

ROARK—Furniture, Wallpaper, Shades, Moldings.

Undertaker's Goods: Coffins, Caskets, Robes, Wrappers, Slippers, Grave Vaults. Disinfection—ROARK



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ADVANTAGES OF IRRIGATION.

As one becomes more familiar with the conditions under which the farmer in the irrigated tracts of the west works his land and handles his crops it is clear that he has several advantages over his fellow farmer in the central and eastern states who relies upon rainfall alone for the moisture necessary for the growth and maturity of his crops. Perhaps his chief and most important advantage is that he is able to put water on his land at will, being free from the distraction and annoyance of heavy rains during the time of seeding and cultivation, which would soak the ground, delay cultivation and give the weeds a big boost. Coupled with a perfect regulation of the moisture which is allowed to go upon the land is another favorable condition—the large number of clear, bright days during the harvest months, which make possible the perfect ripening of the grain and hay and the harvesting and securing of it under most favorable conditions. Any one who has tried to cure hay between showers in June in the central and eastern states will appreciate this point. Lastly, the irrigated lands have this vital point in their favor—that little if any of the original fertility of the soil has been soaked out and washed out by repeated and heavy rains. This accounts for the remarkable productivity of western soils, which have waited centuries for the magic touch of water to make them the garden spots of earth. In view of these points and others which might be mentioned, it is not surprising that many an eastern farmer looks longingly toward the west and many another pulls up stakes and goes out to the irrigated sections.

ORCHARD CULTIVATION.

There is nothing which can be done for the young orchard which will tend to make it more thrifty and vigorous than to give it careful cultivation for the first few years after it is set. This result may be brought about to advantage by growing some crop between the rows of trees, such as straw, berries, potatoes, popcorn or better still, beans. The frequent cultivation given keep the ground loose and moist and keep the young trees from suffering should a hot and dry spell come in middle or late summer. If the orchard is an old one and blue grass and weeds have gradually worked their way in, a good plan would be to give it a shallow plowing, so as not to injure the surface roots, to disk frequently with extension or reversible disk until about the middle of July and then sow buckwheat and oats, which will come on and make a good winter cover crop. Next spring, if it is desired, the orchard may be thoroughly disked or plowed and sowed to clover. In Pacific coast orchards, where there is no danger of injury from winter freezing, the orchards are usually kept cultivated the season through.

STRINGENT MEASURES NEEDED.

It is becoming more apparent every year that the legislatures in all states which have the noxious weed problem on hand should pass laws making it an offense punishable by heavy fine for a farm owner to sell any product of his farm which could possibly carry the seeds to adjoining farms. It is true that in some cases some such laws are on the statute books, but they are either not enforced or else the penalty they provide is not sufficient to stop the nuisance. With many landowners waging an almost futile warfare against the worst weeds and their appearance in new fields and localities each year, it is clear that stringent measures will have to be adopted to give relief. Men whose farms are not yet contaminated have the same interest in giving aid to the movement that people who are well do in seeing that a quarantine be placed to prevent the spread of a loathsome disease is enforced.

CARE OF CHICKS.

Little chickens are better off if they are not fed at all during the first twenty-four or forty-eight hours. This is due to the fact that by a provision of nature the yolk of the egg is the last portion to be absorbed in the change from egg to chick, and this contains sufficient nourishment to supply the little creature with all it needs during the time mentioned. The first food may be Johnny bread crumbs, cottage cheese, chick feed and a little later cracked corn, while a little green food in some form should be furnished. Clean water and milk if available should be where the little fellows can get at them. Three things which should be remembered in the care of the little chicks is that they should have dry and clean quarters, be kept free from the attacks of lice and not allowed to eat wet, raw meal that has become sour.

A melon raider of considerable experience reports powdered tobacco as an effective check on the striped melon bug, while tobacco tea he finds sure death to all plant lice.

A mechanical quack grass exterminator has lately been put on the market, being a combination of plow and rotary rake, which pulls the roots of the grass free from the soil. It is indeed fortunate who does not have to investigate into the merits of this machine.

