

A Page of Interest to Our Farmer Friends.

THE FARM WATER SUPPLY.

Nothing is More Essential to Health and Comfort Than Plenty of Pure Water, and the Cost of Having It is Not Great.

Mrs. F. L. Stevens, in Progressive Farmer.

A Delaware housewife recently told me of her experience in handling the problem of the water supply for the home. After many years of toiling to and fro from a well several hundred feet distant from the house, she decided that the well was a permanent institution, and since the house was not, the only thing to do was to move the house to the well. After one or two vigorous conversations with the man of affairs he finally agreed that if she herself would superintend the job, he would leave it to her. Not daunted, she went to the nearby town, employed the workmen who came armed with screws, pulleys and all necessary equipment and accomplished the feat. Now the well is located on the back porch and the problem of the water supply is partially solved.

Hard Ways of Getting Water

One of my never-to-be-forgotten experiences of last summer was a 250-mile drive through a prosperous section of one of our Southern States. The location of the well or spring which supplied the farmhouse with water, was one of my chief interests in this drive. Some times the well was in the front yard; not infrequently it was off several hundred feet in a plowed field. Occasionally I noted that it was conveniently located with respect to the barn to insure an adequate and handy supply for the farm animals. And the spring, it was usually just down the hill!

What a tale of foot-weariness, backache and broken health that little beaten path up from the spring proclaimed! Often I felt that if the person who located the well had set about deliberately to find the most inconvenient spot he could not have succeeded better. Notwithstanding all this, I saw much that was good. A few of the farm homes had a good supply of water piped into the house from a near-by spring, located above the house. Others had solved the problem by means of a force pump. One ingenious man with a force pump and a barrel located in a tree, supplied his house with water and there in the county 25 miles from any town of size, was an up-to-date house with all the comforts of a city home. The amount of money expended in this instance was ridiculously small. In speaking of the success of the undertaking, this man remarked that he was the least prosperous of three brothers, and yet these brothers had not seen fit to supply their homes with this convenience.

The Need of More Water in the Home.

"Water is a poor master; but it is a good servant when you have control over it." The health and comfort of the family depend more certainly upon an abundant supply of pure, wholesome water than any other commodity. Babies are being dosed on soothing syrups, laxatives, and other "regulators" when without doubt all they need is water; clean, pure, systematically given. Men and women are today suffering from kidney, liver and other organic disorders and are dosing their bodies upon patent drugs when in all probability the body is starving for water.

It is perfect folly to advise a housewife to use water more freely in the diet and about the household work when every drop of the precious fluid must be drawn, pail by pail, out of a 50-foot well or carried up a hill.

Notwithstanding the fact that some of our good men folks are sceptics about these "new-fangled sanitary notions," the provision of a bountiful supply of pure water to the farmhouse is the first step toward progress. Not only should there be an adequate supply of water, but it must be pure. Beautiful, clear, sparkling water does not always represent purity. Water loaded with typhoid fever germs may be most enticing as to appearance and quality. In order to insure a safe supply to the family, the person who locates the well should understand the under-ground drainage of the locality. The well may be located at a safe distance from the barns and other out-buildings and yet the water may be constantly

polluted with surface and under-ground contamination.

A Problem for the Housewife.

Given the well in the most safe, sanitary spot about the premises, let us put our heads together and see if there is not some way by which the water may be transferred into the house. Instead of acquiring that extra acre of land let us spend \$45 for an up-to-date bath-room equipment and inclose an end of the back porch or add an extra room for a bathroom. Two dollars will buy a beautiful porcelain-lined kitchen sink and a small sum added will furnish the pipes and other requisites for running water in the kitchen.

An agent for gasoline engines told me not long ago that when arranging to pipe water from the well to the barn for the farm animals an extra expenditure of from \$3 to \$5 oftentimes would be sufficient to pipe water to the farm house also, and that it way only on the rarest occasions that the man of the house regarded the proposition with favor. I have no quarrel with a man who sees things that way, but I have a very serious and abiding grievance with any housewife who will tolerate or submit to such neglect.

This Month in the Garden.

Do not let the farm work make you neglect the garden. There are not near as many vegetables grown and eaten on the Southern farms as should be. Do not be content with a row of snaps, but keep planting them to have a constant succession till frost, and then have a large lot to gather and put down in brine for the winter.

