

The Farmers' Leader.

CANTON, S. D.

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SOUTH DAKOTA CROPS.

Rain Needed in Some Sections to Insure a Good Yield.

The weather for the past ten days has been exceedingly warm and has damaged corn, millet and vegetables to some extent. Without speedy rain only a very poor yield of these products can be expected. Flax is in pretty good shape, but must have rain to mature well. The wheat crop, without material exceptions, is past any further damage, and the average yield for the county is variously estimated from six to nine bushels an acre. Harvesting is now well under way. There is plenty of hay and fodder for farm animals, but oats are very short.

Short in the Vicinity of Carthage.
The wheat crop here will be short, and from what has been thrashed it looks as though an average of ten bushels to the acre will be about the yield. Oats, flax and millet is fair, and corn is good if it only gets the fall rains. Farmers are in the middle of their harvest and haying. We need rain badly, and will have to wait before three days to save the corn.

Harvest Begun at Bowdle.
Wheat harvest, early sowing, has begun at Bowdle. The yield varies from five to fifteen bushels per acre. Flax is looking well, but needs rain. Corn is looking better than ever known here before. The hay crop is good, and hay is selling at \$2.25 per ton. Hot winds prevailed the past week.

Hardly Worth Cutting at Ordway.
Crops are looking badly, owing to hot winds and hot weather. They have fairly dried up in places. Crops that two weeks ago promised a good yield will be hardly worth cutting. There has been no rain for the past fifteen days. Wheat will not be a half crop throughout Brown county. Oats about one-third a crop, and flax is rapidly drying up. Corn is doing well. Haying is well under way, and next week harvest will generally have begun.

South Dakota Weather News.
The weekly weather crop bulletin issued by the United States signal office may be summarized as follows: Weather during the week has been dry and very warm, unfavorable to all growing crops, but favorable to harvesting wheat and oats, which is about completed in South Dakota and progressing in North Dakota. What rain has fallen has been in very light, local showers, except in a portion of Cass and Codington counties, where damaging hail storms have occurred. In most localities the drouth has been severe, and rain is much needed to perfect the corn, flax, millet and root crops. In the east part of South Dakota, where the drouth has not been severe, crops are reported in good condition, and in some southeast counties excellent. In the Black Hills region and Beadle county, irrigated crops have not suffered, and the yield of wheat and oats from these lands is excellent and of the finest quality.

The Cattle Interests.
The cattlemen on the reservation are now beginning to round up their fat stock for shipment to eastern markets. Already two train loads of 500 fat cattle have been shipped from Pierre. The cattle have done well this year, as they always do on the prairie west, and thousands of head have fattened there, but those familiar with the situation claim the ranges show no signs of a shortage of feed, there being room for millions more. During the last few weeks there has been more or less inquiry from farmers in the eastern part of the state, who have tired of raising small grain, as to the adaptability of the country west for sheep raising, some having gone out and selected ranches for that purpose, being sanguine of the result. The cattlemen look with contempt upon the sheep-growers, and have no love for the man who homesteads a quarter section for the purpose of mixed farming, and as they see the natural drift of men of small means toward raising sheep, as well as a good sprinkling of those who desire to till a small farm, they are becoming disgruntled, and some of those who own several thousand head now contemplate driving their herds into Wyoming and Montana next spring, unless they can get legislation favoring their interests the coming winter. The cattlemen don't want to be encroached upon by the sheep man nor the agriculturist.

Irrigation Convention.
The Aberdeen club has called an irrigation convention to meet at Aberdeen the 29th inst. Representatives from both the Dakotas will be urged to be present. From the United States geological survey it appears that the bed of the Missouri river at all points in both states is several hundred feet higher than the heads of the James river valley, and therefore water can be diverted from its channel in sufficient quantities to supply that needed for irrigation. The club urges that concerted action should be at once taken to induce congress to undertake expensive and effective measures for the distribution of the surplus water of the Missouri over the vast agricultural area of the two states.

Doings in Dakota.
The assessed valuation of Moody county is \$2,090,315.
The wise farmers of Charles Mix county shun the deadly rays of the sun and drive the porkers to market by the light of the moon.
S. BULL, the big chief of Standing Rock, is reported seriously ill.
PREPARATIONS are being made to open and operate the Yankton pork packing house.
SHEPHERD has petitioned for a postoffice. It is proposed to name the new office Owcoma.
THE ladies of Fort Pierre are circulating a petition to have the original package houses closed.
SPORTSMEN in various parts of the state are forming associations for the protection of game.
The water expelled by the geyser on American island, is said to be of a fine mineral quality.
FROM present indications McCook county will this season produce the largest grain crop ever known in its history.

