



Ancient Agriculture.

Why agriculture, the first industry to be learned and so obviously the most fundamental, was the last to be developed is one of the most baffling mysteries of history. One marvels at it afresh as one stands before a certain glass case in the Egyptian quarter of the British Museum, wherein is a little group of farm utensils—a fractured wooden plow; a rusted sickle, two sticks tied together with a leathern thong and several tassels that had hung on the horns of oxen. To be sure, these implements were used 3,000 years ago—they were found in the tomb of Seti I.—but one remembers that when Egypt was using these bread tools, no better than those of the barbarians about her, she had a most elaborate government, an army and navy and art and literature.

The records and relics of other nations down through history show the same strange incongruity. For thousands of years the wise men of the world absolutely ignored the problems of the farm. A farmer remained either a serf or a tenant. He was a stolid drudge—"brother to the ox." Even the masterful old pilgrim fathers had no plows at all—nothing but hoes and sharp sticks—for the first twelve years of their pioneering. And therefore for thousands of years there was hunger.—Journal of Agriculture.

Milking by Hand and Machine.

After a test of milking machines for a period of more than a year, Prof. A. L. Haecker, of Nebraska, has made several conclusions. Heifers in their first lactation, apparently give better results by machine milking than do aged cows that have been accustomed to hand milking for one or more years. Some cows are not adapted to machine

on to the jack. Then put your weight on it and swing it off the wagon, placing a small jack under the front end.—C. Z. Rux, in Farm and Home.

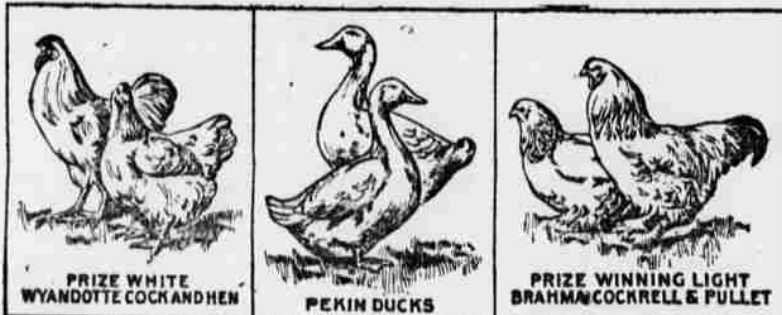
Dandelions and Milk.

A Belgian investigator has been looking into the correctness or incorrectness of the somewhat popular belief among farmers that dandelions increase the yield of milk, and that in consequence they are rather desirable forage than otherwise. He claims that this belief is incorrect and is founded wholly on the false analogy suggested by the milky juice of the dandelion. Furthermore, he asserts that dandelions in large numbers have a deleterious effect on the quality of butter and is one among the causes which make it difficult to get butter of a fine flavor and good keeping qualities in spring and early summer. Hay which has large quantities of dandelions in it has a similar effect, he says, and he advises farmers to weed their pastures whenever it is practicable to do so.

Restriction of Fertility.

Prof. Spillman says it seldom pays to turn under a crop of cow peas in the green state. It is better practice to make hay of them, feed the hay and put the manure back on the land. As is the case with all legumes, the roots of the cow pea crop add a great deal of nitrogen to the soil, and have a marked effect on fertility. If a heavy green crop of cow peas is plowed under in the autumn it is best not to plant the land until the following spring. A very good plan for bringing up the fertility of a wornout field is to sow rye in the fall, plow this under in the spring, harrow thoroughly, let the land lie a month, and then sow

POPULAR BREEDS OF CHICKENS AND DUCKS.

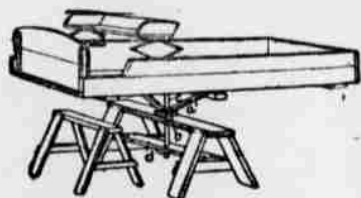


One of the most popular breeds of chickens for general utility is the White Wyandotte. The birds of this strain are smaller than the Plymouth Rock, but are equally rapid growing. Good layers and fine market fowls. Pekin ducks excel all other breeds both for eggs and flesh. To raise ducks successfully and make a profit both from eggs and young ducklings, the stock birds should be young—as far as possible March hatched birds, and never more than two years old. The Light Brahmas are the oldest and perhaps the best known of the feather-legged chickens. Size is the quality that recommends this breed. Where large and slowly maturing fowls are desired the Light Brahma has no superior.

milking. Alternate hand and machine methods of milking have a detrimental effect upon the flow. Manipulation of the udder is absolutely necessary in some instances before all the milk can be drawn by the machine. One man operating one machine can milk about the same number of cows in an hour as one milking by hand. Two men operating four machines can practically do the work of three men milking by hand. Two operators with four machines milked twenty-four cows in an hour. It is necessary to thoroughly wash and boll the milking machine parts after each usage in order to produce milk with as low bacterial content as that resulting from careful methods of hand milking.—Denver Field and Farm.

