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FARM ORCHARD AND GARDEN
BY **F. E. TRIGG**
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Of itself cornmeal served in various forms is not a balanced ration for man, but it is a great heat producer, and if served with beef, beans or eggs it is both cheap and economical.

Many an alarm clock is kept in the house and wound up regularly as a sort of conscience savior. That is, the winding of it at night seems to make a justification for oversleeping in the morning.

Buckwheat cakes light and nicely baked and served with crisp bacon or breakfast sausage surely do tickle the palate, but a too steady diet of them is rather tough on the stomach and consequently on one's health. They are best sandwiched in with other rations.

Scalding water, fresh air and sunshine are three of the most valuable aids in the maintaining of a clean and healthful environment for and a healthy condition in the farm animals, and they are three aids that many a farmer appreciates to a pitifully meager degree.

Fresh meat is quite too high to be feasible as a ration for the hens, but if one lives in a rabbit country the poultry will greatly relish the rabbit meat. Skin and draw the rabbit and hang up just high enough so the hens will have to jump to reach. The exercise and fresh meat combined should set them to laying if they have been loafing.

The increasing scarcity of fur bearing animals is in no case better shown than in the prices paid for mink pelts now and a few years ago. The same large, dark, prime pelt that was selling fifteen years ago for \$1.40 now fetches \$7. In the same period prime skunk skins have advanced from 65 cents to \$1.75 and muskrat from 11 to 40 cents.

The potato crop for the season past totaled 282,000,000 bushels, and while this yield was about 12 per cent below the five year average, owing to the higher prices prevailing it netted the growers \$213,000,000, which was about 14 per cent above the return for the crop on a five year basis. At present a good many potatoes are being imported and are paying a duty of 25 cents per bushel.

In some sections of the west where homesteaders are settling on the big cattle ranges they seem to have adopted the motto of "free range, free beef," and have been enjoying a toothsome supply of fresh beef by killing steers now and then that happened to stray on their ranches. Naturally the cattleman object to this procedure and in some instances have appealed to state authorities for protection. It was not so very long ago when it was the homesteaders who were the suppliants.

There is no condition to be found on the farm that will play greater hob with farm animals in a shorter time than housing them under such conditions that they will not have an abundance of fresh air by night or day. The stable in which cattle or sheep are quartered may be steamy and warm, but the air in such a place may be so bad and so lacking in oxygen as to nearly extinguish a lantern. Fresh air doesn't cost anything, but it's mighty expensive business not giving the farm animals all they want of it.

Modern business inflicts much injustice at times upon those less favorably situated in the economic scale and is also responsible for the practice of much dishonesty of one kind and another, but it has also had some most wholesome influences. Among these is a great curtailment of the drinking of intoxicating liquors among practically all railway employees and the workers in many other industries where employers insist on efficiency and sobriety. Many of these same companies have entirely forbidden the use of cigarettes by employes while on duty simply because they take from a man's mental alertness and power of concentration.

The chief causes of loss in the operation of many a farm dairy are two-fold: failure to apply the Babcock test for quantity and quality of milk to ascertain which cows are really paying for the keep or making a profit and, secondly, failure to adjust the grain ration of the cows to the amount of milk that they are giving. With cows giving milk containing about 3 per cent of butter fat a good rule is to feed three pounds of grain daily for each five pounds of milk produced. From this it will be seen that in many a dairy herd cows may be fed either more or less grain than they ought to get in both instances to a loss and disadvantage.

A BIG HORSE FEEDING TEST.

Probably the largest experiment in horse feeding ever conducted was the one recently concluded at Fort Riley, Kan., under the supervision of Dr. Campbell, who is connected with the State Agricultural college. Nine hundred and thirty-seven horses were used in the test, and these were divided into fifteen different lots and fed as many different rations. Every meal for every one of these horses was weighed and mixed in the right proportions during a period of 140 days. The purpose of the experiment was to find, if possible, a grain ration that would take the place of oats and give as good results, also to test the feeding value of different rations and to determine the effect of different grain rations upon the health of the horses. When the feeding tests were concluded several things were made clear: First, other feeds can be substituted for oats as a ration for work horses, with as good results and much cheaper. It was proven conclusively that oats alone was a better grain for work horses than corn alone, but more expensive. Horses that were fed oats alone gained on an average sixteen pounds a head, while a like number that were fed corn alone lost twenty-nine pounds apiece in the same time. When corn was fed with the proper amount of alfalfa of the right quality it was found to give just as good results as oats and, besides, was fully 50 per cent cheaper. Alfalfa hay, properly fed, proved to be a more valuable roughage than either timothy or prairie hay and cheapened the cost of the daily ration from 25 to 40 per cent. A ration consisting of six parts of corn, four parts of oats and four parts of bran, together with timothy hay, was rated as the best ration that could be given a horse, though not the cheapest. An old idea was exploded in the experiment—namely, that horses fed oats have more life than those given a ration of corn.

A SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE.

As a result of co-operation on the part of the business men of Lewiston, Ida., and Clarkston, Wash., a school of horticulture has been established at Livingston that will be quite unique in its scope and purpose. Instead of furnishing instruction primarily to young people, as is so largely true of the average agricultural college, the school in question will be attended most largely by owners of fruit ranches in the vicinity and their wives and daughters. Among the subjects studied will be fruit growing, nursery practice, the growing of small fruits and vegetables, insects and their treatment, plant diseases and other subjects arising from the agricultural conditions to be found in the valley; also soil physics and soil chemistry. The business men of the two cities came to the conclusion that the fruit industry of the valley was retarded because of a lack of trained men, and the school just established has definitely in view correcting this difficulty. That a high grade of instruction will be given is indicated in the choice of Professor Thornber, previously in charge of the horticultural departments of the South Dakota and Washington state agricultural colleges. Lectures will be given in the forenoon of five days in the week, while the laboratory work will be largely done in the nearby orchards. Professor Thornber believes there is a real need for the school and is enthusiastic about its future.

SENSIBLE MONTANA.

Beginning with Jan. 1 the good people of Montana will be able to know a bit about the pedigree of the eggs they have for breakfast. At that date regulations became effective relative to the sale of eggs, which state authorities say will be strictly enforced. Under the regulations eggs will be classified as fresh eggs, ranch eggs and case eggs. Eggs offered for sale as fresh that are more than seven days old will be considered misbranded. Ranch eggs are those that have not been preserved or the age of which is unknown. All eggs that have been kept in cold storage or that have been preserved in any way are known as case eggs, and the containers of such eggs must have plainly marked thereon in letters not less than two inches high the month and the year in which the eggs were placed in storage. Any eggs of the above class not plainly labeled are considered misbranded. The law imposes heavy penalties for violation and makes it incumbent upon both the merchant and eating house proprietor to specify plainly the class to which eggs he sells belong.

CORN IN LOUISIANA.

A very interesting change that is going on in those portions of the south where cotton has been the staple crop for generations past is clearly shown in the rapid increase in the production of corn in the state of Louisiana during the past few years. A few years ago the cotton boll weevil made its appearance in the state, and cotton growers seemed to be threatened with bankruptcy. But being compelled to devote cotton land to the growing of corn and other crops has really been a blessing in disguise. Figures that have been compiled show that the production of corn has increased from 19,516,499 bushels in 1905 to nearly 100,000,000 bushels in 1911. In the year 1910 Louisiana corn was sold to Europe and Texas for the first time, and the surplus for the past year has been close to 50,000,000 bushels.

F. E. Trigg

PLANT IMPORTATION.

So inadequate are the federal laws governing the importation of horticultural products in this country that practically every country in the world that has diseased plants, shrubs or trees which cannot be marketed at home can send them here. Here would seem to be an opening for some ambitious statesman who wants to promote his own political welfare and really serve his country to make a mark for himself. The existing situation is an insult and outrage on American horticultural interests, and there is urgent need that it should be righted at the earliest possible moment.

PHEASANT PROPAGATION.

Much success has attended the efforts to introduce the Chinese or Mongolian pheasant in southern and western states, in particular on the Pacific slope, where the climate is greatly modified by nearness to the ocean. Within the new year several hundred pairs of the common quail or Bob White are to be shipped from Oklahoma to western Oregon, where an attempt will be made to propagate them. Climatic conditions will be favorable, the birds are naturally hardy, and there would seem to be no good reason why they ought not to multiply rapidly.

Cleanse the bowels and strengthen the liver by using Herbine. It is a fine liver stimulant and bowel regulator. Price 50c. Sold by Chas. N. Clarke.*

Notice of Guardian's Sale.

