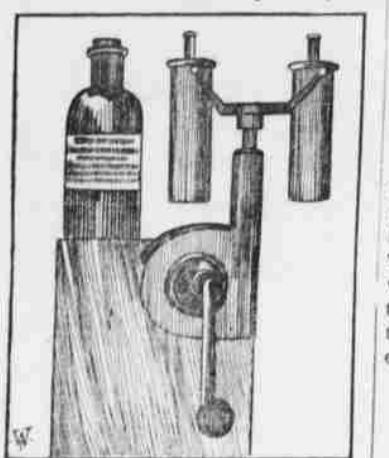


## MILK TESTING ON THE FARM.

A milk tester should be owned by every farmer who keeps a cow and sells butter or milk and cream on a butter fat basis. Yet a relatively small number of farmers have purchased them. It is partly because they do not understand the operation, thinking it too complex to be performed by those unfamiliar with chemistry and laboratory manipulation, or, as is often true, they do not realize the difference between a high testing and low testing cow.



APPARATUS FOR TESTING MILK.

millar, writes L. J. Haynes in American Agriculturist. When a farmer takes a note for a hundred dollars with interest at 6 per cent it needs no explanation to make him understand that the 6 per cent interest will bring him \$6. But this same farmer may be absolutely ignorant of the amount of fat in a hundred pounds of milk testing 9 per cent. He does not realize that the per cent test problem is exactly like the per cent simple interest problem he faced to figure out in the old arithmetics and is doing now whenever he takes or gives a note.

If he had \$5,000 to put out at interest and one party offered him 5 per cent, while another would pay only 3 per cent, he would know that the 5 per cent offer would bring him \$250, just \$100 more than the 3 per cent rate. If he was getting only 3 per cent and a friend gave him information that would enable him to place his money at 5 per cent, this knowledge would be valuable and worth something to him, and he would be willing to pay for the information. Now, then, let us connect the interest problems with the cow testing problem, using the same amount both as to the quantity of milk in pounds representing the \$5,000 and the same tests corresponding to the 3 per cent and the 5 per cent rates of interest.

Five thousand pounds of milk is not too large an amount to expect from a cow; neither is a 5 per cent test extraordinary nor a 3 per cent test uncommon. The 5,000 pounds from the one cow testing 5 per cent would contain 250 pounds of fat, while the same amount from the other cow testing 3 per cent would contain 150 pounds of butter fat. If 30 cents a pound is received for the butter fat the high testing cow will make \$75, just \$30 more than the 3 per cent cow, whose credit is only \$45. Isn't information which will enable him to sift out these low producing cows and replace them by better ones of value and worth something to him, and can he not well afford to pay for it? That is just what a tester will do, and it won't cost him very much either.

The complete outfit shown in the illustration can be purchased for from \$3 to \$5, including tester, a quantity of the acid used, milk pipette and an acid measure. While we have a larger tester for our dairy and would recommend the purchase of one, this small one is much better than none at all. This one is compact, taking up little room, and can be clamped to any table, bench or even to the box in which it is shipped. Ten minutes will complete the testing.

### Health of the Work Horse.

A half pint of flaxseed jelly once or twice a day added to the ration will work wonders in a horse's condition. The jelly is made by pouring boiling water on whole flaxseed and allowing it to jelly.

Scratches in horses will never occur when the mud has been allowed to dry and then brushed off without the application of water.

A remedy for scratches is oxide of zinc, one dram; vaseline, one ounce. Never apply water to the legs.

Hard driving to the horse is what fast living is to man; he cannot keep it up.

Horses which have to work hard do not need any surplus flesh.

A good draft stallion, crossed on mares with good dispositions, produces colts that are naturally quiet and easy to train to the slow work of the farm.

### Vacuum For Cleaning Horses

The vacuum machine as used for cleaning the furnishings of homes and office buildings has become a familiar sight in nearly all parts of the country, but such a machine used for cleaning horses is new to most people. A horse can be thoroughly cleaned by the machine in from three to five minutes, while with the ordinary currycomb and brush the task takes from twenty minutes to an hour of vigorous rubbing. According to Popular Mechanics, it removes all dirt on the animal's skin, cleaning both the surface and the pores.

