

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH

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A GREAT PACER.

Among last year's green pacers Bumps, the 4-year-old unsexed son of Baron Wilkes, was one of the most prominent, and few, if any, displayed greater speed combined with as much consistency and such remarkable racing quality. He is illustrated on this page. His first appearance was made at Mystic Park, Boston, in June. He was un-

placed, but it was the first and only time. He was started in any number of races on the grand circuit and elsewhere and made his mark at Buffalo in August, the first heat in 2:09 1/4. Bumps is out of Queen Ethel by Strathmore and is bred in the purple.

Many people find dairying unprofitable, but can't account for it. One reason, which is often obscure, is faulty

cows. Perhaps one gives large quantity of poor milk and don't pay for her feed and care. Such cows not only eat their own heads off, but eat a large hole in the dairyman's pocket. It ought to be known that in butter or cheese dairying it is not the cow that gives the most milk that pays best, but the one whose milk makes the greatest amount of marketable product at least cost. There can now be no good excuse for

ignorance on this point, for there are simple means of learning the truth respecting every cow in the herd.

Drouth has blighted most effectually the late crop of Irish potatoes over a large portion of Texas and Arkansas, and unless a general rain comes within a week the sweet potato crop will be short also. It would be well if there were no other crops short.

There can now be no good excuse for

P432306. Walsh

Orchard and Garden

Edited by Dr. A. M. Ragland, Pilot Point, Denton Co., Texas, to whom all communications for this department should be addressed.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Roots are foragers, and extend both laterally and in a downward direction. The roots lying near the surface draw upon the soil for a greater part of the food consumed in plant growth. Trees do not depend upon deep, penetrating roots alone. These deeply penetrating roots may draw moisture from below, but the young spongioles that form annually on the laterals are the main feeders, and should not be carelessly cut by deep plowing. Shallow, but frequent cultivation is the proper thing in an orchard. Nor should we forget to supply plant food to replace the drafts that our trees are making upon the soil.

The squash bugs are a serious hindrance to growing squashes or pumpkins. We copy from the Farmers' Voice the following method of dealing with these pests:

"To ward off squash bugs, dust with plaster. This is made more effective by adding a tablespoonful of kerosene oil to every quart of plaster, and mixing thoroughly. On account of bugs it is well to change the ground for squashes every year or two, for in a short time the soil seems to become so full of larvae as to preclude profitable culture of this vegetable. Thin plants gradually, leaving the best until not much over three remain, and arrange these so they will spread over the ground uniformly. Encourage rooting by placing a hoeful of earth at each joint of every vine. Boston Marrow is a fine autumn and winter squash. Essex Hybrid, Hubbard, Bay State and Pike's Peak are fine sorts to keep in winter. A moderately warm place suffices to keep squashes well in winter. The writer has found his cellar, where his furnace is, to be excellent for the storage of squashes. One good thing about the squash crop is that it can be practically all cultivated with the horse cultivator. At a cent a pound there is a good fair profit in squashes."

DO OLD VARIETIES WEAR OUT?

We often hear among fruit growers that old varieties are dying out, or deteriorating. Now this, no doubt, in a measure is true; but there are many causes conspiring to bring this result about, and for analysis we find that much of this supposed deterioration is due to a variety of causes, and that actual wearing out of the old types is not so often met with as we suppose. Prof. Bailey, in a lecture entitled "Van Mon's and Knight, and the Production of Varieties," makes the following observations:

"There seems at times to be a tendency for old varieties to deteriorate toward some assumed primitive or inferior type. In fact, we hear everywhere at the present day that varieties wear out with age, and we are cited to the disappearance of once cherished forms for proof of the statement. But we are learning to analyze these instances of wearing out, and we seem to find, in every instance, that there is some specific reason for the disappearance of the given varieties, and that their loss is not the result of the operation of general law. We now know that the Bordeaux mixture is a specific for the so-called running out of the Virgaleu pear, Catawba grape, and other fungus infested fruits; that change in fashions and demands has stranded varieties of intrinsic merits; that certain varieties have failed because they have been taken into regions to which they were not adapted; that others have passed out because they are difficult to propagate or are wayward growers, so that the nurserymen dislike to handle them; and so on. If we could trace out every case of the disappearance of varieties, we should, no doubt, find a special and separate reason for each one. On the other hand, we should find various varieties, like the Green Gage plum, Ribston Pippin apple, Bergamot pear, and others, which have persisted for centuries (Oh!) in undiminished excellence and everyone must recognize the fact that in the past a variety of apple has rarely gained much prominence until the first or second generation of trees

has passed away. It is significant that many of our best fruits are also the oldest, as for instance, the Baldwin, Roxbury Russet, Greening and King apples, and the Bartlett pear."

One cause for deterioration not mentioned by our author is the habit of using seedlings of uncertain quality upon which to graft or bud. The idea seems to prevail that the scion is all important and that anything is good enough for a stock. Now if we only use a stock as advocated by some for a starter, and only to carry the scion over a short period till it can form roots of its own, or, as Mr. Munson puts it, to get upon its own roots, it makes little difference.

Of course if this idea that every tree should be put as quickly as possible upon roots that are to be thrown out above the point of union with the stock is the only correct one, then influence of the stock need not be considered. But if, as is earnestly contended by a goodly number of propagators, the graft should be made only at the crown, with at least five or six inches of root stock and that thus is obtained a much more vigorous and longer lived tree, then this influence of the stock as a factor in the life and health of the tree must be considered. The writer believes that the stock exerts a much more potent influence upon the new tree than is wont to be ascribed to it. Now as an example of the influence exerted by the stock we will take the grape. There are a goodly number of our finest table grapes that are unfortunately weak in vine growth; their root development is feeble. The Delaware is a familiar example. By grafting these weakly, slow-growing vines upon a vigorous, strong growing stock, these feeble growing varieties may be greatly increased in vigor, and when we select only the vigorous apples, peaches, plums, pears, etc., from which to grow seedlings into which to graft or bud, we shall thereby eliminate one of the sources of deterioration to which little attention has been given by the producers of nursery stock. Millions of seedlings of pears and apples are being grown for the use of nurserymen without a thought of the origin of seed from which they are grown. The results must surely follow, as not a few of constitution, the diseased conditions often prevalent in the stock will have its influence upon the scion engrafted upon a weak or diseased stock. Only by looking after the quality of the stock as well as the health of the tree from which the scion is taken can we expect to keep up quality of the fruit to its pristine standard.

A CHILDREN'S GARDEN.

Thousands of farmers and villagers never think to give their children a chance to learn the mysteries and beauties of gardening. One who has never interested his children in this delightful occupation has no idea what interest a child will take in the planting and cultivation of a little plot given over to them as their garden. Such a plan with a little instruction from time to time will very soon make expert gardeners of your children. Then lead them on to understand the arts of fruit-growing, budding, grafting, pruning and training, and all these will in due time be learned, never to be forgotten. To be sure some mistakes will be made; some seed wasted, and maybe a tree or vine sacrificed in the process of developing the youngling, but the final result will pay for all the trouble and whatever expense is incurred; your children have acquired valuable lessons that will be useful to them in after life; you have given them lessons of far greater practical worth than anything they ever learn from books; you have taught them to labor and to think. So we say give the children the shovel and the hoe, furnish them with seeds and teach them how to plant and cultivate, and when the harvest comes rejoice with them over their success.

ABOUT THINNING FRUIT.

Very few people who grow fruit seem to have a correct idea of the value of judicious thinning of fruit, where trees are too heavily laden. If they did we should expect to see a good deal of fruit in some seasons picked off the trees. We append an extract from the proceedings of Missouri State Horticultural Society, which are worthy of careful reading:

"First—No tree should have more fruit on it than it can hold up well and mature to perfection; that is to say that

the trees should not be so loaded as to require their being propped, or so much that the branches bend very severely. This checks the growth of the fruit to such an extent as to injure the quality.

"Second—Every time a tree has too much fruit it weakens its vitality to such an extent as to require two or three years to recover, or so checks its growth that it begins to decline and is permanently injured.

"Third—In the production of an over-crop it costs the tree more to ripen the seeds than to make the fruit.

"Fourth—If from a tree heavily loaded there is taken one-half or even three-fourths of the fruit, there will be more bushels of fruit than there would be if all were left on the tree.

"Fifth—By this practice there will be less poor fruit upon the market, and the good will bring better prices and give infinitely better satisfaction.

"Sixth—Thinning makes the fruit of much better quality, makes it keep longer, and produces finer, handsomer, more attractive and much more desirable and salable fruit.

"Seventh—When orchardists shall look upon thinning as important as cultivation, pruning, care and attention, they will succeed in supplying our markets with perfect fruit and of the very best quality, and thus increase the demand, enhance the value, and give vastly more satisfaction to both the producer and consumer."

Summer pruning of orchard trees is of much greater importance than most people are aware of. The fact is, very many people literally butcher and destroy their orchards for want of a little information. It affords us pleasure to give the following extract from the Horticulturist. We commend it to every reader who has an orchard:

"The question is repeatedly asked, 'When is the right time to trim fruit trees?' But I never heard the more important question asked, 'How is the right way to trim trees?'

"The answers to these two questions, which I propose, is the following rule for trimming trees: Between the 20th of June and the 4th of July, cut the limb very close to the trunk, so as not to separate the bark from the wood; then, with a brush cover the wood and bark with gum shellac, having it previously dissolved in alcohol.

"Why this particular time? some will ask. I answer, because this is the season when the year's growth of wood is going on, and it will unite with the bark quite out to where it is cut off, a very important point. Why cover over the place with gum shellac? another will ask. Simply because this will preserve the wood from decaying, while nature is at work healing the wound.

"I burn apple tree wood in a Franklin stove, because it never snaps on the carpet, and I have no difficulty in purchasing it. Farmers are 'cutting down old trees which formerly bore superior fruit, because they are dying.' And why are they dying? Simply because they have been improperly trimmed. In cutting up the trees, the outside has generally a sound appearance, but inside I find large limbs have been cut off, and before the wounds healed over that part of the limb not removed had become so rotten and thereby so materially affected the health of the tree that it could bear no more fruit—it could hardly live—it must be cut down to make room for young trees, which, if treated in the same manner, will prematurely decay from the same cause.

"Trees should be trimmed when young in such a manner that there will be no necessity for cutting off large limbs. If this were done our fruit trees would attain a good old age, instead of being cut down when they should be in the prime of life, and in full bearing."

MELON CULTURE.

JARED R. JACKSON.

In my article on "Pea Culture" there are so few mistakes I feel encouraged to write again.

Since my school boy days until I became a Texan, ten years ago, I never failed to raise good crops of melons.

The first and most important thing is to secure the best of seed. This applies to all products. These may be improved by careful selection and culture. Never allow but one kind to grow on your place, and don't allow any other vines to grow within at least 200 feet—

cucumbers, squashes, tomatoes, etc.—in fact you must keep them absolutely free from the pollinating influence of all other blooms. The necessity of this will force itself upon you. Any morning after your vines get in bloom if you will watch the "little busy bee" carrying the pollen from one vine to another. "The Georgia Rattlesnake" is a good melon, but we have a long white melon raised here in the neighborhood of Austin which is better if handled carefully and the neck eliminated, which can be done with the careful selection of seed.

For more than twenty-five years I planted the same kind of melon in Louisiana. I commenced with a good one, but I left off with a far better—a long, white, delicious melon weighing from 20 to 40 pounds.

The usual rough green nutmeg is the best of musk melons—one kind is enough.

To enjoy the luxury of melons you must have them ripening in succession through the season. To do this, plant as early as frost will permit. It is well to have a few hills in boxes or covered with a small box with canvas tacked over it. You want a good mellow sandy, loamy soil. It is often well to put a good spade of well rotted manure in the hill. If I had black waxey land I would use sand and gravel in the hill.

Let your land be well plowed early. The roots of your vines will permeate all the loose soil you give them. Make your hills 12 feet apart and put ten or twelve seed in a hill. It is all important to get a good stand of any crop. Thin out to two or three plants, cultivate well until your vines are two or three feet long. They will need one more hoeing.

It will not do to disturb the vines after they get to running much. Make your plantings about two weeks apart and you can have melons from June to October. When your family have enjoyed the luxury of a few crops of this delicious fruit it would not be wise to neglect it afterwards.

Young Farmer, try this plan and see if you have not melons to treat your friends and to spare. Don't say the country is too dry—the melon is a dry weather fruit.

Austin, Texas.

ABOUT ROOT KNOT.

C. FALKNER.

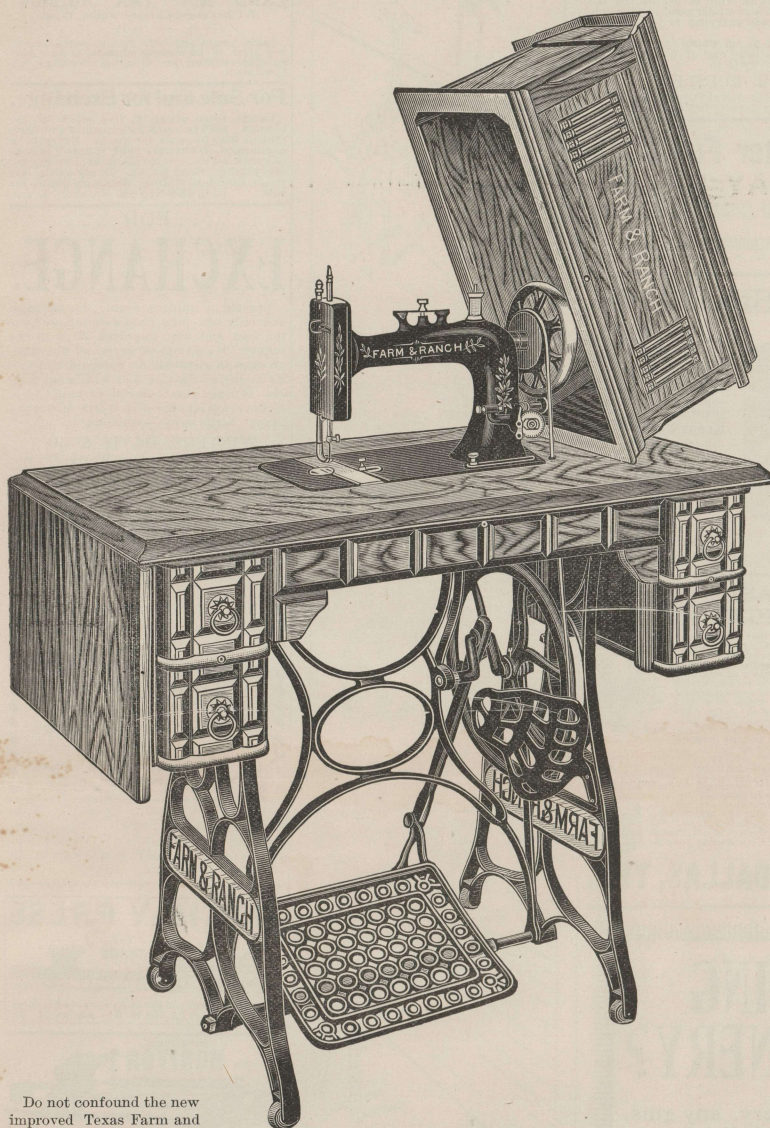
In the last issue of Texas Farm and Ranch Mr. Kirkpatrick requests me to tell what I know about root knot on fruit trees. I know I have it. I know it has proven very destructive. I know close root pruning does not cure or even check it. Likewise all other remedies—and I have tried many—have failed to cure or check it.

When Mr. Onderdonk at our Rockport meeting stated, in speaking on the subject, that "it was widespread and all nurseries were infected with it," I doubted the statement. Now I no longer doubt his statement, but on the other hand believe every word of it. Having one of the largest orchards in the State, I have grown but a small percent of my own stock, but have mainly bought my trees from various leading nurserymen of the State. Without a single exception I have found this disease on stock from each nursery, some very much worse than others, but the worst of all was from stock bought from Florida.

This root knot, or tumor, is one of the most subtle and destructive diseases now affecting our fruit trees; and I question whether or not many of our fruit growers have an adequate conception of the widespread destruction caused by its insidious attacks. Many an orchardist sees his trees dead and dying and explains it as poisoned soil, alkali, or bad cultivation, when by digging down he will find the roots a mass of tumors, some as large as his fist and the actual cause of dead and dying trees.

Friend Kirkpatrick asks me to tell how this disease may be known. It is easy to detect it in its developed or knot form by looking at the roots, and right here let me warn fruit growers to examine closely the roots of fruit trees when they first come from the nursery, and if they find any kind of knot, if on only one tree, reject the whole lot. So subtle is this disease that I believe one knotted tree shipped in a bundle of 100 sound trees will impart it to 95 of the sound ones. On receiving some 6000 Japan plum trees from Florida a few years ago, I found some 400 of them with knots on the roots and rejected

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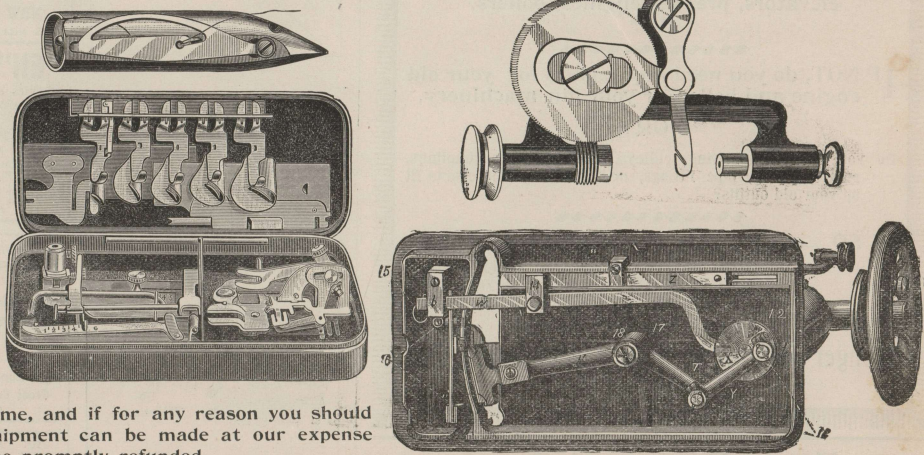
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Correspondence

A REFRIGERATOR WITHOUT ICE.

Huntsville, Texas.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

Glory hallelujah!

Every editor in the United States who has one spark of philanthropy about him will publish the following at least twice in his paper, so all in the future may reap the benefit of it this summer, and summers yet to be.

It explains how all can have a natural refrigerator at no cost, by which you can have cool water, milk, butter, cream, meats, or anything else you want to keep cool. The farmer and dairyman can make twice as much butter and sell it for as much again per pound.

Churning is not so hard and long, for your cream is at the right temperature, and it will keep butter hard and sweet the hottest days of summer.

Then you have cool, sweet milk at every meal, and water as cool as if at the bottom of the coolest springs or wells.

God had just as well not make laws for men if man does not utilize them. Now for the explanation.

The cooler is run by the combination of two natural laws, evaporation and capillary attraction. Wrap a jug of water up with a wet cloth and hang it up in the air and shade, in the strongest current of air, and wet the cloth around it every few minutes, and in a short time the water will be cool.

Go in bathing with some garments about you, and when you come up out of the water you feel cool and chilly until the garments are dry. All southern aged ladies understand the "wet cloth system" but they do not know how to keep it wet night and day, and here is their trouble.

It is done by the law of capillary attraction. Take a wet towel or cotton cloth and put one end of it in a bowl, or full pitcher of water. Let one end of the towel reach to the bottom of the pitcher and the other below bottom of the pitcher on the outside, and all the water will run out of the pitcher through the towel slowly and keep the towel wet.

Now for the dairy or cooler. Every house has it and its occupants don't know it, and it costs nothing.

Do now exactly as directed, and if the woman is not a lazy, dirty, filthy slouch, and her husband careless and indifferent, they will put one up exactly according to directions, which will be almost invaluable to them.

Take a common wash tub, or a large bucket—say tub—and put it upon a table or something similar, in center of table in the shade, where the south breezes will blow upon it. Now set gallon jars all around the tub, or as many as you want, several inches apart and each jar an inch or so from tub.

Ten or twelve gallon jars can set on the table all around the tub. Turn a plate up-side-down on each jar for lid.

Now take a clean flour sack and draw the mouth of it over a jar of milk, then throw bottom of sack over in water in tub. The mouth of the sack is wet around the jar—drawn over by capillary attraction.

You have now the idea and here are the particulars.

Get two sticks of wood, both two inches longer than the diameter of the bottom of jar, one inch thick and one and one-half inches wide. Lay them down edgewise parallel with each other. Then get about nine smooth galvanized fence wires, each as long as the sticks of wood. Sticks about five inches apart. Tack or staple wires in sticks; wires about one inch apart.

Get a round pad of cloth, two inches in diameter longer than diameter of jar, and two or three thicknesses thick of cloth. Lay pad on wires and set jar over pad. Air will pass under jar and keep its bottom cool and sack will keep pad wet. Use only gallon jars. The flour sack, or better, a slip made of cotton flannel, or something similar, must be made so it will fit jar loosely to get off and on easily, yet touch sides of vessel when wet. Get for lid of tub, a sugar barrel lid, or make something similar, two inches in diameter less than diameter of top of tub. Drive three long nails, equally distant from each other in edge of lid, letting nails stick out from edge of lid one and one-half inches lid and bend over edge of tub, so lid will

not rest on cloth or sack.

Get oil-cloth cover for table top and place or tack a small stick one-half inch thick and wide on edge of table under oil-cloth. Waste water will run on oil-cloth. Raise one end of table a little and water will run to one corner of table, under which corner place a bucket to catch the drippings.

Let bottom of tub be about four inches above tops of jars. Do this by making a three-legged stool with short legs, for tub, so air can pass under tub to jars on opposite side. Milk must not shake.

It keeps milk cool and sweet twenty-four hours and you work with your milk, cream and butter as you do in winter.

Put this out and send it to your friends or neighbors, for it is simply invaluable. Yours for good,

J. J. SMITH.

THE TEXAS COAST FAIR.

Dickinson, Texas.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

A visit to the Texas Coast Fair, held at this place on July 3, 4 and 5, should effectively dispel any doubts that may have been entertained by any as to the capabilities of the coast country. The public have been informed from time to time of the products of that region, and here at the fair they were gathered in glorious aggregation. Dickinson, Arcadia, Lomo Alto, Deepwater, Hitchcock, Clear Creek, Lamarque, Hulén and Erin—all entered into friendly competition, besides many outside points.

Dickinson, almost midway between Galveston and Houston on the Galveston, Henderson & Houston road, is admirably suited for fairs and similar gatherings. Nature has been lavish of her gifts here. Dickinson bayou, a beautiful stream of an average depth of 15 to 20 feet, upon which little sailing vessels ply to and from Galveston, bearing the products of the neighborhood, to be exchanged for return cargoes of merchandise, bends around a portion of the fair grounds, its banks being lined by magnificent old oaks, underneath which a dancing pavilion has been erected and comfortable seats placed throughout the grove. The Fair Association has expended a large amount of money on the grading, beautifying and fencing of the grounds, erection of a handsome exhibit hall, grand stands from which to view the races, and other exterior attractions and buildings. Presumably, it is intended to hold an annual fair, and there is no reason why such should not be successful, especially when the coast country, which really may be termed as still in its infancy, becomes further developed.

Friday, the first day of the fair, opened up somewhat inauspiciously as far as attendance was concerned, and it soon became evident that the public were saving themselves and their purses for the Fourth of July celebration the following day. Those who were present had a good opportunity for thorough inspection of the exhibit. The award committee commenced their labors the first evening and the baby show and judging also held was of course a central attraction. A band from Galveston was in attendance each day and the excellent musical selections rendered added to the enjoyment of the occasion.

Saturday, the 4th, was the big day of the fair. A light rain fell during the night and the outlook next morning was for a wet day. Dark and threatening clouds hung low, but about 9 o'clock the atmosphere cleared, the Galveston and Houston excursion trains brought large contingents of pleasure seekers, the crowd being increased by numbers who came in from the surrounding country in conveyances and on horseback. Aside from the fair exhibit, the speech of Senator Mills, who, according to previous announcement, was present, was the chief attraction. His speech, which was eloquent and appropriate, was a sketch of the progress of events and the advancement of the American people since the declaration of independence, and concluded by pathetic allusion to the Cuban troubles and the action of our government regarding them. Many who expected his speech to touch on the money question were evidently disappointed.

