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DISTRICT NEWS.

MANILLA

SUIDE.—This section was the scene of a terrible occurrence on Tuesday evening. William B. Mosher, a young man about 18 or 19 years of age, who resided with his father, Mr. Levi Mosher, a wealthy and well-known farmer, committed suicide by drinking Paris green. He is supposed to have taken the deadly draught early in the afternoon, before starting for his brother's house, about a mile away, but when he had traversed about half the distance he evidently became too ill to proceed further, and turned into Mr. L. Keeler's barn. About dusk Mr. Keeler heard peculiar noises coming from the barn, and going out to investigate, found the unfortunate young man staggering around in great agony. Mr. Keeler at once hitched up his horse and conveyed the young man to the brother's residence where a doctor was hurriedly summoned, but he could do nothing, as the deadly poison had permeated the system.

WOODVILLE

ATTACKED BY A BOAR.—Mr. Archy Carmichael, con. 1, Eldon, was attacked by a boar at his farm on Saturday afternoon last, and received rather serious injuries. His left ear was split open and the side of his head severely cut. Dr. Grant of Woodville dressed the wounds, and at last accounts Mr. Carmichael was doing nicely. The animal was shot immediately after.

PUSH IT ALONG.—We learn that active work will be done in extending the lines of Victoria Telephone Co. in the spring. Our village will be connected with Sutton and other villages on the way. It is expected that Kirkfield and Balsver will also be connected. Beaverton is also to be on the line together with Woodville, Lorneville, Aryle and Grass Hill. This will be an advantage to the merchants doing business in this place and our business men ought to give this enterprise encouragement.

OAKWOOD

SPECIAL to the Watchman and Warder.

BUSINESS REVIVED.—The Brunker House is at last in the hands of those who will do all in their power to make Oakwood's public house a success, as well as to accommodate those who come to the village as strangers. Ever since the introduction of the local option-by-law everything possible has been done to persuade the people of the township that a public house could not be run without the sale of liquor. We trust that this nuisance is now over and that those who come to Oakwood as visitors will not in future experience a seventeenth century hamlet.

LIME LIGHT VIEWS.—An illustrated lecture was given here on Thursday evening by Mr. McKenzie, the Chinese missionary, who is at present on a holiday. The lecture was interesting and instructive, but was marred by the absence of Mrs. McKenzie who was to appear in Chinese costume.

MARIPOSA BOY.—It adds another feather to our cap to know that Lindsay has been forced to take a seat behind Oakwood and come to us for a butter-maker. Mariposa can highly recommend the choice however.

DIPHTHERIA.—Two cases of diphtheria have warned the vicinity of the approach of spring. Miss Weldon of this village and Miss Jackson of East Oakwood are the victims.

PERSONAL.—Mr. and Mrs. Royal Rogers of Pickering, Mr. and Mrs. Argue of Darrington and Mrs. A. Rogers of Gladstone, Manitoba, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. Weldon of East Oakwood last week. Mrs. Bradley of Listowel is at present visiting her brother, Mr. Thos. Grimson of the "ninth."

MUSKOKA

PET DUCK.—Mr. Robt. Atchison, a farmer in Chaffey township, picked up a wild duck in his field last Sunday, nearly frozen to death. He took it to the house, thawed it out, fed it, and it is now as lively as ever. It is becoming quite a pet with the children.

STOLE MONEY.—Thos. Wallis, a lad working for Dr. Holland of Huntsville, was arrested at the instance of John Emory of Macauley township for using \$6 taken from a letter given to him to post, and addressed to Emory. The prisoner was brought before Justice Hutchison on Saturday. The evidence adduced proved that Wallis was given a letter containing \$6 to post by Dr. Holland, and instead of posting it he robbed the letter of the contents. The letter was addressed to John Emory. Emory expected the letter, looked for it daily, and not receiving it complained to Dr. Holland, and out of this the trouble arose. Wallis was sent to Bracebridge for trial.

