

At what age are men at their best? The pessimistic theory attributed to Doctor Osler, which he afterward repudiated, that the golden age is thirty-five, or thereabouts, that it is followed inevitably by waning powers, and that there should be provision for chloroforming all who threaten to survive the age of sixty, has never had many serious adherents, says the Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin. It is generally conceded that thirty-five is rather the beginning than the end of the prime of life, and that the vigorous human individual who lives sanely and cheerfully may do more in some important fields of activity after he has acquired the ripe judgment that comes with experience than in the heyday of the thirties and forties. Dr. T. M. Crothers of Hartford, Conn., has come forward with a declaration that is quite as interesting as the one Doctor Osler disowned, and that ought to attract equally wide attention. He says that "there are many reasons for believing that we carry around with us great reserve powers, and unknown energies which are seldom used, and that in old age appeal to these powers may give a certain vigor entirely unexpected, which lengthens our life and practically overcomes disease." He also says that "the man past sixty and from that on to eighty ought to be at his very best because life is then no experiment, and he has attained a position where he can use all his powers to the best advantage." Doctor Crothers insists that there is no theory in this, but that it "is sustained by a great variety of facts which fortunately are becoming more realized as the years go by."

A traveler in the west a decade ago was much amused at the vehicles he saw. They were all kinds of "contraptions," "buggies," "dearborns"—any old thing to ride in. The people out there were living close, faring hard and saving money, says the Philadelphia Press. That's why the per capita savings bank account of Kansas exceeds that of all other states. It is astonishingly different today. At the Leavenworth county fair some days ago dozens of farmers came to the grounds in motor cars. They had paid for them, too. They had raised the wheat and corn to do it. The mere sensation of gliding swiftly over the roads where a year or so back they had condemned the "buzz" wagons which frightened their horses, gave them confidence and a new satisfaction. This is what the automobile has achieved in our country districts. It has made a modest toiler a man of new resources. It has put a machine in his hands and said, "Use it." And he is using it. He feels himself on a par with any millionaire who can afford to buy a new model every year.

The rapidity of development in this age is such as to cause many to lose sight of the fact that some of our chief industries are of comparatively modern origin. Cotton spinning has come to be one of the foremost of manufactures in this and other countries, says the Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin. But in the present form it has been in existence less than a hundred years, the first cotton-spinning mill in the United States having been started in 1811 at Fall River, Mass. That city is preparing to observe the centenary of the business, and next year will have an imposing celebration. It may be of interest to know that when cotton manufacturing was started there Fall River was known as Troy, a name which was retained until 1834. Cotton goods of various kinds are made in Troy, N. Y., and vicinity, and the anniversary of the origin of cotton spinning will enlist attention.

Wonders never cease. A woman in Minneapolis is suing for a divorce on the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment because her husband persists in kissing her too often and ardently. And others complain because they are never kissed. No wonder the poor man have been trying unsuccessfully to strike a happy medium since the world started.

Boston is developing a taste for shark meat. There is some uneasy feeling in Wall street lest the taste spread to Gotham.

A Virginia school board has established a rule that its school teachers of the softer sex must not attend dances. The board should explain whether this action is taken because the teachers are not good enough to appear at dances or because they are too good.

The arrest of a man one hundred and seven years old shows how carefully we are protected from menaces to our community.

A progressive physician claims that drunkenness can be cured by a surgical operation. Undoubtedly it can be. An amputation about the region of the throat will cure the patient from drinking in perpetuity.

A hunter in Pennsylvania peppered a boy with shot, mistaking him for a squirrel. Aviators had better be careful at this season, or this species of hunter may aim at an aeroplane, mistaking it for a sparrow.

