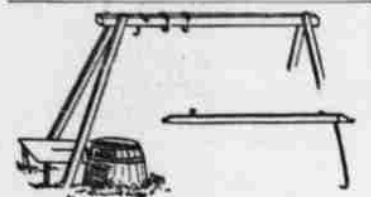




Farm Hog-Killing Outfit.
As all farmers who kill their own hogs know, the old way of butchering is very inconvenient and tiresome. The following arrangement, illustrated in the Queenslander, makes the labor comparatively easy. The top piece is 2x5 inches, and 12 feet long. The mortices for the supports to fit in are made five inches from the ends of piece, and are one-half inch deep, 2 1/4 inches wide at bottom, by 1 1/4 inches at top, thus only one bolt is needed to hold them together at top. The upright supports are 2x2 1/2, and seven feet long; cross-piece, 1 1/4 x 2 1/2, and at one end this should be bolted on upright pieces, down low enough so that bench will set over it. The lever is 3 1/2 x 2 at staple, and shaved down to 1 1/4 at end. Staples made of five-sixteenths inch rod iron, and long enough to clinch. Clevis



where chain is fastened is made of three-eighths inch iron. The end of the lever is iron, 6x2 1/2 bent, as shown for gambrel stick to rest on, while lifting pig to the pole hooks, which are made large enough to slip back and forth easily on upper piece. Rods one-half inch, bent to hold gambrel stick. A hook not shown in cut made of one-half inch iron, attaches to B and provides a fulcrum for the lever A for dipping hog in the barrel and raising carcass to the gambrel hooks. Bench, 10x1 1/2 inches, 20 inches high, 8 feet long. Barrel to be set in the ground one-quarter its length.

No Profit in Farm Alcohol.
The Department of Agriculture, through Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry, has undertaken to educate the farmers regarding the manufacture of denatured alcohol. Two bulletins on the subject have been issued.

From Dr. Wiley's discussion of the subject the conclusion is reached that the manufacture of alcohol on a very small scale is not likely to prove profitable, and because of revenue regulations it is evident that the farmer must be content with producing the raw materials. The bulletin on the subject of sources and manufacture says:

"The principal uses of industrial alcohol are illumination, heating, motive power and the manufacture of lacquers, varnishes, smokeless powder, medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations, vinegar and ether. When industrial alcohol is made at a price at which it can compete with petroleum and gasoline, it doubtless will be preferred for the purposes above mentioned, because of its greater safety and more pleasant odor. Under the present conditions it is not probable that industrial alcohol can be offered upon the market at much less than 40 cents a gallon of 95 per cent strength."

Dr. Wiley expresses the belief, however, that by paying attention to unused sources of raw material and with improved methods of manufacturing and denaturing this price can be diminished.

Ginseng in Missouri.
According to the Missouri experiment station bulletin, the cultivation of ginseng for the Chinese market has become an important industry in that State, notwithstanding the fact that it takes five or six years to mature a crop. While the crop is exceptionally valuable, the cultivation of ginseng has been found to possess disadvantages the same as most other cultivated crops. It appears that several fungus diseases have broken out in the ginseng plantations, some of which are extremely serious and infectious, large areas often being destroyed in a single week. However, the particular organisms causing the damage have been recognized and methods for keeping the diseases under control have now been worked out.

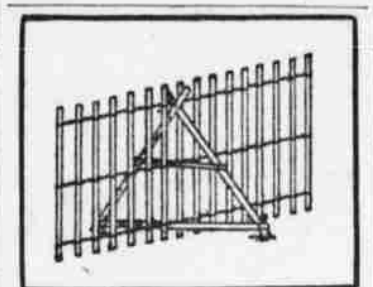
Cattle Lice.
Lice on cattle indicate lack of attention and poor feed. Grease of any kind will destroy lice on cattle, but grease should not be used if it can be avoided. First wash the animal with kerosene emulsion, and follow with clear water. When the skin is dry dust every portion of the body with a mixture of a peck of carbonate of lime and a bushel of clean, dry dirt. If a single animal is infested with lice, the others will soon be in the same condition unless remedies are used as preventives.

Onion Growing.
The period between killing frosts in Montana is placed at 100 to 120 days, while the time required for onions to mature from seeding is 135 to 150 days, and if onions are not thoroughly ripe their keeping quality is injured, according to a report prepared by R. W. Fisher, of the Montana Station. The experiments are recorded in detail for each year, and yields given by both methods of culture.

Generally speaking, the yields from transplanted onions were from 50 to 200 per cent larger than from seed sown in the field, where there was but little or no increase in cost of labor. The transplanting insures an even crop, the maturity of the crop and the keeping quality of the onions. Prize taker gave the largest average yield of the nineteen varieties grown, and was one of the best keepers, though not usually advertised as a winter onion. The seedling bulbs of this variety, however, kept poorly because the growing season was not long enough to properly mature them. The use of well-rotted manure increased the yield of both field-sown and transplanted onions. Suggestions are included for making hotbeds.

