

Flies by the Barrel



They were all caught in a sugar-barrel fly-trap in six days.

TO catch all the flies near your house, or all the flies in your neighborhood, you should make a sugar-barrel fly-trap. A smaller barrel can be used, but a sugar-barrel will hold more flies. This may sound "fishy," but just look at the picture—and then go and do likewise.

All that black mass is nothing but flies—big ones, little ones, flies of all kinds: forty-seven pounds of nothing but flies. And they were all caught in this sugar-barrel fly-trap in six days, two of which days were rainy, and therefore bad for fly-catching.

How to Make the Trap

TO make a trap, fit in the bottom of a barrel a cone of fly-screen netting large enough to come half-way up in the barrel. Cut off the tip of the cone, so there will be a one-inch opening. Tack the wire cone securely around the edge, so that no trapped flies can get out after once having passed through the small opening in the top of the cone. Then nail three little legs on the bottom of the barrel, so that

it will stand two inches above the floor.

Now cover the top hoop of the barrel with wire netting and fit it securely over the top of the barrel, but do not nail it there; make it a tight-fitting lid.

Avoid Sticky Bait

YOUR trap is now ready for bait. Get a pie-pan and pour something into it that flies like, but avoid sticky bait, as this gets on the flies and prevents them flying up into the cone when they have eaten their fill of the bait. Place this pan in the center under the barrel and watch the flies.

They will eat, and then, being attracted by the light above, will fly up into the cone and into the barrel, instead of crawling out from under the barrel, as they went in. The more flies in the barrel the greater will be the noise; and the commotion will attract other flies from far and near.

To empty, pour scalding water into the barrel from above, remove the lid, and empty.

Keep a Goat for Five Dollars a Year

IS there any man so helpless as the average superannuated clergyman? Untrained for any work but that of the pulpit, he too often simply putters around for the rest of his days. Not so with the Rev. W. G. Todd, who has been both a preacher and a teacher. Though well past seventy, he recognized the wonderful possibilities in milch-goats, and has stocked a Massachusetts farm with one hundred and fifty of these animals.

Mr. Todd thinks that the goat ought to be as well known in America as it is in Germany, where seventy-five per cent. of the households own at least one. With a number of other men, he is backing a wide propaganda to popularize the goat. He points out that cities like New York and Boston bring their milk from points as far away as Canada, and that it is less wholesome, less digestible, and less sanitary than that which anybody can get from a goat or two kept in his own back yard.

Of course, the Todd goats are not the kind we see browsing on tin cans in empty lots. There may be common goats in the herd; but the better animals are those that have been fathered by costly bucks imported from Switzerland—handsome, long-whiskered billies that look as if they might butt over a meeting-house, but that really are as gentle as a poodle-dog, and quite as playful. Mr. Todd has scoured the country for high-class goats, and he is constantly getting people to cut down the high cost of living by putting aside their prejudices and installing a good-tempered little nanny on the lawn.

On the lawn? Why, of course. They are on the Todd lawn, and it doesn't cost a penny to feed them all summer. They would do just as well, though, in any



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old pasture. On the Todd farm they are used to clear up the brush-land, too. They take an acre worth not more than twenty dollars, and in a year or two make it worth a hundred. One of the best milkers ever raised in this country made a record on apricot and peach limbs, geraniums, green apples, grape cuttings, and hay, with a little grain for a relish.

Putting Down an American Prejudice

MANY families can keep a goat for five or six dollars a year, according to Mr. Todd. That gentleman recognizes the American prejudice against goats, but he says that it is wholly unreasonable.

"I have seen social and religious radicals," he declares, "reformers all their lives, who would not taste goat's milk to learn what it was like. They were afraid their preconceived opinions might have to be modified, and would take no risks."

This is not Mr. Todd's first experience in goat-keeping. Years ago, when his health broke down, he went to Texas and kept a flock of fifteen hundred Angora goats, which he raised, of course, for their hair.

After regaining his health, he spent some years at the head of a normal school in Porto Rico, and when he finally returned to the old New England farm, he found that the milk problem had become a serious one in Massachusetts, and decided upon his campaign to win recognition of the goat as the "poor man's cow."

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