

SOMETHING For the LITTLE ONES

BASKET TRICK IS STARTLING

Formerly Done by Indian Fakirs, But Recently Western Magicians Have Adopted It.

One of the most startling of all the exhibitions given by the stage magician is the "basket trick." Formerly it was done only by the expert Indian fakirs, but in recent years western magicians also have done it. A child is placed in a basket in front of the spectators. Then the magician thrusts his sword through the basket again and again, drawing it out covered with blood. The child screams frantically for some time and then stops—as if it had been killed. When the basket is opened it is found to be empty and the child appears suddenly among the spectators. All this is done with such an aspect of reality that it often frightens the timid ones among the crowd, and yet it is simple enough.

One side of the basket is double. After closing the basket the magician pretends to turn it over on its side. He really turns over only one part of it. The bottom and one thickness of the double side are left as they were, the other thickness becomes the bottom of the basket in its new position, what was the opposite side of this becomes the top, and the old bottom is left lying flat upon the ground, with the child upon it, outside the basket. But this old bottom and the child upon it are now under the robe of the magician. While the magician is turning the basket back to its original position and running his sword through it the child escapes into the crowd. The blood on the sword is from a sponge in the basket.

TRAVEL ON 'WALKING WHEELS'

Movements Are Similar to Those of Skater—Brakes Provided to Prevent Undue Speed.

A Swiss inventor amused the people of the city in which he resided by going about on "walking wheels." The



Wheel Walking.

movements of the wheel walker are similar to those of the skater, except that the former, in bringing the foot forward, does not lift the wheel from the ground, says the Popular Electricity. Brakes are provided to prevent undue speed on inclines and there is also an arrangement to permit standing still.

No spokes connect the hub with the tire, but a solid steel sheet instead. The wheels are made of great strength, but of light weight and without perceptible friction. Walking can be easily learned, like the art of skating, and proficiency in the latter is helpful.

Allan Knew.

The teacher in a country school always tried to make the lessons as interesting as possible.

"Now, children," she said, "let me see what you remember about the animal kingdom and the domestic animals that belong to it. You have named all the domestic animals but one. Who can tell what that one is?"

There was no reply.

"What!" exclaimed the teacher. "Does no one know? It has bristly hair, likes the dirt, and is fond of getting into the mud."

A small boy at the end of the class raised a timid hand.

"Well, Allan?" said the teacher.

"Please, ma'am," said the little boy reflectively, "it's me."—Lippincott's.

Wanted Company.

Mother (reprovingly)—You know, dear, grandpa has gone to heaven, and papa has gone to heaven, but if you tell untruths you cannot go to heaven—you will have to go to the other place.

The Child—Oh, mamma, you say a swear word, and come to the other place, too.

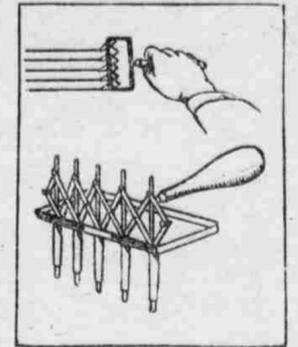
Two Sorts of Operations.

"I see they have operated on a Philadelphia boy's head in order to make a better boy of him."

MARKER FOR A BLACKBOARD

Draws Number of Parallel Lines at One Sweep—Easy to Understand Convenience of Device.

A blackboard marker, by means of which a series of parallel lines may be drawn at one movement, has been designed by a New York man. The chalks are inserted in holders that are mounted on a lazy-tong and the lazy-tongs are slidably mounted in the slots of a bar that in turn is set in a U-shaped frame—the frame having a handle at the back. To regulate the distance between the crayons, which means to regulate the space between the lines they draw, the lazy-tongs are either extended or contracted, as the



Blackboard Marker.

case may be. There are screw means to keep them rigid in any position desired. It is easy to understand the convenience of a device like this.

'HOLLERED' FOR HIS BROTHER

Schoolmaster Was Unwilling to Believe Excuse Given by Small Boy for Absence From School.

Having been absent from school for a whole day, a small boy was called out from his class the next morning by the head master, who wished to know the cause. The boy replied that his brother went to have a tooth pulled out, and that he went to "holler" for him.

"What!" said the schoolmaster, "you had to holler for him?"

"Yes, sir," said the boy.

The schoolmaster believing that the boy was telling a lie, immediately went for his cane and threatened to thrash him soundly if he did not speak the truth.

"I am speaking the truth," said the boy. "It is like this, sir. My father is a green grocer, and goes his rounds every morning; and father's got asthma very bad, and cannot call out what he's got to sell, so my brother goes with him to holler for him, and he, having his tooth pulled out yesterday, I went and did the hollering for him."