A barbecue was held under the trees at noon, where the greatest abundance of tender, juicy beef, and bread, was served to all. An exhibition of saddling up and riding wild horses was another attractive feature, and several bucking

bronchos went through their customary performances and were handled in first rate style by their riders, who were mostly colored men.

Your correspondent acknowledges his obligations to Prof. F. W. Mally, secretary of the Fair Association, and also to the assistant secretary, Mr. Walter Eldridge, for courteous attentions and information furnished on every occasion demanded. These gentlemen, as well as the other officers of the fair, were untiring in their efforts to make everything pleasant for their visitors, and whatever success was achieved is due to their zealous efforts. Apart from that consideration they should realize satisfaction from the fact that the fair exhibit will prove a wonderful advertisement for the coast country and satisfy many who were heretofore ignorant of the unbounded capabilities of that section.

The visitors present included a few notables in the Texas horticultural world. Prof. Munson of Denison and H. M. Stringfellow of Galveston were there, and by their courteous, friendly intercourse showed that their many literary tilts were regarded in an impersonal light and as bearing on principles, not personalities. F. T. Ramsey, the progressive nurseryman from Austin, was a successful exhibitor and a large number of prominent local fruit and truck growers from the surrounding neighborhood were present; also representatives of Texas Farm and Ranch, Horticultural Gleaner, American Agriculturist, Galveston News, Evening Tribune, Alvin Sun, Bay City News and Houston Age.

THE EXHIBITS.

The R. T. Wheeler Fruit Company of Hitchcock had an exhibit which occupied one corner of the hall and attracted universal attention. It was not entered for competition, or most assuredly would have carried off honors. It was a splendid showing of what can be accomplished by irrigation, although it must be understood that many other creditable exhibits were non-irrigated. The Wheeler Company's exhibit embraced, in a word, almost every vegetable grown, and many fruits, Green Globe artichokes in bloom, Jerusalem artichokes, mammoth onions, including Silver King, Creole, Prize Taker, Bermuda; extra large corn, a 16-pound Globe turnip, Le Conte and Keifer pumpkins weighing 30 ounces; 56-pound watermelons, many varieties of plums, including Burbank, Wild Goose, etc.; Malaga, Lamarque and Niagara grapes; strawberries in fluid and preserved, including the famous Smeltzer No. 2; Italian olives, Celeste figs, and many other fruits and vegetables. The R. T. Wheeler Company is composed of the family of that name, who are among Hitchcock's leading and most progressive citizens. Mr. Roy Wheeler, son of Capt. R. T. Wheeler, who, with his father and family, were present, is an enthusiastic young orchardist, whose intelligence on horticultural matters coupled with modest and gentlemanly demeanor, indicate that he will follow worthily in his father's footsteps. He is also a breeder of fine hogs, for which he states there is a growing demand.

Max Braner of Beeville had a fine grape exhibit, including Muscat of Alexandria, Malaga, Black Prince, Hamburgh and other varieties. Thompson's Seedless, a raisin grape, was another variety in this collection that attracted attention. It was an immensely large cluster, unusually good. As will be seen in the award list, Mr. Braner secured several prizes. This indication of Beeville's adaptability to grape growing was a surprise to many, and it is evident that the people there have got a good thing if they avail themselves of it, in the way of soil well adapted to viticulture.

H. H. Jancks & Co., of Deepwater, had an exhibit of vegetable products. Their variety of Mammoth White and several other varieties of onions was very fine; also eggplant, a citron of 1895, which grew all this year; Mammoth Tree tomato, which Mr. Jancks stated flourished in that country; also some fine Botan plums were included in this exhibit which deservedly took the \$20 prize offered by the Association for the best general collection of Texas grown vegetables not less than thirty varieties.

R. H. Darsh, of Dayton, exhibited four specimens of uncommonly fine seedling peach grown by him at his place in Liberty county. They were unnamed, but are evidently close kin to the Chi-

nese Cling or General Lee family.

G. Onderdonk of Victoria, the veteran nurseryman, had a collection of Munson's Hybrid grapes on exhibition. A comparison of them with Prof. Munson's own exhibit of similar varieties shows up much to the disadvantage of the former, indicating presumably that they are not so much at home in South as North Texas.

Theo. G. Thomas, of Lamarque, exhibited Ponderosa tomato, Giant cucumber and a variety of coast country peaches, name unknown.

The Agricultural and Mechanical College had an exhibit on hand which included thirty-seven varieties of Munson's Hybrids, also thirty other varieties of American grapes. The exhibit was an exceedingly interesting and valuable one, many of the varieties showing much promise. It must, however, be considered to some extent local in character, rather than representative of the State, as many of the varieties exhibited which succeed in most portions of the State were poor—for example, Niagara and Herbemont, whose bunches were very small and shriveled.

F. T. Ramsey, of the Austin Nursery company, Austin, had an exceedingly attractive collection of fruit. This exhibit was valuable as an object lesson of fruit production on black land. It included chiefly Japanese plums, whose fine size and condition made it evident that they are deserving of increased culture. Normand, a pure yellow when ripe, and of the very highest quality, was one of the varieties. This plum took first premium at the Horticultural society's exhibition last year for the best plum not catalogued. Burbank, Abundance, Chabot, Keiser, and Satsuma were other Japanese plums in this exhibit, also Lombard and Chickasaw, Wild Goose and Columbia of the natives. The Wickson, Mr. Ramsey stated, is a plum that promises best of all. He will have some ready for Tyler. Several varieties of peaches shown here were good, but rather small, owing to heavy crop and dry weather. Twenty-five prizes fell to the Austin Nursery company's lot on their entire exhibit.

Prof. T. V. Munson, of Denison, had a splendid exhibit of white, red and black grapes, seventy-five varieties in all, which were the center of attraction. They were not entered for competition. Among the hybrids, the creations of Prof. Munson, deserving special notice are the Bell, Rommel and Gold Coin, coming in the order named—regular and sure bearers and very satisfactory. Prof. Munson states he is having reports of excellent tests of them by local and distant shippers, exceeding the Rommel, which, though finest in quality, is rather too delicate for shipping. The standard red grape exhibit in this collection included the well known Brighton, Delaware and Lindley, ripening in order named, also the Perkins, a common fox grape, but very successful as a market grape from its prolific qualities and freedom from rot. Of the Munson productions in red, and superior to any heretofore mentioned, is the Brilliant, a bright red and especially prolific, vigorous in production, a splendid shipper, and promises to rank among the first in its class when thoroughly known. Mention might also be made among these hybrids of Dr. Collier and Muench, medium late, and the Fern, Laussel and Marguerite, prettily named by Prof. Munson after his three daughters. These varieties ripen late in August, September and October. Among the standard blacks, Champion, ordinary in quality, but ripening early, and a good market grape was one of the collection; also Moore's Early which flourishes in North Texas, but unsuitable for the South; Ives Seedling, a common grape but very successful—the old Concord, now well nigh superseded by improved varieties, and the late grapes, Eaton and Highland.

Of Prof. Munson's productions Beacon is a handsome variety. It ripens just after Moore's Early and before Concord. This grape is a cross between Post Oak and Concord, and is said to show great promise for Texas. Among the very late hybrids, Carmen, Herman Jaeger, Bumper, Cluster and Hopkins (the three last named being fine wine grapes) deserve special mention.

Along with the grape exhibit Professor Munson showed with pardonable pride the World's Columbian Exposition medal and diploma which were awarded him. The medal, cast in bronze, beautifully executed and en-

dom kick or balk. Very few mules ever kick in the harness.

A mule seldom gets hurt on a wire. While they are very quick to see a weak place in a fence, and will get out where a horse would not try, they are careful not to get out.

The usual way to break a mule is to throw a rope over his head, and tie him to something solid until he gives up, when a good, strong harness is put on him, and he is hitched by the side of a strong, well-broken mule or horse, and both hitched to a wagon and driven into a large field or meadow, and kept on the run until the young mule will quit cutting capers, mind the bit and drive up. After the first round there is little more trouble.

A 2-year-old mule will do a large amount of work. It is very hard to over-work a mule. If his collar fits, he will do all that he should, but will take care not to do more. Some who have not worked mules think they would not like them, but after they try them and get used to them, they would not be without them.

GROWING AND FEEDING CATTLE.

Iowa Homestead.

This is an age of specialization, and it is, speaking generally, neither possible nor desirable to run counter to its tendencies. Business is divided and subdivided into special lines, and by narrowing the draft men acquire special skill with which one who seeks to combine many of these can hardly compete on equal terms. It can, however, be carried too far, and there are indications that in the cattle business there has been too much disposition to separate the growing of stock cattle and the feeding of finished steers. There are reasons why farmers should grow, one year with another, the calves they need for feeding, and should not grow stockers for sale. We are aware that drawing upon the limited experience of single years, one can prove almost anything with respect to the relative profitableness of these two halves of cattle production. Taking the experience of some other year when feed was short and cattle plenty, it is just as easy to show that it does not pay to grow cattle at all, and that it is cheaper and more profitable to buy stockers to feed. This year stockers have been worth about as much as finished cattle. In some other years the finished cattle are high and the stockers are almost given away. There are among our people so many price chasers that these changes rattle them, and they get away from one branch to another with a rapidity that only enables them to miss a profit every year. The thing that each farmer wants to do is to cultivate level headness as well as crops, and to develop steadiness of purpose as well as his live stock. With respect to cattle he can do this by growing every year as nearly as possible just as many animals as he needs and no more, having no stockers to sell and none to buy. When feed is plenty, stock cattle will be quite certain to be relatively high, as compared with finished steers; when very abundant, as it is now, the margin will probably be obliterated entirely. On the other hand, when feed grows scarce, it is the finished product that is high and the stock cattle are almost given away. The man who grows his own supplies, however, and feeds them will be likely to make a steady, moderate profit every year. When the first condition exists, he makes it off the stockers; when the second occurs he makes it off the feedings. What we mean by this is that when a man has a good grain and blue grass farm, if cattle production from start to finish be considered as an entire, indivisible operation, some money can be made, but if it is cut in two, it becomes a sort of "gamble" as to whether the profitable end of the transaction has been selected for the particular year.

In growing stock cattle for one's own feeding, the breeding becomes of even more importance than when they are grown to sell as stockers. By this we do not mean that well bred stockers will not bring a better price than indifferent ones, even when the purpose is to sell them as stockers. What we do mean is that when stockers are a high price, second rate stuff will generally command relatively more money than the best. But when a farmer intends to feed them himself, it is only the best that he can feed to the best ad-

vantage. Really good stock cattle are, and for a long time have been quite scarce. The car loads that used to be picked up a decade ago at any small shipping point cannot be picked up in that way any longer. They are bought now by twos and threes, and command a price that leaves no market for the feeder, even with our cheap feed. What the farmers of the cattle region ought to do is to give to their herds of breeding cattle something of the same attention that the breeder of breeding cattle gives to his, with of course, a closer confinement of his attention to strictly useful points. This involves careful selection of dams and the use of really first-class beef bulls. As to breed, that is a question of taste somewhat, and of the feed, conditions, care, etc., with which the owner is likely to be able to surround them. But when the character of the selection is determined upon, the selection itself should be from the best, usefulness in beef points being the criterion. It is the steady goer who wins in the long run, and the man who produces his own cattle, taking care to breed them well, and who will feed them, taking care to make them good, will, one year with another, find his condition steadily improving. Of course, as a "flyer," there are seasons, such as the present, when all the money is in the stockers, and there are others when there is no money in stockers. There are seasons, too, when there is no money in feeding, and there are others when all the money that is made in the cattle business seems to be there. But, by regarding the production of beef as one operation, from the calf to the shambles, there is always some profit in it when there is profit in anything.

RAISING AND PACKING HOGS.

Drovers' Journal.

The raising and packing of hogs is an entirely different matter from what it was in earlier days. The writer well remembers when hog raising was the only way farmers had to raise money. They raised hogs for \$2.50 to \$2.75 dressed, delivered in Cincinnati. A common way of marketing was for the farmers living within fifty miles of Cincinnati to slaughter their hogs and haul them to the city for sale. The packers in those early days rented the large mercantile houses which had been built for the purpose of carrying on any kind of mercantile business, and in these put kettles for rendering lard and blocks for cutting up the hogs. Hogs were sometimes bunched and driven into the city in droves. These were killed in slaughter houses a mile or two from the places where they had been provided for packing. There was no modern facilities then thought of for handling hogs. Through the process of slaughtering they had in those days what we called off-bearers, strong men for carrying all the hogs from the benches to the places for hanging, and heavy work it was. There would be a hog now and then that weighed 500 pounds, and all such went to the strong man of the crowd to handle them. From the slaughter house to the packing house heavy teams of horses were employed, and the loading of the hogs and the unloading was heavy work. The hogs were cut into clear pork, mess and prime, and the great bulk into hog round. This was hams, sides and shoulders, and was commonly made as salty as salt could make it. The clear pork went to Boston, and was chiefly used by the fisheries. The hog round went largely to the South.

The grading up of hogs began at an early day. As well as we can recollect the first Berkshire hogs were imported into Ohio in 1811, and they have held a front rank ever since, but our American hog raisers have been for many years engaged in efforts to mix or cross breed in such a manner as to get a better breed than any of the imported breeds. The Berkshires make a large portion of the breed of hogs now common all over the United States, this breed being about half Berkshires. We have in our makeup of hog supply in our country a few of the Jersey Red. Now in our day in place of the old system of handling hogs in the slaughtering have slaughtering and packing houses of the most finished type, with store room in the building for several thousand hogs. The pen for sticking the hogs is in the upper part of the building. The hogs are raised by a

clutch hook around the hind leg and are stuck while hanging. As fast as they are dead they are dropped into a large scalding trough, and out of this they are drawn when scalded through a machine which takes nearly all the hair off. They are moved by machinery to the place for gutting, and the heads are taken off at once and go to the rendering tank. The carcass is at once split in two and a suspended iron runway is fixed to the joists overhead, in which a small wheel is run with a meat hook attached, and this takes the half hogs anywhere they are wanted for handling in a general way. In the hot season the carcasses of the hogs all go to the chill room, for it is to be understood that the packing houses are so constructed that packing operations can be carried on every day in the year. The large houses are constantly provided with ice machines.

Our packers have established sale stands in several of the old countries for the sale of American meats, and the hogs are cut and cured to suit those markets, there being six or eight different cuts. Light and middling fat is the kind of hogs that makes meat for the English market. The hogs here should weigh 180 to 200 pounds, a size that can be easily reached at six months of age. Eight months or thereabouts will make mess pork hogs.

The Poland-China hogs are a breed of hogs that have been got up here in our country within the past 25 or 30 years, and are made up largely of the Berkshires, and are highly esteemed by the farmers and packers.

The abundant corn crop of last season seems to have given the country rather too many hogs, and the prices for hogs suffered a heavy decline as a consequence. There are some indications that the rush may have spent its force, and that we shall see better prices.

HAYING.

J. M. Rice, in Epitomist.

Very few farmers but what know the best method of securing hay crops, but while the methods are to be practiced, cheapness is an important consideration in these close times.

Most western farmers stack their hay in the field, and all things considered, I prefer it and to feed it out on the field where it was grown. I do not claim that this is the best way, but it is the only practicable way at present, and in the usually dry winters there are but few objections, either as to the hay or stock. Of course I practice and advise strongly better accommodations to cover the short periods of storms.

As my farming has been largely in a more northeastern location in the great timothy and blue grass belt, I have more special reference to that section, and I have more in mind the small farmer of limited means than the bonanza farmer. The latter, perhaps, has not much patience with the day of small things.

The small farmer may not even have a mowing machine of his own, but in connection with a neighbor there are four horses, machine, rake, two twenty-foot ropes, two forks, and best of all, several children, ready and willing to "snake" in the shocks. This is the total force needed, and without a dollar's outlay, except for a possible breakage, the hundred acres on the two farms can be gotten into mow and stack in ample time and fine shape.

Commence before haying time. See that the machine, rake, ropes and forks are exactly right, that you know, and all concerned, including the good wife, just when and where you are going to start. Commence early in the season; better have hay a little green than too ripe. Commence early in the morning. Have two and a-half acres out by ten o'clock, then start the rake and have it in the widow by dinner time. The wife will have a good dinner. Don't take a smoke or a sleep; take a real rest for half an hour and then all that can use a fork help to put it in the shock. Now, two horses with ropes, and if the boys or girls are old enough to drive and hitch to the shocks, well, but if not, let them ride the horse and a third boy to hitch for the team. Start your stack near the center of the plot that is cut, haul in the hay by shocks, crowd them near together in the right shape for the bottom and nothing more need be done to them. The bottom thus started, one or two courses of shocks can be pitch-

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It is comparatively an easy matter
to earn money; the difficulty is in keep-
ing it. The rich man is in a condition
of constant anxiety lest he fall a prey
to some scheme for obtaining money
without returning an equivalent. The
poor man is exempt from this evil and
consequently sleeps soundly.

The bill restricting immigration to
persons who can read and write was
passed by the house of representatives
on May 20. The measure was con-
sidered by the senate, but owing to the
demand for campaign thunder, it was
not acted on before adjournment, and
will come up as unfinished business at
the short session. The original bill
was introduced in the house December
3, and instead of passing it in three
days and sending it to the senate for
a maximum delay of three days more,
it still hangs fire. The illiterate from
the four corners of the earth can vote,
and being ignorant and usually penni-
less, they are amenable to the "per-
suasion" of the political trader, and
for that reason alone, they can still
come into the country and vote, and
such votes count for as much as those
of our best citizens.

Texas Farm and Ranch had a pleas-
ant call last week from Mr. J. D. Lea,
business manager of the Record, of
Roswell, N. M. Mr. Lea paints the
Pecos valley a beautiful pea, or alfalfa,
green, says farmers there care nothing
for drouth, as they do not depend upon
the clouds for water, are making fine
crops and are going for sugar beets
with energy and anticipation. Also
that hog-raising and cattle feeding are
being largely developed. He also re-
vealed a rumor that just as soon as
something occurred a month or two

from now, work would begin on the
railroad extension to Washburn. The
liberal capitalists who have invested
so much already in that valley will
surely build the road, or have it built,
simply because they "have to," if for
no better reason. This road will do
more than any other thing to develop
the possibilities of this unsurpassed
forage and fruit producing region.

MORE FARM SANITATION.

Why is it, for it is true, that there is
more sickness in proportion to popu-
lation in the country than in the
towns. Certainly the natural ad-
vantages of the country are superior
to those of towns. The pure air, the
fresh and wholesome food, and the ex-
hilarating influence of Nature in her
best moods ought to promote health
and longevity, and yet people in the
crowded cities, surrounded with un-
mentionable filth, and breathing an at-
mosphere laden with the exhalations
of sewers, garbage and the inevitable
accumulations of a dense population
of men and animals, enjoy better
health than those who breathe the
pure air of the rural districts. It
should be known that there are other
factors of this problem besides the air
we breathe, the water we drink and the
food we eat. It should also be known
that comfort has much to do with the
health of the body. A delicate and
costly piece of machinery must be well
cared for or it soon becomes eaten of
rust, clogged with dust and unservic-
able before half its natural term of
usefulness has expired. The human
body is the most fearfully and wonder-
fully made of all machines, and should
have better care than any mere inani-
mate piece of mechanism. Just here
is where country people—farmers—are
at fault. They treat their bodies as
though they could never wear out.
They expose themselves to rain and
sun, unnecessarily; they will tramp
through the dewy grass until wet to
the knees, and trust to time to evap-
orate the superfluous moisture; they
will labor in the hottest sun, without
even the convenient protection of a
damp towel in the hat; on account of
inadequate provision for stock they
must be up on stormy nights to remedy
the neglect of a more suitable time;
they often go without clothing suited
to the exigencies of the weather, while
umbrellas, slickers and rubber boots
are cheaper than pills and powders.
All farmers should have the best of
food, prepared in the most wholesome
appetizing and digestible manner. It
is equally true that many of them do
have these things in their best con-
dition; but it is equally true that a
large majority do not, and many live
chiefly on bacon and bread, with per-
haps some turnips and cabbage in
season, with strong coffee as their
chief beverage. Through a mistaken
idea of economy they deprive them-
selves of the most salutary products
of the orchard and garden, that they
may have an additional bale or two
of cotton to sell so they can settle with
the doctor and the druggist. A large
majority of farm houses are con-
structed apparently with the sole view
of keeping out rain with the least pos-
sible consumption of material, often
single walls, without ceiling or plaster-
ing, through which the north wind
flickers the kerosene lamp and chills
the inmate on one side while the
huge open fire scorches the clothes on
the other—a fruitful cause of pneu-
monias, pleurisies and other acute dis-
eases of the respiratory apparatus. Peo-
ple who live in towns can breathe the

foul air with apparent impunity and
eat the stale food without serious con-
sequences, because they are comfort-
ably housed and comfortably clad, and
can command a more wholesome va-
riety of food, which is usually better
prepared for the table, for hotels and
restaurants must have at least toler-
able cooks. There are other factors
that tend in the same direction, but
we did not start out to exhaust the sub-
ject, and in conclusion will say that
farmers have it in their power to take
as good care of their bodies as is neces-
sary to perfect health. Unavoidable
exposures may be shorn of all their
danger by a little proper preparation.
It is better to build a smaller house,
and have it comfortable; the orchard
and garden and poultry yard should
be liberally patronized; and in short
more labor and money should be spent
for bodily comfort and less for drugs
and doctors' visits.

A THREATENED NUISANCE.

Under date of April 14th, 1896, Mr.
Julien Riverchon, of Dallas, Texas, the
well known botanist, received a letter
from Lester H. Dewey, assistant bot-
anist of the Department of Agriculture,
stating that Prof. Pammel had report-
ed prickly lettuce (*Lactuca Scariola*)
as growing at Dallas and requesting
him to obtain a specimen and forward
it to the Department to be placed in
the National Herbarium. Mr. River-
chon has sent Texas Farm and Ranch
a specimen plant with the following
note:

"A new weed and from all appearanc-
es a very noxious weed, has appeared
in this county. It is the prickly lettuce
(*Lactuca Scariola* of botanists); it came
from Europe, but has spread very rap-
idly in many places in the north. The
plant is about three or four feet high,
straight, with entire leaves, the blos-
som very much like those of the garden
lettuce. The plant is covered with
small prickles.

The only place where I have found it
is on the grading of the H. & T. C. rail-
road about 100 yards south of the in-
tersection of the Santa Fe railroad in
East Dallas. Most of the plants have
been cut by the railroad hands and I
pulled all those I could see; the people
must have a look out for it, as it is an
easy matter to exterminate it now; in
a few years it may become a very seri-
ous matter.—Julien Riverchon, bot-
anist.

CONTENTMENT BETTER THAN A BANK ACCOUNT.

It is not a fact that farmers grumble
at present conditions more than other
people. It would be strange if they did.
Look at the ranks of labor, how they
agitate, and lade the atmosphere of
their places of meeting with maledic-
tions; so do the merchants, the manu-
facturers and the miners—all except
the few who reap rich harvests from
existing conditions. If farmers did not
avail themselves of their privilege to
"kick against the pricks," it would ar-
gue an almost superhuman humility.
But farmers are not made that way.
When things go wrong, they say so;
when they observe conditions that ap-
parently rob them for the benefit of
others; they are inclined to tell it in
Gath or Askelon, or anywhere else.
They would not be human if they did
not. When we eliminate a few chronic
pessimists, and consider only the farm-
er in his normal condition, compared
with others who labor, he is as cheerful
as a spring morning, and as well con-
tented as a pig in a pea-field. There is
good reason for this. The farmer leads
a more mature life than anybody else;
his soil is his bank, and the elements
his coadjutors; if he neglects the one
or the other goes back on him, and re-
fuses to rain on his corn, he is not
bankrupt thereby, for he knows that if

the earlier rains fall, that the later will
be sure to come, and that partial fail-
ure is not disastrous. His stock grows,
in wet weather and dry, and come what
may, he has an assurance of all the ne-
cessaries of life in abundance. A farm
is the worst place imaginable to starve
at. The food may be plain, but it is
anti-dyspeptic; and he always has the
best of sauce, which is a good appetite.
Farmers are the best contented class of
our citizens, and most of the grumbling
they indulge in is just the outcropping
of that humanity that makes us all
akin. Farmers are not very different
from other people. Their surroundings
are different, and altogether favorable
to long life and a peaceful end.

