

### PLANTING THE CORN.

It Should Be Done as Soon as the Conditions Are Favorable for a Quick Germination.

All reasonable care should be taken to plant the corn as soon as the conditions are favorable for a quick germination of the seed. There is no advantage in planting when the soil is cold and wet. Corn is naturally a tropical plant and will not thrive when the soil is wet and cold.

But often the early-planted corn makes the best growth and gives the best yield. It is, therefore, an item to take advantage of every opportunity for plowing. With the ground well plowed with the disc and smoothing harrow it may be rapidly put into good condition to receive the seed, which, with a good check row, may be rapidly planted. It is always best to have the soil well prepared before planting. It is better to delay the planting and prepare the soil in a fine tilth, than plant with the soil wet, rough or cloddy.

Having the soil in good tilth when the seed is planted, not only makes a quicker and better germination of the seed, but a more vigorous start of the plants to grow.

Planted early with plenty of moisture in the soil the seed should be covered shallower than if planted later, after the soil is warmer and drier. Rather more corn can be grown to the acre if planted in drills with the stalks standing 10 or 12 inches apart in the row, than in hills with two or three stalks and the hills three and a half or four feet apart. But it takes more work to keep corn planted in drills clean than in hills especially foul land. The question of which is best is one of whether the increased yield will pay for the increased cost of cultivating, and this the farmer can best determine for himself.

It is important in making a good corn crop to have good seed and to plant under the most favorable conditions, in order to get a good even stand. As between using plenty of seed and being, perhaps, obliged to thin, and using fewer kernels to the hill and having to replant more or less, the latter plan is much the best, for under ordinary conditions the replanted corn yields very little grain.—St. Louis Republic.

### FACTS FOR FARMERS.

Well seasoned wood of apple trees makes good handles for tools.

Sprinkle cayenne pepper around where rats frequent, and they will leave.

Have the collar fit the horse and do not draw the harness too tight at the top.

It is easier to "keep up" with your work than to "catch up" when once you have fallen behind.

The man who does not love a good horse should hire out to work on a good railroad or in a mine.

It is far easier to keep land in a good state of cultivation than to restore soil that has been allowed to "run down."

The farm horse does not need blinders. Blinders add so much more to the cost of harness. Do away with them.

Don't let any of us wait until the spring work begins before we get ready for it. Have tools, implements, etc., in good shape.

It is best to prevent disease in your home if possible, and it is cheaper to prevent disease among your animals than to cure it.

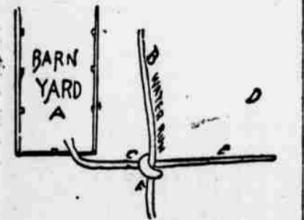
The steer or other animal that is tramping two mouthfuls under foot while eating one is fertilizing the ground, but is doing it in an expensive manner.

Feed the corn to fattening hogs and not to colts and pigs. Feed oats to colts, and pigs should have a variety of whatever is convenient and cheap.—Western Plowman.

### SAVING LIQUID MANURE.

How an Ohio Farmer Saves Considerable Fertility from the Barnyard All the Time.

Here is my plan of annually saving considerable fertility from the barnyard, which before went down the water run marked B in the cut. In heavy rains the water would follow C and be lost. The question was how to save it



### HOW TO SAVE LIQUID MANURE.

and take it over to D. We plowed a deep furrow from water run B, and made a heavy bank of earth at E. Now when it rains all the water of the barnyard goes to D, also all that comes down the run B. The field is in the pasture, and it will be of great benefit to it. The ditch E can be lengthened at any time when the land is fertile enough at D.—Ira Graber, in Agricultural Epitomist.

### Deep Plowing is Profitable.

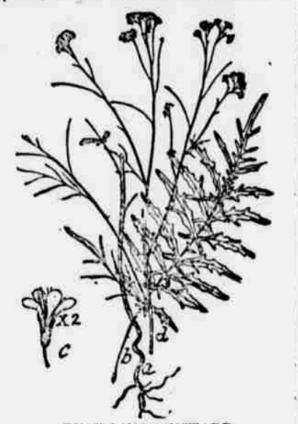
Land that is plowed deep endures the droughts better than shallow plowed land, as there is a greater absorption of moisture. In other words, the deeper the soil is plowed the greater its capacity for holding water. To prevent loss of this moisture the top soil should be cultivated so as to simply loosen it, which prevents evaporation and at the same time keeps the weeds down. The water in the soil escapes at the surface, and this should be prevented by a mulch of loose dirt over the surface, which is effected by cultivation.