WEATHER AND CROPS.

THE SEVERITY OF THE IOWA DROUTH GREATLY MITIGATED.

A Fall of Twenty Points Indicates the Disaster Which Has Befallen the Corn Crop—The Cause Thereof the Abnormally High Temperature and Insufficiency of Rainfall.

Temperature—The average temperature of the week ending Aug. 9, was 30 degrees to 50 degrees above normal throughout the state. At the central station the excess was 51 degrees. The amount of sunshine was also above an average.

Rainfall—The severity of the drouth was greatly mitigated by showers on the 2d, 3d and 6th, which brought a measure of relief to all parts of the state. Reports of precipitation above normal are received from the following counties: Adair, 1.60 inches; Adams, 2.25; Black Hawk, 1.23; Boone Vista, 1.43; Clark, 1.75; Davis, 1.67; Decatur, 2.50; Iowa, 1.61; Jones, 2.24; Jackson, 1.58; Johnson, 1.24; Lucas, 1.85; Green, 2.10; Henry, 1.50; Howard, 1.21; Keokuk, 1.50; Mahaska, 1.36; Buchanan, 1.52; Jasper, 1.25; Polk, 1.20; Washington, 1.64; Wright, 3.30; Dubuque, 3.62; Fayette, 1.47; Grundy, 2.00; Scott, 1.28; Woodbury, 1.69.

The showers on the 3d and 6th inst. were accompanied by wind squalls and hail, which wrought some local damage to crops and buildings. The hail storms were most severe in northern tier of counties, resulting in loss of stock and crops in a belt of about twelve miles wide and forty to fifty long. Near Des Moines, on the 3d, buildings and haystacks were damaged, but there was no "cyclone" or tornado, as reported abroad.

On the 6th, wind and hail inflicted considerable loss in Union and Taylor counties, the track of the storm being about five miles wide.

Condition of Crops—Secretary Shaffer has tabulated the reports of about 1,100 crop correspondents, representing every county in the state, showing condition of crops Aug. 1. Following are the averages of leading crops: Corn 7.93 per cent; sorghum, 82; flax, 95; millet, 85; potatoes, 60; sweet potatoes, 62; broom corn, 76; apples, 65; grapes, 83; pastures, 72. Average yield per acre of threshing: Winter wheat, 142 bushels; spring wheat, 114; oats, 30; winter barley, 24; spring barley, 24; rye, 14; clover seed, 2; timothy, 3; hay averages 13 tons.

The past week has materially improved the outlook for all growing crops, especially corn and late potatoes. With fairly good conditions in the remainder of the season, this state will produce 75 per cent of an average corn crop. And prices will favor the producers this year. They are entitled to a benefit, now and then.

GOVERNMENT REPORT.

Weekly Bulletin as Reported by the Statistician of the Department of Agriculture.

There is a reduction in the condition of all cereals as reported by the statistician of the department of agriculture. The decline from the 1st of July to the 1st of August is from 93.1 to 73.3 in corn; from 94.4 to 83.2 in spring wheat; from 81.6 to 70.1 in oats; from 88.3 to 82.8 in barley. Condition of buckwheat is 90.1 and of spring rye 86.8. Condition of Irish potatoes is reduced from 91.7 to 77.4.

A fall of twenty points indicates the disaster which has befallen the corn crop within thirty days. The cause is the abnormally high temperature of the central maize districts with insufficiency of rainfall. The returns of drouth, which cover a broad area, and the severity of effects produced, are more general and depressing than the signal service record of temperature appears to indicate. One factor in the blighting of vegetation is evidently the hot winds that have scorched the lower basin of the Missouri valley and the Ohio valley. The change from drouth to daily saturation by repeated and heavy showers has been too sudden and extreme in those regions where drouth has been relieved by seasons of moisture. The crop is late in the New England states and will require a long warm season to mature it. In the Middle states the high temperature has advanced growth in the northern districts, and in the more southern there has been some injury from drouth. The south Atlantic states report local drouths, with subsequent rains and comparatively good though somewhat reduced condition of corn. Some counties in Mississippi have suffered materially from absence of reasonable moisture. In Louisiana, the crop is in high condition, though somewhat late in the overflooded districts. In Texas the crop is now matured and is good, except in the area that has suffered most from drouth. Late planted corn in Arkansas has been seriously injured by drouth of the last three weeks in July. In the western and southwestern part of Kentucky the crop has been severely scorched, but the rains since the 23d of July have materially relieved the fields of the central and eastern districts. In Ohio there is a great difference between the northern and southern parts of the state.

