

FARMS AND FARMERS



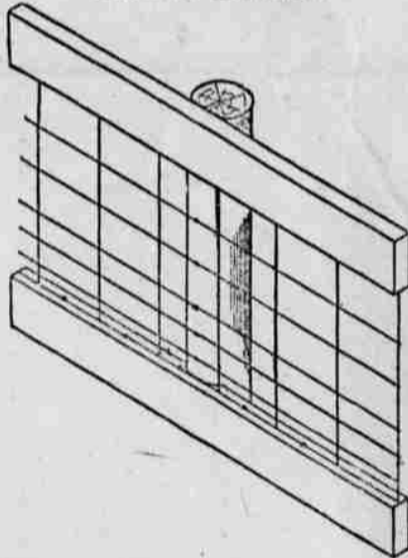
Story of an Amateur Poultryman.

About the most sensible (and I might add, also, the most profitable, beginning I ever saw made in the poultry business was by a young clerk, who lived in the suburbs of a near-by city. He sustained a severe attack of the "hen fever," and, as is the usual occurrence, became enthused over the "enormous" profits to be made with poultry. He did not, however, allow his enthusiasm to get the best of the better judgment, and cause him to resign his clerkship and immediately embark in the poultry business on a more or less extended scale, as has so frequently occurred; but, instead, he held on to his clerkship, fixed up a good, comfortable little house on a back lot, bought a dozen standard-bred hens and a rooster at a dollar a head, of a neighboring fancier, and thus made his start.

This was early in the spring; during the spring and summer he furnished the family table with eggs and chickens, and, besides, hatched and raised something like a hundred young chicks. Out of these he retained twenty-five of the best pullets for breeders, and, of course, at the same time enlarging his house room; and so, by the next spring, we find that his business has, from natural causes, tripled itself, and all this time our friend has been steadily and rapidly gaining in practical knowledge of the business.

This natural increase continued for another year or two, and by this time he had his business so firmly established on a paying basis that he was justified in buying a small farm out at the edge of town, and then there becoming a full-fledged poultryman, making this his exclusive occupation. Speaking of profits, he recently told me that he scarcely managed to meet expenses the first year, the second year he slightly more than kept even, while subsequent years have not failed to show a nice little sum on the right side of the ledger.—Outing.

Fence for Hog Yard.



Small yards for hogs require very tight fences either of boards or wire. The plan shows cedar posts set less than eight feet apart. At the top and bottom are two by six inch planks set into the posts and there are seven lateral wires.

Experiment Station Bulletins.

It always has been and always will be true that scientists can but point the way and practical men must demonstrate in a practical way all new developments along the line of improvement in agricultural and breeding problems. Our experiment stations are doing excellent work and are not only introducing new ideas, but are also condemning practices that were considered good by those who thought they were right but had no way of demonstrating their propositions. Practical men should be slow to discredit the work of these institutions and should work in harmony with them for the general uplift of the cause which they are all trying to better. The accessibility of the work done at these stations makes it easy for every one to keep in close touch with the work being done. The bulletins issued are cheerfully sent to all who will apply for them without cost to the recipient, so that there is no excuse for any one not knowing just what is being done by these hard-working scientists who are always glad to spread the news of new discoveries or new ideas. If you are not getting these bulletins regularly from your own experiment station it is your own fault.—National Stockman and Farmer.

Destroying Pocket Gophers.

The Nebraska Experiment Station has been investigating the destruction of pocket gophers. As effective and at the same time inexpensive methods as

can be employed are: Trapping when done properly and in conformity with the animal's habits; poisoning under certain restrictions and careful practices; shooting at certain times and under some conditions; and lastly the protection of the natural enemies of the animals. It is urged that barn owls, the long-tailed weasels and bullsnakes especially be spared, since all these animals are particularly noted as enemies of pocket gophers wherever they are found.

Water Pans for Poultry.

