



A squeaking windmill doesn't seem to worry some men.

An irrigating plant in Arizona costing \$3,000,000 has developed farm and orchard lands worth \$30,000,000.

Sick hens and sick sheep are best killed as soon as possible, and we are inclined to put the sick hog with them also.

"More and better work and less land" is the motto which should be hung up in one-half of the farm homes of the country.

Orchard cultivation after the 1st of July should be avoided, as it tends to induce a growth of wood which cannot fully mature before winter.

What food thirty sheep will eat on the average farm would largely be otherwise wasted. The only trouble about keeping them is the question of fencing.

We know of a young fellow in the country who has rigged up his harness with as many as forty rings, and he can get all the girls he wants to go riding with him.

The state of New York has placed a ban upon the shooting of live pigeons by the sportsmen's tournaments, something which will meet with the approval of all humane people.

The strikes among the different branches of federated labor are almost wholly an effort to restore a reasonable balance between the wage of the laborer and the increased cost of living.

Yes, we would salt all the hay which we put in the mow of the barn. It makes the hay more palatable and tends to check excessive fermentation. A half peck of salt to the ton is about right.

It takes a robin and, in fact, most other birds which build any sort of a substantial nest about three days to do the work. A sparrow will build a nest in twenty-four hours and have an egg in it.

A two pound spring chicken will bring the grower at least 30 cents, and if kept until it wears spurs and a red comb in November it will not bring as much money. The good die young in the case of roosters.

Of the starch produced in this country 99 per cent is made from corn. A little is made from potatoes, but unless they can be secured at less than 20 cents per bushel they are not available for this purpose.

In no other country does modern machinery cut such a figure in the production of farm crops as in the United States. With this machinery one man is enabled to accomplish as much work as ten men in many of the old countries.

With seven dollar hogs in sight and a big crop of both pigs and corn almost assured, an outbreak of cholera may be reasonably looked for, for the young pigs will be stuffed with new corn to get them on the market as soon as possible, and somehow that always makes trouble.

The best preventive of the cabbage worm pest is to plant very early or very late. The early cabbage can be matured by the 1st of July and the late ones planted during the last half of July, which enables the plants to dodge the period when the cabbage butterfly does the most mischief.

Normally wet and undrained lands should not be cropped, but should be kept in grass, either pasture or meadow. Thousands of acres of choice land in the west will be utterly unproductive this year because of the failure to observe this fact, the cultivated crops upon them being simply drowned out.

The question is pertinently asked why a dog should be a free commener more than a cow, a horse or a hog. Many a dog allowed to run at large will do more damage than ever could a three-year-old steer in the corn. Dogs may be very easily trained to attend to their proper business, and a man who does not know enough to so train his dog has no business to have one.

If we were a young man just starting on a stock farm and had only \$500 to invest in stock as a starter, we had rather put the money into five head of well bred and registered heifers than into twenty-five dollar scrub cows. The first three years the scrub animals might make us the most money, but at the end of that time they would not be in it at all with the thoroughbreds.

One-half of the world's crops are raised by irrigation.

A good test of modern athletics is to be able to lift a farm mortgage.

If you have a horse to sell, fatten him. Fat hides a multitude of faults in a horse.

There is one thing in favor of blue grass—it is always ready for business when there is moisture enough.

It costs about \$200 to take a Pasteur treatment for hydrophobia, and therefore it does not pay to take any chances on dogs.

A bull corner on corn never arouses the moral ire of the granger who produces the cereal. It is only bear corners which set him howling.

Crop prospects are good in India. The periodical starvation of India's millions as a result of drought is the most horrible thing the world can show.

Most of the people who have lived to the great age of 100 years are to be found in county poorhouses and infirmaries, proving that they have out-lived their time.

This is a great country. In July, when the people of New Mexico were praying for rain, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska were being flooded with a deluge of water.

There has been relatively a greater advance in the fifty dollar farm lands of the country than in the five dollar unimproved lands of the western and northern borders.

