

GOSSIP

MUSIC IN THE FARM HOME

Perhaps the greatest service which music can offer to any home is to furnish occupation for leisure hours, which

must have music written for the special instrument, as they are tuned in various keys.

The oboe and bassoon are two of the orchestral instruments which are very interesting to study, both having mellow, rich tones which are more musical than the brasses. This applies also to the English horn, which is particularly pleasing in tone. These three instru-

of these intervals will enable one to read more readily.

To interest any group of people and keep them in regular attendance at rehearsals there must always be someone who will be ready to furnish inspiration when the outlook is dull.

To anyone who has this willing, enthusiastic spirit, who will organize, stimulate and encourage such activities, I wish to extend my earnest good will. To co-operate with you, would elicit my best endeavor, and I would wish for the "tongues of men and of angels" to help enkindle the flame of enthusiasm. As a little couplet puts it, for those who are not gifted with great talents.

"Do what you can, being what you are,
Shine like a glow-worm, if you can't
be a star."

And so to all who are trying to live the better life, to fill the days with real endeavor and to make the quiet life of the country a means to the fullest development of mind and heart and spirit, a God-speed. Let us never fail to believe in our highest ideals, still striving for that millenium, when

"Only the Master shall praise us, and
only the Master shall blame,
And no one shall work for money, and
no one shall work for fame,
But each for the joy of the working,
and each in his separate star
Shall draw the Thing as he sees it,
for the God of Things as They are."

—Minnesota Farm Review.

DAIRY SHORTHORNS

Breeders of the milking type of Shorthorn in the United States, have formed themselves into an association. The aims and objects of the association are to promote the dairy qualities of Shorthorns by securing classes at fairs, giving prizes, recommending judges, encouraging and publishing milk records, and conducting official tests, and by any means that may seem desirable make the merits of these cattle more generally known and appreciated. There is evidently some excellent material to work upon. In the course of a statement the secretary mentions two three-year-olds with records of over 10,000-lb., and they are not the result of a tricky chance, but are descended from heavy milking strains, whose productiveness has been seen in several generations. An exceptional cow is also mentioned. She is out of a thousand-gallon cow, and by the same sire as the famous Rose of Glenside, which set up a world's record. Though her half-sister cannot quite come up to this, she will be little behind, and these facts are strong presumptive evidence, if such were required, that pedigree is of as much importance in milk as in anything else.

STANDARD CYCLOPEDIA OF MODERN AGRICULTURE

A British publishing house is bringing out a twelve volume cyclopedia of

tinguished authorities in Britain, America, the overseas Dominions and Europe. Each subject is to be treated by a specialist in the particular field to which the subject belongs, and the whole range of agricultural knowledge brought within the compass of twelve volumes, illustrated and indexed so that any particular question may be looked up and the latest information gained without loss of time or doubt as to the soundness of the advice offered. Altogether the work is the most monumental yet attempted in agricultural literature. It is being published by the Gresham Publishing Company, of London, England. The volumes will be issued singly at intervals of about three months.

KING EDWARD'S JOKE

King Edward's good nature was illustrated by a London correspondent at the Press Club in New York.

"The King," said the correspondent, "was visiting Rufford Abbey, and one morning, in company with his host, Lord Arthur Vaville, he took a walk over the preserves.

"Suddenly, Lord Arthur, a big, burly man, rushed forward and seized a shabby fellow with a dead pheasant protruding from the breast of his coat. 'Sir,' said Lord Arthur to the King, 'this fellow is a bad egg. This is the second time I've caught him poaching.'

"But the King's handsome face beamed, and he laughed his gay and tolerant laugh.

"'Oh, let him go,' he said. 'If he really were a bad egg, you know, he wouldn't poach.'"

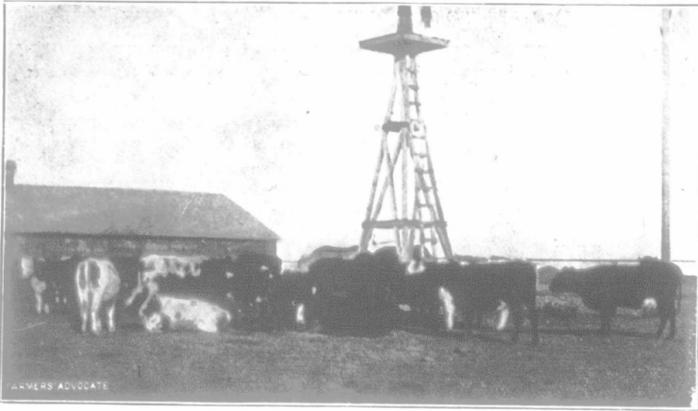
There are said to be twenty-eight miles of perspiration tubes under the skin, which pour out more than a pint of water and three hundred grains of solid impurities every day. This gives an idea of the necessity of keeping the skin absolutely clean.

"What great wandering body," asked the teacher, "which is largely composed of gas, and which travels at terrific speed and puzzles the scientists while amazing and alarming nearly all its beholders, is now attracting the attention of the entire world?" "Teddy Roosevelt," yawned the fat boy at the end of the row.

Jacob Hope, the animal expert of Philadelphia, was talking about the animal fakirs.

"There was a Manayunk man," he said, "who wanted a piebald horse. He visited a dealer up in the Blocks and the dealer the next day produced a beautiful piebald—half cream and half black—that the man bought at a stiff price.

"But the first time he drove his new purchase in the park a rain came up



WHEN THE COWS GATHER ROUND FOR A DRINK.

often drag wearily by when there is no definite employment to develop and stimulate the mind. The study of any branch of music requires close application on the part of the learner, while any progress along musical lines is accompanied by renewed exhilaration of spirit.

