

THE GOLDEN CORN.

Magnificent Display and Big Prizes at Corn Exposition.

Two hundred and fifty dollars for an ear of corn is one of the interesting results of the corn improvement campaign which has been in progress for the past fifteen years in this country. That amount was paid at auction for an Indiana ear of white corn sold at the recent National Corn Exposition in Chicago. This grand champion white ear contained 1,200 kernels, with an assigned value of 20 cents each. Sixty ears of its kind represent a bushel.

Such fabulous prices for corn are not an accident. The work which corn breeders have done and are doing is a long and arduous task. It is the result of many years of patient and painstaking work. It is the result of the work of men like Mr. Riley, who has been breeding corn for years.



CHAMPION EAR, WHITE CORN.

around" in his cornfields selecting seed ears and in the winter sort and study them by the hour, he had no thought of what has occurred in corn breeding as a direct result of his hobby. That good old Hoosier farmer did not know that he was doing more for the future than for his own time. Boone County White and Riley's Favorite, two of our standard varieties, owe their origin and improvement to his faithful work. Moreover, his results were the source of no small part of the interest in corn improvement which has been multiplying throughout the country for two decades.

What Mr. Riley accomplished in Indiana was quite paralleled in Ohio by the Leamings and in Illinois by James L. Reid. As a result we have the popular standard variety known as Leaming and the more cosmopolitan Reid's Yellow Dent, each of which is extensively grown in the Mississippi valley. For exhibition purposes the latter is without a peer in the races or varieties of corn.

And still only a beginning has been made. Ears that are practically perfect, according to present standards, are being produced, but perfection has not been attained. The most important work remains to be done. It does not consist in producing \$250 ears nor in emphasizing the so-called artistic values of perfect scoring types. Its prime object is to secure a maximum yield of merchantable corn from every acre planted.

Never was such keen interest shown in any crop as is exhibited today in corn. It was reflected in magnificent fashion at the corn show in Chicago a short time ago. Fourteen states contributed exhibits. According to their representation, their rank was as follows: Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Wisconsin, Ohio, Nebraska, South Dakota, Michigan, Missouri, Kansas, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Texas and Kentucky. Reid's Yellow Dent was represented by 100 ten-ear entries, Leaming by 40, Boone County White by 40 and Silvermine by 52. In the boys' class 200 entries were exhibited, in the ladies' class 250, in the girls' 150, in the freak class 150. Altogether \$16,000 in cash prizes was awarded.

It is highly profitable to show corn for prizes. One man from Indiana



CHAMPION TEN EARS, WHITE CORN.

won more than \$7,000 in prizes on a single ten ear exhibit. Including the prizes won by his family, he left the show about \$9,000 to the good. And all the corn he showed was grown on a little thirteen acre patch. An Iowa exhibitor won prizes of a total value of about \$6,000. A South Dakota corn grower received nearly \$7,000 worth of prizes. Hundreds of others gained valuable prizes in great variety, according to the Breeder's Gazette, Chicago, from whose extensive illustrated report of the great corn show the foregoing items are gleaned.

A Cover Crop.

A cover crop will catch in the fall the nitrates and other valuable plant food which would otherwise be lost. It also serves to break up the soil, and to keep it from becoming too hard. It is a very important part of the corn grower's equipment. It is the result of the work of men like Mr. Riley, who has been breeding corn for years.

Carrots For Horses.

Carrots are considered of high value for all classes of stock, but especially of great value for feeding horses. The leaves of carrots appear to be of higher feeding value than the leaves of mangels or rutabagas.

Sabbath School Teacher—What does the parable of the prodigal son teach us? Bobby Thickneck—Not to be fat-ted calves, un'am 'tuck.

Point of Resemblance.

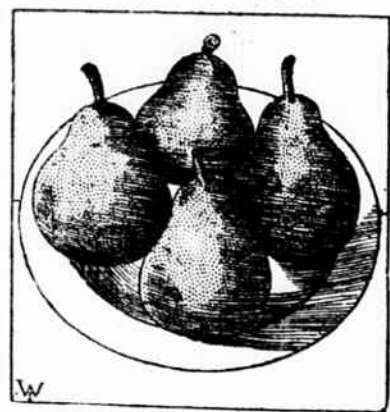
Stella—Does her auto matru her gown? Bella—Yes, they are neither of them paid for.—New York Sun.

