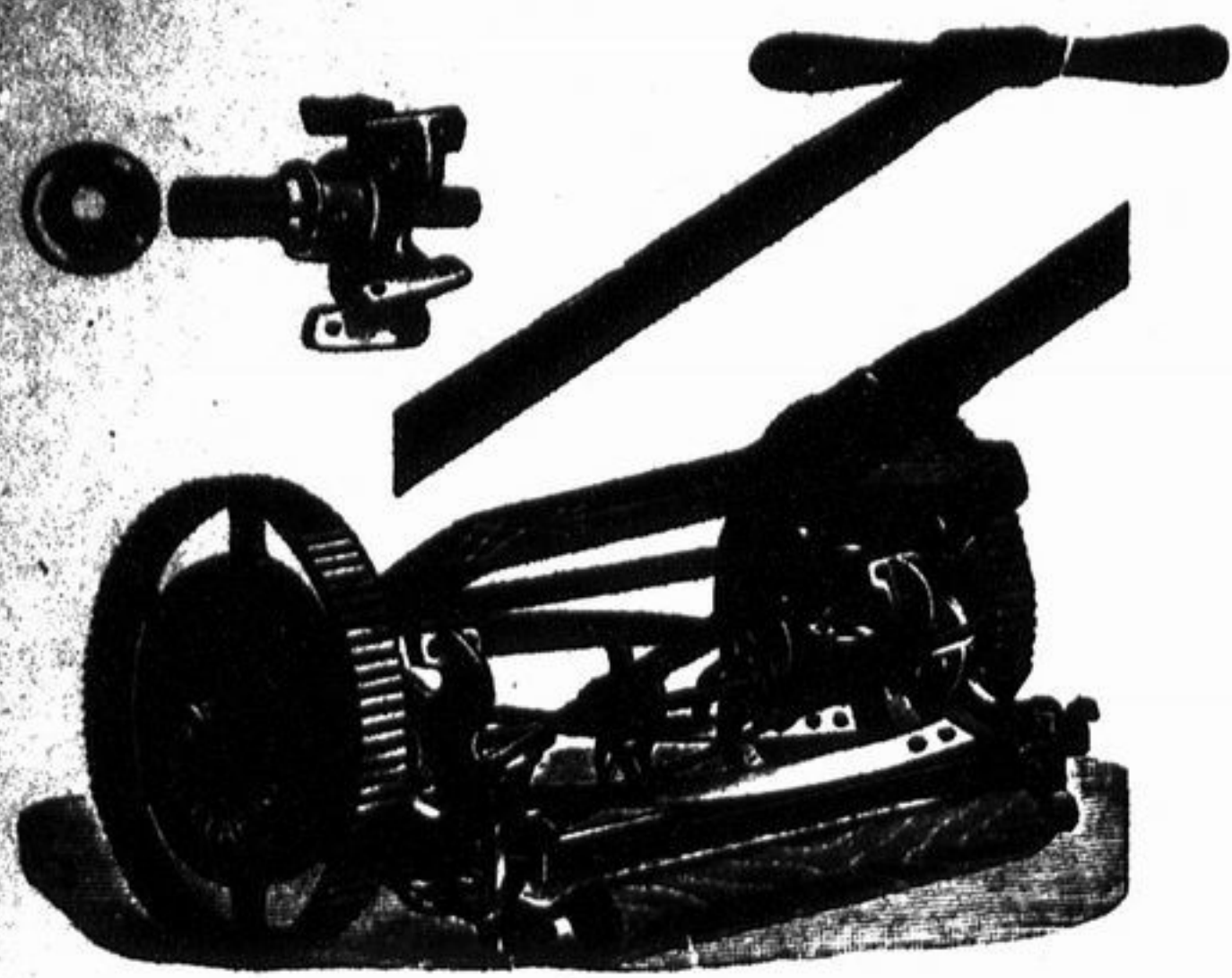


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FARM AND GARDEN

CLIPPING THE LEGS OF HORSES.

