

# RURAL TOPICS

## FARM NOTES.

Keep the cattle out of wet, mucky pastures unless you want to lose some of the weaker ones. The marsh should be saved for spring and summer when other pastures are not at their best, and the cattle should be kept on high land at this season.

The secret of raising a uniform bunch of pigs is to keep each litter by itself, so that there can be absolutely no monopoly of the feed. It is true that this involves some labor in feeding and also in fencing, but the owner will be paid handsomely for the labor when he markets the bunch.

Should the calf seem not to thrive, give it half a pint of wheat bran, with a pinch of salt scalded with a teacupful of water. Give this with the usual amount of milk, and always keep some corn, oats and hay with pure water handy.

For sheep in milk the best feed is whole corn and oats, equal weight, giving all the animal will eat up clean. To add succulence to the feed, yellow sweet turnips sliced fine are also good. Alfalfa hay should also be given in abundance.

Partial paralysis in pigs may be treated successfully in some cases by dosing with Epsom salts, allowing one ounce to each animal, following with a desiccated cod liver oil, 10 grains phosphate of lime and two drops nuxvomica as a physic, given twice a day for several weeks.

For the colt, mare's milk is best, but it can be raised on cow's milk if it is rightly managed. The mare's milk being thinner and sweeter than cow's milk, the latter should be thinned and sweetened.

An experienced farmer says that the following is an excellent remedy for rheumatism in horses: Dissolve 2 drams carbonate of potash in a pint of water and mix it with feed two or three times a day until the animal gets well. Apply equal parts alcohol and water to affected joints twice a day.

Constitution is the forerunner of all diseases and disorders in live stock. Keep the bowels open by feeding an abundance of green feed, of giving liberal doses of Epsom salts or raw linseed oil.

## THE CROSS-BREEDING OF SHEEP.

No interest in the growing and breeding of farm animals demands an exercise of more discriminating judgment and skill than the judicious cross-breeding of a flock of sheep. An inexperienced breeder is often inclined to think he can combine the excellences of various breeds in a perfect animal, but he is greatly mistaken if he supposes that early maturity, aptitude for fattening, size, symmetry, great length of wool and extreme fineness may be combined in one animal.

Breeds may be greatly improved by judicious crossing, and a few temporary advantages may be gained by an admixture of blood; but if it is desired to make the characteristic permanent, the fundamental rules of breeding must be observed if you gain an affinity or harmony of qualities.

The South Down and fine wool sheep may be crossed without doing violence to any established rule of breeding. The fineness of the fleece may be decreased, but the quantity will be enhanced and much improvement may be achieved in size. The long wool and the fine wool cannot be crossed with any permanent degree of success.

One crossing is not sufficient to change the character of a flock, but if success is insured the system must be pursued until the qualities have become fixed or permanent. Breeders generally agree that the ram exerts the most influence in giving his character of wool to the progeny and that the internal form and construction is more dependent upon the dam. This forms an important rule for the guidance of the breeder. When the cross-breeding is between families of the same breed, the families should be as distinct as possible. Sheep of the same breed that originate in different districts of the same country are endowed with different qualities, and these may be combined in a favorable manner.—W. M. K., in the Epitomist.

## MONEY IN EGGS.

There has not been a season for many years when the prices of eggs have held up as they have recently. In July and August it is not usual for the farmer to receive thirty cents per dozen for eggs, to say nothing of the prices of eggs that are assorted and packed in boxes for fancy trade. The large crops of grain and potatoes that are being raised this year over the whole country should induce farmers to keep larger flocks. Eggs are selling for a higher price, proportionately, than any other article produced on the farm. Not only is grain going to be cheaper, from the present outlook, but also the vegetables that the farmers will have that cannot be shipped or utilized on the family table, and they can be turned into money through the egg market. The prices of beef are so high that many housewives prefer poultry to beef and the stock that is not profitable can be converted into cash.

There now exists an excellent opportunity for poultrymen to find if poultry really pays. They must never forget, however, that the proper management and the comforts in the fowls must always be taken into consideration when estimating the profits and loss.—Farmers' Home Journal.

