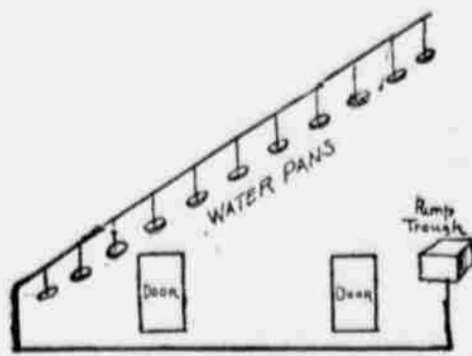


AGRICULTURAL HINTS.

SIMPLE WATER SYSTEM.

Designed by a Pigeon Farmer, But Adaptable to Every Kind of Ordinary Farm Industry.

After carrying water three times daily for 1,000 breeding pigeons for a time, I decided I would make it carry itself, so procuring about 200 feet of second-hand 1 1/4-inch iron pipe I set about it and after a few hours' work I had the pleasure of seeing the watering done as before without the work of carrying about 12 bucketfuls of water daily. They would not drink this



IMPROVED WATER SYSTEM.

amount, but it is quite necessary that pigeons should have fresh water each time they are fed and plenty of it for bathing in afterwards. The pump that furnished the water was some distance from the yards, and the piping had to pass two doors that were used several times daily, so that it was necessary to lower the pipe to the ground, passing the doors, then raising about two feet above first water pans and giving it a gradual fall to about one foot above the last pan, there being ten watering pans in all. I then drilled an eighth-inch hole in pipe directly over each pan, the pipe being connected with pump trough, which would hold enough water for all pans. We would only have to pump the water and the piping would do the rest, and at the same time rest the attendant somewhat. To prevent freezing I put a small valve at lowest point near pump to let water out of pipe on ground.—Rural New Yorker.

THE FARM TELEPHONE.

Dakota Experience Proves That It Has a Commercial as Well as a Social Value.

The chief uses of the telephone in rural neighborhoods in the east, probably, are neighborhood sociability, making appointments for meetings and calling the doctor. Communication with dealers in produce is also possible, and many a farmer is thus enabled to decide just when to deliver such merchandise to advantage at the nearest market. A North Dakota paper declares that such means of keeping posted are especially valuable to the wheat growers of the northwest. This is the way in which that journal talks: "The encroachment of modern facilities on older methods of doing business is strikingly exemplified in this part of the northwest this fall. These days of private telephones and telegraph lines to every station and almost every big farm throughout the state have brought the farmers into touch with the terminal grain markets of Duluth and Minneapolis in such a way as to euche the country elevator lines out of all chance of profit by advance information. Often the changes in quotations at either Duluth or Minneapolis are in the hands of farmers at their homes within ten or 20 minutes after they have been made, and in some cases elevator companies having country line houses have found it difficult to keep even with the farmer. This is especially the case with a long continued advance or decline.

"A farmer will store his grain in the country house nearest his farm, and as long as prices advance or remain stationary he will let it stay there, taking a storage ticket, which he leaves with a friend in town or at the bank. Being in close touch with the terminal markets by telephone, he knows at once of any change in price, and if it is a decline he at once telephones to the bank or his agent to sell at the old price, and this is done so quickly that the sale is often made before the country elevator has received word by wire from Duluth to make a change in quotations. In that case the elevator line is out the difference in price, as it has to sell its grain on the terminal market at once."

New York's Milk Supply.

Few people have the least idea of how much milk New Yorkers consume in a single day. Here, for instance, are the official figures for the month of September, 1903: These give a daily average of 30,548 cans, or 1,221,929 quarts, of milk, and 1,609 cans of cream and fresh condensed milk, or 64,360 quarts, making in all a total of 1,286,289 quarts of milk and cream which come in by 12 different lines of railroads every morning.—Cultivator.

Wheat bran is better for the production of milk than cornmeal.

GROWING ASPARAGUS.

Time to Start a Patch Is in the Early Days of Spring When Growth First Starts.

