# Agricultural

### PRESENT CARE OF THE LAMBS.

The lambs are the hope of the flocks, as was said very truly by the old shepherd poet. But to ensure the best success with them the best care is needed. As the season advances and the heat has its ill-effect on the ewes, it is specially necessary to keep a watch on the lambs and the ewes as well, and protect both in the most careful manner. For entire safety in this respect it is best to have the lambs come early, so that they will be well advanced by this time, but this is to be regulated by the conditions of each case. An early lamb may be more troublesome and costly to feed than a later one, but there is a happy mean in this respect, by which the too early appearance of them is to be prevented, and at the same time too late births avoided. Each one is to be guided by the conditions of the case in this respect, but it is best not to have the lambs coming too late and the hot season arriving when the ewes will suffer from the heat. This is apt to cause troublesome diarrhoea in the lambs on account of the overheating of the ewes, and the effect of this on the milk, and of course, on the lambs. Early lambs, that is, those coming in April, or earlier, are out of the way of all trouble in this respect, for they may be weaned and taken from the ewes and pastured by themselves, having a sufficient ration of grain if the pasture happens to be short, so as to push them on in preparation for the future. But this, again, will depend on the condition of the ewes. The best milkers of these are to be watched with care lest the udders may be filled with milk, and for want of the lambs the ewes may get into serious trouble. Thus it may be best to wean the lambs gradually, letting them to the ewes at night for some time, but keeping them apart in the days, and so relieve the ewes, gradually drying them off. Anyhow, the ewes are to be watched with care lest some may have overstocked udders, and so be attacked by garget, in which case the udder may become inflamed and sore, and the flies may blow them. A ewe thus attacked is apt to hide somewhere, and being missed too late may be fatally injured by these pests and lost before she may be missed. Indeed it must not be thought that sheep need no care just now. On the contrary, the shepherd's eye must be on the alert at this time as much as at any other season of the year, and, indeed, more, for the flies and the heat together make this watchful care indispensable for safety. If it is found necessary the lambs should be divided, the oldest from the youngest; for it is not safe to treat all alike in the feeding. The younger ones may be easily overfed, getting more grain force than they need, or the older ones not getting enough. As to the feeding of grain to the lambs, it is very sure that a reasonable ration of grain will be profitably used and well repaid in the greater growth of them. It will be best to push them on now, of course, in a safe way, so that they will be ready for the green feeding by and by, this being rape or the second growth of clover, which in all cases should be provided whether the lambs are to be sold off or to be kept on for the increase of the flock. It should not be thought that a stock flock does not need as good feeding as one to be sold off. The future value of the flock depends on the food feeding of the lambs which are to replenish the flock, as they mature. When these lambs become mothers the benefit of the good feeding will be apparent not only in their condition, but in that of their lambs.

### PEACH TWIG BORERS.

The common method of procedure against the peach twig borer is to clip off and burn the withering, infested tips in the spring as soon as the injury is noted. The knowledge of the hibernating habits of this insect indicates a more effective method of control in spraying the trees during December and January, or any time after the foliage has fallen, with kerosene emulsion, resin wash, or some similar oily preparation which will penetrate the burrows and destroy the young larvae.

Kerosene emulsion has one advantage over other oily preparations, such as the resin wash, in that it is more penetrating and will be more certain of reaching the larvae.

Where the emulsion is to be prepared by hand it is better to make it in rather small quantities at a time in order to secure a perfect combination of oil and soap. The proportions usually taken are as follows: Kerosene, two gallons; whale-oil soap, half a pound water, one gallon.

The soap, first finely divided, is dissolved in the water by boiling and immediately adding boiling hot away from the fire, to the kerosene. The whole mixture is then agitated violently while hot by being pumped back upon itself with a force pump and direct discharge nozzle, throwing a strong stream, preferably one-eighth inch in diameter. After from three to five minutes' pumping the emulsion should be perfect, and the mixture will have increased from one-third to one-half in bulk and assumed the consistency of cream. Well made, the emulsion, will keep indefinitely, and should be diluted only as wanted for use.

Dilute this emulsion with six volumes of water, which will make about 20 gallons of spraying mixture.

When hard water is employed in the making of the emulsion or in diluting afterwards, it is necessary to use about 25 per cent. more soap, or preferably the water may be broken with lye, or rain water may be used.

In the use of kerosene or other oily washes on plants, the application should be merely sufficient to wet the plant without causing the liquid to run down the trunk and collect about the crown; usually at this situation there is a cavity caused by the swaying of the plant in the wind, and the accumulation of the insecticide at this point may result in the death or injury of the plant. It is even advisable to mound up the trees before spraying or to see that the earth is firmly packed about the base. Care should also be taken in refilling the tank to see that no free oil is allowed to accumulate in the residue left at the bottom.

Destroying the larvae of the peach twig-borer by spraying the plants with arsenicals, either in the fall or spring, demands the greatest caution on account of the extreme sensitiveness of the foliage of the trees ordinarily attacked by this insect to scalding when sprayed with these poisons.