## WOMEN AND POULTRY.

We can point to quite a number of women who have increased the number of their fowls with a view to assisting themselves during the dull times, the object being to have money come in sooner than by relying on something requiring a longer period for remunerating them. Eggs are daily products and enable the farmer to procure cash either in small or large sums according to his management. Women can assist materially in attending to some of the details of management, although they cannot do hard work in the poultry house and yards. They are more successful in raising chicks than men because they are more patient and do not overlook the small matters. If there have been a large number of pullets hatched it would no doubt pay to keep them all winter if the accommodations will permit in order to help through the cold weather. The greatest success of farmers with poultry is when their wives assist by taking an interest in large numbers, but the farmers should not leave the heavy duties to be attended to by their wives.—Weekly Witness.

## THOROUGHbred SADDLE HORSES

Breeders of saddle horses who intend to introduce thoroughbred blood to improve their stock, can not be too critical. There are some thoroughbreds almost as poorly fitted for improving saddle horses as would be "woods colts." They may lack the proper form, or the disposition or the flexible action of the limbs and joints. Besides having these, they may be so purely unstylish as to wholly disqualify. The old saddle families were built on the right kind of thoroughbreds and, as far as it is possible, breeders will do well to concentrate and bring together strains bearing the greatest amount of such blood.

Many thoroughbred mares are being bred to registered saddle stallions and we do not say it is unwise to do this, with the precautions mentioned. Before incorporating a filly of this kind of breeding into a herd she should be fully looked over to see what effect the outcross has had. If she is not a good type discard her.—Farmer's Home Journal.

## PREPARATION OF THE SOIL.

Quite as much depends upon the proper preparation of the soil for the best development of plants as the use of fertilizers. A case in point is that of an intelligent Missouri farmer who lived in a section where the idea prevailed that wheat could not be profitably grown there. He had tried to raise wheat on his farm in the old, rough way, and could get but ten or twelve bushels per acre. He visited the State experiment station at a time when a plot of ground was being prepared for wheat and became so impressed with their thorough methods of soil preparation that he prepared a field on his farm in the same way, and from this harvested a crop of 35 bushels of good wheat per acre, the only fertilizer used being stable manure and a light application of lime.—Epitomist.

## OVERPRODUCTION OF POULTRY.

It has been pretty well proven that the past is the safest guide to the future, and if we may judge by the way the demand has been increasing and the way prices of poultry and eggs have been advancing the past few years, there certainly is no danger of an oversupply. With all the new plans and inventions that have been given us by modern scientific methods, and with all the stimulus of good prices the year round, we have not yet been able to keep pace with the demand, for the reason that the demand has been, and still is increasing even more rapidly than the supply. So the farmer who has in mind the worthy idea of increasing the size of his poultry operations, can do so with perfect confidence in the stability of prices for poultry and eggs.—Epitomist.

## KAFFIR CORN TESTS.

That Kaffir corn and milo maize are not properly appreciated in feed trade is the conclusion of the Texas station in feeding tests. These grains contain considerable less fat or oil than corn land in other constituents, the differences are not important. The protein and fat of Kaffir corn are much more easily digested than the same constituents in Indian corn. In a feeding test the Kaffir corn produced greater gains than milo maize, with Indian corn in third place.—Epitomist.

There are nearly 50 clocks on the giant ocean liner Lusitania, controlled by a master clock in the chart-house.

Aparagus had its origin in Europe and temperature Western Asia.

# THE HOLD-UP!



—Week's cleverest cartoon, from the Atlanta Constitution.

## Congress Will Make the Ceremonies Attending the Inauguration of President Taft and Vice-President Sherman Solemn and Dignified.

Washington, D. C.—The joint committee of the two houses of Congress purpose to make the ceremonies attending the actual inauguration of President Taft and Vice-President Sherman as solemn and dignified as befits so important an event. Joy and music and the spirit of festivity will mark the inaugural parade, and the scenes along the streets will be as brilliant as ever, but in the Capitol and on the inaugural stand erected on its east front solemnity and dignity will dominate. The details are already perfected, and every official, every employe understands the part he is to play.

The Senate will complete the work of the last session of the Sixtieth Congress about 10.30 a. m. on March 4, and will then take a recess so that the scenery may be set for the important act in the great drama of the Republic so soon to take place. Shortly before noon the Vice-President will call the Senate to order. The Secretary of the Senate will announce the arrival of the Speaker and the House of Representatives, and they will file into the Senate Chamber and take the places assigned to them. Next in order will come the Supreme Court of the United States, headed by Chief Justice Fuller, and then the ambassadors and ministers plenipotentiary of the foreign nations. Following the heads of the diplomatic corps will come the heads of the executive departments, who will take their places immediately back of the seats assigned to the chief figures in the drama.

