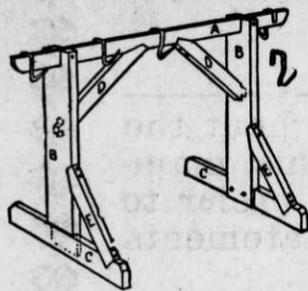


FARMS AND FARMERS



A Handy Hog Scaffold.
In my visits to many farm houses in this country I noted many home-made scaffolds on which to hang hogs after they are killed and scalded, but the one shown in accompanying figure and which I use myself, I consider as handy and practical as any. It can be moved anywhere, even in the smoke-house, and if made out of good seasoned timber and painted, it will last a lifetime. It will hold five hogs weighing 300 pounds each.

One can buy five large hooks, or have a blacksmith make them, at a very small cost; these are to hook over the beam, A, on which to hang the hogs. The top piece, A, is a chestnut scantling, 2x4 in. and 6 ft. 10 in. long; this piece has two mortises, 3 inches from center, as shown in cut. The two upright pieces, B, are hardwood scantlings, 2x4 in. and 5 ft. 8 in. long. These have a mortise at the top 2 inches wide and 4 inches deep; also a mortise at bottom 1 inch deep and 4 inches long. These pieces also have a mortise 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 in., 2 ft. 5 in. from center to the upper end, for the tenon of brace, D, to go into. These pieces also have a mortise 2 feet from lower end for brace, E, to set in. The side, C, are 2x4 in. and 2 ft. 4 in. long. They have a mortise in center 4 inches wide and 1 inch deep; also a mortise 9 inches from center, for brace, E, to set into. D is a brace 1 1/2 x 2 1/2 in., and



Movable Poultry Fences.

When for any reason one does not care to go to the expense of permanent fences around the poultry yard, movable fences like that shown in the cut may be used to advantage. They cost but little, and if well made will last for several seasons. The sections, as shown, may be of any dimensions desired, although if about four feet high and six feet long they can be better handled than when larger. The frame may be of any light weight material, and should be made so that it will be as stiff as possible. It might be a good



MOVABLE POULTRY FENCE.

idea, and especially if the sections were of greater dimensions than those given, to run a brace from corner to corner diagonally to give additional stiffness. The corners should be well fastened and the frame is then covered with wire netting. Three planks are fastened to the bottom of the frame at intervals, as shown, and braced with a strip from the frame to the planks. These planks will hold the section upright and prevent it from sinking into the mud. Several sections can be quickly made after the same pattern and hooked together at the corners the desired length. These movable fences would be especially valuable in the spring, where numbers of chicks were to be raised and it was desired to keep them in inclosures. If used to surround chicks, a wire of a finer mesh would need to be used.—Indianapolis News.

The Oleomargarine Law.

Some time ago it was shown that one weakness of the present oleomargarine law, the use of some ingredient which made it possible to avoid the law against the use of coloring matter, was working hardships on butter makers, but reports generally indicate that the law was a wise one, and prove beyond all question that consumers do want oleomargarine. It was held by the opponents of the Grout bill that the public demand was so great that to place any restrictions on the methods of marketing oleo would be to drive out of the market a meritorious article. Those who upheld the bill claimed that if oleo had any merit of its own it should be sold on that merit, and not disguised as butter. The law as enforced has shown that by far the greater number of those who used oleo did so because they assumed it was butter, the color helping to carry out the deception. Oleo may be nutritious and have great merit, but it is evident that few people desire it or will buy it when they have full knowledge that it is not from the product of the cow. The Grout bill has benefited farmer and consumer alike, and any attempt which is likely to be made this coming session of Congress to modify its provisions should be fought hard by farmers and dairymen. If butter must be sold on its merits, why not oleo, also?—St. Paul Dispatch.

Hogs on Pasture.

On most farms there is a wornout pasture or a newly-cleared piece of ground thick in underbrush or sprouts which would make ideal runs for swine. A good plan is to fence off a portion of such places so that the animals will not run off the flesh as fast as it is put on, build some sort of a rough house so they will be protected from storms and turn them loose to root and grub. Many a pasture that was supposed to be worthless has been rendered fit for reseeded after a drove of hogs had occupied it one summer. Much of the living can be picked up on the range in the manner suggested and the swine will be in fine shape to take on fat when the proper time comes to confine them more closely.

The Pestilent Sparrow.

Even in youth not much more than half the food of the sparrow consists of insects, and this brief period passed, its diet afterwards consists of three-fourths grain and useful seeds. Systematic thinning on a scale so drastic as to amount as nearly as possible to extermination is advised.

