

TIMELY HINTS FOR FARMERS

Weaning Pigs.

Pigs can be weaned at eight weeks, but it is better not to wean them before ten or twelve. When weaned too early the growth is apt to be stunted unless they are abundantly supplied with new milk fed at body heat. It is more simple to give the sow liberally of milk soaked grain and let her nurse them longer. Before weaning the pigs castrate any of the boars that are not desired for breeding use.

The young pigs usually will eat when three weeks old and should be fed. Have a small feeding pen for them which the sow cannot enter. At first give them sweet milk, only it must not be sour. After they are five or six weeks old add a little grain feed, such as shorts, to the milk. When the time comes to wean them completely do not risk taking them away from the sow at once.

Spread the Manure.

Applying manure in heaps is objectionable for several reasons. The labor of handling is increased, there is danger from loss of decomposition and leaching, the manure is not uniformly distributed, the spots beneath the heap being more thoroughly manured on account of the leaching. Storing manure in very large heaps is less objectionable, provided the heap is carefully covered with earth and not allowed to lie too long. By applying broadcast the manure is spread more or less completely and evenly on the field, being plowed in at once or allowed to lie some time on the surface. This is preferably practiced on the level field, where there is little danger from surface washing. In late fall and early spring there is likely to be very little loss of nitrogen.

The Small Flock of Sheep.

Every farm that has a part of its land fenced in should have a limited number of sheep. Professor Shaw says that from ten to twenty head can be kept on 100 acres of land without any cost to the owner for feed, except in the winter. They will keep themselves very largely on what otherwise would be lost. They can be utilized in trimming up all the byplaces on the farm. They will eat much of what the cattle have rejected, will trim out all or nearly all the weeds found in the pastures, and while thus engaged they will not seriously encroach on the supplies of food for the cattle. Neither will the sheep foul the pastures so that dairy cows will not relish the same. Sheep droppings lie close upon the ground and so scattered that their presence in any one place is scarcely noticeable.

QUALITY TELLS IN DRAFT HORSES.

Well Bred Animals More Profitable Than Giant Scrubs.

At the prevailing prices for draft geldings most farmers know that there is good money in doing the farm work with strong, rugged brood mares that produce draft horses acceptable to the trade. However, the idea seems to be present in some cases, judging by the kind of stallions used, that all the market demands is size. And it is true that a ton drafter will sell well, provided he is sound, no matter what his shape. But it should always be remembered that quality in a draft horse brings good money. It has a real value on city streets.

In the first place, a horse symmetrically built will probably remain sound longer than the one peppered with too small a "firebox" or too narrow a chest or joints not in keeping with his limbs. It stands to reason that a horse built "all his parts to fit," one that is smooth but strong everywhere, one that fills and pleases the eye, will stand strains best. And, in the second place, such a horse brings more money because he is an advertiser of his owner's business. To produce quality in the colts we must have quality in sire and dam. So use the good and well bred sire, even though his service fee is double that of the giant scrub.—National Stockman.

Dairy Notes.

It never pays to be a dairyman by accident. Have a purpose.

A good milker never brings his hands in contact with the milk.

The farmer can produce clean milk, but it means added expense.

The demand for dairy products is unlimited and always on the increase.

Remember, even the best dairy cow cannot make good returns without plenty of good feed.

A pall of milk standing in a foul stable for ten minutes will absorb enough bad odors to spoil it.

Odd Sows the Best.

It has been found that sows that have raised five or six litters are better mothers and give birth to larger and better pigs than gilts. Older animals are capable of utilizing more food and of nourishing the pigs better than gilts. It is highly important to give pigs a good chance while young, as they seldom fully recover when stunted.

DIVING FOR A PURSE.

Girls Striving for Glory of Recovering Lost Baubles.

There is a new theme of interest for society people visiting here. They are diving.

The diamond studded purse of Mrs. C. O. G. Miller is the goal of their efforts. All of them are heirs or heiresses and a combined estimate of their incomes brings the total up to \$322.50 an hour.

Mrs. Miller was on the pleasure pier watching her children in the water when she dropped her gem incrustated purse into the ocean. It was a gift about which hovered sentimental recollections and therefore she was perturbed. So were her friends. That is why they have organized diving parties to search for the bauble.

The fact that it contained \$235 in gold does not matter to them. They are diving for glory and social perquisites.

Every morning they are out—not breasting the breakers, but combing the bottom with their manouevred hands to grasp back this toll of the sea.—Santa Barbara correspondence Los Angeles Examiner.

Simple Speech.

