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1910

PEETS

FARM NOTES.

Applying Stable Manure in the Winter.

I would like to know, or inquire through your paper, a few facts in regard to the manure question. Is it a good plan to haul manure direct from the stable and spread it upon the land when there is a good depth of snow, or even when the ground is well frozen? When the manure freezes, does the manure lose some of its value? Last winter we had a heavy fall of snow, and I hauled the manure direct from stable to the field and spread it well by fork upon the snow. When I harvested my corn I could see no difference where the manure was put and where it was not. This field was a very tough sod, that had lain for 13 years. Three crops of hay had been taken off and the rest of the time it had been pastured. It is a level field, and is well tilled. The soil is heavy clay. I would like to know if it was the dry weather or the snow that carried the fertilizing value out of the manure.

Washtenaw Co.

W. J. S.

It is the opinion of farmers and experimenters alike, who have tried different methods of handling stable manure that there is the least loss when it is applied to the land as rapidly as made, especially if drawn out on sod ground and spread at any season of the year. Only the moisture is evaporated or frozen from it, as the case may be, and the plant nutrients which it contains remain intact, and such plant food as may be washed from it by the spring rains is quickly absorbed by the roots of the grass growing upon the land. There is probably no doubt that the apparently poor results secured from the application of the manure in this case was due to the exceedingly dry weather of the past summer which would arrest decomposition which is necessary to make the plant food contained in the manure available. However, while no beneficial results may have been noted in the corn crop we believe there is no doubt that the succeeding crops will be benefited by the application of this manure, since it is certain that the minimum amount of its fertilizing value was lost when applied to the land by this method. It was simply not available for the corn crop owing to the unfavorable weather conditions but will be available for the succeeding crops and will certainly benefit the mechanical condition of the soil as well as increase its available content of plant food.

Testing Seed Corn in an Incubator.

I have watched the columns of your paper for information about testing seed corn. I want to test mine this winter and am thinking of using my incubator for that purpose. Any information on the subject will be appreciated. If my plan is a success I will report the outcome to you later.

Antrim Co.

N. G.

While seed corn may be tested in the manner suggested and the plan has been reported to us as successful by some of our correspondents yet we believe that this is an unnatural method of testing corn and that the results might not be as satisfactory as where some other plan is followed. Those who have used the incubator recommend the regulation of the temperature at about 85 degrees. Every man who has had experience in planting corn under favorable and unfavorable conditions knows that seed which will grow under favorable conditions will sometimes give but a very poor stand when the weather conditions are unfavorable after it is planted. The constant temperature of 85 degrees is never approximated in the soil at corn planting time nor is the temperature constant for long at any lower point than this, consequently we might expect that corn which would germinate well in an incubator where the temperature conditions were constant and moisture is supplied in proper amounts might easily fail to give a good stand in the field.

The writer had a very good illustration of this fact last spring. Seed that made a very good stand in another field planted a little later in the season under a little more favorable weather conditions made only half a stand in an earlier planted field when the weather conditions were not nearly so favorable for its quick germination. When seed corn is tested in a testing box by the ear method a great variation will be observed in the vigor of the germination of kernels from different ears and the best plan is to reject all ears which do not give a vigorous germination of every kernel used in the test. Some that will sprout all right do so tardily and other sprouts are weak and there is no comparison with kernels from another ear under exactly the same conditions. Thus we believe it to be a better plan to test the seed corn under more natural conditions, using the testing box divided into squares by strings, as has been before described in these columns and planting about four kernels from dif-

ferent parts of each ear in the square corresponding to the number by which the ear is marked.

The ordinary room temperature is plenty warm enough for the purpose and if it varies a little during the day and night, as it ordinarily will, the conditions will more nearly approach the field conditions under which the corn will be planted. Then by rejecting all ears, the kernels from which do not give perfect germination, we will be sure, as near as it is possible to be, that the seed is first quality.

We should, of course, be glad to get the results of the incubator test, or several of them, if this subscriber or any other reader should try out the plan, but a test of this kind would have added value if it were checked by a test of a certain number of ears made in accordance with the plan above outlined and a comparison of the results secured by the different methods noted.

Sawdust as a Fertilizer.

Can you tell me through your paper if decayed hardwood sawdust has any value as a fertilizer, and if so how should it be applied?

Montcalm Co.

J. D.

There would not be sufficient fertilizing value in this sawdust to make it practical to apply to most soils unless it had lain in shallow piles for a sufficient length of time to become pretty well decomposed. If it were dried and used as a stable absorbent then considerable benefit would be derived from it. On hard clay land the mechanical effect of such an application, in addition to the vegetable matter which it contains, would make the application beneficial to the soil and increase its crop-producing power. However, care should be taken in applying this material not to put it on too thickly, especially upon light or open soils.

TOP-DRESSING WHEAT WITH STABLE MANURE.

We are now starting to top-dress 30 acres of wheat with manure so as to be sure of a good catch of clover next spring. We have five acres top-dressed now and have enough manure on hand to cover four or five more that isn't frozen, down. The manure under cover we can draw a little later when we can't get it out of the yards. We have 92 acres of wheat straw to use up and make into manure and are drawing and putting in the steer yards and sheds two stacks we bought of the neighbors. Putting the manure on the wheat at the rate of seven or eight loads to the acre serves a double purpose; it holds the snow from blowing off the wheat and makes a catch of clover. Three or four years ago this winter I drew seven loads of horse manure over to the back side of the farm on a poor spot of ground in the wheat field. I spread this manure very thinly on the snow. I think it went over a little more than an acre. In the spring I sowed on the clover seed and did not drag it or roll it, but when we cut the wheat we had no trouble in finding the place. The man that pitched the wheat noticed that the bundles were a great deal heavier on this ground and the heads longer than elsewhere on the field. The clover was twice as good and twice as large as in any other place, and when I cut the hay the next summer, I think there was enough more hay on this one acre of ground to be worth fifteen dollars. I am beginning to believe that the place for every fork-full of manure is on top of the ground on wheat, instead of being plowed under where it leaches still further down.

This has been a good fall for the wheat and especially the corn-ground wheat. Some of our corn-ground wheat looks as well as if it was summer fallow wheat, while the later sown does not look so good. We had the 62 acres of corn-ground wheat in by the third of October. The other we sowed about the 20th of September. We sowed timothy seed on all our wheat and it is going into the winter in good shape. Many farmers did not sow timothy because it cost \$5 per bushel this fall, but how can we reap if we do not sow?

We have made it a point to sow timothy and clover seed every year, regardless of cost and believe that it pays to sow every year.

Jackson Co.

CHAS. GOLDSMITH.

Virgil wrote about the granary weevil: It was known before the Christian era.

"My Advertisement Paid Me Well."

J. C. Barney, of Coldwater, Mich., who has been advertising Duroc swine in our columns, writes: "My advertisement in your paper has paid me well. I am enclosing copy for another year. Start it right away."



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—WM. GALLOWAY

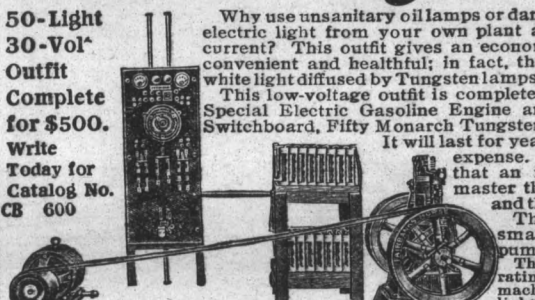
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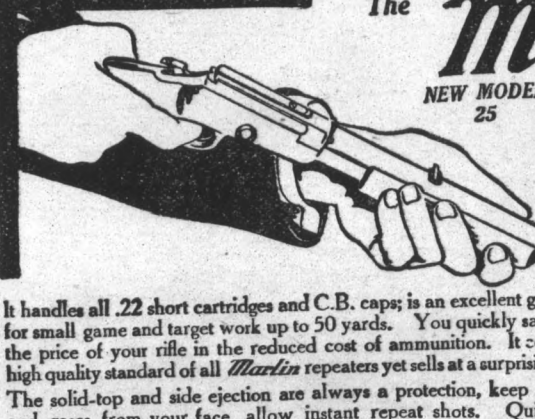
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EXPERIENCES WITH ALFALFA AT
CHERRY HILL FARM.

I read all of the experiences with alfalfa published in the Michigan Farmer and some time ago I read an article from the pen of Mr. Lillie in which he seemed to be rather disappointed that the farmers throughout the state did not experiment in a small way with alfalfa, and give the public the benefit of their experiences.

I want to say, for his encouragement, that I have been trying, and with partial success, and I know of others that have been experimenting along the same lines.

I had about half an acre of ground handy to the cow barn on which I raised early sweet corn from which, after getting the corn, I would feed the stalks to the cows. Two years ago, early in the spring, I went to a neighbor's who had turned over an old alfalfa sod the fall previously and he kindly let me have several bushels of soil which I sowed on the plot. After dragging to mingle the inoculated soil I sowed ten pounds of alfalfa seed on the half acre. This was early in the spring, in the fore part of April. The seed came up very nicely, the weeds came up very thickly too. I clipped the plants and weeds as soon as tall enough so that I could, but quite a large portion of the plot failed to make a sufficient stand to suit me, the rest turning pale and sickly looking and sparsely seeded. A year ago last fall I plowed up all that part along with a few rods more ground which I added to the experimental plot and sowed a very thin seeding of rye quite late, so it just nicely came up before winter set in. Early in the spring I spread with a manure spreader six loads per acre of well rotted manure, then sowed 15 lbs. of alfalfa seed which I dragged in thoroughly, destroying some of the rye but leaving enough so that I had a heavy crop of rye and a good stand of alfalfa.

I have an acre and a half contiguous to this experimental plot that raised a good crop of late potatoes. This strip of land, six rods wide, had been used for a wide lane to connect the cow pasture with the barnyard, and was therefore quite rich from droppings and old sod. I kept the potato ground clean and free from weeds and after digging cleaned the ground of tops and dragged in a thin seeding of rye, intending to treat in the spring the same as I did the other plot last spring, that is, apply manure and drag in alfalfa seed. Let me add that we have never found any forage plant equal to alfalfa for fowls confined in parks or for growing pigs or sows.

Kent Co. J. A. SYMES.

THE SEED POTATO QUESTION.

In the issue of December 3, I notice an article on "The Potato Crop," by Colon C. Lillie, in which he says he grew 120 bushels of marketable potatoes per acre. I read that he also has 75 or 80 bushels of small ones which he intends to plant the coming season. He also says he is going to try and do better another year.

I think it is several weeks too late to inaugurate any system that will be of any particular advantage in improving his coming crop. Would he use a stallion that is known to be the sire of one weak and small colt in every six?

Would he choose the small and weak one to perpetuate uniformity in size, vigor and vitality in his future stock of farm horses? I am sure he would not, yet he admits doing this very thing with the producing stock of his coming crop of potatoes.

I heartily believe in the old principle of "the survival of the fittest." The same that made the noble red man, physically, the envy of the whole world. In choosing potatoes for seed I dig a portion of the field myself with a fork and on coming to a hill with a large, well-formed stalk, carrying an abundance of foliage, I choose it for breeding stock, providing it has no less than six uniform potatoes in it. A hill containing a small potato or one on which there is a single scab of any size, in my judgment is not fit for seed.

This same system of choosing corn for breeding purposes, in which the style of stalk, length and width of leaf, type of ear, length, width and thickness of kernel, color of cob and grain cured on the stalk away from sun, rain and frost, selected, graded and tested, have all been taken into consideration, has enabled me to grow 71½ bushels of shelled corn an acre testing 60 pounds per bushel at the local elevator. This, too, on land assessed at \$13.50 per acre.

I do not make a business of growing

potatoes for market, but what I raise I strive to bring to as high a standard of efficiency as is undertaken with my corn, dairy cattle, sheep, hogs and poultry.

Kalamazoo Co. L. J. BRADLEY.

WHY SMALL POTATOES FOR SEED?

In Lillie Farmstead Notes I was surprised at Mr. Lillie's statement that he saved his small potatoes for seed, and yet wants to increase his yield to 200 bushels per acre. I contend that seed potatoes should be selected with as much care as the seed for any other crop. I would not advocate the largest potatoes, but well-shaped, medium-sized potatoes selected at digging time from productive hills. Would he advocate nubbins for seed corn or screenings for a good wheat crop?

I would like to have Mr. Lillie explain himself on the small potato question. I can hardly believe that he, as a practical farmer, who usually advocates the best of everything for seed and the best of stock for breeding purposes, would advise the use of inferior seed potatoes for a large crop.

St. Joseph Co. GEO. SCHNEIDER.

SEASONABLE WORK.

We have lately devoted a few cold mornings to picking up the timber that has accumulated about the farm and woods during the summer and converting it into wood. Some of this was drift wood from the creek, some old rails, some trees that had blown over, or branches that were broken off. The furnace will take four-foot pieces, and with the saw and gasoline engine, limbs and poles can be converted into wood quite rapidly.

There are also numerous little repair jobs that we have started, such as the boarding up of sheds to shut out the wind, the re-hanging of broken gates, and repairing fences, but there are many more of these things to do, in fact it seems as if such things are never done, and I guess they aren't, but let a farm go for five or ten years without doing any of them and compare it with a farm where things have been kept up and you will understand their importance.

We also have a start on the winter's manure hauling, most of it being hauled from town in exchange for straw, though some is obtained for the hauling. We are putting the coarsest of it around the young trees set last spring which we have been putting the protectors around. These are on cultivated ground, and the manure will be scattered and worked into the ground next spring after doing duty as a mulch this winter. Some is going on the new seeding, using a spreader for this top-dressing. The finest and cleanest is being put on a part of the young orchard intended for strawberries next year. I like to get this well dressed in the fall so it will not be necessary to drive on the wet ground in the spring and pack it, and, too, the manure will have leached into the soil somewhat by spring, and after disking several times will be well incorporated with the soil, better, I believe, than if it had been applied in the spring.

A LAST PLEA FOR SHRUBBERY.

Owing to your kind criticism of my article on road improvement, I ask the indulgence to say just a word more and I will then "go way back and sit down."

Some time during the late forties or fifties, Gerritt Smith, the late noted abolitionist, after being egged off one platform made a speech in Syracuse, N. Y. Among other things he said, "that a slave was perfectly justified to take his master's horse, rob his pocketbook and even take his life, if necessary, in making his escape to Canada."

Some of his conservative neighbors remonstrated with him for expressing such sentiments. He replied: "All reformers must go to extremes in order to bring the people to a proper mien."

Mr. Editor, you know the proverbial influence of the red rag on a mad bovine and yet you offer me solace of "trees." Great Scott! Trees! Trees! What do you think I have been doing for the last term of years? We have trees (not magnificent, because they are not old enough) that were once a delight to the eye but now hideously mutilated. I would almost let my right hand lose its cunning and my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth if I could blot from my memory the language I used the time I discovered the results to the trees after the first telephone line went through and more especially when the second was con-

structed on the other side of the road. I verily believe that many of your readers can sympathize with me on this subject. But in some things we must be practical. The survival of the fittest is the universal law and the telephone has come to stay because it is an almost absolute necessity and the roadside trees must take a back seat until the wireless system is perfected. In the meantime, let all lovers of the beautiful join together in trying to influence our legislature to so modify the law that suitable places along our roadsides that don't interfere with travel can be grown to shrubbery.

Jackson Co. DR. E. N. PALMER.

THE LAW OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND.

Your editorial in the Michigan Farmer of October 29, relative to an answer to disappointed potato grower, was all right in so far as relative to the marketing of the crop, but it seems to me that the fundamental principle of all prices is supply and demand. The reason that potatoes were so cheap last year was because more were raised than was sufficient to supply the demand for a reasonable price. The same is true this year.

Previous to the last two years potatoes have for quite a number of years brought good prices. This has stimulated the average farmer to increase his acreage. The past two seasons have generally been favorable for a good crop.

Increased acreage, plus good yield, has created a surplus in a perishable crop; hence the slump in the market. The farmer in this case receives a financial punishment for his industry. This will right itself in a year or so; for as the farmers get more discouraged they will drop out or reduce their acreage of potatoes, then this decreased supply will bring up the price and then there will be no howling about a "gang of thieves." Did disappointed potato grower ever hear a grower of potatoes mention anything about being robbed when he was receiving from 75c to \$1 per bushel for his potatoes?

This law of supply and demand works the same in the live stock line as in the potato or other crops. The writer of this article, some three or four years ago, was the same as hundreds of others, well supplied with hogs. For the previous two or three years hogs had been pretty profitable, the farmer ever ready to pick up easy money, kept stocking up a little heavier each year until the supply of pork was overtopping the demand. This, coupled with the general shortage of the corn crop, sent hogs on the toboggan, by the time the bottom was reached it was something like \$4 hogs. This drop in the space of a few months left hog growers with a lot of sore spots. There was a lot of talk of robber packers, meat trust, etc., but the little joker was over-supply, plus corn shortage. After the deluge the most discouraged of farmers (like the writer), found themselves without any hogs; the more hopeful with a few hogs. Gradually the clouds of low prices began to fade, and the sun of rising prices appeared above the horizon, then the full brilliancy of day in the shape of \$10 hogs.

About this time the writer had a good neighbor, (who kept his grip on the hogs all through the toboggan and the ascension), and every time he would see me would deal this kind of punishment: "How's the hogs, Grieb?"

Today there are two kinds of before the deluge hog growers, one as he smilingly cashes a fat check for a bunch of porkers; the other (like the writer) quietly kicking himself and wonders what makes it snow.

The above is written by an unsuccessful, though hopeful farmer, who has the unhappy faculty of getting hold at the wrong time. I can say the experiment is not conducive to a very general enlargement of a bank account, but it is making me wealthy in experience. As a general thing they say experience is a dear teacher, and so I will not grumble. Mayhap some day I will be able to read the handwriting on the wall.

A right adieu until then.

Ingham Co. LACEY GRIEB.

EIGHTEEN TONS OF SUGAR BEETS
PER ACRE.

In the legend printed in your paper of November 26, with picture of the bevy field of J. J. Hirst, there was a slight mistake. There were 18 acres of the beets and an average tonnage of 18 tons and 200 lbs. per acre. I wish to state that after the labor bill was paid on the crop at the rate of \$16 per acre, the beets cleared \$78.25. The beets were planted on April 18.

J. J. HIRST.



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Give Number of trees you tap

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Have it tanned with the hair on for a coat, robe or rug. Moth proof, no smell. Freight paid on 3 hides. You furnish hide, we do all the rest and make coat for \$10.00 up. Robes \$5.50 up. Write for price list.

THE WORTHING & ALGER Co., Hillsdale, Mich

NOTICE.

At the annual meeting to be held in the City of Hastings on January 3rd, 1911 at one o'clock, P. M., the members of the Michigan Mutual Tornado, Cyclone and Wind-Storm Insurance Company will vote on amendments to and revising the charter of the said Insurance Company. Dated Hastings, Mich., Nov. 26, 1910. D. W. ROGERS, Sec.

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LIVE STOCK

FEEDERS' PROBLEMS.

Potatoes for Work Horses.

I have 600 bu. of small potatoes. Have no hogs or cattle to feed, but am working from 10 to 12 horses. Am now feeding hay, oats and some corn. Would you advise feeding some potatoes to horses and how many, and at what time in the day? Could the other feed be diminished if potatoes were fed or would it be necessary to keep up the full grain and hay ration? Hay is our most expensive feed. It is worth \$20 a ton here.

Missaukee Co.

L. M. R.

Potatoes are a valuable addition to the ration for work horses when fed raw in comparatively small quantities, say 10 to 12 lbs. per day. They add the needed quality of succulency to the ration and promote a better digestion of the other feeds used, thereby proving of value, aside from furnishing a small amount of digestive nutrients in themselves. The writer has made a practice of feeding small potatoes to horses in this way for a number of years, with excellent results, and prefers feeding them at night, although where it is desired to feed as many as practicable it is probable that better results would be secured by feeding a few at each meal. We have practiced this plan on one or two occasions when there has been a surplus left in the spring, feeding about four quarts at a time without any noticeably bad results. If fed too liberally, however, they are apt to cause an undesirable looseness of the bowels, which should be guarded against in work horses.

Some interesting information regarding the feeding value of potatoes is to be found in the results of experiments conducted in France and Germany to determine the amount of hay which might be displaced by the use of potatoes in the ration. From the result of a series of experiments, Bousingault, of France, reached the conclusion that where steamed potatoes to the amount of 30.8 lbs. per day were used in the ration, mashed and mixed with cut straw, they could be made to displace 11 lbs. of hay in the ration for horses at ordinary farm work. Reduced to figures better suited to comparison these results would indicate that 280 lbs. of potatoes fed as above described have a feeding value equal to 100 lbs. of hay. This would mean that with hay at \$20 per ton the potatoes would be worth a little more than 20c per bushel to displace it in the ration after being prepared as above described. In another experiment, conducted under less favorable conditions the results were not so favorable to the cooked potatoes.

While it might pay to experiment with cooked potatoes under the conditions named in this inquiry, when a larger supply is available than could be fed out raw, for the average farmer the better plan would be to use the potatoes as a succulent factor in the ration by feeding a smaller quantity raw. It is the writer's opinion, formed from the result of his own experience in feeding potatoes to horses, that when fed in this way the potatoes will effect a substantial saving in other feeds, through the promotion of a more complete digestion, and consequently greater assimilation of the nutrients contained in them, and that when the trouble and expense of cooking the tubers for horses is considered, would prove more profitable to the owner than any other plan of feeding them to horses.

MARKETING LATE LAMBS.

In many flocks each season there are a few lambs that, on account of being dropped late in the spring or because of an inadequate supply of nourishment are too thin in flesh to be marketed with the rest of the lamb crop and must be sold later. These lambs are commonly called tail-enders and are spoken of as unprofitable lambs. Whether or not it will pay to feed these late lambs for market will largely depend upon the cause of their low flesh condition. Lambs that have been stunted from improper nourishment are undesirable for fattening, as their digestive systems have been weakened and deranged. On the other hand, if the cause is traceable to being dropped late and from all external appearances they seem healthy and vigorous, there is no reason why they will not make rapid gains at a reasonable cost. The flock owner who is desirous of securing as large profit from his sheep as possible will strive to eliminate influences tending to retard the growth and development of the growing

lambs and endeavor to grow the crop robust and uniform.

Under ordinary conditions there is good profit to be made in fattening the late lambs, providing adequate accommodations are at hand for caring for the lambs and an abundant supply of both roughage and grain is available. In some parts of the state lamb feeders are on the lookout for late lambs weighing about 40 to 50 pounds as they are excellent material for the feed lot and when fitted for the market command top prices. The flock owner who has a goodly supply of clover hay and corn can well afford to retain his late lambs and prepare them for market. There is no other animal on the farm that possesses the ability to convert farm-grown roughage and grains into more profitable meat than lambs with good digestive systems. The fact that a lamb is dropped late in the season and has not made as large a growth as some others in the flock in no way impairs his ability to consume food profitably. In fact, I have fitted late lambs for market at a greater profit for the amount of food consumed than early lambs because the latter lambs commanded a much better price per pound.

The importance of giving early attention to the preparation of late lambs for market can not be too strongly impressed upon the minds of flock owners. Late lambs during the fall season do not make the growth that early lambs do and are likely to come into winter quarters very thin in flesh. A division of the flock should be made and the late lambs intended for fattening removed and put into a pen by themselves. Some flock owners practice fattening their late lambs along with the old ewes that were too low in flesh to market with the early lambs. This is not a commendable practice as late lambs do not do well when fed along with older sheep. The better plan is to make two or three divisions and give each individual the best possible opportunity to make economic gains. The self-feeding method with late lambs is not to be recommended as they are generally delicate feeders.

The late lambs intended for fattening should be gotten into the feeding pen as soon as possible after the flock has been taken off pasture. To allow the lambs to run on a meadow pasture more or less as weather will permit while being prepared for market is not a good practice, as the extreme alternation of food has a tendency to impair the appetite and reduce the consumption of fat forming foods. A succulent food of a more staple nature than pasture should be supplied. If roots are at hand they are unexcelled. Ensilage is splendid and can be supplied in moderate amount along with both the grain and roughage ration. I have fed ensilage to late lambs during the fattening period with marked success and know that the fattening process can be hastened at an economic cost. With late lambs however, greater precautions must be exercised in feeding ensilage as they are generally more sensitive and easier to get off feed. A part ration once daily will give most satisfactory results. Where the percentage of corn in the silage is high, more care must be taken.

There is no better grain for late lambs than oats. At the present price they can be made a large factor in the grain ration as it is desirable to grow the lambs at first instead of causing them to take on flesh rapidly. Later, as the lambs come to their feed, corn can be added to the ration. Old corn is much to be preferred to new corn.

Shiawassee Co. LEO C. REYNOLDS.

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The season has come when the farmer and the city teamster has begun frosting the bits on their horses' bridles. This plan is well known to every handler of horses, but few that do it really realize the importance of so doing. If you were to ask a farmer why he does it, he would tell you that it is so the bit will not instantly freeze to the horse's mouth. This is the truth. The same condition takes place in the horse's mouth, as when you take hold of an iron pump or pick up an iron bar in zero weather with wet gloves on. You notice that they will instantly stick, sometimes leaving fine particles of the glove sticking to the frosty article.

May I humbly protest against not frosting the horses' bit in cold weather? It is a humane act that every foreman should see to it that his men observe.

Wayne Co. M. E. MORET.

