

TOPICS FOR FARMERS

A DEPARTMENT PREPARED FOR OUR RURAL FRIENDS.

Grass Needs Mineral Plant Food—How to Keep Fruit in Winter—Hams Should Be Packed in Salt—Have Pure Poultry Stock.

Phosphate for Grass Lands.
Whenever the grass seedling falls the blame is usually laid upon the weather. But that is not always correct, even in part. Grass belongs to the same botanical family as wheat, only the grain has a greater development of its seed. All farmers understand that the wheat crop needs phosphate to be grown successfully, year after year, on the same land. To be sure, the soil is cultivated, and there is a new seedling with some manure each year, for the grain crop. Yet farmers think that grass, without reseeded, and without new supplies of mineral matter, will continue to grow. The result is that the grass gradually dies out and is replaced by mosses or other weeds of low organization that can live without mineral plant food. Not only is the amount of grass lessened, but its quality is also impaired by lack of the mineral. On land that has long been without phosphate cattle will not thrive, and cows which give milk will take to the eating of old bones to secure the mineral nutrition they require. People who have learned that ground bone is good to make hens lay are apt to forget that the more bulky now has an especially wonderful operation to perform. That is to take from her grass feed the nutrition required to make milk, which is less concentrated than the egg, but contains very nearly the same kind of nutrition. When we began using mineral manures on grain, we found that the second and third crops of grass seeded with the grain did not run out as they used to do. It is far better to apply the phosphate with the grain. The grass seeded with it will get the effects of the mineral fertilizing for at least two years thereafter.

To Keep Fruit in Winter.
If fruit and vegetables must be kept in the house cellar, a room should be partitioned off in the coldest part, if the other is too warm, and made secure against rats and mice. This is best done by having the partition of brick and the floor of good cement, laid so the rats cannot undermine it. No language can describe one's feelings on discovering the work of a family of rats in bins of apples, potatoes or other vegetables. Such a room should have a window open to the north, if possible, securely protected by wire screen, so that cold air can be let in when needed.

Good Blue Grass Pasture.
Where you have what we call a good, solid, well-matted blue grass pasture, that same land will produce at least twice the amount of feed, for the reason that it catches the snow, holds the rain much better, and not half the rain runs off that does from our short pastures. It holds a greater amount of moisture, because the grass is a much for the soil, and it will keep growing for weeks in a dry season, after it has ceased to do on other land that is grazed to death.—Western Plowman.

Pack Hams in Salt.
Those who intend to keep any smoked hams and shoulders for next summer's use should use salt for packing. It is more cleanly, and better in every particular, than ashes or other articles commonly used. All that is necessary is to so place the meat that the pieces will not touch each other, covering well the top pieces. The salt will not be wasted, as it may be used over again or taken to make brine. Hams packed in this way will not be musty or dirty on the outside, nor will they take any more salt than had been absorbed before packing.

Pure Poultry Stock.
A good many farmers who keep a flock of Plymouth Rocks are careless in regard to keeping stock pure. Because a hen is speckled, it doesn't necessarily follow that it is a Plymouth Rock. One of the surest indications of impure stock is a feathered leg. Formerly it was not uncommon to see the Rock with more or less down and even feathers on the shanks, but it has become so rare that it is now taken as a pretty sure indication of impure blood. Always avoid a fowl so blemished, or serious trouble in this direction will follow before the defect is entirely eradicated. If all poultrymen would be careful and throw out specimens so blemished, it would be but a comparatively short time before the difficulty was entirely removed. Nothing can add more to the beauty of the Plymouth Rock than a clean, bright yellow shank.—Michigan Farmer.

