FARM AND GARDEN.

SHADED HIGHWAYS.

Why Every Progressive Citizen Should Encourage Tree Planting.

If all the road supervisors of the land were wheelmen, more attention would be paid to the planting of trees along the public highways.

The pleasure of a summer day ride is greatly heightened if the road leads where the friendly shade of trees may fall across it.

The cool fragrance of the woods is made enjoyable because of the contrast between its beautiful archways, and the sunny stretches beyond. But were all the roads through woodlands, the surroundings would become monotonous, but not so painfully so as where

A FAVORITE SUMMER ROAD.

the way is wholly in the glare of the sun.

The ideal road is that one whereon sun and shadow happily blend and intermingle. Such highways can be provided if sufficient attention is given to the planting and care of trees. Wheelmen should use their influence to encourage tree planting.—L. A. W. Bulletin.

TREATMENT OF GARGET.

Poke Root and Cream Will Do Much to Relieve the Pain.

The cause of garget in cows is usually excessive flow and richness of milk, which, if the bag is not relieved, soon causes inflammation and congestion or caking. It is always the best cow that is troubled in this way. The evil is made greater by feeding too highly of what will produce a large flow of milk. The bag or udder of cows should be examined frequently for several days before the cow calves. If it seems distended it should be relieved by milking out all that can be got from the teats at least once, and, better still, twice a day. We have sometimes milked ten days or more before the cow calved. If the milking is begun it must be attended to every day, as the act of milking increases the milk flow. Rubbing the bag after all the milk is drawn with a salve made of garget root or poke root and cream will do much to relieve the pain. We have used the poke root for this purpose, and have known it to be used by others. It is a weed that grows very luxuriantly on newly-cleared land, and its berries are familiar to every boy in the country, as their red juice is often used to write with. The poke root is reputed to be poisonous if eaten, but it is excellent to steep and let simmer down with cream or milk as a salve for inflamed surfaces of any kind.—American Dairyman.

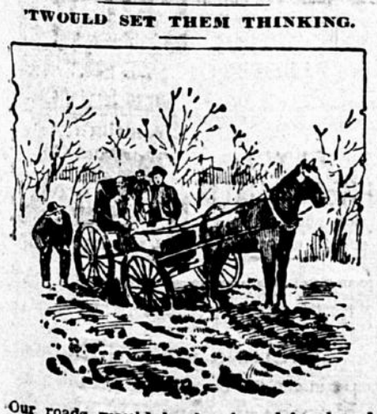
AERATION OF MILK.

Some of the Reasons Why It Is Necessary in Cold Weather.

It is remarkable that many dairymen who are very particular about airing the milk during the summer become careless on the approach of cold weather. While the milk will not spoil so readily at this season, it is just as necessary to rid it of the animal heat by airing it as soon as taken from the cow. Neglect of this gives the milk that peculiar animal odor of which housekeepers often complain, and which they overcome in part by pouring the milk into a shallow vessel and placing it in a current of air. Besides creating a prejudice against the use of milk the odor affects the flavor.

Airing is, in some respects, even more necessary in winter than in summer. Not merely is the cow kept under more confined conditions, but the food is different. Instead of the tender, juicy and insipid grass, she partakes of stronger tasting food which must inevitably impart a foreign flavor to the milk. This is, of course, very objectionable; but it can be taken out by thorough airing directly after milking.

'TWOULD SET THEM THINKING.



Our roads would be level and hard and neat,
And planned in a better style,
If horses could ride on the cushioned seat
And men do the pulling awhile.
—Good Roads.

A Leak That Should Be Stopped.

How many farmers outside of regular dairymen ever take time to test their cows and calculate whether or not they are profitable and paying for their keep. One good cow should furnish milk and butter bountifully for any ordinary sized family, but how often do we see three or four head kept for this purpose, and then the wants of the family are not at all times supplied. This is a leak that should be stopped the coming year if you want to increase your prosperity.—Crabtree's Farmer.

PLEA FOR BETTER ROADS.

Eloquent Appeal of a Missourian Who Knows What He Writes About.

Believing that the proper time to right a wrong or seek redress for grievances long and patiently endured is always the present, I propose in this article once more to stir the pool by again bringing up the already much agitated question of public highway improvement.

It is not my province in this paper to tell how roads shall be built, or appropriations made for the purpose thereof, so much as to try and show the urgent necessity that something be done, and that immediately, for the betterment of our present condition. It is a fact, and much to be deplored, that too many of our country roads have more the appearance of dried-up water courses than good, intelligently-constructed highways, and this, in the face of all the taxable wealth that is annually poured out for the purpose of making them betetr.

