

# OUR FARMERS' PAGE.

ENTERPRISE READERS ARE INVITED TO CONTRIBUTE AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL, LIVESTOCK, POULTRY, DAIRY OR "BIG CROP" ITEMS FOR THIS DEPARTMENT.

## ARTIFICIAL HATCHING.

### Ancients Knew and Practiced Art of Heat Production of Chicks.

Artificial incubation, like many another practice supposed to be peculiar to modern civilization, is but a revival from very ancient times. Diodorus, an author who wrote about 40 years before the commencement of the Christian era, tells how the Egyptians of his time, with their own hands, bring eggs to maturity, and how the young chickens thus produced are not inferior in any way to those hatched by the usual means.

The practice, probably with methods differing little from those of ancient times, survive to the present day among the fellahs of Egypt. In suitable places ovens are erected, and the proprietors go around the neighboring villages collecting eggs. A sufficient number having been collected, they are placed on mats strewn with bran, in a room about four meters square and two meters high, over which there is another three meters high.

The roof, which is vaulted, has a small aperture in the center to admit light during the warm weather; below is another opening of larger dimensions communicating with the oven below. In the cold weather both are kept closed, and a lamp is burning from the front of the lower chamber. In the upper rooms fires are made in troughs along the sides, and the eggs are placed on the mats below in two lines corresponding to and immediately below the fires.

The fires are lighted twice a day, the first time to die about midday, the second time to last from 3 p. m. to 8 p. m. The first batch of eggs are left for about half a day in the warmest situation, after which they are moved to make room for others, until the whole number in hand has had the benefit of the position. This is repeated for six days.

Each egg is then examined by a strong light. All eggs that, at this stage, are clear are rejected, but those that are cloudy or opaque are restored to the oven for another four days. Then they are removed to another chamber, where there are no fires, but the air is excluded. Here they lie for five days, after which they are placed separately, about one or two inches apart, and continually turned. This last stage generally takes six or seven days. During this time a constant examination is made by placing each egg to the upper eyelid, when a warmth

greater than that of the human skin is a favorable sign.

The duration of the process generally extends over 21 days, but thin-shelled eggs take only 18 days. The average heat required is 86 degrees Fahrenheit. Excessive heat is prejudicial. In Egypt the best time is from February 23 to April 24.

### Useful Insects.

Many insects that live among plants and flowers perform a work of the greatest importance, says Uebel Land and Meer. The best known of all these insects is the lady bug, whose larvae do effective work in killing plant lice. Then comes the dragon fly, familiar enough, so much so that few are aware of their propensity for devouring Hessian flies, frit flies and other grain-destroying insects.

Among other useful insects which we do not see as often are the ichneumon wasps and flies. Each female of the many species bore into a caterpillar and lays one or more eggs in its body. These eggs hatch, and the larvae which come from them live on the caterpillar, utterly destroying it. As they increase very rapidly, they limit the increase of other insects.

Next in importance are the so-called caterpillar flies, which are scarcely known. They are useful because they are parasites, laying their eggs not in, but on, the outside of the bodies of caterpillars. Seen in the woods, they are buzzing flies of gray, black or yellow.

### Winter Work on Farms.

One of the greatest needs on the average Southern farm nowadays is more work in winter. Ever since I could remember, it has seemed to me that life on a common Georgia farm is too much of a happy-go-lucky style. To get results in anything one has to keep everlastingly at it, so to speak. For years I have heard staid old farmers discussing fall plowing and spring plowing, but I have seen too little of it in actual observation, writes J. C. M. in the Southern Cultivator.

There used to be an idea, which is still prevalent, concerning results from fall and winter plowing. Some argued that it was injurious to plow deep in the fall, others that it was absurd to plow in the springtime to any great depth. The truth of the matter is that good plowing at any time when the soil is in good condition is a good thing to do. Usually in the spring the subsoil is too wet to plow, and when it is turned up or broken in, this

condition damaging results are likely to occur.

### Thornless Cactus.

The United States National Museum has placed on exhibition a specimen "leaf" of a thornless cactus developed by Luther Burbank, of California, says a Washington special in the New York Sun. The perfecting of a cactus without thorns means a valuable forage plant, which will grow as well in arid as in moist regions. The flattened stem of this novel growth, often erroneously called a "leaf," is in some of the best specimens nearly three feet long, a foot wide and three inches thick, and its surface is very similar to that of a watermelon.

According to the theory of Mr. Burbank, this species of cactus at one time lacked thorns, but nature, in developing the plant, provided spines as a protection from browsing animals of the plains. The task of turning backward this course of nature seems to have been accomplished.