Cultivation of Legumes.
The progressive farmer, who thinks closely about his business, will not expect any plan to perform miracles for him. He will fully understand that no clover nor peas can ever get from the air the potash and phosphoric acid that long cultivation has robbed his soil of, and he will, while supplying these, realize that he is enabling the plant to get them, without cost, the nitrogen that he would otherwise have to buy, either by feeding purchased grain to animals, or by purchasing it in the form of a commercial fertilizer. Legumes will give us the nitrogen, and in a soil deficient in vegetable matter, will give us this, and it is found that applications of commercial fertilizers are more effective in a soil well stored with humus, than in a barren soil. But no plants, grown continuously on soil deficient in mineral matters, will ever make that soil fertile in the full meaning of the word. That is, no impoverished soil can ever become permanently a fertile one from its own products. If a man is so situated that he can purchase food grown on other land, and feed it on his land, and return to his soil the manure thus made, he can increase the fertility of his acres. But there are few farmers thus favorably situated, and these are mainly dairymen. The man who cannot make a profit in feeding purchased food must get the plant food his soil needs, of a mineral nature, by the direct purchase

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

(Times of Downing, Hopkins & Co., Chicago Board of Trade Brokers, 1174 Chamber of Commerce Building, Portland, Oregon.)
The past week has been a very quiet one in the grain trade, with narrow fluctuations. Europe took 6,300,000 bushels of our wheat, and from other countries about 3,000,000 bushels.
A dispatch to the London Times from Buenos Ayres says that there have been good rains in the south and a slight rainfall in the north, so that the harvest is now secure. It is estimated that 1,000,000 tons of wheat will be exported.
Broomhall, a commercial authority of Liverpool, cabled that a special agent investigated crop conditions in Russia and pronounced the spring wheat crop in the important southeast district to yield not over 50 per cent of last year.
The receipts of spring at Minneapolis by the flouring mills have been very large, running as high as 1,100 cars in one day. The American visible supply increased 1,136,000 bushels, and now totals 23,930,000 bushels. A year ago today the visible increased 2,411,000 bushels and totalled 54,588,000 bushels.
Regarding the fall wheat. Much relief in the drought regions has been experienced by quite extended rains, which in many places were fairly liberal, and in others less important. The effect has been to revive cheerfulness and confidence where the seriousness of drought conditions was having a discouraging influence. These rains have not accomplished all that is needful, but if they be soon followed by more moisture there will be much done to overcome the drawbacks which have been attending autumn seeding operations.
It is yet too early to offer an explicit opinion as to the probable relative area of autumn sown wheat, but it now seems practically conclusive that there will be shown considerable gain over last year. It is in evidence that October sowings of wheat if followed with ordinary favorable conditions may be expected to result well, and in fact the wheat sown as late as the middle of November has possibilities favoring a good yield.
The rains have had the effect to weaken the market sentiment to some extent, and wheat values have receded. Other influences have also had more or less bearing in the same direction. The large foreign demand which served in an important degree to stimulate the advancing tendency of values some weeks ago has been modified, as might have been expected as a natural result to follow that abnormal activity.

Portland Market.
Wheat—Walla Walla, 79@80c; Valley and Blomest, 82@83c per bushel.
Four—Best grades, \$4.50; Graham, \$3.70; superfine, \$2.50 per barrel.
Oats—Choice white, 33@34c; choice gray, 31@32c per bushel.
Barley—Feed barley, \$19@20; brewing, \$20 per ton.
Millstuffs—Bran, \$14 per ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$15.50.
Hay—Timothy, \$12@12.50; clover, \$10@11; California wheat, \$10; do oat, \$11; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton.
Eggs—20c per dozen.
Creamery—Creamery, 45@50c; fair to good, 35@40c; dairy, 25@35c per roll.
Cheese—Oregon, 11½c; Young America, 12½c; California, 9@10c per pound.
Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.00@2.50 per dozen; broilers, \$1.50@2.00; geese, \$4.00@5.00; ducks, \$3.00@4.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 8@9c per pound.
Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 35@40c per sack; sweet, \$1.40 per cental.
Onions—Oregon, new, red, 90c; yellow, 80c per cental.
Hops—8@15c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 6@7c.
Wool—Valley, 14@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 7@12c; mohair, 20c per pound.
Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, \$2.50@2.60; dressed mutton, 6c; spring lambs, 5½c per pound.
Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.50; light and feebler, \$3.00@4.00; dressed, \$3.50@6.00 per 100 pounds.
Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.75@3.00; cows, \$2.50; dressed beef, 4@5½c per pound.
Veal—Large, 4½@5c; small, 5½@6c per pound.

