

For the LITTLE ONES



QUEER ILLUSION IN LETTERS

Optical Principle That Eye Exaggerates Upper Part of Object—Good Example Given.

Most people when they go to make letters or figures cannot make them so they look right. Try the best they can, there is still something wrong with the proportions. This is often due to the fact that our eyes do not see things exactly the way they are, but are all the time fooling us.

For example it is an optical principle that the eye exaggerates the upper part of an object and underestimates the lower part. If you make a letter B for instance and make the upper bow the same size as the lower, the letter will never look right, for the upper part will look too big and the letter will be topheavy. For this reason it is necessary in designating letters to allow for the error the eye

S8 S8

Optical Illusion.

makes and make the upper parts smaller than we want them to look when finished.

This is the case you can easily prove by looking at the letter S and figure 8 here given. The ones on the left, being right-side up, look well-formed, while those on the right, being wrong-side up, look topheavy. And yet the funny part about it is that if you will turn the paper upside down you will find that it is the first pair that look wrong and the second one that looks right.

In fact if you keep your eyes on either one of the S's or 8's while turning the paper upside down, the very shape of the letter or figure will appear actually to change. When you have to design anything remember this principle. Designs, remember, must satisfy the eye even though their proportions are not mathematically regular.

CHILDREN FOND OF BANANAS

Little Cubans Seem to Never Tire of This Fruit—Cooked in Many Different Ways.

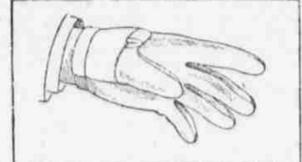
Every day of their lives the bright-eyed little Cuban children eat bananas. They are so fond of this fruit that they never grow tired of it. Their mothers make a flour by grinding strips of dried bananas and from this flour make banana biscuits. The children also are fond of baked green bananas and they eat with relish a dish made of cooked banana sprouts.

Practically every part of the banana tree and fruit is valuable. The long leaves from the top of the trees are used for making a dark dye, the tough fibers of the leaves are made into grass cloth and the tree trunks are used for building houses. Banana trees do not live long, however. They die down every year after bearing fruit, but before departing they send up new shoots, which grow into trees in a few months. Some great clusters of bananas appear on them and before the trees are a year old heavy bunches of the fruit are cut from them and shipped to the United States and other countries.

GLOVE IS MADE REVERSIBLE

Excellent Idea for Making Baseball Mit Is Shown in Illustration—Fits Either Hand.

An idea that would seem to be particularly adaptable for baseball gloves is shown in the illustration. It is a reversible glove; that is, a glove which can be worn on either the right or the left hand. This is made possible by



Reversible Glove.

the provision of two thumbs, each of which has an outside pocket into which it can be tucked when not in use. The glove is shown in the drawing as used for the left hand.

Damp Salt Before Rain.

Very few persons know that when the salt gets damp it is either because it is too near the sea or because it is going to rain. It is very hard to keep the salt cellar dry at the seashore as there is so much moisture in the air all the time; but in other places it is usually a sign of rain when the salt gets damp.

Things that help themselves to the water in the air are called "deliquescent," and salt is one of them. When water is in the air in the form of gas it sometimes becomes too plentiful for the air to hold, and then we get what is called "precipitation" or rain. But long before water vapor in the air is heavy enough to fall in rain there is enough of it to spare to make salt damp.

WHERE CHILDREN MUST OBEY

Courtesy to the Elders Makes the German Home Ideal—Youth Is Taught to Behave.

From "Home Life in Germany," by Mrs. Alfred Sidgwick.

As a rule German children of all classes are treated as children and taught the elementary virtue of obedience. Das Recht des Kindes is a new cry with some of the people, but nevertheless Germany is one of the few remaining civilized countries where the elders will have rights and privileges. I heard of an English woman the other day who said that she had never eaten the wing of a chicken, because when she was young it was always given to the older people, and now that she was old it was saved for the children. If she lived in Germany she would still have a chance, provided she kept away from a small loud set, who in all matters of education and morality would like to turn the world upside down.

In most German homes the noisy, spoiled American child would not be endured for a moment, and the little tyrant of a French family would be taught its place to the comfort and advantage of all concerned. I have dined with a large family where eight young ones of various ages sat at an overflow table and did not disturb their elders by a sound. It was not because the elders were harsh or the young folks repressed, but because Germany teaches its youth to behave.

The little girls still drop you a pretty old-fashioned courtesy when they greet you. The little boys, if you are staying in the house with them, come and shake hands at unexpected times—when they arrive from school, for instance, and before they go out for a walk. They play the same games as English children, and I need hardly say that they are brought up on the same fairy stories, because many of our favorites come from Germany.

QUEER REVERSAL OF FORMS

Wealthy Young Pole Turns Life Upside Down—Always Summons Servants by Bugle Call.

