

Modern Farm Methods As Applied in the South.

Notes of Interest to Planter, Fruit Grower and Stockman

Let Grass Make Money For You.

One of the essentials of successful stock raising is good pasturage; and one of the greatest handicaps to successful stock raising in many sections of the South is the lack of suitable pastures.

A good pasture means, first of all, plenty of grass; but there are other things necessary to make a really good pasture. It must have water and shade as well as grass; and in any section where cultivation has succeeded range conditions it must be enclosed.

Now of shade and water there is no scarcity in the South, and we have the grass, too, if we would only realize it. But when it comes to fences we are tremendously handicapped.

It is safe to say that there are thousands of farmers in every Southern State who would grow many more and much better cattle and horses, hogs and sheep, if they had good pastures for them to run in. Yet it is easy to find all over the Cotton Belt farms grown up to Bermuda—one of the finest pasture grasses in the world—in which the owners plant corn or cotton year after year and spend all summer fighting the grass only to have a poor and very expensive crop at the season's end. We heard not long since a farmer talking of how he was going to kill out the Bermuda on a poor hill-side preparatory to getting it ready to sow in grass. All that he needs to do—and all that thousands of other farmers need to do—is to put a good fence about that field and some stock on it and give it a little attention for a few years, keeping down briars and bushes and giving it an occasional harrowing, and he would have a pasture which would pay him ten times as much as he is now getting from these acres.

A good permanent pasture should be one of the established institutions on every farm—and in the despised and neglected Bermuda we have a grass of which Professor Spillman of the U. S. Department of Agriculture says that "no other grass bears pasturing better or yields more herbage in the form of pasture." With our winter growing grasses and legumes it would be easy for us to supplement it so as to have pastures practically the year round.

Yet we go on fighting it to grow crops of low priced cotton and tobacco to pay for the butter and beef and lard and bacon this same grass would make for us if we would let it.

Only another one of the South's neglected opportunities.—Prof. Massey.

Money in Peavine Hay.

Special attention of farmers is called to the money and feeding value of peavine hay. Look at it in this way. Take an acre of land that with the aid of \$3 worth of fertilizer will make 1000 pounds of seed-cotton. At ten cents a pound the lint and seed will be worth \$37.50. To raise and market that cotton will cost five and a half cents a pound, or \$13.50 for the acre, leaving net \$19.50. Use the same guano and plant the acre in oats as soon as the ground is dry enough. Follow with peas soon broadcast. The yield should be twenty bushels of oats and a ton and a half of peavine hay. The oats at sixty cents, and hay at \$18 a ton and straw at \$2, would bring \$41.00. The expense of both crops, including haying the hay, would not be exceeding \$10, which would leave net \$31. Land would be improved to the value of \$5 an acre besides. Well-cured peavine hay is the best milk producer we know. Ton for ton it is worth more than genuine wheat bran and twice as much as some of the mixtures sold under the name of bran. Let farmers make their own supplies, live at home and they will prosper and be happy.—Charles Petty, Spartanburg Co., S. C.

Keep the Hogs Free From Lice.

In summer some do this by supplying a place where they can make a wallow. I do not believe in the common hog wallow. It will pay better for any man who keeps from fifteen to twenty-five hogs to provide a dipping vat and use it regularly to keep his hogs free of lice. The great losses resulting from the ravages of lice are not appreciated. A dip composed of any one of many cheap and excellent coal tar disinfectants, in the proportion of one part of the disinfectant to fifty parts of water, can be made at a trifling cost. If this is not done, the hogs should be thoroughly sprinkled with the solution every week or greased with a mixture of one part kerosene and three parts of any non-irritating oil sufficient often to keep the lice off them.

Good Shelter is Needed in this Climate as well as any other.

Good shelter is needed in this climate as well as any other. Not to protect the hogs from cold, for the hog is not an animal that suffers much from cold, but to protect them from rain and wind and to furnish comfortable sleeping quarters.

Man With No Money and His Chances

A correspondent says that he would like to farm as we advise, but is not able to do so. He never will be able so long as he follows the old planting method and buys fertilizers on credit and depends on these to help his poor land make a crop and grow poorer in the making of it. He is better able to buy plain acid phosphate for the peas and clover than to buy the poor 2-8-2 fertilizer to make a sale crop. He is better able to grow peas and feed them than to grow cotton or tobacco merely with the aid of fertilizers. And as, little by little, he adds to the fertility of the soil, he will be getting better and better able to farm right. He is better able to grow peas and clover with only acid phosphate and a little potash than to buy nitrogen that the peas will give him in abundance. If not able to farm in all respects as he should with more means, he can at least make a beginning and grow into the ability to farm as he improves his land. He will certainly never be any more able if he follows the old hopeless plan.—Progressive Farmer.

