

THE OLYMPIC GAMES

WERE HELD EVERY FOUR YEARS BY ANCIENT GREEKS.

From 394 A. D. Until 1896 There Were No Olympic Games—America Led in Modern Games with Nine Events to Her Credit.

Beginning with 776 B. C., the Greeks reckoned their time by olympiads, or periods of four years when the olympic games were held. A sacred truce lasting for a month put a stop to all war between the various states at the time of the games. This enabled everyone to travel in safety, as none would dare to offend the terrible god Zeus. Almost every town in Greece sent representatives either to compete or to look on at these contests, and from the islands along the coast as well as from the colonies in Asia, Africa and Western Europe visitors came for business or pleasure. No women, except one priestess, were allowed to be present at the contests. All competitors were obliged to prove that they were of pure Greek blood and that they had spent ten months in preparation for the contests. Then, if accepted, they were obliged to pass the thirty days immediately preceding the games in training at Olympia under the direction of the officials. During this period the athletes and his friends made frequent sacrifices and prayers to the various deities whom they thought might assist in giving him the victory. On the day of the games all the competitors were obliged to take a solemn oath at the altar of the god Zeus that they would abide by the rules and would take no unfair advantage of an opponent. Originally the games consisted of but a single race, the stadium—600 feet; but at the time of their greatest glory five days were consumed in deciding the contests. They were then as follows: Foot races, the pentathlon, horse and chariot races, boxing, wrestling and

the pancratium. The foot races consisted of the single course, already mentioned, the double course, the long race, sometimes twenty-four times the length of the course, and the race in armor. The pentathlon consisted of five events, leaping with dumb bells, throwing the discus, throwing the spear, running and wrestling. A victor was obliged to win three out of the five events. The wrestling was not very different from what we have nowadays; but the boxing was done with the hands enclosed in strips of leather on which were fastened pieces of metal. This arrangement was called a cestus, and you can imagine what a terrible mass of blood and bruises would result from such a contest. One day was given to the contests of boys, the others to the men and youths. After each contest the victor was given a palm branch. At the end of the games there was a formal presentation of olive wreaths to all the winners, then followed feasts and sacrifices almost without number. When a champion neared home, the whole town or city came out to meet him. If there was a wall about the city, a new opening was made for the glorious one to enter through; songs were sung regarding him, statues were made of him and set up in his native town and at Olympia. Presents of all kinds were made to him in such numbers and of such magnificence that all necessity of working for the good things of life was taken away from him. From the year 394 A. D., when they were discontinued by the order of the Emperor Theodosius, until 1896, there were no Olympic games. But in that year, through the efforts of Baron Pierre de Coubertin and a committee representing all the nations which take an active interest in gymnastic and athletic exercises, a modern edition of the Olympic games was held at Athens. America led the prize winning, with nine events to her credit. The other winning countries were France, England, Greece, Germany, Australia, Hungary, Austria, Switzerland and Denmark.

Blackmail by Lawyers...

Some Unscrupulous Members of the Bar Guilty of this Crime...

Fortunately for the average lawyer's client, it is not often the case that a solicitor so far betrays the confidence reposed in him as to utilize the information poured into his private ear for the foul purpose of blackmail, yet the records of legal malpractices contain a certain number of such cases of more or less heinousness, says Tit-Bits. Not so many years ago a young lady residing in a Midland county had occasion to consult a solicitor regarding a rather delicate matter in which she had been, through no fault of her own, involved. For obvious reasons she avoided the practitioner who attended to her family's business, and, rather rashly, pitched upon the first gentleman whose doorplate caught her eye.

Her choice proved an unfortunate one. The lawyer in question was an unmitigated scoundrel, whose chief harvest was reaped from indiscriminate blackmail, and very soon the girl discovered this fact to her sorrow. For the unscrupulous scoundrel, having obtained full details of her position, together with certain compromising documents, proceeded to obtain from her various sums under threats of exposure, and it was not until she had parted with all her savings and was on the verge of desperation that she summoned sufficient courage to lay the whole distressing business before her father. The latter relative at once took very active measures to bring the villain to justice, but, owing to some legal technicalities, the case fell

through, and he escaped his well-merited punishment.