### Fertilizers for Strawberries.

Regarding the effect of different fertilizers on strawberries, land planters when applied to the bed is said to make the berries more brilliant, though lighter in color. Nitrate of soda largely increases the size of the leaves and berries, but the berries are said not to be so firm. Sulphate of potash improves the size and flavor of the berries, and also the color and firmness, while superphosphate increases the yield. The kind of soil, however, is to be considered, as well as the variety of strawberry. On some soils the muriate of potash gives better results than the sulphate.

### Cheap Fertilizing.

Some of the best farms in the East have been brought to the highest degree of fertility by the use of clover, lime and manure. The farmers who have accomplished such results have aimed to save every pound of manure, and also to preserve it in the best manner. Lime is used extensively by those who know that lime is an essential ingredient of plants, and also because it is excellent for increasing the clover crop. Clover enriches the land by promoting the supply of nitrogen in the soil, hence lime and clover make an excellent combination.

### The Sire Half the Herd.

If breeders and dairymen would only realize that "the bull is half the herd," and how thoroughly in the course of years, for good or ill, the blood and characteristics of the bull impregnate and dominate any herd where he is used, there would be more care used in the selection of a breeding bull. If he proves to be a good sire, his influence for good will be felt for years; if a poor one, it will take years to eliminate from the herd the bad features he has left behind.

### Cowpeas and Alfalfa.

Experiments at the Tennessee Experiment Station show that alfalfa thrives much better where cowpeas have been turned under. That does not necessarily prove that cowpeas have provided the right alfalfa bacteria; it may only show that they have filled the soil with available plant food and the alfalfa is working on that, whereas if it had the right bacterium at its command it could forage for itself.

### Don't Neglect Trees.

Don't go to the trouble of planting trees and then neglecting them. If you planted any trees this fall see that the wire labels are taken off. Sometimes the label splits off, leaving only the wire, which may escape notice. Watch for it, for it will certainly kill the tree. See that the stems are protected from the rabbits. Tying them with paper is cheap and effective. See to the fences that they are in condition to keep out stock. Stock will ruin a tree in winter which they would not notice in the summer when there is plenty of grass.

### A Queer Pet.

In a country town in Northern Pennsylvania there lives a little, old man who sells milk, carrying it from house to house morning and evening in a small hand-cart. There is nothing strange about that, but his companion on these daily trips is the very strangest you ever heard of—an old gray goose, who follows him about in the most dignified manner and stands watch over the cart, letting no one go near it in his master's absence. His name is Major, and his master says he is just as useful as a dog would be.

### Notes.

Officials at the War Department propose to establish at least three remount stations in the West for the breeding of army horses and mules.

Chickens seldom get sick without a local cause. Find out what it is, and guard against it in the future.

There's a close relation between the type of the cow and her performance, but it is no more marked than the relation between the type of her owner and what he does in the dairy business.

An open gait may be desirable in a trotter, but a draft horse, to make the most of his powers, should travel with his feet under him rather than spraddled.

Soft and glossy coats, as a general rule, indicate good grooming and careful stable management.

Teach a calf to eat oats as soon as possible. This may be done by putting some whole oats in the bottom of the pail, so that when it is through drinking milk it gets into the oats without knowing it. Whole oats will make strong-boned, thrifty calves.

Don't forget that green cut bone is one of the best obtainable foods to induce egg-production and promote growth.

As a rule, markets are glutted about Thanksgiving, and other holiday seasons, not only with turkeys, but with chickens.

The profit in poultry depends entirely upon the care given the hen, the eggs, the poultry house, the feed and the chicks.

It pays to farm with good breeding mares. If they are handled properly and bred to good horses.

Very rich milk is not essential to the manufacture of first-class cheese,

and as the larger part of the cheese is composed of other milk solids than fat, it stands to reason that the cows giving the most milk will make the most cheese.

The fact that the hopgrowers of the Pacific Coast are organizing is the probable cause of much more buying of hops in the past two weeks than previously.

Sixty thousand hogs reached Chicago in one day in December. A large share of them would not have been shipped if it had not been that prices were going down and a great many people always help along a decline in prices by rushing their stuff to market when a decline in prices begin.

As potatoes are as high, or higher, in the Middle West as in Oregon there is no danger that they will be shipped to the Pacific Coast or Arizona in any great quantities this winter.

The number of breeders of fine Angora goats is steadily increasing in the United States and the majority of these breeders are working to improve the quality of the hair of their goats as well as to increase the weight of the fleeces.

There is no better feed for young pigs after they have learned to eat than good oats. If they can be ground and made into a slop with sweet milk, all the better.

The sheep that makes the best mutton carcass is apt to have the best fleece.

A sheep well kept will shear a heavier and better fleece than one poorly kept.

