

# FARM AND GARDEN

**Education and Farming.**  
Under the heading, "Plain Talk by a Plain Farmer," a writer in the Agricultural Epitomist says:

"It seems to me that we are fast coming to that place where it is going to mean something to own a farm and mean much more to know how to handle it. We are beginning to look upon the farm as something that requires the brightest mind to manage. In my travels about the country I have found places where at one side of the road we saw fine land and fine stock, everything looking prosperous, and on the other side exactly the reverse, everything going to pieces, poor crops and poor stock, and the owner head over heels in debt. I am sorry for the man who is unfortunate, who has sickness or anything of that kind to contend with, but what is the reason in the same neighborhood for so great a difference? It is not always an accident or sickness, but because one man is the farmer and the other is not a farmer. I think we can do no better work than help speed the day when we may educate our farmers in our public schools so that they can read the agricultural papers and bulletins intelligently. The trouble is not that farmers do not read the agricultural books, papers and bulletins, but that their early education has been neglected and they are unfamiliar with the terms that we are compelled to use in writing upon agricultural topics. There is no greater need in our education to-day than something that will assist in connecting our experiment station workers, our agricultural press and our agricultural writers with their readers."

## Stopping Large Herd of Hogs.

I have been using a device with which to stop pigs for a number of years and find that I can stop 150 pigs with it easier than any way I know of, writes an Iowa farmer. The illustration explains itself, but I will add a few pointers. Each of the four troughs is 16 feet apart. A 22-foot trough is attached to the fence a couple of feet above the floor of these troughs, and stop poured into this trough runs into each one of the four troughs by pipes. By this plan all troughs are filled with equal rapidity, and if the outlet of each pipe is bent it will shoot the stop half the length of the trough be-



FOR STOPPING HOGS.

fore the pigs stop it. The trough is set on a cement floor, which keeps mud holes from forming and makes it a very nice place to feed the pigs at all times.

## Covering Cement Floors in Winter.

An excellent suggestion is made by a practical swine breeder to those having cement floors in their pens. He advises a movable wooden floor for the winter. He makes his own floors of one inch boards, and lays them flat on the cement, in section small enough to be easily removed at any time. In this way he combines the advantages of both the cement and the wood. He can remove the board floor, scrub out the pen and also thoroughly clean and disinfect the false floor outside. Cement is the cheapest material in the end for the floor of the hog pen. The floor of the outer apartment should be a few inches lower than the house floor, so as to insure drainage and dry sleeping quarters.

## Developing Strong Constitutions.

Part of the stamina, durability and spirit of the horse is inherited, and part is produced through proper feeding. The growing colt should have a variety of nourishing feeds that contain a fair proportion of mineral matter for the building of a strong frame. It should be allowed the freedom of pasture for almost all of the year, and a hilly pasture is preferable for developing strong muscular, lung and heart power.

## Feed for the Lambs.

Accustom the lambs gradually to full feed. Corn and early cut clover are the best combination for finishing lambs. It is a balanced ration and is grown on almost every farm. Succulent food, as roots or silage, should be available, and should be fed once a day. Food like this keeps the skin in good condition and gives the wool a better luster.

## Suggestion for Rotation.

Try this rotation for lands that are falling down in their grain yields: Corn or potatoes, manured; wheat; clover; wheat or flax. Oats or barley may substitute for the wheat. This gives a five-year rotation, three crops of which have a cash value to the grower. The tillage of the corn has a better effect than summer fallow, the manuring of the land returns to the soil much of the fertility and gives to the land a friable texture that retains water well, while the clover crop aids in the same manner and at the same time restores to the soil the nitrogen of which the crops rapidly deplete it.

It is estimated by Dean Sheppard, of the North Dakota Experimental Station, that this rotation, followed consistently, will in a period of years return to the owner of the land a larger cash value, year by year, than will continuous cropping to small grains.

## Grubbing Implement.

It is, of course, generally known that the lever principle gives the greatest power for the smallest physical exertion. It is not so generally known that the work of grubbing is a veritable labor of Hercules and that the uprooting of a few sturdy bushes and young trees is all the exercise some men want. A Virginia man, however, was cognizant of both these truths and he set about inventing an implement on the lever principle to be used in grubbing. The result was the article shown in the cut, which is guaranteed to uproot anything but the village chestnut tree and the Constitution. First there is a base with an arm rigidly attached. There is a jaw at the end of the arm and a brace to which a lever is pivoted. On the end of the lever is another jaw, co-operating with the first-mentioned. The implement is thrust close to the root of a bush, the stem of which is seized between the two jaws and a pull on the lever tears the bush up.

