

The Farm

Color of Fruit.

It matters little about the color of fruit used in home consumption, but market fruits must have good color, as the eye is caught by it and this leads to a more ready sale. Clear air and sunshine are the first requisites for producing color, and for this reason the Connecticut hills are particularly adaptable to the needs of the fruit raiser. Trees should be open headed, well cultivated in the early season and not at all later. Proper fertilization is also an important factor.

Gypsy Moth Fight.

In his talk on injurious insects Dr. W. E. Britton spoke at Hartford, Conn., of the fight with the gypsy moth over in Stonington, and advocated that the Government use a few thousands of dollars now to prevent it from breaking out extensively, rather than spend hundreds of thousands of dollars later when the pest has a good start. The San Jose scale, he said, is always with us, and the present mild winter might be expected to produce it in greater numbers this year. Spraying is the only effective method of fighting this pest.

A Wonderful Cow.

Think of paying \$8000 for a cow with so distasteful a name as Rag Apple! Bu. that is what Daniel W. Field, a Brockton shoe manufacturer, did recently. And he got back half the price within a month from the day of purchase, she having dropped a calf which had already been sold to a New York breeder for \$4000. Pontiac Rag Apple is the full name of the cow, and she holds the second highest record for milk and butter produced of any one cow in the world, with the bluest of Holstein-Friesian blood in her veins. She has a record of production that has jumped from 279 to 309 quarts of milk per week. At five cents a quart for her milk she is netting her owner an income of \$2.20 per day; if turned into butter the yield would be about a quarter less than four pounds per day!—Hartford Courant.

Keep a Few Sheep.

The farmer who does not keep at least a small flock of sheep is losing money every year, says Up-to-Date Farming. Much of the feed consumed by a flock of sheep would be otherwise a total waste.

A few sheep should be found on every farm. Good, comfortable sheds that are large and roomy are a necessity where sheep are to be wintered. These need not be expensive, but should be well ventilated, free from drafts and situated on dry ground. A large, open yard, apart from that occupied by other animals, should be provided for exercise. Too much confinement in overcrowded or ill ventilated stables is fatal to success with sheep. On the other hand, comfortable quarters, regular and liberal feeding, plenty of pure water and a sufficiency of salt will go far toward insuring their successful wintering and a strong crop of lambs in the spring.

Value of Clover Hay.

All in all, we consider red clover hay much superior to timothy, says Farmer's Call. We do not know what the chemical analysis shows. We know what the cow, calf, steer, sheep and horse have uniformly testified. It is easier to spoil clover hay in the making than it is timothy hay. That is to be considered. It is important to cut the clover before it gets too ripe. And timothy is not near so much damaged in the swath or windrow by rain as is clover. But in these days of wide-cut mowers, and hay loaders and rickers and forks, one can handle the clover with little danger of damage. Of course if it is very heavy one should use a tedder.

It seems that the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station has been making tests to determine the relative value of timothy and clover, and these results are reported: Twenty horses were put on feed. They cost \$185 each, on the average, at the outset, and sold at \$288.37, a profit that looks decidedly attractive. In this experiment, horses fed on corn, oats and clover hay gained 277 pounds each in ninety-two days. At twenty cents this would mean \$55.40, and at the beginning of the experiment a responsible horse dealer offered the experiment station authorities that price for all the gain made. In the case of the lot fed on the same ration, but with timothy substituted for clover, the gain was but 142 pounds, and the timothy ration cost more than clover.

Poultry Rations Recommended.

The Maine Experiment Station recommends the following mixture for laying hens: Two hundred pounds wheat bran, 100 pounds middlings, 100 pounds gluten meal, 100 pounds linseed meal, 100 pounds cornmeal and 100 pounds beef scraps; this combination contains approximately twenty-four per cent. protein, seven per cent. fat, six per cent. ash, seven per cent. fibre and forty-six per cent. starchy matter, and would cost \$1.50 a hundred, unmixed, at retail.

Professor Lindsay, of the Hatch Experiment Station, has had good success with a mixture made up as follows: One hundred pounds cornmeal, fifty pounds wheat bran, fifty pounds four middlings, fifty pounds gluten feed and fifty pounds beef scrap; it contains twenty-two per cent. protein, six per cent. fat, five

per cent. ash, four per cent. fibre and fifty-one per cent. starchy matter, and costs \$1.50 a hundred, unmixed, at retail. The scrap may be omitted and mixed in with the grains as often as it is deemed necessary. Such mixtures may be fed either dry, or made into a friable mash with skim milk or hot water, together with a little salt.

