

# For the LITTLE ONES



## BLACK SNAKE AND SQUIREL

Correspondent Relates Thrilling Story of Encounter He Witnessed While Hunting in Woods.

A correspondent tells a thrilling story of the meeting between a big blacksnake and a gray squirrel. He was sitting at the foot of a tree with his gun across his knee when he heard a squirrel chattering in a small tree near him. He at once cocked his gun and prepared to shoot. He saw the squirrel run part way down the trunk of the tree and then scramble back again, and, after chattering frantically for a few seconds, repeat the action. This continued for some time, and the hunter became so much interested that he rose up slowly and tried to find out what the trouble was. Near the bottom of the tree he saw a huge blacksnake partially coiled. Its head lay flat on the ground, but its tail was thrust up a few inches in the air and was waving slowly back and forth. Again the squirrel ran down, this time nearer to the ground, and then it suddenly stopped chattering and seemed to be eyeing the snake's tail.

Then it ran around the tree and peeped out on the other side and looked at the tail from that direction. Now, a squirrel is the most curious of all animals, and it couldn't understand why that tail was moving so strangely, and so it crept nearer and nearer, uttering half-startled little cries from time to time. The hunter saw the snake's eyes gleam, but there was not the slightest motion of the body, although the tail continued to wave. At last the squirrel reached the ground. Of a sudden the snake threw up its head, sprung almost off the ground and before the squirrel could move seized it in its dreadful fangs. The squirrel's curiosity had proved its ruin.

## CHEESE AND CRACKER PUZZLE

Exact Ratio in Which Two Articles of Food Should Be Consumed Is Shown by Illustration.

Chef Louis is showing the exact ratio in which crackers and cheese should be consumed. Says Louis: "The balance board, which weighs one-half as much as the cheese, has four-fifths of its length on one side of the balance point. The cheese weighs ten pounds, so who can tell the weight of the crackers?"

Louis said the cheese weighed ten pounds and the balance board five pounds. Four-fifths of the board, and therefore four pounds of its weight was on one side of the balance point. Let us assume that the beam was five



Cracker and Cheese Puzzle.

feet in length, then at the point two feet from the fulcrum (the average distance) would be a weight pressure of four pounds. This, equivalent to a two-pound pressure at the extreme end, a two-pound weight at the four-foot arm of a five-foot lever would raise eight pounds on the short arm. The cheese weighed ten pounds and there was already a half-pound pressure on the short arm, making a total of ten and one-half pounds, which would require two and five-eighths pounds pressure on the long arm to effect a balance. Therefore, the crackers must have weighed five-eighths of a pound.

## Flying Post.

Set a circle of chairs facing inward. Let one child sit on each chair, and let the "it" stand in the center of the ring. Twist up a duster or large handkerchief into a ball. The seated players have to throw it from one to another across the ring, while the "it" has to try to catch it as it passes. The seated players must not get up. If the duster falls outside the ring they may lean down and pick it up, but they must not leave their places. When the "it" catches it or secures it from the floor the child who last threw it gives up her place and becomes "it" in the middle of the ring.

## Another Face Allures Him.

"I hope you watch your teacher, Johnnie, and remember what she shows you."  
"Now, I don't."  
"What do you do?"  
"I watch the clock."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

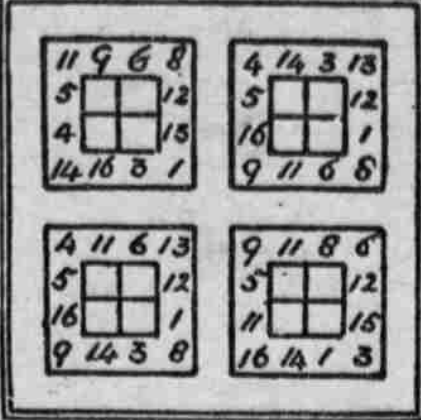
## Queer Word.

What word is there of eight letters from which you can subtract five and leave ten?  
Tendency

## PUZZLE OF MAGIC SQUARES

Trick is to Fill in Four Empty Cells With Same Four Numbers in Same Relative Positions.