The sparrow when it has pre-empted every available nook and corner of all buildings for nesting places will then take to the trees, preferably evergreens, next box elders.

The man who wants to raise fruit and does not know enough to take care of his trees is a good friend of the nurseryman. Not 10 per cent of the trees sold in the west, at least, ever live to bearing age.

A country community is not educated up to the right point when a couple of slick peddlers can sell several hundred pounds of a concoction of brown sugar and water as pure strained honey.

Not one woman in ten knows how to make a nice flaky pie crust. They can make angels' food and cholera morbus salads of a dozen kinds and all sorts of fancy cakes, but the ideal pie crust beats them.

The meanest garden weed we have is the squirreltail grass, or wild barley. It is the most firmly rooted of any of our common weeds and a monopolist of the worst type. It will almost ruin a nice lawn in a single season.

The importance of the poultry business is not realized as it should be. While but few can go into the business upon a large scale, it is still possible for many to take up the work in a small way with profit.

The bicycle, automobile and rural mail delivery are a trinity of agencies which are combining in a wonderful revolution in the matter of building better roads, the rural mail service bringing about the most effective results.

Some men hate on general principles, and one such undertook to prove that sheep were as nasty and disagreeable animals to care for as hogs, but was shut up when asked if he ever knew a sheep to eat up its dead grandmother. Hogs will.

Bumper crops of oats and corn, a greater than average yield of wheat and liberal yields of rye, barley, hay and fruits are indicated by the July reports of the department of agriculture. This year bids fair to be one of abundant harvests.

We have never known of a case where purely kind measures were taken to break in a broncho. Men who have this work to do say that force is the only means which will tame it. This we know—some very cruel and inhuman work is done in this line.

It is estimated that there are 50,000 regular tramps in this country, which cost the country to maintain not less than \$11,000,000 per year. The worst feature is that they are nearly all able-bodied men and instead of being a burden upon the people should be in the ranks of the producers.

The overflow of the Nile river, which rarely falls, not only brings moisture, put perennial fertility, to the great harvest fields of Egypt. Its waters carry in solution the stored fertility of the mountain and tablelands of central Africa and for ages has made Egypt the storehouse of the orient.

It is not easy to solve the problem of how to make both ends meet where a man with no capital save his hands and, at his best earning not over \$250 a year, has to maintain a home and provide for a family of six. Such a man, desiring to educate his children and live in a decent way, has a hard job on his hands.

One of the principal agricultural papers of the west on the 1st of July had a leading editorial on the importance of the dust mulch. The article must have been left over from last year, for this season it was impossible to raise a dust in any of the territory where the paper circulated. An article on mud blankets would have been more appropriate.

RUNNING A FARM BY PROXY.

A friend who owns a nice, improved farm of 100 acres in a western state and who is so situated that he cannot carry it on himself, but who still desires to keep his money safely invested in the farm, wishes to know which is the best method of handling it—shall he rent it for a cash rent, shall he let it on shares, shall he hire a man to run it? The first plan will insure him the least trouble and the smallest return. The second plan will be all right provided he can get the right man and make a lease for a term of years. The third will prove the most profitable if he will assume the general oversight of the farm work, stock it up with good stock to the limit and pay a good man what he is worth to carry it on. He will find it hard to get just the right sort of a tenant on the share plan and still more difficult to get the right man on the salary plan. The honest man may be lazy and the hustler a man who will steal the owner blind.

TOO MANY KINDS.

On the average farm there is frequently to be found too great a variety of animal and bird life. We would not try to keep Jersey, Shorthorn and Holstein cattle in one farm herd, or try to raise trotting horses and draft stock together, or keep two or three different varieties of chickens, or raise ducks, geese, guinea hens and turkeys all in one happy family. We believe in specialties for the average farm—one type of cattle, one of horses, pigs, chickens—then a constant effort to produce the very best of the type selected. We would apply the same rule to crops. Even diversifying may be carried to an unprofitable extreme.

DEBT ON THE FARM.