The question is very often mooted as to whether or not it is advisable to clip a horse's legs. Speaking in a general way, it may be stated, without any hesitation, that it is certainly best not to clip the limbs—or, at any rate, the lower part of them, when a horse is having his winter coat shortened, for the very good reason that the long hair affords a certain amount of protection against the effects of wet and dirt to the legs. The unclipped hair in no wise interferes with the comfort of the animal, nor is it in any way an encumbrance. On the other hand, the clipping of the legs involves the drawback that they are deprived of the protection against wet and dirt, as stated above. None the less the legs of horses are very commonly clipped along with the body for the reason that it adds greatly to the smart appearance of the animal. The fact that it improves the appearance of a horse, and looks smart, is the sole reason that can be advanced in favor of the practice of clipping a horse's limbs, and unless appearances are really of great importance—and this can only be so in the case of pleasure horses—it is decidedly advisable to refrain from doing so. The legs, along with the head, are the worst and most difficult parts to clip in a horse, and it takes a long time to do them, and a great many horses which are otherwise quiet and docile enough, object to their legs being clipped, and give a lot of trouble when this is being done. For this reason alone, if for no other, it is best to leave the legs untouched.

When a horse is specially predisposed to suffer from cracked heels, or from mud fever, the animal ought not to have its legs clipped on any consideration whatsoever, as to do so will greatly increase the risk of its contracting these complaints. In all cases where a horse's legs are clipped, the hair in the hollow of the heel should not be cut with the clippers, but it should merely be trimmed slightly with a pair of stable scissors, only sufficient being cut away to make the heels look smart, so as to be in keeping with the rest of the leg.—W. R. Gilbert, in the American Cultivator.

MATING POULTRY

The terms "cockerel-breeding pen" and "pullet-breeding pen" are used exclusively when dealing with the mating of exhibition birds for color and marking. For the former, birds are mated to produce males of the correct type, and the females from this pen are generally not of much use for show purposes. For pullets it is, of course, just the opposite; that is, necessary to breed from birds of different color or with different head points. It is entirely wrong to imagine that the terms are used to imply that the birds in these pens are mated to produce more cockerels than pullets and vice versa. However, for this purpose certain rules may be followed.

For instance, it is generally found that if a vigorous cockerel be mated with not more than three adult hens, the male sex almost always largely predominates in at least the early progeny; at a later period this becomes uncertain. On the other hand, if an adult cock be mated with not more than three pullets the result is very uncertain, the one sex being as likely to occur as the other, although usually there is a decided predominance on one side rather than equality. Again, if an adult cock be mated with five or more pullets, females are generally in excess, and what cockerels there are will be most numerous in the earlier eggs. Young or adult birds mated together are very uncertain. But the fewer the hens and the more vigorous the stock, the greater is the proportion of cockerels which are always more numerous in the earlier than the later eggs of a season.—W. R. Gilbert, in the American Cultivator.

FARM NOTES.

A record should be kept of the breeding of each cow so that it will be known when she is to calve, and then allow her to go dry six weeks before calving.

One who has tried it says that the most successful treatment that he has found for all wounds in horses' feet is to clean out the wound and pour full of hot tallow or lard. This seems to give very little pain and one treatment cures.

Prof. J. J. Ferguson says he has found the following meal mixture to give very satisfactory results with hogs: Oats, finely ground, 50 per cent.; barley, finely ground, 20 per cent.; shorts, 20 per cent.; oil meal, 20 per cent.

The hog is an animal for level, fertile grain land and the sheep for hilly, thin and worn land, as sheep graze closer to the ground than any other farm stock.

A brood sow should be fed a variety, such as bran, roots, etc. Corn is fattening and should not be fed in large quantities. It promotes neither growth of the sow nor pigs. Some green vegetable food should be given in winter. Breeding animals need an abundance of exercise. Feeding animals also need exercise, but not so much as should be given breeding animals. It is best to promote the tendency towards laziness, allowing just enough exercise to maintain the health of the body.

Salt should be kept where the animals can obtain it at all times, but it should never be mixed with their feed. The animals can tell better than the owner how much salt they need, and if it is mixed with the feed there is a liability of getting too much.

THE MOST PRACTICAL ROOST. The standard roost is out of date. The chickens all fought for the best

est seat in the synagogue. Results, strife and bumble foot.

