

FARMERS' CORNER

The Milking Shed.

A plan that has been proven successful, not only in the improvement of the milk, but in the saving of the manure, is to have a separate barn or shed to do the milking in. This can be a comparatively cheap structure, as it would be intended to keep the cows in it only during the process of milking.

The barn, however, should be constructed in a substantial and sanitary way. After the cows are milked they are turned into a roomy shed or barn, where they remain loose and can eat forage or lie down at will. There are in this shed racks and troughs for feeding hay and ensilage in.

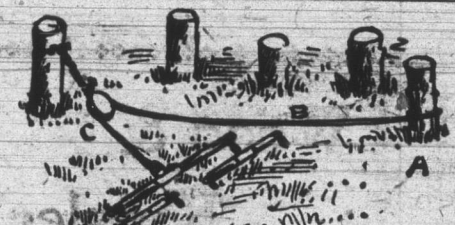
In the milking shed the cows are fastened by means of rigid stanchions, and the feed mangers, where the concentrates are fed, are built high enough to prevent the cow from lying down, thus she remains clean until the milking is done.

The floor should be of concrete, and there should be a gutter behind the cows. These stables should be thoroughly cleaned out each day, and, if possible, washed occasionally, so that there will be as few flies as possible and no offensive odors. There should be no hay or feed stored in this barn and it should be well ventilated, so that the air will be pure and free from dust.

This is about the most practical way to keep cows clean. The feeding shed, which could and really should be the lower floor of the main feed barn, should be well ventilated and bedded, for in there the cows are allowed to run at large and the manure is allowed to accumulate, being covered up each day with new bedding. This plan saves absolutely all of the manure with the least amount of handling, it being hauled directly to the land in the spring.—Southern Agriculturist.

Method of Pulling Stumps.

A very handy device for pulling stumps from old orchards, and can pull 200 or more a day by this means, is shown. The limbs are cut off and



FOR PULLING STUMPS.

the stumps (B) left as long as possible. A short rope or chain with a single pulley is attached to the stump. The anchor rope or chain with a single pulley is attached to the top of stump (C). The anchor rope (B) which runs through the pulley is fastened to the bottom of a stout stump (A).

A pair of steady horses is attached to the rope and always pull toward the anchor stump. With a steady pull there is no jumping or jerking, and they will walk right off as if pulling a loaded wagon. Use about sixty feet of one-inch rope, which costs \$2.40 and the pulley \$1.75, making a total cost of \$4.15.

Better Breeding Each Time.

No line of breeding requires more thought and study than horse breeding. This is why so many fail in producing the highest types. One of the essentials is knowing the type of sire to breed the mare to. Many farmers will breed a light mare to a heavy horse or the very opposite, and the result is nothing tangible in the way of improvement. Every farmer should know what kind of an animal he has and be able to select a sire to breed her to that will give an improved offspring. With a proper selection made here the remainder will be easy.

It is well to note at the outset that no horse is absolutely perfect. Every animal has some defect, be it large or small. The defects in the mare should therefore be carefully noted, and the sire selected should be especially strong in the weak points the mare may have. It should be hardly necessary to mention that it is never a good plan to cross breeds. To make a success of the business the horse breeder must select one breed and stick to it.

Government Willing to Help.

Many a farm can be made to yield a larger profit by laying out the fields differently and planning a rotation of various crops. The Government will be glad to send pamphlets to farmers suggesting how this may be done, and will furnish special information for individual cases where desired. Farmers ought to avail themselves more fully of the splendid services of the Government agricultural experts than they do.

Hogs for Turning Over Money.

The hog commands itself to the general farmer on account of its prolific qualities. A sow will produce two litters of six to a dozen each per year and the farmer can turn his money over several times with hogs while he is waiting for other animals to mature.

Hogs require a little more care at times than other some animals, but

the man who likes to work with them and is willing to study their needs and give them regular care will find them a most profitable adjunct to the farm. They can be turned into money or food as the owner chooses.

To Simplify Sugar Beet Culture.

The Department of Agriculture is experimenting with a view to obtaining a single germ beet seed. Last year's investigations were successful in increasing the percentage of the single germ seed to 60 per cent, as compared to 26 per cent for the year previous. By methods of selection from single-seed plants this percentage may be still further increased.

The ultimate establishment of a single germ beet will revolutionize sugar beet growing, since the several sprouts sent up by the ordinary seed, all of which must be carefully removed by hand, constitutes the most difficult problem in beet raising.

Handy Barrow for Winter.

