than a cut nail. Those who are going to the expense—and it is quite an expense now—of putting on a good shingle roof and expect to have it stay until the shingles wear out, will do well to use cut nails of proper length, with good heavy heads, and the nail made heavy enough so it will not rust off easily like the small wire nails that are so unsatisfactory for this purpose. The cut nail is heaviest near the end where it rusts first, and to make a wire nail as heavy as the cut nail at the head would be so large that it would split shingles in driving. If wire nails are used, they should be much heavier than those usually sold for putting on shingles.—Farmers' Guide.

To Keep Stock Healthy.
When scours begin in calves and pigs it is of little use to attempt to cure the disease until the cause of it is found and removed, says The Farmers' Tribune. Most frequently it is from indigestion, caused by improper food, or in an improper condition. We have known a severe case in a calf that was sucking its mother's milk, but we quickly found that she had been overfed with grain after having been kept without it during the period she had been dry. We have seen it caused by calves having their milk too sour when fed to them, and by its having been given too cold. A chill from a cold draught or from lying in a wet bed may result in causing a severe attack in the calf, and sometimes when it was the cow that had suffered. While we never had a case among pigs or lambs while we bred them, we can understand of believe that the same causes might bring on the disease in them. Remove the cause and then try to give a remedy. If caused by a cold, give some warm and stimulating food or drink; a little spirits, ginger tea, or something of that kind in the milk will help. Then give charcoal to correct any acidity in the stomach, the fine or pulverized charcoal being the best form, with warm mash, warm and dry beds, and even a

warm blanket if they are sick enough to keep still. It is desirable, when possible, to remove any animals having this trouble to a clean place, and to not only cleanse, but disinfect any place they have been in before putting them back again, or using it for others. Sponging or washing with a strong solution of carbolic acid, or of corrosive sublimate, is not only desirable as a deodorizer, but as a destroyer of germs. Spraying is the better way, as the spray can be made to penetrate into cracks and to reach corners where washing would not touch. For lambs with scours give similar treatment to that given calves.

Why Poultry Should Pay.
Some enthusiastic writer, who believes that there is more profit in poultry than in any other pursuit on the farm, gives his reasons therefor in the following paragraphs:

1. Because you ought by their means to convert a great deal of the waste of the farm into money, in the shape of eggs and chickens for market.
2. Because with intelligent management they ought to be all-year-revenue producers, excepting, perhaps, about two months, during moulting season.
3. Because poultry will yield you a quicker return for the capital invested than any of the other departments of agriculture.
4. Because the manure from the poultry house will make a valuable compost for use in either vegetable garden or orchard. The birds themselves, if allowed to run in the orchard, will destroy many injurious insects.
5. Because while cereals and fruits can only be successfully grown in certain sections, poultry can be raised for table use or to lay eggs in all parts of the country.
6. Because poultry raising is an employment in which the farmer's wife and daughter can engage and leave him free to attend to other departments.
7. Because it will bring the best returns, in the shape of new laid eggs—during the winter season—when the farmer has most time on his hands.
8. Because to start poultry raising requires little or no capital. Under any circumstances, with proper management, poultry can be made, with little cost, a valuable adjunct to the farm.

This writer should add, however, that experience must first be gained. To go into the poultry business blindly is to lose money as rapidly as in any other pursuit.

Making the Most of Farm Manures.
To preserve my manures in the best way, a shed, built as a lean-to against the barn, is on the two open sides boarded up three feet high with an entrance at one end. In this shed the cows are usually kept over night and during bad weather. They tramp together and moisten the coarse straw as thrown out when cleaning the horse stables, and convert this into a well-rotted mass of excellent quality. Everything suitable for the purpose, besides straw, is used as bedding for the cows, weeds, rakings from the flower garden, leaves and pine needles, in short, everything that will help to make a clean surface and will rot underneath. No rain ever gets onto this pile. The cows are fastened in different places, along the sides, and a dry corner is easily made moist enough with an occasional bucket of water. Every fall the contents of the shed are hauled to the field and vegetable garden, with most satisfactory results.

For the compost heap, I have in an out of the way corner of the yard, made with boards, a pit or box two and a half feet deep by twelve feet long and broad and with a partition in the middle. At house cleaning time in the spring, all discarded clothing, worthless rags, old sacks, and the like, are spread on the bottom of one of the pits and during the whole year ashes, waste paper, small rags, and the daily sweepings from the house are constantly added. For this purpose an old coal oil can, provided with a handle, is kept near the kitchen door, and emptied twice or three times weekly on the compost heap. It is astonishing to what amount this will accumulate in the course of a year. A solid mass of this material six by twelve feet and two feet high contains over five wagon loads of a very concentrated plant food, for which one would have to pay a snug little sum.—E. C. W. Macdonald in New England Homestead.