SHOT A HEIFER.—One of the jolliest parties who were in Muskoka hunting last fall was that of Col. Lees, M.P.P., London. Amongst the members was a corpulent Major who spent his time in and around camp. One day the Colonel and his guide heard a noise in the bush, and shortly afterwards an animal came into view, and in a moment, the Colonel pulled, and down fell a three-year-old heifer. In the evening, in relating the events of the day to the Major, the hunters said they had shot a moose, stake of which they had for supper. The Major wanted to send a quarter to his friends in London, and this was done. On the way home a member posted a game warden and got him to write the Major charging him with having moose meat in his possession, and the gallant Major put in a few very uncomfortable

days before he was let into the secret. Now he is lying low for the Colonel. We might say that the heifer had been running wild in the bush for a year and a half, and that the Colonel paid the owner \$25 for his mistake, in shooting the heifer for a deer.

FINGERBOARD

Special to the Watchman and Warder

FOOT BALL.—The juveniles of Fingerboard public school intend playing a foot-ball match with the juveniles of Brauln on Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 22nd in Mr. Fris's field opposite the school yard. The result will be a number of tired little men.

DEATH.—Mr. Wesley Gibson has thrashed his alkale clover seed. It yielded five bushels per acre which will bring Mr. Wilson the handsome sum of two hundred dollars. Who says alkale does not pay.

DIED.—It is our sad duty to chronicle the death of one of our prosperous farmers in the person of Mr. James Rodgers who departed this life on Tuesday last week at his residence in Brook. The deceased has been a sufferer for more than a year with cancer of the stomach. His remains were taken to Prince Albert for interment to await the time of the glorious resurrection. He leaves a widow, son and daughter to mourn his departure.

NOTES.—Master Orval, the little son of Mr. William Foster jr., has had an attack of the gripe, but is recovering. Mr. Al. King is going to retire from business and has leased his farm to Mr. John Osborne of Pleasant Point. Mr. Osborne is an industrious man and Mr. King is most fortunate in securing such a good tenant. We are pleased to see our young friend Mr. George Smith jr., in our midst again after his sojourn in the Northwest. George is a jolly good-hearted fellow and thinks there is no place like home. Mr. Thos. Mosey sr., spent Monday last week in town the guest of his daughter Mrs. J. B. Emerson. Mr. Cephas Rodman of the Collegiate, Lindsay, visited under the parental roof recently. Our beautiful sleighing has about all disappeared owing to the creak of the weather having the ice gripe and its ill day. Quite a number of beautiful Valentines came through the Fingerboard office. We judge from the smiling countenances of our young ladies and gentlemen that "A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest man."

SAND DUNES.

A Description of the Progress of Their Formation.

Along the shores of oceans and other large bodies of water, especially in the region of the estuaries of large rivers, there are usually immense masses of shifting sand. It is not within the scope of this article to describe the formation of these sand banks. It is sufficient to say, therefore, that they usually begin as long sand bars behind which there are sheets of still water. These shallow bays, in the course of time, fill up with mud, becoming salt marshes intersected by thoroughfares, salt ponds and winding creeks. In the meantime, the long, flat sand bars have developed into sea islands, or beaches. When the tide falls, the sand of the shore, ground into powder by the waves and dried by the sun and wind, is blown in the direction of the prevailing wind, usually inland. The sand moves like snow, until it meets an obstruction, when a dune, or sandhill, forms, equal in height to the obstacle. A section through a dune shows a beautiful stratification, the sand having been deposited in thin layers, always varying, however, with the nature of the sand, the velocity of the wind, and the obstructions, large as usual, which it encounters. The dunes, at times, are not heaped bodily by the breezes, but little by little, forming and reforming, forward and backward, changing, in fact, with every caprice of the wind, gentle and almost imperceptible during a light sea breeze, but a stinging, blinding sand-blast in times of gale. In spite, however, of all these minor changes, the sand mass is generally moving in the course of time, a few inches a year, in the direction of the prevailing winds. A great deal depends upon the day winds, and that at night the sand is damp and firmer. And so mountains of sand are formed, which are often held temporarily by hardy plants, which have gained a precarious footing, but which sooner or later, unless watched and fixed, by bushes, usually inland, the sand islands, takes, bays, inlets, in fact, anything unable to check its course.—John Gifford in Engineering Magazine for January.

MAKING PEARLS TO ORDER.

Mussel and Oyster Being Domesticated and Taught the Jewelry Business.