In the construction of a water pan for poultry some provision should be made to keep out dust and litter. The forms shown in the illustration permits fowls to drink from different sides at one time and presents the smallest possible space for filth to enter. The round cone-shaped top prevents the fowls roosting upon it. It may be fixed



DRINKING PAN FOR POULTRY.

on a platform high enough to prevent the litter being rescratched into it.

Squash Bugs.

The squash bug never lays its eggs on the stem, unless by accident, but the under side of the leaves. The eggs are of a dark chestnut color, globular in form, and exist in clusters. They may be found by turning up the leaves, when the eggs may be crushed. Another insect deposits its eggs on the stem; this is the borer. The larvae, as soon as hatched, eat into the stem, and are then difficult to dislodge. One of the most effectual remedies against enemies of the squash is a solution of saltpeter, which is prepared by dissolving a teaspoonful in a quart of water and sprinkling it over the plant, though sawdust, saturated with turpentine, is also used on the ground around each plant with success.

Denatured Alcohol School.

As a result of plans which have been matured by Secretary James Wilson of the department of agriculture, there will be established shortly in his department at Washington a denatured alcohol school. This will include a small but complete distilling outfit, including vats, worms, engines and other necessary apparatus, while it will be the aim of the secretary and his specialists to give a practical demonstration of what denatured alcohol is, how it is made and from what products to all visitors at Washington who may be interested in the subject. Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief chemist of the department, has been assigned to the job.

Harvesting at Right Time.

Pick vegetables with the dew on, they are superior to those picked in the hot sun. Beans, however, must be picked when dry; if vines or fruit are handled when wet they will rust. The following are better picked before full sized: String beans, beets, carrots, corn, cucumbers, peas, radishes and squash. Don't allow seed to ripen on the plants or they will stop bearing.

Farm Notes.

The truck farmers around Milan, Tenn., have organized in order to promote their interests.

A Colorado railroad is running potato specials over its lines for the purpose of teaching farmers how to raise better potatoes.

The honey produced in the United States last year would load a string of freight cars from Chicago to New York. "This is certainly sweetness long drawn out."

If milk cans and utensils are washed thoroughly and scalded last without subsequent wiping they will be much freer from contamination by bacteria than if scalded and wiped dry with a rag.

The heifer calf that is intended for dairy use should not be given too fattening a ration. Oats, grass and milk with a scant ration of shelled corn will furnish about what she needs for her proper development.

The 1,300 pound draft horse at three years old can always be counted on by the horse raiser as a safe and profitable proposition. During the past few years such an animal has been worth from 10 to 12 cents per pound.

Some one who has tried it says that if flour of sulphur is mixed liberally with the seed corn in the planter box the cutworms will not touch the corn so treated. It is certainly an easy and inexpensive recipe and at least worth trying.

"CHILDREN'S EVANGELIST."

Miss Gamlin, whose work among the young is very successful. The Children's Evangelist is the title bestowed upon Miss Alice Miriam Gamlin, of New York, the superintendent of the evangelistic department of the State Sunday School Association. She has made a special study of evangelistic work among children and has met with remarkable success. She has simple but direct methods of reaching boys and girls. To even the careless and indifferent child she seems to be able to make the truths of the Christian religion attractive. She brings before the children the beautiful ideals and the wealth of wisdom which are



MISS ALICE M. GAMLIN.

contained in the lessons of the Bible in a manner which always appeals to them.

Miss Gamlin is a native of Worcester, Mass., and went through a course of thorough training to fit her for the work in which she is engaged. Five of her seven years in this branch of religious work have been spent in New York. All during the summer season she conducts meetings in the metropolis in tents, which seat from 300 to 500. She is a woman of great natural ability and of wonderful personal magnetism.



A college youth is rarely as old as he talks.

All the world's a stage, and most of us are in the gallery.

The things we turn up our noses at are the things we can't understand.

A girl may make a sweeping assertion without knowing how to handle a broom.

Strawberries come and go, but in boarding house circles the prune is perennial.

