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J. D. VENATOR, Manager.



Reading About Meats

one would think they are only within the reach of the very rich. But a visit to this market will refute any such argument. For our prices will be found reasonable and our meats of the highest grade. Even the so-called cheap cuts are finer than the best of those from lower grade stock.

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WIFE'S CHRISTMAS CIGARS.

Christmas comes but once a year. And that means smokes from wifey dear. But, no; those cigars I don't smoke. I do not care to die or choke.

I do not bother keepin' cats. I use those smokes to chase the rats; Just drop one where those big rats stay, And they drop dead or run away.

I put those smokes in the hen's nest. Where nasty mites and lice infest. And quick as lightning they go dead. The smell busts somethin' in their head.

Our hogs no longer have the fleas. Nor do the vermin Towser tease; I rub a cigar on their coats. And bugs vamoose from dog and shotes.

Now no one asks "Have you the mate?" Since I get Christmas smokes from Kate. I freely pass the things around. And now the fellow can't be found.

In store, on street or on the car. Who wants the mate to my cigar. I do believe Kate's paralyzers. Are made of low grade fertilizers. C. M. BARNITZ.

EGG GAMBLERS TO BLAME.

People bark up the wrong tree when they blame the egg producer for the high price of eggs. The department of agriculture, Washington, puts the responsibility where it belongs—on the big cold storage companies, the egg gamblers. These tricksters declare it's the weather or that the growing population has so increased the demand that the supply cannot meet it. This is all fake. The most of the eggs consumed in winter are laid in early summer; some several summers before.

Farm hens, from which most of the winter egg supply comes from, in general, lay but little out of the warm season, and only a mild winter like last year makes them change the habit, and then eggs tumble in spite of all the trust can do.

The population has increased, the demand for eggs has increased, but the production of eggs has greatly increased and, wonderful to relate, has kept ahead of the population. In ten years eggs jumped from 1,293,662,000 dozens to 1,591,311,371 dozens.

This is only on farms and does not include the millions produced on town and city lots.

In 1890 the per capita was 17 dozen, 204 eggs to every person; in 1900 the per capita was 17.3 dozen, in 1912 it was 17.7, and in 1913 the increase guarantees a per capita of 17.8 dozen to every man, woman and child in the country.

All this time, in the face of increased production, egg gamblers have been pushing up the price. In 1890 the highest wholesale price at New York for "average fresh eggs" was 36 cents. In 1904 it was 47 cents and in November, 1912, 60 cents. In November, 1913, there were 10,000,000 dozens stored in Pennsylvania and many millions more in other states, and, not content with a corner on summer eggs, the storage companies have their agents out after all the fresh winter supply, and at this writing the fresh winter egg is moving toward the dollar mark. While warm winter weather occasionally knocks out the gamblers and a general boycott has some effect, the only remedy is a national law that restricts the storage of eggs to six months, so that they must be turned on the market in normal quantities and thus sell at a normal price.

This law the United States authorities are advocating, and while attending to the egg trust the government should also put the screws on the grain trust, for with these two working against him the honest egg producer is rather between the devil and the deep sea.

DON'TS.

Don't pack dressed poultry in straw. Line your box with white paper, wrap the fowl's head to prevent blood smearing the birds and pack them tight without wrapping.

Don't expect to get rich wishing; that's just as lucky as mud puddle fishing.

Don't expect Leghorns not to go through a fence that grows larger in mesh toward the top.

Don't buy more eggs from the same party until you have tested the first ones and with butter taste and try before you buy.

Don't buy market eggs from every Tom, Dick and Harry. Buy from an egg fancier, and be satisfied.

Don't waste time trying to improve a mongrel flock. Breed thoroughbred and go up head.

Don't lack that spirit which aims to improve your talents, your product and your property as time progresses.

Don't spend life wishing you were as fortunate as others. Good luck depends on push and pluck.

Don't joy ride through life on borrowed capital.

Don't forget that every job has its drawbacks. If you spend time worrying because you think some other fellow has a snap, you lack snap.

SOME FOOD VALUES.

One exhibit at the national dairy show held some weeks ago in Chicago was both unique and interesting. It was arranged by the Milk Producers' Association of Northern Illinois and consisted of an exhibit of a dozen different kinds of foods, including milk, eggs, beef, fish, nuts and several kinds of fruits and vegetables, the amount of each article shown being that which was required to furnish the amount of nutriment contained in one quart of milk, the cost of the several articles being based upon current retail prices. The exhibit was illuminating and instructive and doubtless had suggestions for those heads of families who are a bit perplexed with the high cost of living problem. The cost of the twelve articles shown is given in the following decimal fractions of a dollar: Milk, .08; eggs, .20; beef, .148; codfish, .141; cornmeal, .006; potatoes, .026; cabbage, .10; oranges, .226; apples, .092; bananas, .10; prunes, .061; nuts, .163. From these figures it will be seen at a glance that far and away the cheapest food article of the list is cornmeal, which costs but one-third as much as potatoes, while the latter food costs but one-third as much as milk. Milk, on the other hand, at 8 cents a quart, costs less than a third as much as eggs at 35 cents per dozen. Cabbage and bananas cost the same, prunes about two-thirds as much as these, while meat and fish cost about the same and nuts a trifle more. Eggs were the most expensive food shown, and oranges rank next to them.

