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HINTS FOR THE FARMER.

FEED FOR DAIRY COWS.

What feeds should the farmer give who expects to keep his cows up the entire year except for exercise, and who wishes to work them to their full capacity? Rye, clover and oats, in the order named, will furnish feed from the middle of April to July 1, and a plot of early sweet corn will be ready to feed by that date, and before the middle of July sorghum will be ready to cut, and this and corn, both field and sweet, will furnish feed from this date until the frosts kill them. According to Waldo Brown, an acre of sorghum will feed a herd of fifteen cows for two full months and even longer on rich land and with a favorable season; but the best thing about sorghum is that it will make a good crop in the driest years. The land on which rye and clover is grown should be plowed and put in order for a later crop of corn and sorghum for September and October feeding. For the sake of some variety in the feed I would grow some corn to feed from August 1 till frost, as cows, like people, enjoy a change of diet occasionally. I have devoted considerable space to the subject of soiling, because this is the only profitable way to keep a dairy on a small farm, and the keeping of a dairy seems to be the best and cheapest way to furnish manure to make the land rich so as to grow large crops. As to making dairying profitable, it is necessary to have a good market, and as the work is confining and distasteful to many, I will suggest that, with a few cows to furnish the family and give some milk to be fed the pigs at weaning time, pig pork can be produced at a profit on a small farm, and rightly managed pigs will make a large amount of excellent manure. To make the most profit from pigs I think it would be necessary to buy some feed, and if this is done, I would recommend that, as a rule, it will be best to buy bran and oil meal, old process, rather than corn. It will be necessary to provide a place to store both bran and corn, and buy a stock to last a good while when the price is low, if you would realize the greatest profit. I have storage for ten tons of bran, and have often bought at \$3 a ton, and before it was fed out the price would go up to nearly or quite twice that, and one year it was \$2 a ton in three months after I bought at \$10. If pork is to be a leading product of the farm, I would grow an acre of beets each year to feed both to the sows and to the cows, as sows fed on beets during pregnancy time, and seldom lose their pigs, and plenty of beets fed to them when sucking will increase the flow of milk, and if the cows are fed beets through the winter they will give more milk, and the pigs will grow on a milk diet faster than with any other food. If beets are grown for feed there should be a place in the barn to store at least one or two hundred bushels, and a cellar, or frost and rat proof room is very convenient and valuable that it should be found in every barn. Later I will tell how to make pig bacon. If you are near a good market for potatoes, and have soil suited to their growth, I would advise that a few acres of them be grown. Cow manure is better for this crop than horse and with rich land, and thorough cultivation, large yields may be grown, and usually an acre of potatoes will pay for more food for pigs or poultry than two or three acres in corn will buy. Potatoes can be cooked profitably for stock, and I have never found any other food that will pay for cooking, and they will soon be dried, while hot, impart a good flavor to several times their bulk of slop, and make the food as palatable as milk. A barrel of potatoes, which can be boiled on the kitchen stove while getting and eating breakfast, if mashed fine while boiling hot, and mixed with a bushel of bran and a peck of corn meal or wheat middlings, with one or two pounds of old process oil meal, will make a large barrel of rich slop, that will keep pigs as healthy as any other food will. The essential points in making a little farm support itself are keeping the stock well, keeping it constantly at work growing something that the family or the stock can eat, and studying your market and giving something that it wants and will pay for. Often a half acre of tomatoes can be grown as a second crop after early potatoes, and will find the best market of the year late, when the early tomatoes are past bearing. In many localities a quarter or half acre of berries can be made largely profitable and in most neighborhoods some money can be made by growing plants for sale. Whatever line of farming you follow, do not neglect the poultry, as you may be sure of from \$10 to \$20 from them. From what I have written it will be seen that to make a living from a few acres will require quite different management from that which will be successful on a large farm.

CURING SECOND-CROP HAY.

The second crop of rye and clover hay is very desirable for all milch stock, heifers, calves, and sheep, to say nothing of poultry. For all these purposes it is not only as good, but far better than the first crop, inasmuch as it is finer, more easily masticated, better relished, and consumed, with less waste by the live stock. It must, however, usually be cured somewhat differently from the first crop, for the reason that it is cut when the fall weather is at hand, with short days and cool nights, which do not admit of so much sun-drying as is possible earlier in the summer. Then the bulk of

this second crop is often clover, which, if exposed long to the sun's rays, soon loses its leaves, which are the very best and most nutritious portions of the hay. Hence it follows, from both of the above causes, that the second-crop hay is to be made mainly in cocks. We can cut the hay late in the afternoon, allow the same to lie over night and a short time the following forenoon, or until the leaves become well wilted, when we should begin to rake into windrows.