### FOR BUTTERMAKERS.

#### Homemade Butter Worker—Barrel Churns Best—Points on Packing.

Many buttermakers consider the butter worker shown in the illustration superior to the high priced factory butter workers now on the market. The top, or head, should be of hard wood if possible. Make the bed about thirty inches long, twenty inches at the wide end and eight at the narrow end. These dimensions are for a small



A GOOD BUTTER WORKER.

worker, for ten to twenty-five pounds of butter. If you have a larger quantity of butter, make the worker correspondingly larger.

Make the lever, or roller, of a three inch square stick at least ten inches longer than the bed of the worker. It is made with six sides, hexagon shape, one end shaped as shown for a hand hold, and the opposite end has a half inch pin placed in it.

This pin is inserted in the hole bored in the narrow end, as shown, and the roller, or lever, moved over the butter with a rolling motion, the water and buttermilk escaping at the narrow end through the hole shown below the end of the roller. A bucket should be placed below the narrow end to catch this drip. Make the small end one or more inches lower than the opposite end to insure the water draining away.

#### The Barrel Churn.

A well known buttermaker says: Use a barrel churn. The dasher churn injures the grain of the butter. The labor of operating the former is less than either the dash or the whirling paddle form, and it makes better butter. There are no inside fixtures to be cleaned and no crevices of corners and angles are difficult to clean. The churn shown in the illustration has a hole in the side near the bottom, through which the buttermilk may be drawn off, which is a great advantage. It is a demonstrated fact that butter can be churned better in a churn having no internal fixtures than in one with an elaborate set of paddles.

#### Package Butter.

There are many different styles of packages, but I prefer pound packages and for several reasons, says a New York buttermaker. Tubs, pails and jars cost a cent for each pound capacity, are very seldom returned and very seldom sell for more than the regular market quotations for dairy butter. Three and five pound paper and wooden boxes make very neat and attractive packages, but cost still more, and customers do not always want the whole of even as small a package as that. By putting in prints each customer can have any quantity desired and in a form which looks nice on the table, and with the better class of trade this counts for nearly as much as quality, and if they can get both together they are generally willing to pay for it.

My prints are each neatly wrapped in parchment paper having my name and address on them and shipped in fifty-four and seventy-two pound carriers. They cost about \$4 each, but are

returned free of charge by the express companies and last for years, saving a great deal in cost of package.

## THE HORSEMAN.

The time for training the colt is when he is young. The lessons he learns at this early age are the ones that will stay with him. It is never best to match strength with him, for once he breaks loose he will always remember it, but if he does not get away in the first few days of his life he will grow to full size believing that he must obey.

### Spavin and Ringbone.

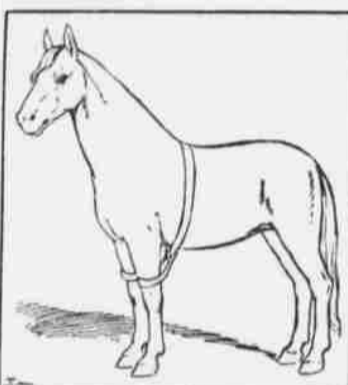
Here is an experienced breeder's remedy for spavin and ringbone: Turpentine, three-quarters of a pint; wood alcohol, three-quarters of a pint; tincture of iodine, three-quarters of a pint; camphor gum, six ounces; crude petroleum, one and one-half ounces; oil of turpentine, one-half ounce. Cut the camphor into small pieces and dissolve it in the alcohol and turpentine, mixed. Then mix in the other ingredients and shake thoroughly. Before applying wash the parts well with strong soap, taking care to wash off any discharge. For ringbone cut off the hair and rub the remedy in for fifteen minutes every other day. For spavin rub for the same time every day.

### A Famous Harness Blacking.

The famous English harness blacking is made as follows: Three ounces of turpentine and two ounces of white wax are dissolved together over a slow fire. Then add one ounce of ivory black and one dram of indigo, well pulverized, and mix together. When the wax and turpentine are dissolved add the ivory black and indigo and stir until cold. Apply thin. Wash afterward, and you will have a beautiful polish. This blacking keeps the leather soft and is excellent for harness and buggy tops.

### Hobbling a Running Horse.

To hobble a horse fasten a surcingle about the animal's body, having two short straps on the underside to buckle loosely around the fore legs, and drop about halfway to his knees. This does



FOR THE UNRULY HORSE.

not interfere with walking or feeding, but the animal cannot run and is therefore easily caught. An old and experienced jumper, says Prairie Farmer, it is also a good thing to apply to unruly cattle.

