TOPICS OF THE TIMES

A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Criticisms Based Upon the Happenings of the Day —Historical and News Notes.

It pleases the childless man to have pleasant things said about his dog.

Kermit is making a great record, but he has not yet killed either a poglawee or a glasticutas.

"Man wants but little here below." Usually a necktie or a pair of silk suspenders will satisfy him.

One of the most valuable farm products is the healthy, industrious boy who is reared in the country.

To a humane person the only place where a dog with a tin can tied to his tail looks funny is in a picture.

Mary Mannering says a germ causes love. The most fascinating germ theory that has been advanced up to date.

If women are to have equal rights we demand that they be required to undergo the ordeal of haircutting as suffered of man.

In the years that are to come Col. Roosevelt will have a large list of thrilling wild animal stories to tell the grandchildren.

"A New York physician argues that the brain is not the seat of reason." Then will he kindly tell us where the brain storms originate?

What is fame? The New York Evening Sun prints Ben King's immortal bit of verse, "The Pessimist," and credits it to the Columbus News.

An Ohio paper complains because calves' livers cost 25 cents a pound. Why not look on the bright side? No calf's liver weighs many pounds.

"There are," says the Washington Herald, "a lot of wise people in this country." Yes; and the number increases after every national campaign.

Maurice Hewlett, the English author, classes himself as a workingman. He has never succeeded in writing a best seller, hence he cannot claim to be a capitalist.

It is reported that the people of this country have $14,000,000,000 deposited in the banks. 'Tis evident that a good many of us are not living beyond our means, after all.

The kingdom of Prussia faces a deficit of $50,000,000, owing to increases in the salaries of public office holders. Prussia must be trying to establish a reputation as the politicians' paradise.

The fortune which was left by E. H. Harriman has increased considerably since his death. People who used to tremble for the future of this country whenever Mr. Harriman had a headache appear to have been unnecessarily alarmed.

In less than ten years' time every part of Central America will be in daily touch with the commercial world and the people peaceful and happy in all the provinces, with no fear of revolutions, political murders or official demands for their lives and their property.

King Gustave of Sweden is acting more like a medieval monarch than like a modern king. The other day he spent several hours working in disguise as a stevedore, carrying sacks of coal from a lighter. It is said that he proposes mingling with working men in other occupations, that he may learn something of their point of view. If he carries out his purpose, he ought to be a better king for the experience.

The Alsop claim, which has been in dispute between the United States and Chile for over a quarter of a century, is to be settled by King Edward VII. as arbitrator. The claim involves about one million dollors, and is based upon concessions made to a syndicate of Americans by Bolivia. The territory in question has since become a part of Chile, and that country has failed to keep its promise to recognize the rights of the Americans. Instead of resorting to The Hague tribunal, the two countries agreed to ask a disinterested ruler to settle the dispute, as was the old custom when countries preferred arbitration to war, and no doubt justice will be done by King Edward's decision.

A "mental attitude" is a good thing if it has the proper foundation. Your mind may be made up on many matters and you may be very proud of what you call firmness—your decisiveness. But whether or not your pride is justified depends upon how your mind was made up. If your opinions —your attitudes—on various questions, methods and institutions, are the result of logical thought upon those subjects, then you can really be proud of having "made up your mind." This requires concentration of the mind, and the ability to think properly—to reason from cause to effect—is the most creditable faculty you can possess. But if you have allowed little whims and circumstances, little prejudices and irritations to run together in your mind like various liquids poured into one vessel and thus make up your mind for you—then you have no cause to be proud. Your decisiveness is reduced to obstinacy and instead of having the power of logic you are in the power of the petty things about you. As many persons do not take the trouble to find good reasons for their own acts and state of mind, it is not surprising that many have erroneous "mental attitudes." If you have been allowing your mind to be made up for you on this subject by irresponsible influences, concentrate your thoughts and assert your power to make up your mind logically to your own advantage. Use logic.

