

Growth of Farm Mail Service. Fourteen years ago the first experient in rural free mail delivery was s, and it is only within the past years that any considerable sum been appropriated by congress for purpose. This year the service cost the government about \$37,-000, and the force of rural mail carriers numbers about thirty thousand.—American Cultivator.

Profit in Trees.

Farmers who are planting locust trees declare that there is no more profitable way of utilizing cheap land. They figure it this way: Two thousand four hundred trees can be planted to an acre; in eight years these trees will be large enough to cut for fence posts and each tree will yield two At retail these posts will be worth 25 cents each, or 50 cents a That means at retail a crop worth \$1200 per acre at the end of eight years, or an average of \$150 an acre a year.-Kansas City Journal.

Keep the Mower Busy.

One of our most careful grain growers keeps his mower busy during the fall in his stubble delds. The weeds are kept mowed off, until the ground in fit condition to ploy, and then good job of plowing will turn them inder so far that they will not get through this fall. The thing to do keeping down weeds is to keep them from seeding. If this is done we are sure not to scatter any fresh seed. although some of the old seed will no doubt come up next season. If for any reason plowing is to be delayed don't take any chances on the weeds going to seed. Keep the mower out ntil the plows are ready to start .-Indiana Farmer.

Try Crimson Clover.

Crimson clover with oats is an experiment worth trying. We have oats ad crimson clover together, but have heard the plan recommended. If they succeed and the oats are cut at proper time to make oat hay the product will be a richer hay than if it were all oats. Oats and vetch make a fine hay also; but in sowing either crimson clover or vetch the land needs o contain the necessary bacteria for

these plants, or they will not succeed It will be worth your while to try both these plants with oats. Sow one bushel oats and 8 pounds of crimson clover per acre. Sow the oats first and then the crimson clover, as the gover should not be covered deep.

For vetch and oats, sow 20 pounds otch and one bushel of oats per acre. In this instance sow the vetch first as the vetch seed will stand deeper covering than the oats.-Progressive

The Value of Legumes.

One of the state stations, as most of them do, lays strong claim to the eguminous plants for soil fertility, as well as for immediate crops. Two of hese are specially referred to in terms following:

The cow pea and soy bean belong to the legume family. These plants are able, through the medium of bacteria which are associated with their root systems, to assimilate free nitrogen from the soil air. This characterlatic makes these plants a valuable to the farmer's list of crops.

As forage crops the cow pea and soy bean should be given a conspicnous place in the rotation. The grain and forage thus obtained furnish nitrogenous material for the ration which is used in feeding the live stock on

On upland soils both crops will respond to applications of barnyard anure, hence this by-product of the farm should receive special attention even if our lands are comparative-

The farmer has a long list of varieties at his disposal. In making a selection productiveness is an important Item.-Indiana Farmer.

Handling the Colts.

It is my rule to begin training a colt as soon as it is able to stand up rood. Let it know you are a friend, and it will soon learn this if you always deal gently with it. Pet and idle it a great deal. If the mother is ill and objects to your being in the with the colt tie har out of each so she can do you or the colt no harm, the pet the colt. Teach it what "whoa" means by putting one arm around its neck and the other around its rump and tell it "whoa" hile it struggles, as it is sure to do. It can be taught to back while still ng, too, Put a halter on it and ach it to lead and stand tied; when the mother is driven on the road tie the colt by her side if the distance is not too great, and let it go with her, as it will learn to travel and get used to objects, etc., while small and will never know to scare at them when it tie the colt in the stable till the r returns, to eat oats, bran, skim milk, etc., and colt can stay from the mother a day without being any the worse for it. When the colt is old enough to work put harness on it that fits well; hitch it beside a gentle horse and teach it to work. teach ours first in the farm wagon. When it knows how to pull and is used to the bits, put a small load of manure or something in the wagon and draw it to a near-by field, but never over-load a colt or you will make a balker out of it. Speak gently to it all the time and it will not get nervous as it would if the lash and rough words were used.

We always work our colts a little at two years, hitch them up every week or so and they will not forget what it is to pull. At three years old put more work on them, and we usually have ours broke at three years to work any place that an old horse can, and they do not scare, kick or balk.-Writer in the Indiana Farmer.