Diamonds, rubies, emeralds and sapphires have all been produced in the laboratory, and it is now the turn of the pearl. The chemist, however, is not himself the maker of the new artificial pearls; he is only the collaborator. It is the nature of the oyster that produces the pearl, but their luster is not up to the mark. The Chinese have long introduced grains of sand and little knots of wire into the shell of the pearl oyster in order that the animal, to relieve itself from the irritation so caused, may coat the foreign substance with pearl. If this matter be inserted between the shell and the mantle the oyster can eject it by contractions of its body. To prevent this M. Boutan, a French experimenter, has trapped the shell and introduced a small bead of naure, which might, however, be a true pearl of a small size, through the hole, and fixed it by means of cement to the shell. This bean was in course of time covered with naure by the oyster, and a fine large pearl was the result. Dealers cannot distinguish it from an Orient pearl. The question of making pearls in this way was recently discussed at a meeting of the Academies des Sciences, Paris, and M. Berthelot, the famous chemist, observed that such a pearl could only be considered a true pearl if it had at least a hundred layers of the pearl naure; otherwise it would only be a foreign substance covered with naure. Of course, if the foreign matter is a pearl itself, this objection disappears, and we have the means of producing pearls at will. According to M. Lacaze Duthier, some two years would be required for a halloiside to produce a big pearl. The artificial pearl of the trade, fabricated from naure, could also be coated in the same way. Evidently the pearl mussel and oyster are about to be domesticated for the production of pearls, as the spider is for silk. Pearl divers may become a legend of the past.

FARM AND GARDEN

MEXICAN JUNE CORN.

Advantages From Its Wonderful Aerial Root System.

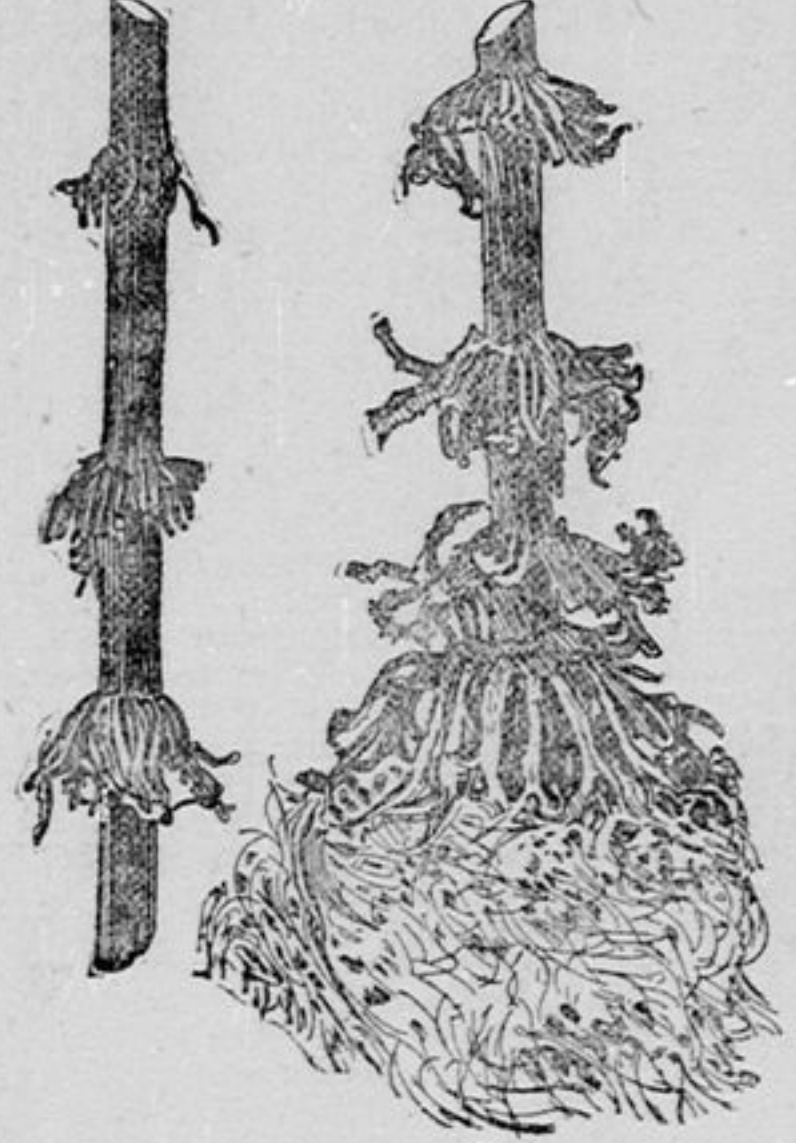
The Mexican June is an interesting variety of corn and The Rural New Yorker gives an instructive story about it, in which occur the following items, with illustration:

A second planting was made the last week in May. After the plants were well up all were destroyed by two.

