THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

VOL. XXVI. GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1900. NO. 42

AUTUMN WITH THE POULTRY

Now Is the Time to Look Out For Colds That May Lead to Worse.

At no season do all poultry diseases cause more trouble than when the fall weather makes its presence felt. It is the season for colds and roup, for bronchitis and pneumonia and the many "mysterious" diseases which follow neglect of the fowls during the preceding hot season. Unless you take care, roup will get a foothold in your flock. It is up to you to see to it that the malignant little germ does not have a favorable opportunity to do business. Your poultry houses must be dry and ready for winter; the fowls must be gradually hardened off. They should not be made tender by suddenly shutting them in tightly in close houses at the first suggestion of cold weather. The front windows ought to remain open nights for some time yet, but they should be ready to close on very chilly nights. The birds must not be crowded, and the vermin must not be allowed to flourish. You cannot afford to feed fowls and lice both. You will have to sacrifice one or the other, and the lice ought to go.

That night feeding of mash needs to be a little stimulating to keep pace with the weather, but don't have it too much so. Keep the birds busy, and remember that exercise means health and warmth. Keep a sharp lookout for the snuffles or nose colds. These, if neglected, mean trouble later. A neglected cold makes a favorable opportunity for the roup germs to get in their work, and you will have influenza, true roup and all the other varieties of roupy disease "if you don't watch out." Don't let slight colds get the start of you. Almost all fowls are liable to slight colds at this season. The trouble almost always starts with snuffles or nose cold. A little treatment in time will avoid trouble.

For sample cases of cold with a slight glary discharge from the nostrils, if the bird seems all right otherwise, try 15 drops of spirits of camphor dropped on sugar and then dissolved in a pint of drinking water. For bronchial colds with rattling in the throat and noisy breathing try a tablet representing one one-thousandth grain of arsenite of antimony, given three times a day in severe cases, or for treatment of a number of fowls put ten such tablets in a pint of drinking water and let them drink as they want it. If the fowl is suddenly feverish and dumpish, with much sneezing and running at nose and eyes or other influenza symptoms, try giving a one grain quinine pill per fowl each night for a week. For a remedy for this trouble, to be used in the drinking water, use 15 to 30 drops of tincture of gelsemium in each pint of water, according to the severity of the case. Don't waste time doctoring any very severe cases. Kill them and get rid of the carcass by burying it deeply or by cremation. Dispose of it at once and do not leave the carcass lying around for a more convenient time to dispose of it. The safety of your flock depends a good deal on your promptness. Make the food stimulating and easily digested for birds with colds. A little ginger or cayenne pepper will make a valuable addition to the mash at this time.

An old time farm remedy, and one widely published as a remedy for autumnal colds in poultry, is the following: Take a teaspoonful of lard, add half a teaspoonful each of ginger, mustard and red pepper. Mix thoroughly and make into a stiff dough with flour. Roll into pills the size of a pea. Give one pill at night. Repeat twice daily if necessary. It is a good remedy and proves helpful in many cases.

For obstinate catarrhal colds, with running at the nose and no other markedly noticeable symptoms, try the following local treatment: Dissolve in one pint of water one teaspoonful of powdered sulphate of copper (use the common crystals of blue vitriol powdered). Make a swab by twisting a bit of absorbent cotton about a sharp pointed stick. Swab out the nostrils and the cleft of palate with this solution daily until discharge stops. Use gentle treatment. Rough handling will do more harm than the remedy will do good.—Dr. Wood in Poultry Monthly.

Salt and Gapes.

Doubtless the remedy for gapes which is recommended by our correspondent is beneficial, but our readers when using it must remember that an excessive quantity of salt will kill even old fowls. Do not throw it on the ground. If you use it, limit the quantity, says Poultry Keeper.