A case that threw a third light upon the methods of these human vultures was tried some time ago in one of the western courts of America. A young lady typist employed in a fancy goods firm sued a solicitor of shady repute for attempting to obtain money from her by threats. It then transpired that the girl, having got into a scrape through an unfortunate love affair, had consulted the lawyer as to the best means of getting out of the trouble. Instead of giving her the necessary advice, the rogue had proceeded to demand from her the sum of \$100, adding that, unless the amount were paid to him within a month, he would publish her story to the whole world. By a lucky chance, a friend of the girl who had accompanied her to the office happened to overhear the conversation from the adjoining waiting-room, and, armed by the presence of this witness, the plucky girl retaliated upon the villainous solicitor by placing him in the dock shortly afterward. He was sent to prison for a long term, the court complimenting the fair prosecutrix on the courage she had shown in bringing the scoundrel to the doom he deserved. A blackmailing lawyer who died some ten years ago in the West Indies confessed that, while the ordinary exercise of his profession had brought him in a little more than a bare livelihood, he had earned no less than £30,000 by the exercise of blackmail.

ENCOURAGED BONDAGE.

Once New York Had a Municipal Slave Ship.

When New York city owned a slave ship is told in an article in Pearson's Magazine. The greatest impetus was given to the slave trade by the act of parliament of 1684, which legalized slavery in the North American colonies. This does not mean that slavery was unknown in what is now the United States before that time, because as early as 1620 a Dutch man-of-war landed and sold twenty African negroes at Jamestown, Va. In 1626 the West India company imported slaves from the West Indies to New York city, then New Amsterdam. The city itself owned shares in a slave ship, advanced money for its fitting out and shared in the profits of its voyages. This recognition and encouragement may account for the astounding fact that in 1750 slaves formed one-sixth of the entire population of New York. The general prevalence of slavery is shown by the fact that at this time there were sixty-seven slaves in New York's small suburb of Brooklyn, and that in London itself there were resident 20,000 slaves. Slaves were at that time publicly dealt in on the London

exchange. No wonder the traffic in human flesh was a recognized commerce, and that in 1771 the English alone sent to Africa 192 ships equipped for the trade and with a carrying capacity of 47,146 slaves per trip.—New York Press.

Ainu Race Vanishing.

The curious Ainu race, which originally occupied the whole of the island of Yezo, is rapidly vanishing before the influx of Japanese immigration. According to recent investigations they now only number some 16,000, and in a few more decades they will probably be totally absorbed. They are the hairiest race in the world, are filthy dirty in their habits, and terribly addicted to drunkenness. They worship bears and snakes, and in some cases live in caves.

Queen Victoria's Infirmities.

An English paper says that the only reason that Queen Victoria does not appear personally at the opening of parliament is that she is physically unable. She would have to walk a long distance and climb a flight of stairs, and has now passed the age when she can do that.

DAIRY AND POULTRY.

INTERESTING CHAPTERS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

How Successful Farmers Operate This Department of the Farm—A Few Hints as to the Care of Live Stock and Poultry.

Selecting Dairy Cows.

Bulletin Arizona Experiment Station: The task of selecting a dairy herd is one that should be entered upon with a great deal of thought and care. The animal that is to be fed for beef is chosen for its supposed ability to make meat and at the end of a comparatively short feeding period he goes to market; whether he has made money for his feeder or not, he goes to the block just the same. The dairy cow is selected for a long term of service and, if a good cow, should go on making milk and money for her owner for years. As there is a wide difference in the capabilities of steers to make beef, so is there a still wider difference in the capabilities of cows to make butter. The intelligent dairyman, the business farmer, puts himself in a position to know which of his cows are being kept at a profit and which are not. The only way to do this is to determine and keep a record of the amount of milk and butter fat given during the year by each individual cow in the herd. The amount of butter fat given during the year is the first test of the value of a dairy cow. The scales and the Babcock test must be used to determine this.

The books of the creameries of Salt River valley show that there are many dairy cows that, during the last four months at least, have not given their owners a profit; sixteen patrons of one creamery, milking 140 cows, have received but little over a dollar and a half per month per cow. Every creamery patron should at the end of the month divide the amount of his creamery check by the number of cows in milk, thus getting the gross receipts per cow for the month, then compare this with the amount he could have gotten by renting his pasture, and conclude whether or not the difference has paid him the interest on his money invested in cows, the pasturage of his dry cows, and for the work of milking and delivering his milk to the factory. If the difference happens to be in favor of renting pasture, possibly the growth of calves that are being fed on the skim milk from the factory will restore the balance to the right side of the account. If, even then, the difference in favor of the dairy cows is too small, let the man who wants to know the truth compare his profits with those of his neighbors before he concludes that dairying does not pay. He will find that some of his fellow patrons are getting handsome returns. The question is, Why the difference? The answer is, The cows.

