

Loup City Northwestern

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LOUP CITY, NEBRASKA.

"Is Herbert Spencer outgrown?" asks a magazine writer. Well, not by most of us.

The man who went crazy over wire-less telegraphy should have tackled something tangible.

Like the poor, the man who insists on eating thirty quail in thirty days will have always with us.

"God save the young men from stylish women!" exclaims a New Jersey preacher. No power less mighty can.

A Providence church has been turned into a bowling alley, and the increase in attendance was marked at once.

Baltimore serves notice that those who wish to see its burned district, or any considerable part of it, will have to hurry.

Out in San Francisco the lawyers are trying to reduce the expenses of litigation. Want to give it a sort of bargain counter air.

Six thousand tons of American chopped apples have been shipped to France in the last few months. Apple Jacques, we suspect.

A college professor tells us that the word for mean is spelled m-a-n in Sanskrit. Evidently the word hasn't changed so much after all.

Now is the time for the inventor to bring to public notice his recipe for making artificial eggs that can't be distinguished from the genuine.

Gleam of a bald head served as a signal to stop a train near Norris-town, Pa., and saved a man's life. Score one for the hairless brother.

persistently rumored that there is a change in the style of evening-wear. Nightshirts and pajamas are still correct for the latter part of the evening.

A cat that formerly belonged to Gen. Kuroki will be sold at a fair at the Waldorf-Astoria. The fact that the feline has no tail will not detract from its value.

A Chicago woman is seeking a divorce from a man who deserted her forty years ago. She either has a very sweet disposition or believes in taking her time.

Word comes from Constantinople that Turkey has arranged to borrow \$15,000,000 from a foreign financial group. The sultan must have a Mrs. Chadwick on his staff.

Mgr. Fox says that by her extravagance in dress woman "destroys" man. Surely not when the money she pays for dress is her own money. When it is his, why does he let her?

'If Daniel had called in handwriting experts to help him read what was written on the wall, Peshazzar, the king, would still be wondering how his case was going to turn out.

A writer in a New York paper says: "Hall Caine is the homeliest man I ever saw." We suspect this is another covert attack upon William Shakespeare by one of the Baconians.

A rich man of Bay Ridge, Mass., is spending \$3,000 to build a wall to keep an ancient beech tree on his grounds from falling. "Woodman, spare that tree!" must be his favorite poem.

Members of the Rothschild expedition who have spent four years in the arctic region making a collection of fleas are said to be preparing to participate in racing contests as scratch men.

The mayor of Atlanta returned the call of the German consul wearing a frock coat and a Fedora hat. That was right. It would have been awful had he gone in a pea-jacket and a beaver.

Mariners assert that the gulf stream is flowing with an unusually swift current this year. Unless it is doing mischief, however, the case does not appear to be one that calls for an injunction.

Mme. Patti has been having trouble with her cook, and the London papers are printing columns about it. Over here such affairs are so common that they are not even talked about in society any more.

Cuba still insists that she hasn't any yellow fever, but she is going to spend \$190,000 for the sanitation of the streets in several of her largest cities, which is one of the best ways of keeping out disease.

A botanical wizard out in California, after ten years' patient work, has just produced a spineless cactus which is half as nutritious as alfalfa and will yield more forage to the acre. The question now is whether the burro will find it sufficiently ticklish to his palate.

In modern war, of course, there is nothing inconsistent in two generals exchanging polite compliments and begging each other to make arrangements so that they may do each other up more conveniently.

Some surprise is expressed that a New York man was pursued by his wife for three years before she caught him. There are a number of unmarried women who can make this record look like 30 cents when their talent in the pursuit line is considered.—Birmingham News.

A man in New York has just bought a building lot 2 inches wide and 94 feet deep. It was worth about \$30, the price of a bicycle. And a bicycle is the only vehicle on which the buyer will be able to ride over his property.