Keep Small Fruits in Rows.
Why does the farmer who wants to raise raspberries or blackberries just enough for his own use always set them out in a bunch? Of course he puts them in rows and all that, but they are soon in a mat and the grass and weeds are having it their own way with them, says a writer in the American Agriculturist. When I took up this branch of gardening the first thing I set about to reform was the berry patch, which was not only in the last stages of weediness and grass, but was a terror from Canada thistles, not to mention the berry bushes themselves. Now, if any one should visit the farm, he would notice a few long rows of berry bushes running one at a time the full length of the garden. If I care to I can hoe them out neatly once in a while and never a scratch, though it is probable that some straw mulch will do the work for me. The rows run north and south and will shade other garden crops very little. Here and there a plant left out gives space for passing through the rows.

Strawberries had a hard time of it this fall, where they had to be transplanted. My experience is that it does not pay to transplant them in very dry weather unless they are to have special care, both in setting and watering afterward. My new bed, which was set for rain till Labor Day and then was set carefully, was not thor-

oughly watered, and would have died but for the rain that came about two weeks later. As it is, most of the plants lived, but have made small growth. Apparently nearly all the roots died, and they were rooted unusually well. They will get a good covering of straw this winter, and it will be left in the rows when growth sets in again. I am in favor of the matted row system, as it is understood by me. Runners will be allowed to grow, and when a new row is established it will be turned under. By changing the place of the row slightly from year to year, new plants will be secured without transplanting and the farmer can keep control of his strawberry bed without much labor.

THE CHEAP WATCH.

Arguments for and Against It—No Effect on the Repair Business.

"The cheap watch has no effect on the watch-repairing trade—in fact, I believe it helps us," said the head of a firm which is said to have the largest watch-repairing trade in the world. This house, which is in the heart of the downtown business section, is said never to have less than 1,000 watches in its repair shop, and no watch is repaired for less than \$5. Sections of "gangs" of workmen are employed each under the head of a man skilled in varying degree. The men receive from \$2 to \$7 a day, and the watch turned in is placed with one or another of the groups in proportion to its price and the nature of the work to be done. This large staff of workers, at the big wages paid, is kept constantly busy although the prices charged are from \$5, the minimum, to \$15 and even \$20 for simple repair work.

"There are hundreds of men in New York—thousands even—who invest in 98-cent watches," said the man already quoted, "many for reasons of economy, when they find out the cost of repairing their fine timepiece. A man reasons: 'It will cost me \$5 to get this repaired. Now a \$1 watch will answer my purpose just as well; I save \$4 and if I'm held up the thief won't get much.'"

"In this frame of mind he proceeds to put his theory into practice. At the end of two or four weeks something in that new watch goes wrong; it cost 50 or 75 cents to do the repairing—and many reputable firms refuse to repair these watches at all—and it is only a matter of another few weeks until a new trouble is encountered. Disgusted the owner takes out his trust-worthy timepiece and spends \$5 which now does not appear to be such a large sum after all particularly when he remembers the many little humiliations he suffered when pulling out the 98-cent timepiece before his friends."

Nevertheless the cheap watch apparently satisfies the needs of many persons.—New York Post.

A Woman's Daring Ride
In 1704 a Boston school mistress named Madam Knights rode from Boston to New York on horseback. She was probably the first woman to make the journey, and it was a great and daring undertaking. She had as a companion "the Post." This was the mail carrier, who also rode on horseback. One of his duties was to assist and be kind to all persons who cared to journey in his company. The first regular mail started from New York to Boston on Jan. 1, 1673. The postman carried two "portmanties," which were crammed with letters and parcels. He did not change horses until he reached Hartford, and was ordered to look at and report the condition of all ferries, fords and roads. He had to be active, stout, indefatigable and honest. When he delivered his mail, it was laid on a table at an inn, and any one who wished to, looked over all the letters, then took and paid the postage, which was very high, on any addressed to himself. It was usually about a month from the start of "the Post" in winter until his return.