We are asked how much debt a man with a quarter section farm should carry. That depends. Assuming his farm to be worth \$12,000 and the man a hustler, turning his attention wholly to the production of meat products on his farm and not running a steam thrasher, he might swing a debt of \$7,000 at 5 per cent. Still this will make him sweat and grunt before he gets it paid. We believe it to be a mighty good time to shorten sail in the matter of indebtedness during these days of agricultural prosperity and not load up to the limit, as so many are doing. The money loaners will have their findings again some day.

SHOULD MAKE \$100 A YEAR.

This is for the goodwife on the eighty or a hundred and sixty acre farm: If you are not making a clean hundred dollars per year out of the poultry which you may just as well as not keep on the farm, something is wrong, for this amount can easily be made, just giving ordinarily good care to a good breed of fowls, letting them have the run of the farm, and it can be done almost wholly from eggs. This \$100 you ought to make and to have to do with as you see fit. We know of plenty of women who are making from \$100 to \$175 out of their poultry each year.

IMMENSE INCREASE OF WEALTH.

The boom in real estate, farm lands particularly, has increased marvellously the wealth of the owners of such lands. During the past four years there has been an advance in the value of good farm lands in Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and the Dakotas of not less than \$20 per acre, which means that the farmers of Iowa alone are over \$900,000,000 richer than they were four years ago, and this increase in wealth has not gone into the hands of speculators, but each man has got his share just in proportion as he is the owner of a few or many acres.

HE IS PAST HELP.

We have an old bachelor friend who lives all by his lonesome self. He has a small house on a little farm and is really a good housekeeper, as men go; but, dear, dear, what a dreary old life he lives! He has only a cat and a dog for company and no object on earth to make him get a hustle on himself. If ever woman could do a good job, it would be with him, but he is sort of soured on the sex—got left some years ago, cut out by a likelier man, and has elected to go it alone. One or two pretty good women have tried their hands on him, but have had to give him up as a bad case.

COLORED FARM HELP.

A Kentucky farmer was telling us recently about the peculiarities of his colored farm help. He said they never could be depended upon if there happened to be a camp meeting or revival in the neighborhood or any of the other things which are common to their race; would just quit and go no matter how badly their services might be needed on the farm. Then they seemed to never have got over the notion that what belonged to their boss belonged to them, which brought about a confusion at times as to the ownership of property.

FOOLISH MOTHERS.

That is a very foolish mother who, taking the ground that it is more trouble to show her daughter how to do any kind of housework than it is to do it herself, lets the girl off. About a year ago a young lady whom we know was married. Her mother was one of this sort. The girl knew very little about housekeeping, could neither make a loaf of good bread nor get up a palatable meal. Of course she had a time of it, and her husband did also, and, for that matter, they are having it yet.

Ex-Governor Cook Dead. Winsted, Conn., Aug. 12.—Former Governor Cook died early this morning. The cause of death was given as a shock received from an operation performed on Sunday for intestinal trouble.

CONDITION OF THE CROPS

Nebraska Shows Greatest Improvement in Corn.

ALSO LEADS IN WINTER WHEAT.

Estimated Average Yield for State is Twenty-two Bushels to the Acre. South Dakota Heads the List in Spring Crop.

Washington, Aug. 12.—The monthly report of the statistician of the department of agriculture shows the condition of corn on Aug. 1 to have been 86.5, as compared with 87.5 on July 1, and a ten year average of 84. There has been an improvement during the month of 10 points in Pennsylvania, 7 in Indiana and Wisconsin, 4 in Ohio, Illinois and Kansas, 3 in Iowa and 11 in Nebraska. This substantial improvement in the most important corn states would undoubtedly have resulted in a marked improvement in the average for the entire country but for the fact that fourteen southern states show an average decline during July of 10.7 points. The statistician estimates the winter wheat crop at about 380,000,000 bushels, or an average of 13.8 bushels per acre. The estimated average yield per acre in the principal states is as follows, the states being arranged in order of acreage: Kansas, 8.7; Missouri, 18.2; California, 15; Indiana, 15; Ohio, 16; Illinois, 16.6; Nebraska, 22; Pennsylvania, 15; Oklahoma, 11.6; Michigan, 17.4. The average condition of spring wheat on Aug. 1 was 89.7, as compared with 92.4 last month. There was a decline during July of 2 points in Minnesota, 3 in North Dakota, 9 in Nebraska and 12 in Iowa. On the other hand the crop of South Dakota is reported at 1 point higher than even the high figure, 94, reported last month, and the condition in Minnesota, North Dakota and Nebraska, notwithstanding the decline above mentioned, is still considerably above the ten year average. The average condition of oats was 89.4, against 92.1 last month.

