

FARM AND GARDEN

Sheep when crowded into dark, poorly ventilated stables will not thrive.

Grade up your herd by getting a pure bred sire, and using the tester and scales.

Keep the horse under as even conditions as possible. He is a sensitive creature and feels weather changes.

Keep the horse stable as clean and dry as possible, and don't forget that sunlight is tonic which the horse needs.

Every farmer must be an experimenter to a limited extent if he would make the success of farming which it is his privilege to do.

Get rid of the idea that one cow is as good as another. Only the test can prove what each cow is doing. Keep a record and weed out the unprofitable cows.

How does your neighbor do the thing which bothers and perplexes you? Ever take time to study other people's methods and find that you could improve on your own? If not, you have something to learn.

The time to begin development of the dairy cow is several generations before she is born. But if you cannot do that, you can at least treat the heifer calf right and make her all that is possible.

Always speak to farm animals when working around them. Children should be taught to do this, especially, as it is one of the greatest precautions against accidental injuries. Of course too much talking can be done, in which case it loses its force with the beast.

The irrigation of land dates back to the time of Egypt, yet to hear some people talk about irrigation in the West one would think it an entirely new thing. Nevertheless it's no gold-brick scheme, but a business proposition that calls for a little careful thought.

The following points should be kept in mind when sorting apples for storage: (1) Only the better grades should be stored. (2) They should be stored as soon as possible after picking. (3) Only "hard ripe" fruit will keep well in cold storage. (4) A uniform temperature of 31 to 32 degrees F. is best. (5) They should be put on the market as soon as they reach their highest maturity or before. A mid-winter variety is best marketed in mid-winter. (6) Apples with color do not, as a rule, scald as readily as other kinds. The Mammoth Black Twig is an important exception. (7) The quality of the fruit is maintained better in storage when the fruit is wrapped.

Soy Beans and Cow Peas.
The complaint is sometimes made that the soy bean does not enrich the soil to the same extent as does the culture of the cowpea. Judging from the chemical composition of the two crops, it seems possible that when both crops are removed from the soil the soy bean carries away a greater quantity of fertility because the grain is so much richer in nitrogen than the grain of the cowpea. If, however, both crops are used for green manuring, their chemical composition cannot produce a wide difference in soil improvement. The higher nitrogen content of the soy bean seed is offset by heavier yields of green material in case of the cowpea.

Feeding Cattle with Hogs.
Feeding steers profitably without hogs following the cattle on the average farm in the corn belt depends upon various conditions. All of us know that hogs are a large source of profit in beef-making and that they naturally go with cattle when fed on corn, and especially so where the cattle are 2 years old and over and are fed shelled or ear corn.

In feeding steers 2 years old and over without hogs the waste could be materially reduced by grinding the corn, and I have known of several lots of cattle fed in this way without hogs that made money, but they were good, well-bred steers, well bought, well handled and went on a fair market, and were well sold.

Young steers under 18 months old will carry along fewer hogs than older cattle even if fed shelled corn, therefore the waste would be much less in feeding young cattle without hogs.

From my experience and observation, if I fed cattle without hogs I would feed young cattle, fattening and marketing them to weigh from 800 to 950 pounds, and I would grind the corn fed to them after they reached 850 pounds. Of course there would be considerable waste in this case, as one shot to four head of these cattle could be carried along nicely, especially when these young hogs ran on grass with the cattle.—C. B. Smith.

The Weaning Colt.

Weaning time is a very critical period of the colt's life. If the colt is set back at this time it will mean a loss of size that will never be made up. If properly handled, however, there need be no sacrifice. In the first place the colt should be eating grain long before it is weaned and the more it can be persuaded to eat the better. We never fear overfeeding of colts up to the age of eight or ten months. While sucking the dam the amount of grain it will eat will be very small, yet the returns from this feed are very good. Oats are of course the best feed for colts and if there is any kind of stock on the farm that it will pay to feed high-priced oats to this winter it will be the young colt and the amount of feed they will eat will be very small compared with the benefits accrued. When changing to dry feed the colt is very often troubled with constipation. Occasional feeds of dry bran or bran mash will be very beneficial in relieving this condition. Wean the colt gradually, don't chop off its milk ration all at once. We have always tried to let the dams do the weaning themselves, allowing the dam and colt to run together in the pasture, making things as easy for the brood mare as possible. When cold nights come put both of them up in the barn. Have a strong halter and rope ready for the colt. Then when winter comes the colt will be broken to stand well in the stable and if it has become gradually used to depend on dry feed it will be weaned and halter broken without ever having caused any great trouble or without having damaged its growth in the least.