POPULAR PEARS.

Two Varieties That Are Much Valued by Orchardists.

The Bartlett pear, an old time favorite, is of English origin. It is one of the few really good pears that grow everywhere. When fully ripe it is delicious. The flesh is white, buttery, juicy and of a musky perfume.

For canning purposes it is prime, and in commercial use it is said that the Keiffer is largely substituted and sold as Bartlett. The Keiffer is described as being raised from the seed of the Yhinese seed pear accidentally crossed with Bartlett or some other kind. The flesh of the Keiffer is slightly coarse.



BARTLETT PEARS.

Intely, with a pronounced quince flavor. It ripens in October and will keep for some time. Some fine specimens of Bartlett pears are here shown in the cut from American Agriculturist.

Brussels Sprouts.

This curious vegetable rosebush is of very great value to the farmer and market gardener. Primarily, of course, its strongest hold is as a money maker. It yields well, averaging one quart per



A SPECIMEN CRATE.

plant. It is a hardy, vigorous specimen of the plant world and has few enemies.

These little cabbages are generally packed in the strawberry box of commerce, alleged to hold in the neighborhood of a quart, which sell at wholesale from 8 to 30 cents a quart. The Long Islander, because favored by nature with a longer season than our inland neighbors, as a rule (the exception), was the top notch figure, according to a writer in American Cultivator.

An acre of "sprouts" on the island carries over 7,000 plants. As the seeds are planted like late cabbage, in the open air, there is no expense in raising beyond seed bed preparation and cost of seed. The young plants are as easily transplanted as cabbage, and the cultivation is identical in every way. The season opens in October and frequently runs through December and many times (on Long Island) into February for sprouts care but little for frost, while freezing makes them sweeter and more dainty.

As is usual in ice houses, it is made of coal ashes one foot or less thick, so as to afford complete drainage. No roof whatever is provided. Indeed, most of those who keep ice in this manner say that roofs are entirely unnecessary and that the ice keeps even better without a roof over it than with one.

The ice is cut and packed in the usual manner and then is covered with sawdust one foot deep. I do not know of any one covering it with straw, but should think if that were used it should be cut first. Our dealers here pack the ice with a space of six inches left next the walls and afterward filled with sawdust, and this space is kept filled as the ice melts. The floor is made of anthracite coal six inches to one foot deep. The posts forming the house are tied with telegraph wire or with braces placed on the outside. All other plans of keeping ice are here abandoned.

Farm Brevities.

The early lambs command the top notch in the market. The best of them comes on look after the lambing of your milk cows. The best time to lamb is ahead of time.

It is a good deodorizer and purifier and the best foe of tuberculosis.

It is a good pay to compel stock to stand in drafts. Lumber is high, but not so expensive as ailing horses and cows.

The dairyman who carries a herd of dry cows or strippers through the winter is not likely to find his occupation remunerative.

If there are any low places about the barn and yards where puddles collect and freeze, fill them up at once and thereby possibly avoid a broken leg and the loss of a favorite animal.

If your hogs have not done so well as you expected, find out the cause. It may have been in the breeding, but more likely it was because of early mistakes in feeding. A judiciously selected pig given the proper treatment seldom disappoints his owner.—Farm Journal.

THE TOP ROUND OF THE LADDER.

(Original.)

Camilla Deming was a country girl who went to the city to join in the literary scramble. Ambitious and possessing some means, she intended to eschew the drudgery of editorial work and strike at once into authorship. But one man in her native village was sufficiently intellectual to secure her friendship, Curtis Forster, a young physician who had studied his profession in town and returned to practice in the country. He was plodding and practical. He strongly advised her to choose a role offering greater chances of success, that of wife and mother, with himself for the husband, and when she refused begged her if she were unsuccessful to consider the offer still open.

She had met with some success by writing stories for the country papers and began in her new field with others more limited. It is true, but the same simple work that had so pleased her neighbors. Occasionally she would dispose of one of them to a magazine, but at the end of a year after figuring up her net proceeds she had gained but a twentieth of her expenditures.

