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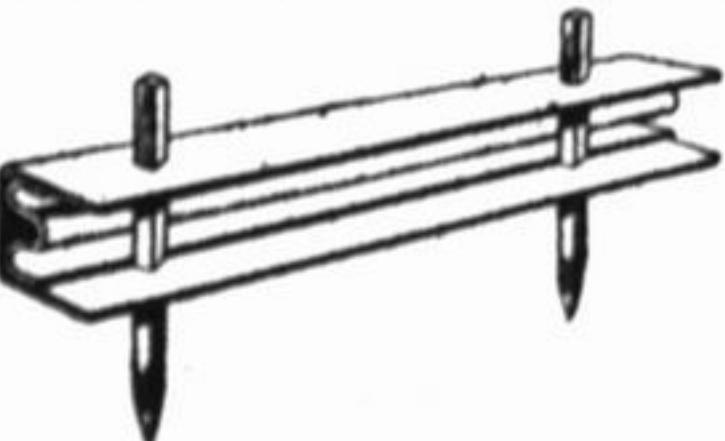
There is no field open to women today that is less crowded than the poultry field; none that offers as good returns for one's labor; none that affords so much freedom when taken as a vocation, and none that makes one so nearly independent of others. Some of our best planned poultry farms, as well as our best-paying ones, are the outgrowth of woman's skill and ingenuity in planning, and her financial ability in conducting the enterprise. Most women show a qualification for neatness about poultry of which men are occasionally void, and as cleanliness is an important factor, she often outstrips our "lords of creation" in results obtained. The care of poultry is productive of good health to women engaged therein, giving them sufficient exercise in the open air, and just enough care and responsibility to make their work interesting and to make them feel their importance. The field for women is almost unlimited, and it pays her better profits than she can reasonably expect from most other business ventures.—Commercial Poultry.

Destroying Water Hyacinth.

Spraying is the method followed at the present time by the government in destroying the water hyacinth, which has proved a serious impediment to navigation on many of the Southern rivers of this country. A great number of suggestions have been tried, and the fine spraying process has been found to be the most effectual and economical. Two government boats are engaged in the work. Each is equipped with tanks for the boiling of a mixture of white arsenic, sodium carbonate and water. This is sprayed on the plants, and as the latter are about 98 per cent water there is very little residue after they will down under the action of the poisonous solution. That the solution kills the plants absolutely has been proved in every case where the conditions were such as to prevent the introduction of new plants within the area sprayed.

Harrow Tooth Fastener.

John A. Johnson, of Lancaster, Wash., has patented a harrow tooth fastener, the object of which is to fasten harrow-teeth in U bar harrows without the use of clamps, bolts or



nuts, and consists of a square or diamond-shaped hole pressed through the U bar of the harrow for the reception of the teeth, and a W-shaped fastener pressed out of sheet metal inserted between the teeth and the back of the bar, with a corresponding round notch in the tooth to receive the fastener. Thus, one fastener holds all the teeth in the bar.

Cultivate the Orchard.

The young orchard should be cultivated, but not with grain or grass crops. Corn, potatoes, beans or other vegetables, well cultivated, are ideal for a young orchard. The ground should be stirred every two or three weeks until the middle of August. In going through the orchard with the harrow, care should be taken not to injure, bruise or "bark" the trees. To avoid this, the horses ought to be muzzled and the outside portions of traces and whiffletrees padded. In going through some young orchards early in the season for the purpose of demonstrating pruning, Prof. Surface found many cases of trees which had been seriously damaged through being grazed by whiffletrees, or struck or bitten by the horses. In going through the orchard, run off all unnecessary sprouts.—Rural World.

Slaughter of Robins.

Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee have the undesirable distinction of being the only states in the Union where the slaughter of robins is permitted by law. Recent investigations show that not less than 9,000,000 robins are killed in these three states during the winter months. It is a fact that every robin earns \$1 in the destruction of insects injurious to crops every year. The hunters sell them at 5 cents apiece. This is a waste of millions of dollars and ought to appeal to the hard common sense of every farmer. It ought to be stopped in every state.

Effects of Liming Soil.

The continuation of an experiment in Aroostook County, Maine, shows that, while liming is exceedingly beneficial to the grass and clover crops, with a moderate application of lime to the soils in that section leads to a considerable increase in the amount of scab on the potato crop, even after three years in grain and grass. Two successive crops of potatoes on limed soils after two years in grass showed a alarming increase of scab on the second year crop.

Shorthorn Milk Cows.

