

than he can from the cows that produce 200 pounds of butter.

There is no more labor connected with the 400 pound cows than there is with the 200 pound cows. The price at which butter has been credited, i. e., 20 cents per pound, is the net price from the creamery after the making has been paid for. In this herd the increased cost of feed for the 400 pound cows was more than offset by the increased amount of skim milk, so we have the 200 pounds increase of butter as net profit over the 200 pound cow. Two hundred pounds of butter at 20 is \$40. We have \$400 invested in these cows, which, at 6 per cent interest, is \$24, which we will deduct from the \$40 and we have left \$16 to the credit of the 400 pound cow.

The Lost Hen

So far as is possible the poultry breeder should know his number of hens, and count them from time to time, keeping track of the sitters, and where they are sitting, of the hens with chicks, the laying hens, and the strays. There is no subject on which it is more difficult to get exact information than on the farm flock of poultry. A farmer will tell you they "keep about a hundred hens," they "hatched about 500 chicks," lost a number of them from one cause or another, "sold about ten dozen, ate about as many, and will keep about 100 hens and pullets altogether." Count the hens and the number falls short of what he had expected, and he says, "the rest are about some place." This indifference as to what becomes of the hens when they go on the range is expensive. A hen that steals her nest may die on it from starvation, if she does she is a menace to the flock through the maggots which soon infest her body, and which if eaten by fowls is apt to cause limber neck. She may, it is true, leave her nest with a fine brood of chickens, but she may leave a nest full of pipped eggs because one chick has hatched, and she may leave it only when so debilitated that she is unable to recover health in time to be of any service as a producer through the winter.

One per cent is a low estimate of the hens on the farm lost for lack of missing them from the flock. How many business men would permit a scattered about yards and houses, possibly leading to an epidemic of disease, and all because of the loss of a hen.

Cotton Stalks for Paper Manufacture

Paper manufactured from the cotton stalk is of the strongest texture and softest finish. It is reported that several plants will be erected during the next few months in certain sections of the south and will be in full operation by January 1, 1907. The practical effect of this new invention Mr. Jordan predicts will be to increase the present value of the south's cotton crop nearly \$100,000,000 annually. The bulk of the material going into the manufacture of paper at the present time is spruce pine, which is annually becoming more expensive owing to depletion of the forests. The utilization of a waste product such as the cotton stalk, manufactured into commercial paper, will be a boon of inestimable value to the whole country. It will prove the entering wedge of checking the present increasing cost of paper, which is becoming such a burden upon the newspaper industry of the country. The new industry is also expected to be a blessing in another way, as the removal of the cotton stalks from the fields in the early fall will assist in the destruction of the boll weevil and will probably greatly reduce the devastating influences of that insect on the cotton crop.

Mr. Harvie Jordan, president of the Southern Cotton association, declares that the manufacture of paper from

the fibre of the cotton stalk is one of the latest and most interesting inventions of the new century. Not only have the investigations passed the experimental stage, but they are rapidly being shaped to be placed into practical operation. Mr. Jordan says it has been unquestionably demonstrated that all grades of paper, from the best form of linen grade to the lowest, can be manufactured from cotton stalks.

Cement for the Farm

Seventy-five per cent of the farms of America are a disgrace to their owners, from the standpoint of neatness and appearance of the buildings and surroundings. Wooden structures in varying stages of collapse, rotting fence posts, inefficient watering troughs, and floods of barns and cellars all speak of decay and temporary use. If these farmers could be awakened to the importance of building for all time instead of for a day, says an exchange, the sum total of prosperity in country life would be immeasurably increased.

If farmers would but commence the use of cement construction, durable and satisfactory work that will not

rot and fall into decay will result. Timber is becoming scarce, stone and brick are dear and need skilled labor whenever they are used. Not so with cement. This, combined with sand and gravel, makes strong and waterproof work as well as fireproof.

It can be used for gutters in stables, cellar and stable floors, drain tile, silos, sidewalks, fence posts, bridges, houses, barns, watering and feed troughs, ice houses and cisterns. There seems no limit to its usefulness. The simpleness with which it is handled commends it to those unskilled in carpentry and other trades. Any farmer can use cement with a little practice.—The Ideal Farmer.

Crop Expert's Figures

H. V. Jones, the Minneapolis crop expert, in a recent estimate, said that this year's winter wheat yield will amount to 420,000,000 bushels, the largest on record. In commenting on the general situation he said:

"The western farmer is prosperous. Good crops for five years have given him a surplus. Country bank deposits are made up in large part of farmers' money. In four representative west of Mississippi states, there is

now on deposit in state banks, not including national, \$320,000,000 against \$252,000,000 two years ago and \$205,000,000 five years ago. These figures measure the advance made by western farmers—gain of \$115,000,000 in state bank deposits in five years in four states. If this season rounds with the maturing of wheat, corn and cotton—the winter wheat crop is already assured and the spring wheat crop is in good promise—the country is going to derive great underlying business strength.

A cow's value is determined by the solids in her milk.

The application of elbow grease may be disagreeable, but it insures clean milk, clean separators, clean butter, and generally a clean reputation.

Do not allow the cows to dry up during the latter part of summer as this necessitates keeping them through the winter giving a smaller flow of milk than they should.

Consul General Howe reports from Antwerp that investigation shows there is a ready market in Belgium annually for 100,000 lean cattle for feeding purposes, providing permission can be had from the authorities for entering the same at Belgian ports.

Clothes of Quality

With a feeling of pride as well as pleasure we announce the arrival of our Men's Boys & Children's Clothing for fall & winter wear.

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