She had brought with her from the country a bit of editorial work, which had remained in the bottom of her trunk. Feeling that she should make an effort to add something to her income for the next year even if it were not by her chosen creative work, she took out this manuscript, smoothed the rumpled pages and looked it over. It consisted of a series of selections from the most affecting scenes in the works of Washington Irving, to each of which she had written a brief introduction, admirably imitating the author's style. It was accepted, and the book made a hit. The author's income for the year from this source was equal to her expenditures. Her publisher suggested the writing of another similar book made up of extracts from the humor of a noted author.

The publisher's suggestion was accompanied by so handsome an offer that she accepted. The second book was more popular than the first and the proceeds derived many times larger. Then commenced a scramble among publishers for the works of Camilla Deming. Success is gratifying in any form, and the young author was very much delighted with hers. She did not now consider her work simply editorial. At any rate, she saw in it an opening for her own creations.

She had long had on hand a novel which from time to time she had submitted to publishers, then revised and submitted again, always with the same result—"Unavailable." Selecting one of a dozen publishers who were now hounding her for her work, she placed it in his hands, and it was published immediately.

Heartless.

"So you wouldn't take me to be twenty-six?" giggled the fair widow. "No, indeed," rejoined the inconsiderate old bachelor. "But if you had a daughter I might take her to be that old."

Why They Left.

"Hello, George! What's everybody crowding out of the drawing room for? Have refreshments been announced?" George—No. But Aunt Matilda is getting ready to sing.

Envy is an awkward homage that inferiority pays to merit.—La Motte.

Only Changing the Tune.

"The man escaped us," said the detective. "He had invented a new dodge. That, you see, is the trouble about the science of detection. The minute we detectives master all the old tricks something new springs up."

"It is rather like the story of the thirsty butler. When you keep a cask of beer under lock and key in the cellar, only giving the butler the key when you want him to draw you a pitcher, then, if you make him whistle all the time he is out of sight on this errand, you are bound not to be defrauded, eh? Or so at least it was in the past."

"Well, there was a man who engaged a new butler, and, as of yore, the first day he wanted beer he said:

"James, here are the keys to the beer closet. Take this pitcher down and fill it. And mind you whistle all the while you do it."

"Yes, sir," said James, and he departed whistling.

"The clear, sweet notes of 'Home, Sweet Home,' floated upstairs for a minute or so, then they ceased. The master rushed to the cellar door.

"James," he shouted angrily, "what are you doing?"

"Nothin', sir; only changin' the tune."—Washington Star.

Letter Writing in Ancient Babylon. It can easily be understood that the reading and writing of cuneiform was not an accomplishment in the possession of every one. Nevertheless there were plenty of scribes everywhere, especially in the cities, where they sat at the temple gates to be at the service of the public. The frequent representations of scribes are hence interesting and show that in addition to clay tablets the Babylonians used some sort of flexible material to write upon. The large number of letters which have been excavated, many of them from the ninth century before Christ, indicate that a very active correspondence was carried on in Babylonia by means of messengers, but even more active was the use of writing in commercial dealings, which was strictly enforced by law. Nothing was legally binding unless it was done into writing in the presence of witnesses.—Professor Friedrich Delitzsch in Harper's Magazine.

FARM HINTS.

Getting Ready For Winter Is a Part of Good Management.

So far as possible everything should be put in good condition for the winter. The cows should be put in the stable nights, where they can be better fed and cared for. The stable should be put in the best condition for use both for the comfort of the cows or other animals and convenience in caring for them. Have good floors and stalls and plenty of light. Put in more windows when needed and there is room. Make the stable comfortably warm, but have sufficient means for ventilation, so that the air shall not be close or bad smelling.

The health of the animals should always be carefully looked after. A yearly application of whitewash will add to the good looks of the stable and is considered a sanitary measure.

There should always be an endeavor to have everything as convenient as possible for those having the care of the stock, as that means much during the long months of winter in time and labor.

Care of Cows.

Prices for milk, cream and butter are high, very high for the time of the year, and may go higher and continue high through the winter. This prospect should encourage farmers to do the best possible for their cows to keep up a good flow of milk. Keeping the cows in the stable on cool nights and feeding to the most profitable point or limit should be practiced.