## FARM & GARDEN.

### TUMBLING MUSTARD.

A Destructive Weed Which Was First Noticed in the United States Twenty-One Years Ago.

We illustrate tumbling mustard, known scientifically as *Sisymbrium Albidum*. This is one of the plants that have already obtained too great a foothold in this country for us to hope to exterminate it. Tumbling mustard is called so from the fact that when it is ripe it breaks off and is blown along the ground by the wind. The rounded shape of the plant makes this characteristic of great value, as to the propagation and dissemination of the plant, as it is said to travel even faster



TUMBLING MUSTARD.

than the Russian thistle. The plant was introduced into this country from Europe previous to 1878, as it was first noticed in that year in Philadelphia. It is probable that it had been growing in out-of-the-way places for some years before being noticed. Since that time it has spread over much of the country between the two oceans. It bears numerous seeds, the seed pods containing frequently 100 seeds each. As the plants are very numerous on each plant, the number of seeds a single plant may bear is almost beyond calculation.

Prof. James Fletcher, of Canada, by careful calculation came to the conclusion that one plant with which he came in contact contained not less than 1,500,000 seeds. The pods are round and long and stand out almost at right angles to the stem on which they are borne.

The means of eradication is to plow under or cut down with a sharp hoe before the seeds have ripened enough to grow. This must be early, for seeds will sprout and grow while yet very immature. The plant is easily killed when cut off at the roots, while its seeds are yet unformed. A man can eradicate a large area of it in a single day. Being an annual, it will not grow again from the root.—Farmers' Review.

### GOOD FARM CROPS.

They Are Those Which Save the Fertility of the Soil and Produce Paying Results.

No crop in this section of the country takes the precedence of corn, writes a Nebraska contributor to Wallace's Farmer. It is so abundant and so useful. I do not know of any other crop that can be used for so many purposes. It makes good human food and admits of being prepared in so many ways. I don't know of any other crop that will supply the wants of our domestic animals so completely as the corn crop.

The entire plant fed to cattle or sheep makes an admirable fattening ration, supplying both grain and rough feed of the highest quality. Do not fail to have a good corn crop. Then concentrate it as much as possible into the most marketable products, butter or meat, before it leaves the farm. Next to corn, if not equal to it, is sorghum, drilled in with the ordinary grain drill at the rate of three pecks to one bushel of seed to the acre. No one will believe the amount of good feed for any kind of stock this will produce until they try it for themselves.

Then comes peas and oats sown together. I differ from many in the amount of seed to be sown in this combination. I think mostly too many oats are sown for the peas. I prefer one and one-half to two bushels of peas to not more than three pecks of oats per acre. Do not let the peas become too ripe before cutting. My crop of peas and oats seeded in the above proportions yielded last season over four tons per acre.

### Back-Furrowing Pays.

In plowing clay lands nearly all the advantages of under-draining can be obtained by back-furrowing into narrow beds, and by leaving a strip two or three feet wide between the beds unplowed. It practically does away with the trouble of gullying by heavy rains, as there are two channels instead of one to carry off the water. No perceptible difference in growth for yield or crop can be seen in the dead furrows after being put in with modern improved implements, and there is a saving of four furrows in plowing each land or bed—two in the middle of the bed and two at the dead furrow. The great advantage of back-furrowing over level culture when plowing is done in the fall is that very often crops can be sown several weeks earlier, making a fine crop and a good catch of grass, when later sowing would fail.—Prairie Farmer.

Salt sprinkled on a cloth is excellent for scouring out stationary wash bowls and other chamber vessels, making them bright and clean.

### NO LONGER ISOLATED.

Wire-Fence Telephone System Put in Operation by Progressive Western Ranchmen.

The stockmen of southwestern Kansas and northwestern Texas and Oklahoma are keeping pace with modern improvements and are no longer to be isolated from the rest of the world. A few months ago the ranchmen of Seward county, Kan., met to propose a plan of connecting their ranches by telephone facilities, utilizing the barb-wire fences instead of setting poles and stringing wires. It had been demonstrated that a fence wire worked perfectly for a telephone connection. The scheme was favored by the stockmen, and a local company was formed, with headquarters at Liberal, that being the nearest telegraph point.