As truly as there is a typical beef animal, broad, low and blocky, just as truly is there a typical dairy animal, but of a different type. Sometimes we find a profitable combination of beef and butter in the same animal, but it is the exception rather than the rule. While the scales and the Babcock test should be depended upon for evidence to decide in the final judgment of a dairy cow, the eye should be trained as well to see those points of conformation that indicate a high productive capacity.

Dairy Notes.

Close accounts should be kept in the matter of dairy expenses, and where the farmer has a boy or a girl in school it might be made a part of the work of that child to keep such accounts. Now more than ever the schools fit children for just that kind of work. A small sum in the way of pay will prove a stimulus and secure close attention to business.

The production of oleo in the country last year increased 30 per cent, and it has doubled in five years. The Groat bill is to be brought up for consideration at the coming session of congress, and it is hoped that whether modified or not it will be put through in such a form that it will forever prevent the selling of oleo for butter. If oleomargarine is "just as good as butter" why should it not sell under its own name?

At its last meeting the California Dairymen's Association passed resolutions asking the State University to do its utmost to secure the erection of a building for a dairy school. The movement in that state as well as in many other states seems to lack force. Certainly if there is one practical branch of education that needs to be encouraged among the farmers it is that of the making and handling of good butter. Every state in the Union should take action in this direction, as there is nothing that would be of greater value to the farm interests, considering the amount of money necessary to be expended.

A contemporary tells of a creamery manager that wanted to stimulate the patrons of his creamery to produce more and better milk. He called them

together and told them that if they desired it he would publish an annual report giving the details of the business, showing just how much each man had received for his milk, what per cent of fat it contained according to the Babcock test, and just how many cows each man had used in the production of his milk. At the next meeting the patrons voted not to have the report. The good dairymen were afraid the poor ones would learn how they did it, and the poor ones were ashamed to have their records known. Publicity is one of the surest ways of getting better conditions, but a good many men are afraid of publicity.

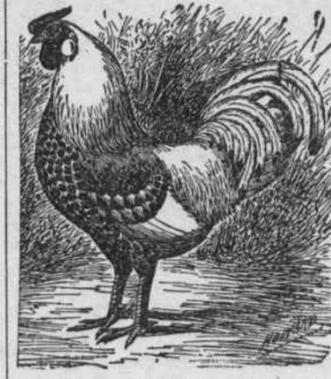
Hamburgs.

Hamburgs are in the front ranks of egg producers and are in general appearance much like Leghorns. There are six varieties of Hamburgs—the Golden-spangled, Silver-spangled, Golden-pencilled, Silver-pencilled, Black



SILVER-SPANGLED HAMBURG HEN, and White. They are all very pretty birds and seldom fail to prove attractive and profitable to the average breeder and fancier. Hamburgs are economical fowls to keep; besides being light eaters and great foragers, they are prolific layers and non-sitters. The only thing against them is the smallness of their eggs. They lay a pretty, white-shelled egg, but smaller in size than those of the Leghorn. There are some which lay larger eggs than others, and by careful selection from year to year of the birds which lay the largest eggs this defect may be remedied and the size of the eggs improved.

The Silver-spangled Hamburg is, perhaps, the most beautiful as well as the most popular variety of the Hamburgs. Their proud carriage, royal decoration and graceful and symmetrical forms command attention whenever seen. Breeders of Hamburgs universally adopt the following as a standard for the breed: Comb square at front, tapering nicely into a long spike, full of points by no means plain, firm and evenly set on the head; face red; earlobes moderate size, round as possible and clear white; legs leaden blue; carriage graceful; plumage very profuse. Color—Cocks, Silver-spangled; Clear, silvery white ground, every feather tipped or spangled, the breast as bold as possible, but showing the



SILVER-SPANGLED HAMBURG COCK. spangle; the bars of the wing regular and bold; neck, back and saddle nicely tipped; bow well marked (by no means cloudy, brown or brassy); back as green as possible.

Poultry Briefs.

A poultryman says that he breaks hens from sitting by tying a red rag to their tails by a short string. As soon as the hen sees it she tries to get away from it, and this keeps her busy and gets her mind off the idea of sitting.

The time of the year is at hand when farmers will permit their fowls to subsist on a whole grain ration. This will result in enlarged liver and bowel disorders. It is better to provide a partial ration of something else and so prevent disease instead of having to cure it later.

It is asserted by a writer on poultry subjects that a sitting hen keeps her nest according to the heat in the eggs. If the eggs are fertile the degree of heat in them after the first week is greater than on infertile eggs. The hen on the fertile eggs comes off to let them cool, while the hen on the infertile eggs sticks to them, as the heat is not enough to make her uncomfortable. Is there any fact under this theory?