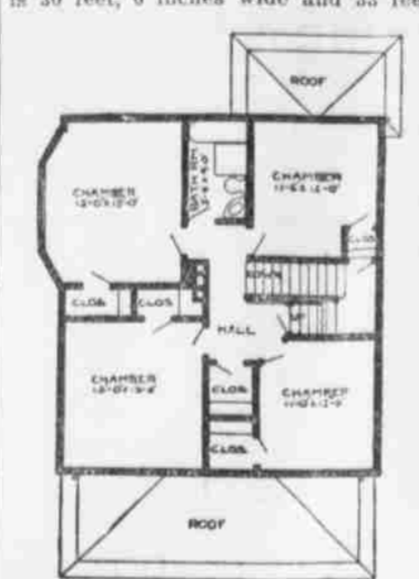
The American Home

WILLIAM A. RADFORD Editor

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer he is without doubt the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 124 Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

The man who builds a home adds something to the wealth of the nation and builds himself a monument. That being the case, his monument should be a lasting one. The use of concrete in home construction is firmly established, and that material seems to be a providential substitute for the lumber that is fast disappearing. The construction of large concrete buildings in the cities has been an object lesson to the people. It has given them much food for thought, and as thought begets investigation, they are fast putting two and two together and arriving at the conclusion that what is good for the hard-headed man of large means who has scientific and expert advice must also be good for them. Fortunately they are not confronted with a proposition favoring intricate engineering problems of large structures. There is, however, one point to be made clear, and that is the cost. This, to the masses, means much. In talking with people about concrete, invariably the first question asked is "How does concrete construction compare as to cost with other building materials?" In answering this question let us take up an analysis of the cost of the different materials briefly and see where con-

crete construction really stands. Stone, or stone backed with brick, is admittedly much higher in cost than other materials. Frame construction has not the same standard of cost of other materials. We cannot, therefore, give reliable data. One contractor offers to build a house for \$2,000, and another wants for the same work \$2,500. What do you get? Simply what you pay for, no more and no less. The first house is thrown together, good only a few years and then apparently is an old house, its value having depreciated fully 50 per cent. It will always be in need of repairs. The second house, of good construction, will be good for ten or fifteen years, with repairs beginning about the third or fourth year. Brick construction will cost for a 13-inch wall 35 to 50



Second Floor Plan.

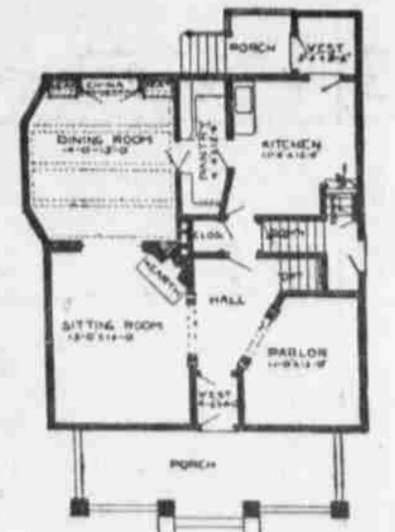
long. The porch columns can be built up of blocks or made of frame work, lathed and plastered with cement mortar.

Entrance to the house is afforded from the porch through a cozy vestibule and immediately beyond is the



hall and stairway. On the left is the sitting room and on the right is the parlor. The sitting room, it will be noticed, is provided with a fireplace. The dining room at the back of the sitting room has beam ceiling and the walls of this room may be finished with panel work and plate rail. The kitchen is provided with a large pantry and there is a back porch. The second floor has four large chambers, a linen closet, a bathroom, and closets in each bedroom.

Made Emerson Blush. A number of army officers were stopping at an hotel, and among them were Captain Emerson and Captain Jones. Emerson and Jones used to have a good deal of fun together at the table and elsewhere. One day, when the dining room was well filled, Captain Jones finished his dinner first, got up, and had walked almost to the hall door, when Emerson called to him in a loud voice:



First Floor Plan.

"Hallo, Jones! Look here; I want to speak to you a minute."

The captain turned and walked back to the table and bent over him, when Emerson whispered:

"I wanted to ask you how far you would have gone if I had not spoken to you."

The captain never changed a muscle, but straightened up and put his fingers into his waistcoat pocket and said:

"Captain Emerson, I don't know of a man in the world I would rather lend a fiver to than to you; but the fact is, I haven't a penny with me today."

And he turned on his heel and walked away.

Emerson was the color of a half-dozen rainbows, but he had to stand it.

Poor Light for Shaving. Not all Americans, fortunately, are like the man mentioned in Harper's Magazine, who was visiting Holywood last spring. The custodian was showing a party several of the famous old rooms of the castle. Darnley's dressing room especially charmed the group—the rare mellow panels, marvelously rich with intricate carving, and the exquisite windows of quaint design. The American, evidently a middle-aged man of business, poked his nose into the room and out again.

