

ORGAN IS OUT OF DATE

Only a Few Years Ago Every Rural Home Was Proud Possessor of One.

ONCE COST \$150; NOW ONLY \$35

To-Day the Upright Piano Is Installed in the Place of the Joy of the Family.

Thirty years ago home wasn't happy unless it had its cabinet organ in the parlor, so that the daughter of the house could entertain the visitors every Sunday afternoon by chording a little after she had been sufficiently coaxed. The organ was always a beautiful thing—very beautiful. A real beveled edge mirror was set in the top so that daughter could look upon herself as she industriously pumped with both feet and chorded with both hands. It was great exercise playing the organ in those days.

All organs were decorated alike. On one side was a picture of mother's father and mother; on the other side were father's parents. Cousin Harry, who was doing so well in Denver, beamed out from one side of the Chinese lily that Aunt Molly brought back from the city on her last trip there, while on the other side of the lily, looking down severely upon the wax fruit in its glass case, was Prof. Darwin, who used to be principal of the high school.

But those days are gone now. The Kansas City Times says. A cabinet

meat set before him instead of only lean meat; that Old King Cole was a grouchy dyspeptic and the very opposite of a merry old soul; that no blackbird ever disgorged the king's washerwoman by pecking off her nose?

Would you have been a better boy or girl if your mother had done all these things—had explained away the delightful books of childhood and had told you that the amusing, jingling rhymes were written by some hard-up story writer who wrote them for money and not for truth's sake? Would you?

Is anything accomplished by squaring a child around and setting its face to face with the realities of life before it has come into the years of responsibility? Let the children enjoy childhood in a childish way, for it is brief and comes not again.

GATHERING SEA FOWLS' EGGS.

Pertious Work of Cliff Climbers on the English Coast.

With the advent of spring the Yorkshire cliff climbers are making preparations for gathering the eggs of the myriads of sea fowl that build their nests in the dizzy precipices of the northeastern coast, according to the London Daily News.

At Bepton, a few miles from Bridlington, the favorite resort of these egg hunters, the chalk cliffs tower 400 feet above the sea. They are the home of thousands of gulls, cormorants, kittiwakes and other sea birds that have just begun to build their rough nests in the chalky crevices. William Wilkinson, who has pursued this perilous calling for many years, is known locally as "the king of the egg hunters." He is a bluff, weather scarred man of the sea, with as much nerve and agility as are possessed by the most daring steeplejack.

Wilkinson wears an old helmet to protect his head from the pieces of

MARK AND GARDEN

Coal Ashes Are Worth Saving.

In many sections of the country coal is the principal winter fuel used by farmers and a large quantity of ashes result which are usually looked on as waste, but an authority says there is more value in coal ashes than is generally realized by the farmer. For the amelioration of heavy clay land they are exceptionally valuable. This is particularly so with the ashes of soft coal, as such usually are reduced almost to a dust. Coal ashes have a fertilizer value. This opinion, however, is not held generally. The coal beds contain phosphorus, potash, nitrogen and lime, as well as the other less important ingredients. When the original trees out of which were formed the coal beds were reduced to coal the mineral elements remained in them, and consequently those same elements go with the ashes.

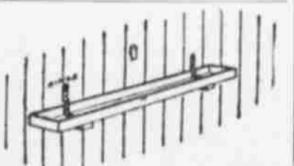
One reason why people have formed an idea that coal ashes contain no fertility is that the trees now grown have in them less carbon than those in the old days and thus the percentage of other elements to carbon is probably greater now than then, which gives a larger value to our wood ashes, but does not annihilate the value in the coal ashes. Ashes can be used to advantage without sifting, but large quantities of half-burned coal are by some considered a detriment to the soil.—Rural World.

Good Hog Sense.

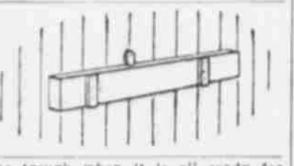
It is not a good plan to take all the pigs from the sow, unless one or two of them can be turned with her some hours after, to draw the milk she will have at that time, and again, say after a lapse of twenty-four hours. The preferred way is to leave about two of the smallest with her for several days, and after that leave only one for two or three days more, by which time the flow of milk will have been so gradually diminished that no injury will result to the sow by keeping them entirely away from her. This extra supply of milk helps also to push the smaller pigs along in growth and put them more nearly on an equality in size with their thrifter mates.—Cornell's "Swine in America."

A Convenient Calf Trough.

A farmer near Paulina, Iowa, has been using an ingenious method for feeding his calves. It was suggested to him by the fact that he used a



manure spreader in his sheds and consequently all obstructions that extended out a foot from the wall were in the way. As calves require a low manger, one can be hung on hinges so that when it is turned up it will not occupy more than five or six inches of space out from the wall. It may be any length, but it is better to have it made in sections about six feet long. The accompanying illustrations show



the trough when it is all ready for feeding purposes, and also when it is hooked up close against the wall.

Keeping Farm Accounts.

