DRY FARMING CONGRESS.

Methods of Increasing Crop Output Will Be Discussed.

The Dry Farming congress is now organized, with some persistency and determination to be heard from in the matter of urging its claims upon the attention of the public. The faith that the promoters and operators of this association have in their claims of dry farming methods, well carried out, cannot be questioned, says the editor of the Twentieth Century Farmer. The experiences and results of careful and persistent work in crop growing efforts are the evidence that is offered in testimony of the feasibility of dry farming methods and dry farming as an industry.

It is not surprising that there are the doubtful, the skeptical, the unbelever in converting the dry land of the arid West to agricultural purposes, the growing of crops, the cultivation of orchards and forests, the establishing of homes and the building up of commercial interests and industries on these lands; we say that it is not surprising that some hesitate, that they doubt the availability of sufficient moisture to grow crops; that they fore-past seasons of drouth, etc. All these things had their period and have exerted their influence to discourage and prejudice the mind of the public as the settlement of the country has progressed westward for the last fifty years, and yet cultivation has been the civilizing influence that has conquered drouth, hot winds and the barrenness of the plains and prairie countries that are now the dependence in production.

The Fourth Dry Farming congress will hold its meeting at Billings, Montana, October 26, 27 and 28, 1909. This will not only be an institute for dry farming farmers and dry farming instructors and teachers, but it will be an exposition of dry farming products such as this or no other country has ever witnessed. There are pledged already exhibits from thirteen Western states that are engaged in dry farming work. The organization by states, to show what each is doing and capable of doing in the raising of grain and vegetable crops, without irrigation, is a feature never before undertaken in this distirct and promises some great surprises for visitors.

The area of tillable lands in the United States not yet turned to cultivation is comparatively small, and under present conditions of demand by the homesteader will last but a few more years at most. It is only the part of good business judgment that the dry farming districts be investigated by those who contemplate getting a home under the free homestead law. Good lands and the best locations will be the first taken. Each year will reduce the quality of lands to be disposed of as government homesteads.

The Dry Farming congress will be a good place to visit next October, in view of getting dry farming information and dry farms on which to put it into practice. The Dry Farming congress announces that there are 200,000,000 acres of arable land awaiting development by the dry farming methods.

Appropriate Breed.

"The aeronaut who is going to try that long flight will take his pet dog along."

"What kind of a dog is it?"

"A skye terrier, of course."—Baltimore American.

Information Bureau.

Caller—I wish you would tell me if there has been any change in the size of the 5 cent piece within the last ten or fifteen years.

Man at the Desk—Decidedly there has. The 5 cent piece of ice isn't more than half as large as it used to be.

The Real Thing.

"I must congratulate Jack on his golden wedding."

"Golden wedding? Why, he's only just married."

"I know, but the bride is worth a million."—Boston Transcript.

Hidden.

Her fatal gift of beauty
Never caused the pit-a-pat
Of anybody's heart at all
She wore a modern hat.
—Houston Post.

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FARM AND GARDEN

Farm Telephones.

In some parts of the country telephones are becoming very common. It seems that once a telephone is established in the family it is there to stay. Other sections of the country are very much behind the times in this respect, probably because no one has gone ahead with the preliminary arrangements.

A farm telephone is not only a great luxury, but it is fast becoming an absolute necessity. With the addition of more business to the farm every year and the scarcity of labor anything that saves steps is worth money. When you get accustomed to doing business over the telephone you realize its great value.

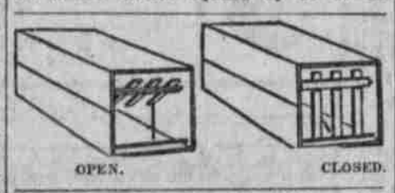
A short time ago I heard a farmer order 100 bushels of seed oats by phone from another farmer about ten miles away. He had seen a sample at the fair last fall and made the negotiations accordingly. The business was transacted in about five minutes while the farmer was sitting at his desk after reading his morning mail left at the box by the rural delivery man. It would have taken him all day to get his mail and drive to the other farmer and buy his seed oats.

But there is a social side to farm life that is fostered by the telephone. It often happens that a woman is left alone for the day and she can easily make arrangements to have a neighbor call and spend the time pleasantly, instead of feeling lonely. Then it is so easy to make social arrangements for evenings or to meet friends as occasion requires.

