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THE SANDOW

Pure and Wholesome

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Wasco, Oregon.

FARM GARDEN

THE ROAD DRAG.

A Lively Interest In It—The Kind of Road It Makes.

The road drag has had a veritable boom this spring, and this is likely to continue, for it seems to be demonstrated that good roads can be made by proper and persevering application of the drag. If one has not already dragged the road now is the time to begin—in fact, any time is a good time to begin. The method of making and using the drag and the principle on which it operates may be very well understood through the following statements from National Stockman:

To maintain hard, smooth, oval roads practically throughout the year all that is necessary is to go over them with a drag after every heavy rain in the spring, summer and fall. Use the drag while the dirt is in a puddled condition, so that the device will smear it down in a sort of layer. When the



ROAD DRAG IN ACTION.

[This drag is made of plank. The split log is generally considered preferable.]

sun and wind act on this moist coating it hardens. Then the constant tamping by horses and the wheels of vehicles beats it down as compactly as the dry mud balls which the boys make of clay and use in their slung shots. The next dragging places another layer of mud over the surface of the road to be firm in the same manner. This is repeated so often that the road finally acquires a hide or shield which is almost impervious to rain, shedding water like a metal roof. After two or three years it will remain hard and smooth throughout the year, and drivers can go at a rapid clip over it any time except when covered with ice. The bottom never fails out of it. Vehicles and wagons cannot cut grooves into it. Being smooth all over, traveling is distributed over the entire surface. Two or three buggies, for example, can travel side by side. The road is of course higher at the middle than at either side. At the start it may be lower in the center than at the sides, though most roads on which the common four horse draggers have been used are slightly elevated in the middle. The drag is made so that it will work up an elevation in the center. Four or five draggings will establish the oval characteristic in almost any road.

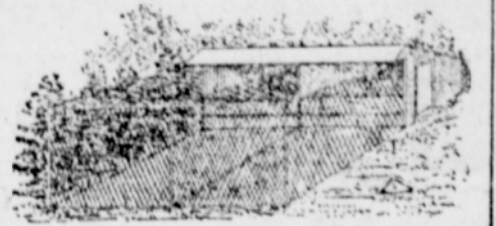
Clever Marketing.

My experience the past season confirms the belief that the way to make money out of melon growing is to build up a reputation for shipping good goods and have your own brand or trademark. We made eighteen shipments to our commission man and had goods in every shipment that sold at the highest prices. This result was secured by holding up the quality. As the season progressed we culled closer and closer. This naturally gave us a smaller proportion of fancy and No. 1 melons, but we had the satisfaction of getting the top price from first to last for our best goods—that bore our trademark. A month after the melon season was over the salesman who had charge of selling our fruit said it was a pleasure to handle such goods. It hurt the customers at first to pay more than they could get other melons for, but after they once got started they almost fought to get our fruit before it was gone.—W. B. Loyd, Illinois.

Neat Double Poultry House.

When the lightweight breeds, like Hamburgs, Leghorns, etc., are kept in small pens a high wall is no certain protection against escape. The barnyard inside is too great a contrast to the fine pasturage in sight, and fowl which would not cross an ordinary picket fence when on wide range will sometimes fly a six foot netting of small run. The illustration shows a very neat double coop and covered run suitable for two flocks of a dozen fowl each.

Each yard is 8 by 12 by 6 feet. To cover the top use three sixteen-foot



OPEN FRONT POULTRY HOUSE.

[With covered run. A good arrangement for the New England farmer. Adapted for use in the South and West.]

strips of netting of the four foot width and running across both yards. With care in setting the posts and handling the netting the effect will be neat. The house part is of the simplest kind—a double shed of matched spruce or pine and paper roofing. For winter use, board up the front and have a window near the ground for each room; also cover the house inside and out with roofing paper. A house of this kind is good for pigeons, pheasants, etc.—American Cultivator.

HAYING MADE EASY.

Handling the Hay Crop Without Hired Help on a New York Farm.

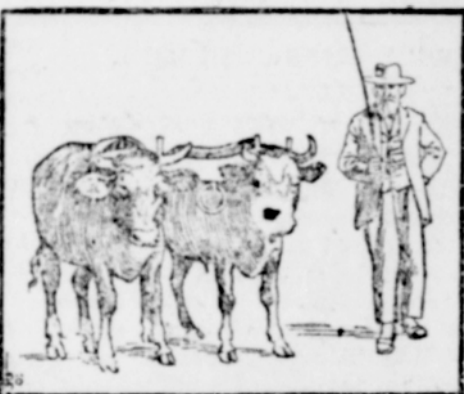
Having a hay crop of large amount to take care of, the first thing to look to is a first class mower. Get to work at cutting in the morning as soon as most of the dew is off. Nothing is gained by laying down a heavy swath of hay wet with dew. Cut no more than you are likely to handle easily the next afternoon. As soon as the outside rows are dry enough to rake start the side delivery rake, going round the piece in the same direction that you went with the mower. If not dry enough to draw in right off, leave in the windrow overnight. After you have mowed another strip for the next raking go over the windrows with your side delivery rake and just turn them over, and the chances are that you and Willie or Mary can go right to hauling in.

Now hitch your steadiest team on the wagon carrying a box hayrack sixteen feet long, ten feet wide and having slatted sides four and a half feet high. Hook on your hay loader and get straddle of one of those windrows just as quick as possible. Let the child drive and you will have all the business you want for the next ten minutes; it will depend on how good your wind is and how fast the team walks. Letter drive very slow. The load is now on. Unhook the loader, let it stand just where it stopped and go to the barn.

