

FOR THE FARM AND HOME.

Hones and Shells for Fowls.

The Poultry World says: "Bone meal and crushed shells may be used generously in feeding fowls. That is, if the crushed oyster shells and granulated bones are mixed and placed in a box inside the hen-house, where the birds can have access to these articles freely, they will eat of them no more than they need. If these are mixed with the food given, either with the dry grains or in the soft mash, much of both is wasted, to say nothing of the additional trouble caused in preparing it thus. Fowls devour no more of the oyster shell particles than they naturally require to assist digestion and to help in forming the shells of eggs. Of pounded bones they will eat more; but if both are left where they can always get them handy, they will not eat too much of either for their good."

Warm Shelter for Stock.

Of the various ways through which it is possible for the average dairyman to enhance his profit, the most effectual is first to reduce the cost of producing his milk. This he can do in a variety of ways. One way of doing so lies in the improvement of his milking stock. This is a certain but slow way, and must be the work of a few years. And then another way, more rapid; and that can at once be available, consists in reducing the cost of keeping his cows.

This, again, he may do in different ways; first, by securing greater warmth and more comfort for his cows in winter. The heaviest item of expense which he incurs consists in wintering his cows, and the more they are exposed to the cold, the heavier that item becomes. Cows eat more in winter than at any other time, simply because more heat is absorbed from their bodies by the cold air. For instance, we all know that hot water will cool faster on a cold day than on a warm one. Therefore the animal heat must be kept up to an uniform standard, and the extra loss of warmth must be restored by more fuel, in form of feed, and this increases the cost of keeping and the cost of producing the fall and winter supply of milk. Keep the cows warm, and they will eat no more in the winter than at any other time, and they will require less extra food for winter, just in proportion as they are made warm and comfortable, and by just so much they will turn out milk at a reduced expense. There is profit in keeping cows warm in winter. It costs much less to tone down the cold of our severe climate by providing warm, comfortable buildings for cows. If the owner has not secured them at all, the sooner he gets them the better, and not be furnishing extra food year after year, to restore the heat needlessly lost by the exposure of his cows to the cold air.—National Stockman.

Kicking Cows—Cure Them!

Cows will kick—some of them; and dealers with their calves, are expert at it. An unhandled, "ungentled" cow, takes as naturally to kicking, as Leghorn hens do to scratching. The calf should be placed on the cow's left side, and encouraged to suck, but whether it does or not, let the milker at once begin to milk. Saving the milk is of no importance, so, if the heifer is nervous, keep the pail away, and milk on the ground. If she kicks soothe her, and begin again. Do not let her think her kicking has any effect. A rail may be placed so that kicking may be a disagreeable performance, and sometimes a cow may be placed close to a rail fence, which defends the milker from the blows of a really vicious kicker, and the milking still goes on. The cow will ordinarily yield to circumstances, and stand still after a while; at least, the pressure of the milk in the udder, which may cause inflammation, can thus be relieved. If the cow continues nervous, and will not be pacified, the thing to do is, to tie or strap her legs. This may be done with a light rope like a bed-cord. It is passed once around the left leg below the hock, tied by a "half-hitch" (half a knot), then twisted a few times, and another hitch turned in it, and finally passed around the right leg, and tied in a bow-knot, so that it can be quickly untied. A cow so tied cannot kick, but she is almost sure to take short steps backward, and when she gets to the end of her tie-strap, or back as far as she can go in the stanchions, her hind legs may be strained far back, and as her position is a very unsteady one, she may fall down. To prevent this, a rope may be passed twice around the tie-rope, carried forward, and fastened to the manger. This will prevent the backing, and the cow will probably soon give up, and stand quietly.—American Agriculturist.

Farm and Garden Notes.

Keep no useless stock on the profits. The average weight of milk is 8 5/8 lbs. per gallon. Clover grass is the cheapest feed grown for swine. Don't forget to use the roller on the cloudy wheat fields. In keeping a horse fat there is as much in the driver as in the feed. Medium-sized sheep usually have the best and heaviest fleeces. Farmers should pay more attention to the feet of their horses than their usual custom. Every farmer who keeps hens should provide them with comfortable quarters, where they can be kept from the stables occupied by cattle and horses. Cows frequently become covered with vermin by permitting fowls to roost near their mangers. The practice of allowing a flock of hens to run over the hay mow will be one which no farmer can afford.