A search of the garret for old-fashioned clothes, "to dress up in," does not yield so much as it once did. Behold, when great-grandmother's gowns come to light, they are all too small for the young generation. It is not a mere matter of stays and busks, for if it were, a tightened corset lacing might be endured for a single evening. But the girl of to-day is hopelessly taller than her forebear, and there is no remedy for the skirt, waist and sleeves too short. The increase in the height of American women has doubtless gone on steadily for fifty years, but measurements have altered markedly in the last decade. A skirt of forty-one inches was considered long in 1895. Now skirts of forty-four and forty-five inches are made by wholesale. Grandmother stood barely five feet in her shoes, but her daughter measures five feet four inches, and her athletic graddaughter measures from five feet seven to five feet eleven in her stockings. The increase in height is not an unmixed good. To begin with, long clothes cost more than short ones. Six inches added to length of skirt and bodice make an actual increase in the cost of material. Moreover, tall girls, especially if they are slender, are not so easily fitted in the cheaper ready-made garments. The large sizes seem calculated for stout women. Strangely enough, the average stature of the men of the coming generation has not increased so fast as that of the women, and there are many men not so tall as the girls of their own age. Such a man fears to dance or walk or even to talk with a woman to whom he must look up physically, whatever he may prefer in her of moral superiority. It is little short of tragic when a long line of tall girls files past a group of short men, each avoiding the other with blank gaze and the secret reflection, "How I should look with him—her!"

SQUIRRELS SPREAD PLAGUE.

Officials Plan Conference to Devise Means of Extermination.

So serious has become the question of the spread in this country of the bubonic plague from the cases that have been discovered on the Pacific Coast that plans are now being made for a conference on the subject between the biologists of the Department of Agriculture and the experts of the public health and marine hospital service, with a view of devising means for stamping it out at once, the Washington correspondent of the New York Herald says. While none of the officials of either branch of the government will consent to be quoted on the subject, they do not hesitate to admit that they are much disturbed by recent developments in California.

That the ground squirrel is an important if not the principal factor in the dissemination of the disease on the Pacific Coast is admitted by the officials of the public health and marine hospital service. They carry it, according to the generally accepted theory, in the fleas which live upon them as parasites.

These squirrels are being killed off in California, but the work will be carried on to a greater extent than at present because of the fear that has gripped the government that something really serious may result from the present conditions. It is proposed to take no chances whatsoever and leave no loophole through which the disease may work eastward.

In California nine persons have been attacked with the plague as a result, it is believed, of having been bitten by the fleas which infest the ground squirrel. Several of these persons, according to the data in possession of the Department of Agriculture, have died. The officials declare that it is the same plague that each year wipes out thousands of people in India. It is believed that the disease was carried to California by rats on board merchant vessels and that the rats have handed over the deadly germs to the squirrels. The squirrels infested with the disease have spread over 600 miles about San Francisco and Oakland and doubtless go farther.

In the last year the public health and marine hospital service has not been negligent in its effort to stamp out the plague in this country. In a report by Dr. Walter Wyman, surgeon-general of the public health and marine hospital service, just made public, it is recorded that during the week which ended December 4, 1909, 1,908 rats were trapped and killed in San Francisco and 597 were done away with in a similar manner in Oakland. In San Francisco as many as 398 rats have been found infected with the deadly germs, according to Dr. Wyman's report.

Mexican Tidbits.

Water bugs and worms are among the tidbits in which the Mexican peon delights. He catches his bugs as they skim along the top of fresh water ponds, drying them and then eating them with as much zest as an American boy eats peanuts. As near as the peon can explain it, their flavor is something on the order of the chestnut, but as no white man has ever tried eating water bugs or, if he has, doesn't dare confess it, the exact taste of these Mexican morsels can't be described very accurately. The peons dote, too, on the nice fat pulque worm. This insect is about two inch es long and half an inch thick. They fry the dainty in grease and pack it in brown paper packages of a dozen worms, which bring 2 cents a paper. An industrious pulque worm collector makes a good living.—New York World.

The Mitten.

She gave it to him Christmas in a box
all neatly tied,
A bit of azure ribbon 'round the tissue
film inside.
He gazed upon it sadly, tho' no single
word she'd written,
Then he burned it in the furnace—that
sweet, dainty litle mitten!
—Laurana W. Sheldon in New York Times.