"Whose did you say? Darnley's? Dressing room? Humph! Very poor light for shaving."

The Collar Button. A boilermaker is not usually a puvy man. Like his friend, the blacksmith, he has plenty of muscle, but one of his trade in Los Angeles broke his collar bone while trying to button on his collar. Let us consider the collar button. It is a tiny thing yet nothing of man's invention has developed such perversity. Designed for a perfectly legitimate use, it has become an obstacle to his moral progress, an incentive to profanity, a wrecker of belief and a destroyer of domestic peace.

World Nation Peoples Dwelling Together as One Nation

By ADA MAY BRECKER

PROF. STANLEY JEVONS has been most famous perhaps as a historian. But he is fated to become quite as celebrated as a prophet. He founds his prophecies on his history and in that way deduces them as logical and natural and inevitable sequences from his premises. They are the answers to puzzles, the answers to problems in arithmetic.

They are the calculations of an astronomer who fixes the course of comets thousands of years before the destined date of their visible arrival, although the professor most evidently expects his predicted phenomena to sweep over the heavens far within the period of a thousand years. And that although they are far stranger and rarer than comets. Indeed in his latest vision he foresees what never has been. And that is a world state, a world nation.

The Bible talks of all peoples dwelling together as one nation. Professor Jevons believes it. He has outlined the sort of government that will rule the world state. And he has found the names for the officials, and he has predicted a world executive, the literal king of the earth. And he believes there will be such a sovereign within the next eighty years. He finds the beginnings of him and his cabinet in the petty officials connected with The Hague tribunal and the outgrowths of The Hague peace conferences.

Some international government officials exist now. And they have existed for years. Only they work so silently and unobtrusively that no one knows about them. But the significance of their position is not discounted by its quiet and non-notoriety. Rather, it is glorified.

Besides of course people are growing friendlier. Good will on earth is realizing as we all become more and more cosmopolitan. At the time of the world's fair in Chicago there was a children's congress which Mary Mapes Dodge conducted with her delightful grace. She introduced the late Hezekiah Butterworth, who read a poem in honor of the children of the United States.

He explained that that was the second poem he had written for the day. The first had been dedicated to the children of New England, his own home. But some one had upbraided him for choosing so small a theme. He remodeled his verses and inscribed them to the children of the whole nation.

Overweening love of country is ceasing to be a virtue among the ethically modern, among the ethical elite. They prefer worldism, cosmopolitanism. They have evolved beyond the thought of the "bloody furrier." Foreigner and native alike are desirable citizens. Somebody has written on patriotism as a primitive ideal. The civilized and cultured prefer the world state.

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



After careful examination of some of the milk recently offered for sale in Washington, D. C., Health Officer Woodward announces that it contains 35,000,000 germs to the teaspoonful. As he gives 2,000,000 as the maximum number tolerated in a like quantity by any other large city in the country, he insists that the health department is justified in forbidding the sale of such polluted milk.

The hog grower of the future in pork production as a business proposition and not using hogs merely as scavengers in the feed lot, must take cognizance of the fact that the young pigs up to the age of six months need a growing and not a fattening ration, and that their feeding must be tempered with judgment.

The first thing is to have everything connected with the milk and milking as clean as is possible to make them. The other essential is to cool the milk as soon as possible after it is drawn from the cows and held to a low temperature till it is to be used.

Some growers protect their fruit by tying paper bags over the clusters when the grapes are as large as peas. The mouth of the bag is secured about the stem of the cluster with soft wire. Insects and fungus cannot affect the fruit when thus protected.

Fowls are very fond of wheat, but they should not be allowed too much of it. An excess of this raw grain will very frequently induce a looseness of the bowels. A ration of about one-fourth wheat will be sufficient of this grain.

Better leave the roads in a poor condition than dig them up late in the fall and let a freeze catch them before they settle, which would mean rough roads all winter and a mighty spongy, miry track when the spring thaw comes.

It is believed that the "black-head" disease which has practically killed all the turkeys in New England, has spread to quail and other game-birds and the English sparrow is full of the germs and widely disseminates the disease.

Where whole milk is fed the calf to the time it is six or eight weeks old, and then the calf sold for veal, not as much money will be received for the calf as could have been secured for the whole milk which it took.