A good part of California's success in fruit growing is said to be due to the fact that there are within her borders 45,000 Italians, who are usually rated as the most painstaking and successful horticulturists in the world. These people own 2,729 farms in the state, while the value of their fruit farms and business interests is placed at \$115,000,000.

A gasoline engine of a fairly docile type is a big improvement over the average windmill in that it is not put out of business by a whistling wind and will jog along satisfactorily whether the wind is blowing or not. Besides this, when properly mounted it can be taken where the owner wills to saw wood, shred fodder, grind corn or do other useful tasks.

The country dog that rushes out at every passing team and sometimes frightens them into running away is an all round nuisance and should be suppressed. He can be broken of the habit when a puppy if he is larned soundly every time he tries the trick, and if this does not effect a reform the owner would confer a favor on society by breaking the brute's neck.

Stock cattle will get along very well under any of these conditions if only they are provided with a clean, dry place in which to sleep which is protected from storm and wind. Not only is the comfort of the animal, but its health as well, dependent upon this, and both will be decreased if it has to put up with a wet and nasty sleeping place. A way out under such conditions would seem to be the liberal use of straw, which will absorb the liquid manures and also increase materially the volume of fertilizer which can be hauled on to the hungry land.

The Charity Organization Society of Youngstown, O., has obtained the use of a twelve acre garden close to the town for cultivation during the summer. An experienced gardener will be put in charge, and work will be provided for all. The society has been through an experience which would undoubtedly have killed an organization less strongly and enthusiastically backed. It started work just at the height of the industrial depression last year. In consequence it was obliged to raise special relief funds, and its total budget exceeded by thousands the original and normal estimates.

The United States department of agriculture has decided on the location of a federal forestry station at Madison, Wis., which will be conducted in connection with the state experiment station. The work of the station will be directly beneficial to the lumber, papermaking and furniture interests of this section. Tests will be made of various kinds of wood for the manufacture of wood pulp, while methods will be studied for the more effective utilization of the pine stumpage of the north. When organized the station will offer a special course of study for the training of forest rangers.

There is hardly a creamery company anywhere which from the standpoint of dollars and cents merely could not well afford to supply all of its patrons with an annual subscription to some good dairy paper. The better methods which would doubtless be adopted in the handling and care of the cream as well as greater pains taken in the weeding out of unprofitable individuals in the dairy herd would combine to increase not only the quality but the quantity of the butter product. The more progressive dairymen in any community already take dairy papers, but many do not, and in the case of these such a plan would bear good fruit.

Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt's plan of building in New York city four model tenement houses for tuberculous families deserves praise. What the tuberculous patient needs and what he can get only in a well conducted hospital or sanitarium is intelligent supervision of his sleeping quarters. According to Mrs. Vanderbilt's scheme, the families to be housed in her model tenements will be thus supervised until they can safely live elsewhere. A particularly valuable feature of her plan is the fact that it tends to keep the family together. The dispersion of the family undoubtedly has its bad effect upon the patient himself and frequently results in the separation of the entire family.

With eggs the past winter ranging all the way from 25 to 40 cents per dozen, it is possible there may be some who will want to put some nice fresh eggs down for future use. A method which gives better results than any other is putting the eggs down as fast as they are laid or can be secured in a water glass solution, which is made by mixing one quart of sodium silicate to ten parts of water previously boiled, the solution being mixed while hot. The vessel used for the purpose should be of wood or stone ware, preferably the latter. Fresh eggs put up in the above manner will keep remarkably well for ten months. The best time to lay by such a store of eggs is when they are the cheapest possible consistent with freshness.

POINTERS FOR EGG FADDISTS.

Some persons really believe that the color of an eggshell controls the quality of its contents.

But, no; the age and surroundings of the egg and the health, feeding and environment of the hen decide the matter.

Eastern wants brown eggs, New York wants them white, while some customers wish both colors.