I have had many a tussle in trying to push a wheelbarrow through drifts of snow. My pigen is some distance from the other buildings, and it is very necessary to have some sort of conveyance for the feed. After having tried my patience



USEFUL BARROW.

to the limit for several winters, I finally devised the scheme shown in the cut. I made a large runner and put it on the barrow in place of the wheel. This skips over the snow in fine shape, and runs fully as easy as a wheel does on solid ground.—C. W. Beecher in Farm and Home.

Better from Sweet Cream.

The quality of butter seems more affected by the degrees of ripeness at which the cream is churned than by any other one thing. It is now becoming the fashion in some quarters to churn sweet cream. It is said that the butter keeps longer and some like it better, though a moderate degree of ripeness produces butter of the most popular flavor. It is well known that over-ripe cream makes an ill-flavored butter, and the wonder is that so much of it is produced. Negligence and procrastination account for most of it.

Swine Breeding.

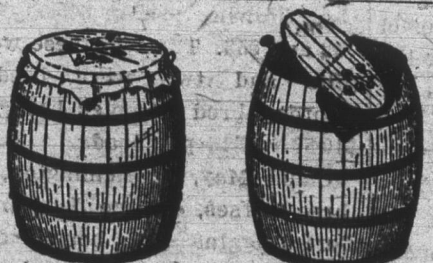
A swine breeder of experience and good judgment says: "The best show pig may come from the smallest sow in the herd, but it is not safe, as a rule, to select breeders from that class. We want the most size in the shortest time, and we can safely forego a little of the fattening tendency, provided we secure in the prospective breeder ranginess and a tendency to growth. I don't care how good the individual, if only three or four pigs were farrowed in the litter I would not reserve one of them for a breeder."

Trimming Fruit Trees.

Apple trees and other fruit trees that were trimmed in the winter and spring will produce sprouts around the scars the following summer. Much valuable labor may be saved if the orchard is gone over every few weeks during the summer and these sprouts rubbed off or cut off. Not allowing them to grow will conserve the food supply of the tree, and it will be used for growth in desired branches.

Barrel Traps for Rats.

Two effective devices for trapping rats are made with barrels as shown here. Coarse brown paper, with cross



Farm Notes.

Alfalfa is growing in favor as a rotation crop.

Give the colts plenty of room to run about in.

The plow has its share in the good roads movement.

Fit the collar to the horse, not the horse to the collar.

Owls are vermin destroyers. Encourage their presence on the farm.

On cold nights do not leave the cows out to sleep on the damp ground where they may be chilled.

The manure heap is not the farmer's bank unless he gets it out on the land. Then it returns goods interest.

A fortune is awaiting the propagator of a hardy red raspberry. But quality must be sacrificed for hardness.

Timothy and clover mixed makes good hay, because the timothy holds the clover up and the curing is easier.

If the cows teats have a tendency to get hard, keep a bottle of vaseline handy and use it occasionally to soften the parts.

Have you found out that the larger vines have no place in the garden? Plant pumpkins and squashes in the larger fields.

Make every square rod on your farm yield its quota of profit. Some use can be found for even the poor strips. Study out how you can best use all your land.

FACTS IN TABLOID FORM.

A flower cut in the morning will outlive flowers cut later in the day.

The word "mikado" signifies something like "the sacred gate" or "the sublime porte."

A man's friends are something like natural gas: when he needs them most, the supply is apt to run short.

Chicago now has a law which makes traction companies return the fares to passengers who are on a car which is detained ten minutes or more.

The Lincolnshire (England) county court ordered a man, who was owing \$90 to a money lender, to pay the debt in installments of 2 cents a month, at which rate it will take 365 years to pay off the sum.

The bursting of a gas main in Horseferry road, Westminster, London, led to the serious illness of a number of the residents in the locality. The gas company provided the sufferers with medical aid and milk.

The owner of a good library solemnly warned a friend against the practice of lending books. To punctuate his advice he showed his friend the well-stocked shelves. "There," said he, "every one of those books was lent me."

There is a society in New York composed of negroes which gives a series of musical and dramatic entertainments in the course of the winter. These are usually timed to fit some historical occasion in which the negroes are interested.

Marcel Prevost has written an article for a Paris publication on the subject of "Fashions of the Period," in which he discusses at length the methods employed by women to grow thin. He denounces them all as injurious to body and mind, with the one exception—rational exercise.

The State Railroad Commission of Massachusetts has a knotty problem to solve—just what are the rights of a drunken man on a public conveyance. The question has been put up to the board by a transit company that has more than its share of troubles and suits over ejected "tanks."

Mrs. David E. Lucas and Mrs. Mary E. Ide are the leaders in a movement to put married convicts at work on farms and to apply their earnings to the support of their families. Mrs. Lucas has offered a tract of four thousand acres of land in Colorado for the use of convicts for five years.