San Francisco Market.
Wool—Nevada 11@14c; Oregon, 12@14c; Northern 14@16c per pound.
Hops—11@14c per pound.
Millstuffs—Middlings, \$20@22c; California bran, \$15.00@15.50 per ton.
Onions—New, red, 70@80c; do new silverskin, 90c@1.10 per cental.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 27@28c; do seconds, 25@26c; fancy dairy, 23@24c; good to choice, 20@22c per pound.
Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 9½c; fair to good, 7@8c per pound.
Eggs—Store, 16@25c; ranch, 34@37c; Eastern, 16@21c; duck, 20c per dozen.
Potatoes—New, in boxes, 30@90c.
Citrus Fruit—Oranges, Valencia, \$1.50@3.00; Mexican limes, \$2.00@3.50; California lemons, choice, \$2.50; do common, \$1.00 per box.
Hay—Wheat, 12@13c; wheat and oat, \$11@14c; oat, \$10@12c; rye hay, 7@8c; best barley, \$10@12c; alfalfa, \$8@9.50; clover, \$8@10.
Fresh Fruit—Apples, 30@75c per large box; grapes, 15@30c; Isabella, 40@50c; peaches, 25@30c; pears, \$1.00@1.40 per box; plums, 35@40c.

QUIEN SABE?

Quien Sabe—who knows—is a phrase in very common use among the Spaniards, and helps over many, many difficulties. It is expressive. What the weather may be the coming winter, who knows? It may be snowy, wet, stormy, cold, freezing, and full of sickness and pain, who knows? Some of us today, hale and hearty, may lie on beds of torture, or hobble about on crutches, who knows? Before the autumn merges into winter many may have symptoms of approaching trouble, of the old rheumatism coming on, or of first attacks begun; who knows? That's a conundrum. But there is one thing everybody knows, the best thing to do is to be ready for the weather coming and to take hold of what is. Everybody knows what is best. With St. Jacobs Oil in the house, everybody knows they have a sure cure for rheumatism, acute or chronic, and it is known that in any stage of it, the great remedy does its work of cure perfectly. If we suffer, we need not ask who knows, when it is so well known what is best.

Great Gifts to Education.
M. Enlogious Georgieff, the founder of the Sofia University, who died recently, bequeathed 2,000,000 francs to the Bulgarian government to be applied to the country's needs; 6,000,000 francs for a technical school to be established at Sofia and large sums for other public institutions.

HOME PRODUCTS AND PURE FOOD.
All Eastern Syrup, so-called, usually very ill-colored and of a heavy body, is made from glucose. "The Golden Syrup" is made from Sugar Candy and is strictly pure. It is far superior to first-class groceries, in cans only. Manufactured by the PACIFIC COAST SYRUP CO. All genuine "The Golden Syrup" have the manufacturer's name lithographed on every can.

A Fair Inference.
When the continual and unreasonable attacks upon the courts are considered, orderly people are apt to take a liberty with the poet and make his complaint read: "No rouge'er saw the halter draw with good opinion of the law."—Stockton Independent.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.
Of 73 historic kings of Scotland 61 are said to have died in battle or to have been murdered.
An outlaw, three moonshiners and two other men were arrested at the Sunnerton camp meeting at Kingwood, W. Va.
It is estimated that the lumber cut of the Miramichi and tributaries, Canada, will this season amount to 112,000,000 feet.
An ostrich lives about 30 years, and the average annual yield of a bird in captivity is from one to four pounds of plumes.
Caesar did not say "Et tu, Brute." Eye witnesses of the assassination deposed that he died fighting, but silent like a wolf.
Nearly every man, woman and child in Egypt is a smoker of cigarette, and a pipe is hardly ever seen in the mouth of a native.
The largest winged insect in the world is the Atlas moth of Central Brazil. Its wings extend 14 inches from tip to tip.
One of the severest penalties to which criminals in Holland were in ancient times condemned was to be deprived of the use of salt.
A strong microscope shows the single hairs of the head to be like coarse, round ropes, but with teeth extremely irregular and jagged.
Great Britain and Ireland contain 380 banks, the most important being the Bank of England, which has a capital of \$73,000,000.
The Coliseum at Rome was built by Vespasian to accommodate 100,000 spectators. It covers five and a half acres and was 120 feet high.
The oyster is one of the strongest creatures on earth. The force required to open an oyster is more than nine hundred times its weight.
After forty years of hard, dangerous, and expensive missionary work there are in Japan today about 110,000 native Christians, in a population of 42,000,000.
Attempts have been made to produce spider silk, but have failed, the ferocious nature of these insects not permitting them to live together in communities.
It is computed that all of the houses in London and New York could be built of the lava thrown out by Vesuvius since the first recorded eruption in A. D. 79.
Try Schilling's Best tea and baking powder.