FARM ORCHARD AND GARDEN



(Mr. Wragg invites contributions of any kind that readers of this department may wish to present, and would be pleased to answer correspondents desiring information on subjects discussed. Address M. J. Wragg, Waukegan, Iowa.)

KEEPING SEED POTATOES.

The success of the potato crop depends upon the vigor and condition of the seed potatoes. Some growers have adopted the following practice with excellent results: When the potatoes are dug, those which are to be used for seed are stored in a dry, dark shed or barn until about the 10th of November. Just before freezing weather sets in the potatoes are carefully sorted, and those which show the slightest signs of decay are rejected. A layer of straw from eight to ten inches thick is spread on the ground and the tubers placed upon this straw. The piles should not be made too large. The best results are usually obtained from mounds three feet wide at the base and piled up in ridges as high as convenient. A covering of straw is placed over the potatoes, and this is followed by a layer of soil from six to eight inches thick, but before severe weather sets in more soil is added, and when the severest weather is at hand more straw or strawy barn manure is added. The aim is to cover gradually as the cold increases. This method of storing potatoes seems to winter them much better for seed than when they are placed in root cellars or when they are stored in mounds immediately after they are dug.

All vegetables keep better at a low temperature and, excepting in the severest weather, the cellar window may be kept open during the day, at least, if it is on the south side. It also helps to keep the cellar sweet and fresh. We know there is no need of an ill-smelling cellar. Vegetables properly buried and an open window in all suitable weather will prevent unsavory odors. Have a regular time for closing the window, as you do for any other "chore," and all will be well.

COMFORT ME WITH APPLES.
Bring the ripe, mellow fruit from the early Sweet Bough.
(Is the tree that we used to climb growing there now?)
And Russets, whose cheeks are as freckled and dun
As the cheeks of the children that play in the sun.
Comfort me with apples!
Gather those streaked with red that we named Morning Light.
Our good father set, when his hair had grown white,
The tree, though he said, when he planted the root,
"The harvest of another shall gather the fruit."
Comfort me with apples!
Go down to the end of the orchard, and bring
The fair Lady Fingers that grew by the spring;
Pale Bell-flowers and Pippins all burnished with gold,
Like the fruit of the Hesperus guarded of old.
Comfort me with apples!
Get the sweet Junetta so loved by the bees,
And the Fearman that grew on the queen of the trees;
And, close by the brook, where they hang
Pipe and lute,
Go shake down the best of them all,
Maiden's Blush.
Comfort me with apples!
For I am sick, I am sad and opprest,
I come back to the place where, a child,
I was blest,
Hope is false, love is vain, for the old
Sights I sigh;
And if these cannot comfort me, then
I must die!
Comfort me with apples!
—Phoebe Cary.

Would you get the best possible results from the farm? Then never lose sight of the necessity of closely identifying yourself with your business in all its principal details. There are occasional accidental successes with which the person most benefited seems connected only by proxy. But these are only occasional and only accidental. Close personal application is essential to success in all lines of business, and to the farmer this means, as much as to any other man, that it is his own hand that must guide if he would achieve the most good.

EVERGREEN TREES.
Evergreens are a class of indispensable trees which fill a very important place in landscape work. What tree can take the place of an evergreen in the winter, when all other trees are leafless and stand out naked and cheerless against the cold elements? In reply to a question sometimes asked, "Are evergreens going out of fashion?" I say most assuredly, no, and I do not think they ever will as long as mankind is capable of appreciating the useful and beautiful in nature. From the time these trees are several inches high in the nursery row they are attractive and beautiful, and when they reach their full growth they are magnificent. Nothing gives a home a more cheerful and trim appearance than well planted hedges and groups of evergreens, and the value of a farm is greatly enhanced by the location of belts, groves and hedges. The steady demand for these trees proves conclusively that their popularity is not decreasing and that they are wanted not only on farms, but on public grounds and large private estates where the best things are needed. Evergreens were created ever green for a purpose, and no other tree or invention can supplement them. They are a beautiful tree, and animals and fowls will seek their shelter in winter or summer. Let every farmer arrange to plant out a windbreak of these if he has not already. Plant Scotch pine, white pine, Norway spruce, etc. Eighteen by twenty-four inch trees are best, and ones that have been grown in a nursery.