The world moves, but it doesn't speak English. Ptolemy Philadelphus, the great old sport prototype of Leopold of Belgium, is one of the rocks of ages in history, for he founded the museum and library of Alexandria. He desired a copy of the Old Testament translated into Greek for his precious library, for he and the library were both Greek. This first Greek translation of the Old Testament is called the Septuagint. We can see from the Septuagint what sort of Greek was spoken over the ancient Greek world that Alexander built; very coarse and crude and mongrel and homely as compared with Attic Greek; full of local words to suit local needs and emergencies and business, as simple as Dog Latin was in Europe in the middle ages, and such as English will one day, become when spelling and speech may be as simple and natural as the common man.

Taste is Localized.

Taste is curiously localized in the mouth. Put a lump of sugar on the tip of your tongue and you will find it tasteless. All sweet or aromatic substances, such as wine, sugar and coffee, can be properly appreciated by the front half of the tongue, a piece of knowledge that every true connoisseur applies when he sips instead of taking a mouthful. With most other substances, however, the reverse is true. In these cases the tip of the tongue serves only for touching—it is the back part that tastes. The sides of the mouth, too, are quite insensible to certain substances not tasteless. Put some salt or vinegar between the teeth and the cheek, and you will find them absolutely flavorless.—London Chronicle.

The Largest Parish.

The man who has the honor of having the most extensive spiritual charge of any active individual minister in the world is the Rev. Leonard J. Christie, of St. Paul, Minn. His parish is 400 miles long and about 100 miles wide, and contains twenty-two meeting places. The line of this huge pastorate runs east and west along the Great Northern, enabling the pastor to use the Montana Central toward the south. There are, however, several preaching points that are not on either line, and these are made by stage or on horseback at distances of from forty to seventy miles.

Only Cause for Smoking Out.

A New York youngster who lives in a neighborhood where disease makes frequent rumblings, necessary returned from his first visit to the country with the astonishing information that Farmer Jones's coons and woodchucks had been laid up with scarlet fever. The summer teacher abhors nature faking, so she admonished him not to tell fibs. "But that ain't no lie," said he. "Didn't I see the tree they lived in wild me own eyes, an' didn't I hear Mr. Jones tell how he had to smoke 'em out?"

See Busbey Bleed.

L. White Busbey is Speaker Cannon's private secretary, and he loves the Speaker in a whole-hearted manner. Every time a newspaper correspondent writes anything harsh about Cannon, Busbey becomes indignant. A writer tells how on one occasion he sent a friend of his to ask a correspondent why he insisted on "roasting" the Speaker. "Well, I'll tell you," replied the newspaper man, "I like to stick Cannon to see Busbey bleed."—Popular Magazine.

More Than 9,000 Queen Wasps.

At the annual show of Burghfield and Sulhamstead Horticultural Society, held in the grounds of Sir Wyndham Murray at Burghfield, the number of queen wasps exhibited was by far the largest ever collected, there being 9,944.

Ernest Chance of the Manor House, Burghfield, gives the collectors a farthing for each wasp, and this year he has paid out just over £10. The majority of the collectors were children.

Sherlock Holmes in Paris.

The subjoined item appeared in a French newspaper: "There was found in the river this morning the body of a soldier cut to pieces and sewed up in a sack. The circumstances seem to preclude any suspicion of suicide."—Everybody's Magazine.

RAILWAY POLICE DOGS.

How They are Trained to Guard the Company's Property.

As an additional protection to the Hull docks a scheme has just been formulated by which the police constables of the North Eastern Railway on night duty will be assisted by dogs.

It is the Alredale breed that is employed and the experiment has been attended with so much success that large kennels have been provided and it is now proposed to augment the number of animals. Tramps scarcely ever sleep out on the docks now, but hold the dogs in deadly terror.

Each dog undergoes a most elaborate training which centres wholly around one idea, that every person dressed in other than police uniform is an enemy. This is an important point and no person dressed in plain clothes is allowed to touch or pet the dogs.

The policemen who tend them must only enter the kennels in uniform. The dogs are taught to obey a policeman's whistle which they soon learn, for the Alredale terrier is obedient. Each animal undergoes strict and rigid training and so far the dogs have rendered most valuable service.—Railway and Travel Monthly.

A Radium Safe.

