

Farm Department.

Conducted by J. M. BEATY.

Permanent Farm Homes.

The ambition of a great majority of our western farmers is to get their farms paid for, and enough money ahead to buy a home in the village, where they expect to retire and take life easy. This, I think, is not as it should be. The fact is these retired farmers, as a rule, do not take the comfort they expect and are very little help to the village. A man with any ambition is much happier employed than idle, and lives longer.

The farmer that expects to leave his farm at some future time, generally puts very few permanent improvements on the place while there, and lets it fall into decay when he leaves it. He will see plenty of ways for the income of his acres to be used in his new home and will forget, as a rule, that constant repairs have to be made in order to keep up the farm.

Brother farmers, think twice before you leave the farm. Remember you have pulled the load up the hill when you have the farm paid for, and that the level road is before you where you can have many more of the comforts, yes, and the luxuries of life now, than while you were paying for the home. Take the money you would spend on the village home and put it on the farm in the way of permanent improvements and conveniences, and it will make the home so pleasant and comfortable you will not desire to go to the village.

There is another thing to take into consideration. Those boys and girls that you take with you will learn to look back on the farm as a place of drudgery, and will rarely want to go back again when the time comes to begin life for themselves. They remember the old place as uncareful for, all run down, and the prospect is not very inviting. On the other hand, if Father and Mother had staid on the farm and improved and beautified it, added some good stock and got the boys and girls interested, instead of weaned from it, the probability is that they would have remained and taken up father's work. The most beautiful sight I have seen this winter, while out on institute work, was a farm some near Norwood, Minn., where father and mother were living on their well improved farm, surrounded by all the comforts that one could desire, with their three sons and six daughters, mostly grown to manhood and womanhood, and all interested in the farm and the home. The girls told me they took hold and helped milk, as they were running a dairy and all were not needed to help mother. The girls were with their parents at the institute and were dressed as neatly as could be desired and were among the best listeners there. I was struck with the thought that these people, brought up as they were, must be a great comfort to their parents while that farm and home were certainly an object lesson to that whole country.—Forest Henry, in The Northwestern Agriculturist.

Home Life on the Farm.

Success on the farm cannot be measured truly by the farmer's balance at the bank, his standing in the community or even the buildings and equipments of the farm itself. These all aid in making it possible for him to enjoy life and to make a profit by his labor on the farm; but more is needed. With all possible chance to make the farm life almost an ideal one, too often it is not. It is well to spend a little time in trying to learn how to live best, to get all possible good from life on the farm, as it is to study how to make the farm produce fine grain, stock or fruit; for there are better products of the farm than prize colts, cattle, grain or fruits.

The farm should be a means to an end, a loved friend, to be cared for and to be associated with pleasant memories of busy, cheerful work and equally pleasant leisure. It should be made to yield the greatest possible amount of happiness to each member of the family. This it can do; but if so much cash saved, so much fence built or repaired, so many rods of drain laid, so many calves and pigs raised and sold, be the chief end, then the most valuable fruits will not be gathered.

If love for one's work creates an interest in it and makes it easy, in like manner a love for the home will cause time and

money needed to make it a place of pleasant habitation to be cheerfully given and never regretted. There must be conveniences of many kinds in the homes to lighten toil and shorten labor before time can be found for the enjoyment of books, newspapers, music, flowers, visitors and the other pleasant things of life. Each day should have its share of sociability. Cultivate that rare power that leaves work and worry outside the door when the family meets in the dining room and the evening living room. It is care constantly borne about that wears out many human lives and casts a shadow over many a home. It is well to cultivate a spirit that will always find something to be thankful for. If the fox takes the last duck, why not be glad that he could not steal the pond? Among good resolutions no one is more conducive to happiness than the determination to make the home life of the farm what it should be.—Tribune Farmer.

About Hog Raising.

You will hear many farmers saying this winter "Pork is going down and I am going out of business."