To the writer the proportion of cornmeal seems too great in the Lindsay formula, especially for greedy fowl. This has been his experience, the hens getting fat and lazy. The Maine man comes nearer to his idea of a well balanced ration, although it is rated as containing one per cent. more fat than the former. This is easily overcome by the greater bulk per pound by reason of the bran. Either formula would be benefited by the addition of one per cent. cut clover.

Sweet Corn in June.

You can have corn from the garden in June—not for market, of course, but for family use—at a time when the corn in your neighbor's garden is not yet coming out in tassel. To do this plant "Peep o' Day" corn about the middle of April in berry cups, flower pots, or in a box divided off in partitions, making the ground very rich with ashes, manure and some complete fertilizer. Put in lots of it, for where the ground is kept moist there is no danger of burning the roots. There should be nearly two quarts of earth to each hill.

To get sweet corn in June, first plant Peep o' Day indoors about April 1, in a box partitioned off into small compartments, or plant in berry boxes or flower pots.

As soon as the corn begins to come it, it must be set out of doors, or it will get "spindly." It must be either brought in at night, or, better, covered with a sash, which can be removed on sunny days. With "Peep o' Day" corn four plants can be set to each hill, and from ten to fifty hills, each yielding from six to ten small but delicious ears to each hill, can be started thus very easily, getting big enough to begin using the last of June. Some gardeners dig a hole in the garden, fill it with fresh manure, pack it down, and thus to some stakes driven in each corner nail some old boards on which can be laid a storm sash taken from the house. A sunny bay window would answer as well—the corn must have sun. When your neighbors are planting their corn set out the corn, taking care not to disturb the roots. In case of a late frost, the hills can be covered with newspapers, boxes or baskets at night, taking care to put them on at or before sundown.

Diseased Hoof.

Greasing is necessary for horses which are much exposed to dampness, and is as good for the sole and frog as for the wall. It is applicable, also, to feet which have to stand on dry bedding. Feet which on account of diseased conditions require to be frequently soaked or poulticed ought also to be greased. Bedding of peat moss and fine sawdust, equal parts, is most excellent. All these measures may be advantageous if the feet are properly shod.

Good shoeing is the essential prophylaxy of hoof bound. We must avoid all improper practices likely to promote dessication and contraction of the foot, such as abuse of the rasp, too long application of the heated shoe when fitting it to the foot, the lowering of the heels, the excessive paring of the frog or of the bars, the bad fitting of the shoes, useless calks, too many nails in the quarter or near the heels—all these errors must be carefully avoided. The foot, moreover, must not be allowed to grow too long. The shoeing should be renewed monthly, even if the shoe is not worn, and lastly, the horse must not be allowed too long periods of inactivity.

It has been proposed to abolish the custom of shoeing, but in the present conditions and modes of using the horse this is impossible. The feet deprived of their accustomed protection would soon become painful, and only by keeping the animal in the country could the feet be suffered to remain unshod.

Several modes of shoeing have been invented to prevent contractions in feet which are predisposed to them. Some are undoubtedly beneficial, but they must be used as are ordinary shoeing and not reserved until the access of the disease. Good shoeing is often all that is required. It is absolutely necessary to study the pose of the limb and in preparing the foot to have it absolutely level, also the shoe, and by all means try and preserve the natural elasticity of the foot, not let it get too dry, or become too soft, but endeavor to preserve a proper equilibrium.—Chas. R. Wood, V. S.

Swiss Soldiers on Skis.

A detachment of French Alpine Chasseurs has within the last few days achieved a notable feat in traversing mountains on skis. The men were stationed at the winter post of Bourg Saint Maurice, and the foray was carried out under the command of Lieuts. Krug and Michal.

The party left Chapeux in the morning, and in the evening had reached Albertville, after traversing the peak of the Cornet de Roseland and the Beaufort Valley. The distance covered was thirty miles.—London Globe.

ORIGIN OF THE HANDKERCHIEF.

An Indispensable Pocket Companion For the Civilized Man.

