

# FARMS AND FARMERS

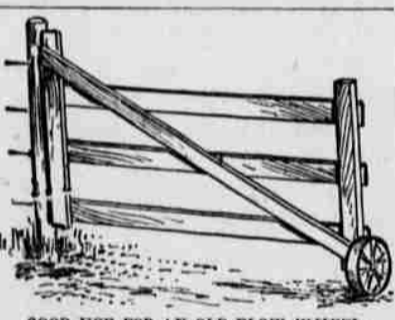


**The Influence of Feed.**  
Linsed meal has a tendency to make a soft butter, provided the meal is fed in large amounts. If fed in only medium amounts, the butter fats are normal. It is a valuable milk-stimulating food and can be used to prevent the formation of excessively hard fats in winter. The only disadvantage to the general use is the price. Half or three-quarters of a pound of linsed or oil meal in a ration per day will exert a very favorable influence upon the quality of the butter.

Corn meal, when fed in large amounts with coarse fodders, has a tendency to produce a firm butter. When mixed with other grains, a better quality of butter is produced than if the corn were fed alone. Gluten meal, a by-product obtained in the manufacture of corn starch and glucose, produces a softer butter than corn meal. The gluten, it is to be observed, contains more of the vital nutrient, protein.—Professor Harry Snyder, University of Minnesota.

**Odd in Weather Forecasting.**  
People have learned by experience to make allowance for error in the predictions of the Weather Bureau; but Prof. Schuster thinks that the allowances should be officially stated. Astronomers, it appears, are in the habit of giving the value of the "probable error" when publishing their observations. But, although meteorology lends itself more readily than any other science to the evolution of deviations from the mean result, the weather forecasters have not adopted the custom of stating the probable error. Prof. Schuster looks forward to the time when weather forecasts will be accompanied by a statement of the odds that the prediction will be fulfilled. Then, perhaps, we shall read in the weather column not simply, "rain to-morrow," but "3 to 1" or "9 to 1 for rain to-morrow."

**Keeping a Gate from Sagging.**  
Most farm gates are heavy, and after a little time they sag. When they get this way it takes a strong man to open and shut one. Here is a remedy. Get a wheel, either big or little, from an old piece of machinery, and bolt it to the front end of the gate



GOOD USE FOR AN OLD PLOW WHEEL.

in such a way that the gate will be held level. Now the smallest child can open the gate for you. Try it, for it is a saver—saves your patience, your back, and the gate.—N. W. S., in Farm and Home.

**Robins Killed for Food in the South.**  
A million robins were killed in Louisiana during the winter of 1907-8, the offenders being men and boys who shot them for food. While they are protected as song birds in Northern States, it is a common Southern practice to shoot them for the table, and in some States the hunters kill them in great numbers at their roosting places. A government expert suggests that the eastward movement of the boll weevil has been facilitated by the killing of the robins. If that is shown to be so, the cotton growers will not receive much sympathy from the members of the Audubon societies.—Leslie's Weekly.

**Transplanting Trees.**  
In Revue Universelle, according to another foreign contemporary, there is a practical article of general interest on transplanting plants in full foliage at night. The results of some experiments by Rouault would make unnecessary the customary transplanting of deciduous trees in the fall or winter. He has found that trees may be transplanted in full foliage in May or June, with little or no injury, providing the process is carried on at night. This has been demonstrated to the entire satisfaction of some of the most prominent horticulturists of France.

**Brewery Stock Feed.**  
Dried brewers' grain close to bran in feeding value, containing a little more protein and fat, but not quite so much carbohydrates. It is claimed that in 100 pounds of this feed there are 15.7 pounds of protein, 35.3 pounds of carbohydrates and 5.1 pounds of fat. Malt sprouts and dried brewers' grains are valuable cow feeds, especially the latter. Sprouts are rich

est in protein, but not much relished by cows and should be fed only in limited quantities. Wet brewers' grains are apt to injure the quality of the milk.

**The Wisdom of the Bee.**  
We marvel at what we call the wisdom of the hive bee, yet there is one thing she never learns from experience, writes John Burroughs in the Atlantic, and that is that she is storing up honey for the use of man. She could not learn this, because such knowledge is not necessary to her own well being. Neither does she ever know when she has enough to carry her through the winter. This knowledge, again, is not important. Gather and store honey as long as there is any to be had is her motto, and in that rule she is safe.

**Population and Food.**  
The statistician in the Department of Agriculture of the United States estimates that in 1931 the population of the country will be 130,000,000. To supply the requirements of this number of people will necessitate the production of 700,000,000 bushels of wheat, 1,250,000,000 bushels of oats, 3,450,000,000 bushels of corn, 700,000,000 tons of hay; and cotton, tobacco, fruits and vegetables in proportion. This will necessitate bringing under cultivation an additional 150,000,000 acres of land, and it is estimated that we have only 108,000,000 acres available for cultivation.

