

FARMERS' CORNER

Feeding Horses.

It might be said that grass is the natural ration for the horse, but when confined to a barn and also when worked, the animal needs a more strengthening and nutritious food. To feed properly there must be a mixed diet. The intention of the food is to supply heat and muscle, but not an oversupply of fat.

The quantity of food given should be based on the amount of work the horse has done—the more work the greater the amount of food that should be given.

The foods that are generally fed are hay, grass, corn, oats, barley, rye, bran, carrots, turnips and apples. Of the grains oats is best, with corn second, but both are improved if fed in a crushed state. Oats build up the muscles, make blood and put nerve and endurance in the horse. On account of the price, oats are not generally used, and in such cases care must be taken that the hay given is rather rich in protein.

Corn and timothy hay are of a heating nature and hard on the digestion, causing the animal to perspire freely. If corn is liberally used, some bran, with clover or some well-cured pea-vine hay, or clover with corn, will help balance up the ration and keep the digestive organs in a healthy state. In feeding green food care must be taken.

Average Milk.

It has been shown that 100 pounds of average milk contains about 87 pounds of water, 4 pounds of fat, 5

Take Care of the Orchard.

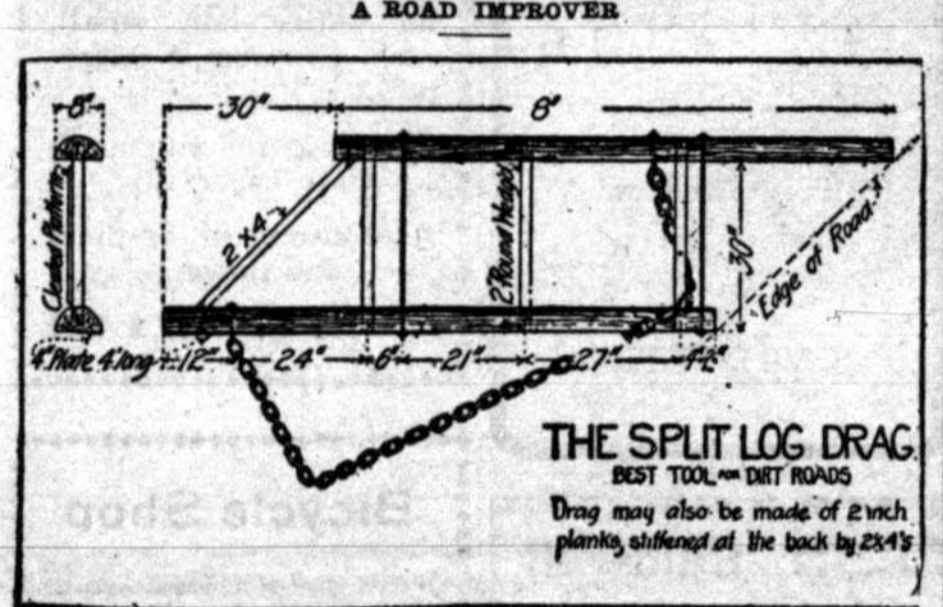
Now and then we hear of farmers with an apple orchard who cannot see that it will pay them to take good care of it, says the Rural New Yorker. In one case a farmer sold apples enough from his orchard to buy him ten good cows for his dairy, yet he cannot see that it would pay him to spray and prune the trees. There is some scale in this orchard, and the fruit is usually wormy. Taken in hand now with oil and later with arsenic for the Codling worm this orchard would give the easiest money on the farm. We would like to shake such men up and let them see the future. The demand for good apples is sure to increase, while bearing trees are not keeping pace with the demand. Young trees are being planted, while many orchards are dying through lack of care. Do not, under any circumstances, neglect good apple trees. Stay by them with all the care you can muster.

Fountain-Like Feed Bag.

Almost everyone has noticed the painful efforts of the unfortunate horse which is compelled to take its noon-day meal out of a feed bag. In order to get the feed the horse must throw the bag and its contents into the air and catch a mouthful as he can. Besides the industry he is compelled to exercise in the pursuit of his feed, the horse loses about half the grain by reason of the fact that it is thrown over the top of the bag.

The nose bag shown in the accompanying cut is of recent invention and is designed to overcome this trouble. The feed supply is contained in a reservoir which is secured to the bridle and is suspended between the animal's eyes. The feed flows down of its own weight into a saucer-like receptacle which is held under the animal's

A ROAD IMPROVER.