If potatoes are stored where the sun can shine upon them they should be covered with old sackings, straw or something that will keep the light off them, for green potatoes are not salable.

A BUTCHERING PLACE.
Every farmer needs a building where there can be a fire to do the butchering work. It is a cold and disagreeable task to cut the lard and sausage and do other work outside, and it makes a muss to take such work into the kitchen.
Some farmers use the washhouse for this purpose. We know of one farmer who neglected to put windows in the room used for work of this kind, and the door must be kept open to give light. This is not much better than outdoors.
Try to have everything warm, comfortable and handy as possible when you call in the neighbors to help you with your butchering work.

Satan's hands are seldom idle, but he likes to catch youns out of a job.

SWINE NOTES.

It is best to bring the pigs up rather slowly until six to seven months old, then if designed for the butcher crowd them forward for forty to sixty days.

Many farmers boast of being good feeders. There are other things better for stock than continual stuffing. Uncomfortable quarters and filth will develop disease.

Even the hog enjoys being clean. The hog is the farmer's friend and his best money-making investment, therefore deserves a clean feeding place and more comfortable sleeping quarters than the warm side of a wire fence.

When pigs are on a full grain ration it is well to give what pumpkins, beets, cooked potatoes, etc., they will eat after having received their full ration of grain. These foods have somewhat the same value as bran in equalizing a concentrated ration and in keeping the bowels free and the system cool. If fed before the grain to fattening animals, they will be unable to take concentrates enough to make rapid gains, as foods of this character do not cause the rapid accumulation of fat.

If bran is used in making slop for hogs add a little oil meal. The pens should be cleaned every day and plenty of litter furnished for a warm bed.
The floors should be tight so no drafts of cold air can creep in.
The house should be well ventilated and still be kept above the freezing point.
Use corn sparingly for brood sows. Depend on peas, oats, shorts, barley, roots and clover. Give them exercise.

Feed the soft and imperfect corn first. There must be a gradual increase in the quality and quantity of the foods, rather than the reverse.

Fall Sown Onions.
A correspondent for the Farm Journal disposes of the onion question in the following manner:
"Here is the way I plant my onions: Spade and thoroughly prepare the ground about the tenth of November; plant and then cover with straw or other mulch for the winter. Remove the mulch about the middle of March, and top-dress liberally with manure. Cultivate as soon as ground is dry enough to work and you will have onions fit for a queen."

WINTER SPRAYING.
The spraying of fruit trees during the winter should not be neglected, says American Cultivator. Before the leaves start the trunk and every branch of the tree should be well sprayed with a solution of one pound of copper sulphate in twenty-five gallons of water to check scab, codling moth, bird moth, tent caterpillar, canker worm, plum curculion and San Jose scale on apple trees, to be followed up after the blossoms fall by the regular bordeaux mixture of four pounds each of sulphate of copper and lime to fifty gallons of water. Some prefer to use six pounds sulphate of copper instead of four pounds, but we are sure that this is any better than the other, while for peach trees that have put out their leaves the use of three pounds of sulphate of copper to six or nine pounds of lime is thought strong enough for fifty gallons of water. But we are now speaking of a winter spray before the leaves come out. The mixture of fifty pounds each of lime, salt and flowers of sulphur is used on the Pacific coast for San Jose scale, but in our Eastern climate it does not seem to be as effective, as the frequent rains wash it off. A mixture of pure lime made as a thin whitewash and used on peach trees two or three times in the winter has been recommended as a spray that will keep the leaves and buds from starting early enough to be killed by the spring frosts.

