

[CONCLUDED FROM PAGE 1.]

a study of packing we must consider where the stuff is to be shipped, the amount of handling that will have to be done by train hands and express men. In the first place you should have a solidly built platform or counter to place your truck on, over which a stout, well supported, tightly covered shed or roof, built so as to admit of as much air as possible. By no means try to crate your truck out on the ground in the open sunshine as the heat of the summer's sun will do a great deal toward starting decomposition and decay. Don't allow your truck to be scratched or in the least bruised and as we said before let each crate or package be of uniform ripeness when loading in the car; see that the packages are so arranged as to allow for circulation of air.

QUOTATIONS.

Look well into glowing, glittering quotations. High-sounding letters and quotations are fine bait for any of us, and they do their work admirably well. Some of us will bite in spite of ourselves when we almost know better but are prone to want to make money and make it easy.

Most of the States have laws for the protection of shippers and nearly all of them similar to our own State law. Under these laws a man may be penalized for disposing of, and failing to pay for goods consigned to him. He must account for every ounce and pound of stuff entrusted to his care whether carried off to the dumping ground or sold for a fabulous price.

KIND OF BOXES

Strawberries, blackberries, plums, etc., invariably shipped in 16 and 32 quart crates of as many baskets.

Apples are usually shipped in barrels; however the 1/2 and 1/4 bushel boxes are used extensively in marketing early apples.

Peaches are shipped in 1/2 bushel crates and baskets of a like size.

Pears are usually marketed in half bushel and bushel boxes. Most any box dealer can make you acquainted with the latest styles of boxes, baskets and crates, which you should keep up with, and strive, as we have said before, to earn for Texas a justly deserved reputation for her fruits and vegetables, a reputation which every Texan will be proud of, like they now are of her cattle and cotton.

"The peanut crop in my section last year was very large," said Mr. J. B. Coffield, member of the Board of Agriculture who was in Raleigh last week. "The price, too, has kept up pretty well and the farmers generally made about fifty bushels to the acre. It is one of the best crops the farmers of Eastern North Carolina can make."

The Charlotte Observer says that Mr. C. H. Mathis, of Blackville, S. C., is going to try an experiment with melons in Robeson county, near Maxton, this year. He will plant 500 acres in watermelons and 50 acres in cantaloupes. Mr. Mathis is an experienced melon grower. He has large melon farms in South Carolina and Florida.

HORTICULTURE PEARS FOR WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.

EDITORS PROGRESSIVE FARMER:—I want to plant an orchard of pear trees, and as I know nothing about the names of the different varieties, I would be glad of any instructions through The Progressive Farmer. I want to plant as many different varieties as will do well in Western North Carolina, especially winter varieties. I would like a succession to bloom as late and early as may be had. My object is primarily to have early pasture for bees, as I know of nothing that produces as much honey in spring as the pear trees, but must have good fruit to keep off the expense as the honey alone would not do to depend on.

Ms S. A. P. Wilkes Co., N. C. We handed the above inquiry to Prof. W. F. Massey, of the State Experiment Station who replies as follows:

There are hundreds of varieties of pears that will thrive in Wilkes county, but I suppose your correspondent wishes those mainly that are the best. Most of the good pears are summer pears, and there is no pear to my knowledge that will keep in winter much, grown in this climate. Without exception the winter pears are rather of poorer quality and have more stringiness than the summer and fall pears. The earliest good pear is Manning's Elizabeth. It is a small round pear with a rosy cheek and is a wonderful bearer, but like all early pears it must be sold or consumed at once, as it soon decays as it mellow. Madeline is also a good early pear, and also the French Jonsonelle. I expect the following list would answer the purpose: Manning's Elizabeth, Madeline, Flemish Beauty, Howell, Burr's Grand, Bartlett, Burr's Superfin, Leconte,

Burr's D'Anjou, Seckel, Lawrence, Vicar of Wakefield, Easter Burr's, Winter Nellie, Kieffer.

Lawrence is usually classed as a winter pear, but here it is a rather early fall pear, but keeps longer than most pears of the season. Burr's D'Anjou is one of the finest and least liable to blight. Seckel does not blight as badly as some. The latest bearers are the Vicar of Wakefield (Do not think that an error for Wakefield, for it is not) and Easter Burr's. There is very little difference in the dates of blooming, the early sorts usually blooming latest. I put in Leconte and Kieffer not because of their quality, but because of the uniform early bearing and productiveness. Leconte is a summer pear and of very poor quality. Kieffer is a fall year that is stable when fully ripe and is a very showy fruit.

