

FARMS AND FARMERS

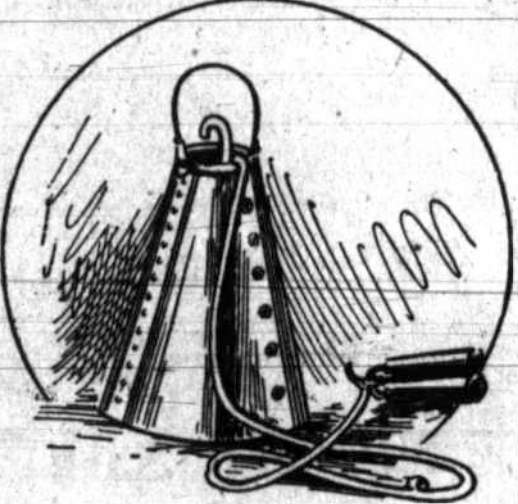


A Mechanical Milker.

The latest milking machine is here pictured in outline. It requires an engine or other power to drive it in order to work the vacuum air pump located at some convenient point. From this a line of iron gas pipe is run above the stalls in the milking shed. This pipe is used only to exhaust the air in the milk buckets. No liquid passes through it. A small branch pipe terminating in a hook is fitted to the main pipe and hangs over the stall about two feet above the cow's back.

The bucket is shown in the figure and is air tight, the top being closed with a lid, clamped securely in place by simply raising the handle to lift the bucket. All that is needed to make connection is the mere hanging of the bucket on the pipe above the cow by a hook attached to the milk pail for that purpose, as shown in the cut. This is an ordinary pail with a tight lid and glass peepholes down the sides so that the milk can be seen. A rubber tube runs to the cups attached to the cow's teats. Between the cups is a valve and chamber about the size of a hen's egg which really constitutes the effective part of the machine.

The machine is set to work by a simple turn of the valve and the suction holds it in place until the milking is



MILKING MACHINE.

finished. It requires from two and one-half to ten minutes to milk a cow. With proper equipment one man can readily handle fifty.—Orange Judd Farmer.

Science and Farming.

If you tell the average Missouri farmer that he ought to use a little more science in his business he will reply that the advocates of scientific methods are mere theorists; that they do very well in their way, but they can't teach a practical agriculturist anything in his line. Robert H. Kern, a St. Louis lawyer, has lately given the conservative farmers of Macon County a lesson in scientific agriculture that has opened their eyes. In settling an estate he came into possession of some almost worthless city property. This he traded for some land in Macon County which seemed almost equally valueless. The larger part of it was under water most of the time, and a good crop never had been raised on it. Mr. Kern called in an engineer and had him make plans for a drainage system. Then he called in a farmer who understood the science of agriculture and put him to work. The land was drained perfectly, a bog became a fine meadow, and where a swamp had been from time immemorial a bumper corn crop was raised. Now that farm, which, when Mr. Kern got it, would hardly have brought \$5 per acre, is worth \$50 per acre. Ten thousand dollars' worth of corn was raised on it last year. It is said half the dwellers in the Charleston bottoms are now talking about hiring scientific engineers as farm hands.—Kansas City Journal.

Farm Notes.

The product of the stolen nest will be lively as crickets. The brood is usually small, and the mother will take care of them. Throw them food when they are present at feeding time, but let them fustle.

String beans can be grown as long as the weather is warm. The practice of growing the earlier kinds alone is too general, for a ready sale awaits them whenever they reach the markets. Try some of the late varieties, and keep up a succession as long as the opportunity permits.

There is no better egg-producing food than a combination of oats, bran, corn, green stuff and insects, with the average waste of the average kitchen or dairy, and you don't have to pay 5 cents per pound for any of these.

On the thirty-seven acres of ground devoted to the live-stock department at the world's fair, at St. Louis, are being built 2,800 stalls. Two thousand four hundred of these are open stalls, 5x10 feet. The remaining 400 are box stalls, 10x10 feet. In addition four octagonal dairy barns will provide 140 open stalls and twenty-eight box stalls.

To use more machinery and conveniences of every kind, or to cut down your acreage, appears the only remedy in sight for lack of farm help.

