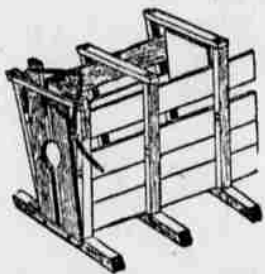


FARMS AND FARMERS

Points in Butter Making.
When butter will not gather the difficulty can be traced usually to advanced lactation or too low a temperature of cream. The milk from one cow long in lactation is sufficient to spoil a whole churning. The viscosity of such milk renders separation of butter fats slow and imperfect. It often happens during the winter months that butter, or cream, rather, will break or separate into small particles, which refuse to adhere or gather, in spite of all coaxing. The only remedy is to raise the temperature of the whole mass up to the proper degree. In this work the dairy thermometer is almost indispensable, as it will save much time and worry. If the churn is a revolving one and the cream just breaks into minute particles, refusing to gather, then add warm water to that used in rinsing the butter until it reaches about 64 degrees. The butter particles will generally adhere after a few revolutions of the churn. Trouble of this kind can be avoided. Before attempting to churn the cream should be tested until 64 degrees is reached in winter, and should be smooth and velvety and have the required degree of acidity. If this degree of warmth is not imparted to cream by the temperature of the room in which it is kept, then it can be raised to the right degree by setting the cream jar or can in a larger one containing warm water.—*Field and Farm.*

Rack for Dehorning.
In the construction of this rack for dehorning, there are three still pieces 4 feet long and 4 in. x 4 in. These are mortised 8 inches each side of the center for the posts. Four of these posts are 5 ft. 4 in. long, and the two others 5 ft. 8 in. long. Three cap pieces 3 in. x 4 in., and 4 ft. 2 in. long, are mortised to fit over the tops of the posts. The stanchions in front are bolted at the bottom between a 2 in. x 4 in. piece, and the sill, leaving a space up and down in front five inches wide. Two and a half feet from the bottom of the stanchion cut a place for the animal's neck. The lever, which can be made of wagon tire, is 5 feet 6 in. long. A 3/4-inch hole is punched in the top of the lever, a second hole 13 1/2 inches from the top hole, and a third hole 11 inches



DEHORNING RACK.

from the second hole. The upper hole is for the attachment of two iron straps one on each side, which are fastened to the left hand stanchion. From the lower hole two pieces of iron 14 inches long go to the right hand stanchion.

Winter Work on Farms.
One of the greatest needs on the average Southern farm nowadays is more work in winter. Ever since I could remember, it has seemed to me that life on the common Georgia farm is too much of a happy-go-lucky style. To get results in anything, one has to keep everlastingly at it, so to speak. For years I have heard staid old farmers discussing fall plowing and spring plowing, but I have seen too little of it in actual observation, writes J. C. M., in the Southern Cultivator.

There used to be an idea, which is still prevalent, concerning results from fall and winter plowing. Some argued it was injurious to plow deep in the fall, others that it was absurd to plow in the springtime to any great depth. The truth of the matter is that good plowing at any time when the soil is in good condition is a good thing to do. Usually in the spring the subsoil is too wet to plow, and when it is turned up or broken in this condition damaging results are likely to occur.

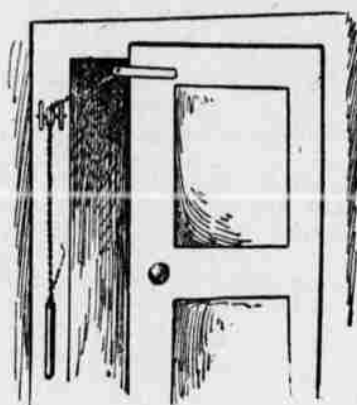
How to Kill a Pig.

The pig should be thrown on its back, and held until stuck. One man should stand astride the body, with his feet close against its sides and take hold of the front legs. In this way the hog can be easily controlled. Another person should do the sticking. A narrow, straight-bladed knife, eight inches long, should be inserted in the hog's throat, after making an incision through the skin, just in front of the breast bone. The point of the knife should be directed toward the root of the tail and held exactly in line with

the backbone. When the knife has been run into the throat six or eight inches, the depth depending on the size of the hog, it should be given a quick turn to one side and withdrawn. The arteries that are to be cut run close together, just inside of the breast bone, and will both be cut when the knife is turned, provided it is sharp on both sides of the point. A pig killed in this way will die in a very few minutes, and will bleed out thoroughly.

Self-Closing Doors.