The Onion Maggot.
The onion maggot and cabbage maggot can only be distinguished by an expert, as they are very nearly alike. The maggot is the larva of a small fly. There is no known "sure" remedy that can be applied. Sprinkling powdered sulphur around the plants is a partial remedy, but it does not always bring relief. Making a small hole near each onion and pouring into each hole half a teaspoonful of bisulphide of carbon, covering the holes with earth, is claimed to be a remedy, but such method is expensive and laborious. Liquid manure applied to the plants is claimed to be a remedy. The best preventive is to grow the onions on land that has not before produced a crop, but of course such can not be done until next season. This change of location of the onion patch is the only partial solution of the maggot problem.

Sagging Fence Supports.
For fence posts or supports that will not rot off or break off, for picket or wire fence, take two boards 2x6, cross at the top so as to leave a crotch for top wire. Fasten together with 8-penny nails. Put a crosspiece in the middle for middle wires to rest on and fasten with staple and a crosspiece at bottom for bottom wires to rest on and fasten with staple. Then anchor with a small stake on each side to prevent



wind from tipping over, and you have a good post for picket fence. Nail or wire post to the stake. This makes an excellent post for repairing an old picket fence.—Farm Progress.

Milk Cows.
The Hollanders evidently breed and feed for milk first of all. That they succeed is proved by the large milk yields of their cows. That large milk flow, seemingly regardless of butter-fat percentage, pays them is proved by their prosperity. The dairyman here thinks it necessary to pay small prices for dairy cows that annually yield from 3,000 to 4,000 pounds of milk. What the financial result to him is, the wretched records show only too plainly. He is the worst-paid farmer in the land. What could he not do if, instead of breeding, buying, feeding and milking cheap cows, he were to breed, feed and milk cows of the 11,500 to 14,500 pound class? The Frieslanders and other Hollanders, with their gigantic cows, make money on milk produced on soil that costs from \$500 to \$2,000 an acre or rents at from \$50 to \$200.

Points in Pruning.
In pruning the trees all stems half an inch or more in diameter should be covered with some waterproof substance, like grafting wax or shellac of the consistency of cream. The bark and outer wood will thus be preserved, and the wound will in a season or so be covered with new bark. If this precaution be not taken the end of the branch may decay from exposure to wind, rain, heat and cold.

The Egg-Eating Hen.
Some one wants to know how to keep hens from eating their eggs. Having had some experience along that line, I offer a few suggestions: A deep nest box, in which there is only room for the hen's body, so that she cannot get at the eggs when on the nest, and too deep for her to reach the eggs when standing on the edge of it, is a good thing. The best nest box I have used is 14 inches square and 18 inches deep, covered with a 6-inch door or opening at the top of one side.



Mrs. Slummer—Does your husband drink regularly? Mrs. Hogan—No, mum; my wages isn't steady.—Judge.
Giles—Uncle Sam ought to send a lot of our servant girls to China. Miles—What for? Giles—To smash it.—Chicago News.

Author—Could you give me an appropriate motto for my essay on sea voyage? Traveler—Yes; "sic transit."—Baltimore American.

"Archie is fairly going crazy over his new automobile." "That's strange. Every time I've seen him he has been going crazy under it."—Chicago Tribune.

Miss—You can't entertain your company in the parlor. Bridget—Oh can't? Why, mum, didn't you hear him laughin' fit to split?—New York Sun.

"The man I marry," declared Miss Elder, "must be capable of great self-sacrifice." "Yes," murmured Miss Younger, "he'll have to be."—Cleveland Leader.

Motto over the walls of a school in Germany: "When wealth is lost, nothing is lost." "When health is lost, something is lost." "When character is lost, all is lost."

"It seems his uncle fell out of a hotel window in Europe." "Gracious! Any bones broken?" "Not one." "No?" "No, he was merely drowned. It happened in Venice."—Philadelphia Ledger.

"Why in the world did Snigglesley want to marry his divorced wife again?" "It seems that she'd saved up all the alimony he paid her during the years' they lived apart."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Wife—I caught Bridget starting the fire this morning with paraffine. John. Husband—How much do we owe her? Wife—Four months' wages. Husband—Well, let her go on with the paraffine. —Clipped.

Anxious Parent—Doctor, my daughter appears to be going blind, and she is about to be married. Doctor—Let her go right on with the wedding. If anything can open her eyes, marriage will.—Stray Stories.

"There goes a woman with a history," remarked the clerk in a bookstore, as a lady passed out at the front door. "How do you know?" queried the proprietor. "Because," explained the clerk, "I just sold it to her."—Chicago Daily News.

Housemaid—I'm goin' to leave you, mum. I'm goin' to work for Mrs. Monk, an' would you give me a good reference, mum? Mistress—To work for Mrs. Monk? Certainly; I'll give you a glowing reference. I hate that woman.—Selsors.

"I am afraid, madam," said a gentleman who was looking for country lodgings, "that the house is too near the station to be pleasant." "It is a little noisy," assented the landlady, "but from the front veranda one has such a fine view of people who miss the trains."—Tit-Bits.

"Oh!" remarked the first fox hunter, "you should have seen Mr. Nuritch take that high hedge." "You surprise me!" exclaimed the other. "I thought the horse he rode wasn't much of a jumper." "Oh! the horse didn't take the hedge. Mr. Nuritch did it alone."—Philadelphia Press.