In Denmark they have farmers' co-operative dairy associations of twelve farmers each, who for five years weigh the feed of each of their cows and also the milk, and thus make a record of the returns from each cow.

Coal ashes constitute a splendid grit for hens. Have you never seen a hen gobble down half a dozen chunks of cinder as large as the end of your little finger, as though they were choice bits of meat? Fowls will do this if they are in want of grit to operate their digestive apparatuses.

Milking should be done rapidly, and it is therefore not well to have too many hands employed in the work. With one milker to a dozen cows there is more likelihood of efficiency of work than when half as many cows make up the tale. The slow hand gets less milk and dries the cow.

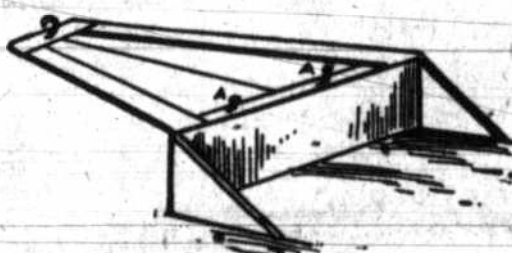
Profit in Summer Eggs.

It is well understood that the eggs laid during the winter are, to a certain extent at least, a forced production. This being the case, it is hardly fair to expect that the fowl who has turned out a goodly supply of eggs during the winter can keep it up during the summer. It is questionable if it would be advisable to force the winter laying fowl to continue during the summer.

If the bird is to be counted as among the layers the following winter she should be allowed the period of rest during most of the summer; that is, she should not be fed so as to force egg production, but her food should be sufficiently liberal and sufficiently varied to keep her in good shape to go into winter quarters prepared to lay. The poultryman who has not received from his fowls the number of eggs he should have had during the winter ought to make an effort to get even during the summer, the natural season for the hen to lay. This cannot be done by simply turning the hens out on the range, for they must be grain-fed and properly cared for. Handle them as you would the fowls for winter egg production. It will not be expensive, for most of their living will be obtained on the range and, unless eggs are very low in price, you will receive enough from the supply to pay well for the extra food and care.

For Leveling the Soil.

This land leveler is a tool that will pay for itself many times over and ought to be found on every farm. The illustration shows clearly how it is made. A heavy plank eight or ten feet long and two feet wide, set on edge, is used for the leveler and the wings at the side keep it in an upright position at all times. These wings should be securely fastened by iron straps. Strips of strong board



A LAND-LEVELING TOOL.

one and one-half inches thick by three inches wide are fastened at each upper corner of the plank and a small cross-piece at the end is provided with a ring, to which the team is hitched. A small iron rod from the center of cross-piece to the center of the top of the plank gives additional strength. A and A indicate large screw eyes, to which a light rope is attached to enable the driver to raise the leveler if need be and to enable him to turn corners easily. This leveler will be found to work perfectly on any soil that is not too heavy, and it will level the soil better and cheaper than in any other way.

How to Feed Horses.

Horses fed liberally, if not well exercised, will often get off their feed. The skill of the feeder must remedy this. Every one having the care of stock of any kind should bear in mind that all troubles of appetite and of the digestive organs are generally chargeable to the feeder rather than the animal. Regularity, a keen judgment and strict attention are the "medicine" the feeder of stock needs to administer.

Care of the Garden.

Just as soon as any crop of vegetables is finished in the garden, spade the location, and if any seeds are in the soil many of them will sprout. If so go over it again, which will save much valuable time and labor in the spring. Late summer and fall is the proper time to clean a garden, especially if weed seeds are to be eradicated.

Give the young pigs a low trough and a chance to feed separate from the sow. Add to ground oats or barley or wheat middlings some warm skim milk or water.

A LOYAL HEART.

Negro to Whom Gratitude Was Not An Empty Sound.

As the Milledgeville, Georgia, News tells the story, one of the young colored men connected with Booker T. Washington's school at Tuskegee has many of the qualities which go to the making of a hero of romance. About thirty years ago Mr. Edwards of Milledgeville picked up a very small black boy and undertook, in his language,

"to raise him and make something of him." Mr. Edwards fed and clothed the boy, and in a general way taught him many things; and the lad, who was bright and capable, made such return as he could. His name was Garner, and in time he became known as Garner Edwards.