"While on my way to Union Mills I stopped along the way to talk with a lady about P. K., and she gave me a remedy for gapes. She tried it and also a preacher at Door Village, the latter having lost about 100 chicks, and after treatment the death rate stopped. He fed salt—just threw it on the ground and let them pick it (so this lady informed me). Since then I've lost one, and another one had it. I just took a pinch of salt between thumb and finger, opened the chick's mouth, put in the salt and then held the chick's head in drinking water, so as to wash the salt down, and in five minutes the chick was picking something to eat and has been all right since. Now, if the above is worthy of publication, just publish it for the benefit of P. K. readers."—C. G. Cotton.

He Knew the Spot.

An amusing anecdote is related of General Sherman, who, as commanding general of the army, visited West Point one June for the graduation exercises. He accompanied the commandant on his Sunday morning tour of inspection of barracks, and on entering a certain room he walked over to the mantelpiece. Stooping down, he pried up a brick from the middle of the hearth with his sword scabbard and revealed a hollow space about a foot square, in which was nicely packed a considerable quantity of tobacco and other contraband articles. Meanwhile the cadets occupying the room stood by nafely watching and wondering what sort of man the general was to have been able to discover the only "cellar" of its kind in barracks. Turning to the commandant, the general remarked:

"I have been wondering if that hole was still there. I made it when I was a cadet and lived in this room."—New York Tribune.

A Prehistoric Fish.

In the blue shales of a valley a few miles from Montclair, N. J., are found fossil fish of a kind which is almost extinct, only three specimens now surviving. They belong to the order of ganoids, which possessed no interior bony skeleton, but only an outside covering of bony or cartilaginous plates. They were the earliest known vertebrates. A number of excellent specimens show distinctly the shining, bony scales of this peculiar species of fish, which, according to geologists, must have existed ages ago.

OUR COUNTRY ROADS.

BEST METHODS OF IMPROVEMENT A LOCAL PROBLEM.

Constant Attention and Repair by an Expert Would Do Much to Improve Dirt and Gravel Roads—Prevention Better Than Cure.

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If our district schools were operated similarly to our roads, each resident of the district might be called upon in turn to serve time as teacher. At the farmers' institutes, called to discuss methods of general interest to the farmer, the programme would include a paper on "How to Improve Our Schools," and the speaker would perhaps advocate longer school hours, the commencing of school attendance at an earlier age and improved textbooks. Then would follow a discussion, open to all, in which one would advocate the teaching of arithmetic as an essential preliminary to other branches, another would favor better ventilation of school buildings and another would make an appeal for the old time spelling match, each one probably believing that he had the key to the remedy for poor schools.

Fortunately our schools are above such discussion, but our roads are not. It is by no means unusual to hear speakers at farmers' institutes and elsewhere in discussing the road question advocate underdrainage, and steam road rollers, and stone roads, and steel roads, and combined roads of stone and earth, and state aid for road building, and superintendence by county surveyors, and many other things that would better be discussed by road experts and before road experts only, and the entire discussion is to a large extent useless and ineffective because the road system lacks a ready means, such as the school system provides in the teacher, of putting reforms into application. If the present road system is to be continued, then perhaps the scattering broadcast of instruction regarding road improvement is desirable, but if the system were properly reformed

AN INDIANA GRAVEL ROAD.

there would be no more reason for men interested in agriculture devoting their time to the study of road details than to the science of pedagogics.

Our road system lacks the man through whom alone reforms can be properly applied. It lacks the man that should be to the road what the teacher is to the district school, a constant expert attendant. That local experts are needed will be admitted by all who have listened to the discussions at good roads meetings. Farmers cannot agree as to methods of improvement. No more can engineers, and between the methods proposed by farmers and those proposed by engineers still greater differences exist. There is a reason for this in that most of the problems involved are dependent upon local conditions and cannot be prescribed for in a general way. Stone roads may be suited to the wealth and development of the eastern states, but earth and gravel roads will for years to come continue to be the roads of the middle west. It is absurd to attribute this latter condition to lack of knowledge of stone roads. Every city of the central states has good samples of broken stone roads. The problem depends upon local conditions, and the solution must be left to the hands of a local expert.

