

FARM AND ORCHARD

Notes and Instructions from Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations of Oregon and Washington, Specially Suitable to Pacific Coast Conditions

TO ADD TO POULTRY PROFITS.

Interesting Experiment in Fattening Fowl on Stubble Field.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—Believing that Oregon farmers can add materially to their poultry profits by keeping the birds pastured while on the waste grain of the stubble fields, Prof. James Dryden, of the Oregon Agricultural College, has inaugurated an interesting experiment near Moro.

In a colony of ten white canvas tents he has housed 500 white Plymouth Rocks, and will keep them there six weeks, keeping accurate record of the weights and gains made. Movable fences are used, and the tents are on frame at the bottom, on runners, so that they can be moved readily as fast as the chickens clean up the waste grain on one part of the field and need new foraging ground.

"The point is to determine how much poultry flesh we can make from the waste grain on a given area with a given number of birds in any certain space of time, at the least expense," said Prof. Dryden, discussing the experiment. "In going through the Portland markets I was struck with the poor quality of the chickens sent in there by the farmers of the state. They were so largely bone, with very little meat on them. I believe that they could be kept a little longer, to good advantage financially, if the farmers would put them out on the stubble fields, where there are always quantities of waste grain to be picked up. I am sure there could be added a pound or two apiece to the weight of each bird, in good, solid flesh, bringing a much better price, and that with almost no financial outlay. We are feeding nothing but a little animal food—beef scrap from the slaughter houses—and this would not be necessary if there were grasshoppers and other bugs in the fields."

PINK EGGS AND CHICKENS.

Agricultural College Feeds Dye to Poultry at State Fair.

Salem, Or.—An exhibit at the Fair that is attracting great attention is that of "sky-blue-pink" chickens, and eggs with red yolks and pink whites—both perfectly sound and wholesome—shown by the poultry department of the Oregon Agricultural College. Dyes of coal-tar product, are fed the birds one day, and the next day the eggs and birds show a gay difference, illustrating vividly the immediate effect the quality of food has on the eggs, the flesh, and even the feathers and toe-nails of the fowls.

EXPERIMENT STATION NOTES.

By R. W. Thatcher, Director Washington Experiment Station, Pullman.

Pork may be pickled by using for each eighty pounds of meat, one pound of salt, four pounds of sugar, one quart of molasses, and three ounces of saltpetre. The meat is well rubbed with salt and left in a pickle barrel for fifteen days, draining off the fluid from time to time.

A second method is to use one bushel of fine salt, two pounds of brown sugar, and one pound of saltpetre, which would be enough for eight hundred pounds of meat. The sugar improves the flavor of the meat, and the saltpetre makes the pork firmer. After a few days a little more of the salt mixture may be applied, rubbing it in if absorption is going slowly. All cut ends of bone must be thoroughly salted in, as decomposition is most likely to occur in such places. This method may be used where hams, shoulders, and bacon sides are packed together in the same barrel, the hams being packed at the top of the barrel to prevent them from becoming too salty. Re-salting should take place within ten days or two weeks according to the weather. After four to six weeks the meat may be unpacked, washed, and smoked, or the salt may be left on the meat during the process of smoking. Before hanging in the smoke house the meat may be sprinkled with black pepper or a mixture of black and red pepper. A molasses barrel is better than a whiskey barrel, but if a whiskey barrel is used, the interior should be charred first. This will remove the flavor of the whiskey.

Alfalfa makes an excellent pasture for hogs, and we have never found any injurious effects in pasturing our brood sows on it. Alfalfa will stand pasturing after it has become well established, but should not be pastured until it is at least a year old. Some grain should be fed to hogs that are on alfalfa, barley or wheat usually, in this Western country.

When it comes to feeding cows, on account of the high protein content of alfalfa hay, it would not be well to use oil meal and bran, unless these

feeding stuffs can be secured cheaply. We use rolled barley alone and would feed about seven or eight pounds per day per head. It must be remembered, however, that we cannot give specific rules for the feeding of dairy cows, for a ration that is satisfactory for one might not be satisfactory for another. The best thing to do would be to make a trial of the ration suggested, and watch the effects on each cow, varying it where necessary.