There are always people in a neighborhood who are public-spirited enough to go ahead with the necessary arrangements to establish a telephone service. Others should encourage them promptly by subscribing to the fund required. Everybody is benefited, because the arrangement is mutual in the neighborhood. — Agricultural Epitomist.

A Trap Nest.

The accompanying plan of trap nest is quite simple and can be made from a box of suitable size. It should be 12 or 14 inches square by 20 or 24



inches long. The slats should be nailed to a crosspiece about one-quarter the distance from the top. A couple of nails are driven through the box and into the crosspiece to swing on. Half way back, on the inside, a narrow piece of board is nailed, back of which the nest is made.

To set the trap simply raise the slats inward from the bottom 8 or 9 inches high and place a small stick under one of the slats. As the hen enters the door is raised off the stick, which falls to the floor. There should be about five slats for a box 12 or 14 inches in width, slats close against inch strip at bottom.

When Vegetables Mature.

The following list will show the gardener how long after planting the various common vegetables will mature their growth and be ready for use:

Bush beans	40 to 65 days
Pole beans	50 to 80 days
Beets	60 to 80 days
Early cabbage	10 to 130 days
Carrots	75 to 100 days
Cauliflowers	100 to 130 days
Celery	120 to 150 days
Sweet corn	60 to 100 days
Cucumbers	60 to 80 days
Eggplants	100 to 140 days
Onion seed	130 to 150 days
Onion sets	90 to 120 days
Parsley	30 to 120 days
Parsnips	125 to 160 days
Peas	40 to 80 days
Peppers	100 to 140 days
White potatoes	80 to 140 days
Pumpkins	100 to 140 days
Radishes	20 to 40 days
Spinach	30 to 60 days
Bush squashes	60 to 80 days
Late squashes	120 to 160 days
Tomatoes	100 to 140 days
Turnips	110 to 140 days

Study Fertilizer.

A few simple fertilizer maxims are so important that they should be fixed in the mind. Per cent is only another way for saying parts in 100. Fertilizers may be direct or indirect in action. The former contains needed plant food, the latter enables the plant to get food from soil or air. Lime is not plant food under common conditions; it corrects a bad condition of soil—sourness—and unlocks soil materials. Sulphate of iron (copperas), sulphate of copper (blue stone), sulphate of magnesia (Epsom salts) and sulphate of lime (gypsum) are among these indirect fertilizers.

To Sharpen a Lawn Mower.

First remove the handle, to get it out of the way. Take a flat file and file the edges of the revolving blades, being careful to file each blade alike, and evenly, so all parts will strike the horizontal or stationary blade evenly and alike at its entire length. File also the horizontal blade, then adjust the revolving blades so they will slightly rub on the horizontal blade.

Hog Cholera.

In the way of treatment the United States Bureau of Animal Industry has discovered a vaccine which saves about 80-odd per cent after cholera appears in a herd, and a larger per cent if vaccinated before the disease is introduced. Time will demonstrate the practicability of this method. The bacteriology department of the Kansas State Agricultural College is also working along these lines, but is not yet ready to announce anything but progress.

When symptoms of cholera appear in a herd, it is wise to dip the whole herd, disinfect their quarters thoroughly, give them a slight change in feed, and add to this about five drops of tincture of prickly ash for each hundred pounds of hog once or twice a day. The old remedy of wood ashes and salt is good in many instances. A little powdered sulphate of copper, dried sulphate of iron or charcoal given daily when the animals are not perfectly healthy frequently does much good. After all, the old adage, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, holds good here.

Saves the Fertilizer.

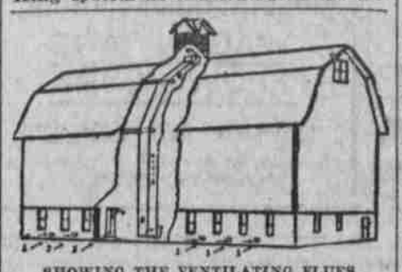
Fertilizer is expensive. By the old method of distributing it there was usually enough wasted to represent a pretty penny. Then came along a Virginia man and invented the hand fertilizer dropper. This device consists of an odd-shaped bucket, running to a point at the bottom and having a small opening there, through which the contents filters. A hinged valve, operated by a rod that leads to the handle of the bucket, controls the flow. The top of the rod is connected to a crossbar, which runs under the handle of the bucket. This bar is in close reach, and, when resting on the top of the bucket the valve is open. To close the valve the operator merely extends a finger and lifts the bar, thus shutting off the fertilizer. The valve flares at the bottom, spreading the fertilizer in a broad, fine stream. For small farms, gardens and lawns this device is of great convenience, and is a money-saver.