To-day the handkerchief is everybody's indispensable pocket companion, and we can hardly conceive how the world could get along without it. And yet there was a time when the handkerchief was not known even in name, and women celebrated as beautiful never made use of it. Still, no blame attaches to the beauties of those days; for civilization had then not called forth a reciprocal relation between nose and handkerchief. On the other hand, the habit of wiping the nose and the primitive mode applied to this operation has been transmitted to us, from generation to generation, in straight line from our first parents. For it may be taken for granted that Adam in paradise, for want of a handkerchief, used his fingers, and that Eve, in this respect, followed her husband's example. They found each other not less beautiful and attractive for this practice.

The Scriptures make no mention of the handkerchief. We are, therefore, justified in assuming that the ancient Hebrews employed Adam's proceeding in all its simplicity. The same may also be said of the Chaldeans and Assyrians, who were not much farther advanced in civilization than the Hebrews of their time. As to the ancient Persians we learn from Xenophon that they were ordered by Cyrus not to spit and drain their noses in public. Accordingly, there was nothing else left for them but to absorb internally, by means of the oesophagus, that which by right belong to the handkerchief. Just as little send the Greeks to have known the handkerchief, properly so called. True, they made use of a kind of cloth or towel, called sudarium, but this was only to wipe the face or mouth with. The orators on the tribune and the poets in their competitions were not allowed to spit or drain their noses; hence they had to conform to Xenophon's decree. Even Nero conformed to this rule, as we learn from the passage in Tacitus: "Ne sudorem, nisi ea quam indultul gerebat, veste detereret; ut nulla oris aut narium excrementa viscerentur." (Annal xvi, c. 14). No wonder the ancients appreciated a nose that did not require to be thus relieved. They looked especially in woman for this precious advantage, and it was the first thing they inquired about of their intended wives. Plautus has one of his personages ask for a wife a woman whose nose is not wet, and Juvenal shows us a husband who, in the support of his divorce suit, adduces the only fact that his wife required the too frequent use of her fingers. The Romans borrowed from the Greeks the use of the sudarium, which in Latin became sudarium. It was exclusively intended to wipe the perspiration from the face.

It is an historically established fact that not until 350 years ago a woman made for the first time use of a handkerchief. The woman who thus took the first step to the refining of mankind was a pretty Venetian. Hence Italy is the cradle of the handkerchief. The Italian "fazzoletto," as it was called, was first appropriated by the women of France about 1540, and about 1580 it appeared in Germany, where, however, at first the common people were forbidden its use. Even earlier than in France the handkerchief came in vogue in Turkey under Soliman (1520-66), where it was considered a distinction of the highest state officers and dignitaries. As to England we read that Henry VIII. already used "handkerchiefs of Holland, fringed with Venice gold," and some "of Flanders' worke," and that Jacob handkerchiefs and handkerchiefs of silk and cambric, richly embroidered and trimmed with gold lace, were fashionable in the reign of Elizabeth. Evelyn, in one of his satirical poems describing a woman's toilet, includes, among a host of other articles:

Of pocket monchoirs, nose to drain,
A dozen laced, a dozen plain.

To-day the handkerchief is no longer a luxury, but an indispensable article of toilet. The Japanese have paper handkerchiefs, which they burn after using.—New York Tribune.

Early Rising Hotel Guests.

"Hotel guests, as a rule, are early risers," said Bob Johnson, clerk of the Griswold, the other evening, "and to prove it I will show you the call sheet. You will notice that there are more 7 and 7.30 calls than any other. Beginning at 4 o'clock, which is seldom used, the call sheet is ruled down to 10. About 5.30 the sheet shows a few room numbers, and from that time until 7 o'clock the increase is rapid. After 7 the number decreases until in the last column or two there is hardly ever a mark.

"When a man leaves a call for any hour later than 9.30 we always send a pitcher of ice water along as a matter of course, and if the guests asks to be allowed to sleep until 11, it is usually safe to have the boy take up a 'bracer' also."—Detroit Free Press.

The Girl No Man Wants.

The kind of girl who expects her path to be strewn with bouquets, chocolates, theatre tickets and treats generally will find her popularity short lived, no matter how charming she may be.

The average young man's pocket cannot stand the strain long, and he will turn to some other girl, less attractive, perhaps, but who will be content with the attentions he can afford to bestow on her.

It is a girl's place, says Health, to see that the expenses a young man incurs for her pleasure shall not exceed what he can easily afford.

What's in a Name?