We put the old family horse on the end of the rope, with a hook, so Willie or Mary can easily unfasten the whiffletree from it. Never mind any one in the mow. Set the double harpoon hayfork in the hay and start. The horse easily snatches up 300 or 400 pounds of hay on to the carrier in the top of the barn, and you let it run along the track till you have it over the back end of the bay; then pull the trip cord, and away it goes clear to the bottom of the mow. Continue in the same manner for about seven or eight minutes and the load is off. Get up in the mow and in five minutes it is nearly level. Of course it is easier to have a man in the mow to help unload, but you can do without him. This is the little story of "Haying Made Easy," as told by a farmer in Rural New Yorker.

Oxen Looking Up.

The use of oxen on farms in New England is on the increase, and the reason given is that they are cheaper on some farms than horses. Farmers in that section of the country for years



OX TEAM.

have depended on buying their supply instead of raising them. Now that horses are high priced and scarce everywhere these farmers find it difficult to secure horses enough to work their land, but there are a good many farmers who advocate the use of cattle even when horses are plentiful. A good many of the New England farms are small, the fields irregular, and they have large stones to contend with. Such conditions make a complicated farming problem, which no doubt accounts for the preference for oxen in certain sections.—Farm, Field and Fireside.

Feeding Cattle Without Hogs.

My experience of twenty-seven years as a cattle feeder in eastern Nebraska, where corn and hay are about as cheap as anywhere in the country, justifies the assertion that there is seldom any profit in feeding cattle without hogs. writes a correspondent to Breeder's Gazette. By grinding the corn and mixing it with bran or linseed meal or both the waste is greatly reduced and fewer hogs are required, but the higher cost of these feeds partially offsets the saving effected. With the ordinary margin of from 1 cent to 2 cents per pound between cost of feeders and well finished beefs the owner can make no net profit if any waste or slipshod methods are tolerated.

GARDEN CRAFT

Corn, beans, melons, cucumbers, etc., and early planting.

a warm soil. Seeds sown too early are liable to decay in the ground. Those that do grow may be stunted by untimely cold and will not develop into good plants. It saves time to plant these warmth loving kinds after the soil is warm.

Keep the melons and the squashes well cultivated and look out for bugs. Tobacco dust is a good remedy.

As soon as the bean crop is over pull out the vines and plant the space to late cabbage, sweet corn or turnips.

It is time to set the celery.

Weeds are the greatest enemy of onions. Keep the ground stirred, especially after rain.

If you have any newly turned sod on which you can put a heavy dressing of manure it will be just the right situation to suit cabbage and cauliflower and will go far toward assuring a fine late crop.

Garden craft cannot all be learned from paper. The best of it comes through the handle of the hoe.

A good vegetable garden is a farm drug store, containing in a pleasant form many of the medicines which we take in strong doses after neglecting the laws of health.

LAMBS FOR PROFIT.

Good, Strong Belief About Breeding Them Successfully.

By JOHN CAMPBELL, Ontario.

In 1897 I imported one of the best Shropshire ewe lambs to be found in England, the pick of the best pen of five shown that year. She produced in six years thirteen living lambs, many of them first and champion prize winners. Up to the fall of 1904 in sales, her own winnings in Canada and her offspring's winnings in Canada and the States realized \$880 in cash. At the same time seven daughters and four granddaughters were retained in the flock, and the now eight-year-old dam is as fresh looking as a two-year-old.

As far as present prospects indicate the future course of things, growing lambs in general cannot for some years fall in being a profitable business. But in the sheep industry, as in other lines of agriculture, there is a good and a better way of going about it, and the best way is not too good for any one. It is in the good animal well prepared for the market that we invariably find our greatest profit. To have the lamb which will return the largest profit, be the market firm or dull, he must be bred for the purpose, along the right lines, and so cared for that every day of his life a steady increase in growth and flesh is maintained.

From the writer's experiences and observations at fat stock and other shows in Canada and the United States the lamb which led, and that strongly in grade classes for twelve or fifteen years past had a long woolled mother and for sire a Down, usually a Shropshire. A most notable exception was a pen of lambs exhibited by the Wisconsin Agricultural college at the international, Chicago, a few years ago, a pen of five, remarkable for beauty of form and good quality. They were sired by a Southdown ram and out of western range ewes and no visible line of breeding. Such evidences have led to a good, strong belief that a good ewe of most any kind of grade coupled with a compact, medium sized Shropshire ram, having a well covered back and a good full leg of mutton and big in his points, can produce the lamb we are after.

STACK COVERS.

A Very Great Convenience In Hay and Grain Harvest.

On this farm stack covers have been in use about twenty years and in saving grain and hay have paid their cost many times over. The two now in use are ten or twelve years old and are good for a few years' service yet. If they were kept for accommodation, to loan when called for at any time of the year, they would be very short lived. To prevent lending to every one (for many have no knowledge as to their proper care) a small fee is charged for use. In haying or grain stacking time they often can be made to help in pushing the work to completion as well as saving hay and grain, says John N. Jamison in National Stockman.

Stacking can often be commenced and well under way before rain comes when if one did not have the stack covers he would fear to begin the work on account of the unfavorable weather prospects. With the covers the work goes on till evening without fear of loss by rain and without a great rush and late work to finish the stack or rick begun. With the covers in reach, every hour in the day fit to use in stacking can be saved.

Covers can be put to excellent use in storing green hay in the barn. Late in the evening the wagons can be loaded with tough hay that one feels is most too green to put in the mow. The wagons can be driven to the barn and can safely stand outside with the covers over the load. If the sun is shining in the morning and the covers are removed the top part of the load will soon dry off. Then putting the hay in the mow and storing it away will release much of the heat and prevent a