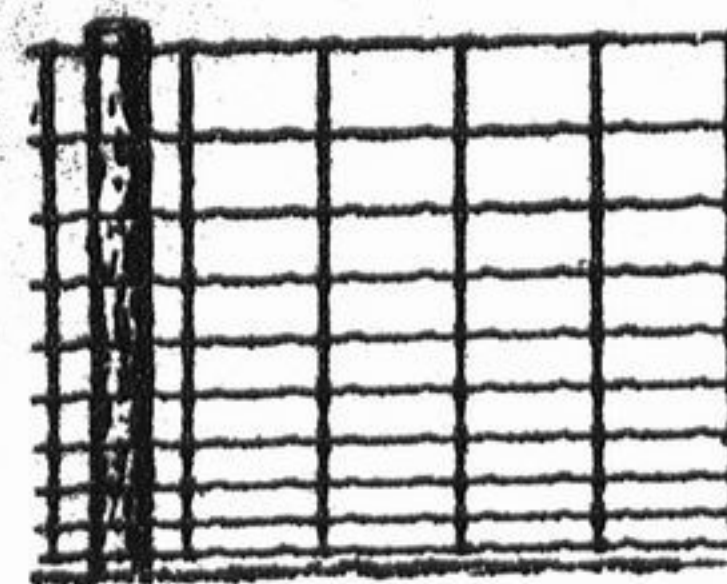


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FARM NOTES

Cultivation of Corn.

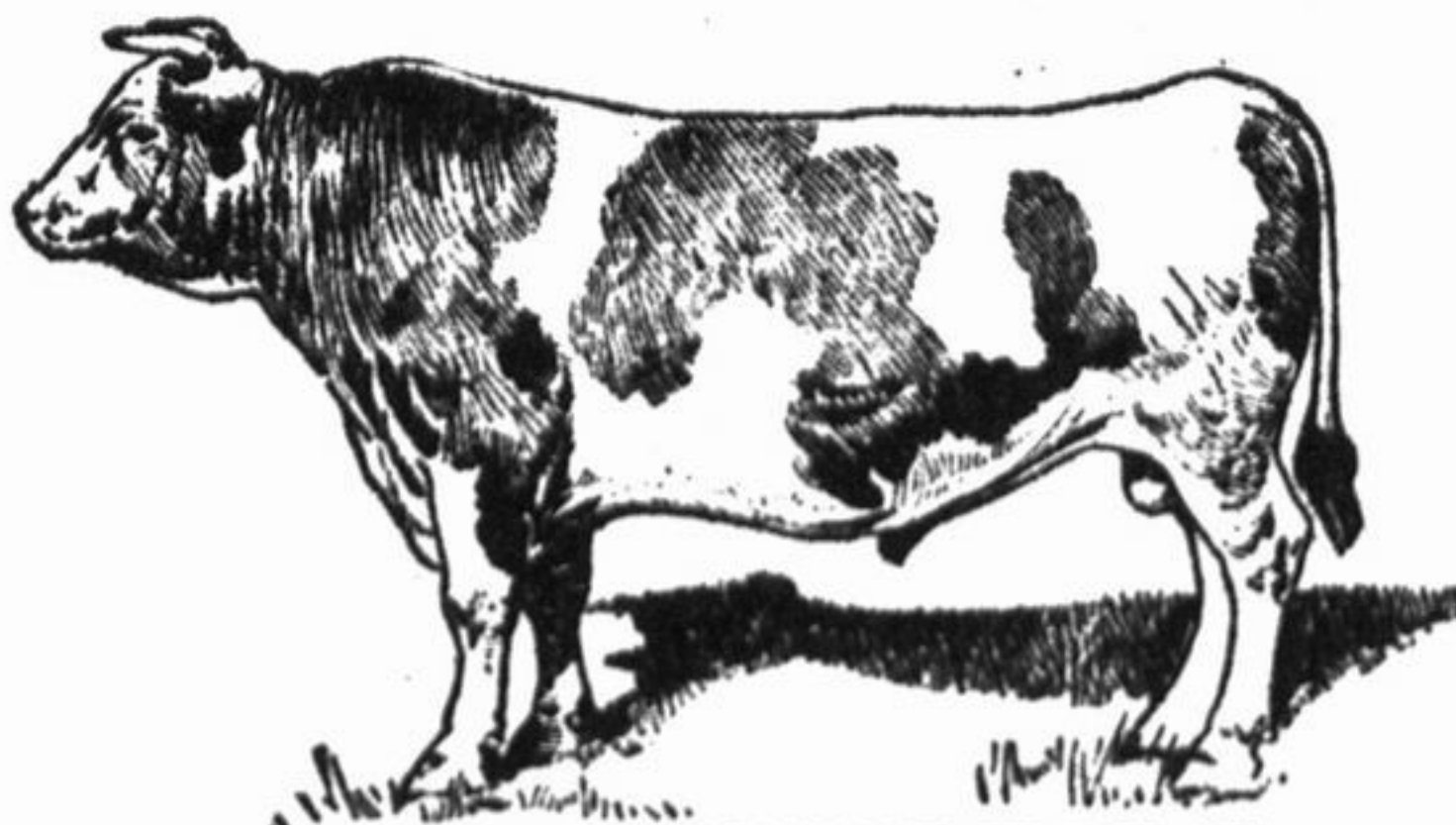
When corn is planted after the first week in June the land needs more attention than when prepared earlier. If plowed early the weeds will have made an appearance, which is an advantage, as they can be destroyed before the corn is planted; but the late corn will be more easily injured by drought than that which has made an earlier start. The crop should be cultivated after every rain, so as to prevent loss of moisture. Another point is to thin out the plants if they are too thick. It would be difficult to induce many farmers to "thin out" their corn, as they would claim that the land, having been manured, was capable of providing for as many stalks in the hills as made their appearance; it is not a matter of plant food with late corn, however, but moisture. When too many stalks are close together there is a struggle for existence; some become weeds to the others, and in the end only the most vigorous make growth, and yield grain