Liberal dressings of nitrate of soda, sulphate of potash, wood ashes, bow flour and horse manure were made from time to time. Our object was to find out how tall this corn could be forced to grow. During the season of 1897 the stalks grew to a height of 13 feet, and this in a rather poor soil under ordinary field culture. The nodes or leaves averaged seven inches apart, the old leaves averaged about four feet long and four inches wide. It will be seen that such plants would give an immense amount of foliage per acre. The following table will show approximately the rate of growth from week to week:

July 25.....	5 feet high.
Aug. 2.....	7 feet 5 inches.
Aug. 9.....	8 feet 8 inches.
Aug. 16.....	9 feet 11 inches.
Aug. 24.....	11 feet 8 inches.
Sept. 11.....	13 feet.

Our next measurement was not until Sept. 27, when the taller plant measured 14 feet, the other being nearly the



AERIAL STEMS AND ROOTS OF CORN.

same height. After this it made a growth of, perhaps, six inches when frost occurred. The tassels began to shed their pollen upon the silks of three sets, the uppermost of which was 10 feet above the soil. The lowest set was eight feet above the soil. There were nine whorls of aerial roots, eight of which are shown in the cut, the highest being four feet above the soil. The longest leaves were five feet in length and four inches in width.

We have raised this variety of corn for three seasons, and while all other kinds were more or less lodged by high winds not a plant of the Mexican June was broken or bent from a perpendicular position. This is readily accounted for by its wonderful root system and the elasticity and toughness of the stalks, which resemble so many bamboo fishing rods. Following are some notes with which some of our readers have favored us, which will show how the Mexican June corn conducted itself with them:

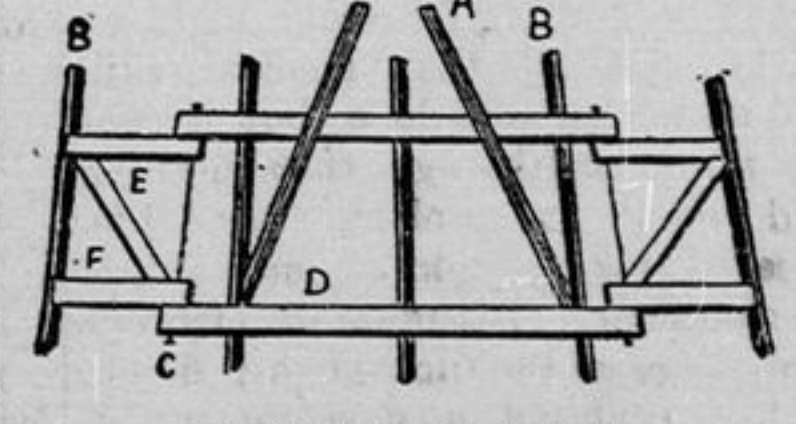
Charles Macon of Ingleside, N. C., writes under date of Sept. 22: "I have two rows of Mexican June corn. The stalks will average 16 feet in height—some of them 18 feet. They have fair-sized ears that I think will mature—they are about half matured now."

Mr. Benjamin Buckman of Farmingdale, Ills., as early as Sept. 12 wrote: "The tallest stalks of the Mexican June corn have reached the height of 14 feet, and if we have two weeks of warm weather the ears now showing will produce seeds that will grow."

The lower whorls of aerial stems send out as many fibrous roots as does the main stem itself, and these unquestionably absorb nutriment from the soil. Hence it is fair to suppose that the Mexican June corn will thrive in poorer soils and during severer droughts than other varieties.

A Five Rowed Corn Marker.

"Nine times out of ten you will plant a hill of corn in a track made by the horses if marked with a two or four rowed marker, where if marked with a three or five rowed marker you will never plant in the horse track, and a five rowed marker will mark on rolling or uneven ground as well as level ground, if made like the inclosed plan." says an Ohio Farmer correspondent. The plan is



PLAN FOR CORN MARKER.

lettered thus: A, 2 by 4; B, 3 1/2 feet long; C, 3/4 rod hinge; D, 2 by 4; E, 1 by 4; F, 2 by 4. "My marker marks five rows. The runners are 3 1/2 feet long, made of 2 by 8 plank, with 2 by 4 crosspieces, notched in runners and spiked. The hinges are made by boring a hole through the 2 by 4 crosspieces and then putting a three-eighths rod through them. The tongue pieces can be put on to suit, for a sleigh or a wagon tongue. If the outside runners do not make a plain mark I spike a block of wood on them for a weight. Farmers should make these things when they can get time, and not wait till spring work is rushing them."