This has the additional advantage of cheapness, for the local road expert would not need to be a trained engineer, but would better be a man who has had the actual experience of maintaining a section of road in that locality. One year's experience by a day laborer in constantly attending a section of 10 or 12 miles of road would make of that laborer an expert better able to cope with the particular problems of that section than county commissioners or pathmasters or engineers with no better experience than the superintending of a "once a year" repair.

The results obtained by section hands on railroads may be cited as proof of what might be accomplished for our roads by constant expert attendants. What our roads most need is constant attention, not repairs at rare intervals, not piling the center high with road metal once a year, not grading down hills and filling valleys, but a little material here and there wherever needed and whenever needed. An ounce of prevention is worth pounds of cure in making road repairs.

Roads become bad when ruts are permitted to form, when the surface is softened by standing water, when chuck holes appear, when dust results from excessive wear. Deterioration of road surfaces may be delayed, but cannot be prevented by the substitution of a hard wearing surface, such as stone. No road surface is permanent. The hardest of road surfaces can be maintained only by proper care by a constant attendant. The most satisfactory remedy for bad roads is the combination of harder surface and constant attention, but it is too expensive a system to be adopted except after years of education and agitation. —Daniel B. Luten.

Grow Grass.

Sweet fields beyond the swelling flood
Stand dressed in living green.

This is the poet's idea of one of the attractions of the happy land of Canaan.

If southern farmers would make it a practice to keep their hillsides covered with some crop of living green all through the winter and much of them so all the while, it would do more to draw immigrants of the desirable class than all our methods of advertising. Strangers would conclude that we were prosperous people, and hence they would love to come and dwell among us. The mind naturally associates comfort and prosperity with green fields. If we see a farm with neat, green lawns and broad green meadows and lovely green hills, we involuntarily conclude that the owner is prosperous and the family content. On the contrary, we turn away in our feelings from naked fields. We do not expect to find happy families there.

Grass is by far the most profitable crop. No particular variety of grass, but grass—some variety or many varieties—form the foundation of prosperous farming. This is true because without these we cannot grow cattle. And it is combined vegetable and animal farming that pays best.—Southern Cultivator.

Moving Bees a Short Distance.

American Beekeeper gives the following plan for moving one or two hives a short distance:

"Set all frames containing unsealed brood, queen and nearly all the bees into another hive body and place it upon the stand where it is desired to have it remain, leaving but a few frames of comb with honey and sealed brood upon the old stand. In the evening of the second day carefully transfer the old hive also to the new location and, having its bottom board removed, set it upon the hive first removed. If a board or other object is set against the front of the hive, causing the bees to note their new location upon first starting out in the morning, but few bees will be lost."

Hailed.

"Does that young woman hail from Boston?

"Yes," answered the youth thoughtfully; "that expresses the idea precisely. She hails from Boston. I was never before overtaken by such a heavy downfall of intellectual ice."—Washington Star.

Sleepless.

Blobbs—Why don't you consult a doctor about your insomnia?

Slobbs—What! And run up more bills? Why, it's because of what I owe him now that I can't sleep.

FARM·FIELD AND GARDEN

THICK OR THIN SEEDING.

A New Drift In the Matter For Both Wheat and Grass.

While some of the largest recorded yields of various farm crops have been obtained from very light seeding nearly every series of experiments, carried through a long term of years, indicates that the largest average yields of most crops are obtained from heavy seeding. Under favorable soil and climatic conditions half the usual amount of seed has been made to produce an enormous crop, and some such instances in the case of wheat, of corn, of potatoes and of the grasses have been given a prominence in the farm journals that doubtless has misled thousands who could furnish ideal conditions for a crop. There has been too much drift toward light seeding for the good of the majority, and I believe that we shall see more advocacy of thicker seeding in the future. Three pecks of wheat can be made to produce a big yield from one acre of land, and six bushels of potatoes can be made to do the same if soil and weather are all right, but on most farms double that amount of seed will give a surer crop. The man who counts only on the grain in a corn crop and wants big ears for husking argues for light seeding, but where the object is the best feeding value from an acre experiment shows that we have inclined toward too few rather than too many stalks on an acre of ground. In seeding to grass we are learning that the heavier the seeding the surer the catch even up to point of doubling the customary quantities of seed per acre. In seasonable years with good soil in fine tilth all this may not apply, but on nine farms out of ten in average years I believe that it does apply, and thus bears out the usual results from experiments at the various state stations.