include thirteen each in soils and agricultural chemistry, twelve each in animal husbandry and horticulture, eleven in dairy husbandry, eight in agricultural engineering, seven in bacteriology, five each in agricultural economics and agronomy, and one in agricultural journalism.

Mottled Butter.

Streaky or mottled butter may be caused by the salt, or it may be due to the working of the butter. The salt is so evenly diffused in the finest kind of butter that, as is shown by a microscope, every grain is surrounded by a film of clear and transparent brine, which is not to be confused with the overworking of the butter before the salt is added. In the first working every particle of milk should be gotten rid of, but enough clear water should be left to dissolve every grain of salt in twelve hours before the next working. If this be done there will be but little danger of streakiness in the butter, but to get

CHAMPION HOLSTEIN BULL



EXHIBITED AT THE ILLINOIS STATE FAIR, 1908.

up to the average. It is, therefore, better to remove every stalk that shows lack of growth, and if the herse remedy of reducing the stalks to two in a hill could be tried on a plot by way of experiment, the result would be satisfactory, as well as convince farmers that there is nothing gained by endeavoring to grow three or four plants in a space which only two should occupy. If rainfall continues to be abundant, as has been the case for June, there will be no necessity for reducing the number of plants.

Cause of Bitter Milk.

Recent experiments on the Ontario Experiment Farm show that the yeast-like micro-organism of bitter torula is the cause of much bitter milk and cheese. Factories in that section have complained of the bitterness of the milk, and as a consequence the experiment station has conducted extensive investigations as to the cause. Cultures of the torula were added to milk and cheese that had been sterilized, and in each case a bitter taste was the result. It was not found in milk drawn into sterilized dishes, but was found regularly in mixed milk, in the solutions used for can washes, and also on the leaves of trees under which the cans were habitually kept. The remedies are to cool the milk promptly and to guard it from infection of any kind. All cans and other utensils should be carefully washed and sterilized by heat. The Connecticut experiment station discovered several years ago that a species of bacteria was the cause of bitter milk and cream. This can be rendered harmless by sterilization.

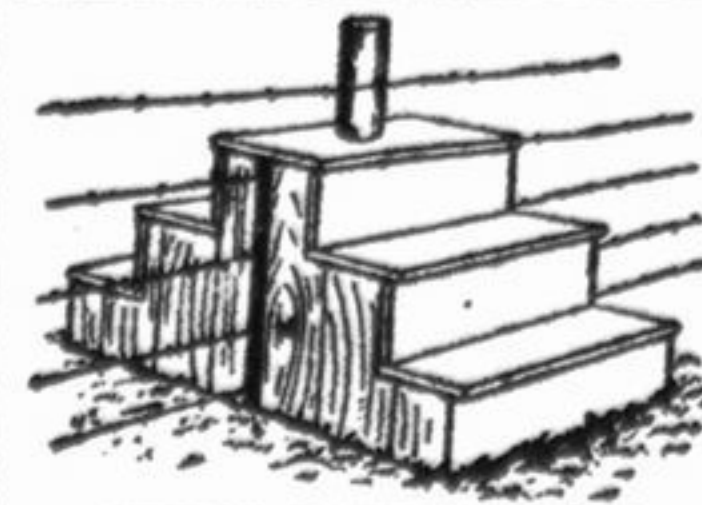
Crossing a Barbed Wire Fence.

Two stout boards are nailed together, as shown in Fig. 1, and may be used for crossing a barbed wire fence. They should be 16 or 12 inches



INVERTED V STYLE.

wide and 2 feet longer than the fence is high to give the desired spread. Firmly nail four cleats on each board and fasten a short board between the two to assist in getting over the fence.



STEPS TO GO OVER THE FENCE.

Another device somewhat more elaborate is a double set of steps, shown in Fig. 2. Women and children will have no difficulty in using this, but might find it inconvenient to get over the narrow board.—Farm and Home.

Many Courses in Agriculture.