The southern division of the counties of Indiana and Illinois have likewise received greater damage than the northern. Condition is slightly higher in Missouri. In Kansas the severity of the drouth has culminated. Iowa and Nebraska are nearly in the status of the Ohio valley, while Minnesota makes the highest average of all the states. Wisconsin suffers slightly, and Michigan still more from drouth.

There has been a considerable reduction in the condition of spring wheat, amounting to fully eleven points. It is less in the Dakotas than in the other spring wheat districts. The average of condition is 80 in Wisconsin, 80 in Minnesota, 87 in Iowa, 71 in Nebraska, and 89 in the Dakotas. The latter is a decline of seven points, owing to hot southern winds, which affected the late sown more than the early.

The oat crop is certain to be one of very low yield, and probably poor quality. Another crop of great importance, potatoes, has also been damaged by drouth. A low rate of yield is assured.

IS IN GOOD LUCK.

The Farmer Who Has a Good Crop of Potatoes—Prices at Present in a Heavy Grade.

The hot, dry weather has had a serious

effect on the potato crop, as well as on grain. Inquiry among the South Water street commission merchants elicits the information that prices ordinarily ruling have advanced from \$2.50 and \$2.75 per barrel, to \$3.25. Said one of the dealers: "We have been getting our potatoes from Philadelphia for several weeks past. It is a little early yet for the Wisconsin crop to come in, upon which we principally depend, but our advices from that state are to the effect that the crop is very short, the yield in some places being about one-third. You can't buy good potatoes to-day on the track for less than \$1.35 per bushel and you can't get them at retail for less than \$1.40 to \$1.50 per bushel. The fall and winter prices will be away up, sure."

Another dealer: "Prices have advanced 15 to 20 cents per bushel during the last month. Our information from the northwest is to the effect that the crop is about one-third short. Onions are also short and prices advanced. It's pretty hard to get a good article now. Both onions and potatoes will command fancy prices this winter."

FATE OF KEMMLER.

Buried With Much Secrecy During the Darkness of the Night—A Trained Man Needed For Executioner.

It was an unpretentious funeral that occurred from the Auburn state prison at an early hour on the morning of the 9th. What the surgeons had left of the remains of Wm. Kemmler had been placed in a plain pine coffin. The coffin had been filled with quick lime. No clergyman was present and no word of religious import was uttered. The family of the dead murderer had failed to claim his body and it was to be interred as the law directed. The same secrecy had been observed in the preparations for the funeral that has characterized the whole execution. No body was apprised of the hour of its occurrence, and the grave which is in the sixth row and the twenty-first grave in the row, was dug between dark and daylight, being completed at 4 a. m. It was at that hour that the coffin containing the remains was placed in a wagon belonging to the prison. A convict drove it. Keeper Miller sat on the seat and that was the extent of the procession. Driving rapidly by a circuitous route the wagon was sent bowling to the cemetery, a mile from the prison. Few noticed and nobody knew what it contained. Arriving at the graveyard, which is a neglected patch overrun with wild carrots and a plague spot to the city, the wagon was stopped. The men dismounted and with the aid of two waiting grave diggers the coffin was placed in a rough box and lowered into its place. The grave diggers began at once to fill in with earth, and before the people of the city had awakened to their duties Kemmler had been buried. In pursuance of the policy of secrecy a denial is made of the fact of the burial, but a newly made grave is there. *Correspondent, N. Y., Aug. 11.*

State senator McNaughton, of New York, says that the Kemmler execution was a state performance, and clearly proves that a repeal of the law providing for electric execution is necessary. He had always been opposed to this new form of capital punishment. But there was such a decided opinion in favor of it that it was useless to fight against it. "My plan," said the senator, "is to have a state executioner, whose duty it shall be to understand all about it. He will be a science of the thing, and then there will be no fear of accidents. The sheriffs of counties who are called upon to hang criminals are generally novices who are apt to make a botch of the job. They are elected so frequently that no man gets an opportunity to understand the subject. "I suggest that a new office, that of public executioner, be created; that he have one or two assistants, and that the mode of punishment be hanging."