Keep up a succession of sweet corn, too, and do not depend on the field for roasting-ears. Have some late tomato plants that will come in after the early ones are weakened by the hot weather and fruiting so that you can have a constant supply till frost threatens and then a lot of green ones to put away wrapped in paper to ripen. I have them usually till after Christmas.

Eggplants are not grown by private gardeners as they should be. They need rich soil and good cultivation, and if you have not raised any, you can get the plants from pots from the leading seed houses, and these are easily transplanted.

Late in June or July sow seed of parsnips and salsify for winter use. Also sow some half-long Danvers carrots. These can all stand in the rows where they grew all winter and will be very acceptable in the winter.

June is too early to start winter cabbage in the South. I will tell about these in July. If the summer cabbages are affected by the yellow side rot, the only thing is to quit planting them in the particular soil, but try to get uninfected soil for the crop.

Keep the garden clear of weeds and a constant succession of weeds, and last spring the cutworms the next season. Last spring was the first season, my garden had ever been worked as a garden. The land had been lying out vacant and grown up with weeds, and last spring the cutworms were terrible. I slaughtered them by mixing some wheat bran in sweetened water to dampen it, and then mixed 1 part of the Paris green to 40 parts of the bran, and sprinkled the plants. The garden was cleanly cultivated all last summer and fall and no weeds left for the beetles to lay eggs in, and this spring I have had hardly any cutworms. A garden left to grow weeds in the fall will always be full of cutworms in the spring.

Caught the Lion's Eye.

A middle aged man stopped in front of one of the lion cages in the Central park menagerie and gazed intently at the head of the old animal that was lying down near the iron bars, perches the New York Sun. After keeping his eyes on the inmate at the cage for several minutes he made passes with his hand toward it. The lion's head gradually went down onto his paws and he appeared to be asleep.

"Great is science!" the visitor said. "The books say one can hypnotize any wild beast if near enough to hold his eye while casting the spell, and I have succeeded."

"Hypnotize nothing! That old lion has been blind in his near eye for years," the keeper said.

SEASON TO STORE MOISTURE

Rainfall Below Average and Wise Farmer Will Conserve Supply For Use of Crops Later On.

This is the season of the year when moisture is usually stored in the soil by copious rainfall for use of plant life during July and August when rainfall is usually deficient.

The rainfall is remarkable below the average this season and the wise farmer will use every means available to conserve the supply for use of his crops later on.

When soil has been loosened to a good depth it forms a reservoir, the water from a rain slowly moves downward through it until absorbed, and each minute grain of earth becomes covered with an invisible film of moisture. After a rain the sun and wind dry out the surface soil and carry away the moisture contained in it. Then the water from the damper soil below moves upward to wet the surface grains and is in turn evaporated. This movement continues in land not cultivated and extends to a depth of several feet, often in a dry time, taking out of the soil in a week moisture equal to more than an inch of rainfall.

When the surface soil is stirred after a rain the tiny grains are separated so that the water does not easily pass from one to another. The movement of the moisture is checked and evaporation is greatly reduced. Such shallow cultivation is called an earth mulch, because it has the effect of holding the moisture in the soil, as that effected by a mulch of straw or a covering of boards.

The farmer's supply of moisture for maturing a crop of corn during July and August often depends upon his skill and judgment in maintaining an earth mulch over his cultivated fields. He should study the principles governing the absorption and movement of water in the soil, until he thoroughly understands and appreciates them. Then he can intelligently conduct the operations for maintaining the earth mulch.

Many farmers in various parts of the country have tried the experiment of dragging an old planter wheel through the corn rows after the last cultivation with a view of pulverizing the soil and filling the cracks in the ground, thus preventing the escape of moisture and adding several bushels per acre to the yield of the crop. While these experiments has proven successful in a large degree, it was found that the planter wheel often injured the brace roots of the corn, besides often becoming clogged with clods or trash that prevented thorough work.

Live Stock Notes.

Sunshine is good for the pigs. Keep them in it.

The hogs should not be allowed to become lousy.

It is perfectly feasible to use green oats for silage.

Whey is worth about one-half as much as skimmilk for pig feeding.

The boar should be kept in a pen and yard some distance from the sows.

Pigs will begin to eat at four weeks old, and sooner if sow is a poor suckler.

The shoats should not be kept in the same enclosure with the brood sows.

Get the young pigs out on the ground as soon as the weather will permit.

The swill or feed barrel should be well cleaned and scalded every week, at least.

Hogs enjoy being scrubbed with warm water and soap and it is good for them.

Keep the sleeping quarters and feeding places clean and thoroughly disinfected.

