

TOPICS FOR FARMERS

DEPARTMENT PREPARED FOR OUR RURAL FRIENDS.

Grass Seeds Mineral Plant Food—How to Keep Fruit in Winter—Hams should be Packed in Salt—Have Pure Poultry Stock.

Phosphate for Grass Lands.

Whenever the grass seedling falls the phosphate is usually laid upon the weather. That is not always correct, even in the West. Grass belongs to the same botanical family as wheat, only the grain has had a greater development of its seed. All farmers understand that the wheat crop needs phosphate to be grown successfully, year after year, on the same land. To be sure, the soil is cultivated, and there is a new seedling with some manure each year, for the grass crop. Yet farmers think that the wheat crop needs phosphate to be grown successfully, year after year, on the same land. To be sure, the soil is cultivated, and there is a new seedling with some manure each year, for the grass crop.

To Keep Fruit in Winter.

If fruit and vegetables must be kept in the house cellar, a room should be partitioned off in the coldest part. If the other is too warm, and made secure against rats and mice. This is best done by having the partition of brick and the floor of good cement, laid so the rats cannot undermine it. No language can describe one's feelings on discovering the work of a family of rats in bins of apples, potatoes or other vegetables. Such a room should have a window open to the north, if possible, securely protected by wire screen, so that cold air can be let in when needed.

Good Blue Grass Pasture.

Where you have what we call a good, solid, well-matted blue grass pasture, that same land will produce at least twice the amount of feed, for the reason that it catches the snow, holds the rain much better, and not half the rain runs off that does from our short pastures. It holds a greater amount of moisture, because the grass is a mulch for the soil, and it will keep growing for weeks in a dry season, after it has ceased to do on other land that is grazed to death.—Western Plowman.

Farm Notes.

It requires but a small amount of capital to get a start with sheep, and in opening up a new farm they will help materially to commence the income, consuming much which would otherwise go to waste, both in the pastures and in the stables. Cement floors to stables are said to be cold and uncomfortable in winter, which is an objection, but floors should always be kept well covered with cut straw, leaves or litter of some kind. There is no floor that serves better as a protection against rats, and cement enables the farmer to construct his floors in a manner to collect the liquids and thus enrich his manure heap.

Pack Hams in Salt.

Those who intend to keep any smoked hams and shoulders for next summer's use should use salt for packing. It is more cleanly, and better in every particular, than ashes or other articles commonly used. All that is necessary is to place the meat that the pieces will not touch each other, covering well the top pieces. The salt will not be wasted, as it may be used over again or taken to make brine. Hams packed in this way will not be musty or dirty on the outside, nor will they take any more salt than had been absorbed before packing.

Pure Poultry Stock.

A great many farmers who keep a flock of Plymouth Rocks are careless in regard to keeping stock pure. Because a hen is speckled, it doesn't necessarily follow that it is a Plymouth Rock. One of the surest indications of impure stock is a feathered leg. Formerly it was not uncommon to see the Rock with more or less down and even feathers on the shanks, but it has become so rare that it is now taken as a pretty sure indication of impure blood. Always avoid a fowl so blemished, or serious trouble in this direction will follow before the difficulty is entirely eradicated. If all poultrymen were careful and throw out specimens so blemished, it would be but a comparatively short time before the difficulty was entirely removed. Nothing can add more to the beauty of the Plymouth Rock than a clean, bright yellow shank.—Michigan Farmer.

Cultivation of Legumes.

