

Give Your Horses a Spring Hair Cut



Clip Your Horses and Mules Before the Spring Work Begins

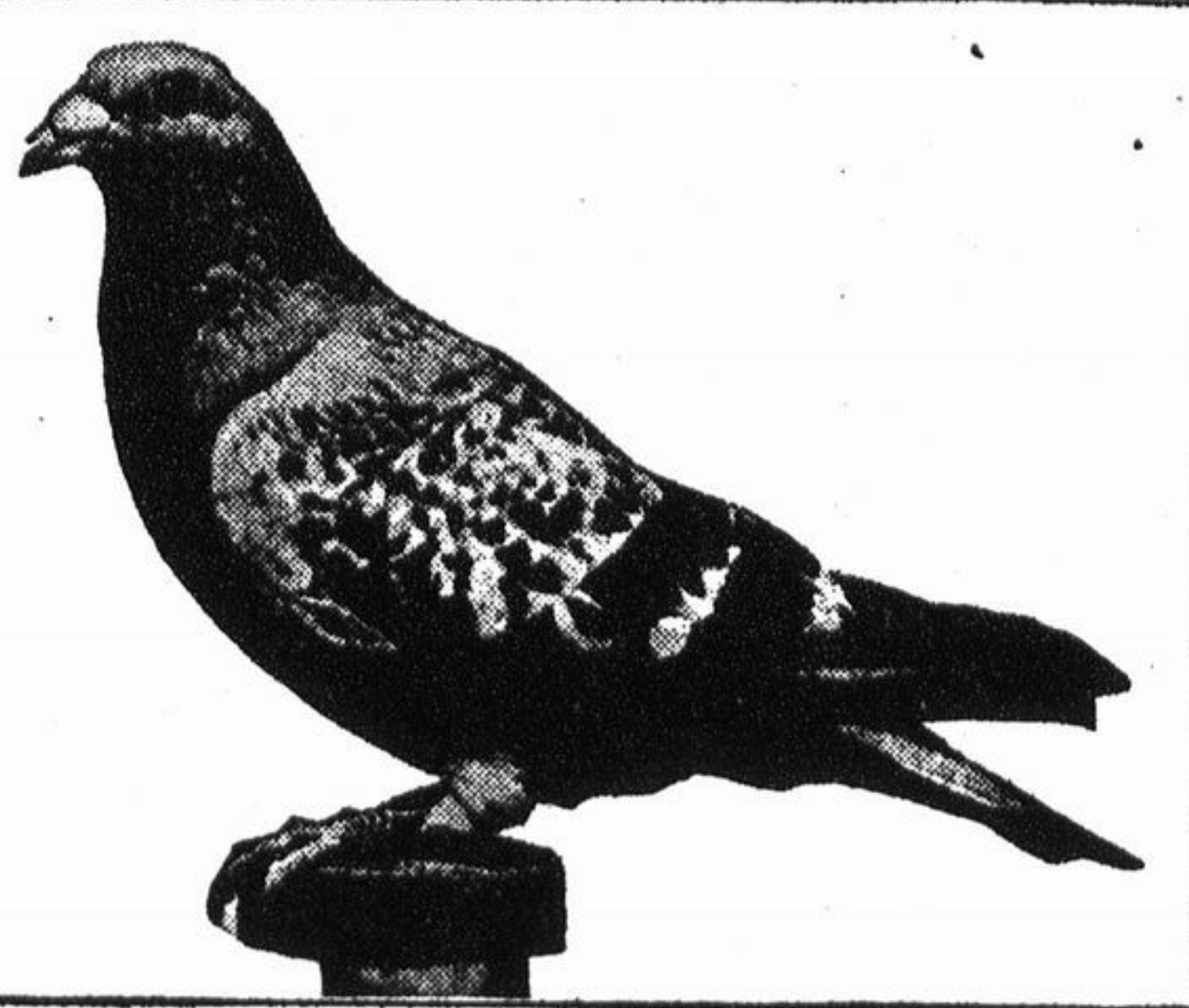
They are healthier and render better service. When the heavy coat that holds the wet sweat and dirt is removed, they are more easily kept clean, look better and are better in every way. Insist on having

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MAKING SUCCESS IN THE PIGEON LOFT



Excellent Specimen of Homer Pigeon.