Water for the Chicks.

Take an ordinary baking pan and have the tinsmith rivet on an "ear" on one side for nailing to a tree. Have him also make a hole in the bottom in one corner, that the water can be let out every day and the pan be kept clean. Nail the pan to a tree about twelve inches from the ground, so the chicks can drink without getting into it with their feet. The birds will soon discover that it is a fine place from which to get a drink on hot days. Sometimes they find, too, that it is a convenient place for a bath, and this of course makes the water dirty. But it is not much trouble to refill the pan with clean water, and this should be done two or three times a day. Chickens and birds require a great deal of water, and they often suffer for lack of it. Don't neglect them.—Boston Herald.

The King System of Ventilation.

Ventilation for stables and barns is now regarded as one of the essentials to be provided for in construction. The King system as illustrated in the dia-



SHOWING THE VENTILATING FLUES.

gram consists of two sets of flues, one set to admit the fresh air, the other to furnish an escape for the vitiated air. The inlet or fresh air flues should be placed not more than ten feet apart and located in the exterior walls of the barn. The outlet may include one or more flues.

As Usual.

He bought a hoe, a rake, a spade,
Some little seeds to sow,
At last he got the garden made
And saw the green things grow.

He work'd the rows and beds each day;
Each little plant he knew,
And as he smiled and sweat away
Oh, joy; how fast they grew.

No floods came down to wash things out,
No frosts to kill or blight;
No neighbor's chickens scratched about;
No kine strayed in at night.

Each seed he planted did its best
And not a one did rot—
No other garden, East or West,
Such veg'tables begot.

But still this man did not enjoy
These veg'tables so new,
For every night a neighbor's boy
Stole what the garden grew.
—Puck.

Spraying to Kill Weeds.

Kill weeds by spraying. To make the spraying solution, empty a hundred pound sack of sulphate of iron into a fifty-gallon barrel; fill to the chine with water and stir with a hoe for a few minutes until dissolved. Strain through several thicknesses of cheesecloth tacked over the manhole of the spraying machine. Apply with a powerful spraying machine, producing a real mist, free from drops. Use about fifty gallons to the acre, and spray on a bright, warm day, or on a dark, damp day; it does not matter, so long as rain does not come within eighteen or twenty hours. This spray will not harm grain crops and will kill wild mustard and various other weeds

SHEAR NONSENSE

"It was a runaway match, wasn't it?" "Yes, but he couldn't run fast enough. She caught him."

"You ought to save money for your family." "Yes, but——" "But what?" "My family won't let me."—Cleveland Leader.

Poetry is the art of putting words together in such a way as to give them their least possible commercial value.—Puck.

Martha—Don't you think a cookery book is fascinating reading? Maud—Yes, indeed. It contains so many stirring incidents.

She—How was your speech at the club received the other night? He—When I sat down they said it was the best thing I ever did.

Ashley—Do you have much variety in your boarding house? Seymour—Well, we have three different names for the meals.—London World.

"Nobody realizes the immensity of space." Except the man who has to fill a daily half column with alleged humor."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Tell me frankly, sir, what do you think of my daughter's voice?" "Well, madam, I think she may have a brilliant future in water color painting."—Figaro.

Poll Clerk—Mary Gladys Jarley votes ballot number two hundred and ——. M. G. J.—Oh, wait a moment, please! Give me that back! I want to add a postscript.—Puck.

"You shouldn't treat your boy so harshly; you'll break his spirit." "Well, he'll probably get married some time, and he might as well have it broken now!"—Stray Stories.

"Yes," said the young wife, proudly, "father always gives something expensive when he makes presents." "So I discovered when he gave you away," rejoined the young husband.—Chicago Daily News.

Irate Diner (to waiter who persistently hovers about the table)—What on earth are you waiting for, man? I don't want you. Waiter—Excuse me, sir, but I am responsible for the silver.—Tit-Bits.