W. F. MASSEY

TUBE-ROSE GROWING IN NORTH CAROLINA.

A recent visitor to Magnolia, N. C., sends the Wilmington Star the following interesting comment upon things seen there:

"The tube-rose industry here is increasing. Mr. Newberry, the pioneer, has a business that ships many carload lots and furnishes employment to many hands, and has a great warehouse packed also with callalida and callas. Messrs. C. P. Gaylor and J. F. Croon are also carrying on the same business. Magnolia is said to be the most extensive producer of tube roses in the world. Farmers grow them by the acre and secure better returns from them than from cotton. Mr. Newberry also has a large crate and berry-bark factory and has just shipped carload lots to Wilmington. Crosetts are also being sold here on a large scale and afford timely help after losses suffered by truckers last year."

The Poultry Yard.

HARD CRAW.

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer. In reply to Mr. H. N. C. Halifax Co., N. C., I will say I know a remedy for the hard craw. Hard craw is caused by the hens not having gravel enough to cut up their food in time for it to digest. If he will break up some pieces of earthen ware fine on his yard, he will see his poultry stop pecking with the hard craw. I do this myself for my poultry. J. W. S. Beaufort Co., N. C.

THE HEN'S OWN GRINDING MACHINE.

The hen is furnished with a grinding apparatus and she will not keep in a vigorous state of health unless it is put to use. Amateurs are apt to form the opinion that they are doing their hens a kindness by making their food consist in large part of softened and pieced masses. It saves them the work of grinding it, and it seems altogether reasonable that it would be more digestible and more readily assimilated in that form than such a tough and unyielding substance as whole grain, says Farmer's Voice.

In the natural state the grain food of the hen would consist of whole seeds, and they were fitted for subsisting upon this kind of food. Domestication has modified, but has not wholly changed, their nature. The grinding apparatus must be kept in active operation. No flock will long remain healthy on softened and mucky food. Though the elements of the mass may be wholly unobjectionable, it fails to supply the mechanical conditions which will stimulate to healthy action the grinding machinery.

The majority of successful poultrymen approve the practice of feeding a small quantity of ground grain daily, mixed with sufficient water to enable it to be worked up into a crumbly mass. But a spoonful of the mixture for each hen is the allowance. The greater part of those who are committed to its use would prefer to dispense with it entirely rather than give more than this. While confessing the advantages of a restricted ration of this description, they all know that it can be omitted and paying returns be obtained by feeding all the grain whole.

LIVE STOCK "A RIGHTEOUS MAN REGARDETH THE LIFE OF HIS BEAST."

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer. Don't cut the hair out of the ears of your mules and horses. It is cruelty to expose the naked skin of the ears to the flies and gnats and cause much diseases such as distemper, cold and cough, lung fever, deafness and blind staggers, and, in many cases, death. Just think of it: Take a horse or mule with full ears of hair, in cold winter time, and cut it all off. It exposes it to cold wind, rain, snow and slush, dust to fall in the ears, and the gnats placed to do great damage to the head of the beast.

How often do we see a mule or a horse when the bridle is put on, refuse to let you handle his ears, which is the only way he has to make it known that they are sore, and that it hurts him to pull them about when bridling him. And what does he often get? A blow over the head is often the remedy he gets for his sore ears and head, which is often caused by cutting the hair out and letting the cold wind, rain and snow down in the head.

The head is all with both man and beast. Take it from the body of either and you take all the value of them at once. A good horse or mule is second to man and should be well cared for. A good man care for his dumb beast. When a man is taking good care of his dumb beast he is putting money in his pocket or corn in his barn.

Horses live to be old where they have good treatment and are well cared for from colts to old age. My father had a mule that lived to be 33 years old. And his mare that he drove while serving in the ministry lived to beover 27 years old; was sold after his death at that age in good condition, looking well and could do good work on the farm at that age.

FOR HOGS.

Keep plenty of issues and charcoal about your hog pen or feeding place. Burn plenty of wood to make coals and ashes. If you have a hog to die burn him as soon as he is dead. Keep plenty of salt and sulphur where they can eat it at will. I learned this from an old farmer and have had but one hog to die in over 20 years.

