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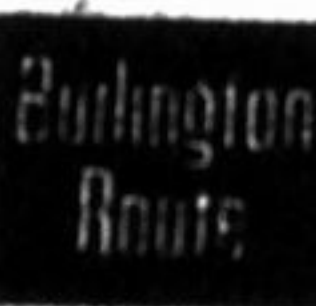
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## DEHORNING CATTLE.

This is a very important matter to cattle men, as all experience has shown. Cattle not dehorned are not to be trusted to turn in the same field of lot with other stock. If not dehorned they will do plenty of damage even among themselves. Some times we get hurt with them if we do not tie them. One or two will run the ranch, and what a lot of damage such cattle can do to hay and straw stacks if allowed to have their horns.

I do not see one thing in favor of a cow having horns, but every reason why they should not. Possibly in early days or when they had to look out for themselves and battle with wild beasts, they really needed them, but today it is different. As to its being cruel, it looks that way if we do not attend to it when the calf is young; neglected until the animal is full grown or possibly an old cow with horns as solid as bone then it does seem somewhat cruel to tie them up and either cut or saw the horns off. It is certainly a very painful way. But even when I am strictly in favor of dehorning, but would advise using tar on the wound if cut or sawed, as tar is healing.

A few years ago I came near losing a fine steer by dehorning. The dehorner first tied cords very tight around and as close to the head as possible, then sawed the horns off, staunching the flow of blood with flour. The flour was poisonous and caused irritation. But in all cases where it can be done use caustic and dehorn the calf while small. This is by far the best time, as this will effect the nearest, smoothest job, and is the most humane, as the easiest done and the cheapest, as a few cents is all that is required. Just when the button-like horn is first discovered and is quite loose, when the calf is 2 or 3 weeks old, remove the hair around the horn with a sharp pair of shears, then wet the stick of caustic by dipping the end of stick in water, being careful to have paper around stick to protect hand, as it will burn when wet. Rub the horn close around it until quite warm. Quite often one application is all that is required. If not, repeat in a few days. This will do it all that is required. The calf suffers very little. We cannot afford to neglect dehorning the calf while it is small. Then it will have a nice smooth head, will be far more docile, and there will be no danger either to the other cattle or the attendant.—O. B. in the Indiana Farmer.

## WHITWASHING THE POULTRY HOUSE.

The common method of half cleaning the poultry premises, has been in vogue so many years, and some farmers are so prone to adhere to the old furrow in doing these things, that they need to be reminded every spring and fall that complete cleanliness of fowl-houses and runs is essential to success. In whitewashing the interior of a poultry house do not leave a spot even as large as the head of a pin untouched anywhere. Plash the whitewash liberally into every nook and corner, crack and crevice. If the henhouse has a floor of cement, stone, brick or boards, whitewash that also. The plan of "whitewashing" is a very good and serviceable way to renovate the houses and to purify the premises. But the use of lime alone in this work is not so good a method as the following: Into the whitewash pail, when the liquid is prepared for application to inside work, while the lime water is still hot, drop a tea-cup full of soft boiled rice, and mix it thoroughly through the mass. Then pour into a quart pot of cold water, say ten or twelve drops of crude carbolic acid. Mix this into the rest, and wash the interior of your hen house with it. For outside work, use rock salt dissolved in hot water, and dispense with carbolic acid. No other preparation of "whitewashing" ever equalled this, within our knowledge—and no one who tries this once, will ever be content with any other combination, for poultry buildings.—Weekly Witness.

## FEEDING SILAGE.

When judiciously used silage can be fed with advantage to all classes of farm animals. Silage should not be fed as an exclusive coarse feed, but always in connection with some dry roughage. The nearer the maturity the forage is cut for the silo, the more silage may safely be fed, but it is always well to avoid feeding it excessively.

The difference in the chemical composition and digestibility of the same forage, green, dried, and in the form of silage, is very slight and the relative feeding value of the different forms is dependent chiefly upon their palatability and physical effect. Silage is usually more palatable to animals than dry feeds and it acts as a milk laxative and keeps the digestive system in better condition than is usual with most dry feeds. Silage-green feeding feeds, and pastures seem to keep the digestive system in about the same condition. Silage furnishes that succulence in a ration that seems necessary for stock to do their best work.—Farmer's Home Journal.

