

# FARMERS' CORNER

## Winter Feed of Cows.

It depends on whether you want quantity or quality from your animals. If milk is sold by the quart, feed roots and wheat shorts, stirred into hot water, so as to make a rich warm gruel. Clover hay cut in June is one of the very best. If rich milk and yellow butter is your end, feed the blades of corn and sorghum, gathered green and sweet, upland hay, cut and wet with hot corn meal gruel. For roots, use carrots and parsnips or sugar beets, about a peck a day. Never speak a loud or cross word to a cow, and carefully abstain from pouncing her hip bones with the milking stool, which is so very frequently the habit.

## The Time for Planting Bulbs.

There is no definite rule to be laid down as to the length of time in which bulbs should be left in cold storage. As a general thing top growth will not begin until root growth is completed. This nearly always takes from six weeks to two months. It is therefore generally safe to begin bringing October planted bulbs to the living room in December. Those desired for later flowering can be left in cold storage, where they will remain dormant as to top growth. By bringing bulbs to light and warmth at intervals of a week or 10 days we secure a succession of bloom which makes it possible for us to brighten our windows with their beautiful flowers during the greater part of winter.—Eben E. Rexford, in New Lippincott.

## Improving the Poultry Flock.

Those who endeavor to improve their flocks of poultry by selecting the most prolific hens from which the young stock will be produced next year make no mistake, but there is much carelessness on the part of some in the selection of males. Neighboring farmers frequently exchange eggs, in order to add new blood to their flocks, but they fail to notice that by such practice, continued during several years, there is no out-cross made. Every farmer who desires to improve his flocks should send to some distant breeder, either for fowls or eggs, and aim to secure pure-bred stock of some kind. This should be done every year. The result will be fewer cases of disease, more prolific hens and better quality of poultry for market.

## A Few of the Little Leaks.

Jacob Biggle, in Farm Journal, mentions a few of the little leaks that are apt to appear on the farm and which ought to be stopped:

Letting the harness go without oiling until it becomes dry and cracked.

Allowing the briars and poison ivy to grow from year to year in the fence row.

Piling the manure on a hillside where much of its strength is lost by being washed away with heavy rainstorms.

Leaving wooden buckets or tubs standing in the sun until they fall into staves.

Turning on so much oil or grease when oiling the farm machinery or greasing the wagon axles that some of it runs off and falls to the ground.

Allowing the other hens to lay eggs in the nest of the sitting hen.

Dipping feed from the sack or bin with the hands instead of a dish and thus spilling it upon the floor.

Letting the weeds grow at the expense of the crops.

Letting the easy milker go all day without relieving the tension of her udder by taking out some of the milk.

Working with dull tools and letting the mower and reaper rattle to pieces through loose nuts and screws.

Allowing the sparrows to thresh your wheat in barrack or mow.

## Ice for Dairy.

Owing to the fact that the ice must be put up in winter and the icehouse needs to be built and made ready in the fall, it seems to be reasonable to discuss at this time the importance of providing ice if you are to make a marked success with the dairy.

To be sure a good deal of successful dairying has been carried on in the years of the past without ice. In Maryland and Virginia and in a number of other states where they have had cool spring water, and the "spring houses," the good dairy woman would have smiled at any talk of the necessity for ice.

But then, how many parts of our country where the cool spring is not to be found, and yet where dairying might be and often is profitable. We want to encourage such farmers to have their icehouses. The usual idea is that the ordinary farmer who has only a few cows cannot afford an icehouse. In reply to this we quote from an exchange: "Such farmers err. They cannot afford to be without ice during June, July and August if they make milk. If they churn, they need ice. If they ship, they need ice. If they sell their milk in neighboring villages, they need ice. Besides finding daily valuable use of ice in handling milk the farmer can use ice in many ways that will mean profit, comfort and convenience. The small ice house is almost a necessity on the dairy farm."

Please note that a very large and expensive icehouse may not be necessary. It is something that most farmers can do for themselves; both the building of the ice house and the filling it with ice in winter. If the cash were to be paid out for all this labor it would alter the case.—Farm, Field and Fireside.

## Farm Sanitation.

There is a time when every farmer who values life and health for self and family and wants to save the suffering and cost of illness, will think seriously about the best things to do to prevent sickness. A great many will, of course, ignore suggestions on this subject or any other, because they simply won't get out of the rut they are used to running in. And yet many lives, much suffering and many doctors' bills would be saved by the knowledge of and practice of some simple rules. And it is certainly well worth the trouble—in fact, it may save a hundredfold in money alone—to study the rules of hygiene and sanitation that both theoretical and practical science have demonstrated to be best.

In the first place the continuous testimony of scientific experts and of practical observers is that the greatest amount possible of pure fresh air is the greatest preventive and the greatest cure of many diseases. Indeed, it has now been shown that about the only reliable cure of consumption, the great scourge of modern civilization, is living in the open air both day and night. Even in so bleak a region as New England people have succeeded in being cured of this disease by sleeping out of doors winter and summer. It is evident that every house ought to be arranged to have the freest possible circulation of air, and it should be fresh air, not loaded with the odors of pigpens, manure piles or other offensive matter. So every farmer, if he cannot prevent bad odors otherwise, ought to keep a supply of the best disinfectants and use them.