The first winter is a trying time for the colt. Don't neglect him and don't forget liberal feeding is necessary to growth and development. And in feeding don't forget that bone and muscle forming foods, as oats, bran and perhaps a little alfalfa hay, should predominate, indeed this should be the rule up to the time he is two years old. If you want a mealy, stammered colt turn him in the stalk field to hustle for himself, and you will get what you are after. There is not much development in old, dried-up corn stalks.

DAIRY AND STOCK.
Shelter your manure.
There's more money for the farmer in fast walkers than in fast trotters. The worst thing for the training of any animal, human or other, is a stick.
All who breed horses are not qualified to train them. The trainer requires a large degree of good sense and natural tact.
We just suspect that some people have stable floors that are not comfortable for their horses at night and not good for their health at any time.

RAISE THINGS.
One way to keep up an interest in farming is to be constantly producing new generations of animals and plants. Do not depend on buying all the animals needed, but learn to raise them on the farm. So, too, of orchard trees and the small fruits; buy a few to get a start and then increase by propagation. The animals and plants of most value are those raised and watched while they are growing.
Of flowering plants and shrubs, too, we should be on the lookout to have some new ones started, by division or otherwise, to give to friends or to exchange with neighbors.
Open the front cellar windows, on cold nights; keep shut on warm days; this advice will be worth while, if heeded.

FARM MISCELLANY.



Loss of Soil Nitrogen.

The nitrogen of the soil is one of its most important constituents and a fertilizing element that quickly disappears. It volatilizes rapidly and one of the chief agents of holding it in the soil is the humus. When the humus becomes exhausted the nitrogen escapes with increased rapidity. Experiments with continuous wheat growing on the same soil have shown that the animal and vegetable matter in the soil disappears very rapidly. This causes the liberation of the nitrogen. As long as the nitrogen is in combination with and forms a part of the humus, or decaying animal and vegetable matter of the soil, it is in a stable form; but as soon as the humus decays the nitrogen is liberated in various gases and soluble forms, which are easily lost from the soil. It is the statement of scientists that there is no element that is so readily lost as nitrogen. It is not possible for the mineral forms of plant food, such as potash and phosphoric acid, to be converted into gaseous and soluble forms by the ordinary chemical changes that take place in the soil, as in the case of nitrogen. With them the principal loss is in their removal from the soil as plant food. But with humus it is different. There is a loss of course of the plant food by its being used by the crops, but much additional is leached downward by the soil water and some is sent off in the form of gas when the humus decays. We have an illustration of this in the decay of piles of manure and vegetable matter. We say that we can smell the ammonia rising from them; but that ammonia is the gas into which the nitrogen in the decaying mass is being changed.

The loss of soil nitrogen can only be prevented by keeping up the humus in the soil. In most countries rotation of crops alone is able to do this. Some men brag that they have grown wheat year after year on the same soil for a generation without loss, but it will be found that such soil was in the beginning very rich in humus. By all means rotate, and include in the rotation some of the legumes.

Colds and Roup.
Roup in fowls of all kinds is very dangerous to the whole flock. The hatchery is the best cure for it after the fowl's head becomes foully odorous. Roup starts from colds, damp quarters, foul air, and other causes. When a cold gets bad and runs into a form of catarrh it is then almost sure to go into roup. Burn or bury all fowls that die or are killed of it. Weak constitutional flocks are always troubled with colds and roup. Kill them off and try new blood. A cold can be cured in a healthy fowl by an application of three or four drops of coal oil in the fowl's nostrils. Never get it in the eyes. Put enough permanganate of potash in the drinking water to color it. This is good for throat infections of all kinds and will prevent the spread of the trouble.—Farm Life.