Alva Agee fortifies the foregoing opinion, expressed in National Stockman and Farmer, with the experience of Professor Hickman of the Ohio station. Among tests which the latter has been making with wheat is one of thick and thin seeding, and the results for six years agree in showing that on the soil at Wooster a seeding of eight pecks per acre is none too heavy for the best results. Indeed nine to ten pecks per acre gave the biggest yields and best quality of grain, but the results from eight pecks are nearly as good, while those from seven, six, five and four pecks are decidedly inferior. Mr. Agee's comment is:

"I do not think that our alluvial soil needs as much seed as the Wooster soil, but the experiment points toward heavy rather than light seeding. If this be correct for normal years, it is even more desirable in a year when we seed wheat on the shares with the Hessian fly.

"In respect to time of seeding Professor Hickman says: 'In the early and late seeding of the last two years we have had Hessian flies most abundantly, and their work has been very damaging. The early sown wheat has given them every opportunity, yet our yields have been higher in every instance from the earlier than from the late seeding.' This is in line with observation of many others that soil must be exceptionally fine and fertile for very late seeding.

"For rich, alluvial soil the station recommends the Valley. For my soil the straw is too soft. After two years' experience with it we go back to the Poole, which has done well with us and is accounted by the station one of the very best varieties."

Made It Fit the Name.

"Red Rock, N. Y.," said a man who spent some time there, "isn't much of a place, but there is something interesting about it that I fancy all the world doesn't know. The present name is not the one it has always borne, and what its other name was I don't know. Whatever it was the people did not like it and concluded they would change it. There was no particular reason why they should call it Red Rock, but that was determined upon, and so Red Rock it became.

"Then in the course of time strangers of an inquiring turn of mind began to ask why the place had such a name, and as no reason could be given newcomers to the neighborhood began to want a name that meant something. This insistence grew so strong that the old residents began to look around for a reason for the name of their place, and at last they found a huge bowlder near by which they said was what had suggested the name. But the bowlder was gray instead of red, and the progressists insisted that that would not do. At last the old timers hit upon a new plan, and, procuring a barrel of red paint, they painted the big rock red. Red Rock indeed it was now, and not only was all opposition to the name overcome, but the painting of the rock every spring has become an annual festival, and the people celebrate it with a big picnic and general celebration.

"It was a new idea to me, and if there is any other town anywhere on earth that is christened every spring with red paint or any other color I don't know where it is."—New York Sun.

Cock Shooting In Tall Corn.

Cock shooting in tall corn is as easy to the expert as it is puzzling to the novice. You will, of course, work with the rows, not across them, and if you are wise you will shoot at every glimpse of a bird and very frequently after an instant's sight of him, when you can only guess where he is. Sharp work, say ye, my masters. Yes, in a measure, but not so wonderful after all. You certainly must be ever ready and swift and smooth in action, but actual sight of the bird at the instant of pulling trigger is not necessary.

Green corn won't stop even fine shot, and your charge will give a pattern as big as a bushel basket; hence the shaking of a leaf, the flick of a vanishing wing, are enough for the master of the art. In an instant his gun is on the spot where a species of lightning calculation tells him the bird should be, and the trigger is pressed without the slightest delay. The difficulty with the novice is to get him to shoot at once instead of waiting in vain for a clear view. Experts kill bird after bird in this way. The novice must dismiss all thoughts of empty shells. No good sportsman worries over misses, though he will learn from failures how to hold next time. There is no royal road to success in the field. Nothing but experience really counts. So let the novice crack away, although he may only get one bird in ten. We all know what he'll get if he doesn't shoot at all.—Outing.

