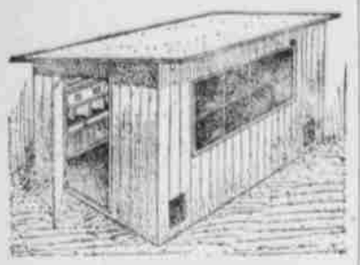
# POULTRY

## SUMMER HOUSE FOR POULTRY

**Coop Shown in the Illustration Will Provide Comfortable Place for Hens in Hot Weather.**

Good poultry quarters are needed, and for warm weather the house shown in the accompanying picture will answer the purpose exceedingly well. It is built eight feet wide, 12 feet long, seven feet high in front and 4½ feet at the rear. It should have a light framework, consisting of 2x4's, for the sills and caps, and siding of inch stuff, preferably matched,



Summer House for Hens.

nailed on perpendicular as indicated, writes Fred O. Sibley in the Farm and Home.

The front, which is to face toward the south, has a good-sized window, and at each corner are two openings, 12x16 inches, for the hens to pass. In the end opposite the door there is a wooden shutter about two feet square for air and ventilation, and this, as well as the window, should have strong, fine meshed wire nailed on the outside.

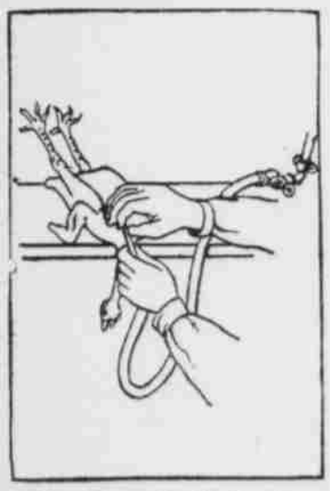
The roosts are located in the rear, up under the roof, with a platform below to catch the droppings, 3½ feet wide, extending the whole length of the house. Beneath this is another platform, three feet wide, for the nests. For hens on the range such a house is just the thing, and needs no floor if the location is well drained and dry. It will shelter from 50 to 60 fowls comfortably. The interior ought to be kept well whitewashed, and if the house is set in the shade of a large tree it will be all the more pleasant for the hens to go into on a hot day.

The cost of building this kind of summer "cottage" will be from $12 to $15. It pays to use good lumber, and two or three good coats of paint should be applied.

## PREPARE FOWLS FOR MARKET

**Apparatus Invented by Indiana Men for Injecting Water Into Body After Killing.**

Experts have discovered that fowls and animals are better fit for food if about 8 per cent. of their weight in water be injected into their bodies just after they are killed. This must be done before the animal heat has left the body, and the water, which



Pipe Pierces Fowl's Breast.

must be at a temperature of between 50 and 70 degrees Fahrenheit, is kept there for an hour or more. Two Indiana men have invented an attachment for a water spigot, or which may have its own pipe leading into it. The attachment consists of a length of hose with a sharp, hollow metal point on the free end. This point can be thrust through the breast of the chicken or whatever fowl or animal it may be, and the requisite amount of water injected into it in this fashion.

### System in the Feeding.

Fowls should have empty crops in the morning and the crop should never be quite full until it is time to go to roost. For the first feed grain scattered in the litter in the morning is preferred, the sooner the better. This induces them to exercise. In the middle of the day a warm, moistened mash should be given, about what they will eat. And at night before they go to roost a liberal feed of grain should be scattered in the litter. Fowls should be kept busy.

### Oyster Shells for Fowls.

The feeding of oyster shells is claimed to supply the birds with grit, but experiments show that under circumstances in any other manner oyster shells may be utilized by the hens to supply shells for the eggs. It is not necessary to feed shells, however, when the fowls are supplied with varied food, as the food of poultry contains lime sufficient for all purposes.