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Cotton Seed.
From what a half century ago were worse than rubbish heaps, more than a million dollars a week now come. The story of this "find" reads like romance.

Before the war the disposal of cotton seed gave the ginners great concern. It was usually hauled away somewhere to rot, or dumped into a neighboring stream, where it soon became a nuisance. The old laws of Mississippi and other States provided severe penalties for ginners who did not dispose of it in such a way that it would not be a menace to public health.

To-day the uses of cotton seed are so numerous that the census office has published a diagram showing the courses which the four parts of each little seed may take. These are classified as "waste," "linters," "hulls" and "ments." The waste is still waste, even though that characterization of anything now leads a fugitive existence.

The linters are used in cotton batting. The hulls may go in three directions—into fuel, the ashes of which are used as a fertilizer, although this is now regarded as too wasteful; into fiber, of which paper is made; or, combined with cottonseed meal, into an excellent food for cattle.

But the kernels serve the most varied uses. Besides making cake and meal for cattle, they are readily convertible into a crude oil, from which, according to mixtures and processes, it may emerge as oil for miners' lamps, "compound lard" and cottolene, "butter and salad oils," "winter yellow oil" and soap. The invasion of other industries by these cottonseed products would of itself make a long story. The olive oil-chards of Southern France have suffered much.

Advantage of Underdrainage.
In Farmers' Bulletin No. 187, United States Department of Agriculture, C. G. Elliott gives an interesting resume of the advantages of removing water downward through the soil instead of allowing it to run off over the surface. They may be briefly stated as follows:

The surface soil is retained entire instead of the finest and most fertile parts being carried off with every considerable rainfall.

Any plant food in manure or other fertilizer deposited upon the soil is carried into it with the water as it percolates downward from the surface, and so becomes thoroughly incorporated with the soil.

Rainwater as it passes through the soil serves a most useful purpose by dissolving and preparing crude soil material for the nutrition of plants.

The soil having been well prepared, is at all times during the growing season in readiness for the growth of plants, such growth not being hindered by stagnant water or saturation.

The frost goes out earlier in the spring, so that the planting season opens one or two weeks earlier than in the case of soils affected by surface drains only.

Where stiff clays are found the soil is made more porous, open and friable, and roots penetrate more deeply than they do into surface-drained soils.

The effects of drought are diminished, as has been found by experience, owing to the enlarged and deepened soil bed, and to the more favorable condition of the surface for preventing excessive evaporation of moisture.

It aids in making new soil out of the unprepared elements, since it permits a freer entrance of air and atmospheric heat, which disintegrate soil material hitherto unavailable for use of plants.

Stubborn and refractory soils, when drained, are frequently so changed in texture and mechanical structure that they become easily managed and respond to cultivation with abundant crops.

TO KEEP OUT OF DEBT

IMPORTANCE OF A NATIONAL TRADE BALANCE.

One of the Functions of a Protective Tariff Is to Restrict Imports as to Enable the Country to Pay All Its Obligations.

"If it had not been for this balance of trade in our favor, constantly liquidating our obligations, our debts would have become insupportable long before now."

This remark by the New York Press is of weighty importance, and should receive from our financiers far more attention than they habitually give to the question of favorable trade balances. The fact is that our moneyed magnates are for the most part either ignorant or indifferent to the part played by the trade balance in maintaining our supply of money and money metals. It must be that they are ignorant, for if they were informed they could not be indifferent. They ought to realize the part played by a protective tariff in so restricting competitive imports as to insure an excess of exports, and therefore a trade balance—money coming to us faster than it goes away from us. Yet if you should scratch the back of an eminent financier it is ten to one you would tickle either a free trader or a man who knows little and cares less about the tariff question.