Picking Fowls for Market.

Poultry shipped for market alive lose considerable of their weight in transit, and while there is a demand for poultry in this condition that must be met, by far the greater demand is for dry-picked carcasses. It is not a pleasant task to prepare poultry for market particularly when the entrails must be removed, but as stated in this department several weeks since, the additional price pays well for the labor. A dry-picked fowl has a perfection of skin which is attractive and for which the best customers are quite willing to pay.

8 ft. 4 in. long, including tenon, which is 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 in. square and 4 inches long. E is a brace 2x3 in. and 1 ft. 11 in. long.

All that is required to put this scaffold together are two 1/4-in. bolts, 5 inches long, to bolt the beam, A, to the upright pieces, B, and sixteen 6-penny nails and two bolts 3 inches long to hold B to C at bottom. I have found it very handy on a bad day, for one can set it in some building to hang the hogs on; it is also handy to hang sheep on to butcher.—Charles E. Cummins, in Ohio Farmer.

Live Stock at St. Louis Fair.

Live stock exhibitors in each breed class at the World's Fair will receive a senior champion prize and a junior champion prize for males and females, and a reserve champion award will follow in four classes. Competition for the senior championships will be limited to mature animals, and young males and females only will compete for the junior champion prizes. Prospective exhibitors express themselves as highly pleased with the plan of Chief Coburn of providing for a more equitable method of awarding championship prizes and thus increasing the number of honors.

Start in a Small Way.

Most of the failures in trying to operate poultry farms have been brought about by trying to keep too many fowls at first. Begin on a small scale and work up to your limit. You may be surprised to find how few you can keep at a profit, and you may find that you were born to be a poultry man. Trying it is the only way to get at the truth.

Wintering Cabbage for Family Use.

Cabbages that winter best are those just fully formed and not overripe. For family use bury an empty barrel in a well drained spot and fill it with good heads. Place a lot of dry leaves on top and cover the barrel so that it will shed rain or pile some cabbages in a corner of the barn floor and cover them with enough straw to prevent soil freezing.—Exchange.

Salt and Charcoal.

Salt and charcoal should be kept in reach of hogs at all times, says Tennessee Farmer. They will help themselves when their systems require it. A little turpentine in the slops occasionally is valuable as a preventive of disease.

Apple Scab Fungus.

A cold, damp season seems to be favorable to the development of apple scab fungus. The scab is one of the diseases that are most effectually and profitably treated by spraying with bordeaux mixture.

WILL STUDY SHIP SUBSIDY.

Nonpartisan Commission is Now Proposed.

Washington.—The Post says: A compromise has been reached between the friends and opponents of the proposed ship subsidy bill and no effort will be made to pass that measure during the life of the Fifty-eighth congress.

The compromise contemplates legislation that shall provide for the appointment by the president of a nonpartisan commission whose duty it shall be to make a full and complete investigation on every phase of the subsidy question and submit its report to the Fifty-ninth congress at an early date in the first session.

The commission as proposed will consist of five members, to be chosen from capable men who are not members of either house of congress, who shall be appointed for a period of two years and have an annual salary of \$5000 each, while an appropriation of \$25,000 annually for the general and clerical expenses will be made. It will be made the duty of the commission to make a general investigation of the entire subject of merchant marine in this and foreign markets, and prices, as well as everything pertaining to American commerce and navigation. The commission will also be charged with the duty of suggesting aids for the extension of foreign markets for American products and with the examination into the increase or decrease of foreign markets for such products during the last 10 or 20 years.

IDAHO SQUIBS.

Bheer-Nah, the oldest Indian on the Coeur d'Alene reservation is dead.

A post of veterans of the Spanish-American war was organized recently at Boise at a meeting of Philippine volunteers.

Charles O. Broxon, editor of the Poatello Advance, is charged with criminal libel. The complaint is sworn to by Charles Peppleton, sergeant of police. His bond was fixed at \$200.

Lewis Bond, a riverman, was drowned by falling off a boat in the St. Joe river recently. He was rowing down stream with a lady in the boat. He slipped and fell overboard. He was a Mason, belonging to the lodge at Coeur d'Alene.

Frank Leuch, a Northern Pacific brakeman, fell 80 feet in a caboose into the creek from a trestle near Granite recently, and escaped with a lacerated leg and arm and a scalp wound.

Material is being assembled for the new power station to be erected by the Washington Water Power company at Post Falls. The new station is to be equal in power capacity to the Spokane plant.

State Auditor T. Turner will wait until the supreme court acts before he will pay the bounty on beet sugar. He says the power of the state legislature to authorize payment of bounties must be shown first.