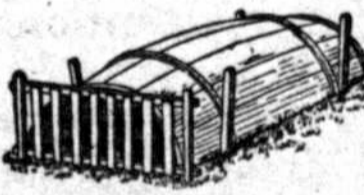
On behalf of a number of farmers who wish to construct splitting drags, a correspondent asks for publication of a plan. The dimensions of the several parts are indicated in the illustration. D. W. King of Missouri, who has been the most prominent advocate of this road implement, describes it as a lever for smoothing down the rough places and packing the surface soil. Best results are obtained on clay roads. It will improve even sandy soils, though it cannot make a hard roadbed of such material.

ounds of sugar, 3.3 pounds of casein and albumen and 0.7 pounds of mineral matter or salts. The composition of the milk depends largely upon the cows producing it. Both Jerseys and Guernseys give rich milk, upon which the cream quickly rises. Durhams and Ayrshires give milk of an average richness, upon which the cream slowly rises. Holstein cows are noted for giving a large quantity of milk in which there is a small proportion of fat.

mouth. The feed is always in reach and there is no occasion for the painful gymnastics which are so commonly seen under the circumstances.

Inexpensive Chicken Coops.

Very good crops can be made at small cost from empty barrels, as shown in cut. First, drive shingle nails through the hoops on both sides of each stave, and clinch them down on the inside. Then divide the barrel in halves, if it is big enough, by



BARREL CHICKEN COOP.

cutting through the hoops and the bottom. Drive sticks into the ground to hold the coop in place, and drive a long stick at each side of the open end just far enough from coop to allow the front door to be slipped out and in.

The night door can be made of the head from the barrel or any solid board, and the slatted door, used to confine the hen, by nailing upright strips of lath to a cross lath at top and bottom.—D. H. F., in Farm and Home.

Strawberries.

Strawberry beds coming into bearing should be cultivated as soon as the land is in good order, and have a top dressing of 100 pounds of nitrate of soda, 400 pounds of acid phosphate and 400 pounds of muriate of potash applied per acre. This should be spread down each side of the rows, and be worked in with the cultivator. Mulch between the rows next month to keep the berries clean and conserve moisture, using pine tags, waste hay or other clean vegetable trash.

Cheese.

The Bureau of Chemistry of the United States Department of Agriculture has come out flat-footed in answer to the question, "When is cheese not cheese?" They say that when it is "soaked curd" it cannot be sold as cheese. Pseudo-cheese is produced by soaking the curd at a certain age in cold water, draining it and putting the curd to press. This treatment is carried on solely for fraudulent purposes.

Poultry Profits.
The cost of food required to produce a pound of beef, pork or chicken does not differ greatly, although chicken sells for 12 to 20 cents a pound by the carcass, while other meats sell at from 4 to 8 cents. This difference is further increased on the farm from the fact that poultry picks up a good deal of material that would otherwise go to waste, as well as numerous insects that should be destroyed, so that much of their food should not really be figured as expense at all.

But there is a greater risk of loss in raising chickens and the cost of labor per pound of finished product is more than with sheep or hogs. Then you must credit eggs produced, which complicates the problem until you get a headache. The net returns, according to capital invested and cost of maintenance, however, leaves a greater profit from poultry than any other farm live stock. If a farmer would keep close account of the income from his poultry, including the amount of eggs and butter consumed at home, he would be surprised at the returns.—Agricultural Epitomist.

Look Out for Sore Shoulders.
The shoulders and neck of the horse will be tender when heavy spring work is started. Then, too, the horses are covered with a heavy coat of hair, which will cause them to perspire easily. This makes it very necessary to keep close watch on the shoulders and neck where the collar rubs.

The collar should be a perfect fit; one too large is more dangerous than one a little small. The inside of the collar should be scraped each morning before it is again put upon the horse. The harness should be oiled before spring work is begun, so that it will be soft and pliable. It is a good plan to bathe the shoulders with cold water every night after the harness is removed. You will also find that it will pay to remove the harness while the horse is eating his dinner.—Ex.

SHEAR NONSENSE

"Mrs. Fadd has a new wrinkle."
"The poor dear! She must be aging rapidly."—Town and Country.

"Say, pa!" "What now, my son?"
"When your foot's asleep does it really hurt, or is it only dreaming it hurts?"—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Stella—He threatened to do something rash when I refused him.
Bella—Goodness, he may propose to you again.—New York Sun.

"Do you give your wife an allowance, or does she ask you for money when she wants it?"
"Both."—Cleveland Leader.

Mrs. Gramercy—What do we need for dinner?
Bridget—Shure, mum. Oi tripped over the rug an' we need a new set of dishes.—Puck.

"It takes baby mos' two years to learn to talk," said Uncle Eben, "an' den it takes de res' of its lifetime to learn to keep from talkin' too much."—Washington Star.

