

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

THE ADVANTAGES OF IRRIGATION IN CROP GROWING.

Water Available When Needed—To Keep Milk From Souring—How to Manage Cut Worms—About Tomatoes, Sheep Shearing and Household Helps.

Irrigation. The more we observe the effects of irrigation as relating to farming and the production of crops the more we become convinced of its advantages, and that it might be profitably employed in many sections where such assistance is unthought of.

The advantage of using irrigation water is that its office can be regulated to meet the actual requirements, and if there is sufficient moisture in the soil to answer the demand of the crop and hold it in a condition of healthy growth then the irrigation supply need not be drawn upon, this is usually the case in the spring after the melting of snow and the fall of spring rains has occurred.

Even at the East where rainfall is expected periodically, crops are frequently greatly injured by a want of moisture; this is the case in Colorado and California with this difference, there it becomes a certainty but the effects are wholly warded off by means of a sufficient flow of water from some neighboring canal and because of this crops are kept continually growing and are carried to a state of perfection.

The same rule that applies to cultivated crops, such as vegetables, corn, etc., will apply with equal force to grains and grasses, says Coleman's Rural World; a crop of grass may be very largely increased by a use of water, and this, too, by no addition of fertilizer.

To Keep Milk From Souring. A man who has had experience in handling milk sent to the Boston market, and who never had any sour milk returned, recently told an Eastern exchange how he managed to keep milk from souring. He says:

In the first place the cans need attention, especial pains being taken to thoroughly cleanse cans and stoppers and place them upon a rack outdoors, to air or sun. They are not taken to the barn till milking time, and no empty cans are allowed about the barn.

The milk is taken from the trough the first thing in the morning and stoppered, and the morning's milk similarly treated, except the time of remaining in the water has been limited to from two to four hours.

It is my opinion that clean milk, placed in clean cans, cooled to sixty degrees at the farm, and placed in a milk car with ice, and reaching Boston all will be found to be perfectly sweet milk, all uses, if not tampered with by any milkman.

should not set the milk into freshly pumped water, because too sudden cooling will separate the cream from the milk while the water of milder temperature will not; but the water should be renewed after the milk has stood an hour or so at night, and for well water, renewing once a day is sufficient.—Journal of Agriculture.

How to Manage Cut Worms.

A writer tells the California Fruit Grower that he thinks the best way to get rid of cut worms is to poison them. He says: "I use syrup or water well sweetened, mix with plenty of Paris green and thicken with flour. I cut papers six or eight inches square with a cut over half way through the center, and a cross cut through that to fit around trees or vines then hold them in place with clods and put a few spoonfuls of the mixture around the trees or vines on the paper. I find plenty of dead cut worms and beetles both on and under the paper. I have not had a chance to try it on canker worms, but I think they would eat it, and it would be cheaper and better than printer's ink around the tree. I also protect my young trees with tins that clamp around them. I have made them six inches high and about three inches in diameter and put them in the ground two or three inches. Cut worms and beetles cannot climb over them, and will not dig under them. Any tinmouth will make them for about two cents a piece. I have used the tins successfully three seasons."

Nonsense About Tomatoes.

An idea has gained currency during the past few years that the tomato as an article of diet is liable to produce or encourage the terrible disease of cancer, and not long ago it was stated the use of this vegetable had been forbidden at the London cancer hospital. So widely spread had this notion become that Dr. Maraden, chairman of the medical committee of the cancer hospital, has thought it advisable to give it official contradiction. He says that his committee has been inundated with letters on this subject, and he begs publication for the following statement, which we hope will settle the matter once for all. It is the opinion of the committee "that tomatoes neither predispose nor excite cancer formation, and that they are not injurious to those suffering from this disease, but on the contrary, are a very wholesome article of diet, particularly so if cooked."

Sheep Shearings.

Plenty of bells on the sheep will frequently scare the dogs away. If the ewe is not strong and perfect how do we expect a strong and perfect lamb? But some seem to expect it.

It is likely that flockmasters must depend on mutton productions or give up sheep breeding. It looks that way.

It is claimed that sheep that will yield at least six pounds of wool, will double the flockmaster's money in four years.