**GRUBBING DEVICE.** The illustration shows a mechanical device with a base, an arm, a jaw, and a lever pivoted to the arm. The lever has another jaw at its end, designed to grip the root of a bush.

## A Few Horse Don'ts.

Don't ask me to "back" with blinds on; I'm afraid to.  
Don't let some blockhead drive me that has less sense than I have.  
Don't run me down a steep hill, for if anything should give way I might break your neck.  
Don't whip me when I get frightened, or I will expect it next time and may make you trouble.  
Don't trot me up hill, for I have you, the buggy and myself to carry. Try running uphill with a load yourself.  
Don't drive me with an "overcheck" on; the sun hurts my eyes and I can't see where to step. It's inhuman and cruel.  
Teach me to stop when you say "whos," and this you can do without jerking my head off or tearing my mouth. It may check me if the lines should drop or break and save a runaway and smash-up.—California Voice.

## Ventilating Stables.

Horses and cows are in the stable at night for rest. When the weather is warm the atmosphere in close confinement becomes very warm and oppressive, so much so that the animals become very uncomfortable and hence fail to get proper rest. The horse that does not get proper rest is not in a good condition for heavy work the following day, and the cow that does not sleep in a cool, restful place in hot weather will not give a full flow of milk. The temperature of the working or producing animal must be kept normal to give the best results. If there are no windows in your stables cut out a number now and let light and fresh air come for the health and comfort of the animals.

## The Largest Incubator.

There are a great many things that we can claim to lead the world in, but Australia has the largest incubator in the world. It has a capacity of 11,440 duck's eggs or 14,080 hen's eggs. This monster hatching machine consists of an ordinary shed, with a corrugated iron roof; the egg trays hold 130 duck's eggs or 160 hen's eggs. There are four of these trays end to end, one above the other, on each side of the room, making eight in all. Heat comes from steam pipes supplied from a large boiler and moisture from pans under the lower tier of trays. The incubator is claimed to be working very well and to be quite a success.

## Investigating Poor Egg Field.

There may be several causes why your hens are not laying. Maybe they are infested with lice. This is a very frequent cause of non-laying. Maybe they don't get sufficient green food or animal food; either cause may prevent them from laying. Maybe they don't get enough exercise. Keep investigating until you find out the cause of the non-supply of eggs, and if you find that and apply the remedy your trouble will be over.

## Getting the Crops In.

It pays to get oats in early, and often one or two weeks' time can be saved by plowing in the fall. Where corn is put in with a lister it is not necessary to harrow the ground in the spring, as the lister will make the soil fine around the seed, and as soon as the corn is planted the cultivator can be put to work and the ground sown in fine condition.

## BLINDED SONG BIRDS.

**English Dealers Take Slight from Chaffinches to Make Them Sing.**  
The magistrate at Lambeth police court has sentenced Frederick Collins, a laborer of 4 Sultan street, Chamberwell, to three months' hard labor for cruelty to two chaffinches by blinding them, the London Daily Mail says.

S. G. Polhill, who prosecuted on behalf of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said that the practice of blinding was resorted to because birds so dealt with were supposed to become better songsters or warblers. He was sorry to say the practice had been going on for many years, but in such secrecy that this was the first occasion upon which the society had been in a position to prosecute. The operation was carried out with a needle, and was done skilfully, so as not to burst the eyeball. The birds adapted themselves to their blind state in a wonderful way. They fed and found their water and jumped about the cage.

Arthur Wilnot, one of the society's inspectors, produced the two blind birds in court. He purchased them for 1 shilling 6 pence from the prisoner at his house, where one room was full of birds, at least ten of which were blinded chaffinches. The prisoner said he himself had blinded them, but that "blinded" was a dangerous word to use because if he were "given away" it would mean three months in prison for him. He had been at "the game," he said, twenty years.

Alexander Pearce, veterinary surgeon, said that in the birds produced he came to the conclusion that the optic nerve and the artery in the center of that nerve had been severed by inserting a needle at the bottom of the eye. This operation paralyzed the sight and made the bird totally blind, while leaving the same as before the operation. The suffering would be acute.