Senator Heyburn has presented to the proper committee a joint memorial of the governor of Idaho and the state legislature, praying for a sufficient appropriation to improve the Pend d'Oreille river between Albany falls and the mouth of Priest river.

One of the largest timber sales recorded in Shoshone county in many months was that of Fred A. Blackwell and wife to the Wisconsin Log & Lumber company and others. A half interest in all the timber on sundry tracts of land in township 42 north, range 1 east was transferred for \$10,540.76.

Thomas D. Parsons has filed deeds for two farms which he bought recently. One, of 280 acres, was purchased from the First National bank of Moscow, consideration being \$9500, and is located about five miles west of Kendrick. The other was 200 acres, purchased from Joseph H. Riley of Moscow, and is located three miles north of Moscow, consideration \$3400.

William Gann, one of the three men now in jail at Mountain Home on the charge of having set fire to the Stockton hotel at Glens Ferry in which a life was lost, has confessed. His confession implicates O'Neill, one of the other men in jail, on the charge. Gann declares "Red" Hocks, the third member of the trio, to be innocent of any part in the affair. He says it was partly for motives of revenge and partly for purposes of robbery.

The 2 year old child of a family named Giles was burned to death Sunday. The little one was playing near the fire. The mother left the room and the baby secured a piece of paper and lighted it at the fire. The baby's clothing caught fire and the child also inhaled smoke. The baby died in a few minutes.

Restaurants Lock Out.

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—About 50 restaurants, including the best patronized places in the city, have closed their doors, and it is announced that they will not reopen until a satisfactory adjustment of the trouble with the cooks and waiters' union is effected.

MINES AND MINING NEWS.

PROPERTIES HAVE SETTLED DOWN TO WINTER'S WORK.

Items of Interest Gathered During the Past Week.—B. C. Mines Busy—Show Up Well—Electric Power in Coeur d'Alene District—Accidents and Personals—Montana Producing.

At a meeting of mining men at Boise recently the Idaho Mining association was organized for the purpose of promoting the development of the mining interests of the state, for promoting the progress of technical and practical knowledge of mining, for bringing the men of the state into closer personal relations, for the promotion of their mutual interests and for looking after legislation and other matters affecting the mining industry.

Officers were elected as follows: President, Frederick Burbidge of Wardner; first vice president, E. H. Dewey of Nampa; second vice president, Irvine Rockwell of Bellevue; third vice president, M. E. Hopkins of Boise; secretary, M. W. Wood of Boise; treasurer, J. A. Pack of Boise.

Are Paying Dividends.

Charles Sweeney's Federal Mining & Smelting company, operating silver-lead mines in the Coeur d'Alenes, will pay its first quarterly dividend of \$133,750 on December 15. On the following day Jay P. Graves' Granby Consolidated company, operating in the Boundary district of British Columbia, will pay its first dividend of \$133,500, made from gold-copper ores. The Bunker Hill & Sullivan company, operating silver-lead mines at Wardner, Idaho, paid a December dividend of \$30,000 yesterday. Finch & Campbell's Kendall Gold Mining company, operating in Fergus county, Montana, will disburse \$25,000 on December 25. That makes a total of \$372,250 in dividends from the Spokane group of mines to be disbursed as Christmas presents to mining investors.

The dividend on the Federal stock is a quarterly payment of 1 3/4 per cent, or at the rate of 7 per cent annually on \$10,500,000 in preferred stock. The company is credited with making considerably more than the dividend, but is piling up a reserve fund rather than paying profits on common stock, which amounts to \$5,250,000.

Mr. Sweeney is in New York making a contract for the Federal company with the American Smelting & Refining company to treat Federal ores. He has been negotiating for a four year contract, with an option to renew it for two years. Slow progress is being made.

The Bunker Hill & Sullivan dividend makes \$96,000 paid this year, and a total to date of \$1,520,000.

Henryx Process.

The Atlas company, operating in the Buffalo Hump country, has had some ore tested by the Henryx process at Spokane. George Crane, manager of the Atlas, says: "The ore, which assays \$47.15, ran high in silver and was not best suited to the Henryx system. We recovered \$41.82 with amalgamation and concentration and the Henryx treatment of the tailings."

"That gave a silver extraction of 77 per cent and a gold extraction of 96.3 per cent, or a total of 86 per cent. Experiments made by C. M. Fassett with the same ore, using amalgamation, concentration and cyaniding by the usual methods, gave a higher extraction in silver and a less in gold, or a total of 90 per cent. Because of the higher gold recovery in the Henryx treatment we expect to install a Henryx mill in connection with an amalgamating and cyaniding plant. We shall not put in the mill, however, until we open larger reserves."