For ten days before Christmas it is no disgrace to a True Mother if a caller can write her name on the dust in the parlor.

Nothing pleases a woman more than to say, when you admire something she has on: "I made it myself."

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

THE DEADLY PUBLIC DRINKING CUP.

FIVE diseases are responsible for 400,000 deaths in the United States every year. They are diphtheria, bronchitis, tuberculosis, pneumonia and grippe, and each and every one of them may be acquired—and often is—by the use of the common drinking cup. This striking array of figures appears in a paper by Prof. Alvin Davidson of Lafayette College, which is given additional weight by being published in the current bulletin of the Massachusetts State Board of Health. It constitutes an unanswerable argument against the use of public drinking cups anywhere, but more especially in and about the public schools.

An epidemic of diphtheria in Rochester, N. Y., during which twenty-four people were ill, was traced unmistakably to a drinking cup which all the sick had used. Tonsilitis and sore throat are invariably more common in schools where common drinking cups are used than where the individual cup is required or the sanitary drinking fountain has been installed. The lesson in this is so plain as to need no pointing out.—Boston Traveler.

FAKING FOR FORTUNE.

YOUNG man, if you would prosper financially—let us be perfectly cold-blooded about it—if you aim to amass wealth, and that quickly and by easy means, mark the signs of the times and start a cult. With the notable example before you of Mr. Dowie, who did exceedingly well for himself in this world's goods, or of Brigham Young and Joseph Smith, and a host of lesser lights of more recent date in the realm of prophecy or revelation, who have all waxed fat of purse, how can you forbear to give rein to your inventive genius? Why can't you discover that you are a reincarnation of the Grand Kahn or Christopher Columbus? Why don't you fake a revelation? Why don't you promulgate some new food theories? You might, for instance, inaugurate a Nebuchadnezzer cult of walking on all fours and eating grass with a view of acquiring wisdom and length of days. Or you might discourse eloquently of the ethereal rhythmic dissonances of ancient Babylonian harmonics—jargon sounds learned and makes a good impression—and propound an empiric system for teaching the music of the spheres as a sure cure for all the evil thoughts and bodily maladies that assail us. Remember P. T. Barnum's remarks about willing popular gullibility. Just have the courage to be a fakir, and crowds will flock to you with ecstatic devotion and heap upon you the blessings of their wealth. —Philadelphia Telegraph.

IS CHRISTIANITY DECLINING?

CLERGYMEN occasionally bewail the lack of popular influence which they realize affects the modern church. Scoffers foresee the day when churches will be swallowed up in great economic movements. Both scoffers and clergy are partly right and partly wrong. The church does lack influence, but the right kind of clergymen are beginning to see why, and the day is not far distant when the church, instead of remaining reactionary, will cast in its lot with the progress of civilization and wage its share of the battle.

Economic movements will not swallow up the church, because church leaders will make the church more practical and less theoretic, its administration more business and less blundering, and its aims as earnestly to improve conditions on earth as to insure happiness in heaven. In 1909 the American people gave just about $1,000,000 a day to Christian churches. In a nation where the church receives $100,000,000 more than all the expenditures of its States, Christianity is not waning and the church is not declining.—Chicago Journal.

FEMINIZATION OF THE UNIVERSE.

THE feminization of the world is slowly but surely being accomplished, the Eternal Feminine crowding the Transitory Male off the boards. Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor, is the latest to assent to the skirtward trend of thought. He has made a statue of Atlas, but has substituted a woman for the traditional strong man bearing the world upon his shoulders. It is woman, not man, he rightly thinks, who is carrying the whole world's burdens.

This gives added significance to the latest suffragette story. It is related that one of these women became much depressed at the non-success of her labors in reforming the world. The task seemed hopeless, and in her despair she communicated her fears to another suffragette, who thus consoled her: "Do not be cast down. There is always One to whom we can take our sorrows. Pray to God, and She will aid you."—Chicago Tribune.

QUEER STORIES

London motor bus drivers are fined for being ahead of time, but rarely for being late.

The use of dust from vacuum cleaners is in demand for use in dusting patterns in foundries.

