

ALFALFA EXPERIMENTS

It is Claimed Now That the Crop Can Be Profitably Grown in the Central States.

There has been frequent mention as to the importance of thoroughly testing the adaptability of alfalfa to certain soils in Missouri, Kansas and Illinois, and various instances cited where it has been grown successfully on a small scale in these states.

The writer selected a plot of ground upon his farm in eastern Illinois in the spring of 1897, had it prepared by disking thoroughly crosswise and harrowing, then sowed alfalfa, which came up nicely, grew well during the summer, but a mistake was made in not cutting it several times that season, and the next spring the stand was considered too thin to leave.

CLEANING THE PLOW.

Directions Which Will Also Apply to Other Farm Tools Made of Iron or Steel.

The department of agriculture thinks that having a plow clean and bright is of sufficient importance to warrant it in publishing directions for cleaning it, which will also work well for other tools of iron or steel.

REMOVING STUMPS.

How to Apply Power to the Best Advantage and Without Exhausting Man or Horse.

Attach a stout piece of timber to the stump of the chain and twist it around in a circle until the chain is taut. Then hitch a pair of horses or a yoke



HOW TO REMOVE STUMPS.

of axes to the outer end of the timber and twist the stump out of the ground. It will be necessary to stand by with an ax and chop off the roots as they appear when the earth is disturbed in the twisting process.

Ensilage as Food for Horses.

As many people have an idea that ensilage is not a good food for horses, we will call attention to the fact that the Virginia Experiment station has been testing it, and they report that the trouble from its use has arisen from too much having been fed at the beginning, and as the horse likes it he is tempted to eat too much of it, as he might of green grass or clover.

Given twice or even once a day through the latter part of the winter they succulent roots form a valuable addition to the rations of milk cattle.

ARE QUITE USEFUL.

Earth-Worms Perform Lots of Work That is of Great Use to Farmers and Gardeners.

"Ugly looking creatures!" we exclaim as we see the earth-worms crawling about the garden beds in the early morning or after a rain. But let us look upon them with a more kindly eye and consider the great work they do in the earth.

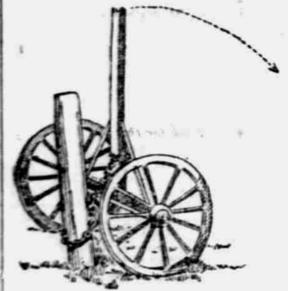
They feed, likewise, upon the organic matter in the soil, which they swallow in great quantities and eject in the form of familiar "castings." It has been estimated that about ten tons of earth in each acre of ground pass annually through their bodies in places where they are numerous. By this means fresh surfaces are continually exposed to the action of carbon dioxide and the humus acids, and are thus decomposed and disintegrated.

Says Darwin: "The plow is one of the most ancient and most valuable of man's inventions; but, long before he existed, the land was in fact regularly plowed by earth-worms. It may be doubted whether there are many other animals which have played so important a part in the history of the world as have these lowly organized creatures."—Nature Studies.

PULLING FENCE POSTS.

Not a Very Hard Thing to Do When One Combines Patience with a Little Ingenuity.

Take the hind wheels and coupling pole of a farm wagon and a chain with a ring, or better, a large hook at one end. Fasten the chain to the pole in front of the axle in such a manner that when it is passed back over the axle and bolster the ring or



hook will about touch the ground—a little longer or shorter, according to the size of the posts to be pulled up.

Now back the axle against the post, raise the coupling pole toward the post, against which it may lean, place the chain like a noose around the post, slipping it down until tight. Next bring the pole forward and to the ground. This will raise the post nearly a foot and generally fully loosen it.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN.

Peach trees suffer the most from standing in the thick grass, and cherry and pear the least of any of the fruit trees.

The objection to trying to grow grapes in the orchard among the fruit trees is that the grapes need all the sunshine possible.

Mulching of fruit trees at this time is a help in delaying blossoming in the spring, and in this way injury from late frosts may be prevented.