Such a condition of things is not, to say the least, creditable to the intelligence of the people in any community where such evils exist.

I hold that the first two requisites for a people's welfare, and without which good government is only a name, are good schools and good highways.

As good schools lay the foundation in mental discipline on which to build in after years the higher, nobler life, so good highways are the first essentials for the development of our agricultural interests on which so much depend the development and prosperity in all commercial affairs.

To facilitate traffic in the world's increasing products, the rock-ribbed barriers of the continents are subdued and daily respond to the whistle of the locomotive. For the diffusion of knowledge in agricultural pursuits and to solve the ever recurring mysteries pertaining thereto, experiment stations and agricultural colleges, equipped with the finest talent and all the later appliances for investigation, at an enormous outlay of capital, dot our land. Yet, at the very root whence spring these advantages, there still remains one of the worst evils with which the producer has to contend, and that is the American road system, the management of which remains practically the same as in colonial times; roads that, through the agencies of frost, flood and foolishness, are annually rendered impassable for weeks—often months—at a time, and at a season, too, when market prices for much the producer has to sell rule the highest.

Is it any wonder, then, that shippers have at last discovered, and even in the eastern states have long complained, that it costs more to lay down their products at tide water than to land them in Liverpool and Glasgow, 3,000 miles away?

If this be the result of poor roads and expensive haulage, when applied to the loose, porous soil of the East Atlantic states, what must be the condition of that numerous class dwelling along the vast stretches of undrained country in the valley region of the Mississippi and the Missouri, and subject alike to poorly managed roads, a chaos of mud and a merciless monopoly of the steam car?

Here is a land, here is a state destined through her mighty resources to some day become great and a leader; her vast mineral deposits alone, once fairly developed, would constitute a nation's pride and a nation's glory. Her sunlit and flower-gemmed prairies, fertile and fruitful as the Indian isles, wrought up to their fullest capacity of productiveness, would feed for an indefinite time the hungry millions of an empire. A land, in short, literally flowing with milk and honey, and blest of heaven with overarching skies, mild and lovely as Italy's.

This land of promise, this Eden in bloom, once fairly in apparition, under a state drainage law similar to that secured by the state of Illinois, with roadbeds underdrained, properly graded and crowned, would not only give us at once infinitely better highways, without incurring the expense of a single rod of metalled surface, but would also enhance the land value more than two fold.

Nor is this all. Intelligent labor will then come to work these fields, capital soon will follow, institutions of learning and the varied industries, less acreage to ownership and greater production, more and better home markets with a ready and ever-increasing demand for the soil's products, more thoroughness in detail with greater incentives to effort—will spring up along the line of march of its teeming millions to bless and to comfort all who live and labor for the good time coming.

With all our boastfulness of what we have accomplished as a nation, up to near the close of this nineteenth century, a closer acquaintance with the history of the dead past would often bring to us the blush of shame. In the grave of Pompeii and in Herculaneum, relics of fine art, curios, painting, sculpture in bronze and marble, and from cravings in ivory by the immortal Phidias to the golden grasshopper, worn alike by maid and matron as emblem of the shortness of human life, reveal to us, after the sleep of ages, a deftness of touch, of finish, a strength and a purpose, that challenge our admiration. And notable among these ancient ruins, and wherever their warring eagles once held sway, last, but by no means least, are the Roman highways which after a lapse of more than 2,000 years stand to-day as monuments to the thoroughness and usefulness of their construction in that far-away time.—M. N. Bolster, in Colman's Rural World.

Extensive experiments at the Maine station show that the proportion of butter fat in milk does not depend on the ration; but the food which produced the most butter did it by producing more milk, and hence the best food for the butter-maker is also best for the cheese maker and the milk-seller.

FASHION AND FANCY.

New Styles and Materials in Costumes for the Ladies.

Among the notable features of spring costumes will be the belted blouse, which promises to be not only fashionable but extremely stylish and—what is with many women more to the purpose—comfortable. Belted garments allow more freedom of action and much more agreeable under-dressing than women are willing to adopt when wearing fitted waists. The present fancy is for a blouse with under-arm seams, except with very full figures, when darts are considered desirable. This blouse extends about four inches below the waist line and is kept in shape by a belt.

The fancy for belts is running riot. They are of gold wire or filigree or silver. Plainer ones are of leather variously decorated, and satin ribbon belts are very much liked.

