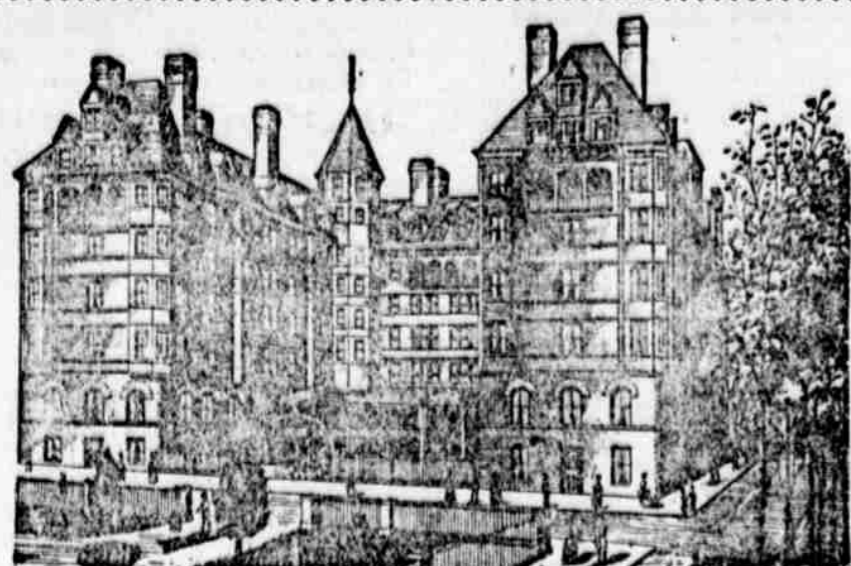


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FARMS AND FARMERS



How to Bud Peaches.

"For a budding knife take a common case knife—a broken one will do—cut blade off square about one inch from haft, sharpen this end not very thin, but sharp. Keep the normal edge as keen as possible. Now, to use it. Set the end edge squarely across the branch, or seedling, where you wish to set your bud, and with gentle pressure cut through the bark to the wood. Next, set the same edge vertically just below where you have made the cross incision and cut through the bark as before, and before withdrawing the knife give it a slight twist, which will throw the bark open for the reception of the bud. The bud is cut from the scion of the variety desired by starting the knife in the scion about one-fourth of an inch below the bud, and cutting upward to the same distance above, taking off the bud with a shield shaped piece of bark and a small shaving of the wood of the scion. Insert this in the incision already made in the stock and tie the bark to the stock down over it firmly, but not too tightly. For tying, anything nearly will do. I have used corn husks when other material was not handy."

Making a Brooder at Home.

Here are the plans for a brooder that can be easily made by anyone: Make a box 5 feet 4 inches by 3 feet 8 inches and 2 feet high, using 2x2-inch pieces for corner posts, and matched boards for siding. Inside nail strips around 11 inches from bottom to support the floor, which should be made of matched lumber and left so it could be taken out and cleaned. Make door in end level with floor, also glass in upper half of each side for light. Top made to slant both ways and about half of each side hinged on so as to make feeding and cleaning easy. Place large piece of sheet iron on underside of floor with half-inch strips between floor and iron. Cut door in lower part of end; place good metal bowl lamp under sheet iron; bore several holes in floor over lamp, putting tin can punched full of holes over this to keep out dirt. Place thermometer on inside and you will have a brooder which will give the best of satisfaction.

Egg Pointers.

A stale egg will sink in water. Stale eggs are glassy and smooth of shell. A fresh egg has a limelike surface to its shell. The boiled eggs which adhere to the shell are fresh laid. Eggs packed in bran for a long time smell and taste musty. Thin shells are caused by a lack of gravel and lime among the hens laying eggs. After an egg has been laid a day or more the shell comes off easily when boiled. A boiled egg which is done will dry quickly on the shell when taken from the kettle. Eggs which have been packed in lime look stained and show the action of the lime on the surface. If an egg is clean and golden in appearance when held to the light it is good; if dark or spotted, it is bad.

New Meat Law Working Well.

In addressing the convention of the New York State Breeders' Association upon the new meat inspection law and its bearing upon the production and handling of meats, George P. McCabe, solicitor of the department of agriculture at Washington, said the law appeared to be working well and was serving as a guarantee of the healthfulness, purity and wholesomeness of our live stock and meats in the markets of the world. He declared that, to secure the best results, breeders of every state should take up vigorously the question of the extension of markets and should back the department of agriculture in an insistent demand for an absolute efficient, vigilant, fair and square meat inspection.

Homemade Saw Horse.

The illustration shows the best contrivance for holding slabs or other



HANDY SAW HORSE.

refuse wood while sawing it for kindling or fuel.