Following the Cabinet the Vice-President-elect will be formally announced, and will enter, accompanied by his escort, Senator Frye, president pro tempore of the Senate, and Representative Young. "The President-elect" will be the next announcement, and William H. Taft, accompanied by Senators Knox and Lodge, will enter, and, finally, the President of the United States will enter alone. At each announcement the entire assemblage will rise and remain standing until the person so announced is seated.

When all the dignitaries have arrived, the Vice-President will deliver his valedictory and will then call to the rostrum James S. Sherman, to whom he will administer the oath of the Vice-President of the United States, after which he will declare the Senate adjourned without day. Having been sworn, Mr. Sherman will ascend the rostrum, and, taking the gavel, will call the Senate to order for the new session, and will ask that the members of the Senate come forward and take the oath of office. Presumably there will be sixteen new

faces in the Senate. Each new Senator, accompanied by his colleague, will step forward and take the oath. This done, the entire assemblage will proceed to the inaugural stand.

The sergeants-at-arms of the Senate and the House will lead the stately procession. This is an innovation, as heretofore it has been led by the marshals of the Supreme Court and of the District of Columbia. Those present in the Senate Chamber will fall into line in the same order in which they entered the Senate, and the entire company will march to the inaugural stand.

The troops gathered in front of the stand will present arms as the President and the President-elect appear at the main door of the Capitol, and when they have arrived at the front of the stand Chief Justice Fuller will step forward and administer to Mr. Taft the oath of office, following which the new President will deliver his inaugural address, which is understood to be unusually brief. From the stand the President will descend a flight of steps to his carriage and drive immediately to the White House, where he may snatch a brief luncheon before taking his place in the reviewing stand erected in front of the White House grounds, from which he will view the great parade in his honor.

The Vice-President and the members of the Senate will return from the inaugural stand to the Senate Chamber, where certain brief routine business will be transacted and adjournment taken.

Ex-President Roosevelt, on leaving the inaugural stand, will enter his carriage from another entrance to the Capitol, and, escorted by the New York Republican County Committee, will drive immediately to the Union Station, whence he will start for New York, accompanied by the members of his family.

There will be a slight change this year in the order of the progress of the President, the President-elect and the Vice-President and the Vice-President-elect to the Capitol. In view of the close relations of Senator Lodge to the President, he will ride in the carriage with the President and the President-elect, as will also Senator Knox, who as chairman of the Committee on Arrangements is the personal escort of the Executive. The Vice-President will have as escort Senator Bacon and Representatives Burke and Gaines, while the Vice-President-elect will be accompanied by Senator Frye, the president pro tempore of the Senate, and Representative Young. Heretofore only one Senator has accompanied the two chief figures in the ceremonies.

## SHOOTING FROM A SOUNDLESS, SMOKELESS GUN

Hiram Maxim Shows the Noise Killer at Work—It Fits on the Muzzle of Any Gun and Breaks Down the Vibrations From the Explosion Until the Ear No Longer Recognizes Them as Noise.

New York City.—Patents having been obtained on it in twenty-four countries, Hiram Percy Maxim gave a demonstration and explanation of his silencing device for rifles before a large number of representatives of newspapers and scientific publications. By the use of a sandbox target the inventor made a series of experiments by firing a variety of rifles, ranging in power from a .22 calibre up to the new Springfield .30 calibre military rifle. They were fired both with and without the "silencer," and the spectators—or perhaps it might be better to say auditors—were well at the effect of the little device. It is said scientific tests show that ninety per cent. of the noise of explosion is eliminated.

## Only Sixteen, But Invents a Duplex Receiver for Wireless.

Plymouth, Mass.—Harold B. Dolen, sixteen years old, who has been a student of wireless telegraphy for the last three years, and who has a small power sending station at his home, No. 7 South street, has succeeded in duplexing the receiving portion of his plant so that two operators can sit and "listen in" independently of each other, the detectors being in duplicate. This is done by a process of tuning, and makes it possible for two operators to work.

