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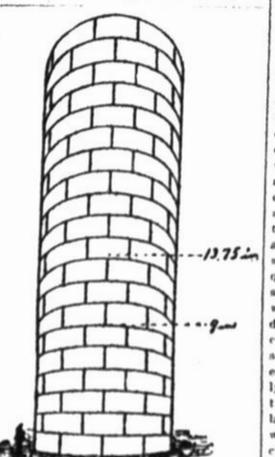
The question is often asked how many cows a certain number of acres will support. By the question is meant that the entire energy of the farm is to be devoted to raising food for the dairy cow. A farm in a good state of fertility can be easily arranged so that one could keep a cow to every two acres if the land is all good, rich, tillable land. And one would be able to raise both the forage or bulky part of the ration, and the grain ration, too. It could be done in a few years' time with the proper handling of the herd on the farm.

Three crops on the farm will do it—first, corn, second, clover hay, and third, peas and oats. Of course, the clover seed would be plowed down for corn and then the corn ground be put into peas and oats the following season. With these three foods one can make a balanced ration for the dairy cow without purchasing any other outside food, either concentrated or bulky.

The statement has often been made that an acre of good land will support a cow the year around. One dairyman made the remark that he could keep two cows on an acre, but practically the man who keeps one cow on two acres is doing very good business if he gets fair prices for the product. It is a fact that the demand for milk, butter and cheese is increasing faster than cows and the prices are continually advancing. There is no better business than dairying.—Agricultural Epitomist.

Water a Necessity for Crops.

This reservoir is 100 feet high and 37½ feet in diameter and will hold 3,400 tons of water, an equivalent to 30 acre-inches of rain fall. An average rainfall of 13½ inches during the



growing season would fill to the point indicated. A rainfall of 9 inches, if completely utilized, would produce a yield of 30 bushels of wheat or 157 bushels of oats.

Reclaiming Washed Land.

I had about one acre of washed clay land on one side of a good field. It was absolutely devoid of vegetation, had been left out for a number of years after washing fertilizer upon it, and was an eyesore. Early in the spring I crossed it with furrows about 5 feet apart. In these furrows I dropped wild blackberry roots, one about every 4 feet. I dropped a forkful of stable manure next to each root, partially covering it, and covered the whole with one furrow made with the turn plow. In the next furrow I dropped small pine tops and partially covered them with the plow. I went over all the land in the same way. The work required three days for two men and a team. The following spring I plowed out the middles. This was five years ago, and I have not touched the land since. I have gathered two good crops of blackberries and the land is now covered with heavy berry bushes and a good wild grass sod, with no wash to speak of.—G. M. Humphreys, in Agricultural Epitomist.

Fashions Robs the Farmers.

According to William Dutcher, president of the Audubon Societies of the United States, birds save to the farmer \$200,000,000 a year in the destruction of noxious insects and noxious weeds. The great destroyers of birds are the plume hunters for millinery purposes. Birds destroyed for food are restocked by natural processes, but the plume hunters recognize no closed season.

Millinery Interests in America.

represent \$38,000,000 worth of work done by the birds for the farmers. The bobwhite is the arch destroyer of the potato bug, the cuckoo of the caterpillar, the woodpecker of the boring grub, the lark of the grasshopper and the sparrow of the weed seeds. President Dutcher thinks the birds are entitled to at least fair play from the milliners.

Striped Beetles.

Look out for the striped beetles. They often attack and destroy melons and cucumbers as fast as the plants appear above the ground. An application of wood ashes, air-slaked lime, or gypsum, tainted with kerosene or turpentine or carbolic acid, will help to drive them away. If you have only a few plants you can easily protect each by erecting a mosquito netting guard over it until the plants begin to run.

Beet Culture Wanes.

Comment has arisen over the apparent decadence of sugar-beet culture in the farming section about Toledo, Ohio. Where a few years ago a dozen

fields could be seen without traveling more than a mile or two, now scarcely one exists. A farmer reported he saw but one field between Toledo and Monroe, though only a few years ago this section produced heavily. Several factors have arisen to work against beet raising. In the first place, labor and care considered, the present high-priced cereals are considerably more profitable; again, farmers have begun to learn that beets tax soil vitality about as heavily as any crop, and, unless fertilizing elements are constantly applied the land invariably suffers. Complaint is also made of difficulty in marketing the output.

For a Sucking Cow.

The following description is given of a device to prevent a cow from sucking herself:



Secure two lengths of small cord, also six pieces of round, light wood about 12 inches long and 1½ inches in diameter, bore ¾ inch holes at each end of sticks, then having tied a knot at one end of the rope, thread on the sticks. Knot the cord on either side of the sticks, then throw the same across the cow's neck (having regulated the knots and sticks to suit the small of the neck and also the shoulder), and the end of the cords around the first knot. The accompanying illustration shows the result. This device prevents the cow from reaching her flanks.

Bitter Butter.

Bitter cream and butter may and generally does result after the cow has been feeding liberally on moldy hay, decaying roots and certain weeds. Another fruitful source of bitter cream and butter is the holding of the cream at too low a temperature, when objectionable bacteria get in their work, raising a pungent or bitter flavor. For best results cream should be cooled and held at a temperature of about 50 degrees for six or seven hours immediately after separation, after which it should be ripened in a temperature of from 60 to 70 degrees. When it begins to turn sour it is ready to be churned, and then the sooner it is churned the better. In small dairies, where several separator skimmings are required to make up the quantity of cream for a churning, the cream should never be run from the separator into the vessel holding previous skimmings. One needs a cream can of sufficient size to hold all that is required to make up the churning, and such vessels should be kept in a place where the temperature is about 60 degrees. Each skimming should be cooled before being emptied into this storage can. When fresh cream is emptied it should be at once thoroughly incorporated with the contents of the can by stirring with a spoon or ladle. Churning should not take place within five or six hours after the last cream has thus been added.—Field and Farm.

