



DON'T DEPEND UPON ONE CROP

No farmer should depend upon one crop only. A single crop may be over-taken by wet weather or drought, leaving the farmer with no resources, but with several crops some may be better able to endure wet or dry seasons, as they may be planted earlier or later than the others.

SOME CROPS FOR THE GARDEN.

There are some crops seldom grown in gardens, but which would be appreciated if given a trial. Okra, one of the essentials for certain soups, is grown very easily and with little or no labor. Salsify, or vegetable oyster, which is seeded in the fall, and the various peppers and garnishing plants, will occupy little space. Even the peanut will prove ornamental and worthy of a place. It should have a little lime scattered over the rows, which will assist it to fill out. Even the egg-plant is absent in some gardens.

DISPOSING OF THE DRY COW.

As soon as a cow becomes dry the dairymen usually sell her. He is not willing to keep her if he can procure one that is fresh. When buying the fresh cow he incurs the risk of bringing disease in his herd, and also of procuring a vicious animal. It is better to hold on to a cow that has been tried and found profitable than to replace her with one that is unknown, as the brief space of time saved by the change is but little compared with the difficulties that will be encountered by introducing a new member in the herd.

GROWING FRUIT IN GARDENS.

Every garden should have patches of small fruit. A new strawberry bed should be set out every year, but each bed should be used two years, which gives two beds. The old bed may not be as productive as the new, but the berries will perhaps come a little earlier. Blackberries, raspberries, currants and gooseberries should be in every garden, for once obtained they will remain for several years and give good crops. Small fruits in the garden usually yield larger crops in proportion to area than those grown on a large scale, as the garden is usually rich and receives careful cultivation. If fruit trees are grown the dwarf varieties of pears and the Duke cherries will take but little space. A large amount of fruit can be produced on a rich garden plot.

MARKETING THE BROILERS.

The market for broilers and capons exists during the entire year, but the best prices are obtained in April and May. The old maxim is that young chickens sell best when asparagus is in season. From this time on there will be a greater demand for ducklings. They are usually sold in pairs—about seven pounds per pair. When the early supply comes in prices range from twenty to thirty cents per pound, according to quality, gradually falling after July 1. The majority of the ducklings sent to market are hatched in incubators, large numbers being marketed by some poultry men. A duckling of the Perkin variety should reach the market when eight weeks old. Ducklings consume more food than chicks, but as they grow so much faster the cost of food per pound of meat produced is about the same. Ducklings are hardy, and if well cared for the percentage of loss is small.

STONE BETTER THAN SOD HOUSES.

Much is said pro and con concerning sod houses for hens. I have seen hundreds of them on Long Island forty odd years ago, in fact built one myself and used it while I lived there. They cannot be safely used if built on level ground unless it is sand or porous. If a side hill situation can be obtained so that the pit can be thoroughly drained any kind of soil will do. There are a few things about them which are not known and understood by those intending to use them. First, there must be thorough drainage, as they are always damp. Second, there must be thorough ventilation. Third, the same care must be given as to maintaining cleanliness as is given to other houses.

If large quantities of droppings are allowed to accumulate on the floor and the drainage and ventilation are neglected, one may expect sickness among the fowls and will not often be disappointed. I believe it to be a mistake to obtain heat at the expense of ventilation, and if the three things spoken of are intelligently attended to the sod houses will answer a good purpose in any country where the mercury is habitually much below freezing in the winter. Sod houses are but temporary affairs, and have to be renewed every few years, so that if stone is handy and cheap I would prefer a building of stone if extra precaution against cold has to be taken.—F. H. Hartwell in *American Agriculturist*.

THE FARMER WHO WILL SUCCEED.

There is a saying that may be set down as a truism "that whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well." Try it in any undertaking you engage in and you will find that success is much more certain to be attained by so doing. The man who does all his work thoroughly can always get employment at a good price. He is sought for when those who half do their work can scarcely get work at all. The farmer who keeps his fences in good repair will succeed far better in keeping his neighbors' stock out of his field than he who is careless along this line. As to his own stock, they seldom break over fences for they have never learned how by having bad places in fences to give them a start.