A SERIOUS PEST.

For a good many years the onion was considered practically pest free, but within recent years what is known as the onion smut has spread to many sections of the country, at its worst being so serious a handicap as to render the culture of the vegetable unprofitable. A serious feature of this pest is that the spores of the fungus are not eradicated from the soil by crop rotations covering a period of five years. The disease is spread by the tools with which an infected field is worked more than by the seed. Large growers in some sections have found effective a solution made by diluting 40 per cent formalin in thirty gallons of water and applying with a drip attachment on a steel drill at the rate of from 500 to 700 gallons of the solution per acre.

MORE EGG LAYING CONTESTS.

Within the past three or four weeks new egg laying contests to run a year have been started at both Storrs college, Connecticut, and at Mountain Grove, Mo. The remarkable interest that has been aroused among poultry raisers everywhere in these contests is shown in the fact that in the contest which is being conducted in Missouri there are entered six pens of layers from New Zealand, three from Australia, two from Canada, three from England, one each from Germany and South Africa, two from Vancouver and sixty-six pens from the United States. The world's record for egg production is held by a pen of six Australian birds that averaged 264.8 eggs each during a year.

PIG PROGRESS.

With a view to increasing the interest of Oregon farmers in growing hogs, the Portland Union stock yards has agreed to furnish a young pig to every school in the state that will take care of one. The gift is made on the condition that some pupil in each school shall keep an accurate record of what the pig eats and how it is cared for. The company further agrees to buy the pig back when it is ready to market and pay full price for it. An Oregon paper, in speaking of the plan, remarks that in ten years it will not be surprising if every country school in the state is not only supplied with pigs, but with a flock of poultry and one or more dairy cows. The idea would seem to be a capital one.

BREAK UP THE SUBSOIL.

While theoretically a farmer gets everything in the air above his land and in the earth beneath, he seldom actually uses more than six inches of the surface soil. The productive period of many a farm could be extended were deeper plowing to be resorted to on such farms and upon those where the soil is plowed more shallow still. Deep plowing would not only break up and mellow the subsoil and thus make available its fertility, but would increase the capacity of the soil to retain moisture during a protracted dry spell. Many a farmer appreciates the facts stated and by deep plowing has increased his farm value by a half without adding to the number of his acres.

CARE OF THE LAWNS.

We usually think of care of the lawn as extending over the period between the first and last cuttings of the season. The average lawn, where the grass is clipped and removed, needs care besides this that is all too seldom given. This consists in giving it at intervals of not more than two or three years a generous top dressing of well rotted manure. This should be applied after the ground is frozen solid and should be allowed to remain until spring, when the coarsest of it may be raked off. The fertilizing elements will have leached into the soil, and the finer particles of manure will have settled down into the roots of the grass.

CONVICT WORK ON PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

Majority of States Now Use Prison Labor.

DISCARD CONTRACT SYSTEM

During the Present Year Thirteen States Have Passed Laws Allowing the Use of Convicts in the Construction and Repair of Roads.

Thirteen states have passed laws during the present year allowing the use of convicts in the construction and repair of highways, according to a compilation by Dr. E. Stag Whitin, assistant in social legislation in Columbia university and chairman of the executive committee of the national committee on prison labor. They are Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, New Jersey, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin. As many other states had previously passed similar legislation, but few of the forty-eight states have not adopted the policy of using prisoners to build and maintain public roads.

West Virginia and Iowa are the two states whose laws regarding the working of convicts on highways stand out most prominently. So anxious was the governor of the former state to secure an effective law that he went to New York and with the assistance of representatives of the national committee on prison labor, of the road department of Columbia university and of the legislative drafting bureau worked out bills making compulsory the employment of convicts on the roads. The West Virginia law authorizes the county courts to make appropriations out of road funds for convict work; it states that the court shall sentence any male person over sixteen to road work instead of to the county jail; persons charged with misdemeanors unable to furnish bail shall work



CONVICTS AT WORK ON A STATE ROAD.

on the roads and if acquitted when tried shall be paid 50 cents a day for each day's work they perform; justices of the peace shall sentence to work on the roads persons convicted of crime whom otherwise they would send to the county jail.

Another feature of the West Virginia law is the establishment of a state road bureau to supervise any plans proposed by a county for using prison labor in road building. The plans approved, the county shall apply to the board of control for the number of prisoners required and shall state the length of time they shall be needed. The board shall, as far as possible, give equal service to each of the counties and shall determine which prisoners may be assigned to such work. The warden is to provide suitable and movable quarters, which shall be built, where possible, by convict labor. The convicts shall remain under direct control of the warden, their work, however, being under the supervision of the road bureau.

