

THE COOK.

Which of the happily married couple should be the cook, assuming that the income of neither is sufficient to warrant the hire of such a necessary piece of household furniture? The question has come up before the Chicago courts and they have met it with courage, or one of them has. It seems that one Burt Harkin was charged with disorderly conduct, says the Charleston News and Courier. He had, in fact, been drunk. This he admitted, but claimed that the circumstances were of such an extenuating nature that he ought to be discharged. "For some time," said he, "I've been taking care of our house and cooking meals for my wife and myself. The work was uninteresting and it got on my nerves. I was mighty glad to get a drink and forget my troubles." The judge looked wise. "Discharged," said he laconically. A number of questions naturally arise. But the salient point is the cooking. Is there really any reason under the sun, except custom, why the man should expect his wife to be the cook? It is not recorded that Eve dressed the beef, but we do know that Adam roasted her just after the exodus from the Garden of Eden. Here was a man who plainly did not go out and work for an income. Why should he loaf about the house while his wife attempted to economize on gas? To be sure he got tired of it, but probably she was just as tired. We really fear that the judge has set a bad precedent. Suppose the women take it into their heads that they have a right to get intoxicated just because they get tired of frying codfish.

Two things with regard to wireless telegraphy have been brought into renewed prominence by the disaster to the Titanic—the inestimable value of the service as a means of summoning assistance for sinking ships, and the necessity of regulations to prevent private telegraphers from interfering with irrelevant messages. The sinking of the Titanic occurred between two and three o'clock in the morning, an hour at which it might be supposed amateur wireless operators would all be in bed and asleep, says the Evening Wisconsin. Nevertheless there are complaints that the wireless messages from the Titanic were "taken" with difficulty, because of interference. In Europe as well as in the United States there will be legislation to put down what the London Times calls "these freaks of private vanity or levity or ostentation."

In Paris, the police dogs have now been given official rank and attack on one of them is classed as resistance to lawfully constituted authority. The situation has its element of humor, but as a matter of fact, their protection as regular members of the police, has been found necessary to save them from the lawless gangs whom they help the police in restraining. Still, the spectacle of a man arrested on the charge of resisting a police dog in the discharge of his duty is novel and odd enough to have its ludicrous side.

For a wager a Cincinnati man ate 30 dozen of bananas in 30 days, drank five glasses of beer and several large portions of whisky each night of the test, and finished off with five dozen hard-boiled eggs and two dozen raw oysters. The story is vouched for, yet it is almost as hard to swallow as the wager must have been.

Possibly a few supersensitive souls may suffer at the cruelty attendant upon the slaughter of flies now being urged, but the fly is one of the busy little pests that bring a swarm of evil upon us and a vast amount of discomfort. Its extermination is problematical, but inasmuch as this is an age when exercise is extolled let the swatting go on with vigor.

A woman in New York intends to sue a doctor who performed an operation on her because he sewed up inside of her a towel a yard long with a red border and marked with the name of the hospital where the operation was performed. Such carelessness with good hospital laundry ought to be looked into. It is hardly a degree less culpable than kleptomani.

The officers of the Massachusetts Infant Asylum give legal notice that they have changed its name and adopted the name of Massachusetts Babies' hospital. Boston is progressive, too.

A Cincinnati capitalist declares that a family of five could live on \$15 a week and save some of it. Possibly he included hope as one of the articles of diet they could live on, if charity was out of the count.

A Harvard professor says that housework will make over a fat woman into a Venus. But in these emancipated days women cannot be lured back into the old paths of domestic servitude by such transparent bait.

SECURE WATER SUPPLY

Economical Way of Building Gate or Dam in Canal.

As Irrigation is the One Thing That Makes Possible Ranch or Farm Too Much Cannot Be Done to Regulate Its Use.