### BEST FOOD IN SUMMER.

Considering the fact that there is usually an abundance of food on the grass plots and in the fields in summer, there is really no necessity for feeding fowls in warm weather, but as some will prefer to allow food, the best substance is raw meat, using only that which is lean, giving none of the fat portions. The meat must be fresh, or it will prove injurious, and the cheaper kinds, such as the neck, liver and other undesirable portions, will serve the purpose as well as the best. Blood is excellent, as it may be mixed with corn meal, and cooked in a bag. It is highly nitrogenous, and gives excellent results. Grain is not necessary in summer, as the hens find substitutes therefor in the form of seeds.

### LAYING HENS.

Their feed should be of the very best, but very little whole corn should be given. Ground oats and corn, equal parts, can be fed to the fowls once a day. Wheat is an excellent egg food. Ground bone, beef or pork scraps should be given at least four times a week. Keep a supply of old plaster or lime where the fowls can help themselves, but do not mix lime with their food. Keep the fowls busy scratching; fat hens never lay well. It is also well to remember that lousy hens never lay many eggs.

## A SISTER'S HELP.

### BROUGHT RENEWED HEALTH TO DESPONDENT BROTHER.

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Yours very sincerely,
Frederick Glover.

### CHARMING NOVELTIES IN HATS.

The new hats to my mind largely suggest that useful form of headgear affected by ancient mariners and called "the sou'wester." You know the dip they get at the back and the curious round crown that fits well down on the head—a trying form of millinery this—and I have come to the conclusion that unless it is severely modified and not, as seems at present, aggravated, the effect will be more grotesque than anything else.

Very much more pleasing were some of the toque shapes; delightful soft rings of tulle with long encircling plumes, or delicate-tinted wings, spotted or plain, as fancy might dictate. And then there is a new shape, half bonnet, half hat, that is not much more than a crescent-curved cap of jet, with, radiating from it, a stiffened halo of lace from which spring three or four big feathers, the ends of which fall caressingly and shadowingly over the face.

### HONEYMOON.

An early Anglo-Saxon custom, strictly followed by newly married couples, was that of drinking diluted honey for 30 days after marriage. From this custom comes the word, honeymoon, or honeymouth.

Oliver Cromwell has found a place in the British House of Commons. Mr. Balfour has informed the House that Bernini's bust of the Lord Protector, recently presented to it by Mr. Wertheimer, would be placed in the Lower Waiting Hall.


## Warm Weather

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### PORTUGUESE FUNERAL CUSTOMS

**Coffins With Red Leather and Brass Nails That Have Many Tenants.**

"The burial custom of the Spanish as seen in Cuba are in some respects much like those of Portugal," said a former resident of Portugal. "The poor there, like the poor in Spain, economize on funeral expenses by making one coffin serve for a number of funerals in succession. In Lisbon at least the coffin is usually a very substantial piece of work, covered with red leather and freely studded with brass nails. Its lid is attached with hinges, so that the coffin opens and shuts like a large trunk. Of course the selling price of an article like this would be beyond the means of any poor family.

"When a funeral procession reaches the grave in the great Prazeres Cemetery, just outside of Lisbon, the undertaker's men, instead of lowering the coffin, open its lid, take out the corpse and lower it into its last resting place. The empty coffin is left there until a Gallego takes it back to its owner after the mourners have retired. These Gallegos, by the way, natives of Galicia in Spain, do all the work of porters in Lisbon. If you ask a native Portuguese servant to carry a parcel or a valise through the streets, he will answer you in a tone of offended dignity: 'You chamar um Gallego,' 'I will go and call a Gallego,' for no native Portuguese would be seen carrying a load of any kind in public.

"These Gallegos have no objection to carrying a load, even when the load is a

### RECENTLY VACATED COFFIN.

That is the kind of work they come to Lisbon for, so that in their old age they may go across the frontier to Galicia and live on their savings. And one little incident that happened while I was in Lisbon showed how little impressions superstitions regarding death make on the Gallego mind. The city of Lisbon collected toll on goods brought within its limits, and there were guards at the different gates of the city to see that nothing was smuggled in. One very rainy afternoon the guard at the Prazeres gate glanced along the road that leads to the cemetery and saw a suspicious-looking package lying on the ground close under the wall on one side. There was not a living being in sight. The guard thought he had detected a plot. He thought that that package, whatever it might be, had been left there under the wall by smugglers, who were no doubt sheltered somewhere in its neighborhood and watching their opportunity to rush it through the gate as soon as the rain held up a little. So the active and intelligent officer got his little sword ready to draw at a moment's notice, and regardless of the downpour advanced along the road to surprise and apprehend the smugglers, or, at least, their goods.