**Insect with Springboard Nose.**  
Among the curious insects of the Malay Peninsula is one called the lantern fly, which is remarkable for its sudden leaps, made without the aid of its wings. It was only after the first specimens of this queer insect were carried to London for examination, that it was discovered that a curious projection on the front of its head, a kind of nose with a crease in it, was the leaping organ. When bent back under the abdomen and suddenly released it sent the insect flying.

**A Good Whitewash.**  
Here is a well recommended whitewash: For 10 gallons use 25 pounds of common lime slaked with boiling water; 5 pounds of clean wood ashes; 10 pounds of melted beef tallow; 2 pounds of common salt and one-half pound of glue, dissolved. Add any dry mineral paint to color, such as burnt umber, yellow ochre or mineral red. Mix all while hot and apply while warm; keeping it well stirred.

**The Sheep Pen.**  
As a rule there is very little moisture in the sheep pen from the animals themselves. Sheepmen say that by heavy bedding, particularly at the beginning of the season, the straw will absorb all the urine from the sheep without there being any softness or rotting of the straw, and the pens are often not cleaned more than once in a season without injury to the stock.

**Spraying Fruit Trees.**  
All fruit trees should be sprayed while dormant, with lime, sulphur and salt, as a preventive of San Jose scale, to destroy the fungi. It is also claimed that this preparation is a good fertilizer, and will help to keep the trees healthy. Quite a number of insects attack only dead or decaying trees, and these form a breeding place for many other varieties of insect pests.

**Digested Fertilizers.**  
Manure is simply materials that have been softened and decomposed (digested) within the body of an animal. To apply such raw materials as bran and linsed meal directly to the soil would be of no advantage, notwithstanding that they are excellent fertilizers, their value being increased by feeding to stock.

**Farm News and Notes.**  
Uncle Sam received \$11,500,000 last year for public lands of all kinds.  
A gardener at Tacoma, Wash., last season marketed \$750 worth of celery from one acre of ground.  
The explosion of a cream separator nearly killed Earl Adams and his mother, living near Trempealeau, Minn.  
Calvin D. Rogers, of Iron River, Wis., has imported from Italy twenty bees for which he paid \$5 each.  
Emperor William of Germany sent fifteen coach and cavalry horses to the International show. They were among the most beautiful animals ever seen in this country.

Night riders in Tennessee who were arrested for burning tobacco sheds and shooting at farmers were set free because a jury could not be found in the county to try them.  
Farming in New Mexico has been given a great impetus during the past few years by the work of the farmers' institutes and many unproductive valleys have been turned into rich grain and fruit fields.

## FLASHES OF FUN

"Why is Jones raising a beard?"  
"Oh, I believe his wife made him a present of some ties."—Leslie's Weekly.

"What is instinct? It is the nachral tendency to wan when filled with dismay to turn to his wife."—Mr. Dooley.

**Madge**—Why did you refuse him if he is such a prudent man? **Dolly**—He said he thought if he got married he could save more money.—Puck.

**First M. P.**—And do most of you constituents think as you do on this question? **Second M. P.**—Well, most of them think as they think I do.

**Ethel**—Have you heard of Jack's engagement to Eleanor? **Harold**—Dear me! No. Then Jack has finally succeeded? **Ethel**—No; succumbed.—London Tatler.

**Patience**—Don't you think great pianists are born? **Patrice**—Well, I don't believe any child is born with as much hair as a pianist has to have!—Yonkers Statesman.

**She**—I hear Miss Chatter is talking of getting married again. **He**—Didn't know she was ever married. **She**—She wasn't; I said she was talking of it again.—Comic Cuts.

**Tommy** (hampered with a conscience and home from an afternoon party)—Mamma, darling, I've a great favor to ask of you. Please don't ask me how I behaved!

**Mamma**—Helen, you know that I whip you because I love you and wish you to grow up a good girl. **Helen**—Well, mamma, I wish you didn't think quite so much of me.

"The office should seek the man, you know." "That's all right," replied the avowed aspirant, "but I gave it a fair chance, and it seemed diffident."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

"And do you mean to say you prefer Chollie? You told me that you always feel so perfectly at home with Algie." "So I do, but with Chollie I feel as if I were at a restaurant."—Harper's Bazar.

**Mrs. Benham**—Why don't you see him and ask him for the money he owes you? **Benham**—You don't know what a plausible talker he is, my dear; if I should meet him, he would borrow more of me.

**Reporter**—I suppose you don't know what the Senator thinks about this tariff reform business? **Senator's Private Secretary**—No; no more than you do. I only know what he says about it.—Chicago Tribune.

