

The Farm.

Sweet Pea Culture.

The ground is heavily manured in the fall and the manure spaded under. In the spring the soil is not disturbed more than is necessary to open up a furrow to receive the seed. Of course the planting is done as early as the ground can be worked. A furrow is made eight to ten inches wide and three inches deep. The seeds are scattered as evenly as possible over the bottom, allowing one ounce of seed for every ten feet of row. Then sow bone meal with the seed, at the rate of a quart to fifty feet of row. Next walk up and down the row tramping in the seed. Add two inches of soil and tramp down, then fill the furrow up with loose soil. The plants are not thinned out unless they are closer than an inch or so apart, for they do not need thinning if there is three feet or more in the clear between the rows. They are trained by driving stakes each side of the row and fastening wire or string to these six inches apart.

Treated in this way we have never failed to have vigorous, healthy vines, growing from six to eight feet tall and producing large flowers in great profusion. We literally pick sweet peas from our vines by the armful, and they have really been the easiest of all flowers for us to raise—(Vick's Illustrated Magazine.)

Effective Farm Work.

I asked a farmer who is eminently successful how he managed to get so much work done. He answered: "By not making any fuss about it; I always jot down every item to be done a good ways ahead of the time, and whenever I see any little thing out of place—a nail to be driven, black rot to be removed, or any such trifle—I do not allow it to get to be a great matter, but jot it down in my memoranda and put it into my pocketbook, not into my head. Then I never bother about such things, only each day I look over my slips and copy out what should be done very soon. Every morning jobs are assigned to each one of the family, and are generally given to them on slips of paper. Each one is then expected to attend to his own share of the work and the care. If I tried to remember and see to all the jobs done I should go to an insane asylum. As it is, weeds do not beat me; old brush does not lie around; killing worms is not put off till they have stripped half a dozen trees or half the currant bushes, trimming is done before half the strength of the trees is gone into superfluous shoots, and nothing crowds in general." He then showed me a list of work for a single day. It covered transplanting trees and shrubs, topping raspberries, cleaning stovepipe, repairing harness buckles, mending baskets, hooping a vinegar barrel and putting up birdhouses.

In this way a farmer gets an amazing amount of work done on time, while other farmers are always in a fret and worry and always behindhand.

Farm leaks are a subject that should be discussed at all of our institutes. It is not over-stating the case to say that four-fifths of the stock on our farms is scrub, or at least unfit to be classed as prime. This stock costs as much to feed and house, while the returns are from one-fifth to one-half what they should be. This is peculiarly true of horses as well as cows. I think that one of the largest leaks, however, is in the prevailing way of handling manure. Simply to haul it out from the yard in a raw state and spread it on the fields seems to be the only conception of the average farmer. I see daily drawn by loads of the freshest manure, and this is placed in small heaps all over a large farm. The result may be slightly to fertilize beneath each heap, but not over 5 percent of the possible value of this manure will be saved. Even for humus it is largely wasted. Were it all composted with other material and placed upon the fields after being properly decomposed, its value would be raised nine-tenths. Another leakage of no mean proportions comes from the exposure of animals to the weather.

The great improvement in barns has not been followed by proportionate improvements in sheds and improved yards.

Every pasture lot should be furnished with adequate shelters in the way of sheds and windbreaks.—(E. P. P.)

The North Dublin district council on Wednesday defeated a motion in favor of the presentation of an address to the Queen on her forthcoming visit to Ireland. At a public meeting held in Limerick on Wednesday a resolution to present an address to the Queen during her visit to Ireland was enthusiastically adopted.

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It Feeds and Braces the Nerves and
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Blood

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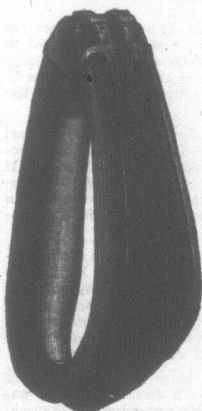
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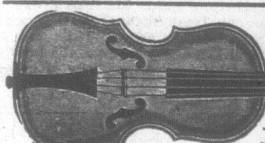
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