

FARM ORCHARD AND GARDEN
BY **FETRIGG**
REGISTER, ROCKFORD, ILL.
CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED



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WANTS AN OPENING.

An eastern reader of these notes, a young man of twenty-two years living in the city of New York, writes inquiring what the chances are farther west for a young man who is well and strong and willing to work, but yet who wants to get into some kind of business for himself, preferably an outdoor occupation, like farming. It is a very natural thought on the part of New Englanders that there are better opportunities for getting ahead in the Mississippi valley states and with the resident of the central states that better opportunities are to be found on the Pacific slope. There is doubtless truth in the contention of those in both sections referred to. Yet before going west we should advise our young friend to look around a bit near home. Many western agricultural papers have been publishing articles of late relative to opportunities in New England, especially along the line of taking hold of some of the so called abandoned or unproductive farms. Not long since there was cited in these notes the case of a young man who had traveled the country over and who had equipped himself for an agricultural profession or a responsible position in the government service and yet who after taking everything into account had decided to go back to the old home farm in New York state and put out more orchards and otherwise develop intelligently the possibilities of an eastern farm. There is little question that there is more doing in a general way in the central western than in the New England states and more in the western group than in the central, but in both sections considerable ready money is needed for one to buy a farm or ranch, unless it be a small one, or to embark in a paying business enterprise. Our friend does not advise us of his tastes, so that we hardly feel qualified to give him specific information as to the pursuit which he should follow. But, whatever these may be, it is a pretty good idea for one who contemplates locating in a new or distant section of the country to visit such a place before acquiring any property interest with a view to ascertaining what the prospects or possibilities of the section may be. This may mean the paying out of a considerable sum for car fare and hotel bills, but in the end it is often the cheapest way to do.

BOYS AND WORK.

While there are practically no people who do not regret the selfish and hard hearted economic influences of the times which condemn little boys of from ten to fourteen years to all day or all night labor in the breakers in anthracite collieries or in factories where conditions are unwholesome, yet a child labor law which will tend to prevent boys under fourteen working during their spare time and serve to give them instead opportunity for idleness, shiftlessness and mischief could hardly be viewed as entirely beneficial in its working. It is a matter of common observation as well as statistics that the bums and criminals with which the country is cursed are recruited almost entirely from a class of boys and girls who do not go to school or have regular and definite work to do during the formative years from ten to sixteen. It is for this reason that the cities and towns produce ten no-accounts and criminals where the country produces one or two, and this would seem to be almost entirely due to the fact that on the farm the boy has something to do and does not spend his time in loafing or mischief. By all means, have a wholesome child labor law, but let it be so framed that it will not tend to demoralize and keep out of employment children who would be unquestionably the better off for it.

WILLOW FOR POST TIMBER.

A north Iowa reader of these notes inquires if the common willow cannot be utilized for post timber in place of high priced cedar. He writes that he has on his place a good many willows which he thinks of utilizing in this manner. He suggests the wisdom of flipping the posts in hot tar so that it will cover them to a point six inches above the ground after they are set. While he has never tried this method of treating posts, we have seen it highly recommended. A well seasoned peeled willow post will last from four to seven years without any tar treatment. It is safe to say that if the posts were well seasoned and dipped in the hot tar their durability would be nearly trebled. This has been the case in experiments in which other woods have been used, and it is quite likely that it would hold good with willow. With post timber high and the supply becoming yearly more limited, it would seem but the part of wisdom to treat with tar or other preservative all posts to be set of whatever kind. The small expense involved is returned many times in the increased life of the post.

IF Dame Nature has concocted a more luscious or delightful dish than ripe red strawberries and Jersey cream she has not yet published the formula for it.

There is good money in the extra cultivation of the corn crop if it means an increased yield of from eight to twelve bushels per acre, which has often been noted in corn growing experiments.

The growing things in the garden should not only be given frequent cultivation for the purpose of killing the weeds, but in order to keep the soil loose and mellow so that the air and moisture may circulate freely through the soil.

The limit would seem to have been reached for the stock feeder when he is compelled to pay 77 cents a bushel for good corn to finish his hogs and cattle for market, and yet this price was paid July 1 by many feeders in the northern portion of the corn belt.