His Impressive Looks.

Trumbull's cradle was in Connecticut. He came of the old Jonathan Trumbull breed. As a young man he went south to teach school, but he liked it not and dipped into lawbooks. As soon as he was equal to his examination he was called to the Georgia bar, but he never paused to practice there. He migrated to Illinois, then the utter west and settled at Belleville, St. Clair county, in that part of the state known as Egypt.

There he at once took a leading place at the bar. He was always courtly, always carefully polite, what one might call a bit cold, yet he had great sway with the juries. He was a clear, cogent reasoner and had a trick of admonishing with his forefinger. Sometimes it would seem as if that potent forefinger wove a spell. I doubt not it has brought many a jury in its time to Trumbull's side of the question.

Such were the impressive looks of Trumbull that I recall what Governor Reynolds once said of him as he closed his argument in a law case. Trumbull was on the other side.

"And now, gentlemen," said Reynolds as he prepared to close: "I've answered his arguments, I've overturned his statement of facts, I've undone the fallacious law he has announced to you; but, gentlemen, the man never lived who can reply to his looks!"—Chicago Tribune.

Her Directions.

A Fifth avenue photographer is telling the story of an incident which amused him, though it involved a compliment which he missed.

A woman came into the building and asked if the best photographer in the city had a studio there, "with a hairdresser's establishment under it."

"You are in the right place, madam," returned the elevator man, who was questioned, "for this is the best photographer in the city, though there is no hairdresser in the building."

The woman rose with a sigh. "I suppose I have made a mistake," she said. "I wanted the hairdresser."—New York Times.

An Adjunct to Tears.

"Perhaps you can direct me," she said, with pompous condescension, to the floorwalker. "I've a crying need for"—

"Yes'm," interrupted the floorwalker in his quick, nervous way. "Han'k'chief d'partment, fif counter, nex' aisle."—Philadelphia Press.

The Wicked Little Germ.

"Microbes attack their victims when they are worn out."

"That's so; we read about them until we are dead tired, and then they take a mean advantage of us."—Indianapolis Journal.

Great Lack of an Editor.

"For two years all efforts to cure Eczema in the palms of my hands failed," writes Editor H. N. Lester, of Syracuse, Kan., "then I was wholly cured by Bucklen's Arnica Salve." It's the world's best for Eruptions, Sores and all skin diseases. Only 25c. at T. A. Albright & Co.'s drug store.

New York's Slaveship.

When New York city owned a slaveship is told in an article in Pearson's Magazine. The greatest impetus was given to the slave trade by the act of parliament of 1084, which legalized slavery in the North American colonies. This does not mean that slavery was unknown in what is now the United States before that time, because as early as 1620 a Dutch man-of-war landed and sold 20 African negroes at Jamestown, Va.

In 1626 the West India company imported slaves from the West Indies to New York city, then New Amsterdam. The city itself owned shares in a slaveship, advanced money for its fitting out and shared in the profits of its voyages. This recognition and encouragement may account for the astounding fact that in 1750 slaves formed one-sixth of the entire population of New York. The general prevalence of slavery is shown by the fact that at this time there were 67 slaves in New York's small suburb of Brooklyn, and that in London itself there were resident 20,000 slaves.

Slaves were at that time publicly dealt in on the London exchange. No wonder the traffic in human flesh was a recognized commerce, and that in 1771 the English alone sent to Africa 192 ships equipped for the trade and with a carrying capacity of 47,146 slaves per trip.

A Tricky Dog.

Not long ago a very fat spaniel was introduced into the house where a fox terrier had always been the master. The latter was told, however, to behave well to the newcomer and not to bully him. So the two seemed fairly friendly and in the end got in the habit of taking short rambles together.

