SANITARY BARNS; HOW TO BUILD THEM

How to plan and build dairy barns that are both sanitary and convenient will be taught this year at the Oregon Agricultural College in a course in farm structures just introduced.

The students will learn how to design their own houses, barns, granaries, silos and other farm buildings; where to place them; how they should be constructed, and the cost of both material and construction. An unusual feature of the instruction will be that which will aid students to draw plans in class for buildings solving special problems of their own home farms, such as barns on hillsides or on low ground.

The various uses of concrete on the farm, with practical laboratory work in the making of concrete floors, walks and fence posts, will also form a part of the students' instruction.

Problems in fencing, including the relative merit and cost of various sorts of materials and different designs, will be an interesting part of the course, which will include, as well, a comparison of the efficiency of good and bad roads, and the methods of construction and maintenance of good roads in rural districts.

Fleck Vineyard Sold

The Adam Fleck vineyard, southwest of The Dalles, on which E. W. Thomas held an option for several months, was transferred last week to the latter and A. E. Rutherford, of Chicago. There are about 400 acres in the tract, which is planted to vineyards and orchards. Products of the Fleck vineyards have become noted. The monetary consideration in the deal is something above $60,000.

Hoboes Get Sarcastic

From a notice written on the water tank near the depot, Thursday, it is evident that the gay and festive hobo doesn't look on apple picking with glee. In big letters, the inspiration loomed up as follows:

NINE SLAVES WANTED
To pick apples.
Wages $1.40 a day and board.
Japs 25 cents a day.
APPLES $6 a box.

Couldn't Stand Prosperity

A hod carrier down on the Newberg high school job, who was being paid $4 a day for eight hours' work, got huffy and quit when he was docked for a half hour that he failed to put in. One of these days history is liable to repeat itself, and when it does, this same man will doubtless be glad to put in full time at half the pay.—Newberg Register.

A PUZZLING PINE.

Peculiar Tree That Is Something of a Mystery to Botanists.

Upper California is the home of a tree that has puzzled botanists. It is a pine which will grow only near the seacoast. Its growth is slow, and it does not attain to great size.

The strange thing about it is that there are, to all appearances, insurmountable difficulties in the way of the perpetuation of the species. Some specimens of it exist in Kew gardens, in London. They have been carefully examined by competent authorities, and all admit that the tree presents a problem unlike anything elsewhere met with.

This pine produces at regular intervals the usual cones containing seeds; but, strange to say, the cones are so thoroughly protected that the seeds cannot be released. The cones are hard and tightly closed and have strong overlapping scales.

More extraordinary still is the fact that the pine, after producing its almost invulnerable cones, keeps them hanging on its branches year after year. Unless through some peculiar accident the seeds would apparently remain attached to the parent tree forever. Many of the cones on the trees in Kew gardens have been there for years, as is shown by the size of the branches and the formation of the bark.

It has been found that the seed vessels which this tree so powerfully retain are so well protected that it requires a strong knife with the assistance of a heavy hammer to cut the cone into sections. No ordinary conditions of temperature can make a cone open.

The following is the only explanation yet offered that seems to have any degree of plausibility: The species may be perpetuated by fire. One who has studied the tree asserts that nothing but the intense heat of a forest fire could compel the cones to release their seeds. It has been found that under the influence of intense heat they crack open and the seeds fall out uninjured.—Harper's Weekly.

TURKISH RED TAPE.

Getting the Kinks Out of a Custom House Tangle.

In the far east rules and restrictions may be made to yield to influence with a latent force behind it, as instanced by this serio-comic incident found in Captain A. B. Townshend's book, "A Military Consul in Turkey." A certain highly influential foreigner at Adrianople wanted a Christmas tree and ordered one from Sofia to come by train, but when the tree, an unpretentious little fir about ten feet high, arrived at Adrianople station some one discovered that it was illegal to receive "plants" from abroad.

"Yasak" (it is forbidden), said the custom house.

"Yasak," echoed the sentry on duty.

The foreigner said whatever was the equivalent to "rubbish" and demanded the tree.

Here was a nice quandary for the authorities. Evidently it was a most fearful thing to receive a tree from abroad, and yet the consignee was capable of getting some one into very serious trouble if he did not get his tree, and he said he must have it within forty-eight hours.

Some one at the custom house soared above the difficulty. The tree was sent on to Stamboul on the Orient express, an eight hours' journey. It came back to Adrianople by the next train, and the person for whom it was intended received a notice that "a tree from Constantinople" had arrived for him and would at once be handed over to his messenger.

So the wretched little Bulgarian tree had become a Turkish one, brought from Constantinople, and by that means it satisfied officialdom and served its purpose in the end.

Gladiators.

The gladiators were originally malefactors who fought for their lives or captives who fought for freedom. They were first exhibited at the funeral ceremonies of the Romans, 263 B. C., and afterward at festivals about 215 B. C. When Dacia was reduced by Trojan 1,000 gladiators fought at Rome for 123 days in celebration of his triumph. It is said that in the triumphs of Pompey the Great 10,000 fought through a series of many days. These combats were suppressed in the east by the Emperor Constantine about A. D. 325 and in the west by Theodoric in A. D. 500.—New York American.

Her Protection.

"Why don't you marry, too?" he asked her, apropos of the marriage of her friend.

"I can't," she answered, "without committing bigamy. I haven't my divorce yet, you know. It's probably a good thing, a great protection. I might have married some good for nothing again if I had had it. I am so unfortunate in my selections."

"True," he said. "You might have married me."—New York Press.

Works Like a Charm.

Hanson—Wonder how it is that the Jugginsons get along so harmoniously. They never have any quarrels, apparently. Burt—The reason is simple enough. Jugginson always lets Mrs. J. have the last word, and she never tries to prevent him from having his own way.—Boston Transcript.

Chance For Heroism.

Adorer (anxiously)—What did your father say? Sweet Girl—Oh, he got so angry I was afraid to stay and listen. He's in a perfectly terrible rage. Go in and appease him.