

FARM NOTES

Farmers and High Prices.
The farmer is not gully. He is a very small factor in the high prices now being paid for products. A study of prices paid in Chicago for bees, sheep and hogs and for produce will show that the farmer is not getting more than his share. Recently the writer purchased a hind quarter of beef, dressed and delivered on his farm, for 9 cents a pound. This same piece of meat would retail in Chicago for twice that amount. Any one can buy dressed meat from the farmers for that price—7 cents a pound for fore quarter and 9 cents for hind quarter.

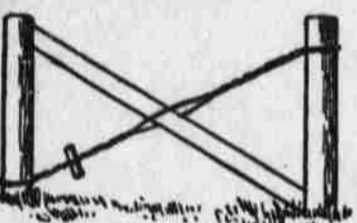
Our hogs sell for nearly 8 cents a pound on the hoof and can be purchased from farmers, killed and dressed, at 12 cents. There is no waste in either dressed pork or beef purchased from farmers—the same kind as that you get from your local butcher. The farmer is paying high prices for everything he uses and his land must earn an income on an investment of from \$100 to \$200 an acre. His farm machinery and horses have doubled in price.

Don't blame the farmer; he is working hard for very ordinary wages. I am farming 160 acres. I will be highly pleased if I get \$20 an acre for my crop, or \$3,200 for the year. The landlord gets one-half the crop for rent, leaving me \$1,600 for a year's work for myself, wife and son, and \$2,500 worth of horses and machinery. To earn this \$1,600 we work from 4 a. m. until 8 p. m., eight months of the year, and during the other four months put in more than eight hours a day at hard manual labor. It is not all milk and honey on the farm, and the writer believes that the farmer, as a consumer as well as a producer, is buying too many automobiles for middlemen, paying dividends on too much watered stock and being the "fall guy" as well as the cliff dwellers of the city.
—A Farmer.

Brace for Fence Post.

In about four cases out of every ten sagging of wire fences is due to poor, improper bracing. It is not enough to staple the separate strands secured to each post—that is splendid as far as it goes. To have a well-stretched fence and keep it taut, it is absolutely necessary that a good brace or anchor post be used and that the fence be stretched from these anchors. A good brace is illustrated. The construction is very simple and the cost is as moderate as any.

The end post should be of good size and perfectly sound. The brace post need not be large, but must be in good condition if it is to wear. Other posts may be easily reset without interfering greatly with the fence, but this is not the case with either of the braces. The 4x4 running from the top of one post to the base of the other should be well selected, as considerable stress is placed upon it. It is best to mortise the ends of the cross bar or brace into the posts, as blocks nailed on give way in time. A fairly



FENCE POST BRACE.

soft wire is better for the binding strand than one more liable to break with winding.

Tungsten Lamps for Farms.

The introduction of tungsten lamps is doing much to advance the use of electricity on farms. It is possible for the farmer with a small plant driven either by a gasoline engine or by damming a small stream, to obtain sufficient current to light his house and barn with this economical type of incandescent lamp. The use of electricity on the farm, by the way, is growing, and, as pointed out by the Electrical World, farmers will in time come to consider electricity a necessity. Then it will be found profitable to establish central generating stations for farming districts to take the place of the small individual plants now being installed.

Live Stock Builds Up Land.

It is very well known that in the old agricultural districts of Europe where land has been under cultivation for 2,000 years there is an increasing tendency to expand live stock industry. It is now recognized that animal husbandry is a wonderful help in not only maintaining the fertility of the soil, but also live stock industry builds up the land. Germany now has 10,987,000 milk cows, an increase of 500,000 in the past seven years. The total number of cattle in the empire aggregates 20,631,000, a gain of nearly 5,000,000 since 1883. Pigs total 22,147,000, as against 9,206,000 in 1883. The only class of live stock which shows a decrease is sheep, which declined 2,000,000 in the past seven years.

Different Methods.

It is generally conceded by the best stockmen and farmers, as well as by authorities of some of the experiment stations, that meat animals of the future will have to be fed and finished in a different manner from what they have been. Less corn and more nitrogenous feeds in the form of clover, cowpeas and alfalfa, supplemented with better pastures, must be used in order to make the production profitable and at the same time make more and better manure for maintaining the fertility of the land.

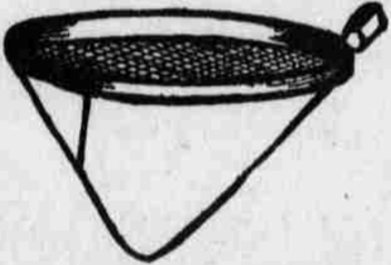
Corn fodder and stover have in the past been used to a considerable extent in steer feeding, thus utilizing nearly all the corn plant. Feeding silage to beef steers is gradually gaining in favor, and by the use of silos and silage in beef production all of the corn plant can be used to good advantage.