**Tom** (at the musicale)—Don't you think Miss Screecher sings with considerable feeling? **Jack**—Not so I can notice it. If she had any feeling for the rest of us she wouldn't sing at all.—Chicago Daily News.

**Mistress Jane**, I saw the milkman kiss you this morning. In the future I will take the milk in. **Jane**—"Twouldn't be no use, mum. He's promised never to kiss anybody but me."—London Illustrated Bits.

The teacher had been talking about a hen sitting on eggs, and, with the incubator in mind, asked if eggs could be hatched in any other way. "Yes, sir," said an experienced person of nine. "Put 'em under a duck."

**Madame** (to the nursemaid, who has just brought home her four children from a walk)—Dear me, Anna, how changed the children look since I last saw them! Are you quite sure they are the right ones?—Fliegende Blatter.

"Pardon me, sir," began the portly person in the railroad train to the man who sat next to him, "but what would you say if I sat on your hat?" "Suppose you sit on it and then ask me," suggested the other. "I did," admitted the portly person, calmly.—Harper's Weekly.

"Things look rather run down around here," remarked the man who had returned after many years to his native village. "Run down? I should say so," replied the friend of his youth. "There's an automobile comes through here about every three minutes."—Philadelphia Record.

**Mother**—Elsie, you mustn't make such a noise on the stairs. Now, just go right up to the top and come down quietly like a good girl. (After the descent.) You see? I never even heard you that time. **Elsie**—All right, mother. I will always slide down the banisters in the future.

**Harvey**—You should have seen Hot-ayre swell up at that mind-reading seance the other night when the blind-folded lady actually told him the number of his automobile. **Beattie**—But he has no auto. **Harvey**—Of course not. But he looked astounded and acknowledged she was right.—Puck.

"Well," said the young lawyer, after he had heard his new client's story, "your case appears to be good. I think we can secure a verdict without much trouble." "That's what I told my wife," said the man, "and yet she insisted at first that we ought to engage a first class lawyer."—Philadelphia Press.

**Circumstantial Evidence.**  
Sir A. Conan Doyle, at the Authors' Club Christmas dinner in London, related that in America some colored people were keeping the festival of Christmas and they were told to hang up their stockings at night. One poor fellow had no stockings, and so he hung up his trousers. In the morning he was asked what he had got. He replied: "I guess I got a man, for my pants are gone."

**Woman Railway Workers.**  
In the South of France one may see, at the little wayside stations, women attending to the signals of the half dozen daily trains; while the companies regularly economize at the level crossings by employing female labor. The husband can be seen at work at his vines upon the hillside, while the wife waves the green flag and keeps the children quiet.—Detroit News-Tribune.

When Mrs. Carrie she became she didn't quite forget;  
She took her low, sweet voice along, and has it even yet.  
But if hubby's just a little slow to answer to her call  
She can jar him with a voice that cracks the paper on the wall.  
—Chicago Tribune.

**Too Plain.**  
"Norah," said her mistress, "I don't mind it if the policeman on the beat drops into the kitchen once in a while of an evening, but I object to your entertaining such shabby and disreputable looking fellows as the one who was there last night."  
"He's all r-right, m'm," said Norah. "He's me plain clo'es p'leecem'n."

**Lightning in South Africa.**  
In South Africa, where thunderstorms are terrific, lightning often strikes the beds of ironstone, and blue flames, sometimes firing buildings, are alleged to play about such ironstone outcroppings two or three hours after a storm.

**Terrible Woman.**  
"My wife," growled Kadey, "is the most forgetful woman."  
"Yes?" mildly inquired the polite visitor.  
"Yes, she can never remember in the morning where I left my pipe the night before."—Philadelphia Press.

**A Slow Process.**  
"Wigs went out this morning to clean off the snow."  
"Yes."  
"Every two minutes he'd run in the house to warm up."  
"Did he clean off the snow?"  
"He finally cleaned off the little that he hadn't carried into the house on his feet."

**In the Long Ago.**  
Cardinal Wolsey had fallen.  
"I was trying to dodge an automobile," he explained, "and a roller skater ran into me."  
The historians, however, with singular obtuseness, have persisted in placing the blame on Henry VIII.—Chicago Tribune.

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Entirely Superfluous.  
"A word to the wise is sufficient," remarked the man with the quotation habit.  
"Wrong again," rejoined the contrary person. "A word to the wise is unnecessary."

## CASTORIA

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Uncle Allen.  
"Some men," muttered Uncle Allen Sparks after the tiresome speaker had sat down, "remind me of an old water mill that's running with empty hoppers. Their wheels keep on going, but they don't turn out any grist."

Closing the Incident.  
The famous ball player was looking through the sporting columns of the newspapers.  
"I see they've quit mentioning me," he said. "I may as well sign."  
Upon doing which he secured one more mention in the newspapers.

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