The man who prepares his lands well before planting his crops will have very little trouble in cultivating those crops. I have heard the best of farmers say that the grounds thoroughly prepared means that the crops are half made. Besides, what is of still greater importance, the yield will be larger and the quality better. The shrewd farmer—the farmer who will succeed—will take advantage of his opportunities and profit by them. During all the suitable weather in the winter he will be looking after his fences and grounds, getting them in good condition, the fences in good condition, the grounds in good condition.

up and ready for early ploughing. Then in early spring he will prepare well for the crops. This being done and the seeds properly planted only a very limited amount of work in the way of cultivating the crops will be necessary to gladden his heart at gathering time. It always pays to do everything well. The principle holds good with crops of every kind, and with every kind of work whatever it may be. Try it and see.—T. E. Richey, in *The Epitomist*.

MOISTURE AND SOILS.

The selection of a crop should not depend entirely upon the price of a commodity in market or the distances of transportation, but consideration should be given the character of the soil and the best crops that should be grown thereon for profit. The amount of moisture which a soil may retain after a rain largely influences the crop, and, as some crops are planted early and others late, and as certain plants also escape the dry period of summer by being planted on the approach of fall, such as turnips, due consideration must be given these matters. An English scientist gave years of study to the absorption and retention of moisture by plants, and found that more depended upon the knowledge of the soil on the part of the farmer, and of the conditions affecting crops, so far as each particular plot was concerned, than upon anything else, as no two fields are exactly alike. When the land is well drained it then differs from its previous condition. When rain reaches the ground it makes its way into the spaces between the particles of soil and expels the air as it fills the spaces. As the water goes down and is carried off by the drains the air follows and takes the place of the water. The rain is warmed in its passage through the air and thus brings warmth to the soil, while more warmth is brought by the air. The rain also dissolves the soluble substances of the soil, carries the plant foods down to the roots and regulates the mineral matters that may have a tendency to rise to the surface.

When the land becomes very dry the plant foods are concentrated. There are some substances in the soil that are, to a certain extent, injurious to plants, and when there is a copious rain these substances are diluted and rendered less harmful, or the rain carries them off altogether beyond the influence of the plants. The rain also brings down the nitrates, ammonia and other substances existing in the soil. The farmer who knows something of the amount of moisture which falls upon his land during every month of the year, and who has also formed some idea of the retentive capacity of his soil, better understands how to drain his land and which crops will thrive thereon to advantage. The amount of rain which passes through a soil depends upon the amount of rainfall, the physical condition of the soil and the amount of evaporation which occurs. The evaporation will depend greatly upon the temperature of the soil, the temperature of the air, and whether the land is bare or occupied by a crop. The requirements of a crop depend also upon its various stages of growth. When the production of vegetable tissue is proceeding with the greatest vigor the demand for water is greatest. This period of luxuriant leafy growth is more or less determined by the quantity of water supplied and the moisture or dryness of the season.

There are times when too much or too little water falls, but the farmer cannot control such conditions. Professor Kinch, of England, in a paper before the Chemical Society of London, who made fourteen years' experiments in this direction, finds that when plants arrive at the stage of seed production the presence of much water in the soil is injurious and may influence the quantity and quality of the seed produced. At this stage, when the plant tissues are undergoing a period of transformation, a dry season is desirable in order to insure the best results in plant development. It is not to be supposed that long and continued periods of drought will accomplish the purpose, however, for that would be an extreme in the other direction. On all farms there are wet and dry fields, although both may receive the same amount of rain. Where the farmer can partly control the situation is by tile drainage, for then any excess of moisture is sure to be carried off, while in dry periods the land will gain moisture from below by capillary attraction, the air and warmth freely entering and less evaporation occurring to chill the surface. Deep plowing and sub-soiling may be safely practiced where the drainage is the rule, and there will be sudden freezing and thawing of the plants in early spring. Deep plowing permits of greater retention of moisture by the soil, and the use of the cultivator during the growing seasons, so as to keep the soil covered with an earth mulch, will greatly conduce to regulating the supply of moisture.—*Philadelphia Record*.

SHORT AND USEFUL POINTERS.