In response to the following query: "I would like to know of an economical way of building a gate or dam in a canal so as to raise the water for irrigation purposes. I live in a valley where a drainage district has been formed and a canal is being built. The canal where I wish to build a dam is 26 feet wide at the top with sloping sides and about 3 1/2 feet deep. I want to know how to build a dam that will not wash out on the bottom or sides." Lou Blakesley of Big Horn county, Wyoming, makes the following reply in the Farm and Home:

Dig a trench across the ditch and well into either bank, about two feet deep. Make this trench plenty wide, so that one can work in it with ease. Drive piling, or set posts, against the lower bank of the trench, about two feet deep. Begin at the bottom of the trench, and board up the piling, as high as the water is to be raised. Double the boards, breaking joints each time. Then fill the trench with heavy, coarse manure, and carry it well up to the top and on either end. Weight the manure down with plenty of loose dirt, turn in the water, and you will have a dam that will be substantial, as long as the timbers last.

This dam will not wash out, but should, by any chance, a leak show in it, a load of manure will effectually stop it, and that is the only repair material you will ever need, until you have to put in new timbers. A cement dam is much better and cheaper in the long run.

I am at a loss to understand why you want such a dam across an irrigation ditch that is 26 feet wide, or any other width for that matter. If the people of your community have formed an irrigation district, the officers of such district and canal should have greater control over it than to allow anyone to build a dam across it. Further than this, the canal authorities should construct all turnouts where water is taken from the canal.

In a canal as large as this one all intakes, turnouts, division boxes and other means of control should be under the immediate and absolute supervision of the company. Certainly no thorough irrigation engineer would allow the building of a dam across the main canal.

The water should always be taken or drawn from the bottom of the canal, because, if otherwise, the canal would soon fill with sediment, until it would be valueless. All intakes, turnouts, and boxes should be of cement, but where that is not practical, lumber can be used, though it will have to be rebuilt in a few years.

One cannot emphasize too strongly the necessity for absolute control of water in the canal, by the proper authorities. It should be turned out to each user by the company and the user then compelled to take care of it. Under no circumstances should the individual user be allowed to take water from the canal, nor turn it back, at his pleasure. The ditch enterprise, as a whole, will fall of success if this should be permitted.

In a new district the great and important step is to start right. Good headgates, outlets, division boxes and properly constructed laterals are a part of the company's work, which should require of the user that he construct suitable ditches and waterways, to properly handle the water.

A new district could well take advantage of the mistakes of older irrigated communities, and not only save the expense and annoyance of poorly constructed works, but prevent the loss of many acres of land, alkali, caused by a too free use of water, or for the lack of suitable waste ditches.

As water is the one thing that makes possible a ranch or farm in a desert country, one cannot do too much to provide for its proper use. Upon the method of handling depends the success or failure of the farm.

House for Chicks.

A house large enough to accommodate 400 chicks until six weeks old can be built for a very small sum, and the labor of providing the filled yard would be paid for in a couple of years by the saving in cost of looking after the chicks where everything is convenient and properly arranged. When hens are used for brooding a small elevated or filled-in yard may be provided at very little cost except labor, and the broods confined in it until out of danger. This may seem somewhat troublesome, but the poultryman who attempts to raise chicks on the cold, poorly-drained soils that are common in most sections of this country must choose between taking some trouble or losing a lot of chicks.

Sheep Protection From Storms.

During the winter months sheep should be well protected from storms of all nature. Severe cold weather does not greatly affect the body temperature so long as the fleece is dry, but in case the fleece becomes soaked the functions of the body are impaired.

Newly Hatched Chicks.

The newly hatched chicks must not be removed from the incubator until they are thoroughly dry.

TWO METHODS OF IRRIGATION

Underflow System is Quite Different From Subirrigation—Advantages of the Former.

(By E. J. WICKRON, M. A., Professor of Agriculture, California Agricultural Experiment Station.)

Subirrigation is the application of water under the surface by a system of conduits. It has received so much thought and outlay and has returned so little satisfaction that it must be looked upon as a horticultural ignis fatuus, and only a passing reference need be given to it. Various available publications describe its different phases. It seems fair to conclude that satisfactory growth is secured with less water by subirrigation than by surface distribution, but it is done at an outlay which is unwarranted either by the cost of water or by the value of the crop. Results of greenhouse experiments are more satisfactory than those from open-air work. Even if even distribution could be had from any arrangement of underground pipes, which seems doubtful in view of wide experience, it still remains true that for shallow-rooting plants in open soils the water is applied at too low a level.