Moderate loads and more trips is much better than taking the risk of spoiling the horses or ruining their constitutions.

Many farmers make a mistake in attempting to carry more stock over the winter than they have feed to keep well. Many a dairyman might reduce the number of his cows one-half and make more clear profit than from the larger number. The careful shepherd will watch his pastures and clean up all burrs, Spanish needles, etc., which will get in and injure the fleece. The development of a good walking speed in the horse is of more importance to the farmer than the development of trotting capacity. The horses should have water quite often when at heavy work, and especially while ploughing and harrowing the wheat land in the dry fall season.

The Tacoma (Puget Sound) Evening News is jubilant over stalks of what is designated as "seven headed wheat," with stalks six feet high from root to top; also "red-top" clover six feet in the length. The yield of wheat was eighty-five bushels per acre.

Gather all the trash from the garden and add it to the trash-pile; give the garden a heavy dressing of well-rotted manure and plow it carefully under in readiness for next spring, especially if it be strong loam or clay, leaving the surface rough. A moderate dressing of compost, lightly plowed under in the spring, will then fit the garden admirably for a big crop next summer.

A horse, even more than a hog, is liable to be over-fed. With food before it all the time, it will keep picking it over and grow poor, with its box always partly filled. It is an excellent plan to find how much horses really require, and then feed them just so much and no more. Do not be alarmed if everything is eaten clean in the morning. That is the way it should be, yet always taking care to give enough.

Western farmers have learned to keep their hogs in yards until the dew is off the grass. The theory is that the germs of hog cholera are collected in the dew and are very likely to be taken by the hog while grazing early in the morning. It is quite possible that the care which this treatment implies is itself a safeguard against cholera. Most Western hogs receive unlimited corn and but little care of any kind.

The idea that straw is only of value to rot down into manure has had its day. It has very little value for this purpose, and if no better use can be had for it there would be good policy in selling straw wherever there was a near market. But bright wheat or oat straw makes a valuable part of the ration for horses or stock. It needs to be fed with grain, but with either corn or oats cut straw makes in most places a better and cheaper feed than hay alone.

As soon as corn is husked it may be exposed to a temperature of 110 degrees without injury, but if the heat is raised much more than this the germ will be liable to injury. At least this is the experience of some who heated sweet corn in fruit evaporators to dry it more rapidly. Sweet corn is very difficult to secure in good condition, and very likely field corn might be dried at a higher temperature without damage.

Household Hints. Straw matting may be cleaned with a large coarse cloth dipped in salt and water, and then wiped dry. Thoroughly wetting the hair once or twice a week with a weak solution of salt water, will prevent it falling out. The long swinging glasses are coming into favor, and bureaus, dressing-tables and walls are amply supplied with mirrors.

Cayenne pepper blown into the cracks where ants congregate will drive them away. The same remedy is also good for mice. If matting, counterpanes, or bedspreads have all spots on them, wet with alcohol, rub with hard soap, and then rinse with clear, cold water.

Stair carpets should always have three or four thicknesses of paper put under them, at or over the edge of every stair, which is the part where they first wear out. Omelet Souffle.—Add to the yolks of six eggs a tablespoonful of flour, pepper and salt; stir well together; add the whites of the eggs and fry in a saucpan in which has been melted three ounces of butter.

Codfish Mince.—Flake up cold boiled cod and to three cups of fish add one large mashed potato, a small piece of butter, one-half teaspoonful of corn starch, one beaten egg; make into small cakes and fry in butter. Bread Pudding.—Soak the soft part of a baker's loaf in a pint of warm milk; add a tablespoonful of soft butter, a tablespoonful of thick cream, the rind and a part of the juice of a lemon and two well-beaten eggs. Flour a large cupful of dried currants, grate nutmeg over them and add to the rest. Bake in well-buttered custard cups and serve with pudding sauce, either hard or liquid.

