

# FARMS AND FARMERS

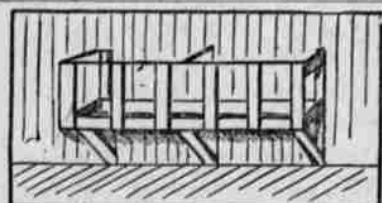


## Care of the Flock.

Sheep need little shelter except to keep off rain and snow. I have always allowed them to stay out in the coldest weather, if it was not stormy. However, I never, under any circumstances, allow them to take rains and snows in winter, writes a correspondent of Farm and Home.

At this season I give good clover hay, and in addition a little silage or corn fodder about three times a week. I feed twice a day in the yard on the ground if it is frozen, but when the ground is not frozen I feed in racks in the sheep barn. I feed a little entire grain, mostly oats to the breeding ewes.

My troughs are made of three boards, 8 feet long, the bottom one 10 inches wide and the sides 6 inches, as shown in sketch. I scatter the oats thin in these troughs and the sheep cannot get a large mouthful. Thus better mastication of the grain is secured than in narrow troughs. I have fed threshed oats to my sheep for a good many years and have not as yet experienced any bad results from their use. I feed oats until after lambing time, then I



WALL SHEEP TROUGH.

add about one ear of shelled corn to one pint of oats per day.

I know from my own experience that it pays to keep sheep, provided they are kept well, and those who do not do this are very likely to condemn the breed of sheep which they may happen to have or the breeding stock which they have purchased for the improvement of their flock when the fault is really their own.

## Quick Poultry Fattening.

The theory on which crate fattening is encouraged is that a hen will digest more food than she will eat. Shredded wheat will put the fat on at as low a cost as 4½ cents per pound. The sections of our crates are two feet wide, two feet high, twenty-seven inches long, three sections to a crate; five birds to a section, says a bulletin of The Connecticut Experiment Station. These have to be very carefully fed so that the appetite will not be hurt.

Careful attention has to be given not only to what they are fed, but when and how often the feed is offered to them. Equal quantities of cornmeal, ground oats and shredded wheat mixed with skim milk consistency of good porridge in front of them for a few minutes, every twelve hours for two days. Next evening let them eat their fill. Next day feed in the morning not enough to satisfy them. At night, all they will eat. At the end of the second week give a noon feed of just a little. The third week give all they want at noon. Next week add a little tallow, perhaps half a pint of tallow to fifteen birds. Give a little grit from time to time.

If growing broilers give them a large percentage of bran six weeks, then make the bulk of the feed cornmeal for four weeks. Milk and buckwheat, or milk and oats tend to whiten skin. If anything is not contented, it won't put on flesh.

## Feeding Horses.

It is generally believed that horses must not be fed clover hay for fear of the heaves. This is a mistake. If the horse is given the proper quantity of clover and not overfed there is no danger of the heaves. A horse should never be fed more than he will eat up clean, either grain or hay. Without a doubt oats is the best general food for a horse, and goes well with timothy hay. A good change is to once or twice a week give a feed of corn and clover with bran mash. When a horse does not clean up his feed it is best to try a change. Feeding and watering should be done at regular intervals, the watering always before the eating. Above all things, do not give a horse water immediately after eating. It should never be given before at least an hour after he has finished his meal.

## Wind Colic in Horses.

The treatment for wind colic differs very materially from that of cramp colic. Absorbents are of some service, and charcoal may be given in any quantity. Relaxants are also beneficial in this form of colic. Chloral hydrate not only possesses this quality, but it also is a pain reliever. It is particularly well adapted to the treatment of

wind colic, and should be given in 1-ounce doses in a pint of water. Diluted alcohol or whisky may be given, or aromatic spirits of ammonia in 1-ounce doses at short intervals. A physic should always be given in flatulent colic as early as possible, the best being 1-ounce doses of Barados aloes. Injections, per rectum, of turpentine, 1 to 2 ounces; linseed oil, 8 ounces, may be given frequently to stimulate the peristaltic motion of the bowels and favor the escape of wind. Blankets wrung out of hot water do much to afford relief; they should be renewed every five or ten minutes and covered with a dry, woolen blanket. This form of colic is much more fatal than cramp colic, and requires prompt and persistent treatment. It is entirely unsafe to predict the result, some apparently mild attacks going on to speedy death, while others that appear at the onset to be very severe yielding rapidly to treatment. Do not cease your efforts until you know the animal is past help.