The sassafras sapling roost, guaranteed to prevent lice, has gone into oblivion with the lightning rod. The movable roost is the fail.

Our plan: Make four carpenter's trestles, two of them five feet long and two and a half feet high and the other four feet long and two feet high. Cover the high trestles with boards six feet long, and on this dropping floor place your low trestles and from one to the other place your roosting slats.

Put these four inch slats on loose and on very cold nights move them close together.

Set up in a corner out of drafts and place the dusting box near and the hens will keep the roosts well dusted.

Advantages.—Early cleaned; easily removed; catches all the manure; can be removed or set up in three minutes; hens can scratch under it; red mites avoid it. Try it and be convinced.—Weekly Witness.

WHY COWS SHOULD BE KEPT.

At one of the institutes held in Missouri in reply to the question, "Why should farmers engage in dairying?" the State Dairy Commissioner said: "Because there is money in it—more money for amount invested than in any other line of farm work. The man who milks his cow can raise just as much corn, wheat, hogs and steers and still get from \$20 to \$40 clear from cream sold. One man with twelve or fifteen cows can make from \$300 to \$600 a year from cream and still do as much of other things as he would if he did not milk. Because his land is continually getting better if he feeds his cows and saves the manure. One bushel of wheat takes twenty-six cents worth of plant food from the soil; corn takes sixteen cents per bushel, and timothy hay \$2 to \$3 per ton. Manure is worth from \$6 to \$8 per ton. About ninety per cent of the plant food required to build a plant returns in the manure. No matter how rich the land was constant cropping will wear it out."

VARIETY FOR SHEEP FOOD.

Feed the sheep a variety, being sure that the rations are properly balanced. It is said that for each thousand pounds of live weight there should be fed twenty-five pounds of dry matter per day. When feeding the wool breeds a large grower says he gives a ration containing three pounds of protein, fourteen pounds of carbohydrates and 0.6 pound to 3.5 pounds protein, 14 to 14.5 pounds carbohydrates and .75 pounds of fat.—American Cultivator.

EGGS FROM APPLES.

Nineteen pullets on the farm of Emma L. Labe, Waldoboro, Me., are reported having laid from fifteen to eighteen eggs per day all winter, a result owing largely, as their owner believes, to the free feeding of apples. The birds have eaten about nine barrels during the winter.—American Cultivator.

BREAKING IN NEW MEN.

One Corporation Publishes a Text Book For New Employees.

A large corporation has lately shown its appreciation of the value of giving new employees a thorough general knowledge of the business by publishing a book describing in an interesting fashion all the details of the company's work.

It is a volume of over 200 pages, illustrated with facsimile cuts of various reports and other forms used. A copy is furnished every employee and he is expected to master not merely the portions pertaining to his own work but the entire book.

Quizzes are held at frequent intervals throughout the organization and dismissal is the penalty for ignorance of any subject treated in the volume. "It costs us about \$2,000 to publish this book," says the president of the company, "but we consider it money well invested and we are planning to issue a new and up to date edition every year."

"When a man enters our employ he is told to read this manual and do nothing else until he has thoroughly mastered it. This gives him a general knowledge of the business, and if there are any points he does not understand they are cleared up before he begins work."—From System.

TALK THAT SELLS MINES.

Nevada Man Gives Points on Booming Lucky Strikes.

They were in a group in the St. Francis lobby talking Rawhide prospects.

"Let's go up to Bonneau's room," suggested one of the gathering. "Too many people down here listening to everything we say."

"And you claim to be a Nevada mining man?" asked Frank Bonneau in a low voice. "Talk like this means sales, man. We stay right here as long as there are interested listeners."

The resuming his normal voice he laughed and continued: "Well, right after he made that lucky strike he flashed a new suit which has a wonder. He had hooped it into Nevada without a bean. Now look what he's worth. Front of a saloon one day a fool practical joker slipped up behind and lighted his celluloid collar. Jury brought in 'justifiable homicide' and he gave the joker's family a cool \$50,000, which was big money for them, but nothing for him with his rock running \$600 to the ton."—San Francisco Chronicle

Dr. Fernando B. Guachalla, who is a candidate for President of Bolivia, is well known in this country, having been Minister to Washington.

