The careless hired man, even if obtainable at boy's wages, is the most expensive proposition that a man can have on his farm.

It is well to remember that, as a rule, weeds exhaust the fertility of the soil in just as large measure as do the crops which may be grown thereon.

If the orchard is doing business—filling baskets and barrels at harvest time—it should be fertilized just as should the corn and oat field or potato patch.

While a horse trader may be honest, there is presumptive evidence that if he is consistently so he cannot stay in the business any great length of time.

In one district in the state of Washington straw has been used very effectively on the highways in overcoming the difficulty encountered with mud and dust.

Perhaps eaves properly adjusted on the yard side of the big red barn will prevent the place from becoming a nasty mire during the rainy months of the spring.

The granger who will sell filthy cream to the creamery or addled eggs to the groceryman has no kick coming if he should find water and sand in the sugar or worms in the prunes.

It is a good idea to wage an effective rat and mouse campaign up to the 1st of May and then give the birds full sway by shipping the old tabby and her multicolored litter over into the next township.

Much butter we eat and like because it is juicy contains from 12 to 16 per cent of plain water. If it contains a larger per cent than this the government calls it adulterated and proceeds against the manufacturers accordingly.

He is a very inconsistent school patron who buys ten dollar roosters for his flock of poultry, a $200 sire for his herd of cattle and yet who kicks on paying $40 a month for the services of a competent teacher for the district school.

Any farmer is justified in setting his dog on the lightning rod agent, the average fruit tree peddler, the book agent and the small boy from town with the gun. It is a debatable question perhaps whose calves out of the bunch ought to be chewed the harder.

For the novice in the horticultural business it is well to remember that it is more satisfactory all around as well as more profitable to set one or two varieties of apple trees of recognized hardiness and merit as to quality of fruit than to dabble in ten or fifteen varieties, which are quite likely to be well described by saying that they are good, bad and indifferent.

It is fair to assume that the man or woman who makes much of his or her religious profession and yet whose theories are not put into practice in the home life and relations has but a shoddy, veneer kind of religion after all. We once knew an old codger of this type who was piety personified in the prayer meeting, but who was that tight and mean that he treated his own kin in a more ungracious manner than he would the cur that licked his boots in the street. The good Lord discounts heavily all such counterfeit stuff as this.

One western municipality that the writer knows of has settled the tramp problem in a very effective yet simple manner. The aldermen of the town have passed an ordinance levying a fine on any person who feeds a tramp. Coupled with this, strict orders have been given to the residents requesting them to ring for a patrol wagon at once when a tramp stops and asks for food. If he is there on the arrival of the patrol he is taken to police headquarters, where he is given food and clothing, if necessary, but where he is made to work his board and lodging out on a city wood or stone pile. So well does this plan work that tramps shun the town as they would a pestilence.

In view of the stress which the federal government and many states are now laying on the matter of a preservation of the forests of the country, Arbor day should take on an added meaning with its interesting and patriotic observances. Not only should the thought of the day be put into actual practice by planting trees in the school yards to furnish shade and make them more attractive, but there should be instilled into the hearts of the pupils at an early date the important services which these trees render to man and the duty that rests upon all of so protecting trees and forests already growing and setting new trees that in future years the lumber and fuel supply of the country shall not utterly fail.

The Consumer's Error.

The consumer is often to be blamed for the milk souring quickly. First class milk left at his house in a clean bottle and at a low temperature may be sour or off flavor twelve hours later because it was left standing in a warm kitchen for a few minutes or was poured into a pan that had been washed in the dishpan and wiped on a towel that had done service for all kinds of dishes for several days. Also milk should not be left standing in the sun a minute after the milkman leaves it.