It's a wise farmer who knows when he has sufficient land.
It is poor policy to have unnecessary noise around the cow stable.
Fattening poultry is an easy matter when tempting foods are used.
Making the animals comfortable should be the first rule of the stockman.
Cleanliness and a properly balanced ration are the best preventatives of hog cholera.
The cows that pay the best are the ones that receive all they can eat of the proper kind of food.
The sow and her pigs will relish a little shelled corn that has been soaked until it is soft and swollen.
Every neighborhood has a farmer that is a little more progressive than the average. Make an extra effort to be that shining light.
There is generally a larger profit per pound from the small hog and from the large one, provided they are marketed at the proper time.
If you keep hogs and labor under the impression that they prefer sour or decayed food, guard of the idea as soon as possible. It will be money in your pockets.
It's an unfortunate animal that hasn't room enough in the stable in which to stretch itself. You all know how refreshing it is to have a good gap and stretch when you are tired.
Farming is fast becoming a profession. Eighty-five per cent. of the students in agricultural colleges return to the farm. You will hear big things of the coming generations of farmers.



TROUSSEAUX.

Ten gowns, tea jackets and peignoirs galore play an important part in the fashionable trousseaux of the moment. It is an unwise thing for people with very limited allowances when on matrimony bent to invest in many frocks which carry date. It is so much better to put a large outlay into really good undergarments adorned with lace and delicate handwork, peignoirs, petticoats, etc.

DANCING AS EXERCISE.

Dancing has lost some of its vogue, but the medical doctors have come to its rescue and are prescribing it as a useful exercise. It is said that dyspeptic and anemic patients, both men and women, have been advised to waltz at a moderate tempo at least thirty minutes a day.

AN EXTRAVAGANT DRESSER.

The most elaborately and expensively dressed woman in New York society has the bluest blood of the land in her veins, for Mrs. Clarence Mackay is a descendant of Lord Stirling, and Lady Katherine Duer was her great-grandmother. Mrs. Mackay is an acknowledged leader of the most exclusive set in Gotham, and yet her dressing is of primary importance that the multi-tudinous outlets should be unclogged. Where facial eruption exists and the whole attention is devoted to active care of the face, every pore is active and open to afford the escape of clogging impurities. This is all wrong. The feet should be made the gateway for the escape of effete deposits. The temperature of the foot bath should range from 105 to 110 degrees, or as hot as can be endured with comfort. Should there exist chronic profuse and offensive perspiration, add a lump of washing soda to neutralize the acid exudation. The feet should be rubbed briskly to draw the blood down to the extremities. Cool the water before withdrawing the feet, so that they may not become unduly tender. Rub long and thoroughly with a soft towel. Good pedal circulation is a foe to corns and chilblains. Frequent warm foot baths prevent calluses and make walking a pleasure. For beauty and complexion take extraordinary care of the feet.—*Ledger Monthly*.

VALUE OF A FOOT BATH.

To break up a cold, which certainly disfigures the face of beauty, as well as a valuable adjunct in the removal of facial eruptions, the nightly foot bath is invaluable. The largest sweat glands of the body are located in the palms, armpits and soles of the feet. It is of primary importance that the multitudinous outlets should be unclogged. Where facial eruption exists and the whole attention is devoted to active care of the face, every pore is active and open to afford the escape of clogging impurities. This is all wrong. The feet should be made the gateway for the escape of effete deposits. The temperature of the foot bath should range from 105 to 110 degrees, or as hot as can be endured with comfort. Should there exist chronic profuse and offensive perspiration, add a lump of washing soda to neutralize the acid exudation. The feet should be rubbed briskly to draw the blood down to the extremities. Cool the water before withdrawing the feet, so that they may not become unduly tender. Rub long and thoroughly with a soft towel. Good pedal circulation is a foe to corns and chilblains. Frequent warm foot baths prevent calluses and make walking a pleasure. For beauty and complexion take extraordinary care of the feet.—*Ledger Monthly*.

WRITING IN JEWELS.