Steps have been taken by the American Humane society to secure the cooperation of President Roosevelt in the protection of the range cattle of the west. The idea contemplated is to pass laws which shall compel cattlemen to provide food and water and shelter for their stock.

The question of cutting the lawn grass should be determined largely by the amount of rainfall. When moisture is abundant it may be cut as often as twice a week. In the months of July and August, especially if droughty weather prevails, it should go longer than this without cutting, so that the roots may not be too sorely taxed.

A plan that is recommended for keeping down the late growth of weeds in the potato patch after the vines have reached maturity is to sow buckwheat about the middle of July. This will come on as the vines ripen and occupy the ground. If the amount sown will not pay to harvest, it can be allowed to stay on the field and plowed under after the crop is dug.

Other things being equal, tomato plants will produce larger fruit in proportion as the quantity of fruit which the plant is allowed to mature is limited. Where one does not have the time to train the vines and prune them with considerable care somewhat the same results may be obtained by cutting off the growing shoots with a corn knife, which tends to throw the strength of the vine into the remaining fruit.

One of the chief advantages in knowing how to swim is that it helps one to keep his presence of mind when thrown unexpectedly into the water. The knowledge that one can swim moves almost entirely the fear of drowning and enables one to make the moves necessary to help himself or his companions. The small boy and girl, too, when it is possible, should be allowed to "go down to swim" and go "near the water" too.

If the old strawberry bed has served its mission and is too foul and weedy to pay to renovate it may be moved off, plowed up and a good crop of turnips or bagas raised if August and September are not too dry months. In any event, this treatment will kill a big batch of weeds and germinate and destroy a great amount of lately matured weed seed, the doing of which will justify the trouble one is put to, whether any turnips are raised or not.

It will be interesting to note whether the passage of Governor Hughes' anti race track gambling bill will result in a serious loss of interest on the part of New York state breeders of thoroughbred running and trotting horses. Without doubt the effect of the law will be considerable with those who have raised or owned thoroughbred horseflesh simply for the sake of the excitement which the gambling afforded, while those who prize a good horse on his merits will not be seriously put out by the change.

It is often the case with the horse along in years that his being in poor condition is the result of his teeth being out of whack. Perhaps the teeth need filing down so as to make possible a proper mastication of the food. Take such an animal to a competent veterinarian and have him examined. If the trouble is with the teeth it can easily be remedied.

After the strawberry bed is well started it requires no more care than does a properly attended potato patch. This should consist of frequent cultivations with cultivator or hoe and a keeping of the bed free from weeds. Drying an especially dry spell a dust mulch should be kept at the surface of the ground to keep the roots of the plants from baking and drying out.

The tomato plant, considered an annual in all the northern and eastern states, grows to be two or three years old in portions of California where it is not killed by the frost.

After the early peas, radishes, lettuce and potatoes have been harvested and the vines removed sufficient time will still be left to grow a late crop of string beans, which will be keenly relished along in September.

Most of the enemies of the rose family can be warded off by giving the bushes a good soaking with water under pressure every morning. Where this cannot be done the bushes should be sprayed with hellebore and tobacco water.

The latest millinery creation, the "Merry Maid" hat, said to have a diameter of four feet, has this in its favor—that it can be utilized as a sunshade by the boys on the riding corn plows after the ribbons have faded and the straw has turned yellow.

The boy who develops a lazy, tired streak at fourteen is quite likely to be termed shiftless and improvident when he becomes a man. It is a trait that should by all means be discouraged, for the tendencies which develop during these early years have a way of persisting and staying with the boy.

For the sake of the good housewife there should be a kitchen cabinet, water and drainage facilities in the business end of the house even at expense of a few pieces of upholstered furniture in the parlor. She is entitled to just as much comfort and convenience when she is at work as the company are when they are at ease.

The crop report issued by the specialists of the agricultural department in charge of this work show that, while the area devoted to oats is 6 per cent less than the area sown last year, or 193,000 acres, the condition of the 31,644,000 acres sown is represented by 92.9 per cent of a normal crop as compared with 81.6 on June 1, 1907.

An interstate pure seed law is now contemplated and will likely be passed at the next session of congress. It will provide that all seeds offered for interstate shipment shall be under a definite guarantee as to purity and that no seeds mixed or containing adulterants shall cross state lines. As things stand just now residents of many states are given quite adequate protection by laws of their own state touching pure seeds offered for sale locally, but have no assurance of a square deal in those shipped in from other states. The new law should be welcomed by all honest men.