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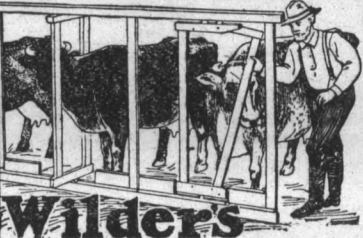
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At this point I do not feel like overlooking the opportunity to say that the live stock improvers are great public benefactors. They have been more than the ones who have caused two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before, because what they have produced is so much better than what preceded it, that they are entitled to the honor of working out something that can subside and make more gains on the same feed than the ancestors could have made, and of a quality vastly superior to anything near or remote in the ancestral lines.

Terms Criticized.

It must have been in very early times, before observing men had cultivated their perceptive faculties up to the point of close discrimination, that the aphorism, "like produces like," began to be used. From force of habit, and perhaps from lack of ability to select a term that will more closely express the idea that one desires to convey, the same "like produces like" is very improperly used by some to the present time. In a primitive time it may have been used to convey the fact

that it will not work out as stated in all cases. The first prize male bred to the first prize female may not bring stock superior to that from less distinguished animals of the same breed. It is needless to say that many have learned lessons that have cost them dearly by following so uncertain a rule. In such cases there may, or may not, be a lack of blending of proper ancestral influences.

A Better Term Suggested.

In breeding to improve both plants and animals, some facts should be kept in mind. All new products brought forward in the breeding line are the result of the union of both the paternal and maternal ancestral influences, plus the improved conditions with which they are surrounded, which makes it possible for the progeny to develop into something better than the ancestors on either side. Astute breeders are cognizant of this fact, and it has been that which has unlocked to them many of the great achievements that have crowned their efforts. Instead of the effort being made to produce the "like," it has been to produce the "unlike," which has proven to be superior to anything that has preceded it along that same ancestral line.

This production of the "unlike" has marked the progress from a low to a higher form in all animated nature. At every step during the progress made, the "unlike" has stood out in bold relief and established a new standard and a new line, that has been the measure of success attained in improvement thus far. The prepotency of the "unlikes" has wrought the changes for the better in the past, and we certainly ought to consider it and give credit where it is due.

If the facts were not true, we should

flocks, the rush to market being the cause of the great slumps that have taken place in prices at Chicago, Omaha and other western primary markets in recent weeks. In most instances only good breeding ewes have been retained by flockmasters. The range demand for rams has been fairly active, and the prospect is that in the future sheepmen will have fewer and better sheep. This unprecedented liquidation of old and undesirable sheep and lambs will result in western banks holding large sums of money.

The short crop of hay is not felt so much as it would be had there been a shortage of other feeds. Oats are plentiful and as cheap as hay, which vastly stimulates their use on the farm. Then farmers are utilizing their abundance of shock corn.

Illinois cattle feeders who make a great success in the business, always marketing prime beefs, whether they are long-fed or simply fat little yearlings, state that they are finding it almost impossible to purchase good beef calves for fattening. In Illinois they are paying from \$25 to \$40 per head, and yet the finished yearlings are sold every autumn at prices that warrant such prices for feeding calves. One of the most successful stock feeders in the country, a resident of central Illinois, remarked recently that yearlings are the only fat cattle that are making good returns to their feeders. He said that his yearlings had netted him this year around \$100 per head at the Chicago market, and for an eight months feed that is not bad. Last year they netted me about \$120 per head."

J. B. Brown, of Nebraska, is scheming to carry on his farm work as economically as possible, having before his eyes all the time the hired farm hand problem, for helpers thereabouts, as well as nearly everywhere else, are both scarce and dear in price. For several years he has fattened his hogs by turning them into his corn fields and giving them an opportunity to help themselves. The plan has worked out admirably, and last year he also placed his feeding steers in the corn fields with the hogs. The plan was such a thorough success that this year he has done the same thing, and other farmers will doubtless follow the same course. Mr.



Champion Two-Year-Old Shorthorn Steers at the International. Average Weight, 1,434 lbs. Shown by J. D. Waters, Illinois.

that animals reproduce their kind, or when racial characteristics had been fixed in a kind of animals that were reproduced. Definite characteristics are not reproduced with definite exactness, as all close observers must admit. When I see the saying used in print I feel like asking "like what?" We must consider that no two things are alike that are not exactly equal. We can produce animals that are similar in make-up and appearance, but to breed them where one is an exact duplicate of the other, is close to, if not, an impossibility. Such a thing is not desirable, for the reason that if such a thing could be done, and it were practiced, we would not be making any progress toward improvement.

If we consider the matter closely we can see why we can not produce animals that are an exact duplicate of the immediate ancestors. No two animals, one male and one female, possess characteristics that are exactly alike. The sire has his characteristics which are potent in their influences, and the dam also has characteristics that have their influences on the offspring, which result in a union of influences that depend to a great degree upon the physical condition of both sire and dam, and the produce is not wholly like either sire or dam.

Another expression indulged in by the jockey breeder is misleading; "breed from the best and get the best." That remark often refers to animals that have won high honors in the shows. Such a remark is open to criticism, for the reason

remember that as much as we boast of our western civilization, the humans on this mundane sphere would never have made any progress above the primitive or savage condition. Our horses would not be any larger or better than the prehistoric animal that was once used as food, then as a pet and companion, and subsequently as an obedient servant. Our cattle, that are divided into the twenty or more breeds, would be no better than the wild ox in the forest and parks in Europe. Our sheep would be no better than the wild mountain sheep worshiped by the ancients in Egypt, the heads of which were worn on the heads of the kings as an emblem of strength and courage. Our hogs would be no better than the wild hogs found in many parts of the world.

The same facts would prevail in regard to our cereals. Our wheat, rye, corn, oats, barley, speltz, etc., would be no better than the degenerate descendant of the lily family, the coarse grass from which they are descended. Our apples would be no better than the wild crab apples of the primitive forests. The rule applies to all improved products with which we are blessed. Let us remember that it has been the "unlikes" that have led up to our choicest products.

Wayne Co.

N. A. CLAPP.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

Wyoming and Montana ranges have been marketing old ewes, aged sheep and thin, small lambs in extraordinarily large numbers for a month past, and both states have been well emptied of such

Brown found that it cost about eight cents a bushel to husk the corn and put it in feed lots for the cattle and hogs, and the new plan is quite a saving in both money and work. A careful test showed that the cattle and hogs wasted very little corn this year. Of course, a wet fall would result in quite a different experience, causing muddy feed lots, but such seasons are rare. He now figures on a period of feeding four months in this manner every year.

While there is no doubt that farmers will use an enormous quantity of their new corn for feeding to stock on their farms, the crop is so extraordinarily large that liberal amounts will be marketed, especially when prices are higher. Husking is pretty well over, and there has been some free selling of late around 40c per bushel at country stations, an advance of several cents stimulating sales materially.

The revolution in the hog market came as a complete surprise to stockmen throughout the corn belt states for they had generally come to the conclusion that the packers held the whiphand and that the Chicago hog market was bound to fall shortly to a \$6.50 basis for hogs, which would mean \$6 per 100 lbs. for hogs on the farms in the territory tributary to that market. A sudden revival in the eastern shipping demand at Chicago did the lightning transformation, sending values up at a surprising pace. The hog shortage is as great a reality as ever, and farmers should get busy in breeding as many hogs as they possibly can if they want to make money fast, besides fattening their young hogs to full maturity. Hogs are the greatest money-makers on the average farm of the country, and they have made thousands of farmers rich

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VETERINARY

CONDUCTED BY W. C. FAIR, V. S.

Advice through this department is free to our subscribers. Each communication should state history and symptoms of the case in full; also name and address of writer. Initials only will be published. Many queries are answered that apply to the same ailments. If this column is watched carefully you will probably find the desired information in a reply that has been made to some one else. When reply by mail is requested, it becomes private practice, and a fee of \$1.00 must accompany the letter.

Sores on Shins.—What can be done for a colt that is troubled with sores on fore legs and how can I reduce a bunch on inside of shin above fetlock? H. T. H., Central Lake, Wis.—Apply equal parts oxide zinc, alum and boric acid to sores twice a day. Also apply iodine ointment to bunch on shin once a day.

Rope Burn.—I have a horse that has a sore under fetlock caused by a rope burn, which I have been unable to heal. Have applied every one of the simple healing remedies. W. B. S., Goodrich, Mich.—Apply equal parts iodoform, powdered alum and oxide of zinc to sore daily. If this sore is malignant, which I suppose it is, first burn it with lunar caustic a few times and this will stimulate a healthy action.

Weakness.—I have a bull 18 months old that is slow at time of service. J. C. J., Detroit, Mich.—Give your bull good care, some exercise and ten grs. powdered cantharides and a teaspoonful of ground nux vomica at a dose in food two or three times a day.

Ring Worm.—I have a steer that has a few bare spots on his nose and face; the hair drops out of these bare spots and I would like to know what it is and how to treat him. E. M. D., Greenfield, Mich.—Apply iodine ointment to bare and sore spots every day or two.

Sore Knee.—My cow has a soft, puffy bunch on knee which is some sore, but does not produce lameness, and I would like to know what will remove this soft swelling. E. D. M., Salem, Mich.—A soft, puffy swelling of this kind cannot be reduced entirely. Apply equal parts spirits camphor and tincture iodine to bunch daily; if the knee is sore and raw don't apply it, put on one part oxide of zinc and five parts vaseline twice a day. Try to prevent her rubbing the knee.

Swollen Fetlock Joints.—For the past three weeks the fetlock joints of my yearling steers stock. A. B. McK., North Branch, Mich.—Give them each a teaspoonful of powdered saltpetre once a day for one week.

Abnormal Heat.—I have four cows that dropped their calves about a month ago and appear to be in heat regularly every week. What had I better give them? J. K. L., Zeeland, Mich.—Give them each a tablespoonful powdered nitrate of potash daily in feed. Feed less grain and more roots.

Barren Heifer.—I have a two-year-old heifer that had a calf last spring; she comes in heat regularly and has been bred several times but fails to get with calf. I tried the yeast treatment and I also opened the neck of womb, which was almost completely closed. What do you suggest? E. D., Woodville, Mich.—Dissolve 3 ozs. bicarbonate soda in 2 quarts tepid water and wash out vagina daily.

Obstructed Teat.—A two-year-old heifer dropped her calf five weeks ago; since then a slight obstruction is in teat, but no garget in udder. W. H. S., Kalamazoo, Mich.—Apply iodine ointment to bunch once daily.

Cow Failed to Clean Properly. I have a cow that is troubled with a vaginal discharge which resulted from her not cleaning properly. W. J. S., Dearborn, Mich.—Dissolve 1 dr. permanganate potash in one gallon of water and inject her daily, using this wash freely. Give her a dessert spoonful of citrate potash at a dose twice or three times a day.

Piles.—What can be done for pigs that are troubled with piles? E. W., Freeland, Mich.—Dissolve 1 oz. sugar of lead, 1/4 oz. powdered alum and 1/4 oz. tannic acid in a quart of water and apply to sores two or three times a day.

Epilepsy.—Two-month-old pigs seem to be troubled with fits, but are in good condition. C. A. P., Almont, Mich.—Give each pig four grains bromide of potash at a dose twice a day. Their bowels should be kept open and active; besides they need exercise.

Sore Shoulders.—I have a horse that is troubled with sore shoulder and would like to know what to apply. O. C. O., Wayne Co.—Dissolve 4 ozs. sugar of lead, 3 ozs. sulphate zinc, 2 ozs. carbolic in one gallon of water and apply to sores two or three times a day. It is important for him to have a good fitting collar.

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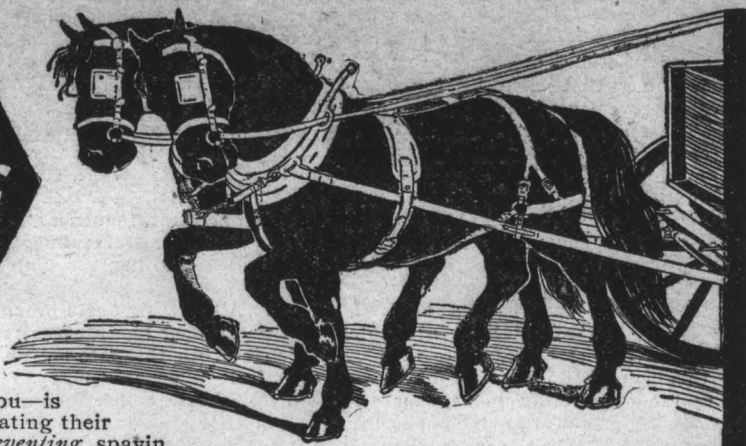
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Herd headed by **UNDULATA BLACKBIRD** ITO 83836, one of the best sons of **PRINCE ITO** 50006, and Grand Champion Bull at the Detroit and Grand Rapids Fairs of 1907, 1908, 1909 and 1910. Herd consists of Erica, Blackbirds, Prides, etc. **WOODCOTE STOCK FARM**, Ionia, Mich.

AYRSHIRES—High type of Dairy animal. Young bulls and bull calves for sale. Prices low. Inquiries solicited. **BERKSHIRE SWINE**. FINE POULTRY—White and Barred Rocks, White & Buff Orpingtons, White Wyandottes and Leghorns. Eggs in season 10c each. **MICHIGAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF**, Flint, Mich.

TOP NOTCH HOLSTEINS

Top Notch registered young Holstein Bulls combining in themselves the blood of cows which now hold and have in the past held World's Records for milk and butter fat at fair prices. **McPHERSON FARMS CO.**, Howell, Mich.

FOR SALE—2 yearling Holstein-Friesian bulls. Pedigrees and photo on application. **W. C. JACKSON**, 715 Rex St., South Bend, Ind.

HOLSTEIN BULLS FOR SALE—Also Duroc Jersey hogs, sired by Defender Grand Champion at Chicago, 1909. E. R. Cornell, Howell, Mich.

HOLSTEIN BULL CALVES—Choice A. B. O. breeding. **COLE BROTHERS**, Ypsilanti Farms, Ypsilanti, Mich.

HOLSTEINS—Must sell young Herd Bull. Ask about him before you buy anything. Long Beach Farm, Augusta, (Kalamazoo, Co.) Mich.

NOTHING BUT HOLSTEIN BULLS FOR SALE. Sir May Herd Foch No. 37604 A. R. Three Nearest Dams Average 26 1/2 lbs. butter in 7 days, Sound, Sure, Gentle, and one of the finest individuals of the breed. If you want a Herd Header come and see this one. I can please any breeder with a bull calf two to ten months old. I want to sell TEN before Nov. 1st. Help me do it by buying one. L. E. Connell, Fayette, O.

ELMHURST FARMS, SMITH & WARNER, Props. Holstein Cattle and Oxford Down Sheep. Have 15 Choice Ram Lambs for sale. Address B. C. Banfield, Supt. Owendale, Mich.

HEREFORDS—3 yearling thoroughbred bulls for sale. Also one 2-year-old that is recorded. H. D. HALL, Martin, Mich.

HEREFORDS—Both sexes and all ages for sale. Also Poland-China hogs. **ALLEN BROS.**, Paw Paw, Mich.

Register of Merit Jerseys. Official yearly lot of young bulls from dams with official records of 483 pounds and upwards of butter. **T. F. MARSTON**, Bay City, Michigan.

LILLIE FARMSTEAD JERSEYS. We have some splendid young bulls for sale. Some of them are old enough for service. They are from cows with records of 300 to 425 pounds of butter last year. Write for description and prices. **COLON C. LILLIE**, Cooperville, Michigan.

For Sale—Registered Jersey Cattle, either sex. Also Reg. O. I. C. hogs. C. A. BRISTOL, Fenton, Mich.

For Sale—Four registered **POLLED DURHAM BULLS**, 10, 12 and 18 months old. All Reds. J. E. CLARK, Milford, Mich.

Scotch Shorthorns—3 young Bulls and a few cows and heifers for sale. **JOHN LESSITER'S SONS**, R. No. 1, Clarkston, Mich.

Dairybred Shorthorn Bulls for sale. 7 mo. old, also 1 yearling. **J. B. HUMMEL**, Mason, Michigan.

SHEEP.

Hampshire, Southdown, and Cotswold Rams and ewes for sale. Prices right. **THE CLOVER BLOSSOM FARM**, Port Austin, Mich.

HAMPSHIRE—Ram lambs ready for service; also 2 yearlings cheap. **O. D. WOODBURY**, Lansing, Michigan.

ROCKLAND Farm Delaines are in field form, strong, rugged and well covered. Prices right. Tell us your wants. **D. E. TURNER & SONS**, Mosherville, Mich.

DELAINE RAMS, also 50 registered Delaine ewes which must be sold before Dec. 1. Great bargain for some one. **S. J. COWAN**, Rockford, Michigan.

Oxford-Down Sheep—Good Yearling Field Rams and ewes of all ages for sale. **A. D. & J. A. DE GARMO**, Muir, Mich.

Oxford Down Sheep—Good Yearling Field Rams and ewes of all ages for sale. **I. R. WATERBURY**, Highland, Michigan.

Reg. Rambouillets—I have 100 ewes, among them all of my youngest and best, also 85 ewe and ram lambs. Live 2 1/2 miles east of Morrice on G. T. Road. Address **J. Q. A. COOK**.

Shropshire Rams all sold. Eight aged ewe \$55. Five ewe lambs \$40s. **WILLIS S. MEADE**, R. F. D. No. 3, Holly, Mich.

FOR SALE—Ten bred registered Shropshire yearling and two-year-old ewe s. Prices right. **Jones & Morrish**, Flushing, Michigan.

CHOICE Registered Shropshire and Cotswolds, yearling ewes, ram and ewe lambs, Yorkshire and Berkshire hogs, Clyde Stallions and Fillies and Welsh ponies. Write for prices. **Arthur L. Milne**, Green River, Ont.

SHROPSHIRE HALL STOCK FARM Has for sale twenty-five (25) very choice bred yr. ewes, a few good aged ewes, one choice two-year-old ram. Also three good ram lambs.

L. S. DUNHAM & Sons, Concord, Michigan.

INGLESIDE SHROPSHIRE—Rams of all ages. Bred ewes, singly or in lots. **H. E. POWELL**, Robt. Groves, Shepherds, Ionia, Mich.

HOGS.

Duroc & Victorias—Growthy Spring Boars & Gilts of choice breeding from Prize Winners. **M. T. STORY**, R. 248, Lowell, Michigan.

HUPP FARM BERKSHIRES! WON 189 PRIZES IN 1909.

Stock of both sexes and all ages for sale. Breeders of Guernsey Cattle, M. B. Turkeys, Barred Rock Chickens, Pekin Ducks. **GEORGE C. HUPP**, Manager, Drawer A, Birmingham, Michigan.

BERKSHIRE Boars ready for service. Piece and Premier Longfellow. Best on earth. **C. D. WOODBURY**, Lansing, Michigan.

Berkshires—Two yearling sows bred for spring farrowing. A few choice July gilts & boar pigs for sale. **A. A. Pattullo**, Deckerville, Mich.

BERKSHIRES Unexcelled in breeding. Select fall pigs. **T. V. HICKS**, R. No. 11, Battle Creek, Mich.

DAMS BROS. Litchfield, Mich., breeders of Imp. Chester A. White and Tamworth swine, service boars, sows bred or open, of either breed. Shorthorn Cattle, Buff Rock, Buff Wyandotte, W. Orpington, Chks. all breeding stock leading winners.

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Capitol Herd **DUROC-JERSEY** Swine, established 1888. Yearling sows bred, and pigs for sale. **J. H. BANGHART**, Lansing, Mich.

IMPROVED CHESTERS—Young boars ready for service, orders taken for sows bred for spring farrow. Also Holstein Bull Calves of the best of breeding. **W. O. WILSON**, Okemos, Mich. Both Phones.

O. I. C's—Hogs all ages for sale, sows bred or open, boars any age or size. Shipped on approval. **HARRY T. CRANDELL**, Rolling View Stock Farm, CASS CITY, MICHIGAN.

Thoroughbred Duroc Jerseys for sale at reasonable prices. **GILTS** and **BOARS**, ten weeks old, fashionable breeding at exceptionally low prices for immediate delivery. Address **IRWIN & BERKEY**, 208 East Lincoln Avenue, Goshen, Indiana.

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O. I. C. Swine—Spring, summer & fall farrowed, both sexes, breeding and type right. **Geo. P. Andrews**, Dansville, Ingham Co., Mich.

O. I. C. Early Fall Pigs Low prices. Only 4 bred gilts for sale. **C. J. THOMPSON**, Rockford, Michigan.

O. I. C's FOR SALE—An extra good lot of last fall spring pigs, either sex, weighing from 150 to 300 lbs. 1 yearling boar and 30 fall pigs. **OTTO B. SCHULZE**, Nashville, Mich.

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POLAND CHINAS—Boars of the best of breeding and of great quality. **E. D. BISHOP**, Route 38, Lake Odessa, Michigan.

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Poland-Chinas—The home of the Michigan State Fair-winners. We won 24 prizes at Detroit in 1910. Pigs of both sexes for sale, sired by our prize-winners. **M. T. BEATTY & SON**, West Unity, Ohio.

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POLAND-CHINAS either sex, all ages. Something good at a low price. **P. D. LONG**, R. F. D. No. 8, Grand Rapids, Mich.

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COLON C. LILLIE, Cooperville, Michigan.

THE DAIRY

CONDUCTED BY COLON C. LILLIE.

BUILDING UP A PRIVATE DAIRY MARKET.

Every dairyman who sells butter, or retails milk and cream is confronted with the problem of getting the best market possible for his produce. As a rule, it is easy enough to secure some kind of a market, but to secure the best frequently requires considerable effort.

To get fancy prices requires first of all that the product be of superior quality. This is particularly true of milk. The public is becoming aware of the dangers which lurk in dirty, unsanitary milk and is willing to pay a good price for milk whose wholesomeness is unquestioned.

To obtain big prices it is not enough to have products of superior quality, but whatever particular merits they have must be forcibly brought to the attention of consumers. In other words, a certain amount of advertising is necessary. If the milk is produced in clean, ventilated, whitewashed stables, and from cows which are regularly tested for tuberculosis; if the milk is handled by clean, healthy attendants and is thoroughly cooled and aerated immediately after milking; and if, in addition, all this is certified to by a competent inspector, an increase in prices and patronage is certain to follow when such facts are placed before the public.

Often outside markets offer better prices for dairy products than does the home market. This is especially true of butter and cream. These products permit of long distance shipping and many outside markets may be glad to get them at fancy prices when the home market may be entirely overstocked.

Dairymen must not expect the market to come to them, however; they must seek the market. A visit or correspondence with managers of cafes, hotels, restaurants, drug stores and fancy grocery stores in different cities, is frequently the means of securing more business and better prices.

Where one is just starting in the business of selling dairy products direct from the farm or is trying new markets, it is good policy not to ask very high prices at the start. First demonstrate the merits of your products. If these are of a high order, consumers will gradually respond to the demands for increased prices rather than lose the products. Too high prices at the start are likely to discourage prospective buyers and thus deprive you of an opportunity to prove the value of your goods.

One of the essentials in building up a good market is uniformity of product. Where this is lacking, improvements in other directions will be of little avail. On the other hand, products which are uniformly the same, week after week, and month after month, are likely to command good prices, even when of only medium quality.

Another essential in building up a good market is punctuality. If your customer expects his milk at 7:30, do not deliver it at 7:40; deliver early rather than late. If you are shipping milk and cream, or butter for that matter, you cannot afford to miss your train—even a single time. It generally means greater disappointment at the other end of the line than one would anticipate.

Always put yourself in an attitude to please. If criticisms come concerning your product, you cannot afford to resent them. Usually there is a reason for the criticism. Try to discover the trouble and remedy it.

Cleanliness and neatness must characterize the dairy business throughout. Milk wagons, cans, bottles, drivers, butter packages, etc., must present a clean appearance. External appearances count for a great deal in these days when sanitary matters count for so much.

The name or monogram of the dairy placed upon the products guarantees genuineness and will assist in securing a better and more extended market. It is one of the best ways of advertising a superior product.

If it is intended to sell cream for manufacture into ice cream, it is important to get a market early in the spring. It is difficult to find one in the flush of the ice cream season, because ice cream dealers, as a rule, contract considerably in advance of the time they need the cream.

Where dairy products are shipped some distance, it is important to determine beforehand the reliability of the buyer. It is well, even where milk and cream are sold locally, to investigate the standing of customers before their accounts have run up very high.

No argument is needed to show the advantage of selling dairy products direct to consumers wherever this is possible. It means the elimination of the middleman whose profits are saved to the dairyman.

Wisconsin.

JOHN MICHELS.

ONE SOURCE OF FLAVORS IN MILK.

The efforts of poor ventilation in cow stables upon the development of flavors in milk is not always well understood by milk producers. As a rule, if the animal is in proper health the milk will be normally pure when first drawn. But if the cow is milked in an unclean stable which is filled with vitiated air the milk will be contaminated and undesirable flavors rapidly develop.

In an endeavor to determine the relation between poorly ventilated cow stables and the development of bad flavors in milk, the writer made extensive investigation with quite definite results.

The plan of the experiment was to obtain samples of milk from cows kept in well ventilated dairy barns and from cows kept and handled by methods commonly found in barns where no system of ventilation was provided. These samples were collected in the stables as the cows were milked, put into sterilized glass jars and kept for several days in surroundings where no further contamination was possible. Each sample was examined regularly every twelve hours with the following results which are an average of findings from several hundred samples.

	Well Vent'd Stables.	Well Vent'd Stables.
	Per Ct.	Per Ct.
Clean, natural sour flavor.....	93	38
Stale flavors	0	45
Stale, musty flavors.....	0	17
Slightly ensilage flavors.....	7	0

It will be noted that only 38 per cent of the milk from the poorly ventilated stables gave a clean flavor and that 62 per cent of the milk showed a most filthy contamination. If the cows are kept and milked in unsanitary surroundings, the milk will absorb the stable odors before it can be removed to the milk room as these results plainly indicate.

