

**NOT A MATTER OF SENTIMENT.**

That shade in the pasture should be viewed by the farmer as something more than a matter of mere sentiment is shown somewhat painfully in an incident narrated in the daily papers some three weeks ago regarding the loss of stock by a couple of north Iowa farmers. It was one of those blistering hot days in the middle of last month when the mercury was hovering around the 100 F. mark in the shade, and nobody got a record of how hot it was in the glare of the sunlight out in the open pasture. Some forty head of cattle in adjoining pastures were seen to huddle together as closely as the intervening fence would let them. They were driven to other parts of the two pastures, but in a short time were back again and this time were left there. An hour or so later an investigation showed that every one of this group of cattle which were thus bunched in the sunlight had died of sunstroke or whatever the malady would be as applied to animals. It is probably safe to say that these two farmers will take their cattle out of pasture on such days hereafter or will see that they are provided with shelter of some sort. In such instances shade should not be viewed as a matter of sentiment, but as a dollars and cents proposition.

**FUMIGATION NECESSARY.**

The federal department of agriculture has lately issued some practical suggestions along the line of preventing a spread of the new and threatening insect pest, the potato moth. Growers in California and Texas, where the moth has appeared, have been urged to sort their potatoes for seed within two weeks after digging and again two weeks later. The presence of the moth is indicated by the excrement which adheres by means of a web to the outside of the potato. On sorting unaffected tubers should be put in mothproof bins and given a fumigation with carbon bisulphide in order to kill any moths that might be present. This is done by pouring the chemical (which is highly inflammable) into a shallow pan, an average of three pounds being required to properly fumigate 1,000 cubic feet of space. The disinfectant should be put about a pint to each pan, which should be placed so as to give the best distribu-

tion of the fumes, which are heavier than air and will penetrate to the bottom of the bin. After the pans have been set the bin or inclosure should be kept closed tightly for from twenty-four to thirty-six hours. This treatment does not injure the germinating power of the potatoes.

**STILL IN THE LEAD.**

The White Leghorns bid fair to carry off most of the prizes in the egg laying contest which is being conducted at the Storrs college, Connecticut. Eleven pens of White Leghorns have laid 700 eggs or over, while of all other breeds entered only five pens have reached the 700 mark. Tom Barron's White Leghorns still head the list, with 959 eggs to their credit. Edward Cam's (another pen of English White Leghorns) stand second, with 878 eggs. Foster's pen of the same breed have laid 835 eggs, and Slegur's pen of the same breed have laid 809 eggs. This is the best pen of American bred Leghorns, and it will be seen that they are just 150 eggs behind the best English pen. An interesting feature of the contest is that Mrs. H. F. Haynes' pen of White Wyandottes, which on the first stage of their journey to the contest were carried on horseback over the Idaho mountains, have laid 716 eggs and stand next to Edward Cam's pen of White Wyandottes.

The Earliana tomato is the most satisfactory of some six or seven varieties which the writer has tried this season, though some of the later bearing varieties may come in on the home stretch. The fruit of the Earliana—the latest types of it—is of uniform size, very meaty and solid and produces more fruit in proportion to vine than any variety with which we are acquainted.

A downtown theater in New York city which seems to lean toward the unique is said to have a three cow dairy in connection with its roof garden. The animals are in charge of a dairymaid and a milking machine of up to date design is used to extract the milk. Only the most favored customers of this roof garden are privileged to have any of the fresh products from this miniature dairy.

**BLUNDERS OF ARTISTS.**

**Curious Examples In the Dome of the National Capitol.**

In the dome of the capitol at Washington there are eight great paintings carefully designed and executed by the artists for the adornment of the nation's greatest building. Yet five of them are either defective in technique or in error as to natural or historical facts.

One of the best known pictures is that in which Washington is shown resigning his commission to the Continental congress. There are two young girls, almost life size, standing in the foreground. They are very pretty young girls, but one of them has three hands. One left hand rests on the shoulder of her companion; another left hand is round her companion's waist. Doubtless the artist Trumbull painted both hands to see which pose he preferred and then forgot to paint out the superfluous hand.

Diagonally across the rotunda is the painting of the baptism of Pocahontas. Sitting in the foreground is Opecananough, the uncle of Pocahontas. He is barefooted, and the artist has given him six toes on his left foot.

In the painting of the landing of Columbus, which used to be reproduced on the five dollar banknote, the artist has painted three flags. They are very well drawn, but one is blowing east, one west and one south, which indicates a very variable condition of the wind on that famous day.

In the picture of the surrender of Cornwallis General Washington is conspicuous seated upon a white horse. But General Washington was not present at the surrender. Cornwallis did not surrender his army in person, but sent a subordinate officer to do so. Accordingly Washington detailed an officer of corresponding rank to receive the surrender. It would have been a breach of military etiquette for Washington to be present.

The fifth picture, "Signing of the Declaration of Independence at Philadelphia on July 4, 1776," is wrong only in the title. The Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, but it was not signed by the members of the congress until Aug 2, 1776.—Youth's Companion.

**No Use For Fresh Air.**

Old time doctors had no faith in the virtues of fresh air. Andrew Boorde in his "Compendyous Regyment or Dietary of Heith," published 1542, writes: "To bedward and also in the morning use to have a fire in your chamber, to waste and consume evil vapours within the chamber, for the breath of man may putrify the air within the chamber. In the night let the windows of your house, specially of your chamber, be closed, let your nightcap be of scarlet, and this, I do advertise you, to cause to be made a good thick quilt of cotton, or else of pure flocks or of clean wool, and let the covering of it be of white fustian, and lay it on the feather bed that you do lie on."—London Chronicle.

**HUNGARIAN PHEASANTS.**

A friend who some two years ago received a couple of pairs of Hungarian pheasants from his state game warden reports to the writer that these pretty birds have multiplied until he estimates that there are now between 175 and 200 birds, including the original pairs and their offspring, that are making headquarters on the nearby farms. This is most encouraging, as there was considerable question whether the birds would do well so far north. As insect destroyers these pheasants rank very high—with the quail and prairie chicken. In addition to this, they are showing a capacity for adapting themselves to winter conditions that seems to give assurance of their steady increase in numbers. They come to the feed yards, mingle with the other farm poultry and in some instances have become so tame as to roost in the shelter of the farm buildings.

**A NEEDED ASSISTANCE.**

The states of Washington and Oregon are both considering seriously a limited form of state aid to farmers who lately homesteaded or will homestead cut off timberlands and who will develop them into agricultural lands. The general plan suggested is to loan money for the purpose of clearing the land at a low rate of interest, payment of the principal being so arranged as to cover a considerable period of years. This plan has much to commend it, and certainly its justice as well as wisdom should commend it to enlightened legislators in every state where such lands are to be found. In many states such timberlands have a marvelously rich soil, but the ridding of the land of stumps is an almost superhuman job.

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