JOHN BOYLE O'REILLY.

The Irish Editor and Poet Suddenly Passes Away—Sketch of His Adventurous Career.

John Boyle O'Reilly, the poet and editor of the Boston Pilot, died Sunday afternoon. Death is supposed to have been caused by an overdose of chloral taken for insomnia.

John Boyle O'Reilly was born at Douth Castle, Co. Wick, Ireland, on the 23d of June, 1844. He learned typesetting, and afterwards became a reporter for various English journals. He returned to Ireland in 1863, and enlisted in the Tenth Hussars. He had meantime joined the Fenian society, and his name was on the list of the Fenian army with the object of spreading disaffection among the Irish soldiers. His connection with Fenianism was discovered in 1865, his propaganda of revolutionary principles had been successful, and several Irish regiments, known to be ready to participate in a rebellion, were in consequence scattered through the most undesirable parts of the British possessions. O'Reilly was tried for high treason, and sentenced to be shot. The sentence was commuted, and he was confined in different English prisons. When in Dartmoor, aided by other Irish prisoners, he collected and buried the scattered bones of the French and American prisoners of war who were shot in 1844. In 1867 he was sent to Australia. He was one day arrested and sent to the central political prisoner in 1869. He escaped from the western coast of Australia, in an open boat, was picked up by Capt. Gifford, of the American ship Gazelle, and landed in Philadelphia on Nov. 23, 1869. He lectured and wrote for the journals for a time, followed the Fenian raid into Canada in 1870, and described his adventures for the Boston journals. The same year he became connected with the Boston Pilot, of which he was for a time, editor and principal owner. He founded the Paperers club in Boston, and has appeared as a lecturer, contributed to periodicals, and published in book form "Songs of the Southern Sea," "Songs, Legends and Ballads," "Moody's," "Statues in the Block," and "In Bohemia."

Dixey Wins His Suit.

Henry E. Dixey, the actor, came out ahead in his litigation with Actor Duncan B. Harrison. The two professional gentlemen met in St. Louis a year ago, and Harrison suggested to have a little game of hearts, just for fun. There was no excitement playing for "fun," and actual money was thrown into the pot until Dixey lost \$2,236.80. Dixey gave Harrison a promissory note for the amount, and when Harrison arrived in Chicago he secured an execution to levy on Dixey's theatrical property. Dixey filed a bill to set aside the judgment, on the ground that the note upon which it was based was without consideration and a gambling transaction. Judge Shepard, of Chicago, has entered a decree declaring the judgment void, and entered an order restraining its collection.

RURAL TOPICS.

INFORMATION FOR THE HUSBANDMAN AND HOUSEWIFE.

Some Practical Suggestions for the Farmer, Stock-Breeder, Poultryman, Nurseryman, and Housekeeper.

THE FARM.

How to Store Potatoes.
Different men have different methods and different climates require different treatment for their root and cereal crops. Many farmers say peeling or burying is the best, while others again say storage in cellar or barn is the best. Each is good in its way, and below will be found two methods which very rarely fail to be satisfactory if properly managed.

In the first place be certain that the tubers are fully ripe. Potatoes that are dug too early will not keep properly; they turn soft, are unsavory for cooking and weakly for seed. The best way to determine whether the tubers are fully matured, is to observe the haulm. The leaves turn yellow and the vines shrink. Having dug the potatoes, if they appear dry, they can be carted away to the place of storage at once; but, if at all damp, they should lie on the ground in the sun until the moisture is entirely absorbed. First, method of storing is to dig a trench about two or three feet deep, and large, according to the quantity of roots to be stored. Carefully and compactly fill the trench, cover up with hay or straw then cover with earth and sod, and your potatoes will turn out in the spring, sound and sweet.

Another method is to cart them from the field and spread them in a cool cellar and leave them until late in the fall, then heap them together and cover them with sacks or straw, or fill them into barrels, keeping the cellar always about five degrees above freezing point. Great care should be taken in storing the potatoes in cellars, that they do not become too warm and rot, or sprout too early, or freeze and become worthless.

Farm Notes.

FLAT culture is better than hill culture, in dry weather.

STEADY application is what counts, especially in agriculture.

CLOVER hay makes a capital feed to go along with corn silage in winter.