(By E. VAN BENTHUYSEN.)

A young pigeon, unlike a young chicken, cannot feed itself, but must be fed by the old bird.

Very often squabs do not leave the nest until they are a month old and ready for the market.

Sometimes the old birds will favor one of their offspring and feed it continually, allowing the others to go hungry much of the time. It is not unusual to see one large, plump bird and a half-starved, puny one in the same nest, both having been hatched at the same time.

The male bird sits on the nest at night and the female in the daytime. Some dealers say that this is the only true test of mating.

Vermin is a constant menace to pigeons and must be always fought. Frequent whitewashing, absolute cleanliness, and tobacco-stems placed in the nests will generally keep the birds reasonably clean.

Pigeons must have clean water for bathing, once every day. It should be given them early in the morning. The birds cannot live without it.

The bathing dishes should be emptied immediately after the birds have used it, as it quickly becomes foul and should not be allowed to stand.

The pigeon that goes about with drooping wings is a sick bird.

At the first sign of sickness, the bird should be taken out of the pens and placed by itself. Unless it is very valuable it should be killed at the end of three days if it is not entirely well.

Squabs are pretty well covered with feathers when they are three weeks old.

Before engaging in the pigeon business go and spend a week or two with some successful pigeon breeder. One can learn more in this way than from three months of reading.

Nobody except a simpleton will buy pigeons whose mating is not absolutely guaranteed. Even then one should not buy except from a dealer with a high reputation, because even if the birds are guaranteed and they prove to be unmated much time will be lost before they can be replaced.

The aim of every pigeon dealer is to produce the largest amount of meat in his bird. For this reason scrub stock should never be used.

No artificial heat is required in pigeon houses, but they must be absolutely tight as drafts are fatal.

Pigeons begin to lay two weeks after mating. They lay two eggs which hatch in about eighteen days.

The old birds stop feeding the young squabs when the next pair hatch. Each pair of birds should be provided with two nests.

Pigeons cannot thrive unless they have a place in which to fly. Confined in houses they will quickly contract consumption and die. Even in the coldest weather they should be allowed to fly outdoors when they please.

The breeding season is from March to September, but extra good breeders will produce young ten months in the year.

