



Farm and Garden

FARM NOTES.

The overgrown horse is seldom a durable one.

Eggs intended for hatching should not be kept over four weeks. They must be turned every day or two.

It will require seven pound of skim milk to equal one pound of lean beef for flesh-forming qualities.

One dollar per head is the average cost of keeping a fowl a year, and the same amount is a fair estimate of the profits.

Hens will enjoy a change of diet and will do better in consequence.

To keep on kicking and grumbling is easy enough. There will always be something not quite right. But what's the use of spoiling what is good by spreading the bad over it.

The hen, that lays three eggs a week will pay double the profit of one that produces but two eggs.

A dairy cow is a machine that turns feed into milk and cream.

Give your birds plenty of green food in almost any form. They like it and will tell you so by the egg basket and flavor of eggs, also.

Most of us are very particular about the source of our well and spring water for our own drinking. How about that consumed by the live stock?

The community without a rural telephone service is decidedly behind the times. No investment pays better.

Grain the ewes twice a day; give hay in the morning, shredded fodder at noon, and feed rack at night.

FEED CROPS FOR THE COWS.

The well-known dairy farmer, Mr. W. F. McSarran, in a recent address to dairymen on growing feed crops for cows said:

Theoretically, when I feed my cows a full amount of good corn silage and alfalfa hay my milk yield should be satisfactory, but actually, I find that my kind of cows will increase their milk, giving if I add some corn meal to the bill of fare, and increase still more if in addition I furnish about two pounds per day of oil meal per cow. Hence while I am personally very much in favor of the farmer-dairymen growing feed crops to the fullest extent of proven profit, endeavoring to do so myself, yet to all I grow I never hesitate to bring in as supplementary by purchase any feed needed and which my cows can use at a profit to me.

As there are wide differences in the feeds of commerce so there are also in our grains, hays and fodders, and it is quite possible that the average farmer's first duty in the home production of feed crops is to improve his standard crops to their maximum feed value before he makes extensive attempts to experimentation with new candidates for his favor. We may cut our clover or timothy too soon or too late to secure its full or its best nutritive elements. The simple curing of hay marks a very wide difference in quality between very good and very bad.

I have no manner of doubt that a ton of clover hay, being all one acre could produce, is of materially less feeding worth than a ton from an acre having grown a three ton crop, all conditions of cutting and curing in both cases being equal. I know that when I secure a crop of one hundred bushels of corn per acre I have more than twice as much feed as I have if I am so unfortunate as to get but fifty bushels per acre.

For the production of crops that carry their feeding elements in the most perfect proportions and conditions, a properly balanced soil ration and soil condition are unquestionably necessary.

Pre-eminently the greatest feeding crop of America and the one that should receive the most commanding position in the world in animal husbandry, is our incomparable corn. It is almost wholly indigenous to all parts of the United States as weeds.

PEA FOWL.

Can you tell me anything of the mating habits of peafowl? I have a pair, bought last spring; the hen has laid eggs—at all events she has hatched a brood. Is it possible that my pair are not properly mated? They are three years old at least.—A. Latrop. (Pea fowl are quite like turkeys in their habits; if you have a male and female, they will mate in due time; they do not always produce a brood each season, some never produce a brood. You must watch them next spring and see where the hen makes her nest. She will most likely hide it away where it will be difficult to find it. Keep an eye on her; if the nest is located, let the eggs stay where she lays them; if she lays over 15 in the nest (which is quite unlikely, take some of them away and put under a chicken hen; let the pea hen hatch the rest. When she becomes broody, place food and water every day close to her nest so she can have plenty to eat when she comes from the nest. Other than

this do not bother her. If no eggs are laid, another season get another hen; the one you have may not be a producer.)—Country Gentleman.

FEED FOR WINTER EGGS.

In the matter of feeding for eggs in winter three things must be constantly borne in mind. First, the hens must be kept busy a good part of the day; second, they must be given a balanced egg ration with due regard to variety of feed; third, they must have plenty of charcoal, oyster shells and grit with some green stuff or clover hay occasionally. The profitable hen is the one that is busy on a cold day. Feed them a heavy, warm mash early in the morning so they will stand around all drawn up and they are not apt to get on the nest to lay. Rather scatter some grain, wheat, oats, or even cracked corn in litter or trash where they will be compelled to scratch for every grain. It is a fowl's nature to scratch, and she will scratch a good while to get her breakfast and be happy and sing in doing it. It is with hens as with people, better to warm up by exercises than by taking "something hot" in the stomach.—Progressive Farmer

GREEN CUT BONE.