The progressive farmer, who thinks closely about his business, will not expect any plan to perform miracles for him. He will fully understand that no clover nor peas can ever get from the air the potash and phosphoric acid that long cultivation has robbed his soil of, and he will, while supplying these, realize that he is enabling the plant to get for him, without cost, the nitrogen that he would otherwise have to buy, either by feeding purchased grain to animals, or by purchasing it in the form of a commercial fertilizer. Legumes will give us the nitrogen, and in a soil deficient in vegetable matter, will give us this, and it is found that applications of commercial fertilizers are more effective in a soil well stored with humus, than in a barren soil. But no plants, grown continuously on soil deficient in mineral matters, will ever make that soil fertile in the full meaning of the word. That is, no impoverished soil can ever become permanently a fertile one from its own products. If a man is so situated that he can purchase food grown on other land, and feed it on his land, and return to his soil the manure thus made, he can increase the fertility of his acres. But there are few farmers thus favorably situated, and these are mainly dairymen. The man who cannot make a profit in feeding purchased food must get the plant food his soil needs, of a mineral nature, by the direct purchase

of the phosphoric acid and potash, of which cultivation and cropping has robbed it. No plant that he can grow, will restore these things to his soil, and the sooner farmers generally learn the limitations of legume culture, the sooner they will realize the great benefits that come from their intelligent culture.—Hoard's Dairyman.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Office of Journal, Hopkins & Co., Chicago Board of Trade Building, 71-713 Chamber of Commerce Building, Portland, Oregon.

The past week has been a very quiet one in the grain trade, with narrow fluctuations. Europe took 6,800,000 bushels of our wheat, and from other countries about 8,000,000 bushels. A dispatch to the London Times from Buenos Ayres says that there have been good rains in the south and a slight rainfall in the north, so that the harvest is now secure. It is estimated that 1,000,000 tons of wheat will be exported.

Broomhall, a commercial authority of Liverpool, called that a special agent investigated crop conditions in Russia and pronounced the spring wheat crop in the important southeast district to yield not over 50 per cent of last year. The receipts of spring at Minneapolis by the flouring mills have been very large, running as high as 1,100 cars in one day. The American visible supply increased 1,130,000 bushels, and now totals 23,980,000 bushels. A year ago today the visible increased 3,411,000 bushels and totalled 84,858,000 bushels.

Regarding the fall wheat. Much relief in the drought regions has been experienced by quite extended rains, which in many places were fairly liberal, and in others less important. The effect has been to revive cheerfulness and confidence where the seriousness of drought conditions was having a discouraging influence. These rains have not accomplished all that is needful, but if they be soon followed by more moisture there will be much done to overcome the drawbacks which have been attending autumn seeding operations.

It is yet too early to offer an explicit opinion as to the probable relative area of autumn sown wheat, but it now seems practically conclusive that there will be shown considerable gain over last year. It is in evidence that October sowings of wheat if followed with ordinary favorable conditions may be expected to result well, and in fact the wheat sown as late as the middle of November has possibilities favoring a good yield.

The rains have had the effect to weaken the market sentiment to some extent, and wheat values have receded. Other influences have also had more or less bearing in the same direction. The large foreign demand which served in an important degree to stimulate the advancing tendency of values some weeks ago has been modified, as might have been expected as a natural result to follow that abnormal activity.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 79@80c; Valley and Bluestem, 82@83c per bushel. Four—Best grades, 44@45c; Graham, 43@44c; Superior, 42@43c per barrel. Oats—Choice white, 33@34c; choice gray, 31@32c per bushel. Barley—Feed barley, 19@20c; brewing, 20@21c per ton. Millstuffs—Bran, 14 per ton; middlings, 21; shorts, 15.50. Hay—Timothy, 12@12.50; clover, 10@11; California wheat, 10; do oat, 11; Oregon wild hay, 9@10 per ton. Eggs—20c per dozen. Butter—Fancy creamery, 45@50c; fair to good, 35@40c; dairy, 25@35c per roll. Cheese—Oregon, 11@12c; Young America, 12@13c; California, 9@10c per pound. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 22.00@25.00 per dozen; broilers, 15.00@20.00; geese, 4.00@5.00; ducks, 3.00@4.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 8@9c per pound. Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 35@40c per sack; sweets, 1.40 per cental. Onions—Oregon, new, red, 90c; yellow, 80c per cental. Hops—8@15c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 6@7c. Wool—Valley, 14@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 7@13c; mohair, 20c per pound. Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 23.50@26.00; dressed mutton, 5c; spring lambs, 5 1/2c per pound. Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, 4.50; light and feeders, 3.50@4.00; dressed, 3.50@6.00 per 100 pounds. Beef—Gross, top steers, 23.75@30.00; cows, 22.50; dressed beef, 4@5 1/2c per pound. Veal—Large, 4 1/2@5c; small, 5 1/2@6c per pound.