Lifting the Wagon Box.

I constructed a wagon bed jack that is one of the handiest devices on the farm where there is only one man to put on or take off a grain rack or wagon box. The construction is very simple. Make a carpenter's jack, only



ONE MAN CAN HANDLE IT.

a little stronger to suit yourself. Then bore a hole, b, in the center for a 2-inch gas pipe to act as a king bolt. Then take a 4x4-inch, 3 foot 6 inch long crosspiece and fasten it to the gas pipe, c, and brace it with 4x4 inch braces, a. The height is 3 feet 6 inches and width 4 feet.

When taking off the grain bed place the jack a little better than half way to the rear end, then remove the rear end off the wagon first and swing it

in the feed lot. Wheat bran is preferable, however because it is less bulky. Cow pea and alfalfa is an excellent substitute for wheat bran for the dairy cows.

Corn makes fat, while alfalfa is rich in flesh-forming and bone-building materials.

In feeding pigs shorts or alfalfa beats wheat bran when used as one-quarter of the ration.

Hogs will not as a rule relish alfalfa hay in the winter unless they have previously been matured on the young alfalfa.

It is a mistake to believe that alfalfa is purely a fattening ration, especially for calves. On the contrary, it is a growing ration.

ROMANTIC TALE OF A CITY.

Began on Rafts of Tree Trunks in a Lake, Now a Metropolis.

The story of the founding of the City of Mexico is one of the most extraordinary tales in history. It happened in 1325, at least it began a long time before that, but was an accomplished fact about 600 years ago.

In the first place, says the Rosary Magazine, imagine an almost inaccessible mountain, crowned with a valley at the height of 8,000 feet above the level of the sea. In the center of this valley was an immense lake. When the Aztecs arrived, led by the priests of the god of war, they found it in the possession of hostile tribes.

For that reason and because the priests declared that in a certain part of the lake where there stood an elevation of stones an eagle had been seen devouring a serpent, they began the construction of the city on the spot, immediately over the deepest waters of the lake. There had long existed a prophecy among the Aztecs that their wanderings would end when they should have reached a place where the priests would behold an eagle resting on a cactus plant devouring a serpent.

Confident that they had found the spot ordained to be their abiding home, they began to construct rafts of the trunks of trees, covering them with thick layers of earth, upon which they built rude huts of more or less solidity. Groups of dwellings soon began to form themselves in regular order, thus determining the primitive streets of the new city.

They also constructed boats and oars of different sizes, useful in peace and war, and, while certain of their number occupied themselves in defending their homes and brethren from the onslaughts of hostile tribes, others continued to improve and enlarge the new city. Gradually the lake was filled up and terraces arose, one after another, in the place once occupied by the deep waters.

This was in itself a herculean labor; unsurpassed in ingenuity and durability by any similar work of ancient or modern times. Upon the first of these terraces was constructed the Teocalli, or sacrificial temple. It was begun in 1218 and not completed until 1325, a period of 109 years, from which time may be dated the official foundation of Tenochtitlan, to-day the modern city of Mexico.

Man Money.

The system of atoning for death or bodily injuries inflicted on others by paying damages is as old as the earliest Teutonic laws, praised by Tacitus. The trespasser was always required to make peace with the aggrieved family of the victim by "Wer-Geld."

"Wer" is the ancient German for man. "Geld," now, as in the days of Wotan, means money.

Damages were assessed in accordance with the rank and wealth of the injured party, and the money was paid over in the presence of the whole community, its acceptance forestalling feuds. Indeed, the recognition of Wer-Geld ("money for the man" killed) by law precluded further bloodshed or other forms of revenge.

If the slayer was not rich enough to pay the required sum, he turned over to the injured parties his sons as slaves. If his sons were not sufficient guarantee for the payment of the debt, the slayer himself had to turn bondsman, both the letter and the spirit of the law requiring that the full amount of damage inflicted be recovered by the aggrieved parties.—New York World.

