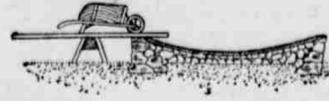


AGRICULTURAL HINTS

STABLE DRESSING.

Valuable Hints About Preserving It in Good Condition.

We hear much about the desirability of manure cellars, covered barnyards, manure sheds and other covered quarters for housing dressing until one is ready to apply it to the land; but the fact remains that the average farmer who is not now blessed with one of these means of preserving manure at its best, does not, in nine cases out of ten, see his way clear to provide himself with one of them. The barn that is now without a cellar cannot easily be fitted out with this desirable adjunct. Building additional roofs to cover stable manure is not looked upon with favor in these days when every dollar has



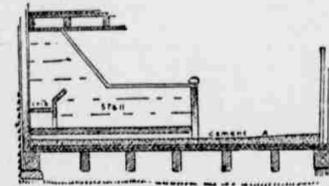
FOUNDATION FOR MANURE HEAP.

its appointed mission marked out for it, even before it is received.

It is all very well to describe ideal conditions, but it seems to me that more good is often done in describing conditions that are less than ideal, but still serviceable, practical and easily within the reach of all.

With this end in view, I present a sectional view of a homemade foundation for a manure heap in the open air, which will keep the manure in a condition very nearly at its best. This foundation is made just far enough away from the stable to escape any drip from the eaves. It is made square or round, as may be preferred, and has a rough stone wall about the outer edge extending down below the frost line. Within this, over the surface of the ground, are placed loose stones, lowest in the center, as shown. A coat of cement, two inches thick, is placed over them, the surface thus being made saucer-shaped.

To this foundation is wheeled the manure from the cow and horse stalls, the latter being spread evenly over the



CEMENT AND BOARD FLOOR.

former. If the heap should begin to heat, let it be drenched with water, either from a rear-by well or from the eaves-trough of the barn. Often the manure heap can be located so that water can be conveyed directly upon it from the pump by means of a spout.

Cow manure is considered cold and slow to heat, but it has been my experience that where all the liquids are saved with the solids, the mass is much more likely to heat. Where heat is generated, and water can be turned on as needed, decay will take place very rapidly, and the manure will soon be in a condition to become readily available for the use of plants. With such a foundation, and with water at hand to apply as needed, the dressing will lose little or none of its valuable elements, entirely uncovered as it is.

I present also a diagram showing the plan I have recently adopted in a village stable for saving the solids and liquids without loss. Two cow and two horse stalls occupy a closed room by themselves in one end of the stable. I desired a cement floor here, but could not well make its foundation upon the ground, as the stable sets well up from the ground. I therefore laid a double board floor, sloping it toward the rear. Upon this double floor was laid a coat of cement, following the pitch of the floor to a point a little behind the stalls, at A. From that point it pitches the other way till the partition is reached, as shown in the diagram.

The platforms of the stalls are raised several inches above the inclined cement floor. All the liquid that runs through the platforms will be conducted down the inclined cement floor to the point A, where it soaks into a lot of litter, sawdust, etc., with which the floor behind the stalls is kept covered.

I present this plan because it can well be adopted in barns and stables already built, the incline being secured in the coating of cement, since the board floor will be level.

A thin coat of cement behind the stalls would be injured by the sharp shoes of horses, but this will not occur if the cement is kept well covered with absorbents, that are removed as they become saturated. Without some such arrangement as this, a large part of the liquid manure is likely to leak down through the floor and be lost in the ground beneath, or become a menace to health if the stable be adjacent to one's house or well.

Both of these plans that are figured call for no expenditure of money except for the cement that is needed, and this is not large in amount.—Country Gentleman.

As a lamb is perhaps the most difficult of all animals to recuperate after once stunted, it pays to keep thrifty.

DRINKING FOUNTAINS.

A Homemade Contrivance Which Has Worked Very Well.

In caring for young chickens, ducks, poults, etc., one often has difficulty in keeping water before them in sufficient quantities, and at the same time keep it pure and fresh. Many arrangements have been contrived to obviate the difficulty, all working with more or less success. Probably the most successful is the drinking fountain gotten up on the principle of the siphon. The market is well stocked with several patterns, all on the same general principle, but varying in lesser details.

Probably one of the most popular is the earthen fountain. It has the advantage over some others in having thicker sides and is less liable to be affected by heat or cold. One of the most serious objections we have to this make is the difficulty in cleaning. In this respect there are others far ahead. The earthen fountain will not work successfully during severe weather, especially if it is so situated that there is danger of freezing. Like an earthen crock, a good stiff freeze-up will ruin it.

There is still another make gotten up on the same idea but made of galvanized iron. This one has the advantage over the other during freezing weather, but otherwise the same disadvantage that will apply to one will to the other.