CHARACTER RATHER THAN CASH

A fact that is observable in everyday business life and one that the young man just starting out in his career should take serious account of is that it is the character of the man back of a promise to pay rather than the present or prospective size of his pocketbook or bank account that makes his word and his note good and enables him to borrow money in time of need. To put it another way, it is one's disposition rather than one's ability to pay that is the largely determining factor in the fixing of his financial responsibility. In the way of illustrating the above truth there come to mind two men, representative of types that are to be found in almost any community. The one who draws a salary of $75 a month is careless in his money matters and makes a business of beating every man with whom he has a financial transaction. This practice, persisted in for years, has become a matter of habit and character, and today he justly deserves the title of "dead beat" in the community. The other man, representative of the opposite type, though receiving but little more than half the salary of the first and having considerably larger legitimate family expenditures, though often pinched financially, has been scrupulously careful to meet all obligations which he has contracted. The result is that today his word is as good as his note, and any one having money to lend lets him have it without asking any questions. It is a matter of congratulation that there are so many of this honest type and so comparatively few of the dead beat stripe. The young man starting out in life has it in his power to say which of the two classes cited he will belong to. He should remember that, while the salary which he may receive is an important factor as affecting his financial status, the character he forms while earning and spending it is an even more vital consideration.

SHALL HE GO IN DEBT?

That depends somewhat on circumstances. If he is a young man of persistence and industry, has no habits which would tend to dissipate his substance or his energies and is endowed with a fair degree of physical health, we should say that he would be justified in assuming a debt of reasonable amount, governed somewhat by his earning capacity and energy. If, on the other hand, he is lazy, has little or no initiative, is a bad manager and is generally listless and indifferent in the things which he undertakes and performs, he would better continue through life in the capacity of somebody's hired man and not assume a larger financial obligation than he can discharge with a month's wages. While going in debt unquestionably imposes a financial burden with more or less anxiety, it also inculcates a habit of saving and a more strict attention to one's receipts and expenditures. With hard work during a period of years, coupled with prudent management, one will find himself in possession of property that will sell on the market for several thousand dollars. Had the opposite course been followed and no debt assumed the same fellow would probably have been working along in much the same rut as at the start, with little or nothing to show for his efforts. Shall he go into debt? Yes; if he's made out of the right stuff.

MORE IRRIGATED LANDS.

On June 1 there will be open for entry under the terms of the Carey irrigation act 75,000 acres of land in Eden valley, in Sweetwater county, Wyo. This is the remaining portion of a tract of 100,000 acres, 25,000 acres of which have already been advertised for entry by the government. The tract in question will be ready for water during the season of 1909, but will be open for entry June 1 next. The entire cost to the entryman is $30.50 an acre, which includes the perpetual water right. An initial payment of $3.25 an acre is required when the entry is made, the remainder being payable in ten annual installments, terms which enable the settler to pay for his land from the crops which he raises thereon. Any person twenty-one years old or over is entitled to the right of entry if he has never made use of the Carey act right. One can make entry for the land without leaving home and without having to go upon the land until after the water is turned on. Thirty days' residence upon the land is required in order to obtain title. Further information relative to the conditions under which the land can be secured may be obtained by addressing the register of public lands, Washington.

AN EXPENSIVE NUISANCE.

There is probably no other single factor on the average farm that is responsible for more expense, vexation and annoyance than the weed pests against which war has to be waged unremittingly year after year. While no one is looking for an agricultural millennium, when weeds will be no more, there are certain means, often overlooked or ignored, which enable the farmer to greatly reduce and hold the weed pest in check. One of these is a careful system of crop rotation, in which clover has a place. Added to this there should be a flock of sheep to browse in the small grain and corn fields as soon as the crops are harvested. These two things—crop rotation and sheep—will go a long way toward mitigating the weed nuisance and at the same time will mean a more rational and profitable handling of the farm.

F. E. Trigg

While environment often contributes to success or failure in life, the determining causes in nine cases out of ten lie in the man himself. There are men who are bound to rise regardless of obstacles that they may find in their way, while another class could not be lifted out of the rut in which they move with anything short of block and tackle. While traits of push or inertia may be in a measure inherited, it is well to remember that both may be measurably increased or diminished by persistent attention or by indifference and neglect.