A total of eighty-seven different courses of study in the long and middle courses in agriculture at the College of Agriculture of the University of Wisconsin is shown in the new catalogue of the university just issued. These do not include the work in the nine other special departments, such as home economics, the short course, three dairy courses, the farmers' course, farmers' institutes, home-making course, and experimental station work. These eighty-seven courses

FARM INSTITUTE HASH

Significant Gleanings from Successful Men About Poultry, Poetry, Potter's Field, Education, Consumptives' Hospital, and Cows That Make Money.

(Reported by Arthur J. Bill for Illinois Farmers' Institute.)

J. H. Halpin of the Michigan College of Agriculture, speaking to the Illinois State Farmers at Rockford, said that there is more in breeding poultry for egg production than we have considered. Of two pens of Lophorhynchus kept side by side and given exactly the same food and treatment, the pen of selected layers produced six times as many eggs as the other pen, which was not bred for that purpose. He says that too often we do not know what we are doing in the poultry business. For instance, we set the hen that has laid all winter, on eggs laid by hens which had been hatching all winter and then expect those eggs to produce winter layers. We should set eggs from the hen that was a winter layer if we want to produce hens that will lay in the winter. The thing to do is to select those hens in February that have proved winter layers and mark them.

N. P. Hull, a successful dairyman and dairy inspector of Michigan, told the following items to the Illinois Dairyman's Association at Clinton: His cows were returning him about \$40 per year for \$28 worth of feed. He began to study the cow problem, to feed a variety of palatable food at regular hours, and provided comfortable and sanitary quarters. He raised clover and corn, built a silo, and got the cows to eating all they would \$38.47 worth of feed the first year, \$39 worth the next and \$41 worth last year. The return of milk was increased to \$90.16 per cow, to \$92.70 and to \$100.16. Former profits were multiplied by four. We must run cow's machinery up to its maximum capacity for the best profit.

Mr. Hull told of two young men on opposite sides of the road, one of whom weighed and tested each cow's milk, and disposed of the poorest rows, while the other said that "he had no time to monkey with that business." At the end of three years the young man who tested his herd was getting a return of 250 pounds of butterfat per cow, and the other a return of 200 pounds. The cost of keeping the cows was about 150 pounds of fat, so one of these dairymen was making twice as much profit per cow as the other. "The one who had no time to know his business would now have to take time to make up for what he didn't know. It would take him two years to accomplish what the other did in one year."

The sight and thought of 400 dying consumptives in a hospital as at Dunning, Chicago, is pitiful and depressing from one standpoint. But we see that this hospital is a most important protection to the public when we reflect that these patients are removed from their homes and lodging houses at the time when they would be the most dangerous to their families and others. They are also made comfortable in the hospital and given sanitary surroundings. Nearly 1,300 consumptives were admitted last year, most all in the last stages of the disease. The sputum cup must be used for all expectoration, and much attention is given to cleanliness and disinfection. Dr. O. C. Willhite, superintendent of Dunning, says that concentrated lye is a much better disinfectant to kill the tuberculous germ than either formaldehyde or carbolic acid.

Thirteen patients a day were brought to Dunning last year, a total of 4,735, and the potter's field at that institution is being filled at the rate of two a day. You read figures about death rates, but what do they mean to you? But look at this patch of land with long rows of close-set stakes. A trench six feet wide has been dug clear across it; this end has been filled in; there is a lot of fresh earth, and beyond it the trench is open. It takes about thirty feet a week of this continuous grave for the pine boxes set close side by side—eight for adults and eight for children. They come from the 4,000 population of Dunning, from the county hospital down in Chicago and wherever the destitute die in that great city. You see it and feel it as you look along that trench.

I carry this diary with me every day and into the back part of it I put things I clip from all sorts of places. Here is one from the Chicago Tribune to-day:

"Some necessary things you will note Can never be learned by rote: You cannot learn to milk a goat In a correspondence school."

Isn't it better when you meet a fellow, instead of saying, "Did you hear that thing about Jim or Tom or Mary?" and then recite some miserable scandal—Isn't it better to say, "See what I got from Charlie Taylor this morning," and then read the above.

You go out on the road in the summertime, and you will see there the bees, gathering honey; they go along the road wherever they can find flowers. Right along the same road, you will find an insect of another kind, wallowing in the dung! Any one can always find what he is looking for! So you will find in any paper what you are looking for. So, I say, select a poem, master it, make it yours, love it, and take it to your school house, to your church gatherings, to your home, and so on; when you meet your neighbor, give it to him, and you will have something worth while.—William Hawley Smith.

"Yes, indeed," averred the impatient party, "I enjoy automobiles—enjoy them very much, in fact—but I never carried away by them."



When you hear the fire whistle, PLEASE DO NOT CALL CENTRAL and ask her the location of the fire.

It is required of the operator on an occasion of this kind that she notify the various Fire Officials and Men and hold herself in readiness to give additional information should Fire Department so request.

Quite frequently the Fire Department calls for additional help or a doctor and the completion of an important call of this kind, as well as regular routine calls, might be considerably delayed were operators unnecessarily busy in replying to the many requests of the public as to the location of fire.

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