In Iowa the board of control of the state institutions with the advice of the warden of any penal institution, may permit able bodied male prisoners to work on the roads. The law specifically states such labor shall not be leased to contractors. A prisoner opposed to such work, or whose character and disposition make it probable that he would attempt escape or be unruly, is not to be worked on the highways. Although the prisoners are under the jurisdiction of the warden while building or repairing roads, their work is supervised by the state highway commissioner. Prisoners employed on the highways of Iowa receive such part of their earnings above the cost of their keep as the board deems equitable, the earnings either being funded or given to their dependent families. Before Iowa passed her present prison labor laws, George W. Cosson, attorney general of the state, made a thorough investigation of the prisons of his own and other states, and strongly denounced the contract system, under which the prisoners were employed up to that time. Mr. Cosson drew up the road bill and is of the opinion it will do much to drive the contract system out of the state.

THE SWINEHERD.

Soft coal or coal clinders are relished by pigs and hogs because of the mineral matter they contain.

A rigid system of selection of brood sows should be practiced by all swine breeders.

If hogs are crowded in cold weather in a cold pen they will pile up and smother the weaker ones.

Place feeding platforms at some distance from the pens. In stormy weather feed in the pens.

The hog is pretty nearly all a bundle of money, and he should not be neglected in any manner.

Fall pigs or any other pigs, for that matter, should be kept off the manure pile during the winter.

SILAGE FOR BEEF MEN.

Excellent For Fattening and For Feeding Stock Cattle.

For a period of four years tests have been carried on with steers at the Wisconsin College of Agriculture to determine the value of silage as a feed for the fattening steer when fed alone with a suitable grain ration or in connection with other good alfalfa or clover hay roughages fed with a grain ration. In every instance it was found that silage lowered the cost of gains when introduced into the ration, and when fed as the sole roughage (although gains were not so large as when clover or alfalfa hay was added to the ration) the gains were made the most cheaply.

It is unwise for the farmer to feel that because silage is a good feed it can be made the sole feed for stock, says the Iowa Homestead. By nature it is high in water content, low in protein and high in carbohydrate materials. To be properly balanced the ration should contain some feeds that are low in water content and carbohydrate material and high in protein. For fattening purposes a good day's ration for a 1,000 pound steer would consist of from fifteen to twenty pounds of silage, five or six pounds of alfalfa or clover hay, fifteen to eighteen pounds of broken ear corn and two or three pounds of cottonseed meal.

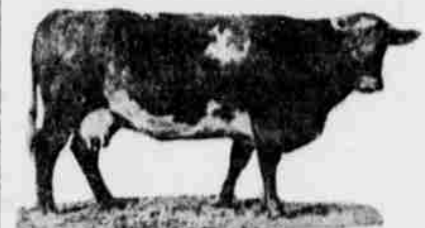
Not only is silage useful to the beef man for fattening purposes, but it is useful for stocking cattle over the winter, and a farm test made upon a Wisconsin farm under the supervision of the College of Agriculture showed an average daily gain of over a pound per day, and the steers came out in the spring in good condition to go on grass. These steers were fed about twenty pounds of silage daily, together with what timothy they would consume. When stocking over young cattle on silage it would be preferred to have clover hay or alfalfa hay, as it is higher in protein than timothy hay.

THE HARD MILKING COW.

Make Sure of the Animal's Value Before She is Sold.

At the recent meeting of the Oregon Dairyman's association one of the members related how in one instance the testing association had been of help to him, says the Kansas Farmer. In his herd was a short teated cow, to the milking of which the boys objected strenuously.

The cow was sold for \$50 on the promise to pay him. It was necessary for the original owner to take back the



At the recent international live stock show at Chicago considerable interest centered around the two day milking test of dairy bred Shorthorns. Two classes were arranged for cows in milk, one taking those three years old and over and the other those under three years. Five herds had entries in the first class and three in the second. The highest production record made was 104.3 pounds. The next highest record was 97.4 pounds. Some of the other very good showings were 86.8, 85.2, 82.7 and 82 pounds, all made by cows three years old or over. The best record in the heifer class was 62.3 pounds. The milking shorthorn cow shown is Eastover Kirklevington, imported by J. J. Hill for his farm near St. Paul, Minn.

cow. This he did, and in the meantime he had joined the test association, and his entire herd was on test. The much despised short teated cow led the herd the first month she was in it, with a product valued at \$30.51. When her relative profit as compared with other cows in the herd became known there was not the same objection to the short teats that there was formerly, and the owner was glad he had a chance to get the cow back.

On general principles we do not believe in a man fooling his time away milking a short teated, a hard milking, kicking cow or a cow having other bad habits, but if one realizes that such a cow is highly profitable and may be the best milker in the herd the money income goes a long way toward nullifying her faults. The fact is that the so called draggery and displeasure of milking cows are to a great extent, if not wholly, overcome by the realization of good profits from the herd. In other words, if the milker feels that he is being well repaid for his labor and feed he is pleased with his work.

J. E. Trigg