A man has to have a mighty good disposition to be willing to admit he hasn't.

Engaging manners are an asset in other circles besides the matrimonial market.

If a woman can't find any other way to enjoy herself she will do it by having the blues.

The reason women have so few bad habits is they have such queer ideas of what fun is.

There's nothing makes a man so proud of his brains as for somebody else in the family to have them.

A girl always has an idea that if she knew any dukes most of them would want to marry her.—New York Press.

Suited the Case.

Tom—Here! You've started your note to Borroughs "Dr. Sir." Don't you know that sort of abbreviation is very slovenly?

Dick—No, sir. "Dr." is all right in this case. He owes me money.—Kansas City Independent.

Santa Claus Knows.

"Papa, why does Santa Claus leave rich people more than poor people get?"

"Because he wants to please everybody, my son, and rich people are harder to please."

Result of Early Training.

Cobwiger—In what way does Newt show that he isn't a gentleman?

Merritt—By paying cash for everything he buys.—Tailor.

The young man who is not going to school learns a good many things that the young man in school misses.

Even an empty-headed man is capable of getting full.

His Week Or.

"Bill," said the Billville postmaster to a citizen who was lounging about, "here's a letter from yer aunt, 'nuther one from yer uncle an' I reckon here's one with the bill fer that lumber you bought; an' now I want to ax you—air you a-lookin' fer any more this week? Kaze, ef you air, you won't git 'em—not out o' this office!"

"An' why not?"

"Kase I close to-night fer one week. In plain English, Bill, I'm a-goin' a-fishin'!"—Atlanta Constitution.

Always the Unattainable.

Small William, whose stomach had been taking a day off, was trying to make a next morning breakfast on grape fruit.

"I wish," he said, looking enviously at the generous supply of food on his little sister's plate, "I was well enough to eat bacon and eggs, too."

"Hub!" exclaimed his little sister; "I wish I was sick enough to eat a grape fruit."

Foolish Jack.

Nan—Why are you saving all of Jack's letters?

Fan—Because he always adds as a postscript, "Burn this!"

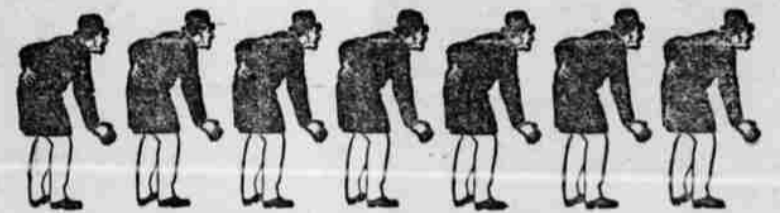
MRS. FRANK STROEBE



A Remarkable Recovery.

Mrs. Frank Stroebe, R. F. D. 1, Appleton, Wis., writes: "I began using Peruna a few months ago, when my health and strength were all gone, and I was nothing but a nervous wreck, could not sleep, eat or rest properly, and felt no desire to live. Peruna made me look at life in a different light, as I began to regain my lost strength."

"I certainly think Peruna is without a rival as a tonic and strength builder."



"OUCH, OH MY BACK"

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No Mercy.

Mistress—Sarah Jane, what has happened?

Sarah Jane—Oh, mum, I've fallen down the stairs and broken my neck!

Mistress (firmly)—Well, whatever you've broken will be deducted from your wages.—Sydney (N. S. W.) Bulletin.

Its Negative Quality.

"I never give medicine to my children," said Mrs. Lapelling, "that has any whisky in it. Whisky is poisonous. It contains too much refusal oil."—Chicago Tribune.

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

Information Cheerfully Doled Out. Mrs. Chugwater—Josiah, what is Y'wh'rH apoth- ES TH AR O DILUN apothecaries' weight?

Mr. Chugwater—Apothecaries' wait? It's the interval that elapses between the time when you give the apothecary a prescription and the time when he fills it. Can't you tell from the word itself?—Chicago Tribune.

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