

Mishap Gave Rhubarb

Grower Valuable Idea

Jacob Schwartz, a farmer living on the outskirts of Detroit about 54 years ago, was hauling a load of fertilizer when the wretched road finally got such a tenacious grip on the wagon wheels that he was forced to unload the cargo. In so doing he covered some rhubarb plants nearby. After the roads had dried out the next spring he retrieved the fertilizer, and was surprised to discover that the rhubarb, kept warm by the decaying organic matter, had been growing all winter. The stalks were not red streaked with green, but almost pure red in color, and instead of a large leaf at the top there was a little leaf of creamy yellow. The stalks looked so attractive that he persuaded his wife to try them in some pies. So delicious was the result that he built a box over his rhubarb plants, covered it up warmly and found the stalks grew quite long. Now, as every body knows, winter growing of rhubarb is an industry.—Detroit News.

Tuskless Elephants

The males among elephants of India are frequently provided with tusks but this is by no means universal and the finest physical development is reached in those males that have no tusks at all. These are known in Burma as hines and in India as mukna.

The tuskless males frequently dominate the tuskers. In which connection the Burma and Indian riders have it that a hine can defeat a tusk in a fight by passing the trunk under one of his adversary's tusks and over the other, and by applying pressure either throwing him or smashing a tusk.

There is, so far as I know, no reliable evidence in favor of this, but it is a fact that tuskless males often rule the herd.—A. W. Smith in the Atlantic Monthly.

Out of Sight

Nine-year-old Joe had challenged his mother to a game of hide and seek at his grandmother's country cottage and, of course, mother was it. She counted up to a hundred by fives, shouted "Here I come!" in orthodox fashion and began hunting. She searched every nook and cranny and peered behind every tree and shrub, but no boy, so at last she was forced to call "Home free!" When Joe appeared she was very curious to know where he had been hiding so successfully. "That was a cinch!" declared the youngster, "I just climbed up the windmill!"

RAISING RABBITS IS MONEY MAKING ENTERPRISE



SEARS-ROEBUCK AGRICULTURAL FOUNDATION

Money is being made with rabbits on many farms, says the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation. The rabbit raising industry undoubtedly has a great future.

The decreasing supply of wild fur bearing animals and the increasing use of furs for clothing are steadily increasing the demand for rabbit skin, which is now the most extensively used fur. In the United States, alone, about 100,000,000 rabbit skins are imported annually, of which 98 per cent are used. The size, texture of fur, color, and the care given the pelt after removing are the chief factors in the price of rabbit skins. Fine pelts are often spotted by careful handling. Chinchilla White, and Red, in the order named take precedence over other colors. Marketing methods are being improved so that small breeders are now able to obtain the full commercial value for their pelts, the Foundation adds.

Feed costs of rabbit production are low. Alfalfa hay, oats and barley, and roots especially carrots, and some green feed such as lawn clippings are extensively used. Buildings need not be expensive. By using multiple hutch-

es, a large number may be produced on a small acre in back yards.

A prolific doe will easily produce 20 to 25 young in a year. Young rabbits may be bred at 7 to 8 months of age. The Chinchilla, American White, New Zealand Red, and White Flemish are the varieties most extensively produced in the United States.

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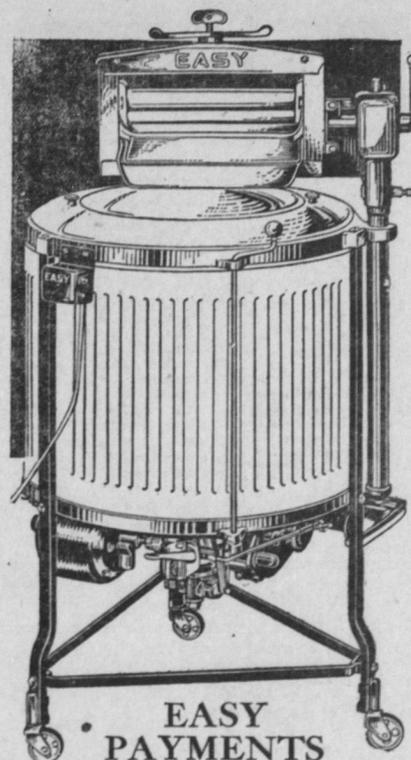


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