The Munger I. C. M. Manufacturing
Company of Dallas, and its twin, the
Worthington-Munger-Platt Company,
Birmingham, Ala., have issued a neat
little folder on compressing cotton at
the gin. It contains an explanation
of their system of converting seed cot-
ton into compressed bales of lint
59x21x22 inches in size and of a den-
sity of 32 pounds per cubic foot; also
some expert opinions as to its utility,
and an account of a recent excursion
from Dallas to Mexico to inspect the
largest and most complete ginning plant
in the world, recently put in by these
companies at that place, copied from
the editorial columns of Texas
Farm and Ranch. This folder is in-
tended to bring the merits of the Mun-
ger gin-compressed bale before the
rate-making people of southern trans-
portation lines, have them to investi-
gate the matter and obtain expressions
as to what they think of the size, den-
sity and shape of the bales from a
commercial as well as a freight-hand-
ling standpoint. Opinions so far ob-
tained are favorable, and we can see
no good reason why these bales should
not be generally adopted.

In Japan rare and fragile works of art
may be displayed by the roadside for
years without being defaced. Here a
house unoccupied for a week will not
have a whole sheet of glass left in any
window. In Japan there are two dis-
tinct religions, with their separate tem-
ples and devotees, but between them
there is no friction and no contention.
With us Christians, a difference in
creed is a vast chasm, not bloody, it is
true, but difficult to pass, and filled
with bickerings and contentions. In
Japan, malicious mischief is absolute-
ly unknown. Here, fear of the law's
condign punishment is the only thing
that holds in check a vandalism that
would otherwise render life a burden,
and peaceful existence an impossibil-
ity. But at vast expense we send mis-
sionaries to Japan to make Christians
out of them like ourselves, for are not
they heathens for whom Christ died?
While we are teaching these people
"justification by faith," "vicarious
atonement," "natural depravity," "free
will and the foreknowledge of God,"
would it not be well if they would send
some of their benighted heathens here
to teach us a due consideration for the
rights of man?

The drouth struck us here about two
months ago. Gardens burned up; cot-
ton looking very well; corn cut off to
less than half in Wolf Valley settle-
ment.—R. E. Charters, May, Brown Co.,
Texas.

Has been very dry here till the last
few days. Some rain and good pros-
pects for more soon. Grass getting fine.
Stock not fat, but improving rapidly.
Oats a failure, but good prospects for
sorghum, gyp and Kafir corn, milo
maize, etc. Politics below par in this
section.—M. Williams, Miami, Texas.

the kind things you can do to help mamma and the others in the family, and you will be happier and less lonely. —Aunt Sallie.)

Dear Aunt Sallie: I have been reading the "Cousins' League" for a long time, and think some of the letters so nice. I would like to correspond with some of the cousins of my age. I am thirteen years old. I go to Keachie college. It is a Baptist school. I am in the second book of French; I take music, and like it, except "Theory." The carpenters have just finished the Presbyterian church, it has stained glass windows in front, and is beautiful. We have a great many chickens, Buff Cochins, Brown Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks and Langshans. The public school has 100 pupils. I would like to have a photograph of you, too, Aunt Sallie. I will close. Your niece —Nannetta Schuler, Keachie, La.

(Your school has closed ere this, my little friend, and I hope you are having a nice vacation. —Aunt Sallie.)

Dear Aunt Sallie and Cousins: How do you all do this bright summer day? I have come asking admittance to the Cousins' League, and hope that I will not be rejected. Gracious, don't the girls write nice letters. I love the girls? You bet I do! Now, if any of you are drinking whiskey, you had better stop it, as sometime you will find yourself lying in a mudhole. Cousin Mamie Smith, you say you are thankful that you haven't any brothers. I wish I was your brother. Before I was with you half a day you would think that a brother was a fine thing to have. I have been to your town, and am coming again. I expect to see you, too, Aunt Sallie, May Rosebud is my sweetheart; did you know it? I don't care if she knows it herself. I like to read her letters, very much, and to tell the truth I—nothing. Oh! I am sorry to hear that Dela Stone thinks there is no harm in dancing. Now there is a time to dance, but the dancing I suppose you refer to is attending balls, and now I will ask you to get your Bible and read the following: Ex., 13:19; 1 Sam., 15:6; 2 Sam., 6:14; Job, 21:11; Ps., 30:11; Ps., 149:3; Ps., 150:4; Eccl., 3:4; Mat., 11:17; Luke, 7:32; Mat., 14:6; Mark, 6:22; Judges, 21:23; Jer., 31:13; Lam., 5:15, and I think you will give up the kind of dancing you follow. I will ask a question: What city was first to have its streets lighted with electricity? Being that this is my first letter, and I may not be admitted to the League, and for fear of the hungry waste basket, I will close. I would like to correspond with some of the cousins. If any of you want to know who I am, just say so. Best wishes to Aunt Sallie and Cousins. I am—"Bitty," Henderson, Texas.

(Now, Bitty, I will not give all the name you signed, because I do not like it. I feel sure you are not what the name implies, and I do not like such imputations. Come again. —Aunt Sallie.)

Dear Aunt Sallie and Cousins: Behold, I stand at the door and knock. Will no one let me in? I hear a faint answer, "Yes." I have just read St. Clair's letter and wonder why he wants girl correspondence. Really if I were you, dear cousin, I would correspond with the boys. You say the girls start off "Dear Aunt Sallie and Cousins: I can wash the dishes, wash, iron, cook, etc." If girls write such silly things why do you want to correspond with them? Ain't you afraid they will write silly things to you? I think you will have to own up that you like them, won't you? The boys are coming to the top now. I am glad to see it. What would we do without the boys of the League? They are so smart. I wish some of them lived here. I believe Bee Rodgers said the boys were too smart to get mad. I feel sorry for you, Bee; your sister is so mean to you, I am sure you work all of her examples. We know boys are good, but do not try to make us think you are angels. How would a girl feel if she found out she had married an angel. I love to go to school more than anywhere. In after years we will be glad that we loved to go to school. Miss Earnestine is my desk mate. We will graduate in the public school next year. She is a very sweet

girl. I hope the Cousins and Aunt Sallie will welcome her. Mr. Dennis please put my name on your list. Long live the Cousins and our dear editress is the wish of —Evangeline, West, Tex.

(I am pleased to welcome both Earnestine and yourself, Evangeline. Two pretty romantic names you wear. —Aunt Sallie.)

Dear Aunt Sallie and Cousins: As you kindly admitted me before, I take courage to write again. I notice several of the girls seem inclined to compromise with us on the late subject under discussion, but am sorry to see the boys respond very slowly to their advances. If we were in the right, boys, we can all the better afford to give in, and if we are not we should do so anyway. Auntie gave us another subject for discussion though, so let's drop the other entirely.

I have been on the Navasota river fishing again, cousins. Had a real nice time but did not catch many fish. I suppose you all think I spend a great deal of my time fishing and hunting, but such is not the case, for I haven't been but twice this year. What has become of Henry Jennings? I have not seen a letter from him in some time. Don't let them bluff you off, Henry. How many of the Cousins take care of Texas Farm and Ranch until they get a complete volume and then bind them together? I do, and often get down a volume and read the Household and League departments. By doing that I can see that both departments have improved wonderfully in the five or six years we have been subscribers. My brother used to contribute to the Household under the nom de plume of "Denta."

So many of the Cousins protest against dancing that "I am sorry that I spoke."

I attended a singing convention last Sunday and had a delightful time; but, as is usually the case on such occasions got as wet as a flume.

I think Fannie Taylor's dream (?) wonderful. I wish more of the Cousins (the boys especially) could have such dreams, and be duly impressed by them. U. R. A. Godhopper, your ghost stories are very amusing; I could tell you a very funny one, too, but space will not permit.

Cousin Laura Y. Elverson, I almost know you; I know your father and think I have seen you once—a long time ago.

One of the Cousins gives boys in general, and Albert Hurt in particular, "fits," but failed to sign her name. I don't think you did quite right, dear cousin, for it leaves him at a disadvantage; for if he should wish to strike back he would not know at whom to direct his blow. But my! I hear someone say, "is he going to stay all day?" No, dear cousin, I'm going. With much love to Auntie and the Cousins, I am—T. C. Denton, Madisonville, Tex.

(Let us have that ghost story T. C. I must compliment you a little on the exceeding neatness and beauty of your chirography. Glad to have you come again. —Aunt Sallie.)

Good morning Aunt Sallie and Cousins: Here comes a jolly West Texas girl asking admittance in the League. Oh, my! how pleasing you all look. I want a seat as close to Mrs. Buchanan as possible. I am a little bashful and will not have much to say. I hope to be admitted into your happy band. I used to write to the League when Aunt Emma and Uncle Mike had charge. I think it is so much more interesting now than it used to be. Aunt Sallie is so good and the Cousins write much more interesting letters than they did. I think we should select some good subject to write upon. If some would write upon art, music, good manners, etc., we could make the League charming. I cut Aunt Sallie's Grace Lunar's and Sharlotte M. Hall's pictures out of the Household; in fact all of them. I wish I could express my opinions as they do. They are all so intelligent. There is so much good advice to girls in the Household. Alma Hall writes good letters. Our school commences the first of October, will last till the 1st of June. I have not missed a day and hope I will not have to miss any. My cousin is teaching. I like to go to school to him. I have been taking painting lessons from

my cousin. I think I will like to paint; I dearly love music, although I have never had an opportunity to learn it. I hope the year of 1896 will be a happy year to all of the Cousins. This is leap year, we girls ought to have a nice time. I don't think it is fair for the boys to have four years to the girls' one. I gave a leap year and apron party Newyear night and everybody had delightful time. Cousins here's a little tribute for the Cousins:

"Here's a health to the new year;

Its sunshine and shade,
May it bring naught but pleasure
To matron and maid.
May the Cousins' League
Unbroken be found
When another glad season
Has circled around.

Love to all the Cousins and Aunt Sallie. —Alma Fulcher, Ballinger, Tex. (The boys only have three, Alma, to the girls' one, every fourth year is a leap year. I am glad you are so interested in your studies and in art and music. Come again. —Aunt Sallie.)

Dear Aunt Sallie and Cousins: I have scraped up courage to write at last. I have seen so many nice letters written to the Texas Farm and Ranch that I thought I would write and see which would claim me, Aunt Sallie or the waste basket. I don't think the girls give the boys credit for what they do. They want to make us believe that they are the only ones that can write letters; but we will show them that our heads are not turned by their hands. But to change the subject to which makes the most progress the first year at school, boys or girls? I think if you would place a bright, intelligent boy and girl in school at the same time at their A B C's at the close of the year one would be no further advanced than the other. I enjoy reading Albert Hurt's letters. Stanzie Triplett, you asked why we did not write more. One reason is because you are always poking fun at us. Well, I say "quits," and leave room for some one else. Good bye. —J. Earl Harsh, Dayton, Tex.

(You see, Earl, Aunt Sallie has claimed you. I could not find it in my heart to put a bright sweet boy or girl into the waste basket. —Aunt Sallie.)

Dear Auntie Sallie and Cousins: After reading some of the dear letters of the League this morning and seeing so much interest shown, my own heart was filled with the desire to be one of you, and I hope you will like my first appearance so well that you will invite me to come again. I was very much amused at little Alice McKee's comparing the boys to rats. I wonder if the girls are as afraid of the former as the latter. I rather think not, from appearances, for however much the girls "run down" the boys, they are very glad to rely upon their superior strength once in a while. Mae Le noir, I like your mode of collecting a library very much—so much so that I think I shall do likewise some time. Would you take some written with ink, or do you intend that they all shall be printed (the clippings, I mean). However they be, I wish you much success.

I like to read very much and most all my time, outside my home duties, is occupied with reading and practicing. I am reading Dickens' works now and like his writing very much indeed. Although I like reading so much I love music better, much better and intend to devote my life to it, i. e. to make a music teacher out of mine honorable self.

Well, so much for an introduction. I'm sure if I'm to make a good impression on the auntie, which I'm working, for I had better be gone. I am somewhere between 12 and 18; can you guess my age from my letter, Aunt Sallie? Adios, all. —Paula A. McKinney, Texas.

(You have been very successful, Paula; you have made the impression upon me, that you are a charming girl, of perhaps seventeen, whose name I should like to see often in the League. So come again before long. —Aunt Sallie.)

BOYS, GO TO WORK.

Somebody has said there are more young men in the penitentiary in this country learning trades than there are

outside of them. The principal cause of this is, we are educating our young men for gentlemen, trying to make lawyers, doctors or clerks out of the material that nature intended for blacksmiths, carpenters, and other "hewers of wood and drawers of water." It is a mistake, and a big one, to teach boys and girls by insinuation or otherwise that labor is disgraceful, or if labor is necessary for a livelihood to follow a genteel occupation, and that to do nothing for a livelihood is more becoming the society in which they expect to move and have respect. Such society is rotten to the core, and there are many men's sons and daughters who are being educated to play the part of "leading lady" or "walking gentlemen" in the great drama of life who will light out for the poor house or the penitentiary before they have played their parts and the curtains drop. Go to work. —Exchange.

Write "Farmer Shaw," Dallas, Texas, for list of bargains in Jersey cattle, Berkshire hogs and Clyde horses.

The readers of Texas Farm and Ranch who have sons or daughters to educate, will find the Polytechnic College one of the best institutions in the South in which to place them. The Faculty is large and strong, the curriculum unusually high, and the institution of the most thorough kind. No shoddy work is allowed. In addition to the regular College Course, Music, Art, Elocution, Bookkeeping, Shorthand and Penmanship are all taught by the best of instructors. Young men get board for \$8 per month, young ladies for \$13.50 per month. Write for catalogue. W. F. LLOYD, Fort Worth.

Stomachic

means a medicine that strengthens the stomach, or to be brief, it means Ripans Tablets. If you are troubled with a weak stomach and cannot digest your food use Ripans Tablets. One gives relief.

Ripans Tablets: Sold by druggists, or by mail if the price (20 cents a box) is sent to the Ripans Chemical Company, No. 10 Spruce St., New York. Sample vial 10 cents.

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Poultry

Fore some mysterious, though valid reason, the hens instead of laying on are laying off. Perhaps this is an indirect, or direct, result of the drouth. Anyway, the only fresh eggs to be had are those that are added with age, and polished by long keeping. But even these are not as fresh as the consumers who buy them for "good eggs." Carelessness in storing eggs is the cause of their lack of quality. They can not be kept at a temperature of 80 to 90 degrees and maintain their integrity. But the hens are not to blame. At the prices recently prevailing self-respecting fowls can not afford to lay strictly fresh goods, and they are imitating the trusts and "combinations in restraint of trade" by taking steps to curtail the output and thus re-establish paying prices.

With our fifty or sixty distinct breeds of chickens, all kinds of people can be pleased. There are, however, certain breeds that are adapted to certain conditions, and others that are not. On farms, where there is abundant range, and eggs chiefly are wanted, the Leghorns or Andalusians are a perfect fit. If fowls for the table, or market, as well as eggs are wanted, then Games, Plymouth Rocks, or Wyandottes, are just what the circumstances require; there are several varieties of all those named, distinguished chiefly by color. The Asiatic breeds are better suited for restricted runs, and are easily kept in confinement. Of these Langshans, white and black, are the most active foragers, best table fowls, and best layers. There are a number of other excellent breeds, among them Javas, Houdans, and several French sorts, all of which are developed highly for table qualities. Then there are a lot of fancy fowls, highly lauded by those who have them for sale, but whose reputations as "stand-bys" is yet to be earned—Red-caps, Silkies and a host of Lilliputian Bantams, that are cute enough, but make a sorry show on the breakfast table, and whose eggs are small and some distance between. Let everybody pay his money and take his choice.

CARE OF YOUNG CHICKS.

E. T. Branch, Dallas, Texas, in Reliable Poultry Journal.

A few words on this topic will be in season at this time, as the south is now the home of countless numbers of young chicks.

The period of a chick's life that is most important is before it reaches the age of two months; after this in our climate they are comparatively safe. Keep a constant watch on the condition of the chicks, and observe their condition at all times. If they are drooping or not thriving in every way something must be wrong. The chick must be kept in a positively healthy condition at all times. The slightest period of any disease will be a drawback and a detriment.

So many breeders relax their vigilance and attention during this part of the year, but they suffer for it in the fall and winter. Care must be taken to give a variety of food. If you feed soft food at all, look out for the approach of bowel disease. It is hard to check when once among your chicks.

Table scraps are good for your chicks at any time; if they are not plentiful at your house, or if the family are addicted to eating all they are helped to, leave a few yourself. The writer's people never leave any scraps, but, luckily for the chicks, he suddenly conceived a liking for the top of biscuits, small halves of potatoes, etc. The remainder is deposited in the pocket, and the chick eventually gets it. This rule won't always work if you are the head of the family, and need to economize, but if you are as fortunate as the writer to have a good "mater," then you are all right.

The chicks need attention at night, especially to see that they go to roost with the right hen. Sometimes the little fellows get separated from their hens, and never get back again, but sit out in the yard all night.

And, lastly, encourage your wife or mother to help you. If you go to a ball game, bicycle race, or something else, she's there to look after your interests, and will do it better than you

can. Never get discouraged during the dull season. Raise your chicks with care; your reward will come.

SASSAFRAS OIL KNOCKS THEM.

Cor. Farmer's Voice.

Yes, sir, oil of sassafras will kill lice on old and young chickens, says a writer. All who are raising chickens know that the greatest trouble with young chicks is the large gray head louse, which kills more chicks than any disease they are afflicted with. For little chicks the sassafras oil beats any patent medicine yet invented. After finding that the use of the oil in the food will kill the pests on grown chickens I tried it on chicks. Whenever I set a hen I give her every third day 10 drops of oil in a little bran or meal until she is through sitting. As soon as the chicks are two days old, I give the hen and the chicks a fourth of a teaspoonful twice a week. I have at present 62 chicks five weeks old and they are the finest looking lot I ever had. I prefer sassafras oil over everything I have ever tried for lice for the following reasons: First, it is no trouble at all to use it, as it is given in the food. Second, there is no danger of killing any chicks with it. Third, there is no handling of the chicks, one by one, as in lard and other cures. The suggestion of using the oil in the kerosene emulsion is excellent. I tried it as soon as I found it would kill lice, and it is excellent to put in the whitewash used for the hen house.

INCREASING PRODUCTION OF EGGS.

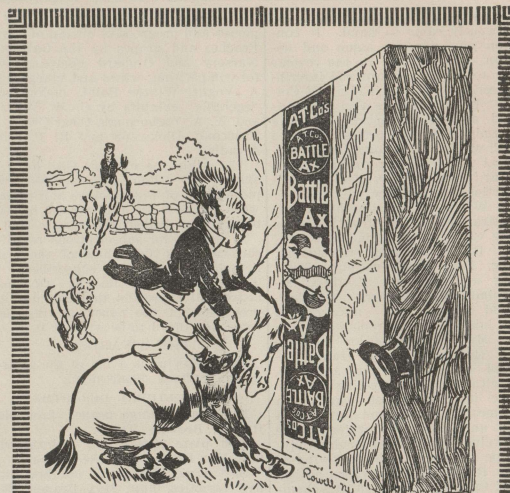
Journal of Agriculture.

As the weather becomes warmer the wants of the fowls will decrease. During the long winter they can not assist themselves, being blocked by snow and cold winds. Fowls, however, are always discontented under confinement, on the farm and fireside, and will not lay as many eggs when kept up as when they have an opportunity to forage. Grass and insects should now be abundant, and if the temperature of the atmosphere is not too high, the hens will have a strong desire to be in the fields. What the farmer or poultryman must guard against, however, during the warm weather is the use of too much corn or wheat. The necessity for the use of any kind of grain does not exist, except in cold weather, if the hens have a variety. A change of food, along with a favorable change in the weather, should induce the hens to begin laying at once, and as soon as their combs begin to get red it will be an advantage to cease the use of grain and give lean meat. A pound of lean meat once a day for a dozen hens should start them to laying, if they have not already been overfed and made very fat. Do not forget the green or bulky food, also. A head of cabbage will be appreciated, and a mess of cut clover, scalded, will not only promote laying, but is also a beneficial food from a dietary standpoint. Do not rely upon grain exclusively. Grain is not cheap unless it makes the hens lay.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

Poultry Monthly

The attempt to combine all the excellences of our different breeds of fowl in one single breed has been tried often enough to convince us that it can not be accomplished. It would be just as rational as to expect a horse to be gifted with great speed both as a runner and trotter and be an equally good draft horse. By a careful system of breeding we can incorporate very many desirable qualities in one breed, and perseverance and well-directed effort in that way have given us what we now are pleased to call the renowned Plymouth Rocks, which are yearly becoming more popular with all classes, especially with the farmers, who want plenty of eggs, and who still wish to have a sizable bird for the table or market purposes when desired. These birds may, and no doubt do, lack in beauty of plumage, being excelled in this particular by many other varieties; still their color, a homely drab, is a good color to stand—it looks substantial, giving the bird an air of business, which more gaudily dressed ones do not have. They have been established as a breed for a comparatively short time, but still long enough to be called a "breed." They are, however, somewhat difficult to breed to exact requirement of fanciers, in regard to the peculiar shadings of color. This is a



STOP! You have run up against a Good Thing.

BattleAx

PLUG

The best reason in the world why some things sell so well is because they are good. That is one reason for the great sales of "BATTLE AX."

But good quality is only half the story. The other half is the size of a 5 cent piece. It is as big almost as a 10 cent piece of other and poorer kinds.

Facts are facts. You can buy and see for yourself. Five cents isn't much to invest.

point, however, which more intimately concerns fanciers and breeders than it does farmers.

ADVANTAGES OF ONE BREED.

Florida Fruit Grower.

If one has a large number of fowls, all of one breed, there is a saving of fences and space as there will be no danger of contamination should they be turned out together in the orchard or allowed to run at large. The uniformity of the flock in color, size and general characteristics lessens the labor required, as one can more easily understand how to manage, for breeds differ, and the best mode for one may not be suitable for another. Better prices can be secured when a coop of chickens is sent to market containing a uniform lot, and the eggs from hens of one breed will be more uniform, also. When two breeds are kept, they will soon become mixed and cross-bred, as it is almost impossible to keep them separated, the result being that the breeds will degenerate into scrubs. As we have before stated, just as soon as the farmer or poultryman begins to cross pure breeds his flock becomes destroyed. There is no necessity for crossing or for keeping two breeds. A single breed, kept up in vigor by careful selection, will remain pure and uncontaminated, and will not only give more satisfactory results, but also more pleasure to the poultryman.

ANALOGICAL.

A clerk hired by John Smith & Co Declared that he'd certainly Tho find one who to talk drop Rubbish close to that shop, So the drivers round there didn't Do.—Selected.

GUARANTEED Pure Bred S. C. Brown Leghorn Chickens only. Eggs at special price.

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EGGS FOR SALE. Black Langshans exclusively.

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A 50-cent package guaranteed to preserve one hundred dozen.

Order now while eggs are cheap and plentiful. Big money in it.

Bank ref. furnished. EGGINE MANUFACTURING CO., 213 Main St., Fort Worth, Texas.

Uncle Snort's Poultry Yards.

Two pens extra fine Black Langshans, one pen White Langshans, one pen Brown Leghorns. Eggs \$1.50 per sitting. White Langshans \$2.00 per sitting. Address

UNCLE SNORT, Waxahachie, Texas.

Fresh. Eggs. Fertile.

Best brown and White Leghorn, \$1.25; Barred and White Plymouth Rocks, Black Minorca and Pekin ducks, \$1.50; Buff Cochins, Black Langshan, Light Brahma, Pitt Game and S. L. Wyandotte, \$2 per 12. Catalogue Free.

Address H. B. GEEK, Nashville, Tenn., or GEEK BROS., St. Mary's, Mo.

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EVERY FARMER

DO HIS OWN THRESHING,

with less help and power than ever before. Send for Free Illustrated Catalogue.

We make a full line of Horse Power.

