

For the LITTLE ONES



WRITING ON A SOFT PILLOW

Found Possible to Write Legibly and With Comfort on Train Flying at Top Speed.

Everyone who has had occasion to write while riding in a railway train will be interested in the fact that the disagreeable effects of the jarring of the carriage are greatly mitigated by writing on a pillow. The pillow may be either held on the lap or placed on a table. The pad of paper, and the arm which guides the pen or pencil should both rest on the pillow.

In this manner it will be found possible to write legibly and with comfort in a train flying at full speed.

The explanation depends upon the fact that the pillow tends to equalize the motion of the fast moving carriage the pen is driven in every direction except the desired one, because the constant jarring does not produce the same motions simultaneously in the table, or the knee, or hand and the pen.

But the pillow, through its great pliability and moderate degree of elasticity, not only deadens the shocks communicated from the carriage, but brings the inevitable motions of the paper and the hand holding the pen into accord.

SMALL BOY WAS INTERESTED

Not in Somber Shakespearean Drama, as His Mother Supposed, but in Counting Bald Heads.

The play was one of Shakespeare's tragedies. Mrs. Simmons and her little boy, having been unable to secure seats in the parquette, were well located in the front row of the first balcony, where they could see better and hear almost as well as if they had been farther forward on the main floor.

Mrs. Simmons was agreeably surprised at the interest that Bobby appeared to take in the somber drama. He sat leaning forward, with his elbows on the cushioned railing in front of him, resting his head on his hands, deeply absorbed. As the curtain went down on the first act he straightened up.

"Well, dear, how do you like Shakespeare?" asked his mother. "Are you enjoying the play?"

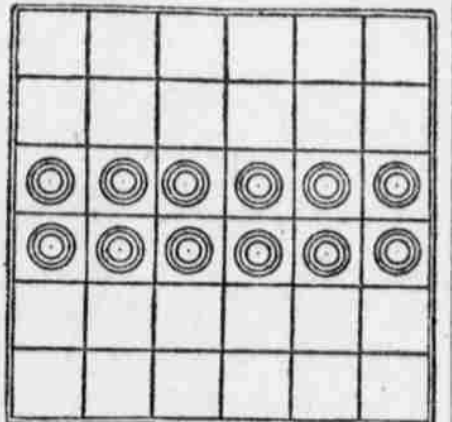
"Mamma," said Bobby, with the air of one who has made a great discovery, "there are sixty-nine men here that have got bald spots on top of their heads! I've counted 'em five times!"—Youth's Companion.

ARRANGE COUNTERS IN ROWS

Simple and Symmetrical Problem Illustrated and Explained for Placing Objects on Line.

Can you rearrange the 12 counters on this board of 36 squares, so that there are two counters on each row, column, and diagonal?

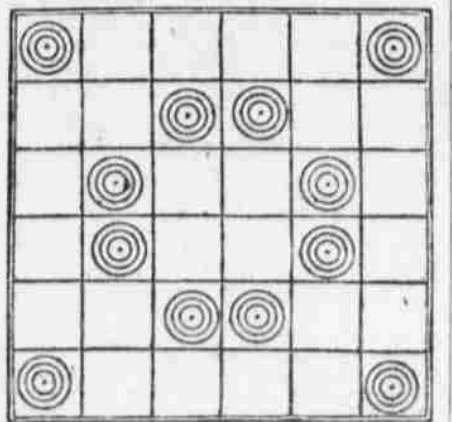
There must not be more than these



Arrangement of Counters.

two counters in the same straight line.

Here is a simple and symmetrical arrangement, by which on a board of 36 squares 12 counters are so placed



Two in Each Row.

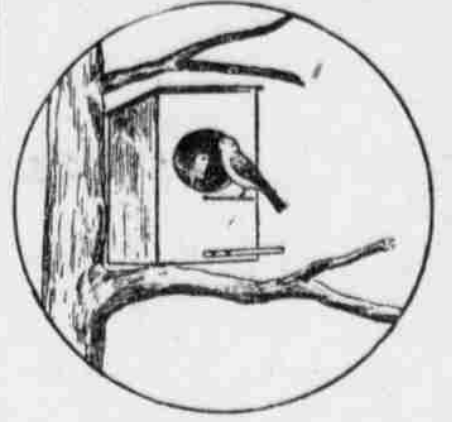
that there are two, and two only, on each line, column and diagonal. There are other arrangements which fulfill the conditions.