Paper Underwear Tested.
During the war between Japan and China the Chinese soldiers were underclothing made of paper. Experiments made with these goods, as they were found to last only two or three days.

ADVICE TO WOMEN.
You cannot have nerve trouble and keep your health. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the womb, the ovaries and the bladder are affected. These organs are not vital organs, hence they give out soonest.
Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, by building up the nerves and restoring woman's organism to its natural state, relieves all these troublesome uterine symptoms. In confirmation of this, by permission, refer to the following women, all of whom speak from experience: Miss CELIA VAN HORN, 1915 Sharswood St., Philadelphia, Pa.; Miss GRACE COLBOLD, 1434 Eastern Ave., Cincinnati, O.; Miss MARY, 50 Riverside St., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mrs. ISABEL O'NEILL, 230 Chestnut St., Woburn, Mass.; Mrs. A. H. COLE, New Rochelle, N. Y., and many others.
Women suffering from any form of female weakness are invited to promptly communicate with Mrs. Pinkham at Lynn, Mass.
You can talk freely to a woman when it is revolving to relate your private ills to a man.

ARMY AND ALASKA.

General Nelson A. Miles Makes His Annual Report.
Washington, Oct. 25.—General Miles, major-general commanding the Army, has made his report to the secretary of war. General Miles says in part: "The Army, although inadequate in point of numbers, was never in a higher state of efficiency."
"The progress that has been made on the Pacific coast in the establishment of modern batteries of artillery have made it necessary to occupy new ground and to adopt a new system of defense."
Attention is invited to the report of General Merriam, commanding the department of the Columbia, especially to the need of a larger garrison at the entrance to the Columbia river, and to his report on the condition and necessities of the great territory of Alaska.
As all the other territories have been occupied by military posts and measures have been adopted for building military roads, bridging rivers, and, in fact, aiding and blocking out the way for occupation of the vast territories by citizens, it is deemed but just and advisable that the same liberal spirit should be manifested toward that great and important territory. He says: "As far as practicable it would, in my opinion, be advisable to have its waters thoroughly examined by such of the naval force as could be used for that purpose, and as military reconnoitering and exploring parties in past years have been sent to the country to furnish knowledge of its character, resources and necessities, this, in my judgment, should be continued on a larger and more liberal scale. While there is no conflict between the population, composed of some 20,000 Indians and the white explorers and settlers, yet, as the former are supplied with modern arms, they may become turbulent and troublesome. Such has been the history of nearly all the tribes in the other territories. Hence, it would be but reasonable to anticipate the necessity for a military force in that territory by the establishment of at least three military posts to support the civil authorities, to give protection to the white settlers, and to aid in maintaining law in that remote section."
In the last 10 years much attention has been given to coast defenses, and most beneficial results are apparent. Approximately \$26,000,000 has been appropriated by the government, which is nearly one-third of what is required to put the country in a safe condition of defense. Although the general desire of our people, he says, is to maintain peace with all nations, and the policy of the government is one of good-will and peaceful relations with all others, it would be more judicious to provide defenses than to remain in a condition of inactivity and permit the accumulated wealth of many generations to be destroyed or endangered by any foreign power with which we are liable to come in contact."
He recommends fortification appropriations in the West as follows:
San Diego.....\$ 750,000
San Francisco.....1,250,000
Columbia River.....1,000,000
Puget sound.....1,100,000
Address: F. J. CHENEY, Co., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Robbed Their Benefactor.
Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 25.—Andrew Norlin was held up last night near Puyallup and robbed of \$40. Norlin had been working in Montana, and while in Spokane, met two men who were "dead broke" and beating their way to the coast. He had \$75, and took pity on them, paying their way on freight trains. In repayment for all his kindness, as soon as they got off the train at Puyallup, they almost choked their benefactor to death, and took what money he had left. Norlin gave a fairly good description of the robbers, and the police have hopes of capturing them.