BELLEVILLE MFG. CO., Belleville, Mo.

sow may be bred nor how much she may have cost, she is not a first-class brood sow unless she can with careful and liberal feeding give enough milk to properly feed a good-sized litter of pigs. Too little attention is given to the suckling qualities in selecting brood sows. The "beauties" rather than the pigs possessing the requisite qualities of a brood sow are too often chosen. It may be impossible to combine the highest meat and milk producing qualities in the same animal, but in the case of the hog the highest meat production is impossible, unless the mother gives sufficient milk to properly nourish her pigs. To sum up we would say select pigs from only matured sires and dams that have demonstrated their abilities to produce the highest types. Select only such pigs as possess the best feeding qualities with proper symmetry of form, and select these only from those families and strains that have proved themselves greatest in past generations in reproducing these desirable characteristics.

We fancy we hear some cotton farmer say, such care and thought may be necessary in selecting breeding animals, but it doesn't matter about "meat hogs." We reply that what we have written is for the common meat producer, for if it will not pay him to exercise this care it certainly can not pay the man who breeds for him, as the aim of both is the same—meat production.

HORSE POWER.

Farmers' Home Weekly.

The muscular force a horse can exert in draught is governed by the weight of its body; therefore, other things being equal, a heavy horse will pull more than a light one. According to a recent number of the Journal of Physiology, Veterinary Captain Smith has made a series of experiments to determine the proportion which the body-weight bears to the limit of power, and for this purpose all the horses were weighed. The total number of observations made was eighty-three, in which eighty horses were employed. By an ingenious arrangement of using men attached to a long rope and dynamometer, instead of fixing the dynamometer to an unyielding object, such as a tree or post, he was enabled to readily test the limit of power of each animal. Some horses, it is well known, will exert themselves to the utmost against the collar, whilst others will relinquish effort before they reach the maximum power they are capable of putting forth.

The animals tested fell in four groups. In the group marked "excellent" it was found that a horse exerting himself to the greatest possible extent cannot perform a dead pull of more than 78.5 per cent. of his body-weight. The average pull of these horses classed as "fair" gave 70.6, and in the group formed of "bad," which included some marked as "indifferent," the average pull was but 65.6 of their body-weight.

SHEP IN THE SOUTH.

Iowa Homestead.

The sheep industry in the South never reached the degree of perfection at one time hoped for by the well known sheep authority, Randall. The warm climate and other natural advantages were thought to furnish the very best environment for sheep husbandry. Northern people have settled in that section and have wrought a good deal of change in it. Among others, sheep are now found there in considerable numbers and of fair breeding. Some western ranchmen are looking to the South for good feeding grounds. Many of the old-time advantages of the far West have disappeared never to return so far as sheep husbandry is concerned. The one great obstacle to profitable sheep growing in the South is a large rainfall and but little shelter. Natural shelter is scarce and other kinds are not thought necessary. Sheep cannot be left out all winter even in that climate without shelter, for the occasionally severe weather is all the more severely felt because the climate is, as a rule, mild. Negroes and dogs are also a great draw back to the sheep industry in the South. The Piny Woods sheep is to the sheep industry what the "razor-back" is to the swine industry. A sheep or a hog that cannot outrun a negro is hardly safe on southern pastures, for

the negro will make a meal of it just as a Massachusetts dog would do. We expect to see some great changes in the sheep business in the South in no distant day. There are opportunities for the industry that will soon be opened to those inclined to embrace them, and money will be made with sheep in the South. Shelter must be provided against rains and wet weather, however, just as it must be provided against the snow and sleet storms of the North.

FORETELLING STORMS.

Exchange.

When the temperature falls suddenly there is a storm forming south of you. When the temperature rises suddenly there is a storm north of you. The wind always blows from a region of fair weather toward a region where a storm is forming. Cirrus clouds always move from a region where a storm is in progress to a region of fair weather. Cumulus clouds always move from a region of fair weather to a region where a storm is forming. When cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from the north or northeast, there will be rain inside of twenty-four hours, no matter how cold it is. When cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from the south or southeast, there will be a cold rain storm on the morrow; if it be winter there will be a snow storm.

The winds always blow in a circle around a storm, and when it blows from the north, the heaviest rain is east of you; if it blows from the south, the heaviest rain is west of you; if it blows from the east, the heaviest rain is south of you; if it blows from the west, the heaviest rain is north of you. The wind never blows unless rain or snow is falling within a thousand miles of you.

Whenever heavy frost occurs, a storm is forming within 1000 miles north or northwest of you. Cirrus clouds are those which have a thin streaming look, sometimes appearing like hair or carded wool, and sometimes like a brush or broom. They are the highest of all clouds. Cumulus clouds are those which appear in round, rolling masses, piled one above the other, and sometimes looking like great mountains topped with snow.

The drugs in Dr. Simmons' Sarsaparilla is so concentrated that the dose is very small, but nevertheless, it is so scientifically combined that it is readily retained and assimilated by the most delicate and sensitive stomach. 50 cents and 50 doses.

Write "Farmer Shaw," Dallas, Texas, for list of bargains in Jersey cattle, Berkshire hogs and Clyde horses.

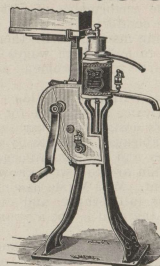
The Texas Fertilizer Manufacturing Company of Galveston, Tex., whose ad. appears in another part of this paper, is owned and operated by "business men" of Galveston only, who, seeing the necessity of such a plant in Texas, to supply the farmers, gardeners, florists, nurserymen, fruit growers and truck farmers with fertilizers that are adapted to the soil and climate of our state, have employed the best talent procurable and now offer for sale the result of their careful manufacture. The coast country has already found out the value of their product and orders both large and plentiful are now pouring in. The management of this plant is under the control of Mr. J. Block, who is recognized at the head of his profession, besides being an expert on bones, fertilizers, etc. He is assisted by Mr. S. J. Rosenfield, senior member of the old established wholesale notion house of J. Rosenfield & Co., (established in 1865) and through him the affairs of this company are carried on in a first-class strictly business style. All farmers and gardeners interested in fertilizers will do well to correspond with them, their prices will be found as low as any of their competitors and terms liberal.

POLITICAL CONVENTION.

For the following political convention the Santa Fe will make round trip rates of one fare from all of its Texas and Indian Territory points: National People's Convention, St. Louis, Mo., July 2, 1896. For particulars as to limits and time cards call upon and Santa Fe agent or write to

W. S. KEENAN,
General Passenger Agent, Galveston.

\$73.55 Gained in a Year With the U. S. SEPARATOR.



"My account from May, 1894, to May, 1895, with the milk-setting-process, having 9 cows, showed 1294 pounds of butter made, netting me \$267.00

May, 1895, to May, 1896, with the U. S. SEPARATOR, having the same number of cows, I made 1499 pounds of butter, for which I received \$340.64

Making the difference in favor of the U. S. in one year, \$73.55

This was due to the fact that I make more and better butter with the U. S., commanding a better price."

J. M. JONES,
West Salamanca, N. Y.

June 6, 1896.

A PRETTY GOOD PAYING INVESTMENT.

Our Catalogue will give you many more pointers. Ask for it.

VERMONT FARM MACHINE CO., Bellows Falls, Vt.

THE NAME

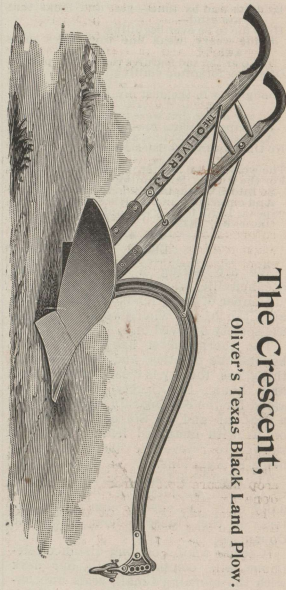
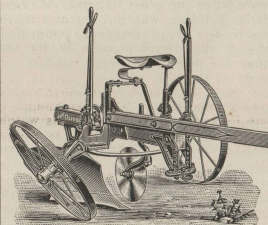
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THE KATY FLYER
A NEW FAST TRAIN



FIRST CLASS SERVICE
TO
ST. LOUIS
AND
CHICAGO
WITHOUT CHANGE.



52 Issues of Texas Farm and Ranch for One Dollar.

Household

Edited by Mrs. S. E. Buchanan, Dallas, Texas, to whom all communications for this department should be addressed.

LIFE'S MISSION.

ETTA GRAY.

[Dedicated to the Heartsease Circle.]

Lord, help me to work in thy service below,
While the days into weeks are growing,
The weeks into months, the months into years,
Each bearing its measure of hopes and fears,
And my life tide swift is flowing.

Let never my footsteps from duty aside
To the right or the left go straying
Where odorous flowers of evil blow
And Pleasure's blossoms of selfishness grow,
Thus my mission's goal delaying.

Though humble the life work appointed to me,
Though small be the charge Thou hast given,
Let me strive each day in my lowly sphere
That to some dim vision may glow more clear
The pathway that leads to heaven.

By deeds and by tones—yes, and looks that are kind,
Help me to be ever beguiling
Some weary, weak one from life's cares away,
Till o'er the sad features the ripples play
Of a long forgotten smiling.

Though low in the dust my own dream castle be,
And my hopes that were brightest be lying
In heaps all about me—forgotten joys,
Ambition's fair idols, and shattered toys—
No time for my foolish sighing.

The work of the Master requireth my haste,
For the time of His coming is near,
So into His keeping I'll give my all
And cheerfully answer His every call.
"Speak, Lord, thy servant heareth."
—ORCHARD, TEXAS.

CHAT.

We are taking a vacation visiting Stephenville, where we have met quite a number of the friends of Texas Farm and Ranch, and where we are enjoying the society of loved ones.

The thermometer has run up away beyond the nineties, and disdains anything less, the sky is clear and cloudless and though the thirsty earth cries aloud for the cooling rain, nature turns a deaf ear, and old Sol heats down upon us with unabated heat. Oh, for a shower to revive the drooping, dying fields and gardens.

The Household seems a long way off to us, and we miss the pleasure of a daily mail, the cheery, comforting letters of the Householders and the Cousins.

It seems a kind of long-distance telephone talk, compared with our desk with the morning's mail, seals unbroken, and the anticipation of something nice within.

Whatever is lacking we hope will be forgiven, while we promise, like the children, to do better in the future.

We acknowledge the receipt of an invitation from Prof. F. W. Mally, Secretary of the Texas Coast Fair Association, supplemented by another from Mrs. L. Hamlet, Matron, to be present and assist in the delicate, and at the same time difficult task of deciding whose baby should receive the award at the Baby Show, as the finest, prettiest, sweetest and smartest in the lot.

A kindly providence intervenes and prevents our acceptance. While we regret more than we can express, our inability to be in Dickinson, where we had a most delightful visit last fall, there is one thing we shall be spared the possibility of offending anyone of the good women whom we met at that time.

Looking out on the dry and dusty streets, we think "how cool and inviting the waters of the bayou, with its grand old shade trees; the main hall with its fountain in the center, banked with lovely flowers; but above all we sigh for the courteous, kindly handshake and cordial greetings of her hospitable people who made our last visit so delightful.

We wish for the fair the most abundant success in every way, and hope when the next one is held we may be there.

Friends whose letters appear, are all most welcome, though their letters will go into the Household this week without our supervision—the first time since we took charge of the Household nearly six years ago. Next week we hope to resume our usual work and welcome each visitor in person.

WHAT SOME WOMEN ARE DOING.

Six women of courage have just started for the Alaskan gold region.

Not that they expect to get the precious metal by mining, but rather by performing tasks appropriate to women, and without the performance of which men cannot be comfortable. Three of them took sewing machines with them, and all expect to make high wages in a country where white women are scarce.

Miss Virginia Wilkinson Wilde, a young New Orleans artist, has for a number of years designed the carnival pageants and tableaux. The beauty of their conception and the magnificence of their execution are too well known to need comment. Miss Wilde has literary ability, is tall, brunet, and distinguished looking, and is yet a young woman.

The classes for women at the School of Agriculture in the University of Minnesota are an innovation, and promise to be successful. Sixty women were enrolled in the first class. They will study all the minutiae of dairy work, the theory and practice of cooking, the chemistry of foods, sanitation, the physiology of digestion and nutrition, horticulture, floriculture, plain sewing and mending. They have a dairy-hall and a complete kitchen, and a home for the girl students. Board and tuition are not expected to cost more than \$3.50 a week to each pupil.

The city of Cincinnati possesses a striking example of what can be done by woman's pluck when accompanied by practical common sense. Twelve years ago the Misses Stewart, sharp young women who had been reared in wealth, were, by business failures, thrown upon their own resources. They secured a room in a business block and established a lunch room, where they made a specialty of home cooking. Most of the work they did with their own hands, and the excellence of their supplies soon created a demand. The little lunch-room became a success, and at the end of five years, when the great Chamber of Commerce building was put up and there was to be a large restaurant connected with it, the Misses Stewart boldly applied for it. They were backed by many of the best business men in the city, who had known them in their days of wealth, and been impressed by their ability as business women. Their bid was accepted, the Misses Stewart assumed charge of the "Glenairn" lunch-room, and have conducted it without break or failure for the past seven years. The hours of the lunch room are from 11:30 to 5 p. m. The clientele is very large. For rent and service alone the yearly expenses are \$10,000. The prices charged for food are very reasonable, yet the sisters not only paid all expenses, but live in comfort and are becoming wealthy. They have never lost social position by going into business, and during their entire career have never had to borrow a dollar. In spite of their success, and the fact that from their surplus they have been able to make profitable investments, they have not given up the practice of bestowing their personal supervision upon each department of their enterprise.

GROWING OLD GRACEFULLY.

A few days ago we were coming down upon a car, our fellow passengers were two elderly ladies. As we entered one remarked, "I am sixty-four years old." We looked at the speaker. She was a well-preserved, well dressed, sprightly woman and could easily have passed for a much younger one. The other was a tall, spare, angular old lady, quite erect, her face shaded by a bonnet could not be plainly seen, but her voice was clear, and distinct as she answered: "Well, I have somewhat the advantage of you, I am seventy-four."

It seemed incredible—so much in keeping with her surroundings was she, talking of improvements in the streets, changes in the citizenship of Dallas, and of the styles and fashions of the day. She was on on a shopping expedition, remarking that, "she did all her shopping and enjoyed it."

We remembered years ago when we were young how we looked upon the aged. It seemed then when a woman had reached fifty years, life could certainly hold no charms for her, that she must be relegated to the chimney corner, the darning or knitting needles, and a solemn preparation for death, which must certainly soon follow.

But times change and we change with them. We realize that the world no

longer belongs to the young alone; that whether young or old, we have a right to avail ourselves of our possibilities, to make use of the means of keeping ourselves young and in the enjoyment of blessings, and that it is a righteous and lawful thing, as long as we are in the world to be of it; to take part in its progress, and to help make it brighter and better for those with whom we must daily come in contact.

It has been but a short time since elderly ladies thought it the proper thing to don a lace cap or wig to conceal their gray hair; they retired with their age into the seclusion of home, feeling that age was unlovely and must be hidden. As grandmothers and maiden aunts they were useful adjuncts in any home, when as nurses, seamstresses or housekeepers they were necessary to the smooth running of the family machinery.

It is fortunate for women who are advancing in years, that public opinion has changed, and it is expected that they shall form a part of society, and enter into the pleasures of society.

To-day the leading clubs in most of our towns and cities have a preponderance of elderly ladies; they lead in charitable organizations; they are leading factors in church work; they are not deprived of invitations because of their years; on the contrary the value of their wisdom and mellowed experience is as fully acknowledged as the value of youth with its sparkle and beauty.

Not very many years ago a woman would have been considered very imprudent in her duty and negligent of the affairs of her soul, in allowing herself to feel a very keen interest in the business, pleasures and amusements of life.

Now women of advanced years are seen in public, side by side with the young. They dress with taste and elegance, taking upon themselves as much of fashion and style as seems good and desirable. They take part in all social functions, are seen in church, at the lecture, at the opera, upon the streets and enjoy a shopping expedition as much as her younger sisters.

The close cap and big bonnet almost universally worn by elderly ladies forty years ago is unknown to the present generation; the stylish little bonnet with its bit of color in flower or plume has replaced it. So with many other styles which served to stamp a woman as past the age for social pleasures or fashions. The change in public sentiment is fortunate for both young and old; the presence of elderly women in any public or private function adds dignity to the grace of youth and smooths the asperities and tones the conditions of the novice in social life. Elderly women who keep in touch and sympathy with the young wield a mighty influence for good over them. They soften and subdue the sometimes riotous exuberance of youth, adding a tone of gray to the rose and golden hues of life, which harmonious contrast makes the charm of social life greater.

THE SUMMER BABY.

ELSIE GRAY.

A great deal of importance is attached to child life in these days, and those who have the best interests of the little ones at heart, are glad that it is so. Not only does this apply to his education, but to his physical needs also. Even the layette has come in for its share of attention, and the baby who is properly and hygienically dressed will soon be the rule instead of the exception.

First there is the little shirt of finest, softest flannel, that will not irritate the velvety skin. Over this a skirt also of flannel, made like a night gown, except that it is not quite so wide, and has no sleeves; over that is the muslin or calico slip. A linen band is used for the first few days, then a light knitted one, that will allow perfect freedom of the diaphragm. No safety pins are needed except for the napkin and band, as the other garments are fastened with tiny buttons, so that he need not be twisted and turned from side to side while pinning his clothing on. Suits very much like this have been advertised under different names and have been warmly recommended by physicians and mothers who have made the baby's comfort their study. Some advise discarding the band entirely. I would not do that, although many mothers have done so without injuring the child. But the unyield-

ing muslin ones that for years were considered the correct thing, must have been a torture to the active little body.

Do not make the skirts and dresses too long. Thirty inches from the neck to the lower edge of the hem is plenty, even for grand occasions. Soft, dainty materials, plainly made, are considered the most stylish, and are certainly more comfortable than the heavily embroidered or ruffled ones.

When he is old enough for short dresses, protect the feet with thin stockings, and soft chammois moccasins. During the summer and early autumn, baby's surroundings should receive more than usual attention, for it is then that fatal illness is so likely to occur. Let the house be well aired by keeping the windows open day and night. Keep the cellar dry and clear of rubbish. Absolute cleanliness is even more essential for the health of our little ones than for our own.

The question of proper food for the baby is also a very important one. I verily believe that many children suffer for want of nourishment because the mother is afraid to give him anything except the food nature intended for him, and that fails to satisfy his appetite. When I found that I did not have enough milk for my baby I tried various things, but found nothing as good as lactated food, whether given as an exclusive diet or in connection with nursing. It may be prepared with water, or part milk and part water. If he is not content to drink from a cup, a plain bottle and rubber nipple may be used, but great care is needed to keep them perfectly sweet and clean. Any tube arrangement is objectionable. As soon as the meal is over, rinse and put them in cold water. This will dissolve anything that clings to the inside. Then before using, fill half full of hot soapy water, shake hard and rinse in clear water.

In hot weather the baby will go to sleep more easily after a bath in tepid water. Put a teaspoonful of borax in a wash bowl of water and gently sponge him all over, drying the skin gently. Do not cover the baby too closely, but be sure to protect him from sudden changes of temperature; teach him to go to sleep in his crib instead of on your warm lap, and place him in the coolest, most quiet corner in the house. The children can play elsewhere. Many a nervous child is seriously injured by being constantly disturbed when trying to sleep.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

SELF DEFENSE.

WIFE OF A FARMER.

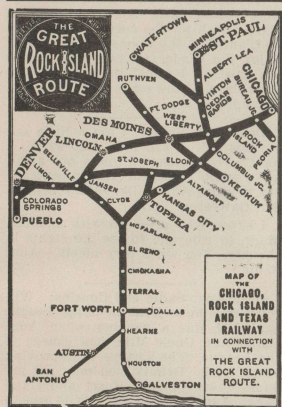
Mrs. Buchanan: I wish to beg of you the privilege of speaking out for the farmer or in his defense. We live in Texas Farm and Ranch of June 13th Matron furnishes a memorial to have presented to our State legislators at the next session, also a petition for an appropriation to be set apart for the founding of a horticultural school for girls, in which she says the wise government of the home and intelligent care of the children is woman's most cherished privileges. We say certainly they are, and the burden duty of every parent and guardian to teach their girls the problem of how to make a living. As well, train their minds in all the fine arts and fashions of the day. They do this at their own expense; why not the art of making a living at their own expense, instead of taxing the poor producer for it? For it is the producer that is taxed most of all. For these speculators and our officials have drawn the lines so close now that the producer can hardly keep the wolf from the door, even on his own farm. He cannot sell the produce for enough to pay taxes (which are being increased every year) and the hired labor which he needs so much; and gets nothing for his own hard but honest toil.

Therefore his wife and daughters are forced to go out in the scorching sun and labor in the fields for a very scanty support, and oftentimes don't get money enough to buy the few books their children need, or clothing that will keep out Jack frost, or that will be at all respectable and consequently can't go to school during the few weeks they can be spared from the farm to attend public school in the winter, which both city and country children have a right to.

Then Matron and others would have

LUMBER TRUCKS

TO ORDER.
HARTWELL IRON WORKS, Houston, Texas.



This map shows a modern "up-to-date rail road," and how it has its own line to the principal large cities of the West. It is the

"Great Rock Island Route,"

And has double daily fast express train service from Texas as follows:

No. 2 Lv. Fort Worth.....	10:40 a. m.
Ar. Kansas City.....	10:25 a. m.
No. 2 Lv. Fort Worth.....	8:10 p. m.
Ar. Kansas City.....	5:25 p. m.
Ar. Chicago.....	8:25 next a. m.
Ar. Denver.....	7:25 a. m.

Through Pullman Sleepers and Free Reclining Chair Cars.

Don't overlook the fact that Train No. 2 saves you a whole business day en route to Denver or Colorado Springs.

Your local ticket agent will probably want to sell you a ticket via the Rock Island, but if he don't—insist until he does.

J. C. McCABE, G. P. A.,
Fort Worth, Texas.

Our Clubbing List.

We will send TEXAS FARM AND RANCH and any one of the following publications one year at the very low rate given below. No paper will be sent at less than publisher's full price unless taken in connection with TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. The price of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is one dollar a year.

American Sheep Breeder and	Regular	With T.
Wool Grower.....	price.	F. & E.
Atlanta Constitution, weekly.....	\$1 00	\$1 75
American Gardening.....	1 00	1 75
American Agriculturist.....	1 00	2 00
Arkansas Gazette, weekly.....	1 00	1 75
American Swineherd.....	50	1 25
Breeders' Gazette, weekly.....	2 00	2 50
Courier-Journal, weekly.....	1 00	1 75
Colorado Poultry Journal.....	1 00	1 50
Cosmopolitan Magazine.....	1 20	2 00
Creamery Gazette, semi-weekly.....	1 00	1 50
Cultivator and Country Gen'l.....	2 50	2 50
Chicago Live Stock Journal.....	1 00	1 75
Detroit Free Press, weekly.....	1 00	1 75
Dallas Times Herald, weekly.....	1 00	1 25
Dallas News, semi-weekly.....	1 00	1 75
Demorest's Magazine.....	2 00	2 50
Farm Implement & News, weekly.....	2 00	2 50
Farmers' Call.....	50	1 25
Farm Journal.....	1 00	1 75
Globe-Democrat.....	1 00	1 25
Green's Fruit Grower.....	50	1 25
Galveston Weekly Tribune.....	50	1 30
Godey's Magazine.....	1 00	1 50
Galveston News, semi-weekly.....	1 00	1 75
Horn Queen.....	1 00	1 25
Houston Post, semi-weekly.....	1 00	1 75
Hoar's Dairyman.....	1 00	1 75
Harper's Round Table.....	2 00	2 50
Jersey Bulletin.....	2 00	2 25
La. Planter and Sugar Manufacturer.....	8 00	8 50
Ladies World.....	2 00	1 25
Ladies Home Companion.....	1 00	1 40
Memphis Commercial Appeal.....	1 00	1 25
Munsey's Magazine.....	1 00	1 75
Modern Priscilla.....	50	1 25
N. Y. Thrice-A-Week World.....	1 00	1 70
New York Ledger, weekly.....	2 00	2 50
New Orleans Picayune, weekly.....	1 50	2 25
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Peterson's Magazine.....	1 00	1 75
Rural New Yorker.....	2 00	2 50
St. Louis Globe-Democrat, w'ly.....	8 00	8 50
Scribner's Magazine.....	8 00	8 50
Southern Cultivator & Dixie Farmer.....	1 00	1 75
Southern Farmer.....	50	1 25
The Silver Knight, Washington.....	1 00	1 35
Texas Farmer.....	1 00	1 75
Texas (German) Post.....	2 50	8 00
Texas Baptist and Herald.....	2 00	2 50
Texas Christian Advocate.....	2 00	2 50
Texas Democrat.....	1 00	1 75
Texas Sandwich.....	1 50	1 75
Wool Markets and Sheep.....	1 00	1 50
Western Poultry Journal.....	50	1 25
Youth's Companion.....	1 75	2 50

At these rates TEXAS FARM AND RANCH must be taken with every order. Any number of club papers may be ordered in conjunction with TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. If you want any other paper not given, write us for our club rate. We can order any paper in the United States for you. Papers can be sent to different addresses. Send money by Post-Office Order or Registered Letter if possible. Stamps taken when order cannot be obtained.