When an orchard is to be planted in the spring it will often be found a good plan to plow the ground at any time now when it is not frozen.

The secret of keeping apples during the winter is cool storage and thorough ventilation. Keep them as near the freezing point as possible.

Most fruit trees thrive best on rolling land. Fruits are less liable to injury by frosts on rolling land than on level land, even though the latter be high and dry.

It will lessen the danger of injury by thawing and freezing if a small mound of earth is drawn up around the stem of the tree before the ground freezes. It can be removed in the spring.

In nearly all cases large seed are better than small ones. They furnish more nutriment to the young plants than the small ones, which give them a good start early in the season, and they make a better growth.

Dwarf pears and grapes are the two fruits that seem especially adapted to small places, where not much room can be spared, and where it is designed to combine the useful with the ornamental.—St. Louis Republic.

WINE BOTTLE GARDEN.

A Very Pretty Way to Make an Old and Ugly Bottle Quiet and Attractive.

Don't throw away that old wine bottle—make it a thing of beauty and a joy, if not forever, at least for many weeks to come. Take some cheap cotton wadding, soak it in oil and then wrap a thin layer of it evenly around



GARDEN IN WINE BOTTLE.

an old wine bottle, beginning at the top and working towards the bottom of the bottle. The it firmly in place with a string at top and bottom. Fill the bottle with water, and then pour plenty of water over and through the wadding. Buy some water cress seed from the florist and scatter it liberally over the wadding. Put some twisted strands of wool, three or four strands in each wick, and four wicks for each bottle, into the bottle, so that they reach to the bottom and hang over the top about three or four inches. These wicks will draw the water up and distribute it drop by drop over the wadding. In three or four days you will find that your bottle is covered with the green sprouts of water cress, and that these sprouts grow very rapidly. As they grow course or long trim with a pair of old scissors, and you can keep this pretty green ornament as long as you please if you will only refill the bottle with water whenever you find that the wicks cease to distribute the required moisture over the growing plants.

Electric Whipping Post.

An electrically-operated whipping device has been introduced into some of the penitentiaries in France.

BEAR CAUGHT HIMSELF.

Climbed into an Empty Dry Goods Box and Was Nailed Down by a Michigan Farmer.

Just outside our log barn, in the woods of Michigan, we had a big dry goods box with a hinged cover on it. We used to keep corn for the horses in this box. One winter's evening, after getting out the corn as usual, I forgot to drop and fasten the cover. Perhaps I had done so many times before and nothing had come of it, but at about midnight on this night the family were awakened by a great row at the barn. The horse was snorting and stamping, the pig in the pen was squealing, and the hens in the shed were cackling in affright. Father lighted the lantern and took his gun and went out, but for some time he could not make out what all the row was about. Then certain queer noises attracted his attention to the corn box, and he very soon discovered that some wild beast was inside. The cover was down, and as he lifted it he found a full-grown black bear inside. Before the bear could get out the cover was slammed down and made fast.

It had been an easy matter for the bear to get into the box, and it would have been just as easy for him to get out again if he hadn't got scared. When the cover fell down and shut



HOW BRUIN CAUGHT HIMSELF.

him he lost his wits and never tried to push it up. He tried to get out by tearing the box to pieces, but he did not succeed. When we knew just what we had caught we tied a rope to the cover and ran it over a log in the barn, and as I stood there and pulled at the rope the bear popped his head out of the box. Father was ready with his rifle, and as the head came up a bullet was sent into it, and Bruin sank down dead. He was so big and fat that we had to tip the box over to get him out, and from his pelt mother had a fur cape made which she wore for many years after.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