It also appears that the escape from the surface cultivation is of doubtful advantage, contrary to the claims of advocates of subirrigation, and that thorough surface stirring, which is an indispensable accompaniment of surface irrigation, is worth all it costs through the superior thrift which it induces. It seems a fair conclusion from present knowledge that subirrigation is practically unattainable because of cost, inequality of distribution, etc., and possibly would be undesirable even if these prohibitions were removed.

Underflow irrigation is quite different from subirrigation, though the former often goes in local parlance as "natural subirrigation." Underflow is a natural movement of water through the subsoil outward from streams or downward from catchment areas toward the country drainage. Underflow irrigation consists in reinforcing this flow, or in imitating it by bringing water to follow the same course of distribution.

It is an available method, first, where the ground water is naturally near the surface and irrigation water is easily obtained in large quantities; second, where an open soil through which water spreads readily is found resting upon an impervious hardpan, or slightly pervious clay, which prevents loss of water by percolation. In both of these conditions the method of irrigation is the same, viz, to open deep furrows at considerable distances apart and keep them filled with water for a considerable time, so that it may soak away in large quantities. The addition will in the first case raise the ground water so that it will rise by capillarity to the plant roots; in the second case the irrigation water will spread through the free soil, flowing along the surface of the hardpan or clay, and will thus become available to plant roots. These methods are most apt to be useful with deep rooting trees and vegetables, but they are also used, where the conditions are favorable, for grains and garden crops.

Shelter for the Brooder.

If the brooder can be placed in a small portable house, it is a good plan, as the brooder is thus protected from stormy cold winds in the early spring; also from heat later on. The house protects the chicks from rain, and serves as a roosting coop after they become too large to stay in the brooder.

LIVE STOCK NOTES

Be careful about feeding horses inclined to heaves, too much hay, or hay that is dusty.

A good strong decoction of hemlock bark is a good thing for sore and chafed horses' shoulders.

Nothing like the mule for hard knocks; he lives to a good old age, and is easily taken care of.

When you purchase a horse, better get a mare; she will raise colts for you and increase your profits.

Never salt a horse's feed in the box. Place a big lump where he can reach it, and he will take it when he needs it.

The latest fashion in draft horses demands quality, finish, style, spirit and action to an unprecedented degree.

There is no better or cheaper place to develop a young horse and put him in proper shape for market than on the farm.

Just a few hours of exposure to a driving windstorm will chill lambs so that they never will be quite so good afterward.

Farmers who know say that a hog fattened on milk and alfalfa brings just as much money when sold as a corn-fed porker.

Lookout for sore teats on ewes with lambs. When such conditions are discovered, rub the affected parts twice a day with salted butter.

The brood sow should have the run of the alfalfa pasture, and have added foods of a nitrogenous character, such as oats, shorts and bran.

Don't make changes in feed of ewes near lambing time. Clover or alfalfa hay, wheat bran and linseed meal are safe. Corn is unsafe. Avoid it.

Sheep are extremely nervous, and when being fattened for market they must be quiet and free from sudden alarm which will cause excitement.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP

Taking a Census of the Water Wells



WASHINGTON.—Prof. W. J. McGee of the department of agriculture has been at work upon a curious sort of census for some months. This census is not the counting of souls, but of the wells of water upon which souls are nourished. He has secured data concerning the wells of the country, and they are bearing on the national water supply and incidentally upon the ultimate food resources of the nation. This well enumeration has already reached 35,000, and covers the states and practically every country of the United States. Records are compiled, so far as possible, showing the depth of the well and the depth of the water and the variation of water level from year to year. The significant part of the showing is that the water level in the wells of the country is decreasing at the rate of a foot and a half for each decade. Some of the records go back for 20 years and some to the first settlement of the country. The average reduction in level of the "ground water" is shown to have been 14 feet since its first settlement. This is regarded as a serious condition, because the food-producing possibility of the country depends eventually on the water supply.