The presence of an ensilage flavor was detected in a few samples from the well ventilated barns; however, this flavor passed off within a short time, leaving no objectionable effects. In case of the poorly ventilated stables if any such flavor was present it was entirely covered up by the very objectionable stable flavors. In every case where stable flavors were detected, it was a noticeable fact that they increased with the age of the milk. This was due to the fact that such flavors are produced from the rapid development of the undesirable bacteria.

These results only emphasize the vital necessity of having pure air in cow stables and in abundance. All that is required is to have the stables properly ventilated, which can be done with very little expense. Fresh, pure air is an absolute necessity, both from the standpoint of health of the animals and the production of pure, clean and wholesome milk.

N. D.

PROF. B. G. L. MARTIN.

FEEDING THE COWS BEFORE CALVING TIME.

The dairyman of long experience does not dread milk fever so much since the discovery of the air treatment, but there is danger in the air treatment, when it is administered by an inexperienced hand. Unless the udder and the instrument, yes, and the hands of the operator, are thoroughly disinfected, poisonous germs may be introduced into the udder and very serious results may follow. It is far better for the beginner to feed a little sparingly at this time and thus lessen the tendency to this disease. I do not mean by this that the cow is not to be given enough to eat. If she is thin in flesh when she freshens her usefulness will be greatly impaired. Her milk flow will be below normal and her milk will test low also. If she is in good, thrifty condition her strength and vigor will be devoted to the work of giving milk and the milk itself will be richer in butter-fat.

It is a common practice among breeders of pure-bred cattle, who desire to test their cows for advanced registration, to feed these cows very liberally during the period of rest, because they have discov-

ered that the cow that begins her work in good flesh, and adjusted to a heavy grain ration will not only give a larger quantity of milk, but the milk will test much higher. The Jersey cows at the St. Louis Exposition were prepared for their work by months of careful handling and feeding. A large percentage of them had milk-fever when they freshened but they were cared for by experts and suffered no harm from the disease. The record of that demonstration is almost astounding when we read it, but through proper care and feeding we are accomplishing the evolution of the cow and when next we have a great demonstration like that we may confidently expect to see even greater results.

For the practical, every-day dairyman the middle ground is the safe ground. But there are very many of us keeping cows who stay far back of even the middle ground.

Our cows are allowed to freshen thin and poor. We leave them out too long in cold autumn rains and we feed them too little and expect too much of them during the period of lactation. If our cows freshen in the fall in fairly good condition we can adjust them gradually to an ample grain ration and hope for excellent results.

Oceana Co.

W. F. TAYLOR.

OLEOMARGARINE AND THE PRICE OF BUTTER.

The discussion given to the subject of cost of living has directed more or less attention to the federal oleomargarine tax and the price of butter. People who are in favor of repealing the present oleomargarine law have taken advantage of the situation to loudly condemn as "undemocratic and un-American" this "burdensome tax on a pure, wholesome and nutritious food product."

They conveniently forget to explain that over 97 per cent of the oleomargarine put upon the market is taxed at only one-fourth of a cent per pound. They do not explain that only oleomargarine that is artificially colored is taxed at ten cents per pound.

Even if it were all taxed at ten cents per pound it would have absolutely nothing to do with the price of butter after the latter reaches thirty cents a pound retail. It costs about fourteen cents a pound to produce the best grade of oleomargarine. Add to this a ten cent tax and the cost of production would be twenty-four cents. The product could be retailed at thirty cents at a handsome profit to manufacturer and retailer.

Looking at the question from any view point it is clearly seen that the oleomargarine law has absolutely nothing to do with the price of butter.

The dairy interests of the country are not enjoying any benefit through oleomargarine legislation except as the integrity of the industry is maintained. In this every honest citizen should feel a keen interest. He should also understand that the effort put forth by the manufacturers of oleomargarine to secure legislation which will make it easy for men to commit fraud in selling oleomargarine is not inspired by love for the "poor man who wants a cheap substitute for butter."

The whole proposition may be thus summed up: Oleomargarine is now made to taste and smell something like butter. The manufacturers and a few retail dealers want the privilege of putting it upon the market so that it will look like butter, thus making it easy to commit fraud.

Every good citizen should be interested in effective pure food legislation and the oleomargarine law is just such legislation—no more, no less.

Minnesota.

E. K. SLATER.

THE PUBLIC DEFRAUDED.

It is almost impossible to find butter in a medium-priced restaurant in Chicago. Oleomargarine is served in place of butter and there are no signs upon the walls or printed statements upon the menu cards.

The writer has visited scores of such restaurants in Chicago during the past few weeks and only in two or three cases has he found butter upon the tables. In every case the proprietor or an employee has been questioned and the admission is readily made that it is oleomargarine. The majority of them attempt to justify their action by calling attention to the fact that they have a license to sell oleomargarine.

Such conditions emphasize the fact that state food laws are not effective when the substitute looks, tastes and smells like the genuine. Fraud is and must be connected with yellow oleomargarine. S.

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Cheaper, and gives better results than bran for which it is substituted by the best dairymen.

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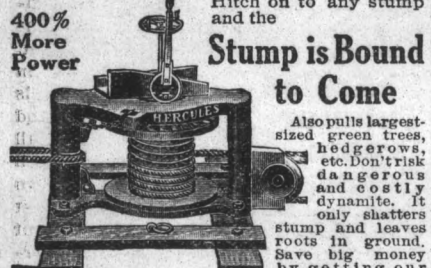
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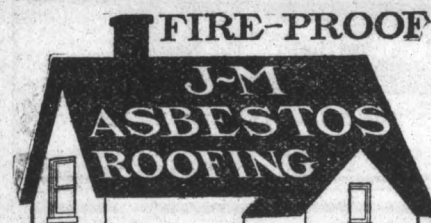
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On your buggy will keep you dry and warm, regardless of snow, rain, wind or cold. It will keep out every drop of rain, and no matter if it is zero weather, the heat of the body will keep the inside of the buggy as comfortable as your home. No foot warmers or extra robes necessary, and you are comfortable.

Notice the Large Window; it is 15x20 inches, made of tough transparent celluloid; the line pocket is 14 inches wide and so strongly reinforced by light metal that it cannot tear out or sag. This allows you perfect control of the horse and you can open the "Blizzard" at either side and get in or out with ease, or you can pull on the strap on either side and jerk the front down on your lap in one pull; hence, it is called the "Safe Blizzard."

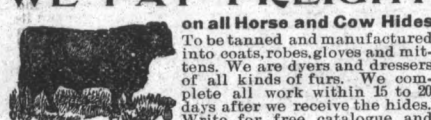
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POULTRY AND BEES

PREVENTING THE EGG-EATING VICE.

Egg eating is a rather common and serious vice or evil which generally develops during the season of confinement and forced feeding. Poultrymen do not look upon or consider it a disease, although it spreads like a contagious germ infirmity and, unless immediately checked, becomes prevalent throughout the flock. Opinions vary as to the direct cause. Some able authorities claim the trouble is a habit formed through the accidental breaking of an egg and its consumption by the hens. Others take the view that it is the result of improper feeding, an appetite for something not contained in the daily ration being created thereby. In any event, the cause of the trouble is vital and should be first considered.

Egg eating commonly occurs where hens are confined to limited quarters and are so heavily fed for winter egg production that a few of them lay eggs with thin shells. Through accident, or rough handling, these thin-shelled eggs are broken in the nests, and after once finding that the eggs can be broken the hens soon acquire the habit of working at them until they have broken the shell. Where nests are constantly being used the eggs accumulate, one on top of another, and through the hens passing off and on some eggs get broken. One precaution, then, seems to be the providing of plenty of nest capacity.

Three or four hens getting into one nest is another source of trouble. This may not come from the lack of nest capacity, but from the hens forming the habit of laying in the same nest daily. There is but one remedy for this condition and that is to make the nest box plenty large so that a double nest may be formed and a nest egg placed in each end of the box. I have found this practice to partially remedy the trouble. Besides, it keeps the eggs much cleaner.

Some poultrymen advise watching the hens closely with a view to singling out the guilty ones at the very outbreak of the trouble. Last winter in one pen of 60 White Leghorns I discovered a hen attempting to pick through an egg shell. I watched her for a few minutes and found that she had broken the shell and was about to consume the contents of the egg. With a wire hook I caught her, gave her severe punishment and put her in a small pen by herself. The punishment did not check the egg flow, but completely broke her of the habit of egg eating.

As early as possible after it is discovered that the habit of eating eggs has been formed, steps should be taken to check its progress. It is far better to sacrifice a half dozen hens right at the start than to allow the habit to become prevalent in the flock. If the individuals that have started the trouble can not be stopped, then it is advisable to kill them.

It is generally thought by practical, experienced poultrymen that egg eating is most prevalent among flocks receiving improperly balanced rations. There is little doubt that the direct cause is the craving for something that the hens do not receive. Of course, instances are frequent where a mischievous hen will form the habit and teach others, but I have found that hens are less apt to cause trouble if supplied with the right kind of food and kept busy. When poultry is confined to limited quarters in winter their food supply is entirely in the hands of the person who has them in charge. If special thought and attention is paid to feeding a wide range of nutrients the danger from egg eating is decidedly reduced.

Much can be done toward preventing the habit by locating the nests in convenient places and in the dark portion of the house. It is natural for hens to seek secluded places when about to lay. The nests should not be too close to the floor. Put them up about two feet, with the opening next to the wall, leaving just sufficient room for the hen to enter. Boxes not smaller than a foot square, 16 inches square is better, should be used. Where double nests are advisable a box two feet long by a foot wide, with a low partition between, should be used.

A great deal can be done through proper feeding, especially feeding in such a manner as to give the fowls plenty of hard work. Mash feeding, damp or dry, should be done conservatively, as the feeding of mashes promotes laziness.

Grains should be fed in deep litter and only in moderate amounts. Meat and green foods should be plentifully supplied. When eggs are coming freely they should be gathered not less than twice daily, and oftener if convenient.

Shiawassee Co. LEO C. REYNOLDS.

HOW THE HONEY MAKERS SERVE THOSE WHO TREAT THEM WELL.

In rural districts, in country towns, or even in the crowded cities, the busy bee attends to its gathering of the sweets and distilling them into fragrant, nutritious and appetizing honey with a devotion and patience that may well teach a lesson to all. It is only the sweets of life that are worth the gathering after all.

There is much more in a colony of bees than the honey and wax they represent. They offer to any intelligent and inquisitive mind a rich field for thought. Nature is rich in resources, and the honey bees are in close relation with it. Sex in plants is now attracting more attention than formerly, and bees act as marriage priests; while gathering the pollen to make the bee-bread for their brood, they disseminate the father dust from flower to flower. The cultivation of the honey bee opens up a new world to the inquiring mind.

Bee-keeping is a pursuit in which any man or woman with ordinary intelligence can engage as an avocation, or as a side issue; it is both inspiring and profitable. In the ranks of bee-keepers are to be found men and women of every profession and walk in life. Not only in the country are bees kept, but also in cities. Bee-keeping is no longer a matter of chance but a scientific study. Of course, there are some who put swarms into empty boxes or nail kegs and let them shift for themselves, but that is not bee-keeping. You would not think of keeping poultry or anything else that way without making a total failure.

A large per cent of the people who keep bees do not realize the necessity of being thorough in everything connected with the business. The chances to succeed in bee-keeping are, I think, better now than I have ever known them before; but, like all other lines of business, you must be thorough in all the details. The time is past when the lazy, careless, shiftless man can compete with the man who puts lots of hard work, energy and perseverance into his business.

If one has the qualifications of being cautious, observing, and prompt, bee-keeping can be engaged in without fear of failure. To persons who swell up and are seriously affected by stings, it may be some comfort to know that after a few stings the system becomes inoculated against the effects of the poison, and then a prod from an angry bee becomes of little more account than a mosquito bite.

The management of an apiary is not a difficult matter, and demands comparatively little outlay to commence with. One handy with tools can make the hives and nearly all needed supplies. True, no matter how full instructions are received, or how many books are read, many points will have to be picked up by experience and observation.

Then there is no drudgery connected with keeping bees; every part of the work is clean and pleasant. There is work for the brain and work for the hands. There is also work in winter when we have lots of time on our hands. The hives can be made and painted, honey boxes prepared and everything put in readiness. This work can all be done indoors. Then, too, we may consider the product of the apiary a reasonably safe keeper.

When bees secure honey rapidly, each bee takes all it can into its honey-sac, then throws it out again, and so on, to evaporate the watery part of it, for all nectar when gathered is so thin that it needs much reducing before it is of the right consistency to be stored in the cell and sealed over. What a source of pleasure and recreation it is to pass among the hives and see the bees standing thickly at the entrances busily engaged in evaporating the new honey which they have gathered during the day. What can please the bee-keeper more than finding, on turning back the cover of one of the supers, completed sections filled with snow-white comb honey, which he knows he will find a ready sale for at 15 to 20c a pound? This is the pleasure and profit which a bee-keeper derives from his bees.

New Jersey. F. G. HERMAN.

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TRAINED foxhounds and hound pups for hunting fox and coons. Also collies. Inlouse 2-cent stamp. W. E. LECKY, Holmesville, Ohio.

HORTICULTURE

NUT TREES.

Not to speak of the shade for the driveways leading to the house, or the ultimate profit to be gained from the wood itself, any of the nut trees planted today on the farm will in a measure help toward solving the problem of making the rural home attractive.

Of course, it can not be expected that the nut trees will mature in a few years after planting, but it will not take long for the trees to furnish abundant shade for young stock during the warm, sultry days of summer.

Black walnut is a tree which should answer the purpose very well. One of the inducements in planting this and adding bluegrass to the land, thus affording pasture for young cattle, is that there is no danger of fire, the leaves and stems of the walnut trees quickly assimilating with the soil. Even where the size of the farm will not permit of an acre or two being planted with nut trees, there certainly is room for quite a number in the vicinity of the dwelling or along driveways or roads.

Near Earlington, Kentucky, black walnuts, with the hull on, were planted in the autumn. The ground was prepared as for corn and the nuts planted four feet by four feet, 2,770 to the acre, and covered with soil from one-half to an inch in depth. The land was cultivated for three or four years, the same as for corn, and then blue grass sown. In ten or twelve years the trees were large enough to permit pasturing. In another grove the trees in 20 years had attained a diameter of from nine to 12 inches, the trees were thinned and this piece of black walnut forest afforded an ideal pasture woods. In another generation or so these groves will be worth a fortune.

MEETING OF STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

(Continued from last week).

Continuing the enumeration of Michigan growers who have succeeded in getting fancy prices for their fruit, Prof. Eustace stated:

Dr. Morgan, near Saginaw, has sold his apples at \$2.50 per box for fancy, \$2.00 for No. 1 and \$1.00 for balance.

In 1909 L. H. Stoddard & Sons, of Kalamazoo, received \$1.25 per bushel for fall varieties and \$1.50 for winter varieties.

Mr. Woodward led the discussion, stating on request how he grew and packed his apples. He prunes quite severely, cultivated well, and sprays thoroughly. This year his apples were more rusty than usual, which he attributes to weather conditions. His apples are sold before picking. Girls do the sorting, making three or four grades. He thinks it more expensive to box apples than to barrel them. It takes time to work up a trade of this kind but it will stay as long as the fruit is right. Mr. Woodward also explained his method of grafting large branches or even trunks by setting scions entirely around the bark and cutting out part of them as the wound healed over. He has grafted limbs eight inches in diameter and got apples in four years.

In reply to a question as to planting the King David and Delicious apples, several who had tried them advised against it for Michigan except for home orchards. King David was reported as liable to water core and not a good keeper in southern Michigan, better in northern Michigan, ripening with Jonathan. Delicious was reported uneven in size.

Of the newer varieties Supt. Wilkin, of the experiment station, reported the Akin, Spencer, and Milwaukee apples as promising. Wagner was preferred to Ontario by most growers. Both Maiden's Blush and Duchess were considered good varieties, though some considered the Duchess overdone in planting. A discussion of the Strawberry Pippin brought out the opinion in general that it was an apple of excellent quality and color, but soft and subject to scab and rot. It was advised only for a home market for which purpose some have received fancy prices for it.

My Experience with Apples.

Miss Grace Taylor, of Allegan county, Mich., told how she grew 900 barrels of apples worth \$3,250, on 225 trees, about six acres, on the shore of Lake Michigan, in a year when there was very little fruit in the locality. The soil was a light sandy loam, rather high, and protected on the

south, west and north by a windbreak. The trees were originally Ben Davis but most of them had been grafted to Greening, Wagner, Jonathan, Baldwin, and some others. Stable manure and cover crops were used to fertilize and furnish humus. The land was plowed by May 10, and cultivated until August 1, 12 cultivations in all, when vetch and rye were sown as a cover crop. The orchard had the habit of alternate bearing, and this was the bearing year. Spraying began with a power sprayer in 1909, using lime-sulphur before blossoming, and 3:4:50 bordeaux after blossoming, with 2½ lbs. of arsenate of lead. This season lime-sulphur was used on part of the orchard after blossoming, but little difference in results could be detected. She was warned that the codling moth was later than usual and gave an extra spraying in June. In 44 bushels of Duchess there were but one bushel of culls, and six of wormy apples.

The discussion brought out the statement that considerable pruning was done in 1909, but little in 1910, and that no thinning had been done except on the York Imperial, the others having been thinned by the frost sufficiently. It was stated that the temperature during the warm March days was about 10 degrees lower than it was farther from the lake and in exposed places, while at blossoming time it was 10 degrees higher. Apples were packed Nos. 1 and 2 together, the Ben Davis bringing a reduced price.

Some general discussions followed along the line of pruning and cover crops. A few advised against pruning when the wood was frozen, but no objection was raised except that the wood was more likely to split. Oats, or rye with vetch was considered a good cover crop, some preferring oats, as this would die out in the winter and give the vetch a chance to grow in the spring. Spring rye was advised by some for the same reason. Oats were considered good to catch and hold the leaves, but Mr. Friday thought them too wet at picking time and preferred something lower, as vetch. Both winter vetch and hairy vetch, alone or in combination with oats, rye, or barley were favored as a cover crop. Mr. Hilton preferred oats or barley with vetch, one bushel of either with 20 to 30 pounds vetch per acre.

Apple Culture.

In his characteristic, practical manner, Mr. Farnsworth, of Ohio, told of the essentials in his method of handling orchards. He prefers a rather strong soil with plenty of humus. His land is rather level, and is tile drained, but the Maumee river is not far away, giving soil drainage. He prefers to plant strong growing stocks, such as Spy and Ben Davis, and top work to desired varieties the same season trees are planted. He cuts stock with a slanting cut about two feet above ground and inserts one scion about the time of blossoming. Scions are cut from known trees before the holidays and kept slightly moist and dormant. Scions are cut with four to five buds and one is waxed over and will sometimes grow when others die. Has lost less than one per cent of grafts. Permanent apples are set about 40 feet apart, filling with such varieties as Jonathan and Duchess to 20 feet. Keep the trees down by giving them plenty of room, and hence plenty of light and food.

The first seven or eight years small fruits, such as currants and strawberries, are grown in the orchard, also potatoes. These are fertilized well with manure and commercial fertilizer. After this the orchard is plowed shallow in early spring, worked until July 1, when soy beans are drilled in two-thirds feet apart and cultivated for awhile. These are hogged down, and vetch or turnips sown for a cover crop. The beans may be omitted and cover crops sown directly, or as in one case where the soil was rich, clover was sown in May and plowed under the following spring. As the trees reach maturity, cultivation is abandoned and the grass and weeds are mown and mulch hauled in. Trees must be given plenty of room and fed well. Feeds car of stock and uses manure and phosphoric acid on the trees.

Two sprayings are given, one before the buds open, using lime-sulphur one to 10, and one soon after blossoming using lime-sulphur one to 33 with 2½ lbs. arsenate of lead. Each of these sprayings is done very thoroughly with power sprayers and from four sides. Mr. Farnsworth has sprayed for 25 years, and as there are few orchards near by the worms are well controlled and he does not find it neces-

sary to give a late spray. To prevent clogging of screens two screens are provided and one kept in vinegar when not in use. All fruit is thinned thoroughly. No bordeaux was used this year and the fruit was well colored and without scab. Only three rotted Gueli plums were found in packing 104 bushels.

Mr. Farnsworth prefers varieties of good quality, and says we can grow them to perfection in Michigan and Ohio. He is not afraid of western competition but thinks it a blessing, like the San Jose scale, as it is waking us up.

Pruning is considered a necessary evil, and as little is done as possible. The head is started low, and little pruning done from this time until the fruiting period. This brings the trees into bearing earlier, Greening, Rome Beauty, McIntosh, and Grimes bore a peck each at five years under this treatment.

Mr. Farnsworth has a very unique method of marketing his fruit direct to the retailer or the consumer, shipping both by freight and express over the interurban railroad. He and his brother have a fruit car which runs over the road daily during the picking season, and fruit is delivered from this direct to the customer or the retailer. Most trees are picked over several times, color and maturity being sought for. All fruit goes into cold storage at once, and is sold as the market demands.

In the discussion it was brought out that Mr. Farnsworth uses Transparent, Duchess, Strawberry Pippin, and Wagener as fillers, that his preference of varieties are Grimes Golden and Jonathan, that he prefers to plant some tenacious variety such as Stark, on the windward side of orchards, instead of windbreaks, that Wagener and Winter Banana had not done as well with him as some other varieties, that he did not believe there was any cheaper satisfactory substitute for arsenate of lead, that commercial lime-sulphur was used on everything except peaches after the blossoming season, when self-boiled was used.

Annual Banquet.

On Tuesday evening the annual banquet of the society was held in the armory, which large hall was filled with a cheerful and enthusiastic gathering of fruit growers. After partaking of a most excellent dinner a number of toasts, interspersed with music by Mr. Daniels and others, were responded to, under the guidance of toastmaster Garfield, of Grand Rapids:

S. B. HARTMAN.

(Continued next week).

PROTECTING THE YOUNG TREES FROM MICE AND RABBITS.

For body protection of fruit trees, we are using wire screen, and for many localities it would certainly be cheaper than the by-product of the basket factories as mentioned by Mr. Hartman in a recent issue. We use 22 inch wire as the tops are started low and take the width for height. The width increases in the ratio of two inches to each size, and the cost per parcel is easily estimated as it equals in cents one-half the width. For instance, 22 inch wire costs 11 cents per yard, 24 inch 12 cents, and so on for any width. The above, of course, is by the single yard, and would be less by the roll or in larger quantities. The by-product above referred to would, we believe, be out of the question as basket factories are in the minus quantity in many localities, and obtaining it from a distance even could that be done, with transportation charges added and the much more time required in putting it on and taking it off would, we think, make it the more expensive of the two. The wire will last for years if carefully handled and stored when not in use, and the strips need not be idler than to nicely lap around the tree.

Another plan which, by extensive correspondence we have found to be entirely reliable, and absolutely free of cost other than the time required in preparation, is to use the butts of cornstalks. Large ones, of course, are used and cut any desired length. Halve them with a sharp knife and put them around the tree, pith inside. Tie at top and bottom with string, or if they adjust nicely to the tree tying in the middle is sufficient. In spring, the twine is cut, allowing the stalks to tie on the ground and there is no trouble in storing. It stops both mice and rabbits and stalk butts are very cheap.

Wayne Co.

J. E. MORSE.

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THE SOWING OF FERTILIZERS.

Commercial fertilizers are coming into more general use every day. That they are difficult to sow is well known to all users. The reason for this is that they vary as to consistency. Some of the fertilizers are bone dry, others lumpy and sticky. Then, too, commercial fertilizers are affected by atmospheric conditions, which make them hard to sow. The Superior Drill, made by The American Seeding Machine Co., Incorporated, Springfield, Ohio, will successfully handle all known brands of commercial fertilizers no matter how difficult to sow. The Superior is guaranteed to do the work and to do it right. Therefore the farmer runs no risk in purchasing a Superior. These drills are made in a wide range of styles and sizes, and in addition to sowing all brands of commercial fertilizers, as well as granular lime, will sow every known grain and grass seed, from the tiniest grass to large bush Lima beans without cracking the seed. The grain and fertilizer feeds are known to be positive force feeds. The mechanism is very simple and easily understood. The Superior is strong and will stand up under the most severe work. Write to the manufacturers for a copy of their Superior catalogue. Then go to your retail dealer and insist on seeing the Superior Drill.

Read What Spraying Did For This Farmer in an "Off" Year

One of our customers reports that in 1908 (a good fruit year) he harvested only 17 bushels of apples—poor ones at that—from his whole orchard, which was not sprayed. In 1909 (a poor year), he sprayed the same trees with a Deming outfit, and gathered nearly 300 bushels of fine, luscious fruit!

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17 Bushels Trees not Sprayed 300 Bushels Trees Sprayed



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The Lawrence Pub. Co.,
Detroit, Mich.

DETROIT, DEC. 24, 1910.

CHRISTMAS.

"Sweetly the old, old story
Treasured in song and art,
The babe in the manger-cradle
Appeals to the gentle heart."

In our cover design, the artist directs attention to that transcendent, yet typifying incident, that for two thousand years has centered the world's love and sympathy and placed its impress upon the best of the world's humanizing progress.

Simplicity, innocence, helplessness and love, given accent by the guileless bovine faces looking on wonderingly and the rude wooden plow significant of the honest atmosphere of simplest husbandry.

As a type, it is the very commonest of human experiences—the beginning of every human life.

As a symbol, it is the supreme expression of love and all that it means for happiness and the development of a race.