## WOMEN SHOULD TAKE UP GARDENING.

The women of the farm, now that they are generally relieved from the drudgery of butter and cheese making by the factory system, should turn much more attention to gardening than heretofore. This employment is full of interest and exceedingly healthful, and it is no less productive of the comfort and health of the family by supplying the table with the various kinds of delicious vegetables and fruits in their season. Fruit and ornamental vines and flowers are also growing and bearing, and the women should be encouraged to take up gardening.—The Dallas News.

on neighbors and visitors, and all the members of the family will save their home the more for these comforts and attractions.—Weekly Witness.

## PLANTING OF TREES.

There are a number of reasons why fall planting of trees and vines is best. First, nearly a year's growth is attained in excess of that which would result were the planting deferred until the following spring. Second, trees can be purchased cheaper in fall than in spring. Third, a better assortment of varieties can be secured, as well as a better grade of trees, as in the fall large nursery blocks are unbroken. Fourth, nurserymen have more time and can give better and more prompt attention. Fifth, there is more time to plant in the fall than spring, and generally the soil is in better condition for planting.—Epitomist.

## ARSENATE OF LEAD.

According to the Michigan Agricultural College arsenate of lead troubles much less from settling than Paris green, and does not burn the tender foliage when used as strong as five pounds to 50 gallons of water, although three pounds is as much as is commonly needed. At this strength it will furnish as much arsenic as when a pound of Paris green is used in from 50 to 65 gallons of water. Arsenate of lead also owes much of its value to its superior adhesive properties, which under ordinary circumstances fully doubles its effectiveness.

## ROUP IN FOWLS.

Do not be deceived by thinking that if your fowls get the roup they can be easily cured. Genuine roup, when once seated, is a very difficult disease to eradicate, but it is a very easy matter to avoid it. Keep the hen house dry by allowing free ventilation and avoid allowing the hens to roost in a draft.—Farmer's Home Journal.

## USE OF WASTE MILK.

There should be a good egg harvest on the farms where there is so much waste rich milk. The first new milk the cows give before it becomes fit for table use, abounds in egg-making qualities, and is nearly as good as so much fresh milk, and will not hurt the fowls.—Farmer's Home Journal.

## FARM NOTES.

When breeding a good mare to an inferior stallion, either in individuality or breeding qualities, you are taking a long step backward. A mare should be invariably bred to a horse her equal, and her superior if possible.

Colic in horses is generally the result of carelessness or improper feeding. The stomach of a horse is small and the digestion is limited, and if the horse is hungry and overfed or is allowed to gulp down a big feed colic is the result. Also if musty hay or musty grain feed is used, or if fresh cut grass wet with dew or rain is hastily eaten in large quantities colic is often the result.

Five drams of tartar emetic in the drinking water once each day for four or five successive days will relieve a horse of all worms in its stomach. When the hair of a horse drops out in patches wash with tar soap, then apply any of the dips or disinfectants advertised.

For greasy heel in horses wash the parts with strong soap, then use a mixture of carbolic acid, 1 ounce; glycerine, 2 ounces; olive oil, 8 ounces. In case this does not stop the itching dissolve half an ounce of sugar of lead in a half pint of soft water and apply twice a day.

Horse buyers say that every pound over 1500 on a draft horse is worth 25 cents. This would show the necessity of breeding and raising large horses. Select the large, well-proportioned mares and breed them to large well-proportioned sires and there will be a colts that will sell quickly for a good price.

For stiffness in horses caused by founder, poultice the feet with warm bran mash put into bags and tied on. Change the poultices twice a day, and continue the poulticing for a week. Then mix two drams cantharides with one pound of lard. Rub a little of this around the cornets with the finger and let it remain on 24 hours. Then wash off and apply a little lard, after which turn the animal out to pasture until well, which should be in a month.—From "Horse Notes" in the Agricultural Epitomist.