Repairing Buggy Wheels.

Make a box eight or ten inches square at the bottom and six inches square at the top, 2 1/2 to 3 feet tall, as shown in Fig. 1. Have your



Fig. 1—Wheel Ready to Paint.

blacksmith make a screw hook and eyebolt of half-inch iron of a combined length to match the box. Screw the hook into the shop floor, explains

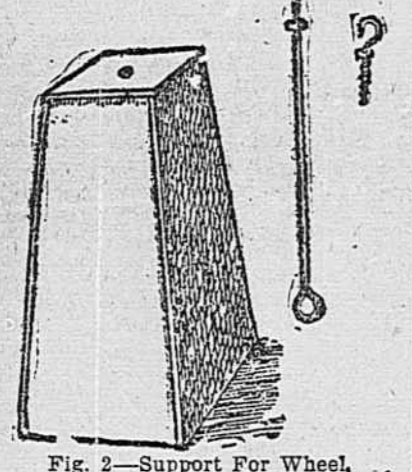


Fig. 2—Support For Wheel.

the Prairie Farmer, place the box over it, catch the eyebolt into the hook, place the wheel on top of the box with a board washer and tighten the nut on the eyebolt to hold the wheel while at work, as in Fig. 2.

Cultivation of Corn.

Corn may be drilled or checked. We prefer checking for two reasons. The corn can be kept clean with less labor, and, after our heavy spring rains the land can be more thoroughly cultivated by plowing both ways. It can be checked on the double bed by taking up the marker and driving the planter down the center of the bed. We use the double walking cultivators. These do thorough work, and the cost of making the crop is cheapened. Corn should be cultivated often and thoroughly. Cultivate deep during the early part of the season and shallow after the roots get out in the row. After the corn is too large to permit the use of the double cultivator, for the last plowing, use single cultivators. Cultivate late. This conserves moisture and keeps the grass out. Sow one bushel of peas per acre just before the last cultivation.—J. W. Fox, Director Mississippi Delta Experiment Station, in Bulletin No. 119.

Variety in Feeds.

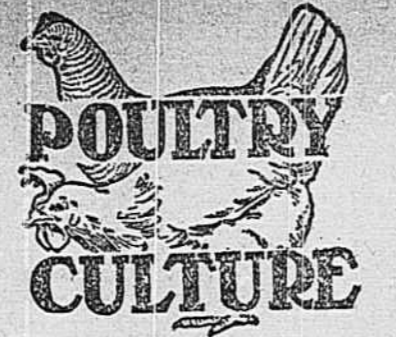
The farmers must learn to grow a variety of feeds. We feed too much corn, especially to young stock. Economy in the use of farm feeds must be studied.—S. M. Cown.

LETTER BLOWN SEVENTY-FIVE MILES IN TORNADO

A letter which was blown at least seventy-five miles has been returned to its owner, William Harvill, in Toty's Bend, Mr. Harvill's house, in which he lived alone, was blown away the night of the tornado, and everything he had was swept away. Among the things he treasured were many papers and letters. The letter returned was written by his daughter, Miss

A BOAR KILLS THREE HORSES AND WOUNDS A MAN

A boar, maddened by the heat, ran wild on a West Middleton farm and seriously wounded one man and killed three valuable horses before being shot to death, says a dispatch from Washington, Pa., to the Philadelphia North American. The animal, which was owned by A. K. Rush, broke out of its pen and attacked a pony in the barn yard. Before the pony could escape the hog had gored it to death with its tusks. The boar then broke through



POULTRY CULTURE

Poultry Notes.

Protect your poultry from spring rains.

Four table scraps are not good for poultry.

Whole corn is good for laying hens during cold weather.

Hens do better if kept in separate lots of twenty-five each.

Give the laying hens fresh water slightly warmed three times a day during cold weather.

Large breeds should never be kept in the same flock with small breeds.

Table scraps should be cooked and given to the laying hens.

When hens acquire the feather-pulling habit they should be sent to market at once.

Feed the laying hens at daybreak and sundown, and keep them working the entire time between.

Roosts for poultry should be placed on a level, so that there can be no preferred positions.

Lice always attack poultry more when they are in an unwhitish condition than when they are well fed and properly cared for.

If hens are confined to the poultry house on cold days, see to it that they do not have to stand on the bare floor. Use straw, cornstalks, corn husks or other dry material for a floor covering. Hens with cold feet will not lay very many eggs.

Although turkeys will eat snow they should not be permitted to do so, but should be given plenty of fresh, clean water.

