

## AGRICULTURAL

### TOPICS OF INTEREST RELATIVE TO FARM AND GARDEN.

#### GREEN FOOD FOR FOWLS.

There is nothing that your fowls will be more grateful for at this time of the year, and nothing is oftener neglected, than the supply of green vegetable matter which you can so easily supply from your table waste. Bits of carrots, parsnips, salsify or turnips, apple and potato parings, cabbage leaves and such refuse, will be greedily eaten by the fowls and will have a most beneficial effect.—American Agriculturist.

#### HINTS ABOUT CORN.

In planting corn the ground should be thoroughly cultivated until finely pulverized and then rolled until smooth and level. After this comes the planting, which should be followed by running a light roller once over the ground. This last is a great aid in conserving the moisture.

While corn may be grown continuously on the same field with fair results, yet it is not good practice. There should be a rotation. The most common is the five years' rotation, in which corn is grown for two years, some small grain for the third year, followed by two years in grass or clover before returning to the corn.

By very early planting, if a good stand is secured and the corn kept equally free from weeds, as large yields may be obtained as from later planting. The question each one must determine is whether the risk and the extra labor will justify early planting. As a rule it does not. But much depends upon the lay of the land and the nature of the soil. A southern slope warms up the most readily, and it is on such that the earliest planting should be made. A well-drained, dark soil will warm up and be fit for planting long before a wet, light or porous soil.

As regards the thickness of planting, experiments show that there is less danger of getting too many plants than of getting too few. Whether the corn is planted in hills or drills makes little difference, as far as yields are concerned, but it is generally best to plant in hills, as it is easier to cultivate the corn exclusively with the plow when it is planted in checks than when in drills.

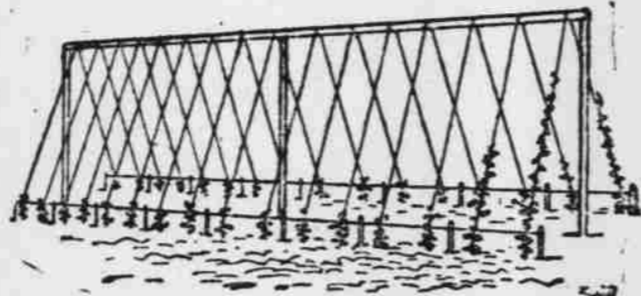
There is no advantage in cultivating corn more frequently than is necessary to destroy weeds and keep the ground tolerably porous. Shallow cultivation is to be preferred to deep. Experiments regarding the best manure for corn go to show that much depends upon the different natures of soils. Of the three elements requisite—nitrogen, potash and phosphate, the last is most generally lacking in soils, and the best results are usually obtained from its application. Practice varies in the methods of distributing the manure, and it would seem as if there were not much difference in the results.—New York World.

#### THE OHIO WAY OF RAISING LIMA BEANS.

This delicious and wholesome bean is one of the pleasures and profits of the garden. Any good garden soil will grow them, and the varieties are multiplying. When I select my seed for the next season I always do it when picking the green crop. Whenever I find an early, well formed and well filled pod I mark it by tying a string loosely around its stem and let it hang for ripening.

I always plant in rows three feet apart, and for my family of seven I plant two rows twenty feet long or four rows ten feet long. This gives us an abundance of green picking and quite a number of messes of the dry beans. I make the ground nice, fine and smooth. Then I draw a line and stick the bean edgewise eye down, four inches apart in the row, with my thumb and forefinger, and then sift along the row some finely pulverized stable manure. When the beans are up sufficiently high I cultivate carefully until they start their runners, then I go to the lumber yard and get

three light posts 2x2 and two strips of inch plank two inches wide. If my rows are twenty feet long, I put one post equidistant between the rows at each end, and one in the middle. Then I put the strips of board edgewise on these posts as high up on them as I can conveniently reach. These strips form a ridge pole above, and between the rows. I then split some short stakes about fifteen inches long out of a piece of board or straight splitting stove wood, and drive them directly in the rows of beans in a slanting position about three feet apart in the rows. Then using ordinary wool twine, I run a string along these stakes, looping it on them so, as to keep it from slipping; and from the



TRELLIS FOR LIMA BEANS.

string I pass strings over the ridge board to each bean hill, and the work is done; only I then carefully loosen up the soil, pull the earth from the centre well up to the rows, and then let them run along the strings till they reach the top, which is the signal for pinching the runners off. The cost and trouble is small, and the string and poles can be used for several seasons. Besides, when a little care is taken to do the work neatly, the growing beans are an ornament in the garden. I raise all pole beans the same way.—American Agriculturist.

#### FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

The farmer who plants several crops this year, not too much of any one thing, manures and cultivates thoroughly, will be independent next fall.

Solitary confinement in a dark stable has a tendency to make a horse vicious. It affects the brain, as it does the brain of a human being in such confinement.

Rotation in crops must be, but it is not all. Every crop takes out of the land certain properties, leaving the farm and the farmer just that much poorer. These must be supplied; there can be no other way.

What is the sense of putting the profitless field again to the plow? We see fields every day which could be turred into meadows or pastures with great promise, which now returns nothing but loss. Give them to the stock; to rest and recuperation.

A silo twenty-two feet deep and twelve feet square should feed a herd of ten cows for six months. The corn should not be cut so green that it will lose much of its feeding value, nor so late that its succulence will have turned into dry fiber.

#### Draw the Line at Charity Dogs.

The Board of Supervisors of Kane County, Illinois, has drawn the line with a firm hand. Hereafter no indigent family within its charitable jurisdiction shall receive aid from the public funds if such family maintains a dog. This is setting up a new standard, and in the future in the region about Elgin charity will shy at the sight of a dog as though she were a park policeman in August. The decision, it is understood, is based on purely economic and scientific lines. From a sentimental standpoint it is wrong, for there is nothing else that can look so poor as a lean yellow dog—a dog with hollow, haunting eyes, a slinking motion and a tendency to droop in the tail. The keep of such a dog costs nothing. It was not on account of the expense involved that the commissioners took the action noted, but rather from the scientific principle of forcing mutual self-help. They considered it a negation of this principle on the part of such indigents as maintained dogs in a live state when dozens of persons in Kane County were going without sausage.—Atlanta Constitution.

## ORDNANCE BEATS ARMOR

Steel Plates Demolished by the Great American "Peacemaker."

### COULD SINK ANY WARSHIP AFLOAT

Tests of the Thirteen-Inch Rifle Show That the Guns of the Massachusetts, Indiana and Oregon Could Speedily Destroy England's Greatest Battleships—Our Superiority Exhibited.

The thirteen-inch gun was fired at an eighteen-inch Carnegie plate at Indian Head, near Washington, to secure a comparison of the damage created by its 1100-pound projectile and the 850-pound shell of the twelve-inch rifle, the object being to demonstrate that the new battleships should be armed with the larger guns. On May 1 a Holtzer shell from the twelve-inch gun in an acceptance test of the eighteen-inch side armor of the Oregon, had been fired at the same plate that was used at this test with a muzzle velocity of 1926 feet per second, and a striking energy of 21,885 foot tons, and had cracked the plate from top to bottom, but had destroyed only one of its twenty-six armor bolts, the projectile penetrating ten inches and then going to pieces, its point welding into the plate.

This shot had been fired with a velocity corresponding to the maximum striking velocity procurable from the twelve-inch gun at 1300 yards range, which is estimated to be about the distance which would probably be chosen by battleships in action. At this test the same conditions of velocity at the 1300 yards distance were observed with the thirteen-inch gun, the initial velocity to its 1100-pound Wheeler-Sterling solid steel shot being 1942 feet per second, or eighteen feet greater than in the case of the twelve-inch gun, but the striking energy reached the enormous figure of 28,800 foot tons.

The shot struck in the right half of the plate, breaking it in four pieces, and buried itself in the sandbank behind the plate, where, upon recovery, it was found to be broken to pieces, the head whole but somewhat fused at the point. The heavy oak backing behind the plate was completely demolished by the terrible energy of the blow. This clearly demonstrated the superiority of the thirteen-inch gun over the twelve-inch weapon for the same range, and the ordnance officers present claimed it showed no armor in existence could keep out the thirteen-inch projectile at 1300 yards. This, however, concededly depends on the projectile, as the next shot evidenced.

A Wheeler-Sterling semi-armor-piercing shell similar to the preceding one, but hollowed out to contain a fifty-three-pound charge of explosive, was aimed near the base of the armor where the plate tapered to 15.6 inches in thickness, the same velocity being used. The plate met with similar disaster, breaking and letting the shell through after it had penetrated seven inches. The shell broke up; all its fragments went through, and were found in the sand behind.

The tremendous energy of a shot from the thirteen-inch "Peacemaker" is not doubted, but it is claimed that the comparatively insignificant penetration of the shells before the over-strained plate gave way and let them through is significant. Nevertheless, no doubt remains that the thirteen-inch guns of the Massachusetts, Indiana and Oregon could speedily destroy any warship afloat in the world to-day, and that the great battleships of the Majestic and Magnificent class now building in England, with their belts of nine-inch Harveyized armor, would not last any time if American gunners are skillful.