TO ABANDON MISSOURI RIVER.

Government Will Give Up Effort to Make Channel Navigable.

Sioux City, Aug. 12.—Beaten in its effort to control the treacherous stream the United States is about to abandon the Missouri river to its fate and give it up as a means of transportation. Railroads have grabbed the freight, and steamboat business has dwindled until it is evident congress thinks the expense of dredging shifting sandbars, pulling snags, and trying to hold the restless river in a fixed channel is not justified by the volume of business and will surrender. Captain Chittenden, chief of United States engineers for the Missouri river, who replaced the Missouri river commission, believes the career of the Missouri as a means of transportation is at an end. The abandonment of the Missouri is foreshadowed in his annual report. In it he says: "The discontinuance of the Missouri river commission and the greatly reduced appropriations, as compared with former years, for both upper and lower rivers indicate an intention on the part of congress to abandon the river altogether in the near future. Before the rendition of the annual report for 1902 the officer in charge will be prepared to submit a comprehensive statement of the conditions of the entire river and the advisability or nonadvisability of further work upon it."

Cattlemen Resist Arrest.

Guthrie, Okla., Aug. 12.—Deputy United States Marshal Gundy returned to Guthrie last night with one cattlemen prisoner, Thomas Tyrone, who is under \$1,500 bond for participating in the cattle war on homesteaders in western Oklahoma. He is one of eight for whom federal warrants were issued. An armed posse of cattlemen prevented the deputy from serving more than two warrants and he returned here for advice and help. Frank and Edward Spears, brothers and prominent cattlemen, resisted arrest, the deputy reports.

Drought in Australia.

Victoria, B. C., Aug. 12.—Advises received by the steamer Milowera from Australia tell of terrible drought in New South Wales and Queensland, which has devastated the sheep ranches of that section of the southern colony. Millions of sheep have died, and men formerly considered wealthy have been compelled to seek employment. Samuel McCaughey, the sheep king of Australia, lost over a million sheep of his herd of a million and a quarter and other large herders have been equally unfortunate.

Frost Damages Iowa Corn.

Des Moines, Aug. 12.—A severe frost is reported in the northwestern part of Iowa. Messages received from Cloverdale state that the section about Sibley was visited by a heavy frost and that the damage to corn has been considerable.

Ship Building Plant Sold.

Wilmington, Del., Aug. 12.—The Harland & Hollingsworth ship building plant, located here, was last night transferred to the United States Ship Building company. The price is said to be \$1,600,000.

Five Hurt in Stage Wreck.

Georgetown, Colo., Aug. 12.—The Grand Lakes stage was wrecked near Coulter and five persons hurt, one fatally. The injured are: Louis Lafty, driver, internally injured, may die; Mrs. J. Throckmorton, Georgetown, wrist broken and knee dislocated; Miss Allie T. Tabb, St. Louis, left leg broken; Mrs. L. Bradley, Kansas City, three ribs broken.

PYTHIANS OWN 'FRISCO.

Gold Laced Knights Take Possession of the City.

San Francisco, Aug. 12.—San Francisco was turned over to the Knights of Pythias today, and gold lace and uniforms have taken possession of the city. Fully 6,000 visitors and 1,000 Knights of the Uniformed Rank reached the Golden Gate yesterday, many of them having traveled over 3,000 miles.