John A. Guerilla's Peculiarity.
Colonel John S. Mosby has written to a Richmond paper an elaborate defense of General Grant, his friend, and certain statements therein remind me that Mosby's rangers, or guerrillas, never stood a sabre charge in the whole course of the war. Each man carried four pistols, one in each boot leg, and two in holsters, aggregating twenty-four shots. There was not a carbine or sabre in the command. Carbines were too heavy, and sabres had a disposition to rattle in their scabbards. Besides, close quarters were not to the guerrilla liking. With Mosby's men it was ever a case of scatter as soon as the enemy approached. If ever one company of troopers lived in mortal fear of another, the honor belongs to Mosby's men and the Eighth Illinois Cavalry. The latter was the best cavalry regiment in the Army of the Potomac, and Sheridan ordered it to go to Muddy Branch to "exterminate as many of Mosby's men as they can."

NEWS FOR THE FAIR SEX.

NEWS OF INTEREST ON NUMEROUS FEMINE TOPICS.

Two Novel Wraps—The Craze for Spangles—Exercise Just Before Retiring—Batteries on Millinery, etc.

Two Novel Wraps.
One of the most novel wraps seen is a short coat made entirely of astrakhan, with an embroidered applique design in ruby velvet around the collar and down the front. There is an ornamental clasp across the bust of two jewelled buttons.

Another striking wrap is a long coat of French gray cloth trimmed with long black chenille fringe. The yoke is covered with a network of chenille, from which the fringe falls nearly to the knee.

The Craze for Spangles.
The spangle craze is still with us. And the latest spangled dresses are wonderful to behold. They are not only a mass of glistening spangles, which fit the figure like a coat of mail, but they are now seen with colored spangles forming different designs. For example, a black spangled gown will here and there show in place of the black ones—spangles in violet, pink or yellow—which are so wrought that they form large, striking butterflies.

Then there are other black spangled robes scattered with violets, worked in spangles or yellow, or turquoise or pink wild roses. Such a gown made up with a yoke and long sleeves of velvet matching in color the spangled design would be extremely effective.

Exercise Just Before Retiring.
On rising and before going to bed this exercise should be taken. Stand upright. Drop the hands at the sides. Throw the shoulders back. Inflate the lungs to their fullest capacity, by breathing slowly through the nostrils, not with the lips. Then slowly exhale, repeating the exercise, one at a time, holding each breath as long as possible. Then inhale and repeat the exercise. A noted physician prescribes this breathing exercise for the most acute case of influenza. He says that it takes the blood from the stimulated brain and sends it to other parts of the body, allowing the brain to become temporarily anaemic and to fall into the state of deep sleep.

Butterflies on Millinery.
Butterflies are worn on this season's new hats—especially things, such as one would expect to find in some Brocken scene. Created of some filmy gauze, painted surely by fairy fingers, these are justly one of the most fascinating details of the hour. In Paris butterflies are a small craze; in the latest bijouterie the emblem is worked up exquisitely by the aid of those attractive flourishes known only to the artistic members of the fraternity.

Emimently suited to this end is the beautiful enameling which we are once again learning to appreciate and value at its true worth. An enameled butterfly buckle for the waist is a possession to be coveted. By this is meant the shape—the papillon—not the enamel, for that has come to stay, and will, of a certainty, be made much of in the jewelry world.

Society Women in Chili.
You seldom find a society woman in Santiago or Valparaiso who does not speak at least two languages, and most of them three. They are excessively formal with strangers, and are fastidious about matters of etiquette and dress. You can tell the tastes of a people from their shop windows, which in Santiago are as lovely and alluring as those in Paris. They are full of the latest fashions and novelties from every country. In fact, it is the boast of the people that they can buy anything in Santiago that can be bought in Paris.

There are several department stores and arcades and portales filled with little shops for the sale of jewelry, millinery and fancy goods, which indicate the extravagance and the luxurious tastes of the population. No city of the size of Santiago, 250,000 inhabitants, either in the United States or Europe, has so many fine stores or can show a more elaborate display of the gilded side of life.

The shoppers are as fascinating as the shops. The fashionable hour for trading is in the morning after mass, and the ladies order the bills sent to papa. But the resentment of the stranger is always aroused by the crowds of well dressed young men who spend their mornings hanging around the entrance of the retail stores, staring at the ladies who come and go, and making rude comments upon their appearance.—Valparaiso Correspondence Chicago Record.

Tales of Queen Wilhelmina.
One of the prettiest features of the installation of Wilhelmina as Queen of the Netherlands was the releasing of 6,000 carrier pigeons to bear to every part of the Low Countries the message of joy to the Dutch people that their beloved young Queen had really come into her own—had taken her oath of fealty to them and received through their representative their own pledge of loyalty and devotion. In quaint little towns, where wind mills turned and where lazy looking sail boats drifted up and down canals, Dutch peasants watched for the white winged messenger, whose coming would announce the enthronement of the young girl Holland loves.