HINTS FOR FARMERS.

The following is furnished by the Farm Journal, Philadelphia, Pa.:

OUT OF THE GINGER JAR.

Now the country's spread all over. With the sunshine, and the breeze Plays among the big red clover. With the clumsy bumblebees; Songsters hide in leafy covers. From the brightness of the noon, Then, like serending lovers, Sing their love-songs unto June. Those who pay as they go find the going pleasant.

Suppose we put a half-hitch on our dispositions. Some men haven't so much push as a frog has in one hind leg.

Nine tailors make a man, but a woman can make fools out of a dozen men.

When you have done a really good thing do not stop to talk about it, but do another.

A country housewife will do all she can in the winter and can all she does in the summer.

To kill all the bumblebees nests ruins the clover crop, for the bees cross-fertilize the blossoms. Run, boys, but don't kill them.

The average voter blames foolish laws for his woes, yet goes on putting men in the Legislature who have no use for farmers.

Burbank has succeeded in producing a spineless cactus, but let us hope that this will be no encouragement to the cultivation of spineless men.

Teacher: "Now, children, if I have five yards of cloth and use four to make a jacket, what shall I have left?" Little girl: "You will have scraps left."

Some farmers seem anxious to own all the adjoining land, but they should really improve and make the best use of the acres they have, before purchasing more.

Many a man by the fireside steth and smoketh, while his sons do all the chores in the rain and cold, and he colareth all the cash. Verily, this also is vexation of the spirit.

The garden has a hundred heads—growing on the catwalks; it has a thousand eyes—showing on the potatoes; it has any number of ears—hanging on the sweet corn; and it has all the toes it wants, too—on the tomato-toes.

WEEDY THOUGHTS.

BY CLYDE A. WAUGL.

Kill the small weeds and you will never have large ones.

A dead weed never goes to seed.

Mustard is better in the kitchen than in a wheat-field. Pull it up by the roots.

Persistence brings reward with Canada thistles; but it takes lots of persistence. Don't let the thistles seed. Sometimes it is well to salt them after cutting.

The best time to cut sweet clover is when it is in blossom. It is hard upon your tools but harder upon the clover.

Better hoe a corn-field four times when the weeds are small than once when they are big. It's cheaper.

It doesn't pay to cut burdocks with a hoe. Use a spade and cut deep.

Dragging corn either when it just comes up or at three or four inches will save lots of trouble later. Use a spike-tooth harrow.

Do unto your weeds as you would have your neighbor do unto his.—From June Farm Journal.

LAND AND CORN WILL BE HIGH.

In a decade the population of the cities has increased over 60 per cent, while that of the rural sections has increased only 14 per cent. This means that every man and woman who leaves the farm and goes to the city becomes a consumer instead of a producer, and this increases the opportunities for the farmer. This means better prices for the same crops.

The farmer above all other men who work for a living fixes his own hours of labor and of leisure.

Don't get frightened because land is high. We have found all the corn land there is in the whole round earth, and there is not enough of it to go around.

It will never be worth any less money than it is to-day, but in my judgment it will increase in value far beyond the highest conception of most of us. The population is sure to increase; we are constantly finding new uses for corn, and the demand for it will be increased. You will never see any more cheap corn in my judgment.—Judge J. Otis Humphrey of Springfield.

Disease Has Freaks.

No medical man needs to be told that even disease has its freaks, and that recovery has occasionally been brought about by means inexplicably trivial. One of the most remarkable of these unaccountable eccentricities of disease took place in Halver, in Westphalia. The case was that of a boy who, as the result of a very heavy fall backward on his head while eating, had for a year and a half been deaf and dumb. One morning his brother went to awake him, and finding him asleep heavily, tapped him lightly on the forehead. To his amazement the deaf and dumb boy awoke with a loud cry. Both speech and hearing had been restored.—Kansas City Journal.