His Coachman—Professor, why is it that the moon always shows the same face? The Professor—That is due to the circumstance that its revolution upon its axis is coincident with the revolution it makes in its orbit. The Coachman—Thankee. I thort it was somethin' like that.—Chicago Tribune.

"I thought," said Mrs. Oldenstie, "that you intended to have D'Auber, the great mural painter, do some work for you." "We did," replied her hostess, "but Josiah discharged him. He tried to cheat us by painting on the walls. I s'pose because he didn't want to spend any money for canvas."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"They say you get 250 marks a month. I can't believe it; tell me how." "I get 110 marks salary; then I don't pay my rent, 40 marks; that's 150 marks; I owe the milkman 30 marks, that's 180 marks; my butcher 40 marks, 20 marks, and every month I raise 30 marks out of my friends, makes an income of 250 marks a month!"—Fliegende Blätter.

Polite, but—
"Good-morning, ma'am," said Willie, doffing his cap.
"My, what a polite little boy!" exclaimed Miss Pert Parsay. "Do you always take off your cap like that to ladies?"
"No'm; only to old ladies."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Do you earn a living that you don't get—or do you get a living you don't earn?

INTELLECTUAL NEW YORK.

More Reading Done There Than in Any Other City.

Boston may claim the palm for intellectuality and real blue-blooded "baked in the bean" cleverness, but there are few persons who dwell more upon letters or read more in a lifetime than the average New Yorker, says the New York Press.

The New Yorker never stops reading, from the moment he shuts his flat door behind him in the morning until he comes back and shuts it behind him again at night. The moment he gets downstairs the bellboy hands him his mail or he takes it out of his own letter box as the case may be. It may not contain a personal letter, but there is never a day that he does not receive from one to three or four advertisements, booklets, pamphlets or circulars. He always glances over these at least once, and by the time he has finished he has reached the corner and is buying his morning newspaper.

As there is a newspaper issued about every hour of the day in New York City and many men try to devour them all the New Yorker spends a good many hours over his pink, yellow or burnt orange sheet. If he happens to finish one of these while on a street car or elevated train he cannot glance up without seeing a dozen advertisements along the line above the windows waiting to be read. These glare at him so steadfastly and furiously that he cannot fail to read them sooner or later. But, if one's eyes are tired and he shuts them to the street car ads, or turns them toward the street, the spell is still upon him. Signs, big and little; quick-lunch signs, hotel signs, tailor shop signs; bootblacks, barbers, theaters—all have their signs; millions of them, like microbes.

Then there are the names of the streets on the lamp posts as he flashes by. There is an almost uncontrollable desire to read them as well as the numbers on the automobiles which glare at you and the newstand signs teeming with vari-colored ads and the billboards and the rubber-neck coaches and the sandwich men. By the time the New Yorker reaches his office and begins to open his mail his eyes and brain are tired; but he goes on all day long, reading, reading, reading about baby powder and fancy preserves and canned soups and health foods and cold cream and hair renewers, etc., and then the Bostonian sneers because we have no time or inclination left for reading mere books.

QUEER WAY OF SMOKING.

West Indians Put Lighted End of Cigar in Mouth.

Visitors to the West Indies and the Spanish main have often noticed the native negro carrying a thin, dark object, like a very long cigarette or slender cigar, in his mouth, and if these visitors look long enough they would see smoke issuing occasionally from between the full, red lips of a buxom matron or a dried-up granny, says the New York Herald. But even the most observant could see no light on the end of the cigar smoked by the natives of the tropics.

That is not to be wondered at, however, for the reason that it is the custom of the natives in that part of the country to smoke with the lighted end inside the mouth. That is curious, of course, but not as remarkable as it sounds. Most of the women, who are all great smokers, work very hard. They coal ships, load bananas and do the kind of work usually done by men.

When on the docks, where they make hundreds of trips a day from the ship to the coal yard or fruit cars, there is generally a strong breeze blowing and it would be almost impossible to keep a cigar lighted in the teeth of a stiff trade wind. Besides, these hard toilers, who earn a few pence or a shilling a day, according to the amount of coal or fruit they carry, could not afford to take the time to keep their tobacco lighted, so they hit upon the scheme of protecting the light by keeping it in the mouth and thus enjoying a smoke without trouble or loss of time. They have been doing this for so many years that the older ones are experts and never burn their tongues or the inside of their mouths and the younger women soon get the hang of it.

The cigars they smoke are usually made of native tobacco and fashioned very rudely. They are about the size of a lead pencil.

The Brass Knocker.

An editor looked up from his dog-eared copy of "Lorna Doone."

"I've read this book about eight times," he said. "What first attracted me to it was a remark of the Archbishop of Canterbury. In England, some years ago, I saw the archbishop distribute some prize books to schoolboys. One of the books was 'Lorna Doone,' and as he handed it out the archbishop said:

"I went to school with the writer of this book. As he was a little younger than me, when he misbehaved I used to knock him on the head with a brass hammer."—Washington Star.

The act of forgiving doesn't always take away the power of memory.

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