By virtue of an order of license to sell real property duly made and filed by the County Judge of the County Court of Hood River County, State of Oregon, dated the 28th day of January, 1912, in the matter of the guardianship of Lawrence O. Jones and Nellie R. Jones, minors, now pending in said court.

Notice is hereby given, that I will on the 1st day of March, 1912, at the front door of the Court House, in the City of Hood River, in said County and State at 9 o'clock in the forenoon of said day, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, an undivided one-fifth (1/5) interest in and to the following described real property situated in the County of Hood River, State of Oregon, to-wit:

The East one-half (1/2) of the Southwest quarter (SW 1/4) and lots three (3) and four (4) all in Section Seven (7), Township One (1) South, Range Ten (10) East of Willamette Meridian, containing 140.20 acres more or less. Also three shares each of the capital stock of Middle Fork Irrigation Company, par value \$10.00 a share, which should be treated as appurtenant to said real property and which has been heretofore sold and conveyed as a part of the same.

Dated January 27th, 1912.
JESSICA L. SMITH,
Guardian of Lawrence O. Jones and Nellie R. Jones, Minors.

L. A. & A. P. REED,
53-c Attorneys.

Restoration to Entry of Lands in National Forest.

Notice is hereby given that the lands described below, embracing 10 acres, within the Oregon National Forest, Oregon, will be subject to settlement and entry under the provisions of the homestead laws of the United States and the act of June 11, 1906, (34 Stat. 223), at the United States land office at The Dalles, Oregon, on April 8, 1912. Any settler who was actually and in good faith claiming any of said lands for agricultural purposes prior to January 1, 1906, and has not abandoned same, has a preference right to make a homestead entry for the lands actually occupied. Said lands were listed upon the applications of the persons mentioned below, who have a preference right subject to the prior right of any such settler, provided such settler or applicant is qualified to make homestead entry and the preference right is exercised prior to April 3, 1912, on which date the lands will be subject to settlement and entry by any qualified person. The lands are as follows: The SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of SW 1/4, Sec. 12, T. 1 S., R. 2 E., W. M. 10 acres, application of Harry S. Crouse, of The Dalles, Oregon; List 6-275.

S. V. PROFFIT,
Assistant Commissioner of the General Land Office
Approved December 18, 1911.
CARMI A. THOMPSON,
Acting Secretary of the Interior.
First pub. Jan. 17, 12.

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Mount Hood Railroad
Time Table No. 12, Effective April 17th, 1911 A. M.

| A. M. - South | North - P. M. |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 8.00 | Hood River 3.10 |
| 8.05 | Powerdale 3.05 |
| 8.15 | Switchback 2.55 |
| 8.35 | VanHorn 2.30 |
| 8.40 | Mohrs 2.25 |
| 8.55 | Odell 2.15 |
| 9.10 | Summit 2.05 |
| 9.20 | Bloucher 2.00 |
| 9.40 | Winans 1.50 |
| 9.45 Ar. Dee | Lv. 1.45 |
| 10.15 Lv. Dee | Ar. 1.25 |
| 10.25 | Troutcreek 1.20 |
| 10.40 | Woodworth 1.05 |
| 10.50 Ar. Parkdale | Lv. 1.00 |

Sundays, north bound trains will run two hours later, above schedule, leaving Parkdale 1 p. m.
A. WILSON, Agent.

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Redmond and Bend

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Through Car Service Between Portland and Bend

Daily Train Schedule

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Lv. Portland | 7:50-10:40 A. M. | Lv. Bend | 6:30 A. M. |
| Lv. The Dalles | 12:40 P. M. | Lv. Redmond | 7:21 A. M. |
| Lv. Deschutes Jr. | 1:30 P. M. | Lv. Opal City | 8:00 A. M. |
| Ar. Madras | 5:45 P. M. | Lv. Metolius | 8:45 A. M. |
| Ar. Metolius | 6:50 P. M. | Lv. Madras | 9:00 A. M. |
| Ar. Opal City | 7:05 P. M. | Ar. Deschutes Jr. | 1:15 P. M. |
| Ar. Redmond | 7:45 P. M. | Ar. The Dalles | 1:55 P. M. |
| Ar. Bend | 8:40 P. M. | Ar. Portland | 5:45 P. M. |

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