It would seem that as long as we do not produce enough mutton or wool for home supply, sheep growing should be profitable.

Sheep will bear much neglect, but it is certainly unwise to invest money in an animal simply to see how much neglect it will stand.

There is often a black sheep in the flock with a white fleece. It is the sheep that is good for nothing. That is the kind of individual we apply the name of black sheep to in a human family. It fits just as well in the flock.

Household Helps.

A raw potato dipped in brick dust is effective for cleaning steel knives.

Mildewed clothes may be renewed by soaking the spots in buttermilk and spreading the garments on the grass in the sun.

One pint of buttermilk in which a well-beaten egg is stirred will break up any fever in half an hour if not too long standing.

A "friendship garden" is the latest fad for the woman who has a country home or lives in the suburbs. A friendship garden is one in which to grow flowers and shrubs that have been planted by friends and relatives of the owner.

A good way to cook liver is to fry it in butter, with an onion cut in small pieces scattered over it. Cook slowly; when done add a lump of butter and a little flour; stir well and turn over the liver. Serve with Saratoga potatoes.

To remove the glass stopper from a bottle, tap the neck gently on a hard substance, wood or marble, first on one side, then on the other. This usually serves, but to keep the neck well covered with olive oil for an hour is another plan, and still another is to immerse the bottle in hot water and let it stand for fifteen minutes.

Hair brushes should be washed once a week to keep them in a healthful condition. A bit of washing soda should be dissolved in hot water. The brushes should be dipped in the water bristles downward, the back and handles being kept as free from the water as possible. Ammonia may be used in the same way, but soap is said to be injurious to the bristles.

HOW TO PREPARE FISH.

If Stood In Water, It Spoils the Flavor. Steamed Fishballs.

Fish should never stand in water, as it spoils the flavor. Fish should never be fried in butter. It should always be used while fresh. Plain boiled or mashed potatoes should always be served with it. Squash and green peas go very well with fish also. Always save all that remains after a meal and warm up to help out another dish. The remains of boiled fresh fish can be warmed up in a little butter, pepper, salt and water, as you would stew lobster. Cold fried and broiled fish can be placed in a tin pan and set into the oven 10 minutes, when it will be found to be hot enough.

Fishballs can be steamed for 10 or 15 minutes and then set into the oven to get crisp. If you have a large piece of boiled fish which you wish to serve whole, place it on a plate and set into the steamer and steam 20 minutes. If you have drawn butter to warm up, do not set it on the fire, but put it into a bowl and set the bowl into hot water. Cook butter as little as possible, as by cooking it becomes oily. When you do use it, always add it three or five minutes before taking the dish from the fire.

How to Make Mutton Broth.

Prepare by cutting the mutton into thin slices; add cold salted water in the proportion of a quart of water to a pound of meat. Let it simmer an hour and a half; then boil half an hour, strain through a cloth and season to taste. Crackers or stale bread cut into squares or browned in the oven may be served with beef or mutton broth.

How to Keep a New Look to Shoes.

When they are wet or muddy, take a soft, old, but clean blacking brush and brush off lightly as much of the superfluous mud as will loosen easily; then set them to dry thoroughly. When quite dry, brush off the mud, taking it from every crevice with a soft bit of old merino; then wring a small sponge out of cold water and wash over the leather with a firm enough touch to remove every bit of the mud, but not sufficiently hard to remove the gloss underneath the mud. It may be necessary to moisten the sponge several times to do this, but the leather will dry again quickly. Now take a pad composed of several thicknesses of old black woolen goods and rub over and over again with the light, firm motion used by bootblacks, and you will soon bring back the original gloss. If you can perform the whole operation while the shoes are on your feet, the perfect shape will be retained.

How to Make Fruit Salad.

Fruit salad should be served in orange skins from which the contents have been removed. Cut in the shape of baskets, with arched handles over the top, and fill with chopped pineapple, thinly sliced bananas, white grapes cut in two and seeded, the pulp and juice of the orange and Jamaica rum.

How to Make Pineapple Cordial.