Life on the Trail.
Chicago, Oct. 25.—A letter by C. J. Gregory, formerly of Chicago, who left here for Alaska in August, is a clear portrayal of the hardships of the White pass:
"There have been six suicides," he writes, "three hangings and eleven killings, besides a number of deaths from exposure. It costs \$1 to get a letter through to Skagway, and 10 cents to get it mailed. Prices here are very high. Flour at Lake Bennett brings \$1 per bushel; at the mouth of the river, \$1 per pound; horse shoe nails bring 50 cents apiece; a pair of shoes will bring any price you like or want to ask; overalls, \$5."
Troops for India.
London, Oct. 25.—A large draft of soldiers has been ordered to get ready to reinforce eight British cavalry regiments now in India.

Survey of Seal Islands.
Washington, Oct. 25.—General Duffield, of the geologic survey, has word from the Brittoyoff islands, under date of September 6, which indicates that the party engaged in the survey of the seal islands, under the direction of his son, will complete their labors this season.

Yellow Fever at New Orleans.
New Orleans, Oct. 25.—A 7 o'clock 50 new cases and five deaths were reported.

A Powerful Revolver.
San Francisco, Oct. 25.—What is perhaps the most powerful revolver in this country has just been received from Bavaria by Theodore Kyta, the hand-writing expert. The weapon is the invention of Bergmann, the well-known Bavarian mechanic, and is called an automatic pocket pistol, because all it requires is for the marksman to set the pace by pulling the trigger once, where upon it empties itself of six loads in two seconds, sending a .32-caliber steel bullet with such velocity that a six-inch hardwood plank is pierced at the distance of 300 yards.

Important Recent Discovery.

The Smithsonian Institution has received a collection which is of importance to the archaeologist. It is known as the Seton-Karr contribution, having been discovered by this Englishman in Somaliland, on the eastern coast of Africa. The implements were purchased from the discoverer by the Smithsonian Institution. There are about 50 pieces in the collection, made of flint, of quartz in length to half an inch or so, and ranging in size from an inch or so in length to half a foot, some weighing several pounds. The objects are supposed to be spear heads, battle-axes and wedges, truncheons, bludgeons or whatever they may be termed. The discoverer had this to say on the subject of his find and the locality where the objects were unearthed: "Certain landmarks as to the four rivers mentioned in Genesis led me to think that the Garden of Eden, if it ever existed, may have been here, and that these very tools had been made and used by Adam and his numerous descendants. At any rate, my discoveries in Egypt and Somaliland lead me to the idea that man's original home, or the place where he was gradually evolved, must have been in Africa, or at least, in a tropical land, where clothes were unnecessary and food plentiful to hand."

WAKE UP.
Yes, wake up to the danger which threatens you if your kidneys and bladder are inactive or weak. Don't you know that if you fail to impel them to action, Bright's disease or kidney ailments will surely follow? It has a most beneficial effect upon the kidneys when sluggish, and upon the bowels, liver, stomach and nervous system.

One of the visitors to the Tennessee Centennial was a Rutherford county man, 84 years old, who, until his trip to the Nashville exposition, had never been on a railroad train.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.
We are asserting in the courts our right to the exclusive use of the word "CASTORIA," and "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," as our Trade Mark. I, Dr. Samuel Pitcher, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," and the same that has borne and does now bear the fac-simile signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on every wrapper. This is the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. Look carefully at the wrapper and see that it is the kind you have always bought, and has the signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company, of which CHAS. H. FLETCHER is President.
March 5, 1897. SAMUEL PITCHER, M.D.

The relatives of Joe Sullivan, who died in Oakland, Cal., and was seven feet eight inches in height, have put a guard over his grave, fearing that a showman will steal his body.

