

## MEAT STOCKS ARE NOT INCREASING

### Big Packing Houses Can Only Supply Present Demands

Breeders' Gazette: Marketing of fat cattle has been heavy and constant since the new year began. The movement has been freighted with beef and outlet channels have been more or less congested, owing to unseasonable weather; but every pound of the product has found a purchaser. Distributors are not storing beef. When a few tons accumulate they desert the cattle market. Beef consumption never before reached the present proportions in the United States, despite unseasonable weather and the handicap of high retail cost.

With hog products it is the same story. January, normally a month of accumulation in packers' cellars, created no pile of meat. A supply considerable in excess of that of last year practically all went into consumptive channels with alacrity. On February 1 the principal packing points of the West did not receive enough hogs to increase stocks perceptible after ordinary consumptive channels had been supplied with dehydrated requirements.

More than a million fat sheep and lambs are reaching the principal receiving points each month at present, and 95 per cent of this run is going into killers' hands. It is a crop of fat stock offering scant picking to feeders. This approximation does not include mutton killed at interior points, which must be of considerable volume.

In the aggregate, vast quantities of beef, mutton and pork are being eaten daily. So far as these commodities are concerned, cold storage is not a factor in controlling supply or determining prices. The nation is on a hand-to-mouth supply basis, and any material curtailment in supply will result in prompt appreciation in values. The article is going into consumption, as fast as killers can put it in marketable shape.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

## A GASTRONOMIC JOY

Old English Recipe For the Famous Soupe a la Crecy.

In the "Illustrated London Cookery Book," by Frederick Bishop, late cuisinier to St. James' palace, Earl Grey, the Marquis of Stafford, Baron Rothschild, Earl Norbury, Captain Duncombe and many of the first families of Great Britain (1852), we find this recipe for soupe a la Crecy:

"Cut half a pound of lean ham in dice, three onions, four turnips, twelve carrots (the outer side red only), a head of celery, a fagot of sweet herbs, two blades of mace, six cloves, a bay leaf and half a pound of salt butter. Fry all down in a stewpan until they get a little brown; then add some second stock and stew until all the roots are quite tender; then rub it through a tammy sieve or tammy cloth with two long spoons. If very thick add more stock. Season with cayenne and black pepper and salt and a good bit of sugar. Send up on a napkin some nice fried bread cut in small dice and not greasy."

This is far less elaborate than it sounds and is, indeed, in the main the recognized recipe for the royal soup. The spice is, if anything, a trifle overdone, and the carrots want to be well chosen, as the slightest stringiness destroys the homogeneity of the compound. The bread dice are important and should be fried in the very best butter or superlatively good olive oil.—Pall Mall Gazette.

### CORDITE.

Made of Two Powerful Explosives Kneaded into Paste.

Cordite is the outcome of the strange paradox that if you mix together two powerful explosives the result is a smokeless slow burning powder. Nitroglycerin and gun cotton mixed together with a little petroleum jelly make cordite. It is curious to see the two deadly explosives being kneaded together into a paste by women with the same concern as dough is kneaded for bread. Indeed, machines similar to those used in bakeries take up the work and knead the buff colored cordite paste for seven hours. Then it is forced through molds and issues in long cords—hence the name cordite—the thickness of which is varied according to the weapon in which it is to be used.

For big guns cordite is half an inch thick and cut into lengths of thirty-seven inches. Rather more than a thousand of these cordite sticks packed in two bundles make up the cartridge for a twelve inch gun. For the rifle cordite is pressed into a very thin string, like the finest hair, and sixty of these strands one inch and a

half long make the neat little bundle which lies inside the cartridge case. For some European armies cordite is made in flat thin strips like whalebone. Kept away from fire, cordite can be handled with impunity.—London Graphic.

### Mountains of Moab

Most travelers who visit the Holy Land content themselves with a visit to that restricted part west of Jordan. The mountainous regions of Moab as seen by them from Jerusalem are lost in a purple haze that constantly hangs over them, and the great stretches beyond are covered in mystery. This is true partly because of the fewer historical incidents connected with the eastern regions, but mainly on account of the great abyss of the Jordan valley that has always acted as a barrier. Few who descend into the valley 1,500 feet below sea level undertake to climb the hills beyond, which rise to a height of 3,000 feet. Though its glory is far outshone by that of western Palestine, still, both in the old and the new dispensations, it has a history of its own and from an economic standpoint will always enter very largely into the life of Palestine.—Christian Herald.

### Victor Hugo's Double.

Victor Hugo had a real double in flesh and blood, who exploited his physical resemblance to the man of genius. He cut his beard like Hugo's, copied the master's dress in its smallest details and so for eighteen years divided with the master the admiration of the public. His especial delight was to pose in a poetical attitude in front of a Punch and Judy show. He did this at a particular spot every Thursday afternoon for years, thoroughly enjoying the murmurs of curiosity and applause proceeding from the gaping crowd which he deceived. We do not hear that he reaped any other reward but his pleasure.

### Didn't Like the Suit.

"Sir," said the young man as he entered the library for the purpose of interviewing the father of the only girl, "I am in love with your daughter. Have you any objection to my suit?" The old man looked the y. m. over from head to foot.

"I sure have," he replied. "Why, I wouldn't wear a misfit suit like that to a dog fight. Why don't you try some other tailor?"—Chicago News.