And the wise men with all their knowledge, their philosophy, their vast stores of learned lore and their experience of the world with all its greatness, its ambitions, its pleasures, its craft, its wickedness, its pollution, its injustice, its suffering, its bitterness; how gladly, how reverently they approach the shrine of innocence as unto a fountain source of cleanliness, and a rededication to nobility of life purpose in the atmosphere of love and unselfishness.

And so unselfishness should pervade the atmosphere of our Christmas relations with our fellows, that the true spirit of the occasion may ever remain a significant feature of its celebration.

CURRENT COMMENT.

That the farmers of Michigan have not changed their attitude regarding the desirability of the establishment of an adequate parcels post system is evidenced by the fact that both the State Association of Farmers' Clubs and the State Grange reaffirmed their position of former years as not only asking but emphatically demanding that congress provide for such an extension of the postal service. Undoubtedly the same old opposition will strive to postpone the day when this demand will be heeded, but the demand is yearly gaining in volume and intensity and we believe that the time is not far distant when it will be productive of results. But simply the passing of

resolutions by representative bodies of farmers will not accomplish this quickly, although it will prove helpful as an index of the trend of public opinion. Personal work is needed in bringing the matter to the attention of every member of congress in such a way that there can be no misunderstanding on his part regarding the attitude of his constituents on this question, and until we become enough interested in the proposition so that a fair proportion of us are willing to do a little personal work along this line results are not likely to be startling. Congress is now in session, and it is a good time to do personal work of this kind. Such work should be renewed with the organization of the next congress in March, and continued until results are secured, which would not be long if this suggestion were generally carried out.

Some interesting side lights are thrown on the economic benefits to be derived from business organization among farmers in the annual report of the Secretary of Agriculture, which was recently made public. The progress of such organization among dairymen was thought by the secretary to be of sufficient importance to merit special mention in his report, and the organization of 28 co-operative cow testing associations in the country during the past year is reported, making a total of 55 such organizations now in operation in the country. In commenting upon the economic benefit of such organizations, the statement is made that in one of these associations the average annual profit per cow was raised from \$21.43 to \$42.82 in four years. This means that the net income from the dairy cows owned by the members of that association was practically doubled in four years' time through a business organization which enabled them to have official tests of their herds made by an expert employed by the association. The data thus obtained made it possible for them to discard their unprofitable cows, and the advice of the official tester often made it possible for them to use a cheaper ration than they had been feeding, with better results in the yield from their cows.

It is a matter for congratulation that the first co-operative association of this kind to be organized in this country was formed right here in Michigan, and that there are a number of such associations in operation in our state at the present time. But there is plenty of room for more of the same kind, and with such results as these as an object lesson in the economic benefit to be derived from such organizations, it would seem that the dairy farmers of many other communities would awaken to their opportunities along this line and place themselves in a position to enjoy some of the financial benefits which have accrued to the members of these associations during the comparatively short time for which they have been organized. In the little country of Denmark there are more than 500 of these organizations which have been a prominent factor in the raising of the Danish farmers from a condition approaching bankruptcy to one of comparative affluence.

But this is not the only opportunity for profitable organization by dairy farmers in Michigan. During the past two years there have been more than a score of breeders' organizations effected, for the improvement of the common dairy cattle owned by the members through the purchase and use of pure-bred sires. These organizations promise much for increasing the profit from the dairies of the communities, in which they exist, and their members are enthusiastic in regard to the benefits derived. In the same little country of Denmark, above mentioned in connection with the co-operative cow testing associations, there are more than 1,200 of these cattle-breeding societies, which shows that the farmers of that country fully appreciate the advantages to be derived from such co-operative organizations. The advantages are no greater for them than for the dairy farmers of Michigan, and the farmers of any dairy community in Michigan who do not take steps for the organization of an association of this kind are not living up to their opportunities for their own economic betterment.

In this connection some deductions made regarding the comparative value of good and poor cows in a circular issued by a western college, are of interest. The figures presented compare a cow that will produce 175 lbs. of butter per year with one that makes 350 lbs. in the same period, and show that with butter at 25c per pound and the cost of keeping both cows

estimated at \$40 per annum, the net profit on the poorer cow would represent 6.2 per cent on \$60, while the net profit on the better cow would represent the same percentage on \$895.16, the value of the skim-milk being estimated at 20c per cwt. in both cases and no account being taken of the greater value of the calf produced by the better cow. This will illustrate something of the financial benefit which would accrue to the farmers of any dairy community with a cow testing association to tell them just what their cows are doing and a breeding association for the improvement of their herds by the cheapest possible method.

This is but an illustration of the benefits to be derived from the co-operative organization of farmers along lines of community production. The cow testing associations and breeding associations are mentioned because of the fact that they are in actual operation in our state, and interested farmers can study them at first hand. But there is plenty of room for profitable organization in other lines of production as well, and this is the season of the year when the subject should be investigated and steps taken to effect such organizations in many Michigan communities.

During the past two years there have been many opinions expressed for and against the present highway law by Michigan Farmer readers. If the resolution passed by the State Association of Farmers' Clubs at its annual meeting during the early days of this month can be taken to be an accurate reflection of public sentiment on this subject, the farmers of the state, or a majority of them, believe that the present law is an improvement over the old highway labor tax plan. But there is no denying the fact that while the new law has worked well in many communities, it has not been productive of good results in others, probably because of an unfortunate choice of officials in some cases and of the neglect of the electors to vote a sufficient appropriation for highway improvement to make a reasonable showing when properly applied. It would appear from present indications to be reasonably certain that there is not sufficient sentiment against the new law to bring about its repeal or material amendment by the legislature which will assemble during the early days of the new year. Thus it is probable that those who have found the new law unsatisfactory for one reason or another will find it unchanged so far as its main provisions are concerned after the legislature has completed its session. This being probable, the best course for them to pursue is to make a study of the proposition and ascertain, if possible, why the law which has been unsatisfactory to them is considered to be a distinct progress over the old method of maintaining the highways by other communities of progressive farmers, and remedy the matter by a change in their method of work under the law, since there is little prospect of their being able to materially change the law itself. If the right men have not been chosen as road officials in previous years they can get together in securing the services of the best men available. If an insufficient sum has been appropriated in previous years, this can also be remedied by concerted action. In fact, if the highway law has proven unsatisfactory in any way, a free discussion of the proposition at a meeting called for the purpose and the arrangement of a definite program which represents the ideas of a majority of those who are sufficiently interested to attend such a meeting will prove helpful in the solution of the road problem in any community.

Several inquiries State Homestead and Tax Lands. received from Michigan Farmer readers, asking where information regarding any lands which may be open for homesteading in the state can be obtained. For the benefit of these inquirers, and others who may be interested in the same proposition, we will say that all state lands are controlled directly by The Michigan State Land Office at Lansing, Mich., that is, all lands which are available for homesteading or which are for sale by the state, and that inquiries directed to the Land Office at Lansing, Mich., will bring information regarding them. These lands are of various classes, including swamp lands, school lands, college lands, tax homestead lands, forfeited lands, etc.

For information regarding lands held by the United States Government in Michigan, inquiries addressed to The United States Land Office at Marquette, Mich., will bring information. Neither of

these offices has on file information regarding the lands held by the other. Most of these lands are, of course, of less value than privately owned lands, but they have been appraised by agents of the land office to fix their sale value.

STATE CORN SHOW.

The seventh annual meeting and corn show of the Michigan Corn Improvement Association will be held in the new agricultural building at the Agricultural College, East Lansing, Mich., Jan. 16-21, 1911. The educational and business programs of the association will be held during the week beginning Monday evening and ending Friday evening. Mr. C. G. Williams, of the Ohio Experiment Station, will give several addresses during the week. In addition to these and other lectures, instruction will be given in corn judging. No fees will be charged for attendance. Entries for the corn show will consist of ten-ear samples as usual. All exhibits must be received before 9 a. m. on Jan. 17. If shipped by express, shipment should not be made later than Jan. 9. Entries can be made by members of the association, an annual fee of \$1 being charged for membership. Liberal premiums are offered in the different classes, including an automobile which will go to the boy or girl under 20 years of age exhibiting the best ten ears of corn under the rules prescribed by the association. All who are interested in "More and better corn for Michigan" should write Secretary V. M. Shoesmith, East Lansing, Mich., for a premium list, which contains the rules under which exhibits must be made.

SHOULD YOU GET TWO COPIES OF SAME ISSUE.

Some subscribers may get two copies of the same issue. Some we know do because they have written us to that effect. As soon as your time is extended the extra one will stop. In the meantime please hand the extra one to some neighbor who is not a subscriber. He may subscribe.

CROP AND MARKET NOTES.

Kent Co., Dec. 2.—Cold, snowy weather and not a great lot of corn husked in our section, and a poor fall for husking. Most farmers are hauling to the barn and husking inside. Winter grains looked fine when the snow fell. Hogs took a drop at Thanksgiving but now bring \$7.25 per cwt; corn, 35c bu; oats, 29c; chickens, 9c; butter, 25c; timothy hay, \$12.50.

Lapeer Co., Dec. 10.—Weather for the past week has been cold, and the ground is covered with two or three inches of snow. Most of the wheat on the ground in this county is in pretty good shape, but an occasional piece has brown spots in it, indicating, as we suppose, that it is infested with insects. Much corn remains in the fields yet, waiting for power huskers and shredders to do the work. Some clover seed lying in the windrow under the snow. Potatoes still selling at 25@30c per bu., and there are a good many in pits in the fields yet. Farmers are holding beans and wheat for an advance to \$2 and \$1 respectively. Lots of fall plowing done in this section. Many farmers will not grow sugar beets next year unless the factories raise the price for the beets.

Mecosta Co., Dec. 12.—We are having good sleighing at this writing. The first snow, which is now on the ground, fell Nov. 28 on a light coat of ice and it has snowed off and on until now no wagons are run on the roads at all. There is still some corn to be husked. Not much fall plowing was done this year. Wheat and rye are looking good generally; and with a good coat of snow on with indications for its staying all winter it should go through the winter all right. Hay is scarce, poor quality and high in price. Not many potatoes changing hands, with a strong market. Several auction sales around here and things sold well. Hay, \$12@15 per ton; rye straw, (baled), \$4.50 per ton; corn, 25c crate; potatoes, 30@32c per bu; oats, 35c; hogs, \$6.50 per cwt; hens, 9c per lb; butter, 27c per lb; eggs, 30c per dozen.

Branch Co., Dec. 19.—Snug winter weather has prevailed since December 1. Wheat has been well protected by snow most of the time but not enough snow for good sleighing to date. Today, (Dec. 19), a small blizzard is raging but the snow drifts as fast as it falls. The usual number of western lambs being fed, supply of other stock below the average. A great deal of corn still in the shock, the weather having been unfavorable for hand-husking this fall. Clover seed will be very scarce this spring, much of it was left in the fields unthreshed; some yet in barns awaiting the huller.

Wayne Co., Dec. 19.—The weather has been quite wintry for three weeks, snowing nearly every day, but the roads were not in condition for sleighing. Now they are hard and icy. Have had a cold wave the 16th and 17th, the temperature reaching zero. Moderated on 18th and is now raining and sleeting some. Butchering is the program of the day. Hogs have advanced a little, selling at \$9.50 per cwt; cattle, medium beef cattle, \$6 per cwt; butter, 23c per lb; eggs, 35c per dozen.

Subscriptions Expiring After January 1, 1911

Subscribers whose time expires after January 1, 1911, (no matter when), will be given the benefit of our present subscription prices, providing their renewal orders reach us before January 1, 1911. But no orders, either new or renewal, will be accepted at the present rates after that date.

We advise those who can conveniently do so to send their renewal orders now and the subscriptions will be extended from their present date.

For only \$2 we will extend your subscription for five years or longer at the same rate, (the most liberal offer made by any publication), so that the advance to \$1 per year to be made January 1, 1911, will not affect you for five years to come. It will be an investment that will pay for itself many times over and at the same time save you the trouble of renewing each year.

Kindly tell your friends and neighbors of our present offers and get them to order with you. Also tell them about the free premiums.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

You say in your issue of the 17th that anyone sending a club of five subscribers may keep 10 per cent to pay for remitting expenses and trouble in raising the club, and that papers clubbed with the Michigan Farmer do not count. Please make it plain.

Kalamazoo Co.

E. F.

Supposing your club of five consists of one 1 year subscription at 75c, and one 1 year subscription for The Farmer and Semi-Weekly Journal, \$1.35, two 3-year subscriptions at \$1.50 each, \$4.50, one 5-year subscription at \$2.00—the full amount would be \$8.60. Now deduct 60c for the Semi-Weekly Journal, which leaves \$8.00. Ten per cent (or ten cents on the dollar), makes 80c. \$8.00 less 80c is \$7.20. Add to that the 60c for the Semi-Weekly Journal, makes \$7.80 the amount you would remit.

Each subscriber would be entitled to a free premium depending upon the time they subscribed for. Of course, any person may send more than five at same rates, but we do not allow 10 per cent when less than five are sent at one time.

53 NUMBERS IN 1910.

There will be 53 numbers of the Michigan Farmer issued in 1910, the first number being dated Jan. 1, and the last one on Dec. 31. This is so unusual as to merit comment. Probably few readers appreciate the added cost of getting out a single extra issue of a paper with a large circulation like the Michigan Farmer, but it is by no means a small item. It is, however, an expenditure that is a pleasure to the publishers, if the extra issue has, as we trust it has, been of value to its readers.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK.

National.

The breaking of a gas main which probably permitted the mixing of gas with air in the power house at the grand central station in New York resulted in a terrific explosion which shook Manhattan island almost from end to end, killed ten persons, injured 125 and did damage to property aggregating fully \$2,000,000.

On Monday Edward Douglas White, a democrat and an ex-Confederate soldier, took the oath of office as chief justice of the supreme court of the United States. He was an associate justice, and this is the first time in the history of the supreme court of this country that an associate has been advanced to the position of chief justice.

It is announced that terminals have been completed both in Chicago and New York for a tube line which is to connect these cities. Soon work will be started on the tunnel at a number of places along the line.

It is believed that a two-masted wooden schooner was lost with all on board in the blizzard last Friday on the shoals in the vicinity of Great Round off the Massachusetts coast.

The common council of Baltimore passed an ordinance last week which forbids negroes from locating in city blocks where the number of white people outnumber the number of negroes and also prohibits white people from moving into blocks where the number of negroes predominates. The city solicitor pronounced the act legal as it shows no discrimination between the two races, working in both directions. The purpose of the measure is to segregate the races gradually by forcing the whites to certain parts of the city and blacks to other parts.

The postoffice department arrested 22 persons in New Jersey and Pennsylvania who are charged with swindling the public by the use of the mails. While some of the defendants are under the hand of the law for dealing in land swindles and stocks of no value, others have become

answerable to charges for selling goods which they have never paid for, or receiving money for goods which they have never delivered. This action is in line with the other cleaning up operations of the department.

The blizzard of last Friday off the Massachusetts coast caused the wreck of four schooners and did much damage to shipping interests.

The foreign trade of New York city for the fiscal year ending June 30, amounted to \$1,727,006,057. This is nearly one-half of the foreign trade of the whole country.

Twelve oleo men have been indicted by a federal grand jury. Chicago packers have also been indicted again for combining to restrain trade and violating the Sherman anti-trust law.

The war department is considering the proposition of laying another cable between Seattle and Alaska at a cost of \$2,000,000. The present cable is inadequate to handle the business.

Foreign.

While the returns of the elections in the last three districts to ballot for representatives in the British parliament have not been received, the outcome of the election is known with sufficient certainty to settle the attitude of the people toward the former government, which government has been supported, the elections to date showing 395 seats for the government coalition and 272 seats for the unionists, giving the former a majority of 123. At the opening of the campaign the unionists had strong belief that they would gain in the number of representatives, but they not only did not gain but are likely to lose one seat. Now that the decision of the people is understood it is expected that a short period of quiescence will follow, although there is reason for believing in continued interest in that the leaders of the unionists declare that civil war will threaten should the government succeed in giving the Irish home rule. It is asserted that arms have been gathered in Ulster, a district of northern Ireland, for this purpose.

Earthquake shocks near the Pacific Ocean in Costa Rica resulted in the sinking of an island in a lagoon in Lake Salvador. There were about 170 people on the island at the time and all are reported lost. The island was raised during an earthquake disturbance in 1880.

The national assembly of China has selected a commission to draft a scheme to provide for the assembly becoming responsible to the nation and, unless this is done, the assembly will dissolve.

The gunboat Hornet which has been in the New Orleans harbor and reported to have been recently purchased by the Honduras government, has set sail, and it is now believed that the vessel is one of the best equipped filibustering craft ever fitted out. The boat left for Central America.

After several days of wet and stormy weather, England has been visited by one of the worst gales that has occurred in many years. All along the coast wrecks are reported, sea walls have been broken down, and a large amount of shipping property destroyed. In the country places heavy falls of rain and driving winds have worked much detriment.

The Canadian parliament was entertained by the unusual spectacle of 1,000 farmers who had journeyed from the great grain growing sections of the northwest to demand their rights in the governmental control of the country. They want free trade with the United States, reciprocity, the government ownership of a railroad to Hudson Bay and the government ownership of the terminal elevators. Their appeals are being given good attention by the government for the farmers command a strong contingent in the northwest.

The annual budget of Japan for 1911-12 shows receipts amounting to over 473,000,000 yen and expenditures aggregating over 540,000,000 yen. This budget is heavy for the country, but it is claimed to be necessary to improve the railroads and bring the navy up to the standard of other nations.

The Nicaraguan cabinet has resigned. On Jan. 1, Gen. Estrada will become president and will appoint a new governing body.

The students of nearly all the high schools of St. Petersburg have quit school as a protest against punishment being meted out to political prisoners in different parts of Russia.

The Japanese squadron is continuing its cruise along the Mexican coast. A number of the cadets will journey to Mexico City where they will be given a big reception.

FREE MAGAZINES.

Choice of the following publications for one year with a three or five-year subscription to the Michigan Farmer, as a Class B. premium:

American Poultry Journal, Chicago.
American Poultry Advocate, Syracuse.
American Swineherd, Chicago.
Farm Poultry, Boston.
Poultry Keeper, Quincy, Ill.
Poultry Success, Springfield, Ohio.
Reliable Poultry Journal, Quincy, Ill.
Swine Breeders' Journal, Indianapolis, Indiana.
People's Home Journal, New York.
Housewife, New York.

BOYS and GIRLS—Sell 24 novelties and receive a watch, fountain pen or other premium free. Write to-day. SMYRNA NOVELTY CO., C. Smyrna, Michigan.

Wanted—by steady experienced young man position on a farm after Jan. 1st. no objection to dairy farm, references. P. O. Box 535, Chelsea, Michigan.

CIGARS! I WILL SEND a sample box of 50 cigars (medium size) and prepay express charges for only \$1.98. Good as any 3 for a quarter cigar. Agents Wanted. H. R. HERFORTH, 397 Field Ave., DETROIT, MICH.



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None other will keep it running in perfect alignment. Concrete made from clean sand and Universal Portland Cement will outlast the life of your engine. It is everlasting. Pounding and vibration of the engine make no impression upon it. And it is also fireproof.

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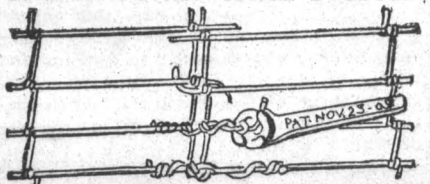


"REPEATER" Smokeless Powder Shells

These shells cost a little more than black powder loads, but for bird shooting they are worth many times the difference, as there is no smoke to hinder the second barrel. They are by far the best low priced smokeless load on the market. When you buy, insist upon having them.

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HERE AT LAST! THE RATCHET WIRE SPLICER



Wraps large or small wire in narrowest space in woven fence. Made of strong malleable iron, seven inches long, notched on both sides. If your dealer can not supply you send 50 cents for sample, post paid, to A. B. PROBASCIO, Lebanon, O.

THE LARGEST AND BEST LINE OF WELL DRILLING

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Austin Manufacturing Co., Chicago

The Berlin Quart Our Specialty
A WHITE package which insures highest prices for your fruit. Write for 1910 catalog showing our complete line, and secure your BASKETS, CRATES, ETC., at WINTER DISCOUNTS.
The BERLIN FRUIT BOX CO., Berlin Heights, Ohio.

Woman and Her Needs

At Home and Elsewhere

IF YOU START A CLUB KEEP IT INFORMAL.

"We would like your advice and aid in organizing such a club," writes a woman after reading the suggestion for a "Reading and Gossiping Club" in *The Farmer*. "Also, how would you keep it up?"

First of all, I should like to tell you of a little club to which I belong and which is the most successful and interesting club I know anything about. And it is a club without any organization, that is, there are no officers, no constitution, no by-laws, no red tape, and consequently no jealousy and friction. A half dozen women all interested in the same thing, literature, meet every Saturday afternoon at half past two and read and discuss what is read for two or three hours. There is no presiding officer so the hostess usually starts the ball rolling by calling on some one of the number to read first. This lady will read an article, or a chapter in a book and then follows a spirited discussion. The members read in turn usually, unless we talk so long there isn't time for everyone to read. There are no rules of any sort, so it doesn't matter whether every member is heard or not. New members are never voted upon. If any members knows of someone who would like to join she simply says, "I have a friend who wants to come into our club." That settles the matter. It is understood that the proposed member must be desirable or she would not be a friend of the lady speaking.

That is the sort of club I had in mind when I wrote the previous article. Simply an informal gathering of neighbor women for mutual benefit and improvement. In order to start it I would suggest that the woman who is really interested in the matter ask her neighbors to meet with her some afternoon. Tell them what you want to accomplish, over a cup of tea, nothing loosens women's tongues more than a cup of tea and a sandwich, and ask for the opinions and co-operation of your friends. If you want to form a real woman's club so you can get into the federation you will have to elect a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, have regular dues, programs, a motto, a flower, a color, committees and, hand in hand with that, jealousy, envy and much bitterness of spirit. If you only want to have a good time and at the same time be learning something, you will not organize at all, but simply all agree to meet every week from house to house and each member do all she can to make the meetings a success.

In the city, refreshments are not served at literary clubs except on special occasions when guests are present. For the country clubs, this question should be decided by the members. If refreshments are voted for it would be advisable to limit the articles of food to a certain number or each hostess will be trying to do more than her neighbors. Let it be decided that each hostess shall serve only three things, a drink, sandwiches and cakes, or any three things she chooses.

As to the programs, it will be far more interesting not to make them pretentious. Say a certain time each week is set aside for fiction, 15 minutes or a half hour, just long enough to read a chapter or two from some good book. There are no end of good books which have been out long enough now that they may be secured in cheap bindings for 50 cents a copy, many of them even for 25 cents. Among the books which would be interesting for such a club are those by Margaret DeLand, two of the best being "Old Chester Tales" and "Dr. Lavender." Much older than these, but similar in style is "Cranford," by Mrs. Gaskell. "Peter," by F. Hopkinson Smith; "Aunt Jane of Kentucky," by Eliza Calvert Hill; "The Minister's Wooing," by Harriet Beecher Stowe, are all interesting. "Bob, Son of Battle," is the story of a dog by Ollivant. If you want good stories of the south they may be found in "Red Rock" and "Gordon Keith," by Thomas Nelson Page, and "The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," and "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine," by John

Fox. "The Weaver," by Gilbert Parker and "The Shuttle," by Francis Hodgson Burnett, furnish food for thought as well as entertainment, while "The Fair Barbarian," by the last named author is an amusing tale of an American girl from the breezy west who is suddenly set down in a conservative little English village.

These are but a few of the good books you can select from. If you write to the publishing companies directly they will send you a catalogue every month with the names of their books, and short reviews of each book so you can tell more about what you want.

For a work on household matters there is none more highly recommended than "Domestic Science," by Richardson. Then there is a series of books called "Library of Home Economics," gotten out by the American School of Home Economics in Chicago, and covering every question which could possibly come up in house-keeping. The government bulletins on such matters may be secured by writing the department of publicity at Washington. These may be secured for a very small sum, and so would probably be better than the books on science which cost a dollar or more.

There is such a host of good magazines to choose from it would be hard for a club to decide what one to take. Among

those which would be suitable for a woman's club are Harper's Bazaar for \$1.25 a year. This contains short stories and domestic features of general interest. The Woman's Home Companion, The Ladies' Home Journal and the Delineator are known to all women. The Mother's Magazine is a good magazine along the same lines and only 50 cents a year. If you want a magazine that deals more with outside interests and less with the home there are the Review of Reviews and the World Today. Most of these magazines have clubbing offers, some of them with the Michigan Farmer, and two or three may be secured together at considerably less than the combined prices. If this is done the magazines might pass from member to member between meetings, the contents of the articles to be told briefly in club by a member who had read them.

Just what each club will do must be decided upon by the members as no outsider knows what would be best suited to the women of any one neighborhood. Whatever is done, each woman should feel that she has a part to do if the club is to be a success. Of course, there are born leaders in every neighborhood, but these women should do all they can to bring to the front their more retiring neighbors. Books and magazines, of course, will have to be paid for by contributions from each member. Hence the advisability of having no dues.

DEBORAH.

GIFTS EASILY MADE BY DEFT FINGERS.

BY PEARLE WHITE M'COWAN.

The woman whose pocket book is never overly burdened, but who loves to give Christmas presents to her friends is usually looking for ideas of something neat and inexpensive that she may make with her own fingers. To such the following suggestions may be helpful.