Fish is now one of the chief means of subsistence of the German people, because of its comparative cheapness.

Long hair, it seems, is to be the fashion for men this year in London. The fiat has gone forth from the hairdressing establishments in Bond street.

Recently there has been a great sale of hansom cabs and horses in London. From one establishment alone 120 cab horses and more than seventy cabs were sold. There is no great demand for them, and the prices realized for the cabs are very small.

The inhabitants of southern Italy and Sicily are alarmed by an invasion of ravens, which are causing serious damage. At the corresponding period of last year, preceding the terrible seismic catastrophe which destroyed Messina and Reggio, a similar invasion occurred.—Paris Presse.

Mrs. Josephine L. Newcomb, of New Orleans, is said to have given a larger amount to educational charity during the last twelve months than any other woman in this country. She bequeathed $1,500,000 to the Sophie memorial school of New Orleans. She had previously given $1,000,000 to the school, which is a memorial to her daughter, who died at the age of fifteen.

Arthur Dupin, the "father of the Apaches," has just died in Paris. He was a feuilletonist, who wrote stories for the Paris press after the style of Fenimore Cooper. One of his early contributions, entitled "Les Apaches des Belleville," made such an impression on the criminal classes of that notorious Paris suburb that by common consent they adopted the name of the redskin tribe.

The German emperor has recently shown himself to be an excellent business man by the way in which he has pushed the sale of the manufactures of the pottery works at Cadinen, which belong to him. These pottery works, where majolica is the principal article produced, have been the kaiser's private property for several years, and he personally supervises their management. Apart from acting as managing director of the enterprise he also contrives to stimulate the sale of these manufactures among his friends and wealthy men.

Attention should be called to the very abnormal fact that there never before existed in all natural history, outside of a fattening pen and the Strassburger goose, the opportunity for such luxurious consumption of food with so little movement as exists for many here to-day. 'Tis high noon of a greedy, gluttonous golden age! Until thirty years ago, before up-to-date office work, few Anglo-Saxon men were ever in the house except to eat or sleep, and most were on their feet nearly all the time when awake. This great sudden change bodes not well.—New York Press.

MAN WITH A HEART.

Queer Charity Shabby Man Conducts at Auction Sales.

The auctioneer who was conducting the sale of some poor devil's household goods spoke with marked respect to the shabby little man. "Got a seat saved for yuh, sir," he said. "You, Jim, bring out that box I put away."

Jim brought out a shaky soapbox, and the shabby little man sat down without a smile. He had hardly replied to the red-faced saleman's greeting. The moment he had seated himself his eyes began to rove through the crowd. Pretty soon, with a satisfied grunt, he picked out the owner of the forlorn chattels that had been put on the block. A battered derby hat, a look of illness and half starvation and hopeless poverty marked him. The shabby little man watched his face, paying no attention to the rusty bits that had once furnished forth a little home. Suddenly he straightened up. "A dollar," he said with a crisp decision.

That bid won for him the little case of books that the auctioneer had been offering. He turned them over thoughtfully in his hands. Every book was clean, but each one had been well thumbed. The backs were limp, the binding had lost its gloss. The imitation leather case which had contained them had worn until the pasteboard of its foundation was staring through at every angle. Some way, one felt that those books had been read by a woman in other days. The titles were old-fashioned, and as they fell open under the touch the illustrations were seen to be hopelessly out of date. The shabby little man looked up, to see the man in the battered derby watching him. Tears stood in the battered mans' eyes. The corners of his weak mouth twitched tremulously. The shabby little man made his way out through the crowd, and as he did so got the other by the elbow. They went out together.

"He hasn't much money to spare," said the auctioneer later, according to the New York correspondent of the Cincinnati Times-Star, "but with what he has he conducts a queer charity that is all his own. He was sold up once, when he was younger, and something that he and his wife valued above everything else on earth went to help satisfy the creditors. Now he attends auction sales, and the one thing that the ruined man or woman cares for more than anything else he buys it, to give back. You saw that little case of books? The man's wife used to read them as she sat by the window, waiting for him to come home."

A DOE'S STRATAGEM.