Hominy Puffins.—A teaspoonful of boiling water poured upon two tablespoonfuls of uncooked hominy. Simmer fifteen minutes; add a cup and a half of boiling milk and a cupful of white Indian or cornmeal. When cool add two well beaten eggs, two tablespoonfuls of sugar, salt, and a teaspoonful of baking powder. Pour into the muffin-pans, which have been previously heated and buttered, and bake fifteen minutes.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

What a Lily Society Is.

The other evening the Countess of Aberdeen entertained over two hundred girls employed in the various works and factories in Aberdeen who are members of the "Lily" society for young girls. After a service of songs, tea was served by a number of ladies who had kindly consented to assist Lady Aberdeen.

Then her ladyship spoke to the young people, after which Prof. Henry Drummond gave an address. He said he had seen many things in the world, but he had never seen a Lily band before. There was not another anywhere, he believed, except in Aberdeen. He compared the life of his hearers to the growth of a Lily, and upon asking all those who were water lilies—by which he meant teetotalers—to stand up, the whole audience at once sprang to their feet. He warned them against the evils of intemperance, and told them never to marry any one that drank. As they left the hall each girl was presented with a small book by Lady Aberdeen.—London Court Journal.

Women Inventors. Mrs. Jenny Caldwell Nixon, who superintends the department of women's work at the American Exposition in New Orleans, is anxious to make a specialty of the inventions of women. In a letter inviting through the press contributions in this line from women in all parts of the Union, she says: "For many decades American ingenuity has astonished the slow European. Labor-saving machines seem to be already made and perfected on the mind of the native Yankee, to be produced at short intervals for the surprise and delectation of mankind. The American man has by no means a monopoly of this wonderful gift. Female patentees increase in number every year.

"It is my wish and intention to give, in the American Exposition in New Orleans special prominence to patents granted to women. It is earnestly urged upon every woman who has been happy and gifted enough to invent any useful and ornamental thing to send a specimen of her production to the exposition, where it will take a proud place at the very head and front of 'Woman's Work.' Where it is impossible to send the article itself, a certificate of a patent will be received and exhibited."

Colors in Millinery. M. Chevreul, an eminent French authority who has made a special study of the science of color harmony, has made some excellent observations, especially valuable in their application to millinery. He says: "A black bonnet, with white, pink or red feathers or flowers, suits a fair complexion. It does not go badly with brunettes, although the effect is not so good, but they may add orange or yellow flowers or feathers. A dead white that is only suitable for florid complexions, whether blondes or brunettes. Gauze crape or tulle bonnets suit all complexions. A white bonnet for a blonde should have white or pink flowers; blue is still better. Brunettes should avoid blue and rather choose red, pink and orange. Light blue bonnets are especially suitable for fair persons; they may be trimmed with white flowers, or even yellow or orange, but not pink or violet. For dark persons who venture to wear a blue bonnet, yellow or orange is indispensable. A green bonnet sets off a pale or slightly colored complexion; it may be trimmed with white, red or pink flowers. A pink bonnet should not be too near the face, but should be separated by the hair or by a white or green inside trimming, the latter color especially. White flowers, with an abundance of leaves, produce a good effect on pink. A dark-red bonnet is only suitable for persons with a highly-colored complexion. Avoid yellow or orange bonnets. Violet is not to be recommended unless separated from the face, not only by the hair, but by yellow accessories also. The same precaution should be taken for yellow bonnets, which can only be worn by brunettes, with blue or violet trimmings."

Cat Parties. Cat parties are the latest entertainments. Recently a young girl, the happy possessor of a fine Maltese cat, invited a number of her friends to bring their pet cats to 5 o'clock tea, each cat to have a ribbon about its neck, corresponding to that worn by its mistress. At the appointed hour the cats made their appearance, in charge of their respective owners. After the feline introductions had taken place, some of which were the reverse of friendly, games were introduced, and soft balls, toy mice and other objects dear to pussy's heart were provided. These pastimes, however, I grieve to say, were sometimes marred by a vigorous slap when two strangers came in collision, and once the belligerent pussies had to be separated by friends. When tea was announced, a table furnished with saucers of milk and small cakes, with cushioned stools, was disclosed. The floral decorations consisted of catnip, lavender, grasses and bright flowers. The cats, placed on their respective stools and attended by their mistresses, partook of the good cheer set before them. Their behavior was quite correct. With their forepaws on the table, they lapped the milk with becoming propriety. When all were satisfied, there was a comical sight. Each pussy began making her toilet, and the face-washing was decorous in the extreme. After leaving the table, a sprig of catnip was given each kitty, and the feline happiness was complete. These sprigs were tossed in the air, caught and lovingly caressed. As each kitty departed, it was presented with its ball or toy mouse as a memento of the party.—New York Commercial.