However, the fox terrier was evidently of a thoughtful disposition and on one occasion came across a bank, or wall, which was easy enough to leap off, but there was greater difficulty in returning. The fox terrier sprang down the bank and enticed his heavy companion to follow, with the result that the latter could not get back, while the former, by reason of his greater activity, was easily able to do.

Now the terrier saw his opportunity, returned home and cruelly left his companion lamenting. Never did the former seem happier or gayer than on that day when he had once more the sole run of the house, and he sulked when later on the spaniel had been found, assisted up the wall and brought home.

Since then the fox terrier has repeatedly got the spaniel down the same place, with the usual result, and seems to glory in his mischievous act. Whether the "fat dog" will learn to avoid temptation to such a ramble remains to be seen.—Buffalo News.

How "David Harum" Came to Be Written.

An interesting little anecdote is told about how "David Harum" came to be written. It is rather pathetic. It seems that Mr. Wescott, the author, was the kind of man who could do pretty much anything—paint a picture, plan a house or compose a sonata—but he had never made much money, so when he became ill and realized that he might not live long and would leave his family with little or no money he was desperate.

"Write a book," suggested a friend and neighbor to him one day when they were talking over the situation.

"I did make an attempt at it once," answered Mr. Wescott. "I tried a love story, but I couldn't make it go."

"Add a little local color to it," said the first speaker. "Take one of the people about here that you know and work him up—old ——, for instance," mentioning a character familiar to them both. "He'd be first rate."

"That's a good idea!" exclaimed Mr. Wescott, and the result of this conversation was "David Harum," and yet "David" was never in the story at all as it was first conceived.—Anna Wentworth in Woman's Home Companion.

Delaying His Jaws.

Shark stories, with some reason, are commonly received with incredulity. A well authenticated anecdote, however, is told of Dr. Frederic Hill, an English surgeon of distinction.

A man fell overboard in the Indian ocean and almost into a shark's mouth. Hill, who was standing close to the rail, grabbed a belaying pin and without hesitation jumped to save the sailor.

The great brute was just turning on his back to bite, when Hill drove the belaying pin right through both jaws. Both men were got on board again unharmed.

"Perhaps that fellow won't want another toothpick. Has any one got a clean shirt to lend? This was my last," were the only words of the rescuer.

The Oyster.

The oyster is as fixed and sedentary as the potato, and its cultivation is just as easy. In Europe its propagation has been reduced to a scientific basis, but in this country only a beginning has been made.

An oyster is ready for market in about five years. The bivalves have so much to contend with that perhaps only one in 2,000,000 lives to grow up and be eaten by human beings.—Chicago Times-Herald.

Not to Be Encouraged.

"What do you think of a man who regularly carries his business home with him?"

"Well, that depends. Now, if a man's business is to sell liquor, for instance, it isn't just the thing for him to take a great deal of it home with him every night."—Boston Transcript.

No Reciprocity.

"Annie Nibbins is the meanest kind of a gossip."

"What variety is that?"

"She's the kind that doesn't tell anything herself, but gets you to tell all you know."—Chicago Record.

HOW MANY HENS?

Size of Flock That Can Be Profitably Kept In One Pen.

It is a matter of importance to determine how many laying hens may be profitably kept in a poultry house. It is especially important in those regions where the climate is such that carefully constructed buildings are required for the proper housing of fowls in winter. The opinion is quite generally held that when kept in yards or allowed to roam at will hens do best in flocks of about 40 or 50 and that when confined in winter quarters each laying hen requires about ten square feet of floor space. The size of the flock which may be profitably kept in a pen of definite size has been recently reported upon by the Maine station. The station poultry building contained 15 pens alike in size and arrangement of window space and gravel, bone and water dishes. The pens were 10 by 10 feet, and the entire floor space of 100 square feet was available, since the walk used by the attendants was elevated above the floor. The tests were made with four lots of 15 pullets each, four lots of 20, four lots of 25 and three lots of 30. The breeds selected were Brahma and Barred Plymouth Rocks, there being eight lots of the former and seven of the latter. With each breed the lots contained from 15 to 30 individuals. The experimental conditions would give the lots containing 15 pullets 10.6 square feet of floor space each, the lots containing 20 pullets 8 square feet each, those containing 25 pullets 6.4 square feet and those containing 30 pullets 3.5 square feet. Care was taken to have the individuals in the lots as uniform as possible in form, size and vigor. All the pullets were hatched early in May, with the exception of one lot of 15 which was hatched about two weeks earlier. The test began in November and continued six months. Careful records of the egg production, etc., were kept. The results with the different lots of the same size were found to be quite uniform.