Young trees should not be permitted to go into winter in a soft and succulent condition. Cracking of the bark at the ground, in the spring, frequently happens where trees are not properly hardened in the fall, or where the ground is wet on the surface during the first freeze of the real cold weather. About the only thing that can be done is to bank them up with earth, providing the bark has not loosened entirely around the stem of the tree, and permit them to heal in. It is only occasionally that a tree dies from these results, and usually it does not happen after the second or third winter of the orchard. Very frequently fruit trees are frozen so solidly during the winter that they split their bark, serious injury resulting. In such cases, trim off the ragged edges of the bark, and paint the wound over, permitting it to heal over naturally during the summer. If this splitting continues it will kill the tree.

The record cow for butter fat is the Holstein, and although the Holsteins as a rule give a large flow of milk, we find that the percentage of fat is generally low. This does not mean, however, that the Holstein cow is the most economical producer of milk and fat. While in some cases we know that they will produce more economically than will the Jersey, we also find many Jerseys that will produce higher butter fat much more economically than the Holsteins. The type of cow that one should keep on the farm will depend on various conditions, and while the Holstein cow may be the best in one case, the Jersey will prove better in another.

In mild climates, where the winters are not severe, the Jersey will do very well. The Holstein is of course a much larger cow and is able to withstand severe winters.

By orchardists it is generally considered to be a poor plan to run hogs in an orchard, as they are likely to injure the trees. However, if it is decided to handle them in this way, they should also be fed ground barley, or wheat, or middlings, depending on the market price. For producing gains, barley is almost equal to wheat, pound for pound, and produces a most excellent quality of pork. For young pigs, middlings will give somewhat better results than the others. Where grain is being used without pasture, it will require about five hundred pounds to produce one hundred pounds of gain. Knowing the values, one can estimate whether or not it will be safe to raise hogs under given market conditions. Pork can be produced much more cheaply where pasture can be used in conjunction with the grain.

The best method of preserving butter, and the method that is used almost exclusively is by chilling it to a freezing point or below and keeping it until ready to use in that condition. This is the way they store all storage butter, but on the farm very good results have been obtained by keeping it in strong salt brine solution. The butter is packed in stone jars and the brine is poured over the top and left in as cool a place as possible until you are ready to use it. You will find that great care must be taken in the selection of the cream and the care of the butter in this kind of storage, but if proper methods are used in handling, the butter can be kept from four to six months in good condition.

The amount of salt necessary in butter depends largely upon the market requirements and varies from three-fourths of an ounce to an ounce and a half per pound of butter, one ounce per pound being the average. The temperature at which cream should be churned will vary according to the conditions from as low as fifty degrees in the summer time to 65 degrees in the winter. We cannot set a temperature at which you should churn. The temperature will have to be determined by experimenting and should be such as will bring the butter in small granules after about thirty to forty minutes after starting to churn.

We generally find that cows that have had their calves running with them as long as three weeks are very hard to manage so as to get a maximum amount of milk. If it is possible it would be better to wean the calf while it is only a few days old, and then by careful manipulation of the udder, there should be no trouble in having the cow let down her milk.

Misapplied.

It is related that a clergyman living in the suburbs set a tired-looking man who had applied to him for work digging potatoes. In an hour or so he went out and found that the man had uncovered about two quarts of the tubers.

"Well," said the parson, "you don't believe in overworking yourself, do you?"

"Oh," replied the laborer, "I work according to Scripture."

"Where in the Bible can you find anything that justifies your taking two hours to dig two quarts of potatoes?"

"Why, this: 'Let your moderation be known to all men.'"

The minister thought this rather witty and he took the man to dinner. The moderate worker did not prove to be a moderate eater; in fact, he cleared the table.

"You don't seem to eat according to your text," remarked his host, watching the victuals disappear.

"No," replied the tired man, plying his knife and fork faster than ever. "I have another text for this: 'Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might!'"