Apple Scab.

An ever present, and very generally neglected, pest of the orchard is the fungous disease, apple scab, "black spot" as it is sometimes called. This disease has been so frequently described as to be perfectly familiar. Spraying is effective in securing a crop of fruit relatively free from this disease, even in those seasons when the scab is most prevalent.

For several years the conditions have been such that the fruit has been relatively free from scab, and as a result many growers who took up the practice of spraying some years ago, have gradually ceased to spray. It should be said, however, that this neglect is wholly comparable to the neglect which permits the lapse of a fire insurance policy. It may be unnecessary to spray to secure a crop of fair fruit one year, or even two or three years in succession; but when the unfavorable season does come, if spraying has been neglected, there is frequently a needless loss of several hundred barrels of fruit in orchards of

The fact has been clearly demonstrated that, in a bad season, there was a difference of 50 percent in the amount of perfect fruit upon sprayed and unsprayed trees, the best results being obtained from the use of bordeaux mixture. In other words, trees not sprayed gave on three successive years, 1, .9, and 38.2 percent of the fruit free from scab, while the same years an equal number of trees sprayed with eau celeste (copper sulphate, carbonate of soda and ammonia) gave 58.8, 30.1 and 72.8 percent respective-

The third year bordeaux mixture was used and gave still better results -79.9 percent of the fruit being free from scab.

From these and similar results obtained al over the country, it is evident that spraying has ceased to be an experiment as a means of controlling certain orchard diseases. The results above cited, have been repeatedly confirmed both at this station and else where. Reference is made to the subject at this time only to emphasize the importance of using precautionary measures. Even though there be no crop of fruit, the increased vigor of the trees as a result of clean, healthy foliage, will far more than repay the cost of spraying. This spraying with bordeaux mixture should be done first before the buds burst, and again immediately after the blossoms fall, if but two treatments are to be given. If the season is very wet, however at least four treatments at intervals of two or three weeks are found to be advantageous.-Prof. W. M. Munson, Experiment Station, Orono, Me.

Notes of the Farm.

Burnt or charred corn will take the place of charcoal for laying hens. Read all the agricultural matter you can get hold of. You will always

profit by so doing. About the best way to feed turnips to sheep is to cut them up and mix

with some dampened bran. Turn the hogs in the orchard every few days to clean up the refuse fruit.

It will do them good as well as the orchard. A fowl should not be fed for at least twelve hours previous to killing, and the meat will be found to be ten

percent better. Make some arrangement for warm ing the water for the stock in cold weather. It is not good policy to give

them ice-cold water. It is impossible to stand a high priced horse for a cheap service fee and it is equally impossible to expect a colt from a cheap horse.

Horses with large overgrown frames have so much dead weight caused by superfluous fat that it tires out their legs to carry about their bodies.

With colts especially overfeeding quickly impaires the digestive organs and in this condition the system is much more liable to disease and disorders in general.

It is said that in Algeria the horse out-number the human beings.

"Keep Tabs" on Yourself

By L. J. Wright.

Decessory NE of the ways in which a man has made himself independdent of his salary and has placed himself in that position comes from the purchase of an account book, for which he paid 10 cents. Every time he spends a cent be puts an entry in his book. Every time he buys a newspaper, a cigar, a drink, a necktie, a suit of clothes; every time he goes to the theatre or to a dance; every time that he draws even the smallest sum from his hoard he puts the record of his expenditure in his book,

And every time that he opens his book and reads some of the entries he regrets that he has made them. And every time he regrets he resolves to make no more like them. And some, although not all, of these resolutions stick. The plan is worth trying.

This worker upon taking stock of his outgo finds many places in which he has spent money uselessly and foolishly. He makes up his mind not to repeat the mistakes. Sometimes when he is tempted to spend money he is held back by the mere thought of the labor of putting down the sum. His little book has cured him of the sin that besets so many men—that of buying s thing, not because he wants it, but because it is cheap.