The inner doors of the barn should be so arranged that they will close of themselves; this is particularly necessary if they open into the granary or other room, where the animals ought not to enter. A simple contrivance is to fasten a weight to the door, so that it will close readily of itself. Hardware stores sell spring hinges which answer the desired purpose for heavy



SELF-CLOSING DOOR.

doors, but the weight and pulley is to be preferred for lighter doors. A simple arrangement is to have the blacksmith make holes at intervals in a flat strip of iron, so that it may be screwed to the door near the top. Hook a chain in the hole in the end of this strip, run it through a pulley (obtainable at a hardware store for a few cents) fastened to the frame of the door or the jamb, as it is popularly known, and on the other end fasten a piece of iron of the desired weight. Usually window weights are used for this purpose, but they should not be so heavy, for a light door, that they will cause the door to close too quickly. The illustration shows the idea plainly.

Setting Trees in Winter.

Fruit and shade trees may be set any time during the winter if the soil is in proper condition for the work, says a report by the Oklahoma Station. The condition of the soil at the time trees are set has more to do with the success or failure of the trees than does the season of setting. If the land is in good condition in the fall, and the trees can be obtained, it is better to set them then than to wait and run the risk of not having the soil in good condition later on. The land should be in a thorough state of cultivation and should be moist enough to work well when the trees are set. If they are in good condition there is no need of watering them.

Trees set in the fall may be a little difficult to protect from rabbits, but they are usually in better condition to start growth in the spring than those that have been heeled in all winter. There are not so many poor trees sold in the fall as in the spring, and for this reason fall setting usually gives better results than spring setting.

Weight of Lime Per Bushel.

In connection with a very thorough study of the quality of various kinds of lime used for agricultural purposes in New Jersey, L. A. Vorhies, of the New Jersey Station, made careful estimates of the weight per bushel of the different materials.

His results show "that the weight of stone lime per bushel (heaped measure), is quite variable and without any constant relation to the analysis of the samples. The average weight per bushel of the twelve magnesium limes was ninety-seven pounds, and that of the six 'marble' limes was 101 pounds." The weight per bushel of seven oyster-shell limes examined varied from thirty-nine to seventy-five pounds, averaging fifty-one and a half pounds. The prepared or so-called "agricultural" limes examined were still more variable in weight.

Feed for Breeding Animals.

It is important that breeding animals have laxative feeds when they are put upon dry feeds after being taken from the pasture. Such articles as oil meal, flaxseed meal, etc., should enter largely into the ration. When animals are changed from pasture to dry feeding there is a tendency to constipation, and steps must be taken to have the bowels move freely, or there is danger of serious trouble. In case the above articles do not have the desired effect, Epsom salts or raw linseed oil must be used.

PLANS FOR ESTABLISHING POSTAL BANKS

How Bills of Carter and Hitchcock Differ from Madden-Snapp Measure.

DISPOSITION OF THE FUNDS.

Democrat Provides for Board of Investment—All Fix Deposit Limit at \$1,000.

Upon the indorsement by Postmaster General Meyer and later by President Roosevelt of the postal savings bank system for the United States, three separate and distinct plans have been proposed to Congress as the proper procedure for establishing and putting into operation such banks. In the House of Representatives Representatives Madden, of Chicago, and Snapp, of Joliet, Ill., have introduced similar measures. Representative Hitchcock, of Omaha, a Democrat, has introduced another House bill, and Senator Thomas Carter, of Montana, is the father of a senate bill. The main differences in these bills lie in the protection afforded depositors and deposits and in the investment features of the funds of the postal savings banks.

All these bills place a limit on the interest-bearing deposits which can be made by any individual within any single calendar year and finally. The Madden-Snapp bill provides that \$300 may be deposited within one year and that no interest shall be paid to any depositor upon a deposit in excess of \$1,000. The Carter bill makes the limit of annual deposit \$500 and the final limit of interest-bearing deposit \$1,000 while the Hitchcock bill has a double-barreled provision which is more complex. It provides a limit of monthly deposit of \$100 and the final limit of any single deposit at \$1,000. In addition it provides that no interest shall be paid on more than \$500 to any depositor and that if any depositor deposit more than \$200 in any one year interest shall not be paid on new deposits in excess of that amount.

Both the Madden-Snapp and Carter bills provide an interest rate of 2 per cent on deposits, while the Hitchcock bill stipulates that the rate on \$200 or less shall be 2 1/2 per cent, and over that amount and up to \$500 the rate shall be fixed by a board of investment composed of the Postmaster General, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Comptroller of the Currency.