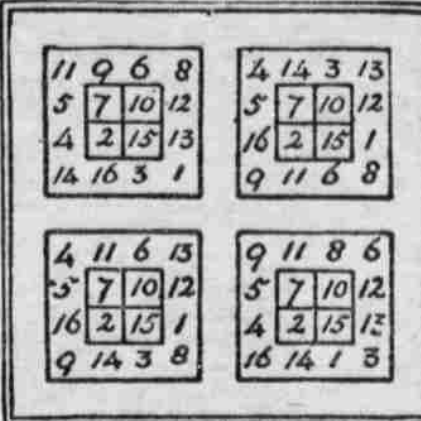
Can you fill in the four squares, which now have each four empty cells, with the same four numbers in the



Magic Square Puzzle.

same relative positions, so that each full sized square becomes a magic square, and adds up in all directions to 34?

The diagram shows how the central cells must be filled in, so that the same



Solution of Puzzle.

numbers and arrangement completes each magic square.

## IMAGINATION WORKS A CURE

Prince of Orange Cured Garrison of Scurvy by Use of Harmless Colored Vials of Water.

During the siege of Breda, in the Netherlands, the garrison was badly afflicted with the scurvy.

So useless was the medical aid afforded the soldiers, and so desperate were they in consequence, that they resolved to give up the city to the enemy.

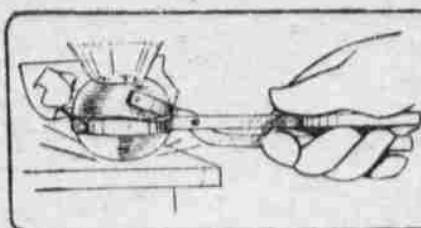
This resolution came to the ears of the prince of Orange. He immediately wrote addresses to the men, assuring them that he possessed remedies that were unknown to physicians, and that he would undertake their cure, provided they continued in the discharge of their duty. Together with these addresses he sent to the physicians small vials of colored water, which the patients were assured were of immense price and of unspeakable value. Many, who declared that all former remedies had only made them worse, now recovered in a few days. A long and interesting account of the wonderful working of this purely imaginary antidote was drawn up by M. Van der Mye, one of the physicians of the garrison, whose office was thus successfully usurped by the prince of Orange.

A corroborative proof of the well-known power of the imagination affecting Arabian fable: One day a traveler met the Plague going into Cairo, and accosted it thus: "For what purpose are you entering Cairo?" "To kill 3,000 people," replied the Plague. "But you killed 30,000!" "Nay," replied the Plague, "I killed but 3,000; the rest died of fright."

## SAFETY NOISE-MAKING TOY

Much Amusement is Afforded to Youngsters by Parents, Using Old Newspapers as Ammunition.

Nearly every American father has, at one time or another, blown up a paper bag and then exploded it by striking the bottom with his hand, to the great enjoyment of a small son. The illustration shows a safe noise-making toy embodying the same idea.



Safe Noise-Making Toy Embodying a Familiar Idea.

says the Popular Mechanic. A piece of old newspaper is the ammunition. This is slipped over the opening of the ball or bowl-shaped receptacle, and the pulling of the trigger or exertion of pressure on the handle, results in a pressure of air which bursts the paper with considerable noise.

## Slippers and Procrastination.

Why are your bedroom slippers like a deferred resolution?  
Because they are put off till the next day.

## The Why.

Teacher of Hygiene—Why must we always be careful to keep our homes clean and neat?  
Little Girl—Because company may walk in at any moment.—Judge.

## NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



Poultry relish skim milk.  
Duck raising is profitable.  
Musty hay carries many ills.  
Millet does not make good silage.

Timothy is a very expensive milk builder.  
Get the pigs that are fit off to the early market.

If your hogs have cholera put up a sign, "Hog Cholera Here."

Burying is a satisfactory means of protecting winter cabbage.

If hogs bring \$10 a hundred the feeders will come out even on \$1 corn.

Alfalfa pasture and hogs make a combination that is hard to beat.

Beef cattle supplies at all the big northern markets are running light.

Better grow truck crops for workmen than to ship grain to Europe.

A dairy properly managed brings in a steady income throughout the year.

If dry weather helps the soil we all ought to raise good gardens next year.

A pound of mutton can be produced at less cost than any other kind of meat.

