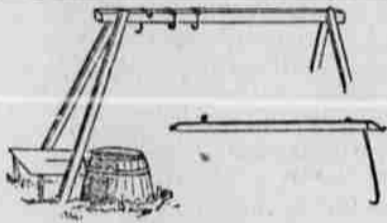


FARMERS' CORNER

Farm Hog-Killing Outfit.

As all farmers who kill their own hogs know, the old way of butchering is very inconvenient and tiresome. The following arrangement, illustrated in the Queenslander, makes the labor comparatively easy. The top piece is 2x5 inches, and 12 feet long. The mortises for the supports to fit in are made five inches from the ends of piece, and are one-half inch deep, 2 1/2 inches wide at bottom, by 1 1/4 inches at top, thus only one bolt is needed to hold them together at top. The upright supports are 2x2 1/2, and seven feet long; cross-piece, 1 1/4 x 2 1/2, and at one end this should be bolted on upright pieces, down low enough so that bench will set over it. The lever is 3 1/2 x 2 at staple, and shaved down to 1 1/4 at end. Staples made of five-sixteenths inch rod iron, and long enough to clinch. Clevis



DEVICE FOR HANGING THE HOG.

where chain is fastened is made of three-eighths inch iron. The end of the lever is iron, 6x2 1/2 bent, as shown for gambrel stick to rest on, while lifting pig to the pole hooks, which are made large enough to slip back and forth easily on upper piece. Rods one-half inch, bent to hold gambrel stick. A hook not shown in cut made of one-half inch iron, attaches to B and provides a fulcrum for the lever A for dipping hog in the barrel and raising carcass to the gambrel hooks. Bench, 19x1 1/2 inches, 20 inches high, 8 feet long. Barrel to be set in the ground one-quarter its length.

No Profit in Farm Alcohol.

The Department of Agriculture, through Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry, has undertaken to educate the farmers regarding the manufacture of denatured alcohol. Two bulletins on the subject have been issued.

From Dr. Wiley's discussion of the subject the conclusion is reached that the manufacture of alcohol on a very small scale is not likely to prove profitable, and because of revenue regulations it is evident that the farmer must be content with producing the raw materials. The bulletin on the subject of sources and manufacture says:

"The principal uses of industrial alcohol are illumination, heating, motive power and the manufacture of lacquers, varnishes, smokeless powder, medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations, vinegar and ether. When industrial alcohol is made at a price at which it can compete with petroleum and gasoline, it doubtless will be preferred for the purposes above mentioned, because of its greater safety and more pleasant odor. Under the present conditions it is not probable that industrial alcohol can be offered upon the market at much less than 40 cents a gallon of 95 per cent strength."

Dr. Wiley expresses the belief, however, that by paying attention to unused sources of raw material and with improved methods of manufacturing and denaturing this price can be diminished.

Ginseng in Missouri.

According to the Missouri experiment station bulletin, the cultivation of ginseng for the Chinese market has become an important industry in that State, notwithstanding the fact that it takes five or six years to mature a crop. While the crop is exceptionally valuable, the cultivation of ginseng has been found to possess disadvantages the same as most other cultivated crops. It appears that several fungus diseases have broken out in the ginseng plantations, some of which are extremely serious and infectious, large areas often being destroyed in a single week. However, the particular organisms causing the damage have been recognized and methods for keeping the diseases under control have now been worked out.

Cattle Lice.

Lice on cattle indicate lack of attention and poor feed. Grease of any kind will destroy lice on cattle, but grease should not be used if it can be avoided. First wash the animal with kerosene emulsion, and follow with clear water. When the skin is dry dust every portion of the body with a mixture of a peck of carbonate of lime and a bushel of clean, dry dirt. If a single animal is infested with lice, the others will soon be in the same condition unless remedies are used as preventives.

Onion Growing.

The period between killing frosts in Montana is placed at 100 to 120 days, while the time required for onions to mature from seeding is 135 to 150 days, and if onions are not thoroughly ripe their keeping quality is injured, according to a report prepared by R. W. Fisher, of the Montana Station. The experiments are recorded in detail for each year, and yields given by both methods of culture.

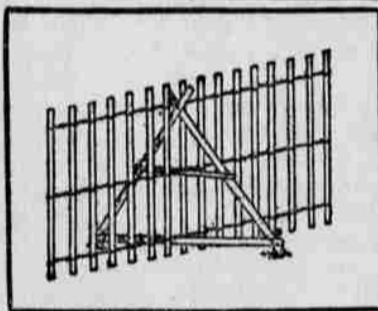
Generally speaking, the yields from transplanted onions were from 50 to 200 per cent larger than from seed sown in the field, where there was but little or no increase in cost of labor. The transplanting insures an even crop, the maturity of the crop and the keeping quality of the onions. Prize taker gave the largest average yield of the nineteen varieties grown, and was one of the best keepers, though not usually advertised as a winter onion. The seedling bulbs of this variety, however, kept poorly because the growing season was not long enough to properly mature them. The use of well-rotted manure increased the yield of both field-sown and transplanted onions. Suggestions are included for making hotbeds.