THE SEVEN CHILDREN OF THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

Of the seven children of the German emperor, three by this time are fast leaving behind them their childish ways. The crown prince, Prince Eitel Frederick, and Prince Adalbert, have already their position at court, their special tutors and their private apartments. Of their rigid training many particulars have from time to time been vouchsafed, and very few English children would care to go through so severe childhood. That this training, though, has been justified by its results seems more than probable, and happier, healthier children than those of the German imperial family it would not be easy to find. The

an hour every day is devoted to riding. From their earliest years the children are put on ponies and learn at once to mount and dismount. The emperor superintends these lessons in person, as he is a most skillful rider and very devoted to horses. Each prince has a pony of his own given him on completion of his riding lessons, and they are taught to stable their mounts themselves—unsaddle them and rub them down. The three elder boys are already officers in the army, with corresponding rank in the marines, and the crown prince is reputed to be "a born soldier." Prince Adalbert, who was placed on the



roll of the marines as sub-lieutenant at six years old, and who is expected to become some day an admiral in the German navy, is instructed in everything pertaining to naval matters during the hours devoted to military studies. Little Princess Louise, who, with the two younger boys, Prince Oscar and Joachim, recently accompanied her father and mother to England, is brought up in similar practical manner, though with less regard to her playing any part in public, for the first essential to a German woman, she be peasant or princess, is that she should be a pattern haus frau. It is even said that one Christmas one of her presents was a complete apparatus for washing and ironing. Little Princess Louise, the only girl among six boys, is reported to be her parents' favorite, and for this reason was brought over to be shown to her great-grandmother, the queen.

Prejudiced Against It.

Friend—Pat, what do you think of this new-fangled "absent treatment" that we hear so much about nowadays?

Pat—Begorry, Oi don't think much of it. Oi was absent only one night recently and the treatment Oi received from the wife of me buzzum upon me return was a discredit to the family. It cured me all right, but Oi don't care for no more absent treatment in moine, t'ank ye.—N. Y. World.

Evil Associations. "I understand," said Mrs. Kostique, "that you have been seen promenading with my husband; is that true?" The governess drew herself up defiantly. "Yes, it is," she replied. "Well, Miss Primer," the other continued, calmly, "if you wish to remain here you'll have to keep better company."—Catholic Standard and Times.

She and Revenge. "Do you know," he said, "that every time I look at you I have thoughts of revenge?" "Why?" she gasped. "Because," he answered, "revenge is sweet."

Then she told him she thought tomorrow would be as good a time as any to see papa.—Chicago Times-Herald.

Putting Him Next. Bunco Steerer—Ah! isn't this my old friend, Joshua Squanch, of the K-hack? Farmer Hornbeak—Wa-al, no; not exactly. But all the same, young man, you've struck a good thing in me if you jest work it up right.—Puck.

Paper for Jokers. Mr. Funniman—I see a kind of paper is now being made from seaweed which is transparent. Mrs. Funniman—Why don't you get some of it to write your jokes on, so that people could see through them?—Yonkers Statesman.

Hereditary Garments. Tommy—Pop, what is the meaning of "hereditary"? Tommy's Father—Anything that descends from father to son. Tommy—Then your old clothes that ma makes over for me are hereditary, ain't they?—Philadelphia Record.

No Danger of Emergencies. Mother—Does your fiancée know anything about cooking? In case of an emergency, you know. Son—Well, no; but she's an ex-college football player, and could easily prevent any cook from leaving until we secured a new one!—Puck.

For Fatherly Consideration. You may find the fount of knowledge. Yet not know how to drink; You may drive your son to college, Though you cannot make him think.—Philadelphia Press.

BEST SORT OF EVIDENCE.



Lotta Coyne—Clara is a puzzle. Cuttine Hintz—Yes, I know three men who have given her up.—Chicago Chronicle.

An Inquiry. 'Tis on warmth, so we are told, That friendship oft depends; Why is it, then, though cash is cold, It has so many friends?—Chicago Daily News.

A Deadlock. Thorne—Do you think there will ever be such a thing as universal peace? Bramble—I am sure there will not be. My wife would never agree to it.—N. Y. Journal.

About Carpets.