### From His Pa's Side.

"She doesn't know where the baby gets his bad temper." "That's strange. Most young mothers can place that sort of responsibility in a jury."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

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## PROF. HUG SOLVES SERIOUS PROBLEM

### Eugene Educator Puts Truant Pupils at Wood Act

EUGENE, Feb. 18.—The fame of the plan of punishing his delinquent students by putting them to work on the school woodpile has traveled far, and now Professor George Hug, principal of the Eugene High School has been asked by the "Technical World Magazine," an Eastern publication, to write an article on his novel method, and furnish photographs of the boys at work, and of the Eugene building. Professor Hug will do so, dealing with the sociological theory of the system.

Mr. Hug had occasion to make use of his plan when four boys and three girls appeared at school tardy without excuse. Hug saw the janitor working on the big woodpile and gave the boys the choice of carrying in wood or leaving school. Two worked and two left. With manual training for the boys, the former University student decided on a domestic science class for the co-eds, and put them to dusting and putting in order his private consultation room, which they did. One of the boys who worked, carried 11 wheelbarrow loads of wood a distance of half a block and piled it in the basement in less than 15 minutes. The students who left school may return when they have done their work on the woodpile. "But," declares the principal, "they will have to see the bottom of the pile first."

Professor Hug is enthusiastic over his plan. He says, "I never saw as good an effect upon a school as this has had. Professor Moore tells me that the conditions in the assembly room have been ideal. It has a wonderful effect that lasts for weeks, it's better than discharging a pupil, for that makes hard feeling and trouble, but this helps out all around. There are very few cases of tardiness."

"I'm going to have offenders mow the lawn this Spring, pick up the dirt and chips about the building, and possibly set out trees and roses. This is the best way to handle these incorrigible students. With this kind of boys it does no good to talk to them."

The only other alternative besides this and expelling them is to use force and a lash."

### NOISE OF THUNDER.

Due to Heating of Gases Along the Line of Electric Discharge.

To Professor Trowbridge we owe an experiment to explain the noise of thunder. It has usually been thought that the noise is caused by the closing up of the vacuum created by the passage of lightning, the air rushing in from all sides with a clap, but the intensity of the noise is rather disproportionate, and it is now supposed that the thunder is due to the intense heating of the gases, especially the gas of water vapor along the line of the electric discharge, and the consequent conversion of suspended moisture into steam at enormous pressure.

In this way the crackle with which a peal of thunder sometimes begins might be regarded as the sound of steam explosions on a small scale, caused by inductive discharges before the main flash. The rumble would be the overlapping steam explosions, and the final clap, which soundest loudest, would be the steam explosion nearest to the auditor. In the case of rumbling thunder the lightning is passing from cloud to cloud. When the flash passes from the earth to the clouds the clap is loudest at the beginning.

Professor Trowbridge gave substance to these suppositions by causing electric flashes to pass from point to point through terminals clothed in soaked cotton wool, and he succeeded in magnifying the crack of the electric spark to a terrifying extent.—London Graphic.

### Force of an Oil Well.

Oil has been ejected from the Baku wells with such force and accompanied with so much sand that steel blocks twelve inches thick placed over the mouth of the well to deflect the flow were perforated in a few hours and had to be replaced. The casing with which the wells were lined was often torn to shreds and eventually collapsed, and hundreds of thousands of tons of sand which accumulated in the vicinity necessitated the services of large bodies of workmen.—London Mail.

### A Safe Bet.

A man can never guess how big the hats or sleeves or skirts of women will be next season, but he stands ready to bet that no fashion center can make big shoes for women popular.—Atelusa Globe.

### A Misnomer.

It is becoming daily more dangerous to refer to "the weaker sex" on account of the increasing doubt in the reader's mind which sex is meant.—London Sunday Review.

## THE BIG DIPPER

It is the Hour Hand of the Woodman's Celestial Clock.

The pole star is really the most important of the stars in our sky. It marks the north at all times. It alone is fixed in the heavens. All the other stars seem to swing around it once in twenty-four hours.

But the pole star of Polaris is not a very bright one, and it would be hard to identify but for the help of the so called pointers in the "Big Dipper," or "Great Bear." The outer rim of the dipper points nearly to Polaris at a distance equal to three times the space that separates the two stars of the dipper's outer side. Various Indians called the pole star the "Home Star" and the "Star That Never Moves," and the dipper they call the "Broken Back." The "Great Bear" is also to be remembered as the pointers for another reason. It is the hour hand of the woodman's clock. It goes once around the north star in about twenty-four hours, the reverse way of the hands of a watch—that is, it goes the same way as the sun—and for the same reason—that it is the earth that is going and leaving them behind.—Country Life in America.

### A Blow Arrested.

An organist who on the eve of a festival was taken suddenly ill secured a deputy to take his place. The deputy, on the authority of St. James Budget, was a gentleman who played a very full organ, playing full chords where his principal played only single notes, and consequently using a much larger quantity of wind.

When about three parts through with the "Hallelujah Chorus" the wind suddenly gave out. Going round to the back of the organ to ascertain the reason, the deputy found the blower in the act of putting on his coat preparatory to going home.

"What do you mean by such behavior?" the deputy angrily expostulated.

"Look here, sir," the blower returned with warmth, "if you think I don't know how many puffs it takes to blow the 'Hallelujah Chorus' you make a big mistake!"

### Camels in Arabia.

There are two varieties of camels in use in Arabia, the dromedary and the freight camel. The dromedary is celebrated for their easy riding gait and speed. A dromedary carries about 300 pounds and travels about six miles a day. It can be purchased for 100 to 150 Maria Theresa dollars (\$42.50 to \$53.75). A freight camel carries about 500 pounds and travels about two and a half miles an hour. It costs 300 Maria Theresa dollars (\$127) or more.

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