Lines have since been constructed and are in operation, extending from Liberal over the whole of Seward, Stevens and Morton counties, Kan., and have reached out into Beaver county, O. T., and Hansford county, Tex. Many of the ranches in this ideal grazing country are situated miles from railroad and telegraph facilities. Some of the owners are compelled to travel 50 miles to reach shipping points. Thus will be quickly seen the great advantage to be derived from this enterprising move. It not only affords them an opportunity to transact business among themselves, but they have arranged to get market quotations daily from the telegraph station. This information is invaluable to the cattle kings.

In addition to the lines now in operation further extensions are to be made. The success of the wire-fence telephone first established between Liberal and Brown ranch on Sharp creek, a distance of ten miles, demonstrated the value of the idea, and another line will be started to Beaver, O. T., and one to Hardesty, Tex.

These extensions will require but little outlay of money, nothing but the labor required where fences can be used. When this cannot be done the surveys follow the streams where the timber is used for poles. This energetic move has awakened a lively interest at the markets. Wichita, which has become a large stock market in recent years by reason of its packing industries, is making an effort to have a branch of the line reach that place. This would put the ranchmen in talking distance with commission firms, to whom they sell stock.

The plan is one of untold advantage to stock owners, and will be pushed until the complete benefits have been derived.

### HOG-SCALDING SWING.

With Its Aid One Man of Ordinary Ability Can Dress a Large Animal Alone.

This hog scalding swing almost explains itself. The two crocheted posts, a, a, are nine feet long, set firmly in the ground about six feet apart. The cross piece b must be plenty strong to sup-



HOG SCALDING MADE EASY.

port lever c. A rope d, will be of great assistance. Hook, e, is to slip under gambrel. After hog is scalded on one end, swing round to table, f, take hook out of gambrel and stick through lower jaw and scald the other end. Barrel, g, should be kept two-thirds full of water; the one-inch pipe, h, is eight feet long, bent in middle, or two pieces four feet long connected by a six-inch piece with elbows which enter the barrel between the hoops, as shown. Of course the fire boils the water. By my swing I dressed a 300-pound hog alone.—L. L. Glover, in Farm and Home.

### PROFIT IN SHEEP.

It Exceeds by Far the Income Realized from Any Other Kind of Farm Stock.

A shepherd can make from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. on his investment in mutton sheep, according to his skill. A good breeding ewe can produce enough wool to pay for keeping her. A ewe can be kept in thrifty condition, being fed such coarse fodder as straw, clover hay and corn fodder, with one-half pound of grain daily when she requires it, at a cost of one cent per day, during the period of most expensive feeding. To pay for her keep she needs to produce no more than ten pounds of good wool, and that a mutton ewe can do. In addition to the wool the returns from a ewe will be at least one lamb—the average of the mutton breeds is nearer one and one-half. From the facts derived from our experimental work it is safe to say that, charging foods at market prices, mutton can be put on the market on foot for at least three cents per pound. Such mutton as can be furnished at that cost should weigh 150 pounds. Here is a profit of \$4.50 from a sheep under the most moderate circumstances. I have known ewes of mutton breeding to produce each year a clear profit of ten to fifteen dollars.—Farmer's Tribune.

The day of the big, heavy-feeding sheep seems to have passed, not to return, and the demand for younger muttons is a steadily growing one.

### CALIFORNIA TIMBER.

It is Surprisingly Large as Compared with That Cut on the Gotha River in Sweden.

The writer, on first visiting timber yards in northern Europe, could not get rid of the impression that the round timber was all culls or waste, says Engineering Magazine. A raft of logs in the Gotha river in Sweden was thought to consist of telegraph poles. It happened to be a collection of small timber even for there, and a visit to the Pacific coast of North America, soon after, still further emphasized the enormous difference in the timber resources of the two countries. Soon after arriving in San Francisco there was encountered in the street a squared beam of fir more than 100 feet in length, being hauled to a factory in course of erection. Following this beam to its destination—a wooden factory then being built—it was a matter of astonishment to find all the longitudinal beams, or "stringers," of the same length. This astonishment was increased when the contractor said: "We never bother about dimensions, and just order what we want." A section eight feet in diameter, cut from a redwood tree, completed a new impression of American forest timber.

### Then Papa Smiled.

Old Crusty—You ask for my daughter? Why, young man, at your present salary you could not even dress her.

Suitor—Oh, yes, sir! I could keep her in gloves.

Old Crusty—Gloves! Do you mean to insinuate that my daughter would only wear gloves?

Suitor—Pardon me, sir; I only asked for her hand.—Brooklyn Life.

### Whooping Cough.

I had a little boy who was nearly dead from an attack of whooping cough. My neighbor recommended Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. I did not think that any medicine would help him, but after giving him a few doses of that remedy I noticed an improvement, and one bottle cured him entirely. It is the best cough medicine I ever had in the house.—J. L. Moore, South Burgetstown, Pa. For sale by all Druggists.