Scotch Thrift.

"Hey, mon," exclaimed the braw, bonnie north countryman, "thrift is a wunnerful thing!"

"Yes," replied his English travelling companion. "You're right there. Now, I gave my wife a ten-pound note to manage on last time I was away, and—would you believe it?—instead of exceeding it she saved nearly a sovereign out of it to buy herself a hat!"

"That's nowt," replied the Scotsman. "My wife gives the kids ha'pennies apiece to go to bed supperless, when they're asleep she takes the ha'pennies off on 'em ageen, and then she makes 'em do without any breakfasts for losin' 'em! Hey, mon, that's 'thrift!'"—London Scraps.

Heaven's First Law.

The Rev. Dr. Frank Crane tells of a bride who refused to answer the question, "Will you love, honor and obey?" Her friends interceded, but it was of no use. Finally the intended bridegroom gathered up his hat and started for the door. Instantly she sprang after him, and, leading him back, looked up meekly and said, "I will."—From Success Magazine.

Good Food for Stock.

"Do you think alfalfa mullins could be appetizing?" "I don't see why they shouldn't be—to horses and mules."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Our idea of a good cook is one who keeps her temper from boiling over.

Don't try to flatter one woman by complimenting another

HEN OVER BILLION-EGG MARK.

During Last Year American Fowl Laid 492,424 Miles of Them.

Let us sing the praise of the greatest American hen, who during the last year may well have crackled with pride over the production of nearly 1,300,000,000 dozens of eggs! Do you realize what that means? says the Woman's Home Companion. Well, listen:

If, instead of remaining quietly at home in Iowa, she had chosen to demonstrate her powers to the universe at large the hen might have laid those eggs, each two inches long, end to end, in a continuous chain reaching 238,818 miles up to the moon, back again, and then more than half way around the world for good measure—a total of 492,424 miles of eggs. Furthermore, if those eggs had been made into one omelet half an inch thick that omelet would easily have covered Manhattan Island, an area of twenty-two square miles.

An old Mohammedan legend tells that King Solomon used to travel through the air with all his armies on a wonderful flying carpet, protected from the rays of the sun by the wings of a host of birds. Now, according to the poultry census, there are in the United States about 280,000,000 of chickens, guinea fowls, turkeys, geese and ducks of the poultry voting age, which is three months or over. If required to furnish a moving canopy like that of King Solomon the barnyard of this country, allowing only a foot of spread to each, could easily shadow a space of 149 square miles.



"Why is the moon called silvery?" "Because it comes in halves and quarters."

"Only fools are certain, Tommy; wise men hesitate." "Are you sure, uncle?" "Yes, my boy; certain of it."

Dobbs—I understand she was his bookkeeper before he married her. Dobbs—Yes; now she's his cashier.

Maud—Would you marry a widow? Ethel—No, I wouldn't. The man I marry I am going to tame myself.—The Tatler.

Hob—Would you like to see women voters at the polls? Nob—Yes, indeed. At the North and South Poles.—Seawanee Tiger.

Max—Now did you happen to go to old Gotrox to borrow money? Climax—I heard he was well to do, so I tried to do him.—Stray Stories.

"My cocoa's cold," sternly announced the gruff old gentleman to his fair waitress. "Put your hat on," she sweetly suggested.—New York Observer.

Jack—Was her father violent when you asked for her hand? Tom—Was he! Great Scott, I thought he would shake my arm off.—Boston Transcript.

"Yes," she said, "I have seen twenty-three summers." "Say," he queried, "do you think it is too late to consult an eye specialist?"—Chicago Daily News.

She—What did papa say when you asked for my hand? He—Why, he couldn't say a word. She—He couldn't? He—No; your mother was there!—Yonkers Statesman.

Arthur Askem—How did you like Europe? Bertha Bithare—Not very well. Why, actually, every place we visited was overrun with foreigners.—Chicago Daily News.

"I suppose your wife was tickled to death at your raise in salary?" "She will be." "Haven't you told her yet?" "No, I thought I would enjoy myself for a couple of weeks first."

"I do miss Mrs. Jones. She told me all the news of the parish." "Oh, that was only gossip—no truth in it." "Well, there, I liked to 'ear it. Truth or lies, 'twas all news to me."—Punch.