## A PERSIAN SERVANT.

### He Was Poetical Even if Useless and Dishonest.

In one way Persia reminds one dimly of England, for there are such things as difficulties with servants even in Teheran. The author dismissed one of his servants, who, as he had been a tailor, was incompetent to do anything but sew on buttons. The man protested, "What will become of me now that I have been eating your salt for such a long time and am driven out into the streets?" He was reminded that he had only been employed for a fortnight. He answered that he felt it had been for years. He was told that he was no good, but his volubility only increased. "How can I be no good after having stayed with you? Can you forget what Sa'di said: 'A piece of clay having fallen into the Hammam from my beloved's hand into mine, I said to it, Art thou musk or ambergris that I am drunk with thy perfume, which catches at the heart?' It answered: 'I was but a worthless piece of clay, but I was in company with a rose for a moment. This companionship transformed me or else I should still be the same piece of clay that I was.'"

One can pity the state of an English mistress confronted with such an argument. The author kept his servant another week, and he remarks disconsolately that in that time he discovered that if the tailor was a poet he was also a thief.—London Globe.

## ADVERTISING.

### The Mightiest Factor in the Modern Business World.

"Advertising is today the mightiest factor in the business world," writes Truman A. De Weese in System, the Magazine of Business. "It is an evolution of modern industrial civilization. It is a business builder, with a potency that goes beyond human desire. It is something more than a 'drummer' knocking at the door of the consumer, something more than mere salesmanship on paper.

"Advertising is a positive creative force in business. It builds factories, skyscrapers and railroads. It makes two blades of grass grow in the business world where only one grew before. It multiplies human wants and intensifies desires. The result is that it forces man to greater consumption, hence stimulates his production to keep up with his buying desires.

"Before advertising was developed into a fine art and before it became a factor in the commercial world the business of the manufacturer and merchant was to supply the normal needs and desires of the human family; merchandising was bounded by man's necessities and by his meager knowledge of the luxuries which he deemed within his reach."

### Hint of Untidiness.

"If you want to study human nature just try being a salesman in a department store for even a short time," said the clerk over his evening meal. "There isn't a day but I have a quiet laugh over the remarks of customers or, more frequently, would be customers. Today, for instance, I was approached by a well dressed elderly woman with the request to show her some cups and saucers. She did not want china ones—something in porcelain, for 'common everyday use,' she said. I brought out samples, and finally her choice stammered down to a plain white and the other a white with a dull grayish green figure. As if to account for her decision she said to me in a most confidential tone: 'I guess I'll take the gray ones. They won't show the dirt so soon.'"—New York Press.

### A Pugnacious Super.

When F. R. Benson, the actor, was training two armies of "supers" for a battle, he had some difficulty in persuading the weaker side to submit to be conquered. Even at the first performance the vanquished force, which included a somewhat pugnacious Irishman, who may be called X., upset traditional usages by severely mauling its victors, and the play may have suffered if the hint of one of the warriors had not been taken.

"Look a-her, Mr. Benson," he said, "if you want us to be beaten, you must put X. in the other army. That's the only way."—London Standard.

## Ben Franklin

who used to run a newspaper down East years ago, also edited an almanac which contained some wise sayings. Here is one of them:

"The way to wealth, if you desire it, is as plain as the way to market. It depends chiefly on two words—industry and frugality. He that gets all he can honestly and saves all he gets (necessary expenses excepted) will certainly become rich."

What Ben said was not only true at that time, but it still holds good at the present day.

There is no better way to save than to have a bank account. We will be glad to have you start an account at this bank.—you are not tempted to spend it.

## The Bank of Oregon City

## Lovers' Quarrels

(By Cynthia Gray.)

Nancy Westbrook carefully cut off the end of the envelope, and read: "Dearest Nannie—George and I are to be married Thursday. We have a darling flat, suite 20, The Elms, Chatterton street. The latching will be always flopping in the breeze for you, Nannie, dear.

### "YOUR HAPPY NELL."

Nell was at Rex Bros.' ribbon counter, and George was their floorwalker.

"Bless the children!" whispered Nancy as she folded the enthusiastic little note. "I'll pull the latching."

So it happened that in about three weeks Nancy Westbrook, middle-aged in years but young in heart, found herself manipulating the speaking tube and push button in an unsuccessful attempt to ring up suite 20.

"Suite 20," answering her eager question, "why them that was coming ain't come. Young things had a quarrel, I reckon!"

Nancy turned away. "They have quarreled," she said to herself with conviction. "They must not ruin their lives. They shall not!" and she went into a public telephone station, called for Nell and invited her to lunch with her at 12 o'clock. Then this diplomatic woman rang up Rex Bros. a second time, asked for George Patton, and invited him to lunch with her at 12:15.

