

THE CHILDREN



JACK'S NOVEL POCKET PIECE

Had Carried Snail Around in Pocket Until Children Were Snugly Settled for Bed-Time Talk.

When the children were snugly settled for the bed-time talk Jack fished up a snail shell from the depths of his pocket, where he had been carrying it all day for this occasion. "Tell us all about that," he said. "I often find them in the garden, but there is never anything in them. I know that the shells couldn't get there all alone, but why do we never see the snails?" "Because the snail is usually tucked safely away inside the shell," mamma answered, "and knows too much to come out when curious little boys are around. If you will go into the garden some warm sunny day just after a shower, you will perhaps be able to find a snail dragging himself and his house along one of the walks. When the weather is dry or cold they close the door of their house with a kind of membrane that they manufacture themselves, just as the spider makes its web or the silkworm its cocoon. During the winter they find shelter somewhere in a crevice, or make a hole in the ground, which they cover with dead leaves. Here they remain safe and warm until the first spring rains call them out in search of food.

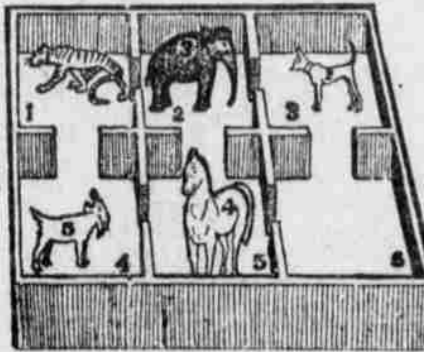
"The snail has almost as many teeth as the fly has eyes, often having one or two hundred rows of them. It knows how to use them too, and often does great mischief to gardens with them. Some gardeners catch and destroy them by spreading cabbage leaves on the ground to attract them. "The body of the snail is very soft, and it has four horns, two long ones and two short ones. You will notice two tiny black spots at the end of the long horns. These are the eyes; and if you look very closely when the snail first puts out his horns, you will see these eyes move up until they reach the tips.

"In some countries snails are considered good to eat. The ancient Romans kept them in an inclosure made for that purpose, and fed them on meal and boiled wine until they were fattened and ready for the table. The most wonderful thing about the snail is its power to heal its own injuries. It is one of the most remarkable physicians on earth, but its only patient is itself. Not only is it able to heal wounds on any part of its body, but even the head may be cut off, and another one will grow."—Sunday School Visitor.

PEN PUZZLE IS INTERESTING

Trick is to Place Animals in Stalls Corresponding With Numbers as Shown in Illustration.

In how few moves can you place each of the animals in its proper pen without ever having two in the same pen? The number on the animals



Pen Puzzle.

should correspond to the numbers of the pens.

The animals are rearranged into their proper pens by moving them in the following order: 4, 3, 2, 4, 3, 5, 1, 2, 4, 3, 5, 4, 2, 1, 4 and 5.

ORIGIN OF FLYING MACHINES

When Balloons Were First Invented No Man Could Be Found Who Was Willing to Make Ascension.

When the first flying machine or balloon was invented no man could be found to venture to go up in it, so they placed a sheep, a cock and a duck in the basket and let them try it.

This was in Paris on June 5, 1783. The balloon was made by two young men, sons of a paper maker, and was filled with hot air. It went up to a height of nearly half a mile and then gradually sank back to earth, and the animals were found contentedly reposing in the basket as if nothing had happened.

This experiment was thought so successful that on November 21 the same year a young naturalist named De Rozier and an army officer, the Marquis d'Arlandes, went up in a balloon and stayed aloft about half an hour. This made young De Rozier so bold that two years afterward he tried to cross the English channel and was drowned.

Was Baby Needed?

Elmer, though only a little boy, was the eldest child of an already numerous family. He was invited to go in and see a little baby sister. Asked by his mother what he thought of the baby, he said: "W'y, mamma, it's real nice. But do you think we needed it?"

NEAT TRICKS WITH MATCHES

Success of Deception More Often Than Not Rests Entirely on its Readiness and Simplicity.

The success of a good trick more often than not rests entirely on its readiness and simplicity of performance. For the following all that is necessary is a box of ordinary wooden matches.