The first hundred dollars is the hardest to save, but money gets money. The interest upon the hundred dollars that lies in the bank is something. It is something to think that there is that hundred waiting like troops in reserve for some emergency in which it surely will be needed. The interest is pfling up all the time. The opportunity of making that hundred dollars earn other dollars comes uselessly to the man who has not the first hundred. When it comes to the man who has the money stowed away he takes advantage of it.

The notebook idea has been operated with success by men whose incomes have been so large they were not forced by necessity to resort to the minute description of their expenditures,

But they knew as well as those men of smaller means knew that the leaks that are not noted are the leaks that count up. When the man has his eye on the outgo all the time the chances are in favor of the proposition that the outgo will not get away from him He will know when it is becoming too heavy, and he at once can take means to check it. But the man who only knows that it is costing him all he makes to live does not see where he can ex clude any expenditures. It is to the worker of this class that the notebook scheme ought to appeal with great force. A book may be bought for a nickel Surely that is not an expensive luxury when the possible results are considered.-The Workers' Magazine.

Proper Regulation of Concentrated Wealth By Secretary of War Taft.



HE irresponsibility of the wielder of millions of capital which has heretofore accompanied his exercise of power in the business communities it is now settled must have an end; and the limitations which shall effectually end it will be dictated by experience and the statesmanlike acumen of the coming generation. Such a change cannot be effected in a short time. Such a change cannot be brought about by mere denunciation and indiscriminate condemnation, whether delivered from a stump or contained in the provisions of law.

They must and will be fashloned ultimately by the hand of one or many, who shall realize the necessity for maintaining the institution of private property and the freedom of individual initiative on the one hand, and of restraining the well-recognized abuses and illegalities of the exercise of the power of concentrated wealth to achieve monopoly by duress. Such regulation is possible, and it only needs experience and earnest effort, honest and courageous and expeditious courts, intelligent and fearless juries, to enforce the regulations which shall teach those who would otherwise offend and misuse the power of concentrated wealth that it is not only moral and conducive to their happiness, but also profitable, to observe the regulations that the quickened conscience of the people has insisted upon introducing upon the statute-book The same general observations are applicable to railroads, as they exercise a public function.

A "Square Deal" for The Insane Poor By Henry Wolfer, Warden of Stillwater

(Minn.) State Prison.



******** F a man is insane when he commits a crime, in what way does he differ from the man, who, through the interest and influence of friends or relatives, has been found insane and sent to the asylum before he commits an overt act? The only difference I can see is in the name. The first is called an insane criminal and the latter criminally insane. The former may be poor and without friends, but he is nevertheless entitled to the same protection, humane and consider-

ate treatment, as the latter. We have at least twenty of

these unfortunates in our prison, who were clearly insane when arrested, and the crime was doubtless the result of insanity. Why should such a poor unfortunate be branded as a criminal because he has no friends? In the majority of such cases the court could easily have determined his mental disorder and committed him to the asylum for the insane, where he belongs; and until some pains are taken to follow out this humane course much needless suffering and heartless abuse of those poor unfortunates are bound to follow throughout their jail and prison experience. I ask you-the possessor of a heart that beats in sympathy with the most unfortunate and oppressed-is it not enough to excite your sympathy to see this poor mental wreck reeling about in his chaotic efforts to stand alone, without branding him as a criminal, and treating him as one?

: The Red Planet : By Charles Nevers Holmes.



ARS will ever be an object of interest to us, because of its comparative proximity and because its surface presents little difficulty of telescopic examination, and should some of the conjectures relative to its present or past habitability prove to be true such results would be most enthusiastically welcomed. At present, however, data concerning Mars are necessarily meagre, and even semi-positive assertion whether the planet is or is not inhabited would be merely conjec-

Mars possesses about one-half our diameter and one-seventh our volume is some 140,000,000 miles from the sun, and consequently at a mean distance of nearly 50,000,000 miles from us. It receives less than one-half the sunlight and heat per square foot that we do; has an atmosphere less dense than ours, and possesses water and ice. The planet exhibits two ice caps at its poles and orange and freenish tinsts between these poles. These peculiar lines of markings-the "dinais"-concerning which there has arisen much discussion, it, inexplicable network over the surface of ruddy Mars.