Address TEXAS FARM AND RANCH,
Dallas, Texas.

THE FARMER OF TO-DAY.

From an Address by Hon. Edwin E. Willetts.

In a certain sense, the old-fashioned time and old-fashioned methods were easier. It was no trick to plow a field sow the wheat, let it grow to maturity, harvest the product and take it to the nearest market. That is, the routine was practically fixed. The father and his methods were perpetuated in the son. There was just enough diversity in the soil, in habit, and in thrift to make one man more successful than another, but nature did the work, and if nature was not fickle the year's product was bountiful, the compensation reasonable. The farmer was easy-going and had but little of the worry of latter times. He was not bewildered over a new and, to him an untrodden highway.

The old-time farmer did not have and did not need to have a swivel in his mental structure. He did not need to adjust himself to so many and so varied vicissitudes. A telegram can now discount a crop 5 per cent in twenty-four hours. In the old time the same result took three or six months. This gave time to turn matters over with deliberation, and to come to the end by easy stages. The worry was distributed so that it was hardly felt. Now it comes with a jump. It has the fascination and the peril of the gambling pit. In the same day almost we see affluence and success and despair and suicide. The new order of things makes matters lively, and the old bones need lubricating to keep step with the procession. The majority are learning to hustle, the minority only do the grumbling. In other words, the majority of the agriculturists of the country are making on an average a better living than men in any other industry. It would seem to the passing observer that the complaints of agriculture are universal, but that is not so.

Take a census of any agricultural community and you will be pleased to note that a majority are doing fairly well, thank you—only they are not satisfied, for that would be asking too much of human nature. A friend of mine in the good old times of expansion, speculation, and two dollars and a half a bushel for wheat, kept his crop over to get three dollars—was not satisfied with two dollars and a half, and ended by being forced to be satisfied with one dollar and ten cents. He did some grumbling at all times, but in the end he was so glad to get ten cents over a dollar for it that he forgot to grumble at any one but himself for being so senseless as not to take two dollars and a half when he could get it. The disaster was so appalling that he rose up in benighted amid the wreck and ruin of his expectations.

But to return—the farmers who attended strictly to business in a business way, are doing fairly well as compared with other folks, and all of them are in better shape than some of their friends who went into town to make a better and easier living. In the first place, they have never lacked a good square meal. Who ever heard of a farmer starving to death? Nor have they lacked the fire on the hearth or the hearth to keep it, nor clothes ample for the season—battered tiles and old-fashioned bonnets, perhaps, but good for what they were constructed. Count the farmers in our poorhouses. Few, indeed, and not one in ten got there because of the meagre compensation to the farmer, but nine times out of ten the cause is to be found outside of the necessary contingencies of the farm. Even bad farming should not be charged with the poverty that leads to the poorhouse.

Still, it must be confessed that farming has not been so uniformly successful as it once was. Disturbing elements have entered into the vocation for which the farmer, as a rule, was not prepared. Not being educated to adapt himself to the changes going on, he has been slower to get into line with the new order of things, and he does he has to take the chances incident to the new situation. Having to harness "business" qualities to his occupation, he must encounter perils at all times incident to "business affairs." Four out of five of our "business" men, so called, fall sometimes in their checkered career. Not one farmer in ten falls in the same sense, and generally when he does it is to be charged to the fact that the business is responsible for it and not the farming

—there has been too much business and too little farming. There is a fair discretion in this matter of "business." It should be mixed with the farming, not divorced from the farm. The keen eye for current events, but a steady hand on the plow.

The man who watches the "ticker" in the broker's office too closely has not the steady-going habits which will make his farming an abiding success. As a farmer he cannot successfully sell September wheat in May. His main business is to raise the wheat, and raise it as cheaply as he can, trusting in the broad general principle that he will be paid first cost, and yet he should have such a knowledge of the times as shall be a guide in his selling the wheat he has himself raised. He can legitimately turn over in the market his one crop a year—if he seeks to do more he has entered the arena of the stock jobber and will, once in a while (if not oftener, find that he has a road to travel which he would better leave to others who make a business of it. He wants to be intelligent enough in the ways of the markets not to be misled in the prices he is likely to get at the propitious times. He cannot afford to be a fool. Nor is it possible for him to be a successful speculator. He can sell his crop once on a margin of its actual cost. He cannot put up five-cent margins without in the end losing the whole. He is still a farmer, and so long as he holds to its essential duties he is safe—he may not become a millionaire, but he will not be a bankrupt.

WHERE WE DIFFER FROM ENGLAND.

Washington Post.

Any man of an observant turn who visits England can't help but notice the different ways they have from the people of this country in the construction of houses, bridges, vehicles, and implements of every kind," said Dr. C. L. Phelps, of Boston. "The Englishmen go in for durability beyond everything else. I went into a concern that makes agricultural machinery after the pattern of a well-known house in the United States. I couldn't help but contrast the British and American makes and saw in them the characteristics of the two nations. An English harvester was big and heavy and clumsy. I told the owner that we wouldn't have such, for it would kill our horses to draw it. He smiled and said, with profound emphasis, 'But it will last 25 years.'

"Right here is where we are smarter than our cousins across the sea. A Yankee farmer doesn't want a machine that will wear a quarter of a century, for he knows that in two or three years a greatly improved one will be on the market, and his implement will be obsolete. The English seem to take no account of this, and whatever they build is for a generation. In this way they have been distanced in many lines of manufacturing by their American competitors, but that doesn't affect their system in the least, and they will keep on imagining theirs the superior policy."

DISCOURAGING.

Truth.

"Well, how do you like farming? Has the hog cholera got in your pig-weed patch yet?" asked the friend from the city.

Johnson, who had rented a farm to escape an epidemic of appendicitis that was raging in the city, extracted a sliver from his thumb, and replied:

"I can tell you, farming isn't the snap folks think. There's lots of work. A couple of weeks ago I wanted to set a hen. The hens were all laying, and not wishing to interrupt them, I set a rooster. I've been working with him ever since. That bird is as faithless to his vows as a summer girl. But my worst stroke of luck was last week."

"What was it? Forgot to put quilts on your onion bed?"

"No, not that. You see I had a colt that was in rather poor flesh. One of the neighbors told me to feed it plenty of corn in the ear. I did so, and I am afraid it is going to die. The poor animal has been deaf as a bat ever since."

Why remain sick? If troubled with Scrofula, Scrofulous Humors, Bolls, Humors on the face, Catarrh, etc., we ask that you give Dr. Simmons' Sarsaparilla a trial. 50 cents and 50 doses.



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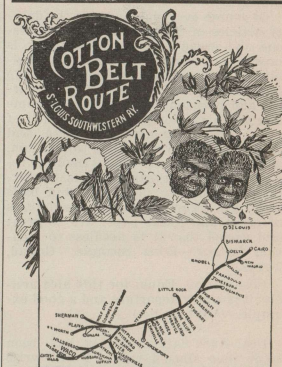
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Cousins' League

Edited by Mrs. S. E. Buchanan, Dallas, Texas, to whom all communications for this department should be addressed.

THE THREE WISHES.

Sarah K. Bolton, in Demorest's.

Three girls sat idly on the beach;
One like a lily, tall and fair;
One brilliant, with her raven hair;
One sweet and shy of speech.

"I wish for fame," the lily said,
"And I for wealth and courtly life."
Then gently spoke the third; "As wife,
I ask for love instead."

Years passed. Again beside the sea
Three women sat with whitening hair,
Still graceful, lovable and fair,
And told their destiny.

"Fame is not all," the lily sighed.
"Wealth futile if the heart be dead."
"I have been loved," one sweetly said,
"And I am satisfied."

THE PAPER AGE.

Have any of you taken time to think how paper was first invented? Paper was first made in Egypt, China and Japan. The Egyptians made paper of certain kinds of grass—papyrus—a Latin word from which paper is derived. The Bible speaks of Moses writing on tablets of stone. I suppose this was before paper was made. The Egyptians made paper by separating the delicate inner fibers from the blades of grass, then spread them on a table so as to overlap one another. The table was then sprinkled with water from the Nile, which was considered better than any other; this moistened the natural gum of the plant so as to make it adhere. The papyrus was spread thick or thin, according to the thickness desired. It was then dried in the sun; after drying, it was rubbed with a smooth stone to make a smooth surface. Brown paper was the first paper ever written upon. The Romans afterwards discovered that by washing the papyrus, the paper would be white. Paper is made of a great many different things, as old rags, straw, manilla, rice, hemp, bamboo and scraps of old paper. The Japanese make paper out of the bark of trees. The process of manufacturing has improved very much since those days. Paper was first invented in the year 50 A. D. A paper machine was invented by a Frenchman in the year 1799.

The modern uses of paper are for making houses, boats, tanks, pipes, car wheels, money, cuffs and collars, buckets and pans, and a great many durable as well as useful things. Houses have been built of paper, which have been found warmer and more comfortable than stone.

Of course everyone has seen the dainty articles of fancy work made of tissue and crepe paper. Crepe paper is now all the rage. It is almost impossible to tell of the beautiful articles made from it, as great clusters of pink, purple and crimson morning glories, some many yards in length, a great bunch of pink roses hang here and there, and many things too numerous to mention, as dainty bags, lamp shades made to resemble lovely chrysanthemums, the loveliest of Japanese fans, also fluff balls and hats. The decorative possibilities of crepe and tissue paper are so great and varied that it is needless to mention farther.—Edna Spangle, Goliad, Texas.

(Thank you, Edna, for this nice article; it is a new departure and a good example.—Aunt Sallie.)

Dear Aunt Sallie: As it has been some time since I wrote, I will write again. I read the letters from the Cousins weekly and I think the League is so interesting. I will tell you something about our children's day, which came off last Sunday the 17th. The exercises were very nice indeed. There were a great many here. We have no school this week; our teacher is very low. We fear she will never get well. We are having a nice little rain to-day, which was needed very much. I would like to correspond with some of the Cousins from sixteen to twenty. Your friend—Dodie Beard, Arizona, La.

(I hope your school teacher has recovered before the end, and that you have been able to finish the term.—Aunt Sallie.)

Dear Aunt and Cousins: I have read the League and Household for some time, and like them both. I thought I would like to come in and talk awhile with the cousins, if no one objects. I am a little Texas girl thirteen years of

age. I live on the farm two miles from the postoffice. Della Stone doesn't think it is wrong to dance. I do think it is wrong. I never expect to dance. Aunt Sallie, I am a member of the Baptist church and was baptized by a Mr.

always gets Texas Farm and Ranch to look at the pictures in it. If any of the cousins have the piece, "Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder," I wish they would please send it to me. I would like to have the song, "The Lips That

cooking when I can do it by myself. Will close with best wishes to Texas Farm and Ranch. Your niece and cousin—Maude Holcombe, Marcelena, Texas.

(I am sure I would not enjoy chopping cotton these hot June days. I should wish for the corn and cotton to be planted in the woods, when I might enjoy the shade. Of two evils choose the least, so I would take the kitchen these days. Come again, Maude.—Aunt Sallie.)

Dear Aunt Sallie: I am a little girl 8 years old. I can read and write. I have a little sister 3 years old and I go to school. Mamma goes to town every morning with milk.—Mary Schneider, Galveston, Texas.

I expect you often go with mamma, Mary, to ride and to see the sights in the city. You write very nicely.—Aunt Sallie.)

Dear Aunt Sallie and Cousins: Will you permit me to join the happy League again? I was a member when Aunt Emma and Uncle Mike had charge of the League. The League is improving every week. Dennis, you may put my name down on your Heart and Hand band. Aunt Sallie, I will invite you to come down to Galveston and help us eat watermelons and muskmelons the beginning of June. Aunt Sallie, I think it would be very nice for you to put your picture at the beginning of the League. I would like to correspond with either girls or boys about my age, which is between 14 and 16 years.—Henrietta H. Schneider, Galveston, Tex.

(I wish I could accept your kind invitation. Henrietta I am fond of melons and love that coast country, all of it. I know I should enjoy a visit with you.—Aunt Sallie.)

Dear League: I have been intending to write to the League for a long time, and now I will write. I like to read the letters, because they are interesting. I have seen but one girl's name who I knew, and that was Sadie Roberts. I think she writes such interesting letters. I am a little girl eleven years old. I have one sister and three little brothers. I will close, as ever your friend.—Lora Conwell, Chambersville, Tex.

(I am glad you enjoy the letters, Lora, and you must write again.—Aunt Sallie.)

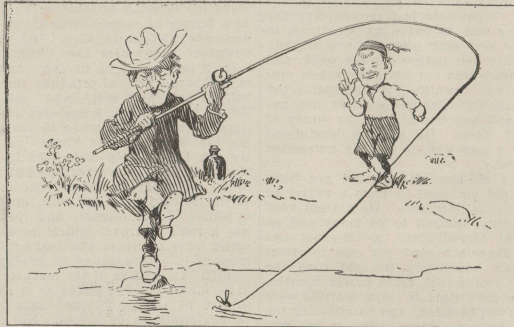
Dear Aunt Sallie and Cousins: I have written once before, and I saw my letter in print. I will ask a question: What kind of hair did George Washington's dog have? There was a picnic at Williams' lake on the 25th of May. My father was sick, and I was badly disappointed that I could not go. We have so many clematis that we have to pull them out and throw them away. Some are white and some red. If you would like some of them, let me know and I will send you some, and you must tell me what kind you want. We live near the gulf. Our school closed on the 22nd of May. I go horseback riding with my father and help him get the cows up to milk. I think I must close now, my letter is getting too long. I hope I will see this in print.—Augusta Schneider, Galveston, Texas.

(Augusta, I should love to have some of those lovely blossoms, but it would not pay to send them, they would wither. Hope you will get to go to one picnic this summer.—Aunt Sallie.)

Dear Aunt Sallie: I have seen so many nice little letters that the little boys and girls send, I thought I would write a few lines. I am a little boy 7 years old. I am not going to school now, our school has closed. Papa takes Texas Farm and Ranch and likes it very much. I like to hear mamma and papa and sister read the little cousins' letters and hear all about their pets. I have two pets, one little black dog and a little horse; his name is Rolly and my dog's name is Trilby. We live on the farm and I like it very well. I have two sisters and one brother, all older than myself. My brother Emil has been dead about six weeks and I am so lonesome since he has been gone. I hope my letter will not be thrown into the waste basket, as this is my first attempt.—Johnnie F. Locks, Oppelo, Ark.

(Dear little Johnnie, I know you are very lonely since your brother has been taken from you. You must think of all

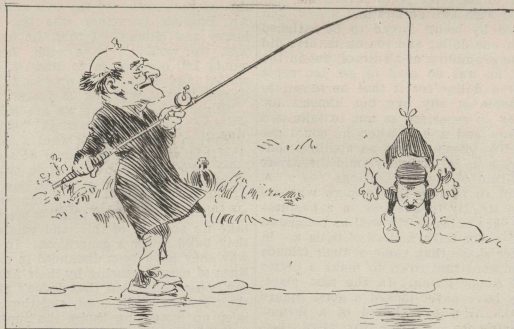
AN EXPERT FLY FISHERMAN.



1—Johnnie—(from the rear)—Watch me push the old man in!



2—Fisherman—I haven't been fishing fifty years for nothing. Come here!



3—You little rascal!



4—How is the water? Warm enough for bathing?

Buchanan. Cousins, how do you like to chop cotton? I helped the boys some last week and I don't think it is one bit funny. I have six brothers and one sister. My brothers are all away from home but three. My little sister's name is Minnie. She is ten years old. She

Touch Liquor" also. Aunt Sallie, you ought to come and help us eat plums and grapes. We've just got lots of them. The mulberries are all gone. Cousins, do you like to keep house? Ma went off yesterday and left me to keep house and get dinner. I don't mind

us taxed to pay for teaching their own dear girls how to work, which they ought to do themselves, as the farmer and his wife are doing. Yes, and when these same ladies who are clamoring for the people to be taxed for their benefit meet those same producers and their families, they fairly shake the dust from their feet from fear of contamination. Surely they are exempt from taxation.

Brother tax-payers, come to the front in your own defense. If we haven't got education enough to write a grammatical letter, we can use enough logic to make ourselves understood. Let us hear from you, one and all at once for procrastination is the thief of time. I have seen a number of letters in this department of Texas Farm and Ranch that I wanted to reply to, but felt my inability to do so, and hoping that others more qualified would speak out, I have refrained, but can't wait any longer.

Stephenville, Tex. s.

Little Boy: "The preacher says there is no marryin' in heaven." Little Girl: "Of course not. There wouldn't be enough men to go around."

AN OLD HEAD ON YOUNG SHOULDERS.

GIRLIE.

Dear Mrs. Buchanan: I come again, sooner than I expected, but I see some ladies asking for receipts for canning corn, and as I do that for mamma and think my recipe so good, I will send it, for it is almost time to be up and doing. To each quart of corn add a level teaspoon of citric acid (pulverized). Cut the corn from the cob and measure, then cook thoroughly done which takes some little time; then add the acid a teaspoonful to each quart in the kettle; let it boil ten or fifteen minutes more, then seal hot in tin cans, pint or quart cans are the best. Never use glass for corn. When preparing it for the table put a pinch of soda in to kill what little acid taste is left. All who have eaten corn at our table say it is like fresh corn, and I have never lost a can. Some object to the use of acids in canning, but as citric acid is pure vegetable acid it is perfectly harmless and corn cannot be kept without acid only by packing in salt, which ruins it.

Thanks to Matron, for her good talk to "Will." How true it is that a girl holds father and mother up as their models of honor and virtue, and how many men and women abuse this confidence by speaking of things best left unspoken.

I know my parents are pure and I am happier every day that nothing coarse or vulgar is talked in our home nest. All we hear of the vileness outside is sometimes a regret, a sigh for some unfortunate one, who perhaps has not had the purifying influence that should surround a hearthstone. O, how our sympathies are stirred for a poor fallen woman. We do not know under what circumstances she was reared, nor the conditions under which she fell. No, a thousand times, no! I am not sanctioning the fall, but my pity is with the weak ones, as women are generally called, and not for the stronger sex. I had rather associate with a murderer, as strong as that assertion may seem, than a man who had murdered a loving woman, dragging her life out in exile as it were, alone, in a whirlpool of human beings, who pass and in passing give the weak one a stare of contempt. Perhaps a few paces ahead they meet her murderer with a smile and a bow. He is strong. The weak should take care of themselves. They need no supporting hand or kind words; they are the weaker sex and need no help to guide them back, while strength gathers strength, because it is strong, and all smile and say, it was her fault. How do you know it was her fault, you who have no sympathy, and how often does "Madam Rumor," "they say" and "I heard" blot a girl's fair name and when did it start and from what? A whisper. It reminds me of a game we children used to play. I forget its name, but we'd sit in a row sometimes thirty or forty—the more the better. To illustrate: The one at the head whispers something to his neighbor, and each one whispers to the next just what he heard; after it has passed down the line both the head and foot persons are called on, the head to tell or write what he started, the foot to tell or write what he heard. In nearly all

cases the two stories so widely differed none could recognize any relation between the two. Just as the scandal whispers, but "they say" and madam rumor are listened to with an eagerness that is surprising and how often by mothers of daughters. Why can't all stop and think if that were one of our own dear friends, how would we like having it carried hither and thither by the fleet bird "they say"? Why wouldn't it be easier, when we hear "they say" buzzing around to say, "I don't care to hear 'they say' tales." It does good; I speak from experience; it is a lesson taught by my mother's good example, that unless you can speak kindly of people, don't speak at all, nor listen to gossip for.

"Bays flying kites haul in their white winged birds. You can't do that with you're flying words. Thoughts unspoken may sometimes fall back dead, But God himself can't kill them when they're said."

I have stayed longer than I thought, but I shall leave it with our kind guide to use me as she thinks best, for I am wholly at her service. So Mrs. B, if you judge any of my letters "water-worn" just throw them away with the other pebbles. The waste basket has no fright for me, for, indeed, I should rather have it swallow up my attempts if our kind editress judged them "water worn." This better to have one kind judge than a host of cold critics at our feet.

Sulphur Springs, Texas.

CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

EXPECT MORE.

Dear Household: The "Yankee" stranger makes haste to take advantage of Mrs. Buchanan's kind invitation to call again. I think I shall take the seat nearest Grace Lunar, if she does not object! How bright the world must look through those starry eyes of yours, Gracie, and how glad your kin must be because of you. Bartemus, your description of the woes of bachelorhood in the last stages, was amusing in the extreme. Never despair. Dan Fox, are you ever real serious for one moment? When are you going to begin that discourse whose subject you have gravely announced twice? Let the Household hear from you, and please "stick to the text," next time, won't you?

Catherine Wood's attempt to round up the artists moved me. My thoughts even now, thread through the maze of years to the time when a wee girl pencil in hand, sketched, rudely, 'tis true, everything that pleased her childish fancy, and as the years went on apace, the one aim of her life was to become an artist, and with a feeling of joy intense, she heard the lips of the teacher announce her apprenticeship ended. Lovingly she watched nature's counterfeit beauties growing beneath the brush, but alas, the exhalations of paints, oils and lacquers, soon affected seriously her lungs that were never strong. To continue meant death. There was a sad burial of hopes and a girl whose life plan had failed, refused for a time to be comforted. Afterward, however, with enthusiasm born of the conviction that she was to do her mite of work for the Master in the fields afar, she taught, and she studied to make ready only to find at last, obstacles insurmountable; and this eventful year finds her "Way Down in Dixie," growing healthier and just helping mother, thanking God even at this moment for the blessed privilege. We know not what the future holds for us, but He knows, and that is enough for He will send what is best.

W. C. T. U. I wore the white ribbon for a number of years in far away Ohio. I would like to correspond with you. A letter addressed to the P. M. at Orchard would reach me safely.

The incident Mrs. Vanderhoef related did not impress me as strongly with regard to the seemingly contradictory nature of the child as it did you, dear. How often have we seen poor little ones in a state of the most abject terror, in anticipation of the promised lashing. The misguided, love-starved, involuntary little being in question from terrible and oft repeated experience, doubtless had learned what that promise meant. Though a close observer, we have yet to see a child who is punished cruelly, upon the slightest provocation, that does not possess a vicious craft, retaliating disposition. Robert Ingersoll says that from the way some people act, their children get an idea that when our Savior said "Suffer lit-

tle children to come unto me," he had a rod concealed under his cloak and just wanted to get them within striking distance. Many a parent who says Lord, Lord will not enter the kingdom because He who is the friend of little children, beareth witness of the wrongs practiced upon them. From all over the earth to-day there is going up to the Father of mercies the wail of suffering childhood. A lady, who is a member of a Church and a professed Christian, said to me, recently, "Oh, they say one should never whip a child when angry, but if I waited until I got in a good humor, mine would never get whipped," and we firmly believe that if the truth were admitted nineteenth of the whippings administered to helpless children are for the purpose of appeasing the anger of the parent, rather than of benefiting the child. More than half the faults of little ones are unintentional, and due largely to inexperience, ignorance and thoughtlessness.

And even if such were not the case, is not the command to forgive the offenders 70x7 times? And also, to let our lives be guided by the spirit of love or charity, which "suffereth long and is kind."

When parents cease to make mistakes to grieve the love, and tax the patience of our Father, it will be time to require children to reach a standard of perfection. Why, what a long while I have stayed! Good night to all.

Orchard, Texas.

MUSIC.

LITTLE EMILY.