Edgar Knew Them.
The teacher was hearing her class of small boys in mathematics. "Edgar," she said, "if your father can do a piece of work in seven days, and your Uncle William can do it in nine days, how long would it take both of them to do it?" "They would never get done," answered the boy, earnestly. "They would sit down and tell fish stories."

HOW TO ATTRACT BLUEBIRDS

Pennsylvania Lad Explains How He Induced Little Songsters to Build Their Nests.

I have attracted bluebirds by simply making a one-roomed bird-house. To make this bird-house I took boards that were of dull color so as to more closely resemble the trunk of a tree, writes Rupie J. Mitchell of Pennsylvania in the National Stockman and Farmer. I made the house 8 inches high and gave it five inches square of floor space, and put on a slanting roof. The roof projected over the edge in front so as to prevent the rain from entering. I made the bird-house to lean in the direction of the opening, which should face the southeast. The entrance was a round hole 2 inches in diameter and 2 1/4 inches from the top. I made a small hole 1 inch below the entrance and put in it a small perch



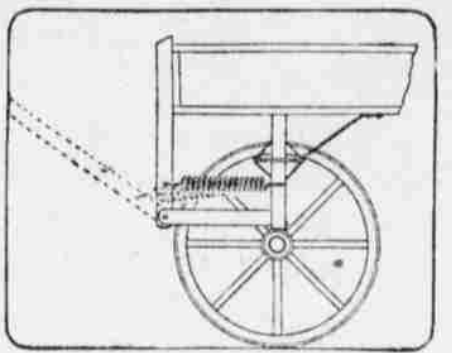
Bluebirds' Home.

5 inches long. On the bottom I nailed another limb of a tree one-half inch in diameter and 6 inches long. I put it in an apple tree 10 feet above the ground in the apple orchard. The birds began their nest on Friday, April 11, 1913. I hung on the tree bits of string, yarn, flax, etc., for the birds to make their nest with. The bluebirds came about the last of March. I now have six bird-houses, and four of them were not up two weeks until the birds had nested in them. There were 18 barn-swallow nests in the barn last year.

TONGUE HOLDER FOR WAGONS

Method Illustrated and Explained for Preventing Accidents While Coasting a Hill.

To prevent any mishap when coasting in a boy's play wagon, fasten the tongue with a coil spring so that it will be kept in a vertical position. The tongue is always out of the way when it is not used for drawing the wagon, writes William F. Benson of Brockton,



Holds Tongue in Position.

Mass., in the Popular Mechanics. The spring is only strong enough to hold the tongue, so that when this is used for pulling there is little or no tendency of the spring to draw the tongue upward. The coil spring is fastened with one screw in the tongue and one in the front axle.

RIDDLES.