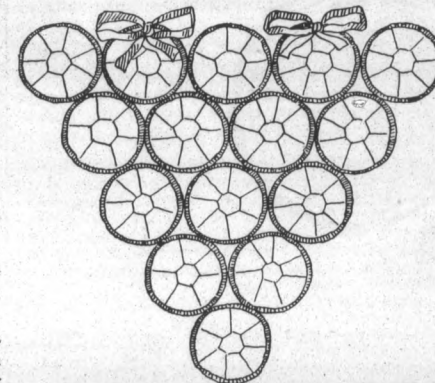
The covers for the little needle book here illustrated are made of 30 little brass rings, 15 on the front and 15 at the back, which are covered with samsilk. This may be crocheted over them or the work may be done with needle and thread in a buttonhole stitch. The rings are then filled with a spider web arrangement of twisted threads similar to those used in battenberg and drawn work. The leaves, made of felt or heavy tennis flannel are cut in scalloped triangles to match the covers, and are finished around the edges in a buttonhole stitch with samsilk like that on the covers. Two small bows of narrow ribbon of a corresponding shade are placed over the place where leaves and covers are joined together.

The white of the leaves showing through the bright colors of the samsilk makes a pretty contrast. This is a dainty little gift fit for any woman's work box.

The second little gift is especially useful and simple. Many women deplore the absence of pockets in the coats and jackets of present day styles, and this little extra pocket is designed to fill this long felt want. It is merely a half yard of ribbon 4½ inches wide, plain or fancy ribbon may be used, according to taste, with one end turned up to a depth of 5½ inches and the edges neatly sewed together. About 2½ inches above the top of this little pocket the remainder of the ribbon is folded over and gathered closely, thus forming a flap that hangs down over the top of the pocket. The ends of this are trimmed to a point and neatly feather-stitched while a little safety pin is fastened into the top so that the pocket may be pinned inside any coat or jacket worn.

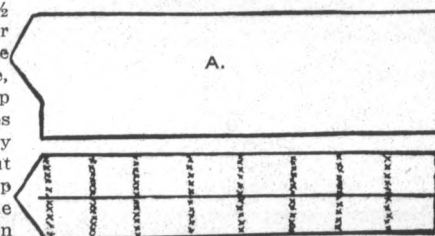
A ribbon case is the third little article illustrated. This is especially appropriate for the young girl who has not yet arrived at the dignity of "doing up" her hair. It is made of fancy ribbon 22 or

23 inches long. It may be a little longer or shorter if desired, but it must be at least six inches wide and seven, or even eight, is better. This is at one end



Needle Book Made of Brass Rings.

as shown in Fig. A, just a third of one end straight and the balance cut to a point, and is then neatly hemmed and feather-stitched. The lower edge is turned up a third of the width of the whole ribbon, or half the width of the part with the pointed end. This is then feather-stitched at intervals, as shown in Fig. B, leaving openings or little pockets about a half-inch wider than ordinary calling cards, and the straight end is neatly hemmed. A card is then inserted in each little pocket and the whole folded



Pocket.



Ribbon Case.

up like an envelope and tied with narrow ribbon to match. The cards are, of course, for wrapping ribbons around and kept thus in this little case, any girl's

Household Economy

How to Have the Best Cough Syrup and Save \$2, by Making it at Home.

Cough medicines, as a rule, contain a large quantity of plain syrup. If you take one pint of granulated sugar, add ½ pint of warm water, and stir about 2 minutes, you have as good syrup as money could buy.

If you will then put 2½ ounces of Pinex (fifty cents' worth) in a pint bottle, and fill it up with the Sugar Syrup, you will have as much cough syrup as you could buy ready-made for \$2.50. It keeps perfectly.

And you will find it the best cough syrup you ever used—even in whooping cough. You can feel it take hold—usually stops the most severe cough in 24 hours. It is just laxative enough, has a good tonic effect and taste is pleasant. Take a teaspoonful every one, two or three hours.

It is a splendid remedy, too, for hoarseness, asthma, chest pains, etc.

Pinex is the most valuable concentrated compound of Norway white pine extract, rich in guaiacol and all the healing pine elements. No other preparation will work in this formula.

This recipe for making cough remedy with Pinex and Sugar Syrup is now used and prized in thousands of homes in the United States and Canada. The plan has often been imitated but never successfully.

A guarantee of absolute satisfaction, or money promptly refunded, goes with this recipe. Your druggist has Pinex or will get it for you. If not, send to The Pinex Co., 232 Main St., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

When You Buy a Piano you want to know you are getting the best for your money

Cornish

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Cornish Pianos, for real merit, are unexcelled by any other, whatever the price, or name, or reputation.



Three Years' Credit, If Needed, On This BABY GRAND

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Established Over 50 Years

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Send us your cattle or horse hides or any skins that you may have, and we will tan these for you as they want to be tanned. We have the largest and best plant in the country for doing this work. We are coat and robe makers. Our prices are right, work GUARANTEED. Low prices. Send for circular, also catalogue.

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DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

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280 E. 5th St., Canton, O.

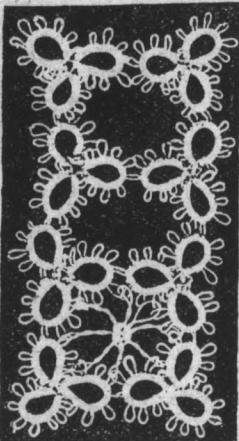
HARTSHORN SHADE ROLLERS
Bear the script name of Stewart Hartshorn on label. Get "Improved," no tacks required.
Wood Rollers Tin Rollers

ribbons will always be smooth and unwrinkled. These are especially dainty when made of fancy flowered ribbon.

TATTED ALLOVER.

BY GENEVA M. SEWELL.

This pattern is composed of three-leaved figures of two d. nine picots each separated by two d., two d. draw into a ring. The rings are fastened together at the first picot. When three are made tie thread and cut off, then make another figure like the first, fastening together at the middle picot of ring. Each four of these three-leaved figures when fastened together leaves a round opening which may be filled in any preferred way. The design is filled with a web made by running threads in then twisting the needle around them so each thread is double,



then weaving under and over the threads at the center for three times then fasten thread and cut off. If it is desired to run ribbons in, the spaces are not filled but left as shown in the design. This is a most useful design for yokes or strips of insertion. It may be made to conform to any shape of pattern by fastening the figures together in that shape. It makes a beautiful baby bonnet when made of the silkline crochet cotton. It also makes dainty collars and cuffs when made of ecru linen, in fact, is very serviceable where allover effects are desired.

A DOZEN SIMPLE CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

BY INEZ DE JARNATT COOPER.

"I just dread Christmas!" Mrs. Slater's usually placid brow wore at least a dozen little puckers and she sighed as she reached for another stocking to darn. "That seems rather a bad state of things," answered her neighbor hostess. "I know it," replied Mrs. Slater, "but it is not so bad as you think. Now for the family and intimate friends I can manage well enough but there are friends who give me little gifts which I am not able to return as far as cost is concerned and—"

"I faced that a year ago," replied her friend opening a drawer of the linen chest, "and you may see the result." Unfolding a roll of blue tissue she disclosed a pretty oval centerpiece done in Wallachian and outline. "This," she explained after her friend had expressed her admiration, "is for Emma Little, and the other centerpieces done in the same, save for a bit of eyelet, is for her sister. They are both fond of embroidery but have no knack for it. This pin cushion cover, done in solid and initial is for my sister. She might make it herself, of course, but somehow one never does those things for oneself. This book mark is for the book worm friend whose name you see outlined.

"I just made one set of turnover points," she continued, holding up a dainty pair done in outline. "I had plenty of goods but it does not pay. I had rather make these jabots," holding up a three-piece jabot done in outline and eyelet and a two-piece one done in Wallachian and outline. "They are for Anna, you know she teaches and positively never has enough of such things. Then this Dutch collar done in solid is for Hilda. I confess I wanted to keep it for myself but it is just what she needs for her green coat. This smaller Dutch collar done in surface and Wallachian is for mother. I notice old ladies never want anything stiff or high about their necks and these new Dutch collars are a blessing to them."

"Oh, how pretty!" exclaimed Mrs. Slater, as her hostess unrolled a dainty white handbag done in Wallachian, eyelet and surface.

"Yes. That's for my niece. I shall have to get a white ribbon draw string for it though. You see she has a hand-embroidered parasol, dress and hat so it

is a shame that she should not possess a bag—spending the winter in the south, too! This two-piece neck bow is for Mrs. Christianson and this comode dolly made of soft fashion is for Jane Douglas.

"You see," she continued, folding them up, "the value of these presents lies in the work. It is a rare woman who would not welcome as a gift a piece of hand-made embroidery. Of course, you know that I can do finer work but my aim was to make inexpensive presents which would look well and which were within the power of a busy housewife to accomplish."

Mrs. Slater gasped. "But how did you ever manage to do it? You must have been at it all year and how many yards of goods did you use? Your stamping bill, too? That must have been quite an item," and she sighed to think that her problem was no nearer a solution.

Mrs. Wentworth laughed. "I will try and answer your questions one at a time. I began them this fall, strictly speaking, the sixth of October, and was resting, nicely prepared for Christmas, before Thanksgiving. Then the number of yards used was one. Yes," she smiled, at her friend's surprised look. "They are all cut from one yard of linen for which I paid just 39 cents. The white mercerized thread cost enough to make the 12 pieces amount to 60 cents. It took lots of thread, you see, because every single piece is buttonholed. As for my stamping bill, I am not very good at drawing so I had to depend on patterns from my old outfit and those cut from magazines and newspapers. I used a piece of carbon paper. I just placed these patterns with the linen on the paper and marked with a common lead pencil, sometimes using half a spool to mark the buttonhole border. I just laid the spool on the linen and marked half around it. Come over tomorrow with your yard of linen," she finished, as the relieved Mrs. Slater rose to go, "and I will prove my assertions."

SHORT CUTS TO HOUSEKEEPING.

For biliousness, try a glass of lemonade every night before retiring.—Z. I. D.

A little bluing in the water with which windows are cleaned gives a clearer and less streaked appearance to the glass than anything else I have ever tried.—M. A. P.

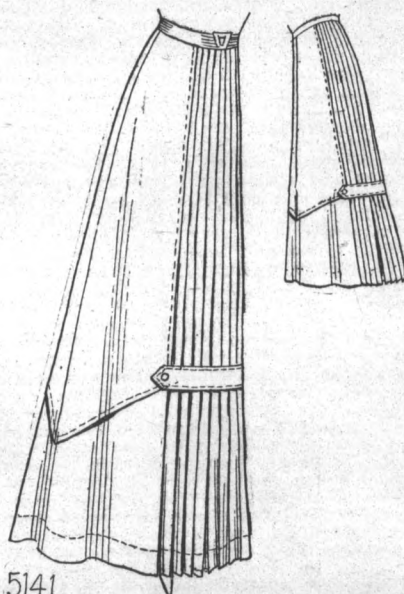
To cure corns, make a plaster of anti-flagistone and apply. Leave it on until the corn can be drawn out by the roots.—Z. I. D.

A crust formed on my bread and to prevent this I dampened two thicknesses of cloth and laid on dough ten minutes before putting in loaves, and crust gave no trouble. If the dough should sour from any cause, that is, just a little sour, sprinkle each loaf well with salt just as you mold it into the tins. When baked it will have no sour taste.—P. J.

LADIES' SIX-GORED SKIRT.

For heavy materials the skirt we show here is an excellent model. This skirt has six gores, the side gores being lengthened by a lower side section. The front and back gores are laid in plaits and at the knee are held in place by a strap of the material. The side-gores are joined together, and lapped over the lower side section. This skirt, worn with one of the short coats would make a smart costume. It may be made of any of the heavy mannish mixtures, cheviot, serge, broadcloth or velveteen.

The pattern (5141), is cut in sizes 22 to 32 inches waist measure. To make



the skirt in medium size will require 6½ yards of material 27 inches wide, or 5½ yards of material either 36 or 44 inches wide. The above pattern can be obtained by sending 10 cents to the office of the Michigan Farmer. Give pattern number and waist measure.



"Mother, guess you'll have to open the other package"

When the children find a wholesome food they really like, give them all they want.

Good food grows good men and women—Kellogg's—the original and only genuine Toasted Corn Flakes—is as wholesome as it is delicious. But you can't fool the children. Get the genuine. Made from the best white corn.

St. Jacobs Oil goes after the pain. Pain couldn't be after

ST. JACOBS OIL

Good for Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sore Throat, Chest Colds, etc. Just rub it on the affected parts. The pain may resist a dozen treatments—but it can't resist St. Jacobs Oil.

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Bone, Shell and Corn Mill

A money-saver and money-maker. Cracked grain, ground bone and shell, increase egg production when fed properly. The "ENTERPRISE" Mill is a wonder. Strongly built, reliable, runs easily and won't get out of order. Grinds dry bones, corn, oyster and other shells, etc. Price of Mill shown, No. 750, is \$8.50. Weight, 60 lbs. Grinds 1½ bushels of corn an hour. Hardware and general stores everywhere.

Catalogue FREE. Famous Recipe Book, "The Enterprising Housekeeper," for 4 cents in stamps.

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No. 750 Price \$8.50

For Dry Bones etc.

START A BUSINESS OF YOUR OWN

If you want to make money, summer or winter, rain or shine, get our proposition. Pleasant work, increasing profits. No experience needed. We want a representative in every locality. Don't work for others, be your own boss. Let us start you in business for yourself. There is money in it for you. Write us today.

KOCH V. T. CO.,
Box M, Winona, Minnesota.

\$200 in Gold Given Away in December TO CLUB RAISERS IN SPECIAL PRIZES.

In amounts from \$50 down. This amount is actually given away because the \$200 is in addition to all cash commissions and rebates, which are in themselves liberal pay. Every person reading this is entitled to enter the competition—no restricted territory to any one. All supplies furnished free. Write now for full details. Address

CIRCULATION DEPT., THE MICHIGAN FARMER, Detroit, Mich.

MARKETS

DETROIT WHOLESALE MARKETS.

December 21, 1910.

Grains and Seeds.

Wheat.—On last Thursday the bulls were successful in putting prices up a cent after which there was a gradual decline until Tuesday when they again checked the course of the market and recovered a part of the decline. The heavy world's movement, the lack of foreign call, the satisfied flour market, the liberal offerings from farmers of the northwest all worked to put quotations on a lower basis. The bulls pinned their hope to the situation in the southwest where they have been finding help, and it was on news from that quarter that they succeeded in getting the advance Tuesday. Dry weather is damaging the crop materially and should present conditions prevail for many more weeks much of the sowing will be ruined. The visible supply increased less than a half million bushels. One year ago the price for No. 2 red wheat was \$1.25 per bu. Quotations for the week are:

	No. 2	No. 1	May	July
Thursday	.96 1/4	.95 1/4	1.00 1/4	.95 3/4
Friday	.95 3/4	.94 1/2	.99 3/4	.95 3/4
Saturday	.94 3/4	.93 3/4	.99 3/4	.95 3/4
Monday	.94 3/4	.93 3/4	.99 3/4	.95 3/4
Tuesday	.95	.94	1.00 1/4	.95 3/4

Corn.—A steady tone prevails in corn circles and prices remain at figures published for the previous week. The visible supply increased a little over a half million bushels which is about half of the increase of a year ago. A car load of new No. 3 yellow corn sold on the market Tuesday for 46 1/2c per bu. One year ago the price of No. 2 corn was 62 1/2c. Quotations for the past week are:

	No. 2	No. 1	May	July
Thursday	.53	.56		
Friday	.53	.56		
Saturday	.53	.56		
Monday	.53	.56		
Tuesday	.53	.56		

Oats.—No change has occurred in oat values since a week ago Monday. The market is easy and there is little activity in the trade. The visible supply increased but a few thousand bushels. The price for standard oats at this date in 1909 was 46 1/2c per bu. Quotations for the past week are:

	Standard	No. 3	White
Thursday	.35	.34 1/2	.34 1/2
Friday	.35	.34 1/2	.34 1/2
Saturday	.35	.34 1/2	.34 1/2
Monday	.35	.34 1/2	.34 1/2
Tuesday	.35	.34 1/2	.34 1/2

Beans.—As usual, little or nothing is being done in this department. Prices have fluctuated the past week with figures ruling a little lower than seven days ago. Quotations are:

	Cash	Dec
Thursday	\$2.00	\$2.03
Friday	1.95	1.98
Saturday	1.95	1.98
Monday	1.97	2.00
Tuesday	1.97	2.00

Clover Seed.—The promised advance did not materialize and instead a slight decline was recorded in clover seed for the week just past. The falling off was not large, however, and the decline may be covered any time. The deal continues active. Quotations are:

	Prime Spot	Mar.	Alsike
Thursday	\$9.10	\$9.15	\$9.10
Friday	9.10	9.15	9.10
Saturday	9.00	9.05	9.00
Monday	9.00	9.05	9.00
Tuesday	9.00	9.05	9.00

Rye.—This grain is scarce. Market higher and firm. Quotation for No. 1 is 85 1/2c per bu.

Visible Supply of Grains.

	This week	Last week
Wheat	42,994,000	42,666,000
Corn	2,094,000	1,510,000
Oats	15,711,000	15,349,000
Rye	478,000	471,000
Barley	1,622,000	1,744,000

Flour, Feed, Provisions, Etc.

Flour.—The flour trade is easy with prices unchanged. Quotations are:

Clear	\$4.65
Straight	4.65
Patent Michigan	5.20
Ordinary Patent	4.75

Hay and Straw.—Hay values are steady. Quotations on baled hay in car lots f. o. b. Detroit are: No. 1 timothy, \$16.50@17; No. 2 timothy, \$15.50@16; clover, mixed, \$15.50@16; rye straw, \$7@7.50; wheat and oat straw, \$6@6.50 per ton.

Feed.—All prices are steady with those of last week. Carlot prices on track are: Bran, \$25 per ton; coarse middlings, \$23; fine middlings, \$26; cracked corn, \$25; coarse corn meal, \$25; corn and oat chop, \$24 per ton.

Potatoes.—The situation fails to improve with continuous cold weather. There is an ample supply to care for the sluggish demand. In car lots Michigan potatoes are selling at 37@40c per bu.

Provisions.—Family pork, \$23@24; mess pork, \$21.50; medium clear, \$21@22; smoked hams, 13 1/2c; briskets, 12 1/2c; shoulders, 11 1/2c; picnic hams, 11 1/2c; bacon, 18c pure lard in tierces, 11 1/2c; kettle rendered lard, 12 1/2c.

Dairy and Poultry Products.

Butter.—Trading has continued smoothly this past week with no change in values, nor any noticeable alteration in conditions. Quotations are: Extra creamery, 30 1/2c; first creamery, 28 1/2c; dairy, 23c and packing, 20c per lb.

Eggs.—For the first time in several months egg prices have declined. Increased receipts give the market an easier tone. The price is 1c lower. Fresh receipts, case count, cases included, are now quote at 31 1/2c per dozen.

Poultry.—Geese and chickens are in large supply and traders are feeling easy.

Turkeys are scarce. Prices show little change from a week ago. Dressed chickens are still quoted at 12@13c; fowls, 11@12c; ducks, 16@18c; geese are up to 14c; turkeys, 20@22c per lb. For live birds, spring chickens are quoted at 11c; fowls, 10c; old roosters, 9c; turkeys, 18@20c; geese, 12@12 1/2c; ducks, 15@15 1/2c lb.

Cheese.—Michigan, 17c; Michigan sharp, 17@18 1/2c; York state, 17 1/2@18c; York state sharp, 19c; limburger, old, 16@17c; Swiss domestic block, 20@22c; cream brick, 17@18c.

Dressed Pork.—Price is improved and it is now 9@10c lb.

Veal.—Choice, 11 1/2@12c; ordinary, 9@10c per lb.

Fruits and Vegetables.

Rabbits.—Lower. Per dozen, \$1.50.

Apples.—Market is active and higher. Fancy greenings are quoted at \$5.25@5.50; Kings, \$5.25@5.50; Baldwins, \$4.50; Steel reds, \$6; ordinary grades, \$2.75@3 per bbl.

Cranberries.—Lower. Quoted at \$3.25 per bu.

Cabbage.—Steady. Selling at \$1.50 per bbl. for new.

Onions.—Higher. 75@90c per bu.

Honey.—Choice to fancy comb, 15@17c per lb.

From Farmers' Wagons on Detroit Eastern Market.

On Tuesday the trading was light considering it being the week before the holidays, there being a small number of wagons on the market and not a numerous amount of buyers. As for former weeks the bulk of offerings was made up of potatoes, apples, pork, cabbage and roots. Potatoes are down from a week ago, now selling around 45c per bu. Apples, generally speaking, were of very inferior quality, mostly windfalls and culls. These were selling from 75c@\$.1. Other grades ranged from \$1.25@1.75 and found ready buyers at those figures. Cabbage was quoted at 40c; parsnips, 45c; carrots, 35c; turnips, 35c per bu; chickens around 13c per lb; eggs, 40c per dozen. Good pork 10c per lb.

OTHER MARKETS.

Grand Rapids.

Fresh eggs from farmers' hands are worth 32c, with supply a little better than a week ago. Butter dealers are paying 25c for dairy, with offerings more liberal and quality fair. Grain prices are practically unchanged, with wheat worth 89@90c; new corn, 48c; old corn, 57c. Hay is a little firmer, loose timothy bringing \$17, baled, \$18 per ton. Poultry prices are off 1c this week, quotations for live stock being as follows: Fowls, and chickens, 10c; turkeys, 18c; geese, 11c; ducks, 13c. Dressed hogs are in good supply at 8 1/2c. Veal is worth 6@11c.

Chicago.

Wheat.—No. 2 red, 93@94c; May, 96 1/4c; July, 93 1/2c per bu.

Corn.—No. 2, 46 1/2@47 1/2c; May, 47 1/2c; July, 48 1/2c.

Oats.—No. 2 white, 31@31 1/2c; May, 34c; July, 34c.

Butter.—Market steadier than a week ago with best creamery showing a 1c gain. Dairies are quoted lower. Creameries, 23@29c; dairies, 21@25c lb.

Eggs.—Fancy grades have declined 2c but general receipts are steady at the old figures. Storage eggs are moving very slowly and the heavy holdings of such stock are having a depressing influence. Quotations: Prime firsts, 31c; firsts, 29c; at mark, cases included, 19 1/2@22 1/2c per dozen.

Potatoes.—Receipts are not so heavy this week but the market continues slow, with no material change in quotations. Choice to fancy are quoted at 43@45c per bu; fair to good, 35@40c.

Hay and Straw.—The better grades of hay and of rye straw are 50c@\$.1 lower and the market is easy. Choice timothy, \$19@20; No. 1 timothy, \$18@18.50; No. 2 do. and No. 1 mixed, \$16.50@17.50; No. 3 do. and No. 2 mixed, \$13.50@16; rye straw \$8@8.50; oat straw, \$7@7.50; wheat straw, \$6.50@7 per ton.

Beans.—The market is well supplied and common beans are lower. Pea beans, choice hand-picked, are quoted at \$2.08@2.10 per bu; prime, \$1.98@2; red kidneys, \$2.75@2.90.

New York.

Butter.—Trade is steady at last week's prices. Creamery specials are quoted at 31c; extras, 29 1/2@30c; thirds to firsts, 23@28 1/2c.

Eggs.—Eggs are coming to market from southern points and the outlook is easier with prices lower. Nearby eggs quoted at 50c; fresh gathered extras 36@37c; firsts, 34@35c; fancy refrigerator stock, 25 1/2@26c per dozen.

Poultry.—The active holiday demand has sent prices higher for both dressed and live fowls. Dressed western chickens, 12 1/2@16 1/2c; fowls, 13@17c; turkeys, 18@24c. Live, chickens are higher; turkeys same. Spring chickens, 13@14c; fowls, 14@15c; turkeys, 14@18c.

Boston.

Wool.—The past week has been easy for territory wools but fleeces have ruled active and occupied the major part of attention given the market. Some Michigan 3/4-blood has gone to the mills. The leading domestic grades are quoted as follows: Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces—Delaine, washed, 34c; XX, 32c; fine unmerchantable 24@25c; 3/4-blood combed, 29@30c; 3/4-blood combed, 29@30c; 1/4-blood combed, 27@28c; delaine, unwashed, 26 1/2@27c; fine unwashed, 22@23c. Michigan, Wisconsin and New York fleeces—Fine unwashed, 20@21c; delaine, unwashed, 26@27c; 1/4-blood, unwashed, 23@29c. Kentucky, Indiana and Missouri—3/4-blood, 29@30c; 1/4-blood, 27@28c.

Elgin.

Butter.—Trade firm at 30c per lb., which is the quotation of last week. Output for the week, 627,300 lbs. as compared with 630,300 lbs. for the previous week.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Buffalo.

December 19, 1910.

(Special report by Dunning & Stevens, New York Central Stock Yards, East Buffalo, N. Y.)

Receipts of stock here today as follows: Cattle, 145 cars; hogs, 16,000; sheep and lambs, 16,200; calves, 800.

With 145 cars of cattle on the market here today, and with 19,000 reported in Chicago, we quote all grades of cattle as selling 10@15c higher than last week, and a fairly active market.

We quote: Best 1,300 to 1,400-lb. steers \$6.25@6.65; good prime 1,200 to 1,300-lb. steers, \$5.65@6.15; best 1,100 to 1,200-lb. shipping steers, \$5.50@5.85; medium butcher steers, 1,000 to 1,100 lbs., \$5.25@5.60; light butcher steers, \$4.75@5; best fat cows, \$4.50@5; fair to good do., \$3.50@4; common to medium do., \$3@3.50; trimmers, \$2.50@3; best fat heifers, \$5.50@5.75; good do., \$4.50@5; fair to good do., \$4.25@4.50; stock heifers, \$3.50@3.75; best feeding steers, dehorned, \$4.75@5; medium to good feeding steers, \$4@4.25; stockers, all grades, \$3.50@4; best bulls, \$4.75@5.25; bologna bulls, \$4@4.50; stock bulls, \$3.75@4.25; best milkers and springers, \$5@6; good to best milkers and springers, \$4@5; common to good do., \$2.50@3; milkers and springers sold fully \$10 lower than last week.

