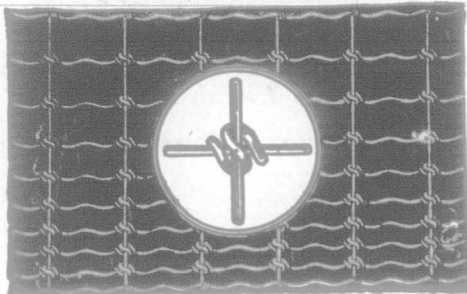


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GOSSIP.

A young Scotch advocate was sent over the Forth as junior in a licensing club case. He had to cross-examine the certifying justice, who was very diffuse and rather evasive in his answers. "Speak a little more simply, and to the point, please," said counsel, mildly—"you are a little ambiguous, you know." "I am not, sir," replied the witness, indignantly, "I have been strict teetotal for a year!"

"I'm worried about that young man," said Colonel Stilwell, confidentially, to the hostess, who had introduced him to a rising young astronomer.

"Why?"

"He looked up at the sky and commenced talking about seeing dragons and great bears, and a lot of things, till I took the liberty of telling him that people who can't use things in moderation ought to let 'em alone."

According to information received from Austria, chemists have succeeded in creating a new substance from skimmed milk, the invention being known as galalith or milk stone, which is nothing more than petrified milk.

By a chemical process the casein is precipitated as a yellowish-brown powder, which is mixed with formalin. Thereby a hornlike product is formed called milk-stone. This substance, with various admixtures, forms a substitute for horn, turtle-shell, ivory, celluloid, marble, amber, and hard rubber. Handles for knives and forks, paper cutters, crayons, pipes, cigar-holders, seals, marble, stone ornaments, and billiard balls are now made of skimmed milk. The insolubility of galalith, its easy-working, elasticity, and proof against fire, make it very desirable. Already 20,000 quarts of skimmed milk are daily used for this purpose in Austria.

A story is told of an old family servant on a Louisiana plantation whose devotion to his mistress was exceeded only by his inability to tell the truth. "Jim" would never tell the truth when he could possibly conjure up a lie that would do pretty nearly as well.

One day his mistress lost her temper, and, summoning the aged retainer, she rated him soundly. "Jim," she said, "you have been on this place ever since before I can remember, and ever since I can remember you've been the most unmitigated liar I have ever known. To my own knowledge, you've been promising these forty years past that you'd learn to tell the truth, but you never learn. Now, I want to know, once for all, will you or will you not, in one single instance, tell me the truth?"

"Deed, Miss Lizzie," Jim answered, his head hung in shame, "I'll try; but yoo mus' 'member I was bo'n in dis fambly, and I 'spect I'se 'herited some of de fambly traits."

Old Gorgon Graham, of the Union Stock Yards, in his letters to his son, Pierpont, published in the Philadelphia Post, tells of a horse dealer, named Bill Harkness, who had a theory that the ten commandments were suspended while a horse trade was going on, so he did most of his business with strangers. Caught a Northerner nosing round his barn one day, and inside of ten minutes the fellow was driving off behind what Bill described as "the pearstest piece of ginger and cayenne in Pike County." Bill just made a free gift of it to the Yankee, he said, but to keep the transaction from being a piece of pure charity he accepted fifty dollars from him.

The stranger drove all over town bragging of his bargain, until some one casually called his attention to the fact that the mare was stone-blind. Then he hiked back to Bill's and went for him in broken Bostonese, winding up with:

"Didn't you know the horse was blind? Why didn't you tell me?"

"Yep," Bill bit off from his piece of store plug; "I reckon I knew the hoss was blind, but you see the feller I bought her of"—and he paused to settle his chaw—"asked me not to mention it. You wouldn't have me violate a confidence as affected the repertashun of a pore dumb critter, and her of the opposite sect?" And the gallant Bill turned scornfully away from the stranger.

There are many Cream Separators, each representing to be just as good as the NATIONAL. They are not, but, like all counterfeits, lack its distinctive and remarkable qualities. Send for the National catalogue, and insist upon getting the best.

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GOSSIP.

"I wasn't always in this condition," said the ossified man in the dime museum.

"How did it happen?" asked the obese lady.

"A girl once gave me the marble heart and it spread," explained the hardened freak.

A working man who was in the habit of taking too much drink came down to breakfast one morning, and told his family that he did not rest at all well on the previous night, owing to his having had a horrible dream. He dreamed that there were three rats sitting on his chest all night. One was a fat rat, the second was a lean rat, and the third was a blind rat. "I can tell you what that means, father," said a youthful scion of the household. "The fat rat is the publican, who gets all your money; the lean rat is mother and me, who often have to go without food, and the blind rat is you, father, who cannot see that you are spending your money foolishly."

A newcomer to our advertising columns is the Prussian Stock Food Co., of St. Paul, Minn., and if this company is a fair sample of the American invasion, we shall not prepare to repel invaders. This company puts many preparations on the market, the principal ones being the stock food and the poultry food. These are the days when people use the condimental preparations as part of the livestock diet, with a view to getting the animal organization to use economically and profitably the food supplied. Expensive foods are largely wasted unless assimilated, and it is for this reason that the farmer nowadays goes in so extensively for such preparations as referred to. A trial of the Prussian Co.'s preparations is suggested. The Manufacturers claim to use only purest ingredients in the preparations advertised by them. They make strong claims for their heave powders.

WAR ON RANGE DISEASES.

Range reports show that sheep scab has been all but suppressed, the vigorous dipping campaign inaugurated by the Department of Animal Industry having proved effective. The pending campaign is for the eradication of mange, which even now threatens the herds of the trans-Missouri country.

Veterinarians are confident that range bovine and ovine diseases can be easily suppressed; in fact, there can be no reason advanced why they should exist. The dipping vat is a panacea beyond all doubt.—[Live-stock World.]

DOCKING PROHIBITED.

The Iowa House of Representatives has passed a bill to forbid docking horses in Iowa. The committee on animal industry has reported adversely to the bill, but a minority report favored the bill. The minority report was submitted and then an effort was made to amend the bill by attaching to it a provision in relation to high-checking of horses, but the Speaker ruled this out. The bill then passed by a vote of 68 to 13. During the course of the debate an attack was made on the agent of the American Humane Society, who had been at work for the bill, by accusing her of representing certain firms in Chicago engaged in horse docking, and declaring that the purpose of the bill was to prevent competition in Iowa.

ONE REMEDY FOR SICK PIGS.

A writer to an English exchange says: "I have only one remedy for a sick pig, and it is a very simple one. Rheumatism, paralysis, blind staggers, thumps, scours, etc., I treat all alike, though in varying proportions. My cureall is nothing more than fresh, new milk and turpentine. For a young pig, say six weeks old, I administer a teaspoonful of turpentine in say a half pint of milk. Unless the pig is very sick it will readily drink this. If too far gone to drink, it must be administered with a spoon. An older pig, however, will seldom refuse new milk, even when a tablespoonful is given in a quart or more. Grade the dose from a teaspoonful at six weeks to a tablespoonful or more for a mature hog."

In answering any advertisement on this page, kindly mention the FARMER'S ADVOCATE.