After Mr. Edwards' death his two sisters continued to care for Garner. He was proud of "his family," loved the two ladies who were befriending him sincerely, and as he grew older he was a comfort and protection to them, for they also were now alone in the world, without parents or brothers. When he came to manhood he did not forsake them or the home that had sheltered him, but insisted that it was the only home he had ever known, and that it was his duty and pleasure to aid in supporting it, and he came to bear a considerable part of its expenses.

Garner learned the trade of a brick-mason, and finally moved to Alabama, where he became acquainted with Booker T. Washington, who helped him in getting work that would enable him to take a course in the school at Tuskegee and at same time be self-sustaining. Here, as in all of his other positions, Garner made a good record and won many honors. After finishing school he married, but continued in the employ of the school, and is still there.

In the meantime Garner's white benefactors have never been forgotten. His remittances to them have always continued. For many years he has paid the taxes on the old home; he has cared for the two sisters in illness, provided the best medical attendance and supplied every want. When one of the ladies was painfully injured by a fall, his wife, a trained nurse, hurried to Milledgeville to care for "Garner's white folks," and performed every duty skillfully and lovingly.

No one of any color could more nobly have repaid a debt of love. The best part of this simple story of a humble soul's gratitude and devotion is that it is true.

HORSE THAT SHOWED SORROW.

Repented the Cost of a Moment of Polity.

An incident which may serve as an illustration of "horse sense" was witnessed last winter by a number of Brooklyn gentlemen who were on their way to the railroad station. When within a few yards of the building they noticed a large gray horse belonging to a brewer, whose stables are in the rear of the depot. It was plain that he had escaped from his stall, as the stableman was making vain efforts to catch him.

He would not be caught. He had stolen a few moments to cut up pranks in the snow; and with head up and mane flying, he was throwing the snow into the air with his hind feet, and snorting with delight.

He was not alone in his enjoyment. A beautiful Scotch collie belonging to the same man, and no doubt the stable friend of the horse, joined in the fun, now jumping at the horse's mane, and now at his tail. It looked for all the world like two schoolboys, overflowing with life and spirits, who had escaped from an overheated classroom and embraced the opportunity to frolic in the snow.

But the dog's pleasure was brought to a sudden end. The iron-shod heels flew out and met an unintentional victim. It was pitiful to hear the dog's moans of pain, as he lay in the snow ten feet away. The stableman ran forward and carried him into the office. Then came the display of "horse sense."

The old gray, when he heard the painful yelps, instantly stopped in his antics, and with neck extended and nose almost touching the ground, walked after the man, and stood motionless while the dog was laid on a blanket in the office; then he turned toward the stall. His gait was now as if he were drawing a heavy load. He looked neither to the right nor to the left, his head was lowered, his steps were slow and heavy. He remained perfectly still while the driver put on the harness for the day's toil. A more moving or convincing picture of repentance would be hard to find. The men who watched him felt sure that he was saying to himself: "What a fool I was to do that! The few minutes of fun have been the means of injuring my poor friend. I'm sorry!"—Youth's Companion.

What England's Navy Costs.

The navy which gives England the supremacy of the seas costs \$155,000,000 a year, or a little more than the United States pays in pensions.

Every time we see a certain woman with her husband, she seems to be abusing him.



German Potato Salad.

Peel twelve potatoes boiled in their skins and cut into small dice; the whites of three hard-boiled eggs; six very young onions chopped very fine; salt and pepper to taste. Make a dressing of two well-beaten eggs, a scant half-cup of vinegar, two table-spoonfuls of sugar and butter the size of a walnut, boiling all together until thick. When cold thin with cream and stir well into the potatoes. Line a salad dish with lettuce leaves, pour into it the salad and garnish with the yolks of three hard-boiled eggs cut into slices and a few leaves of parsley.

Ginger Pudding.