Farmers who visited the Ohio State University were interested in the system of accounts used on the farm. While the land is not tilled for the same experimental purposes as the fields at the Agricultural Experiment Station at Wooster, a certain amount of experimentation has to be done in order to determine the most profitable methods of handling the land. These experiments are the same in kind as should be conducted by farmers generally. The accounts are kept in such form as to show the results of the different methods employed on the different fields.

Selling Value of Cows.

The North Carolina experiment station proposes a plan to place a buying and selling value on cows on a basis of the yield and quality of their milk. According to the brief account of the plan it lays down a rule to fix a price for a cow at the rate of \$12 per gallon of milk given per day that shows 1.5 per cent fat. To this add or subtract \$1 for every one-fourth on 1 per cent fat which is above or below the 1.5 per cent.

Protecting Tree Trunks.

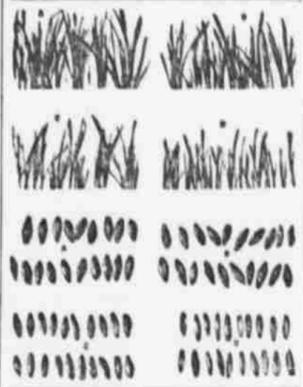
The trunks of fruit trees may be wrapped with paper to protect them from mice and rabbits, the paper being tied on with a cord to hold it in place. Old newspapers may be used for the purpose, the care necessary being to see that the paper entirely covers the trunk of the tree high enough to prevent the rabbits reaching the exposed portion above the paper.

Dipping Sheep Effectively.

To rid sheep of external parasites or the scab mite they should be dipped in some effective dip. Coal tar dips are effective, nonpoisonous and do not ordinarily injure the wool. They are therefore considered among the best. Before using all dips should be tested. Mix one teaspoonful of dip with fifty to seventy-five of water, according to directions. Wrap a few ticks or bedbugs in a gauze and dip them in this mixture for thirty seconds. Then place them under a tumbler, and if they are not dead in six hours the dip is not strong enough. It should be made strong enough to make a thirty-second dip effective. Sheep are to be kept in the dip one minute. Place the dip in the tank before the water, so the mixture will be uniform. The best time to dip is when the wool is one-fourth to one-half inch long, so that the dip will adhere to the fleece. If the ticks are present at shearing time the whole flock should be dipped at once to prevent the ticks from getting to the lambs.

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Heavy Seeds Give Best Plants. To obtain a good stand of grain it is necessary to use the largest and plumpest grain for seed. Small or shrunken grain gives weak plants,



many of which will fail to mature in an unfavorable season. A sudden change in temperature, a prolonged drought or a slight frost is more likely to destroy the weak plants than the strong. The increased yield at harvesting time is quite a consideration. In the illustration the heavy and light samples of barley A B C and D produced plants as indicated with corresponding letters above.

The Farmer. He used to wear his pantaloons inside his muddy boots; He used to sing outlandish tunes And dress in misfit suits; He used to rise at half past four, And milk and hoe and plough; He doesn't do so any more, He's counting money now.

The callouses upon his hands Were softened long ago; For employes prepare his lands For nature's fertile show; There is no sorrow in his eye Nor anger on his brow; Things are not as in days gone by, He's counting money now. —Washington Evening Star.

Potash Content of Clay Soils.

According to a recent bulletin of the New Hampshire Station, the clay and clay loam soils carry sufficient potash for the production of maximum yields of hay, and that a large part of the potash applied in fertilizers is lost so far as the crop is concerned. In other words, the addition of commercial potash to such soils is unnecessary. When barnyard manure, which contains a large amount of potash, is added, the value lies, not in the potash, but in the other fertilizing elements, and in large part in the improvement of the physical condition of the soil.

Cultivation for Forest Trees.

The young farmer forester should be experienced in the art of stimulating the growth of trees in natural groves by cultivation. When we come to think how hard the ground is in some woods it is really strange that trees get enough moisture to support themselves. The difference in the amount of rainfall absorbed by a level-plowed field and hard-baked hillside is very great, and it is wonderful how an oak or hickory growing on a hillside ever attains to great height and size.

Winter Egg Producers.

The essentials to profitable egg production are a healthy flock of fowls possessing constitutional vigor, bred from a laying strain; proper housing, and correct feeding. The best way to secure a laying strain on the farm is to select the hens of greatest vigor that naturally produce the most eggs during the winter. Mate these hens with a good male, also from a laying strain, and then select only the best daughters from this mating.

Difference in Types.

The man who has been accustomed all his life to raising the hard type of hog will have his troubles when he comes to shift over to the bacon breed. This has nothing to do with the merits of the breeds in question, but the feeding habits, the general character and make-up of the two types are different, and some time and possibly some expense is necessary before the experienced feeder of the one type can shift over and become a successful feeder of the other.

Ventilation and Egg Fertility.

A common cause of the failure of fertile eggs to hatch is lack of sufficient ventilation. The fresh air supply depends to a greater extent than is generally known on the difference in the temperature of the air inside the machine and that of the room in which the incubator stands.

WEALTH MORGAN CONTROLS SHOWN IN DIAGRAMS.