Arrange fifteen matches in the four figures given below. Then ask a friend (preferably a bachelor) to take away three and leave an explicit explanation of what "matches" are

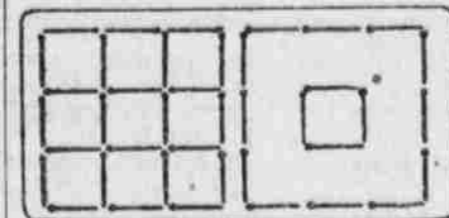


Matches and Matches.

made of. Those to be removed are lettered a, b and c.

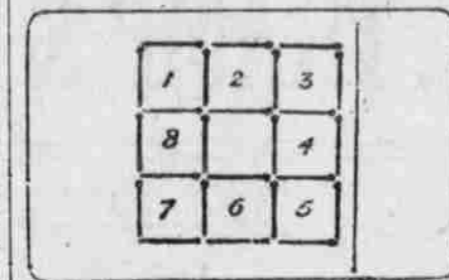
Place twenty-four matches into a cube of nine small squares. Remove eight of the matches and leave only two squares. Experience will show that the solution of this trick is far more difficult than the unformed would at first imagine. All that is necessary is to leave the four sides of the cube and the small middle square.

Replace the matches into the original cubes of nine squares, throwing



Cube Puzzle.

seven other matches on the table. Now challenge anyone present to take each of the seven matches separately, and, commencing with any square (the middle one excepted), count four successive squares, including that of the start, dropping the match into an empty fourth. A square already containing a match must be counted in the course of



Square Puzzle.

a move, but it cannot be used as a starting point. Each match must alike commence, and find its destination in an empty square. The middle square must not be counted at all, neither for the start nor finish, nor in the course of a move. It will be found that there is little difficulty in securing squares for five, or even six, matches; but the placing of the entire seven is by no means a simple matter.

The solution is as follows: The square from which the first move is made must receive the next match. If the start commenced at 1, for instance, and the match consequently found its destination in 4, it must be arranged that the next falls in 1. The counting of the second would therefore have to begin at six. Similarly the third match is made to drop into 5 by starting at 3, and so on until all seven have been placed.

BUSY LITTLE TREE PLANTERS

By Burying Nuts of Chestnut, Hickory and Walnut Squirrels Perform Most Important Duty.

Contrary to common belief, the gray squirrels of the United States do not lay up their winter store of nuts in mass, but bury each one separate and apart from the rest, and for this reason they are nature's most important chestnut, hickory and walnut tree planters, Harper's Weekly remarks.

The nuts are hidden in the ground, often at a considerable distance from one another, and either by instinct or a remarkable memory the squirrels will penetrate through several feet of snow when in want of food and seldom, if ever, fail to find the hidden treasures.

They do not need or use the tenth part of the provender they have hidden away in the ground, and what they do not consume germinates the next spring and in this way we get our uniform nut tree forests, which would otherwise grow in cluster under the parent tree where the nuts have fallen.

In their burying operations squirrels often cover a large area of ground, seeking the most favorable spot for hiding their food; this accounts for trees springing up in the most diverse places.

Production and Consumption.

Myrtle, who is studying physical geography, likes to flaunt her superior knowledge.

"Jimmie," she said to her little brother, "I bet you don't know what germination produces."

"I don't know what it produces," replied Jimmie, "but I know the German nation consumes lots of sauerkraut and wienersurst."—Youngstown Telegram.

No Time.

"Son, do you read blood and thunder novels?" "No, sir. It's all I kin do to keep up wit' the horrible crimes in the current news."

NOTES from MEADOWBROOK FARM



Horses require salt.

Segregate all sick fowls.

Don't sow alfalfa on weedy soil.

Cover the strawberry plants.

Keep the sheep in out of every storm.

Protect cows from sudden changes in weather.

Keep charcoal always where the hogs can get it.

Ventilate the root cellar every morning during the early fall.

A little tankage and oil meal makes excellent feed for young pigs.

Experts claim that western sheep can be raised at a profit of \$1.81 the head.

The cow's milk-making machinery is run most economically near its full capacity.

Well-drained yards and pens will help to keep the hogs more thrifty and profitable.

A good coating of barnyard manure well disked in is an excellent treatment for an old pasture.