One group of 10 states was taken in the rectangle inclosed by Minnesota, Ohio, Tennessee and Iowa. It was found that this was representative of the general condition. It was shown that the water level was gradually but steadily falling all over the country, so that the ultimate outlook, not next year, but in a few centuries, will be for a vanishing drinking supply not only on the farms, but in urban communities where the water supply is drawn from lakes and rivers.

Prof. McGee says that the supply could be increased by digging the wells deeper, but that this would be merely a palliative measure. The real remedy is in changing the system of farm cultivation so as to conserve the water supply.

He explains that when the country is in a state of nature all the rainfall and the melting snowfall sinks into the ground and the rivers run clear. With settlement and cultivation the ground is broken up so that it is washed into the streams and the rivers run muddy in the spring, and there are intervals of disastrous floods and bad drouths.

He says further that as land becomes more valuable the farmer is unconsciously applying the remedy by more intensive cultivation and managing his land so that it is not allowed to erode and wash away.

First Giant Wireless Towers Erected

THE first of three giant steel towers to be used by the bureau of yards and docks of the United States navy as wireless telegraph stations has been erected on a high hill overlooking the Potomac river at Arlington, Va. Two of the towers are 450 feet high, while the third is 600 feet high, the latter being the highest in the world built for use as a wireless telegraph station.



When the other two towers are erected the three will be capable of sending a wireless message a distance of 3,000 miles over the sea and almost that distance over land. Had they been completed and in working order a week ago direct communication could have been established between Arlington, Va., and any of the vessels within hundreds of miles of the ill-fated Titanic.

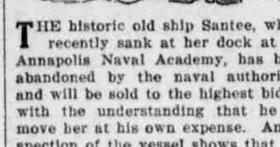
The 600-foot tower, when erected, will contain an elevator, and the steel work on the two smaller towers has been so arranged that elevators can be placed in them at any time. However, for a while at least, persons will ascend from the bottom to the top of the smaller towers by means of a stairway. The 600-foot tower rests on a base 150 feet square, while the two 450-foot towers rest on a base 120 feet square.

A power and engine house, transmitter and receiving buildings are being erected at Arlington. These, with the three huge towers, which, when erected, will be visible from any point within many miles of the nation's capital, will constitute the most powerful wireless station in the world.

When completed the station will be able to communicate over the seas with the Azores in the Atlantic, all West Indian ports and South American coast towns as far south as the mouth of the Amazon river. Aerial disturbances, which are greater over land than over sea, will, it is expected, make transmission over land more difficult, but it is said that after allowances for impediments in transmission over land wireless communication from this station will extend over half of North America.

The steel work on the towers has been completed for some time. The towers were shipped to Arlington from the shops here in sections and erected as fast as the different sections were completed.

Historic Ship Is Abandoned by Navy



THE historic old ship Santee, which recently sank at her dock at the Annapolis Naval Academy, has been abandoned by the naval authorities and will be sold to the highest bidder with the understanding that he remove her at his own expense. An inspection of the vessel shows that she is waterlogged and beyond repair for naval purposes. She rests on the muddy bottom of the Severn with the water about twelve feet above her water line and probably never will float again.

embryo admirals who transgressed the rules. In more recent years she was used as a garrison for marines and sailors on that station. A few days ago a large section of her bottom gave way and she sank slowly to the bed of the river.

The Santee is a wooden ship of the square-rigged type. She was built just before the civil war, but because of a mistake in her design she never was used for any important service. Tradition has it that the error was pointed out to the designer by his young son soon after the vessel was launched, and that the designer committed suicide by shooting himself on her deck. The mistake was that the port-holes were built directly opposite each other, thus affording an open line of fire to an opposing warship. The Santee was taken to Annapolis in 1865, when the Naval Academy was transferred there from Newport. Soon after that she was dismantled and roofed over. Huge anchors were cast fore and aft to steady her in position and, in fact, for years she practically rested on the soft mud at the Naval Academy dock.

