

* The Farm. *

PROFIT IN POULTRY.

"The Raleigh News and Observer" asserts that the hen crop of this country brings more dollars and cents to the people than the cotton crop, as it requires little capital, and is dependent upon skill and industry chiefly for its success; that in certain parts of North Carolina it has come to be a leading industry, and instead of only furnishing pin money, is now a money crop. These observations were inspired by the statement that during 1900 Dr. C. L. Killebrew sold in Rocky Mount more than fourteen hundred dozen eggs, the surplus product of his poultry yard, where he keeps more than three hundred fowls. Poultry may be raised in any part of the South, and in many parts it may be more than a contribution to the farm table. Near the largest towns and cities, or at points convenient to railroads and steamboat lines, giving ready access to larger markets, poultry raising may be made a paying business. It is rather exacting, to be sure; it demands skill and patience, but properly conducted it will pay.—(Southern Farm Magazine.

PLANT PEAS THICK AND DEEP.

I run my Planet, jr., No. 4 plough along the line stretched from stake to stake. In the furrow thus made drop a pint of seed to 50 feet of trench. Cover with the plough and firm the soil by working over it. The peas are thus sown thick about three inches deep. I find peas do better, the dwarf varieties anyway, when they stand thick in the row. They are also more thrifty and bear better when planted deep. Not over half the seed seems to germinate in any event.

I plant one row of peas early in April, another in two or three weeks, when the first planting is well up, and another two or three weeks later. This is done to secure sequence in maturity of the crop, and thus prolong the season during which we can enjoy this fine vegetable. My experience is that peas sold in market are usually hardly worth cooking, much less worth paying money for. I have found the pea essentially a spring crop, and never have any success with any sown after May 15. I always plant three rows side by side and two feet apart. When through bearing I remove the vines and plant turnips in place of them.—(B. S. Higley, in American Agriculturist.

WINTER MANURING.

I have seen quite a good deal of late in "The New-England Farmer" in regard to spreading manure in winter and would like to give my experience in regard to it.

FEET OUT. Curious Habits.

When a person has to keep the feet out from under cover during the coldest nights in winter because of the heat and prickly sensation, it is time that coffee, which causes the trouble, be left off.

There is no end to the nervous conditions that coffee will produce. It shows in one way in one person and in another way in another. In this case the lady lived in Vermillion, S. Dakota.

She says, "I have had to lie awake half the night with my feet and limbs out of the bed on the coldest nights, and feel afraid to sleep for fear of catching cold. I had been troubled for years with twitching and jerking of the lower limbs, and for most of the time I have been unable to go to church or to lectures because of that awful feeling that I must keep on the move.

When it was brought to my attention that coffee caused so many nervous diseases I concluded to drop coffee and take Postum Food Coffee to see if my trouble was caused by coffee drinking. I only drank one cup of coffee for breakfast but that was enough to do the business for me. When I quit it my troubles disappeared in an almost miraculous way. Now I have no more of the jerking and twitching and can sleep with any amount of bedding over me and sleep all night, in sound, peaceful rest.

Postum Food Coffee is absolutely worth its weight in gold to me." This lady's name can be given on application to the Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., Battle Creek, Mich.

A few years ago when on Long Island I ploughed a piece of wornout land in the fall and the next winter spread about ten tons of city manure to the acre. I harrowed this piece once a week from the first week in April to the second week in May, harrowing it six times. Then I planted it to white Southern corn, using three pecks of seed to the acre. I scattered in the drill about three hundred pounds of phosphate.

The piece was harrowed just before the corn came up and several times after. The corn grew finely from first to last. Five measured acres gave 227 tons of ensilage. I saved but five acres; as we could buy cornmeal at \$14 a ton I thought it better to plant quite thick and put some meal with the ensilage. I did not use a hand hoe on this piece, though on one end I had two men pull a few weeds. It was the finest piece of corn I ever saw. The manure spread on was quite strawy, but freezing and thawing through the winter, with the harrowing it got, cut it up so it was fine and just right for the corn roots to get nourishment from.—(R. S. Davis, in New-England Farmer.

FARM TENANTRY.

The knowledge that there has been an unprecedented increase in farm tenantry in the United States during the last ten years produced a decided shock. That there should be any increase would have surprised most people, but when it is said, to quote L. G. Powers, chief of the agricultural division of the census department, that "it is an actual and relative increase of tenant-operated farms that has never been equalled since statistics have been collected is more than surprising; it approaches the appalling.

During the decade the number of farms increased largely, due in large measure to the taking up of public lands. These farms are in the hands of proprietors, of course, even though title to many of them is not yet secured. But for this largely increased number of new and owned (?) farms the percentage of tenantry would have been much larger. But at all events the figures disclose the marvellous speed we are making in this new country with its yet cheap lands toward the landlord-and-tenant, the aristocrat-and-peasant condition of European countries. The home owner has always been regarded the surest bulwark of national solidity and long life, and therefore the conclusion must be that decreasing home owners signify an opposite national condition.—(Farm, Stock and Home.

EARLY PASTURAGE.

The first grass in spring is watery and has very little nutrition in it, partly because it is usually to be found on the lowlands, where the better grades of grasses do not grow. Yet we used to like to get cattle and sheep into it as soon as it was large enough to give them a fair bite, as such grass is poor at the best, and almost worthless after it gets tough and harsh. But we never depend much upon it as food for them, expecting for its succulent qualities. We fed as much hay and grain the morning before we let them into pasture as if they were to remain in the yard. Then we took them in early, and at night they were fed at the barn again.

The green grass loosened the bowels, perhaps we had a little more milk, or a little thriftier growth, but it made the change from hay to pasture more gradual, and they seemed to relish it, especially if the roots were all gone, as they usually were likely to be at that season. That was before the days of silo, and if we had one well filled we might think it better now to feed ensilage, and let the hog grass grow to be used as bedding, or to be used as a covering for strawberries or spinach, or as a mulch for some other crops.—(American Cultivator.

Masons and carpenters at Portland, Me., are to strike for an eight-hour day.

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1878	145,922.67	24,124.38	170,047.05	456,839.39	5,344,249.53
1883	309,376.60	64,006.01	373,382.61	1,149,427.40	11,018,625.00
1888	512,005.46	129,672.17	641,677.63	2,542,041.75	16,616,360.50
1893	796,505.04	185,894.86	982,399.90	4,520,133.04	24,288,690.00
1898	965,626.36	265,571.03	1,231,197.39	6,825,116.81	29,521,189.00
1900	1063748.59	329121.84	1392870.43	7799983.89	32171215.00

Cash Surplus above all liabilities, Government Standard . . . \$505,546.25
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