## Expensive Boarders at Zoo.

Two expensive boarders have come to the New York Bronx Park Zoo. They are a pair of king cobras from India which curator Raymond L. Ditmars says are the most deadly of all known reptiles. These cobras eat nothing but live snakes. They usually eat two at a meal. Live snakes cost the zoo management \$1.50, so the weekly menu bill of the king cobras costs \$4. But these cobras have eaten nothing since they arrived three months ago. The two cobras are each about twelve feet long. They are the most vicious in the collection, and are kept in a cage to themselves. Their long fast seems to have no effect upon them, unless it is to make them uglier than usual. When the keepers remove the wooden panel in the rear of their cage and pass up and down the corridor the cobras lunge at them and strike their heads against the wire screen, only to recoil and gunge again. When the wooden panel is placed in position the cobras sink in the cage, looking at the visitors through the heavy glass pane.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

A woman's idea of a perfectly awful thing is to have some one call when she is washing her hair, "Good morning."—The Dallas News.

## TO MILK PRODUCERS.

The milk producers of Lake County, Illinois believe it is time for all producers who supply milk directly to Chicago dealers, or to bottling plants who ship to Chicago, to organize for self-protection and advancement.

Every other industry in both the labor and financial ends are organized, and as a result conditions to members of such organizations have materially improved.

In our plan, we feel by having a delegate from each milk platform to represent the will of his neighbors and keep them posted as to what is going on, success must come.

Organization for mutual protection and advancement is urged by the farm commission appointed by President Roosevelt. Organization with full obedience to the laws of the nation and State can still be of immense monetary good to each member.

If there ever was an honest, fair demand for any one for an advance in price for labor and products, the milk producers' claims are certainly the most just.

Everything the milk producer uses has advanced, the best methods of feeding make it necessary for him to buy ground and concentrated feeds. He is compelled on every side to pay out more than he ever paid out for the same necessities before, and yet he is selling his product—his milk—for substantially the same price for the last eight years.

Who is to blame? The preliminary committee in charge who will yield to the permanent organization, when completed in Chicago, Monday, Feb. 1st, 1909, at the Sherman House, 11 a. m. sharp, have no wild schemes in mind. They do not urge the establishing of large retail and wholesale milk or butter-making plants in Chicago or elsewhere, (although no one can foresee how far such an organization, properly conducted, could successfully go).

The committee knows, and every producer knows that something is needed for him to get his full measure of the prosperity that is being and has been handed around.

An organization with head, stomach and backbone will stop this and other injustices in quick time, and give the producers great value in many ways. (Signed) C. G. SMALL, Prairie View, Chairman Pro tem. J. E. MARTIN, Antioch. J. J. BAINSTABLE, Lake Villa. E. WILSON, ROCKFELLER. ERNEST H. MOORE, Grays Lake. FRANK T. FOWLER, Secretary Pro tem. Temporary office, 214 First National Bank Building, Chicago.

## DIRE DISTRESS.

It is Near at Hand to Hundreds of Downers Grove Readers.

Don't neglect an aching back. Backache is the kidney's cry for help. Neglect hurrying to their aid. Means that urinary troubles follow quickly.

Dire distress, diabetes, Bright's disease. Profit by a sufferer's experience. Mrs. E. A. Leuben, 75 Sheight St., Naperville, Ill., says: "I am very glad to let others know that Doan's Kidney Pills cured me of a severe case of kidney trouble from which I had suffered for months. I had pain in the small of my back and sides, and was caused much distress by pain in my bladder. I consulted a physician, who treated me for kidney and bladder trouble, but the pain did not leave me. About two months ago I decided to try Doan's Kidney Pills, and procured a supply. I used less than two boxes, but I have not had any pain or distress since. I feel well in every way, and owe it all to Doan's Kidney Pills."

For sale by all dealers. Price 25 cents. Foster-McMillan Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

## WOMAN WHO UNDERSTOOD.

Saved a Man from Making Shipwreck of Three Lives. They were walking the deck of an ocean liner—the young lieutenant and the woman who understood. She had known him since he was a boy, and he had always admired her.

"Joe," she said, "you have something on your mind. At first I thought you were tired, but this is the third day out, and you're just the same as when we sailed."

"How is it that you always know?" he asked, smiling at her gravely. "Yes, I have got something on my mind, and I'm afraid it won't come off."