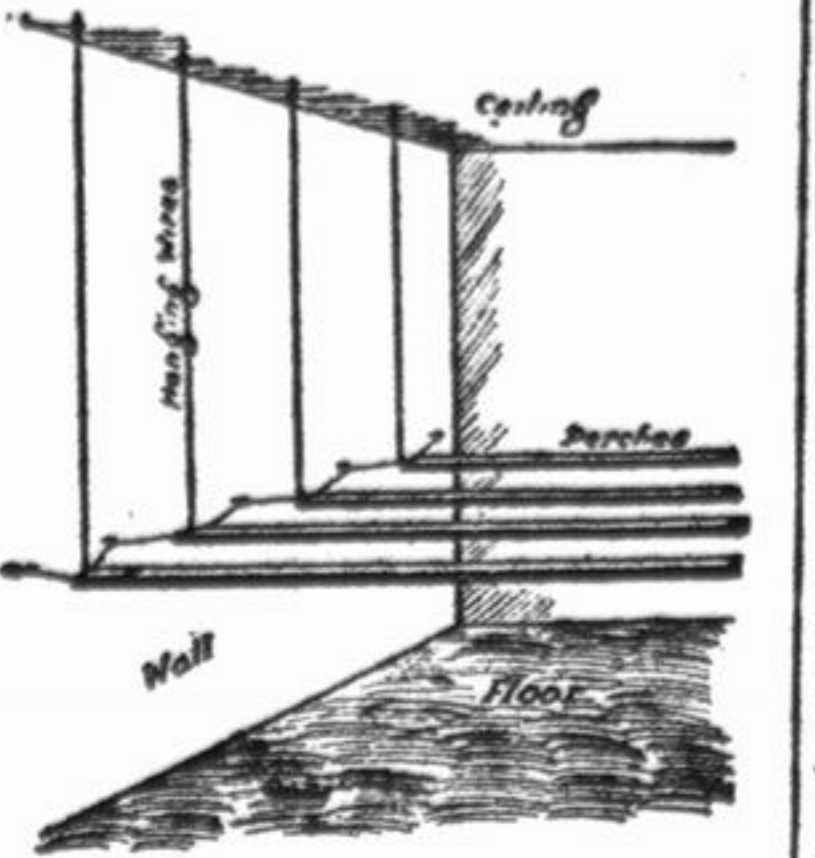
SOMETHING NEW IN PERCHES

Two-by-Twoes Hung From Ceiling by Use of Wire and Fastened at End Are Excellent.

Many persons use hanging perches for poultry because they are more sanitary. Lice and mites cannot get on them unless they leave the fowls. But I never have seen any perches constructed like mine that were not also swinging perches, writes Horace E. Wolcott of Lubbock county, Texas, in Missouri Valley Farmer. I long ago learned that it prevents much nervousness among the flock at night if the perches do not sway.

It is better economy to make the perches of good material. I find two by two-inch lumber about right, or two by fours ripped in two lengths. My perches are eight feet long, making them lack a foot of touching at either end, which is about right. Round the two sharp corners on top, and finish smooth. It is much easier for a fowl's foot to curve over a rounded surface not too wide than to grasp a square, sharp edge.

Get some large screw-eyes or barbed-wire staples, and some smooth wire, as small as is possible consistent with



Licence and Sanitary.

strength. Screw a part of the eyes into the overhead joists or in the ceiling, one eye for each end of each perch. In each eye fasten a wire long enough to hang down to within two and one-half feet of the floor. Put a screw eye near each end of every perch, at the upper edge. Fasten the hanging wires into these, and your perches are hung. The perches should be an equal distance apart, and all on a level.

Next fasten a screw-eye in each end of every perch, and put other screw-eyes in the walls between perches. Fasten a length of wire into the first screw eye on the wall, thread it through the next eye in the wall, continuing alternately until all perches are fastened to each other and to the wall. Then by fastening the perches at the other end, they are complete and will not swing nor sway.

Clean out the house at least once a week, use this style of perches, sprinkle the floor every morning with a disinfectant made of sifted ashes mixed with about one-fourth their bulk of salt, the whole moistened with kerosene; whitewash the interior occasionally, and there will be little trouble with vermin. When using this "powder" be careful not to get any in the nests, as the eggs will absorb the odor of the coal oil and the oil will also prevent their hatching. This disinfectant is cheap, and effective.

BALANCED FEEDING FOR HENS

No One Grain Combines the Necessary Proportions of Ingredients to Produce Eggs.

(By W. R. GILBERT.) Balanced feeding is an attempt to provide for all the wants of fowl, bodies so as to enable them to yield the best profits to their owners at a minimum cost.

No one grain, meal or vegetable by itself combines the necessary proportions of ingredients to produce eggs in profitable quantities.

Scientific experiments have proved that to keep alive an ordinary hen weighing six pounds, two ounces of dry food per day is required, but these two ounces are not enough to put on flesh or to make eggs.

They are only enough to keep up the wear and tear of existence. More food has to be supplied for egg making and if this food is richly charged with the component parts of an egg the greater and easier will be the production.

The only chemical properties of food that we need trouble about are the flesh and muscle-making principles known as albumenoids and the heat and fat-making principles known as carbohydrates.

The ration that both science and experiments have decreed to be the best is 4 1/2 to 5 parts of fat or heat-making foods to one part of flesh-making food and the total amount of food requirement for the keeping of a hen in laying condition is from 23 to 24 ounces per week, according to her size.

Juiciness of Fowls.

A great deal is written about the superior "juiciness" of this breed or that breed of fowls. The truth is, the juiciness, or the lack of it, is chiefly the work of the cook. The flesh of fowls should be judged by flavor and tenderness, and these, too, are largely in the hands of the cook.