According to a girl just returned from Paris, the newest freak is to ornament pocket handkerchiefs with blazing monograms, where iridescent paillettes and imitations of precious stones and beads replace the quiet embroidery of cotton or silk. These sparkling gems either harmonize with the shimmer inherent to fashionable gowns, or with the color of the stone which name begins with the initial required. In this wise the name of Rose is fashioned with rubies, Sophia with sapphires, Pauline with pearls, Mabel with mother of pearls or moonstones; Theresa, turquoise; Thomas, topaz; George with garnets. Words of endearment and short mottoes can also be spelt by means of stones as conspicuously on fancy bracelets and pendants. For instance, the sweet familiar word "dear" calls for four stones, diamond, emerald, amethyst, ruby. A great choice of colors will be offered for some of the monograms, and very few or none at all for others, until the research and ingenuity of the workers have concocted a suitable emblematic alphabet. The jeweler's fancy of the month stone could likewise be carried out for birthday handkerchiefs, and suggest an idea for cotton in fancy costumes, where all the brilliancy of a firework display would intermingle with great effect. Here is a very incomplete list of the best known gems, to be improved upon by students: Agate, amber, amethyst, aquamarine, aventurine, beryl and brilliants; coral (pink, red and white), cat's-eye, crystal, cornelian, carnelian, carbuncle, chrysochryse, chrysolite, diamonds, emeralds, geodes, garnets, ivory, jet, Jasper, jacinth, lapis-lazuli, loadstone, moonstone, mother of pearl, opal, onyx, pearls, rubies, strass, sardonyx, sapphires (blue or white), known as baby diamonds; topaz, turquoise and tourmaline.—*New York Commercial Advertiser*.

ADVICE TO SUMMER BATHERS.

This is the time that women ought to utilize in taking swimming lessons, said the instructor in a swimming school a few days ago.
"By beginning now any woman in fair health can become a good swimmer before starting on her summer vacation."
"Women learn to swim more quickly than men, and if they would realize how well they are adapted to float we should have fewer drowning accidents at the summer resorts." We regard the bones in the human body as sinks, and as women as a rule have smaller and lighter bones than men, they float more easily. My advice in case of falling into the water is to keep every part of the body under water except the head, and the water itself will hold one on the surface. The body is light while it is in the water, as any one knows who has watched the bathers at the seashore gently lifted up and down when they stand beyond the breakers, but as soon as any part of the body is lifted out of the water it is heavy and acts as a sinker to push down the submerged part.
"When a woman falls overboard, the first thing she does is to empty her lungs by shouting 'Help!' then she throws up her hands frantically, and by their weight above the head succeeds in keeping it under water, and thus is drowned. If a woman will retain enough

presence of mind to keep down her hands and move herself around gently on her back, she can breathe and float for hours, whether she knows how to swim or not, for women do not need to learn to float; they can do it naturally if they try. Especially is this the case in salt water, which is heavier than the fresh, and so holds up the weight more readily."—*New York Tribune*.

FASHIONS FOR YOUNG GIRLS.

Styles this season in summer frocks for girls from fourteen to eighteen are, if possible, more attractive than ever. They are so dainty, so light in coloring, so girlish, so individual, that the woman who has been brave enough to deny herself an expensive summer wardrobe, will find it requires still more courage than usual to deny a thorough outfit for her young daughter. The shops are full of the most bewitching fabrics, not by any means cheap, many of them, but in coloring and texture far beyond anything that has been seen for a long time. They comprise the figured muslins, the dotted muslins, the plain muslins, and the muslins with lace and tucks woven altogether. The inexpensive laces and ribbons all seem as though they were quite possible even to people of small means, but at once the temptation arises to buy so many that the cost of making up a smart summer gown is equal to that of a winter one. The amount of work is incredible on many of the so-called simple little frocks for young girls. All show a great deal of trimming. Pleatings—accordion, side, and box—are all being used. Ruchings are used as a finish on pleatings, fine lace insertion trims the flounces, and also the upper part of the skirt, and is used on the waist, and while there are many machine laces that are wonderfully like the real hand-work, these are seldom cheap, as many, many yards are required, and the cost of such lace trimming is soon seen to be quite depressing.

The all-over muslins, as they are called, the figured and the flowered designs in muslin, gauzes, and wool, do not require anything like the same amount of trimming, and this is a point to be well kept in mind. The buying of a silk frock for a girl is not an extravagance; indeed, it is often an economy. A silk that is not the very latest fashion, but of some bright, becoming color will wear comparatively little trimming, and will last for a long time without having to be done over, whereas the simple little muslin frocks require to be pressed or laundered constantly in order to keep the freshness which is so essential to their beauty.—*Harper's Bazar*.

WOMEN TO OWN THEIR HOMES.