The boy was placed at the top of the class.

GOOD STUDY IN PUNCTUATION

Eastern Educator Says Modern Writer Punctuates Too Much—Often Placed in Wrong Place.

A celebrated eastern educator comma who has spent much time in studying literature comma tells us that the modern writer uses too many punctuation marks semicolon that he often gets them in the wrong place and that they are a nuisance comma anyhow comma remarks the Brooklyn Eagle period.

Another shark on literature comma however comma says that it is impossible for any person to write without using punctuation marks period. Being of a genteel turn comma we do not feel like coming right out and calling the latter gentleman a quotation marks liar quotation marks but we have demonstrated comma to the satisfaction of ourself comma at least comma that writing can be done without the use of any punctuation mark whatsoever period. How do you like it interrogation point.

PASTIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Bow and Arrow May Be Used Indoors if Care Is Taken to Avoid Window Panes and Paintings.

This bow and arrow has been designed chiefly for those interested in the outdoor sport of archery, but may



A Bow and Arrow That Will Stand Hard Usage.

also be used indoors if care is taken to avoid windows and pictures. The bow, which is 26 in. in length, is made of two pieces of strong steel wire connected to a nickelplated handpiece shaped so that the arrow can be quickly placed in position for shooting. The bowstring is made of strong material and the arrow is of hard wood, 15 in. long, with a soft rubber tip, and weighs only 8 ounces.

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



By William Pitt

Find out the good cows.

Overcrowding is a mistake.

Mismanagement is expensive.

For heifers provide good pasture, shade and water.

If you hurry you still have time to put up a silo this season.

It is estimated that five chickens will yield a pound of feathers.

Old turkey hens and young toms make the best breeding combination.

Sheep ought to be kept because of the influence which they exert upon fertility.

Wasteful feeding does not necessarily mean too much, it may mean not enough.

In seeding sweet clover its lime and inoculation requirements should be carefully looked after.

When managed rightly, the dairy cow and the good profitable hen will always give a profit.

Mistakes in pig feeding are costly. In the short life of the pig there is little time to correct mistakes.

Eggs ought to weigh a pound and a half to the dozen or fifty-five pounds net to the thirty dozen eggs.

Sand is a bad thing in the gear boxes of automobiles but is very necessary in the gizzards of chickens.

It is necessary to feed the breeding ducks liberally, yet at the same time feed so as to keep them active and healthy.

Do not plant the same crop on the same land each year; rotate. Disease and insects will become troublesome if you don't.

Silo filling time has already come for some of the dairy-farmers. It is best to be thoroughly prepared before the actual process begins.

Seed corn week will soon be here. See that the very best ears are saved for next year's crop depends upon your foresightedness just at this time.

Broom corn and sorghum should not be planted close together if planted so they mature pollen at the same time. They are closely related botanically and mix.

Select at least fifty ears of corn for each acre to be planted next year. This will allow more careful selection next spring. The poorer ears you can sell to your neighbors.

We would not feed shelled corn to heifer calves intended for dairy cows. The feed is too fattening. Whole oats are much better. Shelled corn will do for steer calves intended for beef purposes.

Remember that the fall is a splendid time to paint those buildings you didn't take care of last spring. Do not let them go through another winter without some improvement along this line.

Success in intensive cultivation can come only through a thorough knowledge gained by study and close application to the work. You must know how to rotate your crops, that is, how to follow one crop with another, what crops to plant for early growing and what to plant for late crops.

The best market you can find for the green corn, if you haven't plenty of silage, is cutting part of it and throwing it into the pastures for the cows or, better still, feeding it in the barn. They will return you a good price for everything you give them if they are good cows.

Dozens of dairy farmers are feeding and milking twenty cows twice per day each day of the year, when the chances are that twelve to fifteen of the number would pay a larger profit. The whole idea is to find out which are the good cows and then give them the attention they need.

How are you taking care of the manure that daily accumulates on the farm? This is a big item to dispose of any very important in connection with future soil fertility and big crops. We trust that you are not allowing it to go to waste.

Mongrel live stock and poultry will be predominant on our American farms till more of our farmers keep their own sires, and thus know something about the blood origin of every living thing on the premises. It pays to keep the best and breed the best.

Build a scratching shed.

Please your egg customers.

Give the chicks the sour milk.

Constant vigilance is the price of a clean swine herd.

Do not waste by feeding more than the animal can digest.

Milk that is kept clean and properly cooled needs no preservative.

Equal parts of corn and oats are hard to excel as a grain feed for sheep.

Paint all the wounds made in pruning with pure white lead and pure linseed oil.