Fashion Notes.

Old-fashioned glace silk is again in vogue.

Metallic effects are fashionable in millinery. Velvet is a favorite trimming for autumn dresses. Evening gloves come in eight, twelve, and sixteen button lengths. The variety of outside garments is greater this season than ever before. No jewels are worn with wedding garments except the engagement ring. Long Huguenot cloaks are destined to take the place of the time-honored circular. The newest imported dresses are noted for the plainness and simplicity of their designs. A large garland of roses is considered more appropriate for a bride to carry than a stiff bouquet. Tuberoses are the flower of misfortune at weddings, according to a French superstition, and are never used. Black guipure is come into fashion again; it is employed like Chantilly lace, either in flounces covering a skirt, or as a trimming for a mantle. A new feature in lace goods is the use of fine crepe lisse instead of net for the foundation of Oriental and Egyptian flouncings and edgings. Sashes are still worn, and are generally worn so as to form a point in front at the waist; sometimes revers are put on so as to simulate a sash. Bracelets are growing a trifle wider, and that relic of barbarism, the bangle, is out of favor somewhat. It was never a graceful ornament. Charming table scarves for the dressing table or washstand are made of alternate stripes of Florida lace and ribbon, with a frill of lace on the ends. Piano stool covers are worked in satin stitch on canvas cloth in appropriate designs, and edged with a fringe made of tassels of various colors or a fall of mautreque lace. Fine sheer muslin is being more and more used for bridal dresses, and while more durable than tulle and more easily kept, it is less gossamer and consequently less attractive. Among the most beautiful of the season's exhibits are the moire silks with fringe stripes, lace patterns in frise in stripes alternating with plain moire. White girdles of braid are especially elegant for tall, slender figures, and are worn twice around the waist. They are nearly three yards long, some of them with quite elaborate tassels being fully that length. One of the most striking novelties in wool goods is persimmon cloth, a canvas fabric with ends of hard-twisted wool standing out from it like the pile on plush but not nearly so closely set. Buttons are not so much used on waists, but the majority are so trimmed that there is no room for them, and the old-fashioned hooks and eyes are coming into general use as fastenings for dresses. The high coiffure is still adhered to by many ladies, but a change seems impending. The catogan has been talked of for some time, and adopted by some. It is a thick mass of hair twisted or plaited, then doubled up and fastened at the top with a bow. Wall Street Slang. Stock-brokers have a dialect of their own that is caviare to the crowd. Like the trade-marks and "shop" terms of merchants, it must be explained to be intelligible to the multitude. It is witty, pungent, scintillating, and sometimes rank. It precisely characterizes every variation and aspect of the market. A broker or operator is "long of stocks" when "carrying" or holding them for a rise; "loads" himself by buying heavily, perhaps in "blocks" composed of any number of shares—say 5,000 or 10,000—bought in a lump, and is therefore a "bull," whose natural action is to lower his horns and give things a hoist. He "forces quotations" when he wishes to keep up the price of a stock; "balloons" it to a height above its intrinsic value by imaginative stories, fictitious sales, and kindred methods; takes "a tier," or small side venture, that does not employ his entire capital; "slices kites" when he expands his credit beyond judicious bounds; "holds the market" when he buys sufficient stock to prevent the price from declining; "milks the street" when he holds certain stock so skillfully that he raises or depresses prices at pleasure, and thus absorbs some of the accessible cash in the street; buys when the "market is sick" from over-speculation; keenly examines "points"—theories or facts—on which to base speculation; "unloads" when he sells what has been carried for some time; has a "swimming market" when all is buoyant; "spills stocks" when he throws great quantities upon the market, either from necessity or to "break," i. e., lower the price. He "adds the market" by foisting a certain stock upon it, and is "out of" any stock when he has sold what he held of it.—Harper's Magazine.

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