A radium safe is necessarily a peculiar contrivance, as it must not only be proof against burglars, but must be able to hold a substance that easily passes through the thickest steel. The new safe of the British Radium Corporation is three feet high, weighs a ton and a half, has a tight-fitting circular door, and contains an inner chamber of pure lead three inches thick. To prevent loss on opening, the door is fitted with two valves, so that, before the door is opened, tubes of mercury can be passed through to collect and store the emanation formed. This corporation expects to supply one-third of an ounce of radium a month, valued, at the latest quotations, at the rate of about \$3,000,000 an ounce.—New Orleans Times Democrat.

Substitute for a Glass Cutter.

Occasionally the man of the house or his wife may have need to cut a sheet of window glass and be without a glass cutter of any kind that will work.

An excellent substitute for the work is a pair of heavy scissors or shears that are of no particular value. Submerge the glass in water to a depth of three or four inches and cut the edges as you would a piece of pasteboard. A plate of glass may not be divided in half with this apparatus, as it is supposed the narrow clippings will break away; but unless biting too deep in the main sheet that is to be preserved the weight of the water acts to prevent shattering as otherwise would be effected.—Chicago Tribune.

Art in Catacombs.

The catacombs at Rome were the burial places of the early Christians. They are about 530 miles in extent and are said to have contained 6,000,000 bodies! During the persecutions of the Christians by Nero and other Roman Emperors the catacombs were used for hiding places. Under Diocletian the catacombs were crowded with those for whom there was no safety in the face of day. The art of the catacombs is unique and most interesting. Simple designs are etched in the slabs which seal the tombs. Now and then are small chapels where paintings are to be found. All are Bible illustrations, so that the catacombs may be said to be a pictorial Bible in effect.

Stills in Germany.

An authority on alcohol stills says that there are 20,000 farm stills in operation on as many farms in Germany. The German Government permits the farmer to produce a certain amount of grain or potato alcohol, the amount depending upon the size and location of the farm and the annual demand for the product, upon the payment of a reduced revenue tax. Alcohol distilled in excess of the quantity allowed is subject to the higher rate of taxation. Denatured alcohol, however, is not subject to any tax.

Superstitions.

There is a popular tradition that lightning will not kill any one who is asleep. According to one school, the splinters of a tree struck by lightning are an infallible specific for the toothache. An amusing superstition used to be cherished by the boys of a Yorkshire village, who believed that if they mentioned the lightning immediately after a flash the seat of their trousers would be torn out. No boy could be induced to make this experiment.

A Georgian's Hard Luck Story.

His horse went dead and his mule went lame and he lost six cows in a poker game; then a hurricane came on a summer's day and blew the house where he lived away, and the earthquake came when that was gone and swallowed the land that the house was on; then the tax collector came around and charged him up with the hole in the ground.—Upsom Parrot.

The Majority and Ibsen.

The members of a debating society fiercely discussed Ibsen's declaration that "the majority is always wrong." They even exchanged personalities over the matter, and in the end a motion affirming Ibsen's views to be correct was carried by an overwhelming majority.—London Daily News.

ALASKAN MOSQUITOES.

The Far North Species Worse Than Any in Temperate Zone.

"Our summer lasted for three months and during that time by day as well as by night we had the fight of our lives against swarms of mosquitoes which for tenacity of purpose and endeavor cannot be equalled in this world, and I have seen a good deal of it in my fifteen years as a soldier," said A. C. Gardner, sergeant of Company C, Twenty-second Infantry, at the Union depot, recently. Sergt. Gardner was returning home to Milwaukee, Wis., after two years spent at Fort Gibson, Alaska, some 900 miles northeast of Nome, on the Yukon.

"The Government maintains six posts in Alaska," continued Sergt. Gardner. "We had two companies at our post and did very little actual military duty. Our principal work was in keeping up the telegraph lines which are owned by the Government. The signal corps has large representation in Alaska and the soldiers frequently are called on to give that department assistance."

"I have fought mosquitoes in the woods in Wisconsin, in the flats of New Jersey, in the swamps of the Mississippi River and in the Philippines, but there are none that can equal the voracious species they have in the far North."—Kansas City Journal.

Named by Queen Victoria.

British Columbia, the scene of the newest gold "rush," was of all the colonies the most intimately associated with the late Queen Victoria. She christened it. It was at first proposed to call the place "New Caledonia," but Queen Victoria pointed out that there was already a French colony of that name in the Pacific. She suggested "British Columbia," and the happy thought became a fact. Afterwards Her Majesty was invited by the British Columbians to christen their capital, and she decided upon "New Westminster." But in after years New Westminster was found to be not altogether suitable for a metropolis, and the capital was transferred to Victoria. New Westminster, from the circumstance of its birth, is still locally known as the "Royal City."—London Daily Chronicle.

