

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE

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FARMING WITH DYNAMITE.

From an eloquent pamphlet issued by an eastern railroad we learn of new and unsuspected uses for dynamite on the farm. Besides its familiar tasks of extracting stumps, starting log and ice jams and breaking up boulders, dynamite is just the thing, it seems, for digging ditches, felling trees and excavating cellars. Blowing a hole to set an apple tree is cheaper than digging one and it kills bugs and loosens the ground so that the tree grows better besides, says the New York World. Dynamite charges set off eight or ten feet apart to break up subsoil restore fertility to worn lands. If a swamp has no outlet for ditching you may sometimes drain it by boring a deep hole and blowing up its hard pan bottom. The dynamite left over may be used anywhere. The crops do not mind it. Dynamite detonations, the red flag of warning and occasional hired men sent skyward in installments may seem inconsistent with the idyllic calm of rural pursuits, but it is too late to complain. The farmer already threshes and saws wood with his automobile motor, vacuates the soil for fertility, lures the cream out of fresh milk by centrifugal force, educates butter with chemical germs, marries staid and respectable fruits to produce strange mongrels, fights insects with master insects, frosts with smoke blankets and blight with recondite acids. He is a chemist, physicist, mechanic, physician.

Football as a fatal amusement falls into insignificance compared with Alpine climbing. The Austrian and German Alpine clubs have just published statistics showing that between 1901 and 1910 inclusive 886 Alpinists lost their lives in the central Alps of Europe, an average of nearly 100 a year. In 1909 there were 144 climbers killed and in 1910, 100, not including 28 persons who met their death while picking edelweiss. Of this total of 128 fatalities, 42 were Germans, 24 Austrians, 19 Swiss and 4 English. Eight were guides. The largest number of fatal accidents in the Alps took place in the month of August. It is estimated that the army of Alpinists now numbers 100,000.

Telephone linemen have discovered a new use for rats. F. H. Lawrence, of the engineering department of the Chicago Telephone company, is responsible for this description of how rats are employed in placing cables: "A rat is loosed in a pipe through which a cable is to be placed. Then a string is tied to a ferret, which pursues the rat, carrying the string through the pipe. On the small string a large one is attached, and on that a still larger, until a big wire cable is pulled through." Perhaps when all the rats have been killed off, to prevent the possible spread of the bubonic plague, the trick will be turned by the use of white mice.

Efforts are being made by a Kansas City snake fancier to have snakes installed in houses to catch mice and vermin. He says snakes are much better than cats. We don't know much about the ability of snakes as little helpers around the cellar, but it can at least be said for them that they are not likely to disturb people by walling and screeching in back yards at night.

Judge Shafer of Pittsburg utters the following words of wisdom to mere men: "Never reply to the taunts of an angry woman. Flee from her, and do not begrudge her the last word, for she will have it anyway." We have never made the acquaintance of the judge, but we are willing to wager a few shekels that he is married.

Those German dirigibles persist in coming to ignominious ends. There is at least a dramatic completeness about the crash of the falling aeroplane which is utterly lacking in the implement of an unwieldy balloon in a tree top. At that the passengers on the dirigibles are more likely to escape with their lives.

A New York man who has been drawing a salary of \$30,000 a year has gone into bankruptcy, explaining that he had to borrow money with which to buy an automobile. So, you see, drawing a salary of \$30,000 a year in New York is attended with hardships, too.

The manager of the Philadelphia Athletics explains that his team has been losing games because there are too many bridegrooms in the organization. If it is to be shown that matrimony interferes with baseball it will be fatal to matrimony.

This is a bad time for a man who wears luxuriant whiskers. An insect called Phytomonas Murinus promises to be the boll weevil of the alfalfa belt. He is spreading rapidly.

WATER IS VALUABLE

Liquid in a Reservoir Is Like Money in a Bank.

Should Be Used Only When and Where It Will Do the Most Good and Made to Go as Far as It Possibly Can.