This is to be followed by putting up into small to medium-sized cocks or bunches, where the hay should remain from one to two days, when it is to be thoroughly shaken out and aired, all dampness driven away, and then it is ready to put into the barn. After hay has been in the cocks for a sufficient time its moisture comes out, owing to the heat generated—or as the farmer says, it sweats—and after the sweating is accomplished, there is usually no moisture left to do any harm. The sweating causes the hay to feel damp, and when we dry off this dampness the hay is ready for the barn. In rainy fall weather it is especially advantageous to have a good supply of hay-caps to place on the cocks, as the autumn dew are about as harmful to the hay as summer showers. Hay-caps, indeed, are a necessary adjunct to all hay-making. Carefully handle them last a lifetime, and will almost as soon think of going to work having without a fork as to deprive ourselves of the advantages gained by the possession of caps. There are few single seasons when the cost of the caps will not be many times saved in the gain in the quality and feeding value of the hay harvested.

HINTS AS TO FEEDING POULTRY.

There are some points in the feeding of young poultry which one can hardly afford to learn by experience, says a writer. One of these is that they cannot digest sawdust or chaff. It is a common thing if the weather is cold or wet to put a nice basket of sawdust or chaff on the floor of the coop, and in itself it is a good thing, as it keeps the flour dry and the chicks warm, but remember that the young birds cannot digest these things, and if you feed dough on it, it will stick to the soft feed and be swallowed, and soon your chicks are dying off from a mysterious disease, and you will do well if you save a quarter of them. It is better to sand the floors and sweep them twice a week, but the chaff may be used if you will feed in troughs, and always clear the troughs before putting the feed in. Our most successful poultry-grower uses sharp coarse sand with the soft feed, and find that the result is better than keeping gravel in a box when you have access to it. I keep a bag of sand near the mixing box, and mix a pint of sand once a day in a ten-quart bucket of dough. All poultry that is kept confined should have plenty of green food, and there is nothing for May and June feeding that can be so easily grown as lettuce, or that is so much relished by fowls, both old and young.

LONGEST BEARD IN WORLD.

Scotsman Whose Hirsute Appendage Measures 8 1/2 Feet in Length.

The longest beard in the world measures seven feet in length. It belongs to a Scotshman named Alexander McEwen, who was born forty-five years ago. He is 5 feet 9 inches in height, so that when standing on a table he has a good eighteen inches of hair hanging below the level of his feet. This extraordinary hirsute appendage did not show signs of abnormal growth until he was about 30 years of age. It was allowed to grow naturally, and, indeed, very little attention was paid to it.

Most people would consider a beard of this length a nuisance, but the owner of it keeps it tied up with a ribbon and uses it as a chest protector. He considers this saves a little in the way of cough mixtures and doctors' bills. For years he never had the beard untied, and recently his most intimate friends did not know of its extreme length. He allows only a little hair to show outside his vest, and the most casual observer would fail to detect the rest slipped inside. None of the other members of his family have shown signs of great growth of hair, except one brother, who is fifteen years younger, and whose beard at present reaches the foot of his vest.

TOLD BY THE OLD CIRCUS MAN.

More About the Greatest of all Giants
About the 8-Foot Giraffe.

"I've told you once or twice," said the old circus man, "something about the great giant we had once, the greatest of all giants; but I never told you just what his height was, because you never would have believed it if I had. You can form some idea about it though, when I tell you that he had to stoop down to pat our great eighteen-foot giraffe on the head. That was an act that we used to make the most of. At every performance we used to show the giant, of course; and after he'd walked around the ring once or twice we used to bring in the great giraffe to answer the call, and the giant would stand over on the other side of the ring and call him, and when the giraffe had come over beside him he would bend over and pat him on the head, the same as an ordinary man would a greyhound."

"Well, now, you know the people used to rise right up at that, and I don't wonder, either, because it was a great act, the greatest, I think, I ever saw."

W. H. P. Hains, fleet captain of the Cunard line, died in this city on Friday. In his forty years' service with the Cunard line he had crossed the Atlantic more than 600 times.

FORTY YEARS A CAPTAIN.

A despatch from Liverpool says: Wm. H. P. Hains, fleet captain of the Cunard line, died in this city on Friday. In his forty years' service with the Cunard line he had crossed the Atlantic more than 600 times.

HIGHEST BUILDING.

The Alpine Clubhouse on Mont Ross, in the Alps, is probably at a greater altitude than any other building in the world. Its foundation stones are exactly 12,000 feet above the sea level.

WIRELESS EXPLOSION OF MINES.