### Why She Did It.

"Why is it," they asked, "that you let your husband have his own way in everything?"

"Because," she replied, "I like to have some one to blame when things go wrong."—Chicago Post.

### Misunderstood Again.

Mr. Banks—Don't you think my wife paints very nicely?

Miss Milburn—Charming! It makes her look so much younger, I think.—N. Y. World.

### Drink Grain-O.

after you have concluded that you ought not to drink coffee. It is not a medicine but doctors order it because it is healthful, invigorating and appetizing. It is made from pure grains and has that rich seal brown color and tastes like the finest grade of coffee and costs about as much. Children like it and thrive on it because it is the genuine food drink containing nothing but nourishment. Ask your grocer for Grain-O, the new food drink. 15c and 25c.

### Labor Lost.

Young Hardhead—I don't see why I am not invited to parties oftener. I am sure I always behave like a gentleman.

Young Lighthead—That's the trouble. You are so very gentlemanly that the girls think you stupid.—N. Y. Weekly.

### A New Departure.

Margie's father was accustomed to wear a tall silk hat. One afternoon, however, he came home with a soft felt one on. "Oh, mamma!" cried Margie, as she turned from the window, "here comes papa with a soft-shelled hat on."

### Does Coffee Agree With You?

If not, drink Grain-O—made from pure grains. A lady writes: "The first time I make Grain-O I did not like it but after using it for one week nothing would induce me to go back to coffee." It nourishes and feeds the system. The children can drink it freely with great benefit. It is the strengthening substance of pure grains. Get a package today from your grocer, follow the directions in making it and you will have a delicious and healthful table beverage for old and young. 15c and 25c.

### An Extreme Case.

Mrs. Hendricks—See here, Dinah, I gave you four flannel undershirts in the wash this week and you have only brought back three. How is that?

Dinah—Deed, I dunno, ma'am, 'less'n dey shrunked. Flannen does shrink somethin' awful, ma'am.—Brooklyn Life.

Many old soldiers now feel the effects of the hard service they endured during the war. Mr. Geo. S. Anderson of Rossville, York county, Penn., who saw the hardest kind of service at the front, is now frequently troubled with rheumatism. "I had a severe attack lately," he says, "and procured a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It did so much good that I would like to know what you would charge me for one dozen bottles." Mr. Anderson wanted it both for his own use and to supply it to his friends and neighbors, as every family should have a bottle of it in their home, not only for rheumatism, but lame back, sprains, swellings, cuts, bruises and burns, for which it is unequalled. For sale by all Druggists.

## Women in Business

Business men often express the opinion that there is one thing which will prevent women from completely filling man's place in the business world—they can't be depended upon because they are sick too often. It is true that many women are compelled to look forward to times when they are unable to attend to social or business duties. Their appearance plainly indicates their condition and they are reluctant to be seen, even by their friends. Read what a business woman says to such sufferers:

Mrs. C. W. Mansfield, 55 Farrer Street, Detroit, Mich., says: "A complication of female ailments kept me awake nights and wore me out. I could get no relief from medicine and hope was slipping away from me. A young lady in my employ gave me a box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I took them and was able to rest at night for the first time in months. I bought more and they cured me as they also cured several other people to my knowledge. I think that if you should ask any of the druggists of Detroit, who are the best buyers of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills they would say the young women. These pills certainly build up the nervous system and many a young woman owes her life to them."

"As a business woman I am pleased to recommend them as they did more for me than any physician and I can give Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People credit for my general good health today."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are for sale by all druggists, or will be sent, postpaid, on receipt of price, 50 cents per box; six boxes, \$2.50, by the Dr. Williams Medicine Company, Schenectady, N.Y. Our new book, PLAIN TALKS TO WOMEN, sent free to any address on request.

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Phoenix.	Hartford, Conn.	5,588,058.07
Continental.	New York.	5,244,908.72
German American.	New York.	5,240,098.85
LIFE—Mutual Life Ins. Co.	New York.	\$204,638,983.00
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Every farmer and every village owes to himself, to his family, and to the community in which he lives a cordial support of his local newspaper as it words constantly and untriflingly for his interests in every way or brings to his home all the news and happenings of his neighborhood, the doings of his friends, the condition and prospects for different crops, the prices in home markets, and, in fact, is a weekly visitor which should be found in every wide-awake, progressive family.

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