## Keeping Soil in Good Shape.

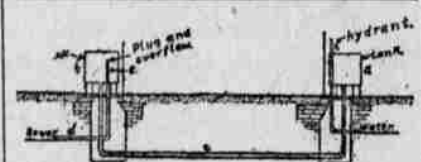
When there is plenty of moisture in spring, followed by dry and hot weather during June and July, the condition is just right for spoiling the soil, especially if untimely plowing has left the fields in a badly baked condition. If the result of such conditions lasted but one season the matter would not be so serious, but it has frequently been observed that land badly puddled and subsequently hard baked can not be retrieved in many years. It is harder to reduce such soil than the toughest hard-pan. In fact, it will require several seasons of careful work to bring these soils into good condition again.

It is a bad practice to stir ground when it is wet, yet it is done every spring. Crops are puddled in every year, and it is a wonder that we get any crops at all from these fields. Such fields are the first to dry up when summer droughts strike us, for capillarity has been so completely destroyed that the crops can not draw upon the water reserves, and the elements needed for growth of the crops are so securely locked up in the clods that they are not available.

It is the natural tendency of all soil to become firmer. It is tamped down by even the gentlest rains, and beating rains will render it almost impervious to water. Good farming must undo this work by breaking up these crusts and keeping the soil in good condition. All practical farmers know that soils are best by being plowed and cultivated at just the right time, but not many have the patience to stand by, when the season is getting late, or put off cultivation and allow weeds to get the upper hand. Brown says there is more to be gained by properly working our soils than in fertilizing them.

## Watering System for Stable.

In the accompanying plan two galvanized iron tanks, 2 ft. x 5 ft. are connected by a pipe (c) so that tank



(b) is supplied with water from tank (a), which in turn is supplied from the hydrant as shown. Tank (b) is connected with a sewer by a waste pipe (d). The plug (e) consists of a piece of gas pipe threaded into the end of the waste pipe and therefore answers the purposes of plug and overflow.

## Points in Dairy Breeding.

You may train a man to be a good dairyman and improve his methods and practices, but to make a real, successful breeder of dairy cattle he must have a natural love for his cattle and be able to see many of the changes that are not visible to the average person. The natural stock breeders are the ones to whom we must look for the fuller development of our herds. It is to these men that we look when we want to buy a herd-header of pronounced excellence of breeding.

## Salt for Sheep.

Experiments recently made for the purpose of ascertaining the nutritive value of salt for sheep show that those which have been fed salt gained in weight four and one-half pounds more than those which received no salt. Moreover, the sheep which received salt produced one and one-third pounds more wool and of a better quality than those which received no salt.

## Packing Eggs.

Farmers and others who knowingly pack bad eggs with good ones are going to be prosecuted by the Nebraska and Michigan Pure Food commissions. Dealers claim that their losses amounted to several million dollars last year.

## SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY

Mrs. Margaret Zane Wicher was chosen county clerk in Salt Lake county, Utah, this year on the Republican ticket.

The handkerchief of the French soldier has printed on it certain sanitary rules desirable to observe during a campaign.

The following is the shortest sentence containing all the letters of the alphabet: Pack my box with five dozen liquor jugs.—Home Notes.

South Dakota is congratulating herself on the greatest gold year in her history. The report of the state mine inspector, filed with the governor, shows the state's gold production for the last year to have been \$7,460,000.

Missouri is the greatest tobacco producing state. The quantity of the weed produced during the fiscal year which ended June 30 last, was 71,212,212 pounds, 5,000,000 pounds more than was produced by North Carolina, which comes next.

There are now 667 women students in the University of Glasgow. This is said to be the largest number on record. Queen Margaret College is the women's hall, which is presided over by Miss Galloway, LL.D., and Janet Spens, M. A.

About 75,000 fox skins are sold out of Maine every year. Very few of the six animals are shot. Many are killed by the use of poisoned bait, while hundreds of others are killed in drives, known as the "New Hampshire method."—Fur News.

A New York woman shopper who is fond of figures has estimated that the time lost by customers each day in one of the large department stores in waiting for their change is equal to the average time of labor for one person for seventy days.