In her childhood she was allowed to play with other children in the streets.

play with other children in the streets. Once, when she was about 10 years old, she was enjoying a sleigh ride with her mother, the Queen Regent, and came upon a large group of children, playing snowball. Wilhelmina asked permission to join the sport and the royal sleigh stood still for half an hour, "while the future sovereign of the Netherlands was boisterously hitting and being hit by nobody knows who." Her teachers were charged by her mother to treat her as they would any other school girl. The mother's purpose was to make Wilhelmina just what she is, a sweet, wholesome, healthy, well educated Dutch woman.—The Presbyterian.

Powder, Patches and Jewels.
From Paris come the news that we are to return to the styles of the eighteenth century dames of high degree. Lapel coats and long waistcoats, neckbands, delicate lace ruffles for neck and sleeves, stiff brooches, and even patches and powder, and three cornered hats, are prophesied; and ladies with legacies and old jewels are unearthing quaint little clasps, such as our great-grandmothers wore on a narrow piece of velvet across their foreheads; scarfpins with chains and seals, and tiny miniatures set in pearls or diamonds. These are to be worn on the jabots or in black moire ribbon, which Fashion ordains is to be worn tied round the neck or under the chin.

Old boxes and jewel cases are being ransacked, bringing to light long forgotten treasures. Only they are put to a different use. For instance, heavy gold jointed bracelets are turned into clasps for opera and traveling cloaks, and very handsome they look against soft chiffon or furs. Locketts are allowed to dangle at the end of gold chains, and slender diamond necklaces, like those worn years and years ago, are much in vogue. More and more jewelry is worn. Certain luxurious dames fasten their robes de nuit with jewelled buttons, and jewelled safety pins take the place of buttons or hooks on peignoirs and old waists.

One of the latest novelties is a sort of velvet lace, which is extremely rich in its effect, and is used for the interior of a bodice, an underskirt, etc. It is in velvet just what is made in lawn and in Irish lace, a marvelous work, with open work points of silk, and brightened with gold and silver thread. Attempts in this style have been previously made, but had been abandoned because of the inferior work and materials employed. To-day the finest quality of velvet is used, and the work executed with marvelous skill, thus producing a remarkably fine effect.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

The Wife of a Hero.
At the arrival of the Kansas troops, when the thousands of cheering, shouting, eager people were crowding near the coach of Brigadier General Funston and the officers of his regiment, and women held babies up to be kissed by the wife of the greatest American army hero of the day, tears gathered in her soft brown eyes as she said: "And to think that it is all for Fred—my own Fred—and all these people have come to see and hear him!"

While Mrs. Funston is so proud of Brigadier General Funston, it is the man, not his triumphs and glorious fame, that she loves best. Speaking of her courtship, she laughingly said: "Really, he tells me the hardest battle and the longest siege of his life were for my affections. How long? Well, I knew him just five weeks and was engaged to him two days before we were married, and two days after the wedding Fred had to leave for Manila. How well I remember those two days, and how I begged and implored Major General Merriam to let me go along with my husband. You know how rigidly unwavering the army regulations are. It was only by the rarest good fortune that permission was finally given me to sail two weeks later. Maj. General Merriam wanted to know my reasons for going then, and I told him I wanted to get acquainted with my husband, that was all. He thought the reason good enough to allow me to go."

Mrs. Funston has a number of gowns made at Manila, and while here she exhibited one to her friends. The dress consists of a loose fitting bodice and a skirt with a little round train, which, as Mrs. Funston jestingly remarked, reminded her "of a giant duck's tail." The skirt is ungored, and the train is only a narrow width, slightly longer, and somewhat rounded off. The material is of the sheers, silkiest gauze like a woven mist of delicate color, yet it is surprisingly durable. This cloth is made of the fiber of the banana and pineapple plants, and is the only article of pure native skill. The American dressmaker would despair were she to make the beruffled dress of the myriads of flounces which up to date fashion now decrees, of this material, for none of it is woven over twelve or fifteen inches in width. With such filmy material, the underdress is always very elaborate with the gayest colored embroideries, and the entire costume is made of the same material, in different qualities.—Denver Times.

Fashion Notes.
Four-button glaze kid or castor gloves are the thing for street wear.

Word comes from Paris that side combs are no longer worn by up-to-date women.