"That's a dandy cigar, Jim; where did you get it?"

"Just down the street."

"What's the name?"

"Don't remember the name of the brand, but it's one of those Triangle A brands we hear so much about nowadays."

The name of a brand of cigars is not in itself important—it only makes it easier for you to ask for the cigar you want.

What you want when you buy cigars is a guarantee—something by which you can distinguish the brands of one manufacturer from another—so that you can tell the good cigars from the poor ones.

And you have this guarantee in the Triangle A merit mark.

The American Cigar Company is the one manufacturer to distinguish its brands so that the smoking public may know who makes the best cigars.

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have no way of distinguishing other brands of the same manufacturer so you can fight shy of them. That's why so many poor cigars are sold.

And it's the best reason in the world why you should always look for the Triangle A when you buy cigars.

You can understand how every Triangle A brand must be good value, because if any brand bearing the Triangle A merit mark were poor quality it would not only kill the sale of that brand, but would hurt our whole business.

What better assurance would you want of honest cigar value? What better reason that you should always buy Triangle A brands?

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When properly performed the pasteurization of milk renders it safe and wholesome, without injuring its value as a food, declares the New York Globe. In conjunction with inspection and cleanliness there is every reason to believe that it would enable the city to secure a milk supply incapable of spreading the germs of infectious disease. Mr. Nathan Straus has for a number of years been conducting in this city an object lesson illustrating the number of babies that can be saved by pasteurized milk, and has declared that the same economy of human life could be attained in the case of adults.

SPORTING BRIEVITIES.

The National Association of Automobile Manufacturers have resolved to oppose touring competitions.

The Hackney Horse Society, of London, will offer a \$500 cup for competition at the New York show.

Cambridge defeated Oxford by four and a half lengths in the annual boat race on the Thames from Putney to Mortlake.

The old cry for a uniform but simpler code of rules for golf is again being heard in the land, and this time an echo comes from Great Britain.

If Battling Nelson fights anybody in England it will be Johnny Summers, who recently lost the featherweight championship to Spike Robson on a foul.

William C. Dole, Yale's track coach in 1892 and 1903, signed a contract to coach the Wesleyan University track team. Dole has been in charge of boxing at Yale for ten years.

One of the richest prizes offered to aeronauts is that of a London newspaper—\$50,000 for the first machine that can cover the distance between London and Manchester, allowing two stops for fuel.

Harry Lewis, the Philadelphia pugilist, must stand trial at Grand Rapids, Mich., for causing the death of Mike Ward in a recent bout. But the charge has been changed from murder to manslaughter.

By declaring that he will not interfere to prevent prize fights, the Rev. Governor Henry T. Buechel, Colorado's new preacher-Governor, will probably make his State the home of glove contests in the future.

Horsemen temporarily out of business at Nashville and Memphis by legislation prohibiting racing in Tennessee are at Chattanooga, planning to establish a race track just across the Georgia line, five miles away.

A Strike Over \$2.

A report comes from Troy, N. Y., of a strike, closing up certain mills, over a question involving an outlay of \$2 a week only. Each mill is allowed to employ two boys, known as "boarders," from the peculiar work which they do. The borders of one mill asked for a change from a piece to a weekly basis, which meant a difference of 50 cents a week in the wages of each. The employers refused to grant it, and so all the employees went out on a strike. The report adds that the weather was warm, making it fortunate for the employees, and also that the manufacturers have long been wanting an opportunity to make some repairs in their mills, conditions which go far to explain how so trifling a matter should be allowed to occasion a shutdown at a time when the knitting business was never more prosperous. Often an inclination to stop work on either side, or both, has quite as much to do with fomenting discord as the activities of a labor agitator.—The Boston Transcript.

A St. Louis woman who desired to commit suicide paid a druggist for an ounce of carbolic acid and received a bottle of glycerin flavored with acid. Things have come to a pretty pass, remarks the Courier-Journal, when even our cold poison is rectified!

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There is an idea abroad among moral people that they should make their neighbors good, declared Robert Louis Stevenson. One person I have to make good, myself. But my duty to my neighbor is much more nearly expressed by saying that I have to make him happy—if I may.

A Kentucky Congressman says the Wall street man is a bull today, a bear tomorrow, but always a hog. That man will not be called to fill the chair of high finance zoology in a tainted-money college, prophesies the New York American.