Biggs, '11—Why are the tugs on the Wisconsin river like the co-eds who walk up and down State street? Muggs, '12—And the answer is? Biggs, '11—Some toe out, and some toe in.—Wisconsin Sphinx.

"What is your principal object, anyhow," asked the visiting foreigner, "in building that Panama canal?" "Well," answered the native, "we have an idea it will limit the size of future battleships."—Chicago Tribune.

"Foreign travel is very improving," said the studious girl. "Yes," answered Miss Cayenne; "although you can't always tell where a person has been by the pictures on the post cards he sends home."—Washington Star.

Tommy went fishing the other day without his mother's permission. The next morning one of his chums met him and asked: "Did you catch anything yesterday, Tommy?" "Not till I got home," was the rather sad response.

"What!" exclaimed Mrs. Flatleigh. "You don't mean to tell me you pay a girl $10 a week for cooking?" "Oh, no," replied Mrs. Urbanville. "We only pay her $2 a week for cooking. The other $8 is for staying."—Chicago Daily News.

Professor of Sociology—If this alarming increase in the divorce rate continues, twenty years from now the institution of the home will no longer exist in America. Practical Student—How is that, professor? They all marry again, don't they?—Puck.

"A high financier should be something of an economist, should he not?" "I don't think so," answered Mr. Dustin Stax. "The object of the economist is to see what he can get along with; that of the high financier is to see what he can get away with."—Washington Star.

A boy once inquired why leaves of tables were so called, since they did not resemble leaves in the least. Not having received a satisfactory answer, he thought for some time and then said: "I think I know now; they're called leaves because you can leave them up or leave them down."

"Be sure and keep inside the libel laws," said the city editor to the cub reporter. "The cub's first obituary notice read as follows: "The alleged corpse of Mr. John Smith, asserted by friends to have lived at No. 113 West Jones street, was said to have been buried at Greenhill Cemetery yesterday."—Cleveland Leader.

"Look at me!" exclaimed the stout, florid man. "Never a day's sickness in my life! And all due to simple food. Why, gents, from the time I was twenty to when I reached forty years I lived a regular life. None of these effeminate delicacies for me! No late hours! Every day, summer and winter, I went to bed at nine; got up at five; lived principally on corned beef and corn bread. Worked hard, gents, worked hard, from eight to one; then dinner, plain dinner; then an hour's exercise; and then——" "Excuse me, Bill," interrupted a stranger, who had up to this refrained from entering the discussion; "but what were you in for?"

CASTORIA

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Crushed Again.

Mrs. Denham—Do you think that I shall be a good looking old woman? Denham—I don't know why you should expect any such radical change.—New York Press.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

A Literal Command.

"Beat it! Beat it!" cried the masterful wife to her meek and obedient husband.

But he did not go a step.

She did not mean him to. She was referring to the carpet hanging on the line.—Baltimore American.

Better than gold—Like it in color—Hamlins Wizard Oil—the best of all remedies for rheumatism, neuralgia, and all pain, soreness and inflammation.

The Cause of It.

"The writer you introduced me to the other day was not at all imposing in his appearance. In fact, I thought he had a very poor carriage."

"That may be because he is nothing but a hack."—Baltimore American.

Shake Into Your Shoes

Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It cures painful, swollen, smarting, sweating feet. Makes new shoes easy. Sold by all Druggists and Shoe Stores. Don't accept any substitute. Sample FREE. Address A. S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

Man's Perfidy.

Lawyer—You want to sue your husband for breach of promise? Why, madam, pardon me, but that's absurd.

Fair Client—Not at all, sir; he promised me a divorce, and he's gone back on it.

SOUR STOMACH

"I used Cascarets and feel like a new man. I have been a sufferer from dyspepsia and sour stomach for the last two years. I have been taking medicine and other drugs, but could find no relief only for a short time. I will recommend Cascarets to my friends as the only thing for indigestion and sour stomach and to keep the bowels in good condition. They are very nice to eat."

Harry Stuckley, Mauch Chunk, Pa.

Pleasant, Palatable, Potent, Taste Good. Do Good. Never Sicken, Weaken or Gripe. 10c, 25c, 50c. Never sold in bulk. The genuine tablet stamped C C C. Guaranteed to cure or your money back. 926

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