

THE FARM.

THE FIRST CALF.—It is often the case when a heifer has her first calf that the farmer thinks she will not give more milk than will keep her calf in good condition, and lets them run together to teach her the mystery of being milked when she has her next calf. In this decision there are two mistakes that go far to spoil the cow for future usefulness. Cows are largely the creatures of habit, and with their first calf everything is new and strange to them, and they readily submit to be milked, and think it all right; but suffer them to run with the calf the first season, and a vicious habit is established that they will hardly forget in a lifetime. If they ever submit to be milked quietly, it is evidently under protest. But there is a greater objection than this. The calf running with the cow draws the milk every hour or two, so that the milk vessels are at no time distended with milk, though the quantity secreted in a given time may be large. But this is the natural time to distend the milk ducts and expand the udder to a good capacity for holding milk. When, with her next calf, you require the milk to be retained twelve hours, the udder becomes hard and painful, and the milk leaks from the teats, or more likely, nature accommodates the quantity of the milk secreted to the capacity to retain it, and the cow becomes permanently a small milker. Much of the future character of a cow, therefore, depends on her treatment with her first calf.

THE AGE OF COWS.—A cow with three rings on her horns is six years old; with four she is seven. No new rings are formed after the tenth year. The deeper rings, however, and the worn appearance of the horns, are pretty sure indications of old age.

PROFIT FROM A COW.—If the owner of a cow will realize the fact that unless she pays him in clear cash \$44.50 yearly, she is kept at a loss, he will soon become interested in the subject of the improvement of cows.—American Cultivator.

Wheat is now sown in nine months of the year in England; that is, August to April. October and November are the principal months however, for this work. The advocates of thin seeding prefer early sowing, while it is advantageous to sow thicker as the season advances.

FREEZING ROOTS.—It is well known to planters and nurserymen that if the frozen roots of fruit trees are compactly buried in mellow soil before they have thawed any in the open air, the frost will be abstracted without injury to them—in the same way that freezing in the soil while standing where they grow, does not hurt them. C. A. Green says that according to his experiments, apple trees, and currant, raspberry, and gooseberry bushes are the hardest under this treatment, then the peach and pear, while the quince and the rose are particularly sensitive.

PAINTING BARN.—There are plenty of barns in my neighborhood that present a respectable appearance that have been built from forty to fifty years and have never been painted, and it is my judgement, from experience in keeping my dwelling-house painted, that if these had been kept painted so as to look well, the cost would have been three or four times greater than to newly weatherboard them. To look well, a building would need a coat of paint about once in five years, and if neglected I think it looks worse than if not painted at all. If called upon to decide the question to paint or not to paint, as a rule I should say not.

PIP IN POULTRY.—Pip in fowls is the disease known as apthra, or popularly sore mouth. The end of the tongue is blistered and a hard scab or scale forms on it which interferes with the feeding. The fowl is also affected by a general fever which causes it to mope. The remedy is to apply caustics to the end of the tongue and remove the scale, and give the fowl a pinch of powdered borax dropped on the tongue.

SALTING STOCK.—A stock feeder writes:—Our practise has been for years to keep a tight box under the shed in the barnyard, in which there is a constant supply of salt. The cows help themselves to this, eating as much as they like, winter and summer. The salt being always accessible, the cattle are never salt hungry, and consequently never eat too much, thereby causing unusual thirst, which is the case when they are fed salt periodically. In winter this is injurious, hence we recommend the practice of putting brine on straw to induce cattle to eat it in order to get the salt, because the effect is to create an unnatural thirst. When men have free access to salt they taste a little every day, which gives tone to the stomach and helps to make a steady and healthful appetite. We use coarse salt, preferring it to the fine, as it does not dissolve so readily and does not absorb moisture so freely, which causes it to waste. We have used rock salt, but gave it up on account of its high price. The coarse salt answers just as well, not costing half as much, and not dissolving much faster. Our salt box does not have to be filled oftener than once a month, which is quite a saving of time as compared with the system of salting occasionally; besides, there is no forgetting. In summer a tight box is placed in the field and salt put into it for the cattle to help themselves. A rain falling into the box does no harm, as it only dissolves the salt and the stock take a lick of the brine instead of the salt. As the salt does not evaporate (only the water) from the heat of the sun, there is no loss. This plan of salting stock is the least trouble and the most economical and the safest.

BONEDUST.—Raw bonedust lasts about seven years before it is exhausted. The second year its effect on the crop will be as good as the first. Two hundred pounds of it to an acre, mixed with a equal quantity of unleached ashes, will increase the yield of wheat from one to twenty bushels.