No other woman's organization in the United States, it is probable, has a constitution so unique as the Woman's Barnyard Auxiliary of the Farmers' Improvement Society of Texas. The preamble expressly states that the society is a business one, founded because "poultry raising, dairying and the rearing of hogs are industries peculiarly adapted to women, and require patient industry, cleanliness and sympathetic attention. All colored women who believe in improvement in those lines, and who will try to succeed with their stock, are eligible to membership. Those who think they are doing well enough, that their stock is good enough, and who know all about stock raising are not wanted in the society."
In her address before the recent Tuskegee Conference, in Alabama, Mrs. Grace Johnson, of Oakland, Tex., president of the auxiliary, stated that the organization has a membership of twenty-five hundred women, who are purchasing fifty thousand acres of land, and that the combined wealth of the body is \$700,000.
"The object of the Farmers' Improvement Society," she said, "is to fight the credit or crop mortgage system, to improve methods of farming, to co-operate in business, to care for the sick, bury the dead, and, last and most important of all, to purchase homes and improve and beautify them."
"In order to aid in the accomplishment of these purposes, the Barnyard Auxiliary aims to study the nature, habits, needs and wants of poultry, hogs, cows and all domestic animals, with a view to improving the stock and putting it with the products of the land on the market in such condition that it shall command a remunerative price."
Mrs. Johnson has observed, she said, an increasing in the spirit of thrift and a growing tendency to obtain homes that are a nearer approach to the ideal than those in former days. She stated that the sections in which most of the branch societies are located passed through in the last year the most disastrous period in the history of the organization. Excessive rains, overflows and insects come against the farmers' interests, and the result was the shortest crop ever known in that part of the country, while north, east and southwest Texas enjoyed unwanted prosperity.

Feathered Experimenters.

When the telegraph was introduced into Norway the bears, on hearing the wires moaning in the wind, thought that the posts were beehives and set to work to root them out of the ground, the woodpeckers thought that the poles were filled with insects and they bored holes in them with their bills. Such illusions disappeared gradually; animals became wiser in time and took the trouble to turn the telegraph to account for their personal uses, says *Tit-Bits*.
Thus, a small bird in Natal, which had been wont to build its nest shaped like a cradle in the branches of trees, built its nest on the first telegraph wires set up and the snakes could not get at it. The new position was found to be so secure that the bird added a convenient little side door to the nest, which had hitherto possessed only a small opening on the side furthest removed from the overhanging branch.
A Brazilian bird also builds its heavy nest of earth on the telegraph wires. The artful parrots take a seeming delight in unting the currents between different wires and also in breaking the porcelain cups on which wires rest. Spiders cover the wires with their webs and thereby great confusion is often wrought in the telegraph system.

Ancient Bookkeeping Methods.

The collection of Assyrian and Babylonian records at the British Museum has revealed more of the domestic life of people who lived 5,000 years ago than is known in the case of our own countrymen 1,000 years ago. Such was the opinion expressed by Mr. W. St. Chad Boscawen when he explained these relics to an interested audience. The clay bricks and cylinders beneath the glass cases were covered with characters testifying to a completely organized system of justice, marriage, divorce, and commerce. The bookkeeping of 5,000 years ago was shown to be wonderfully accurate: A curious form of record is that preserved in the form of baked clay tablets, which were inclosed in clay envelopes also inscribed with the terms of the transaction, so that a double record provided against the possibilities of damage. The "open and closed evidence" spoken of by Jeremiah is supposed to refer to this system. The practice of recording on a brick the name of the king, of the building, and of the city in which it was being erected had the advantage in modern days that an odd brick may become the means of disinterring a city hitherto unknown.—*London Chronicle*.

Sugar From Sawdust.

A patent for the manufacture of glucose sugar has been granted in London to a resident in Germany, says the *London Pall Mall Gazette*. The process is as follows: "Fermentable sugar is obtained by heating sawdust with sulphuric acid; then compressing the mixture and boiling the pressed mass with water. The solution thus obtained is ready for treatment in the usual manner."

LUMINOUS PAINTS.

Their Use Rather Limited—Their Preparation Difficult.

Paints containing a mineral possessing phosphorescent qualities are sometimes used on match safes, to enable one to find the latter in the dark. A faint luminosity is given off by objects which are coated with such paints, and which have previously been exposed to strong daylight. Doctors' doorplates, signposts at country cross-roads and substitutes for lamps in powder factories are occasionally prepared in this manner. When luminous paint is put on cardboard, letters or fanciful designs may be cut out of the latter, to form inscriptions or produce spectacular effects. The mineral most commonly employed in the preparation of luminous paint is sulphide of barium. It is necessary to prepare it in a special manner, however, in order to secure the desired efficiency. One part of the operation is calcining, and this must be conducted in such a way that the temperature can be regulated. These features of the process are trade secrets, which the manufacturers of these paints are unwilling to make public, although they say that even with full instructions a novice is not likely to succeed at first.