With 100 cars of hogs on sale today, market opened strong 10@15c higher than Saturday's best time, and closing steady to strong at the opening, with a good clearance of all that was yarded in time for the market.

We quote: Mixed, medium and heavy, \$8.05@8.10; yorkers, \$8.05@8.10; light yorkers and pigs, \$8.20@8.25; strictly pigs selling as high as \$8.35; roughs, \$7@7.25; stags, \$6@6.25; prospects look fair for the near future.

The lamb market opened slow today; most of the choice handy lambs selling at \$6.40@6.50; heavy lambs simply demoralized; very hard to sell at \$5.50@5.75; few odd bunches at 6c. Hard to get bids on lambs weighing over 84 lbs. Don't look for much improvement balance of week, unless the runs are very light. Market closing 10@15c lower; will be 20 loads going over unsold. Sheep market is very slow today; most of the choice ewes selling at \$3.75@3.85; few fancy at 4c. Wethers, \$4@4.15, and very little demand.

We quote: Best handy lambs, \$6.40@6.50; heavy lambs, \$5.50@5.75; bucks, \$2.50@3.25; heavy ewes, \$3.75@3.85; yearlings, \$4.75@5; wethers, \$4@4.15; cull sheep, \$2.50@3; handy ewes, \$3.85@4; northern Michigan lambs, \$5.75@6.15; veals, choice to extra, \$10.25@10.75; fair to good do., \$7.50@10; heavy calves, \$5@6.50.

Chicago.

December 19, 1910.

Cattle. Hogs. Sheep. Received today 19,000 30,000 26,000 Same day last year..... 18,534 45,646 24,967 Received last week..... 72,558 160,159 127,641 Same week last year..... 83,840 200,964 112,088

Cattlemen shipped in only about 19,000 head today, and the result was extremely satisfactory, as prices ruled mostly 15@25c higher for steers and butcher stock, buyers being compelled to hustle to secure any. Hogs were in much smaller supply than a week ago or a year ago, and demand was active at an advance of 10c, sales ranging at \$7.40@7.80, and both medium and heavy hogs selling at the top, while light hogs sold close to the top. Hogs received last week averaged in weight 224 lbs., compared with 218 lbs. a year ago and 210 lbs. two years ago.

Two weeks ago the receipts averaged 232 lbs. Sheep and lambs rallied under reduced receipts and sold 10@20c higher on an average, following last week's reduction of 50c@\$.1 per 100 lbs. Lambs sold at \$5@6.50, feeder lambs going at \$5.25@6. Wethers were salable at \$3.25@4.10, feeder lambs selling at \$3.25@3.75. Ewes were salable at \$2@3.85, bucks at \$2@3.25 and yearlings at \$4.35@5.25, with feeder yearlings wanted at \$4@4.50. Horses were fairly active at current prices. Recent sales embrace 200 horses purchased for the Mexican cavalry. The stock yards will be open for business next Monday, Christmas falling on Sunday, but packers will not do any killing, it is understood.

Cattle sold well or otherwise last week according to their description, although after the early sharp break in prices resulting from extremely large supplies, there was a rally in values as a result of a falling off in the receipts. At all times, however, handy little yearlings, whether they were steers or heifers, sold much the quickest and at much the highest figures. The greater part of the steers crossed the scales at \$5@6.40, the commoner lots going at \$4.35@5 and the better class of heavy beefs at \$6@6.80, while prime little yearlings sold at \$6.85@7.50. Cows and heifers had an outlet at \$2.15@6.50, selling lower than a week earlier as a rule, while canners went at \$2@2.70, cutters at \$2.75@3.10, and bulls at \$3@5. Calves brought \$2.50@3.50 per 100 lbs., the coarse heavy lots selling no better, while choice light yearlings advanced sharply on good buying. There was an extremely large call for stockers and feeders from farmers scattered all over the corn belt, an abundance of low-priced corn creating a desire to feed it on the farm. Stockers brought \$3.25@5.10, and feeders had a good sale at \$4.50@5.60, the largest demand being for a good grade of cattle. A large share of the offerings of these cattle consisted of thin steers of good quality, weighing 800 to 900 lbs., and going for feeders at \$4.60@4.90. Stock heifers were in fair demand at \$2.75@3.20, while feeding heifers sold at \$3.25@4.35. In filling feed lots stockmen should beware of paying extravagant prices, this practice having been the cause of heavy losses this year. The demand is for little cattle fattened in a comparatively short period, and it no longer takes large sup-

plies of heavy long-fed cattle to meet market requirements. Milkers and springers have a moderate sale at \$30@60 per head, with a sale of a fancy Holstein cow at \$95.

Hogs have been showing highly sensational fluctuations in prices for a week past, with prime hogs selling on Monday at \$8.10, which was the highest figure reached since the recent remarkable boom commenced, and going off sharply in the week under determined efforts made by buyers to depress values. The large eastern shipping demand has still been the main source of firmness, the local packers refraining usually from buying early in the day, at which time prices were apt to be highest, and coming in later and filling their orders at reduced prices for packing grades after shippers had purchased the cream of the offerings. Even shippers objected to paying the high prices reached on recent advances and tried to buy lower, while the reduced quotations caused stock shippers to send in hogs less freely as the week drew near a close. Provisions shared in the hog fluctuations and sold at high prices, consumption being curtailed by their great dearth. Stocks of provisions in five leading western markets on Dec. 1 were 95,098,000 lbs., compared with 90,171,000 lbs. a month earlier and 92,848,000 lbs. a year ago. Hogs coming to market show up well in average quality, and the spread in prices has narrowed a good deal.

Sheep and lambs have not been meeting with a very large demand for a week past, and prices most of the time were on the down-grade under liberal offerings, but late in the week the slump in values led country shippers to send in stock more conservatively. Still the aggregate supply for the week was greatly ahead of a week earlier or corresponding weeks in former years, and this was unfortunate for sellers at a time when poultry was in great measure taking the place of beef and mutton. This decreased outlet is pretty sure to last until after New Year's, and then a better market may be expected, but sheepmen should endeavor to send in consignments conservatively after studying market conditions. The demand has run mainly on fat lambs not too heavy in weight, and there was also a good call for feeders, but very few were offered. In marketing mutton lambs country shippers should make note of the fact that 85-lb. lots are too heavy.

Horses were in restricted general demand last week, prime extra heavy drafters excepted, and sales were largely at reduced prices. Wagon horses sold well at first, going at \$140@200 per head, but became dull and lower later. Too many horses were marketed for the demand, and country shippers lost money in numerous instances. Drafters sold at \$170@250 as a rule, with fancy ones worth \$275@300 and upward. Small southern chunks had a fair sale at \$65@125, and drivers were usually slow at \$150@300.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

An Indianapolis horse breeder reports a growing demand for American-bred light harness horses. A short time ago he sold three choice bred mares in foal for exportation to Denmark.

A recent report made by a Chicago observer says: "The fact must not be overlooked that the by-product and hide of a \$5.50 steer are worth little less than those of a \$6.50 bullock. It is a sad commentary on present market conditions when cattle that have had corn about 30 days sell within 50 cents per 100 lbs. of bullocks fed for four months and showing good dressing quality."

Such changes for the better as have taken place in the Chicago sheep market of late were due mainly to cutting down supplies. Sheepmen should keep a close watch on the market and get advice from their live stock commission firms as to the best time to ship stock. By glutting the market enormous losses have been suffered by sheepmen this season.

There has been a surfeit of inferior cows in the Chicago market since cold winter weather set in. Minnesota and Wisconsin canner stuff has been in heavy supply, and a great many cheap-grade Iowa cows have shown up in the stock yards. Prices have had a sharp decline all along the line, and inferior old canning cows have been sold down to \$2 per 100 lbs. Cows which a few weeks ago were bought as plain beef grades have been placed in the cutter class, while cows that would have been classed as cutters a few weeks earlier have been bought as

A short time ago a sale was made at Chicago of a consignment of 1,286-lb. 60-day fed steers at \$5.70 per 100 lbs. These short-fed cattle that are pretty good in quality have been finding buyers at nearly as good prices as are paid for fat heavy steers that have been fed from six to ten months. A short time ago some 1,500-lb. Kansas steers that were fed all last summer and autumn were marketed at \$5.90, and they could have been sold six weeks earlier at \$7.50. About the same time some heavy beefs were sold at \$5.85 that would have brought \$8.25 at the high time last summer. Within a short time numerous consignments of steers that cost their owners \$5.75@6 per 100 lbs. as feeders at the start have been returned to market as finished beefs and sold for \$5.55@5.65, and a little while ago some steers that cost as feeders \$6.25 last May were returned to market and disposed of at \$6.05. High prices for feeders and long feeding are apt to result disastrously. Fat little yearlings are the winners these times, and stockmen should note this fact. Farmers are beginning to breed their own stock and feed the well-bred calves so that they will be marketable in a short time, not waiting for them to reach the age of two years. They are greatly impressed with the fact that market conditions have favored this course this year.

THIS IS THE LAST EDITION.

In the first edition the Detroit Live Stock markets are reports of last week; all other markets are right up to date. Thursday's Detroit Live Stock markets are given in the last edition. The first edition is mailed Thursday the last edition Friday morning. The first edition is mailed to those who care more to get the paper early than they do for Thursday's Detroit Live Stock market report. You may have any edition desired. Subscribers may change from one edition to another by dropping us a card to that effect.

DETROIT LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Thursday's Market.

December 22, 1910.

Cattle.

Receipts, 328. Good grades steady; handy butchers, cow stuff and bulls, 15¢ to 25¢ higher than last week.

We quote: Best steers and heifers, \$6; steers and heifers, 1,000 to 1,200, \$5.50 to \$5.75; steers and heifers, 800 to 1,000, \$4.50 to \$5.25; steers and heifers that are fat, 500 to 700, \$4 to \$4.75; choice fat cows, \$4 to \$4.50; good fat cows, \$3.50 to \$3.75; common cows, \$3 to \$3.25; canners, \$2.75 to \$3; choice heavy bulls, \$4 to \$4.35; fair to good bolognas, bulls \$3.50 to \$4; choice feeding steers, 800 to 1,000, \$4.25 to \$5; fair feeding steers, 800 to 1,000, \$3.75 to \$4; choice stockers, 500 to 700, \$3.75 to \$4.50; fair stockers, 500 to 700, \$3 to \$3.75; stock heifers, \$3 to \$3.50; milkers, large, young, medium age, \$4 to \$5; common milkers, \$2.50 to \$3.50.

Roe Com. Co. sold Newton B. Co. 3 butchers av 800 at \$4.25, 4 do av 1,082 at \$3.50, 10 steers av 1,072 at \$5.50, 11 butchers av 1,013 at \$4.25, 1 cow weighing 770 at \$2.50, 4 do av 815 at \$3.

Bishop, B. & H. sold Parker, W. & Co. 16 butchers av 1,022 at \$4.50, 1 steer weighing 1,310 at \$6, 5 cows av 924 at \$3.40, 2 do av 910 at \$3.25; to Sullivan P. Co. 3 do av 803 at \$3, 1 do weighing 1,040 at \$4, 1 do weighing 860 at \$3.25, 15 steers av 947 at \$5.50, 7 do av 820 at \$4.75; to Hammond, S. & Co. 3 cows av 880 at \$3.35, 1 do weighing 1,000 at \$4, 2 do av 815 at \$3.25, 3 do av 840 at \$3.25, 1 bull weighing 720 at \$4; to Rattkowsky 7 butchers av 877 at \$3.75; to Mich. B. Co. 5 cows av 990 at \$3.80, 7 butchers av 893 at \$4.25, 3 steers av 1,150 at \$6, 15 do av 620 at \$5; to Sullivan P. Co. 4 cows av 1,085 at \$3.80, 1 do weighing 1,150 at \$3.80, 5 do av 1,126 at \$4, 2 bulls av 1,225 at \$4.35, 1 do weighing 930 at \$4, 2 heifers av 900 at \$4.75, 2 canners av 775 at \$3.

Spicer & R. sold Kamman 2 bulls av 835 at \$4.50; to Hammond, S. & Co. 3 cows av 810 at \$3.25, 1 do weighing 920 at \$3.20, 1 bull weighing 740 at \$3.25, 1 heifer weighing 880 at \$4.90; to Parker, W. & Co. 4 cows av 1,007 at \$4.30, 1 do weighing 1,030 at \$4, 6 do av 995 at \$4; to Mich. B. Co. 7 butchers av 736 at \$4, 1 heifer weighing 600 at \$4.45; to Sullivan P. Co. 10 cows and bulls av 775 at \$3.90, 4 do av 1,037 at \$3.90, 6 steers av 1,012 at \$5.75.

Allington sold Harkins 4 feeders av 670 at \$4.75.

Poscham sold Mich. B. Co. 2 cows av 1,210 at \$4.30, 2 do av 1,005 at \$3.75.

Allington sold Sullivan P. Co. 2 cow and heifer av 1,050 at \$4.75, 1 bull weighing 1,250 at \$4.50.

Same sold Regan 3 heifers av 590 at \$4.10.

Veal Calves.

Receipts, 344. Market steady at last week's prices. Best, \$3.75 to \$9; others, \$4 to \$8; milch cows and springers steady.

Spicer & R. sold Parker, W. & Co. 6 av 150 at \$8, 2 av 260 at \$4, 7 av 130 at \$3.25, 2 av 100 at \$6, 7 av 135 at \$8, 2 av 150 at \$6, 4 av 140 at \$8; to Mich. B. Co. 20 av 135 at \$8.25; to Schuman 4 av 130 at \$8.50.

Bishop, B. & H. sold Parker, W. & Co. 5 av 125 at \$7.75, 1 weighing 160 at \$7.50, 2 av 125 at \$7.50, 13 av 110 at \$7.50; to Goose 8 av 275 at \$3.25, 16 av 130 at \$6, to Rattkowsky 6 av 120 at \$7.10.

Sheep and Lambs.

Receipts, 1,342. Market steady at last week's prices; a few extra early sales at \$6.10 to \$6.25. Best lambs, \$6; heavy lambs, \$5.50 to \$5.75; light to common lambs, \$4.50 to \$5.50; fair to good sheep, \$3 to \$4; culls and common, \$2 to \$3.

Spicer & R. sold Nagle P. Co. 13 sheep av 90 at \$3.50, 34 lambs av 65 at \$5.75, 43 do av 75 at \$5.75, 17 do av 65 at \$5.25, 5 sheep av 125 at \$3; to Rattkowsky 3 do av 170 at \$3.75; to Sullivan P. Co. 9 do av 95 at \$3.25, 35 lambs av 85 at \$6.10; to Gordon 67 do av 75 at \$5.75, 8 sheep av 80 at \$2.50; to Mich. B. Co. 8 lambs av 80 at \$5.75, 19 do av 80 at \$5.75.

Haley & M. sold Nagle P. Co. 4 sheep av 105 at \$3.25, 7 do av 115 at \$3.25, 61 lambs av 95 at \$5.75, 22 do av 80 at \$6.

Bishop, B. & H. sold Hammond, S. & Co. 5 lambs av 55 at \$5.25, 5 sheep av 125 at \$3.50, 34 do av 110 at \$3.25, 33 lambs av 72 at \$6.15; to Nagle P. Co. 51 do av 83 at \$6.25, 50 do av 85 at \$6.10, 48 do av 88 at \$6; to Mich. B. Co. 31 do av 92 at \$6, 9 do av 75 at \$6; to Gordon 24 do av 90 at \$6, 24 do av 80 at \$5.75, 7 do av 80 at \$6; to Hammond, S. & Co. 5 sheep av 150 at \$3.40, 3 do av 125 at \$3.40, 41 lambs av 62 at \$5.75, 12 do av 65 at \$4.50, 3 sheep av 110 at \$3.25; to Fitzpatrick Bros. 16 do av 110 at \$3.60, 23 lambs av 80 at \$6.

Hogs.

Receipts, 2,724. Market 20¢ to 30¢ higher than last Thursday.

Range of prices: Light to good butchers, \$7.90 to \$8; pigs, \$7.90 to \$8; light yorkers, \$7.90; stags one-third off.

Bishop, B. & H. sold Hammond, S. & Co. 1,825 av 180 at \$3, 619 av 175 at \$7.95.

Spicer & R. sold Parker, W. & Co. 416 av 190 at \$8.

Haley & M. sold same 420 av 180 at \$8.

Sundry shippers sold same 610 av 180 at \$8.

Roe Com. Co. sold Sullivan P. Co. 720 av 200 at \$7.95.

Friday's Market.

December 18, 1910.

Cattle.

Receipts this week, 971; last week, 1,704. Market steady at Thursday's prices.

We quote: Best steers and heifers, \$6; steers and heifers, 1,000 to 1,200, \$5 to \$5.50; steers and heifers, 800 to 1,000, \$4.50 to \$5; steers and heifers that are fat, 500 to 700, \$3.75 to \$4.25; choice fat cows, \$4 to \$4.50; good fat cows, \$3.50 to \$3.75; common cows, \$3 to \$3.25; canners, \$2.75 to \$3; choice heavy bulls, \$4 to \$4.25; fair to good bologna bulls, \$3.50 to \$4; choice feeding steers, 800 to 1,000, \$4.25 to \$4.75; fair feeding steers, 800 to 1,000, \$3.75 to \$4; choice stockers, 500 to 700, \$3.50 to \$3.75; fair stockers, 500 to 700, \$3 to \$3.25; stock heifers, \$3 to \$3.50; milkers, large, young, medium age, \$4 to \$5; common milkers, \$2 to \$3.

Veal Calves.

Receipts this week, 762; last week, 853. Market dull at Thursday's prices. Best, \$8.75 to \$9; others, \$4 to \$8. Milch cows and springers \$8 to \$15 lower than last week.

Sheep and Lambs.

Receipts this week, 5,834; last week, 5,617. Market steady at Thursday's prices. Best lambs, \$5.75 to \$6; fair lambs, \$5.25 to \$5.50; light to common lambs, \$4.25 to \$5; fair to good sheep, \$3 to \$4; culls and common, \$1.50 to \$3.

Hogs.

Receipts this week, 10,520; last week, 9,556. Market steady at Thursday's prices.

Range of prices: Light to good butchers, \$7.70 to \$7.75; pigs, \$7.70 to \$7.75; light yorkers, \$7.70; stags one-third off.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

One of the best authorities regarding hogs in Iowa says: "Old hogs are practically all marketed, and the young hogs are hardly ready to be shipped, comparatively few being counted upon for marketing before another month. Thus there is a gap between the old and young hogs. The supply of young hogs is not so large as is generally supposed, and had the Chicago packers continued to take off prices as they did some weeks ago it would have made considerable difference in the winter breeding. If good hogs continue reasonably high, we may reasonably look for good supplies in another year, but there will not be any more hogs than the trade requires this packing season." Similar reports are coming from Illinois and other hog-raising states.

There have been a great many complaints from live stockmen who market stock at Chicago regarding dilatoriness upon the part of the railroads in moving their shipments. Illinois stockmen have made the complaint repeatedly that the railroads give the preference to dead traffic and that live stock shipments are side-tracked and get to market greatly behind schedule time, resulting in heavy losses. Iowa shippers, too, are making the same complaints, and criticism is not against any of the roads in particular, but is aimed indiscriminately against the lines almost without exception. Walter Slade, of Slade Bros., live stock breeders and shippers of Fulton, S. D., declared that there were delays everywhere when it came down to railroad service. "The crews are overworked and it seems impossible for them to make runs on time. With our train on the Northwestern this last shipment it seemed that the engines provided were not strong enough to pull the load. We reached Chicago nine hours late, getting in at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, when we should have gotten in the yards at 6 o'clock in the morning. It was our poorest run in eight years, and we make frequent shipments. It seems the railroads have too many 'cripple' engines in service."

Prominent stock feeders and country shippers of stock arriving at the Chicago stock yards recently report a general shortage of hogs and a growing disposition to finish off growing young hogs carefully. The recent boom in prices for hogs in that market has inspired renewed confidence, and the deplored recent growing movement to hurry hogs to market prematurely on account of the rapid decline in prices that was in evidence not long ago has received a check. I. S. Jenkins, president of a savings bank in Lohrville, Iowa, says that country bankers are reporting smaller deposits than a year ago and that farmers are not disposed to accept ruling prices for either corn or hogs. James Hill, of Adel, Iowa, reports fewer cattle on feed and ready for marketing in Dallas county than at any previous time in years. He regards feeder cattle prices as about \$1 per 100 lbs. too high. Mr. Hill says there are very light supplies of hogs in Dallas county, which is one of the largest live stock counties in Iowa. Rudolph Knapp, the widely-known live stock buyer of Illinois, says it is very hard work to pick up any hogs in the country at the present time. G. A. Parrish, a prominent stock feeder and shipper of Roseville, Illinois, reports that old-fashioned "black cholera" has been making great inroads in hog supplies of Warren county and that recent declines in cattle prices have caused general discouragement. Robert Miller, a stock shipper of Sheridan, Illinois, reports that neither cattle nor hogs are plentiful in that part of the country and farmers are unwilling to dispose of their shoats. Oscar Cain, of Bagley, Ia., says that very light supplies of cattle and hogs may be expected from that section for two months. New corn is selling at 31 to 34 cents per bushel.

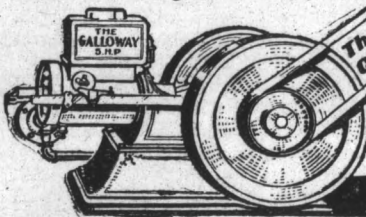
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HOME AND YOUTH

THE BELLS OF YULE.

BY RUTH RAYMOND.

The Bells of Yule, the Bells of Yule,
Their music echoes far and near—
Across the meadows, brown and sear,
And northward where the snow drifts high
Like pillars pointing to the sky.

The Bells of Yule, the Bells of Yule,
They ring across the star-lit earth
To charm our babes, where e'er their
birth,
And echo on with sweetest strain
Of "Peace on Earth, Good will to Men."

The Bells of Yule, the Bells of Yule,
Sweet memories bear the sacred chime
Still backward o'er the sands of time.
Till every man becomes a child
By Golden Bells of Yule beguiled.

O Bells of Yule, O Bells of Yule,
Ring on, ring on this Holy night
With crimson holly berries bright.
This night with Bethlehem's star ablaze,
While angels sing their songs of praise.

THEIR FIRST CHRISTMAS TREE.

BY HATTIE WASHBURN.

Although the Wright children knew the beautiful and wonderful story of Santa Claus, and eagerly watched for his yearly visit when he was wont to leave a few simple offerings in their stockings, they had never seen a Christmas tree. Their parents had been among the very first pioneers to make a home on the treeless prairies of Dakota, and during the years of hardship that followed there had been little to foster the growth of that most wonderful of all plants, the Christmas tree.

At each Christmas time mother had told them beautiful stories of Christmas trees and in reply to their eager questions was ever forced to answer encouragingly, that perhaps next year Santa Claus would be rich enough to give them a Christmas tree, but this time they must be content to hang up their stockings and be happy over whatever he might feel able to leave in them.

Ruth, the oldest of the little quartet, wondered why Santa Claus was poor and, if so, why he stinted those who needed gifts the most that he might give to the rich. She had closely studied all the Christmas pictures they had, wherein she saw children in richly furnished homes surrounded by more toys and Christmas goodies than they could carry, while in humble homes like her own, the children's Christmas gifts were invariably as simple as their surroundings.

After much trouble thought and study Ruth concluded that while old Santa was ever kind, one must be rich and have a beautiful home before he, owing to some law or ruling beyond her knowledge or comprehension, could bestow his gifts lavishly. As wealth, or even the wherewithal to supply the necessities of life, seemed hard to acquire on the raw Dakota prairies, Ruth decided that they must provide their own Christmas tree were she and her little brother and sisters to have one on this Christmas which was near at hand.

She knew that a pine tree was customary, but such a Christmas tree was not obtainable. About the claim shanty grew a small grove of saplings that father and mother had planted a few years before, and one of them, she was sure, could be spared.

Early Christmas eve, at Ruth's request, father brought the felled sapling to the door.

"Why did you bring two?" Ruth exclaimed in surprise as she noted what she considered a wanton waste of a tree.

"I thought the first might not please you and you would like to make a choice," her father explained with well concealed amusement.

"I'll take this one," the little girl said, selecting the smaller of the two, "because the other is too high to stand in the attic."

The leafless tree was carried to the small, low attic of the claim shanty where the children had their play-house and where all their childish revels were held.

Assisted by Nellie, her sister next younger than herself, and Tommy, their brother next in order, Ruth fastened a cord about the top of the tree and suspended it from a nail driven into a rafter in the peak of the attic. The slender trunk of the tree rested on the floor and was supported by a battered doll trunk on one side and by a broken iron top on the other. A lantern swung from the same convenient nail and lighted the tree, as the children had no candles. Strings of

popcorn, tissue paper ornaments, a few humble gifts fashioned by Ruth's unskilled but patient fingers, and goodies gleaned from their recent treats which the children had generously laid aside for the occasion, were hung upon the tree.

When the little Wrights considered their preparations complete they called to their parents below stairs to come up and bring Baby Esther, who was unable to climb the ladder-like stairs that led to the attic. But mother came up alone and rolled some big red apples across the rough board floor, saying Santa had left them at the door for their Christmas tree.