This is another evidence that we have a great many farmers that are not as good business men as they should be. What would you think of a manufacturer going out of business when the finished produce did not sell as high as it once did, and going back into it again when the product sold higher? No, they could not afford to close up as long as a fair profit could be realized. Neither can the hog raiser afford to let his hog buildings and pastures lie idle, and much less to dispose of his brood stock that he has been years in breeding up. More than this, he will lose the value of his past experience and will be in no shape to reap a harvest when prices are higher.

On the other hand, prices are not so low yet as not to insure a good profit to the grower. Hogs can be grown under favorable conditions, taking one year with another, for \$3.00 per hundred weight. This will include every expense that could be properly attached to the growing. It has not cost us that to raise pork for the past twenty years on an average. All that can be realized above that is clear gain and at present prices it would mean \$2 per hundred weight clear gain, less expense of shipping.

No, hogs are not low. They are lower than a year ago, but the prices for the past two years have been exceptionally high prices. We could not expect them to continue. The time will not come when a careful, experienced feeder cannot make a reasonable profit in the business. The man that tries to jump out of the business when hogs are low, and into it again when they go up, will usually find his dish wrong side up when it rains porridge.—The Northwestern Agriculturist.

Shredding.

I believe many of the farmers have made a mistake in not shredding their corn-fodder. On account of the drought last summer most of our farmers cut their corn for fodder, it being almost destitute of ears; consequently, all who had stock to winter fed corn-fodder. Both horses and cattle eat this shredded feed very well, and the farmer who has barn room can, to a great extent, feed this to his horses instead of timothy hay, and to his cattle instead of clover, thereby saving much of the hay. We shredded eighty-five shocks of fodder and fed it to our horses and cows, who clean it up well. Those who do not use this feed should give it a trial, as it can be shredded cheaply, at ten cents a shock, which is the regular price here.

Shredding not only saves feed, but the cattle clean up the stalks, which they will not do when fed whole. The stalks have been proven more nutritious when shredded than any other portions of the husked stover.—M. H. Lancaster, Bunker Hill, Ill.

Keep the Pig Growing.

There seems to be a "habit of growth," not only in the pig, but in all farm animals, says a writer in Colman's Rural World. Our best authorities advise us never to let the pig stop growing from birth to killing time. When once it stops growing the pig seems never to pick up its former rapidity or habit of growth. The wise farmer will see that his young, suckling pigs have all the milk they will eat, and as often as

they want it. The mother sometimes fails to supply enough milk for her litter, and it is here that the scientific farmer uses his superior knowledge in supplying the scarcity of food with some best adapted for the nourishment of the young pigs.

The time of weaning is the most critical period in the life of the pig. Changing from the milk diet often puts the pig off feed or gives it some illness to check its growth. Then about this time the farmer who is fattening cattle on his place, turns his pigs in to follow his steers, utilizing the corn they fail to digest. It is here, too, that mistakes are often made. The farmer does not give the pig enough feed, thinking to make it work for what it gets, giving it exercise. Indeed, it takes a practical, careful, watchful man to know how much to feed to prevent the pig from being stunted, and yet not to give it enough that it will cease to work for its living.—The Northwestern Agriculturist.

The Young Calf.

The young calf should be fed whole milk the first week or two of its existence. A good plan is to give the mother's milk until one wishes it for household use, then gradually lessen the quantity of whole milk by adding a small quantity of warmed skim milk at each feed.

Do not force the calf to partake of solids until the digestive apparatus is strong enough to resist the effects of a radical change of diet. As soon as the calf reaches a skim milk basis, add to this at each feed, from one to three tablespoonfuls of meal, customizing it gradually to even this small addition. Give liberally of hay fodder, sorghum, or any other forage. Shelter well and the calf will surprise you by its rapid growth.—C. B. Barrett, in the Northwestern Agriculturist.

Honored at Home.

Rev. Parker Holmes, pastor of the 1st M. E. Church South, Hickory, N. C. says: "I have used Rydals Stomach Tablets for indigestion and regard them as a perfect remedy for this disease. I take pleasure in recommending them to all sufferers from indigestion. Use Rydals Stomach Tablets for your stomach trouble and you will join Dr. Holmes in this strong endorsement. These tablets will digest the food your weak stomach cannot, and thus nourish the body and prevent the partial starvation, from which all dyspeptics suffer and which causes the loss in flesh and strength all dyspeptics experience. These tablets relieve all disagreeable symptoms at once. They will increase your strength and flesh, almost from the first days use and will soon restore you to perfect health." Hood Bros., J. N. Ledbetter, Princeton, N. C.