Threw the Dogs Off the Scent and Saved Her Fawn.

The following anecdote is related by M. X. Raspail. It is worthy of comparison with the most remarkable of instances of the same kind.

The author one day perceived a doe in full flight before two dogs in the Aigle woods that form a part of the forest of Chantilly. The doe was accompanied by a very young fawn, which appeared quite exhausted and ready to drop. The mother, doubtless well aware of this, slackened her pace and presently stopped close to some thick bramble bushes. She remained some time there with lowered head as if awaiting the onset of her pursuers.

Suddenly an idea seemed to strike her, and with a butt of the head she tossed her fawn right into the middle of the thicket. Then, first advancing gently as if to make sure it was well hidden, she soon set off by rapid bounds in front of the dogs. The latter barking close upon her heels, she made a sudden bend and thus drew them far from the spot where this incident occurred. The howling of the dogs became fainter and fainter, the valiant animal having doubtless led them two kilometers away into the Canardiere peat bogs, where the dogs often lose the scent.

In fact, later they were seen returning to the village in an exhausted condition, while the diligent mother doubtless returned to the bushes to find the little fawn she had so cleverly hidden and placed in safety.—Vulgarisation Scientifique.

A lot of the reform articles you read are advertisements which manage to get in without I

FAMILY MEAL A NICKEL.

Excellent St. Louis Philanthropy Meets Scant Recognition.

A meal for a family for a nickel.

This is the sign on the door of the St. Louis Souphouse, one of the novel charitable institutions of the city that is doing much good among the poor and with little public recognition, the St. Louis Republic says.

The place is at 818 Walnut street. The cold weather has driven a steady stream of hungry and cold humanity to its doors.

W. Vincent, the proprietor, preaches the gospel on the streets during the summer and devotes his limited means to the relief of the poor during the winter. His wife is his assistant.

Nobody is turned away if possessed of a nickel, and even that is not necessary where Mr. Vincent is convinced the party is deserving. The charge of 5 cents is made to keep away the tramps and hobos who would be drawn to St. Louis by the prospect of free meals all winter.

For the men, a pint of soup, a pint of coffee and all the bread that can be eaten is furnished, while heads of families receive a quart of soup, a quart of coffee and a loaf of bread for the same price.

All sorts and conditions of men are cared for. In cases of drunkards without a nickel, Mr. Vincent gives them a card, with the request that they get the necessary nickel from the saloonkeeper who sold them the liquor.

"Sometimes they come back, and sometimes they don't," he says.

The Best of Intentions.

Competent learning and technical capacity characterize the true critic, but native tact and delicacy may occasionally be substituted with good effect—as in the case of a gardener known to a contributor to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The gardener was employed by a friend of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe. One day, when she was walking in his garden, Mrs. Stowe came upon him, working among his roses. She watched him a while, then entered into conversation. Curious, as all authors are, to know the impression her work had made upon him, Mrs. Stowe suddenly said:

"My man, did you ever read 'Uncle Tom's Cabin'?"

The old gardener did not want to hurt the famous novelist's feelings, neither did he want to appear ignorant under further questioning.

"Well, no, ma'am," he stammered, "not exactly. Not as you might say 'read it,' but I've tried to, ma'am."

The Parthenon.

The destruction of that famous building, the Parthenon, took place in 1637 during the siege of Athens by the Venetians. The Turks held the city, and the Parthenon was used for a powder magazine. One day during the conflict a Venetian bombshell dropped into the building, and the explosion followed which badly shattered the structure. From that date the renowned building has stood roofless and exposed to all the inclemencies of the weather. For more than 2,000 years the temple stood entire, and in its ruins is the architectural wonder of the world.—New York American.

Should Be Careful.

Plain Guest (excitedly)—Miss Lucy—your—mare's run away. I just popped my head over the gate——

Miss Lucy (annoyed)—Oh! That's enough to make her. She's so frightened of anything like that.—London Opinion.

Considering how worthless dogs are, we often wonder why the Lord invented so many different kinds.

We can't understand why any man should become excited over basketball

FARM NOTES

Profit in Crop Rotation.

