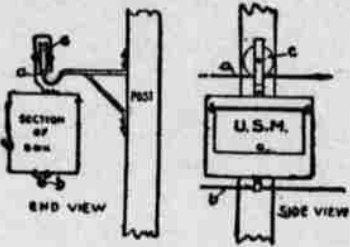


# FARM NOTES

## Trolley Mail Box.

Many patrons of rural delivery routes live a considerable distance from the highway, and a device which would carry the mail between the house and the road would be a great convenience. A Kansas subscriber whose house is 90 rods from the rural route and who has a straight line of telephone poles to the road, asks if an endless wire cable could be arranged in some way to carry a small box.

A No. 10 wire can be attached to



DETAILS OF BOX AND TROLLEY.

brackets fastened to the poles at such a height as not to interfere with teams, etc. A small box and carrier can be run over this between the house and the road. The box can be sent down and brought back from the house by the use of a cord or light twisted wire cable. Attach it to the box and pass it through a pulley on a post at the road and around a drum or through another pulley at the house. The trolley wire should be soldered to the brackets so the carrier may run



MAIL BOX TROLLEY LINE.

over it without trouble. With a little Yankee ingenuity anyone can rig up a device of this kind.—Farm and Home.

## Fowls Require Salt.

Fowls require salt in their ration in order to thrive best, the same as do all other animals. The mineral elements in the salt are desired by the fowls, and their systems crave them. But only a little salt is needed—not more than a handful a week to the average-sized farm flock. Too much may be more harmful than too little. And since fowls often do not know when they have had enough of it, we dare not place the salt before them, and let them eat all they want, as can be done with most other farm animals. So the best way is to mix a handful occasionally with the soft food or mash. This seasons the food and gives it a palatable taste, as well as proving a benefit to the fowls.—Agricultural Epitomist.

## Superior to the Mule.

The greatest hybrid that the world has ever known is the mule. This is a cross between the horse and the ass. The resultant mule was, however, barren, and the possibility of developing a more perfect type through selection did not exist. The mule had to be taken as he was and made the most of. At that he has borne the brunt of cornfield labor at home and tugged the nation's cannon into the ever-advancing frontier. He has surpassed both the horse and the ass that bred him in many ways. The zebra is evidently a creature superior in every way to the mule, and it is believed, with selection and scientific breeding, it will take a place in the world that will tend to retire the latter, and, possibly, the horse, from the field of action.

## Value of Humus in Soil.

The value of humus in the soil is not only that it supplies an element of plant food, but that it absorbs moisture and is an obstacle to evaporation, says the Rural Californian. It also prevents soil erosion and waste. The most successful farmer is the one who takes the most pains to utilize every element of his farm products that contributes humus to the soil. This is especially important in localities where the surface is uneven or broken, and the earth is not firm, or, in other words, is easily eroded by rainfall.

## The Farmer's Automobile.

While automobiles are expensive vehicles, in a sense, they are daily becoming less so. Improvements in methods, materials and knowledge have made a cheaper car possible and the

are already supplied has caused manufacturers to devote their energies to turning out a car that is medium priced and of high quality. A new field for the marketing of the product of their factories was necessary and this field was found among the farmers. High-priced, fancy cars would not go with them, but quality would, and those manufacturers who were shrewd enough to make a car of high quality at a reasonable price have found ready customers among the farmers.

It is estimated that there are now in use about 100,000 automobiles among the farmers of this country and something like 5,000 of these are in Kansas. They are great favorites among the dairy farmers as time savers in the delivery of milk, but they are no less so among other farmers, who find in them a means of rapid transit without disturbing the farm teams. The new farm automobile is here to stay.—Kansas Farmer.

## Points in Pruning.

Do not choose the dormant season to cut back trees that are growing too fast to be fruitful; it will only make them grow the faster in the spring. Wait till they are in full flush of growth in May or June if you want to drive their surplus energies into fruit buds. Be sure to carry a paint pot along with the pruners, and whenever a limb as much as an inch in diameter is cut off, cover the wound with oil and white lead to keep out dampness and the entrance of fungi spores that will produce rot. In the spring this cover is not so necessary, for as soon as growth begins the tree will begin to cover its wounds with new wood that will creep over it from all sides.—Rural World.

## Wheat for Laying Hens.

Many farmers grow and sell wheat, but they do not feed any of it to their chickens. Wheat is one of the best egg-producing feeds, and it will pay to feed it to the hens all seasons, even when it is above a dollar a bushel. Wheat is similar in composition to milk and eggs; it contains nearly all the elements in right proportion for perfect animal growth and maintenance. A little of it will go a long way in feeding.

## A Merciless Parasite.

The ficus macrophylla, commonly called the Moreton Bay fig, is a merciless Australian parasitical growth, says a writer in the Wide World magazine. It takes root in the forks of its host tree (which in this case is a Queensland bloodwood) and ultimately smothers the latter and usurps its place as an independent tree. Many valuable trees in the scrubs of Queensland are destroyed in this manner.