How many farmers are there in the country who know what is meant by the term "Duty of Water?" Not many. Yet they have been living in an arid section and irrigating their fields for years. They have seen the value of water increase year after year, and they know that water in a reservoir is like money in a bank, and should be used when and where it will do the most good, and made to go as far as possible.

One farmer uses a certain head of water and with it covers five acres of his farm in a day. Another farmer uses the same head and irrigates only 2½ acres with it. The duty of the water in the hands and on the land of farmer No. 1 is double the duty in the hands and on the land of farmer No. 2.

It behooves every farmer, then to know what duty he is getting out of his water, and, if he finds that he is not up to the standard, he may take the necessary steps to improve the position of his ditches or may, during the fall and early winter, cut off the high spots and fill in the low spots of the field and in this way increase the duty of his water two, three, and even fourfold.

There are two general ways of speaking of the duty of water. One is to state the number of acres a second foot of water will take care of, and the other is to speak of the number of acre feet of water used per acre.

We used to figure that land in this section needed one second foot of water for every 40 acres, and in this case the duty of water was 40 acres per second foot. Later we raised this duty to 60 acres per second foot; then we made the duty 80 acres per second foot, and for a long time it was the custom to provide a second foot of water for each 80-acre tract. Now we are figuring the duty of water to be 100 or 120 acres per second foot.

Can we do better than this? We certainly can, for in southern California, where water is scarce and valuable, they make a second foot of water take care of 300 acres, and where sub-irrigation, by means of underground pipes, is used, the duty in some cases has reached 1,000 acres per second foot.

This method, however, of figuring duty is not the best by any means, for it presupposes a continuous flow of one second foot throughout the irrigation season. The farmer when he irrigates usually wants more than a second-foot head, and he uses it for a few days or weeks and then uses no water at all for a period. Hence, the second way of stating it, which is in acre feet per acre, is usually the best way.

A second foot of water running for 24 hours delivers approximately two acre feet. (To be exact, it delivers two acre feet in 24 hours, 12 minutes.) Let us say the irrigating period is 120 days, and one second-foot would deliver in that time approximately 240 acre feet. If this were applied all at once to 100 acres, it would cover it to a depth of 2.4 feet, and we would say that the duty of water in this case is 2.4 acre feet per acre.

The duty of water, then, in acre feet per acre, is the number of acre feet of water applied to each acre of land, during the entire season. It varies the country over, from one acre foot per acre, to 10 or 12 acre feet per acre.

CARE FOR INCUBATOR CHICKS

Should Be Penned in Brooder for Two or Three Days—Feed Often but Only What They Eat Clean.

Keep the chicks penned, in the brooder for two or three days, and see to it that they know how to get under the hover; they will soon learn where to go when they get a little cold. See that they all go under the hover the first night, and that they are warm enough. Always have a little ventilation, as they must have fresh air. Feed them often, but give them only what they will eat up clean each time. After they are about three days old they may be let out of the brooder if the weather is favorable. After they are three weeks old they may be fed larger grains, such as wheat, cracked corn, buckwheat, etc. Always bear in mind to keep them well supplied with clean, fresh water at all times, for this will save a lot of disease. If they do not have free range, supply them with green and animal food. And grit should not be forgotten, as it is very essential in rearing chicks successfully.

Gladiolus. Gladiolus is one of the most exquisite of summer blooming bulbs. Plant a succession. Begin early in April and plant a few each week until the end of May. Keep the bulbs in a dry place until needed for planting. Plant in front of or among shrubbery.

Feed for Cows. At the Herrick farm in Orono they give two feedings of hay, night and morning. After milking in the morning they give 20 pounds of ensilage, and after the night milking they give sugar beets.

ECONOMY IN USE OF WATER

Conservation for Irrigation Purposes Is Essential in Order to Expand Available Acres.

The science of irrigation is as yet hardly out of its baby shoes, and it goes without saying that the next ten years will witness a tremendous development in this direction. As the principles of irrigation are better understood and practiced, the benefit of them will become apparent more and more. As a matter of fact irrigation should by no means be confined to arid or semi-arid countries, but can be and should be applied judiciously everywhere, where farmers are raising vegetation. Even countries having an annual rainfall of 40 inches or more will experience at times the effect of a drought which will cause a complete or partial failure of crops; this could be relieved or entirely prevented where a partial system of irrigation is maintained so that in case of a failure of rains to arrive at the right time the farmer can turn his water into his land and supply the deficiency, says the Irrigation Age.