A summary of the more important results shows that the lots containing 20 hens gave a greater total net profit per lot than did those containing any greater or less number of hens. Lots with 25 hens gave slightly greater net returns than did the 15 hen lots. The lots that had 30 hens each gave very much less net returns than did any of the others. The average net profit per hen, however, steadily decreased as the number of hens per pen increased, being 80 cents per hen during six months with the lots of 15 and only 50 cents with the lots of 30.

The tests indicate in general that the best results will be obtained by allowing each hen from eight to ten feet of floor space.

Sowing Hairy Vetch.

Hairy vetch is hardy as regards cold. Sown in October or earlier, it has withstood exceptional cold in Alabama.

One of the reasons for giving preference to hairy vetch as compared with crimson clover is because of the ease with which the former reseeds the land. When the ripe seed pods burst open, they scatter the seed to considerable distances.

Hairy vetch used as pasturage will reseed the land if stock are removed a few weeks before the time of seed formation. On the Mississippi Agricultural college farm hairy vetch and turf oats are cut for the grain crop at such a late stage as to insure the shattering of enough seed of both vetch and oats to reseed the land, invariably with vetch and generally with oats.

By sowing hairy vetch with red oats sown early in the fall for grain, reseeding will sometimes occur by leaving a long stubble, including considerable of the lower portion of the vetch plant, with attached seed.

If vetch is expected to make enough second growth to insure the reseeding of the land, cutting should occur when the plants are in the early blooming stage.

Or by pursuing exactly the opposite course, cutting the vetch after some pods have matured, hay can be made from hairy vetch without interfering with reseeding.

News and Notes.

In reporting an indicated shortage of nursery stock and advising unusual care in buying, Rural New Yorker says: "About the greatest liar we have heard of this year is a local nurseryman in Alabama who offers a variety of grape which will produce 250 pounds of grapes the second year from planting! These grapes will keep fresh all winter, and when spring comes they turn into fine raisins."

American winemakers are feeling well over the success of their products at the Paris exposition. The proportion of awards was higher than that gained by any other nation not even excepting France, and might have been greater but for a misuse of French names which caused some brands to be adjudged falsely labeled and therefore not to be considered in the competition.

Secretary Hester, New Orleans Cotton Exchange, puts the cotton crop of 1899-1900 at 9,436,416 bales, a decrease of 1,838,424 under 1898-9.

According to Ohio authority, the stubble fields of wheat are full of Hessian fly in the flaxseed state, and the prospect is good for an abundant crop of flies this fall.

Cotton is once more "king," according to government statistics of exports, which show for the seven months of this year ending with July, an exportation greater in value than that of any other single article; for the month of August the average export price was 9.7 cents per pound, as against an average of 5.6 cents during the year 1899 and 5.8 cents in 1898.

The present is the biggest honey shipping season ever known in Colorado.

Canker In Pigeons.

The dread disease known as canker is very contagious, and affected birds should be at once removed from the loft, and the entire premises should be carefully disinfected. Examine the mouth of each bird, and if found with canker spots the spots should be painted with a solution of lemon juice and sugar. Powdered burnt alum is also very good. If the canker has spread much about the mouth, it hardly pays to spend a great deal of time over them.—Feather.

Coming Down With a Parachute.