With many good wishes to the good old Progressive Farmer J. L. WHITEHEAD Halifax Co., N. C.

THE DAIRY.

Inquiries regarding Dairying cheerfully answered.

RENTING DAIRY FARMS.

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer. Dairy men who rent the farms they live upon, either on shares or for a money consideration, always labor under disadvantages not suffered by those owning land.

If any one needs good cows to help him out, it is a renter, and I advise every dairy man so situated not to take a farm unless first class milk stock goes with it, or can be acquired by himself.

If you take a place not your own to work you have got to manifest a keen interest in everything connected with it, in order to make the venture successful to yourself. A half hearted sort will not avail, neither will poor farming, or poor dairying.

It is just as important that you test the merits of every cow before you and the agreement, as though you were going to buy them all.

Do not accept any whose milk will show by the Babcock test under 3 per cent butter fat, unless your landlord is very liberal in his terms. Point out to him that it is as much for his interest as yours, that only prolific and rich milkers be retained, especially if the place is taken on shares.

In the care and feeding of the stock be as thorough as though it was your own, for by this plan only depends your "good luck."

Remember, that you have got to work harder in order to make a fair degree of profit, than if you owned everything, and that "head work" counts for more than blind muscular exertion.

It is perfectly possible to make money by renting a dairy farm, for I have seen it done many times. There must, however, be plenty of push and vim behind the enterprise, and the more practical experience the better.

Do not take a dairy farm that requires any degree of "building up" unless you can have it on a lease of several years' duration. On such a place you may no more than come out even for the first season or two, and reap the fruits of your industry by making money later.

As a general thing, it is more satisfactory to both parties concerned and more safe for the renter, if he pays his rent by giving a certain share of the proceeds. In this way if butter or cheese is low, it will fall equally on landlord and tenant.

I can cite scores of instances where well-conducted rented dairy farms have been such stepping stones to success, that the tenants now occupy farms of their own.

It is much preferable to rent a good dairy farm and be your own manager, than to work by the month for others, and if you try to make success of it you are pretty sure to win.

If you have no milk stock of your own and have to depend on your landlord for a herd at the start, your situation gives you an opportunity to acquire cattle of your own.

The bulk of dairy farms are not sufficiently developed, but what by better methods of raising and no stock on a place than there is now many a farm is thus within the province of the

center to gain a start in more ways than one.

If you make butter, provide an up-to-date outfit and thus lighten the labors of your wife and increase the value of your product and by products. GEORGE E. NEWELL.

THE GREAT NATIONAL MOUNTAIN PARK.

The wildest and most naturally beautiful part of this country east of the Rocky Mountains is that region where North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia adjoin each other. It is a mountain country with an average elevation of 4,000 feet and peaks running up thousands of feet higher. The tallest mountain east of the Rockies is in North Carolina.

This wild region abounds in timber, and is still a natural and unbroken wilderness except as the lumbermen invade its quiet. They have come already in traffic in forest land is on and the railroads of the vicinity are loaded with lumber for the market. Let the American people sit by with their accustomed optimistic apathy and before long the forests will be gone, the water courses left to dry up, the bears, deer and other wild animals killed off and nothing but a fading memory remain of what now is a great natural park.

The General Government ought to step in, before it is too late, and take possession of the whole region.—Hartford Courant.

WHAT THE NEXT LEGISLATURE SHOULD GIVE US.

Four months public schools. A law to prevent the removal of cases by corporations from State to Federal courts.

A statute making agriculture a common school subject. A reformatory for young criminals.

A fair election law, providing for equal representation of each faction upon boards of election judges and registrars.

A law making it illegal to employ children under fifteen years of age in any cotton mills, except where the child so employed attends school for at least three months of each year.

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The schedule to be that contained in the original bill considered by the Joint Finance Committee of the last legislature, viz.:

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Table with 2 columns: Station and Time. Includes Lv. Portsmouth, S. A. L., Ar. Weldon, Ar. Hertford, Ar. Raleigh, Ar. Norfolk, Ar. Hampton, Lv. Wilmington, S. A. L., Ar. Norfolk, S. A. L., Ar. Charlotte, S. A. L., Ar. Chester, S. A. L., Ar. Greensboro, Ar. Athol, Ar. Atlanta.

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