"I suppose it wouldn't help at all to talk it over?" "No," he groaned; and then he scarcely knew how—he told her. It was not a long story; simply, he had proposed to the wrong girl, and she had accepted him.

"I felt it from the first," he said, slowly. "It was the way she took it, somehow. It didn't seem to mean as much to her as it did to me; and then, when I went over to Washington and said good-by to Margaret, and surprised a look of disappointment in her face when I told her I was going away, why, I felt that she really cared for me for myself, and I knew what a mistake I'd made. But," he continued, drawing himself up, "I'm an honorable man, I hope, and of course there's only one thing to do."

"Yes, of course," she said, quietly, and for a few moments they paced the deck in silence. "Of course I shall go back and marry Genevieve, and she need never know, thank God." "But" exclaimed the woman who understood. "That wasn't the 'one thing' I thought of. Did you think that would make it right?" "Why, what else?" he demanded, almost fiercely. "Don't you understand that I asked her to marry me?" "Yes, I know," she said, gently, and

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I suppose that is a man's high sense of honor, and I admire his heroism, but do you think it's treating the girl quite fairly? I suppose you told her that you loved her?"

"Well, I believe I said something of the sort," and his boyish smile lighted his serious face.

"But don't you see that's all changed now? You must write her and tell her."

"Impossible!" "No, it's hard, but it's not impossible. She may not care to marry a man who doesn't love her as he did—even if she is sippant. And what of Margaret? Are you going to run the risk of spoiling three lives because you're too proud to write that letter or because you think if you're released it would be more luck than you deserve? Indeed, you're not. There's only one thing to do."

He made no answer, and they finished their walk in silence.

The next evening as she left him she put a hand on his shoulder, asking, "Have you written?" But he shook his head. On the last day of their long voyage, when she asked him where he had kept himself, he said, quietly, "I've been writing a letter." That was all, but the woman who understood was satisfied.

The girl who had taken her engagement so sippantly took her disappointment in the same way; and by and by, back in Washington, the girl who really cared held a letter which she could scarcely read for the tears of joy in her eyes. She knew how great was her happiness, but she did not know that she owed it to the woman who understood.—Youth's Companion.

## A Pet Sunfish.

Some one calling at the house of Robert O. Morris, clerk of courts, happened to ask him if he was fond of pets, says the Springfield Republican. Mr. Morris admitted that he did enjoy the presence of pets about the house, and that he had a tame sunfish down stairs at that very moment. He went on to explain how very tame it was. It would come when he called and eat out of his hand. It always was pleased when he came into the room, and after the family had finished eating and got up from the table it would beg for its own dinner. By this time the visitor began to expect to hear the proud owner whistle and see the pet come bounding up the stairs. Morris explained that he had a pet sunfish, or "Pumpkinhead," which he had named after the fish which he had seen in the water and manifest many signs of lively interest.

called by the family, the free run of the house. It was, indeed, confined to a glass tank filled with water in the dining room, along with two perch, which may be said to be yet in their wild state, as they have not learned to heed their master's voice.

The funny pets are almost as much at home in the Morris' dining room as in their natural habitat. The tank is supplied with constantly running water from a spring up on Myrtle street. This spring is a sort of a family heritage of the Morrises, and was used for drinking water until it was condemned. Mr. Morris, disliking to abandon it, utilized its flow of water for a miniature fish pond and took this opportunity to make an intimate study of various fishes and their habits. He has tried keeping all of the native fishes, except pickerel, and finds that brook trout thrive in the clear spring water. One of the fish tales which he relates as having actually witnessed in his own house is that a bass will boldly attempt to swallow another fish quite as big as itself. However, Mr. Morris does not mention that it can do the trick.

The tame sunfish is the first one to which he has become really attached. He has had it now nearly two years, and while he expects some day to return it to a pond, yet he is loath to let it go, and it is doubtful if the fish would wish to leave him. After seeing some of the performances of Mr. Morris' sunfish one is ready to believe some of the stories that are told about people taming fish. When its owner calls to it, even from half way across the room, "Pumpkinhead" will rise to the surface of the water and manifest many signs of lively interest.

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