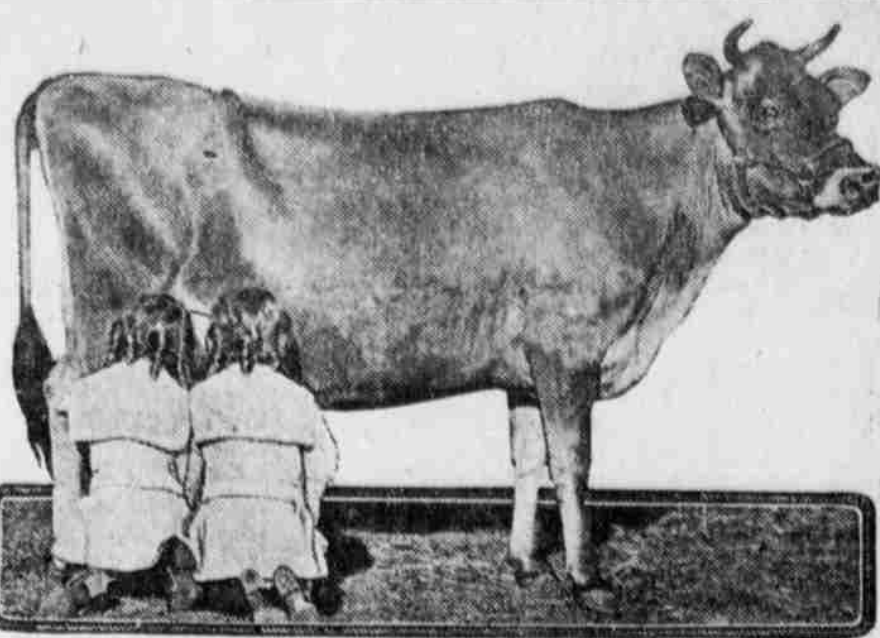
- When does a tailor serve his customers both well and ill?
When he gives them fits.
- What is that which never uses its teeth for eating purposes?
A comb.
- Why is the letter E like death?
Because it is at the end of life.
- Why is a lady in a cotton dress like anything published?
Because she appears in print.
- What herb is most injurious to a lady's beauty?
Thyme.
- When is a man like the letter B?
When he is in bed.
- What grows less tired the more it is worked?
A carriage wheel.
- When is a sailor like a corpse?
When he is in the shrouds.
- When may a man be said to breakfast before he gets up?
When he takes a roll in bed.
- What is more foolish than sending coal to Newcastle?
Sending milk to Cows.
- How do bees dispose of their honey?
They sell it.
- What chasm often separates friends?
Sar-casm.
- Why are all duels short affairs?
Because it only requires two seconds to arrange them.
- Why is a beggar mending his clothes like a rich man?
Because he is making up his rents.
- Why is love like a duck's foot?
Because it often lies hidden in the breast.