Evil in Surplus Male Birds.
Many people who raise pure blood chickens forget that they are good for anything else than to sell for breeding purposes and keep themselves poor feeding surplus male birds during the winter. Many of them that if kept until spring will not bring more than \$1 and sometimes less, if they had been sold when they were tiny broilers would have brought at least forty cents. Just consider the feed and the room, not saying anything of the time that would have been saved. A person who is well versed in the intricacies of the standard of excellency can readily pick out the birds which have glaring defects, so they are not likely to kill the ones that will bring the big money.

The Flock in Winter.
It is the height of foolishness to allow male birds to run with the hens during the fall and winter months unless eggs are wanted for hatching. It should be remembered that an unfertilized egg is dead matter, while a fertilized one contains a life-germ ready to take on animal existence as soon as proper conditions are furnished. Even at a low temperature of sixty degrees a fertilized egg will begin to decay long before an unfertilized one shows the least change. Keep the males and females separate.

Wintering the Flock.
It is of no advantage to carry a lot of fowls over into spring unless there is some object in view, and the poultryman is confident that it will pay to winter the birds. Before winter arrives there should be a reduction in the number as close as possible in order to avoid crowding. Room on the roosts and on the floor is a necessity when the ground is covered with snow. Select the best, and then select again in order to avoid mistakes. It is better to have a few good fowls that pay than to retain a large number that are unprofitable.

Selling Eggs by Weight.
In France official agents are appointed to inspect not only the number and quality of all eggs marketed but all eggs which pass through a hole of certain size are rejected. If eggs were sold by weight in this country with twenty-four ounces to the dozen as the legal standard what a relative difference it would create among the breeds. Everybody would be scrambling to secure fowls which would always lay eggs up to weight.

Sand for Chickens.
The New York experiment station at Geneva has found that sand, both in a ration without animal food and in one containing animal food, with bone enables poultry to make better use of the food eaten. This is especially the case with chicks. It was found that chicks did much better when sand alone was supplied for grit than when oyster shells were supplied either alone or in combination with sand. There appeared to be some unfavorable action of the material in the oyster shells upon the digestive action.

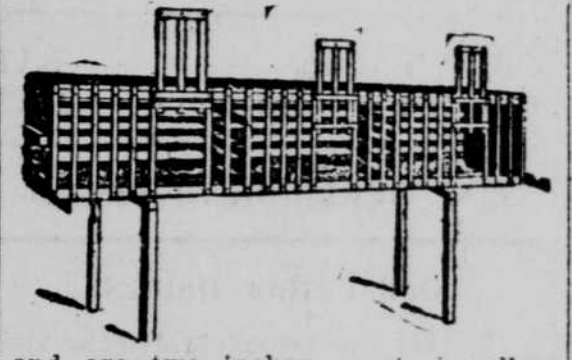
Best Grain for Poultry.
Oats will prove more profitable than other grain for feeding poultry, in spite of the fact that some poultrymen are opposed to their use. They are the best balanced of all the grains, and if kept before poultry all the time the birds will never eat more than they should. The large proportion of hull seems to be a relief to the digestive organs, which find solid grain too compact for best handling. Poultrymen that have fed oats for years are loud in their praise.

FARM MISCELLANY.



AWFUL DOSE CURES SULTAN.

Directions of the American Surgeon Are Slightly Misunderstood. This actually happened in Mindanao. The story was told to me by the army surgeon himself.
He was seated in his tent one morning when a number of the followers of the sultan of Pantar came hurrying to him, saying the sultan was dying of cholera. Aided by the slight knowledge he then had of their language, the surgeon diagnosed the case from their reports as a well-nigh hopeless one. Still, anxious to show the skill and friendliness of the American for the Moro brother, he hastily made up six powders, each containing one-sixth of a grain of morphine and thirty grains of bismuth. These he gave to the emissaries, telling them to give the sultan one of them in a glass of boiled water every three hours and to report to him next morning how the patient was getting along.