As the irrigated areas are constantly increasing the matter of economic use of water is receiving attention. This is a very important subject and should be followed up with the most persistent efforts. If conservation of natural resources means anything it means that there should be no waste; it does not mean that our forests or water-falls should be fenced in and kept from being used; this would be utterly foolish and keep the people from their heritage; but it means that our national resources should be so handled that they will serve the present generation as well as succeeding generations and hence economy in their use is an imperative necessity.

Economy in the use of water for irrigation purposes is necessary in order to expand the number of acres available for irrigation. It is easily understood that when the pioneers in irrigation took hold and developed projects it was done on lines of the least resistance and least cost. Thus water was led along rough ditches to the nearest land and the tracts thus irrigated produced splendid results. No one made inquiries as to the quantity of water which actually leaked away from the ditch and was thus wasted. As the value of irrigated land is constantly rising the value of the water thus wasted becomes apparent and means are discussed and adopted to conserve this wasted water; how to accomplish this result to the best advantage is one of the principal problems in irrigation at the present time.

CARING FOR LITTLE CHICKS

Cooked, Chopped Eggs Are Good for Them at Start—Give Free Access to Sand or Grit.

In regard to the feeding of chicks—and this, of course, applies to chicks with the hen as well as those in the brooder—permit me to say that the first day or two, when they are old enough to eat, cooked chopped egg are about the best thing for them. But before feeding this to them I suggest that you feed the old hen well, or else she will gobble it up before the chicks get a look at it.

After that time give them a good chick feed, writes Harry Raven in the Chicago Daily News. After the first week give them ground oats or cracked oats, cracked wheat and sifted cracked corn and boiled broken rice with white bread and graham bread. Also give them meal scraps which contain both dry and fresh cut bone.

A chick can be perhaps kept alive on cracked corn, as half the farmers do. But that is not what should be done by the man or woman who wants them to weigh fully three or three and a half pounds at ten weeks or, at least, 12 weeks old. To accomplish this you must work them for all they are worth; but I do not advise you to feed cracked corn alone, as they get tired of it the same as we would of bread.

Let them have free access to coarse sand or any kind of grit. Do not leave any holes open at night in your house or brooder for rats to crawl through, as they are very dangerous around your chicks.

FORMULA FOR GRAFTING WAX

Six Pounds of Resin, Two Pounds of Beeswax and One Pint of Linseed Oil Found Satisfactory.

The old formula for grafting wax was four pounds of resin, two pounds beeswax and one pound of tallow. A better formula is six pounds of resin, two pounds of beeswax and one pint of linseed oil. This is less likely to cause the bark to peel from the stock around the graft than that made with tallow. To make either melt the resin and let it simmer a few minutes. Trim off dark colored surface of the beeswax, shave the rest and put into the resin, allowing it to work a few minutes. Add tallow or oil and stir for a few minutes, then pour it into cold water. Grease the hands, pull and work it until it is a light-yellow color. Then make into rolls and wrap in oiled paper. If too cold when grafting is done soften it in warm water. The liquid grafting wax may be made from one pound white resin and one ounce of beef tallow, melt together, and take it far away from fire, then add slowly eight ounces of alcohol, stirring steadily until it is smooth. Put in bottles and keep corked when not in use. Apply with a brush. Waxed cloth to bind around grafts are made by dipping the cloths in melted or liquid grafting wax.

TALES OF GOTHAM AND OTHER CITIES

Gotham Girl Operates on Her Pet Dog



NEW YORK.—Gypsy, an American bull pup belonging to Miss Mabel Barnes, a surgical nurse, is rejoicing over the removal of a hatpin 6½ inches long which had been circulating in her system for more than a month.