For many years the Mexican dollar was current at and in the vicinity of the Chinese coast and river ports, but now Chinese dollars are coined at the provincial mints at Tientsin, Nanking, Wuchang, Hankow, Canton and elsewhere, but the mintage of one province is only accepted at a discount in another province.

Consul-General Robert P. Skinner, in a report on the manufacture of lactic acid in Germany, says that seven thousand to eight thousand tons of the product were exported to the United States in 1908, mostly via Rotterdam. This acid is chiefly used by the American dyeing establishments, fornic acid having taken its place to a considerable extent in the tanning industry.

Equipment of a three-chair dental clinic in the City Hall for the free care of school children's teeth, the erection of a series of illuminated corner signs along Broad street, reading, "Danger, run slow," to keep automobile speeders in bounds, and the abolition of all horses on the city's hospital ambulances are a few of the reforms now before the Philadelphia council's finance committee.

Mrs. Richard Watson Gilder, as president of the National League for the Civic Education of Women, has been asked to cause an investigation to be made of the conditions under which women work in the laundries in Greater New York. The league is the most active in the anti-suffrage societies in this country. Its membership is made up, with a few exceptions, exclusively of women of leisure.

A good example of one of the ways in which magical properties became attributed to natural objects is the stone known as an amethyst. The ancient Indian name of this stone had the sound represented by its present name. In Greek this sound happens to mean "anti-wine," hence, without more ado, the ancients declared that the amethyst was a preventive and cure for drunkenness.—London Telegraph.

A creche for the children of rich women is said to be the latest move in the interest of the women and children of London. This creche is for the special benefit of well-to-do mothers who, striving to be fashionable, have taken up bridge whist. They begin to play cards about noon and often are unable to get back to their homes before 9 in the evening. The object of the creche is to insure careful attention for their children instead of leaving them to the care of servants.

A musical comedy for comic opera of the first class averages a cast of about seventy-five people, while I suppose about seventeen is the average number for a dramatic company. A prima donna who is not a star gets from \$100 to \$350 a week, the principal comedian from \$150 to \$500 a week, the tenor from \$75 to \$300, the bass about the same. The minor characters range from \$40 to \$100 a week, while show girls get from \$25 to \$30, and chorus girls from \$15 to \$25, the average salary being about \$18.—Everybody's Magazine.

GROWING POSTOFFICE DEFICIT.

Some Habits of Users of the Mail Which Helped to Make It.

As a result of the \$20,000,000 deficit in the Postoffice Department last year—which was \$4,000,000 worse than the one of two years ago—the Silent Partner remarks that, after all, it is the people's own department, and it seems to be their delight to abuse its privileges.

"They may persist," says the article referred to, "in using stationery of gray, yellow, green, red, blue and every other color that makes addresses almost impossible to read at night, when most mail is handled."

"It is the people's department, so they have a right to deposit every year 11,000,000 pieces of mail to go to the dead letter office after carriers, clerks and experts have spent hours trying to decipher each address or hunting an address that did not exist."

"Since the postoffice belongs to the people they have a right as business men to save up all their hundreds of letters to mail at the close of the day, so that an extra night force is needed in every big postoffice, and so that nine-tenths of the mail may be sorted and handled at the very time when it is twice as hard to work it."

"As business men the people have a right to the packages so they will come unwrapped, to send all sorts of mail with insufficient postage, to send huge cards that will not fit the carrier's bag or the pigeonholes in the mail cars, or squeeze into the sacks."

"The people have a right to demand that mail be carried on fast trains from which the sacks must be kicked at high speed, but it is not incumbent upon the people to use heavy covers for catalogues or booklets so that they will stand the jar."

"But if the people have all these rights and take advantage of them the people must not kick if the department is costly or if some who believe in individualism think that the people's government makes about the poorest showing as the administrator of a big business that can be made."—New York Sun.

Legal Information.

The distribution of intoxicating liquors in less quantities than five gallons by a social club to its members, for a consideration, though without profit, is held, in State ex rel. Young vs. Minnesota Club, 106 Minn. 515, 119 N. W. 494, L. R. A. (N. S.) 1101, to constitute a "sale" within the meaning of laws requiring a license for the sale of liquor.

An ordinance merely imposing a license tax upon the business of selling intoxicating liquors is held, in Cuzner vs. California Club (Cal.) 100 Pac. 868, 20 L. R. A. (N. S.) 1095, not to include a bona fide social club which merely distributes such liquor to its members at a slight advance over the cost, the profit being devoted to the expenses of the institution.