RAILWAY GROUP \$4,723,453,945

INDUSTRIAL \$2,513,099,000



INSURANCE GROUP \$1,029,626,170

TRUST CO. GROUP \$438,806,800



BANKS \$671,322,500

J. Pierpont Morgan \$9,178,308,423



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POPULAR SCIENCE

TO KEEP THE RIVERS OF THE COUNTRY FREE FROM SNAGS AND OTHER IMPEDIMENTS TO NAVIGATION, THE GOVERNMENT MAINTAINS A FLEET OF THIRTY STEAMBOATS AND SPENDS \$360,000 A YEAR.

A railroad in Pennsylvania is experimenting with ties made of old rail, cut to the right length and anchored with the broadest side upward in rock ballast. The new rails are clamped on them by steel fastenings.

Officers of the new battleship South Dakota, which is equipped with turbine engines, says there is absolutely no vibration of the fire control masts, a difficulty always found in the reciprocating engine driven vessels.

Petrol driven street cars, seating forty-eight passengers and capable of a speed of ten miles an hour, are now planting horse cars in Karachi, India, without necessitating the expense of changing the system into an electric line.

A statistician has figured out that last year's brownish crop was so small that each American family can have but one and one-seventh brooms this year, without allowing for business houses, corporations or municipalities.

A Scotchman, Mr. John Lowden, has invented a "smoke tintometer," which, it is thought, may be of use in preventing cases of "smoke nuisance." It consists of a tube with a single eyepiece and two object openings. One of these is clear, but the other contains a revolving diaphragm in which are set five circles, one of clear glass and the other four of tinted glasses corresponding with the standard tints of a scientific "smoke chart." In examining smoke-delled air the diaphragm is turned until the tinted glass coincides in darkness with the air seen through the clear aperture. The various glasses are systematically numbered, so that a glance suffices to show the degree of delilement of the air.

Archibald Sharp described at a recent meeting of the Institution of Automobile Engineers in London his system of air-springs for road vehicles. As applied to the saddle pillar of a bicycle, the apparatus consists essentially of a vertical cylinder with a piston or plunger, made to work air-tight by a specially constructed "mitten," and supporting the weight of the rider. The same device has been applied to motorcycles, and experiments have been made with a light motor car. On the front fork of a heavy motorcycle the "life" of the "mitten" covered from 2,000 to 5,000 miles, but on a back spring fork it was only equivalent to 1,000 miles. The effect of the air springs is described as luxuriously comfortable.

Since its invasion of the Salton Sink, and the struggle of the engineers to hold it under control, the Colorado river has found a new mouth, 20 or 30 miles southeast of the old one. The consequences of this change, says Dr. D. T. MacDougal, are somewhat momentous. For one thing, the bore which formerly ran many miles upstream, affecting both the Colorado and the Hardy rivers, will probably dis-

appear, since in the new channel the water reaches the sea by a more gradual descent and with a gentler current. New mud flats will fringe the shore for a distance of 50 miles. Eventually, it is probable, a brackish lake, 50 or 60 miles long, will be formed, into which the seepage of the Hardy river will flow, and serious disturbance of the plants and animals over an area of several hundred square miles may ensue.

HORSE STILL IN DEMAND.

In Spite of Motor-Car Craze Man's Friend Is Not Forgotten.

There are marked signs of a revival of interest in the horse. That beautiful creature has never been wholly forgotten, not even when the craze for motor cars was at its height, for flesh and blood and a high order of intelligence when added to beauty have claims that the smoothest running machinery cannot hide. But there have been times during the past four or five years when many lovers of the horse must have despaired of his future. Those times, fortunately, seem passed, never to return.

In New York the market for light harness horses has not been so active since 1906, says the Providence Bulletin. The prices are high, but the supply is painfully inadequate to meet the demand. The revival in interest in road racing in Providence, where there are now two driving clubs, and an attractive speedway at Roger Williams Park, where the members engage in their fascinating sport, is probably only one instance in many of the renewed enthusiasm with which the man of means and leisure is returning to the fast roadster.

Nor is the demand for the horse confined to those who desire speed. This severe winter, with its snowdrifts and uneven roads, ill-fitted for motor cars, has caused exceptional activity in the markets for carriage, wagon and truck horses.

Draft horses are also in demand. This demand evidently is regarded as permanent, for American enterprise is now devoting much money to the breeding of this variety. The Iowa State Agricultural College, under the direction of Prof. C. F. Curtis, one of the judges of draft horses at the last national horse show in New York, is attempting to develop a purely American variety of this breed. Starting with Shires and Clydesdales, two British breeds, and using only gray-colored animals, Prof. Curtis plans to evolve a draft horse of that color. Gray is desired, for those that are of that color are popularly and also scientifically considered better able to endure severe heat than those of other colors. The experiments that the government and private citizens are making in Vermont to improve the Morgan, an all-round horse of great usefulness, are further evidence of the enduring nature of the revival of interest in this fine animal. Lovers of the horse have again come into their own and they are likely to have more cause than ever before for their admiration and affection.

Her Specialty.</