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We have known of serious cases of "crick in the back" to be materially helped by the absorbing relaxation afforded in yelling at a good ball game.

The state of Wisconsin produces from 47 to 50 per cent of the national cheese supply. Between 200 and 250 new cheese factories have been added during the past year to the producing list.

Potato bugs and cutworms were scarce articles this season in the section where the writer lives, and, while there is no explanation for their disappearance, gardeners are mighty thankful for it.

An average cow will eat seven-eighths of a cubic foot of silage a day. With data at hand it is an easy matter to figure out how large a silo would have to be to furnish ensilage for a given number of cows or steers for a stated period of time.

The bearing season of the tomato vines may be hastened by pruning the tips rather sharply and causing the strength of the vines to go to fruit rather than to more vine. The writer has found a second pruning of this kind necessary the present season.

In the shortening of distances and the bringing of people together the automobile has taken its place alongside the telephone. The visit to friends

sixty miles distant, which was formerly the event of the year, can now be made in the form of more frequent "calls," running over for dinner and the like.

A field of corn possesses a maximum of feeding value for either ensilage or shock corn when the lower leaves have begun to turn and when husks here and there show the yellow color, but with the stalk still green—that is, under normal ripening conditions. The ears should be dented and a majority of them hard.

The other day a dairyman located near a large city was given a heavy fine for persisting in feeding city garbage to his cows after a pure food inspector had warned him not to do so. A lot of practices are not tolerated today that were taken as a matter of course years ago, and not so many years ago either.

The eradication of the cattle tick from certain counties in the state of Mississippi is said to have increased the value of cattle in those localities \$7 per head. The cost to the farmers in twenty-one counties was \$100,000, but as a result there has been an increase in the valuation of cattle in these same counties of \$2,148,839. The cost of eradication was 50 cents per head.

Analyses which have been made of sweet clover, until quite recently considered as merely a worthless roadside weed, show that it contains a larger per cent of protein and more nitrogen bacteria capable of storing up nitrogen from the air than alfalfa, which is the most highly prized of the legume family. It has been found that all farm animals easily learn to eat it and that it makes an excellent pasture, which stands dry weather better than any other. While the seed is high priced, enough for a start may be got by cutting the sweet clover that has gone to seed by the roadside.

Another reader has registered his opinion as in favor of the theory that the air works uphill instead of downhill in a tile drainage system. If the matter were put to a vote of all farmers who have had experience with such drainage systems we think the air would work uphill quite uniformly.

A freak in the shape of a Partridge Wyandotte hen has been presented to the London Museum of Natural History. The bird was hatched in 1910 and molted normally in the fall of that year and again a year later. After the 1912 molt her plumage became in all respects that of a cock. This hen still lays eggs, but not one of them has been hatched.

The pit silo, which farmers in the drought belt have been urged to build in order to save what feeding value there is left in the corn crop, will not be successful in any section where there is danger of a seepage of water into the pits in which the ensilage is stored. Such water would spoil the silage and cause the time spent in storing it to be worse than thrown away.

The campaign of extermination which has been waged in Oregon against the coyotes has resulted in a great increase in rabbits. These, in turn, must be disposed of on account of the damage they do. Experiments made in inoculating them with disease have proved unsatisfactory, and thus far the only sure way of getting rid of them is by the rabbit "drives," by means of which 16,000 jack rabbits were killed in one county last winter.

The great drought which has prevailed over very large sections of the southwest for months past and has caused the premature marketing of hundreds of thousands of head of cattle cannot but have a very decided effect along the line of increasing the already high cost of living, particularly as this is affected by the price of meats. Keep this in mind and be ready either to get along with less meat or pay more for the smaller quantity.

Financiers of Peru, who are said to own most of the railroads of that country, have hired an expert from the Minnesota university farm, who is in charge of barley investigations for the federal department of agriculture, to conduct a six months' agricultural development survey in the region of Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable lake district in the world. The bulk of the experiments will be conducted at an altitude of 12,600 feet and where the temperature averages about 50 degrees the year through. Minnesota barley, wheat, alfalfa, brome grass and several kinds of hardy trees will be tried by the expert.

The world's Jersey record for butter and milk production has recently been broken by Kola's Katherine 206275, a cow belonging to George W. Vanderbilt and kept on his farm at Asheville, N. C. The total milk production for a period of 120 days was 6,086 pounds, containing 287.25 pounds of butter fat, equivalent to 337 pounds of butter. Her best day's milk record was 66.5 pounds, which tested 3.56 pounds of butter. This beats the record of Loretta D. for 120 days, made in 1904, by 284 pounds of milk, 70.9 pounds of butter fat and 79.1 pounds of butter and for one day by 8.15 pounds of milk and .81 pounds of butter.

A reader of these notes living near Flemington, N. J., noting the suggestion made recently by the writer of using white lead to paint trees where the bark has been knocked off, writes, recommending very strongly gas tar (or coal tar) as a substitute for white lead for this purpose. Our correspondent says he has tried everything that he has ever seen suggested for this purpose and has found the coal tar most satisfactory. Where it can be had conveniently the coal tar is a much cheaper material than white lead, our friend writing that he can get it for 5 cents a gallon. Our correspondent observes that with him the bark does not grow well over lead paint.

There is no more delicious garden vegetable than the green lima bean properly cooked and served with cream, etc., and yet there is hardly any vegetable which means a larger cost per serving. Many seasons it is hard to bring it to maturity north of latitude 43 degrees, while it takes a lot of seed to start with to get any kind of a stand.

Life is longer and a good deal sweeter if one stops his automobile in front of a railroad crossing instead of attempting to pass over when a train is coming. At most, such a stop would take but three or four minutes, and, whether they will admit it or not, folks who own or ride in automobiles have more than that time to spare during every hour of the day.

A farmer living near Jamestown, N. D., is this year trying out a variety of corn the seed of which he imported from Russia. This variety was introduced into Russia from southern Asia and has become acclimated until it matures a good crop in northern Russia. This farmer's experimental plot of a quarter of an acre is being watched with much interest by his neighbors.

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