California strawberries now in the New York market sell at \$1 a pint.

Fattening Steers Without Hogs.

Press Bulletin 72, Kansas Experiment Station: February 13, 1900, the Kansas State Agricultural College began fattening eighty head of steers to test the value of several different methods of preparing feed for steers where, on account of cholera, hogs could not be used to follow and save the droppings. The steers were divided into four lots of twenty each. Lot one was fed shelled corn and whole alfalfa hay, lot two shelled corn and alfalfa hay cut in inch lengths, lot three corn-meal and whole alfalfa hay, and lot four corn-meal and alfalfa hay, cut in inch lengths. With all lots the hay was thrown in the bottom of the grain boxes, the grain placed upon the hay and the two carefully mixed. Salt and water were kept before the steers all the time.

The average weight of the eighty head at the beginning of the experiment was 1,036 pounds per steer. The steers were fed 116 days and were then ready for market, averaging 1,307 pounds each, an average gain of 271 pounds each or an average daily gain of 2.34 pounds per steer.

The steers required an average 747 pounds of grain and 385 pounds of hay for each 100 pounds of gain. This is much below the average amount of feed required to make 100 pounds of gain.

The steers ate an average each of 19.4 pounds of grain a day. This is a low amount of feed for the gain made.

The gains for the whole feeding period are as follows:

Gain per steer.
Shelled corn, whole hay....262 lbs.
Shelled corn, cut hay.....257 lbs.
Corn-meal, whole hay.....273 lbs.
Corn-meal, cut hay.....293 lbs.

Average gain of steers fed shelled corn, 260 pounds each. Average gain of steers fed corn-meal, 283 pounds each. This shows a gain of 8.8 per cent from grinding. The steers fed shelled corn required an average of 780 pounds of grain to make 100 pounds of gain while those fed corn-meal required an average of 718 pounds of grain for 100 pounds of gain.

But little was saved in cutting the hay, the average gain of the steers fed whole hay being 286 pounds each and those fed hay cut 275 pounds each, a gain of 2.6 per cent from cutting.

There is a shortage of both grain and roughage in Kansas this year and every feeder should get the most possible out of his feed. One experiment does not settle any question in feeding but may indicate what is probable. The results obtained in this experiment seem to indicate that feeders can get considerably more gains from their feed by mixing the grain and hay, as considerably less than the usual amount of grain was required in this feeding to make 100 pounds of gain. Our explanation is that where grain is fed alone much of it is not brought back to the mouth again while if the grain is mixed with hay all of it gets the benefit of thorough mastication in the cud. There is less difficulty from scouring where grain and hay are fed together.

The steers were sent to Armour Packing Company, Kansas City, for slaughter test and their report is as follows: "The cattle dressed out 59.3 per cent of live weight, the yield of fat 6.7 per cent. The carcasses cut bright, were of good color on the outside and made good, clean, bright-looking, well-covered beef. Our buyers consider that ground corn and alfalfa is the best feed for cattle."

The eighty head made an average gain of 7.5 pounds for each bushel of food eaten and ate 28.8 pounds of hay with each bushel of grain.

The gain from the different methods of feeding was as follows:

Gain per bushel of grain (56 pounds).
Shelled corn, whole hay....7.1 lbs.
Shelled corn, cut hay.....7.2 lbs.
Corn-meal, whole hay.....7.4 lbs.
Corn-meal, cut hay.....8.2 lbs.

Michigan Horseshoeing Law.

On account of considerable misunderstanding having arisen concerning the law recently passed to regulate the practice of horseshoeing in Michigan, Secretary Walter Beckwith has made an explanation. He says: "Section 1 says that no person shall practice horseshoeing as a master journeyman horseshoer in any city of this state of 10,000 or upwards, unless he is duly registered and has been granted a certificate by the examiners. Now, that doesn't say anything about little towns and country places, so it should be very clear that such places don't require certificates. This act took effect September 22d, and any person who can furnish satisfactory proof to the board within six months of that date that he was practicing horseshoeing in this state at the time shall, upon payment of a fee of \$3 to the board, be given a certificate as master or journeyman horseshoer. If he fails to do so before that time he will have to take an examination before the board of examiners. This examination is very rigid and is made so to protect the horseshoers of the state against those coming from Canada and other states. All horseshoers in cities referred to in this law who have not attended to this matter should do so at once, as there are only a few days left in which they can act.