HERE is rotation for sowing crops: Rye, red clover, oats, timothy, corn.

KILL weeds as soon as they show themselves. This is the only way to keep them down.

THE farmer who makes his own pork and beef puts another bond on health and pays himself for so doing.

It is estimated that over seven hundred thousand dollars' worth of clover is devoured annually in New Hampshire by the woodchuck.

THE atmosphere contains ammonia and nitric acid, but these must be absorbed by the soil in order to benefit vegetable growth.

WHAT kind of stock do you believe in? was asked of a Michigan farmer. Double-barreled stock—meat and wool, was the reply.

WE are apt to become narrow-minded and selfish when we allow ourselves to fret and worry because we can't work in a certain groove.

THE number of acres of irrigated land, also, the number of flowing artesian wells on farms, will be included in the census returns this year.

SOILS that easily bake should be worked over with a harrow or cultivator after each rain. A loose soil is essential to admit moisture and warmth.

THE manure from animals differ. Growing animals take from the food eaten, about six per cent of manurial value, and milch cows about nine per cent.

A good crop of both corn and weeds cannot be grown on the same ground at the same time, any more that two railway trains can pass on the same track.

CLOVER can be put in the silo, we would say to a correspondent. It should be cut when in bloom, millet when the blossoms fall, rye when the heads begin to show.

You can't cheat nature. Starve and neglect your farm and it will starve you off of it in due course of time, and when it does you will go around growling at everything. See!

A SOUTHERN farmer remarks: "Life is lived to little purpose if at the end of twelve months the farmer knows nothing more to his advantage than he knew at the beginning."

A boy should learn the habit of easy politeness in all circumstances, but if there be one place on earth where one should use freely in the very best manners, it is in his own home.

STOKE introduced into the bottom of a smoke-house through a piece of pipe long enough to allow the air to cool before it reaches the meat is much better than a fire in the smoke-house.

UNRULY cattle on a farm are very troublesome, but the cause is not hard to find. It is almost invariably poor pasture and semi-starvation. Why shouldn't a hungry animal jump fences or push them down?

THE STOCK RANCH.

Live Stock Notes.

Dry meal and sulphur are recommended for sheep that may be troubled with the scours, and the recommendation is a good one.

The farmer who has advanced to the point of knowing what he is feeding to each animal, will not long be satisfied with wasting good feed on inferior stock.

It is more expensive to make full cream cheese, but it is always readily salable, and brings good prices, while the poorer article is not in demand at all. It does not pay to attempt to economize the cost of cheese by skimming a portion of the milk, nor can any substitute for cream be used that can not be detected by experts.

If a fly or a mosquito buzzes around the face the milk will stop milking operations and make a desperate slap at the offender; but when Moolley has flies tickling her back, and perhaps the milk is tearing open cracks on her teats and sticking his uncut nails into her, she is expected to stand patiently and not even switch her tail, says a contemporary.—*Western Farmer.*

THERE is no best breed for all purposes. On rich pastures, where stock have access to an abundance of food, the heavy beef cattle will thrive; but in those sections where grass is scant a more active animal is required. The Merino and Southdown sheep, being active foragers are better adapted to hillside pas-

ture than the heavier Cotswold or Oxford. In selecting the breed give some consideration regarding the proper conditions necessary for its thrift, and its adaptation to the purposes in view.

The discussion on the subject of dosing growing animals with phosphate of lime, has been whittled down to the formula that, recourse should be had only to that salt, when the ordinary rations appear to be deficient in phosphates; and this deficiency will be indicated by the defective growth of the animal, and its tendency to diarrhoea. The same land does not always produce, in the course of years, hay, straw, corn, etc., of uniform richness; the fields may be less manured, or the season too dry, resulting in produce possessing a lower percentage in phosphoric acid. Try, then, it is urged, change of aliment; barley and rye are poor in phosphate; but good hay, and even pea haulm, are very rich in it. Bran, oil and colza cakes, dried and concentrated brewery malt, are, also, excellent bone-building foods.

