

THE FARM.

CAUSES OF POOR CROPS.

Poor crops are bound to come at one time or another on almost every farm. Sometimes they are the result of natural causes and sometimes they are not.

Improper cultivation: To enable a growing crop to utilize the natural supply of food in the soil, or that which has been artificially supplied, the soil should be brought to the most perfect physical condition.

Experience has shown that it is poor policy to grow the same crop on the same soil year after year, and every farmer should therefore select a rotation suitable to his particular soil.

Ill-balanced fertilizers: The plant must be fed and must be fed properly. If given too much of one kind of food and not enough of another, nature's balance is disturbed.

Time for application: Often the entire success of a crop is dependent upon the time of applying the fertilizers; especially is this the case during a dry season.

Method of application: This will depend to some extent upon the crop to be grown and the previous treatment of the soil.

BUTTER MAKING ON THE FARM.

To commence, have all milking utensils thoroughly clean. do not use soap. Rinse all milk and cream cans with cold water.

Strain milk very carefully and set in a cool place immediately after straining. let it stand twenty-four hours in warm weather, and forty-eight in cool.

temperature about 70 degrees. Stir cream thoroughly each time you skim fresh cream in. Always have cream skimmed twelve hours before churning in warm weather and twenty-four in cool weather; do not let cream stand too long before churning.

Although strawberry plants will not thrive where the soil is permanently wet, they do require abundant moisture both during the growing and fruiting seasons.

FEELING IN BRITISH POLITICS.

The tendency is to quite friendly intercourse with rivals. We do not deny, of course, the presence of some exceptions to the rule of personal friendliness owing to political differences.

But, allowing for all these and other exceptions to the rule, we may say that the tendency in England is to quite friendly intercourse with rivals, to assume that both sides are really at one on certain fundamental matters.

WAR COMES SUDDENLY.

HOW MODERN NATIONS PROCEED TO HOSTILITIES.

A Warning is Very Seldom Given - The Powers Generally Begin Fighting Without a Formal Declaration.

The feeling that Great Britain is on the eve of something more serious than frontier wars in Africa and India is gaining ground somewhat, and a recent article in the London Daily Mail comes as a reminder that the great wars of recent times have broken out with great suddenness.

The writer says: When the committee of the Board of Trade was considering the channel tunnel scheme, some years since, a prominent member asked: "Is it possible that war could be declared against us, as we might say, out of a clear sky, without any previous notice that a quarrel was impending?"

BEFORE COMMENCING HOSTILITIES.

That nation was France in 1870. The practical importance of this is very great at the present time, unless the past is no longer to be taken as a precedent. How are actually commences is, therefore, a matter of interest.

Here is how some of the wars of present century commenced. There must be many people living able to recall the reading of our declaration of war against Russia from the steps of the Royal Exchange.

REASONS GIVEN BY COLONEL MAURICE

for the commencement, without declaration, of 107 wars which he has investigated, are most interesting. In forty-four of them the object was to gain time by suddenness of attack; in twelve, the desire was to postpone, as long as possible, the actual admission of a state of hostility.

HE BELONGED TO ONE.

Mrs. Newlywed—Do you belong to any secret order, John? Mr. Newlywed—Can you keep a secret?

LOST AND FOUND.

Mrs. De Shopper (breathlessly)—Did I leave my purse here? I've lost it somewhere.

PRESERVING HER COMPLEXION.

How is it that your friend, Miss Serely, sheds no tears? he asked at the theater where the pathetic portions of the play caused even the hardened rouders to weep.

STRUCK IT RICH.

I see Plumley's wife has a new seal-skin coat. Yes, he's had a streak of luck.

Government of Denmark. A Danish fleet of ships of war on their coast with the even the conjecture that they were to be employed against Denmark.

HOSTILE FEELINGS TOWARDS DENMARK.

and the reason for this sudden move was that memorable meeting of Napoleon and Alexander on the river Niemen, when they agreed to divide the world between them.

Dyer, historian, says: "Great Britain has always been accustomed to commence hostilities without a declaration of war." But all other countries do precisely the same.

NOT YET DECLARED IT.

The Franco-German war figures among the few completely declared wars, but its outset was so unexpected in England, at all events, that it ought to stand as a perpetual warning to the composers of the Queen's Speech never to congratulate the country on the prospects of peace.

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How Good Old John Kant Got Even With Band of Robbers.

One of the most convincing sermons ever known was preached by a man who, at the moment, had no thought of preaching. Very little was thought that little was in fear and trembling.

John Kant, a professor and doctor of divinity of Cracow, was an old man when he found an opportunity to visit his native country of Silesia.

His way lay through the gloomy forests of Poland. One evening, while seeing a place in which to spend the night, he was suddenly surrounded by armed men, some on horseback and some on foot.

GLAD TO ESCAPE.

With his life, he hurried onward, but when well out of sight of the robbers his hand touched something hard in the hem of his robe. His heart gave a throb of joy.

POSER FOR BRADLAUGH.

When the late Mr. Bradlaugh was once engaged in a discussion with a dissenting minister, the former insisted on the latter answering the question he had asked him by a simple yes or no.

MARRYING A STICK.

That is a curious custom they have in some of the South Sea islands said Mr. Wallace.

HE GAVE HER AWAY.

The blushing bride-elect was rehearsing the ceremony about to take place. Of course you will give me away, papa?

AMBER FOR PIPES.

Valuable discoveries of amber have recently been made in British Columbia, which it is claimed will be able to supply the pipemakers of the world with amber for another hundred years.

DIXON'S SHARE.

Dixon—I don't believe it's true that the earth goes round. Hixon—Why not?

There are frequently put

Can you stickler for? What kind of apparent time or stand these kinds of others.

Paris a little a burning-gannon as a manner of course its apparent through Pa watch by the ed to be in when he re that the sta the gun by an hour, and whilst toward the beginning find himself machines of time were time, that is itself, as by time about r

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