Dear Mrs. Buchanan and Household: Surely you will excuse me for not first asking a word of welcome, but our kind editress, by her inviting smile, seems to say, "Whosoever will, let him come," and while in this instance he may not partake of the water of life, he may partake of the joy of the Household. And really this is the most interesting household I have ever had the honor of visiting, for with all the bright letters of our valuable contributors and our able editress over and at the head of all, we have indeed a most interesting particular. But I thought some one asked some time ago for the musicians to come forward. Now, while I can't pretend to lay claim to that high title, it is on the subject of music that I would speak a few words this morning.

Of all the so-called talents, I consider a talent for music one most to be desired, and one most productive of peace and happiness, when properly developed by thorough and careful training. Nothing but pure thoughts and tender emotions are awakened by it; our natures are at once refined and chastened by it, making us to look with pity on those who never come under its benign influence, or charm. In the words of Mendelssohn, "It is a sublime art, and to be considered a blessed gift of God."

The effect of music on different people is almost as varied as their temperaments. It is said that the English army, after a partial defeat at Quebec, in 1768, turned and was led to victory by the music of the Scotch pipers. A German historian declares that the "Marseillaise" caused the loss of 50,000 German soldiers. It is said that Mehlbraw was thrown into convul-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.

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ed on by the two men without anyone on the stack. To one who has never stacked in this simple, cheap, quick way, it will be surprising how many of the near by shocks are put into the stack in the first half hour. Then the stacker takes his place and as the shocks are a little further to haul one man can do the pitching. Have the shocks delivered on all sides, and thus the stack is equally tramped and will settle straight.

When the stacking is commenced the machine should start again and the "big boy" will be proud to handle it. The morning cutting can be easily gotten in the stack the same day, and if the day has been bright and dry there will be bright green hay and the next day a little more can be done.

This is making hay while the sun shines and is the sunny side, but there will be wet dews and heavy dews or in places heavy winds, and the farmer will need to change his tactics, but for twenty-four years I managed the haying in substantially this way and with reasonable foresight in providing for emergencies the changes or losses were very slight and it comes within the limitations of the smallest farmer.

FORT WORTH LETTER.

P. W. HUNT.

That the corn crop in Texas this year will be short may now be put down as a certainty, at least this is the case in many of the best corn-raising counties. Take Washington and Austin counties, for instance, where failure is very rare. Information given a few days since when passing through there was to the effect that the crop was an entire failure. Similar reports from many other points. It will, therefore, be necessary to find a substitute. We believe Kaffir corn and millo maize will be found the best. They will resist dry weather to a greater degree than any other cereal plant. The grain, while not containing as much fattening property as Indian corn, yet is highly nutritious and greedily eaten by horses and hogs. Thousands of hogs have been fattened on Kaffir corn in Northwest Texas and Oklahoma for the past two years, and as there is yet time to plant and have a crop mature before frost, it should be done by all whose corn is out short. The seed can be had at trifling cost, and a quart will plant several acres. It should be sown then, say, two or three grains every step, in rows three feet apart, and cultivated like corn.

Mr. W. D. Farris, of Ennis, whose cattle-dipping operations for killing ticks and preventing flies tormenting the animals, resumed the work Wednesday, when two hundred head of steers were dipped in the oil and water. The experiment, which was witnessed by a large and interested crowd, was as successful as before. The cattle previously operated upon were examined, and it was found that every tick was dead, black and shrivelled up. The odor of the oil preparation several days previously was strongly perceptible, and the animals enjoyed perfect immunity from flies. Dr. Francis, veterinary professor of the A. & M. college, was present, and examined the cattle, and was delighted with the results of the experiment.

The Fort Worth Live Stock Exchange held a special meeting on Tuesday and passed the following resolution of respect on the death of one of its members, Dr. J. B. Taylor, of San Antonio, who recently died:

"Fort Worth, Tex., June 30, 1896.—Whereas, It has pleased an All-Wise Providence to remove from our midst Dr. J. B. Taylor, a member of this Exchange, a good man and true, a credit to his business and profession, faithful to his friends, charitable to all, and beloved by all who knew him.

"Be it resolved, That our heartfelt sympathies are hereby tendered to his relatives, with the assurance of our love and respect for his memory, realizing their loss and offering to them our prayers that an All-Merciful Father will sustain them in their trials."

The following cattlemen have made applications for membership in the Fort Worth Live Stock Exchange; same were passed upon and the gentlemen duly admitted at the regular meeting of the Exchange, held July 6: William Hunter, Fort Worth; Marion Sansom, Alvarado; E. B. Carver, Henrietta; Ed

Farmer and Charles McFarland, Aledo.

The following are the receipts of stock at the stock yards for the months of June in 1895 and 1896:

	Cattle	Hogs	Sheep	Horses
June, 1895...	4,132	2,275	795	121
June, 1896...	7,256	11,383	339	29

The above figures, showing that the cattle receipts were nearly doubled and the hog receipts increased five fold, should be sufficient answer to all complaints as to dissatisfaction, etc., at the yards. Receipts at the stock yards held up very well last week. The following shippers had hogs on the market: R. E. Morrow, Grapevine; Watkins & Lain, McKinney; Pool & Stanford, Nevada; R. H. Stewart, Clifton; R. C. Donaldson, Blum; W. F. Hicks, Blum; Howes & Ferguson, Cleburne; C. Daniel, Cisco; D. McClure, Whitewright; Honey & Wiggins, Seymour; Smith & Boyd, county; Amber & Lynn, M. Gregor; W. T. Wallace, Mansfield; F. M. Harper, Waxahachie; J. S. McCreight, Ranger; Kell & Gibbs, Clifton; J. White, Bonham; F. W. Blank, Waxahachie; R. W. Kuhn, Bartlett; Roper & Coffin, Itasca; J. A. Cottingham, Koppen; Wallace Bros., Hubbard; J. E. Genter, Bluffdale, car cattle; J. H. Cage, Stephenville; Goldstein & Co., Millsap; A. B. McDonald, Mineral Wells; W. Flinn, Taylor; J. D. Warren, Hillsboro; Burke & Love, Midlothian; Watkins & Lane, Mansfield; Durno, Van Alstyne; B. Hackett, Bridgeport, and Winnfield & Co., Alvarado. Cattle were sent in by M. S. Carter, Benton; C. P. Cable & Co., Waggoner; A. H. Moore, Comanche; C. H. Bodecker, Bowie; J. W. Burgess, Hazlett; Charles McFarland, Aledo; D. F. Caro, Willis Point, and J. W. Grunewald, Clifton.

The following are ruling prices at this writing:

Hogs—Carload lots, \$2.30@2.75; wagon load lots, \$2.25@2.40.
Cattle—Prime fat steers, \$2.60@3.00; butcher steers, \$2.40@2.60; fat cows, carload lots, \$2.00@2.25; medium fat cows, \$2.00@2.10; canning cows, \$1.75@1.90; bulls, \$1.65@1.75; light fat veal calves, \$2.50@3.00.

The Fort Worth Mail-Telegram recently remarked: "The movements of the Fort Worth stock market is watched from all over the country, as will be seen from the following, copied from the Buffalo (N. Y.) Review:

"It is a significant fact that Swift & Co., the well known Chicago slaughterers, recently contracted at Fort Worth for 800 cars with which to ship sheep from Fort Worth to Chicago, and at a banquet given in Fort Worth in April this year, spring lambs that were dropped in November were served at the feast that weighed, dressed, thirty pounds."

Visiting cattlemen here last week included James Knox, Jacksboro; B. C. Rhome, Rhome; G. S. White, Weatherford; Wade Atkins, Bowie; J. E. Dale, Bonham; B. C. Lightfoot, Alvarado; E. B. Carver, Henrietta; Ralph Ogden, Koppen; J. G. Johns, Houston; L. T. Weaver, Sugden; I. T. G. H. Connell, Dublin; Dodge Mason, Kemp; W. D. Mand, Childress; E. C. Lugg, Lugden; W. McCauley, Ballinger; J. W. Corn, Weatherford, and W. D. Johnson, Pecos.

Fort Worth, Texas.

SELECTING THE PIGS TO BREED FROM.

Southern Farm Gazette.

The necessity for care in this matter cannot be too often emphatically insisted upon. The observations which are to form the basis for the selection should begin before the pigs are born. The requisites of a breeding animal are those qualities which will enable it to reproduce a hog that will make the most of the best quality of meat at the least cost. Therefore, a hog, which if fed for the pork barrel, will not fulfill this end of cheap pork production is not fit to be kept for breeding purposes. Feeding qualities then, we would put first in the requisites of a breeding hog. Again, only tried sows that have demonstrated their ability to produce, take care of and suckle well good large litters, should be allowed to enjoy the honor of having their progeny retained in the herd for breeding purposes. This point should be insisted upon whether a boar or a sow is being selected, because it is equally as important in the former as in the latter. "I care not how well a

SOME THOROUGHLY PRACTICAL SEPARATOR TESTS.

MUCH has and may be said of the impracticability of many Experiment Station tests. Prof. H. H. Wing, of Cornell University Experiment Station, furnishes a most practical and welcome innovation in this respect, by making public in Cornell Bulletin No. 105, the results of his official tests of different separators of various makes and sizes in actual use, just as he found them running in their every-day manner, in his personal canvass of creameries and dairies in central New York, from July to October, last year. This is testing of an official character of more practical, trustworthy interest and guidance to the man who uses a cream separator for his own profit or loss than is afforded by a hundred reports of what different manufacturers' own special experts succeeded in doing under their own prescribed conditions with their own especially selected and previously tried machines.

It is simply the difference between practicability and impracticability. The "Alpha" De Laval shows best always under any and all conditions, but the more strictly practical the conditions the greater the margin of its demonstrated superiority.

Prof. Wing's practical, every-day-use tests showed AVERAGE relative results as follows:

	CAPACITY.	SPEED.	SKIM-MILK.
ALPHA DE LAVAL,	2491 lbs.	5928	.06
DAVIS & RANKIN,	1564 "	6854	.23
UNITED STATES,	1883 "	6881	.30
SHARPLES,	1703 "	7589	.31

Such tests as these mean something to practical creamerymen and dairymen. They show facts, not extreme and exceptional possibilities. They are just such tests as a similar canvass of both Hand and Power machines will duplicate in any state or section.

Send for new Hand Catalogue No. 246, Separator Comparison Pamphlet, and "Facts From Users," constituting a complete education in "separatorology."

THE DE LAVAL SEPARATOR CO.

WESTERN OFFICES:
ELGIN, ILL.

GENERAL OFFICES:
74 Cortlandt St., NEW YORK.

J. M. VANCE, General State Agent, San Antonio, Texas.

BUY PRIZE WINNERS!

Great Sale of

BERKSHIRES

ILLINOIS STATE FAIR GROUNDS,

Springfield, Ill., August 12th, 1896.

50 HEAD OF BOARS AND SOWS.

QUALITY AND BREEDING UNSURPASSED.

Great Opportunity of Buying at Public Auction the Tops of the Leading Berkshire Herds of America.

MESSRS. N. H. GENTRY, Sedalia, Mo.; A. J. LOVEJOY & SON, Roscoe, Illinois; W. E. SPICER, Bushnell, Illinois, and M. K. PRINE & SON, Oskaloosa, Iowa, will sell without reserve to the highest bidder at the Illinois State Fair Grounds, Springfield, Illinois, Wednesday, August 12, 1896, fifty head of Berkshire Boars and Sows, the most of which have been fitted for the show ring and are of a quality to insure successful competition at the leading State Fairs of 1896.

FOR CATALOGUE ADDRESS

D. P. MCCRACKEN, Auctioneer.

FRANK S. SPRINGER, Box M, Springfield, Ill.

Chicago & Fort Worth Packing Co.

Beef and Pork Packers and Jobbers in Provisions,
FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

A great Texas enterprise backed by a large capital.
Capacity: 2000 hogs and 500 cattle per day.
The business doubled in a year; the capacity doubled in the same time.
A market is now created HERE for EVERY HOG that can be raised in Texas.
We produce the highest quality of LARD and MEATS.
Our HAMS are unsurpassed and guaranteed.
Our BACON and SUGAR CURED MEATS are being appreciated all over Texas.

EXPRESS ORDERS FILLED AT ONCE. SEND FOR A TRIAL ORDER.

Fort Worth Stock Yards Co.

COMPETITION IS THE LIFE OF TRADE.

Competitive hog buyers located on this market, who will buy Light, Heavy and Stock Hogs constantly. Prices paid that will not admit of shipping elsewhere. Competitive cattle buyers on this market who will buy all the Fat Cows, Feeders, Light Steers and Canner Cattle offered at satisfactory prices.

Ship Your Hogs and Cattle to Your Home Market.

WRITE FOR MARKET INFORMATION.

G. W. SIMPSON, President.

W. E. SKINNER, General Manager.

Texas Farm and Ranch Published in the South for the progressive Southern farmer. Your neighbor needs it.

cased in a handsome aluminum case, only recently came to hand. It contains on one side the name and description of award, and on the reverse side an appropriate figure and inscription descriptive of the landing of Columbus. The diploma is also a beautiful and artistic conception, specially made, and signed by Professor Charles Garfield, who is well known in the horticultural world, having formerly been president for many years of the American Horticultural Society.

W. B. Wright of Palestine has a specially attractive exhibit of native wines of many varieties. They included Cynthiana, Black Spanish, Herbemont, Mustang, Post Oak, Muscadine, Scuppernon and Norton's Virginia; also persimmons, dewberry, blackberry, wild cherry and unfettered grape juice for sacramental purposes. Mr. Wright is an enthusiast on the subject of grape culture and wine-making and a conversation with him is interesting and instructive in the highest degree. An Englishman by birth, and formerly a druggist and chemist by profession, he spent twelve years in California studying grape culture, and the following 22 years in Palestine, Tex., where he has followed the same avocation. His chemical knowledge is well utilized in the business of making wine at which he ranks deservedly high and has established a large trade with private consumers. His wines are guaranteed to be pure grape juice entirely free from any admixture of alcoholic adulterant. Mr. Wright contemplates moving to Rockport, believing he can there conduct his business to better advantage. His exhibit was most tastefully arranged and surmounted by a handsome painting by a Palestine artist representing the scriptural story of the two spies who were sent to view the promised land, returning bearing between them an immense bunch of grapes. It included, besides the wines, several varieties of grapes, for some of which he was awarded premiums.

Owen Smith & Co., of Willis, had an exhibit of unmanufactured cigars and cigars which deserves special notice, being exclusively Texas productions, representative of an industry now in infancy in the State, but promising much development in the near future. We allude to tobacco culture, which, in the neighborhood of Willis, Montgomery county, has been proved a decided success. Replying to a request for information, Mr. Owen Smith, the senior member of the firm, a native Texan, raised in Montgomery county, who was in charge of the exhibit, said to your correspondent: "The soil in our neighborhood has been analyzed and found very similar in its constituents to the best tobacco producing soil of Cuba. Tobacco culture there has got beyond the experimental stage. There are now about 300 acres in cultivation near Willis, of which our firm has 150 acres, the balance being in patches of 5 to 10 acres. Farmers can make more money with less labor by tobacco culture than by raising cotton."

How about bugs? was asked: Well, we have flocks of turkeys which keep the crop effectually cleared. We now have about 450 of them on hand." How about markets? was next queried: "Oh, no trouble about that. Our firm will not only buy all that offers, but intend doubling our own acreage next season to keep up with our factory requirements. Further, buyers from the north have been down—this encouraged our people greatly. One buyer for a New York concern was down lately and brought 50 cases of unmanufactured tobacco. Our cigar trade is good and rapidly increasing. One jobbing house in Galveston takes thirty thousand monthly. Here are samples of our brands, try them." And Mr. Smith suited the action to the word. The cigars were duly sampled and found to be of most excellent flavor—their five cent cigar equalling many of the ten cent brands on the market.

Tobacco plants growing in large pots were on exhibition, also a curiosity in the shape of a tobacco stalk that stood 12 feet high in Messrs. Smith's 1894 crop, yielded 126 perfect leaves and grew without any special fertilizer. Mr. Smith claims this to be the largest tobacco ever grown in America.

Among the many other exhibits worthy of note might be named a fine collection of leeks and garlic, also big beets and tomatoes, not for com-

petition, by Major Geo. W. Durant, a pioneer and progressive citizen of Alvin. Peaches and grapes by the Galveston Nursery and Orchard company, not for competition; wines and vinegars by A. Voght, Willow Point, melons and vegetable exhibits by C. W. Wilkins and W. A. Yarbrough, Clear Creek, A. Trucone, Dickinson and R. P. Sims, Arcadia.

The Alvin Ice Factory Co. had an exhibit of their manufactured ice; pieces each of watermelons and tomato were encased in the center of two blocks, and looked temptingly cool.

A canvass for subscriptions revealed the fact that fully half of those solicited were already subscribers to Texas Farm and Ranch. Of these nearly all expressed their highest appreciation of the paper, stating they could not afford to be without it.

THE AWARDS.

The following is a list of the awards in the various departments:

HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Best plate Malaga grapes, first, Max Brauer, Beeville, Texas.
Best plate Muscat of Alexandria, first, Max Brauer, Beeville, Texas.
Best named display of not less than five varieties, first, Max Brauer, Beeville, Texas.
Best plate Black Morocco, first, Max Brauer, Beeville, Texas.
Best plate Niagara, first, Julius Perthus, Hitchcock.
Best plate Catawba, first, E. C. Campbell, Alvarado, Texas.
Best plate Moore's Diamond, first, E. C. Campbell, Alvarado, Texas.
Best plate Lindley, first, E. C. Campbell, Alvarado, Texas.
Best plate Ives, first, E. C. Campbell, Alvarado, Texas.
Best plate Cynthiana, first, W. B. Wright, Palestine, Texas.
Best plate Duchess, first, E. C. Campbell, Alvarado, Texas.
Best plate Concord, first, E. C. Campbell, Alvarado, Texas.
Best plate Delaware, first, E. C. Campbell, Alvarado, Texas.
Best plate Chandon, first, E. C. Campbell, Alvarado, Texas.
Best plate Goethe, first, E. C. Campbell, Alvarado, Texas.
Best plate Moore's Early, first, E. C. Campbell, Alvarado, Texas.
Best plate Lenoir, first, W. B. Wright, Palestine, Texas.
Best plate Herbemont, first, W. B. Wright, Palestine, Texas.
Best plate LeConte pears, first, Miss Lou Hardy, Steubner, Texas.
Best plate Howell, first, Miss Lou Hardy, Steubner, Texas.
Best display Japan persimmons, first, Miss Lou Hardy, Steubner, Texas.
Best plate Kieffer pears, first, J. H. Buvinghausen, Kerrville, Texas.
Best plate Japan persimmons, first, J. W. Wilkins, Clear Creek, Texas.
Best plate Kelsey plums, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Chabot, first, Austin nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Burbank, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Abundance, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Normand, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Satsuma, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Golden Beauty, first, Austin Nursery, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Arkansas Lombard, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Columbia, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Indian Chief, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Wooten, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Wild Goose, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Robinson, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best collection Japan plums, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Chase, first, T. H. Patterson, Arcadia, Texas.
Best plate Berckmans, first, T. H. Patterson, Arcadia, Texas.
Best display Berckmans, first, T. H. Patterson, Arcadia, Texas.
Best display Burbank, first, T. H. Patterson, Arcadia, Texas.
Best hybrid plum, first, James Hancock, Beeville, Texas.
Best collection Americana or Chickasaw plums, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best collection peaches, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.

Best plate Celeste figs, first, Mrs. Tom Cook, Clear Creek, Texas.
Best plate Lemon figs, first, E. McLeod, Dickinson, Texas.
Best plate Brown Turkey figs, first, E. McLeod, Dickinson, Texas.
Best plate Marselles figs, first, E. McLeod, Dickinson, Texas.
Best plate Quinces, first, E. McLeod, Dickinson, Texas.
Best quarter jar extracted honey, first, W. D. Bunting, Uvalde, Texas.
Best plate Family Favorite peaches, first, William A. Saunders, Clear Creek, Texas.
Best plate Elberta peaches, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Mamie Ross peaches, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Stump the World peaches, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Thurber peaches, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Pallas peaches, first, Austin nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate General Lee peaches, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Ruple's Ginz, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate Stonewall Jackson peaches, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate early China peaches, first, Austin Nursery company, Austin, Texas.
Best plate General Prim grapes, first, A. Dalmont, Arcadia, Texas.
Best plate Zinfandel grapes, first, A. Dalmont, Arcadia, Texas.
Best plate Waldo peaches, first, John Bodeker, Arcadia, Texas.
Best plate Seeding peach, first, R. H. Harsh, Dayton.
Best plate Chasselas grapes, first, A. Dalmont, Arcadia, Texas.
Best gallon fruit or vegetable vinegar, second, B. F. Johnson, Arcadia, Texas.
Best gallon of any kind of wine or cider, first, W. B. Wright, Palestine, Texas.
Best gallon of any kind of wine or cider, second, A. Vogt, Willow Point.
Best strawberry wine, first, H. Ahlers, Dickinson.
Best strawberry wine second, Mrs. S. G. Mann, Hitchcock.
Best dewberry wine, first, W. B. Wright, Palestine.
Best blackberry wine, first, W. B. Wright, Palestine.
Best grape wine, first, W. B. Wright, Palestine.
Best grape wine, second, A. Vogt, Willow Point.

CULINARY DEPARTMENT.

Best fig preserves, first, Mrs. Edwards, Alvin.
Best plum preserves, first, Mrs. Cook, Clear Creek.
Best watermelon preserves, first, Mrs. Henry Deats, Dickinson.
Best quart canned tomatoes, first, Mrs. B. Caywood, Dickinson.
Best quart canned pears, first, Miss Southwick, Alvin.
Best quart canned dewberries, first, Mrs. Owens, Dickinson.
Best quart canned strawberries, first, Mrs. H. Deats, Dickinson.
Best quart canned blackberries, first, E. McLeod, Dickinson.
Best collection canned fruits and vegetables, not less than eight kinds, first, H. H. Jenks & Co., Deepwater.

VEGETABLE DEPARTMENT.

Best cucumbers, first, F. G. Thomas, Lamarque.
Best bushel tomatoes, first, C. W. Wilkins, Clear creek.
Best watermelons, first, R. R. Sims, Arcadia.
Best collection watermelons, first, W. A. Yarbrough, Clear Creek.
Best leeks, first, A. Trucone, Dickinson.
Best braid garlic, first, William Richardson, Liverpool.
Best sweet corn, first, C. W. Wilkins, Clear Creek.
Best carrots, first, A. Trucone, Dickinson.
Best cabbage, first, H. Ahlers, Dickinson.
Best bushel beans, first, A. Trucone, Dickinson.
Best collection onions, first, H. H. Jenks & Co., Deepwater.
Best bushel onions, first, J. D. Greenwood, Webster.
Best collection Irish potatoes, first, W. J. Hatch, Arcadia.
Best collection Texas grown vegetables, not less than thirty varieties, first, H. H. Jenks & Co., Deepwater.
Best banana musk melons, first, S. E.

Moats, Hulon.
Best sugar beets, first, L. W. Arnold, Erin Station.
Best eggplant, first, H. H. Jenks & Co., Deepwater.
Best six squashes, first, C. W. Wilkins, Clear Creek.

BABY SHOW.

The following were winners at the baby show:

Smallest baby 1 month and under 3 months: Escher Megna, Dickinson.
Smallest baby over 3 months and under 6 months: Rex Pate, Alvin.
Smallest baby over 6 months and under 9: John Freshwater, La Porte.
Class 2.—Largest baby 1 month and under 3 months: Leona Caywood, Dickinson.
Largest baby over 6 months and under 9: Mary Helman, North Galveston.
Largest baby 1 year and under 18 months: Edwin Leo Douglass, Galveston.
Largest baby over 18 months and under 2 years: Marguerite Reiffe, Clear Creek.
Sweepstakes.—Largest baby under 1 year: Mary Helman, North Galveston.
Largest baby over 1 year and under 2 years: Bruce Burnett.
Class 4.—Prettiest girl baby under 6 months: Leona Caywood, Dickinson.
Prettiest boy baby under 6 months: Rex Pate, Alvin.

Prettiest boy baby over 2 years and under 3: Edwin Leo Douglass, Galveston.

Prettiest girl baby over 2 years and under 3: Lewis Cox, Clear Creek.

Sweepstakes.—Prettiest boy baby under 3 years: Edwin Leo Douglass, Galveston.

Prettiest girl baby under 3 years: Marguerite Reiffe, Clear Creek.

Class 5.—Most artistically dressed baby in long dresses: Easter Megna, Dickinson.