The next morning the surgeon was more than surprised to see the sultan himself walk into the tent. Wan and weak as he was, he had come some eight miles to thank the surgeon personally for having saved his life, and had brought with him one of his subjects who spoke Spanish well enough to serve as an interpreter.
It was through the interpreter that the surgeon learned how his directions had been followed. First, they had given the entire six powders to the sultan at one dose—a full grain of morphine and 180 grains of bismuth—and then had poured a tumbler full of boiling water into him every three hours afterward, scalding his mouth and throat so that he could scarcely speak.
But it cured him, and the surgeon says the same treatment cured many another Moro who would probably have died under lesser doses.—Brooklyn Eagle.

AT AN ENGLISH CHRISTENING.

Elegance of Baptismal Robes and Formality of the Occasion.

Much more in England is made of christening than here. Nowadays our English cousins make a social function of what formerly was a purely religious affair, and there is a large gathering at the church where the ceremony is performed, and this is followed by a reception at the home of the child's parents. The number of sponsors is no longer restricted to two godfathers and one godmother, for a boy, and two godmothers and one godfather for a girl, but four and even six sponsors appear. Queen Alexandra is often godmother, and her gift to her godchild is generally a pearl and diamond pendant. Other godmothers are giving valuable lace or jewels, but sometimes give money instead, the sum varying from \$250 to \$25,000. The nurse always receives from them a note varying from \$5 to \$100, or a bit of handsome jewelry.

The reception following the ceremony is a white function, so far as decorations and the gown of the child's mother go. The baby itself is always beautifully dressed in a slip of white satin or silk, over which is drawn a robe of rich lace. Bridal veils are often draped over the slip instead of a regular robe. Lord and Lady Castlereagh's children were christened in an Irish lace robe, the work of the lacemakers on their Irish estate, Mount Stewart. Lady Dudley had her first child christened draped in the bridal veil she wore at her wedding.

The Song of the Blizzard.

In the Polar night, with its snows eternal,
Of its cold and darkness I was born;
To me came the knowledge of meadows
And I left my hair curled and forlorn.
And I left my hair curled and forlorn.
Swift were the wings that southward bore me,
Wide and far spread my desolate track;
I found not the south, for it fled before me,
And death and destruction were close at my back.
Ah, how I laughed when the green in the valley
Blackened and died 'neath my withering tread!
I laughed when I heard the south wind rally
His forces to hurl at my conquering head.
But my strong wings lagged, and fear
Assailed me,
My soul grew sick with the scent of flowers;
I fled to the north, which ne'er had failed me,
Away from the weakening southland bowers.

Here I crouch in my desolate eyrie,
Till strength shall come to my wings again,
Till the day when, no longer faint and weary,
I shall once more visit the homes of men.
—Ninette M. Lowater.

Same Old Feeling.

It was the morning after when the man met his Southern friend in the hotel cafe. He was about to try a hair of the dog that bit him and he made the usual inquiry:
"Yes, suh, I will. I was about to order one when you appeared," said the Southerner.
They sat silent for a little and then, with an effort, the man asked: "How do you feel this morning, Colonel?"
The Southerner straightened up a bit and replied: "How do I feel? Why, suh, I feel as every true Southern gentleman does in the morning. I feel like hell, suh."—New York Sun.

True to the Key.

A physician and a druggist were standing at a street crossing the other evening when a small fox terrier ran around the corner and fairly bumped into a woman who was going along with her head down to shield her face from the heavy wind. As the dog struck her it gave a shrill bark and the woman gave vent to a scream.
"Notice that," said the doctor to the druggist. "Now, if you had a musical ear you would have noticed one thing. The scream the woman gave was in exactly the same key and at exactly the same pitch as the bark the dog gave. I never have seen the theory advanced, but I have learned by experience that frightened persons always scream in the same key and at the same pitch as the sound that frightens them. If a person is caught in a creaking machine, his outcries will be in the tone of the noise of the machine. If it is a cry of agony that frightens a person the answering cry of fright will merely be the echo of the first cry.
"Just watch that and see if I'm not right."