One pound of cut bone for a dozen hens once a day, which should not cost over one cent a pound, will produce more eggs than five times as much grain, because the cut bone is complete in egg-making substances, while the grain is largely deficient in many respects. Some persons affirm that it does not pay to procure a bonecutter for small flocks. That is a mistake. Bone-cutters are now cheaper than many ordinary garden tools, and are strong, durable and efficient. The cost of the bonecutter is soon regained in the increased number of eggs laid. It is almost indispensable to success, no matter how small the flock, for no one should keep a flock unless fully determined to secure the largest profit possible. The great saving of bones and meat and the utilization of materials that could not be appropriated as food for fowls without their use have given green bone-cutters a place on all well-regulated farms. They are sold at from \$5 to \$10, a price which places them within the reach of all, and they have added to the profits of poultrymen, farmers, butchers and poultry supply houses.—Mirror and Farmer.

SALT FOR SHEEP.

A series of experiments recently conducted in France go to show that sheep do need salt. One bunch that was given half an ounce each gained four pounds and a fraction more than the bunch that had no salt. The salted sheep had almost two pounds more wool, which was of a finer quality. Half an ounce of salt gave much better results than did three-fourths of an ounce.

Have little salt troughs fastened to trees or posts scattered through the pastures and keep them filled with salt in which is mixed turpentine, one tablespoonful to each quart of salt. Keep your troughs filled so that the sheep can get to them whenever they choose (and you will find that every day) and lick a little salt. The odor or smell of the turpentine will be on their noses, consequently the grass will not bother or sting them.—Weekly Witness.

BUSY ON THE FARM.

There is small excuse for being idle on the farm. No matter how bad the weather, the man who manages well will always find something for his hands and himself to do in the barn or the shed or the shop—and every farm should have a shop. There will be harness to oil or ladders to make or mend, or axes to grind or saws to sharpen, or a dozen and one things to do to have tools and utensils ready for bright days—plenty to do besides whittling and whistling.—Farmer's Home Journal.

HORSEFLESH CONSUMPTION.

Horseflesh is very generally advertised in the German newspapers, especially in those of the large industrial centres, and most German cities have at least one market which makes it a specialty, claiming for it a higher percentage of nourishment than that of either beef, veal, mutton or pork.—American Cultivator.

CURE FOR CHOKING.

When cattle choke, you had best grease a piece of rubber hose and use it to force the obstruction down the throat of the choking animal. The hollow tube admits the air, and the pliancy of the rubber allows it to conform to the slope of the throat.—Farmer's Home Journal.

One hundred and fifty fremen are required on some of the Atlantic liners.

A Series of Child Murders Revives the Discussion of Capital Punishment.

A street demonstration in Paris always means so much more than it does anywhere else, and for this reason we must give a peculiar significance to the infuriated crowd that filled the Place de la Republique the other day and demanded vengeance upon Solleillant, who murdered a twelve-year-old girl. Paris crowds are apt to do something quite different from their original intent, because the government is always considered as the fons et origo of all calamities, from a foreign war clear down the scale to a crop failure. For that reason the police look with suspicion upon the "two or three gathered together" and persuade them to move on before they get to the vociferous stage, which is an early one.

But this particular crowd was moved by a worthy sentiment. A little girl had been horribly murdered and the death sentence upon the murderer had been commuted. The atrocity which so excited the good people of the Faubourgs was not an isolated one. There had been a series of these horrors comparable only with those that have disgraced New York. Until the arrest of Solleillant the police had been helpless. Children had been kept from the streets after nightfall from fear of a fiend who might well have been the incarnated lust and cruelty of the age. Paris was suffering from one of those epidemics of abnormal and purposeless crime which form the night side of civilization.

No one knows for how many of these tragedies Solleillant was responsible, but every one knows that he certainly killed little Martha Erberding. There is no manner of doubt about that, and there is no need to enlarge upon the accompanying atrocities, of which even a man eating tiger would be ashamed. If he had been promptly decapitated, as would have been done a year or two ago, the agonized motherhood of Paris would have been appeased, for after all you can do no more to a man than kill him. But Solleillant was reprieved by President Fallieres and his sentence commuted to one of penal servitude for life. Then Paris protested, without, we may suppose, any due realization that penal servitude in France is a fate which only the extreme of human depravity could possibly deserve.

The demonstrations began in a small way and at several different points. But the sections soon converged and a vast crowd moved toward the Place de la Republique. There were cries of "Death to Solleillant!" and then some impetuous person shouted "Down with Fallieres," and of course the police began to get busy. Far smaller crowds have put up barricades and for less reason. The concourse was led by a woman who had a little girl upon her shoulders, and such leadership appealed to the crowd as being in the eternal fitness of things. Appearances began to be ugly, and although the rapidly arriving police reserves broke up the crowd again and again, it was continually reforming until its energy was finally exhausted. Then every one went home.