"Humph!" said the clergyman. "My good man, you've got your two texts misplaced."

Guard Your Ideals.

How true it is that without a vision the people perish, says Orison Swett Marden, in Success Magazine. Where the pursuits are sordid, where the highest aim is the all-absorbing ambition to make money, everything that is finest, cleanest and most beautiful in life evaporates; the nature coarsens. This is the threatening picture of American character today.

The vast resources and great commercial prizes of this country are so tempting, so fascinating, that by the time they are ready for active life our youth are so saturated with commercialism, so ambitious to coin every bit of their ability, their education, their influence, their friendships, almost everything, into dollars, that all else is neglected. They lose their ideals, which are the true test of character.

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His Lullaby.

"Good morning, Mr. Schneiderpopkii!" exclaimed the good lady of the house as the new second-floor back took his place at the breakfast table. "Goot mor-r-ning!" replied the musician, bowing gallantly.

"I am so afraid you didn't pass a comfortable night!" pursued the hostess, sympathetically. "Can we do anything for you?"

"Not koomfortable? Me!" exclaimed the long-haired one. "Ach, ja, I sleep like ze hummingbird! I was oil rite. Joost before I go to bed I br-ractise mit mein feedle—"

"Oh was that it?" interposed the hostess, with a look of glad relief. "I'm so pleased. We thought you were shifting the bed."—Answers.

A Good Position

Can be had by ambitious young men and ladies in the field of "Wireless" or railway telegraphy. Since the 8-hour law became effective, and since the Wireless companies are establishing stations throughout the country, there is a great shortage of telegraphers. Positions pay beginners from \$70 to \$90 per month, with good chance of advancement. The National Telegraph Institute, Commonwealth Building, Portland, Oregon, operates under supervision of R. R. and Wireless officials, and places all graduates into positions. It will pay you to write to me for full details.

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Bowled Over.

There is in a Western town a judge who occasionally hits the flowing bowl until it puts him down and out. One morning, following an unusually swift encounter with the alcoholic foe, he appeared in his office looking sad and shaken up.

"How are you this morning, Sam?" inquired a friend.

"Worse than I've ever been," replied the judge, with a groan. "I'm in bad at home. When I left the house a little while ago the children were calling me Sam and my wife was addressing me as Mister."

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History Didn't Repeat.

Senator Swanson, of Virginia, tells a good story on himself about the first political speech he ever made. He says: "I jumped up and began: 'Gentlemen, Herodotus tells us—' 'Which ticket's he on?' yelled the man with a red shirt. 'Herodotus tells us,' I resumed with a gulp, 'of a whole army that was put to flight by the braying of an ass.' The crowd applauded and I felt fine. Then the man's voice rose above the din. 'Young feller,' he called, 'you needn't be afraid for this crowd. It's been tested.'"—Buffalo Commercial.

Children suffer every day in the year with Sprains, Bruises, Burns, Cuts and Bumps. Hamlin's Wizard Oil has been curing these aches and pains for nearly sixty years.

Ancient Needle Factory?

The discovery of a prehistoric needle factory at a prehistoric lake village near Glastonbury, England, roused much interest recently. The dwellings were placed on mounds of clay raised above the level of the water. The framework of a primitive loom was found under one mound, and the number of broken bone needles and bone splinters discovered in another mound led the explorers to think that it may have been the site of an ancient needle factory.

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

Guilty of Something.

Another lawyer's story arrives. We are told that a man was charged with picking a pocket the other day and that when arraigned he pleaded "guilty." The case went to the jury, however, and the verdict was "not guilty." And the court spoke as follows:

"You don't leave this court without a stain on your character. By your own confession you are a thief. By the verdict of the jury you are a liar."—Cleveland Plaindealer.

FOR EYE ACHES **PAIN-EX-SALVE**

Youth Never to Be Recalled.

A man has a shrewd suspicion that age has overtaken him when he keeps assuring you that he feels as young as ever—and he doesn't know but—y younger. Poor fellow, he whistles to keep his courage up; but, alas! he cannot recall youth as he calls his pointer—with a whistle.

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