The tests were made in the offices of Redding, Greeley & Austin, counsel for Mr. Maxim, on the eighth floor of the Potter Building, in Park row, and it was cause for wonder among those present that the noise made by the explosion of the rifles without the "silencer" did not arouse the other tenants in the building.

The "silencer" is a metal tube about seven inches long and an inch and a quarter in diameter, which can be fastened quickly to the end of a rifle barrel which has been provided with a thread for that purpose.

It is declared that the velocity of the bullet is not lessened in the least degree, as the gases have done all their work on the projectile before they reach the "silencer."

## 31,000 New York Husbands Have Deserted Wives.

Albany, N. Y.—That 25,000 husbands in Manhattan and the Bronx and 6,000 in Brooklyn have been in the police court, charged with abandonment and non-support of their wives, is revealed in the preliminary report of the commission to inquire into the courts of inferior jurisdiction in cities of the first class, made public by Governor Hughes.

The commission announces that it is considering the advisability of a special court for these cases.



## COLORS THAT HARMONIZE.

The combination of colors in dress displays more forcibly than any other one point the excellent or bad taste of the wearer. Of course it cannot be expected that every woman shall possess a true eye for harmony of tone, because this faculty is inborn and cannot be acquired, but there is a certain color sense—as it were—that all women can cultivate.

For instance, the new wistaria shade and a pale pastel blue are lovely in combination given the right quantities, such as a hat of pale wistaria felt, trimmed with pale violets and a touch of pastel blue. But a blue hat decorated with violets will look flat and cold, so that a touch of black would be necessary to give it life.

Pure violet and pale blue simply clash. A deep shade of prune harmonizes with pale blue, and so does a pastel blue and a bluish violet.

Blue and yellow are effective together. By this I do not mean that any shades in any kind of proportion may be combined. But a dark blue cloth may be ornamented with a touch of sulphur or mustard color, or braided with gold, and will be effective, but a yellow frock decorated with navy ribbons will not be a success.

A pale blue sash worn with a pale lemon frock will be pretty, and so will a Leghorn hat wreathed in cornflowers.

Deep blue and dark red are a safe combination; the former, however, must predominate. A blue dress may be trimmed with red, not a red with blue. Pale pink and pale blue come under the same rule—the pink must be in lesser proportion.

Tan, which is really orange mixed with black, looks pretty with almost any shade of blue, and the gray blues are effective with a touch of tan.

There is an attractive, undecided green that has a touch of yellow in it that harmonizes with the new wistaria and heliotrope tones, also with certain tints of old rose.

The genuine shades of heliotrope combine prettily with dull pale yellow. Olive green is particularly successful when put with copper color. Very faint touches of shell pink will brighten olive green and the same delicate tone will be effective used as a lining to a coppery brown. Emerald green with pale blue is often pleasing in effect.

Gray is attractive when combined with pale pink rose color, pale yellow, lemon or burnt orange. All shades of brown on the golden, chestnut chocolate or leather shades may be safely combined with either blue or green.

Due regard, however, must be given in selecting the shades to go together. A good plan is to take a bit of the brown material when buying and keep testing with the various shades of green that will be found in the store before making a selection. If the buyer lacks confidence in her own taste the salesperson will always be ready to give an opinion.

A few rules to follow are these:—When two colors do not look well together separate them with white whenever possible.

Many persons possess an idea that every combination can be "toned" with black. This is a mistake.

Black lowers the tints when placed in contact with them, but it becomes dull in itself, besides imparting a certain amount of dullness to the colors. White, on the contrary, takes a tinge of the colors it seeks to modify, thus lessening the dead whiteness and at the same time lessening the intensity of the tones with which it is combined.

Black and white is always a safe combination, and a small proportion of any chosen color will not destroy the artistic effect of these two.—New York Telegram.

## LABOR TO AID SUFFRAGE.

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the Interurban Woman Suffrage Council, of New York, appealed to the delegates of the Central Federated Union to assist the council in the collection of one million signatures to a woman suffrage petition to Congress. A committee from the council was empowered to ask all affiliated unions to have their members sign the petition. The C. F. U. delegates were instructed to aid the work. Mrs. Catt, in a speech to the delegates, said:

"President Comper and Vice President Mitchell of the American Federation of Labor are on our advisory board for the petition. We will have them go before Congress and speak in our behalf.