Seattle Market. Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 23@25c; ranch, 10@15c. Cheese—Native Washington, 10@12c; California, 9 1/2c. Eggs—Fresh ranch, 26c. Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 10c; spring chickens, 12.50@15.00; ducks, 3.50@4.00. Oats—Feed wheat, 43¢ per ton. Oats—Whole, 22¢; cracked, per ton, 22¢; feed meal, 23¢@23¢ per ton. Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, 22¢; whole, 22¢. Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5 1/2c; mutton sheep, 6c; pork, 6 1/2c; veal, small, 6c. Fresh Fish—Halibut, 4c; salmon, 4c; fresh salmon trout, 4c; flounders and sole, 3 1/2c; ling cod, 4@5c; rock cod, 5c; smelt, 2 1/2c@4c. Fresh Fruit—Apples, 40@65c per box; Salway peaches, 50@60c; clings, 30@40c; prunes, 1/2@3/4c per pound; pears, 75c@1 per box.

San Francisco Market. Wool—Nevada 11@14c; Oregon, 12@14c; Northern 14@16c per pound. Hops—11@14c per pound. Millstuffs—Middlings, 20@22c; California bran, 15.00@15.50 per ton. Onions—New red, 70@80c; do new silvinskian, 90c@1.10 per cental. Butter—Fancy creamery, 27@28c; do seconds, 25@26c; fancy dairy, 23@24c; good to choice, 20@22c per pound. Cheese—Fancy milk, new, 9 1/2c; fair to good, 7@8c per pound. Eggs—Store, 16@25c; ranch, 34@37c; Eastern, 15@21c; duck, 20c per dozen. Potatoes—New, in boxes, 30@90c. Citrus Fruit—Oranges, Valencia, 1.50@2.00; Mexican lemons, 3.00@3.50; California lemons, choice, 2.50; do common, 1.10@2 per box. Hay—Wheat, 12@15c; wheat and oat, 11@14c; 10@12c; river barley, 87@85c; best barley, 10@12c; alfalfa, 85@95c; clover, 75@100c. Fresh Fruit—Apples, 30@75c per large box; grapes, 15@30c; Isabella, 40@50c; peaches, 25@50c; pears, 1.00@1.40 per box; plums, 25@40c.

QUIEN SABE?

Quien Sabe—who know—is a phrase in very common use among the Spaniards, and helps over many, many difficulties. It is expressive. What the weather may be the coming winter, who knows? It may be snowy, wet, stormy, cold, freezing, and full of sickness and pain, who knows? Some of us today, hale and hearty, may lie on beds of torture, or hobble about on crutches, who knows? Before the autumn merges into winter many may have symptoms of approaching trouble, of the old rheumatism coming on, or of first attacks of gout, who knows? That's a conundrum, but there is one thing everybody knows, the best thing to do is to be ready for the weather coming and to take hold of what is. Everybody knows what is best. With St. Jacobs Oil in the house, everybody knows they have a sure cure for rheumatism, acute or chronic. It is likewise known that in any stage of it, the great remedy does its work of cure perfectly. If we suffer, we need not ask who knows, when it is so well known what is best.

Great Gifts to Education. M. Enlozios Georgieff, the founder of the Sofia University, who died recently, bequeathed 2,000,000 francs to the Bulgarian government to be applied to the country's needs; 6,000,000 francs for a technical school to be established at Sofia and large sums for other public institutions.