Every farmer should use home-grown lambs on his own table, for variety and health.

It's an up-to-date dairyman that gets 16 cents a quart for milk that is almost free from bacteria.

Don't give your horses patent medicine that you know nothing about, especially colic remedies.

Clean up your strawberry bed. If it showed any sign of black rot, plow under and plant elsewhere.

The well-banked root-cellar pays large dividends on the extra protection afforded its contents.

Keep a good cat or two around the poultry plant, as it will save you lots of trouble with mice and rats.

The aging ewes should be given extra feed and fattened, unless they are ext' breeders and mothers.

If your flock is properly managed and cared for there will be little or no use for medicines and tonics.

Study your birds closely and learn their habits. The better you know them the better success you will have.

Modern cold storage is doing much good this fall, in helping the fruit growers market their perishable products.

Deep kernels give a high shelling percentage, but tend toward late maturity. Medium depth kernels are best.

A saving of about ten per cent. may be made by grinding the grain for farm work horses when at hard labor.

Plenty of exercise increases the egg yield. Provide four or five inches of good clean litter in which to scatter the grain.

It does not require any great ability at figures to show that there is a great waste in selling hogs when they are half fed.

Of the serious parasitic diseases affecting sheep, stomach worms probably cause the heaviest losses to sheep raisers.

Fill coarse sacks with very dry chaff and bury them in those bins of damp grain. They will absorb a great deal of the moisture.

Many people feed too much new corn to the hogs. New corn should be fed sparingly at first, then gradually increase the amount.

Watch that the ducks have suitable attention and regular feed. A few well cared for pay better than too many that are slighted.

In cool weather ten to thirteen chicks are sufficient for one hen, while in warmer weather fifteen to twenty can be cared for successfully.

Canned vegetables are not to be much higher on account of the dry weather because the vegetable belt did not suffer like the corn belt.

One acre of alfalfa will furnish more forage for hogs than two acres of clover, as it grows faster and keeps on growing as fast as the hogs eat it down.

Cows must have salt.

Use a covered milk pail.

Have a purpose in breeding.

Deep fall plowing is essential.

The silage feeding season for hens is on.

Neatness of package is important in selling butter.

Store only sound fruit and vegetables in the cellar.

The nutritive value and digestibility of mutton rank quite high.

A cow's contentment is below par when her ration is unpalatable.

To show results at the milk pail, the dairy cow must be a hearty eater.

There is something the matter with a squealing pig. Find out what it is.

Much farm machinery wears out more through exposure than through use.

Butter that has been properly made will not stick to the knife blade when it is cut.

Undertaking too much at the start is a frequent cause of failure in fruit growing.

Remember that straw or cornstalks about fruit trees harbor mice and lead to girdling.

Don't fail to store a liberal amount of soil for use in starting early vegetable plants.

The best plan of fruit pruning is that which does not permit a useless branch to grow.

For market purposes the Pekin duck is best. For eggs the Indian Runner takes the lead.

Milk scales and the tester will be a certain standard by which the cows may be measured.

Poultry should be kept off feed twenty-four hours before killing and dressed for market.

Handle the young boar carefully. Teach him to obey the word, and to walk ahead of you.

First-class fruit in first-class shape will probably develop an inquiry for more of the same kind.

The farmer who is most interested in his work is the one who usually accomplishes the most.

Work or exercise the stallion daily, and your next season's colt crop will be much more satisfactory.

One big advantage of the hog raising industry is that the hogs give quick and profitable returns.

Corn seldom ripens uniformly. Early selection of seed corn insures early maturity in succeeding crops.

Milk cows quickly and thoroughly. The strippings are at least three times as rich as the first flow of milk.

It is not alone the quantity of milk a cow may give that makes her profitable, but it is the quality as well.

The supply of onions is greater than the demand, due to the large number raised along the gulf coast of Texas.

Start the brooder a day or two before putting in the chicks, to see that the heating apparatus is working properly.

Of 14,208,724 sheep inspected for food purposes in 1912, only 15,402 were condemned, about one-tenth of one per cent.

When pigs should be weaned should be determined as much as how they are eating and growing as upon their age.

Don't crowd the chicks. Give them room to exercise and grow in. See that they are kept comfortable and well fed.