It is well to bear in mind that the principle on which these substances work is that they merely give out light which has already been absorbed. Hence it is necessary to expose them afresh every day to strong daylight (not sunlight, necessarily). Even then the light grows fainter and fainter as the hours pass, so that in the morning it is not so strong as in the early evening.

Sulphide of barium is only one of several substances that possess the requisite qualities, but the others present even greater difficulties. The salt just named is the one commonly used by manufacturers of luminous paint.

Hiram Maxim and the British Scientist.

"Last February," said the engineer, who had passed the winter in London, "Hiram Maxim was invited to read a paper on his rapid-fire gun at the annual meeting of a prominent English scientific society. He thought it would be an interesting feature if he had one of his guns on the platform, pointing out the parts as he talked about them, and finally, by way of climax, firing the gun. Accordingly he took an ordinary hot-water boiler, commonly used with kitchen ranges, knocked out one end, filled the boiler with sand and placed it so that when the gun was fired the bullets would be embedded in the sand so do no damage either to the furniture or the honorable scientists themselves.

Maxim's remarks received close attention. Among other things he dwelt at considerable length upon the facility with which his gun could be transported. Reaching the end of his lecture, he fired the gun, and then said he would be pleased to answer any questions.

"A leading light of British scientific circles slowly arose and said, 'Does it not seem to you, Mr. Maxim, that the transportation of the—bullet receiver would under certain conditions be a matter attendant with considerable difficulty?' Maxim arose to the occasion grandly. 'No, no,' he explained, 'these bullet receivers are built in three places and are quite easily taken apart and packed on mule back.'

"To the credit of British humor let it be said that all of those present laughed loud and heartily some time within the next three days except the one who swore steadily, and Hiram Maxim and Sir Percival Bullet-Receiver, as he is now called, never speak as they pass by."—*New York Sun*.

SUITED TO A TEE.

Fox (to bear)—Come over to-morrow and we'll play a game of golf on the links.
Bear—All right. I don't know what the game is, but if there's any job you can put up on the lynx I'm in with you.—*Boston Herald*.

INTRICACIES OF THE DISMAL LIFE.

"There are two kinds of weather-pessimists."
"Weather pessimists?"
"Yes; people who feel gloomy because the sun shines and people who feel gloomy because the sun doesn't shine."

PLAYFUL HENRY.

"Henry," exclaimed Mrs. Peckham, "you're not half a man! You let everybody impose upon you! Why don't you stand up for your rights?"
"My dear," he meekly replied, "that is just what I do every day. You know I always come home in the street car." By lively dodging he managed to get out unscathed.—*Chicago Record-Herald*.

WHAT CONCERNED HER MOST.

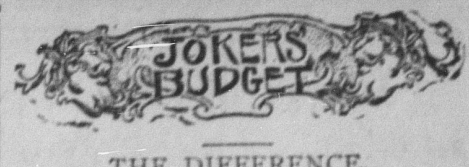
"Don't you think that if I had lived in the days of old I would have made a good knight?" asked the young man who had been talking ancient history from 8 to 11 p. m.
"I don't care so much what you would have made then," wearily observed the young lady, "but you might see what kind of a good knight you can make right now."—*Baltimore American*.

ALL MARRIAGES ARE LOVE MARRIAGES.

"Was it a love marriage, do you think?"
"Certainly. All marriages are love marriages."
"Isn't that rather a sweeping statement?"
"Not at all. There is love of adventure, you know, love of luxury, love of advertising, and various other kinds of love. There is no need of going into details when one speaks of a love marriage."—*Chicago Post*.

Two Points of View.

A farmer drifted into a hardware store at Mulhall and was asked by the manager: "Don't you want to buy a bicycle to ride around your farm on? They're cheap now. Can give you one for \$35."
"I'd sooner put \$35 into a cow," said the farmer.
"But think," said the manager, "how foolish you would look riding around town on a cow."
"Oh, I don't know," said the farmer; "no more foolish, perhaps, than I would milking a bicycle."—*Kansas City Journal*.