For a cordial peel and cut up the pineapple, using the cores which have been rejected in preserving. Put the chopped pineapple in a preserving kettle, barely covering it with water. Let the water boil until the flavor has been thoroughly extracted from the pineapple. Strain and then add a quarter of a pound of sugar to a pound of fruit if the pineapples are sugar loaf, or half a pound of sugar to the same amount if they are the acid strawberry pine. Boil the sirup for 10 minutes; then measure it and add a quart of the best cooking brandy to a quart of the sirup. Bottle it and keep for about six months before making use of it, or longer if you wish, as it improves with age.

How to Scallop Fish.

Skin and cut into small pieces a cod or haddock and lay in a deep earthen dish. Dredge in about half a cup of flour, a spoonful of salt, a teaspoonful of pepper. Cut about 2 spoonfuls of butter into small pieces and strew in, cover the whole with new milk and bake 40 minutes.

How to Take Care of Children's Hair.

Never use a fine comb. Severe cases of eczema are often caused by this means. The comb has only three offices—to open up the hair so as to brush all parts of the scalp, to part the hair and to disentangle snarls. A properly selected comb should have thick, wide, perfectly smooth teeth, with well rounded ends and set wide apart. To remove the dandruff rub a little oil or grease well into the scalp, washing the same off in warm water with soap. If this does not succeed, see a physician, as dandruff neglected causes soreness of the scalp.

How to Thicken Sauces With Eggs.

When the yolks of eggs are used for thickening a soup or sauce, beat them well; then add a gill of cold liquid to every two yolks. Stir it into the hot liquid and stir all the time the dish is on the fire, which should never be more than a minute.

How the Height and Velocity of Clouds Are Determined.

The height and velocity of clouds have been determined by means of photography. Two cameras, placed about 600 feet apart, are provided with instantaneous shutters, simultaneously released by electricity. The observer measures the angle of inclination of the cameras and the position of the cloud as photographed on the two plates, and from these data a trigonometric calculation gives the distance and height of a cloud with great accuracy.

How to Clean Japanese Goods.

In cleaning Japanese goods never use hot water. Wet a cloth slightly in warm water and rub the article to be cleaned. Should any smear appear sprinkle with flour and wipe dry.

How to Clean Tortoise Shell.

To keep tortoise shell combs bright rub them after each wearing with soft leather. When they become dim, clean with rotten stone and oil applied with thumb.

OUR NATIONAL PLATFORM.

The People's Party Platform Adopted at Omaha July 4, 1892.

Assembled upon the 116th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the People's party of America, in their first national convention, invoking upon their action the blessings of Almighty God, puts forth in the name and on behalf of the people of this country the following preamble and declaration of principles:

PREAMBLE.

The conditions which surround us best justify our co-operation. We meet in the midst of a nation brought to the verge of moral, political and material ruin. Corruption dominates the ballot box, the legislatures, the congress, and touches even the ermine of the bench. The people are demoralized; most of the states have been compelled to isolate the voters at the polling places to prevent universal intimidation or bribery. The newspapers are largely subsidized or muzzled, public opinion silenced; business prostrated; our homes covered with mortgages; labor impoverished and the land concentrating in the hands of capitalists. The urban workmen are denied the right of organization for self protection; imported pauperized labor beats down their wages, a hireling standing army, unrecognized by our laws, is established to shoot them down; and they are rapidly degenerating into European conditions. The fruits of the toil of millions are boldly stolen to build up colossal fortunes for a few, unprecedented in the history of mankind; and the possessors of these, in turn, despite the republic and endanger liberty. From the same prolific womb of governmental injustice we breed the two great classes—tramps and millionaires. The national power to create money is appropriated to enrich bondholders. A vast public debt, payable in legal tender currency, has been funded into gold-bearing bonds, thereby adding millions to the burdens of the people.

Sliver, which has been accepted as coin since the dawn of history has been demonetized to add to the purchasing power of gold by decreasing the value of all forms of property as well as human labor, and the supply of currency is purposely abridged to fatten usurers, bankrupt enterprise and enslave industries. A vast conspiracy against mankind has been organized on two continents and it is rapidly taking possession of the world. If not met and overthrown at once, it forebodes terrible social convulsions, the destruction of civilization or the establishment of an absolute despotism.