The habit of depreciating the consequence of favorable trade balances is quite common among the "superior thinkers" turned loose by our free trade institutions of learning. They point to Great Britain, a free trade nation, with an average excess of imports over exports amounting to about \$800,000,000 a year, as a shining example of how a country can grow richer in spite of adverse trade balances. This contention is well answered by the Press, as follows:

"England is a creditor nation. The British adverse trade balance does not represent what England owes at the end of each year. It represents the payments on account by the debtor nations that owe interest and principal to England, creditor of the world. England's adverse trade balance is the same as the pawnbroker's. The lender whose trademark is the three-gilded balls over the door of his money shop advances his capital to the borrower, who must pay over to the pawnbroker a share of the debtor's product as long as the debt stands uncancel. The debtor exports to the pawnbroker incessantly; he imports from the pawnshop nothing—but receipts. Unless the debt is liquidated, that sort of adverse balance of trade against the pawnbroker leaves him with all the money in the end. So long as Canada or any other country remains a debtor nation an adverse balance of trade piles up a growing debt each year more difficult to discharge, since more of the resources of the debtor are required to pay the mere interest."

One of the most important functions of a protective tariff is to bar the door against competitive imports. Not only does this wise policy enable the United States to cancel its debts for goods and materials purchased abroad and have something left with which to make good for some heavy outgoing amounts of American money not visible in the record of exports, but it has in the past eleven years actually added some billions of dollars to the supply of money and money metals. Still more important, it has provided work and wages for millions of Americans. Great Britain has kept solvent because of income derived from money loaned and invested in other countries and from the earnings of her merchant marine. But for those sources of income there is no need to say what would happen to a country which bought \$800,000,000 a year more than it sold. The United States has neither an oversea carrying trade nor any income from money invested abroad. To a country so situated a large favorable trade balance becomes an absolute financial necessity if national bankruptcy is to be avoided. Such a surplus of income over outgo can only be obtained by the restriction of imports. This is why our eminent financiers should give more attention to the protective tariff.

Nor is this radical departure confined to persons. In matters of party policy Mr. Bryan is showing a deference to the opinions of Democratic leaders that is quite incomprehensible except on the theory that having tried twice without success to win on facts, he is willing enough now to let others "name the position." At any rate, he is not letting out a whimper concerning government ownership, and has quit drawing the deadline on those Democrats who are affiliated with trusts or corporations.

It is a misfortune for him, perhaps, that in this shifting of positions, he has not yet been able to carry all his following with him. Several radical Bryan newspapers are conducting the fight on the same old lines, utterly oblivious to the fact that their chief is playing a new game. But it takes time to work a complete revolution, and Bryan is a model of energy when once he has put on the harness in his own behalf. He may, therefore, be able to round up the herd before serious damage has been done to his fences.

It will be an interesting political study to watch Mr. Bryan in his new role. That he is playing better politics than he ever did before goes without saying, but even in this there is danger from the fact that the fanatics who have been holding fast to his coat tails in season and out of season, are so accustomed to the old method as not to fall readily into the new. At best he is sailing a tempestuous sea.—*Toldeo Blade*.

A Currency Bill.
A bill amending the currency laws following the lines of the recommendation contained in the President's message—providing for an emergency currency on which the tax will be so high that bankers will avail themselves of it only as conditions justify. It is believed, will meet the approval of the senate, and will not have much opposition in the house. There seems a public demand for currency reform, and as there are fewer fundamental objections to this plan than to others suggested, it will probably be enacted as a makeshift. It might be called a compromise between the central bank proposition and the asset currency.

Both senators and representatives agree that it would be futile to undertake at this session, to thresh out the entire subject of the currency, and if the President's suggestions tide over the present situation, it will save much political embarrassment. And a practical test may demonstrate a permanent value.

Helping Him Along.
The Duke—Was your father hard hit by the stock slump?

The Heiress—No.

The Duke (after a pause)—Then

The Heiress—Oh, your grace, this is so sudden!—*Cleveland Plain Dealer*.