Vienna can boast a curious eccentric who turns life upside down, a rich young Pole, who lives in sumptuous



Summoning Servants.

style, but always summons his servants by bugle call. His favorite pastime is driving an omnibus. When engaged he is attired like an ordinary busman, and, though he is said to spend a fortune each year in clothes, he wears no garment until it has been worn by his valet, says the New York Tribune. He has astonished guests at a ball by appearing in a costume of pure white, save for the shirt and tie, which were black. To complete his oddities, when dining, which he invariably does alone at a table d'hôte, he reverses the usual order, beginning his meal with the sweets and ending with the soup.

RIDDLES.

When is a tooth like a keg? When plugged.

What trees has fire no effect upon? Ashes, as, when burned, they're ashes still.

What is the difference between an old penny and a new dime? Nine cents.

If all the women went to China where would all the men go? To Pekin (peek in).

If you court a young woman, and you are won, and she is one, what will you become? One, of course.

What is the difference between a rooster with a large family and a barber? One shaves with his razors and the other raises her shavers.

The Mammoth Sneez.

Here is a game that furnishes lots of fun for a company of jolly girls and boys. Divide the company into three divisions of five or six people each. The persons in the first division are to say, when the signal is given, "Hish," emphasizing the first "h." The second division must say "Ash," while the third division should say "Osh." The leader counts "One, two, three," and at the last word the three divisions shout their syllables with all the force they can muster. The result is very funny. Just try it.

Hard on Mother.

"I wish I were an orphan," said little five-year-old Bessie to her mother, who passed much of her time visiting charitable institutions.

"Why, dear?" queried the mother.

"Cause I'd see you oftener," replied Bessie, "for you are all the time going to orphan asylums."

What Frightened Joe.

Little Joe—Mamma, I was awfully afraid when you shut me in the dark closet.

Mamma—Why, Joe, what were you afraid of?

Little Joe—I was afraid I couldn't find the cake.

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM



Keep the nests clean.

Keep on swatting the flies.

Mules are becoming popular.

If possible, grow the pigs on pasture.

Flies and hot weather cut down dairy profits.

Alfalfa pasture and hogs is a great combination.

Rape is one of the best crops for temporary hog pasture.

It is as easy to teach a colt good manners as faulty ones.

The quack grass problem is largely a matter of poor drainage.

The separator should never be allowed in the barn or near it.

Never raise colts from a vicious mare. Like often produces like.

The horses should be given at least one feed of mixed hay once a day.

Many stallions are used too much to produce a large per cent. of colts.

Trees should not be planted on a high slope, for the soil is likely to be too thin.

Never attempt to keep summer butter for early fall prices because it will not keep.

The horses cannot rest while fighting flies. Better shade or screen the barn windows.

It is a mistake to keep young turkey hens every year, particularly those hatched late.

Do away with blinders on the horse. Their use is a cruel practice and cause many eye defects.

See that your brood sows get plenty of exercise, so that they may produce large, healthy litters.

The hens simply cannot, and will not fill the egg basket and feed lice and mites on their bodies.

Don't expect an old horse that has worked all his lifetime to do as much as he did when he was young.

A man should be kept in the silo, spreading and packing the corn as fast as it comes from the cutter.

In training mules for use on the farm it is best to begin by using them for light work during the third year.

Corn silage is just as valuable for carrying over stockers and feeders as it is for fattening and finishing the heaves.

Sell your wool on a rising market. Nine times out of ten you will miss it if you try to keep it for something better.

Demand for good, productive farm property is steadily increasing. Some very high prices are paid for well-improved farms.

Sheep will live and thrive on much feed that is of little value for other stock, but that does not imply that they can do without.

Frequently put a little cayenne pepper in the dry mash. It will serve to keep them in condition. A little salt should also be given.

The sooner manure is spread in the field the smaller the loss of fertility incurred and the smaller the amount of labor required to handle it.

The common disk harrow is more generally used than any other implement to cultivate alfalfa, and when properly adjusted does good work.

Cowpeas have a value in crop rotation because they serve the double purpose of producing a crop of feed and fertilizing the soil at the same time.

Don't slam the three-days-old calf around because he doesn't drink readily. To get a kick in the ribs for something he can't understand is a bit tough on him.

The great majority of diseases are due to bad management and housing, including cold, damp and ill-ventilated houses; rich feeding; impure water and lack of exercise.

The beginner who has a nice flock of pullets to winter over will find it more profitable to avoid forcing for high-priced winter eggs if such birds are to be used as breeders next spring.

Exercise the stallion.

Do not neglect the heifers.

A pony for the boy is handy.

Look out now for the mare and colt.

Now is the time to begin dipping the poultry.

Separate out the young roosters. Eat the old hens.