## RAISE LARGEST WHEAT CROP

**North Platte Station Secured 57 Bushels Per Acre in 1908 — Approved Methods Used.**

Probably the largest crop of wheat ever raised in western Nebraska was harvested at the North Platte substation in 1908. The yield was 57 bushels per acre. This was grown upon land which had been summer fallowed during the preceding summer, and careful tillage given in order to store up as much moisture as possible according to the most approved methods of dry farming. At the time of seeding this wheat in the autumn of 1907, the soil was thoroughly saturated with water to a depth of six feet, and contained 16½ per cent. of moisture by actual test. During the winter, the moisture content decreased until it stood at 12 per cent. in April, 1908. This decrease continued until harvest, notwithstanding the fact that 12 inches of moisture fell during that time. It is probable that there was some runoff and also a small amount of evaporation, but the loss from these factors was small. The greater part of this water was used in producing this crop, so it will be seen that in raising this 57 bushels of wheat not only was the 12 inches of moisture which fell during the growing season all used, but in addition to this, moisture which would amount of six or seven inches of precipitation which had been previously worked into the soil. After a heavy grain crop like this, with its exhausting drain upon the moisture content of the soil, corn or some other cultivated crop should be planted, because the surface cultivation given such a crop tends to increase and preserve the moisture content during at least a part of the year.

These results, coming as they do from accurate sources, seem to substantiate the claims made by the most enthusiastic advocates of dry farming in the semi-arid belt. The North Platte substation is so located that it receives fully as much moisture as any locality in the recognized dry farming belt, where the normal rainfall amounts to only 12 to 13 inches instead of the almost 19 inches at North Platte. It is reasonable to suppose that this same method of procedure would bring corresponding results, the only difference being that summer tillage would be necessary every alternate year instead of every third or fourth year. The fact is established beyond doubt that this dry farming method will and does store up moisture in the soil during seasons of excessive rainfall, or during seasons of no cropping to be used the following season when the natural supply may be deficient.

### Mulch for Fruits.

The surface mulch for all small fruits is very valuable, especially with berries. Success with small fruits, other things being equal, lies in keeping the soil clean and moist during the fruiting season. A good mulch of straw or other litter along the rows will hold the moisture in dry weather and promote heavy and perfect fruiting.

### After a Rain.

After hard rains the soil around tender garden plants should be cultivated and a mulch re-established. Should the land "bake" much moisture will be lost, air and sunshine excluded by the crust and the plants stunted.


Few horses can digest perfectly clear timothy hay.

The hog gets the farmer the easiest money that he makes.

Never whip a horse when he shies. It will increase his fear.

Cowpeas may be used for a hog pasture and they will do well upon it.

Get your lambs started right. Attention now means a good lamb crop.

A good horseman never trots a draft horse even when he has no load.

The demand on the foal's digestive system for nourishment is very great.

In fitting horses for hard work increase the grain ration, but not the hay.

Millet hay cannot be considered a first-class feed for dairy cows and horses.

"No foot, no horse." It won't take long for an ignorant shoer to ruin the best foot.

Dirty collars are probably as responsible for sore shoulders as ill-fitting ones.

The condition of sows as well as their age affects the length of their gestation periods.

Keep the horses well cleaned, but remember that you can be cruel with the curry comb.

A bull tied in the stall will get lazy and useless, besides making extra work in the care and feed.

Never work a team of colts together until they are thoroughly broken, as they will worry each other.

The silo is now a necessity, and for you to compete with the man who has one you must have one too.

Keep both eyes open when near the gentle bull just the same as if were ugly, or he may take you unawares.

If dusty hay is fed sprinkle with water, it will save the horse much annoyance, but better not feed it all.

## "BUY IT AT HOME"


## WAS IT WOODROW'S VOICE?

**Evidently Wilson Was No Angel of Rectitude When He Was Student at Princeton.**

When Woodrow Wilson was a student at Princeton he lived first at the house of Mrs. Wright. One of his classmates, "Bob" McCarter, who also lived at Mrs. Wright's, tells of a certain evening when the two were engaged in Wilson's study in a quiet game of euchre, a forbidden pastime in those days. On the table, as it happened, lay a Bible. A knock was heard at the door; McCarter swiftly swept the cards out of sight under the table and went to the door. Before he opened it he turned his head for a moment, the thought flashing over him that the conscientious Wilson might have put the cards back in plain view on the table, but what he saw was—Wilson reading the Bible.

It was the time of the great popularity of "Pinafore" and the strains of "My Little Buttercup" and "What, Never?" were all the go. Dr. Greene of the Princeton seminary possessed a deep, solemn voice. One day in chapel he gave out unctuously the hymn containing the well-known stanza:

"That soul though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

But the effect was somewhat spoiled by an irreverent voice in the rear of the chapel:

"What! Never?"—William Bayard Hale.