The next important item is pure water and plenty of it. If there is no other way to get pure water the supply for drinking should be distilled. This is easily done by having a tea-kettle spout to extend into a condenser and keep it boiling all the time the stove is running. This will certainly get rid of every germ of disease that is communicable through the stomach. One of the worst of these is typhoid fever. But water should be so abundant as to afford also the greatest plenty for bathing. This is a thing that the great majority of people do not appreciate as an agent of health and comfort. A great many people are not aware that the skin is the most important organ of the body in getting rid of the poisonous waste matter that is being generated every moment of our lives.

Farm work is necessarily a dirty operation. In hot weather, when the sweat is pouring out and the dust flying, the body is soon covered with a sticky mass that will entirely check the free action of the pores. Therefore every one who does hard work ought to take a good bath and put on clean clothes to sleep in.—Journal of Agriculture.

## Feeding or Selling Grain.

It is an important point constantly coming up for decision, whether it pays better to sell grain directly or feed it to cattle, sheep or swine, and many a farmer has found that his success or failure has been largely dependent upon the method adopted. When there is a famine in either corn or wheat it stands to reason that with the high prices that follow it pays better to dispose of the cattle and sell the grain direct to the best market. Likewise, when the crops are enormous and prices low the wise farmer meets with success who immediately proceeds to buy up cattle and feed them liberally with the grain for market. In this way many a farmer has made his fortune while others were complaining that the low prices of grain were ruining them. Instead of using grain in some profitable way they let it mould in the fields or grain elevators while they bemoaned their hard luck.

Now, one of the most important necessities on the farm is quick and practical decision, which enables the farmer to meet any emergency. It may be said that this is also the great business talent. The man who can decide quickly and surely for the best in an emergency is sure to come out ahead. Farming today has its reverses, its changes and its emergencies. No man can foretell the size and nature of the crops, nor the prices which may rule in the world's markets for them. Therefore he may at any time be confronted with conditions that will tax his resources and wisdom. No man should raise a single crop of anything without being prepared to utilize it in two or three different ways. If there is no direct profitable market for it, what then? Feed it to the cattle and convert it into good meat, which will bring a profit. If there is no market for cattle and they are selling as low comparatively as grain, then turn to the sheep or swine. It seems like throwing away a good thing to feed grain to swine or sheep. Yet with careful feeding even the best grain can be fed to them with a safe margin of profit, provided pork, mutton and wool are selling well. It is very rarely that all of these farm products command small prices at the same time, and one is not apt to find that all of his resources are exhausted. Nevertheless, it is important that one should be thoroughly prepared for a quick shifting of his work. That is, the ability to adapt himself to changing conditions and intelligent adaptation in this world is often the secret of success. It is probably the one thing more needful among farmers, cattle and grain growers than anything else. At least that is the opinion of your humble subscriber.—E. P. Smith, in American Cultivator.

It is estimated that the United States imports from the northern countries of Africa and the Persian Gulf states upward of 12,000,000 pounds of dates annually.



## FOR THE HOUSEWIFE

### Imitation Black Walnut.

A good stain to color pine or any light wood a dark walnut color is made of one part green walnut husks crushed and mixed with six parts cold water. Let the water stand on the husks at least 24 hours before it is used. When the stain has been applied to wood and has stood 24 or 26 hours, it should be ready to set with a coat of bichromate of potash and water. When this is dry treat the wood to a coat of shellac or finish it any way you wish to.

### Care of the Piano.

The care of the piano is an important matter, the more so because neglect of that piece of furniture soon makes itself felt. Dampness is the worst foe that the piano has. It should not stand, therefore, near an open window, and it should not be pushed close against the wall. The keys, when they need to be cleaned, should be rubbed with a soft muslin cloth which has been dampened with alcohol. Soft silk such as an old silk handkerchief, makes the best sort of duster for use about the piano.

### Laundering Table-Linen.

The laundering of table linen needs special mention. With heavy double damask no starch should be used, but where the linen is of lighter weight a very thin starch will make it iron easier. Table cloths should be well stretched and hung evenly on the line after washing, otherwise it is hard to pull them straight before ironing. When ready to iron they should be dampened thoroughly, and ironed until perfectly dry. All embroidery should be ironed on the wrong side. If napkins and all small pieces of this kind are laid in large towels and wrung out of very hot water they will iron much better and be stiffer than when sprinkled in the usual way.—Woman's Home Companion.

### Linen and Embroideries.

Many of the late designs of hand-made doilies are copies from pieces of antique embroidery several hundred years old. The same coloring is reproduced as well as the stitch itself. New table centrepieces are of linen in its natural color, with Russian decoration and lace to match. Pretty table covers in simple style are made of imported art linen in shaded colors.