A sheep will take cold in spite of its fleece of warm wool, if obliged to lie in a draft.

Barnyard manure is like the trigger of a gun—it releases forces far greater than its own.

When you pick fruit, be careful not to pull it from the stem. The stem prevents quick decay.

Do not keep cows for a side issue, make it a business like any other branch of farm work.

A bruised apple, if put into a barrel with sound fruit, will eventually destroy all of them.

Put-off habits and success in handling anything connected with the dairy do not go together.

Use well matured sows for breeding purposes and keep them as long as they are good breeders.

Handle the brood sows so that the young pigs will begin to grow from the time of their birth.

Quality in dairy products is of extreme importance. It is always valuable, but here it is essential.

There should be no off years in apple orchards if the trees are properly cared for and cultivated.

Select seed corn early and thus avoid getting the late maturing ears. These ears are not safe for seed.

Be sure the sows have plenty of pure water to drink, aside from the slop they have. Slop is not drink.

I for no other reason a definite crop rotation should be followed for its systematizing effect on the farm operations.

A man can never tell the quality of his soil until he digs into it and watches its action with different crops.

Early and careful selection of seed corn will easily increase the prospective yields for next year five bushels per acre.

A ewe in good flesh almost invariably is a good breeder and a good suckler, things that thin ewe cannot very well do.

The advantages of cheap and even fertile lands may be readily counterbalanced by the distance from market.

In most localities the building should face the south, as this insures the greatest amount of sun light during the winter.

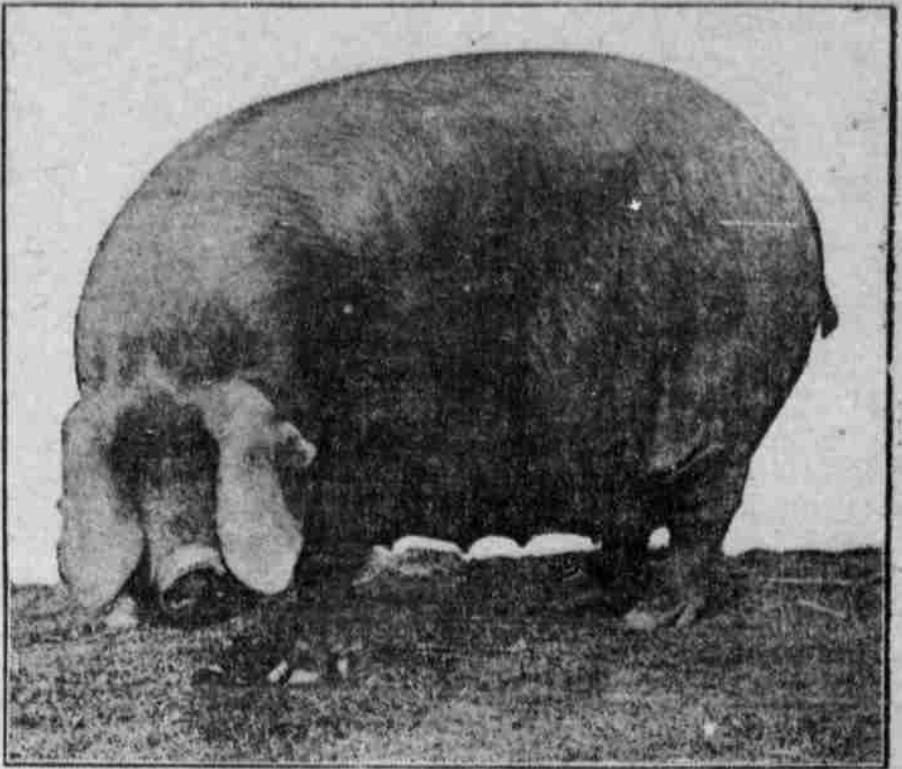
The Indian Runner grows very rapidly and begin laying early. They lay a large white egg. These eggs have a very fine flavor.

Can you afford a coat of paint for the buildings this fall? There is really nothing like it for brightening things up around the premises.