The Agricultural Society of Malchin, in Mecklenburg, has discussed the question: "Is it profitable to wash sheep before clipping them?" The members agreed with Agricultural Inspector Muller, that it was best not to wash before shearing; it was less troublesome for the farmer, and more agreeable and less expensive in clipping. The Inspector says that the fleece loses, when washed, 50 to 60 per cent in weight, according to the manner the sheep have been cared for. Assuming that the unwashed fleeces only half the price of the washed fleece, the money value ought consequently to be reduced the moiety. In practice he has not found this to be a fact. Since eight years the Basedow flocks have been clipped unwashed, and each sheep's wool realized fr. 7½, while a preceding eight years, when the sheep were washed before being shorn, the fleeces fetched fr. 10½. Mr. Muller, bearing in mind the variations in the price of wool since 1870, not the less estimates, that the unwashed realizes only fr. 1½ less than the washed fleece. One speaker affirmed that the important saving by not washing sheep, was not appreciated as it should be, and that good breeds, when well fed and cared for, will not entail any pecuniary loss—but on the contrary, by washing before shearing is abandoned.

THE APHARY.

Selling Honey.

Extracts from a paper read by H. F. Moore at the Ohio State Bee Keepers' Convention:

Marketing our honey is one of the most important parts of the business; for if we fail in this, it is useless for us to raise large crops of honey, or to use great care in its production.

Experience has shown, time and again, that grocerymen and dealers pass by any honey that is dished on the outside, or shows any broken comb through the glass. Yet these things will always continue to be, so long as freight men handle honey. The only solution that seems near by is to encase each section in a little pasteboard box made expressly for the purpose.

Take a walk with me through the commission houses of any of our large cities, and you will see large quantities of comb honey marketed in that shape, and also the breakage in necessary handling is much less. Their cost is trifling—less than one-half a cent each by the thousand.

I think if the bee-man who took his honey from the hive and boxed and shipped whole crates without even taking them apart to see if any were nicely filled, or scraping the sections to make them more attractive, could have heard the conversation between the commission merchant and the possible purchaser, and heard his honey offered at three and four cents per pound less than nice honey in glassed cases, he would have realized the object lesson more fully than by reading a whole volume of bee-literature.

Beauty in appearance is as important as excellence in flavor to the successful apiculturist. If beauty and neatness are necessary with comb honey, they are no less important to extracted honey.

In marketing extracted honey, glass receptacles are evidently best. Those holding one-half pound, three-quarters, and a pound are preferred by the trade, as they can be sold for a small amount of money. Large quantities of honey are sold each year to the wholesale and retail druggists. Most druggists prefer to furnish their own receptacles, but if not, the quart Mason glass jar presents marked advantages on account of its holding just three pounds of good, thick honey. When crystallized it is far easier to melt a quart than a sixty-pound can.

There is another method of retelling clear honey which promises to lead in the quantity that can be sold in the given time and territory. Take a quart Mason jar half full of white clover honey, and a nice one-pound section, if you please, and call at the first house on any street of any town you may mention. Rap or ring gently, and on seeing a member of the family; look pleasant and say, "Good morning," pleasantly, and without morado, say, "Don't you wish me to bring you some nice white clover honey this day next week?"

By this mode of address you surprise and please them; surprise them because in most cases they never saw a sample of honey brought to their door, and an order solicited; please them because your words you lift yourself clear from the dreaded agent or peddler. Then in a few words, explain your price, size of package and day of delivery, at the same time inducing the possible customer to get a teaspoon and taste the inviting and attractive sweet. On the day appointed deliver the honey to each family that has ordered.

THE POULTRY-YARD.

Using Sulphur.

The principal value of sulphur is to fumigate. Put some in a pan with some grease, turn out all the poultry, fasten the windows and doors tight and set fire; let it remain closed three or four hours at least. Not only will this aid materially to rid the quarters of vermin, but also to kill out the germs of disease. It is of little benefit to use as a powder, either scattering in the nests or on the rooster, floor or other parts of the building.

The other plan of using it is to feed. It will help if this is done carefully. But good care must be taken or more harm will be done than benefit derived. There is no harm in feeding if kept dry, but if they get wet there is a considerable risk of loss.

After feeding keep dry for a few days; two or three doses should be given in order to secure the best results. Generally taking all risks into consideration it will be best to use something else when it can be secured. There are a number

of materials that will do as fully as well as sulphur which less risk unless it is used for fumigating. It is more valuable for this purpose than any other in using among the poultry.—*40 Kansas.*

Poultry Notes.

TURKEY hens attain maturity earlier than the gobblers.

THE chickens that eat the most grit are in the best condition.

WHEAT bran is one of the most valuable ingredients in egg food.

Young chicks are a benefit to the garden, but keep out the old ones.