Gypsy was a month old when Miss Barnes first acquired her and reciprocity of affection promptly resulted. Like most puppies, Gypsy had a habit of eating at random without reading any pure-food labels or caring much whether the thing was digestible, so long as it could be swallowed.

She began on handkerchiefs, lace

curtains, gloves, slippers, and once she ate a cuff link. These did not seem to interfere with her enjoyment of life. Next she tried several pins and needles, and these upset her for a few days.

Quite awhile ago, Miss Barnes says, she noticed one day that Gypsy kept her head projected straight in front of her. She seemed to be unable to move it, and when it was turned forcibly the dog whined with the pain.

Then a swelling started on the dog's left side. Recently while examining this swelling, Miss Barnes felt a sharp point. She surmised that Gypsy's trouble was due to foraging in her darning basket. She brought home a hypodermic syringe, some cocaine and a pair of artery forceps.

Gypsy's faith in her mistress was so great that she did not make a move while the hypodermic was being inserted. Then Miss Barnes seized the sharp point with her forceps.

Philadelphia "Sucker" Not So Easy

PHILADELPHIA.—Thirteen gentlemen from New York, who thought it would entertain a gentleman from Philadelphia if they would do a little wire tapping for him and show him divers ways of obtaining rich rewards from money ventured on the horse races, were forced to the unanimous conclusion that thirteen is an unlucky number and that Philadelphia men are not so slow after all.

The adventure began for a well-known man whose fictitious name is Charles McDonald. "I say, old man, have you got a match?" was the way it all began. It was asked on one of those slow-going ferryboats that take Philadelphia folk over to Camden and back again.

Then there was a general conversation about horse racing. "Say," whispered the pipe smoker with an air of great secrecy, "I'm a Western Union manager in a New York branch office, I run the racing information bureau. I can hold up information about races for eight minutes. Get that?"

McDonald—that is the man whose police alias is McDonald—did get it, and exchanged cards with his friend. They made a date for the Hotel Walton, in Philadelphia, and then another date for the Breslin, in New York. Be-



fore going to the hotel McDonald tipped off the police and advised that a couple of detectives be put on the job.

Together the two men went to a modest looking brownstone house away from the central part of the city and into a room where twelve other men were busy with telephones, telegraph instruments, etc. All told they made a sizable den. McDonald staked \$20 on a bet and won. Then he was taken to another house where he talked gaily of his millions and in a bantering way suggested he wouldn't mind trying \$20,000 on a single horse. This took McCormick by storm, but the money was there and so were New York detectives and before the wire tappers knew what was up both their resorts had been raided and the entire company was under arrest.

Women Rule Roost in Lone Star State



SAN ANTONIO, TEX.—A Georgia court may decide, as one did the other day, that poor, henpecked man is the head of the family and stand for that old custom of woman obeying in all things. That may be true in Georgia, where the sweet potato and the goober pea lead the procession and the "blind tiger" has a lair in every jungle, but it is different in Texas. A Texas court might hold that man is the head of the family, but no court on earth could clinch such a decision.

In Texas women have done almost everything in the catalogue of commercial possibilities. In a number of instances women own large ranches and have operated them successfully

for years. Women in this state lead the country in dairying. In a number of instances women carry the mail on rural routes and a half-dozen or more of them have made the record of not missing a day in the year.

Women, many of them who ride as well as men, assist in the roundups on large ranches and are as handy with the whip and the rope as the men. The outlaw steer, which has escaped the cowboys, has a poor chance to beat it back to the brush when two or more Texas cowgirls get on his trail. One Texas girl has roped, thrown and tied a steer in less than one minute. Her feat became the subject for a painter of national reputation and she is done in oil on a canvas ten feet square in the Menger hotel in this city. Women in Texas operate oil wells and are moving forces in coal mining. Some of the steel skyscrapers in this city were built and are owned by women, these having taken the lead in twentieth century steel and concrete construction.

Gets Water Supply 250 Miles Distant

LOS ANGELES.—Six years ago the people of Los Angeles voted an issue of \$24,000,000 in bonds to pay for what they consider the finest supply of water furnished to any city in the world. The first issue of bonds was made in 1907 and the last will be made this year. The aqueduct, which is 250 miles long, will bring a sufficient amount of water to supply a city of 2,000,000 inhabitants across the country from Owens lake.