Sure Way With Boll Weevil.

The best way to circumvent the boll weevil is to raise more corn and hogs, more alfalfa and mule colts, more hay and calves, more oats and chickens, more wheat and turkeys, and build more factories. With full crops of all these things, the boll weevil would have little terror for Texas.—Bonham (Tex.) News.

Farm Notes.

Farmers who make money by skinning the farm are like companies who pay dividends by watering their stock. The all around food for milk cows is grass. Therefore look well to the pastures and see that their quality is improved.

It is useless to attempt to keep winter squashes that have been injured by frost. Those that are uninjured are best kept on shelves in layers in a location where the temperature does not fall below 40 degrees. Be careful that they are not kept too warm.

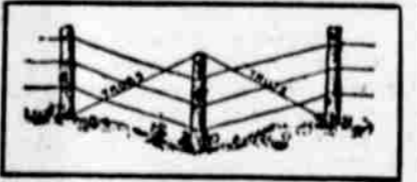
Dried Beet and Molasses Pulp.

Brief notes are given on the production of two feeding stuffs and feeding experiments with cows are reported by the Wisconsin station. The ration used for comparison consisted of five pounds of hay, thirty-five to forty pounds of silage, and about eight pounds of a grain mixture consisting of wheat bran, distillers' grains, and cottonseed meal in the proportion of 2:2:1. Dried-beet pulp or molasses-beet pulp was substituted for the wheat bran in the ratio of 3:2 by weight. Two tests were made, the first including fifteen cows and the second six.

When wheat bran was replaced by dried-beet pulp in the proportion indicated there was no appreciable difference in the effect of the two rations. Molasses-beet pulp substituted in the same manner produced, however, about 12 per cent more milk and 8 per cent more butter fat. Beet pulp showed a tendency to decrease the fat content of the milk. The results, therefore, indicate that when wheat bran is valued at \$18 a ton, dried-beet pulp is not worth over \$12 and molasses-beet pulp over \$13 a ton.

Anchoring Fence Posts.

Here is a handy way of anchoring fence posts in draws or low places: Instead of hanging a stone to the post,



ANCHORING POSTS IN DRAWS.

take a double wire and use it in the form of a truss, as indicated in cut. The plan is so simple that little description is necessary. If the cut is very deep, one can use a longer post, or spike a 2x4 onto the post, and so put the truss wire yet higher, and hence that much more effective.

Why Young Trees Are Best.

These are the advantages of planting young trees: They can be trained to the desired form better than older trees, says Farming. A 2 or 3-year-old tree is branched and has had its head already formed by the nurseryman; a yearling tree of the apple, pear and sweet cherry, is usually unbranched. Sometimes the nurseryman has headed the tree too high or has not been careful enough about starting out the scaffold limbs, and it is difficult to correct the form of the head after it has been started. There is an unmistakable preference for low-headed trees, due chiefly to the need of economy and efficiency in spraying and harvesting. The single disadvantage of low-heading is greater inconvenience in tillage. This is much more than offset by the advantages. In the judgment of most growers, within ten years the height recommended for heading apple trees in the East has been reduced at least two feet. The bearing of this on the matter of yearling trees is that the grower can head a yearling tree where he pleases.

Cowpeas for Hogs.

Those living where they can successfully grow the cowpea should utilize this valuable crop as a cheap ration for pigs. The pea is rich in protein and furnishes the needed growth, and does away with the necessity of milletstuf. Drill three or four pecks of seed per acre the latter part of May or the first part of June, and give the needed cultivation till the vines cover the ground enough to check weed growth. Turn the pigs into the field when the pods begin to ripen, and they will do the harvesting. If the old hogs are pastured on peas, they need corn or some other carbonaceous feed to give proper balance, for they cannot utilize so much protein as pigs. Try a patch of cowpea pasture this year, and get your hogs in fine shape for the corn when it comes.

Hard Mouthed Horses.

Here is something of practical value to anyone driving a horse that pulls on the bit: Fasten a small ring to each side of the bridle and as near the brow band as possible. Pass the lines through the bit rings and snap them into the rings at the brow band. This, with a common jointed bit, will enable a child to hold a puller or hard mouthed horse with ease under almost all circumstances. It can be used on a fast horse in double team or on both, as desired. It is cheap and easily applied, and it won't make the mouth sore. It is better than any patent bit.—Farm Press.

Water for Butter Washing.

Bulletin No. 138, on the "Effects of Bacteria Wash Water of Butter," describes a series of experiments showing the importance of pure water for washing butter. Sterilized water is shown to be practical, cheap and profitable. The bulletin may be obtained free by addressing the experiment station, Manhattan, Kan.

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