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



- Don't stunt the calf.
- Beef calves are profitable.
- Alfalfa is a drought resister.
- Feed the skim milk to the pigs.
- Plant corn and cowpeas together.
- Keep your youngsters coming each day.
- Never plow an orchard in the summer.
- It never injures an orchard to manure it.
- You should thoroughly disinfect your hen houses.
- There will be a big demand for pure bred fowls this fall.
- Poor and irregular feeding causes wool to lose its quality.
- After lambing the sheep frequently begin to lose their wool.
- Do you practice regularity in the feeding hour for the hogs?
- Constant and shallow cultivation is the price of a good corn crop.
- Ground grain in a wet mash is better for ducks than whole grain.
- A broody hen will soon spoil an egg for table use. Keep them apart.
- If the soil bakes easily the greater the need for frequent cultivation.
- Be sure to use the narrow-tire wagon on soft fields and the meadow lands.
- The way to sharpen a disk is to pare off the blunt edge until thin and sharp.
- A good many dairymen get more sympathy from their cows than they deserve.
- The dairy cow brings in money month by month, the beef cow brings it but once.
- Deep plowing increases the soil's water-holding power, also its plant-feeding power.
- One should make a close inspection of all drains about the farm at this particular season.
- A 160-acre farm with a silo will produce as much revenue as a 180-acre farm without.
- Grass and clovers deteriorate in hay value rapidly after they reach the stage of full bloom.
- Generally the hog will thrive best that will squeal for his food at the regular feeding time.
- When the cow kicks, sit on the milk stool till you count ten and you may not use the stool for a club.
- Tar and sulphur burned in the poultry house with the doors and windows closed is a good disinfectant.
- A clean, sanitary hog wallow, with a good inlet and outlet, forms an ideal place for the hogs to fight lice.
- Although there is little data on the subject, alfalfa silage of good quality would certainly make an excellent hog feed.
- A garden cultivator does much better work than a hoe. It is easier, quicker and keeps the soil in much better condition.
- If you haven't help enough on the farm to handle the hay as quickly as it should be handled, better arrange for extra labor now.
- If the cow converts her feed into milk she cannot lay it up as meat, and if she lays it up as meat she cannot give it off as milk.
- Some fruit growers say that it is not a good plan to plow an orchard when the trees are in blossom—better do it before than after.
- Do not plant many varieties of trees in the new apple orchard. The apple buyers like to find as many of one variety as they can together.
- Any kind of fruit tree will die when planted in ground that is all the time saturated with water. The tile ditch is a necessity in some places.
- Sheep manure is one of the best farm manures. It contains a large amount of nitrogen and a good percentage of phosphoric acid and potash.
- Chicks relish alfalfa.
- Get the best brood sows.
- Let the setting hen alone.
- All farm live stock like silage.
- Sorghum makes good silage.
- Alfalfa adds humus to the soil.
- Fresh vegetables are in demand.
- Castrate the lambs at three to four weeks.
- Honey is not only a healthful but a "tasty" food.
- A good garden is the first essential to cheap living.
- The farm is often judged by the cows it supports.
- Bees are good for clover and clover is good for bees.
- What is a more fascinating pursuit than beekeeping?
- The warmer the weather the less corn should be fed.
- A cow is by nature quiet and ought to be handled quietly.
- It is best to have a hot knife to cut cold, thick honeycomb.
- Movable, separate nest boxes, with wire bottoms are easy to clean.
- Beef cattle has decreased in number greatly during the last ten years.
- Change the feed of horses sufficient-ly enough to make them relish it.
- Ducks will not do well when confined. Turn 'em loose if possible.
- A cross bred male cannot be relied upon for producing uniform offspring.
- For profit, breed does not count for so much as individual production.
- Though busy in the field, do not forget that the faithful cow needs care.
- The large, tame sunflower seeds make a good feed for hens at molting time.
- Perches perfectly smooth and movable are the kind to have during the lice season.
- A bull calf seven months old should have a ring put in his nose and taught to lead with it.
- Iowa last year produced 352,000 pounds of butter more than that of previous years.
- Cheap land is the home of beef, but only dairy cows will make the highest priced land pay.
- The pig looks straight down his nose when you ask him what the world was made for.
- The chick that once gets thoroughly chilled will have a hard time catching up with the rest.
- Fertile eggs keep longer than the fertile; here is a hint how to stop the losses due to bad eggs.
- Powdered charcoal in the chicks' feed aids digestion and lessens the chances of bowel trouble.
- Alfalfa yields from two to three times as much as clover or timothy, and is more valuable hay.
- Whole kafir is perhaps the best of all grains to make weight after chicks are a week or ten days old.
- For several weeks before calving time cows should have an abundance of cooling and loosening foods.
- The good bug is a lady bug. And just to show how little family counts, its first cousin is the potato bug.
- Sometimes economy consists in using less of what we have to buy and also less of what we have to sell.
- For a disease preventive nothing is better than a little copperas in the drinking water about once a week.
- The sow and litter will fare better if they are kept separated from the herd until the pigs are at least a month old.
- Ducks are practically immune from cholera, roup and gapes. Their favorite diseases are spinal meningitis and paralysis.
- The farmer who does not feed every pint of waste milk on the farm, sweet or sour, is not working for the greatest profit.
- A Holstein cow has recently completed an official record of 43.34 pounds of butter in seven days and 170 pounds in 30 days.
- Take an idle hour or two one of these days and dig the borers out of the young orchard trees. They soon cut the life out of them.
- If the sheep are quartered in buildings that are not simply ventilated, you will find that the confined heat will cause their wool to slip.
- Keep the bull growing. It is not right to let him slack back just because the season is getting well along. Treat him always as if he were the biggest part of the herd.

JERSEY IS MOST ECONOMIC PRODUCER



An Ideal "Mortgage Lifter" and Two "Patent Milkers" Which Attracted Considerable Attention From Visitors at the Nebraska State Fair.

(By R. G. WEATHERSTONE)
Bulls of dairy strains at one year old, the usual age for exhibiting, do not fill the eyes with the same effect of the beef type, so they do not appear in the prize list and are branded as inferior accordingly.

In latter years, a great change has come over the cattle industry. Dairy-ing has advanced by leaps and bounds.

Breeders of pedigreed cattle have awakened to the fact of a new position in the dairy industry. Jersey and Ayrshire cattle, having long been bred for dairy cattle, do not come under the ban already mentioned, but pedigreed Shorthorns, although there have always been deep milkers among them, have been regarded with suspicion in the best dairying districts.

Latterly, the herds of Shorthorn that were bred on dairy lines have been pushed very much to the front—cows of this breed have appeared at the dairy shows and have proven repeatedly that the right sort of Shorthorn can be first-class dairy cows.

The following are good dairy breeds: The Jersey is invariably admitted to be the ideal cow for butter production. In all her points she shows

dairy capacity. Light in the flesh she is big in the body, showing plenty of room for the vital organs and also capacity for dealing with the full supply of food, so necessary for a dairy cow. She is an attractive cow and a good seller.