A grower of asparagus writes: First of all, I have to say that if I had a piece of warm, sandy, well-drained loam available for the purpose I would think the best time to start an asparagus patch is at once, without more delay than necessary to secure a lot of good plants, after the spring growth starts. Usually I would prefer to grow my own plants, and grow them in good, rich loam, and properly pushed and thinned in order to get good, large, one-year-old plants, which I think are far better than the average run of two-year old plants that one can buy.

I make the ground very rich; in fact, it cannot be made too rich. I give each plant plenty of room, not less than a dozen square feet. I plant them deep, so that a shallow running plow will not injure the crown.

To renew an old plantation, plow it over shallow, applying manure or any good commercial vegetable or potato manure containing a good percentage of potash. Any of our standard varieties may be used.

Palmetto seems more liable than others to resist the rust attacks. Columbian Mammoth white is good.

If you wish to raise your own plants next year, sow the seed thinly in drills, the drills being a foot or 14 inches apart, by hand or with a garden drill. Do this early in the spring, while the ground is yet quite moist. The seeds are large and hard and require a good deal of moisture to germinate.

In a dry time the seed may be soaked for a few hours in hot water. It will then sprout much more promptly. Chipping a corner of the hard shell off each seed will serve to hasten the process of germination.—N. Y. Farmer.

UNIQUE TREE TRIPLETS.

One Is a Shell-Bark Hickory, the Second a White Oak and the Third a Sugar Tree.

Mr. G. W. Hatten, of Egypt, W. Va., sends a pencil sketch of three trees growing as if from the same root. He saw the account of the twin trees near Philadelphia, mentioned in the New Curiosity Shop two or three weeks ago. In his letter he says:

"These trees are found on the farm of Strother Hatten, on Elijah's creek, in Wayne county, W. Va. There are three distinct trees of different varieties. The one on the left is a shell bark hickory, that in the center is a white oak and



VIRGINIA TREE TRIPLETS.

the one on the left is a sugar tree. The trunks are joined firmly for a distance of about three feet from the ground, where they fork in three distinct trees. Near the ground they present a flat trunk about three feet broad and about 12 or 14 inches thick.

The hickory and sugar trees are in a thrifty condition and are gradually pressing the oak so firmly that at some future day the oak will surely die between the grip of its rivals for existence. The curiosity of the combination is that the hickory is bearing the choicest nuts, the oak the acorn and the sugar yields its sweetness.

Scale Bark of Fruit Trees.

The gradual thickening of bark on trees is often objected to as an evidence of unthriftiness. But it almost always comes on trees when they get to be of bearing age, and, except for harboring the cocoons of the codling moth, it does no harm. Scraping this bark off through the winter removes the protection, and the cocoon, exposed to snow and rain, perishes. These cocoons will be usually found on the side opposite where the prevailing wind blows, as this is partly protected against beating rains. Only the bark that readily comes off should be removed. Scraping the trunk down to the green bark will cause some kinds of trees to sun scald, and is injurious. Make the tree grow vigorously, and the rough bark will roll off of itself or with very little effort.—American Cultivator.

The big red American apple has long been a favorite in Germany—even to the remote corners, while the fine California dried fruit, now for sale in every grocery, is indispensable to the average household.

SCRAPS OF INFORMATION.

The late Italian premier, Zanardelli, it should be noted, was a great lawyer, and as a writer on legal subjects he achieved a European reputation. He was the author of the modern penal code of Italy, which is regarded as well-nigh a perfect work of its kind.

"Al" Daggett, who died at Mumford Falls, Me., recently, in obscurity and poverty, was a dictator in New York politics for many years, being made state chairman by the "half breeds" when Conkling and Platt resigned from the United States senate.

M. Coquelin, the great French comedian, recalls with amusement the verdict passed on him when, a youth of 20, he presented himself as a candidate for admission to the conservatoire in Paris. "I can see two fatal difficulties in the way of your becoming a good actor," said one of the chief professors, "your face and your voice." As all who have seen him will admit, these are precisely the most valuable features of the great actor's endowment to-day.

