

SCHOOL GARDEN CONTESTS

Industrial Fair Association to Promote Work of Schools.

Portland, Ore., March 25.—(Special)—Industrial fair associations are being organized in various Oregon counties that will further the work of the school children along these lines. Such organizations have already been perfected in Sherman and Morrow counties and also one for Linn county at Albany. The Sherman county court has appropriated \$650 for the fair and a list of attractive premiums is offered for the best showings. Other counties are falling into line and the State Fair also promises to be better than ever next fall.

The railroads of the state have done a very helpful thing toward promoting the work of the school children's county industrial fairs, having agreed to carry the children's exhibits to and from the State Fair free of charge. Exhibits must be assembled at one or more convenient points in each county and all sent in together. This means that the children in the most remote parts of Oregon will be encouraged to enter the contest and will have every advantage that those nearer the State Fair location will enjoy. The prize list is larger and more attractive than ever before and it is hoped that early preparations will be made for collecting and shipping the exhibits.

Big Automobile Year Sure.

From sensational successes registered by Studebaker dealers at the local shows this winter, Sales Manager Benson of the Studebaker Corporation predicts a new mark for automobile distribution in 1913. Detroit, 57; Buffalo, 31, and Minneapolis, 75, are the retail records of sales inside Studebaker spaces during the respective weeks.

Legal blanks for sale at this office.

A Cold, LaGrippe, then Pneumonia.

Is too often the fatal sequence. La Grippe coughs hang on, weaken the system, and lower the vital resistance. R. G. Collins, Postmaster, Barnegat, N. J., says: "I was troubled with a severe LaGrippe cough which compelt exhausted me. Foley's Honey and Tar Compound soon stopped the coughing spells entirely. It can't be beat." Sold by Starlin.

—Tresspass notices, weather proof, for sale at Observer Job office.



The most direct way of winning the respect of other folks is to develop and have a well defined respect for oneself. There is no other way to start the ball rolling.

The day has forever passed when the progressive dairyman allows his cows to be brought running or excited into the barn by a dog or a boy with a whip.

There is just as much difference between a Baltimore oyster and a Portland (Ore.) oyster as there is between a New York Spitzenburg and a Missouri Ben Davis.

Eggs at 15 cents a dozen the last of February brought satisfaction to the folks who have been getting along without them, even if they did make the egg speculators sort of sick at the stomach.

New York, Ohio and Vermont lead in the production of maple sugar and sirup, each state's output being worth a trifle more than a million dollars. Pennsylvania, Michigan, Indiana and New Hampshire follow in the order named.

A safe rule to follow in handling horses is never to trust them too far. It is never safe to leave a horse without tying, and it is good practice to carry a strong rope halter for tying and using it every time the horse is left standing.

In practically every town there is a good market for dairy products and

fresh eggs as well as some of the other farm products at the leading hotel, restaurant or bakery. Cultivate their trade and you will be surprised to see how profitable it can be made.

In a good many homes there is mourning just now because of the fact that the fires got low on the night of the 23d of February, when the thermometer went to 20 below zero. The winter had been so open and mild that folks were taken off guard. The result is that many of their plants are done for.

About the worst frosted thing that the writer knows of as a result of the past three months of winter weather is the reputation of a number of long distance weather prophets who doped out severe January and February weather in their gaudily printed almanacs that were distributed among a gullible constituency just about a year ago.

If the women folk are left to fetch water and bring in wood and coal in good conscience the well and the woodshed ought to be just as near the back door as it is possible to have them. If the man of the house takes it upon himself to attend to these chores it is pretty safe to assume that he won't wear out any more shoe leather than is necessary doing them.

At Charles City, Minn., business men, farmers and stockholders of the local creamery have decided to establish a community laundry in connection with the plant. The idea is to put to a more economical use the waste steam from the creamery boiler. Such a co-operative creamery laundry is already in operation at Chatfield, Minn., and its progress is being watched with interest.

Dwellers on the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard are to be envied by those living inland because they are able to get a fine variety of fresh salt water fish, lobsters and oysters and at reasonable prices. Those living inland get dreadfully tired of pork and beef and beef and pork and to vary the monotony of their bill of fare have to fall back on salt codfish, salmon and sardines.

The great popularity of the new parcel post system is shown in the figures submitted by the postmaster general to the effect that 40,000,000 packages were shipped by the new method in the month of January. There seems good reason for believing that the volume of parcel post business will continue to increase, but that before long there will be an increase in the weight limit and a cheapening of the rates.

The federal department of agriculture has lately made announcement that it is ready to send out cuttings of the basket willow, which it has been cultivating for several years past on its experimental farm at Arlington, Va. Application for the cuttings must be made to the department in writing. The willow does especially well on low wet land that cannot be cultivated, and it was with the idea of putting such lands to work that the government took up the experiments with this variety of willow.

Any of our readers who are interested in the making of maple sirup or sugar should send to the agricultural department at Washington for farmers' bulletin No. 516. This gives directions and illustrations as to how the work should be done and will be found practical and helpful.

Are you going to set out that wind-break of Austrian pine and Norway spruce this spring? Plow the tract deep and make it mellow and remember to set the shelter belt far enough from the outbuildings so that traffic within the protected area will not be blocked with snowdrifts.

In the natural order of things it is the first fellow who takes his disks and plow lays to the blacksmith shop who can first begin his spring's work. And right now is a pretty good time to begin to be forehanded, for at best there is a great deal in which to do, and the time is all too short in which to do it.

For the first seven months of the current fiscal year, June 30, 1912, to June 30, 1913, the people of the United States have drunk 38,894,000 barrels of beer, an increase of 1,850,000 barrels over the consumption of the preceding year. It's no wonder that a good many people become poor, go crazy or go to the devil.