"Coming down from the clouds in a parachute is like a dream," said a circus balloon artist. "Ever dream of falling from a high place? You come down, alight quietly and awake, and you're not hurt. Well, that's the parachute drop over again. No; there is no danger. A parachute can be guided readily on the down trip, but you can't steer a balloon. To guide a parachute out of harm's way a practiced hand can tilt it one way or the other, spill out air and thus work it to where you want to land or to avoid water, trees, chimneys or church spires.

"Circus ascensions are generally made in the evening. When the sun goes down, the wind goes down. The balloon then shoots into the air, and the parachute drops back on the circus lot or not far away.

"A balloon is made of 4 cent muslin and weighs about 500 pounds. A parachute is made of 8 cent muslin. The rope that secures the parachute is cut with a knife. The aeronaut drops fully 100 feet before the parachute begins to fill. It must fill if you're up high enough. Invariably the fall is head first. When the parachute begins to fill, the descent is less rapid, and finally when the parachute has finally filled it bulges out with a pop. Then the aeronaut climbs on to his trapeze and guides the parachute to a safe landing. In seven cases out of ten you can land back on the lot where you started from."—New York News.

Wanted a Job as Boss.

A boy of about 14, with well worn clothes and a face in which timidity and determination struggled for the mastery, entered the office of a shipping house on Front street one day last week, approached the desk of him whose appearance spoke the control of the establishment and, catching his eye, said:

"Do you want a boss, mister?"

"What!" exclaimed the proprietor, surprised out of his self control.

"I want to know if you want a boss, sir."

"I don't understand you. What do you mean?"

"Well, sir, I've been looking for something to do for three weeks now, and nobody wants a boy, so today I thought I'd see if somebody didn't want a boss. I'd like to be a boss."

"Well, well! That's not bad. Are you willing to work up to the job? It took me 25 years to get it."

"'Deed I am, sir, if you'll give me the chance."

Today an earnest boy in jumper and overalls is struggling with bundles and packing cases in the shipping room of the concern. He intends to be boss of the establishment before his side whiskers, which have not yet sprouted, are as gray as those of the present incumbent.

And the chances, with his energy and will, are in his favor.—New York Times.

Four Good Smokes Cheap.

"Gimme three nickel cigars," said the man with the red necktie at the restaurant counter. He was quickly supplied.

"Now gimme a good Havana or Key West cigar, about a 15 center."

He carefully lighted the Havana cigar and tucked the nickel cigars in his upper vest pocket.

"You smoke a Havana yourself and keep the nickel cigars for your friends, I suppose?" said the dealer, with a sickly smile.

"No," said the man with the red necktie; "I've got a better scheme than that. I always smoke a 15 cent Havana or Key West cigar after dinner. Then I smoke the nickel cigars afterward. The nickel cigars taste exactly like the Havana cigar, and thus I get the benefit of four choice cigars that ordinarily would cost me 60 cents for 30 cents.

"Try it yourself," said the man with the red necktie as he walked out.—Chicago Tribune.

The Picture and the Frame.

A well known artist used to tell a good story concerning his first academy picture. He was favored by many visitors to see it, his frame maker among the number. This good fellow took his stand before the work and seemed buried in profound admiration.

"Well," said the painter, "what do you think of it, John?"

"Think of it, sir? Why, it's perfect. You won't see one better, I know. Mr. —— has got one just like it."

"What!" said the amazed artist. "A picture just like that?"

"Oh," replied the frame maker, "I wasn't talking about pictures. I was speaking of the frame. You may believe me, sir, it's the frames as gets 'em in, and that is just a beauty!"

Wherein They Were Alike.

A country minister who, though a poor man, was notoriously defective and hesitating in his style of delivery in the pulpit, was sitting having a cup of tea with one of the old spinsters connected with his congregation when he observed that the spout of the teapot was either choked or too narrow.

"Your teapot, Miss Kennedy," he remarked, "disna—disna rin weel."

"Ay, jist like yoursel', Mr. Broon," retorted the nettled lady. "It has an unco puir delivery."