The legumes, including clover and alfalfa of the north and cowpeas of the south, have been found very profitable and economical in feeding both steers and hogs. Careful experiments have shown that a steer will make more economical gains on about half the corn usually fed with about an equal weight of alfalfa hay than on a diet of corn, with the dressed meat of a higher grade. Alfalfa on the farm before it is baled and marketed is worth only about half as much as corn, pound for pound, hence the gain to the grower in using the hay as a part of the finishing ration.

Growing and finishing hogs has already been radically changed over wide sections. More of forage crops such as alfalfa and cowpeas are being used, with less corn.

To Clean the Well.

It is well to make one of these devices against time of need. The dry season is the best and only time to fix



SIEVE TO CLEAN THE WELL.

and clean the farm well, writes J. L. Risley. Any floating matter may be removed by using an ordinary hand sieve. After marking off the rim into three parts attach a wire to any of these parts or points, and for a handle use an attached rope. Fasten the end of the rope to the third point in the rim and a weight to the sieve, so it will sink after lowering. In using sink the sieve edgewise in the water, pull the rope with a single attachment, lifting out of well all the floating sticks and other debris from the surface of the water.

Keeping Accounts.

It has only been in recent years that farmers have been awakening to the fact that by taking an inventory once a year and by keeping an accurate book account that many valuable lessons could be learned and that by so doing they could place their farms on a more profitable basis. With business men, competition is so keen and profits necessarily so small that without keeping an accurate book account they would soon be forced out of business, but with farmers more slack methods do not necessarily result in bankruptcy, due, no doubt, to the fact that the farmer gets most of his living from the farm without any cash outlay, whereas the merchant must pay cash for everything he eats and wears. Notwithstanding this fact, however, the farmer who keeps a book account will find it just as profitable, if not more so, as the merchant.

Fattening Fowls.

A fowl should always be fattened quickly as possible. Ten days is long enough, but it should be confined either in a coop or a number in a small yard. They must have a continual supply of fresh water, and should be fed four times a day, the first meal being given early and the last one late. A recommended mixture is three parts corn meal, one part ground oats, one part bran, one part crude tallow, the entire lot scalded and fed for the first three meals, with all the corn and wheat that can be eaten up clean at night. Weigh the articles given.

Milk Production.

Where help can be obtained to operate the dairy, milk production is one of the best paying branches of animal husbandry. The farmers operating their holdings with milk cows are enabled to market all the roughage and grain produced on the farm in milk, butter, cream or cheese. The dairy industry is especially adapted to build up and increase the fertility of the farm. It is popular among farmers because the farmer realizes a monthly income on his investments. As a rule, dairymen are thrifty and prosperous agriculturists.—Drovers' Journal

DOINGS OF WOMEN

Limitations.

He had mastered all wisdom abroad and at home, His frontal bone bulged like a capitol dome. He had garnered the world's choicest fancy and fact, And with things cyclopedic his mem'ry was packed. He chortled with glee at the sight of new lore, He digested each morsel and clamored for more. He knew all the tongues, down to Choctaw and Creek, He lectured in Sanscrit and gossiped in Greek.

But they asked him to stand as a god-father once, And he blundered and failed like the veriest dunce.

He was brave as a lion, unconquered, untamed; His hair-breadth escapes were unnumbered, unnamed. A mad dog amuck in the street scared not him, And runaway steeds he had stopped with great vim. He had battled for life on the ocean in storm, He sought gravest perils to keep in good form. While fire and tempest, or pistol and knife— These menaces served as the breath of his life.

But his wife sent him shopping, with samples to match, And he fainted—and never came up to the stratch.

—L. D.

"Best Dressed" is Defined.

If I were laying down only one rule in the matter of dress I should make it this," said an authority on woman's dress, "Be inconspicuous." "I may add that personally it is a great delight to me to purchase goods over the counter presided over by a tastefully dressed saleswoman. By that I mean one who allows her own sweetness and good looks to shine out regardless of extravagant dress accessories. Jewelry, for example, is much out of place on a working woman, or, indeed, on any woman when she goes downtown on business. It is exactly the same with the big bows and inordinate high heels and tightly laced waists. My advice is one or at least two dresses a year, well made and of good material, rather than superfluous flashiness. Of course, a girl should go to the theater and to a party occasionally. It is possible for her to be quite well dressed with another pretty separate waist, which, if she has any ingenuity, she can make valuable herself by handwork. If she has not the skill, I think it would be far better for her to study sewing in some school for the evening and thus attain this skill.