The magistrate (to the prisoner): You knew what the penalty was: It is three months' hard labor.

## FAIR WARNING.

A party of American ladies traveling in Ireland were delighted to find, conspicuously posted at the head of a grassy lane leading to what was evidently a country gentleman's farm, a notice which read as follows:

**Notice to Pigs: Keep Out.**  
Notice to Owners: I do not prosecute, but I keep a gun and a pork barrel.

The pig. It is well known, has long been accorded unusual consideration and liberty in the Emerald Isle, often including the freedom of the family living room, so perhaps the direct address to the gentleman himself, preceding that to his owner, need not have been surprising. It is to be hoped the pigs took heed, and that the pork barrel was not replenished at the expense of trespassers.

It was, at least, less abruptly surprising than a second notice, which the same party encountered a few days later, upon the wall of a public building on the main street of a considerable town:

**Riding bicycles and Pigs strictly forbidden on this sidewalk.**

The choicest gem among anti-pig notices is, however, that reported by an English lady from Fernando Po, where the careless ranging at large of the natives' pigs had resulted in such damage to gardens that a proclamation was issued, decreeing that all pigs must be confined, except such as had a ring in the nose and could not root.

The official crier, a large and pompous colored man, patrolled the streets, clashing his bell, and shouting aloud the new ordinance, in terms of West Coast pidgin English.

"I say! I say! I say!" he vociferated in his best and most richly melodious hollow. "Suppose pig walk—iron no live for him nose. Gun shoot! Kill him one time! Hear re! Hear re! Hear re!"

## Ten to One.

Canada's population is close to eight millions, and the United States is about eighty millions. Each nation reached respectively its hundred million dollar parliament and its thousand million dollar congress almost simultaneously, and the chances are that Canada will turn the ten million population mark about the time the United States population numbers one hundred millions. The ten to one ratio between the two nations seems to hold good in a number of matters.—Ottawa Journal.

## She Was Artistic.

"Was she artistic?" asked an inquiring person of Kin Hubbard, the Indianapolis epigram maker, who was describing an Indiana genius, says the Saturday Evening Post.

"Artistic?" said Hubbard. "Was she artistic? I should say she was. She was so artistic that one day, when one of her peekaboo shirt waists she had made herself fell into the piano, they played two Beethoven rhapsodies with it before they discovered their mistake."

## Strong Habit.

"That fellow made money, but he certainly is a faker."

"Indeed he is. Why, the habit was so strong, that's why he built his new house on a bluff."—Baltimore American.

The father of twins may think he was given the double cross.

## VELVET IN FAVOR FOR FORMAL GOWNS.



Velvet in black and other deep rich tones is very much in favor for formal gowns, and especially for walking suits. It is also used for long, handsome top coats, often with a soft white fur. The sketch shows three velvet models, each one serving in a different garment. The first figure shows a long coat of smoke gray velvet over a princess gown of gray satin cloth. It is quaintly cut and partly covered with arabesques of tarnished silver

braided. The one in the center is a black afternoon gown worn for teas, weddings and musicales. It is a belted princess, with bands of fur at the edge of the long skirt and the short sleeves. The belt is of black satin, with an immense rosette in front, and one long tasseled end. The hat is of velvet with white feathers. The third figure shows a street suit of dark blue velvet with stitched seams and military frogs in front.

## Women of the Future.

There is not a country in the land but bristles with Jane Austen women, says a writer. With a good many exceptions, one would not be sorry to see them go. They are kindly, but small—deadly small.

The woman of the future is not of this type. She is far too busy to be womanish, but she will never grow out of being feminine. She is shedding her smallness. Like the genie in the Arabian Nights, now the cork has been removed, she is darkening the whole sky like a pillar of smoke; but presently the smoke will settle into "a figure of gigantic size." She will be the Meredith woman, softened by reality, as Galatea softened into life.

She will not glide about with uplifted finger like Agnes, nor drive tired men to distraction with her prattle, like Dora, nor weep eternally when George is unkind, like Amelia. No, when she feels hysterical she will go and sit on a Himalaya till she is cooler, and when her husband annoys her out of her usual placidity, sticking a few pigs in Texas or India will soon put her straight. And with it all she will wear her frills as well as ever.