That was a rather hard slam on the domestic science department of the University of Chicago when 200 college girls attended a special "pure food" dinner given under the auspices of the department the other day and all but four were taken sick a few hours later with ptomaine poisoning. The trouble was traced to some canned beans.

A very careful farmer of the writer's acquaintance told us the other day that he had quit the sheep business because he became tired of the almost incessant noise, this being true especially after lambing time in the spring. He said the sheep started bleating before daylight and kept at it until past bedtime and that it kind o' got on his and his family's nerves.

Thirty years ago a fellow would have been considered sort of cracked in the upper story who would have predicted that a man would some day travel 100 miles in a flying machine. Yet one day recently a Frenchman, Mouton, made an uninterrupted flight from Paris to London of 281 miles in 185 minutes, an average of ninety-four miles an hour.

A pedigree is a desirable thing in connection with a dairy cow and particularly if it is desired to sell her off at fancy prices, but of even more value from the practical standpoint is her performance. There are a good many cows that have pedigrees that, so far as being able to deliver the goods is concerned, are essentially scrubs, and whose pedigrees are not worth the paper they are written on.

Roquefort cheese, one of the most

popular products of its kind to be found on the world's markets, is made from the milk of hundreds of thousands of sheep in the province of Roquefort, France. The lambs are allowed to suck their mothers for some two months, at the end of which time they are weaned, and thereafter the sheep are milked and the milk made into this appetizing cheese, for which there is a great demand and which sells at a fancy price.

The tendency which the sow sometimes shows at farrowing time to devour her newborn offspring may be due to porcine cussedness. However, it is more likely to be due to the feeding prior to farrowing time of a ration deficient in protein—the bone and muscle forming element. This is furnished abundantly in high grade tankage and should be balanced with about twelve parts of corn. This depraved appetite may also be due to the bowels being in bad condition, which may be corrected by feeding a little oilmeal in the ration a few days prior to farrowing. Many hog raisers follow the practice of feeding their sows a pound of salt pork each day for a short time prior to farrowing.

A reader of these notes who brought the writer a twig from his family orchard badly infested with the oyster shell bark louse stated the other day that the pest was spreading and that three of his trees were dead and others sick. He has decided to give his whole orchard a thorough spraying before the buds start with the lime-sulphur solution. This will do the business and will also fit any other scale insects and will put out of business a whole lot of eggs and young of the green lice. It serves as a tonic and cleanser for the bark and is to be recommended from every point of view. In applying the spray every portion of the branches and trunk of every tree should be moistened.

Tests and practical experience without end have demonstrated beyond question that the best results are obtained by planting seed corn that has been grown not far from the place where it is to be planted. Last year, when a good many farmers were put to it to get the seed they needed, they found this truth out to their sorrow. They bought seed from a distance which they supposed was all right, and in some cases the stalks grew and grew, but never eared. The only safe way in buying seed corn is to have it shipped in the ear. If this is done one can determine the type of the corn exactly and decide whether it will mature in one's own locality. If it does not give promise of doing so it would better be fed to the pigs.

That was a "turkey trot" in every sense of the word, and not disreputable either, that was pulled off a day or two before Thanksgiving near a large Texas-turkey market. Thousands upon thousands of fine young gobblers from neighboring ranches were driven to town, and the grand trot was led by Governor Colquitt with a military escort and band. Shortly after being thus honored these lordly fowls were killed and plucked for the market.

It is estimated by Professor Kennedy, director of the Iowa Agricultural college, that if losses from hog cholera continue until Jan. 1 at the rate they have occurred during the past three months the farmers of the state will have suffered a loss totaling \$12,000,000. To offset this tremendous loss the state legislature appropriated the meager sum of \$5,000 with which to provide serum for the treatment of the disease within the state.

It is not being exposed to fresh air that induces pneumonia and colds, but rather being shut up in overheated, stuffy houses and schoolrooms where the air is foul. From 68 to 70 degrees F. is the proper temperature for the home and schoolroom, and if there is any variation from these points it should be less rather than more. The keeping of a temperature of 80 degrees is not only wanton extravagance from the standpoint of fuel expense, but a positive menace to the health.

Lady Cornell, a single combed White Leghorn hen owned by the Cornell (N. Y.) Agricultural college, has an egg record that probably has not been excelled by any other hen. Lady Cornell weighs but 3.2 pounds; but, notwithstanding this, she laid 257 eggs during one year and the following year laid 200 eggs, making a total of 457 eggs for the two years, which weighed 57.19 pounds. Lady Cornell consumed about eighty-eight pounds of grain and mash to produce the above large egg output.

Alfalfa hay and corn silage make an ideal ration for dairy cows, and, what is more, it is an economical ration from the standpoint of cost. Moreover, the raising of these two feeds helps to solve the biggest problem with which the American stock and dairy farmer is confronted—that of raising his own protein concentrates at home instead of having to pay high prices for imported feed stuffs. The facts stated simply mean that more farmers should erect silos and that more should grow alfalfa.

Where elderly people who live in north, central and eastern states have the time and means they are hardly to be blamed if they board a limited train when a northerly blizzard is howling and his away to southern California, to Florida or winter resorts on the gulf.

Carrots make an excellent ration for dairy cows, being succulent and having the same advantage in this particular that alfalfa and sugar beets do. However, pound for pound, they are worth only about one-half as much as alfalfa from the standpoint of nutritive content.

Seven Day Dimples Supplied. Dimples are now all the rage in Paris society, and a number of specialists are at work making them in checks that are naturally too rounded. Two kinds are supplied in order—weekly dimples that will last only some seven days and permanent dimples. The former are preferred, as there is no knowing how long the fashion will last.

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