"But let me add that the inconspicuously dressed woman is always the best dressed woman."

Men Susceptible to Voice.

Very few women realize what an effect a sweet voice has on a man. A woman may be very pretty to look upon, may be faultlessly and bewitchingly attired, and attractive in every way, and yet too often directly she opens her mouth and speaks, the spell is broken, the charm is gone. And this need never be.

Very few voices are so naturally bad that they will not succumb to training, and the voice can be trained to be just as sweet and gentle as we please to make it.

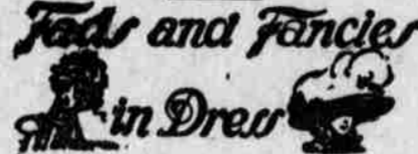
A woman should speak in a low voice. She should not allow her voice to raise itself to a high pitch. She should not shout her orders. This shouting and raising of the voice spoils tone and quality, and tends to make it harsh. A pretty voice is a powerful attraction in a woman, and she who would add to her charms a wondrous fascination should cultivate a voice "ever soft, gentle and low."

Russian Tailor-Made.



This model has the full pleated skirt so acceptable to the American woman, also the new seamless shoulder, the

pleated, close-fitting coat proper with graduated peplum and straight belt of the material at the natural waistline. The material is a very dark, smoothly-finished French serge, the frogs, cuffs, buttons and collar facing all of black. A Gage hat in the popular tricorn shape is shown with this suit.



Turbans of a military appearance are very fetching with the tailored suit.

Elaborate braiding appears on some of the coats of the dressy tailored suits.

The newest coiffure is flat in front and piled heavily over the ears. It is called the Brittany.

A brocade of a faint opal gray and pink made a lovely lining for a coat of rich black sealskin.

With the season's double-breasted coats the correct thing is to begin the buttons at the waist line.

Light yokes are much more becoming as a rule than the dark material of the gown coming next the face.

Corded ribbon is being used as a

MODISH DESIGNS FOR CHILDREN.



We are showing two modish designs for smartly dressed children. The frock on the left is given a military tone with its front panel and cuff trimming of narrow braid and buttons. The material is the lightest weight pale blue chiffon broadcloth, and that combined with the silver braid and buttons makes a most effective little dress. The long-waisted bodice is joined to a plaited skirt under a sash of sapphire blue satin, the latter tacked at intervals on sides and finished at back in graduated loops. Miss Dainty on the right is wearing a quaint, pretty frock of green-striped white challis, with closing on left side. The little skirt is made in tunic fashion and cut away to show a plaited front. The belt is green velvet, a few shades darker than the stripe, and matches the covered buttons and sleeve bands. The neck finish is a flat collar of baby Irish.

trimming on several of the daintiest of the ready-made evening gowns.

Coats of material contrasting with the skirt are a good deal seen, velvet being the most used with cloth skirts.

Black fur is by far the most attractive pelt for the trimming of the numberless green suits and gowns worn this season.

Pretty with cuffs and colored blouses is the deep cuff of linen with embroidery button-holed scallops and plaited lace frill.

Street costumes will be made of pongees and rajahs. The latest patterns in both goods have changeable hues the same as silks.

Seed pearls lead in the list of jewels for hair adornment. They are used in combination with fluffy tulle or on the classic bandeau.

Petticoats to wear under velvet gowns have an upper part of mousseline de sole, with a flounce and little frills of some heavier silken fabric.

First of all, silks will be worn this year, especially changeable taffetas of two tones. This is really the most important feature as yet developed relative to forthcoming materials.

Ink Stains.

Fresh ink stains may be removed by the application of sweet milk, and this is good in cases of colored fabrics which may be affected by chemicals and acids. Fresh stains should be saturated with cold water and then pressed with clean blotting paper. Repeat until no more stains can be re-

moved and then rub it with the soft side of a lemon and sprinkle thickly with table salt.

The ink spots may be removed from white wash fabrics by soaking a few minutes and then washing in a strong solution of oxalic acid, taking care to wash out the acid thoroughly afterward. Melted tallow poured on the spot while hot and scraped off when cold will also be found to be safe and often a sure remedy.

Dressmaker.

Of course, every one likes to have a new suit each season, but four suits a year soon land one in quite a mess of half-worn clothes that are a burden and a reproach to a conscientious woman. It is often wiser and more satisfactory to remodel a last year's suit than to buy a new one.

A good material should give two or three seasons of hard service if it is handled in the right manner. It can always be cleaned, turned or dyed so that the most fastidious woman can satisfy herself as to its absolute freshness.

A new lining, new cuff and collar facings for a coat, and a general overhauling for a skirt, will put a last year's suit quite in order if one only intends using it for hard hacking and rainy days.

