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It took one-half million Christmas trees to meet the demands of the holiday season just passed in New York city.

The amount of butter fat a cow produces depends on the amount of milk as well as upon the quality of the milk.

A horse is often given a tonic to improve its condition when what is needed vastly more is to have the teeth filed so that the food can be properly masticated.

Corn-cobs not only make first class kindling material, but at \$1.65 for a triple wagon box full compare favorably in fuel value with coal at \$5 a ton or wood at \$6 per cord.

England is smaller than many of our own states, yet the past year she produced 61,637,568 bushels of wheat, which was an increase of 10 per cent over the yield of the year preceding.

During the winter months, when eggs are not needed for hatching purposes, the roosters are best kept by themselves. Hens will not only lay more eggs but the eggs will keep longer if the hens are kept by themselves.

While hogs will eat corn silage with indifferent relish, experiments which have been made in feeding it do not indicate that it is advisable to substitute it for any of the standard feeds that are commonly used in a ration for hogs.

In homes where electric lights are not a possibility and where it is necessary to keep a light burning at night a candle is preferable to a smoky kerosene lamp, which when turned low will smell a room up and spoil the air in a short time.

According to the annual report issued a short time ago by Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, Egyptian cotton is now grown with entire success in southern California, while the finest dates from the Sahara desert thrive in several of the southwestern states.

What is said to be the largest measured yield of potatoes for any considerable area was secured the past season by a grower at Montrose, Colo., who secured an average yield of 621 bushels per acre. About \$12,000 was realized for the crop, the price received being \$1.50 per hundredweight.

The pen of White Leghorns belonging to an Englishman, Thomas Barron, still heads by a good margin in the international egg laying contest which is being conducted at the Storrs Agricultural college in Connecticut. Two New Jersey breeders hold second and third places, while an Illinois breeder comes fourth.

It is estimated that in the state of Pennsylvania alone the damage to the chestnut growing interest as a result of the chestnut blight has up to the present time amounted to \$15,000,000. The state legislature recently appropriated \$275,000 with which to fight the pest, and at present some fifty specialists are engaged in a campaign to check its spread.

A deceptive as well as treacherous feature of bovine tuberculosis that those striving to combat it encounter is that the presence of the disease is not indicated by outward physical emaciation. Instances are on record not a few where dairy cows have had the disease from three to five years, yet have in a general way maintained a plump and sleek looking condition.

A Canadian business man of prominence ran down and killed a pedestrian not long ago as a result of careless and too rapid driving. This man was arrested, tried and convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to life imprisonment. It is a stiff dose, but he got what he deserved. If a few speed mad autoists were given the same medicine in the United States the slaughter of innocent people would be greatly reduced.

If the vicinity of Hutchinson, Kan., they are having some great times killing jack rabbits. It is estimated that since the carnage began in the fall 50,000 jack rabbits have been shipped from the territory within a radius of forty or fifty miles of Hutchinson. They kill 'em for fun, to eat, to raise money for the benefit of the churches, and 600 or 700 jacks a day is said to be no unusual bag for four or five good shots. The jacks fetch from 5 to 10 cents apiece and are shipped by the carload to eastern markets, where they are stewed up into spring chicken mutton stew and served plain as roast jack rabbit.

If soot bothers in stove or furnace pipe it can be readily burned out by throwing a little metallic zinc dust on the fire when it is hottest. If there is considerable soot in the pipe the safest way, however, is to take it down and rap it out.

From the standpoint of the average dairyman it is poor policy to use a thirty dollar sire and equally inadvisable to use one that costs \$3,000, but many a man has realized handsome returns on an investment of \$300 in a bull of good breeding to head his herd.

Many folks who bite on the great variety of baits put out in the hope of getting rich quick show not a bit more sense and are not half as excusable as the Englishman who went to Missouri and loaded up with a lot of mules with the idea of propagating this hybrid species.

The record price for the sale of real estate was established the other day in New York city when a parcel of land at the corner of Broadway and Thirty-fourth street, containing 1,154 square feet of soil, sold for \$1,000,000. This was at the rate of \$865.55 per square foot.

It is an interesting fact in connection with the habits of domestic animals that horses and sheep will paw through snow to get at the grass beneath, but that cows will not do so. Another is that in case of a storm sheep will go into the teeth of the wind, while cattle will turn tail and run with it.