#### SAVANNAH HAS A GALA DAY.

A Big Military Review Witnessed by the Governor and 20,000 People.

Governor Atkinson, of Georgia, reviewed one of the largest bodies of troops that has been seen in Savannah since the celebration of the city's sesqui-centennial, in 1853. Twelve hundred men were in line, with five companies of marines and bluejackets from the United States steamships Atlanta and Raleigh, which are anchored in the river below the city.

The review took place on the military parade ground and was witnessed by 20,000 people. It was the first appearance of the Governor and his staff in Savannah. Following the parade and review, prizes were awarded to the visiting companies by the May Week Festival officials. The sham battle by the marines and bluejackets closed the display. The day's festivities ended with fireworks in the park.

#### Photographed by Lightning.

John T. Wilkerson was struck by lightning in his shop door at Pensacola, Fla., and was killed. He was standing by a telegraph instrument, which was disconnected from any wire, but a loose wire was in contact with his body. The other end of the wire was fastened to a pine tree about 100 feet away. When Wilkerson's body was undressed, a perfect picture of the pine tree, from the top to the point at which the wire was tied, was found photographed on each side just under the arms.

## LIKE THE SIAMESE TWINS.

A Pair of Remarkable New York Girls Born With a Connecting Link.

A remarkable pair of twins, joined together by a ligament of flesh and bone that runs from the upper part of the pelvis to the base of the spine, was born the other day to Mrs. J. Koehler, the wife of a caterer, who lives in East Forty-second street, New York.



BABES WITH A CONNECTING LINK.

The Koehler twins, as they are known, were born at midnight exactly. Mrs. Koehler was much agitated when she learned of the connecting link between her babies, but the physician reassured her by saying that it was only a ligament that can be cut away as soon as the little ones are strong enough to submit to the operation. But there is now no doubt, affirms the New York World, that the cutting of the ligament would be fatal.

Both children are girls and brunettes. They weighed fourteen pounds together, one tipping the scales at seven pounds and a half and the other at six pounds and a half. Each has a perfectly formed and healthy body. The connecting band holds the children facing partly away from each other, but is so elastic that they can be laid flat upon their backs without apparent discomfort, and may even be turned so as to partly face each other.

They act alike and simultaneously in all their motions. When one cries so does the other. Still the doctors claim that they are capable of individual action. The mother is a buxom young German woman about thirty years old. She has another child, a girl about a year and a half old, who is perfectly formed.

The peculiar manner in which her last-borne are tied together is a novelty in medical science. Instead of being merely a band of tissue or flesh, the connection seems to reach inward to the bone. The Siamese twins were joined by a band of tissue in a direct line from side to side, and in two other similar cases the subjects were fastened back to back. In the present case the children have the free use of their arms and legs, and are able by twisting their bodies slightly to look at each other.

The twins are joined nearer the lower end of the sacrum, and the connecting part covers nearly the entire surface of the coccyx. The sacrum is the lowest bone of the spine, and usually consists of five vertebrae, and the coccyx is the end of the vertebra in man and tailless monkeys, and is usually the hardest in the human anatomy.

Dr. Granben, President of the County Medical Society, and many other men eminent in medicine and surgery have journeyed again and again to the Koehler residence to examine the wonderful twins. It is their unanimous opinion that the case of these twins is the most remarkable on record.

#### NICARAGUA PAYS UP.

The \$75,500 Extracted by England in the Treasury in London.

The \$75,500 demanded of Nicaragua by Great Britain for the expulsion of British subjects was covered into the British Treasury at London by Senor Medina, Salvador's Minister to England, who has acted for Nicaragua in London throughout the episode thus closed.

Nicaragua had until May 20 to pay the indemnity under the terms of agreement, which allowed her fifteen days after the British warships left Corinto.

The money was raised by private subscription from Nicaraguans and foreign residents, and no necessity arose for accepting the help offered by other Central American republics.

#### A Survivor of the Lost Spanish Cruiser.

The newspaper Cronista, published in Tenerife, Canary Islands, says that the Captain of the brig Caridad recently reported there that he found in midocean an exhausted sailor lashed to a plank, who said that he was from the lost Spanish cruiser Reina Regenta. The castaway is said to have tried vainly to tell his story. He died, the Cronista says, a few minutes after being taken on board the Caridad.

#### Demand for American Securities.

An encouraging feature of the industrial situation is a renewed foreign demand for American railway securities at advanced prices. The buying will remove the danger of gold exports and will turn the flow of gold toward this country.

#### Income Tax Receipts \$75,164.

The income tax receipts at Washington to date amount to \$75,164.