Diseases of Ducks.

Ducks are subject to very few diseases. They do not have cholera, roup, gapes, but they do occasionally die from spinal meningitis and paralysis. Cold water is the general cause of cramps in young ducks.

Orchard Information

BUYING YOUNG FRUIT TREES

Orchardist Should Patronize Reputable Nurseryman and Be Willing to Pay Good Price.

(By R. A. M'GINTY, Colorado Agricultural College.) In ordering fruit trees to be planted this spring, the buyer should give due consideration to the following points:

Order trees from a reputable nurseryman, paying a good price for same, instead of securing them from some agent who has no reputation to maintain. The latter individual may sell his trees at reduced prices, but the chances are the buyer will not get what he orders.

Send in the order early, so that the nurseryman will have time to pack and ship the trees before the spring rush. This is necessary in order that the buyer may receive his trees in time to set them out early.

In selecting varieties, it should be remembered that three or four well-tried sorts of each fruit are better than a large number of varieties, especially if the fruit is to be marketed. If wanted for home use, a larger number may be chosen. New and untried varieties are usually to be avoided.

As a rule, it is best to buy one-year-old trees. Older trees are very often stunted and mis-shapen on account of close planting in the nursery row, while yearling trees usually consist of a straight switch with five buds down to the ground. Such trees may be headed as high or as low as desired, which is not always possible with the older trees.

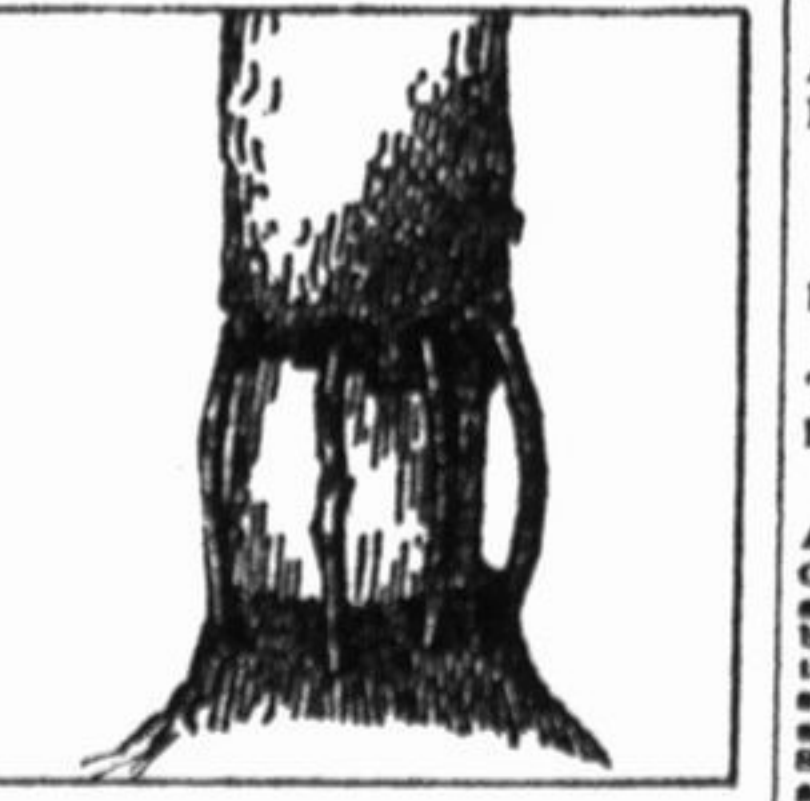
BRIDGE GRAFTING OPERATION

Fruit Trees Girdled by Rabbits May Be Saved by Process—Cover the Wounds With Wax.

Where the rabbits have girdled the fruit trees they may be saved by what is called bridge grafting. This consists in bridging over the injured parts with scions of last summer's growth, connecting the parts below the girdle with the parts above.

Trim the bark around the injured parts, sharpen the ends of the scions to a wedge-shape, and fit tightly into the layer of new wood under the tree bark.