"President-elect Taft says he believes in woman suffrage, but that he does not believe the people are ready for it. Many members of Congress say the same thing. We will get signatures from all parts of the country for our petition, which we hope will be the largest ever presented to Congress.

"In the legislatures of Europe woman suffrage is one of the great

questions of the day. The movement to extend the suffrage engages the attention of the entire European population. Women in the great European cities have special privileges. In England, Scotland and Ireland women vote on all questions except for members of Parliament. In Norway women having small property rights have the right to vote for members of Parliament and are also permitted to sit in Parliament. In Finland women have universal suffrage. In Australia and New Zealand they also have the suffrage. Only in America are they disfranchised.

"In Colorado," added a delegate, Alfred J. Boulton, discussing the subject, "the women defeated the political machines and elected a powerful friend of the people to the bench."

## BOSTON GIRL CHARMS PARIS.

Of all the Americans who are seeking fame through art in Paris the one who has achieved the greatest success this season is a little Boston girl, Aline van Barentzen, eleven years old, whose piano recitals have been reported briefly in cable despatches to The New York World.

In spite of the fact that she has received praise from royalty and other distinguished men and women, she is still an unaffected, simple little American girl.

She takes as much pleasure in playing difficult works of Liszt, Beethoven, Chopin and the other masters as other girls take in their dolls.

Aline has taken two medals at the famous Conservatoire here, and is now trying for the Grand Prize. She was younger than any other pupil ever admitted to the Conservatoire, and is younger by two years than any other person ever permitted to try for the Grand Prize. Those who have heard Josef Hoffmann and remember when he was a youthful prodigy in knickerbockers say that little Aline has a future assured even more brilliant.

She has given two concerts in Paris, both attended by persons well known in the American and English colonies and in the social life of the capital. Infanta Eulalia has been assiduous in her attentions to the American prodigy, and since this mark of royal favor it has become "the thing" to have Aline at afternoon receptions.

## JUST IMAGINE.

One of the newest vogues in social circles in London for engaged men is the wearing of gold bangles above the elbow. It is not likely to be adopted by the engaged men on this side of the Atlantic. New York society men particularly have never taken kindly to such fads. Some of them have been known to wear bands of gold, presented by their fiancées, on the upper part of the arm, out of sight, so that few of their intimate friends were aware of it. In England the bangle, given by the young woman, is locked on the arm, and the summer sports—golf, tennis and rowing—have revealed just how many athletic youths are about to become beneficiaries. The fad all turns on a fashion—rather late in the day to discover it—set by the king, who it appears since his marriage has always worn a heavy gold bangle on his wrist. A dozen or fifteen years ago there were some men in this prosaic country who were intrepid enough to attempt the wearing of the gold bangle, but the quibs and jests of their friends soon weaned them of the fad.—Washington Star.

## WAR ON CHINESE MOTHER-IN-LAW.

Chinese women have been successful in their revolt against the barbaric custom of compressing the feet, and now they are engaged in a campaign for the suppression of mothers-in-law. This means modern advancement for the Celestial Kingdom with a vengeance, and though the agitation may appear humorous to us it is of grave import to the mothers-in-law. The Chinese wives have organized anti-mother-in-law clubs, which doubtless will find the approval of many American husbands. The complaint is that the Chinese mother-in-law is too much of a busy body; that she is an autocrat, a positive nuisance and a bar to complete happiness between married couples. The Chinese wife does not object to being ordered about by her husband, but she has put her foot down against being ordered about by her husband's mother. There can be no doubt of the outcome. The Chinese mother-in-law is bound to lose her power.—New York Press.

## TO COMBAT INJUSTICE.

An academic association for women suffrage has been founded at Zurich, Switzerland. It aims to combat injustice toward equal laws and equal pay as well as equal suffrage for both sexes. It is intended to appeal in the first instance to men and women of university education as being best able to understand the needs and help the movement. In America there has been a similar institution for several years, the College Equal Suffrage League, which the advocates of the movement for equal suffrage say has accomplished a great deal of good.—New York Sun.

## FASHION NOTES.

Yellow diamonds are the reigning jewels. The hood is a great favorite for theatre wear in Paris.