For the first time in fifteen years apples are being shipped from points in western Pennsylvania and Ohio by boat down to New Orleans and other points on the Mississippi. The fruit being shipped is Al stuff, and the cheap river transportation used in getting them in market should insure a good return.

That American farmers are slowly waking up to the need of using commercial fertilizers to take the place of the elements of which the soil has been robbed by continuous cropping and selling products in the raw stage is indicated in the fact that last year there were used in the United States 324,000 tons more phosphate than in the year before.

Milk paint is cheap and does well for old buildings. It is made by adding three pounds of best portland cement to each gallon of whole milk and enough venetian red or other dry paint to give the color desired. The paint should be thoroughly mixed and stirred frequently while using, as the cement is heavy and tends to settle to the bottom of the container.

According to statistics lately published by the department of agriculture, the farmers of the country have suffered a loss the past year of approximately \$5,000,000 through marketing eggs that were dirty or stained. In view of this it would seem that a little exercise with a wet rag would give good interest on the investment of time and trouble to clean such eggs up.

The other day the writer noticed a placard in a bushel basket of small and undercolored Kings that bore the legend, "Five cents a pound." This would make a barrel cost in the neighborhood of \$8. It is a safe guess that the New York orchardist who packed this fruit did not get more than \$1.50 for the three bushels of apples which the barrel contained. No wonder living is high!

Many a good piece of roast beef is practically spoiled so far as juiciness and toothsome-ness go by not starting it in a hot oven. The reason for this is that the juices largely escape into the pan before the outside of the meat is seared. The same principle applies to a boiling piece of beef that is not intended for soup stock, as boiling water cooks the outside quickly and causes the meat to retain its juices.

Some folks have a natural aversion to eating rabbits, but notwithstanding this prejudice against them they are remarkably clean and strictly herbivorous animals, and their flesh is sweet and good. They make a fine dish stewed as one would prepare veal or mutton, with dumplings, and are good stuffed and roasted, while if they are cut in pieces, parboiled a few minutes and fried they are very toothsome.

Some grocers are beginning to see the wisdom of classifying the eggs they sell at retail, marking those strictly fresh that are such and labeling as storage eggs those that have been kept for a considerable time. This is simple honesty to the consumer, enabling him to know what he is getting and to get just what he pays for, while it recognizes the superior value of fresh eggs and enables the producer to realize for them what they are fairly worth.

Reports have been frequent lately of instances in which small grain has mildewed when put in granaries with solid cement floors built directly on the ground. The trouble seems to be caused by the cement gathering dampness. This trouble can be overcome by laying the cement on forms which can be removed when the cement has hardened, or a plan recommended and seemed to have much in its favor is the laying of several tiers of the horizontally on the area to be used as a floor and lay the cement on this, which would give ample circulation of air and would make the floor as completely vermin proof as would a bed of solid cement.

REBUKED AN EMPEROR.

Gluck Didn't Like the Way Joseph II. Sang His Music.

Gluck, the composer, was not of the sort of men of whom courtiers are made. One day he attended at the court at Vienna a concert at which the Emperor Joseph II. and one of his archdukes sang a fragment from one of Gluck's compositions. Naturally enough, the imperial artists glanced at the composer to see how he was impressed by the honor they were doing him. They were shocked to observe that he was making a series of extraordinary and significant grimaces. The emperor stopped and inquired whether he and the archduke were not singing the bit according to Gluck's idea of how it should be done.

"My idea," exclaimed Gluck. "Why, sire, I am the poorest walker in the world, but I would vastly rather take a walk of six leagues than be forced to hear a composition of my own interpreted in such a way as that."

Joseph II. was brave enough to take no notice of the criticism, but the court was quite convinced that if such a reproach had been addressed to the Czar Nicholas the composer would have prosecuted his musical studies from that time forth under the unfavorable surroundings of the Siberian mines.

It was the composer Weigl, a man of very different temperament from Gluck, who when the Emperor Francis Joseph played the first violin in the performance of one of his overtures threw himself at the monarch's feet and exclaimed, "Ah, sire, will your majesty benignantly condescend to grant my prayer and favor me once more with a most gracious F sharp?"—New York Press.

GUARDING A SECRET.