It was a sad-eyed little Nell that came to lunch.

"Where is your color, dearie?" asked Nancy. "Is this the way George takes care of you?"

"I—" began Nell, as the quick color flamed into her cheeks, "I—it isn't—he can't help it, Nannie."

"I just ran into town this morning," said Nancy, ignoring the girl's embarrassment. "Ah, here he comes. We have been waiting for you, George. Sit down."

"I hope you are well," said George, with a warm handshake, for Nancy and a cool bow toward Nell.

"Well and happy, thank you, for it isn't every day that a woman has a chance to dine with a bride and groom. Now, Nellie, order what George likes best, for of course you have found out all his little preferences."

Nell picked up the card, while Nancy chatted on easily.

"How I should like to see your little flat. I know just how cozy it is! The waiter is ready, Nell. Don't ask me to stay all night, George, for I can't this time. Next week, if it is convenient," glanced toward Nell, "I shall be in town again and—"

"Of course," interrupted Nell, nervously, "you will stay with me—with us—"

The food was set before them as Nancy, lowering her voice, continued, "My dears, I quite envy you your little love nest. All these years I have hungered for such a home."

"I don't often speak of it, but years

ago I, even I, had a lover. I dreamed the dear dreams that you have been dreaming, Nellie. The cup of happiness was almost at my lips when we, he and I, quarreled, and he went away."

The woman's lips broke as she spoke. "He never came back. I was too proud to send for him. He was tall and dark, like you, George."

Then Nancy started suddenly, glancing at her watch. "Mercy, I have an appointment this minute. Waiter, the checks, quick! No, no, you two stay and finish your lunch. Remember, next week I'm coming."

"You will find us," said George, with loving eyes on Nell's blushing, tender face, "in the little flat."

"Leave the shop, Nellie; housekeeping is quite enough for the little bride."

"She shall leave tomorrow," promised George, with quick authority, as the older woman left them together.

"Sweetheart," whispered George, sinking into his seat, "will you marry me—today?"

The love light in her blue eyes answered him. "Dear old Nannie," she said softly. "She must never know."

### STATE C. E. CONVENTION.

### Endeavorers to Gather at Eugene, February 20-23.

The eighteenth State convention of the Oregon Christian Endeavor Union will be held in Eugene, February 20 to 23, inclusive. The State president, C. T. Hurd, of Corvallis, announces that a strong set of speakers is being secured for the convention. The list includes Rev. L. R. Drott, pastor of the First Congregational Church of Portland; Rev. W. H. Foulks, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Portland; President P. L. Campbell, of the University of Oregon; President Kerr, of the Oregon Agricultural College; Revs. J. J. Evans, D. A. Thompson, A. A. Winters and others.

The program is not yet complete, but it includes conferences for the delegates, and open meetings for the people of Eugene; also three simultaneous meetings for Sunday afternoon, the last day of the convention—one each for men, women, and children.

The railroads have granted the usual one and one-third fare to all delegates.

Eugene Endeavorers have organized the necessary committees, and will provide entertainment for all accredited delegates. H. A. Scullen is chairman of the entertainment committee, and all names of delegates should be sent to him.

There are between 200 and 300 of the Christian Endeavor societies in the State, and an attendance of fully 200 delegates is expected.

Two women were strangers to each other at a reception. After a few moments' desultory talk the first said, rather querulously: "I don't know what's the matter with that tall, blond gentleman over there. He was so attentive a little while ago, but he won't look at me now." "Perhaps," said the other, "he saw me come in. He's my husband."

## Book and Job Printing

All Kinds  
Low Prices  
Prompt Service

Star Press Job Room  
OREGON CITY, OREGON

## KEEP BRIGHT AND YOU WILL KEEP BUSY

Electric light is the magnet that draws trade. The bright store is the "hypnotic eye" of business. People can no more resist the attraction of a brilliant, electrically lighted store than they can resist the clarion call of a brass band.

Is your competitor with the electrically illuminated show windows, bright interior and sparkling electric sign getting an advantage over you? The moth never flutters around the unlighted candle! Up-to-date stores nowadays consider shop-window lighting a necessity, whether they remain open after dark or not. Competition forces modern methods.

A show window brilliantly illuminated with electric light will make many a sale "the night before." Electric light compels attention, makes easy the examination of your display, shows goods in detail and fabrics in their true colors.

And don't neglect the electric sign. It is soliciting "tomorrow's" business every moment it is lighted—burning you name in the public mind. It is a solicitor that never becomes weary—never stops work—costs little.

## PORTLAND RAILWAY, LIGHT & POWER COMPANY

C. G. MILLER, Agent

OREGON CITY, OREGON