## NOT AN EXPERT

"Goodman is wholly devoid of imagination."

"What is your evidence?"

"He went fishing and only claimed to have caught two."

### MOOSE IN HARNESS.

When the duke of Argyll was governor general of Canada he had two young moose which had been captured on the banks of the Ottawa river, and trained to run in a light trap. The experiment, though interesting, was, however, not successful. Horses meeting the strange animals on the road shied desperately, and the moose, never too tractable, shied also. In "Yesterday and Today in Canada" the duke records that the driver had often to lament the new fashion of progression as he picked himself up, more or less successfully, after spills on the wayside—the young moose generally on its legs, but philosophically quiet, and not inclined to seek further adventure. How they would have acted as draft animals when fully grown was left an open question, for as they grew bigger it was decided that they were too large for a light carriage and too ungainly for a heavy one, and they were accordingly dismissed from the easy life of stall and manger.

### BIT OF REAL PHILOSOPHY.

"Most husbands think they are good husbands."

"Say the rest of it."

"And most wives humor them in that belief."

### ALWAYS SOME TO PULL.

"Politics doesn't always keep up to the times."

"No, indeed. For instance, you never hear of a wireless political system."

### A GENERALIZATION.

"Pa," asked the small boy, "what is a demagogue."

"A demagogue, my son, is a smart, ready talker, who belongs to a party you're not in."

### LITERALLY.

Policeman (to suspicious stranger at midnight)—What are you doing in this store?

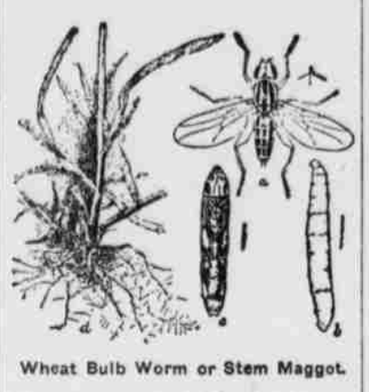
Burglar—Can't you see? I'm takin' stock.

## BULB WORM OR STEM MAGGOT

**Little Pest Works Its Way Down Into Crown of Wheat Plant and Causes Much Damage.**

The wheat bulb worm or stem maggot causes much damage in the wheat field. These little green worms change to a pupal form in April and May, becoming little yellow flies, much resembling a small housefly, in June. These flies lay their eggs on the upper wheat leaves. The eggs hatch into the little greenish-white worms with the small black feeding hooks at one end. These worms crawl down the wheat leaf and feed on the stalk, causing the part of the stalk above where they are feeding to turn white. This brood of worms stays in the straw till July or August, when it changes into another brood of flies. The flies, by laying eggs on volunteer wheat and on grasses, produce another brood of flies by September or October. It was this third brood that laid the eggs which hatched into the little green worms we speak of. This brood of worms does damage by working its way down into the crown of the wheat plant, often cutting off the central stem and in this way causing considerable damage.

If it were not for the numerous parasitic enemies of this wheat pest, it might become more dangerous than the Hessian fly, which it resembles very much in its general habits. In one respect it is even worse than the Hessian fly, in that it can feed on many other grasses beside wheat. There are few practical measures of controlling the pest. Rotation of crops and late planting of winter wheat are not as effective as with Hessian fly.



Wheat Bulb Worm or Stem Maggot.

The most practical thing which man can do to control wheat bulb worms is to burn the straw and stubble after harvest, destroying the worms of the second brood before they come out of the straw to change into the fly form. The Nebraska station suggests that wheat planted in October is less liable to trouble, although not entirely free.

## COUNTRY ROADS OF CONCRETE

**One That Cannot Become Muddy and at All Times Provide Secure Safe Footing Is Desired.**

It is becoming more and more evident to farmers and those interested in good country roads that a more lasting material than earth or the ordinary macadam must be used. Near Coshocton, O., two concrete roads have been built which have successfully withstood one severe winter and show no wear either from traffic or weather.