Water, the necessity of life, is too often denied live stock.

A night pasture should always be arranged near the barn.

In handling colts there is more profit in coaxing than in kicking.

Keep the manger sweet. Scalding water will correct this trouble.

Choice heifers make choice milkers—save the choicest for the dairy.

Be sure the mares and colts in pasture have shelter from the hot sun.

Keep the sweet potato vines clipped back to not over two feet in length.

The hotter the water the better job it does in cleansing the milk utensils.

The old-fashioned straw shed is a cheap and satisfactory shelter for the stock.

The American farmer has nearly \$40,000,000,000 invested in his business.

Lime does not take the place of fertilizer, but makes it more effective.

A little sand on the floors of the hen house will do away with dampness.

Turn the horses out to pasture these hot nights; it will help to cool their blood.

A bit of grain in the manger at milking time can call the cows farther than you can.

Do not neglect to give the calves each day some fresh locks of clover or alfalfa hay.

Success does not lie in the number of cows a man keeps, but rather in the kind he keeps.

Notice how closely the flies stick to the cows' cold mornings. They need a little fly-repellant.

To allow the ewe and lamb to run together without thought of weaning is a poor sort of policy.

Farmers must realize that it requires feed to grow sheep, just as it does to grow cattle or hogs.

The man who is trying to keep hogs without pasture and forage crops is fifty years behind the times.

Without ice it is hard to get the cream at too low a temperature to churn quickly this time of year.

Sheep are comfort lovers, and the man who neglects to provide them with good, dry shelter makes a costly error.

Farmers all over the country must rely upon manure and leguminous crops to maintain the fertility of their soils.

Good sheep require good care to maintain their excellence. Poor sheep are always a burden on the rest of the flock.

Extremes and sudden changes in feeding, watering or salting will cause acute indigestion in sheep that is usually fatal.

The stallion needs plenty of exercise. Many owners put him in the harness and make him useful and he is better off for work.

Some pigeons will breed all winter, no matter how cold, but in extremely cold snaps many eggs and youngsters become fatally chilled.

Keep on good terms with the turkeys, so they will be easily penned when wanted for fattening before placing them on the market this fall.

Fence the hay and straw stacks so that the cattle cannot get at them. If permitted to eat around the bottom they will waste more than they eat.

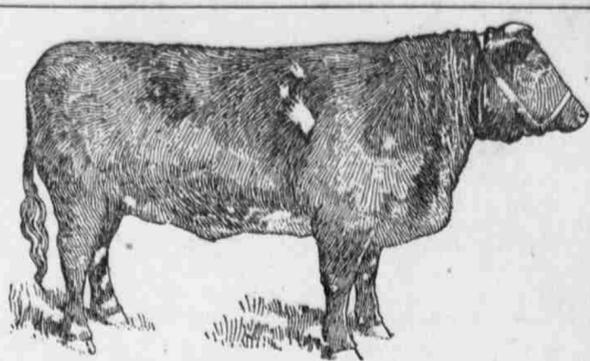
There is nothing like milk for the chickens, either old or young. It will make them grow faster and keep them in good flesh better than anything else.

In killing and pressing poultry, handle gently to avoid bruising. Discoloration quickly follows a bruise, and diminishes the market value of the property.

It requires three months or more to grow a broiler, much depending upon the weight desired, the stock and the care. Broilers shrink about half a pound each when dressed.

It does not pay to doctor a fowl that is hopelessly ill or suffering from a contagious disease. The latter are never permanently cured, and will transmit their weakness to their offspring.

GOOD VEAL DEMANDS MORE ATTENTION



Ten-Months Old Calf Raised in Missouri.

The high price of mutton during the past few years has encouraged, particularly dairymen, to pay more attention to making good veal, but there is a woeful lack of this kind of meat now on the market.

Most dairymen will not take the trouble to fatten calves, but send them to market just as soon as they are past the age limit, and the result is entirely unsatisfactory, both to the seller and the customer.

Well fattened calves, weighing from 120 to 150 pounds, always bring high prices, no matter what the condition of the cattle market may be. City people eat a great deal of veal and would consume much more if they could get what they want, but the stuff seen on the market is for the most part stringy, unfinished and not at all satisfactory.

Many calves are sold when a week old, at 3 to 4 cents per pound, when if fed until they weighed 25 pounds, would bring double the money, but dairymen have not yet learned how to feed calves, in order to make good veal.

The European farmers make good money out of the right calves. The youngster is carefully fed from the day he is born, being confined in dark stalls. He is fed liberally on oatmeal,

whole milk at the start and skim-milk later, with some roots, and when he goes to market he is about as toothsome a morsel as can be found anywhere. Englishmen are very fond of this kind of meat, and price cuts no figure with them.