We have witnessed for more than a quarter of a century the struggles of the two great political parties for power and plunder, while grievous wrongs have been inflicted upon a suffering people. We charge that the controlling influences dominating both these parties have permitted the existing dreadful conditions to develop, without serious efforts to prevent or restrain them. Neither do they now promise us any substantial reform. They have agreed together to ignore, in the coming campaign, every issue but one. They propose to drown the outcries of a plundered people with the uproar of a sham battle over the tariff, so that capitalists, corporations, national banks, rings, trusts, watered stock, the demonetization of silver and the oppressions of the usurers may all be lost sight of. They propose to sacrifice our homes, lives and children on the altar of mammon; to destroy the multitude in order to secure corruption funds for the millionaires.

Assembled on the anniversary of the birthday of the nation and filled with the spirit of the grand generation which established our independence, we seek to restore the government of the republic to the hands of "the plain people," with whom it originated. We assert our purposes to be identical with the purposes of the national constitution: "To form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

We declare that this republic can only endure as a free government while built upon the love of the whole people for each other and for the nation; that it cannot be planned together by bayonets; that the civil war is over and that every passion and resentment which grew out of it must die with it, and that we must be in fact as we are in name, the united brotherhood of free men.

Our country finds itself confronted by conditions for which there is no precedent in the history of the world; our annual agricultural productions amount to billions of dollars in value, which must within a few weeks or months be exchanged for billions of dollars of commodities consumed in their production; the existing currency supply is wholly inadequate to make this exchange; the results are falling prices, the formation of combines and rings and the impoverishment of the producing class. We pledge ourselves that, if given power, we will labor to correct these evils by wise and reasonable legislation in accordance with the terms of our platform. We believe that the powers of government—in other words, of the people—should be

service) as rapidly and as far as the good sense of an intelligent people and the teachings of experience shall justify, to the end that oppression, injustice and poverty shall eventually cease in the land.

While our sympathies as a party of reform are naturally upon the side of every proposition which will tend to make men intelligent, virtuous and temperate, we nevertheless regard these questions, important as they are, as secondary to the great issues now pressing for solution, and upon which not only our individual prosperity, but the very existence of free institutions depend; and we ask all men to first help us to determine whether we are to have a republic to administer, before we differ as to the conditions upon which it is to be administered. Believing that the forces of reform this day organized will never cease to move forward until every wrong is remedied, and equal rights and equal privileges securely established for all men and women of the country, therefore:

WE DECLARE

First—That the union of the labor forces of the United States, this day consummated, shall be permanent and perpetual. May its spirit enter into all hearts for the salvation of the republic and the uplifting of mankind.

Second—Wealth belongs to him who creates it, and every dollar taken from industry without an equivalent is robbery. "If any will not work, neither shall he eat." The interests of rural and civic labor are the same; their enemies identical.

Third—We believe that the time has come when the railroad corporations will either own the people or the people own the railroads, and should the government enter upon the work of owning and managing any or all railroads, we should favor an amendment to the constitution by which all persons engaged in the government service shall be placed under a civil service regulation of the most rigid character; so as to prevent the increase of the power of the national administration by the use of such additional government employees.

PLATFORM.

We demand a national currency, safe, sound and flexible, issued by the general government only, a full legal tender for all debts, public and private, and that without the use of banking corporations; that a just, equitable and efficient means of distribution direct to the people, at a tax not to exceed two per cent. per annum, to be provided, as set forth in the subtreasury plan of the Farmers' Alliance, or some better system; also by payments in discharge of its obligations for public improvements.

We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1.

We demand that the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

We demand a graduated income tax. We believe that the moneys of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all state and national revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government, economically and honestly administered.

We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government, for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people, and to facilitate exchange.

Transportation being a means of exchange and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people.

The telegraph and telephone, like the postoffice system being a necessity for transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

The land, including all the natural resources of wealth, is the heritage of all the people, and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. All lands now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of their actual needs, and all lands now owned by aliens, should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

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