But if the suit must make a presentable appearance in good society one will have to go to a little more trouble. It should be recut, the sleeves made up to date and the neck opening, collar, etc., made to answer to the last word on smart tailoring.

A Singing Teapot.

It is said that the Japanese, so ingenious in making curious and fascinating devices of every kind, manufacture singing teakettles. An iron kettle, otherwise quite ordinary, has the almost lifelike characteristic of



The Vicar—Now, children, what is false doctrine? Inspired Maiden—Please, sir, bad medicine.

Young Woman (adoringly)—It must be awfully nice to be wise and know—oh—everything! College Student—It is.

"What did you say last night when Jack asked you to marry him?" "I shook my head." "Sideways or up and down?"

She—How did you know I was going to wear my hair curled this evening? He—I saw it in the papers this morning.

First Fair Invalid—Which kind of doctor do you prefer—the allopathic or the homeopathic? Second Fair Invalid—I prefer the sympathetic.

Bobbie (to Featherstone)—Did you know that you were a relative of ours? Featherstone—Since when? "Mother says you are our weak brother."

Boy—A man came in and said he wanted to squeeze some money out of you. Boss—What did you tell him? Boy—I said I was sorry you weren't in.

"Kitty," said her mother rebukingly, "you must sit still when you are at the table." "I can't mamma," protested the little girl, "I'm a fidgetarian."

"On what ground, madam, do you desire a divorce from your husband?" "Intolerable cruelty; he put the date of my birth in the family Bible."—Chicago News.

"What a bad toothache you've got." "No; but I'm calling on the dentist for the money he owes me, and this is the only way I can get into his house."—Flegende Blatter.

"Women vote! Never, sir, with my consent." "Why not?" "What! And have my wife losing thirty-dollar hats to other women on the election!"—Boston Transcript.

Mrs. Newbride—Boohoo! Henry threw a biscuit at me. One that I made myself, too. Mother—The monster! He might have killed you.—United Presbyterian.

"How much does it cost to get married?" asked the eager youth. "That depends entirely on how long you live," replied the sad-looking man.—Philadelphia Record.

"Isn't your hat rather curious in shape?" asked the uniformed man. "Certainly," answered his wife. It has to be. Any hat that wasn't curious in shape would look queer."

The Girl (rather weary, at 11:30 p. m.)—I don't know a thing about baseball. The Beau—Let me explain it to you. The Girl—Very well, give me an illustration of a home run.

Little—Is your young minister so very, very fascinating? Hattie—Fascinating! Why, lots of girls in our church have married men they hated, just to get one kiss from the rector after the ceremony.—Puck.

Chumpleigh—Well, my dear, I had my life insured for \$5,000 to-day. Mrs. Chumpleigh—I'm glad you did, John. Now you won't have to be so careful about dodging street cars and automobiles.—Chicago Daily News.

"The American eagle," said the orator, "knows no fear." "Yes," replied Mr. Sirius Barker, "the American eagle is mighty lucky. Any bird that isn't good enough to eat has a right to congratulate itself these days."—Washington Star.

Physician—Have you any aches or pains this morning? Patient—Yes, doctor; it hurts me to breathe; in fact, the only trouble now seems to be with my breath. Physician—All right. I'll give you something that will soon stop that.—Boston Globe.

Aunt Spinstery—I Hope that your opinions uphold the dignity of our sex, Mamie, and that you believe that every woman should have a vote? Mamie—I don't go quite so far as that, auntie; but I believe that every woman should have a vote!—Human Life.

Modern Girl—Father, I long to be independent—to rely upon my own exertions for support. What trade or profession would you recommend? Wise Father—First class cooks made \$5,000 a year. Modern girl—I don't like cooking. It's too feminine!—New York Weekly.

Dr. McCree—My dear Mrs. Goodman, how could you bring out a young child on such a day as this, with such a strong east wind blowing? Mrs. Goodman—Ah, doctor, you will always have your little joke. How can a child of this age possibly know what wind it is?—Tit-Bits.

"I hope you don't mind me asking," said the young woman, diffidently, "but should I call you professor or doctor?" "Oh, call me anything you like," was the great man's rejoinder, "some people call me an old idiot." "Really," the lady murmured, with sweet innocence, "but then they would be people who knew you intimately."

Lady—You say, professor, that tobacco is an aid to thought and a stimulant to the reasoning faculties; but Professor Greathead says tobacco is in every way injurious. How do you account for that difference? The Professor—Easily enough, madam. Professor Greathead does not smoke, and consequently he can neither think straight nor reason correctly.

Wearing New Shoes.

To prevent shoes from blistering the heel, paste a small piece of felt or velvet in the heel; then they will not slip up and do