Most artistically dressed boy baby over 6 months and under 1 year: John Freshwater, La Porte.

Sweepstakes.—Most artistically dressed girl baby under 3 years: Leona Caywood, Dickinson.

Most artistically dressed boy baby under 3 years: Rex Pate, Alvin.

Healthiest and most perfect boy baby over 6 months and under 1 year: John Freshwater, La Porte.

Healthiest and most perfect over 6 months and under 1 year: Mary Helman, North Galveston.

Healthiest and most perfect girl baby over 1 year and under 2: Marguerite Reife, Clear Creek.

Healthiest and most perfect boy baby over 1 year and under 2: Bruce Burnett.

Healthiest and most perfect boy baby over 2 years and under 3: Lewis Cox, Clear Creek.

Class 7.—Best behaved twins under 2 years: Shirley Grey Smalley and Ross Odine Smalley, Clear Creek.

Presiding Judge, Mrs. Hamlett of Alvin; associate judges, Dr. Phenix and Mrs. Boss of Houston and Mrs. Mayo of Dickinson.

P. W. HUNT.

KILLING PERSIMMON SPROUTS.

Pittsburg, Texas.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I see in Texas Farm and Ranch of June 27th, Mr. John H. Starr wants to know a plan to kill persimmon sprouts. Perhaps my experiments will be beneficial to him and other readers of Texas Farm and Ranch.

In April, 1895, I cut the sprouts off about one-eighth of an acre, and it being a deep sandy knoll, I cut them just under the surface, allowing no dirt to remain on the stub or root from which the sprout had been cut. I then put from a tablespoonful to half a tea cup full of salt according to size of stub, using salt with which I had salted meat in the winter and covering it over with dirt.

I had cotton on the ground and I could not perceive any bad results from the salt, and there has not been a sprout appeared since the salting.

In May, this year, I tried a similar experiment on a larger area which was planted in corn, the corn is not hurt by the salt and the sprouts have failed to appear up to date. M. C. DAVIS.

"I shore does hope," says Uncle Moses, "dat dey will git dis deah new photograph trick so fine by summer dat a man kin tell wedder melon is ripe."—Indianapolis Journal.

Household—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.

sions on hearing a Beethoven symphony for the first time. And of course we have all read of its magic power being brought to bear on some desperate man just in the act of committing a crime, when he happened to think of that old familiar hymn he used to hear his mother sing. Instantly sin loses its dominion over him, he becomes rational again, and permanently reformed.

While we see the varied effects on mankind it goes even deeper and reaches the hearts of many of the lower animals. I remember reading once of a very poisonous snake in Scotland, which under the influence of music could be handled without danger. The shepherds blowing their bagpipes in a soft monotone would sometimes be startled to see one of these venomous reptiles slowly assume a pendulous position and commence swaying gently to and fro in perfect time to the music.

A few quotations, and I must close. "Music is love itself." "It is the only art that does not corrupt the mind." "Music is the last we have on earth, and first to greet our ears in heaven." Love to all.

Midway, Texas.

DRESS ACCORDING TO YOUR MEANS.

OLD COTTON PLANTER.

Dear Mrs. Buchanan: Through your courtesy and kindness the doors of the Household have been wisely opened to an occasional entrance of the male sex, and under your guidance and direction perfect harmony has been maintained among your many able contributors; hence, with my politest bow to the ladies of the Household, I beg to offer some imperfect veils upon a subject as per the headline above, from the standpoint of the male sex. To dress genteelly is what the social circle in which you move and associate considers appropriate. Persons of limited means or small income, cannot afford to dress in the same costly style that belongs rightfully to the wealthy. And we are not considering those of the world calls very rich—the millionaires—but only that class whose means are ample enough to enable them to live sumptuously in costly residences, in keeping handsome equipages, and dress in a style suited to their purse and station. Much real anguish is too often exhibited in a certain class of people of moderate income, straining every possible resource, even to risking debt, that they must know is beyond their ability to pay, simply to dress like their wealthy neighbors. Education along this line is too often defective and erroneous in some parents, primarily upon the false idea or supposition that fine apparel is essential to gentility. "Bab," a noted lady writer on fashion, says: "Good taste in dressing is best exhibited by observing those rules which govern the social circle in which one mingles, for, any excess in style is to be condemned." It is true that there is a time when a lady can on public occasions exhibit her finery without danger of any unfavorable comment. A beautiful woman, handsomely, fashionably and becomingly attired at the opera, theater or even in the sanctuary, is rightfully posing as queen of ceremonies. Custom, however, has made, at the first two places of worldly amusement, a display of silks, satins, fine laces, fine apparel and costly diamonds, a thing in perfect accord with such environments; but in the sanctuary such appendages are out of place, because not conforming to its devotional exercises. Pearls and diamonds are so costly and rare as to be practically out of the reach of most persons nowadays, and in the sacred precincts of the house of worship are calculated to excite unnecessary feelings of envy. And right here, it may be best to inform all of the good intentions of the writer in dictating this article, that he has not the remotest idea of posing as a Worth on fashion, in order to condescend with some who are woeful enough to imagine that fine apparel is essential to a woman's comfort and happiness, irrespective of her means. That woman should have a passion for dress is natural, but the ornamental should not overpower the useful. There is a certain very handsome young lady living in the Queen City of Collin, who dresses neatly and in style, fashionably, but not extrava-

gantly, who does attract as much attention as anyone who promenades our busy thoroughfares.

The experience of the past three years of great depression in our mercantile and agricultural interests, makes it more imperative than ever that a greater economy of our expenditures should be practiced than heretofore. People of ample means and lucrative business, are expected to spend money in any way that may please their fancy. To all such we have no advice or comment. But to all who, like myself, must struggle hard these latter days to make an honest living it is only my desire if possible to point out a route or course that will tend to correct a prevailing evil of useless extravagance, and better insure a greater prosperity. The time has arrived in this age of fads, new innovations, and new fashions, that every family or household must act in accordance with its capacities and resources. For if you dress according to your income, unrest and insomnia, the companions of improvidence, will not disturb your dreams.

McKinney, Texas.

THE W. C. T. U.

WANDERING BACHELOR.

Dear Household: May I come in and chat a while? Please don't say I come too often, and I promise not to stay long.

Vernie, I want to thank you for those beautiful, charming "Lines to W. B.," a young lady friend, after reading them, said: "Vernie must have known you for many years."

I also wish to thank Linnie G. and Charlie, in fact all the Household band for kind words. I have gained much since becoming a member of the Household; useful information, grand and noble ideas, words of cheer and comfort, and last but not least, some pleasant personal friendships. All this I owe to the Household. Can you wonder then, that I love to visit it often; it seems so much like coming home, and only a homeless wanderer can appreciate the meaning of the word "home."

W. C. T. U. asks for my opinion of this organization and its work. Next to the church itself it is the grandest, noblest and best organization on earth to-day. Were its object only the suppression of the liquor traffic it should receive the hearty support and co-operation of every Christian man and woman, for to-day the saloon is the most powerful and deadly enemy of home, and church and society, and it casts its baneful and blighting shadow over all the land, numbering its victims among all classes; the rich and poor, the great and small, the refined and the degraded are making daily sacrifices at the altar of this great Moloch of intemperance. And what sacrifices! The tears and heart-rending sobs of broken hearted wives, mothers and daughters, the wails of starving children, the shame and disgrace of gray haired fathers, the wreck of noble manhood, the downfall of intelligence, the death of pride and self-respect. All these the votaries of King Alcohol brings to his shrine and professed Christians everywhere are idly sitting with folded hands while the work of ruin and death is going on.

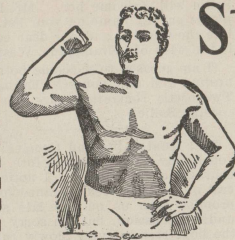
But the W. C. T. U. is bravely contending every foot of the ground with this fourfold enemy and many have been reclaimed from paths of vice through its efforts.

But its object is not only the suppression of intemperance; as its name implies it is a Christian union, and it aims at the elevation of the human family. Recognizing the universal fatherhood of God it admits the universal brotherhood of man. It seeks to elevate, to ennoble, to purify, to save all that comes under its benign influence. The W. C. T. U. flower mission must have been an idea sent direct from the very throne of God. How many hearts, world-worn and sin-stained, in hospital and prison, have been brought back to thoughts of youthful innocence by the gift of a few simple flowers with a few kind words of Christian cheer spoken by the low, sweet voice of a woman.

But I have stayed too long; so, praying God's blessings on the W. C. T. U. and the Household and its noble editors, I will go.

Calhoun, Texas.

Lady visitor: "I want to see the editor." Office Boy: "He's engaged, mad-



STRENGTH.

Pure blood makes a sound and strong body. Purify the blood, strengthen the body.

Dr. J. H. McLean's
Strengthening Cordial
AND Blood Purifier

Is known as a never-failing remedy for nervous debility and stomach troubles. It purifies the blood, imparts vigor to the circulation, clears the complexion, aids digestion and restores perfect health. For sale everywhere. Price, \$1.00 a bottle.

THE DR. J. H. MCLEAN MEDICINE CO., ST. LOUIS, MO.

am." Lady Visitor: "I don't care if he is. I'm married."—New York Herald.

ASLEEP UNDER WATER.

Youth's Companion.

In an article on "Divers and their Work," Framley Steelcroft declares that it is not a very uncommon thing for an expert diver, now that diving apparatus has been perfected to the point of entire reliability, to take a quiet little nap under water in those soundless regions where no disturbance, unless possibly that made by a too inquisitive shark, is likely to occur. He tells of one man who was at the bottom of the water in a harbor cleaning a ship's hull when he became tired, and made up his mind to knock off work and take a refreshing little snooze, where nobody would be the wiser, and there would be nothing to prevent the time so spent from being paid for among his hours of work when he received his wages.

Unfortunately for his plan, he forgot, when he drownded off, to secure to his wrist—as must be done when it is not in use—one of his implements, a couch-grass brush. As his hold upon the light brush relaxed it rose to the surface and floated conspicuously near the side of the vessel, where it was noticed by his comrades on board.

The officer on duty promptly opened communications with his submerged subordinate by telephone (a telephonic attachment being one of the recent improvements), and the startled man, after having hopelessly committed himself by blundering answers and halting explanations, was sternly ordered to the surface of the water, and discharged as he emerged.

Another and a lazier diver, engaged to work upon a wreck, once went down with the deliberate intention of sleeping for an hour or more. As soon as he touched bottom he lashed his air-pipe and life-line to a spar, and settled himself comfortably on a rock and went to sleep. But after a time his attendant at the surface noticed that the life-line showed no movement, and gave the two quick, inquiring tugs which form the signal, "Are you all right?"

No answer was received, and it was found impossible to obtain one, or to draw the diver to the surface. At length, after an interval of intense anxiety, in which the slumberer's life was despaired of by his mates, a second diver was sent down—and his wrath when he found the supposed victim sweetly sleeping, and the scene that ensued when he awoke him, was funny and bordered on the tragical.

A quarrel in diving suits at the bottom of the sea has not yet found place even in the ingenious pages of M. Jules Verne's submarine literature.

One bottle will convince the most skeptical of the real merits of Dr. Simmons' Sarsaparilla, concentrated and scientifically combined, pleasant and effective. 50 doses for 50 cents.

Teacher: "How stupid you are! You must not expect me to furnish brains for you." Pupil: "Oh, no, sir; the idea would be ridiculous."—Boston Transcript.

"May I be at liberty to quote you as endorsing the sentiment that the voice of the people is the voice of God?" asked the interviewer. "I would not

like to commit myself to that sentiment until after the convention," answered the candidate.—Indianapolis Journal.

The SHERMAN, SHREVEPORT and SOUTHERN R.Y.

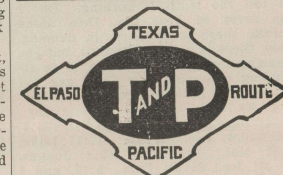
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BETWEEN

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TWO DAILY TRAINS.

Tickets sold via any route to points north, south, east or west connecting with the Houston & Texas Central at McKinney, Missouri, Kansas & Texas and Cotton Belt at Greenville, and Texas & Pacific at Jefferson. For further information address F. W. FRATT, Gen'l Manager, Greenville, Texas.



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Best Passenger Service

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TEXAS.

THE EAST

AND SOUTHEAST.

Cannon Ball Train

SHORTENED ONE HOUR IN TIME.

Leaves Fort Worth, 7:05 a. m.; Dallas, 8:05 a. m.; Union Depot, 8:15 a. m. Arrives St. Louis, 7:25 a. m. next day.

Limited Evening Express

Has Been Quickened

9 HOURS TO ST. LOUIS AND THE EAST.

4 HOURS TO MEMPHIS.

1 HOUR TO NEW ORLEANS.

ONLY TWO DAYS

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TEXAS and NEW YORK

Pullman Buffet Sleeping Cars to St. Louis, Chicago and New Orleans, and Pacific Coast.

Through day coaches each way between Fort Worth and Memphis.

For tickets, rates and further information call on or address your nearest ticket agent.

L. S. THORNE, 3d V-Pres. & Gen. Manager.

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W. A. DASHIELL, Traveling Passenger Agent.

Feed Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists, \$1.
Hood's Pills are always reliable. 25 cents.

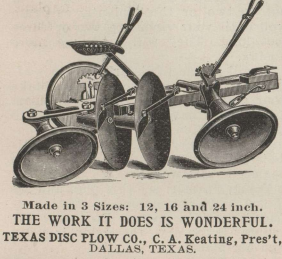
A TALE OF WOE AND HARD LUCK



Is told by many who bought cheap, inferior, never-going, always-sitting, always out-of-order Wind Mills and Towers that blew down or were badly rattled in the storm of April 11, 1898. Owners of DANDY outfits had no such complaints! We are headquarters forever, things in the Wind Mill line, with the most complete stock in Texas.

Challenge Wind Mill & Feed Mill Co.,
BATAVIA, ILL. DALLAS, TEXAS

HANCOCK DISC PLOW.



Made in 3 Sizes: 12, 16 and 24 inch.
THE WORK IT DOES IS WONDERFUL.
TEXAS DISC PLOW CO., C. A. Keating, Pres't,
DALLAS, TEXAS.

The "SMALLEY" FAMILY OF "FEED SAVERS"

Our Silo Outfit at Work.

Our "family" comprises for '98, Ensilage and Padder Cutters, Corn Shredders, Feed Mills, Ear Corn Grinders, Root Cutters and Powders for operating. Our pamphlets should be read by every "up-to-date" stock-raiser and dairyman in U. S. No. 1 "The Model Round Silo and how to build it." Latest reports from practical stock-feeders on the silo. No. 2 tells about "Corn-Hay," the new fodder product—its market and feeding value and how to make it. Free with catalogues if you name this paper.

SMALLEY MFG. CO., Manitowoc, Wis.

WOVEN WIRE FENCE

Over 50 Styles. The best on Earth. Horse high, Bull strong, Pig and Chicken tight. You can make from 40 to 60 rods per day for from 14 to 22c. a Rod.

KITSELMAN BROS.,
Ridgeville, - Indiana.

STEEL WEB Picket Lawn Fence

Steel Posts, Steel Rails and Steel Gates; Steel Tree, Flower and Tomato Guards, Cabled Field and Hog Fence, 2 to 6 in. high, Poultry, Garden and Rabbit Fence; Steel Wire Fence Board, etc. Catalogue free.

DEKALB FENCE CO., 55 High St., DeKalb, Ill.

The St. Louis Convention

It seems to have been too one-sided to suit some people. It's just so with the Page Fence; the combined opposition can't get up excitement enough to make it interesting. When the best farmers, park men and railroads all unite on one fence, it's bound to win.

PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.
J. R. KEENEY, Gen'l Agent, Dallas, Tex.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Will you be so kind as to tell me what is the matter with my watermelon vines? When the melons are about two or three weeks old there is a sticky substance (some call it honey dew) that commences near the root and covers the entire vine, melon and all, and it destroys the plant. My neighbors' vines are all more or less affected in the same way.—A. A. VENABLE, Stephenville, Texas.

Ans.—We have seen the disease spoken of, but never studied it, and have seen nothing about it in print. Perhaps some of our experienced melon growers can answer Mr. Venable's query.

I herewith send you, under separate cover, samples of onions which have seeded, planted these onions last April a year ago, and let them remain in the ground until now. You will find that at the root of the bulbs a bulb or small shoot in addition to the mother bulb. Now what I want to know is, will the additional bulbs make more onions if planted in September or next spring, or will they go to seed again, or will they make seed at all, like the original or mother onion? Please reply through your valuable paper.—C. A. GORDON, Brownwood, Texas.

Ans.—Better not risk these bulbs for making onions. The seed were probably degenerates, and has resulted in something like scullions, and will be consumed in forming seed stalks and maturing seeds next season. It would be better to get good seeds or sets and start anew.

Please tell me what will kill rats, or drive them out of our corn cribs.—R. E. CHARTERS, May, Brown Co., Texas.

Ans.—Cats.

VETERINARY.

When veterinary advice is desired by mail and without delay, Dr. Folseter (Dallas, Texas) should be addressed directly, and one dollar enclosed to secure prompt attention. Queries addressed to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH for publication will be answered, each in turn.

I have a Berkshire sow which is now 21 months old. I bred her the first time last September and have bred 5 times since then. So far I have never gotten her with pig. She is perfectly healthy and has always been so. Last summer I got her very fat, intending to send to the Bas Fair, but did not do so. In about three weeks from that time she was in heat again and has never failed to be in heat since, at periods of about 21 days. This spring I decided she was too fat and turned her in pasture for 4 months without feed. She has gained a good deal, but is yet in good condition. She is a King Lee pig and a fine specimen and I am anxious to get her to breed.—R. M. B. S. Conshat, La.

Ans.—Over-feeding is one of the common causes of barrenness in all of our domestic animals. The best thing to do is to reduce her in flesh till she is quite thin and then turn her in with a young male that is not over-loaded with flesh. If she does not get in pig under these conditions there is no hope for her. No medicinal remedies are likely to reach her case.

I have a horse that has something wrong with his hind leg. He gets lame when worked walking on top. Has lump on inside of hind leg at hock joint. Can locate it soverly. If you can, give treatment.—A. PARSONS, No Postoffice.

Ans.—Take two drachms of biniodide of mercury and two ounces of simple cerate mix and clip off the hair and rub in well a portion of the ointment over the enlargement on the hock. When the scabs produced by the applications come off, apply again the same way till lameness disappears.

Two-thirds of our work teams have been afflicted late this spring and summer with what we call foot evil. Inflammation begins at the frog or heel of the horse's or mule's hoof. On pressing, a dark fluid or watery matter exudes. Inflammation has commenced, and if not checked will extend around top of hoof, edge of hair, making the animal useless for work until hoof grows out, taking from six to eight months. Will you give in your paper a preventive and remedy for this disease? Out of twelve work animals have only four left for work.—C. B. SOUTHERN, Thompson, Texas.

Ans.—An ulceration of the coronet of this character is often very stubborn to cure, and a remedy that will arrest the disease at one time has no effect at another. Try one ounce of chloride of zinc, six drachms of carbolic acid, two ounces of tannic acid, and one quart of distilled water. Shake well before using and apply a little once a day.

I have a large horse, 6 or 7 years old, that became lame in his right hind leg about six months ago, and after doctoring him for various maladies, I am now about to discover that he is stultified. He does not bring the lame leg as far forward in walking as the well leg, and in stepping over a sill he brings it over with a jerky motion and with some difficulty. I have used him but very little since he became lame, and at times, after several weeks rest, he walks with the slightest indication of lameness, but after working about half day he gets so lame that he will with great difficulty, and when standing still will hold the foot of the lame leg clear off the ground for a minute at a time and then rest the foot with only the toe touching the ground. I have several times examined the entire leg from the bottom of the hoof to the

top of the hip, and can find nothing that would indicate the location of the trouble. Since he became lame in his right hind leg, the fore leg on the same side has developed a protuberance about half way between the knee and pastern joint, on the outside of the leg, nearly as big as his hind leg. It is longer, which yields to pressure as though filled with water. Also similar enlargements above the knee on both inside and outside of leg, though is not lame in fore leg. Please prescribe remedy for both ailments of hind leg and fore leg.—JNO. McMILLAN, Winnboro, Texas.

Ans.—Apply a cantharidine blister to stifle of hind leg; also over the coffin joint. The fore leg, if not lame on it, better let it alone or have some one with an anatomical knowledge of the leg examine it and if deemed necessary lance it.

Will you please tell me what is the matter with my mule and what to do for her? She is lame in left fore foot and has been for quite a while. She can scarcely move for it. Her leg above the hoof seems to be a little swollen and seems hard. She is 10 or 12 years old and is in good shape. She had not been worked much this year.—T. WILLIAMS, Lone Oak, Texas.

Ans.—Have the foot cut down all it will stand and the sole hollowed out till it will yield to pressure under the thumb, and then apply a cantharidine blister around the coronet and repeat every two weeks till lameness disappears.

I have been advised to consult you in regard to a wounded horse. He was shot with squirrel shot through the ankle last March and one small leader was severed, but don't think the bone was affected. He seems to walk almost as well as ever, but the ankle is about three times as large as the other one, and most of the enlargement seems to be behind the bone, and where the horny substance at the fetlock is there seems to be a white, soft substance growing and the ground is offensive. I don't know whether there is any proud flesh in the wound or not. Am putting nothing on the wound but black salve. The horse is hearty and does not seem to suffer any pain. Have been thinking of having the enlargement opened and treated. Please advise me what to do at once.—W. F. TANNER, Timpon, Texas.

Ans.—Paint the raw growth once a day with a full strength solution of caustic potassa till it is burned down to a level of the hair. Be careful and do not let it get on anything but the raw flesh. When you have reduced the growth to a level of the sound tissue surrounding it, then keep it white with dry lime sprinkled on.

I have a milch cow in good general condition; the udder seems to be in perfect condition. About six weeks ago her milk failed to yield better after any amount of churning. Milk did not clabber in the ordinary way, but the curd was precipitated in a mass as if the whey had been pressed out. About ten days ago a few lumps or curds were noticed to pass while milking. This milk was strained into a tin vessel with tight fitting lid, and on standing about twelve hours numerous small white worms about three-eighths of an inch long by about one-fourth of a line in diameter were discovered in the cream which formed. How shall I account for this condition and what is the remedy?—J. G. ARMSTRONG, Weston, Texas.

Ans.—Cannot explain case. Would advise giving her one and a half pounds of sulphate of magnesia dissolved in water and a table spoonful of bi-carbonate of soda in her feed twice a day for two or three weeks.

On page seven, this issue, will be found the card of Dr. J. B. Sheldire. Refer to it and see if you need service in his line.

We have received the annual catalogue of the Alexander Drug and Seed company, of seeds for summer and fall sowing.

Write "Farmer Shaw," Dallas, Tex., for list of bargains in Jersey cattle, Berkshire hogs and Clyde horses.

CHARBON

Can be arrested by protecting the healthy animals from FLIES—as FLIES are spreading the deadly disease. The editor knows from experience that SHOO-FLY will keep flies off stock.

Family doctor: "Your wife needs outdoor exercise more than anything else." Husband: "But she won't go out. What am I to do?" Family doctor: "Give her plenty of money to shop with."—New York Weekly.

IN TEN ANNUAL PAYMENTS.

Only 7 Per Cent Annually On Unpaid Balance.

"Get a move on you." 5000 acres in improved farms at \$8 to \$20 per acre, on above terms. Good prairie land, with plenty of timber and water. See J. W. Wells, on premises, four miles north of Prairieville, Kaufman County, Texas.

ABOUT PUMPING ENGINES

The best engine for supplying water on a farm or suburban place, a ranch, dairy, or stock farm, for green house, nurseries, etc., is one that can be easily and economically operated, and the

DeLamater Rider and the DeLamater Ericsson Hot-Air Pumping Engines have become celebrated for their superiority to any other means of procuring water for all purposes. These engines will burn any kind of fuel. They are perfectly safe and require very little care. Will pump water from any source and send it to any height and distance. They are supplanting the ungainly windmill, rams, steam and hand pumps, because the hot-air engine possesses advantages over all of them.

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The DeLAMATER IRON WORKS,
467 West Broadway, N. Y. City.

FOR SALE. 300 acres rich black land, 6 miles n. Dallas. Will sell entire tract, or will cut in smaller lots. JOHN Y. ROBERTSON, 165 Foydras St., Dallas, Texas.