String beans may be put down in salt the same as corn, and this in a very easy and simple manner. Prepare as for cooking and boil until nearly done, about an hour; then take one quart of coarse salt and mix thoroughly with four quarts of the prepared beans. Pack down in stone jars and cover with cloth, plate and weight. In getting them ready for the table next winter rinse the loose salt off and put to soak in boiling water at night. Change the water a couple of times the next morning. Cook until done, preparing as if fresh from the garden. Beans preserved in this way retain their beany flavor remarkably well.

For the benefit of some readers who may not have remembered directions previously given for preserving eggs in a water glass solution we will repeat the recipe. The receptacle for the preserving of the eggs, preferably a stone jar, should be scalded with boiling water. The preservative solution is made by adding one quart of water glass to fifteen quarts of water. Fresh and clean but unwashed eggs should be packed in the jar and this solution poured over them, enough to cover. It is best where possible to put down eggs each day as they are laid, adding enough of the solution to completely cover them. Eggs put up in the above manner may be kept eight months and still be good for all home uses. The cost of treating the eggs in this way, outside of the price of the jar, is about a cent a dozen, depending upon the cost of the water glass.

Coffee in Jamaica. You see all those bushes with red berries strung among their branches? That is coffee, and the taller trees among which it is growing are pimento, from which the world gets its allspice. It looks like jungle, does it not? Yet many thousands of dollars would not buy that one hill slope. Among the lovely flowers humming birds sparkle as they fly and hover; butterflies as large as the birds dispute the honey with them. As you turn round the corner you surprise parties of tiny ground doves, and every now and again the larger pea doves fit across the road. Up from the valley below the sounds of voices and laughter. Stop your carriage and look down. Those are the works on a coffee estate, and those flat terraces partitioned off into squares are the "barbecues" upon which the berries are dried. You can see that some of the squares are a different color to the rest. The dark ones are those that are covered with coffee; the others are those which have not yet been filled.—Exchange.

The Land of the Free. "There's eight nations represented in this ward of ours," said Mr. Holloran to his wife on his return from a political meeting. He began to count them off on his fingers.

"There's the Irish, Frinch, Eystallians, Poles, Germans, Roossians, Greeks an'—"

Mr. Holloran stopped and began again:

"There's the Irish, Frinch, Eystallians, Poles, Germans, Roossians, Greeks—an' ain't it queer I disremember the other wan? There's the Irish, Frinch—"

"Maybe 'twas Americans," suggested Mrs. Holloran.

"Sure, that's it," said her husband. "I couldn't think.—Youth's Companion.

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David N. Henning and Charles O. Clemson under and by virtue of authority and power to them, in a decree of the Circuit Court for Carroll County, sitting as a Court of Equity, passed in a cause numbered 4379 Equity, in which Henry Reck is plaintiff and Charles F. Reck is defendant, will sell by public auction, on the premises occupied by Calvin Boon, about 2 1/2 miles from Union Bridge, Carroll county, in the 10th Election district of Carroll county, near Mount Union Church, on

SATURDAY, the 25th day of JULY, 1908, at 1 o'clock, p. m.,

all that valuable farm containing **19 ACRES and 33 PERCHES OF LAND** more or less, improved by a two story **STONE DWELLING HOUSE** and a barn and stabling. Also at the same time and place parcel of land consisting of a **WOOD LOT**, containing **3 ACRES, 2 ROODS and 10 SQUARE PERCHES OF LAND**, more or less.

A more particular description of the above mentioned two tracts or parcels of land, by courses and distances, will appear by reference to a deed of conveyance thereof by Henry Reck and Elizabeth Reck, his wife, to Charles F. Reck, dated the 12th day of April, 1897, recorded among the Land Records of Carroll County in Liber B. F. C., No. 84 folio 285, &c.

Terms of Sale:—One-third cash, one-third in six months, and one-third in twelve months (or all cash at the option of the purchaser); the credit payments to bear interest from the day of sale and to be secured by the note or the notes of the purchaser or purchasers secured to the satisfaction of the trustees.

D. N. HENNING, one of trustees.

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