Experiments in developing a milk and beef strain of shorthorn cattle have been made by the dairy division of the United States Department of Agriculture in co-operation with the Wisconsin Experiment Station, and with the Minnesota breeders. It is being planned to allow the best cows to be used and to manage them according to the instructions of the department.

desired to cut it for seed, it may be pastured or turned under after seed has formed. In this way the land will become reseeded at little or no expense. Clover seed turned under will remain vital down in the soil for several years and sprout and grow when again turned up to the surface.

Weight and Feed.

When one comes to figure on a difference in weight for the same age and feed of 200 to 400 pounds, and a difference in price of several cents, he can see as plainly as he can see anything that there is more money in improved stock. Suppose a 2-year-old scrub steer weighs 900 pounds and sells for 4 cents a pound, while a 2-year-old pure bred weighs 1,200 and sells for 6 1/2 cents, there will be \$36 for one and \$75 for the other. Is there any man in his right senses who can think it will not pay to keep well-bred stock when he compares these figures? They are not imaginary at all, but represent the conditions in the market reports during the last few months. The real question then is, how to get better cattle. Bulls are being sold lower than cows and heifers.—Denver Field and Farm.

Ants Destroy Scale Insects.

Prof. Harlan of California has discovered that the ordinary black ant will remove the scale from fruit trees without injuring the tree or leaves in the least. He says their work is more complete than that accomplished by spraying or by any of the imported insects. The ants are captured by placing a plate of sugar near an ant hill, and when covered with ants the plate is put in the forks of the infested tree. The ants leave the sugar and go to work on the scale. As soon as they all leave the sugar the plate is placed at the foot of the tree, and as the ants come down after having cleaned the tree of scale, they again assemble on the sugar and are thus easily removed to another tree.

Supply of Nitrate.

It is claimed that at the present rate of use the known supply of nitrate of soda will be exhausted in less than fifty years, while as a matter of fact the consumption is increasing steadily and rapidly. It is therefore safe to say that before twenty-five years have passed the supply will be low, unless new fields are discovered, and that the price will be high. Over a million and a half tons were used last year. This is not encouraging for the young generation of farmers, except for the fact that we will always have our clovers, our alfalfa, our cowpeas—the great legume family—and properly rotated these will supply the soil with nitrogen from the inexhaustible supply in the air.

A Butter Fraud.

An ingenious fraud in the butter line was brought to light recently in England. In that country the amount of moisture in butter is limited by law to 16 per cent. Australian and New Zealand butters, on the other hand, usually contain only 8 per cent of water. Taking advantage of this fact, several firms imported large quantities of these colonial butters, to which 8 per cent of water was then added, thus bringing them down to the British standard. As the added water naturally cost nothing and the product was sold at the current price, a substantial profit was made.

Food Value of Buttermilk.

Buttermilk is a nutritious and wholesome food, or drink, and it is relished by a great many people. There is a good sale for it in all towns and cities of any size. The quality of buttermilk, like all other foods, is determined by the way it is prepared. To secure the most wholesome product, keep the milk as pure and clean as possible, use the most pure water obtainable and practice absolutely clean methods in churning. It must be held at a low temperature in order to have it fresh for any great length of time.

Scab on Horses' Legs.

A horse authority says that scabs on the legs of horses may be easily removed by either of the following simple remedies: Wash well with warm water made to a suds with castile soap and dry with a clean cloth. Mix well one ounce of oxide of zinc and three ounces of vaseline, and apply once each day, rubbing well into the affected parts. Another remedy is one tablespoonful of sulphur and three of hog's lard, applied in the same way as suggested for the remedy above.

American Plows Abroad.

American plows and cultivators are turning up the soil in more than seventy countries and colonies of the world. In Japan, in 1908, there were \$22,000 worth; in Asiatic Turkey, \$14,000; in New Zealand, \$50,000; in British South Africa, \$222,000; in Portuguese Africa, \$31,000; in Cuba, \$85,000; while Argentina took in 1908 \$750,000 worth; Canada, \$474,000; Russia in Europe, \$259,000, and Asiatic Russia, \$750,000 worth.

Food for the Kitchen.

A good rule to keep on the kitchen table is to use whatever potatoes or vegetables of any sort are prepared for the table. Take all peelings of any kind and run through a chopper, and also dry bread, and you will have the best kind of food for chickens, without cost, and will not leave any garbage to dispose of.

Value of Orchard Sprays.

The orchard products of the United States are reported by the statistics department to be worth about \$100,000,000 a year. They would bring twice that amount if half the number of the hundred varieties of destructive insects which prey upon them could be destroyed.

CHICAGO HOST TO TAFT.

Greets President with Review, Receptions, Mass-Meeting and Ball.