Fortunately for the egg farmer there are twenty-nine breeds with eighty-four varieties that lay these colors, so if you are an egg faddist and are selecting hens to lay your favorite color just select from the following list, and you'll get what you want: Breeds that lay white eggs: Anconas, Andaluzars, Crevecoeurs, Games, Hamburgs, Houdans, La Fleche, Leghorns, Minorcas, Polish, Red Caps, Silkies, Spanish, Sultanas, Sumatras. Breeds that lay brown eggs: Brahmas, Buckeyes, Cochins, Dominique, Dorkings, Faveroles, Indian Games, Javas, Langshans, Malays, Orpingtons, Plymouth Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, Wyandottes.

KURIOS FROM KORRESPONDENTS

Q. Will you please solve a hard puzzle for me? My white chickens will get yellow. If I buy the whitest birds in the fall they stay white till spring. Then, when turned on range, in a few months they are yellow and spoiled for show. I send you feathers from the same fowl, plucked in winter and summer, and you can see the difference. My birds are shaded and get no yellow corn. If you can give the cause you will be the first.

A. Send gravel from your farm to chemist. It likely has an excess of iron that affects the plumage. Sorry, but you must change location or variety. Better change from White to Buff Rock.

Q. Will you please inform me what White Wyandotte eggs should weigh? How do you keep your Wyandottes white? Do you wash them for county fairs?

A. We notice an egg schedule in Farm Poultry gives 25.5 ounces to the dozen. This is without doubt correct for the strain from which eggs were secured, but we have a number of hens whose eggs weigh two pounds to the dozen. Our Dories are the silvery sheen stay white kind. Not always. When head, breast and legs only are soiled we wash those parts only. Remember, fairs come at molting time, and you must be careful, for a cold then often kills.

Q. Can you tell why I can't hatch two chicks from a double yolk egg? I tried six last summer and failed.

A. The main reason why two chicks cannot be hatched is because there isn't enough air for two in the shell. Q. Why do my chicks come from the shell weak, thin and smeared with egg?

A. It is likely the fault of your incubator. The heat has not been even and up where it should be. Hence a chill affects intestines of chick, they do not draw in yolk, yolk smears chick, and chick, not getting yolk, is thin. If you have run machine according to rules you had better throw it out, for both machine and chicks are N. G.

Q. Can you tell me how to get a larger proportion of pullets than males in hatchings?

A. We have found more pullets come from matings where the sexes are even in ages.

DON'TS.
Don't be like John Bugbush, who raises every variety of lice.
Don't lay those cornered silks down low, or off with the rais the corn will go.
Don't keep wheat in the heat. The weevil will hatch, destroy your feed and overrun the place.
Don't feed strong smelling meat (grease) or lard and fat cut bone. That brings deadly lumberneck.
Don't think you know it all. You will surely get a fall, and then you'll feel so small.
Don't forget to put up boots for shade, and always keep the water vessels in a cool spot.
Don't neglect to sow sunflower seed. It will beautify your place and add to the ration.
Don't publish your failures or hang your profits on "an oldy's nose." Plead to prosperity.
Don't fail to provide for next winter's cut clover crop. It certainly is the tonic to make the eggs drop.
Don't spend your time criticizing the other fellow's stock. If yours is so superior, why doesn't he buy a block?
Don't forget to mark your chickens with a web punch. If stolen you can easily identify them by your mark.
Don't feed your young turkeys any salted meat. Like sour cornmeal, it is their bane.
Don't let mice lodge in the pigeon nest. It means cold eggs and deserted squabs.
Don't let the chicks eat cut bone, grass and soft mash. Such feed for turkeys is very rash.
Don't let the pigeons bathe in the same water twice, and be sure to put reolins in for lice.
Don't expect culls to breed thoroughbreds, nor sell bun Dottes, Rocks nor Reds.
Don't say "Honesty the best policy," but "Honesty the only policy." Then you'll not be a skinner, but a first prize business winner.
Don't breed a Barred Rock just for fine feathers. We like juicy breast meat and fat cranmsticks.
Don't buy high priced stralins at 20 cents and sell chickens to the butcher at 12.

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