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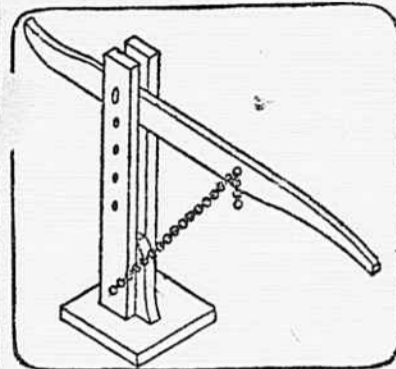
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### HANDY IMPLEMENT FOR FARMERS

Substantial Wagon Jack Easily and Cheaply Constructed at Home—Directions for Making.

A substantial handy wagon jack can easily be made at home, says the Wisconsin Agriculturist. Cut a block one foot square from sound 1 1/2 to 2 inch stuff, and set into a block of 2-inch stuff 9 inches high, and 9 inches wide at the base. Make a mortise joint. Cut out two upright pieces from 1 1/2 inch stuff, each 4 inches wide and 3 feet long, and screw them fast to the block mortised into the base. See that these uprights rest solidly on the base, so that the weight of the wagon will not be borne by the screws. Put in a block 2 inches thick to keep the



Home-Made Jack.

distance at the top of the uprights. Bore three or four three-quarter inch holes at different heights, three inches apart, to take the lever pin.

Make the lever about 4 feet long of strong, durable 2-inch timber, and bore a hole for the pin the lower side, 9 inches from the larger end. The other end is drawn down and shaped to form a handle. Small bolts through the lever each side of the pin will prevent splitting. A chain attached to the bottom of one upright, and hooked into the lever, will hold the weight of the wagon in any position desired.

### CORRECT SOIL FOR FLOWERS

Seed of Plants Which Produce Very Delicate Growths May Be Sown on Live Sphagnum Moss.

Moisture and temperature should be carefully considered when sowing seed. Do not use soil which will not allow of perfect drainage and at the same time hold moisture. Pure sand and leaf mold, or a good potting soil mixed with white sand will give a good soil for sowing seed.

Seed of rhododendrons, kalmas and orchids, which produce very delicate growths, may be sown on live sphagnum moss. Heavy, coarse soil will never produce good results, as seeds usually require a much lighter soil than the mature plant.

Never drench your seed beds or pots, as that will weaken even sound and strong seeds. Water thoroughly enough to moisten the soil throughout, as a moist surface with a dry subsoil is an evil. Seeds should never be allowed to become perfectly dry after they have once started to sprout.

Good drainage is an essential point. A layer of broken pots placed in the bottom of the pot or bed in which the seeds are started will be found a great aid to drainage. Do not sow in deep boxes or pots, as the shallow "flats" require much less attention as to drainage.

### MAKING BARLEY MAIN CROP

Work Up Fine Seed Bed by Double Disking in Spring and Drill in Seed Early as Possible.

The preparation of the land for barley varies with the locality. It is best adapted to the cool, moist conditions of the north, but may be successfully grown anywhere in the grain belt, writes F. H. Demaree in an exchange. Where it is made a main crop it will pay to plow the land preferably in the fall. Work up a fine seed bed by double disking the land in the spring and drill in the seed as early as possible.

In the northern zone of the corn belt barley can be sown after corn. In this case the land can be double disked in the spring, harrowed down and the seed drilled in. Spring barley is also grown to some extent in the corn belt, often displacing oats. In this case the above preparation of soil and seeding will secure the best and most economical results.

The machinery requirements for the barley raisers vary with the locality. In general, however, any man raising small grain should have a good disk, a plow, a smoothing harrow and a drill.

### Horse's Teeth.

Quids of grass, finely chewed and rolled together, found lying about in the horse pasture are the result of trouble with the teeth. No horse should be permitted to go until his teeth have become so uneven. Horse owners should make it a practice to have the teeth of all their horses, of which there is any question, examined and cared for by a capable person.

### Cold Weather Layers.

As a rule, hens that lay steadily during the cold weather are indifferent hot weather layers.

### Vegetables for Hens.

Vegetables are great for the hen especially when they can't get green feed in the fields.