An Americanized Chinaman, Chin Gee Hee, is the projector, president and engineer-in-chief of a railroad which has recently been opened in the Hong-kong hinterland. Of the six locomotives used four were purchased in the United States, the others coming from Germany. The president says his chief difficulty in building the road was in overcoming the obstinacy of the natives, who opposed the work on the ground that the smoke from the locomotives would ruin their crops.

The discovery that flies carry millions of germs on their feet will arouse a still greater hatred to the bald man on whose head the flies will wipe their feet.

Where Are You Going for Your Vacation?

If you have not decided, let me tell you all about the railroad round trip rates this summer to

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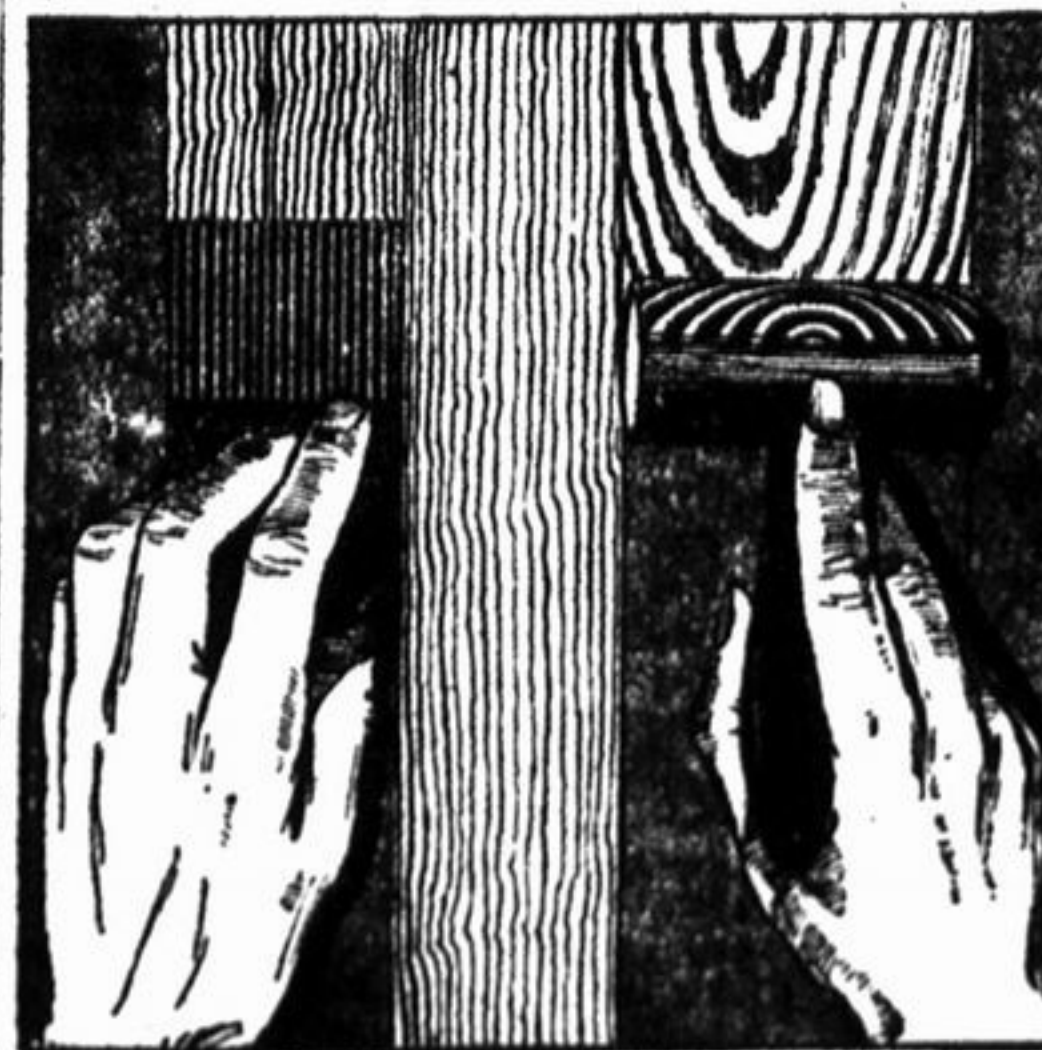
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