Traveling baths on one of the Russian railways are the latest provision for its employees' comfort in the outlying districts.

STRENGTH OF RIVAL FLEETS.

Japan Has the Larger Number of Small Fighting Craft.

The following indicates the relative naval strength of Russia and Japan in the Far East:

Russia—Battleships (8), Sebastopol, Oslaba, Tzarewitch, and Pobieda; cruisers (14), Russia, Rurik, Gromobol, Boyarin, Palada, Diana, Variag, Askold, Bogatyr, Novik, Razboynik, Djigit, Zabiya, and Bayan; torpedo craft, 2 gunboats, 19 destroyers; transports, 2.

In addition there are several non-fighting vessels of different types, including transports.

Japan—Battleships (6), Fuji, Joshima, Asahi, Hatsuise, Shikishima, and Mikasa; cruisers (21), Arama, Tokiwa, Azuma, Chitose, Kasagi, Takasagi, Joshino, Akashi, Suma, Naniwa, Idsumi, Yakumo, Idsumo, Iwate, Yayeyama, Chiyoda, Hashidate, Itsukushima, Matsushima, Akitsushima, and Takachiho; torpedo craft, 2 gunboats, 16 destroyers, and 18 torpedo boats.

Japan has a number of other ships of various types, including some which are purely defensive, both armored and of the torpedo variety. She has a call also on the thirty-three vessels of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for use as auxiliaries or transports for troops.—Washington Post.

Danger in Cold Weather.

There's danger in cold weather because it produces conditions favorable to the development of those germ diseases known as Lagrippe, Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Consumption, etc. These diseases are contracted while the mucous membrane of the throat and lungs is weakened by inflammation resulting from a cold. It is dangerous to neglect even a slight cold. Help nature to ward off disease by using Rydals Elixir. This modern scientific remedy can always be relied on in all diseased conditions of the throat and lungs. Hood Bros., J. N. Ledbetter, Princeton, N. C.

STARVED OUT.

Many a garrison has been forced to give up the fight and hang out the white flag of surrender, when lack of food has weakened the men past all power to continue the struggle.

Many a man is similarly starved out of business. His digestion is impaired. His food does not nourish him, and for lack of

strength to carry on the struggle he turns his store over to another.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition. It restores strength to weak, nervous, run-down men and women.

"About ten years ago I began to be afflicted with stomach trouble, also diarrhea," writes Mr. Wm. Walters of Antrim, Mo. "In warm weather it grew worse, until it would throw me into a cramping chill. Was troubled so often that I sometimes thought my end had come. Tried many remedies, but they gave only temporary relief. In November, 1899, thought I would try Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. I got six bottles and took five in succession, then thought I would wait for a time and take the one left. Soon found I had symptoms of the trouble coming back, so took the sixth bottle and it cured me. I have enjoyed the best of health this summer, and the credit all belongs to your 'Golden Medical Discovery.' I can't express my many thanks to Dr. Pierce for his remedy, for it did so much for me. Words cannot express how severely I suffered. 'If any doubt the above statement let them address me, and I will take great pleasure in answering.'"

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cleanse the bowels and stimulate the sluggish liver.

There are about 11,000,000 Catholics in the United States.

When You Have A Cold.

The first action when you have a cold should be to relieve the lungs. This is best accomplished by the free use of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. This Remedy liquefies the tough mucus and causes its expulsion from the air cells of the lungs, produces a free expectoration, and opens the secretions. A complete cure soon follows. This remedy will cure a mere cold in less time than any other treatment and it leaves the system in a natural and healthy condition. It counteracts any tendency toward pneumonia. For sale by Hood Bros., Smithfield; Selma Drug Co.; Benson Drug Co., Benson, N. C.

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