A New and Curious Application of Electricity to War Purposes in a London Exhibition.

The latest wonder of wireless telegraphy, says the Golden Penny, of London, is the explosion of a submarine mine by electrical waves from a transmitter used in wireless telegraphy. In a showcase in one part of a building is placed an automatic transmitter, which is insulated. A storage battery of four cells is placed in the lower part of the case, which feeds the primary of a four inch spark coil. The current from the battery first passing through an automatic circuit breaker.

This automatic circuit breaker is so arranged that it will make and break the circuit in the same manner as a telegraph operator would when manipulating his Morse key in the act of calling. In this way it will be seen that the sparks from the secondary of the coil are intermittent, and their duration is governed by the length of time during which the automatic circuit breaker allows the circuit to be closed while making the dots and dashes. Immediately in front of the induction coil is placed the improved oscillator, which consists of two solid brass balls about four inches in diameter, mounted so that the distance between them is adjustable.

Outside these balls are placed two smaller balls about an inch and a half in diameter attached to sliding brass rods, on the outer end of which are other balls one inch in diameter, so that the distance between the large and the small balls can be easily adjusted. The secondary terminals of the coil are connected to binding posts on the base of the oscillator. The distance between the balls being properly adjusted and the current turned on from the battery, the sound of the secondary sparks passing between the balls can quickly be recognized as the DOTS AND DASHES OF THE SIGNAL.

In another part of the building, directly opposite and about two hundred feet distant, is placed the receiver, which consists of a Clarke coherer relay and receiving instrument which has a large six inch vibrating bell connected up in the local circuit, in addition to the telegraph sounder. This six inch bell is continually ringing out the Morse signals, and by holding down the hammer of the bell the sounder can be distinctly heard repeating the same call.

In the centre of a garden is placed a large tank of water and a miniature war ship placed in this tank and floating over a submarine mine, which is connected to a coherer relay and battery placed immediately outside of the tank. One terminal of the coherer is connected to earth, and the other to an insulated wire rising about ten feet in the air.

When the time comes for exploding the mine under the ship, the oscillator is stopped and connection made at the tank between the coherer and the vibrating bell which is used for testing purposes. The oscillator is now started for an instant, to see if the bell at the tank rings, thus proving that the coherer is in proper adjustment.

The bell is now disconnected and connected, and at a signal from an attendant the man at the transmitter again presses the button, which throws the current into the oscillator. The coherer completes the local circuit and the mine instantly explodes, breaking the war ship into splinters and throwing it and the water high in the air. Of course, it is understood that the mine is provided with an ordinary electrical fuse.

THE CHINESE PAPERS.

Chinese newspapers are peculiar in many respects, the most striking being their cheapness and the fact that they are all owned by foreigners. A tiny sheet of very thin paper printed in tea-chest letters costs one-fifth of a cent. It is owned, nominally either by a British, French or American subject, for the reason that thus it can safely print what it pleases, while a Chinese-owned paper would be suppressed if it printed any news. Curiously, the best native paper in China, the Kuei-Yen-Pao, is owned by a Japanese subject. It is said that a foreman of sufficient standing to pose as the owner of a native paper draws a salary of \$50 a month for the use of his name, without labor or responsibility.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

When the attack was made on Sidi Bon, in the war with Syria, it became necessary for the British troops to advance across a long, unprotected bridge, in the face of a battery of six guns, which completely commanded the approach. The men were unwilling to expose themselves to certain death, when Arthur Cumming, a sergeant, dressed in full uniform, stepped forward to the middle of the bridge. It was immediately swept by the fire of the battery. When the smoke had rolled away there stood Cumming intact, skillfully brushing the dust from his boots, after which he stood erect, fixed a single glass in his eye, and looked back at the men. This was too much, and they captured that brave and gallant soldier with a whoop.

IN THE MATTER OF GOOD HEALTH.

The eyes of the world are literally with medical treatment, while possibly successful for the moment, can never be lasting. Those in poor health soon know whether the remedy they are using is simply passing incident in their experience, bringing them up for the day, or something that is getting at the seat of the disease and is surely and permanently restoring.

Newspaper Laws.

We call the "special" attention of Postmasters and subscribers to the following copy of the newspaper laws:

1. If any person orders his paper dissolved, he must pay all arrears, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount whether it be taken from the office or not. There can be no legal discontinuance until payment is made.

2. Any person who takes a paper from the post office, whether directed to his name or another, or whether he has subscribed or not is responsible for the pay.

3. If a subscriber orders his paper to be stopped at a certain time, and the publisher continues to send, the subscriber is bound to pay for it if he takes it out of the post office. This proceeds upon the ground that a man must pay for what he uses.

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