## Certified Milk Pays Best.

Certified milk sells in all large cities for about twice the price of other milk. It is absolutely clean, no impurities being allowed to get into the milk. A layer of fine cheesecloth is stretched over the milk pail, a layer of absorbent cotton is placed upon that, then another piece of cheesecloth. There is no sediment in the bottom of the milk vessels of milk treated in this way. It's not expensive, either.

## Meat Barrel Cover.

This sketch shows a meat barrel cover that can't be beat. Get a barrel that has top and bottom and saw it through in the middle, making two tubs. Use these tubs for covers on meat barrels by turning them over the barrels as shown in the sketch and they will assuredly keep out the dust and moisture.



## Testing Eggs in Incubator.

During incubation, eggs should be tested on the seventh and fourteenth days. At the first test the air cell should measure about a quarter of an inch; on the tenth day, one-half inch; on the fifteenth day, five-eighths of an inch; nineteenth day, three-quarters of an inch. The measurement should be taken from the middle of the large end.

## Care of Horses' Teeth.

Horses seldom suffer from decayed teeth, but because of the upper teeth closing on the lower ones a little on the outside points are sometimes found which lacerate the cheek or penetrate the gums, creating a tenderness that prevents the proper mastication of food, annoying the horse so much that he falls away very rapidly.

## Producing Profit Maker.

The breeding of a bull whose dam and grandam were great producers to a cow known to be a producer and with a like ancestry is pretty sure to produce a profit maker.

## ROOSEVELT'S POPULARITY.

It Draws Out a Good Many Funny Propositions.

A government official just returned from Nairobi, where he met Colonel Roosevelt, is A. B. Baker, assistant director of the National Zoological park, who assembled a fine collection of animals. In an interview Mr. Baker said: "The day I got to Nairobi I saw Colonel Roosevelt drive by in a carriage wearing a well-worn khaki suit and a wide-brimmed felt hat. He had come in from the wilds for a rest. Kermit Roosevelt told me his father wanted me to take tea with him. I found that the colonel carried less weight than when he left Washington and looked as hard as nails. His skin was about the color of saddle leather.

Colonel Roosevelt said he thought he had discovered, while president, every type of jolly the American people were capable of, but he had discovered a new one since he had been in Africa. The proprietor of every small zoo in America had written, asking him to send a specimen. Anything would do, from a field mouse to a tiger. The richest letter he had, the Colonel added, came from a society of hunters in New York. The members wanted to give him a dinner upon his return, the secretary had written, and would he please pick up, preserve or otherwise keep in condition a piece of meat from every sort of animal he had killed, so they could have them all for dinner? 'It looks as if they want me to give them a dinner, instead of letting them give me one,' was Colonel Roosevelt's concluding remark. "While in Nairobi I saw three wagonloads of skins and skeletons collected by the Roosevelt party going to the warehouse. I heard that in one of the crocodiles they killed an arm and a leg of a native had been found."

## SMUGGLING UNDESIRABLES.

Clever Schemers Circumventing the Immigration Laws.

The Belgian authorities have been advised of systematic frauds which are being practiced against the American immigration laws at Antwerp, Rotterdam, Marseilles and other ports. It is alleged that certain Armenians and other undesirables who have been deported from Ellis Island have reshipped as sailors and firemen, by bribery of the ships' officers, arriving at American ports as seamen. They then desert the ships, and thus evade the immigration authorities. These frauds, it is stated, are being conducted by a band whose headquarters is at Constantinople, with ramifications to all of the great European ports. They speculate in labor, paying high prices to secure the entrance into the United States of aliens, whose wages they collect, pocketing the difference between the actual wages paid and their contract with the aliens. Washington authorities state that although they have been aware of the fact that aliens in the guise of sailors are coming into the United States fraudulently, the immigration officials are unable to prevent such practice. Petty officers of transatlantic vessels permit the enlistment of foreigners, and when they reach American shores they are given shore leave. Desertion follows and the aliens remain. The subject will soon be brought to the attention of Congress with a view to remedial legislation.

## Up-to-Date Farming Pays.

A university president tells of a recent graduate of a university in New York State who engaged in fruit raising. Four years ago he devoted nine acres to Baldwin apple trees, which last year produced 900 barrels of apples. The expense of spraying, etc., was \$634, the income was \$2,400 and the net income was \$1,766, or \$196 an acre. His land was valued at \$200 an acre, and so he got 100 per cent on his investment.

Another student tried his hand at hay. He tried the growing of timothy and found it was ten times better than other kinds, and is making big returns on its cultivation.

Another by a scientific crossing of strains in cattle was enabled to make poor cattle the equal of the best.

## Penetrating Voice.

Patience—Don't you think she has an unusual voice?

Patrice—Yes. "Did you hear her at the concert?" "Yes." "What did she sing?" "Oh, she didn't sing; she was in one of the boxes."—Yonkers Statesman.

## The Fashionable Way.

"I wonder how the De Swelles manage to keep up such style. He is such a failure at business." "Yes; but she is such a success at bridge."—Baltimore American.