It is cheaper to remove the cause of disease than to doctor the chickens afterward.

The young calf should have an abundance of good clean clear water before it at all times.

The moisture going in with the silage should be kept in. This keeps the silage from "dry-irrigating."

It pays to grade all small fruit. It demoralizes prices to have small, bad berries mixed in with large ones.

Spraying with whitewash once a month will go a long way toward keeping down vermin in the poultry house.

It never pays to market stock that is not fat. Plenty of good yellow corn will make any healthy bird fat in two weeks.

Experiments show that chickens with strong vitality and plenty of masculine characteristics make the largest gains.

If you have any chickens roosting in the orchard trees, you had better let them know what the hen house was built for.

Don't allow your horses to drink a large amount of water on coming into the stable very warm. Allow them to cool off a bit first.

The profit in pig feeding depends upon the cost of the feed given them. Therefore anything that cheapens the feed increases the profit.

Bitter rot and blotch are two of the most difficult diseases of the apple to control. Late spraying with bordeaux mixture is most effective.

No matter how healthy and strong the chick may be when hatched, the strength will soon disappear when not given the proper feed and attention.

Humus is the name applied to the partially decomposed organic (animal and vegetable) matter of the soil. It is the principal source of nitrogen in the soil.

The farm mortgage that has outlived every other line of activity very frequently succumbs to the dairy cow and the milk check which she brings in every week.

The profit in a cow consists of the money the milk or butter will sell for over and above the cost for feed. This cost will not be materially different between the cows kept on the average farm.

The object of sanitation in the hog yards and houses is to secure the greatest degrees of bodily health and vigor, because the animal will develop better and be less susceptible to disease.

Many orchards are not fruitful for the reason that there is not enough nutritive properties in the soil to supply the requisite amount of nourishment to enable the trees to properly mature fruit.

A few dollars spent in improving fences, especially along the roadside, will be money well used, for it will not only help the appearance of the farm and make a more ready sale if such is desired but it will also add to the self respect of the farmer and the farmer's boys, all of which has a real value.

A good way to handle manure for garden purposes is to spread it in broad, flat piles and allow it to rot, then apply 100 pounds of acid phosphate and 100 manure and mix this well when you put it in a pile. This will add to the manurial value of the pile and will prevent the loss of ammonia to a great extent.

The heavy feeding of corn to poultry, especially where there is an absence of good, hard, sharp grit, will bring on bad cases of indigestion, which in many cases resembles cholera. About 22 cases out of 100 reported cholera victims are cases of indigestion. The end is the same, but the latter disease is not contagious.

Because the hog has the ability to utilize grain feeds so efficiently and economically is a poor excuse for feeding grain exclusively and neglecting to reduce the cost of pork growing by the use of supplemental forage and pasture crops.

Other things that go to make intensive cultivation a success are manure, and constructive work in your garden. Confine yourself to a small garden spot and work that hard rather than work over a large one and give it only half enough attention.

HINTS FOR MAKING MONEY WITH SHEEP



Sheep are the most nervous of animals and if allowed to run down quickly become the prey of disease. The well kept, well fed sheep is the only kind to keep.

Sheep will not thrive in dark, damp, badly ventilated quarters, even if they are only confined in such places over night. Better keep them in an open lot than house them under such conditions.

Never permit the sheep to lie on foul bedding or in barns that are muddy and dirty.

Low, muddy pastures make fine breeding ground for germs and sheep should therefore always be pastured on high, dry land.

Never turn a sheep loose after clipping without first having dipped him thoroughly as a preventive of parasites.

No matter if the ram or breeding ewes you buy come from the best breeding farm in the country, do not permit them to run with your flock for at least ten days. This time is necessary to develop any disease that may be carried about with them.

Sheep require more careful inspection than any other farm animal because the disease attacks them quickly and often becomes fatal before it has been really discovered.

A good flock master will not fail to have every sheep on the place pass under his own eye once every day.

Some farmers imagine that by breeding a large, rangy lamb with a small ewe larger lambs will result. This is seldom the case and the best results are obtained by breeding

ing ewes to rams of the same type.

Oil meal is excellent to prevent indigestion and keep the young sheep in fine condition generally.

Every flock of 50 or more animals will be better off under the care of a sheep dog.

Never buy a sheep dog from a fancier unless you know positively that he or his ancestors have been actually worked on sheep. So many collies are now being bred for looks alone to sell to city people that most of them are entirely worthless for work among sheep.

The shorter the pasture becomes the deeper the sheep will go after the roots. It is bad policy to pasture grass too closely. It only kills out the grass and does the sheep no good. Supplementary feeds must be supplied when the grass grows short.