If you are buying a carpet for a room that is used constantly, select a small pattern in subdued colors. It will show the dirt less than carpets of other kinds, and if it fades a little it will scarcely be noticed. Brussels and Moquette carpets should be swept with the grain instead of against it. Dampen bits of old newspapers, roll them between the hands until they form little balls, and scatter them over the floor before sweeping, which will assist in gathering up the dust and make the carpet brighter. Or dip the broom in water, then shake it to remove part of it and sweep, dipping occasionally when needed. If the water becomes dirty, change it two or three times during the sweeping.

A carpet usually becomes soiled in spots after using while the rest of the carpet is comparatively clean. Prepare a suds of warm water and Pearline and scrub the soiled part with it, using a common scrub brush. Rinse with clear warm water and wipe dry. The work should be done quickly so the carpet will not be wet through. Do not use the room for a few hours until the carpet is dry. Matting is an excellent floor covering for summer. It is cheap, and if a closely woven piece is chosen, is durable. It is cool and easily kept clean by sweeping it with a soft cloth, wrung from warm water, every two or three weeks. Nothing looks better in warm weather than a floor covered with matting and a few rugs scattered about. E. J. C.

"Procrastination is the thief of time." Is your subscription past due? If so, well you know the rest.

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.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 6th day of December, A. D. 1888. 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 all druggists. 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Sending Independents East

Editor Independent—The watch came through all right. It was ticking when we received and it keeps good time. "Many thanks." Husband has handed in three names of friends to James R. Cary's club. We will send in a club by and by, then we hope you will be able to put better paper in your paper as it grows. The Independent is such a good paper that one likes to lend it, or send it east. Before you can read it, the paper is worn out. You have our best wishes. Mrs. ANDREW RICE. Neligh, Nebr., May 3, 1900.

Magnetic Healing Pays

The Kimmel Institute of Magnetic Healing, 318 So. 12th St., having well merited success in the cure of ear, bronchial tubes, heart, lungs, liver, stomach, kidneys, bladder, urethra, spinal and nervous troubles, yield readily to the treatment; while the Doctor's reputation as a teacher and the hearty endorsements of his instructions, with offices to start all his graduates at a lucrative business, is bringing new students every Monday. Teaching and healing by mail a specialty. Call or address J.W. KIMMEL, Lincoln, Nebr. 318 South 12th St. 1516 O St.

Nebraska Insurance Report

The annual report of the insurance commissioner is now ready for distribution and for all the heavy losses by fire the report shows a large gain for the Old Line Companies. After deducting the amount paid for losses it leaves a net gain of premiums over all losses amounting to \$741,881.00 and still to bear the Old Line agent talk his company is paying out more money than received. But the above figures show just who is money out. Certainly the ones who are paying these enormous premiums to swell the income of the Old Line companies are not benefiting themselves any by the enormous profits these companies are making on their money. There is, however, one gratifying thing in the report. That is mutual companies operated at home keeping every dollar at home have made another great gain in the amount of insurance in force as compared with the report of 1898. All mutuals showed amount of insurance in force January 1st 1899 amounting to \$65,000,000, while on January 1st 1900 they show a trifle over \$80,000,000 in force. This is certainly a good showing. The cry that comes forth from Old Lines that Mutuals cannot pay heavy losses has also proved itself. The largest amount of loss paid by any one company in the state was paid by a Mutual only organized January 14th 1899, only one year old. The largest amount paid by any Old Line company was \$36,909, out of an income of \$124,918.00, while the United Mutual Hail Insurance association organized January 1st 1899 paid losses amounting to \$62,974.00 and on April 18th paid an additional sum of \$6,767 making a total of \$69,741 out of an income of \$95,376 which shows that a Mutual with an income of \$29,542 less than the largest Old Line, has paid \$12,832 more losses than the Old Line. The above figures are absolute proof that a well managed Mutual can pay and does pay a larger percentage of money collected from its members than any Old Line company.