The Onion Maggot.

The onion maggot and cabbage maggot can only be distinguished by an expert, as they are very nearly alike. The maggot is the larva of a small fly. There is no known "sure" remedy that can be applied. Sprinkling powdered sulphur around the plants is a partial remedy, but it does not always bring relief. Making a small hole near each onion and pouring into each hole half a teaspoonful of bisulphide of carbon, covering the holes with earth, is claimed to be a remedy, but such method is expensive and laborious. Liquid manure applied to the plants is claimed to be a remedy. The best preventive is to grow the onions on land that has not before produced a crop, but of course such can not be done until next season. This change of location of the onion patch is the only partial solution of the maggot problem.

Sagging Fence Supports.

For fence posts or supports that will not rot off or break off, for picket or nine-wire, take two boards 2x6, cross at the top so as to leave a crotch for top wire. Fasten together with 8-penny nails. Put a crosspiece in the middle for middle wires to rest on and fasten with staple and a crosspiece at bottom for bottom wires to rest on and fasten with staple. Then anchor with a small stake on each side to prevent



SUPPORTS FOR FENCE.

wind from tipping over, and you have a good post for picket fence. Nail or wire post to the stake. This makes an excellent post for repairing an old picket fence.—Farm Progress.

Milk Cows.

The Hollanders evidently breed and feed for milk first of all. That they succeed is proved by the large milk yields of their cows. That large milk flow, seemingly regardless of butter-fat percentage, pays them is proved by their prosperity. The dairyman here thinks it necessary to pay small prices for dairy cows that annually yield from 3,000 to 4,000 pounds of milk. What the financial result to him is, the wretched records show too plainly. He is the worst-paid farmer in the land. What could he not do if, instead of breeding, buying, feeding and milking cheap cows, he were to breed, feed and milk cows of the 11,500 to 14,500 pound class? The Frieslanders and other Hollanders, with their gigantic cows, make money on milk produced on soil that costs from \$500 to \$2,000 an acre or rents at from \$50 to \$200.

Points in Pruning.

In pruning the trees all stems half an inch or more in diameter should be covered with some waterproof substance, like grafting wax or shellac of the consistency of cream. The bark and outer wood will thus be preserved, and the wound will in a season or so be covered with new bark. If this precaution be not taken the end of the branch may decay from exposure to wind, rain, heat and cold.

The Egg-Eating Hen.

Some one wants to know how to keep hens from eating their eggs. Having had some experience along that line, I offer a few suggestions: A deep nest box, in which there is only room for the hen's body, so that she cannot get at the eggs when on the nest, and too deep for her to reach the eggs when standing on the edge of it, is a good thing. The best nest box I have used is 14 inches square and 18 inches deep, covered with a 6-inch door or opening at the top of one side.

A LITTLE LESSON IN PATRIOTISM.

Josiah Bartlett had consistently opposed the policy of England toward the United States from his first entrance into the Legislature of New Hampshire in 1765, to which he had been elected a delegate. Governor Wentworth, hoping to gain his support, appointed Bartlett a magistrate and in 1770 placed him in command of a militia regiment. He continued a zealous Whig, however, in spite of all the attempts to swerve his allegiance. In February, 1775, Bartlett was deprived of both the offices that he had held under the Tory government.

In the same year Bartlett was made a member of the committee of safety, and in September accepted a commission as colonel of an American regiment.

Dr. Bartlett was chosen to represent New Hampshire in the Continental Congress. He was the first man to give his vote for the Declaration of Independence and the second man to sign it.

During the progress of the Revolution Bartlett divided his time between the council and the front, giving services equally valuable in both. At the close of the Revolution he was chosen chief justice of the Court of Common Pleas and later chief justice. In 1793 he was chosen the first Governor of the State of New Hampshire, an honor bestowed by grateful people.

IN THE LANDS OF SNOW.

Keeping Warm Is the Main Business of the People.

With the big, restless, energetic world outside of this tropical belt, however, the matter of keeping warm is ever present, troublesome and expensive, throughout half of each passing year, says the National Magazine.

As a matter of fact, the world of humanity dwelling in staveland never has been, in all the ages, really and comfortably warm in winter. It is largely our own fault. Mankind is the only animal which employs fire in the effort to survive the cold of the winters. The hardy lower animals do not need it, however much their luxuriously enervated representatives, the dog and the cat, may enjoy it, when they have a chance.