The fact that there is variation in both plants and animals gives breeders ample opportunities for improving the type.

A few bad eggs in a case is sufficient to give the whole lot a bad name. Be careful that every egg is strictly fresh.

Store seed corn where it will dry out quickly. Do not leave it, even over night, in sacks, as it is likely to heat and be injured.

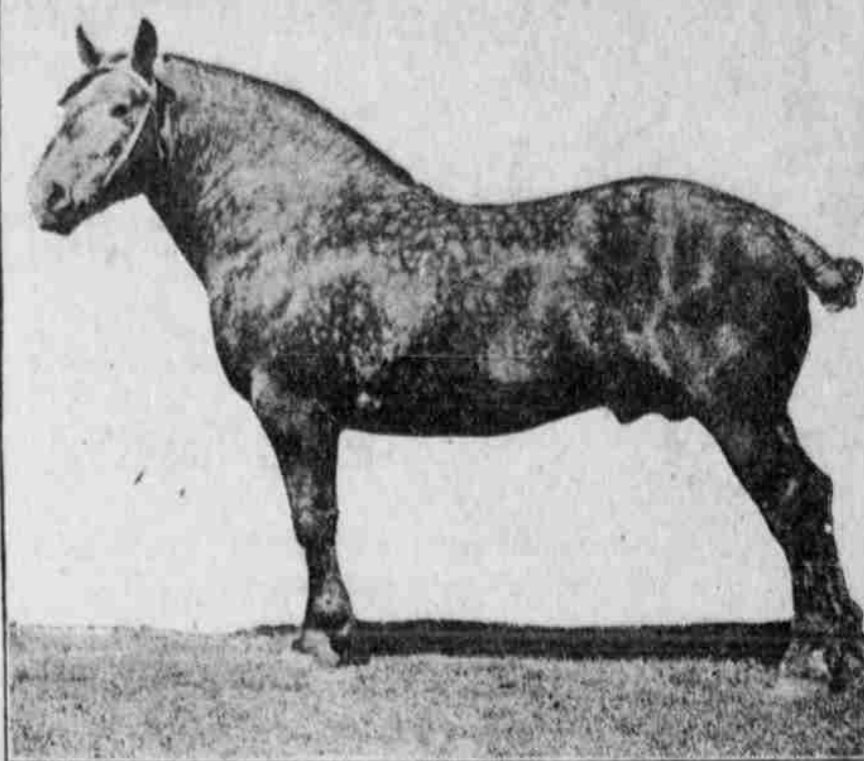
All kinds of live stock do better when they can get green feed the year round, and the only way to secure this is by the use of the silo.

Don't sacrifice an old sow that is a regular breeder, even if the price of pork is high. She is the kind that makes the pig business certain.

The old sows are going to be moved out of the country. That means that more than the usual number of brood sows next spring will be young ones.

It is poor economy to feed spoiled food to the poultry. They may contract disease or become poisoned. Burn all decomposed food stuff at once.

SOME PRACTICAL HINTS ON THE HORSE



Imported Percheron Stallion.

(By J. M. BELL.) A bran mash, once a week, is a renovator for the driving horse. Two quarts of shelled oats and the same quantity of wheat bran, scalded about mid-day and then covered with a blanket or cloth, to keep in the steam, add a pinch of salt and feed at night. Give no other grain with this mash, but of course the regulation ration of hay. This once a week mash, given preferably Saturday night, will do your driving or riding horse all the good in the world.

The work stock will also appreciate the mash, too.

Sell off the old stock. Corn and hay are both high this year, and it's a long time before spring. It is hard to put fat on these old fellows in cold weather, so you had better sell them for what they will bring, and thereby save feed and incidentally expense.

The plan of blanketing work horses is a very good one in many respects, but you must remember that when once you put the blanket on, you must be very careful as to how you take the blanket off.

Give the horses more care and

warmer quarters, thus saving high price feed and horse flesh.

Try a measure of kindness for a balanced ration.

The work-horses must have exercise and fresh air when not in use. Turn them out during the warm part of the day, and let them enjoy themselves.

Are you simply feeding the horses to keep them alive this winter, or are you feeding and caring for them with an eye to their good flesh and usefulness when next spring's work opens up?

Honestly, now, how many men did you ever see salt their horses in winter?