Feed small grain in plenty of clean, litter so that the hens have to scratch for it. They need the exercise since there are not so many grasshoppers to chase

Keep the grit box full.  
Clean up the strawberry bed.  
Keep the fall pigs growing.  
Mature sows are best for breeding.  
The fall-chosen seed is likely to be the best.  
The cheapest way to get good cows is to raise them.  
A fertile soil is a big item in economical milk production.  
The eggs should be gathered daily and marketed twice a week.  
In packing apples for market the less handling they get the better.  
The question is not what kind of fences you have but how well they are kept.  
A pot or box of parsley, growing in a kitchen window, is both useful and ornamental.  
Strawberry plants should be covered to a depth of two inches with hay or old straw.  
The cause of white specks in butter, in most cases, is due from oversouring of the cream.  
Be sure the sheep barn has a tight roof, a dry floor and good ventilation with no drafts.  
Hang up a bunch of alfalfa where all the chickens can peck at it as much as they please.  
The poultry like fresh straw now and then just as well as the cow likes to be well bedded.  
The patient mule is not much for speed, but he keeps going, and usually arrives on time.  
Save money by having the old horses' teeth flattened so they can grind their feed.  
In selecting future dairy cows from heifers, see that the milking organs are well developed.  
Fertility can be built up faster upon the dairy farm than upon any other kind of a farm.  
Prune out limbs and twigs of apple trees infested with blight. Disinfect tools after each cut.  
The germ of seed corn lies in the tip of the kernel. Broad, well-filled tips indicate strong germs.  
Sell all old and poor ewes and start your breeding season with a good, vigorous, pure-bred stock.  
Time and care spent in the orchard is almost sure to pay for itself and a good rate of interest besides.  
All eggs should be tested by the seventh day, which often makes it possible to rest some of the hens.  
Don't keep a horse going after it begins to show signs of exhaustion. You will save him by resting a bit.  
Sweet clover may be sown just before it freezes up, but, on the whole, it gives better results to sow early in the spring.  
Do not forget that the fowls need green food. If a change of yards is not possible see that some is fed them daily.  
The clearing up and burning of the garden rubbish this fall will mean a less number of insects to fight next season.  
Breed for a purpose. This idea is being constantly brought to our attention among the different breeds of stock.  
A mule never seems to be really frightened at anything. When he runs away he does it through pure love of mischief.  
What is a farm? A piece of land does not make a farm. There must be fences, houses, stock, cultivation and a crop.  
Large ears of corn are not necessary to large yields. Maturity is essential to satisfactory crops. Don't go after too large ears.  
Docking lambs improves their general appearance and increases their market value, without retarding their growth to any extent.  
The well-bred draft horse is always in demand, and the farmer who breeds it constantly is the one who makes the most profit in horses.  
The spring chicken is one hatched not earlier than February nor later than May, and is of market weight at two or three pounds.  
Collect the eggs regularly at least once, better twice, a day in moderate weather and more frequently in very warm and very cold weather.  
A wash made up of washing soda and soft soap when applied to the trunks and limbs of trees will prevent lichen adhering to the trees.  
The dairyman who looks after the comfort of his cows will get the most out of them. He will lessen the cost of milk production, which is the same thing as increase in price.

## COMMON SENSE HINTS FOR THE HOG LOT



Right Kind of Sow for Breeding.

The hog lot has much to do about determining the lot of hogs.

Long legs in a hog ought to bar him as a breeder. Porkers, not racers, are what most of us are after.

Meat, and lots of it, in now and then a mess of boiled and mashed potatoes.

Little soft new corn at first. It's hot stuff. May give the porkers the stomach ache.

I doubt if any man ever had to fight hog cholera who kept his premises clean and fed right up to the mark.

Work off some of the shoats and stop the cost of feeding.

Get just as near to the man who eats your meat as you can when it comes to selling time.

A few sweet apples now and then are fine for an appetizer. Not much meat in them, but they help to keep the system in good order, and so are of value as an article of diet.

Hogs do not need much salt. A little goes a good ways. But be sure they have that little.

Throw now and then a charred stick of wood over in the yard for the hogs to work at. A good tonic. Keeps the stomach in good order.

If you feed sour milk, stick to sour milk, not change back and forth from sweet to sour.

Somehow it seems to most of us that it is a big waste of time to do much thinking about the food we give a hog. Anything will go. That is one reason why we never have anything

to brag of in the way of hogs. To win, we must do some thinking, some planning and some putting into effect.