An artistic toilet is of Bordeaux chev, combined in taffetas in stripes of white and harmonizing shades of purple.

Panne velvet painted in scattered bunches of violets is used for serape waist, and lace waists, too, a still in great demand.

The latest ribbon for sashes and

decorations is a combination of moire and satin in crosswise blocks about three inches wide.

A novelty in furs is a high collar of sable made to fit the neck and finished with long ends of cream chiffon and lace, which fasten down at the waist line with two sable heads.

Ermine toques are really very dainty if trimmed with black tulle rosettes and a waving black algrette. A note of color ever so carefully chosen quite ruins the style of this especial hat.

A novelty in furs is a high collar of sable made to fit the neck and finished with long ends of cream chiffon and lace which fasten down at the waist with two sable heads.

Bangle bracelets are coming in again, only instead of gold dollars or silver dimes, as in the old days, they now jingle with tiny hearts, dogs, enamel clovers for good luck, and any other thing in miniature that one has a fancy for.

Pearl passementerie and white fringe are two of the prettiest materials used for trimming the delicate pink and blue gowns of crepe de chine. A pretty fringe that has the advantage of not catching in everything has the body made of a network of silk thread crossed and the pointed edge, the fringe part, is made of short loops of the silk.

The English cloak dresses are but little decorated, in immense standing collar of sealskin, chinchilla, otter, or other fur, with stole or fichu-shaped ends, forming the sole finish. These high standing collars, with peleries attached, are very fashionable. No second dress is worn beneath these long garments, as, unlike former models, they have the fit and finish of a princess tailor gown.

SORCERY PROFITABLE IN FRANCE.

A Clever Gang's Way of Swindling the Credulous Out of Thousands.

M. Cuvillier, Commissary of Police at Charenton, France, has arrested a gang of pretended sorcerers, who, in less than a twelve-month, have relieved credulous inhabitants of this district of over \$200,000. The chief of the gang, Jean Sorino, known as "the brass man," was first arrested, and it was on his confession that M. Cuvillier was able to raid the sorcerer's headquarters. They were situated in a small detached house, fitted up as a witches' den. Besides the diabolical decorations, incense burners, such a locality, the floors and walls contained trap-doors and other devices of stage trickery likely to appeal to the imagination of believers in occult sciences. Sorino's wife used to officiate as chief witch in these interesting surroundings.

Correspondence seized during the police raid revealed the methods whereby the victims were despoiled. For instance, Madame de Maigen, widow of an officer of high rank, who was suffering from an incurable ailment, applied to Madame Sorino. Her course cost few sensations, but parted with \$2,000. When Madame de Maigen refused to follow the "Hebe Sorino" for an impressive set her a comfortable arrangement to a highly decorated sergeant, she was dazzled by the man, Jean and Paule, introduced as angels, by Madame de Maigen relief on eternal life in Heaven. After predictions they vanished. "Hebe" gave her patient optimism that she had her ailment cured. As soon, however, as she closed, she was awakened with a tremendous clanging of metallic detonations, and looking in place of the angels the physician who was to cure her. The part of the apparatus was efficiently played by M. Jean Ino, clad in a gorgeous suit of sh brass armor surmounted by a magnificent plumed helmet. "Young beautiful person," he would say, "it shall be healed. But some of your low-features who are poor suffer as you do. It is written that thou shalt contribute to relieve their woes. Give 1,000 francs to the lovely Hebe and thou shalt be healed." Madame de Maigen used to pay, and she was then given a third opium pill, which sent her to sleep. When she awoke the foolish woman believed she had been in Heaven, and was thus led to part with \$2,000.

There are other victims, whose names are withheld owing to their social position, who should have known better than to be duped by such a vulgar fraud. Meanwhile, the Brass Jan, Hebe, Rosa and Paule are all in jail, and the police are unearthing further accomplices. The sorcerers, it has been discovered, had branches in Paris, where similar swindles were perpetrated, and it is stated that the victims are not only choice in quality, but are considerable in number.

Blind Persons and Dreams.

Everybody dreams more or less, but have you ever reflected upon the fact that people who are born blind have only "hearing" dreams? In other words, their mental eye sees nothing; they only hear sounds.

This interesting point came up before a scientific society the other day, and it was found that of 200 blind persons who had been questioned on the subject those who had been born without sight and those who had become blind before their fifth year never saw things or faces in their dreams, while all those whose eyesight was destroyed after the seventh year had as vivid dream visions as seeing people.

Blind persons, it may be observed, dream just as frequently as do normal people.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.