When raising turkeys for market medium sized ones will be found better than extra large ones.

Save a few of the old turkey hens, as the two-year-old is a better breeder than the young hen.

Turkeys should not be housed with chickens, as they require different conditions.

A Trio of African Geese.

African geese are popular with many who keep geese for the market. They are large enough and are good layers. They are hardy and will thrive where other breeds will die. In a way they resemble the Toulouse geese, their distinguishing feature being a kind of horn just over the upper part of the beak. They are, as

Alfalfa Meal For Poultry.

We find that, as a rule, our hens fed on alfalfa meal lay very fertile eggs, which produce strong, vigorous and healthy chicks. We also find that they will moult quicker in the fall and commence to lay earlier in the season. For laying hens we put several quarts of alfalfa meal into a closed vessel, then pour boiling water over the meal until it is thoroughly moistened; place a cover over the vessel and let the mixture steep for a while.

Just before the feeding dash a little cold water over the feed. This brings out the green color, and the whole presents a very pleasing appearance and is as near grass as any feed can be. Some prefer to mix the meal with table scraps or grain, both of which add palatability and variety to the mash. Bone meal and meat scraps make excellent additions to alfalfa or clover meal, both of which are concentrated feeds and great egg producers.—A. L. C., Iowa Agricultural College.

Keeping Egg Record.

For keeping account of eggs received I hang a calendar with a white background near the door of my poultry house, so that on returning from a visit to the hens the number of eggs may be marked each day with the pencil attached. In this manner a daily, weekly and monthly account is kept, and I know what the average is per hen for any length of time. From this it is easy to calculate how hens pay. It takes only a few seconds a day for the record.

Skim-Milk For Plummage.

Nothing will give a better gloss to the plumage of exhibition birds than sweet skim-milk. When milk is plentiful it should be used to mix the mash instead of water.

Gold Rose For a Queen.

His Holiness, the Pope, has just received from the papal jeweler a beautiful rose of gold and speculation is rife as to the queen it is destined for. The papal rose of gold is occasionally sent as a special pentecostal gift to a Catholic queen.

CARE OF THE SINK.

A solution of chloride of zinc, which can be obtained at the drugist's, and used in proportion of one pint to four gallons of water, forms a most efficient cleansing and purifying agent for the sink waste pipe, promptly neutralizing noxious effluvia and arresting vegetable decomposition. Carbonic acid mixed with water in the proportion of two table-spoonfuls of acid to a cup of water will prove a good disinfectant in case of odors arising from sink waste pipe.—Boston Post.



GOOD ROADS

The Road Question.

Probably the most serious economical question at present is that of the public highways, meaning the roads used by vehicles self-propelled or drawn by horses. The Department of Agriculture is considering it thoroughly, by an extensive investigation of conditions, causes and effects; the engineering societies have committees at work, and every municipal government is discussing and experimenting with the subject. Out of all this there will be results, of course, but they will come slowly and the cost and the labor will be enormous, just to get at the facts.

Certain truths are ascertained. A railroad must have a smooth roadbed, of solid construction, with rails of a weight adapted to the size of the engines and cars; it must have similar construction at all points, and its grades must be limited to the length of trains, or the train length reduced, or engine-power increased. A trolley road must be adapted to the size and weight of the car, in the same proportionate way, or the roadbed will suffer, or the cars will be destroyed. It is less a question of comfort or convenience in either case than one of getting the best results for your money. You can not run a five-thousand-dollar trolley car over a rough track without destroying the car, hurting the poor roadbed, and ruining the better tracks. The cheapest investment for any railroad is a good track.

The same truths apply to the ordinary highways, but here conditions vary. There is a well-established mathematical relation between a locomotive with a freight train and the track which carries the burden. But a public highway has to accommodate many vehicles of different kinds and the burden is not upon two tracks, but upon a wide surface, unequally used. The consequence is that the highway problem is much more difficult than that of a railroad or trolley.

The worst feature of the highway construction question is that the character of the vehicles using it changes constantly and has changed frequently for many years. The burden can never be exactly estimated, so the back to bear it can not be precisely adjusted. A horse and a cart with metal tires need one kind of road; when the tires and another kind will serve; put rubber on the tires and sharpen the horse's shoes, and a smooth road is necessary; use the highway for an automobile and there should be smoothness without dust. Put each of these requirements in a single highway, and there is perfect achievement, and that is what remains to be accomplished.

Every art is needed for this vast task—the engineer's, the contractor's, the chemist's, the publicist's. Science and mechanical skill and cash are all requisites. And above all, preliminary study. The work is going on and experiments are constantly being made, but it will be a long and weary task. Let it be understood as a problem to be solved, something yet to be attained, and much will be gained. Heretofore, the discussion has been too much on the basis of "having known it all." It is a great unanswered question; but time, labor, science and money will make the reply soon, if opportunity be given by a public able to recognize the vast importance of the issue at stake.—Newark Call.