The one in charge of an electric car is held, in Trigg vs. Water, Light and Transit Company, 215 Mo. 521, 114 S. W. 972, 20 L. R. A. (N. S.) 987, not to be bound to stop the car or slacken its speed upon discovering an object beside the track which he takes to be a clump of dirt, although it proves in fact to be a man, whom he strikes before he can stop the car, after he discovers that it is a man.

A bona fide purchaser of the capital stock of a corporation is held, in Everett vs. Farmers and M. Bank (Neb.) 117 N. W. 401, 20 L. R. A. (N. S.) 996, to have the right to sue in equity to compel the corporation to enter the assignment upon its books, and to issue a new certificate therefor, and to restrain the sheriff from selling said stock upon an execution against the vendor, the corporation and sheriff being parties to the action.

Persons who have bought lots bordering on a tract of land dedicated for park purposes are held in Northport Wesleyan Grove Campmeeting Association vs. Andrews (Me.) 71 Atl. 1027, 20 L. R. A. (N. S.) 976, to have the right, as against the owner of the fee, to cut the grass thereon if the authorities have not assumed jurisdiction over the park and the removal of the grass will render the park more suitable for the use for which it was intended.

The Man and the Lion.

"When I was once in danger from a lion," said an old African explorer, "I tried sitting down and staring at him, as I had no weapons."

"How did it work?" asked his companion.

"Perfectly. The lion didn't even offer to touch me."

"Strange! How do you account for it?"

"Well, sometimes I've thought it was because I sat down on a branch of a very tall tree."

A Timely Episode.

"The sheriff leaped on our scenery in the third act. Fortunately, he had been an actor himself at one time."

"What happened?"

"We got away with our hand baggage while he was taking a curtain call."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Not Quite All.

"There is a big sale on at a mammoth department store."

"I suppose all the women in town are there?"

"No, a few are out in the country."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

\$1,000,000 TO KILL A LITTLE WORM

Mr. Rockefeller's gift of \$1,000,000, to be used in eradicating the hookworm disease, fixes public attention on the dread scourge of the South. When this parasite was found the discoverer stated, quite correctly, that it was responsible for most of the lassitude and unwillingness to work of the so-called "poor white trash"—whereupon he was laughed out of court as the discoverer of "the germ of laziness." The hookworm, which is not a germ, is certainly no laughing matter. It is not peculiar to the Southern States, having been found in animals as early as 1782. It was first recognized as the cause of a parasitic disease in 1843 in Italy, and in 1879 its action in exhausting the blood from the system was realized. In succeeding years its wide prevalence was noted in Europe and in some cases were traced to the United States; but it was not until 1902 that the existence of a purely American variety was demonstrated and announced by Dr. Stiles, a zoologist connected with the United States government service. The appearance and habits of the parasite are now well known. It is a sucking worm less than an inch long and looking much like "a bit of soiled coarse thread." One victim may entertain several thousand of these tiny "vampires," and these cause loss of blood not only by sucking it, but by leakage through the minute holes that they make in the intestinal walls.

Retardation of development due to hookworms has caused a great deal of unmerited criticism to be heaped on the "Southern cotton mills." Lads of 17 or 18 appear no older than normal boys of 10 or 11; boys of 10 or 11 sometimes look like little children. Strangers not knowing their real ages and seeing them at work go away with lurid stories of the horrors of child labor. Their impression is still further heightened if they try to talk with the supposed children. The disease makes them dull and backward—they are generally the stupidest pupils in the schools—and they seem unable to answer the simplest questions intelligently. Perhaps they feel too miserable even to try. In school they are unable to concentrate their minds on anything, and the teachers in the hookworm districts say that if their pupils remain seated for any length of time they "swell up."

Hookworm disease is caused by the presence of small worms belonging to a group of round worms known technically as ucinariae. Two different kinds of hookworm occur in man. One of these is popularly known as the "Old World hookworm," the other as the "New World hookworm." Both of these parasites are known to occur in Africa, the home of the negro, and both have been found in the negro. The Old World hookworm is relatively rare in the United States, where the great majority of cases must be attributed to the New World parasite. The New World hookworm is known as "the American murderer," this name having been given it on account of the great number of deaths it causes, directly or indirectly.

The American hookworm is about one-fourth to one-half an inch long and about as thick as a small hairpin. It has hard cutting plates or jaws guarding the entrance to its mouth, with the aid of which it fastens itself to the intestinal wall. In its adult stage the hookworm is found fastened to the lining membrane of the small intestine. Formerly it was thought that the parasite secured its hold by means of hooks, but now it is established that it fastens itself by biting the membrane. It makes a wound, sucks the blood and produces a poisonous substance which injures the person affected. A person may harbor a few hookworms, or several thousands, according to the amount of infection to which he has been subjected. The disease is more common in children than in adults. The parasites do not multiply in the intestine, as their eggs require fresh air in order to develop, and so for every hookworm found in the intestine a separate germ must enter the body.

