

ground, and finally felt that she could talk freely to her father and mother.

She asked them to give her control of a certain ten-acre corn plot of the farm that had not thrived. She asked if she might not use some of her new ideas upon this acreage and was told she might. This corn acreage had never been properly plowed, and, after seeding, little cultivation had been given it.

It had yielded thirty-one bushels of corn to the acre, and, one season, fifty-five bushels of oats to the acre.

The soil had been permitted to "bake" at the wrong season of the year, and the acreage was steadily decreasing in value. The girl believed the fault was not in the soil but in its care. Taking a farmhand, she had the field plowed six inches deep in September. She watched this plowing herself, to see that every inch of ground was evenly turned and the sub-soil well broken. The field was then left to itself until the following spring.

In the spring it was carefully gone, over again for planting, and seeded to corn. As soon as the crop growth appeared, the girl took her lone helper and cultivated the field.

She saw to it that the roots of the corn were not injured. She kept the top soil broken up and the weeds out. Once a week until harvest that field was cared for, and the yield was a gain of nineteen bushels per acre over the old yield.

The father and mother thought this pretty good, but the girl kept on. She began to fertilize her soil and to rotate crops, until she raised a corn crop of sixty-nine bushels to the acre. The value of that particular piece of land went up thirty-five to forty per cent, and the girl practically demonstrated that a woman could manage the land and get the highest results.

Any young woman who has ability enough to gain control of twenty acres of fair farm land, taken from her father or bought from others can, between her books and her common sense, wrest out of it, such a comfortable living as no city worker can ever enjoy. The opportunity is one of your own.

As one of long and hard experience, permit me to say frankly to you—the city is not calling you. It does not want you, it does not need you. The city is not suffering for lack of people or brains. Its great hunger is for food.

Step to the back door of your home. Stand on the step and look out over the fields that have not had one-half the attention they deserve. They are calling to you. They will reward you. And for what you do in this wise, those of the cities and the places where the marts of men make confusion and pain, will rise up and call you blessed."

Swimming Animals

Almost all animals know how to swim without having to learn it. As soon as they fall into the water or are driven into it they instinctively make the proper motions, and not only manage to keep afloat, but propel themselves without trouble. Exceptions are the monkey, the camel, giraffe and llama, which cannot swim without assistance. Camels and llamas have to be helped across water, and giraffes and monkeys drown if they enter it. Now and then both of the latter species manage to cross waterways when they are driven to extremities, just as human beings occasionally can keep themselves above water through sheer fright.

A funny, though able, swimmer is the rabbit. He submerges his body with the exception of head and tail. The latter sticks away up in the air, and his hind legs make "soap suds" as he churns the water madly to get away. But with all his awkwardness he is a swift swimmer, and is only beaten by the squirrel among the land animals. The squirrel swims with his heavy tail sunk away down in the water and his head held high. He cleaves the waves like a duck, and a man in a rowboat has all he can do to keep abreast of the swimming squirrel. One thing that none of the land

living animals does is to dive. No matter how hard pressed a swimming deer, rabbit, squirrel or other purely terrestrial animal may be, it will remain above water. But the muskrat, however, the bear, and others dive immediately.—Public Ledger.

If you would know the value of a dollar, try to borrow one.

When Buying a Horse

If you are buying a horse never be satisfied that he is thoroughly sound or serviceable until you have seen him in action.

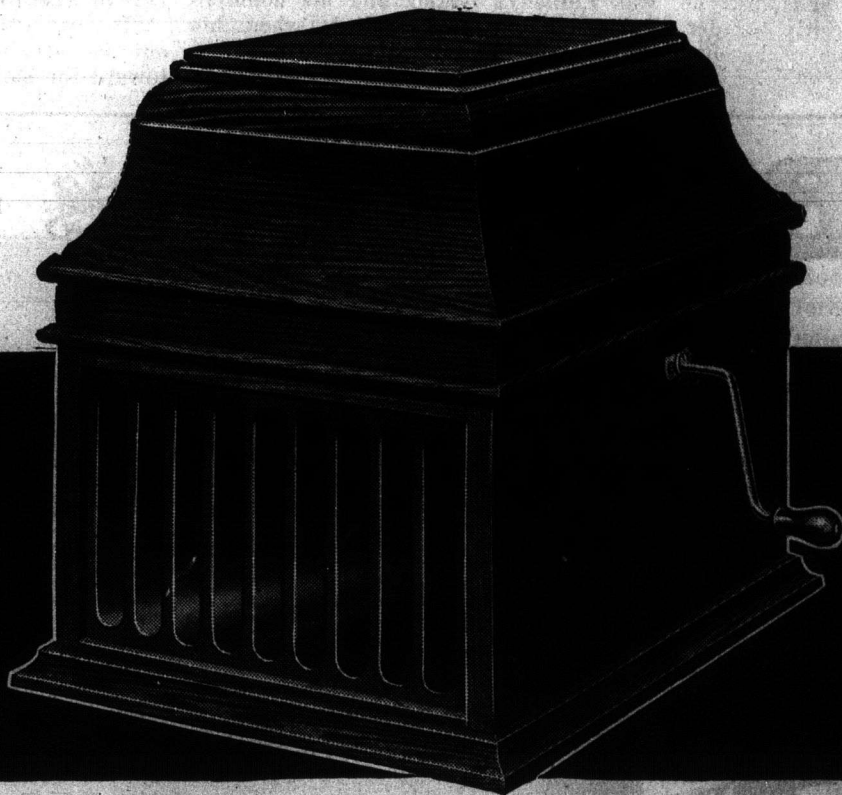
In mild cases of string-halt faulty action is observed only upon the start or backing. The feet should be picked up to show how the animal will stand while

being shod. The horse should next be placed in harness, and attention should be given to his behaviour while the harness is being fitted. Observe whether he kicks, strikes or bites when the girth is tightened. He should be driven in his accustomed manner—single or double if for driving, and in a cart or wagon if for heavy work. The rein should be taken so as to determine whether he has a hard or tender mouth, and to note his manner of responding to the pull. Also observe whether he shies or frightens at strange objects when being hitched to the cart. One should be certain that this is not due to improper fitting harness before rejecting him. A tight-fitting collar may make the difference between a proper acting animal and one that is wholly objectionable.

The wind should be thoroughly tested for whistling, for roaring, and for heaves. The ear of the examiner should be placed to the nostrils, to the throat and to the sides of the chest and the hands placed upon the flanks to detect any unnatural sounds or jerking and breathing.

A Time to Pray

"I intend to pray that you may forgive Casey for having thrown that brick at you," said the parson when he called to see a man who had been worsted in a melee. "Mebbe yer rivrence 'ud be saving toime if ye'd just wait till Oi get well, an' then pray for Casey," replied the patient.



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