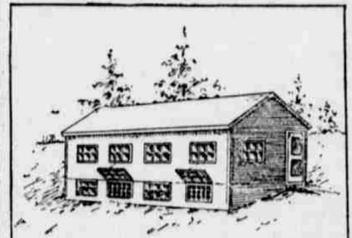
We have noted another make gotten up on the same principle but on an altogether different pattern. This one, which is also made of galvanized iron, has a false cover fitting over the can proper and extends down into the water about the base. Such a fountain has every convenience of the others and the additional advantage of being readily cleaned.

For the past two or three years we have been using one of our own contrivances, which ordinarily works very satisfactory. We used an ordinary crock, boring a small hole through the side about 1 1/2 inches from the top. The crock is then filled with water and a shallow dish placed over the top, with sides sufficiently high to allow the water to rise just above the aperture in the crock. The crock and dish are then inverted and if everything has been done properly, you will have practically just as good a fountain for the ordinary poultry yard as some more expensive ones. This will be found to be very satisfactory in the yard with young stock, especially with young turkeys. By its use the youngsters are not apt to become wet.—C. P. Reynolds, in Ohio Farmer.

ROOMY POULTRY HOUSE.

Its Construction and Advantages Described in Detail.

Where one can build his poultry house upon a southern slope, the plan shown in the accompanying illustration will be found particularly convenient. The building can be of any length desired—to accommodate one or a dozen flocks—the construction is the same in any case. The north side has posts shorter than are those upon the south side, which gives from three to four feet of space beneath the building proper. This is utilized as a scratching-room for the fowls in cold and stormy weather. A small opening in the floor on the north side of the main floor admits to this scratching-room. Ex-



PRACTICAL POULTRY HOUSE.

tra large windows are placed in the front of this scratching apartment, both for the purpose of giving plenty of light, sunshine and fresh air, and to make access to these low spaces convenient. Any litter, dressing, etc., that one wishes to remove, can be raked to the window from the outside, and so removed. The windows are hinged at the top, and can be raised from the windows above, by cords. Inside the lower windows are stretched gratings or wire netting. With the window open, the scratching-room has all the advantages of an open scratching shed, so highly recommended of late, without the open scratching shed's disadvantages of becoming filled with drifting snow and of having no protection in cold or raw weather.

Such a plan, at a very slight added expense, nearly doubles the room in a poultry-house, enabling the owner to keep nearly double the number of fowls under the same roof that he could keep without this added room below.—Country Gentleman.

Clover Pasture Is Best.

The best pasture for colts, calves, lambs and pigs is clover, but it is still better to have a variety of pasturage plants, such as blue grass, orchard grass, red top, timothy and red clover. Let these seeds be well mixed and carefully sown and those best adapted to the soil will soon assert themselves and give largest and best growth of pasturage. Now is the time to scatter the seed. Plow well, harrow finely, sow the seed, let it become well established and you will have pastures that you will be proud of.—Rural World.

FIRST PRIZE TO IOWA.

Ferry Hunt Carries Off First Honors in the Interstate Normal School Contest.

EMPORIA, Kan., May 8.—In the interstate oratorical contest between state normal schools held here last night Perry Hunt, of Cedar Rapids, Ia., took first place and prize of \$50; Byron H. Crawford, of Warrensburg, Mo., second place and prize of \$30; Chester M. Echols, of Normal, Ill., third; W. H. Kelly, Whitewater, Wis., fourth, and F. M. Mahin, of Emporia, fifth. Every seat in Albert Taylor hall at the Kansas state normal school was engaged several days ago and they were all filled, as well as hundreds of chairs, the aisles and even the steps. Over 2,000 people were present. The hall was beautifully decorated for the occasion, the bright colors of the different state schools contrasting with each other and with the potted plants on the stage. Great impartiality was shown by the audience, and to one uninformed but little difference could be perceived in the reception given the orators representing the various state schools. The judges were: On thought and composition, Superintendent A. G. Lane, Chicago; Prof. H. L. Stetson, Des Moines, Ia.; Superintendent O. R. Siefert, Milwaukee; Hon. John D. Milliken, McPherson, Kan.; Prof. D. B. Frankenburger, Madison, Wis. On delivery, Superintendent J. L. Holloway, Fort Smith, Ark.; Hon. John Martin, Topeka, Kan.; Principal H. B. Hayden, Council Bluffs, Ia.

VICTORY FOR MICHIGAN.

As Usual, Ann Arbor Triumphs in the Northern League Contest.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., May 8.—Bayard H. Ames carried off the honors for Michigan university in the seventh annual contest of the Northern Oratorical league. Mr. Ames was tied for first place with Mr. Wild, of Wisconsin university, but won by six points in percentage. The third place fell to M. F. Gallagher, of Chicago university. The prizes are \$100 and \$50, a testimonial established by F. W. Peck, of Chicago. This makes the sixth annual contest carried off by Michigan from the Northern Oratorical league. Other members of the league are Chicago university, Northwestern, Oberlin, Wisconsin university and Iowa.