DAIRY AND CREAMERY

HANDLING MILK.

Methods Employed at the Kansas Agricultural College Dairy.

Every effort is made to keep the stables clean and the stalls well bedded and to have as little dust floating at the time of milking as possible. To accomplish this latter point the feeding is done after rather than before the milking. The handling of the hay, ensilage or even grain fills the atmosphere full of dust and carries with it millions upon millions of germs, many of which will fall into the milk and not only cause it to sour, but will develop undesirable flavors in the butter and cheese made from it. The hay bacillus, a germ that has great tenacity of life, exists in immense quantities in cured hay, and when allowed to develop unchecked in ripening cream will cause the butter to have a very disagreeable, offensive flavor.

Before beginning to milk, says Professor Otis, each milker sees that his hands are clean, not merely that they look clean, but are as free as possible from germs. For this purpose it is often necessary to wash in hot water previous to milking. Each milker is provided with a cotton flannel cloth, which is moistened and used to wipe off the sides and udder of the cow. This removes the loose particles of dust and moistens the rest so that they will not so readily fall into the milk bucket. These cloths, as well as the cloth strainers, are thoroughly washed and sterilized with boiling water after each milking. The milk pail used is called the "sanitary dairy pail." It is made of heavy tin and is covered on top. In this cover is a six inch hole, into which fits a circular removable strainer. The milk is milked directly into this strainer. This style of milk pail keeps out of the milk the dust and hairs that fall in spite of the precautions already mentioned. Any one doubting the desirability of such a milk pail need doubt no longer after once seeing the appearance of the pail after milking. In spite of the best precautions, the top of the pail will be covered with numerous hairs and dust particles, enough to spoil the digestion of any man if he only knew what he was swallowing when he drinks the milk out of an open milk pail.

Each cow's milk is weighed, sampled and again strained through a wire strainer and finally through four thicknesses of cheesecloth. This wire strainer is so constructed that the milk is strained on an upward pressure. Any particles of dirt remaining in the milk and settling to the bottom will not be forced through the strainer by the pressure of the milk above.

From the cheesecloth strainer the milk is received into 40 quart milk cans. We have two styles of cans, the New York and the Chicago. We prefer the former for two reasons. In the first place the lid is oval and will not collect dust like the lid of the Chicago can and can be cleaned much easier. In the second place, when it is desired to keep the milk any length of time the New York can may be immersed in water. The lid projects below the top of the can, and the pressure of the air inside keeps the water from the milk, on the same principle as the cans of the Cooley creamer.

The milk is brought to the dairy room as soon as possible after being milked and strained and is aerated a half a can at a time with the Hill aerator. A tin pipe projects above the roof of the dairy room, where fresh air is secured and conducted through absorbent cotton, to remove any germs or dust particles, into bellows, where it is forced through the milk. Any one standing near the can of milk while this operation is being performed cannot fail to notice the cloy odor that is given off. This is kept up until the animal odor is removed. In this way nearly all the taints in milk not due to germs can be removed, and it has been found by experience that milk is much more digestible after being aerated.

After aeration the milk is cooled over a Star or Champion cooler to between 50 and 60 degrees F., at which temperature it is kept until delivered to the college dining hall or the creamery or warmed up for the separator. When separation takes place immediately after milking, the milk goes directly from the aerator to the separator without being cooled.

How Often to Feed Cows. The cow is a ruminant animal, and this means that she takes time to digest her food in the most thorough manner. If fed liberally night and morning and in sufficient variety, she will eat more heartily than if three full meals are offered to her per day. At noon a few cornstalks or clover hay may be given. In feeding grain to cows it should be ground and mixed with enough cut feed to make it bulky. If cows eat whole grain or meal not mixed with cut food, it goes to their second stomach and does not come up to be chewed in the cud.—Boston Cultivator.

W. BINGHAM,

57 Kent Street.

1881 - 1899

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