General Carnahan stated that, considering the distance most of the Pythians must cover to reach the western camp and the time consumed, the present convalescence would be the most remarkable in Pythian annals. In a large vacant lot at Twelfth and Market streets 600 tents have been pitched and a model military camp established by the Uniformed Rank.

The first formal exercises in connection with the convalescence were held yesterday afternoon, when an exhibit of the products of the various counties of California was opened in the Union Ferry building. Mayor Schmitz extended the hospitality of the city to the visitors. A felicitous response was made by Major General J. R. Carnahan of the Pythian order.

At 5 p. m. the military camp was formally turned over to Supreme Chancellor Ogden H. Pethers, who at once placed General Carnahan in command. The American flag was then unfurled and the duties of camp life begun. Early in the evening the commanding officers of brigades and regiments assembled at the headquarters of Major General Carnahan at the pavilion, to receive orders and instructions for the general parade.

Later there was a reception in the pavilion, which was attended by thousands of knights and citizens. When darkness had fairly settled over the city the elaborate electric decorations were revealed for the first time in their full beauty. Never before has San Francisco presented so gorgeous a spectacle and words failed to express the admiration of the city's guests. Today the grand lodge will begin its sessions in an elaborate council chamber, which has been arranged for the occasion at the Palace hotel.

ELKS IN SESSION AT SALT LAKE.

Grand Lodge Convenes With Attendance of Twelve Thousand.

Salt Lake, Aug. 12.—The first meeting of the annual session of the grand lodge of Elks opened in the Tabernacle this morning, with 12,000 members of the fraternity on hand.

A drizzling rain, something almost unprecedented in Salt Lake at this time of year, fell occasionally yesterday, but not with sufficient volume to injure the decorations or interfere with the sightseeing. The business district is one mass of flags and bunting, the national colors and the royal purple of the Elks being intertwined on nearly every business block in town, while hundreds of residences are also draped. The electric effects on Main and other business streets are beautiful in the extreme. The business district last night was ablaze with thousands of incandescent lights in white and purple, draped across and along the sides of the streets and hanging in festoons and gathered in immense set pieces at various corners.

Special trains by the dozens jammed with Elks from every section of the country arrived yesterday. The time was taken up by the visiting Elks with trips to Saltair and other resorts. Among the arrivals were special trains from Omaha, Sioux Falls, Kansas City, Baltimore and other eastern points.

No News of Boyaca.

Colon, Colombia, Aug. 12.—Nothing has been heard of the government gunboat Boyaca, which has been missing since July 29, when she left Panama with 300 men on board to reinforce General Berti at Agua Dulce. No definite news has reached here of the battle between government troops and revolutionists at Agua Dulce, but it is said that General Berti, the government leader, is still holding a strong position at Agua Dulce and has been able to break through weak points of General Herrera's line for the purpose of obtaining cattle.

Governor Charged With Libel.

San Francisco, Aug. 12.—John D. Speckles, proprietor of the Morning Call, has sworn to a warrant in the police court here charging Governor Gage with libel. The alleged libel is contained in a statement published Friday, in which the governor said that charges against him recently published in the Call were made for the express purpose of attempting to defeat his nomination. Judge Cabanis signed the warrant, which was placed in the hands of a detective for service on the governor.

Miraculous Escape of Passengers.

Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 12.—The first section of the express train on the Pennsylvania railroad which left shortly before midnight ran into the side of an eastbound freight train near Dock street tower in this city. Seven freight cars were broken and burned, but the Pullman sleepers composing the train were unbroken. No passengers were hurt. The fireman and engineer escaped. Most of the wrecked cars were boxcars, loaded with grain, and burned readily.

Price of Sugar Advanced.

New York, Aug. 12.—The American Sugar Refining company and B. H. Howell, Son & Co. yesterday advanced the price of soft sugars ten points and that of confectioners' A grade five points.

WORK OF PEORIA FIREBUG

Applies Torch to Five Buildings in One Day.

SUSPECT IN BURNER ARREST.