Do not undertake to winter more stock than can be well kept, as there is no profit in this. Use plenty of bedding, so that the cows may be kept clean. Feed the best combination of grains, market cost considered, for the production of milk along with the well cured corn fodder, silage and good hay, advises American Cultivator. Regularity in all of the work is also a necessary condition for the best success.

Implements and Machines.

With the great scarcity of help the farmer finds it necessary to supply the deficiency so far as possible by the use of the best implements and machines. It costs a good deal on the average sized farm to get supplied with these, and they should be made the best use of and then well cleaned and housed.

ALFALFA SEED.

Great Care Should Be Taken in Making Proper Tests.

In an address before a Kansas alfalfa club F. D. Coburn said: I can surely render the members of your club and alfalfa growers in general no better service in one brief communication than to urge upon them with emphasis the utmost caution and painstaking in securing and sowing none out the highest quality of seed. This quality means not only seed demonstrated as 90 or more per cent germinable, but free from the adulterations and impurities likely to be found present, most frequently from carelessness or shiftlessness, but often from design and sometimes from both. Alfalfa seed is expensive at best, and doubly or trebly so if it will not grow or carries with it trash and quantities of other seeds which stock a field, a farm or a neighborhood with weed pests that interfere with or crowd out the alfalfa, displace expected profit with positive loss and provoke bitterness of thought and speech.

Not Germinable.

Among samples of alfalfa seed offered for sale Professor Roberts of the Kansas experiment station found one with more than 88 per cent of impurities and thirty-four different kinds of foreign seeds, and these constituted 31.5 per cent of the whole. In this lot were also 3.8 per cent of trash and dirt, and 53 per cent of the seeds true to name were incapable of germination. Another sample was 79.3 per cent impurities and 53.3 of the remainder valueless. Twenty-six lots tested by Professor Roberts contained an average of 44.1 per cent of impurities, including eight different kinds of foreign seeds amounting to 4.5 per cent, trash and dirt 4 per cent, and 35.8 per cent of what was really alfalfa seed was not germinable.

Why He Didn't Smile.

A certain well known humorist recently attended a banquet at which he was seated beside a man who seemed to have almost a mania for story telling. He began with the oysters and had at least one story for each course clear down to the Roquefort. The humorist listened in patience, but did not smile or make any comment. Finally the story teller noticed the fact that he was not eliciting any expressions of mirth, and, being one who was not at all afflicted with diffidence, he asked:

"Say, old man, what's the matter with my stories, anyhow? You haven't cracked a smile over any of them."

"If I haven't seemed to appreciate your stories, you will have to blame my modesty."

"Your modesty? There's nothing about any of the stories I've told that ought to interfere with anybody's modesty. At least I supposed they were clean. If there's a double meaning in any of them, please tell me."

"There's nothing at all the matter with them. They're good, clean stories. Nevertheless my modesty forbids me to laugh at them. I wrote them."

The greatest poet of Persia was Ferdousi, who composed an epic called "The Shah Nameh" about the middle of the tenth century A. D.

And Charged For Accordingly.

The stepladder was climbing the flagstaff surmounting the clock tower. "This is what I call working over time," he chuckled.—Chicago Tribune.

MASTER'S SALE.

By virtue of a Decree of the Court made in the case of J. W. Pugh & Son, Plaintiffs, Versus Albert L. Pugh and Annette Pugh, Defendants, in a Judgment in Foreclosure by the Honorable Jno. S. Wilson, Presiding Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Marion County, at the June Term thereof 1909, the undersigned will sell before the Court House Door at Marion, S. C., to the highest bidder at public auction, on Saturday, August 14, 1909,

within the usual hours of sales, all that certain tract of land in the county of Marion in the State of South Carolina, in Betha Township, containing forty acres, more or less, bounded on the North by lands of Sallie M. Norton, on South and East by lands of Mrs. James Cousar, and on the West by the Cashua Ferry Public Road.

Terms of sale cash. Purchaser to pay for papers. J. D. McLucas, July 12th, 1909. Master for Marion County.

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