The Number of Persons Who May Share It With Safety.

In the realm of the multiplication table, where, for example, two and two can be relied on to make exactly four, reckoning is easy, but when you leave the field of abstract numbers and deal with persons strange results sometimes appear. Such a case is described in Lady Dorothy Nevill's book, "Under Five Heligms."

With regard to the number of persons who may safely be trusted with a secret, there is no proverbial authority for believing it to exceed two. We are told in several languages that "the secret of two is God's secret, the secret of three is all the world's," and the Spaniards say, "What three know all the world knows."

A gentleman who had gained possession of a valuable commercial secret confided it to a friend who appreciated its value. A short time afterward this friend came to ask permission to communicate it, under oath of eternal secrecy, to a friend of his who would be likely to assist in utilizing the secret to the best advantage.

"Let me see," said the original possessor of the secret, making a chalk mark on a board at hand. "I know the particulars. That makes one." "One," agreed his friend. "You know them," continued he, making another mark by the side of the one already made. "That makes"—"Two!" cried the other. "Well, and if you tell your friend, that will be"—making a third mark. "Three," said the other. "No," was the reply—"111."—Life.

The First Society of Authors.

A society for the protection of authors was founded as long ago as 1735. Authors themselves were not members of the society, which was instituted for their benefit by noblemen and gentlemen, who subscribed 2 guineas annually in addition to an entrance fee of 10 guineas. Their purpose, as defined by themselves, was "to assist authors in the publication and to secure to them the entire profits of their own works"—that is to say, they published books, but took no fees for doing so. They were amateurs, however, engaged in trade in competition with professionalists, and their enterprise was unsuccessful. The society was wound up in 1749, and the balance in hand (£20 12s.) was presented to the Foundling hospital.—London Author.

Fled From Death.

We questioned the applicant for a position as laundress. "Are you married?" we asked. "No, sir; I's a widow." "Ah—and your husband is dead?" "Yassuh—he's shod' daid." "How did he meet his death?" "Meet it? Laws, man, he didn't meet it! Dey had ter chase him two mile fo' dey all could ketch him an' put de rope round his neck."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Had Foresight.

"That man Melitable married has a lot of foresight," said Farmer Corn-tassel. "He looked kind of worried and scared at the weddin'," replied his wife. "That's what makes me think he has foresight."—Washington Star.

Routine Resumed.

Master—So you have friendly doings with your brother's people once more? Pat—Yis, sir. His family and our'n do be scrappin' again as if they'd never bin parted.—Harper's Bazar.

His Part.

Little Hazel—Papa, what did you say to mamma when you made up your mind you wanted to marry her? Mr. Meek—I said, "Yes, dear."—Cassell's Journal.

Home is the seminary of all other institutions.—Chaplin.

Yankee Race Will Have Soon Become Extinct. By Professor ROBERT J. SPRAGUE of the Massachusetts Agricultural College.

THE YANKEE RACE IS THREATENED WITH EXTINCTION. RUGS AND AUTOMOBILES ARE IN PART TO BLAME FOR THE FALLING OFF OF THE BIRTH RATE.

We conceal our lovemaking. Romance should be frank and open. We make it morbid. Many of our young men would be getting along better after five years if they asked their friends to find their wives, for the present basis of choice is often blind infatuation.

A woman may work like a slave indoors, get indigestion and have nervous prostration, but must NOT EXERCISE IN THE OPEN AIR FOR ECONOMIC ENDS lest she LOSE HER SOCIAL STANDING and her husband lose his as well. This is race suicide, for the Almighty has declared that any race that endures must breathe air. Our trouble is not that we love children less, but that we LOVE ORIENTAL RUGS AND AUTOMOBILES MORE.

Factory regulations to compel better ventilation and healthful conditions in general are essential. Get HEALTH, VITALITY AND EARNING POWER and race suicide will not be a pertinent question.

URBAN CONDITIONS, THE STEAM HEATED HOUSE, THE WEARY YEARS IN UNHEALTHY CROWDED SCHOOLROOMS, THE LACK OF WHOLESOME, FREE EXERCISE IN THE OPEN AIR, ALL REDUCE THE VITALITY OF WOULD BE PARENTS.