Substitutes for real monograms and initials in French embroidery are medallions of fine Hamburg embroidery having the initial embroidered in the centre. These medallions are shown in various sizes and can be easily applied by the needlework edge to any piece of linen.

Art muslins for windows are made with a good imitation of Empire embroidery, and cretonne, applied upon muslin in various fanciful designs, is not unlike the dress decoration now in vogue.

The craze for cretonne flowers pearls also on canvas pillows, which are covered with single stems of the same flower scattered irregularly—as a poppy design on an ecreu ground and pansies as though carelessly dropped upon a pale mauve denim.—American Queen.



## HOUSEHOLD RECIPES

**Scotch Scones**—One quart of flour, one pint of sour milk, with one teaspoon of soda dissolved in it, lard the size of an egg and a half teaspoon of salt. Roll out half an inch thick, cut in triangles and cook on an ungreased griddle, turning them; split and butter. Very good when cold if they are torn open, toasted and buttered.

**Stewed Lamb's Kidneys**—Put one ounce of butter in a hot pan; to this add one dozen lamb's kidneys which have been well washed and cut in halves; cover, let cook thoroughly, remove cover, add a half cup of water, a half teaspoonful of salt and a saltspoonful of paprika, one-half teaspoonful of strong vinegar. Serve hot.

**Cream Pea Soup**—Use double boiler. Take one large tablespoon of butter and one and a half tablespoons of flour. Blend together thoroughly; add by degrees one quart of milk and water (one pint of each), stir constantly and let boil after adding milk and water. Simmer one can of peas or their equivalent in fresh peas until soft; strain into cream sauce; season with a scant teaspoonful of salt and a saltspoonful of paprika.

**German Pudding**—Take a half pound of white bread crumbs, mix with six ounces of golden sirup, three ounces of moist sugar, a piece of candied peel cut small, six ounces of suet chopped fine (butter may be used), one egg beaten, a saltspoonful of salt, and one tablespoonful of flour. Mix all well and steam in a buttered mold for three hours. Serve with a sweet cream sauce, flavored with sherry or not, as preferred.

**Rice Muffins**—One pint of milk, one quart of flour, one pint of boiled rice, three eggs, one teaspoonful of salt, two teaspoonfuls baking powder, one teaspoonful of melted butter. Mix the salt and baking powder with the flour and rub through a sieve. Beat the eggs and add to the milk. Stir into the flour. Add the butter and rice. Beat thoroughly. Bake 35 minutes in buttered pans. Three dozen can be made from the quantities given.

## Fiction Inspires Science.

Positively Jules Verne, with his amusing and suggestive fiction, has more than once inspired science and industry. More than once has he engendered miracles by imagining them in advance. But that is not the greatest of the services which he has rendered. The immortal merit of his work consists in his having created a new state of mind by enlarging the horizon of a too much stay-at-home race, and impregnating vocations ignorant of their own capabilities with energies which, had it not been for him, would have remained latent or sterile.—Paris Figaro.

## Care of the Complexion.

Many persons with delicate skin suffer greatly in winter from chapping. Frequently the trouble arises from the use of impure soaps and cheap soaps. The face and hands should be washed only in clear, hot water with Ivory Soap. A little mutton-tallow or almond oil may be used after the bath to soften the skin. ELIZA R. PARKER.

Every British parish with a population of 300 or over is compelled by law to erect a parish council.

A fellow is not a lobster just because he suffers from boils.

All goods are alike to PUTNAM FADELESS DYES, as they color all fibers at one boiling. Sold by all druggists.

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French steamers now make the trip from Marseilles to Sydney in thirty-four days. A century ago it took seven months.

## Best For the Bowels.

No matter what ails you, headache to a cancer, you will never get well until your bowels are put right. CASCAETS help nature, cure you without a gripe or pain, produce easy natural movements, cost you just 10 cents to start getting your health back. CASCAETS Candy Cathartic, the genuine, put up in metal boxes, every tablet has C. C. C. stamped on it. Beware of imitations.

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FITs permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. \$2 trial bottle and treatise free. Dr. R. H. KLINE, Ltd., 391 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

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Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, etc. A bottle is wanted.

Doctors' bills often make a man wish he were dead.

I am sure Piso's Cure for Consumption saved my life three years ago.—Mrs. THOMAS ROBINS, Maple St., Norwich, N.Y., Feb. 17, 1900.

## High Streets in London.

There are still thirty High streets in London, although many others have been renamed. There are eleven St. John's roads and nine St. James's places. Eleven Queen streets still exist, although thirty-three have been renamed, and fifteen King streets remain out of the original fifty-three. There are two Oxford streets other than the famous one, and five Victoria streets.



Mrs. Ellen Ripley, Chaplain Ladies Aid, Grand Army of the Republic, No. 7, 222 10th Ave., N. E., Minneapolis, Minn., Strongly Endorses Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

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"For fifteen years I have been your friend. I have never written you before, but I have advised hundreds of women to take your medicine, in fact it is the only real reliable remedy I know of for a sick woman.

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