Senora Rosa Ahreu, the richest woman in Cuba, is a handsome, intelligent, aristocratic looking widow, worth \$2,000,000, and with no incumbrance. She lives in the Cerro, a fashionable suburb of Havana, was born in Cuba, as was her late husband, and all her interests and sympathies are entirely non-Spanish. La senora is very democratic in manner, and takes great interest in a society originated by American women to aid the poor. Her plantation, one of the largest in Cuba, consists of 150,000 acres of magnificent coffee land.

ALL SORTS.

Mary A. Swain, of Franklin, N. H., has a piano over 200 years old. It is probably the first upright piano made.

Susie Gentry, of Franklin, Tenn., has the largest, most interesting and most valuable collection of gourds in existence.

The number of visitors to Niagara falls averages three-fourths of a million a year. In the year of the Buffalo exposition there were 3,000,000.

Nathan Perry Beers, for 66 years a teacher in the public schools of New York, has just retired. During his entire career he never administered corporal punishment to a pupil.

Formerly in the Trans-Baikal provinces, at Tsasetchue, the cream butter was prepared in the primitive way; now there is a butter factory, with separators, with a capacity of 542 pounds a day, handworked, but it is proposed to introduce steam power.

On the island of Trinidad oil is found amid a huge tropical vegetation, and is said to be of first-class illuminating power. A Canadian company is exploiting the field. It is intended to build a pipe line, by means of which the oil will be conveyed to the harbor of Port of Spain.

Rev. J. B. Toomay married a negro couple in a shoe store at Carthage, Mo., the other day. After the ceremony the groom asked the minister how much he owed him. "Tell me what your wife is worth to you, and that will be my price," answered the minister. The black man grinningly handed him one dollar. The minister seemed to approve of the groom's estimate, for he pocketed the money without returning any change.

TERSE AND TRUE.

Silent men seldom contradict themselves.

Many a girl shatters her ideal when she marries him.

Two often cease to be company after they are made one.

THE GENERAL MARKETS.

Kansas City, Feb. 16.	
CATTLE—Beef steers	33 50 @ 4 36
Native heifers	2 50 @ 3 56
Western steers	2 50 @ 3 75
HOGS	4 10 @ 5 12 1/2
SHEEP	3 40 @ 4 35
WHEAT—No. 2 hard	95 @ 96
No. 2 red	99 @ 1 03
CORN—No. 2 mixed	41 1/2
OATS—No. 2 mixed	35
RYE	55
FLOUR—Hard winter pat.	4 10 @ 4 25
Soft winter patents	4 10 @ 4 40
HAY—Timothy	6 00 @ 7 75
Prairie	4 00 @ 7 50
BRAN	85
BUTTER—Fancy to extra	18 @ 22
EGGS	35
CHEESE—Full cream	9 @ 11 1/2
POTATOES—Home grown	70 @ 85
ST. LOUIS.	
CATTLE—Beef steers	3 75 @ 5 15
Texas steers	2 75 @ 4 15
HOGS—Packers	4 80 @ 5 15
SHEEP—Natives	3 75 @ 4 60
WHEAT—No. 2 red	1 01 1/2 @ 1 06 1/2
CORN—No. 2	45 1/2 @ 49 1/2
OATS—No. 2	42 @ 43
FLOUR—Red winter pat.	4 90 @ 5 00
BUTTER—Creamery	18 @ 25 1/2
EGGS	28
LARD	7 00
BACON	7 87 1/2 @ 8 12 1/2
CHICAGO.	
CATTLE—Steers	2 50 @ 5 25
HOGS—Mixed and butchers	4 50 @ 5 25
SHEEP—Western	3 20 @ 5 25
WHEAT—No. 2 red	97 @ 1 03
CORN—No. 2	43 @ 49 1/2
OATS—No. 2	41
RYE—May	66
EGGS	28 1/2 @ 31 1/2
LARD—May	7 67 1/2 @ 7 80
PORK—May	14 80 @ 15 05
NEW YORK.	
CATTLE—Native steers	4 25 @ 5 35
HOGS	5 25 @ 5 50
SHEEP	4 00 @ 4 75
WHEAT—No. 2	1 00
CORN—No. 2	55 @ 62
OATS—No. 2	42 1/2

900 DROPS

CASTORIA

A Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of

INFANTS & CHILDREN

Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. **NOT NARCOTIC.**

Recipe of Old Dr. SAMUEL FITCHER

Pumpkin Seed—
Licorice—
Rhubarb—
Sassafras—
Cinnamon—
Mergol—
Cinnamon—
Mergol—
Cinnamon—
Mergol—

A Perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and Loss of Sleep.