There will be better hogs a few years hence than there are now. Before that day comes, there will have to be better men.

Breed to the best male you can find. It may cost a little more. You will get it all back in the better pigs you get.

Keep your hogs cool, but don't cool them in a mudhole.

Turn off some of the shoats while the price is booming, which is most likely just now. Stop the cost of production as soon as you can. That's the way to make money.

Better than a ring in the nose for the hog that loves to root is a good chance to root and have a good time. Hogs are making money for you when they are rooting good and lively.

Wheat feed, that is not too coarse, is a fine feed for hogs this time of the year.

Hog cholera rarely strikes the pen of the man who keeps his hogs clean. The disease is a filthy trouble.

If your hogs are shut up so they have no chance to root, dig a load of eggs for them now and then and throw them over into the yard. It helps to keep the porkers busy, and when they are busy they are looking out for your interests all right.

A poor fence is an invitation to get out. You haven't time to look after that sort of a thing. Make the fences good on the start.

## DECIDEDLY POOR FARM COMBINATION

Dogs Have More Demoralizing Effect on Sheep Industry Than Cholera on Swine.

Sheep and dogs make a decidedly poor combination on a farm. The farmer is inclined to be friendly toward the farm dog, for there is a big place for him to fill, but, after all, a dog is a dog, and the whole family must be held responsible for the mischief done by a few. From one township the report comes that the dogs there killed \$118 worth of sheep during the past year, says a writer in an exchange. We doubt if all the dogs in that county are worth that much, but there seems to be little that can be done to relieve the situation.

Yet one thing is certain: So long as the dogs are allowed to roam over the country in their murderous quest there will be small chance for sheep industry to grow. This seems to have an even more demoralizing effect on sheep industry than hog cholera does on the swine industry.

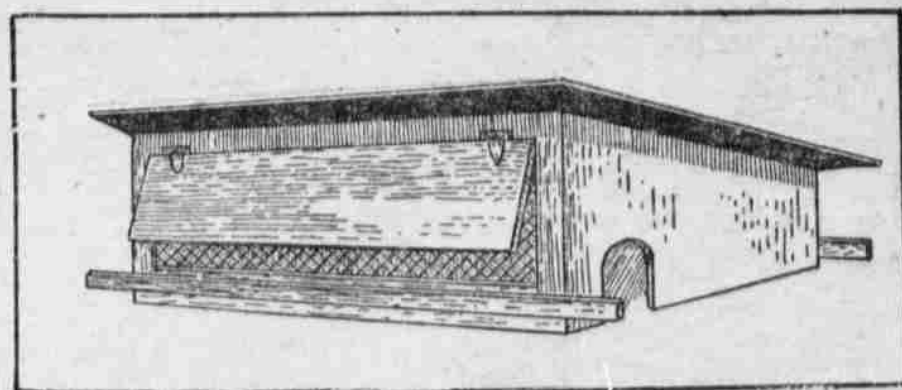
## Removing Large Limbs.

In removing large limbs, a good plan is to saw them off about three feet from the trunk to prevent splitting. Then saw again close to the trunk, so as not to leave a projecting stub.

## Too Much Risk.

The man who keeps high-class draft mares to perform his farm work cannot afford to put them into the hands of an incompetent hired man.

## COLONY COOP DESIRABLE FOR THE CHICKS



The door forms a porch to exclude the hot sun.

A colony coop will save many young chicks, and it may be built of packing boxes, or any sound light lumber. The coop should be from 30 to 36 inches wide, and about 6 or 7 feet long. The front should be 3 feet to the roof, and the rear about 2 feet. The roof and walls are covered with canvas, which is first tacked in place with light tacks, then shrunk by wetting well with water, and when nearly dry, but still damp, it is painted with any good oil paint. When dry, give it a

second coat of paint. This coop will last for several seasons, and it will be wind and rain proof. The front is open, but closes with a door, and the inside is covered with 1-inch mesh wire. The door forms a porch to exclude the hot sun. Small chicks or chicks with an old hen, the coop should set on a wooden platform to keep out the rats. For small broilers, and place in the wheat stubble, or the clover field.—H. F. G.