The young worm may enter the body in two different ways. It may be swallowed in contaminated water or it may bore its way through the skin. Boring through the skin is the more common method of infection. After entering the skin, the young worms make their way to the blood and pass with the blood through the heart to the lungs. Gradually they find their way to the small intestine, where they shed their skin, become mature and then begin their work of injuring the walls of the intestines of sucking the blood, and of poisoning their victims.

Investigations by Dr. Stiles have convinced him that the hookworm disease has a serious effect upon the mind and prevents children from fully and properly assimilating the education which is offered them. He says that, as nearly as can be estimated, the physical condition of the Southern school children in the rural districts is such that they cannot assimilate more than 70 per cent of the education they receive.

Dr. Stiles is quoted as saying that it will take twenty years, at a cost of \$100,000 a year—that is, \$2,000,000—to stamp out the malady in the Southern States. Much, however, can be done in a short time.

The Rockefeller commission has not yet adopted a program for its campaign against the disease, but it will probably take up the measures suggested some time ago by Dr. Stiles, which include an annual "public health week" in the schools, when children will be taught the dangers of infection; house-to-house canvasses in the back country districts by medical students on vacation to enlighten the natives, lectures by physicians and trained nurses in town halls, churches and schoolhouses; the distribution of pamphlets and other printed matter telling about the disease; an institution for free diagnosis and treatment, and the passing of laws in the several Southern States to permit the above measures and to promote the anti-hookworm campaign.

A late dispatch from San Francisco says that hundreds of cases of hookworm have been imported into California in the last few years from Hawaii, the Philippines and the Orient. Almost half of a colony of West Indian laborers who had been working in the Hawaiian sugar plantations and came to the Pacific coast were infected.

THRILLING SPECTACLE.

Modern Auto Racing Compared to the Chariot Races of Old.

All that wild excitement the ancient Romans found in a chariot race is being supplied to the modern world through the thrilling contests of the automobile speed kings. Whether held on the open roads or on a track, the mad dash of the automobiles, with their dare devil drivers at the wheels, more closely approximates the chariot races in the amphitheaters of the ancient world than anything that could be imagined.

It is thought by the world that the chariot race belongs to a bygone age, yet here is its counterpart. The jockey or the driver of the trotting horse never occupied a parallel place. They were heroes, but they went through no such terrifying experiences as the old chariot racer.

The death at a running or trotting meet of any driver or jockey is the rare thing. In the chariot races of ancient Rome, death was a never absent entry, and in some of the terrific mix-ups, where horses, drivers and chariots came together in an inextricable jam, it was nothing uncommon for men, horses and spectators to go to their death.

The speed that the modern automobile can make was never even dreamed of in the period of ancient Rome, when men of wealth counted it nothing to spend a fortune on the team of horses that was expected to bring a victory in the racing-contest of the amphitheater.

Sometimes the battles of the modern charioteers are held over the open roads of the rural districts. But wherever it may be there is ever the certainty that a huge crowd will be present, for the automobile race appeals

now as much to the modern public as the ancient chariot race did to the populace of the ancient countries.

The element of danger is one of the biggest attractions, as it was in days of old. In all of the big road events it is a significant fact that the most frequented points are those where the danger is greatest.

At top speed, a mile a minute, a machine bears down on the danger spot in the road. It is a bad turn to start with. Hours of being plowed up by powerful machines have chipped it into a mass of small stones, and deep ruts have been marked in its surface. But the intrepid driver of the modern form of the chariot has just as iron nerves as his predecessor of centuries ago.

There is no thought of slow up in his mind as he approaches the turn. Straight at the curves he goes. The car skids and sways. Let anything go wrong with the steering gear or a tire come off and it is not hard to imagine what would be the fate of the driver, or, for that matter, the fate of the spectators, for all of them who are close by are in constant danger.

All during the race, no matter how often this incident is repeated, it always finds delighted spectators. And the greater the peril, the narrower the escape, the greater the delight, joy and thrill of those who are looking on.

Automobile racing is not very old as yet, but as a thrilling spectacle it bids fair to hold its own with the chariot race of old, if it does not out-class it altogether.

Gallantry is that sentiment which holds up a man of 125 pounds on a slippery walk, when escorting a woman weighing 175.

A woman's real secrets never show up in her diary.