"When he got to within twenty yards of the suspicious object, he made out through the rain that the case on the ground was of a red color and studded all over with brass nails. That discovery startled him a little, but the next moment he was utterly demoralized at seeing the lid of the coffin fly open and a dishevelled head thrust itself out, its eyes staring widely. Without waiting to draw his sword or challenge the apparition, the guard faced about and retreated at a run. When he reached the gate he called his comrade to come and see the abandoned corpse, that had burst open its coffin on the wayside. The force seized their carbines and paraded under shelter of the archway, but what they saw was only a very bedraggled Gallego tramping toward them, carrying an

### EMPTY COFFIN ON HIS BACK.

On examination the Gallego deposed that, being overtaken by the rain on his way from the cemetery, he had shut himself up in the coffin to keep dry and wait for fairer weather, but when he heard footsteps stealthily approaching he began to be afraid that some one was coming to play a trick and lock him up. That was why he had so suddenly thrust his head out and stared. He was no corpse, but an honest, hard-working Gallego. As for the coffin, the Senores guards might look for themselves and see that it was empty.

"There seems to be a certain morbid fondness for what may be called playing with the dead in Portugal. They seem to take a peculiar delight in dressing up their dead and exposing them to public view. I happened to be present at the solemn requiem of a Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon, when the corpse, dressed in full canonicals, was placed in a half-sitting posture to face the crowd in the nave of the cathedral, and I thought at the time that the interment ought to have taken place sooner.

"One fine Sunday afternoon in spring, I was strolling along one of the main thoroughfares of Lisbon when the shouts and merry chatter of a lot of little boys and girls attracted my attention to a side street. The children, all nicely dressed, were coming down the side street at a brisk walk, evidently interested in something that was being carried along by three or four of them. When they reached the corner I saw that the centre of interest was a very small brass-studded coffin. The lid was open, and I could see the little flower-decked and bedizened corpse inside of it.

"Another time I mistook the corpse of a child on its way to the grave for a waxen image of the Madonna being carried in procession. It was a little dead girl beautifully dressed in white satin and wearing a white veil and white flowers. The little body had been made to sit up in a chair which four boys were carrying on their shoulders. The bearers and the other children in the procession wore white ribbons and white flowers, all emblematic of innocence and happy confidence that the soul of their little friend was in paradise."


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### RUMBLINGS IN INDIA.

**Signs of Coming Disturbance and Measures Against It**

The last mail from India brings news of great activity in the arsenals and at the military centres in evident preparations for an expected campaign. The feeling in the Upper Punjab is said to be that a storm is brewing on the frontier, the bazaars are full of rumors and the Government is taking measures to face any emergency, whether in Bajaur and the Swat Valley toward Chitral in the north, or in the Tochi Valley on the west, toward central Afghanistan. The theft of arms from the frontier posts has begun again as before the Tiah campaign, and at one station a sentry has been murdered for his rifle and ammunition without any clue to the prepetrators being discovered. The political unrest among the natives consequent on these rumors and happenings was increasing and causing much anxiety to the Government officials and Administration.

From Cabul it was reported that the arsenal there was busy turning out field guns, rifles, and cartridges for the Afghan Army, which is being brought to a fair state of efficiency. The greatest confidence is said to be entertained at Simla in the loyalty of the Ameer Abdurrahman Khan to the British Government, and his co-operation with the British Army in case of a war beyond the Indian frontier is regarded as assured. Acting under pressure from the British Government, the Shah of Persia has prohibited all traffic in arms along the coast of the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean, the object being to prevent the modern rifles, that have been exported of late in considerable quantities from Birmingham in England to that part of Asia, finding their way across Persia and through Afghan territory into the hands of the Indian frontier tribes.

The British military authorities have also taken steps to prevent the indiscriminate issue of shooting passes to private soldiers, the privilege having been considerably abused, and in some instances conflicts having arisen between the military and villagers, in which some of the latter lost their lives. In future, officers issuing shooting passes will be held responsible for their abuse. While these measures have given a certain degree of satisfaction, the question of increased taxation required to meet the ever growing debt and expenditure of India is causing much agitation in native circles, as it has become apparent that the borrowing of money to meet current expenditure cannot go on indefinitely.

Prof. Virchow of Berlin has consented to deliver the forthcoming Huxley lecture at the Charing Cross Hospital, London, on October 3. The lectureship was founded at the death of the late Prof. Huxley, out of a sum raised by the Medical School and its friends to commemorate the fact that Huxley received the whole of his medical education at Charing Cross. The subject of the lecture to be delivered by Prof. Virchow is "Recent Advances in Science and Their Bearing on Medicine and Surgery." It will be delivered in English, of which language Prof. Virchow is a master.

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### KIND SINCERITY.

We miss giving ourselves and those with whom our lot is cast lasting pleasure by not saying the kind things we feel and think. Flattery is detestable, but a pleasant truth is always welcome. Do not all fail to utter these pleasant truths when to say them would be easy? To say to our friend, "A talk with you always helps me," or "How brave and cheerful you are!" might give more comfort than we can appreciate. Every one is prone to feel at times that she is a failure, and a lovingly admiring sentence will do much toward dispelling this dismal notion and making earth look bright and life sweet.

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