Fac Simile Signature of
Chas. H. Fletcher
NEW YORK.

At 6 months old
35 DROPS—35 CENTS

EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of

of

Chas. H. Fletcher

In Use For Over Thirty Years

CASTORIA

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

"Some men," said the quoter, "are born great, some achieve greatness—" "And the great majority," interrupted the cynic, "believe they come under both of these heads."—Philadelphia Ledger.

80 Bu. Macaroni Wheat Per Acre, introduced by the U. S. Dept. of Agr. It is a tremendous cropper, yielding in good land 80 bu. per acre, and on dry, arid lands, such as are found in Mont., Idaho, the Dakotas, Colo., etc., it will yield from 40 to 60 bu. This Wheat and Speltz and Hanna Barley and Bromus Inermis and Billion Dollar Grass, makes it possible to grow and fatten hogs and cattle wherever soil is found.

JUST SEND 10c AND THIS NOTICE to the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., and they will send you free a sample of this Wheat and other farm seeds, together with their great catalog, alone worth \$100.00 to any wide-awake farmer. [K. L.]

It's a poor statistician who cannot make figures lie.—Chicago Daily News.

Rheumatism's Killing Pain left in quick order after taking 10 doses of Dr. Skirvin's Rheumatic Cure in tablet form. 25 doses for 25c, postpaid. WIS. DRUG CO., La Crosse, Wis. [K. L.]

Children should be seen more and talked about less.—Chicago Daily News.

To Cure a Cold in One Day. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

Some second thoughts occur several minutes later.—Chicago Daily News.

Piso's Cure cannot be too highly spoken of as a cough cure.—J. W. O'Brien, 322 Third Ave., N., Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 6, 1900.

ARE YOU GOING TO THE World's Fair?

Send for Booklet telling how to secure accommodation at

THE "INSIDE INN"

The only Hotel within the grounds. Rates: \$1.50 to \$3.50 European; \$1.00 to \$2.00 American, which include daily admission. Address Room 110.

THE INSIDE INN
Administration Building
World's Fair Grounds. SAINT LOUIS

GOOD, PERMANENT BUSINESS FOR RESPONSIBLE MEN

To responsible men, we will give territory covering two counties, furnish all goods without charge, pay all expenses. You must have a good team and wagon. It is a good and permanent business. Address: IOWA MEDICINE CO., Manufacturers of Dr. MCGUIN'S FAMOUS K. K. K. REMEDIES, Keokuk, Iowa.

GREGORY'S WARRANTED SEEDS

Pure, fresh, reliable. Catalogue free. J. J. H. Gregory & Son, Marblehead, Mass.

PILES ANAKESIS

Instant relief and POSITIVE CURE FOR PILES. For free sample address "ANAKESIS," Tribune building, New York.

BEGGS' CHERRY COUGH SYRUP cures coughs and colds.

CALIFORNIA FARMS. Catalogue sent free. C. M. Wooster Co., San Francisco

There is a way of trifling that costs a heap of money. Neglect

Lumbago and Sciatica

and it may put you on crutches, with loss of time and money.

St. Jacobs Oil

will cure surely, promptly. Price, 25c. and 50c.

BEST FOR THE BOWELS

Cascarets

CANDY CATHARTIC

THEY WORK WHILE YOU SLEEP.

GUARANTEED CURE for all bowel troubles, appendicitis, biliousness, bad breath, bad blood, wind on the stomach, foul mouth, headache, indigestion, pimples, pains after eating, liver trouble, yellow complexion and dizziness. When your bowels don't move regularly you are sick. Constipation kills more people than all other diseases together. You will never get well and stay well until you put your bowels right. Start with CASCARETS today, under absolute guarantee to cure or money refunded. Sample and booklet free. Address Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago or New York.

MEXICAN
Mustang Liniment
heals Old Sores quickly.

MEXICAN
Mustang Liniment
cures Sprains and Strains.