Ancient man only got himself rid of his provident coat of hair and his sufficient latent heat when he began to loaf around the family cooking stove and absorb the intoxicating comfort of artificial warmth. This far-away ancestor is responsible for the fact that the present-day human being, outside of the belt aforesaid, is obliged to keep close to a thermometer registering nearly or quite 70 degrees Fahrenheit from October to May, besides which he must needs wear extra clothing. This, also, is an inherited habit.

A traveler west once asked a half-baked Indian in midwinter how he managed to stand the weather. The Indian replied: "Your face no got a coat. It no cold. Indian face all over."

First Sign of Consumption.

A rise of temperature of from one-half to one degree at some period of greater or less duration every twenty-four hours may be regarded as the first symptom of pulmonary tuberculosis, occurring previous to every other symptom and before the general health of the individual is influenced to a noticeable degree. The temperature will be most elevated following bodily fatigue. Excluding other morbid conditions that would cause a similar elevation of temperature, it is safe to diagnose the case as one of pulmonary (or laryngeal) tuberculosis when this temperature has persisted for a period of two weeks and is associated with loss of weight and vitality, even though there has been no accompanying cough or expectoration and though physical examination gives negative results.

Fare Play.

Conductor (to woman with baby)—Tickets, madam.
Woman—I ain't not no tick, I'm travelin' with the baby.
Conductor—You have to pay or get off.

Woman—How much f'r th' baby?
Conductor—Nothing for the baby.
Woman—That's what I thought. Nothin' f'r th' baby, but y' don't think this pore little thing c'd travel alone, do y'—Toledo Blade.

Turning the Tables.

"What," said the man who always worries, "is to be done with all the doctors and lawyers we turn out?"
"Don't fret," answered the cynic, "they take us in."—Baltimore American.

A farmer can find more uses for a piece of baling wire than the average woman finds for a hairpin.

CHICAGO WIDOWS UNITE.

Fighting the Wolf from the Door to Be the Common Purpose.

An organization of widows who will share an apartment house on a communistic basis is Chicago's latest contribution to the world's novelties. A Chicago widow who was plunged into poverty by the death of her husband and left to care for four orphaned children and who for eight years has fought her battle with the courage which only a woman can show, is the founder of the society. She is Mrs. Amelia Tenney and the co-operative association and home which she is founding is the first thing of its kind in the world. The association was organized last December. It has now seventeen members living in various parts of the city, nearly all women of small means and with children dependent upon them; applications for membership have lately been received from six others who will shortly be voted in; regular fortnightly meetings are held; a number of modest entertain-



MRS. AMELIA TENNEY.

ments of various kinds have been given, each of which has added a little to the small fund of the organization, and it is now felt that the time has come to make an actual commencement in the work. Accordingly a State charter was applied for a few days ago and the officers are now in search of a flat, centrally located, capable of housing about five of the families and of a low enough rental to suit their slender means and strict ideas of economy.

While the association starts off with five widows' families the belief is that the plan will succeed and that eventually a large building will be needed to shelter the members of the association. But they are persevering in their efforts to find what they need. It is the purpose of these women to have an employment bureau of their own, to give advice and lend a helping hand in many ways to those who shall come to them, strangers in the ways of the world, asking how they can earn an honest and respectable living. Not only those who live in the home will benefit by the great work that is being started.

PERILOUS RESCUE OF DOG.

English Colliery Manager Lowered Into Pit to Save Starving Collier.

An interesting story of the rescue of a dog from a deep and disused pit shaft comes from Mealsgate, Cumberland. Inspector Blake Jones, the Cumberland representative of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, was informed that a dog had been thrown down a disused pit shaft near Mealsgate. On arrival he found that the shaft of the pit, which had not been worked for thirty years, was 540 feet deep, and up to within ninety-one feet of the surface was full of water. The dog could just be discerned on a rotten wood ledge ninety feet down, and about a foot from the water.

The All Hallows colliery manager, Mr. John Walker Steele, had two beams placed across the pit mouth and a pulley fixed, and seating himself in a looped rope he was swung over the shaft and lowered through overgrowing brambles down into the darkness. He reached the unlucky dog, which was by this time starved and weak, and, placing it across his knees, was without mishap hauled back to daylight and safety. Mr. Steele was given a rousing cheer on emerging. The dog, a collie, is now in Inspector Blake Jones' possession and is doing well.—Westminster Gazette.

A Rabid View.

"Now, professor," said Miss Kay, "you know something of human nature. At what age does the average man of intelligence marry?"
"Dotage!" promptly replied the crabbed old fellow.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Uncle Eben.

"If de dollar dat you has," said Uncle Eben, "was sho' nuff as big as a dollar seems when you's broke, a man wouldn't be able to carry mo'n six bits in his pocket at a time."—Washington Star.

What has become of the old-fashioned girl who pined away and forgot to curl her hair when love didn't go to suit her?

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