See that the farm machinery is properly cared for before winter sets in. All wearing parts of iron and steel should be oiled to prevent rusting. Paint and oil is also excellent for all wood work.

The whole point is that the country needs many young cows to fill the places of old, discarded cows, and every dairyman starting in business will look to the man who is growing good stock.

Pork production as a specialty is just becoming recognized. For many years the hog has, to a large extent, been a by-product of the feed lot wherein beef production was the standby.

The milk should be brought straight to the dairy and poured through a strainer into the setting pans while still warm. If it is cooled first, the advantage of the falling temperature is lost.

Skimmed milk without dilution is thin enough feed. It ought to be thickened with shorts or other nutritious ground feeds rather than be diluted with clear water or common dish water.

Every farmer cannot have a prize-winning herd, but he can have a few prize-winning animals. The number of good animals can be gradually increased until the entire herd is good.

Often a mare dies when her foal is young and the foal must be raised by hand. In this case, feeding often and in small amounts is what counts for success in making the young horse.

Canada's production of 102,000,000 bushels of wheat, only 18,000,000 bushels behind the excellent crop of 1908, is considered a very good showing.

When potatoes are allowed to heat or sweat in large bins or pits, decay is quite sure to result with many of the tubers.

We should aim to breed layers that will only take two months to complete the moult and get back to laying.

Flaxseed has rarely been fed in this country, on account of its value upon the market for manufacturing oil.

It is a poor idea to use berry crates, dry goods boxes, or anything one can find in which to make shipments.

Keep the horses doing something every day. An idle horse will be a sick horse before you know it.

Fercheron horses have improved the breeds of draft horses in every civilized country in the world.

With calves, colts, pigs or any animals raised by hand, either feeds than milk will be eaten in small amounts when the animals are from twenty to thirty days old. The calves and colts should be given hay as soon as they show an inclination to eat solid food, and the pigs may be given cured clover hay, shelled corn or other suitable pig foods. Letting them nibble during the day at hay or other solid food will keep them from becoming so hungry between regular feeds and will allow the times for feeding to be reduced to twice daily.

Bee keeping is being carried on with both profit and pleasure by many thousands of people in all parts of the United States, and while as a rule it is not the sole occupation of those who pursue it, there are many places where an experienced bee keeper can make a good living by devoting his entire time and attention to this line of work.

Take up gliaduloses, tuberoses, Jacobean lilies, tiger lilies and all other tender bulbs, place bulbs on boards under the shed to dry for a few days, then pack boxes between layers of sawdust or wheat chaff and store in a moderately warm dry cellar. The temperature of cellar should not go below 50 degrees.

Cabbages can be kept well preserved by digging a trench and burying them under six or eight inches of soil. Do not cover to this depth at once, but gradually, to prevent overheating. You will get far more satisfaction from this method than by trying to keep them in the cellar.

While it is not uncommon to put in a few of the largest ewe lambs it is never wise to do so for the reason that ewes thus treated are prevented from the best development of which they are capable, and the lambs of immature mothers are seldom equal to the produce of older stock.

The colt should have a little grain feed, such as bran and oats and a little cracked corn, about the middle of each forenoon and afternoon while its mother is at work, as well as always at regular feeding time in a little trough all its own.

With a good, pure-bred beef sire, a herd of native cows and plenty of pasture land, a farmer may in two or three years' time develop a good grade beef herd, which will largely increase his profits and maintain the fertility of the soil.

A flock of sheep can be classed as the tender part of the stock of the farm, but they are, to a great extent, self feeders and ask but little of the flock owner but they want that little done at the proper time and in the right manner.

In setting young apparatus in the spring it should always be done before the shoots start, because the first buds that start are always the strongest, and if these are broken in setting weaker buds have to do the work.

Don't allow too many pigs to sleep together in the same bed, for they will pile up, sweat and contract colds, causing them to cough all winter. They may be so stunted that they never will make good hogs.

There are not many horses which can stand sudden changes in either quantity or kind of feed. Violation of this rule brings sudden disaster, in fact, underfeeding is much to be preferred to overfeeding.

As a rule it will not pay to hold the pig crop for prices to rise unless they are making good gains all of the time they are being held. Where few feeders win out in playing the market game, many lose out.