IT IS WISE TO GO SLOW.

Tariff Tinkering Would Be Productive of Harmful Results.

It is an acknowledged fact that the wages of the American workmen are higher than in any other country. Not only in protected industries, but in all lines of mercantile and manufacturing business, the wages of the American workman are higher. In some of the trades, notably the building trades, wages have reached a particularly high standard, and the hours of labor have been materially shortened.

It is safe to say that despite the advance in the prices of commodities of all kinds, the condition of the American workman is superior to any other workman.

To maintain this superiority and to keep the American standard of wages and living where they are to-day should be the purpose of all tariff legislation. In many lines of industry the protection of tariff is absolutely necessary. Others do not depend upon the tariff and would not be brought into direct competition with foreign labor conditions, but the prosperity of the country demands that protection should be provided where it is needed, for all share in the general prosperity of the nation.

There may be tariff schedules which afford at present unnecessary protection. There may be inequalities which should be corrected, but in the main the Dingley tariff has been a great boon for the American people. Under its fostering provisions the country emerged from chaotic conditions and hard times and entered upon a period of unprecedented prosperity which might well be called the golden era. That prosperity has continued so strong and sure that even the great crisis in Wall street has failed to permanently disturb the general business of the nation.

Under such conditions the decision of the dominant party to let the tariff alone for the present seems wiser. To tinker would be to destroy confidence and create uncertainty. It is far better "to bear those ills we have than to fly to others that we know not of."—*Lawrence (Mass.) Sun*.

Bryan in a New Role.
Washington correspondents of eastern Democratic newspapers are devoting a good deal of space to a discussion of Mr. Bryan and of Mr. Bryan's plans. Most of them profess to see in his present program a decided change in policy and they interpret it as indicating the existence in Mr. Bryan's mind of a strong hope of success.

It will be recalled that on the occasion of his recent visit to Chicago, Mr. Bryan extended the olive branch to Roger Sullivan and to other Democrats with whom he has had differences in the past. And since then he has given unqualified denial to a statement attributed to him, in effect that he had denounced Patrick McCarran and was urging his Brooklyn supporters to re-elect Mr. McCarran.

Heretofore Mr. Bryan has been pursuing anything but a conciliatory attitude toward those Democrats who refuse to embrace his principles. On the contrary he has used the verbal lash unsparingly, with the result that there has always been a formidable opposition to him within the party lines.

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Home Again.
"I sent a poem to the *Highbrow Magazine* day before yesterday."

"Indeed!" exclaimed his friend. "I suppose you expect to see it appear soon."

"It appeared sooner than I expected; it was in my mail this morning."—*Philadelphia Press*.

Foiled.

"I guess I can't collect that money Mr. Jones owes me."

"Why don't you mail him a statement?"

"I was going to, but a sign on the letter box says 'Post No Bills.'"—*Cleveland Leader*.

Unappreciated.

The Poet—"How did my sonnet strike you?"

The Philistine—"Strike me? It never touched me!"—*Cleveland Leader*.

PAY ARMY MORE, SAYS WAR SECRETARY TAFT

Rapid Decrease in Regular Force in Recent Years Is Shown by Report.

COAST DEFENSE A BIG ITEM.

Recommends Erection of Statue to Memory of Edwin M. Stanton in City of Washington.

Secretary Taft is a strong advocate of increased pay for the army, as his annual report, sent to Congress, shows.

The report begins with a formidable presentation of figures showing the rapid decrease in the strength of the regular army in recent years (the loss last year being no fewer than 4,228 men) and the pressing need for officers to replace those now detailed on recruiting duty or as military instructors in educational institutions. The Secretary asserts that, while many reasons have been advanced to explain the difficulty, a sufficient one is to be found in the inadequacy of army pay.

"I think it quite probable," he says,

"that an increase in the pay of the enlisted men, including considerable additional inducement for men to re-enlist, and such reasonable increase in the pay of non-commissioned officers as would stimulate men to remain in the service and to qualify themselves for these higher positions, would have a marked beneficial effect upon the recruitment of the army."