White serge suits and yachting dresses are made in this way, and the same model is used for semi-dress outings in which tourists are so fond of indulging. Very narrow belts are worn with these white dresses, preferably of white leather. Some belts have large, leather-covered buckles, others handsome gold buckles.

White alpaca is coming into favor as a rival to serge, of which many ladies are becoming weary, having worn it for many years past.

The duck suit is a standard article in the wardrobe of the well-dressed woman. There are very fine qualities among the new ducks, and these make extremely comfortable and serviceable costumes, although somewhat expensive as to laundry bills. Much is said about shrinking duck before making it up, but even when this is done it is necessary to allow either very large seams or to make garments extremely loose, as in its contracting qualities it follows closely in the wake of the average all-wool flannels. It is a notable fact that after the third season some ducks waists and jackets will shrink, and will finally become so small that the original owner finds it impossible to get into them. Just why this is no one seems able to discover. The most popular models for duck suits are the skirt and jacket. The jacket is specially liked for women who are at all stout, and the belt passes around the back and underneath the fronts, leaving these loose, which is thought to improve the figure very much. With these jackets are worn drooping vests of silk or lawn, with soft collar or turned-over collar and necktie.

Grass linens are among the most attractive of the season's standard goods. Those who wore them last year are enthusiastic over their good qualities, and they are already being sold and made up for all-through-the-season dresses. Handsome costumes are made of them by the addition of gold lace applique. These trimmings are set on, and the linen is cut away underneath them.

There are some very elaborate designs, and these are worked in with most excellent effect, making dresses that are not only handsome and stylish, but comfortable and cool-looking for extremely hot weather. Simpler ways of making up these linens are shown in the belted waists and plain skirts as described for serges. As unornamented dresses they are useful and not specially expensive. The extravagant use of gold lace which is being indulged in my many designers adds greatly to the expense of dresses, more particularly as most of the lace is not at all durable, but tarnishes after a few wearings.

There are white linen insertions and edgings that make up very prettily with these linens, also those in unbleached and ecru tints.

Sensible and inexpensive dresses are made of the fine cheviots that are a feature of the cotton-goods stocks. These come in very narrow stripes or in mixed colors, and some of them have a slightly crinkled effect, on the seersucker order. In buying these goods, however, special attention should be given to their laundering qualities. Many of them lose all their beauty after the first washing. They do not appear to fade, but all of the brightness and clearness of the colors vanish, leaving a dull, cloudy effect, which robs them of all their attractiveness. Before purchasing they should be thoroughly tested. Reliable merchants refuse to warrant them fast colors. While some of the colors are durable, more of them are not, and it is scarcely worth while to go to the expense and trouble of making up a dress of cotton goods that is worthless after its first laundering.—N. Y. Ledger.

Presence of Mind.

"I will ask three or four persons in the audience to draw cards at random from this pack," said the professor of magic, stepping down from the platform and walking through the aisle. "Then replace them in the pack, first noticing carefully, however, the card you draw, so that you cannot be mistaken when I shuffle them up, place them in a glass tumbler, ask you the name of each card, and cause it to rise up from the pack without touching it myself. * * * Young man, what was the card you drew?"

The young lawyer with the slightly bald head, who had accompanied the daughter of the clergyman to the hall, turned to her and said in a hurried whisper:

"What was it? I don't know one card from another."

"I—I think it was the ace of spades," she replied, hesitatingly.

"The ace of spades," he called out, in a loud, confident tone.—Chicago Tribune.

Changed His Course.

Hoax—I understand you ran away to sea when you were a boy?

Joax—No! I started to, but my father caught me and I went on a whaling expedition with him!—Chester (Pa.) Democrat.

—A true and genuine impudence is ever the effect of ignorance, without the least sense of it.—Steele.

PUPIL—"What qualifies a man to be called a master of the fence?" "Well, monsieur, he may be very clever wiz ze foils or he may be what you call a mugwump."—Brooklyn Life.

"I SHORE does hope," said Uncle Mose, "dat dey will git dis heah new photograph trick so fine by summer dat man kin tell wedder melon is ripe."—Indianapolis Journal.

CALL him wise whose actions, words and steps are all a clear because to a clear why.—Lavater.

PARLEY and surrender mean the same thing where virtue is concerned.—Mme. de Maintenon.

ALL men, if they work not as in a great taskmaster's eye, will work wrong, work unhappily for themselves and you.—Carlyle.

A VICTORY is twice itself when the achiever brings home full numbers.—Shakespeare.