TEACH the dog not to frighten the chickens and they will soon learn not to care for him.

THE best results will be secured by keeping the young poultry as dry as possible until they are feathered.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

Cleaning Carpets.

Perhaps the most thorough way to clean a carpet, especially a plush carpet, is to lay it on a clean board, flat, face down, and beat it as it lies there. After being beaten thoroughly, it can be dragged by the corners over the grass, which will brush off all the adhering dust, and the carpet will be cleaned in the most approved manner. To beat a carpet on a line is not an imperfect way, and the work is not as well done, unless by the most patient beating, besides not being as easy as the first-mentioned way. The so-called carpet-beating machines in use in this country are barbarous in their treatment of choice floor coverings. With, perhaps, twenty others, our carpets were tumbled about in a great variety of ways, and returned, instead of the stiff, firm carpet sent out, soft, limp articles, that have lost half their wearing qualities.

In England, Ireland and the United States the prudent housewife compels the carpet beaters to discard the rotary carpet destroyer, and automatic beating machines are now used, which beat carpets as near like hand work as is possible for machinery to do it. If living in a city, it will pay to employ men to take carpets out into the country and beat them, as above described. After comparing results, carpets will never be beaten by machinery again.

Again, don't let carpets be cleaned on the floor, as is being practiced in some cities. That slimy compound that is brushed on the carpet is only soft soap, nothing else, colored and perfumed, perhaps, with saffras. It is true that it makes the carpet look clean, but it is well known that more or less of that soap stays in the back of the carpet, having worked its way through along the sides and in corners. A physician or any one versed in chemistry, knows that this soap which stays in the carpet is resolved into grease, attracting myriads of flies, carpet bugs and insects of all kinds, besides decomposing and filling the rooms with dangerous gases, from the disgusting compound of grease, soil and dirt.—*Good Housekeeping.*

Hints to Housekeepers.

VINEGAR improves with keeping, therefore it is best to lay in a large supply.

If the clothes are soaked over night, one tablespoonful of pure ammonia in each tub of water will materially lessen the labor of washing.

TWENTY-FIVE pounds of granulated sugar is enough to keep in store, with ten pounds of the loaf and powdered.

INK stains on linen can be taken out if the stain is first washed in strong salt and water and then sponged with lemon juice.

FOR weeds in the grass put a pinch or two of salt in the middle of each, and unless a shower washes it off, it will kill the weeds.

COLORS and black stockings, if washed before wearing at all, and a little beef gall put in the water, will never fade or change color either with wearing or washing.

In a basin of water, salt, of course, falls to the bottom; so never soak salt fish with the skin side down, as the salt will fall to the skin and remain there.

THE KITCHEN.

Veal Stew.

Cut four pounds of veal in strips three inches long and one inch thick, peel twelve large potatoes and cut into slices one inch thick, spread a layer of bottom of pot, sprinkle in a little salt and pepper, then layer of potatoes, then layer of veal seasoned as before. Use up veal thus: Over last layer of veal put layer of slices of salt pork, and over the whole a layer of potatoes. Pour on water till it rises an inch over the whole. Cover close, heat fifteen minutes and simmer an hour.

Fruit Layer Cake.

This is a delicious novelty in cake making. Take one cup of sugar, half a cup of butter, one cup and a half of flour, half a cup of wine, one cup of raisins, two eggs and a half teaspoonful of soda; put these ingredients together with care, just as if it were a very rich cake, bake in three layers and put frosting between—the frosting to be made of the whites of two eggs with enough powdered sugar to make it thick. The top of the cake may be frosted if you choose.

Egg Plant.

Put the plant in slices about one-third of an inch thick. Pare these and lay them in a flat dish. Cover with boiling water, to which has been added one tablespoonful of salt for every quart of water. Let this stand one hour. Drain, pepper the slices slightly, then dip them in beaten eggs and bread crumbs (two eggs and a pint of crumbs are sufficient for a good sized plant). Fry in boiling fat for eight or ten minutes. The pieces will be soft and moist when done.

Fruit Orange.

Pare oranges, remove every particle of the inner skin; divide them into lobes, taking care not to break the skin; beat the whites of two eggs or more to a stiff froth, add a tablespoonful of water to the stiffened whites, dip the orange lobes in this and roll part of them in pulverized sugar and part in pink sugar sand and lay them on paper to dry. When dry heap them