## Comfortable Sweater.



This sweater is rather heavier or closer knit than the regulation garments of this sort. It is all white, in a small block design, and trimmed with large white pearl buttons and large flat collar, in ribbed stitch matching the belt and cuffs and piece down front. The jaunty cap is also knit and makes a chic finish to a very pretty skating or sledding costume.

## The Home Storeroom.

The cellar or other similar room in which vegetables and fruits, either green or canned, are stored for winter should have the windows open on mild days for ventilation and for lowering the temperature of the room for chilling the store. The cooler they are held without freezing, the better they will keep. Bacteria which cause fermentation and decay cannot grow and multiply in low temperature. Dry cold will always hold them in check.

## Dry Cure for Colds.

A French physician has been writing in one of the Paris papers about a cure for colds which he says is very old, but which a long time ago fell into disuse and was practically forgotten. It is a very simple remedy, the only requirement being that the patient refrain from all fluids for a

## Fads and Fancies in Dress.

Silk blouses are severe. The sleeves are flat, with little or no fullness. Flat jet ornaments, as well as those of metal, are frequently used as trimming. The vogue for gilt is now at its height, and silver trimming is also in demand. Tasseled ornaments and fringe vie with each other for chief favor in trimming.

Some of the new bracelets encircle the wrist and end in a tiny jeweled bowknot. Coats are a bit closer than the half-fitting ones of the past season, and skirts are usually plaited.

Bows on shoes are more in evidence than ever before. In fact, there are bows and bows and bows this season.

Braiding upon coats has lost none of its vogue, and all manner of original results are gained by its combination with silk cordings, rattail buttons and made ornaments.

A quaint pelerine and muff was of white fox, with one large pink velvet rose on each piece and silk cords and tassels.

A novel trimming is made of two bands of black velvet ribbon fastened together, with a gold braid under the open stitchery.

Copper is one of the most popular tones of the season, but it is of a reddish shade, not the brown or yellow one of former years.

Favorite shopping bags of the day are as big as ever, but they are flat, and are carried under the arm with the straps over the wrist.

Transparent scarf coats of tulle or chiffon will be general favorites in silhouette with evening or ultra-elaborate afternoon toilettes.

Tiny flowerlets are scattered over the evening gown of satin and placed with the view of giving the gown a good hem finish. The flowers are partially covered with thin tissue drapery.

## The Happy Habit.

Mothers who are constantly cautioning the little ones not to do this or not to do that, telling them not to laugh or make a noise, until they lose their naturalness and become little old men and women, do not realize the harm they are doing.

There is an irreplaceable longing for amusement, for rollicking fun, in young people, and if these longings were more fully met in the home it

would not be so difficult to keep the boy and girl under the parental roof.

A happy, joyous home is a powerful magnet to child and man. The sacred memory of it has kept many a person from losing his self-respect and from the commission of crime. Fun is the cheapest and best medicine in the world for your children as well as for yourself. Give it to them in good, large doses. It will not only save you doctors' bills, but it will also help to make your children happier, and will improve their chances in life. The very fact that the instinct to play—the love of fun—is so imperative in the child shows a great necessity in its nature which if suppressed will leave a famine in its life. A sunny, joyous, happy childhood is to the individual what a rich soil and genial sun are to the young plant. If the early conditions are not favorable, the plant becomes stunted. This is true with the human plant. A starved, suppressed, stunted childhood makes a dwarfed man. A joyous, happy, fun-loving environment develops powers, resources and possibilities which would remain dormant in a cold, repressing environment.

## Hat for a Young Girl.

While this is a Parisian model, it could nevertheless be copied by one of the many private and inexpensive milliners for a very reasonable amount of money. If the exact shape is unobtainable, a near duplicate should be covered with black velvet and trimmed generously with white marabout. The result is, indeed, pleasing.



Beef tea is one of the best stimulants and the poorest of foods. Acids taken before meals and alkalies taken after meals lessen acidity. You should not take tea or coffee with any meal containing fresh meat. Malt preparations are the best remedies for dyspepsia caused by foods containing starch. In combing the hair use a comb with blunt, widely separated teeth. Never use one with sharp teeth. Much vinegar causes gastric catarrh, whereof comes indigestion, which in turn gives rise to redness of nose. Lettuce and onions promote sleep. Resting with the head to the north is essential for the repose of some people. The most useful of all drugs for rickets is iron, not lime. Lime is useful, but iron compels the system to assimilate it.