This year 12,554 women registered in Boston to vote for school committee. Twenty-nine years ago, when the privilege of voting at these elections was first granted to women, only 900 registered, and for the following nine years the average was only a little over 1,000.

Motorists who suffer with cold hands while driving their cars may have relief by using a steering wheel provided with electric heat. An English invention describes a steering wheel with a core that carries two electrically-heated coils insulated one from the other and from the outer rim.

Sir William Wallace, the British resident-general of northern Nigeria, has reported to the home government that cannibal tribes owing hundreds of thousands of horses in Nigeria are being subdued by peaceful means, and that their country contains perhaps the richest tin and copper fields in the world.

Booker T. Washington was born near Hale's Ford, Va., about 1859. His mother was a slave in the Burroughs family, where she was known as Jane Burroughs. Her husband lived on a neighboring plantation. Booker Washington was educated at Hampton Institute, Virginia, where he graduated in 1875. He taught there until he was selected head of Tuskegee Institute, which he organized.

Miss Harriet S. Hayward, of Brockton, Mass., is the first woman to be elected by a county in Massachusetts to preside at a county teachers' association. She is the primary supervisor of schools in Brockton, and the Plymouth County Teachers' Association, over which she was selected to preside, is one of the largest in the state. The meeting is said to have been the best ever held.

When the Cloughy (County Down, Ireland) lifeboat went to the assistance of the French bark Croisette, which had been driven ashore on a submerged reef, the men refused to leave the vessel without a little half-breed fox terrier. The animal was eventually found and rescued amid the cheers of the bark's crew, who were then brought ashore in the lifeboat and hospitably housed by the villagers.

The Ligue Nationale Aerienne recently received from Commandant Doufuss the offer of a prize of £400 for the first kite of French construction capable of lifting a man to the height of 200 meters, and of maintaining him in the air for a period of at least one hour. It is interesting to see that attention is thus again directed to the use of kites, which would appear to have been somewhat neglected owing to the success of the apparatus of the aeroplane type.

A party of Maine hunters has the old way of catching birds by putting salt on their tails "beaten to a frazzle," as President Roosevelt would say. The Kennebec Journal declares that the woodsman got a fine deer by simply leaving some salt on the table in their camp. Of course, they didn't do it intentionally, but they got a fat fawn just the same. The deer wandered in through the open door and was cornered and killed when the hunters returned after a day's tramp which had yielded nothing.

# YEAR OF 1909 RICH IN CENTENNIAL BIRTHDAYS



THE year 1909 is distinguished beyond any previous year within the memory of man for the number and importance of centennial anniversaries of the birthdays of famous persons, and also marks the tercentenary celebrations of some historic events. The year 1809 brought into the world a remarkable array of men whose achievements will be glorified as long as civilization lasts. In that year Abraham Lincoln first saw the light of day in Hardin County, Kentucky, and on the same day, Feb. 12, though under a far different environment, Charles Darwin was born at Shrewsbury, England. Three days later, at Walnut Grove, Va., came into the world Cyrus Hall McCormick, who is described "as having done more for the cause of agriculture than any other living man."

The field of literature and poetry was vastly enriched that same remarkable year by the birth of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Edgar Allan Poe, Mrs. Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Alfred Tennyson. The year 1809 also gave to the world of music one of its finest exponents, Felix Mendelssohn. In 1809 Robert Fulton, whose efforts to establish steam navigation on the Hudson river had been fully demonstrated to be successful, took out his first patents. Two hundred years earlier Henry Hudson sailed up the same river in search of a passage to India, while Samuel de Champlain was exploring from the north and discovered the great lake which bears his name and which is intimately connected with the colonial and revolutionary wars. All of these historic birthdays and events will be magnificently celebrated during the coming year of 1909.

Naturally the greatest and most far-reaching centennial celebration will be that of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. In every part of the United States, in England, France and other foreign lands, the birth of the great emancipator will be observed.

Cyrus Hall McCormick died in Chicago in 1884. Mendelssohn's brilliant career was cut short at the very zenith of his fame. He was born in Hamburg Feb. 5, 1809, and died Nov. 4, 1847. Darwin died in 1882, having devoted the fifty years of his life after graduation from Christ College, Cambridge, to the study of and research into the secrets of nature.