### Care of Cream.

The following advice is being sent out to patrons of a Missouri creamery company:

Do not keep cream in damp, moldy places or in hot sheds or outhouses, but in light, airy, cool places, away from bad odors, dust and dirt.

Do not milk in unclean pails or keep cream in dirty vessels, but in clean, scalded receptacles, always open for air, but screened against insects or vermin.

Do not keep the separator in the barn, but in some clean, airy room, away from dirt and dust.

Wash the separator after each skimming, for the wandering microbe loves the separator rim and multiplies a millionfold thereon.

Always clean the cow's udders and sides before milking and also the hands, and do not milk in dusty stables, amid falling hay and dust.

### FOR FARMERS' WIVES.

What They Need is an Occasional Change of Scene.

A bright woman correspondent of Country Gentleman writes as follows: Once in awhile most farmers' wives, I think, get tired of their everyday duties and occupations—out of time with their work and surroundings. The best medicine for such a complaint is change. They should go to the home of some city cousin, of which most of us have a few, and compare conditions.

The first thing we notice is lack of room, which is a painful want to those of us who have been brought up in the big country. What comprises a home in a large city can often be con-



AT A BARGAIN SALE.

ained almost on one floor of a country house and the tiny dooryard be covered with a good sized tablecloth. Everything, too, costs so much—even the air, we get so little, and we sigh in vain for the cooling breezes that are nearly always to be found somewhere on our farm home.

City women, however, have a good many advantages that their country friends miss. They have plenty of time for rest, recreation and reading. Their homes, being small, are more easily cared for. The men of the household are usually away through the day. Fruit, vegetables and groceries are brought to the door, and it is always possible to find some one to do the work. The chances to shop and attend bargain sales are right at hand. There are also theaters, lectures, concerts and in the summer numberless little excursions that are not expensive and make a delightful change. When we visit the city we enjoy these privileges very much. If we go in the summer, however, we hardly get home before our visit is returned. Our city friends think it costs country people scarcely anything to have company—they raise so much of their own food, and have plenty of room anyway. So if we go for one week they return us two or three, if not more. They always get the best of us, we can be certain of that, and how they enjoy the drives, fruit, milk and outdoor life—even better than we do the city pleasures, which tire us even while they entertain, so that we are glad to go home, glad to return to the simple life and take up our old work. We all have it believe, some city friends whom we visit seldom and whose coming we look forward to with dread. Their children are unruly, and they don't wish them to be corrected. They keep our houses and lawns untidy with their hats, wraps and papers, while in their own homes

they are extremely particular and don't want to have a thing out of place.

There are others who feel superior to us. They view the farmer and his family with pity, almost with contempt. They think farm life is so solitary, farm earnings so small! Yet they like to partake of the farmer's hospitality even while they try to excite envy and discontent, and I think they really like to have us visit them, mostly, though, for the purpose of showing us their luxuries and advantages which we do not possess. Such acquaintances should never be invited to repeat the first visit. We should speed the parting guest and discourage them from coming again.

### Feeding the Work Horse.

For a general feed corn and oats in equal parts make a very good grain ration for a heavy farm horse doing slow work, says a Michigan breeder. For the driver oats alone or with a little bran is better. With corn the bran helps to lighten the ration and aids digestion. I should recommend putting a little bran always with any grain ration for this reason. In winter farmers frequently keep their work horses on straw, with a little grain. Where this is done bran should always make part of the ration, for the straw is binding to the bowels, and this tendency the bran counteracts. Some horses are predisposed to colic, and straw and corn diet is almost sure to cause trouble at frequent intervals with any such cases.



THEIR CHILDREN ARE UNRULY.

They are extremely particular and don't want to have a thing out of place.

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### Index to Horse's Character.

According to the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, England, the horse's face is a good index to his character. If there is a general curve to the profile and at the same time the ears are pointed and sensitive, it is safe to describe the animal as gentle and at the same time high spirited. If, on the other hand, the horse has a dent in the middle of his nose he is likely to be treacherous and vicious. A horse that droops his ears is apt to be lazy as well as vicious.

### Success in Breeding Hogs.

A farmer who has been breeding hogs for twenty-five years and has been unusually successful was asked how he did it. His reply, in substance, was that he provided good quarters, plenty of shade, good pasture, a variety of good food, good water, always fed for vigor and gave the hogs regularly ashes and charcoal. This is all simple, but all good.

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