Silo Building.

In all silos the greatest waste or curd around the sides, particularly in the corners, because the air has great access to these parts. The fodder is not packed tightly in the corners, the air fills the interstices and decay results. With the cylindrical silo the friction is equally distributed over the entire inside wall surface, so that the silage settles evenly.

The place a silo is to occupy may determine the form to build. There are several kinds. Chief among these are the round, the square, the rectangular, and the octagonal form.

A square or rectangular silo can usually be constructed within a barn with better economy of space than a round silo. For these reasons square silos are most frequently employed within the barn, and the circular type when a separate building is constructed.

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 an 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 points out the necessity of avoiding 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 is done there will be but little danger of streakiness in the butter, but to get the best results the salt should be very finely ground.

Dimensions of an Acre.

An acre in this country contains 43,560 square feet, or 160 square rods. A patch 60 yards 5 inches wide and 70 yards long is practically an acre of ground. It is far better to see just how much can be raised on an acre than to follow the old plan of showing just how many acres one is able to plant and partially cultivate. The one-acre crop is in line with high-class diversified farming.

Shoeing Horses.

The hoof of the mule, being smaller and tougher than that of the average horse, does not need shoeing unless worked on hard roads a great deal. It is better not to have them shod if confined to work on the farm, unless used to haul heavy loads on frozen ground.

Grass for Shady Places.

The Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station has found out that, on railroads running east and west, it is necessary to plant a different kind of grass on the north side of embankments from the south side because of the different amount of sunlight that each side receives.

WORTH QUOTING

Probably the ocean is treacherous because it is full of craft, puns the Boston Post.

Fortunate is the bride, observes the Chicago News, who marries the best man at her wedding.

The Jack-at-all-trades is master of none, for, argues the Christian Register, the Jack is a rude, clumsy fellow.

The best proof, admits the Home Herald, that you have had a glimpse of Heaven is that you are trying to make earth like it.

Just as insects and disease attack a weak, sickly plant, muses the American Cultivator, so misfortune heaps upon a man who is down.

If you are going to ask a man to take your part, warns the Chicago News, be sure he doesn't take all you have.

Spain has inaugurated a system of parcels post and postal savings banks. The more progressive nations, suggests the Chicago News, are all falling into line.

"Ingratitude," said Uncle Eben, in the Washington Star, "is a word which frequently used by folks that has had 'no' dan der share of favors and had their expectations unreasonably stimulated."

The words "absolute" and "absolutely" are just now to be seen everywhere. Whoever would be emphatic, advises the Christian Register, must use one of them with heavy stress laid upon the first syllable.

The New Haven Register rises to say: The Young Turks may be an improvement over the old Turks in some ways, but they are very Turkish, nevertheless. Turkey will not be a good summer resort for those who cannot subscribe to the doctrine that Allah is great and Mohammed is his prophet.

"A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men." But, comments the Epitomist, the most tiresome persons are those who try to be funny all the time; amusement is to be found in a sort of desert, but we want the best and the best of common sense for the main course.

Observes the Boston Globe: Never mind about the outrageously high price of meat. Eat green vegetables, and cereals, and fish. People generally eat a good deal more meat than is good for them and for those who do an increase in price that will cause a change of diet really is a blessing.

"Sociology" is a new name and fad, but an old interest, declares the New York Mail. It seems every wide-awake man, in the words of the Latin poet, to account nothing human as alien to him, nor confine his sympathies altogether within the bounds of caste, convention, or the conventional moral sanctions.

An Ohio editor has married one of his contributors, owing to the charm of the press which she offered him. It would be a matter of interest for some graduate student in sociology, thinks the Louisville Courier-Journal, to investigate the relative volume of feminine versus contributors to Western papers, before and after this announcement.

A Chicago citizen who has evidently been scared frequently by the loud "bonk" of automobile horns, as he scudded across streets has written to the Tribune to suggest that automobiles be made to carry electric bells the same as horses are required to wear in sleighing time. This, he thinks, "would give continual warning to pedestrians." He adds, by way of clinching his plan and commending it to motorists: "riding would be more enjoyable accompanied by a nice toned set of bells. There would no doubt be quite a strife among manufacturers to see who could turn out the finest toned machine as a selling point."

In primitive times the only places in London where the public could be entertained with food had been the cooks' shops. The famous East Cheap thoroughfare, down which the stalls of the fish-hors alternated with those of the cooks. You chose a joint at the fish-market, and you carried it next door to be cooked for you by a certain hour. If you wished for wine you must bring that with you, for the cooks sold no liquor, although they seem to have provided, as time went on, more and more of the natural accompaniments of meat, such as bread, vegetables, and pastry. This habit continued until well into the reign of Elizabeth.

One of the most charming and convincing evidences of ignorance and inexperience, to the Hartford Courant, came out on the dock in New York City, when the customs officials detected two rich women who are said to have influential friends, bringing in with them about \$1,000 worth of dutiable goods not declared. When they were confronted with their apparent evasion, they responded that they read hastily in declaration that they signed and "brought" to read "brought aboard" and "abroad" meant they would only pay duty on things they bought on the ship. These innocents should go abroad again.

There is a growing demand for American pearls. Those taken from the Western waters last season were valued at \$500,000.

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