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the apple grower. All of the apples remained in perfect condition. Taking into view the saving to the producer, it was reckoned that such a building would pay for itself in five years.

Accordingly, it is recommended that farmers build their own cold-storage houses, combining for the purpose, when desirable. Not only will they save money directly, but the selling period will be greatly prolonged. The fruit can go from the tree immediately into storage, and be cooled to the degree requisite to arrest the ripening process. Furthermore, it can be stored in temporary packages, the final grading and packing being deferred until the hurry of the picking season is over.

The Station tried the experiment of insulating a cellar for cold storage purposes, cooling it with ice in the early part of the season, and depending later upon the natural temperature. This was not a success. It was found that the earth was too good a conductor of heat and cold, and that fluctuations of temperature in the later season were too great.

The conclusion drawn is that commercial growers, for communities in which considerable quantities of fruit are grown, cannot do better than to erect cold-storage houses cooled with ice.

The Incubated Chick.

I'm not a little orphan, sir,
But I am just as sad,
A-peakin' and a-pippen for
The love I never had;
One touch of human sympathy
Would melt my poultry nature,
But I refrain from hope so vain,
For ma's an incubator.

When first I burst my parent shell—
How hideous the dream!—
No "Cluck, cluck!" fond love to tell,
No sound, alas, but—steam!
I felt in vain for sheltering wings
Within that boiler crater,
And then in sooth, the horrid truth—
Ma was an incubator!

—Farm and Home.

Poultry Items.

Four good reasons why feed should be given dry are—First, fowls are kept in a more healthy condition; second, eggs of better fertility; third, dry feed is preferred by the fowls; and fourth, it saves labor.

The removal of nesting material and refilling with clean dry nesting is a great help in keeping down the lice.

One of the most difficult things for a beginner in poultry raising to learn is to cull closely, and there are others besides the beginners that need to practise this necessary thing.

A film of kerosene over the drinking water will prevent one chick's catching disease from another; also, it will cure slight colds; an easy preventive, and no possible harm in it.

There is no gold mine nor get-rich-quick scheme in the poultry yard, but if you will practise these four words, cleanliness, punctuality, perseverance and care, you will receive a good profit from the poultry.

There is nothing better than poultry manure for most garden crops. Don't allow to go to waste this valuable soil renewer, and then buy fertilizer.

A Good Whitewash.

The importance of whitewashing stables where dairy cows are kept is conceded by all. The following formula for whitewash is recommended by the United States Government. A pint of this mixture is said to cover a square yard if it is properly applied. It is said to be serviceable for wood, brick and stone. Take one half-bushel of un-slacked lime; slack it with boiling water. Cover during the process to keep in the steam, strain the liquid through a fine sieve or strainer, and add to it a piece of salt previously dissolved in warm water, three pounds of rice boiled to a thin paste, and stir in while hot half a pound of Spanish whiting and one pound of glue previously dissolved by soaking in

cold water and then hanging over the fire in a small pot hung in a larger one filled with water. Add five gallons of hot water to the mixture, stir well, and let it stand for a few days, covered from the dirt. It should be applied hot, for which purpose it can be kept in an improved portable furnace.

Make the Home Attractive.

In the list of questions propounded to the representative farmers of the nation in Country Life there is this one for the conclusion: "What, in your judgment, is the most important single thing to be done for the general betterment of country life?" My answer to this was as follows:—"Make the home more comfortable and attractive by the planting of evergreens, trees, fruits, flowers, etc." There are many farm homes where these conditions already exist to a gratifying extent, and such homes, I believe, will be found to contain by far the most contented and happy families of the rural communities.

It is an old horticultural axiom that "trees, fruits and flowers make happy homes." There must be, of course, other things to go with this. But where the substantial things of life are first provided, such as good buildings, a good outlook, good food, and good clothing, then the "finishing touches" of a home should be in making the house itself and the general surroundings beautiful.

True, there are many people who cannot appreciate beauty in its real estimate of value, but I imagine there are none of our respectable tillers of the soil but that would choose a home made attractive by horticultural surroundings in preference to the home that is bare of such adornments. The crowning glory of any real home is in the spirit of love and devotion to one another that rules within the life of each occupant.

The outside adornment of the home should, and does naturally, go with the true home spirit. The young people of our day are being educated along the lines of ornamenting and improving the home, and I believe the time is not far away when we will see a marked advance towards making our homes outwardly beautiful as well as comfortable. There are some simple things that can and should be done about the home, such as the cleaning up of the rubbish and weedy corners that are so common, and the fixing up of fences, including the repair and painting of farm buildings. One scarcely realizes how much these small things do towards making a farm home tidy and attractive. Then "clean up and fix up" may be a good motto for beginners in this work of home adornment.

Sugar Cured Pork.

This recipe has been used for years in Virginia, and is thoroughly reliable.

To sugar-cure hams and shoulders:—for every 80 pounds of ham or shoulders use 3 ounces saltpetter, 7 ounces brown sugar, 1 pint fine salt. Mix all three thoroughly and rub on outside of meat same day it is butchered. Lay meat on inclined surface for 24 hours to drain, where it cannot freeze. Then rub 2 quarts of salt on the 80 pounds; let it lie for 14 days on inclined surface, so that melting brine will not stand on meat. Hang up and dry or smoke, then pack for the summer. A broad board or swinging shelf in the cellar, with one end raised, and a tub or bucket to catch the drip, is the best place to keep the meat in the north; in this climate it will not freeze in the smoke house. Perhaps as good a way as any to keep it over the summer is to put each piece in a flour sack or a bag made for the purpose, and stuff all around the meat carefully with clean hay or straw, so that the meat in no place touches the bag. This will keep any inquisitive fly from reaching the meat, and also supplies ventilation and prevents molding.

Sugar-cured bacon can be prepared in the same way as hams and shoulders by using about 90 pounds of side meat, cut in strips, for the same amount of saltpetter, sugar and salt. Bacon prepared in this way is superior to the expensive sugar-cured breakfast bacon on the market.

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