Take six ounces of finely chopped suet, half a pound of flour, a teaspoonful of ground ginger, half a pound of treacle, a little grated lemon rind, half a pint of milk in which half a teaspoonful of carbonate of soda is dissolved, and one beaten egg. Mix all these ingredients into a light batter, pour into a greased mould and boil for two hours and a half. Tie on the cloth securely, as the pudding swells much in cooking. Serve with any nice sweet sauce.

To Take Spots Out of Boards.

Make some lye of wood ashes and mix it with a few galls, then put it on the spots the evening before you intend to clean them. In the morning rub the boards over with a brush. Let it be the way of the grain, and take some fine sand in the second scouring. When the boards have come to the right color and you can see the grain, wash in cold water and sand. Hot water will turn the best of boards or tables a bad color.

Dish's Corn Pone.

Sift a teaspoonful of salt into a quart of southern cornmeal, add a table-spoonful of melted shortening and enough cold water to make a soft dough. Mold with the hands into thin, oblong cakes and make upon the griddle, turning once. Eat while hot, splitting, not cutting, the pone open to butter it. This bread must be made with genuine "water ground" cornmeal. Northern meal will not do.

Stewed Cabbage and Celery.

If one has on hand but little stewing celery—not enough for the family—a nice dish may be made by adding parboiled cabbage cut up into inch pieces and letting the cabbage cook about twenty-five minutes—not longer—in the celery. It will be found that the cabbage will partake of the flavor of the celery. The dressing should be the same as for stewed celery.

For Rice Pancakes.

Boil some rice till perfectly cooked in water, then drain and set it in a clean saucepan with sufficient new milk to cover. Sweeten to taste, add half an ounce of dissolved butter for each pint of milk used. Add an egg also to each pint of milk. Beat in enough flour to make the mixture stiff enough to just form a batter. Fry till a golden brown on both sides.

Canned Corn and Tomatoes.

Boil the corn on the cob for twenty minutes and cut off while hot. Scald the skin from your tomatoes and rub to a pulp. To every one part of cut corn add two of tomatoes. Salt to taste, boil hard for a moment and can. Keep in a cool, dark place.

Suggestions.

When a window is difficult to open rub the sash cords with soft soap and the difficulty will cease.

When polishing grates add a little powdered alum to the black lead and you will find it does its work better.

Before polishing knives warm the board by the fire, for knives polish much better on a warm board than on a cold one.

When cleaning windows don't forget to add a few drops of ammonia to the water. It will make your work easier and the effect will be better.

Tarnished stair rods are easily cleaned. Wash them with soap and water and then polish with a slightly oiled cloth dusted over with finely powdered rotten stone.

Never tolerate a dirty sink. To insure cleanliness dissolve a little soda every night in hot water and pour it down the sink. This will remove any grease, etc., which may adhere to the waste pipe and thus prevent its getting clogged.

At housecleaning time to brighten tins and other cooking utensils put them all in the wash boiler and place on the fire with plenty of water and a liberal amount of washing soda. Let them boil for twenty minutes, remove the wash boiler from the fire, but do not take the tins out for three hours. At the end of that time they will be, when washed, bright and new looking.



Many women and doctors do not recognize the real symptoms of derangement of the female organs until too late.

"I had terrible pains along my spinal cord for two years and suffered dreadfully. I was given different medicines, wore plasters; none of these things helped me. Reading of the cures that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has brought about, I somehow felt that it was what I needed and bought a bottle to take. How glad I am that I did so; two bottles brought me immense relief, and after using three bottles more I felt new life and blood surging through my veins. It seemed as though there had been a regular house cleaning through my system, that all the sickness and poison had been taken out and new life given me instead. I have advised dozens of my friends to use Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Good health is indispensable to complete happiness, and Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has secured this to me."—MRS. LAURA L. BEMMER, Crown Point, Indiana, Secretary Ladies Relief Corps.—\$5000 forfeit if original of above letter proving genuineness cannot be produced.

Every sick woman who does not understand her ailment should write Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass. Her advice is free and always helpful.

A Natural Inquiry.

Little Nellie was out riding one day with her mother and as they passed a cemetery she asked: "Mamma, how long does it take for the tombstones to come up after they plant people?"

\$1000 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. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, 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 so 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

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