The children gathered up the apples gleefully and would have quickly descended the stairs to see what other gifts Santa might have left, had not mother barred the way and, by tact and coaxing induced them to fasten the apples on their tree as Santa Claus had requested, and await the coming of father and baby.

When all were together in the dimly lighted attic, Ruth viewed the result of her well-laid plans with happy satisfaction. Of course, it was not what she desired, for no gifts could be too rare and costly for those nearest and dearest to her, yet it was their first Christmas tree, and so much better than none at all that she bravely hid her disappointment and laughed as gaily as the others while the gifts were being distributed and the goodies devoured.

When the festivities were over mother said they might go below and see if Santa Claus had left any other gifts. Tommy scrambled down the stairs and his cry of delight quickly brought his sisters to the spot. There before their delighted eyes was such a Christmas tree as Ruth had dreamed of having.

Baby, who had watched the preparation of it all, clapped her chubby hands and crowded, but the older children stood for a moment speechless with surprise and delight. Then they began to slowly circle the tree, exclaiming over each new discovery.

They did not notice that bare brown branches supported the gifts. Strings of popcorn and tissue paper relieved the plainness of the tree and it was lighted by real Christmas candles that cast their

soft glow over the humble room, transforming it. Nor did they recognize the stand that supported the tree in spotless splendor, as mother's wash bench covered with white paper. Huge popcorn balls were heaped upon it in a snowy pyramid, while red apples like those Santa had given them for their tree, and a golden orange for each were arranged thereon in artistic disorder. Nuts and showy candles were displayed on the tree to great advantage in large bags of mosquito netting, and from the topmost branches hung Tommy's first suspenders in all their gorgeous beauty. A rag doll, fastened to a branch by a cord about her ample waist, showed, by her extended arms and the look upon her newly embroidered face, that her cotton-batting heart longed for the mothering that Baby Esther could bestow. Other gifts that mother had made after the children were in bed and her day's work over, hung upon the tree and added generously to the simple gifts father had felt able to buy.

When their wonder and joyous delight had slightly subsided, giving place to a desire for possession, mother said they might all be seated and play that they were a dignified little audience, while baby distributed the gifts. The three children hastened to secure chairs, father helping to swell the tiny audience, and waited in happy anticipation while mother took the things from the tree one by one and baby toddled here and there with them under her directions.

What delighted exclamations followed the examination of the gifts. What sumptuous feasting there was and innocent merrymaking as the candles burned low in their wooden sockets and dripped their last precious drops of melted wax over the dismantled tree and the bench below. And when mother put the little ones to bed they all assured her, as she kissed them good-night, that there never was such another Christmas tree.

As Ruth was gliding happily into slumberland she thought, dreamily, that Santa Claus, like God, must help those that help themselves, and if he had given them all those gifts for their beautiful tree because of her own earnest efforts, their first Christmas tree, humble though it was, had borne wonderful fruit.

THE GATES OF BAKAPPLEIN

By ELIZABETH JEWETT BROWN
and SUSAN JEWETT HOWE.

(Continued from last week.)

Chapter III.—Bakapplein.

Ned was not all disturbed over the storm his neglect of duties caused. Naturally the other boys had objected to doing his work, and when Ben returned he found the load of fertilizer still on the barn floor, while Ned was doing little or nothing. He positively refused to unload it without help and consequently the man was obliged to help him, though he predicted that there would be trouble when Mr. Jackson returned. For that Ned did not care. His cousin did not say a great deal. He was anxious to keep the boy near him until he had learned to work, so he gave the team to another to drive and set him at odd jobs around the farm until the marketing began. This was work which Ned liked, because he could kill time as much as he pleased and keep out of the most of the dirty work. He would brush and clean the horses till their coats shone like satin, but he would shirk the harnesses and stable work outrageously; he would work if he could keep himself clean, but all the time he was planning and scheming what he would do as soon as he could get away from the hated farm work which was so much beneath him.

Merle was watching him one bright morning in mid-summer when he drove up from the vegetable garden with old Joe on the wagon. Wishing to show his skill with the horses he drove around the yard with a great flourish, bringing the team to a stop so suddenly that he was sent head first over the wheel into a pool of water that had settled in a hollow after the rain of the previous day. As he scrambled out, wet and dirty, the man's shout of laughter that he looked like a bedraggled turkey gobbler did not help his temper, especially as the big Shropshire ram which was just then emerging from the sheep fold took it into his vindictive head to give Ned another header into the puddle just as an automobile whizzed by, giving its occupants, a gentleman and young lady, a good view of the angry sheep dancing around the puddle and daring him to come out.

The girl's laughter reached his ears as

the car stopped so that they could see the outcome of the drawn battle. Old Joe was doubling with laughter, and Merle's merriment added to his wrath. "If some of you don't get that sheep away from here I'll kill him," he shouted, making a dash to evade him. But the ram, with lowered head, forced him to leap back into the security of the puddle.

"Better ketch him then afore he gits you," laughed Old Joe. "Them folks in the buzz buggy air enjyin' this show as much as we air."

Ned turned fiercely on Merle. "Here, you get that sheep away," he stormed; "you aren't afraid of him and I am. I'm not going to stay here and give a free show to those people."

"It is because you are afraid of him that he keeps you there," said the girl as she caught hold of the strap around the sheep's neck. "Come on Shrop and let the little boy alone," she said as she pulled him away.

Ned darted out on the opposite side and made for the house. He heard the girl in the automobile laugh again. Mortified and angry at the spectacle he had made of himself, he lost no time in changing his muddy clothes and putting on the neat business suit that he wore on the market wagon. When he reappeared he was good-natured again and disposed to laugh over his accident, until he learned that the whole flock of sheep had gotten out of the pasture and that he was expected to help round them up before he could start for the hotel with his load of vegetables and fruit.

"Look out for Old Shrop," shouted Joe as Ned started around the house after the flock, which, with sheepish perversity, were going just where they were not wanted. "He wants to give you the Third Degree again."

The automobile which had gone up the road was now slowly coming back. With a feeling that he wished to atone a little for the disgraceful, undignified plight in which they had seen him before, he started valiantly after the sheep. In endeavoring to head them off, he darted around through the back yard. Forgetting Mary Baker's wire clothesline, he

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did not duck for it and as it caught him under the chin he lost his balance and rolled over and over down the bank into her flower garden, until again he was in plain view of the automobile.

As he struggled to his feet, with the blood streaming from his chin and his clothes streaked with mud, the irate woman, who evidently believed that he had rolled down the bank for the express purpose of annoying her and ruining her flower bed, had him by the collar and, between shaking him violently and administering box after box on his ears, she berated him loud enough for the people in the car to hear every word.

He finally wrenched himself from her grasp; he was slight of build while she was brawny and stout, but he restrained himself from giving her as good as she sent and fled to the house to again make himself presentable, caring nothing what became of the sheep, for he was sure that he recognized the people in the automobile and his face burned with shame at the thought of the picture he had twice made of himself for their benefit.

He was late in starting with the market wagon that morning. He liked the work of delivering the early vegetables from the Jackson Farm and the fruit from Old Beverly to the summer residents on the street, and also to the Winthrop House, a small but pretentious hotel which catered to high class patronage. He had often thought of the possibility that he might meet people whom he had previously known, but to avoid such an encounter he always despatched his errands as quickly as possible and hurried away. Consequently he made a success of that line of work and Searls was disposed to overlook his indolence on the farm as long as he marketed the produce from both farms so successfully. But that morning, while waiting in the rear of the hotel, he was startled at seeing the same automobile which had passed the farm drive up to the garage. As its passengers alighted, a startled glance confirmed his impression of the early morning, and he darted into the store room to avoid their recognizing him.

They passed slowly by the wagon, admiring the fresh appearance of the vegetables and the fruit. They were so near that he could hear each word they uttered, and his face burned with shame for fear they would see him and learn that he had been degraded into driving a market wagon for a living; he, who only a few months ago had been treated as their equal. He wondered what chance had sent Mr. Amidon, the senior member of the firm of which his father had been superintendent, to that hotel. He did not mind meeting him, but his daughter was another question. He felt that she would probably consider him beneath her notice, now that he was a working man, and his only hope was that they would not see him and thus learn his identity.

Consequently he hurried through all his calls that morning as quickly as possible, hoping to thus avoid a chance meeting. He was back at the Old Beverly farm earlier than usual and Madaline Beverly came to the door in surprise. "You will have to wait for the sweet apples," she called cheerily. "I did not expect you and I have been too busy to go after them."

"I will help you get them," he answered, driving into the yard and hitching the horse to the post under the big white mulberry tree which shaded alike the strawberry bed and the wood yard. "Where are the boys?"

"All down in the field at work," she answered. "They are anxious to do all they can before college opens next month, and Grandfather has gone over to your place wheeling Baby Nell in the carriage. He wanted the exercise and the baby needs the air. It takes me so long to do the housework that I do not get much time for anything else," she said ruefully. "I have burned three fingers of one hand this morning and scalded the other already. I don't see why housework is such hard work."

"It is just because it is not suited to you," he said gallantly. "Housework is as much beneath your capabilities as farming is mine. I can't see how such a brilliant scholar as you are can stoop to kitchen work, Madaline. How can you do it?"

She laughed merrily. She was a few years older than Ned and from her height of years she was disposed to look upon him as a shallow youth. His airs and assumptions of manhood amused her. To her he was a pretentious, rather affected boy who took himself very seriously, so she answered indulgently as she would speak to her youngest brother, Carlos, who was about her age.

"Do you know, Ned, that it is always what is the most difficult for us to do or to have that we desire the most. Now, as for my education, it was easy to acquire. I had the desire, and a natural gift for study, as well as an aptitude for teaching; so I really do not deserve any credit for my achievements in that line. I also liked needlework—but housework!" she held up her bandaged hands in mock seriousness. "As a child I hated it, yes, with a mortal hatred, but since I have grown older I have positively envied other girls and women who could accomplish housework easily. It is so hard for me, and although theoretically I know how things ought to be done, yet it is such slow, arduous work. I regard housework as a very fine accomplishment and, so far as considering it beneath me, I think it is very far above me and I wish that I could be a first-class housekeeper. I have hopes that I shall be yet if I keep on practicing, providing I don't seriously cripple myself while learning," she added lightly.

He looked at her in amazement. "Do you mean it?" he asked. "I had an idea that you hated and detested it the same as I do everything connected with the farm."

"I mean it," she replied seriously. "My highest ambition is to be a first-class housekeeper, like my sister Lucille. She is a wonder, with a natural gift that way. And Brother Bob's wife, Dallas, and Nell also, are model housekeepers. So you see I shall have a great deal to learn before I reach their standards. But why do you dislike farming?"

"How do I know?" he grumbled. "It isn't my nature, I suppose. I hate to be classed as a hired man. You know my mother's people, who they were. Well, what would they say if they knew I was driving a market wagon? I hate to be called 'Jackson's man', when I am a Jackson. I hate to have those city snobs look at me as an inferior just because I have to work, and when I am as good as they are. I saw some folks today I used to know but I was mighty careful they did not see me."

Madaline was puzzled. She scarcely knew what to say, for she felt that Ned was talking more freely with her than he did with anyone else. "But Merle does not feel that way," she ventured.

"No, for in all respects they treat her just as if she was their daughter, the same as Yvonne. I do not know the truth of it but Jimmy Malley says the report is that Searls is going to adopt her legally. I wish they would," he added heartily. "Merle is the best girl on earth, but it is a little rough that they expect me to be a drudge and a day laborer."

"But what can you do?" she urged. "What are your tastes?"

He hesitated. "Well, I like to buy and sell. I can drive as good a bargain as Searls can, but a fellow can't do business on nothing. He needs something besides jack knives and watches to show what he can do in that line, and Searls won't hear to me meddling with his deals. No, sir; he thinks nobody can trade horses and cattle but himself," he said scornfully.

"But isn't there something else?" she asked.

"There's running engines. I would like to be an electrician, or an engineer, or run a dynamo, or an automobile. It is a safe bet, Madaline, that if I ever get out of farming and away from West Winthrop I will never have the desire to get back."

"Oh, yes you will," she laughed. "And when you are a little older you will lose that feeling you have of being ashamed to be found working. Who knows but those folks you saw have come to West Winthrop just for the sake of seeing you and your sister."

"If they have they will get left," he boasted. "You don't know Grace Amidon. She wouldn't look at a hired man. She hasn't been brought up that way. In her set they don't work. Besides, it is four or five years since I've seen them, and it isn't likely they know we are here. But I shall take good care to keep out of sight, however."

But as he was driving out of the Beverly yard the same touring car came swiftly down the road. He pulled in his horse and kept his face averted until it had passed. "It is the Amidon's," he said tragically to Madaline. "I believe they are haunting me, for wherever I go I see them."

"They are looking for you all right," she said laughingly. "And they will catch you, too, if you don't watch out," she called after him gleefully. "Never mind, if they do, Ned. You look all right, and that strip of court plaster under your chin makes you appear interesting. Make

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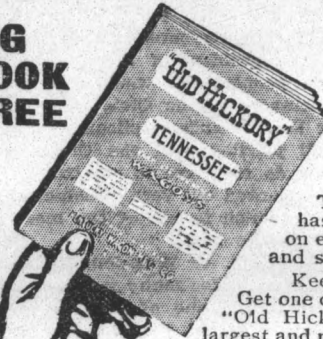
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believe you are working for your health and she will not snub you, see if she will."

He overtook them at the turn of the road where they had stopped the car. The chauffeur hailed him with a question as to where the Jacksons lived, but he answered evasively that he was not much acquainted. Then when they called again, after he had started on, he stopped his horse impatiently. "I'm in a hurry," he said irritably. "What is it you want?"

"We want to know about the roads. Which is the best one to take?" said the driver, shortly. "Of all country yaps you are the yappiest yet."

He answered briefly that the road straight ahead was the best; that it led to several points of interest, one being the Frog Pond and the other the Thread City. Then he chirruped to his horse and essayed to drive rapidly past them, but the man called to him again.

"Don't be in such a rush, young fellow. We have been to both them places. The young lady wants to know if the car can climb this road up the hill to the west past the schoolhouse."

Ned laughed. "If your car is a champion hill climber you might, but I would not advise you to try it. They have a saying here that the Cowantic hill is so steep that even the devil himself tumbled backwards when trying to go up it one day."

"Then you don't think a devil wagon could mount it," laughed the old gentleman. "They told us at the hotel that it is very interesting; that there are traces of the camp fires of the Indians, where they built their tepees and where they lived in the shadow of the ledges. Also there is a tradition, isn't there, of a tragedy being enacted there somewhere about seventeen forty-five?"

"I believe there is," said Ned, growing interested. "It is the first tragic event that ever occurred in West Winthrop, as far as I know; there are people in the next town who can show you the hill where the girl was executed for the murder of her child," he hastened to say, hoping that they would continue on their journey.

(Continued next week).

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT SANTA CLAUS.

BY MAUDE CONROY.

The question of the reality of Santa Claus causes quite a bit of comment before and at Christmas time. The writer is one of those who do not think it advisable or proper to deceive the little ones as to the real Santa Claus. In our home we tell them that anyone who gives them a present is Santa Claus to them, and they seem very much pleased. The little miss of four understands the celebration of the birth of Christ and is very much taken with the beautiful story. But she is not taught—as some are—that she is watched over throughout the year by a Santa Claus who will judge her good or bad or deserving of certain presents, and who will, at Christmas time, come down through the chimney to distribute whatever is due her.

We do not think it a mess of silliness as some do, and the giving and receiving of gifts is very pleasant, but we cannot see where they gain any benefit from being deceived as we were when children, and then bitterly disappointed when we learned the truth. No doubt we make many mistakes, but never knowingly and intentionally do we deceive the children.

One Christmas eve we chatted with the children about the fun of hanging stockings and of finding them filled in the morning. We laughed about Santa coming through the air with his reindeer, etc., and about so many little ones believing such an absurdity. Then when bedtime came they hung up their stockings and partly filled them. The baby's little stocking was taken great pains with as this was her first Christmas, and I am sure they were as happy as little tots could be. It was "Merry Xmas" the first thing in the morning, and the stockings were taken down. We had added to what they had put in the night before, and a merry time we had as a family. The other gifts which came by relatives were displayed and the children understood where each gift came from.

Everyone to their own idea, but no deceit in any manner do we wish to teach our little ones, because the little minds are impressed very deeply and it is such a bitter revelation to find they have been deceived by father and mother.

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WHAT THE LOCAL CLUBS ARE DOING.

The conference of local club workers at the recent Associational meeting developed the usual interest for the delegates present, and no session of the convention was better attended. In the brief talks given by the delegates from the several local Clubs represented, little more could be done than to give a general outline of the manner in which the local work is carried on, and, of course, in reporting what each one said much that was of interest must of necessity be omitted. But the suggestions dropped were often of such value that if the memory of delegates could be refreshed regarding them, their reports to the home Club would be greatly enhanced in value, and it is for this reason that we shall undertake in this and succeeding issues to give a brief summary of the more important points mentioned by many of those taking part in this conference, to the end that if they should hold any helpful suggestions that were not noted by the delegates their attention may be called to these points which may thus come directly to the attention of the local organizations which they represented.

Wixom Club, of Oakland Co.—Mr. Theodore Moore, who represented this Club made special mention of the fair which is held by that Club. The second one was held this year, and was a very successful event. This fair was reported in this department shortly after it was held. The Club members are enthusiastic regarding the benefits of such a special feature meeting to the organization and its membership.

Maple River Club, of Shiawassee Co.—Ex-Associational President A. B. Cook, who represented this Club stated that it has never missed a meeting, except on a few occasions when the regular meetings were not held because of the death of a member of the Club. The young people are interested in the Club work, and are given entire charge of the program for one meeting during each year. The membership is limited to 20 families, and the meetings are held in rotation at the homes of the members. As a means of solving the problem of the admission of desirable people who would like to become members of the Club, they have a waiting list for such applicants, who are given all privileges of the Club, except that they do not have to entertain. This plan has worked out very satisfactorily in this Club, which is one of the most progressive in the state.

Webster Club, of Washtenaw Co.—Mr. Geo. W. Merrill, for many years president of his Club and one of its delegates to this meeting stated that at present the Club has a membership of 84, and that there has been no limit placed on the number who may join. Yearly programs are used and the programs are published complete for the entire year. An entertainment committee assigns the Club meetings to the different members by arrangement with them.

Essex Club, of Clinton Co.—Mr. Gilson, one of the two delegates from this Club stated that the organization has 45 members and holds nine meetings during the year, the meetings being held on the second Wednesday in each month in which a meeting is held. As special feature events the Club holds an annual picnic in August, a temperance meeting, generally in March, and a Club fair in the autumn. The hostess furnished the refreshments, the meetings being held at the homes of the members.

Thornapple Club, of Barry Co.—The delegate from this Club stated that the young people were thoroughly interested in the work and were a great help in the Club meetings.

Columbia Club, of Jackson Co.—Mrs. R. E. Smith, representing this Club, stated that the Club has 90 members, and an average attendance of 35 to 40. There is no attendance of a good dinner to bring them out as meals are not served, with one exception, which is an annual banquet given on the anniversary of the organization of the Club.

Conway and Handy Union Club, of Livingston Co.—Mrs. Holmes, speaking for this Club, said that they changed from tables to lap-boards for the serving of meals three years ago, and liked the latter method much the better. The Club has a membership of 30 families, who entertain in rotation.

Hickory Club, of Tuscola Co.—The delegate from this Club, Mr. W. F. Dowling, spoke of the benefits which have been derived by his Club from the county association of Clubs which has been effected in Tuscola Co. There are three Clubs in the association, and each year they have a union meeting, with a banquet, which was held at a hotel last winter, thus relieving the members of the work incidental to such an entertainment and greatly increasing the enjoyment of the event.

Northeast Venice Club, of Shiawassee Co.—The delegate from this Club reported a membership of 24 families. The Club holds 11 regular meetings each year and a picnic meeting in July. Those who entertain the Club in turn furnish the refreshments. The meetings are planned so that the members having large houses and barns entertain the Club in the winter season and those who have smaller accommodations in the summer when the porches and lawn can be utilized as well as the house. Afternoon meetings are held from April to October. A temperance meeting is held each year.

THE ASSOCIATIONAL MEETING.

(Concluded from last week).

Wednesday Afternoon Session.

The music for this session was furnished by the pupils from the Blind School, and as usual, the numbers rendered brought enthusiastic applause from the delegates assembled.

"Compulsory Spraying" was the subject assigned to D. Monroe, of Algonac, who described in detail the conditions which he had met with and observed in his work as a fruit inspector in St. Clair county, and commented forcefully on the necessity of educating the owners of fruit trees to the need of proper spraying in order to make the trees profitable and reduce the danger of the spread of the fungous diseases and parasitic pests which are so common in our orchards today. He advocated as a remedy a more stringent law, providing for a more thorough inspection of orchards throughout the state and the compulsory spraying of trees where such is deemed necessary for the common good. His address was well received, and will be published or summarized as space will permit in a succeeding issue.

The afternoon program was pleasantly interspersed with a recitation by Mrs. Peters, of the Milford Club, and another selection of music by the students from the Blind School.

The last address for the session was delivered by Mr. Grant Slocum, of Detroit, who spoke on the subject of "The Parcel Post." Mr. Slocum spoke earnestly and convincingly, reviewing our postal laws and comparing them with the laws in force in some of the foreign countries in a manner which showed that he had been a deep student of the subject. He advocated a continuation of the work which has been done by farmers' organizations for the establishment of an adequate parcel post system in this country, and gave the delegates some good pointers as to how this work could be most effectively carried on. Mr. Slocum's address was enthusiastically received by the delegates, whose views on this subject were clearly reflected in the resolutions passed on the subject, and published in the first section of this report which appeared in the last issue.

Wednesday Evening Session.

This session was opened with a recitation by Mrs. Barney Curtis, of Birch Run, followed by the report of the treasurer, Mr. H. T. Ross, of Milford Club. As the financial standing of the Association will be indicated in the secretary's report, space will not be devoted to the details of this report, which, however, showed the Association to be in a financially solvent condition.

Mrs. C. A. Matthews, of the Essex Club, the retiring vice-president of the State Association, then entertained the delegates with a humorous recitation, and found herself called upon to respond to an encore. Mr. C. P. Johnson, of the Hadley and Elba Club, rendered a song which was also well received.

"The Need of and the Benefits to be Derived from the State Association of

Farmers' Clubs," was the topic assigned to Mr. A. R. Palmer, of the Columbia Club, a subject so close to the very life of the organization that it will be presented in full in a future issue.

Miss Phillips, of Lansing, rendered a vocal solo at this point in the program. Her remarkably sweet and well trained voice inspired a call for more, which she could not deny, and to which she responded with another selection.

The closing address of the evening and the meeting was delivered by Mr. J. C. McDowell, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Mr. McDowell spoke with eloquence upon the agricultural problems of the day and their method of solution, and prophesied the brightest future for our agriculture.

Thus closed the largest meeting yet held by this organization, and one which all the delegates present felt to be a most profitable gathering.

Michigan Farmer's Club List.

For the benefit and convenience of our subscribers we have arranged the following list of papers on which we can save them money. Besides the money, they save the trouble and expense of sending each order separately.

EXPLANATION.—The first column is the regular subscription price of the other papers. The second column gives our price for a year's subscription to both the other paper and Michigan Farmer. The third column gives the price at which the other paper may be added when three or more are ordered. Example: We will send the Michigan Farmer and Detroit Semi-Weekly Journal for \$1.35. If, for instance, McCall's Magazine also is wanted add it at 40c making total \$1.75. Any number of papers may be added at third column price if they are for a subscriber to the Michigan Farmer. If you want the MICHIGAN FARMER THREE YEARS and the other papers one year add 75c to the second column price. For the Michigan Farmer 5 years add \$1.25. We do not send samples of other papers. Address the publishers direct. Send all orders to the Michigan Farmer or through our agents.

We will take your order for any publication you want whether it is stated or not. Write for rates.

NOTE.—So long as a subscriber is on our list for one or more years he may order at any time publication at third column price. So that a three or five-year subscriber does not lose the advantage of the reduced price if he wants any other paper next year or the year after.

Subscriptions ordered to Canada require postage. Write for rates unless postage is known, in that case include with order. Postage on Michigan Farmer alone to Canada is 1 cent per week.