KANSAS DEBATER WINS.

Her Collegians Score a Second Victory Over Nebraska.

LAWRENCE, Kan., May 8.—In the third annual debate, held here last night, between representatives of the university of Kansas and the university of Nebraska, Kansas was awarded the decision by the judges amid great enthusiasm among the local collegians and townspeople. The question was: "Shall It Be the Policy of the United States to Extend Her Dominions?" Kansas had the negative side of the question. The judges were: Preston D. R. Boyd, of the university of Oklahoma; President McAfee, of Park college, Missouri, and D. H. Dexter, of Kansas City. Nebraska won the contest last year and Kansas won the one of the year before.

SENATOR HARRIS' SUBSTITUTE.

He Would Make the Interstate Commerce Commission a Judicial Tribunal.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—Senator Harris, of Kansas, has prepared a substitute bill which he will offer in the senate, providing for the conversion of the interstate commerce commission into a tribunal of six members, to have judicial powers in making regulations and enforcing their decrees. It provides for the division of the United States into five districts, each of which is to be presided over by a member of the court of railroad commissioners, and the six to form a general court for the adjudication of all cases growing out of questions relating to rates and disputes among railroads now dealt with by the interstate commerce commission.

THE INDIAN BILL.

The Conference Committees of the House and Senate Reach an Agreement.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—The conference committee of the senate and house reached an agreement to-day on the Indian appropriation bill. The difference between the two houses on the senate amendment for the opening of the Uncompahgre reservation was reconciled on the basis of a provision for the leasing of the Gilsonite lands instead of the purchase of them. The senate amendment for the establishment of an Indian warehouse at Omaha was also agreed to with a provision extending the time for its establishment to a year. The Seneca oil lease is confirmed and one additional judge is allowed to the Indian territory.

ISLE OF PINES REBELLION.

Cuban Prisoners, Goaded by Persecution, Dash for Liberty.

KEY WEST, Fla., May 8.—An uprising on the Isle of Pines, a penal settlement south of Cuba, is reported. Twenty-five Cuban prisoners, headed by Jose Gonzales, made a rush for their guards, took their arms and made a dash for the coast. They were pursued with bloodhounds and troops. Five got away in a small boat, landing in the southwestern part of Havana province, while 20 others were shot down, having been caught by the bloodhounds in the forests bordering the shore. Atrocious maltreatment of the prisoners caused the revolt.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, Lucas County.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the city of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of One Hundred Dollars for each and every case of catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure. FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

The Old-Fashioned Way.—"What was yer daddy lickin' you for?" asked the half-grown boy. The other half-grown boy answered: "O, he was jist provin' to me that the whole really did swaller Joner."—Indianapolis Journal.

After physicians had given me up, I was saved by Pisco's Cure.—Ralph Eriog, Williamsport, Pa., Nov. 22, 1893.

Juliet—"Did you ever study the stars?" Romeo—"I've understudied them."—Yonkers Statesman.

Slipped and fell; bad sprain. Never mind. St. Jacobs Oil will cure it.

When a rich man's boys don't succeed people always enjoy it.—Washington Democrat.

When bilious or costive eat a Cascaret, candy cathartic, cure guaranteed. 10c, 25c.

A pair of scissors is always lost.—Acheson Globe.

A real trifling man is always weighing himself.—Washington Democrat.



The papers are full of deaths from

Heart Failure

Of course

the heart fails to act when a man dies, but "Heart Failure," so called, nine times out of ten is caused by Uric Acid in the blood which the Kidneys fail to remove, and which corrodes the heart until it becomes unable to perform its functions.

Health Officers in many cities very properly refuse to accept "Heart Failure," as a cause of death. It is frequently a sign of ignorance in the physician, or may be given to cover up the real cause.

WOMAN'S Safe Cure

A Medicine with 20 Years of Success behind it.

Will remove the poisonous Uric Acid by putting the Kidneys in a healthy condition so that they will naturally eliminate it.

The Electric Light of Mowerdom

The pine knot—the tallow candle—the oil lamp—gas—these are stages in the evolution of illumination, which today finds its highest exponent in the electric light.

Similar and no less striking has been the evolution of grain and grass cutting machinery. In 1831 the scythe and the cradle were superseded by the McCormick Reaper. The intervening years have seen many improvements, until now we have that model Harvester and Binder, the McCormick Right Hand Open Elevator, and that veritable electric light of mowerdom, the

MCCORMICK

New 4. It is not only the handsomest mower ever built, but it is, in every sense of the word, the best—and if your experience has taught you anything, it is that there's nothing cheaper than the best.

McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, Chicago.

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4. Because it is made by a method which preserves unimpaired the exquisite natural flavor and odor of the beans.
5. Because it is the most economical, costing less than one cent a cup.

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A. N. K.—D 1886

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