Capital punishment is, of course, at an end in France, and no number of demonstrations can re-establish it. Evolution does not move backward and it is the general opinion that the guillotine will never again be seen on the Place de la Republique or anywhere else. It will be no loss, its spectre threw a shadow over the city, while so far from being a warning to the evil-disposed, the ill-omened Place became a gathering ground for the human effluvia that floats to and fro in the social sewers of the French capital and that esteems every man in proportion to his criminality and his bravado. If executions had been in private, it may be that Paris would not have sickened of them so soon. Here in France every one who has eyes to see knows exactly what capital punishment means, and now that the satanic thing has been done away with there is little likelihood of its revival.

The whole question of criminality must come to the front in Paris very soon—perhaps elsewhere also. The police can no longer stamp it out of sight or pen it up in the dark corners into which the average citizen never looks. Crime is now rampant, no longer in the least abashed, in the quarters of bourgeois respectability, and rejoicing in the facilities of the well-lighted boulevard. The Apache is the master of the situation. Since his victims no longer come to him in his own parlous, he goes to them, and he asks for no more than an undisturbed minute to accomplish his ends. The illumination of the great boulevards encourages him rather than the reverse. He helps himself to the facilities of civilization in order that he may defy it. The thug of other countries resorts to violence when all else fails. With the Parisian Apache violence comes first as a convenient preliminary to robbery, and a few francs of loose change are sufficient recompense for the trouble of a knife thrust. As a result, the prudent Parisian goes armed. It is

against the law and permits are not easy to get, but unless occasion arises to use the revolver no one will ever know that it is there, and if occasion does arise its presence will be justified.

The police also go armed, indeed, doubly armed, as becomes those whose quarrel is just. They carry the service revolver, which must be shown every day, and all empty shells or chambers rigorously accounted for. But there are occasions when the Paris policeman likes to fire a shot or two without the necessity for explaining the why and the wherefore, and for this reason he carries his own revolver that he can use when he wishes to keep the service weapon charged and immaculate. Small blame to him. The skulking figure in the dark doorway is just as real a threat to human life as that same figure in active fight with knife or sandbag, and the sandbag and the dead body of an Apache will occasion far less concern to the authorities than the depredation of a live one. In such cases official inquiry is perfunctory.

Of course, everybody says that something must be done. M. Toumy, the chief of police, says so, although his ideas of what this should be are a little hazy. The good man seems to think that the prisons are too comfortable, which shows what strange ideas of comfort some people have. The whole question will probably be raised in the Chambers, which is not a cheering prospect for the citizen, however, tenaciously he may cling to the hopeful delusion that the epitome of all earthly wisdom is to be found in the "representatives of the people."—St. Martin, in the San Francisco Argonaut.

Is There Water on the Moon?

Some striking photographs made by Prof. W. H. Pickering of the volcanoes in the Hawaiian Islands serve to point out certain characteristics which they have in common with the craters on the moon. One photograph of a long crack, extending some miles, in the lava crust at Hawaii serves to emphasize Prof. Pickering's belief that water or water vapor exists on the moon, and by irrigating cracks on the moon's surface gives rise to vegetation in them, just as trees and shrubs have sprung up in the Hawaiian lava crack. In studying Erastosthenes in 1904, Prof. Pickering found its interior seamed with numerous fine cracks. Watching some of these cracks soon after the sun arose on them he was able to see them broaden out and change gradually into canals. It is his belief that the cracks gave out water vapor, which fertilized the vegetation along their sides and in their neighborhood, and that it was the growth of this vegetation which produced the appearance of a canal. A further inference is that the canals on Mars, which become more clearly visible at some periods of the year, owing to the melting of the Martian polar ice cap and the flooding of the waterways, are similar cracks on the surface of Mars. Cracks of the kind occur on the moon. The largest of them is that known as Sirealis, which is 400 miles in length. It is possible also that they exist on the earth, though they are not readily discernible. It has sometimes been supposed that terrestrial volcanoes lie along subterranean cracks.—Scientific American.

Moral Snobbery.