There is no reason why our dairymen should not increase their profits materially by feeding their calves; and it has always been a source of wonder to us why they so neglect this part of their business.

The fact is, the American public, to a large extent, is so prejudiced against veal, having read gruesome tales about bob veal being too often marketed, that thousands are afraid to buy veal of any kind. If a better system of feeding calves were adopted, and the business systematized, we would have in a few years a line of choice meat that would sell readily at very high prices.

The first thing to be done would be to amend the laws, to prevent the railroad and express companies shipping veal under four weeks of age. The amount of immature stuff that goes to market every day is appalling, and we believe that 75 per cent. of it is unfit for food. How it gets past the inspectors is something no man can find out.

CHEAPEST HAY FOR FORAGE IN WINTER

Second Crop Clover Is First Class Feed for Cows and Sheep.

Second crop clover is a first-class winter forage for cows and sheep. Clover, when cured without being damaged by rain, is the cheapest and best hay for cows in milk and ewes with young lambs. Owing to the shortness of the hay crop throughout the country the young clover and foxtail and rag weeds growing in the wheat stubbles should be cut and cured before the fall rains set in. Second crop clover is worth too much as feed to plow under for manure. Save the crop for feed and plow under the stubble this fall and lime for corn in the spring. As food for poultry, when bulk is needed, poultry men say that no other clover, except it may be alfalfa, is equal to second-crop red clover, cut and cured free from rain and steeped in boiling water during the night for feeding the next day. Use the water in which the clover was steeped in for mixing with bran and corn chop, which, with the clover, makes one of the best winter foods for laying hens during the winter months.

In the grain-growing districts the second crop is usually cut for seed. If the first crop is cut early and the stubble dressed with 200 pounds of plaster to the acre a good crop of seed may be grown if the season is favorable. Bees are a great help in distributing the clover pollen. After the seed is harvested the stubble is plowed for corn.

NEED OF MOISTENING CORN WHILE IN SILO

Excellent Time is When Crop is Too Ripe or Severely Frozen

Ordinarily corn cut at the proper time does not need any water added to make good silage. There are times, however, when it is necessary to add water to the corn in filling the silo. The corn in the silo at the time of filling should feel moist, if not moist, water should be added.

Under any of the following conditions water should be added to the corn when filling the silo: First, when the corn is too ripe, and the leaves and part of the stalks are dried out to such an extent that they will not pack well. Second, when the corn is severely frozen, before it has reached the proper degree of maturity, liberating the moisture and leaving the leaves and stems dry. Third, when refilling the silo late in the fall with shocked corn it is always necessary to add water.

There are two ways to add water. First, put a hose in the silo and thoroughly saturate the dry portions, especially around the walls. Second, when the blower-cutter is used, run an inch stream of water into the blower when it is at work. This will add a sufficient amount of water to insure good results.

LAMB RAISING PAYS FARMER QUITE WELL

Sheep Industry on the Average Farm is Considered Side Issue.

The farmer who will pay close attention to his breeding stock and raise native lambs of uniform size and breed, feed them intelligently and market them at the right time can make more profit from his flock than from any other farm investment. As a rule the "native" lambs sent to the markets are so badly mixed, both as to breed and feeding, that they are a torment to the buyer and of little profit to the owner.

This is one of the reasons why the western range lambs find great favor in the big markets. They are more uniform in size as they are fed in large flocks and go to market practically in the same condition. Only a small portion of the "native" lambs that are sold in the eastern markets can be called prime, and his fact is entirely the fault of the farmer.

As a rule, sheep-raising on the average farm is merely a side issue and little attention is given to it. The remedy of the present condition of the native lamb market lies entirely with the men who produce the lambs.

Whenever the farmers are engaged in the producing of prime lambs for market at any season of the year, the business has proven highly profitable.

Of course the best markets are just before Christmas and in the early spring; at this period the prices are always high.

America is becoming a great mutton-eating nation, and if the farmers will improve their flocks and their methods of feeding there is no reason why the native lamb market should not prove more profitable than that controlled by the range district.

HOGGING CORN CROP INSTEAD OF HUSKING

Some Farmers Find This Practice of Much Advantage at Times

In these days of expensive labor, farmers sometimes find it to their advantage to hog off some of their corn instead of husking it. The amount that should be hogged off should be decided upon beforehand, and should of course be proportionate to the number of hogs which are expected to consume it. There should be access to water, and the results will be all the better if the hogs, at the same time, can have access to a clover, blue grass or alfalfa field.

Corn should not be hogged off until it is pretty well matured; that is, until the grains are well dented. Hogging it off before that time means a waste of feeding value, for corn grows until the leaves are killed by frost or die naturally. There are many cases in which it is quite as well and much cheaper to hog the corn off than to husk it and feed it to the hogs, and the practice is growing more popular every year.