\$100 REWARD, \$100.
The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is Catarrh of the Bladder. It is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY, Co., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

One of the most curious results of the investigations made by doctors in the Russian jails is the statement that each group of criminals has its own peculiar color of the eye.

Pious Cure for Consumption has saved me large doctor bills.—C. L. Baker, 4228 Regent St., Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 8, '96.

Diamonds have been discovered, in rare instances, in the meteoric stones which have fallen to the earth.

Quick!

The sooner you begin to use Schilling's Best tea and baking powder, the better your opportunity to get some of that \$2000.00.
And the more you will enjoy your cake and eating.

A Confederate Roll of Honor.
An effort is being made to compile a "roll of honor" for the Confederacy to Museum, in Richmond, Va., of all the soldiers and sailors who served the Confederate cause, with a verified report of the various commands to which they were attached during the four years of the war. Survivors and friends of those living or dead are appealed to make up the record.

A floral curiosity is on exhibition in the Temple Gardens, London. It is a \$5,000 orchid from Venezuela. It has a white flower which in shape resembles a sea-gull with outspread wings.

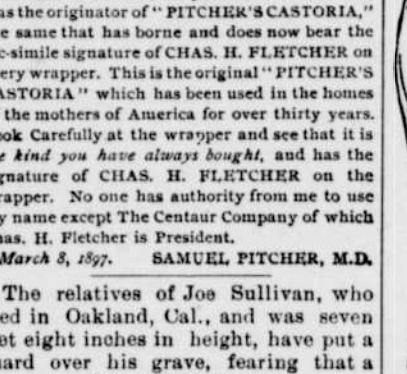
Cardinal Richelieu hated children and loved cats; when he died his favorite Angora pet refused to eat and soon perished.

Handel, the composer, used, when traveling, to order dinner for three, or if hungry, for five, in either London or Paris.

The cause of all disease is the waste of energy—the organs of the body have not sufficient vitality to keep up their natural action. They require aid. Electricity gives it through the proper use of

Electricity Is Life

DR. SANDEN'S ELECTRIC BELT



This belt fills the nerves with electrical energy which quickly goes to the assistance of the weaker functions, renews the life in them, and they are enabled to throw off disease. It is a simple cure and never fails. Dr. A. T. Sanden, famous as a physician and a student of science and medicine for thirty years, has published a book, "The Cause of Disease and its Cure by Electricity." It is worth \$1.00 to any man, and is sent free, closely sealed, to any address that can be had at the office. Call or address

SANDEN ELECTRIC BELT CO., 253 West Washington St., Portland, Or. Please mention this Paper.

SEEDS

Vegetable, Grass and Flower Bulbs and Roses. Fruit and Shade Trees. Spray Pumps. Bee Supplies. Fertilizers. Catalogs Free. BUELL LAMBERSON, Portland.

RUPTURE and PILES cured; no pay until cured; send for book. DR. MANHART and PORTERFIELD, 528 Market St., San Francisco.

N. F. N. U. No. 44, '97. Write mentioning this paper.

Buy Your Furs

DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURER
This Handsome Cape represented by this cut, a combination of Electric Seal and Astrachan, with twelve fur, regularly sold at \$20, will be sold during this month for \$15. Our stock of Alaska Seal and Astrachan is limited, and we have a large quantity of all parts of the country are requested to send for prices and catalogues. Highest price paid for all kinds of raw furs.

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FREE TO ALL MEN
makes it all plain and no need of medicine—No C. O. D. scheme; no patent medicines—Just the book under plain title seal.

CHILDREN
Send for children's medicine. It is a most beneficial effect upon the kidneys when sluggish, and upon the bowels, liver, stomach and nervous system.

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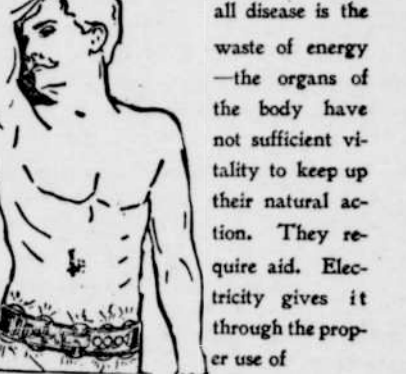
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