## Just as Good.

"Have you any postage stamps?" asked the man entering the drug store. "I have not," replied the druggist, "but I've got plasters that stick just as good."—Yonkers Statesman.

The world is becoming better. Only a few people now play the mandolin.

It doesn't hurt a joke to crack it.

## THE AMERICAN WORKMAN.

His Condition as Compared to English and German Laborers.

J. B. Street, statistician for the British department of commerce and labor, who has been investigating comparative conditions of working people throughout Germany, the United States and England, says that the American workingman lives higher, works lesser hours and has a better time all around than either his German or English brethren.

"I find that the skilled man in the United States has a better and more varied diet than in any other country I have investigated," he said. "The English workman has as much meat, but he hasn't the variety of vegetables and sweets. His meals lack imagination."

The German mechanic Mr. Street finds to be in the worst condition of all. His trades unions are the most complete and best organized of the three countries considered, and yet he works more hours, gets less pay, eats less, and is worse housed than any of them. They get 25 per cent less pay than Englishmen," said Mr. Street. "They work 10 hours a day as against nine in England and eight in the United States, and their cost of living is 18 per cent higher."

The poor districts of American cities failed to horrify Mr. Street. He said they had worse at home.

"I've been through your poorest section," said he. "It is much the same as one finds in all the large cities of the world. The difference here is that there is an appearance of energy and hopefulness in most of your poor people. The reason is, I take it, that they had enough enterprise and thrift to start with to get themselves over here with the intention of bettering their condition."

## FASHION HINTS



Foulards are coming in such lovely shades and patterns, that it's no wonder they are to be more than ever popular this season. One of wistaria, figured over with irregular dashes of white, is shown here. It is designed for general wear. A little hand embroidery on the vest adds to its attractiveness. The "kimona" or "peasant" type of shoulder-and-sleeve-in-one, is again fashionable.

## Fish Versus Beef.

When the Beef Trust puts the price of steak up to \$1 a pound we can go to eating more fish. Grazing land diminishes every year, so it is only a question of time until beef gets up somewhere near canvas back duck in price. Old ocean will always be in business at the old stand and with the same undiminished confines, unless we run afoul of a wildcat comet or planet and are wiped out; then it won't make any difference. So long as fish is a trifling incident of our diet its price will somewhat follow up the price of beef, for lack of general supply. When it becomes a chief article of food enormous fish industries will be established everywhere, and the supply will keep up with the steady demand. There can't be a monopoly of the ocean; there can't even be such a monopoly in the handling of fish as in the slaughtering, packing and cold storing of beef.

## A Slight Lawyer.

An eminent lawyer was once cross-examining a very clever woman, mother of the plaintiff in a breach of promise action and was completely worsted in the encounter of wits. At the close, however, he turned to the jury and exclaimed: "You saw, gentlemen, that even I was but a child in her hands. What must my client have been?" By this adroit stroke of advocacy he turned his failure into a success.

# Hood's Sarsaparilla

Leads all other medicines in the cure of all spring ailments, humors, loss of appetite, that tired feeling, paleness and nervousness. Take it.

Get it today in usual liquid form or tablets called Sarsatabs. 100 Doses \$1.

## Didn't Mean That.

"These," said the lecturer, indicating them with his pointer, "are the movable bath-houses. Thousands of people congregate here during the summer season. Over here on the left is the hotel at which I stopped, and an exceedingly homelike place it is. I shall give you a nearer view of it presently. Although I was there a week or two, and would gladly have remained longer if I could have spared the time, I did not take any baths, for the reason—"

(Loud and prolonged laughter.) "I meant, ladies and gentlemen," he resumed, after the merriment had subsided, "that I didn't take any baths down at the beach. This audience is altogether too smart."—Chicago Tribune.

## His Little Scheme.

"Great Caesar, old man!" exclaimed the gunner as he opened the door and found his friend's house brilliantly illuminated at noonday. "What does this mean? Why are all these blankets over the windows, and why is the gas burning in the daytime?" "Sh!" whispered Guyer, cautiously. "It's a scheme of mine."

"What kind of a scheme?" "Why, my wife is on a visit to her mother, and I tell her I remain home every night and read. I've got to get rid of some gas somehow so it will go on the bill at the end of the month."—Atlanta Constitution.

## With Some Exceptions.

"Grandma, do you think birds go to heaven?"

"I see no reason to doubt it, dear. I sometimes think, though, that parrots go to the other place."

## Seeking Knowledge.

It had been raining all day and finally little Lola asked: "Mamma, when God gets all the juice squeezed out of a cloud what does he do with it?"—Chicago News.

The longest telegraph line in the world, above ground, and without a break, has been completed in Australia. Its total length is something over 6,000 miles.

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10 lbs. for 90c. 25 lbs. for \$1.60. 50 lbs. for \$2.75  
**CHESNUT BRAND SARDINES**  
Formerly called Mackeral  
1 lb. can, 17c. 1 doz. cans, \$1.90 per doz.  
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