"The tunnel at the mine has penetrated our second shoot 90 feet. It is seven feet wide and carries values around \$20. We have our new hoist on the ground and only await the boiler and the pump to start our two compartment shafts from the tunnel level."

Mining Notes.

Manager Thompson of the Kootenay mines at Rossland, B. C., announces that his company will install a mill to reduce low grade ores during the forthcoming year.

The Idaho Consolidated Mining company, a Washington corporation, has filed a suit in the district court of Shoshone county against the Golden Chest Mining company, claiming damages of \$20,000 for ores alleged to have been unlawfully extracted.

The Pennsylvania Oil & Gas company has sold its Wyoming oil property to a French syndicate, the details having been closed for the transfer of the property a few days ago. It is the largest transaction of the kind

that has ever been consummated in this part of the country. The option on which a considerable amount of the purchase money has been paid includes the wells on Salt creek, 105,000 acres of territory in fee and the re-mines plant at Casper. It is understood that the syndicate paid between \$600,000 and \$700,000 for the property.

B. Morris Blake has been appointed deputy mining recorder for the Mead-Creek mining district, in the Hoodoo country, on the North Palouse river, in Latah county, Idaho. Hoodoo people are petitioning to have Hoodoo postoffice changed to be called Woodfell.

The most notable event in Montana mining circles during the past week was two splendid strikes made in the North Star, in the Marysville district. The property is owned by Thomas Crune, a Helena banker, who discovered the famous Drumlummon, which was sold to the Rothschilds for \$15,000,000. The North Star is an eastern extension of the Drumlummon.

The Stewart group has made the richest strike in the Wardner, Idaho, section for several months. Two feet of shipping ore have been uncovered, on either side of which is an excellent body of good concentrating ore. The shipping ore is fine steel galena, and already arrangements are being made to commence shipments of it. The ledge was tapped in the face of a 600 foot tunnel at a depth of several hundred feet. The property consists of five claims, located in Grouse gulch, between Deadwood and Government gulches. The ore was disclosed on the Senator Stewart claim. H. F. Samuels, one of the Hercules owners, is the principal stockholder in the Stewart group.

CHILDREN'S EXPOSITION.

Opened in St. Petersburg for Two Months.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 7.—A children's world international exposition was opened in the Tauride palace with great ceremony by Elizabeth Mavrickieva. The opening was a brilliant function and was attended by the state ministers, members of the diplomatic corps, including United States Ambassador McCormick and high government functionaries in full uniform. The ceremonies were followed by a grand ball.

This is the first international exposition for the children ever held and it is unique in every respect. It owes its origin to a suggestion made by Dowager Empress Marie and is held under her auspices. All the countries of the world were invited to participate and almost all of them accepted the invitation. Russia has the largest exhibit, and France, Germany and Austria follow in the order named.

The exhibit of the United States is the smallest, consisting only of photographs of schools and school children, but it enjoys the distinction of being displayed under the largest flag in the palace. The unfurling of the American flag was greeted with cheers. The fair will continue for two months.

OREGON NOTES.

There is a move on at La Grande, to bring about the establishment of a creamery.

Pendleton, for its size, probably does the greatest intoxicating liquor business of any city in eastern Oregon.

According to the figures presented by the Southern Pacific, that company has located between 5000 and 10,000 persons in this state since last spring. The Municipal association has asked the circuit court to command Chief of Police Hunt of Portland to enter and close all gambling houses in the city.

Judge Thomas G. Halley of Pendleton was the principal speaker at the Elks' memorial services at Baker City Sunday afternoon, which were well attended.

As a sequel to the murder of John Inhoff by C. H. McKenzie at Dunsmuir recently, John Shay, the principal witness for the state, committed suicide by hanging.

Secretary Charles F. Martin of the National Livestock association, has issued the official call for the national convention, which is to be held in Portland January 12 to 15, inclusive.

With but 10 minutes left to play, an error in judgment on the part of Captain Speidell of the eleven of the University of Washington, which claimed the coast championship, lost the football game to Multnomah Amateur Athletic club Saturday, by the score of 6 to 0. The game was an exciting one, and the most stubbornly contested of the games played here this season.

Fire at Santa Paula.

Ventura, Cal., Dec. 6.—The west end of Santa Paula's business section was completely destroyed by fire, causing a loss of \$60,000.

Dowie in Charge.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—John Alexander Dowie is again in control of Zion City and all its industries.