Island-bred Jersey cows have an appearance of delicacy but the cows bred in the states seem to be quite able to stand the climate. The Jersey is occasionally a very heavy milker. As a rule she milks reasonably well, but her strong point is the richness of the cream.

The Ayrshire is a medium-sized cow. Her strong point is the large average milk yield. Ayrshire milk is not usually rich in butterfat. It is equally serviceable for butter and cheese making and for milk trade.

The point which recommends a milk for cheese making is the small size of the fat globules in the milk. When they are small, as in the Ayrshire milk, they do not rise quickly so that they are caught in the curd when it coagulates.

Jersey milk has large fat globules which rise quickly, making the milk unsuitable for cheese making.

NEW METHOD OF TOMATO CULTURE

Entire Strength of Plant Centered in Few Fruit Clusters by Good Pruning

(By M. N. EDGERTON.)
The new method of tomato culture consists in confining the growth of the plants to a single stalk or vine, these being trained to stakes.

Pruning should begin as soon as branches begin to appear, growth being confined to the main stalk.

In this way, instead of dissipating a large share of its strength in an effort toward vine growth, the entire strength of the plant is centered in a few fruit clusters.

Under ordinary culture, that is, where plants are allowed to branch at will, the first cluster of blossoms

enhanced value of the individual specimens of fruit. With this method of culture it is especially desirable that the plants be started early and transplanted two or three times before moving to the field. By moving a square or ball of undisturbed earth with each plant growth is scarcely checked.

We make it a practice to remove a large share of the leaves when transplanting in the beds and when moving to the field. This tends to preserve a balance between root and branch, largely preventing wilting of stalks and minimizing check in growth.

Plants moved to the field in this manner are but little checked in growth if the ground has been well fitted and soil moist.

We have moved strong and stocky plants that were two feet high with no resultant wilting of either leaves or stalks.

Such plants should be staked immediately, the plant being tied to the support below the first cluster of buds. The again, later on, below the second and third clusters. In tying allowance must be made for the growth of the stalk. Three full clusters of fruit are enough for one plant. Branches must be removed as soon as they appear.

With this method plants may be set as close as 18 inches in the row. Rows should be four feet apart to allow plenty of room for horse cultivation.

Cultivation should be frequent, but shallow, as the roots of tomato plants seek the surface where the soil warms up under the influence of the sun's rays. Mere stirring of the surface as with a garden rake creates ideal soil conditions among tomato plants.

For fancy market purposes or for the home garden this method of culture cannot be too highly recommended.

GOOD HINTS FOR SWINE FEEDING

As Corn Contains Excess of Carbohydrate Protein Must Be Given in Other Feeds.

Hogs are not fitted by nature to subsist entirely on waste products. They do their best on a clean, well-balanced ration. There are, however, some kinds of waste products, such as apple and potato peelings, table scraps, etc., that can be utilized to good advantage.

In the corn belt corn stands at the head of hog rations, being the cheapest and best feed available, writes C. E. Wallace in the Farm and Home.

Feeds rich in protein should be fed with it, for corn contains an excess of carbohydrate. Skim milk, grass and especially the clovers, are excellent sources of protein. The young growing pig needs proportionally more nitrogenous food than mature hogs.

When hogs reach the fattening stage corn can be fed almost exclusively. Clean waste scraps of fruit and vegetable may be fed with the foregoing feeds, but it should be borne in mind that the digestive apparatus of no animal is fitted to simulate soap suds and other chemicals of a like nature, which are often thought by the poorly informed to be excellent hog feed.

are usually cast and many of the buds appearing later fail to fructify.

With this method nearly every bud produces a fruit, each specimen being large and uniform in shape and coloring.

A dozen large tomatoes in a cluster is common and we have counted 20 to 30 tomatoes in exceptionally large clusters.

The main point of vantage possessed by this method is earliness, largeness and uniformity, greater freedom from rot and better coloring of the fruit.

Where grown for canning factories, earliness, size and uniformity not being especially advantageous, this method of culture will not prove practical, because of the increased expense of culture.

Grown for special markets, however, where fancy prices for fine fruit are to be had, the considerations specified make this method of culture highly advantageous because of the



A Goodly Yield of Tomatoes.