FEDERAL BIRD PROTECTION.

If the reports in the public press during the past few months relative to the destruction of migratory song birds in southern states can be accepted with any degree of accuracy, it would seem high time that our chief executive and our representatives in congress were coming forward and espousing the cause of the protection of our useful birds by federal statute. It is reported that in the state of Louisiana alone there were killed by pot hunters during five or six weeks during January and February the enormous number of 1,000,000 robins. What the slaughter of this enormous number of useful birds means along the line of a destruction of power to hold insect pests in check can hardly be estimated. Yet it is quite likely that these birds were but a small portion of the total number of this and other varieties killed. Not only is the robin a friend of the southern gardener and cotton grower in destroying the common insects and the cotton boll weevil, but he is the main standby of the northern agriculturist. Every argument, both of sentiment and utility, would seem to demand that he and others be protected by federal laws which would levy a heavy fine for killing such birds, whether to provide wings and feathers for my lady's hat or to furnish the filling for potpies. Along with and in return for protection by people of the south of the robin and his like, birds which spend their winters there, the northern farmer could well afford to provide more nesting places and protect the purple martin, which, in addition to paying for his keep in the north, is considered one of the most valuable birds to the cotton growers in the destruction of the cotton boll weevil. The species of birds mentioned as well as many others are from their migratory habits factors of interstate interest and traffic, even if they do provide for their own transportation, and would therefore seem to come quite properly within the scope of federal or interstate legislation.

The farmer who is wading around in his barnyard these days in a sort of manurial mush or gravy and has a good sized stack of straw in a nearby field which will have to be scattered and burned or hauled off before that part of the field can be plowed is certainly in need of instruction on some of the fundamentals of a rational system of agriculture. How much better all around if all of the straw that he did not need for feed had been scattered liberally over the whole barnyard and feed lot! This by spring would have become packed down and saturated with the melting snow and fertilizing elements of the droppings and urine, with the result that a fine lot of additional manure would have been at hand, ready for distribution on the hungry land.

The other day, within a week after the sweet liquid notes of the first meadow larks were heard in the vicinity where the writer lives, his attention was called to the fact that on the preceding day a fool schoolboy with a gun had come out from town and killed one of the pretty fellows without provocation of any kind, but just simply as the result of the barbarian desire to kill something. The lad in question must have been poorly trained at home and had his wits woolgathering when his teacher was trying to inculcate lessons on the protection of the useful song birds or he would never have been guilty of such an offense. The laws of his state impose a fine for the destruction of such birds, a law that merely from the financial standpoint of the farmer and gardener should be enforced to the letter.

It is a very natural instinct perhaps for boys—and this is true of some grown gray headed—to find greater zest in doing a job for one's neighbor than for one's own folks. Perhaps the appreciation they get for the service performed has something to do with the situation described.

There is absolutely no method of protecting from the green goods man, the swindler and grafter the fellow who doesn't read. And, as a rule, the fellow who doesn't read and quite likely doesn't think hasn't the reasoning faculty sufficiently developed to draw helpful deductions from his own experience.

Millet, which is just the thing to sow on the low places on the farm, furnishes a grain supply which, when ground with oats or barley, makes an excellent fattening ration for beef. While millet hay makes a fair roughage ration for cattle if cured at the proper time, it is not so good as timothy, alsike or clover.

It is well for the good housewife to keep in mind that the man of the house and youngsters enjoy a variety of food, as do the animals in the barn. She should vary the soda-biscuit-fried-potato-salt-pork ration now and then and give them a surprise. It is more than likely, too, that she herself will enjoy the change of ration. While the change of diet may not make their coats more sleek, it is quite likely to brighten their eyes and whet their appetites.

Asparagus and Rhubarb.

Plantations of asparagus and rhubarb may be set during April and May.