Farmers in lower Delaware are greatly interested in an experiment just concluded by Capt. William E. Lank, who has thoroughly proven the advantage of the rotation of crops on a four-acre field. Last spring he manured the four acres, which had been in corn the previous year. The manure was plowed under, the ground well harrowed and peas drilled in. The crop grew well, and in June the peas were sold at a net profit of $92.

As soon as the peas were removed, plows again turned the soil over and it was planted with corn. From this a fine crop of fodder was saved, yielding a net profit of $65. The ground now has a fine set of scarlet clover on it, the seed having been sown at the last harrowing of the corn, with every indication of $40 worth of clover hay in the spring and a constant improvement to the land.

Construction of Colony House.

During the dull season our local lumber dealer and his assistant built some portable colony poultry-houses as follows, writes an Indiana correspondent of Orange Judd Farmer: The frame is securely bolted to the sills, which are made sled-runner style. The walls are made from closely-fitted tongue and groove drop-siding. The floors are tight, and the ventilators covered with screen wire to keep out rats, weasels, etc.; the cover is roofing felt. Each house is painted. The size is 6 by 8 feet; 6 feet high in front and 4 at the back. They cost me $15 each for all material and work. Very likely they could be built for less in places where lumber is cheaper.

First Imported Horses.

It is said that the first horses imported into New England were brought over in 1629, or nine years after the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers. One stallion and seven mares survived the voyage. From this it will be seen that the first nine years of our history was a horseless "age" in New England. The colonists in Virginia differed from the sober-minded Puritans of New England in being fond of sport, loving fast horses and trying their speed on the race track. The horses imported were English hunters and racers. Fearnaught, brought over in 1764, left his mark on a numerous progeny of uncommon beauty, size and speed.

Keeping Up Spraying Fight.

The fight against insect, scale and fungus diseases in our orchards must not be dropped with the harvesting of the fruit crops. It cannot be hoped that you have, by your spraying operations during the summer season, killed all the scale insects and fungi, and doubtless during the press of work on the farm during the midsummer season the matter will have been neglected, or very little done, since the fruit was formed, and it can be depended upon that there will now be on your orchard trees a fine collection of all sorts ready to hibernate and come forth in the spring stronger than ever.

How West Has Developed.

Five years ago it was freely predicted that land values in the West had reached their height, but they are 20 to 40 per cent higher now than then. The families of the first comers are grown. The second generation has come to the fore and is taking part in the business of the communities. They have grown up with the country and know what it can produce and just how valuable it is for the purpose of production and for a home.—C. M. Harger in the Atlantic Magazine.

Good Roads of Sawdust.

Making good roads with sawdust is being practiced in a number of localities in the South. Two ridges of earth are thrown up (a road machine being required to do the work) at a certain width from each other, the space between being filled with a six-inch bed of sawdust. Dirt is then mixed with the sawdust, and it is claimed that heavily loaded vehicles in passing over this kind of a road make no impression upon it. It is estimated that the cost of building is about $250 per mile.

Feeding Calves by Hand.

It is always best to feed the calves by hand, because one knows just what they are getting and how much. It is really not such a terrible task to feed a dozen calves, but is quite a nuisance to go through the motion just for one or two. Perhaps a great many dairymen who object to raising calves or their own herds would change their minds if they should practice it in a wholesale way.

Light in Cow Stables.

The light in a cow stable should come from the rear of the cows, so the milkers can see to clean the cows properly for milking. This arrangement is accomplished in modern stables by building them thirty-four to thirty-six feet wide and having two rows of cows facing toward a feeding alley in the center.

Public Troughs Dangerous.

Be careful about letting your horses drink from public watering troughs when there are any contagious diseases in the country. The trough is a fine distributing center for infection.

Care of Dairy Buildings.

Take care that the buildings in which milking is carried on are well aired and free from avoidable dust. Fresh air and sunlight should be constantly admitted, and litter or feed should not be handled during the milking hour.

Remedy for Scratches.

A mixture of gunpowder and lard is a good remedy for scratches and grease heel. But keeping the stables and the horses' legs clean is better and costs le

World's Wheat Crop, 1909.