In establishing postal savings bank adjuncts to post offices there is also a difference between the Madden-Snapp bill and the others. The Madden-Snapp measure gives the Postmaster General discretion in the selection of offices for postal savings bank purposes; the Hitchcock bill is mandatory in that all money order post offices are made branches of the postal savings bank system, while the Carter bill makes all first, second and third-class post offices branch postal savings banks and gives the Postmaster General some discretion as to further extension into the fourth-class post offices.

In administration the Madden-Snapp bill provides a general superintendent of postal savings banks, with such assistants and clerks as may be necessary, while the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to increase the auditor's force in the Post Office Department. The sum of \$50,000 is set aside to start the banks in operation. Both the Hitchcock and Carter bills stipulate that the head of the postal banks shall be an officer known to the Fifth Assistant Postmaster General, and ask \$100,000 to establish the banks.



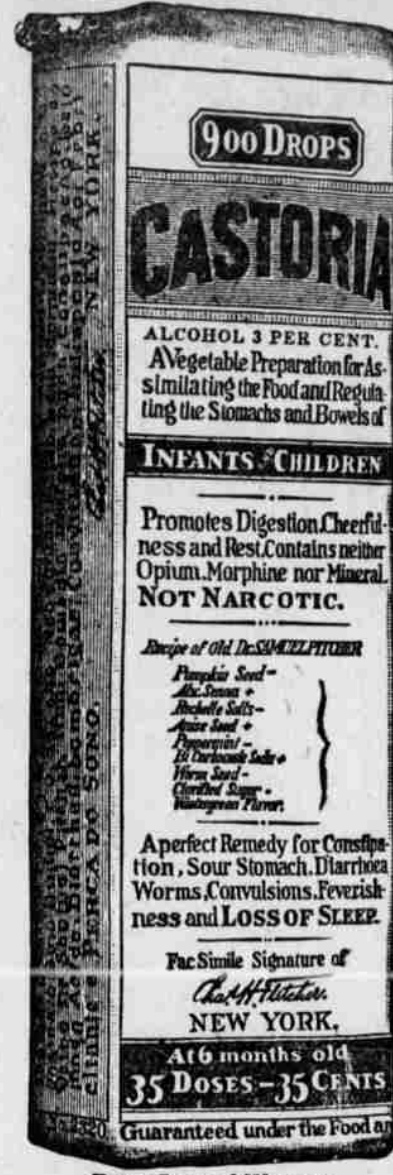
The Nobel prizes were awarded, that or literature going to Rudyard Kipling. The treasurer of a Canadian railroad confessed to stealing \$185,000 in eighteen years.

Advice from London indicated that Ambassador Bryce may quit his post in this country.

Japan and the United States came to a verbal understanding to limit emigration of Japs to this country.

Richard Miller of St. Louis won high praise in France, one of his paintings being bought by the Minister of Fine Arts.

Mrs. Taft, wife of the Secretary of War, whose ship was caught in a storm off Boulogne, had a narrow escape from death.



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Hippophagy.
Hippophagy being in low water in these later days, somebody has set himself to show what an exceedingly respectable history attaches to the practice. Among the ancients, especially in China, eating horse flesh was general, and it was only killed in Europe by a Papal decree of Gregory III., though why horse flesh should have been interdicted does not appear. It was only the famine caused by Napoleon's invasion that revived the practice in Germany, where it has survived ever since.—*London Globe.*

Not Her Fault.
Tom—The average woman seems to lead an aimless life.
Jack—Well, it's her misfortune rather than her fault that she is unable to throw straight.

Modern, or Not at All.
Geoffrey—Could you be happy in a modest little cottage, darling?
Gwendolen—Not unless it is one of those lovely dreams in concrete, dear.—*Chicago Tribune.*

That Judicial Decision.
It ends domestic wars and strifes.
Proud man, 'twill hold you, maybe.
It is your business, not your wife's,
To walk the floor with baby.

As It Seemed to Him.
"Some people," remarked the demoralizer, "never seem to be around when wanted."
"Well," rejoined the moralizer, "it is better to be absent when wanted than to be present when you are not wanted."

Curious About It.
Mamma—Go to sleep now or the goblins will get you.
Robbie—Will they come right in here after me?
Mamma—Yes, they will indeed.
Robbie—Then I'll stay awake, 'cause I want to see what goblins look like.—*Philadelphia Press.*

No Time for Trifling.
"Hands up!" commanded the footpad.
"Get out o' my way!" thundered the other man, scowling at him and striding on.
"I hain't got no time to fool with you. I'm doin' a ninety mile walkin' stunt."

The Sniffing Britisher.
The cold, self-contained Britisher is mostly a dreadful fiction, and in situations that seem to him at all emotional he grows as snifflily weepful as any matinee miss.—*Sydney (N. S. W.) Bulletin.*

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