HOME PRODUCTS AND PURE FOOD. All Eastern Syrup, so-called, usually very light colored and of heavy body, is made from glucose. The genuine is made from cane sugar and is strictly pure. It is for sale by first-class grocers, in cans only. Manufactured by the Pacific Coast Syrup Co. All genuine "Joy Garden Syrup" have the manufacturer's name lithographed on every can.

A Fair Inference. When the continual and unreasonable attacks upon the courts are considered, orderly people are apt to take a liberty with the poet and make his couplet read: "No rouge o'er saw the halter draw with good opinion of the law."—Stockton Independent.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Of 73 historic kings of Scotland 61 are said to have died in battle or to have been murdered.

An outlaw, three moonshiners and two other men were arrested at the Sunnelt camp meeting at Kingwood, W. Va.

It is estimated that the lumber cut of the Miramichi and tributaries, Canada, will this season amount to 112,000,000 feet.

An ostrich lives about 30 years, and the average annual yield of a bird in captivity is from one to four pounds of plumes.

Caesar did not say "Et tu, Brute." Eye witnesses of the assassination deposed that he died fighting, but silent like a wolf.

Nearly every man, woman and child in Egypt is a smoker of cigarettes, and a pipe is hardly ever seen in the mouth of a native.

The largest winged insect in the world is the Atlas moth of Central Brazil. Its wings extend 14 inches from tip to tip.

One of the severest penalties to which criminals in Holland were in ancient times condemned was to be deprived of the use of salt.

A strong microscope shows the single hairs of the head to be like coarse, round rasps, but with teeth extremely irregular and jagged.

Great Britain and Ireland contain 380 banks, the most important being the Bank of England, which has a capital of \$73,000,000.

The Coliseum at Rome was built by Vespaian to accommodate 100,000 spectators. It covers five and a half acres and was 120 feet high.

The oyster is one of the strongest creatures on earth. The force required to open an oyster is more than nine hundred times its weight.

After forty years of hard, dangerous, and expensive missionary work there are in Japan today about 110,000 native Christians, in a population of 42,000,000.

Attempts have been made to produce spider silk, but have failed, the ferocious nature of these insects not permitting them to live together in communities.

It is computed that all of the houses in London and New York could be built of the lava thrown out by Vesuvius since the first recorded eruption in A. D. 79.

Try Schilling's Best tea and baking powder.

Paper Underwear Tested.

During the war between Japan and China the Chinese soldiers wore underclothing made of paper. Experiments made with these goods in the Prussian army proved unsatisfactory, as they were found to last only two or three days.

ADVICE TO WOMEN.

You cannot have nerve trouble and keep your health. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the womb, the ovaries and the bladder are affected. They are not vital organs, hence they give out soonest.

Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, by building up the nerves and restoring woman's organism to its natural state, relieves all these troublesome uterine symptoms. In confirmation of this, by permission, refer to the following women, all of whom speak from experience: Miss CELIA VAN HORN, 1915 Sharswood, Philadelphia, Pa.; Miss GRACE COLLOD, 1434 Eastern Ave., Cincinnati, O.; Mrs. NEWELL, 50 Ryerson St., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mrs. ISABEL OBERG, 220 Chestnut St., Woburn, Mass.; Mrs. A. H. COLE, New Rochelle, N. Y., and many others.

Women suffering from any form of female weakness are invited to promptly communicate with Mrs. Pinkham at Lynn, Mass.

You can talk freely to a woman when it is revolving to relate your private ailments to a man.

FIGHT IN THE HILLS.

Brave Charge of British Troops on Samara Range.

Simla, Oct. 22.—According to advices from Fort Lockhardt, the tribesmen having occupied Dargari ridge, which commanded Chagru, on the Samara range, General Biggs sent the second division this morning to dislodge them. The position was a very strong one, on the summit of a precipitous hill, reached by a single path along which the attacking force, consisting of the Gurka regulars and the Dorsetshire regiment, was obliged to climb in Indian file, three batteries meanwhile shelling the ranges.