Broomhall's final estimate of the 1909 wheat crop of the world places the total wheat production of the wheat acreage of the world at 3,347,000,000 bushels, an increase of 285,000,000 bushels over the production in 1908, a 427,000,000 bushel increase over the crop of 1907. The production in Europe aggregated 1,872,000,000 bushels, being 160,000,000 bushels over the 1908 crop. The crops of North and South America reaches 1,040,000,000 bushels, or 80,000,000 bushels over last year. It is likely that this great production will not be more than enough to supply the demands of the world's population.

Conservative Corn Policy.

It is, after all, but evidence of a desire to speculate when the corn belt farmer, particularly the one located in the northern part, plants a type of corn which is too big to mature in the season lying between the limits of killing frosts in spring and fall.

Where an exceptionally favorable season makes possible the proper maturity of such corn one year, there will be a half dozen seasons when it will get hit with the frost before it is ripe and sour and mold in the crib. It is better to play safe and grow a smaller and earlier maturing type.

Feeding Substitute for Corn.

In these days of high priced corn there is a lesson in the experience of Boyden Pearce of Hancock County, Me., who says: "I have been forced to depend upon my farm for my pork and have learned that plenty of rutabaga turnips, clover and one bag of corn will put a hog through the winter; then to pasture till fall. It makes good pork and at a low price. There is money in it and no need to depend upon the West for pork."

Salt for Milking Cows.

Your cows will get enough salt by simply putting a lump of rock salt in the manger. A cow giving a good flow of milk, well fed, ought to have two ounces of salt a day, an ounce in the morning and an ounce at night. Some advise giving this to them on their ensilage, when you feed ensilage and grain. You can take a small piece of salt in your fingers and weigh it, and will soon be able to judge the amount in an ounce.

Cleanliness in Dairy Counts.

Cleanliness in all lines of dairying counts for quality of products. After milk vessels have been washed with soap and hot water they must be finally rinsed with scalding water. When scalding water is used no drying with rags will be necessary, as the heat from the water will dry the vessels without aid. Sunning after cleaning is to be commended.

Animal and Bird Farm Aids.

According to the Department of Agriculture of France a toad is worth $9; a lizard, $9; a swallow, $20; a titmouse, $8; the robin, $4; a mat, $30; an owl, $12; a screech owl, $16; a fern owl, $30. That looks bad when some of us come to think it over and call to mind how many of our friends we have killed.

Providing Salt for Pigeons.

On one of the largest squab plants in this country salt is furnished the breeders by dipping the small sacks in water and then allowed to dry until they become hard and firm. These are then placed in the lofts and the pigeons pick out the salt through the sacks. Never give common granulated salt loose.

Whitewashing the Houses.

Nothing is better for poultry buildings from a sanitary point of view than a good coat of whitewash. Especially is this true when getting the poultry houses ready for the winter. All may not be aware there is quite a science in whitewashing. There are different kinds, and each is adapted for a different use.

Working for Top of Ladder.

Do not hesitate to work on the top rounds of a ladder in the poultry business. The higher you get the less crowded it is, and therefore the better the business pays, says a writer in an exchange. You may feel a little lonesome at times, but it is the kind of loneliness that is right easy to bear.

The Power in Gasoline.

The power of gasoline is really marvelous. The man who has used gasoline power for years does not marvel at it as does the recent purchaser. A gallon of this liquid will easily carry five passengers ten or fifteen miles, or it will grind feed cheaper than the man with horses that need the exercise can do it. Great is gasoline.

Innoculation of Afalfa.

The results from more than 100 cooperative experiments in growing alfalfa, located in over one-half of the counties of New York State, indicate that where neither the lime nor inoculation is applied the chance of a successful crop is not more than 20 per cent, or one chance in five.

A Blemish Is Costly.

Soundness is an essential feature in the makeup of a driving or riding horse when placed upon the market. A small blemish will not only lower the value of the horse, but will often prevent the sale entirely.

Accidents Due to Harness.

Never work a young or spirited team with a poor harness. Many an accident that ended in serious damage and the ruin of a good horse has been caused by harness which gave way at a critical momen'