Eccentricities of Genius.

A patient searcher gives the results of his labors in a Paris contemporary, from which we learn that Haydn never composed unless he had on his finger a ring given to him by Frederick the Great. Malthus, the novelist, we are told, stuck a wafer on his forehead to derive inspiration and to prevent his thoughts being disturbed by his servants. Paelello only composed when in bed and under the clothes.

Mozart in writing his history required candles, even in broad daylight. Rousseau derived inspiration walking among the plants in the sun. Ampere did his work standing, and made his notes in capital letters.

Disinfecting Cars in Prussia.

Disinfection of the coaches of the Prussian state railways has been annoying the sanitation authorities, with the result that the Government recently established a system of steel tubes, boiler riveted, into which coaches may be backed and exteriors and interiors rendered germless through a treatment of formalin. Cars are run into these tubes, one at a time, the end of the tube closed, and its interior filled with formalin gas. The gas tank is set up as a unit in connection with the metal tubing, feeding the disinfecting gases into the tube at short range.

Taints in Frozen Meats.

Signs of badness in frozen meats are the smell near the bone, bone taint. Frozen or refrigerated meat should be defrosted in a special chamber at 70 degrees Fahrenheit. If thawed at atmospheric temperature such meat becomes dry and dirty looking, and will spoil before it can be cooked. Old cold-storage meat is brick dust color and wetish. The American process, currents of cold air 30 degrees, is the best way to refrigerate meat.

Tree Planting by a Railroad.

More than a million trees were planted on tracts along its right of way. The total number of trees planted since 1902, when the forestry work was started, is 3,483,186. These figures are included in the report of the company's forester. Special effort was given last year to growing ornamental shrubbery for parking purposes, and to save time 6,000 plants were imported from France.—Philadelphia Press.

Penny-in-the-Slot Light.

In the little Silesian town of Zankau the authorities have adopted an ingenious automatic device for the benefit of those who are afraid to go home in the dark. The introduction of a coin in a slot at the foot of an electric light standard after extinguishing hours, will light the roadway for twelve minutes.

Keeping Their Tinder Dry.

Wild Scot Highlanders out on a foray or cattle stealing used to carry their tiny tinder, punk or grass up near the armpit to keep it dry, and use for starting fires.

Mr. Rockefeller is loyal to the Cleveland Sunday school he attended when a little boy. It was there he got his start, although they did not teach the oil business in that particular school.

UNCLE SAM SETS THE PACE.

Increase in Federal Expenses Parallels Rise in Cost of Private Living.

"A comparison of the net ordinary expenditures by decades will show the trend of national spending," J. J. Hill in the World's Work. The amounts are as follows:

Increase of Government Expenses.
1870 \$293,667,003
1880 264,847,637
1890 297,736,487
1900 487,713,792
1908 659,196,320

"Although the great business expansion of this country began right after the Civil War, the expenses for 1890 were but \$4,000,000 greater than those of twenty years before.

"Since 1890 these expenditures have grown by \$180,000,000 each nine years on the average, or \$20,000,000 a year, until now they are 121.4 per cent more than they were eighteen years ago.

"Expressed in terms of per capita outgo these charges, which are only part of the cost of maintaining the Federal Government, rose from \$4.75 in 1890 to \$6.39 in 1900 and to \$7.58 in 1908."

The Republic of Liberia.

The Republic of Liberia appears to be in the "hands of a receiver," so to speak. The commission sent to report upon the condition of the country is a unit in declaring that conditions there have gone from bad to worse, until at last the country is upon the verge of bankruptcy and general collapse. The consensus of opinion seems to be to the effect that unless the United States steps in to prevent it, the Republic will soon be divided up between Great Britain, France and Germany. Financially, industrially and socially the country is at the low-water mark, and it is declared by those who have looked into the situation that unless this country takes hold of the Liberian Government the whole thing will soon go up in smoke. The Liberian experiment is not quite a century old, the first transplantation of American negroes having been made in 1822.

The British Constitution.

In England they have no written constitution—nothing answering to what is understood in this country by that term. That which in Great Britain answers to our Constitution is something that grows steadily and fits itself to the ever-changing conditions of the progressive times. It is elastic, and in no way bound by the past, except in so far as that which is regarded as of the nature of precedent, can stand every test of the new conditions and new requirements.

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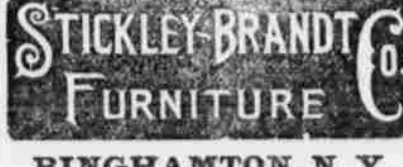


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