The British suffered a temporary check when they reached the open space, and were exposed to an accurate fire. After a prolonged artillery fire, the Gurkas were reinforced by the Gordon Highlanders. Then followed a magnificent rush across the open space, in the face of a murderous fusillade. The enemy stood their ground until the British reached the rocks below, down which the tribesmen could not see to fire, and they fled pell-mell. The losses of the Gurkas and the Highlanders were severe.

According to later advices, General Biggs advanced at daybreak, by way of Chagru Kotal, with Brigadier-General Kemster's brigade leading. It was nearly 10 o'clock when the enemy began a long-range fight. The three mountain batteries massed on Chagru Kotal replied, while the Gordon Highlanders pushed through to support the first line, firing volleys at long range. The tribesmen reserved their fire until the Gurkas reached the zigzag path under the perpendicular cliff, where Major Jennings Bromley was killed on Monday in the fighting between the Biggs brigade and the insurgent tribesmen from Chagru.

Three British companies crossed the zone of fire at a rush, sustaining heavy losses, while the remainder deployed to the left to intercept a flank attack threatened by some 7,000 of the enemy from that direction. The Dorsetshire regiment attempted to support three companies of Gurkas, but was kept back by the enemy, who remained cool, and reserved their fire until the British were well exposed.

At 1 P. M. matters looked serious, as the gun fire, though maintained by a mountain battery from Fort Galistan, had failed to dislodge the enemy. General Kemster thereupon went forward in person, moving up the Gordon Highlanders and the Third Sikh regiment into the fighting line. A systematic assault was then organized, and 2,000 men, with fixed bayonets, stood waiting for the order to advance.

Three minutes before the word of command was given, General Kemster telegraphed back instructions to the artillery company to concentrate their forces. Eighteen pieces of artillery responded, and, under cover of this fire, the leading company of the Highlanders, amid perfect silence, rushed into the fire zone. Half of the men dropped, but the remainder pushed gallantly on until they reached the cover where the Gurkas lay. The rest of the force streamed after them and the tribesmen, seeing that most of the troops had passed the fire zone, fled up the hill, and collected under cover of the cliffs.

The Highlanders and mixed regiments, after pausing a moment to take breath, again advanced to the assault and 20 minutes later the position was won. The ridge was stormed at 3 o'clock. From noon until that hour, the tribesmen, sheltered in the sagars, stood the bombardment, beating their drums, waving their standards, shouting defiance, and maintaining a hot fire on the advancing soldiers.

General Biggs will continue the advance so as to hold the frontal hills and push on to Kharappa, where he will be joined by Sir William Lockhart.

Throughout yesterday the tribesmen continued their work of building breast works on the summit.

HUGE GAME PRESERVE.

A Missouri Sporting Club Will Establish It Shortly.

St. Louis, Oct. 22.—Deeds will be signed today completing the purchase of the last 780 acres of a tract of land in Iron county, Mo., that is designed to form one of the greatest game preserves in the United States. Purchases of land in the vicinity of Ironton, Mo., have been preparing for several months until there has at last been quietly bought enough land to serve the purpose intended.

The purchaser is the Mountain and Lake Hunting and Fishing Club, including in its membership many well-known men in St. Louis. Charles Lewis, ex-member of the city council, is vice-president, Charles Huff, secretary and John W. Peckington, treasurer. The tract selected for the purposes of the club is in the richest game portion of Missouri, in a valley surrounded by the Ozark mountains.

The intention of the club is to present the preserve to the state at the expiration of 50 years, provided the plans of the club successfully carry out. Within 50 years it is believed by the club, the preserve will be the most extensive and richest in game in the United States.

As soon as the papers are drawn up work will be commenced in anticipation of favorable action by the legislature.

Inspected Mare Island Yard.

Mare Island, Cal., Oct. 22.—The commander of the French ship Dugue Trien and some of his officers today paid a visit to Mare Island navy-yard on the tug Umattila. The party was entertained at luncheon by Admiral Kirkland, commander of the navy-yard, and a number of officers of the ships stationed here were invited to meet them. After luncheon, the party inspected the navy-yard, and returned to the city on the Umattila.