THE DIFFERENCE.

An optimist, I take it, is a simple, peaceful man.
Who thinks it safe and pleasant just to travel with the plan;
A pessimist, however, always goes against the grain,
And imitates the billy goat who tried to butt the train.
—*Chicago Record-Herald*.

CULINARY.

"There are only two kinds of cooks."
"Fox instance?"
"Those that can't cook and will cook—and those that can cook and won't."

EASY EFFORT.

"I hear that you've been hunting."
"Yes."
"Bag anything?"
"Nothing but my trousers."—*Detroit Free Press*.

TOO LATE.

He—Your father ought to know what I have to say to him. I have been coming here so long.
She—I am afraid he has given up all hope.

INCOMPATIBLE.

He—"Can't you love me and be my friend at the same time?"
She—"Hardly. There is honor among friends, but I can do as I please when I love you."

NO GENTLEMAN.

"Say, pop!" said Willie, "is 'gent' short for 'gentleman'?"
"Yes, my boy," replied the old man; "a 'gent' is far short of a gentleman."—*Philadelphia Record*.

A NEIGHBORLY DISTANCE.

First Neighbor—Well, my daughter doesn't play the piano any worse than your son writes poetry.
Second Ditto—Perhaps not, but it can be heard so much farther.

SUBURBAN ELEGANCE.

Mrs. Jones—Does your husband travel?
Mrs. Brown—Oh, no; he carries his dress-suit case to town every day to bring back our meat and vegetables in.—*Chicago Record*.

HER WORRY.

He—You know, if you worry about every little thing, it's bound to affect your health.
His Wife—Yes, I know. That's one of the things I worry about.—*Brooklyn Life*.

A HOPELESS CASE.

"I believe Sprockett is going 'daffy' over his bicycle."
"Believe so myself. Why, he actually had the horns erased from his watch and miles substituted. Looks just like a cyclistometer."—*Chicago News*.

HE DRAWS.

"What does the man next door do?" asked the Assessor. "There's nobody at home."
"My husband says he a bureau drawer. He sits in one of the city bureaus and draws a salary."—*Philadelphia Times*.

GUESSED RIGHT.

"Whom do you consider the greatest of all poets?" asked the literary young woman.
"Shakespeare," answered Mr. Cumrox, without hesitation. "I understand that he made a lot of money."—*Washington Star*.

SUITED TO A TEE.

Fox (to bear)—Come over to-morrow and we'll play a game of golf on the links.
Bear—All right. I don't know what the game is, but if there's any job you can put up on the lynx I'm in with you.—*Boston Herald*.

INTRICACIES OF THE DISMAL LIFE.

"There are two kinds of weather-pessimists."
"Weather pessimists?"
"Yes; people who feel gloomy because the sun shines and people who feel gloomy because the sun doesn't shine."

PLAYFUL HENRY.

"Henry," exclaimed Mrs. Peckham, "you're not half a man! You let everybody impose upon you! Why don't you stand up for your rights?"
"My dear," he meekly replied, "that is just what I do every day. You know I always come home in the street car." By lively dodging he managed to get out unscathed.—*Chicago Record-Herald*.

WHAT CONCERNED HER MOST.

"Don't you think that if I had lived in the days of old I would have made a good knight?" asked the young man who had been talking ancient history from 8 to 11 p. m.
"I don't care so much what you would have made then," wearily observed the young lady, "but you might see what kind of a good knight you can make right now."—*Baltimore American*.

ALL MARRIAGES ARE LOVE MARRIAGES.

"Was it a love marriage, do you think?"
"Certainly. All marriages are love marriages."
"Isn't that rather a sweeping statement?"
"Not at all. There is love of adventure, you know, love of luxury, love of advertising, and various other kinds of love. There is no need of going into details when one speaks of a love marriage."—*Chicago Post*.

Two Points of View.

A farmer drifted into a hardware store at Mulhall and was asked by the manager: "Don't you want to buy a bicycle to ride around your farm on? They're cheap now. Can give you one for \$35."
"I'd sooner put \$35 into a cow," said the farmer.
"But think," said the manager, "how foolish you would look riding around town on a cow."
"Oh, I don't know," said the farmer; "no more foolish, perhaps, than I would milking a bicycle."—*Kansas City Journal*.