DRINK FOR A TIRED HORSE.—One of the best things in the world to give a horse after he has been driven, is a quart of oatmeal stirred in a pail of water. It refreshes and strengthens him, relieves his immediate thirst and prepares his stomach for more solid food. So says Joseph Harris after twenty years' trial of it.

Feed well and carefully shelter your flocks and herds. Milk from mature cows is richer than that from heifers.

HEALTH HINTS

FLANNELS.—The value of flannel next the skin cannot be overrated. It is invaluable to persons of both sexes and all ages, in all countries, in all climates, at every season of the year, for the sick and well; in brief, I cannot conceive of any circumstances in which flannel next to the skin is not a comfort and a source of health. It should not be changed from thick to thin before the settled hot weather of the summer, which in our Northern Province is not much before the first of July. And the flannels for the summer must not be three quarters cotton, but they must be all woolen, if you would have the best protection. In the British army and navy, they make the wearing of flannel a point of discipline. During the hot season the ship doctor makes a daily examination of the men at unexpected hours, to make sure they have not left off their flannels.

THE ATTITUDE OF THE BODY.—An erect bodily attitude is of vastly more importance to health than most people imagine. Crooked positions, if maintained for any length of time, are always injurious, whether in the sitting, standing, or lying posture, whether sleeping or waking. To sit with the body leaning forward on the stomach, or to one side, with the heels elevated on a level with the head, is not only in bad taste, but very detrimental to health. It cramps the stomach, presses the vital organs, interrupts the free motions of the chest, and enfeebles the func-

tions of the thoracic and abdominal organs, and, in fact, unbalances the whole muscular system. Many children become slightly humpbacked or severely round-shouldered by sleeping with the head raised on a high pillow. When any person finds it is easier to sit, or stand, or walk, or sleep in a crooked position than a straight one, such a person may be sure his muscular system is badly deranged, and the more careful he is to preserve a straight or upright position again the better.

HOW MILK SHOULD BE TAKEN.—Milk is a food that should not be taken in copious draughts like beer or other fluids, which differ from it chemically. If we consider the use of milk in infancy, the physiological ingestion, that is, of it, we find that the sucking babe imbibes little by little the natural food provided for it. Each small mouthful is secured by effort, and slowly presented to the gastric mucous surface for the primal digestive stages. It is thus regularly and gradually reduced to curd, and the stomach is not oppressed with a lump of half-coagulated milk. The same principle should be regarded in the case of the adult. Milk should be slowly taken in mouthfuls, at short intervals, and thus it is rightly dealt with by the gastric juice. If milk should be taken after other food, it is almost sure to burden the stomach, and to cause discomfort and prolonged indigestion, and this, for the obvious reason that there is insufficient digestive agency to dispose of it. And the better the quality of the milk the more severe the discomfort will be under these conditions.

The white wheaten loaves, considered so desirable, are by no means the most nutritious, as some of the most nourishing principles of the wheat are lost in the whitening process. By this process the flour is deprived to a great degree of its gluten and phosphate, both important elements of food.

VARIETIES.

Of all amusements of the mind, From logic down to fishing, There isn't one that you can find, So very cheap as wishing.

'He beat me!' said a disgusted politician of his opponent; 'why he couldn't beat a carpet.'

Of all bad things by which mankind are cursed, Their own bad tempers surely are the worst.

A Dutchman repeated the adage, 'Birds mit one felder goes mit themselves.'

'I know where the dark goes when morning comes,' said little Clare. 'It goes down cellar; it's dark there all day.'

Have you read the new version? Boston Post. Yes. Have you read the old one?—Philadelphia News.

An Iowa editor was challenged to fight a duel. He promptly accepted, and chose axes as the weapons. Then he issued a supplement and named forty rods as the distance.

'My dear,' says a food New Haven mother to her child, 'why do you not play with the little Jones boy? "Oh, he's horrid. He says bad naughty words, just like papa does."—Reform will begin at home in that family.

An eccentric minister was called upon to marry three couples at once. The parties were standing around promiscuously, waiting for the arrival of the minister, and when he came in he marched up to them, exclaiming, 'Sort yourselves!'

A little four-years-old girl did not obey when her mamma first called her. So her mamma spoke rather sharply. Then she came in and said, 'Mamma, I've been very kind to you to-day, and I don't want you to speak so large to me.'

Colorado, land of wonders, reports 'an egg than can't be beat.' It is petrified.

Among the members at the Lower House of the Tennessee Legislature are a white man and a negro who held the relation of master and slave before the war.



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