"I sometimes think," remarked the regular patron, "that the snare drummer should be the best musician in the theater orchestra." "He usually is," said the drummer.—Chicago Tribune.

"Why don't women have the same sense of humor that men possess?" asked Mr. Torkins. "Perhaps," answered his wife gently, "it's because we don't attend the same theaters."—Washington Star.

Her Mother—Mabel, dear, do you ever feel timid about asking your husband for money? The Bride—No, indeed, mamma; but he seems to be rather timid about giving it to me.—Chicago Daily News.

"Hello, old man!" exclaimed Dubley at the Literary Circle reception; "it's a pleasant surprise to meet you here." "Good of you to say so, old chap," replied Brown. "Yes, you see, I was afraid I wouldn't find anybody but bright and cultured people here."—Catholic Standard and Times.

All Who Would Enjoy

good health, with its blessings, must understand, quite clearly, that it involves the question of right living with all the term implies. With proper knowledge of what is best, each hour of recreation, of enjoyment, of contemplation and of effort may be made to contribute to living aright. Then the use of medicines may be dispensed with to advantage, but under ordinary conditions in many instances a simple, wholesome remedy may be invaluable if taken at the proper time and the California Fig Syrup Co. holds that it is alike important to present the subject truthfully and to supply the one perfect laxative to those desiring it.

Consequently, the Company's Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna gives general satisfaction. To get its beneficial effects buy the genuine, manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, and for sale by all leading druggists.

Point in Their Favor.

Bill de Burglar—There's one thing I like about these mounted policemen, anyway.

Pete de Pickpocket—Wot's that? Bill de Burglar—They can't ride no ninety-eight miles in one day.

Time is the best test. For over fifty years Hamlin's Wizard Oil has been the most popular remedy in the United States for the cure of Rheumatism, Neuralgia and all pain and inflammation.

Possibly.

"Uncle Bruno, why is it that your people increase so much faster than the white people do?"

"Deed I dunno, boss, unless it's 'cause dah's mo' of us bawn."—Chicago Tribune.

It's Pettit's Eye Salve

that gives instant relief to eyes; irritated from dust, heat, sun or wind. All druggists or Howard Bros., Buffalo, N. Y.

Well Named.

She—Do you notice that Lord De Broke calls Miss Milyuns, to whom he's engaged, "My Subby?"

He—Yes; I suppose he means "sub-treasury."

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PAZO OINTMENT is guaranteed to cure any case of Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days or money refunded. 50c.

Geet

Mr. Jawback—You think too much of your clothes.

Mrs. Jawback—I don't think much of the ones you buy me.—Cleveland Leader.

You Can Get Allen's Foot-Ease FREE.

Write Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y., for a free sample of Allen's Foot-Ease. It cures sweating, hot swollen, itching feet. It makes new or tight shoes easy. A certain cure for corns, ingrowing nails and bunions. All druggists sell it. 25c. Don't accept any substitute.

His Monumental Blunder.

"Deah boy, what is the trouble between you and the beautiful Miss Plumley?" "Jealousy. I happened one day to speak of the marvelous beauty of Psyche and it made her furious."

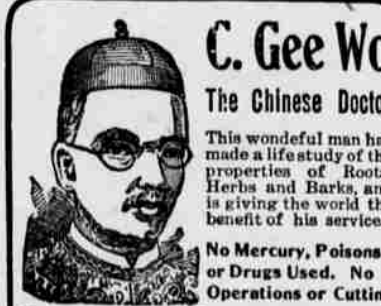
Bud Doble

The greatest of all horsemen, says: "In my 40 years' experience with horses I have found Spohn's Distemper cure the most successful of all remedies for the horses. It is the greatest blood purifier." Bottle, 50c. Is the greatest blood purifier. Bottle, 50c. or \$1.00. Druggists can supply you, or manufacturers. Agents wanted. Send for Free book. Spohn Medical Co., Spec. Contagious Diseases, Goshen, Ind.

With Their Teeth.

Frugal Landlady—How are you gentlemen getting along at the farther end of the table?

One of Them (gnawing an ancient doughnut)—Working like beavers, ma'am.



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The Chinese Doctor
This wonderful man has made a life study of the properties of Roots, Herbs and Barks, and is giving the world the benefit of his services.
No Mercury, Poisons or Drugs Used. No Operations or Cutting.
Guarantees to cure Catarrh, Asthma, Lung, Stomach and Kidney troubles, and all Private Diseases of Men and Women.
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