Aeroplane Gun Fires from Both Ends

TESTS of another invention designed to make "war in the clouds" possible are being prepared by the United States. It consists of an aeroplane gun that discharges a projectile from each end. One of the projectiles is designed for destructive work and the other as a dummy, to neutralize the recoil. Commander Cleland Davis, U. S. N., is the inventor.



The practicability of the weapon has been partially demonstrated in tests at Fort Wright. Two light canvas wings, corresponding to those of an aeroplane were rigged up close to the gun. Delicate springs and recoil discs were placed under the stanchions to record the vibration and concussion and recoil. The results indicated that its use on an aeroplane hundreds of feet above earth is practicable. As the two projectiles weigh about

fifty pounds it is acknowledged that the sudden loss of weight might affect an aeroplane greatly. Now the inventor and Captain Washington I. Chambers, U. S. N., in charge of aviation in the navy, are studying this phase of the problem. Final tests of the gun will be held soon at Indian Head under the supervision of the bureau of ordnance. It will be fired from a frail structure to represent an aeroplane and a dynamometer will register the effect of the discharge.

VERY CLOSE.



Mike—O! thought that Pat and Jerry would be mortal enemies after that fight, but O! heard they're both together again.

Terrence—Sure, that's right, they're both in the same cell.

PHYSICIAN ADVISES CUTICURA REMEDIES

"Four years ago I had places break out on my wrist and on my shin which would itch and burn by spells, and scratching them would not seem to give any relief. When the trouble first began, my wrist and shin itched like poison. I would scratch those places until they would bleed before I could get any relief. Afterwards the places would scale over, and the flesh underneath would look red and feverish. Sometimes it would begin to itch until it would wake me from my sleep, and I would have to go through the scratching ordeal again.

Our physician pronounced it "dry eczema." I used an ointment which the doctor gave me, but it did no good. Then he advised me to try the Cuticura Remedies. As this trouble has been in our family for years, and is considered hereditary, I felt anxious to try to head it off. I got the Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Pills, and they seemed to be just what I needed.

"The disease was making great headway on my system until I got the Cuticura Remedies which have cleared my skin of the great pest. From the time the eczema healed four years ago, until now, I have never felt any of its pest, and I am thankful to the Cuticura Soap and Ointment which certainly cured me. I always use the Cuticura Soap for toilet, and I hope other sufferers from skin diseases will use the Cuticura Soap and Ointment." (Signed) Irven Hutchison, Three Rivers, Mich., Mar. 16, 1911. Although Cuticura Soap and Ointment are sold by druggists and dealers everywhere, a sample of each, with 32-page book, will be mailed free on application to "Cuticura," Dept. L, Boston.

A man may not know who his friends are, but he usually has his enemies spotted.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c a bottle.

The man who hesitates may win by watching others lose.

The satisfying quality in LEWIS' Single Binder is found in no other 5c cigar.

Even a love match may have its flare-ups.

For liver or kidney troubles, nothing is quite so reliable as Gardell Tea.

A true friend is a person who listens to your troubles.

WOMAN SICK TWELVE YEARS

Wants Other Women to Know How She Was Finally Restored to Health.

Louisiana, Mo.:—"I think a woman naturally dislikes to make her troubles known to the public, but complete restoration to health means so much to me that I cannot keep from telling mine for the sake of other suffering women."



"I had been sick about twelve years, and had eleven doctors. I had dragging down pains, pains at monthly periods, bilious spells, and was getting worse all the time. I would hardly get over one spell when I would be sick again. No tongue can tell what I suffered from cramps, and at times I could hardly walk. The doctors said I might die at one of those times, but I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and got better right away. Your valuable medicine is worth more than mountains of gold to suffering women."—Mrs. BERTHA MUFF, 563 N. 4th Street, Louisiana, Mo.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from native roots and herbs, contains no narcotic or harmful drugs, and to-day holds the record of being the most successful remedy for female ills we know of, and thousands of voluntary testimonials on file in the Pinkham laboratory at Lynn, Mass., seem to prove this fact.

If you want special advice write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential) Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman and held in strict confidence.

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