Mrs. Peckem—Here's an invitation to my cousin's wedding. Will you go?
Peckem—No, I hate weddings. I sometimes wish I hadn't attended my own.—Spare Moments.

She—Frankly, now if you had to choose between me and a million, what would you do?
He—I'd take the million. Then you would be easy.—Life.

Caller—So your cook has passed away to a better place?
Hostess—Yes, but I don't know if she'll stay; poor Bridget was very hard to suit.—Boston Traveler.

Benevolent Old Gentleman—I am sorry, Johnny, to see you have a black eye. Promising Youth—You go home and feel sorry for your own little boy—he's got two!—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Boreleigh—Yes, Miss Doris, I suffah dreadfully from insomnia, y' know.
Miss Doris (suppressing a yawn)—Did you ever try talking to yourself, Mr. Boreleigh?—Boston Transcript.

"She's got a future." "Can she act?"
"No, but she can work her eyes better than any lady in the business, and as for wearing swell clothes—gee! she couldn't do better if she was twins."—Life.

Porpoise—What is the whale blowing about?
Dogfish—Oh, he got so many notices for his feat in swallowing Jonah he's been blowing ever since.—Boston Transcript.

Miss Antique—Just think of the nerve of that impudiculous fellow to propose to me.
Miss Caustique—Nerve? Why, it was absolutely recklessness.—Milwaukee News.

Wearly Walker—I see five hundred more men has been t'rown out of work.
Tired Traveler—Gee! Dere's gettin' to be too much competition in our business.—Puck.

Hiram Greene—What did your sister say when you told her I was going to make a speech in the town hall tonight? Willie—She didn't say nothin'; she just laughed till she had hysterics!—Stray Stories.

Trotter (who has been abroad)—So Maud and Charlie finally married? Miss Homer—Yes. Trotter—I suppose they are happy? Miss Homer—Undoubtedly; they each married some one else.—Chicago Daily News.

"There goes a man who once offered to make me independently rich." "But he didn't appear to know you. At least he gave you no sign of recognition."
"You see, I refused to buy the stock."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"Now, Pat," said a magistrate to an old offender, "what brought you here again?" "Two policemen, sor," was the laconic reply. "Drunk, I suppose," queried the magistrate. "Yes, sor," said Pat; "both av thim."—Independent.

"That politician refuses to commit himself," said the able assistant. "He says he's on the fence." "Yes," answered Senator Sorghum, "and judging from his uneasiness I should say it was a barbed wire fence."—Washington Star.

"Politeness costs nothing," said the man of ready-made wisdom.
"I guess," answered Mr. Cumrox, "that you never had any experiences with these cafe waiters who regulate their politeness by the size of the tip."—Washington Star.

"Every bit of food on this table," said the serving lady to Lamson, as he sat down to eat at the church supper, "was cooked by your wife."
"Oh, I don't mind," rejoined Lamson faintly, "I'm not a bit hungry anyway."—New York Times.

"You say this man stole your coat?" said the magistrate. "Do I understand that you prefer charges against him?"
"Well, no, your honor," replied the plaintiff. "I prefer the coat, if it's all the same to you, sir."—Philadelphia Press.

"Of course," said the optimist, "if a man gets into the habit of hunting trouble he's sure to find it."
"Yes," replied the pessimist, "and if he's so lazy that he always tries to avoid it, it will find him. So what's the difference?"—Catholic Standard and Times.

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House Owner—You failed to pay your rent last month. What are you going to do about it?
Tenant—Oh, I suppose I'll do as you said when I rented it.

House Owner—What did I say?
Tenant—You said I must pay in advance or not at all.

Slight Mistake.
Harker—I met Smythe a week after he had faced the parson and he declared that he had married his ideal.
Parker—Well?
Harker—A year later he confessed his mistake—said it was his ordeal instead of his ideal he had married.

To Enjoy

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Confidence Game.
Man With the Bulging Brow—What are you scowling about?
Man With the Bulbous Nose—I'd like to punch your head for you. You told me I ought to read "Referees of a Bachelor." I got it at the public library and put in an hour or two trying to read it, and there ain't the first blamed word in the book, from first to last, about prize fighting!

Extensive beds of lobsters are to be planted soon in the waters of the British Columbia, and it is expected that in four or five years the lobster-taking industry will be established on a large scale.

Bad Breath
"For months I had great trouble with my stomach and used all kinds of medicines. My tongue has been actually as green as grass, my breath having a bad odor. Two weeks ago a friend recommended Cascarets and after using them I can willingly and cheerfully say that they have entirely cured me. I therefore let you know that I shall recommend them to any one suffering from such troubles."—Chas. H. Halpern, 114 E. 7th St., New York, N. Y.
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