The last month before weaning time is hard on the mother ewe. The vigorous lambs are pulling them down rapidly and they must have plenty of nourishing feed or they'll end the season in poor condition.

Whenever you hear a sheep coughing you may know that it is suffering from some sort of disease—indigestion, catarrh, bronchitis, thread worms or other parasites. They need attention at once.

We can do much to sustain weight and quality of fleece by generous and sensible feeding.

Sheep that are allowed to run down and become very thin during late summer will not thrive when the cold weather comes on no matter how much feed is given them.

ENCOURAGE PURE BREED OF POULTRY

Farmer Should at Least Purchase Full-Blooded Cock, Disposing of Old Rooster.

(By B. NELSON.)

In many localities the barn-yard fowl will not give way to the improved breeds. If you cannot afford to buy an entire breeding-pen of pure stock, at least obtain a full-blooded cock and send the old common rooster to market. This will greatly improve matters, if you are careful to retain the best pullets of this cross-breed, and when you have a stock of good ones sacrifice the old hens. Cannot farmers be prevailed upon to do this, when the supply of eggs, even in the villages, is too small in winter? When eggs are scarce and the prices high, do not some diminish home consumption, and even then complain of the small number they have to take to market. A thoroughbred hen of a good strain will lay nearly fifty per cent. more in the number of eggs than a common hen. If the prices diminish a little the increased production of eggs will much overbalance the account. Too many persons raise poultry without regard to the use of pure breeds and regardless of an effort to maintain the high standard to which our domestic fowls have attained. The increased evidence of the fact that high-class poultry pays, is surely sufficient to encourage us to strike out boldly and extensively in this field of enterprise. Every effort in this direction will meet with such favor that success will surely follow. Contrast the present with the past, and

notice whether the improvement in poultry has been a paying venture. Let us not hesitate to try all the late common-sense methods. We must not drift from year to year in the same channel or we will certainly become the active agents of a system that destroys progress. The present is an auspicious time to move in this matter, and it is certainly something that should interest all, and must be conceded to be a theme that should be discussed by farmers and poultrymen everywhere.

PROPER MANNER TO UNCOIL NEW ROPE

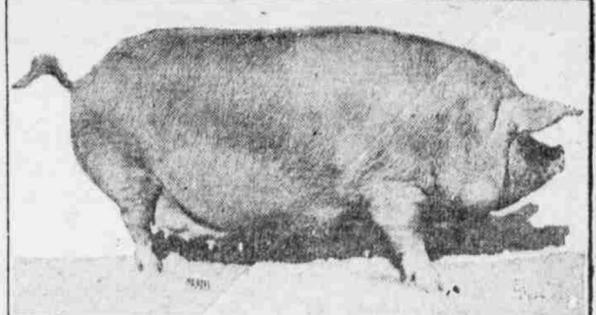
There Are Two Ways of Performing This Important Duty, One Right, One Wrong.

(By J. M. DREW.)

The proper way to take rope from a coil is to draw it from the middle. There are two ways to do this, a right and a wrong way. If it happens to be done the wrong way the rope will become twisted in a manner that will make it almost unmanageable. If done the right way it will come out without any twisting or snarling and all the rope in the coil may be drawn out without trouble. To do it properly the rope should be uncoiled toward the left, or opposite the way the hands of a watch or clock run.

By finding the inside end of the coil and observing how it uncoils, one may tell whether or not he is starting in the right way. If the rope uncoils to the right instead of the left the whole coil should be turned over and the end pulled through from the opposite side of the coil. The rope will then uncoil to the left and cause no trouble.

MOST IMPORTANT POINT IN RAISING HOGS



Prize Berkshire Sow.

It is true that warm water is just as wet as cool water, but it is not so palatable and the hogs will thrive better if they have a cool drink at least twice a day. Water should always be within reach.

Hogs exposed to the hot sunshine day in and day out during the summer will lose much of the gains they make even though the clover fields be of the finest.

The main and only point in raising hogs is to produce flesh that will bring the most money and every little thing that will work toward this end should be put into operation.

No farmer who continually stuffs his breeding sows with corn can hope to secure the best pigs. Breeding

stock requires more clover, bran and alfalfa than corn.

The short-nosed hog is always to be desired against the long, slender-faced type.

The sow should be long-bodied and the boar short.

It has always been a disputed question as to whether a hog gains anything by rooting. Even if he doesn't he has plenty of time to spare and rooting will certainly not hurt him.

The man whose sows raise two litters a year has learned something about the hog business, and if he succeeds in saving eight out of every ten he has learned about all there is to know about the hog business.—E. V. B.