Thus I way it may be left to any man's judgment whether or not Mars is inhabited. There seems to be no serious reason why it should not be; but to declare what sort of anthropical or amphibious creatures inhabit this planet is a too comprehensive stretch of one's imagination.



The sun is shining, oh, so hard, It's such a joily day, And all the little ruffled flowers Are calling me to play.

But I must quite forget the sun, Nor think about the breeze, And only sit and do my scales, -All up and down the keys.

I just pretend my fingers walk Down pretty polished stairs, To a black hole so cold and deep, Quite full of angry bears.

And then 'way up to where it's light My frightened fingers run, And very soon it's twelve o'clock, The horrid scales are done. -From "The Bed-Time Book," by Heler Hay Whitney.

A Good Way To Go.

A certain farmer had an orchard of very choice apple trees, which was often visited by youthful raiders, who were fonder of apples than of honesty On one night the farmer, while watching in a secluded spot for some of the suspected thieves, was astonished to see proceeding cautiously in the direction of his favorite appletrees the well-known son of a neighbor.

"Hey, Jack!" cried the farmer in sur-"where are ye goin' to, my lad?" Jack stopped abruptly, in utter dismay. Then he turned and started for the gate. "Going back, sir," he shout-ed.—Philadelphia Record.

A Jealous Pigeon.

Willie Karow has a pet pigeon which is not of the ordinary, common, everyday pigeon, says the Wellington News It has taken up with an old hen and when she goes to the nest to lay the pigeon goes with her and sets on the nest till the hen leaves; then it goes with her. When the hen is setting the pigeon stays on the nest with her, and when she gets off to feed it tries to cover the eggs until her return, when it will leave and go out and feed, only to again return. When the little chicks hatch the pigeon becomes jealous of them and tries to kill the entire brood.—Kansas City Journal.

Sparrows.

No other birds are so closely asso clated with the early autumn, with the coming of the golden-rod and the as ters as are the white-throated sparrows; and many nature lovers eager ly watch for the arrival of these fall songsters from the North. When they are first seen their only note, a feeble tseep, tells little of their musical power, as they seem to have an agreement not to dash into our presence with a song but to wait for a week or more after their arrival before surprising us by a display of their real ability. Many kinds of birds are especially sociable in the autumn, but none is more so than the white-throated sparrows. Their gentle companionship and plaintive song seem especially adapted to the dreamy days of our Indian summer.

The Appetite of a Bird.

The average man, if he had a bird's appetite, would devour from thirty to thirty-one pounds of food a day, which would be a tax on the larder.

Recent experiments have proved that the average bird manages to eat about one-fifth of his own weight daily with ease, if he can get so much food, and in a wild state, though the bird has to hunt for his daily provender, he is eating a large part of the time dur- mow the whole place?" ing the day and manages to get his full rations.

The smal er the bird, the more voracious seems to be its appetite and its power of absorption.

A German scientist recently kept a canary under observation for a month. The little creature weighed only 16 grams, but in the course of the month It managed to eat 512 grams weight of food: that is, about thirty-two times its own weight. The bird must therefore have eaten its own weight in food every day.

An ordinary man with a canary's ap petite would consume 150 pounds of food a day.

But the canary is an extreme case. The ordinary bird, in good health, will be satisfied with one-fifth of its weight a day by way of food.-Answers.

Guessing Names of Authors.

Seated around a camp fire the oth er night during a lull in the conversa tion, the resourceful woman of the party, who had been dubbed "the chink filler," produced these questions from her reticule and nearly every one was correctly answered:

1. Whose name means such flery things you can't describe the pain and stings? Burns.

2. What a rough man said to his neighbor when the meat was tough? Chaucer.

3. Pilgrims kneel to kiss him?

Pope. 4. Makes and mends for his customers? Taylor.

5. Represents the dwellings of civilized men? Holmes.

6. To be worn on the head? Hood. 7. Hills that cover a dark treasure? Coleridge.

8. A worker in precious metals?

9. A vital part of the body? Hart. 10. A disagreeable malady affecting the feet? Bunyan.

11. Meat, what are you doing in the oven? Browning. 12. The greatest incentive in life? Charlotte Yonge. 14. An author with a girl's name? Sue.