Oliver Wendell Holmes and Edgar Allan Poe were both born in Massachusetts, the latter in January and the former in August. In England Alfred Tennyson was born Aug. 6, and Elizabeth Barrett Browning March 6. The Hudson-Fulton memorial celebration will be held in New York next fall on a magnificent scale and will continue for a week. One of the features will be a pageant which, it is claimed, will eclipse anything of the kind in the world's history.

## POPULAR SCIENCE

One of the largest sawmills in the world has been erected on the island of Hawaii by a company which has a contract to furnish a million ties a year to an American railroad.

A Belgian inventor has secured a patent on a flying machine modelled on the insects of the locust species. With a 100-horsepower motor the machine weighs a trifle less than 870 pounds.

By burning resinous materials to the windward of their vineyards at night, the French wine growers produce dense clouds of smoke which protect their vines from frosts in spring and fall.

Many old workings in the Pennsylvania anthracite field, abandoned years ago for lack of knowledge to work the deeper veins, are being reopened and made productive by modern machinery.

A vacuum cylinder, for the preservation of food, from which the air may be exhausted by apparatus so simple that any person can operate it, is a recent invention of a German machinist.

An alloy of nine parts of lead, two of antimony and one of bismuth expands in cooling, therefore makes a good combination for plugging holes in metal, as the plug fits tightly when cold.

That the magnetic influence of the coast of Lapland drew his iron ship ashore and wrecked it was the sworn statement of the captain of the British steamer Sandal to the British board of trade.

The increased demand for tungsten ores and products in the United States in 1907 led to the production of 1640 short tons of concentrates, valued at \$890,048, nearly three times the output of 1906.

By the invention of machines to bleach and spin it, the wild silk of Manchuria, great quantities of which are exported each year, threatens to seriously compete with that grown in more civilized lands.

Strangers are sometimes surprised by the fear of vipers which exists in some parts of France. These little venomous snakes are dangerous both to man and beast. Recently a movement has been made to protect the vipers, on the ground that they render valuable services in destroying rodents, mollusks, and other small noxious animals, but a writer in the Journal of Practical Agriculture strenuously opposes this, declaring that the services performed by the vipers are of small account in comparison with the accidents, frequently mortal, which they cause. He instances a little neighborhood in the Department of Meurthe-et-Moselle, where the vipers became a veritable plague, and where, inspired by the offer of a reward, two hunters destroyed 12,000 of them.

The increasing employment of reducing agents of many kinds in the manufacture of steel is primarily due to the necessity of getting rid of blowholes and gas bubbles. The reducers

effect this by absorbing and removing the gases dissolved in the molten metal. But they render another important service also by adding, by their presence in small quantities, to the tensile strength of the steel. Ferrosilicium, for instance, when employed as a reductor, increases the strength of the steel about 15 per cent. Calcium also has an excellent effect, and with vanadium the strength of the steel is sometimes doubled. Vanadium also greatly increases the resistance of steel to the effects of vibration, and consequently vanadium-steel is largely employed for the manufacture of automobile machinery.

## AMONG THOSE PRESENT WAS MR. WILLIAM GOAT.



A big goat butted in on a dance given in the school house at Annapolis, California, the other night and for the time being held the fort successfully. The dancers scattered when Billy dashed in through the open door. The goat cut a wide swath. The musicians forgot themselves and the music ceased very suddenly. Then it was a case of grab without a waltz. The ladies and children took refuge on the benches and tables, spread for the refreshments. Even men's courage quailed before the intrusion of the butler. The goat seemed to pay particular attention to the leader of the orchestra. The animal charged, horns down, at him. The music stand vanished; so did the musicians. And the butting the piano got put it all out of tune. Finally the goat was ejected and the dance resumed.

## A Man's Tact.

Nobody but Mr. Henley would have asked such a question, in the first place. "Miss Fairley," he said, "if you could make yourself over, what kind of hair and eyes would you have?" "If I could make myself over," said Miss Fairley, "I would look just exactly as I do now." "You would?" exclaimed Henley, in honest surprise, and to this day he can't understand why Miss Fairley thinks him a man of little taste and less tact.

## Still Safe.

Hicks—You were dreadfully indiscreet to mention that important deal of ours to your wife.

Wicks—Oh, it's all right. I didn't tell her it was a secret.—Boston Transcript.