New York, Oct. 22.—Because of the tariff laws of the United States and Canada, U. H. Leves, the big soap manufacturer, has come to the United States to establish a factory, and he will go to Canada with the same project for that country. Mr. Leves has an enormous \$10,000,000 soap factory at Fort Sunning, England, where he employs 3,000 persons. From this place he has heretofore supplied the trade of foreign countries. The prohibitive tariff against foreign soap he says, forces him to erect factories in these countries.

Important Recent Discovery.

The Smithsonian Institution has received a collection which is of importance to the archaeologist. It is known as the Soton-Karr contribution, having been discovered by this Englishman in Somaliland, on the eastern coast of Africa. The implements were purchased from the discoverer by the Smithsonian Institution. There are about 50 pieces in the collection, made of flint, of quartzite, and ranging in size from an inch or so in length to half a foot, some weighing several pounds. The objects are supposed to be spear heads, battle axes and wedges, truncheons, bind-gongs or whatever they may be termed.

The discoverer had this to say on the subject of his find and the locality where the objects were unearthed: "Certain landmarks as to the four rivers mentioned in Genesis led me to think that the Garden of Eden, if it ever existed, may have been here, and that these very tools had been made and used by Adam and his numerous descendants. At any rate, my discoveries in Egypt and Somaliland lead me to the idea that man's original home, or the place where he was gradually evolved, must have been in Africa, or at least, in a tropical land, where clothes were unnecessary and food plentiful to hand."

WAKE UP.

Yes, wake up to the danger which threatens you if your kidneys and bladder are inactive or weak. Don't you know that if you fail to impel them to action, Bright's disease or diabetes without delay? It has a most beneficial effect upon the kidneys when sluggish, and upon the bowels, liver, stomach and nervous system.

One of the visitors to the Tennessee Centennial was a Rutherford county man, 84 years old, who, until his trip to the Nashville exposition, had never been on a railroad train.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

We are asserting in the courts our right to the exclusive use of the name CASTORIA, as our Trade Mark. "FITCHER'S CASTORIA," as our Trade Mark, is the same that has borne and does now bear the facsimile signature of CHAS. H. FITCHER on every wrapper. This is the original "FITCHER'S CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. Look carefully at the wrapper and see that it is the real you have always bought, and has the signature of CHAS. H. FITCHER on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which CHAS. H. FITCHER is President.

March 8, 1897. SAMUEL FITCHER, M.D. The relatives of Joe Sullivan, who died in Oakland, Cal., and was seven feet eight inches in height, have put a guard over his grave, fearing that a showman will steal his body.

DR. SANDEN'S ELECTRIC BELT

This belt fits the eyes with electrical energy which quickly restores the weakness of the weaker functions, etc. The life in them, and they are enabled to throw off disease. It is a simple cure and never fails. By A. S. Sanden, famous as a physician and a student of science and medicine for thirty years, has published a book, "Three Cases of Men," upon the cause of weakness and disease and its cure by electricity. It is worth \$1.00 to any man, and is sent free, closely sealed, to any address or can be had at the office. Call or address.

Address, F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, etc. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

One of the most curious results of the investigations made by doctors in the Russian jails is the statement that each group of criminals has its own peculiar color of the eye.

Pico's Cure for Consumption has saved me large doctor bills.—C. L. Baker, 4228 Regent St., Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 8, '96.

Diamonds have been discovered, in rare instances, in the meteoric stones which have fallen to the earth.

Buy Your Furs

DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURERS This Handsome Cape represented by this cut, a combination of Electric Seal and Astrachan, with twelve tails, regularly sold at \$50, will be sold during this month for \$25. Our stock of Alaska Seal (raw and manufactured) Furs is now complete. The ladies from all parts of the country are requested to send for prices and catalogues. Highest price paid for all kinds of raw fur.

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