15. What an angry person often

raises? Caine.—Indianapolis News.

In Grade Five. "It is too warm in the school-room," said the pretty new teacher. "Earle,

will you please set the door ajar?" Earle walked quietly to the door behind Miss Spring, while she went on explaining multiplication of fractions. He opened the door a very little, then he shook it,—shook it as hard as he could shake a heavy school-room door, and not make a noise to disturb the class. Really, all he could do was to push it back and forth two or three times. Then he closed it, and walked back to his seat, rather red in the face, because he felt sure he had not jarred it much, not enough to cool the room

When the lesson was finished, Miss Spring looked at the door.

"The door has closed itself," she said. "Set it ajar again, please, Earle, and a little more this time."

Very much embarrassed, because he knew how little he could shake it, Earle went forward, tried again to shake the door, gave it up as before, and went back to sit down, very limp, in his seat. Nobody laughed, to his relief, but some of the pupils did look puzzled. "Why did he not mind?" their faces seemed to ask. Suddenly Miss Spring began to smile.

'I do not believe Earle knows what it is to set a door ajar," she said kind-

Then Mollie Prescott laughed out loud. She saw what kind of a jar Earle knew about.

Miss Spring shook her head at Mollie, and went on to say, gently:-

"Jar is a strange word, isn't it? Some times it means to shake, sometimes t means what the cookies are kept in, you know, and sometimes, when it has a little a fastened on in front, it means just this,"-and she went to the door, and opened it a good wide crack .-Gertrude L. Stone, in Sunday School

How Tommy Jones Helped.

Tommy Jones went to see his Uncle Samuel in the country; and if you will believe me it was the first time he had even been in the real, red-barn country. He had been to mountains and seashore, but Tommy did not think that they counted. Of course he was very much interested in everything and especially in what Uncle Samuel called his "chores."

Tommy wanted to help, and while his intentions were often, if not always good, his results were sometimes disastrous, as you shall see.

"It seems," said Uncle Samuel, "to be his nature to do uncommon awful things.'

The lawnmower was a great delight to Tommy. He lived in a flat when at home and he thought the lawnmower looked like his mother's parlor sweeper, and he called it outdoor broom. Could he have had his way he would have leveled all nature and not have stopped at the front lawn. When he first saw his uncle cutting grass he said; "Uncle Sam'l, why don't you

"Son," said his uncle, "I have only one pair of hands and one lawnmower; I can't do more than I kin." Which was very true, of course, and it set Tommy thinking.

Next morning, after Uncle Samuel had gone to the meadow, Tommy Jones took the lawnmower and made up his mind to help his uncle in a fine and spiendid way. It was very quiet; every one seemed gone to some distant spot, and Tommy and the lawnmower had things to themselves. Tommy fixed his eagle eye upon the landscape and finally it rested upon the vegetable garden, and the promising rows of young and aspiring eatables.

"Here is work," said Tommy Jones, and he was right. He would mow the garden for Uncle Samuel and help him best he could. It was no easy matter, as you can readily see. Tommy almost wept from exhaustion and the beads of honest perspiration fell from his brow. For two hours he pushed and hauled, uprooting and crushing down as hopeful a lot of garden truck as a thrifty farmer could wish to see. After he was through, the place looked like one of earth's battlefields with the slain painfully mangled. There was only one thing to be said, everything was down but Tommy, and he was down in his spirits.

Then the people came back, and Uncle Samuel, in horrified silence, viewed the morning's efforts of his young guest. Many of the family sald things calculated to hurt the feelings of an honest boy's heart, and Tommy drooped terribly. Then Uncle Samuel came to the fore in a remarkable and manly manner.

"Never mind, son," he so 'vegetables don't count against brains and an honest heart. You meant to help and you've worked mighty hard doing it, and I was once a boy myself, and somehow I hoven't remembered it as clearly for years as I do today. Why, once—" but there he stopped in time for Tommy had such an interested look on his face that it frightened Uncle Samuel,-Wash-