The first 20 miles of the aqueduct is open earth canal which follows the canyon of Owens river. The next 39 miles is an open concrete conduit, laid upon the mountain sides, which follows their contour like a mountain road. For 28 miles the conduit rests in ditches carved from the rocky walls, and for an equal distance is sustained by artificial causeways of rocks. It next passes 150 miles through the Mojave desert, on the edge of Death valley, the most desolate and forbidding spot in the United States, and passing under the Sierra Madre range of mountains emerges into Los Angeles



valley, and there rests in storage reservoirs 1,000 feet above the city of Los Angeles and 20 miles away. Fifteen months was necessary for preparations before the work was begun. The upper part of the aqueduct passes through a very rough and what was then an unknown region, with no inhabitants within 50 or 60 miles. In order to convey machinery and construction material it was necessary to build 120 miles of railway, 225 miles of wagon road, 148 miles of water main, 218 miles of transmission line a cement plant with a capacity of 1,200 barrels a day and more than 300 buildings, such as bunk houses, mess halls, warehouses, hospitals, engineers' offices and residences.

Monarch Never Writes Letters.

It is the accepted etiquette that the ruler of Great Britain never writes a letter. Those who need to correspond with his majesty who are aware of the right procedure usually write to the king's secretary or a member of the household, asking that the matter in question should be placed before the king, but petitions for the exercise of the prerogative in any form on matters of state are required to be submitted through the home office.

A Good Thing.

Dr. Clausen, the most eminent of German surgeons, says that the only reason birds and animals and beasts don't talk is because their tongues are not hung right. It's a blessed thing that they are not. If they were, man would have dogs and cats and crows and coons and foxes calling hello to him every time he walked out, and if he didn't stop for a chat, he'd soon get the name of being an old crank. There's talk enough as it is.

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Libby's Soups have the home-made flavor.
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Some Contrast.
"Mornin', Sis Judy," called a neighbor's cook to our good old mammy, "I heah dat Skeeter Jim is dun got him a new wife. I hope she leet fat-ter'n dat spindlin', no-count streak-o-lean!"
"Fatter 'n him?" Mammy replied, rolling her eyes and clapping her own fat hands. "Lawdy, chile, day jus lak a needle an' a haystack!"

Progress of Civilization.
Lady—And did you make your congregation give up cannibalism?
Missionary (suppressing a grin)—Not quite; but after much trouble I persuaded them to use knives and forks.—The Throne.

A Book Agent's Order.
First Book Agent—Did you receive an order at that house I just saw you come out of?
Second Book Agent—Yes, I was told to "git."

Some girls are afraid to go downtown by themselves for fear a man may not try to flirt with them.

FREE

MUNYON'S PAW-PAW PILLS

TRADE MARK

A trial package of Munyon's Paw Paw Pills will be sent free to anyone on request. Address Professor Munyon, 53d & Jefferson Sts., Philadelphia, Pa. If you are in need of medical advice, do not fail to write Professor Munyon. Your communication will be treated in strict confidence, and your case will be diagnosed as carefully as though you had a personal interview.

Munyon's Paw Paw Pills are unlike all other laxatives or cathartics. They coax the liver into activity by gentle methods. They do not scour, they do not grip, they do not weaken, but they do start all the secretions of the liver and stomach in a way that soon puts these organs in a healthy condition and corrects constipation. In my opinion constipation is responsible for most ailments. There are 26 feet of human bowels, which is really a sewer pipe. When this pipe becomes clogged the whole system becomes poisoned, causing biliousness, indigestion and impure blood, which often produce rheumatism and kidney ailments. No woman who suffers with constipation or any liver ailment can expect to have a clear complexion or enjoy good health. If I had my way I would prohibit the sale of nine-tenths of the cathartics that are now being sold for the reason that they soon destroy the lining of the stomach, setting up serious forms of indigestion, and so paralyze the bowels that they refuse to act unless forced by strong purgatives.

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