One of the commonest forms of snobishness is not social at all, but moral. Many people are moral snobs who have a grain of social ambition. When Napoleon said, "I am above morality," he not only gave expression to what some great people have secretly thought about themselves, but to what thousands of their small admirers have openly said of them. They do not reflect, perhaps, as they justify their heroes, that to declare any one in the world above morality is to say that morality has ceased to exist, has been found out and exploded, nothing remaining but some utilitarian rules suitable for the guidance of mediocre minds. The moral law must be supreme or nowhere. Yet this, as it seems to us, self-evident proposition is by no means easy to apply. Most of us feel that for any one to lay too much stress upon the moral shortcomings of a great man is a sign of a small mind, or at least of a defective education.

We do not habitually speak of Nelson in respect of Lady Hamilton, of Burns in respect of his marriage, of Bacon in the matter of his proved corruption, of Coleridge in connection with his opium habit, nor of Charles Lamb in his cups, as we should speak of Smith, Brown and Robinson in like circumstances. Must we then admit ourselves to be moral snobs? The prima-facie evidence is very much against us.—London Spectator.

A Mushroom Testing Station.

A singular and very interesting and useful institution has been established in the little city of Tarare, near Lyons, France. It is a mycological bureau, where expert judgment is furnished concerning mushrooms brought to it for examination. The country round Tarare abounds with mushrooms, many of which are poisonous. Since the establishment of the bureau nobody buys mushrooms which do not carry its ticket of identification and guarantee, and all the country people from miles around bring their mushrooms for examination. One surprising result has been the discovery of scores of excellent edible mushrooms, which before nobody dared to touch.—Youth's Companion.

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STORY OF PLANETARY PHASES

The Earth in That Stage When the Body First Acquires a Physiognomy of its Own.

Though we cannot in our own ephemeral life watch any planet pass through these several phases of its career, we can get a good view of the process by studying the present conditions of the various planets and piecing together the information we thus obtain. It is, in the end, as conclusive as in botany would be the study of a wood by carefully noting the condition of the individual trees in their various growths from seedling to patriarch. Thus, at the present moment, in stage 2 are found Neptune, Uranus, Saturn and Jupiter; in stage 4, the earth; in stage 5, Mars; and in stage 6, the moon and the larger satellites of the other planets.

Each planet's internal heat was its initial motive power, and cooling the mode by which this energy worked, first to the fashioning of its surface, and then to all evolution upon it. While still in the molten state the mass was a seething chaos but little differentiated from any other equal agglomeration of matter. Yet even here the several substances had begun to segregate, the heavier falling to the bottom, the lighter rising to the top.

With stage 3 we enter the part of a planet's career with which, on our earth, geology is concerned. Though specifically the story only of our earth, that science has analogues elsewhere, and to be best understood needs to be generically considered. Local as many earth-happenings are, with increasing light from the heavens it is becoming clear that the main events are of cosmic occasioning, and that astronomical cause presides over their manifestations. Initial instance of planetary action occurs at the first stage of the earth's history to which geology mounts back—that in which a crust began to form over the molten mass. The liquid metal in a furnace upon which the solidifying slag has begun to float gives us an idea of this early state of things. Our metamorphic rocks were in action akin to the furnace slag, rising to the surface because of their lightness. Proof of this lies in their present density, which is only about one-half of the average density of the earth, 2.7 times that of water instead of 5.5. Their constitution furnishes further evidence that such they were. The gneiss, mica and hornblende of which they are composed show by their crystalline form that they cooled from a once molten state, and their foliation indicates that they were crumpled and recrystallized in the process.

In stage 3 the body first acquires a physiognomy of its own. Up to then it is a chaotic mass as unstable and shifting as clouds in the sky; but at the advent of surface solidification its features take form—a form they are in fundamentals ever afterward to keep. Our knowledge of this and the two subsequent stages 4 and 5 is derived from study of three planets of our system, the earth, the moon and Mars. The others contribute nothing to our information of these mid-phases, either because, like Mercury and Venus, they are too advanced, or because, like the major planets, Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune, they are not advanced enough.—From Dr. Percival Lowell's "Mars as the Abode of Life," in The Century.

THE WHY OF THE FLY. Instead of strolling through some sunlit dell Or musing by the ocean's foam-flecked deep, Why does a fly prefer to crawl Upon the face of one who tries to sleep?—Lippincott

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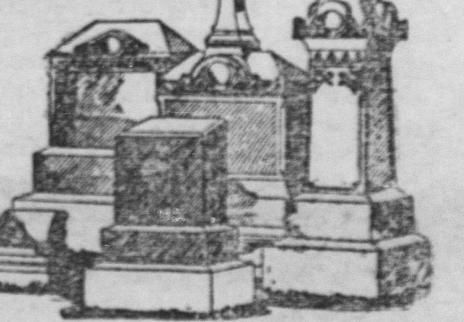
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