Ballard's Horehound Syrup. It is a Remedy of Great Relieving Power in All Lung and Throat Troubles. Ballard's Horehound Syrup conveys a warming and relaxing influence to the congested lungs. Heals soreness, quiets tickling sensation in the throat, strengthens the voice, loosens phlegm and relieves all irritated conditions in the throat and lungs. Keep a bottle in the house. It is handy to have when needed and saves a world of misery to the person affected.

LIGHTING TALKS Number 4. In last week's issue we told you about the amount of our investment and earnings, and we wish to impress upon you the fact that our finances have always been, and are today, managed conservatively and economically. This Company is not over-capitalized, and our customers are not called upon to foot the bills for returns on "watered" stock. It is the purpose of this company to build up and maintain a successful electric light and power business. We believe that there is only one way to do that, namely: By providing the best service that can possibly be given at the lowest possible price commensurate with such service—a price that is fair and square to both the public and the company.

IN CLUB CIRCLES. Canby Post, G. A. R.—Meets at the K. of P. hall the second and fourth Saturdays of the month at 2 p. m. Geo. F. Crowell, commander; S. F. Hythe, adjutant.

Canby W. R. C. No. 16—Meets second and fourth Saturdays of each month in K. of P. hall at 2 p. m. Mrs. Abbie Baker, president; Mrs. Kathryn Gill, secretary.

Court Hood River, No. 42, F. of A.—Meets every Thursday evening in K. of P. hall. Visiting Foresters always welcome. Wm. Fleming, C.R.; F. C. Cronin, F. S.

Hood River Lodge, No. 105, A. F. & A. M.—Meets Saturday evening on or before each full moon. Geo. Sleemon, W. M.; D. McDonald, secretary.

Hood River Camp, No. 770, W. O. W.—Meets at K. of P. hall first and third Wednesday nights of each month. W. E. Shay, C. C.; Floyd Springer, clerk.

Hood River Valley Hamane Society—Phone 2. E. H. Hartwig, president; Harold Hershner, secretary; Leslie Butler, treasurer.

Jedleville Lodge, No. 107, I. O. O. F.—Meets in Fraternal hall every Thursday evening at 7:00, at the corner of Fourth and Oak streets. Visiting brothers welcome. A. R. Trapp, N. G.; J. W. Thompson, secretary.

Kemp Lodge, No. 151, I. O. O. F.—Meets in the Odd Fellows hall at 7:00 every Saturday night. Visiting brothers cordially welcomed. O. H. Rowden, N. G.; F. L. Kelso, secretary.

Laurel Rebekah Lodge No. 87, I. O. O. F.—Meets first and third Mondays in each month. Edith Wilson, N. G.; Nettie Moss, secretary.

Mount Hood Lodge, No. 205, I. O. O. F.—Meets every Saturday evening in Gribble's hall, Mt. Hood. M. W. Shoarer, N. G.; G. W. Dimmick, secretary.

Mountain Home Camp, No. 3469, R. N. A.—Meets every second and fourth Wednesday nights of each month. Mrs. Lulu Cary, O.; Mrs. Ella Dakin, recorder.

Oregon Grape Rebekah Lodge No. 151, I. O. O. F.—Meets every second and fourth Wednesday nights in each month in Gribble's hall, Mt. Hood. Mrs. Mammie Dimmick, N. G.; Mrs. Nettie Gribble, secretary.

Oleta Assembly, No. 105, U. A.—Meets in their hall the first and third Wednesday, work; second and fourth Wednesday, social. C. D. Hendrick, M. A.; W. H. Austin, secretary.

Riverside Lodge, No. 68, A. O. U. W.—Meets in K. of P. hall the first and third Wednesday nights of the month. Visiting brothers cordially welcomed. Newton Clark, M. W.; Chester Shute, recorder.

Wauna Lodge, No. 30, K. of P.—Meets in their hall every Tuesday night, when visiting brothers are fraternally welcomed. S. W. Stark, C. C.; Lou S. Isenberg, K. of R. & S.

Wauna Temple Pythian Sisters, No. 6—Meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at K. of P. hall. Bell Johnson, M. E. C.; Gertrude Stark, M. of R. & C.

HOOD RIVER POULTRY YARDS. J. R. NICHOLSON, Proprietor. Breeder of S. C. W. Leghorns, W. P. Rocks and S. C. Rhode Island Reds.

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