Flames at One Time Threatened Business Section of City—Livery Stable and Nineteen Horses Are Burned—Firemen Kept Busy.

Peoria, Aug. 12.—The police and fire departments of Peoria were kept on the jump yesterday by the operations of an incendiary. The torch was applied to five buildings during the day and through the actual fire loss will not exceed \$25,000, with an insurance of about \$12,000, the flames at one time threatened to sweep a large section of the city.

The police arrested Edward Flanagan, twenty years of age, on the charge of arson. They claim to have direct evidence against him. Shortly after his arrest the mutterings of the crowd made it necessary to remove the prisoner to the county jail for safe keeping.

The first fire was started in the store house of the Val Blatz Brewing company, at the foot of Harrison street. It was extinguished before serious damage had been done. Fire was next seen in Dooly Bros. coal sheds, but the damage there was minimal. Shortly after noon fire was discovered in Neuhiller's livery barn. The flames spread with such rapidity that the nineteen horses occupying the basement floor and all the rigs were destroyed. The flames spread to the undertaking establishment owned by C. W. O'Leary, adjoining the livery barn. A general alarm was sounded and every piece of fire fighting apparatus in the city was called out.

Then came an alarm from the flouring mills of Horace Clark & Sons. Part of the department was rushed to the mill, but the flames had gained such headway that damage amounting to \$8,000 was caused before the flames could be checked. While the department was fighting the Clark mills fire an alarm came in from the residence of Mrs. Roggy, in Warner avenue, where damage of \$400 was caused.

The incendiary began his work in Peoria about April 1 and so vigorously did he apply the torch during the month of April that the city council held a special session and offered a reward of \$500 for his capture and conviction. The fire underwriters' association offered an additional reward of \$500. Notwithstanding the fact that the reward had been doubled, he continued his work. Up to date he has succeeded in suffocating and burning fifty-five horses and causing fire damages aggregating many thousands of dollars. When the Clark fire broke out Flanagan was seen to throw something into the building and walk hurriedly around the block. He was watching the fire when the police arrested him.

TRY TO TAKE WYOMING TOWN.

Citizens of Battle Rout Raiders Who Seek to Avenge Sheep Slaughter.

Battle, Wyo., Aug. 12.—A crowd of Mexican sheep herders attempted to take the town of Battle, with the result that two of them were killed. Several made their escape into the woods, one man being shot in the leg. One citizen was hit on the heel and Miss Estell Sanders, a resident, was severely cut in the face by a window pane broken by a stray shot. Every man in town is armed, fearing the Mexicans will swoop down on the town, as there are scores of them in this vicinity.

The attack was in retaliation for the slaughter of 5,000 sheep by the townspeople, who had ordered the sheepmen to keep away, as this territory is reserved for the cattle men.

Business Portion Wiped Out.

Fresno, Cal., Aug. 12.—Fire destroyed the business part of the little town of Reedley. The loss is estimated at \$75,000. The flames broke out in Gosline Bros.' store and fanned by a brisk northwest wind, spread rapidly to adjoining buildings, the only available means to combat them being a bucket brigade. A man named Webster, who was arrested some time ago for burglary and discharged for lack of evidence, and who is said to have threatened revenge upon his prosecutor, a tenant of the Gosline building, has been arrested, charged with arson.

Price of Sugar Advanced.

New York, Aug. 12.—The American Sugar Refining company and B. H. Howell, Son & Co. yesterday advanced the price of soft sugars ten points and that of confectioners' A grade five points.

Kodol Dyspepsia Cure

Digests what you eat. This preparation contains all of the digestants and digests all kinds of food. It gives instant relief and never fails to cure. It allows you to eat all the food you want. The most sensitive stomachs can take it. By its use many thousands of dyspeptics have been cured after everything else failed. It is unequalled for the stomach. Children with weak stomachs thrive on it.

Cures all stomach troubles. Prepared only by E. C. DeWitt & Co., Chicago. Each \$1. bottle contains 25 times the 50c. size.