Music study may be undertaken by the individual alone, or by a small group of people, thereby encouraging special individual growth and a common interest. There is nothing which will promote a better spirit of fellowship than the constant endeavor in a small singing society or orchestra, where each member does his utmost for the common cause. Music, by its very nature, requires a certain rhythmic, united effort on the part of the performers, making it possible for each member of a group to sink his own personality, while gaining at the same time a definite strength, by the exercise of his own powers.

I should like to make some suggestions which may help the young person cut off from personal instruction, to spend many profitable hours in the development of his musical talent. Perhaps, also, I may give some idea how a neighborhood may gain some means of recreation and study, having no one person with special talent, but many with a real love of music, and a desire to improve.

There are many good books of exercises which will help the individual to be better prepared for work with others, and almost any boy with the aid of a good instruction book and a collection of melodies may learn to play any of the brass instruments, such as cornet, trombone or baritone horn, or the wooden wind instruments such as the flute and clarinet.

By constant effort, extending through one winter, any one of these instruments can be mastered, with no personal instructor. An hour or two a day given to this work will afford great joy to the boy or girl who cares for music. A series of books, by Otto Langey, is designed for each of these instruments, as "Tutor for the Flute." These volumes are written with regard to the difficulties of each instrument, and will show fingering, give exercises for lip and breath control, and the general management of the instrument.

Some fine combinations can be made in a brass quartette, or with such groups as flute, clarinet and piano, or violin, flute and piano, violin, flute, cornet, piano, including a small orchestra. The trombone plays exactly with the bass of the piano, as does bassoon and violoncello, while flute and violin play exactly in tune with the treble. Thus, music written for four voices, such as hymns, etc., can be played from the piano score. A common reed organ fits into these combinations with even better effect than the piano. Cornet, clarinet and oboe parts, with the rest of the brass instruments,

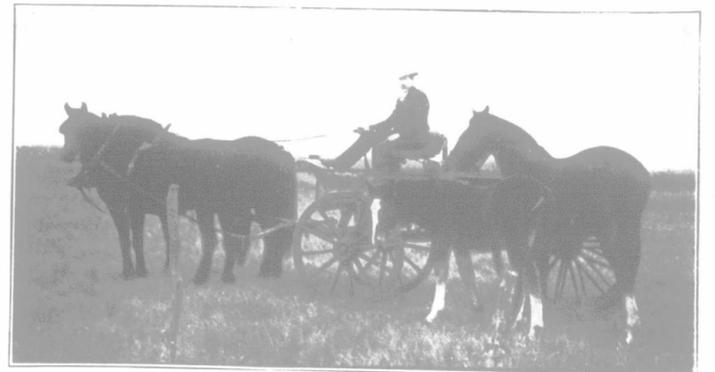
ments belong to the wooden-wind family, and require more skill to play than the brasses, although like the clarinet and flute, they repay any amount of time and effort one cares to put on them. The French horn is a mellow-toned brass horn, and it, with the slide trombone, can be developed as far as the player is willing to go. The saxophone is another fine instrument for solo or orchestral use.

The mastery of any one of these instruments requires time and careful application. For that reason, they offer great satisfaction to the player who wishes to occupy his leisure moments and work toward the time when he may prove his own capacity. There is always the chance of developing into a good soloist. He must gain his own facility, and the city boy is handicapped by the fact that in this study he must make a certain amount of disagreeable noise before he can command his instrument. He thus must make himself a nuisance in the crowded flat or closely built city block. The country boy or girl has the great advantage of freedom to work without fear of disturbing the neighbors.

The stringed instruments especially, of which the violin and the violoncello are the most interesting, require much time and daily practice, but they are well worth conquering. For the study of the violin, a good book of scale and finger exercises is essential.

Now, in ways and means of accomplishing something in the way of "community" music, I have purposely left to the last discussion of what might be done with the natural instrument, the singing voice. Any practice in singing is a help in learning to read music for an instrument, and any instrumental study will help in reading music in part work. Many singers who could never take a solo part gain physical strength, a keen ear perception, good tone production and the joy of engaging in musical study, by entering an organization for ensemble singing.

In a small neighborhood, or even among the members of a family, it is not a hard matter to develop two-part singing. With a very little material at hand, such as the ordinary hymn book, there may be gained a facility in reading music which will enable the one so trained to read the parts in any usual composition. There is usually someone in any district who has had enough instruction to be a help and inspiration to others with less experience. In reading notation for singing, the secret lies in recognizing the position of the tonic or 1 of the scale and relating the rest of the tones to that key note. If 1 is on a line, 3 and 5 are on the two lines directly above, 8 in a space. This gives the boundary lines within which the other tones may be confined, and one readily learns to recognize the familiar plans with the eye. Most of the common melodies follow a scale or chord line, and knowing the sound



STARTING FOR HOME FROM MEADOW LEA SHOW. JAS. CARR WON FIRST ON TEAM, BROOD MAKE, TWO-YEAR-OLD AND FOAL.

agriculture and rural economy, planned to be the most complete work in the world on agriculture, and the wide range of cognate subjects that may be classed under the comprehensive title of rural economy. The editor is Professor R. P. Wright, F.H.A.S., F.R.S.E., head of the West of Scotland Agricultural College, Glasgow, and the contributors include the most competent and dis-

and the spots washed off. The horse wasn't a piebald after all.

"The man drove straight to the dealer's again.

"'Look at that horse!' he said. 'The rain has taken all the spots off!'

"'Good gracious,' said the dealer, 'so it has! There was a rubber blanket went with the animal, sir. Did I forget to give you a rubber blanket?'