### Winter Eggs.

Winter eggs do not come by chance. It takes planning and work to get them, but it pays.

### BUYING UP OLD IRON

It Can Be Used to Reinforce Concrete Structures.

Cement Posts, Water Tanks and Pig Troughs Will Be Stronger if Pieces of Old Machinery Are Mixed in When Molded.

Buy up the old iron, sold at the public sales next spring, and use it in reinforcing your concrete structures. Such articles as old buggies, discarded machinery and junk piles usually are sold at the first bid. This material makes good reinforcing for concrete corner posts. Cement posts are becoming popular, and there is a great demand for reinforcing material. Old iron, that would otherwise be an eyesore and a nuisance about the place, can be used to good advantage.

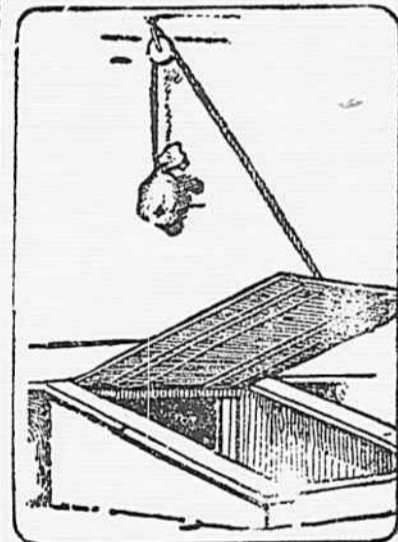
The successful farmer of the future will use much cement. He can make water tanks, pig troughs and similar stationary articles about the farm so they will be everlasting.

A roller can be made of cement for about what the freight would cost on one shipped from the manufacturer. Get a shaft about two inches in diameter and one foot longer than the length of the roller, and build a form of one-inch boards, using old wagon tires for hoops. Be sure that the structure is firmly supported in the middle to prevent bulging; old moving machine wheels which will fit the shaft may be used for reinforcement, and will aid in centering the shaft accurately. Old iron from the junk pile may be used in the reinforcing if there are not enough old wheels at hand. After the form is arranged the adding of cement is a simple matter. A proportion of about one part of cement to three parts of sand is recommended. Crushed rock, or hard cinders, may be used to replace two parts of the sand. After the roller is finished the frame and hitch may be built according to the materials, and the ideas, of the user. The hitch should be placed low so the weight will be removed from the tongue. That will prevent sore necks on the horses.

### DEVICE SAVES THE TEMPER

Arrangement on Cellar Door Keeps It Up Until Lowered—Quite Easy of Manipulation.

As a temper-saving device, try the following if you have an old-fashioned cellar door outside of the house, writes Leo McCrae of Alabama in the Farm and Home. Attach the hinges to the upper end of the door, and in the lower end bore a hole through which a small rope may be run and knotted on the under side. Carry the



A Cellar Door Lift.

other end of the rope up to a small pulley fastened to the eaves or to a stout scantling, and tie to the end a sack of stones or some good weight sufficient to hold up the door when given the least lift. The door goes up at a touch and it stays up until lowered.

### Chicken Coops.

It is a good time now to make a few chicken coops that are sure to be needed next spring and so have them ready when wanted. Get a few good packing boxes from the store and carefully take them apart; then build some neat, substantial, but light chicken coops, putting on a piece of patent roofing to keep them all safe and dry; and if a coat of paint is put on so much the better, as it will make them quite ornamental scattered about the grounds, and they will last longer, too.

### The Compost Heap.

A few old fence rails, built together in a square in the garden, will hold all the rubbish that is fit for decomposing. Add to it the weeds from the garden and manure and all ashes from the house. Pour the wash water over it and allow it to pack thoroughly. It will be of value for next spring while it concentrates now all the waste refuse and prevents the hens from roosting on it again.

### Farrowing Sows.

The sow, like the dairy cow, should not be too thin at farrowing time. For some time prior to farrowing she should have some food rich in ash, or receive some bone-meal daily, and have access to wood ashes and lime for the framework of the unborn youngsters.

### Good Investment.

It is pretty safe investment to put money into a good dairy calf or heifer at any time, provided of course, you can give her the right kind of care.

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