The trouble with a great many poultry keepers is that they think they can fly before they are really able to walk. Take time to learn the business. By and by the flying will come easy enough.

The practice of using young gilts for breeding purposes and allowing them to run with the fattening hogs during the period of growth and gestation, is largely responsible for small litters.

Where a number of calves are being grown by the hand method at the same time, feed each calf from a separate pail. In this way each will receive its share and none will overfeed.

Good blood is essential to the producing of good horses, but not any more so than the material that forms the food for producing the animal when once started in life.

Farmers usually do not pay sufficient attention to the feet of their horses. Think of the work they do and how much they must suffer if they are not shod carefully.

It is a common rule to start lambs on one-fourth of a pound of grain each daily increasing the amount one-fourth of a pound each succeeding week.

It is false economy to force the cows to live on short rations during the late fall and so enter the winter in a run-down condition.

Mares bred in November will foal the following October, after most of the farm work is done, and the flies are gone.

One of the dangerous sources of bad flavor in butter and milk comes from the dust in hay and corn stover.

All cultivated soils and most virgin soils contain plant and animal remains, called organic matter.

Every buttermaker well understands how careful he must be in order to obtain a good milk product.

Male lambs should be castrated when one to three weeks old to produce the best returns.

Why Guinea Keets Are Dear

By JOHN M. GEEREY

The other day I protested vigorously when my poultry dealer wanted to charge me \$1.50 for a brace of young guinea hens or "keets," as they term them in the south. I reminded him that it had not been so many years ago since the price of a pair of these birds was only 75 cents or less.

He admitted the accuracy of my statement, and then told me the reason of the extraordinary advance in price of this toothsome fowl. It seems that agents of the swell New York hotels go out into the country districts of all the nearby states, including Maryland, and buy every guinea they can get, paying a price the local buyers would think a man crazy to offer. This of course creates a dearth and the tariff on guineas goes soaring.

The question then comes up, are the epicures of Manhattan devoted to the flesh of the noisy little keet-keet? Far different; not one in a thousand ever heard of such a species.

There are not enough pheasants by 90 per cent to supply the demands by the Broadway sports, and so cunning proprietors of eating places palm off on their patrons the humble product of the barnyard.

The birds are about of a size and in the hands of a skilled chef are made to taste so near alike that the greatest gastronomist alive couldn't detect the fraud.

Many Dangers of Disease in Dairy Cows

By J. E. EMBREY of Minneapolis, Minn.

At a state fair out west not long since a scientist in the employ of the state sanitary board slaughtered several head of cows affected with tuberculosis before a large audience, mostly composed of farmers.

The animals, after being killed and dressed, were lifted by block and tackle to a platform so that the crowd could see whether the doctors were right in their diagnosis.

While the slaughtering was going on there was a good bit of murmuring on the part of some of the spectators, and it was bruited about that the exhibition was a claptrap performance to get more money for the state officials, who were conducting a visionary scheme.

But the malcontents were silenced when the professor in charge of the demonstration showed to the satisfaction of every man present by displaying the diseased organs of the slain animals that they had in reality been suffering from the worst of all plagues.

Then the professor went on to say that human beings could contract the disease by means of drinking the milk of tubercular herds and that no milk should be allowed entrance into any city unless the cows furnishing the supply be subjected to the test which will show whether they are healthy or the reverse.

Various Ways of Stingy Lover

By ELIZABETH BERNARD

There are in this world "Jimmy Tightwads" who, without previously spending a 2-cent stamp to acknowledge an invitation for an afternoon gathering, come and seem very much surprised when you mention their oversight and wonder that you "could have doubted their coming." Early in the evening, before supper, they tell you that if mother does not hurry with the supper they will have to leave without it, as they have an evening engagement. Imagine! And if they do stay until later in the evening they plead "early rising because of work" as an excuse for not taking home one of your guests.

If a man does not want to spend a dime in car fare he ought not to share the pleasures of the other guests. A man certainly owes something to his hostess and should not consider the acceptance of a party invitation the granting of a favor on his part.

Indeed, he is the one favored and should have enough courtesy at least after the event to spend 2 cents for a stamp, saying: "I enjoyed myself."

They are always bragging about the amount of money they spend, but one never sees them spending it.