Sawdust Roads.

"Sawdust roads are proving a success in our State," said A. H. Gibson, of Jacksonville. "They have been trying it in one county, and the road has more than one point in its favor. Two inches of earth are thrown up by a road machine at the required width, and the space between them is filled to a depth of six inches with sawdust. Then a small machine comes along and plows up some of the clay and makes it with the sawdust. This makes a road on which the tires of the heaviest vehicles make no impression.

The contractor kept close account and the road cost \$297 a mile, as the sawdust did not have to be hauled a great distance. Some have questioned the durability of this form of road, but there are sawdust roads in Georgia that are over twenty years old and in good condition to-day. The repairing of these roads is a very simple matter, in case of holes."

Translating Navajo Into English.

The first printing press ever built to print the Navajo language is now being installed at the Rebeboth mission, five or six miles from Gallup. For the first time in the history of the tribe it now has an alphabet, a translation of a part of the Bible into the vernacular, and a real literary language. This represents the life work of the Rev. L. P. Brink, of Tohatchi, N. M., a missionary of the Christian Reformed Church. For years he has been laboring upon the colossal task of reducing the Navajo language to literary form, having invented an alphabet, written a dictionary and formulated a grammar conforming to Navajo usage.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Ever Ready in a Desert.

There is a large quantity of water in the great desert of Chile, but more that either human beings or stock can drink. Science, however, has come to the aid of this rainless section of the country in the form of an ingenious desert waterworks, consisting of a series of frames containing 20,000 square feet of glass. The panes of glass are arranged in the shape of a V and under each pane is a shallow pan containing brackish water. The heat of the sun evaporates the water, which condenses upon the sloping glass, and made pure by this operation, it runs down into little channels at the bottom of the V and is carried away into the main canal. Nearly 1,000 gallons of fresh water is collected daily by this means.—From the Mexican Herald.

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IN AGONY WITH ECZEMA

Whole Body a Mass of Raw, Bleeding, Torturing Humor—Hoped Death Would End Fearful Suffering—In Despair: Cured by Cuticura.

"Words cannot describe the terrible agony I suffered with. It broke out on my head and kept spreading until it covered my whole body. I was almost a solid mass of sores from head to foot. I looked more like a piece of raw beef than a human being. The pain and agony I endured seemed more than I could bear. Blood and pus oozed from the great sore on my scalp, from under my finger nails, and nearly all over my body. My ears were so crusted and swollen I was afraid they would break off. Every hair in my head fell out. I could not sit down, for my clothes would stick to the raw and bleeding flesh, making me cry out from the pain. My family doctor did all he could, but I got worse and worse. My condition was awful. I did not think I could live, and was ready to come and end my frightful sufferings.

"In this condition my mother-in-law begged me to try the Cuticura Remedies. I said 'I would,' but had no hope of recovery. But oh, what blessed relief I experienced after applying Cuticura Ointment. It cooled the bleeding and itching flesh and brought me the first real sleep I had had in weeks. It was as grateful as ice to a burning tongue. I would bathe with warm water and Cuticura Soap, then apply the Ointment freely. I also took Cuticura Resolvent for the blood. In a short time the sores stopped running, the flesh began to heal, and I knew I was to get well again. Then the hair on my head began to grow, and in a short time I was completely cured. I would tell everybody who has eczema to use Cuticura. Mrs. Wm. Hunt, 135 Thomas St., Newark, N. J., Sept. 28, 1908."

Cause of Leprosy.

A new tubercular theory as to leprosy was suggested some time ago by Dr. Chas. E. MacDonald, of the army, who noticed in the Philippines the same facts as to fish diet which have long been held by Hutchinson as the cause. The present idea is not that the diet itself is at fault, but that there is an infection from tuberculosis fish—rather startling to be sure, but not at all improbable.

Waterworks in a Desert.

There is a large quantity of water in the great desert of Chile, but more that either human beings or stock can drink. Science, however, has come to the aid of this rainless section of the country in the form of an ingenious desert waterworks, consisting of a series of frames containing 20,000 square feet of glass. The panes of glass are arranged in the shape of a V and under each pane is a shallow pan containing brackish water. The heat of the sun evaporates the water, which condenses upon the sloping glass, and made pure by this operation, it runs down into little channels at the bottom of the V and is carried away into the main canal. Nearly 1,000 gallons of fresh water is collected daily by this means.—From the Mexican Herald.

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