Nothing will retard the growth or cripple a young pig so quickly as to keep it on a board floor.

Spray with some good disinfectant, and grease all over—and don't neglect the inside of the ears.

Good skimmilk is worth 25c per hundred for pig feeding when corn sells for 50 cents per bushel.

Cowpeas and corn make excellent silage, or the mixture may be used to furnish the best of sheep and hog pasture.

Excepting oil meal a farmer should grow all the varieties of feeds necessary to the most successful swine husbandry.

RAISE SQUABS AS SIDE LINE

Industry Can Be Made Quite Profitable With Proper Management—Start With Pure Breed.

An advertisement lately for a bunch of common pigeons is a good illustration of the way some people get into the squab business the right way. Any person who starts squab raising for profit with common pigeons leaves behind all chance for success. Imagine a breeder starting with a small-bodied bird as the common pigeon for market breeding, when the market to date is demanding a nine and ten pounds-to-the-dozen squab! Even when there is a scarcity of squabs the common pigeon is a poor seller, and when the offerings increase there is no demand for such stock. It is just this kind of novice that is responsible for "knocking" the squab industry, and also the reason for some of the failures.

Many try to put the squab business in the same questionable class as the Belgian hare and others, but even that animal had to suffer for many things human being were reasonable for it is a sure thing that the squab business as a side line to poultry will give good returns when business ideas and methods are applied. There are many who have been at it for years, and, while not making a big cry over results, keep right at it year after year, saying but little, but surely getting good results. Americans are not in the habit of continuing any losing venture many years.

Value of Cowpeas.

Mr. C. R. Hudson, state agent of the demonstration work, writes as follows:

Again we desire to remind farmers of the importance of planting every available, uncultivated acre to cowpeas.

They are valuable for the following reasons:

They are fairly good human food.

The are one of our most nutritious foods for stock.

If turned under, the vines add considerable fertility to the land. If picked, the peas alone are worth from six to twelve dollars per acre.

The vines that grow on an acre are worth from five to ten dollars for stock food.

Through their roots peas put into the soil from four to six dollars worth of nitrogen per acre.

The vines, roots and stubble help to make soil loose and easily cultivated.

When decaying they help to convert mineral substances into valuable plant food.

They absorb and retain moisture that will aid the next crop to go through a drought easily.

They shade the soil during the hottest part of the summer, thus aiding in the formation of valuable nitrates.

The roots of peavines are good subsoilers. They go to considerable depths and open up the earth so that air and water can make a deeper soil.

Peas get their nitrogen from the air, free of cost to the farmer, so that very little nitrogen is needed in their fertilizers except for poor soils.

Peas feed strongly upon the supply of potash and phosphoric acid, therefore these substances should be supplied to them. Many pea crops fail for lack of acid and potash.

The price of peas is high, but this does not keep the wise farmer from planting them. He is thinking of the ten dollars in value he is to receive later for every dollar invested in them now.

Let no farmer neglect to plant abundantly of this important crop. Plant some for hay; plant some on poor land for turning under, plant some for grazing by horses, cows, hogs and other farm stock; and by all means plant and cultivate a few acres from which to obtain seed peas for next year's planting. Then you will rejoice if the price is high.

Paper From Millet Stalks.

The Japanese manufacture much of their paper from millet stalks. Manchuria furnishes about two hundred and forty thousand tons of pulp a year.

Condensation

"Do you use condensed milk at your house?" "I guess so. We order a quart a day, and the milkman squeezes it into a can that holds about a pint."

NEW SPRING SILKS.

Embroidery, Laces and Silk Trimmings Have Just Arrived

A complete line of Mens and boys new spring suits.

A FEW SPECIALS Just Arrived

Marquissettes' in delicate shades . . . 35 cts.
Fancy Chiffons . . . 35 cts.
White face brocades . . . 65 cts.

WILSON'S DEPARTMENT STORE.

CORNNO

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CORNNO is the largest selling brand of feed in the United States. CORNNO is the original Alfalfa balanced grain ration. All others are imitations. CORNNO is a better Feed for less money. CORNNO will measure 3 2-3 bushels to every 100 lb. bag. CORNNO is GUARANTEED absolutely to do all that is claimed for it. (\$10 reward if it fails after 30 days continued use, if used according to instructions.) CORNNO will enable your stock to do more hard work—they look better, feel better and work better. Feed same measure as oats; 1/2 to 3/4 more than shelled corn.

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