President William Howard Taft spent Thursday as the guest of the people of Chicago, and was vastly pleased at his reception. The popular tone of it was what appealed to him first, and most. Aside from that was its infinite variety. Every class and condition of people had a share in it. And the President hadn't a dull minute. Consider how the pendulum swung back and forth:

Welcomed formally by Chicago's leading citizens; welcomed informally, enthusiastically and wholeheartedly by two hundred thousand school children who formed a solid wall of waving color along twenty miles of streets, and gave voice to one long joyous shout of greeting; received next in the splendid Gold Room of the Congress Hotel, and dined by the wealth, brains and industry of the Empire City of the West at the Commercial Club luncheon; another swing of the pendulum and he was delving into art and interesting himself in the problems of the Chicago Beautiful; still another swing and, with silk hat doffed for the more comfortable doxy, he is seated in the midst of thirty thousand baseball devotees—the greatest "raft" of them all—munching peanuts, clapping the hand of the mighty Chance and not even neglecting the humble ampie; "stretching" with the crowd at the opening of the "lucky seventh," sitting through the game till the last man was retired; and then yet another swing, and he is back among the elect again at the Hamilton Club dinner; then labor's turn, and he is striking words of approval and hope for organized labor. Finally he is received in society's waiting arms for a few minutes at the banker's ball, and then the farewell and Godspeed. Chicago set a pace which it will be difficult for the forty other cities that the President is to visit to keep up with.

President Taft swung the red signal of danger in the evening and warned the nation that to head off a revival of old abuses it must stick to the Roosevelt policies. Then he pledged messages to Congress calling for action to eradicate the evils and held out promises of the needed reforms. Before an enthusiastic audience that filled Orchestra Hall he dwelt on the danger of being blinded by prosperity and of falling back into the old ruts and returning to old evils and abuses in the management of corporations and in business methods in general. The warning followed a prophecy—a note of joyous optimism—in which the President declared that, with the tariff bill out of the way, confidence had returned to business and commerce and that a period of expansion, of development and tremendous growth was ahead of the country. The utterance was followed by an enthusiastic demonstration, men and women on the main floor and in the galleries getting to their feet and waving their handkerchiefs while they shouted and cried their approval. After the ovation had died down the distinguished speaker stated that later in his 13,000-mile tour he would discuss at much greater length the questions on which he had touched and that at some stage in his journey he also intended to give full consideration to the character of the tariff bill, "which has been adopted and which has been subjected to criticism."

The reference to the Roosevelt policies was almost the closing sentence in the President's address, coming as a climax to a stinging criticism of the courts in which Mr. Taft brought his hearers to their feet in another tumult of acclamation by declaring: "The administration of criminal law in this country is a disgrace to our civilization." He suggested remedies, chief of which was the idea of a commission to be provided for by Congress to look into the cause of the delays in the federal courts and to devise a system that would secure rapid and inexpensive justice to litigants in the federal courts and that would serve as a model to the States in reforming their judiciary systems. It was a short speech, but filled with pith. In point of duration it was only thirty-one minutes long, but every sentence contained an idea.

Hazers' Victim Severely Hurt.

Harry Kirk, aged 14, a freshman in the Coshocton, Ohio, High School, is near death with a fracture of the skull sustained in an effort to save his hair from being clipped by sophomore hazers. In running away from the hazers Kirk fell into an open cellar-way, striking the basement floor on his head. Surgeons removed part of his skull.

Robbers Take Victim's Clothes.

Milton Garfield, living at Fairview, a suburb of Birmingham, Ala., was held up Sunday night by two white men, who took off his clothes at the point of a pistol and sent the young man to his home, a distance of several hundred yards, naked. The robbers seemed angry because Garfield had only \$1.65.

University Bore an Ex-Cadet.

Richard Hocker of Kansas City, who was dismissed from West Point recently, was denied admittance to the University of Kansas. The reason given was that he was an expelled student from West Point.

Walk on Bridge Rail Fatal.

Walking on the railing of the Panther Hollow bridge in Schenley Park, Pittsburg, on a bet, Luigi Brazalomo, aged 49, lost his balance and fell to death 150 feet below.

Three Killed in Collision.

Three men were killed when the Montreal express on the Central Vermont road, bound from Montreal for Boston, crashed into the rear of the disabled Quebec express, from Quebec for Boston, about a mile and a half from Fairlee, N. H.

Woman Struck by Horse, Killed.

Miss E. Haring, a nurse, was struck by a horse, and Miss Constance Haring, the mother, was seriously injured in the crash that destroyed the St. Lawrence street car in Redding, Cal.

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