Don't allow the offer of a good, stiff price for the best colts to tempt you in letting go of them. You'll need some fresh young teams one of these days, and it takes an almost fabulous sum of money to buy a span of young horses suitable for farm purposes.

If you can't get a competent blacksmith to shoe the horses, they are better off without any. The cause of most hoof troubles may be traced back to ill-fitted shoes.

EUROPEAN FARMER EXCELS AMERICAN

Give Back to Soil Everything That Could Be Fed in Way of Manurial Value.

Manure has a peculiar effect upon the ground. In some ways it loosens the food necessary to plants by quickening the chemical action of the soil, and inert soil particles change into active food constituents for the growing plants. It is not alone the direct food value that is at issue, but the whole effect upon the physical, chemical and bacterial life of the soil that must be considered. In England and other European countries where the soil has been tilled for hundreds of years, the production today exceeds that of former years. In fact the wheat production in England during the middle ages was not as good as it is in the northwest today. At present England produces more than twenty bushels of wheat to the acre, France twenty-two, Austria about eighteen, and the productivity of the fields of the Belgian and Dutch farmer are almost beyond belief. This has come about by giving back to the soil everything that could be fed in the way of manurial value. In this respect American farmers have much yet to learn.—Journal of Agriculture and Star Farmer.

HOG PARALYSIS IS COMMON DISEASE

Trouble Is With Nervous System and Not With Kidneys as Generally Supposed.

(By I. L. LEWIS, Oklahoma Experiment Station.)

Paralysis is a very common disease among young sows after farrowing and in young rapidly growing shoats. The trouble is most commonly known as kidney worms, and is frequently referred to as some kind of kidney disease. The trouble is with the nervous system and not with the kidneys. Before farrowing the sow should be fed on ground oats, bran, milk, etc., with very little corn. Knuckling over in the hind legs is generally the first symptom. Should partial paralysis begin to appear the following treatment should be given: Five to fifteen grains of powdered nuxvomica in feed twice a day, the dose depending upon the size of the animal; also give ten to fifteen grains of sulphate of lime in feed twice a day. This treatment should be continued for weeks if necessary, as nervous troubles of this character are not to be remedied by any treatment in a few days.

Best When Picked Green.

Pears and apples keep better if picked a little green. Some pears rot from the core outward if allowed to ripen on the tree.

PROTEIN IS NEEDED FOR WINTER FEED

Oats and Peas are Becoming More Popular Each Year—Easy to Cut and Handle.

(By W. M. KELLY.)

Every year I am coming to appreciate the value of oats and peas as a summer forage for the dairy cattle and as a source of protein for winter feeding. These crops are becoming more popular every year. They are very palatable and nourishing, easy to cut and handle, and come at a time when the pastures are short and dry.

A succession of sowings will afford green feed for a number of weeks. These crops should be sown as early as possible and the ideal way is to sow the peas broadcast and plow them in about four inches deep with a one-horse plow. After four or five days put in the oats about two inches deep. They will come up about the same time and the peas will fill better and stay green longer for being planted deep.

On account of the rush of work during the spring and uncertain weather conditions we usually mix the two kinds of seeds and compromise by drilling as deep as possible, putting in both kinds of seeds at one operation.

The ground should be rolled and planked so that the crops can be cut with a mowing machine or scythe. I prefer to use about two bushels of peas to one of oats, although I frequently vary the amounts according to the price of the pea seed.

For cutting green it is best to make a number of sowings about a week or ten days apart. Two or three acres of good land should furnish enough forage for twenty-five or thirty cows for a number of weeks during the summer.

For winter feed they will produce more tons of good feed than clover hay and will greatly reduce the bills for grain feed. They should be sown the same as for forage and cut when the oats are heading and the peas are well in bloom, then the stock will eat them more readily with no waste.

Do not wait until the oats are formed or there will be difficulty experienced in feeding the fodder. This mixture is worthy a place on every dairy farm.

Success of Any Job.

In farming, more than in almost any other profession, the greatest success of a job depends on its being properly done and just at the right time.

Recognized Principle.

It is a well-recognized principle that all grain crops thrive best in a fine, thoroughly worked seed bed underlaid by a solid substream.

Manner of Watering Horses.

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.