NAME OF PUBLICATION.	See explanation above.	\$	\$
Daily, (6 a Week.)			
Journal, Detroit, Mich on rural route	2 50	3 25	2 85
" " " " " " " " " "	6 00	5 00	4 75
Times, Detroit, Mich.	2 00	2 00	1 75
News-Grand Rapids, Mich.	2 00	2 00	1 50
Courier-Herald, Saginaw, Mich., (inc. Sunday) on R. R.	2 50	2 30	1 60
News, Cleveland, Ohio.	2 00	2 00	1 85
Tribune, Bay City, Mich.	2 00	2 00	1 85
News-Bee, Toledo, Ohio.	2 00	2 25	1 65
Tri-Weekly, (3 a Week.)			
World, New York, (3 a week.)	1 00	1 45	75
Semi-Weekly, (2 a Week.)			
Journal, Detroit, Mich.	1 00	1 35	75
Weekly Newspapers and Current Comment			
Blade, Toledo, Ohio.	1 00	1 05	35
Commoner, Wm J. Bryan, Editor, Lincoln, Neb.	1 00	1 35	65
Inter Ocean, Chicago (w.)	1 00	1 10	75
Cattle, Sheep, Swine, Poultry, etc.			
American Poultry Journal, Chicago (m.)	50	1 05	35
American Poultry Advocate, Syracuse, N. Y. (m.)	50	1 05	35
American Sheep Breeder, Chicago (m.)	1 00	1 50	80
American Swineherd, Chicago (m.)	50	1 05	35
Breeders' Gazette, Chicago, (w.)	1 75	1 65	1 00
Farm Poultry Boston, Mass. (s-m)	50	1 05	35
Gleanings in Bee Culture, Medina, O. (s-m)	1 00	1 45	75
Hoard's Dairyman, Fort Atkinson, Wis. (w.)	1 00	1 45	1 00
Horse World, Buffalo, N. Y. (w.)	2 00	2 00	1 50
Horseman, Chicago, (m.)	2 00	2 30	1 60
Jersey Bulletin, Indianapolis, Ind. (w.)	1 00	1 60	1 00
Kimball's Dairy Farmer, Waterloo, Ia. (s-m)	40	1 05	35
Poultry Keeper, Quincy, Ill. (m.)	50	1 05	35
Poultry Success, Springfield, O. (m.)	50	1 05	40
Reliable Poultry Journal, Quincy, Ill. (m.)	50	1 05	35
Swine Breeders' Journal, Indianapolis, Ind. (s-m)	50	1 05	35
Popular Magazines.			
American Magazine, (m.)	1 00	1 70	95
Etude, Philadelphia, Pa. (m.)	1 50	70	1 00
Hampton's Magazine, N. Y. (m.)	1 50	75	1 10
Metropolitan Magazine, N. Y. (m.)	1 50	75	1 00
Mechanical Digest Grand Rapids (m)	50	90	25
McClures, Magazine, N. Y. (m.)	1 50	1 80	1 50
Musicalian, Boston, Mass. (m.)	1 50	1 80	1 10
Outing Magazine, N. Y. (m.)	3 00	3 15	30
People's Home Journal, N. Y. (m.)	50	1 00	30
Pearson's Magazine, New York (m.)	1 50	1 50	1 50
Red Book Magazine, Chicago, Ill. (m.)	1 50	2 05	1 25
Success, N. Y. (m.)	1 00	1 50	80
Ladies' or Household.			
Designer, N. Y. (m.)	75	1 30	60
Everyday Housekeeping, Salem, Mass. (m.)	50	1 15	35
Harper's Bazar, N. Y. (m.)	1 00	1 75	1 00
Housewife, N. Y. (m.)	35	1 00	30
McCall's Magazine, N. Y. (m.)	50	1 10	40
Mother's Mag., Elgin, Ill. (m.)	50	1 10	50
Modern Presclia, Boston, Mass (m.)	75	1 30	60
Pictorial Review N. Y. (m.)	1 00	1 50	80
Woman's Home Companion, N. Y. (m.)	1 50	1 80	1 25
Religious and Juvenile.			
American Boy, Detroit, Mich. (m.)	1 00	1 40	75
Little Folks, Salem, Mass. (m.)	1 00	1 50	1 00
Sunday School Times, Philadelphia, Pa. (w.)	1 00	1 55	85
Young People's Weekly, Elgin, Ill. (w.)	75	1 20	75

(w—weekly; m—monthly; s-m—semi-monthly.)

FREE PREMIUMS.

Those subscribing for the Michigan Farmer in combination with other papers are allowed premiums just the same as if the order was for the Michigan Farmer alone. One premium only for every Michigan Farmer order. Orders for other papers alone will receive no premium under any circumstances.

The above Second column combination prices will advance 25 cents after Jan. 1, 1911.

GRANGE

Our Motto—"The Farmer is of more consequence than the farm, and should be first improved."

STATE GRANGE OF 1910.

Another "All Michigan" State Grange became history with the adjournment of last week's successful meeting at Traverse City. The delegate body comprised more than 400 members—greater than the national house of representatives—and represented every section of the state and practically every county. It was a big meeting in every sense, and one of the best that has been held.

As one year ago, the greetings of the citizens and Patrons of Traverse City and the rapidly developing region of which it is the center, were most cordial and sincere, while the efforts of the business men to entertain and please the guests of their city were the source of many expressions of gratitude and appreciation from delegates and visitors alike. Mingling and working with delegates from the farthest shores of Superior, also, has prompted inquiry and investigation, resulting in a keener realization of the magnitude of our great state, its diversified resources and undreamed-of agricultural possibilities, and it is safe to say that the two years' sojourn of the State Grange in the Grand Traverse region has virtually removed the Straits of Mackinac from the Grange map of Michigan.

Several innovations contributed to the success and enjoyment of this year's meeting, chief among which was the new system of electing officers. This saved practically an entire day of the delegates' time, greatly to the advantage of the numerous committees which, in years past, have not always been able to carefully consider and properly present, in their reports, the various propositions submitted to them. It is needless to say that this change was welcomed by the committees and it had the desirable effect of bringing some of the reports before the delegate body on Thursday, the day which hitherto had been entirely given up to the election. This in turn gave more time for discussion of the reports, which no doubt accounts for the fact that every important action taken at this meeting bears the stamp of consistency, conservatism and good judgment. Nowhere was a backward step taken, and the delegates just as emphatically refused to countenance measures of a radical or visionary character. It is regretted that want of space precludes a report, at this time, of the work of the various committees and the action of the convention upon the numerous propositions submitted.

Officers Reports Show Satisfactory Conditions.

The reports of the various officers were presented during the early sessions and, in the main, showed the organization in better condition than at any previous time in its history. In his annual address State Master Hull reviewed the work of the past twelve months—a year which has seen a healthy gain in number of Granges and of membership and perceptible advancement along many lines of Grange endeavor. He congratulated the Grange at large on the successful culmination of its long-sustained effort in behalf of postal savings banks, and the Patrons of Michigan on the prospect for the early inauguration of a practical system of Grange life insurance, after a well considered plan devised by the Executive Committee in accordance with instructions from the State Grange of 1909. Considering the primitive condition of agriculture in some of the newly organized sections, Grange conditions in those sections were declared to be unusually promising. A more efficient deputy system for the supervision and encouragement of both new and lagging Granges was deemed a present necessity. Touching the high cost of living, he declared that it is not due to increased cost of production on the farm or to the prices received by the farmer, but rather to the cost of distribution, and he commended to the delegates a careful consideration of the intricate problem of co-operative selling. In his discussion of highway improvement Master Hull asked the Grange to continue its efforts in the direction of securing federal aid for this purpose. With a view to increasing the state highway fund he advocated a tax of 50 cents per horse-power on all motor cars in lieu of all other taxes. In his other recommendations the State Master held close to the lines drawn one year ago, emphasizing the importance of concentrating the efforts of the Grange, in a legislative direction, upon not more than two or three measures.

Secretary Hutchins reported the number of subordinate Granges in existence on Dec. 1, 1909, as 809. During the following twelve months 57 subordinates were organized and 5 re-organized. During that period 19 subordinates gave up

their charters and 11 were reported in arrears, giving a net gain of 41 Granges for the year. The total membership of Granges paying dues for the year was shown to be 47,588.

That portion of the secretary's report dealing with the finances of the State Grange for the year ending Dec. 1, 1910, was as follows:

Receipts.	
In general fund Dec. 1, '09.....	\$ 4,578.99
Received from dues	10,586.44
Received from supplies	857.12
Co-operative percentages, less expense of Co-operative dept.....	6,203.68
Fees (6th degree candidates)....	163.00
Fees (5th degree candidates)....	68.50
Miscellaneous	34.52
Total	\$22,492.25
Disbursements.	
Session State Grange, 1909.....	\$ 6,113.35
Expense executive committee....	619.89
National Grange	2,935.51
State Grange fees	22.00
Secretary's office expenses	355.50
Supplies	619.56
Printing and stationery	647.26
Salaries	1,530.00
Organization	1,047.56
Supervision	1,185.83
Rallies	1,196.45
Lecturer's Bulletin	282.89
Executive Com. appropriation to Grange Life Insurance Co....	2,000.00
Miscellaneous	677.05
Total	\$19,232.94

General fund balance, Dec. 1, '10 3,259.31

Treasurer Coward presented the following figures, which tallied with those of the secretary:

Cash on hand Dec. 1, '09.....	\$ 4,578.99
Rec'd from all sources	17,913.26

Total for year	\$22,492.25
Total expenses for year	19,232.94

Cash on hand Dec. 1, '10.....\$ 3,259.31

The treasurer explained that the \$757.54 increase in receipts was due largely to gains in percentages from the contract system. The expenditures for the year showed an increase of \$2,908.28. Of this amount nearly \$1,000 went to pay the increased expenses of the last State Grange meeting, while \$2,000 was transferred to the Grange life insurance company, the establishment of which was authorized one year ago. The treasurer repeated last year's words of caution as to the adoption of measures tending to increase the expenses or to decrease the revenues of the Grange.

The finance committee, a sub-committee of the State Grange executive committee, composed of M. H. Burton, Geo. B. Horton and F. G. Palmer, reported that the books of the secretary and treasurer had been found correct in every detail. Also that the work of the sub-committee on co-operation had been examined and the results found to be very satisfactory. The gross receipts from percentages on trade contracts during the year amounted to \$6,020.47. The committee asserted that, from a financial point of view, these percentages mean very much to the Grange, a large annual deficit being the probable result should

Co., as to Grange conditions in the Upper Peninsula. He reported 87 subordinate and 8 Pomona Granges in existence in the counties above the straits. The total membership is about 4,000. One county alone boasts 20 subordinates and a Pomona. During the past year the supervision and encouragement of Granges already organized has claimed most attention, but in connection with this work 18 new subordinates were organized. He declared that organizers have found Grange fire insurance and the trade contracts the strongest and most effective "talking points" in their endeavor to bring Upper Peninsula farmers into the Grange. One Gogebic Co. subordinate has over 300 members and carries over \$250,000 of fire insurance. Three Pomona's of that section of the state have memberships averaging above 150, and he confidently expressed the opinion that the membership in the Upper Peninsula will be increased 100 per cent within two years.

One other of the reports of important officers remains—that of the state lecturer. This immediately preceded a very interesting and helpful lecturer's program which consumed the major portion of the Wednesday afternoon session. It is not possible, at this time, to give the extended report of this session which its importance and excellence deserves and it is reserved for a later issue.

The Election.

As predicted one year ago, the new system of electing State Grange officers, which was given its first trial at last year's meeting, worked smoothly. The system adopted is a modification of the Australian ballot system and under it the officers for the ensuing two years were elected without taking the attention of the delegates from the real work of the meeting for an entire day as was the case under the old plan. A total of 400 votes were cast and the election board reported that not a single vote was invalidated because of improper marking of the ballot. With the exception of two of the minor offices, the first vote resulted in an election, the two exceptions being gate keeper and Flora. These offices were filled after further balloting on the last day of the meeting. The complete list of officers elected at this meeting follows:

Master—N. P. Hull, Eaton Co.
Overseer—C. A. VanDeventer, Gratiot Co.
Lecturer—Miss Jennie Buell, Washtenaw Co.
Steward—Thos. E. Niles, Antrim Co.
Ass't Steward—Leon Haybarker, Osceola Co.
Chaplain—Mrs. Olivia J. C. Woodman, Van Buren Co.
Treasurer—Frank Coward, Branch Co.
Secretary—J. W. Hutchins, Jackson Co.
Gate Keeper—Geo. A. Robertson, Grand Traverse Co.
Ceres—Mrs. A. J. Freeman.
Pomona—Miss Nellie A. Mayo, Calhoun Co.
Flora—Mrs. I. E. Corliss, Branch Co.
Lady Ass't Steward—Mrs. Ida M. Haybarker, Osceola Co.
Executive Committee—Geo. B. Horton, Lenawee Co.; T. H. McNaughton, Kent

of the names of all cities soliciting future State Grange meetings, thus combining the choice of a meeting place with the regular election of officers. It further provides that representatives desiring to present the claims of their respective cities shall be limited to ten minutes each.

Excellent Exhibits of Farm Products.

The fruit, grain and vegetable exhibit was displayed in one of Traverse City's spacious garage buildings. It showed, in a striking, impressive way, the wonderful agricultural development of this region. This admirable show was made up of individual and Grange contributions, special county exhibits and the Western Michigan Development Bureau exhibit. All products shown were displayed in a most artistic and tasty manner.

The Development Bureau exhibited a high-class lot of fresh and canned fruits, gathered from all over western Michigan, which was also shown at the U. S. Land Show at Chicago.

Charlevoix county had a very tasty display rack or case containing 225 divisions, each division containing specimens and varieties of apples grown in that county. They also exhibited a fine line of peas, beans, grains, and vegetables, showing three squash or stock pumpkins, the combined weight of which aggregated 348 pounds.

The Soo had a variety of apples, potatoes, field and garden seeds, the most prominent of which were garden peas and field seeds.

A large and attractive exhibit of corn was made by F. J. Stoner, an enthusiastic member of Grand Traverse Grange. He is an advocate of size and has practically ignored the score card in developing a variety well suited to northern Michigan conditions.

The Northern Michigan Asylum's display of vegetables and flowers was as good as could be shown anywhere.

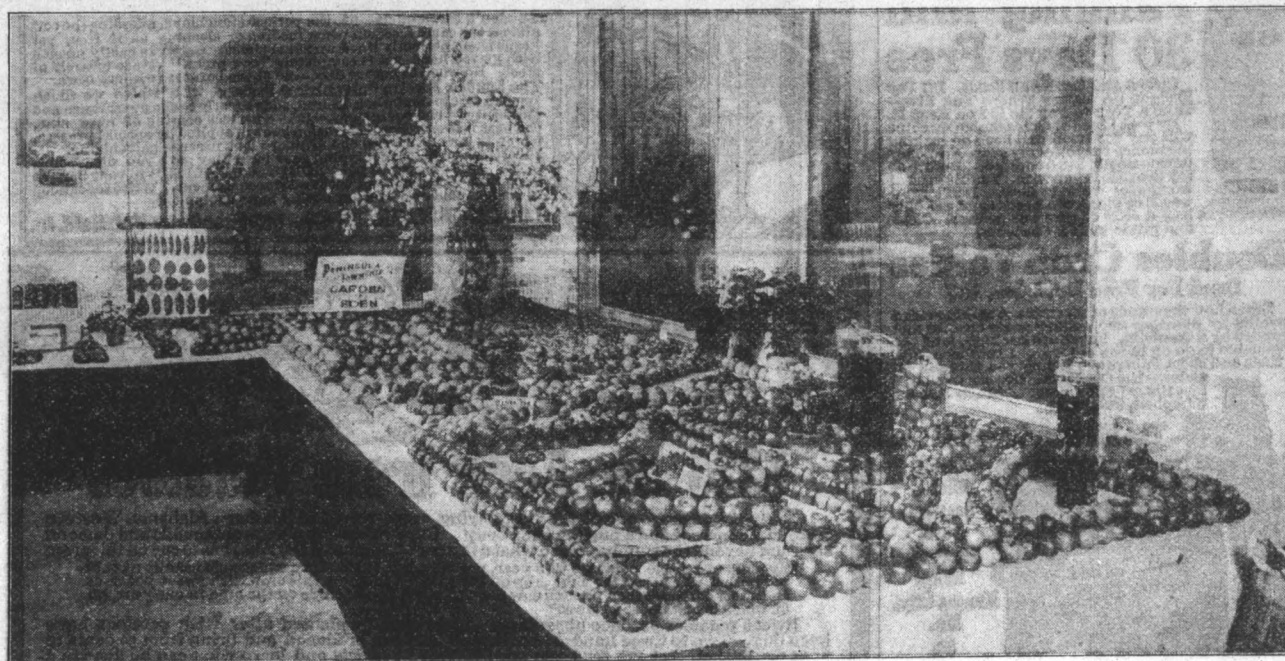
Peninsula Grange, of Grand Traverse Co., exhibited a fine line of corn, apples and vegetables, peas and apples predominating.

Elk Lake Grange, of the same county, showed peas and beans, wheat, millet, corn and vegetables, the line of peas being especially good.

Williamsburg Grange showed Yankee or smut-nose corn 15 inches in length; its fruits and vegetables were also good.

Another large and especially good Grand Traverse Co. corn exhibit was that made by Summit Grange, members from Summit City, Kingsley, Walton and Buckley contributing.

Another prominent individual exhibit by a member of Grand Traverse Grange was that of Frank Smith which contained about seven barrels of fruit shown on a platform 12x36 feet. It was largely made up of 32 varieties of apples so arranged in tiers that it resembled the fruited streets of the city of the New Jerusalem, with a tree of life, full of fruit, in the center and at its base the unique sign, "The Garden of Eden." This exhibit also contained peaches, pears, grapes and crab apples in a good state of preservation, and a few cans of plums, cherries and apricots, all these products having been grown upon one farm situated on the peninsula lying between the east and west arms of Grand Traverse bay. Be-



Unique and Pleasing Display of Apples Seen at State Grange. Shown by Frank Smith, a Grand Traverse Patron.

this revenue, from any cause, cease to become available. The following itemized account of the invested funds of the Grange closed this report:

Cash on hand Dec. 1, '09.....	\$ 766.55
Rec'd Int. on Securities	2,200.36
Rec'd from matured bonds.....	1,500.00
Rec'd note by John Vlugg	1,000.00

Total **\$ 5,466.91**

Paid for new loans

Paid accrued interest

Cash on hand Dec. 1, '10.....

Total amt. securities Dec. 1, '10.....\$44,000.00

Cash on hand

Total **\$45,396.41**

Invested fund total Dec. 1, '09.. 43,266.55

Increase for fiscal year.....\$ 2,129.86

Another report bearing on the condition of the organization and which should therefore be presented here was that made by Deputy Seward, of Menominee

Co.; C. S. Bartlett, Oakland Co.; L. W. Oviatt, Bay Co.

The hold-over members of the executive committee are H. F. Baker, Cheboygan Co.; F. G. Palmer, Gratiot Co., and Jerry Lawson, Chippewa Co.

Kalamazoo Gets Next State Grange.

The good-natured rivalry developed by the cities soliciting the honor of entertaining the State Grange of 1911 was an interesting feature of the meeting. The advantages and attractions of the various cities were ably and entertainingly presented by their respective representatives. Sault Ste. Marie, Kalamazoo, Ann Arbor and Lansing were the strongest competitors, but invitations were also received from Menominee and Battle Creek. The first ballot resulted in no choice. Ann Arbor and Lansing then withdrew and Kalamazoo was chosen on the second ballot.

In this connection a resolution presented and adopted at the following session is of interest. It provides for the printing, upon the official election ballot,

sides this, Mr. Smith contributed 128 plates of fruits, vegetables and grains to the attractive exhibit made by one of the leading mercantile firms of the city.

Leelanau county had an exhibit of some of the finest apples of the standard varieties, gathered from the B. J. Morgan farm.

Benzie Co. Pomona exhibited some mammoth squash or sweet pumpkins, and had an especially strong show of corn and potatoes.

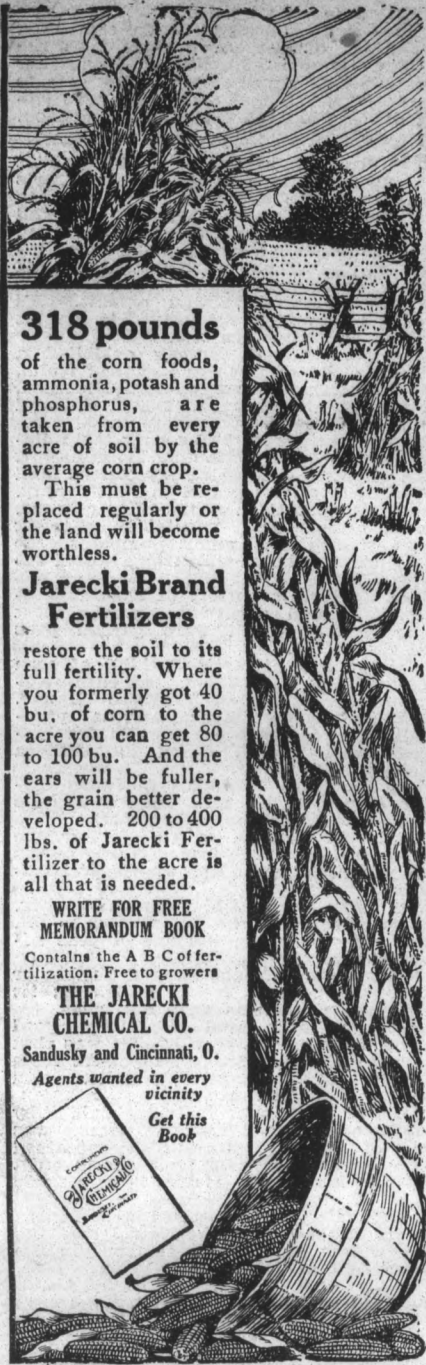
Manistee Co. Pomona had a creditable general exhibit which included a variety of flint corn that attracted some attention.

COMING EVENTS.

Pomona Meetings.

Eaton Co., with Charlotte Grange, Wednesday, Dec. 28. Day and evening sessions.

Western (Ottawa Co.) Pomona, with Georgetown Grange, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 13-14.



318 pounds
of the corn foods, ammonia, potash and phosphorus, are taken from every acre of soil by the average corn crop.

This must be replaced regularly or the land will become worthless.

Jarecki Brand Fertilizers
restore the soil to its full fertility. Where you formerly got 40 bu. of corn to the acre you can get 80 to 100 bu. And the ears will be fuller, the grain better developed. 200 to 400 lbs. of Jarecki Fertilizer to the acre is all that is needed.

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Contains the A B C of fertilization. Free to growers.

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Agents wanted in every vicinity.
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Try My Chatham Fanning Mill 30 Days Free

Cleans and Grades all Seeds. I'll Pay Freight no Matter Where You Live—Take a Year to Pay Me if You Keep It. By that time this remarkable machine will pay for itself and keep on making big money for you every year. No money down—no note—no contract. Return at my expense if you wish. You'll see what wonderful work it does. Don't grow weeds or plant weak seeds and get only half a crop of grain or grasses. Clean and grade with a Chatham.

Doubles Crop Values

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Learn how thousands of farmers are making extra profits by planting and selling seeds cleaned and graded by a Chatham. Taxes are too high, land too valuable to go on in the old way. Experiment Stations and Farm Papers are telling you this and all endorse the Chatham. Get my free book and liberal offer now. Address Manson Campbell, President.



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PROMPT SHIPMENT
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New Scientific No. 20 Mill

Heavy steel legs and steel hopper. Most efficient and strongest small power mill ever built. Will grind cob corn, shelled corn, oats and all other small grains to any desired grade, from hominy feed to meal.

Fully Guaranteed
Equipped with flywheel, cold rolled steel shaft, end thrust ball bearing and 8-inch high carbon grinding plates. Two sets of plates furnished with each mill. Adapted for use in any locality. We stand back of every claim we make for it. Write for descriptive catalog.

THE FOOS MFG. CO., Box 217 Springfield, Ohio

BOWSER SWEEP MILLS

Different from all others. 4 or 2 horses. Geared 16 to 1 or 7 to 1. Grind Corn with shucks or without. And all small grains including Oats and Wheat. (Also make 10 sizes belt mills.)

D.N.P. Bowser Co., South Bend, Ind.

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THE MOST PROFITABLE WORK THAT CAN BE DONE ON THE FARM

Is to select and clean all seeds and grains for sowing. This will improve the quality of the seed and bring it up to the highest standard. It will improve the quality, increase the yield and free your land from foul weeds. For this reason you should reclean all clover and other seeds that you buy before sowing. This is just as important as it is to clean your seed, grain and corn from your granary before sowing.

Every farmer knows that **Large, Plump, Heavy** kernels of seed, grain or corn will produce more and stronger plants, which will increase the yield and improve the quality. Admitting that this will benefit your crop only 10%, what would be your gain for one year? To say nothing of ridding your land of foul weeds, etc.

The U. S. Agricultural Dept., State Experimental Stations and all Prominent Seed Houses use the "CLIPPER" Cleaners for doing just this kind of work and recommend them.

BECAUSE their experience has proven The "CLIPPER" to be the **Most Successful Machine for Grading and Cleaning All Seeds and Grains.**

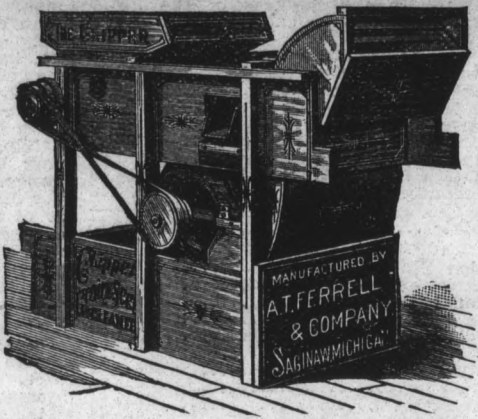
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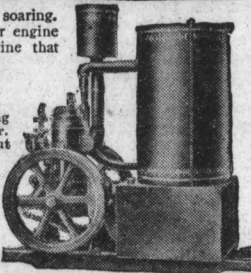
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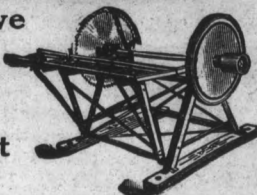
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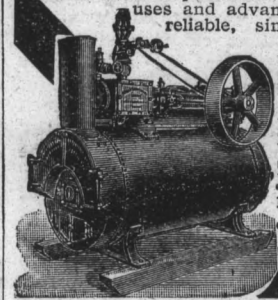
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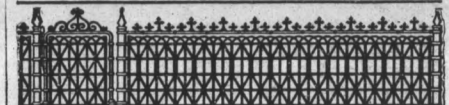
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