Cover the ends of the scions where they enter the new bark with grafting wax to keep out the air and cover



Bridge Grafting.

the scions and the wounds with cloth to keep the tree structure from drying out.

STICK TO PROVED METHODS

Should Be Cut Back About One-Half of Not Control Insects and Disease, Say Experts.

The idea that certain chemicals placed in the body of a fruit tree will get rid of insects and diseases seems to be prevalent among the folks who do not read, says Denver Field and Farm. Several people have recently reported to us that this could be done but there is nothing in it and the contention is not borne out by scientific facts. Experiments made to determine the effectiveness of this method of controlling insects and diseases have been absolutely negative. Those who say they have had success with such remedies have not been people well informed in plant physiology and plant structure and have not conducted intelligent and scientific tests to prove their side of the case. The probabilities are that nothing ailed their trees in the first place. We would advise our readers to leave such cures alone and stick to the well established and proved methods.

SPRAY FOR SAN JOSE SCALE

Dormant Trees Should Be Treated in Fall and Again in Early Spring—Burn All Prunings.

If the trees are infected with the San Jose scale they should be sprayed while dormant, once if lightly infected, but if badly infected, twice—once in the late fall or early winter and again in the early spring just before the trees start growth. Trees in foliage cannot be sprayed with winter strength sprays, for a spray strong enough to kill the scale readily, will injure the foliage of the trees. If the trees are to be pruned, it is advisable to prune the trees before spraying, as the pruning will reduce the surface to be covered with the spray and the spray mixture will go farther. Be careful to burn all the prunings as to destroy the scale on them.

Official Denial

No War Tax on Homestead Land in Canada. The report that a war tax is to be placed on homestead lands in Western Canada having been given considerable circulation in the United States, this is to advise all owners that no such tax has been placed, nor is there any intention to place a war tax of any nature on such lands. (Signed) W. D. Scott, Sup't. of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada, March 15th, 1918.

BLACK LEGS

Losses Surely Prevented by Cutter's Blacking Pen. Cutter's Blacking Pen is a new and effective remedy for Black Leg, a disease which is caused by a germ which enters the foot of the bird through the scales. Cutter's Blacking Pen is a powerful disinfectant and kills the germ before it can enter the foot. It is a sure and reliable remedy for Black Leg, and is sold by all druggists.

EXPLAINING SONGS OF BIRDS

Beautiful Notes of the Nightingale, for instance, Are Inspired by Paternal Love.

It is generally assumed that a bird sings because he is happy, but science goes deeper for an explanation of the why and wherefore of the bird's song. Nature's optimistic joy in constructive progress is expressed in the singing of the male birds who charm their mates to further their wooing, and continue after eggs are laid to encourage the fulfillment of hatching.

The song stops when the little birds come out of the shell. The nightingale, for weeks during the period of nest-building and hatching, charms his mate and human ears near him with the beautiful music of his love song. But as soon as the little nightingales come from the eggs the song changes to a sort of guttural croak, implying anxiety and sense of responsibility.

If the nest and contents were destroyed the nightingale would at once resume his beautiful song to inspire his mate to help him build another nest and start all over again the loving work of being fruitful and multiplying.

Some men are pleasant to talk to and disagreeable to listen to.

When she reads a historical novel she skips the historic part.

After Winter's Wear and Tear

one requires a food in Springtime that builds up both brain and body.

Grape-Nuts

FOOD made of wheat and malted barley—supplies in splendid balance, the elements necessary for upbuilding and keeping in repair the brain, nerve and muscle tissue.

Grape-Nuts has a rich nut-like flavour—always fresh, crisp, sweet and ready to eat direct from package.

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"There's a Reason" Sold by Grocers everywhere.