LIGHTNING WELL MACH'Y PUMPS, AIR LIFTS, GASOLINE ENGINES.
CIRCULARS FREE
THE AMERICAN WELL WORKS, AURORA, ILL.—CHICAGO—DALLAS, TEX.

THE KIND YOU WANT
There are no better Drilling Machines than ours. For gas oil and water 60 down from 10 to 200 feet in sizes. Send for catalogue and prices of machines, tools, supplies, etc. Free.
Star Drilling Machine Co. Akron, O.

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HYDRAULIC ENGINEER,
Irrigation Fort Worth, Texas.
Work a Specialty. Correspondence solicited.

Artesian Wells.
Will contract to sink wells any depth, or will sell you the best Portable Well Drilling outfit made. It will be to your interest to correspond with me. I am also agent for Threshing Machines and the BIRDSEAL ROAD LOCOMOTIVE, an engine for general use on the farm and ranch, and one that will surprise you as to its pulling, steep hill climbing and the small amount of fuel required. Full information free. Address G. J. EPPRIGHT, Manor, Travis Co., Texas.

"But why do you not print a card and deny the accusation?" inquired the politician's wife. "Deny it," howled the politician, "and then have them prove it? No, I will treat it with contempt."—Truth.

Burlington Route

FAST THROUGH TRAINS DAILY,
St. Louis and Kansas City TO St. Paul and Minneapolis.
THE BEST LINE FROM ST. LOUIS AND KANSAS CITY TO OMAHA, DENVER, MONTANA, COLORADO, NEBRASKA, UTAH AND PACIFIC COAST.

Vestibuled Trains with Sleepers, Chair Cars (Seats Free) and Dining cars.

Kansas City to Eastern Cities via Chicago or Peoria.
L. W. Wakeley, G. P. A., ST. LOUIS, MO.
Howard Elliott, Gen. Mgr., ST. JOSEPH, MO.
L. J. Bricker, T. P. A., KANSAS CITY, MO.

Farm and Stock

The first bale of cotton of the season was received at Galveston on Tuesday, June 30. It was raised in Duval county, weighed 545 pounds and sold for 10 1-16 cents.

A superb hog feed, for any age and almost any condition, is corn, wheat and oats of equal parts, coarsely chopped and fed any way the hogs like it—cooked or raw, soaked or dry.

Corn is selling at 40 cents per bushel, and holders are not in a hurry to get rid of it at that price. There will have to be a readjustment of prices on hogs and corn, or somebody will suffer.

The question is not as to the length of the pedigree, but the qualities of the ancestors. This applies to all kinds of stock. Our pedigrees, for instance, run back to the first couple in the first garden, and yet we (and our readers) are a liberty-loving race of men, who keep the world moving, while others are degenerated senfs or vssals, without an aspiration above that of an animal. Their pedigrees are as long as ours.

We don't hear so much ridicule of the book farmer as we once did. Has there been a revelation on this subject that has caught the eyes of carpers? That's just what the matter is. People look about them and see that intelligent and progressive farmers prosper while the wooden-headed take disaster to bed with them, get up with it in the morning, walk with it all day, and between times curse the government and the agricultural profession. A farmer can't farm these days without books and papers to read.

WHAT OUR MILK AND BUTTER COSTS.

To supply the demand for milk and its products in this country 15,000,000 cows are required. To furnish food for them the cultivation of over 60,000,000 acres of land is required. In caring for the cows and their milk, the Interstate Grocer says, 100,000 men and 1,000,000 horses are needed. Cows and horses consume annually 30,000,000 tons of hay, 90,000,000 bushels of corn meal and the same amount of oat meal, 275,000,000 bushels of oats, 12,000,000 bushels of bran and 30,000,000 bushels of corn, to say nothing of the bulky and questionable feed of various kinds that is used all over the country. It costs \$400,000,000 to feed these cows and horses.

REVOLUTION IN BEEF MAKING.

For many years the great aim of beef-growers was to produce great mountains of flesh and fat at the age of four years. Beef less than three years old was considered green, unripe, and not suited to the taste of the carnivorous. The English led the world in big, fat bullocks, and the feeders of this country were aiming at the same high idea. It has been pretty well understood of late that the big, fat hogs of the past were no longer wanted, but that smaller animals and younger ones, with more lean flesh and less grease were more satisfactory to the consumer, and by reason of the better prices, more satisfactory to the producer also. But who would have thought that the rubicund, anti-dispeptic Britton would go back on the national traditions of five centuries, and demand rapidly grown baby beef, as better calculated to produce the ideal British roundity, rubicundity and blond side-whiskers. Nevertheless the English butchers are now calling for baby beef. The popular taste for beef has changed, and smaller cuts are wanted. It may be that British beef-eaters are not as able as heretofore to buy large joints, and large beefs can not be advantageously cut into small ones. But that is neither here nor there. Facts are what we have to deal with—let whys and wherefores take care of themselves. Baby beef, then, is the demand of the times. Then must our Herefords, Angus and Short-horns, go for naught, with their elephantine proportions? Not much. They are the very cattle needed to make the beef required at eighteen to twenty months of age, and at less cost than the same can be done with long-horns, or non-beef-producing breeds. Herein we also have the advantage of two crops in the time previously required

for one, and the two crops will outweigh and outsell the one. Then, instead of breeding for size alone, we must breed for early maturity, and feed for early maturity, realizing that it is the early matured beef that catches the top of the market.

SUMMER PASTURE.

W. J. DUFFEL.

I have been thinking of writing in regard to summer pasture. I find Bermuda the best of all when properly managed. It should be planted some time in the month of April when it is too wet to work in the field. This kills the weeds and improves the grass, and the longer this is kept up the better for the land. Again, this gives you a green pasture in the long dry hot summer. Grass when treated in this way will not freeze in winter. The writer has spent nearly fifty years on the farm and can see the importance of giving grass more attention than it has yet received in this state. I have traveled around among the farmers for the last few weeks, and often see small pastures near the house with a few stock on them. The owner expects them to live on the scant grass and a few weeds. In this way the poor stock must suffer for the want of a good pasture, while the man in the shade don't see why they are not fat. This class of farmers don't read as they should. In this state Texas Farm and Ranch is first on the list of good farm papers; then the bulletins from the experiment stations should be read to learn the farmer how to use his land to the best advantage.

Ross, Texas.

THAT WEEVIL QUESTION.

HOWARD EVARTS WEED.

In your issue of June 27, Mr. Parker questions some statements of mine made in the issue of June 20. Mr. P. is under the impression that the corn weevil is single brooded, that is, that but one generation is produced during a year, and the statements which he makes all depend on this. There are at least six annual broods produced during a year, however, and the eggs are not laid during the roasting ear stage. If Mr. P. will take an ear of corn, heat it in the way which he suggests and then place it in a tight jar or box and then place say six weevils in the jar, he will find in course of a few months that he has several times as many weevils attacking that ear of corn as he first put in. This simple experiment will both prove that the weevils are not single brooded and that the eggs are not laid when the corn is in the roasting ear stage. The reason of the heating of the ear of corn as above is to kill out any eggs or weevils which may be in the corn and at least six weevils should be placed in the ear so that they may make sure that some of the weevils put in are females.

Mr. P. states that when we kill a weevil with bisulphide of carbon we prevent "him from propagating his kind." This is just what we are after, as by so doing we prevent any damage being done by his (the weevil's) children and grandchildren. Again, "it is well known by all who have stored corn in large quantities that a few feet from the outside it will be free from weevils and will keep indefinitely." Weevils will attack the corn on the outside first and if the corn is left alone for several years they go deeper into the crib.

Agricultural College, Mississippi.

CIRCUMVENTING DROUTH.

Western Farmer.

It is impossible to overestimate the importance of thorough, frequent but shallow culture as a means of obviating to a great extent the ill-effects of drouth. In the garden, the field or the orchard it is equally efficacious, while the benefits to be derived from it are as pronounced and positive in the South as in the North, and the East as in the West. In the South, our average annual precipitation is 60 inches; in the North 23 or 30 inches, gradually dwindling off as one goes west until it is insufficient to supply the actual requirements of most all of the cultivated crops; hence "irrigation" is resorted to, and where this is impracticable agriculture becomes quite precarious. Especially is this the case where the soil-tiller ignores the "earth-mulch." Mulching with some coarse material as straw, chaff, leaves, etc., is

in most cases really superior to the earth-mulch, but for lack of the necessary material is impracticable on a very extensive scale; while, on the contrary, the earth-mulch can be practiced everywhere and by everybody, as well as on an extensive scale as heart could wish. The feasibility of the earth-mulch at all times and in all places, constitute it the most valuable of the two methods for accomplishing the same object, viz., the retention of moisture.

In the gardens mulching may be practiced, especially with such vegetables as potatoes, melons and even onions, and such small fruits as strawberries, the only precaution necessary being in a judicious selection of material used. For potatoes, chaff, straw, leaves, etc., but for onions rotten cotton seed or even "motes" are best.

In the orchard, the earth-mulch is all that is necessary, except in the case of young, newly set trees; in some instances these would be the better for mulching. There is but little necessity for selecting material for the orchard, any and all vegetable matter can be indiscriminately used, even sorghum pomace, chip manure from the wood pile, etc., answer to good purpose.

In the field the earth-mulch is all that is practicable; according to the exhaustive experiments of Prof. F. H. King of the Wisconsin experiment station, three inches in the best depth for the loose dirt, or blanket on the surface. In either the garden, orchard or field, in long continued spells of dry, hot weather, the use of the earth-mulch means the difference between profit and loss, success and failure. The dryer and hotter the weather, the greater and more imperative the necessity for a frequent stirring of the surface. The ground planted to corn should have the mulching business, whenever practicable, kept up until earing time, or at least until one is well satisfied that further culture would prove of no avail.

We do not advocate deep culture for any single cultivated plant of our acquaintance. In any and all cases where it is desired to deepen the soil, the deepening process should be put in practice in time of preparing the soil for the reception of the seed, and not in time of cultivating the growing crop.

In very hot, dry weather, the soil will dry out just as deep as plowed. Now a few words as to cultivation of corn. We are well satisfied in our own mind that, speaking of sections of country with which we are acquainted, by far the major portion of the corn crop of this United States is "laid by" too soon, and that a serious loss is annually incurred in consequence. We have plowed corn with manifest advantage when the ears would bump our head as we walked along; but the last plowing of corn should always be the shallowest plowing, the main object being not to stimulate the growth, but the conservation of moisture. If there is any period of time that corn actually needs a greater amount of moisture than at any other time that time is earing time; yet, when corn is laid by at knee, waist, shoulder or head high, nothing whatsoever is done toward tiding the corn over this critical period. At the same time that we advocate late culture for corn, we by no means advise the mutilation of the roots; this is entirely unnecessary, uncalled for and cannot fail wherever practiced to act injuriously.

Flowerly Fields: "W'y did yer leave yer wife, William? Weary William: Oh, she wuz flighty an' changeable. Useter hide her pocketbook in a different place 'most every time; never seemed ter care how much trouble she made me.—Judge.

THE MULE'S DISPOSITION.

Journal of Agriculture.

Agreat many people have a mistaken idea of mules and their disposition. I suppose from reading the comic items, the mule has had to bear far more than his share of that style of writing. Mark Twain said: "A mule will be kind and docile for twenty years just to get a man's confidence, that he may get a fair chance to kick him." Mules that will kick, will kick at any time, just as a horse will. Small mules from Bronco mares are very apt to kick at any chance; while mules from our work mares, and those with draft blood, sel-

PROTECT YOUR STOCK FROM FLIES. Myself and patrons have been delighted with the effect of "Shoo-Fly" manufactured in Philadelphia, Pa., that I made duplicate orders in May, aggregating 250 quarts.

Kansas City, Mo. J. W. BUSHER. I have used Shoo-Fly two years on my cows. It pays. Send me Twenty-five (25) gall ns. FALLSINGTON, Bucks Co., Pa. H. W. COMFORT. I send 20c. will return 1 pint Shoo-Fly. SPECIAL Name Express Office, \$1.50 per gallon. 1 gal. lasts 3 animals a season. Freight pd. on 10 gals. Shoo-Fly Mfg. Co., 100 Fairmount Ave., Phila., Pa. AGENTS WANTED.

ENGLISH BERSHIRE HOGS. For sale pure families, including Highclere, Lord Bacon, Longfellow, etc. My hogs are partly imported from England. GEO. T. JESTER, Corsicana, Texas.

PLEASANT VALLEY FARM, home KING MEDIUM, P. land China bar. Highest priced boar ever sold at auction, \$80. Service fee, \$25. Now booking for fall service. Fall service limit, 25 sows. A few choice young boars for sale. Pleasant Valley Herd Poland Chinas, OLIVER LIPPINCOTT, Waco, Texas.

FINE REGISTERED BERSHIRE and POLAND CHINA PIGS—NOT A-K-E-N. I have for sale at \$15 per pair; 2 and 3 months old. Sent by Express, and guarantee safe delivery. I have the finest registered hogs in Texas. P. D. SIX, Oak Cliff, Tex.

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W. H. PIERCE, Denton, Texas, breeder of large English Berkshires. Two boars, each winning 1st in class, 1st and 2d in sweepstakes, and stood head of 4 herds, winning 2 1st and 1 2d. Another is full brother to sire of sweepstakes now at World's Fair. Pigs from these boars and sows of equal blood for sale.

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WILKES STALLIONS FOR SALE. Two Standard and registered Wilkes stallions for sale cheap. Also mares, colts, fillies and geldings at prices to suit the times. For information address W. C. LEONARD, Lawrence, Texas. Or JNO. Y. ROBERTSON, Dallas, Texas.

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HOLSTEIN FRIESIAN CATTLE. Forty-two head—20 registered and subject to registry, and 22 highly graded, of the "Mercedes" and "Mink" families. Owing to recent establishment of quarantine line and other causes, this pretty herd will be sold or exchanged for common cattle for ranch purposes. Parties in the State who mean business are solicited to write for particulars with conditional propositions. Address STEVIA STOCK FARM, Vernon, Texas.

THE BRED BULLS

JERSEY, HOLSTEIN.

The A. & M. College has on hand some surplus home raised bulls that are to be sold at low prices. All stock sold under guarantee. For description and prices write

J. H. CONNELL, Prof. of Agriculture, P. O., College Station, Brazos Co., Texas.

them. Knowing but little them about this disease, I planted the balance of the lot and after growing them one year discovered from actual tests that 95 per cent of these had the disease. These trees were all close root pruned before planting.

They might have been infected by growing in proximity to diseased trees in the nursery before shipping. In either event you see the difficulty of detecting this disease in its undeveloped form. Right here comes the great danger to the planter. If he does not receive knotted trees, he receives those grown with the knotted ones thrown out by the nurseryman. These trees appear to be all right when planted, but in one year 90 per cent or more of them develop the disease. In a few years the trees commence dying, but being buried out of sight the planter seldom suspects the real cause.

How to detect this disease in its undeveloped form, I admit, is the hardest question asked by Friend Kirkpatrick. What the purchaser should do when he knows stock to be diseased I have already answered—reject them. Our horticultural society at its Houston meeting, as members there will remember, advised rejecting such diseased stock.

A word in regard to root pruning as a remedy for this disease and I am done. Mr. Robinson of Cisco, I believe, was the first to discover that close root pruning was the great panacea for this dread disease—told about one of his neighbors picking up some knotted trees rejected by him and by close root pruning and cutting away all the knots the trees were planted, grew rapidly, sloughed off the old knots and were then fine, vigorous trees.

Afterward Mr. Stringfellow claimed the same results from close root pruning.

Mr. Kirkpatrick, in his celebrated coast article, stated that he had carefully examined the trees after they had been so treated by Mr. S., and testified that they were vigorous in growth, had sloughed off the old knots, but said apparently the cause was some climatic condition. I had often heard of that climate of the coast doing wonderful things, and I know that at Rockport some people live on it, but never dreamed of it being able to knock this dread disease out. And now what need is there of close root pruning as a remedy if the climate of the coast is such a cure.

Now my experience in close root pruning with this disease: My plum trees above referred to were of the same lot referred to by Mr. Stringfellow and seemed in such a thrifty condition by Mr. Kirkpatrick. I close root pruned and planted in rich Brazos bottom land three years ago at the same time Mr. Stringfellow planted his trees. As above stated one year after planting I found 95 per cent badly affected, and last year some of them died; this year 25 per cent are dead, and 50 per cent of the living are so badly affected that I do not expect them to live through the season. I will have some of these at the horticultural meeting at Tyler, and will show that close root pruning does no good with me, and I must confess I am skeptical as to its being a remedy in the hands of others against this disease. I hope they are right, but believe they are mistaken.

Some of our most practical nurserymen, among them Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Stringfellow, claim this disease can be transmitted by buds and grafts. This being true, is it reasonable that cutting off the knots already formed will eradicate the disease.

Now, Mr. Editor, in conclusion, allow me to emphasize the suggestion of Mr. Kirkpatrick, that our State society take hold of this disease question in earnest and make a manly effort to handle it to the profit of all now interested and to the greater good of those to succeed us.

Waco, Texas.

Prof. Van Deman delivered an address before the recent meeting of the American Association of Nurserymen, entitled "The Duty of the Nurseryman to the Fruit Grower." In his address Prof. Van Deman establishes a standard for the nurseryman that is very high, but should and ought to be attainable to all. He says first he should be honest; the fruit grower is at his mercy, and must depend upon his statements as to character of the stock the nurseryman is supplying for planting. He has no way of knowing whether the trees are

true to name or not except the statement of the nurseryman. Second, he should be able to give his patrons intelligent advice about almost everything relating to the production of fruits their adaptability to soils, climate, etc. To this end he will need to be familiar with the fundamental principles of botany and vegetable physiology, and if he is also acquainted with vegetable pathology he will be able to help his patrons over many rough places in their experience.

He should be well acquainted with all the leading varieties and their adaptability to various localities concerned in the trade and of his nursery, in order that he may intelligently aid in selecting suitable varieties for varying localities.

His knowledge of entomology and the fungus diseases that affect fruits should be such that he can properly advise—especially against the spread of noxious insects and bacterial diseases, such as blight yellows, etc. No extravagant statements should be made in catalogues or through agents about fruits offered for sale, and illustrations should never be misleading, and when agents are employed to sell nursery stock, only men of some experience in horticulture should be employed, and the first intimation of departure from a strictly honorable course should be sufficient cause for a discharge.

MULCHING TO RETARD MATURITY.

L. B. BAILEY.

Careful investigation and thorough inquiry lead to the following conclusions:

1. The early bloom of fruit plants depends very largely upon the appropriation of foods stored in the twigs, and it is more or less independent by root action. This is proved by direct experiment and by study of the physiology of plants.

2. It must follow, then, that the temperature of the twig or branch must be reduced if its vegetation is to be made retarded; or, in other words, the top of the plant, as well as the soil, must be mulched, and in practice this is possible only with strawberries and other very low plants, or those which are laid down during winter.

3. There is danger of injuring plants by heavy mulch, which is allowed to remain late in spring. If it is desired to retard flowers or fruit by mulching the practice should not be violent and the plants should be carefully watched.

4. Many strawberry growers are able to delay the ripening of fruit by mulching, from two days to two weeks; but a week's delay is usually about the limit of profitable results.

ONION CULTURE.

There are few vegetable crops of more importance to the rural population of the United States than the onion crop. The relatively large profits which it is possible for the skillful grower to obtain from a limited area have rendered the cultivation of this bulb especially popular with those possessing small tracts of land, while gardeners living in localities whose soils and climate are pre-eminently adapted to onion culture have found it profitable to till large areas. Twenty-five to 100 acres in one field is not an unusual thing in such localities. Large yields overstock the markets some years, resulting in very low prices; but the prices received during a series of years make onion culture, as a rule, a profitable enterprise where the soil and climatic conditions are favorable.

Notwithstanding the extensive production of onions in the United States hundreds of thousands of bushels are annually shipped to our ports from Cuba. This fact demonstrates that the demand at all seasons of the year is not yet fully supplied by growers of our own country. The bulbs of foreign varieties are superior in quality to those originated in this country—such as the Yellow Danvers, Red Wethersfield and Silver Skin. The imported bulbs are also placed on the market before the gardeners in the north can mature their crops, but the long season of California and certain parts of the South renders it possible for these sections to cultivate successfully the foreign varieties and mature the onions almost, if not quite as early as the countries named.

The above is the introduction to Farmers' Bulletin No. 39, "Onion Culture," by R. L. Watts, instructor

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Tourist tickets, good until October 31 for return, are now on sale by "THE GREAT ROCK ISLAND ROUTE" to Kansas City, Chicago, Denver, Colorado Springs, and all Northern and Eastern summer resorts.

In addition to the above, the following very low rates will be made for special occasions:

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One fare for round trip. Tickets sold August 26th and 30th, good for return until September 16th, with privilege of extension until September 30th.

Solid Vestibule trains to Kansas City and Chicago, with Pullman Sleepers and free Reclining Chair cars.

Through Sleepers between San Antonio and Kansas City.
For tourist books, folders and additional information, address J. C. McCABE, G. P. A., Fort Worth.

in horticulture at the University of Tennessee and horticulturist of the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station.

A TELEPHONE IN HIS ORCHARD.

Galveston News.

An incident of commercial importance happened yesterday showing that Texas is making rapid strides to keep up with the pace. Mr. Lang of the Galveston Fruit company was called to the telephone yesterday morning.

"Hello, is that Lang?" came a distinct voice over the telephone.

"Hello, Falkner. I didn't know you were in town. Where are you now?"

"I am in my orchard. I have had a long distance telephone put in."

"Isn't it rather expensive?"

"Yes; but I had to do it to keep up with the progress of the world. Any time you want anything just call me up."

After some business talk they rang off. The orchard man is Mr. C. Falkner, who owns quite an orchard about three miles out of Waco, 280 miles, by wire from Galveston. He is an exceptionally intelligent fruit grower who came to Texas from the East and is working his place on business principles.

IMPERIAL MISSOURI.

Coleman's Rural World.

How pale all other states appear in the effulgence of imperial Missouri! What other community can show within the space of one week 100 berries on one stem, a horse colt and a mule colt that are twins, a three-pound baby, a mule 21 hands high and that weighs 2000 pounds, a mule team that draws 6328 pounds with ease, a snake with thirty rattles, a black man turned white, a snake full of squirrels, carrots that grow in circles, a bottle in the center of a solid log, nine inches of branch bearing eighteen large plums, a 15-foot 7-inch cornstalk, an 18-pound baby and a gobbler that hatches chickens? If the tide of next spring's immigration is not all this way, there is no weight in facts about resources.

"Now, look here," said the professor to the infuriated bull, "you are my superior in strength; I am your superior in mind. Let us arbitrate the matters and see which should by right have the better of our controversy." "Oh, no," replied the bull; "let's toss up for it." The professor lost.—London Tid-Bits.

JUST WHAT'S NEEDED

Exclaims thousands of people who have taken Hood's Sarsaparilla at this season of the year, and who have noted the success of the medicine in giving them relief from that tired feeling, waning appetite and state of extreme exhaustion after the close confinement of a long winter season, the busy time attendant upon a large and pressing business during the spring months and with vacation time yet some weeks distant. It is then that the building-up powers of Hood's Sarsaparilla are fully appreciated. It seems perfectly adapted to overcome that prostration caused by change of season, climate or life, and while it tones and sustains the system, it purifies and vitalizes the blood.

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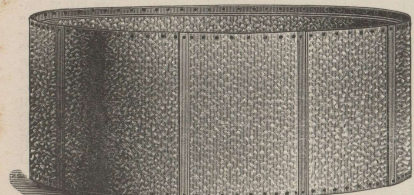
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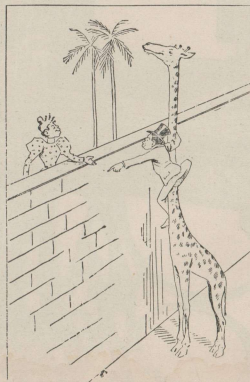
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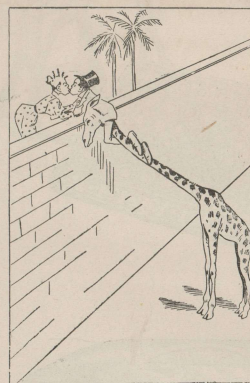
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