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Train No. 73. Leave Independence, daily, 3:30 p. m.; lv. Monmouth, 3:50 p. m.; ar. Airlie, 4:25 p. m.

FOR MONMOUTH ONLY.

Leave Independence, daily, 2:30 p. m.
No. 101 arrives Monmouth 7:20 a. m.

FROM DALLAS.

FOR INDEPENDENCE.

Train No. 65. Leave Dallas, daily ex. Sunday, 8:30 a. m.; lv. Monmouth, 8:55 a. m.; ar. Independence, 9:15 a. m.

Train No. 101. Lv. Dallas, Sunday only, 6:55 a. m.; ar. Independence, 7:30 a. m.

Train No. 69. Leave Dallas, daily, 1 p. m.; lv. Monmouth, 1:25 p. m.; ar. Independence, 1:40 p. m. (This train connects at Monmouth for Airlie.)

Train No. 71. Leave Dallas, daily, 7:35 p. m.; lv. Monmouth, 8 p. m.; ar. Independence, 8:15 p. m.

FROM AIRLIE.

Train No. 66. Leave Airlie, daily, 9 a. m.; lv. Monmouth, 9:35 a. m.; ar. Independence, 9:50 a. m. (This train connects at Monmouth for Dallas.)

Train No. 72. Leave Airlie, daily, 5:05 p. m.; lv. Monmouth, 5:40 p. m.; ar. Independence, 5:55 p. m.

Train No. 100 leaves Airlie 4:45 p. m. SUNDAY ONLY arrives Monmouth 5:20 p. m. arrives Independence 5:30 p. m.

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Leaves Monmouth for Independence, daily at 2:00 p. m.

Notice For Publication.

TIMBER LAND, ACT JUNE 3, 1878.
United States Land Office,
Portland, Oregon,
June 4, 1908.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892, Clarence W. Shultz, of Dallas, county of Polk, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 7779, for the purchase of the S. E. ¼ of N. W. ¼ of Section No. 8, in Township No. 9 S., Range No. 8 West and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before County Clerk at Dallas, Oregon, on Wednesday, the 26th day of August, 1908.

He names as witnesses: Aaron Mayhew, of Dallas, Oregon; Earl Wisecarver, of Dallas, Oregon; Nemith Dale, of Dallas, Oregon; Otto Ryerley, of Dallas, Oregon.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 26th day of August, 1908.

ALGERNON S. DRESSER,
Register.

Guardian's Sale.

Notice is hereby given that by virtue and in pursuance of an order of the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Polk County, sitting in probate, made and entered of record in said Court on the 15th day of June, 1908, in the matter of the estate and guardianship of Henry D. Moore, a minor, licensing and directing the undersigned as guardian of the person and estate of said minor to sell the real property of said minor, hereinafter described, at private sale, for cash, the undersigned, as such guardian, will, from and after Monday, the 27th day of July, 1908, at the hour of ten o'clock, a. m., of said day, at the law office of Oscar Hayter, in the City of Dallas, in said County, proceed to sell the said real property, at private sale for cash in hand on day of sale, in accordance with the said order of sale and in the manner prescribed by law, subject to confirmation by said County Court; said real property being particularly described as follows, to wit:

An undivided one-half interest in and to that certain tract of land in Polk County, State of Oregon, described as beginning at the South west corner of Section 18, in Township 7 South, Range 4 West of the Willamette Meridian, and running thence East 21 rods; thence North 36 rods; thence West 14 rods and 11 feet; and thence Southerly to the place of beginning, containing two acres, more or less.

Dated this 26th day of June, 1908.

HENRI M. EDGAR,
Guardian of the person and estate of Henry D. Moore, a minor.

Oscar Hayter, Attorney.

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UNITED STATES COURT OF CLAIMS

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It is perhaps needless to add that we refer to the dictionary in our judicial work as of the highest authority in accuracy of definition; and that in the future as in the past it will be the source of constant reference.

CHARLES C. NOTT, Chief Justice.
LAWRENCE WELDON,
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