Hail Insurance as Compared With Other Classes of Insurance on Farm Property

The United Mutual Hail Insurance association with \$3,056,924 at risk suffered losses amounting to \$76,900, while the largest Farm Mutual of state with \$241,788 covering fire, lightning, cyclone, windstorms and also covering loss to live stock by fire, lightning and cyclone, suffered loss of only \$38,374, being only one-half the loss on combined insurance on all other kinds of farm property, with eleven times the amount of risk so if there is any kind of property a farmer should carry protection on it is certainly on his growing crops from destruction by hail storms.

She Was Too Fat

Ada St. Clair, the actress played leading lady parts from 1890 to 1896, when she became so stout that she had to leave the stage. She tried many medical remedies and nostrums without avail. The more anti-stomach remedies she swallowed the fatter she became, and in July, 1896, she weighed 205 pounds. One day she found a perfect cure, and in two months thereafter she appeared in a high-class young girl part, weighing just 128 pounds, and the reduction in flesh was without the least injury to her health or purse. What she did, how she did it, and what she used, and how the same treatment has cured many men and women since, Mrs. Lafarge will tell you, confidentially, in a letter, for the small fee of one dollar. There is no other charge hereafter. You can buy what she prescribes from your own druggist. The chief secret is on what you do, how you do it. No violent exercise, no starvation diet, or anything of that sort. You can follow instructions unknown to your friends, and during a month you will get rid of from one to two pounds of useless fat every day. If you think such a result worth one dollar, then you send that amount (in a \$1 bill or stamps). Address Mrs. Louise Lafarge, Station E, Duffy Building, New York. If you find this treatment not based on common sense, and find it doesn't work she will send you \$1 back. If you question the value of this treatment, ask any proprietor of a first-class newspaper. They all know Mrs. Lafarge and what she has done.

WATCHES FOR EVERYBODY

Guaranteed Time-Keeper Free as a Premium for New Subscribers

With the object and for the purpose of putting the Independent into every populist home in Nebraska and adjoining states, and into the hands of thousands of conscientious but doubtful voters we have made arrangements to give a GUARANTEED WATCH to every man, woman, or child who will assist in increasing the circulation. The watch is a nickel plated, stem-wind and stem set, complete in every particular, guaranteed for one year. It is a watch that retails at all jewelry stores at from six to seven dollars. We can make the liberal offer we do only because (in connection with another publisher) we have bought them in lots of 1000 watches at a time. We could get a cheaper watch than the one we offer, but we prefer to give a GOOD ONE OR NONE. To make a long story short, it is a splendid watch, neat in appearance, a perfect time keeper, satisfactory in every particular, guaranteed one year.



TERMS. No. 1. For sale, each - \$2.00 No. 2. The watch described and the Independent 1 year to a new subscriber - 2.50

No. 3. To all subscribers on the list at present (who pay up all arrearages) we will send the watch and the Independent for another year for - 2.25

N. B.—This is a special offer to present readers of the paper to encourage payment of back accounts and renewals and cannot be taken advantage of by those who are not already on the list.

No. 4. The watch free as a premium for 12 CAMPAIGN SUBSCRIPTIONS at 35 cents each - - - - 4.20

No. 5. To those who can not get as many as twelve campaign subscriptions we will send the watch for 5 campaign subscriptions at 35 cents each, \$1.75, and an additional \$1.25 in cash - - - - 3.00

We believe that we have placed this elegant premium within the reach of everyone. There will be much of interest during the coming campaign. No one will regret the payment of so small a sum as 35 cents for the Independent from now until November 6. It will contain a vast amount of information that cannot be obtained in any other paper. It is the most fearless champion of the rights of the people to be found in the west. It is first in the fight for "equal rights to all and special privileges to none." Why not take advantage of this liberal offer to secure a valuable premium for yourself or your boy and help to increase the circulation and influence of such an excellent paper as the Independent?

The Nebraska Independent, Lincoln, Nebr.

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