The first view shows a 10-foot concrete strip laid on the old roadbed. The second shows an 18-foot strip of the full width of the road. The latter joins the macadam road which is deeply worn and rutted. Concrete in the first case replaced a block stone road, which had given away under heavy floods and travel, and the other, a limestone macadam road, whose life was only one year, due to heavy traffic. At present the 18-foot strip road carries all travel from the concrete road and also from another brick road and shows much less wear than the brick.

A country road which cannot become muddy, which will give at all times a secure footing for horses and which will need little or no repair, would be the greatest improvement in farm conditions that has been made in recent years. Concrete seems to be the only material combining these qualities with low cost. A decade from now, our country roads of concrete may equal our city pavements in efficiency under all conditions of weather.

## Good Roads & Farm Notes

Don't forget to plant a few pumpkin seeds.

A weedy pasture is an unprofitable piece of property.

A weedless cornfield is the sign of a farmer who is proud of his calling.

Alfalfa may be put into the silo, and it produces a fair quality of silage.

Celery may be transplanted to the garden any time from May 25 to July 1.

Rape is one of the best annual forage crops for temporary spring and fall pasture.

Hen manure is an excellent fertilizer, but it is not the thing for the potato ground.

The hired man who gets up in the morning without being called is worth hanging on to.

A fanning mill will more than pay for itself in one year on any 160 acres of land farmed.

The main thing is to decide to build a silo. After that you can begin to think about the kind.

Rape or rape with the small grains for pasture offers an opportunity to save much hay and fodder.

## VINE OF INSIDIOUS NATURE

**Japanese Hop Will Grow and Spread With a Persistence Nothing Can Curb.**

Dear to the heart of the amateur gardener is the asurance that a vine is "of rapid growth—a strong annual, valuable for covering unsightly fences and other surfaces, and affording a pleasant shade when trained up the side of the porch." Yet a vine may be all these things, and possess other attractive qualities, and still be one to be selected with much caution. The much advertised Japanese hop vine, either the plain or variegated sort, is of a most insidious nature.

As far north as Lake Erie its tiny seeds take no harm from the bleak winters, and while your own initial sowing of them may have needed coaxing, the self-sown are all too vigorous. They come up in a garden bed, paths, all through the grass, pushing out and twisting around, with their wiry, prickly stems, delicate annuals and stout perennials alike. The more you pull up, the more seems to come up. The persistence of self-sown morning glory seedling is mere apathy beside the vigorous determination of these too "strong annuals" to enter in and possess your garden. The "blossom" of Japanese hops being so very small and inconspicuous—in no way resembling that of the perennial sort grown for commercial purposes in this country—one hardly realizes how abundantly the seeds are being produced until the following spring.

## ACCOUNTED FOR

"Any good fishing about here?"

"Fine!"

"Are you a fisherman?"

"No; I sell bait."

### SUPERSTITION VERIFIED.

"After thirteen years," writes Marie von Glaser, "I feel that I may tell a story of the fatal number," and describes a dinner given by Johann Strauss, the waltz king, at his home in Vienna, at which she sat between the host and Paul Lindau. The company consisted of men and women "who had something to say and who knew how to say it," and the flow of merriment was at floodtide when Adalbert von Goldschmidt, who had been detained at the theater, appeared. "To his question: 'May I come in so late?' there came a cheerful 'Yes,' and he found a place at the table. Then Strauss turned to him and said, hoarsely: 'We are thirteen,' and to change the number the little daughter was brought in and placed at a side table. 'We are still thirteen,' said the master, 'the result is inevitable.' That was at Easter, and we laid the earliest June roses on his bier."

### COLLEGE TO TEACH BANKING.

The old days when the humanities constituted the whole curriculum of the colleges are gone. There are professorships today on journalism and a hundred other isms. Now comes E. C. Converse with a gift of $125,000 to establish a professorship of banking in Harvard university. He says it is to put this science on a par with Greek and theology. Business colleges for a long time have rivaled high schools in teaching business rather than any exact or applied sciences. So after all Mr. Converse's notion is hardly new.

### SAFETY.

"Do you think it possible to make an airship absolutely safe?"

"Sure," replied the mechanician.

"How?"

"Disable it before it gets a chance to leave the ground."

### AWAITING IT.

"There is a crisis coming in China."

"I told my wife so as soon as I saw the new cook handle the dishes."