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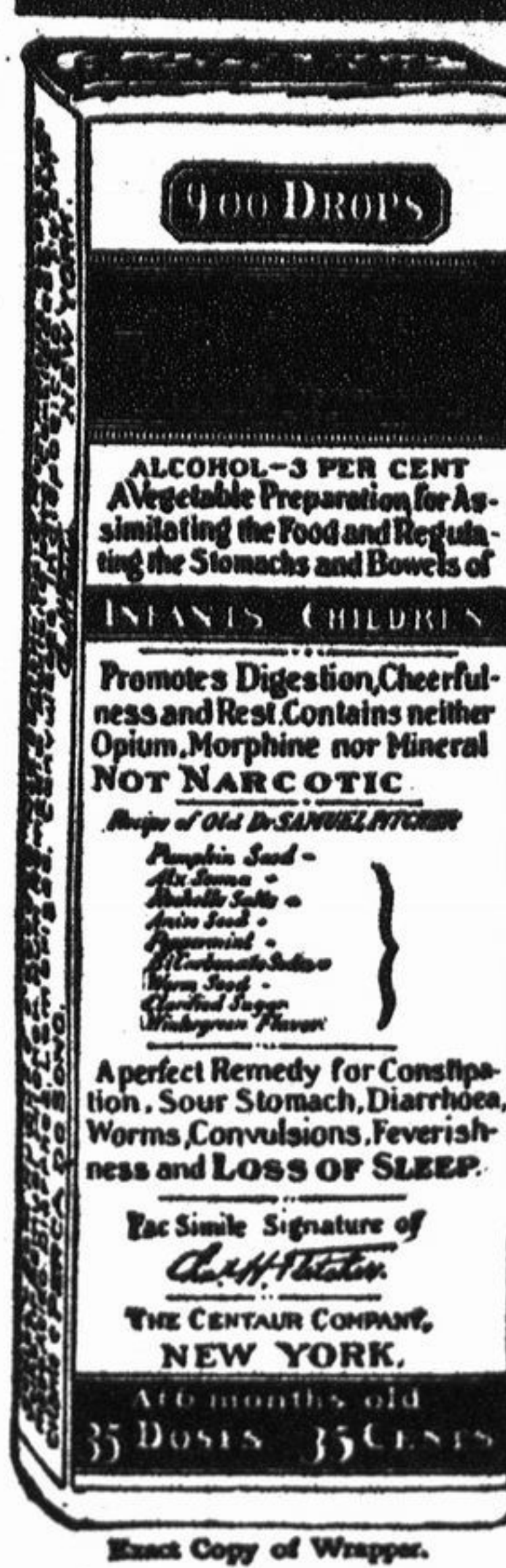
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Safe Kidney and Liver Remedy

will afford you the same benefit it has given many sufferers for more than 37 years. It is nature's provision for mankind against kidney disease and its oftentimes terrible effects. It is pleasant to take, 50c and \$1.00 sizes at all druggists. Sample and booklet free if you write, Warner's Safe Remedies Co., Rochester, N. Y.

Florida Lands

For Sale to Settlers

In tracts of ten acres and upwards, in Volusia County, adapted to cultivation of citrus fruits, vegetables of all kinds and general crops. Situation healthful. Send for circulars. Write in English. Railroad runs through tract. Will sell on monthly payments. Agents wanted.

Address Florida Land & Settlement Co., Care Alex. St. Clair-Alabama, Attorney 615-19 Dryd-Upchurch Bldg., Jacksonville, Fla.

Standing Rock Indian Reservation

Open to Settlement in May An Opportunity to Get a Home in NORTH DAKOTA

Part of this land will be open to free homestead entry and the remainder will be sold at a very low price. The reservation is located in North and South Dakota and settlers should

FILE AT BISMARCK

On Main Transcontinental Line of Northern Pacific Ry For the land located in North Dakota. This is the capitol of the state and from this point settlers stopping en route to or from the North Pacific Coast, may make a side trip to Cannon Ball or Selen, located on the border of the reservation and inspect the land.

Send at once for free copy of Standing Rock Indian Reservation and North Dakota booklet, and any other information desired relative to this Big Land Opening.

L. J. BRICKER, Gen'l Imm. Agent St. Paul, Minn. L. J. BRICKER, General Immigration Agent 48 Northern Pacific Bldg., St. Paul, Minn. I am interested in the opening of the Standing Rock Indian Reservation and would like to receive information, rates and booklets.

