

The Farm.

VALUE OF THE FARM SEPARATOR.

The value of the farm separator to the private dairyman has already passed the experimental stage. The evidence of our experimental stations and the testimony of all who have a careful, intelligent, comparison between the gravity system and the modern cream separator is practically a unit in favor of the latter for the private dairyman. The question as to its advantages in localities where creameries are established is one upon which there is much difference of opinion. The most serious problem confronting creameries at this time is that of operating expenses. This applies alike to creamery and patron; whether under co-operative or proprietary management it makes but little difference. All are vitally interested in the expense account. If the Eastern creamery enjoys a patronage of from 10,000 to 30,000 pounds of milk a day, while many of our creameries are running along at from 3,000 to 5,000 pounds, possess on account of our cheaper dairy foods in the increased cost of operating. Evidently, as long as present conditions exist some system of centralization is inevitable.

The farm separator, we think, will assist greatly in solving the problem. It means a minimum of labor with a maximum of profit. The product is carried in condensed form from the patron to the creamery. In our State, dairying is incidental to beef and pork production. The conditions at times are peculiar and perplexing. The farmer has a way of putting the creamery on half rations of milk. When times and crops are good, it is no uncommon thing to find him at milking time quietly sitting on the fence with a complacent smile upon his countenance, as he watches the calf do the milking, but when reverses come, the cow and the creamery are counted among his best friends and assets. Where large investments are made in skimming stations, and these spells strike the patrons, it often proves very disastrous to the management, as they feel compelled to keep running, though the patronage has gone below any chance of profit. We feel safe in saying that fully one-third of the skimming stations in this State from October to May do not pay running expenses. It is in these localities where the farm separator will prove of the greatest benefit. If the patronage is light, then the expense is correspondingly light. We place the average cost of a skimming station at \$1,000 and the average cost of operating at \$600 per annum. This, of course, will include interest, taxes, insurance, breakage, wear and tear, labor and fuel. Many stations now running in Kansas do not average over 1,500 pounds of milk every other day during the fall and winter. Forty cows at

twenty pounds of milk a day per cow will produce 1,600 pounds of milk in two days. Here is an investment, then, of \$1,000, with \$50 a month expense to handle the milk of forty cows.

At points where the patronage is liberal, any radical change would not be advisable. It will to a great extent work its own way. But at these weaker, non-paying stations much good can be accomplished by the use of the farm separator, especially in territory where the distance is too great to haul milk. True, to carry out this plan the farmer must make an investment for which he is simply compensated in the increased value of the skim milk and the convenience of having it on the farm morning and evening to be fed while warm, sweet and fresh and in the best possible condition to the young animal. The milk patron often suffers a severe loss on account of his Sunday's milk during the heated term. He also loses again by feeding new milk to the calf for six or eight weeks on account of the danger incurred in feeding the creamery milk. Where milk is fed from the farm separator by careful management and the use of Kaffin cornmeal, the calf can be put upon the skimmed milk at fifteen days old. It has been our experience that the patrons with from ten to fifteen cows save enough in one year to pay for a \$100 machine.—(George Morgan, before the Kansas Board of Agriculture.)

THE DORSET HORNED SHEEP.

The Dorset horned sheep are the brightest looking and most beautiful of the sheep species. They are among the oldest breeds of English sheep. The name of the breed is derived from Dorsetshire, England. They were originally small and hardy animals, capable of subsisting upon poor pastures, and noted for excellence as mothers and for being prolific, giving birth almost uniformly to twins. It is about half a century since they were first exhibited in the show yards of England, but the intelligent breeders have doubled the size and weight of wool, and improved both the quality of wool and mutton, while they have maintained their hardiness, health and excellence. These sheep bring ten times former prices.

The ewes breed at all times when not in lamb, yielding offspring twice a year, and generally giving twins and often three lambs at a birth, thus increasing the flock nearly twice as fast as most other breeds. This severe strain must result in deterioration if persisted in for a long time. The lambs are relatively large, and the mothers are heavy milkers; thus the lambs come to market at an early age. Six-month-old ewe lambs often weigh 125 pounds and bucks at the same age 138 pounds. Ewes, after suckling twins, grow fat on pasture, and this condition does not interfere with their breeding. Ewes shear six pounds and rams ten pounds of fine wool.

M. A. Cooper, secretary of the Dorset Horned Sheep Breeders' Association of America, and publisher of "The Dorset Courier," Washington, Penn., informed me that the association has 196 members in twenty-eight States, and in Canada and in Nova Scotia, and has issued 9,254 certificates. The association was only formed on March 31, 1891.

As mutton sheep the Dorsets hold a high position. The meat is of excellent flavor, and the hindquarters large and full. As to wool, they rank as "middle wool sheep." The lambs' wool is white, fine and superior.

This is the description and requirement of the association: A well bred Dorset should have a white and full face, pink nose and lips, white and rather short legs, a long body, a short, well set neck, brisket well forward, full shoulders, a straight and broad back, ribs well sprung and deep, heavy thigh. There should be a tuft of wool on the forehead, and the lower part of the body well woolled.

These descriptions and qualities of the Dorsets specially commend them to farmers who cater to the increasing demand for early spring lambs.

The illustration is from Curtis's valuable book, "Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Swine." These beautiful sheep belonged to the very flock I saw at Valancy E. Fuller's, at Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, inspected in the company of Mr. Fuller and his venerable father, the bishop.—(Dr. A. S. Heath.)

HARD TO BREAK.

But the Coffee Habit Can be Put Off.

"I was a coffee user from early childhood but it finally made me so nervous that I spent a great many sleepless nights, starting at every sound I heard and suffering with a continual dull headache. My hands trembled and I was also troubled with shortness of breath and palpitation of the heart. The whole system showed a poisoned condition and I was told to leave off coffee, for that was the cause of it. I was unable to break myself of the habit until some one induced me to try Postum Food Coffee.

The first trial, the Food Coffee was flat and tasteless and I thought it was horrid stuff, but my friend urged me to try again and let it boil longer. This time I had a very delightful beverage and have been enjoying it ever since, and am now in a very greatly improved condition of health.

My brother is also using Postum instead of coffee and a friend of ours, Mr. W., who was a great coffee user, found himself growing more and more nervous and was troubled at times with dizzy spells. His wife suffered with nausea and indigestion, also from coffee. They left it off and have been using Postum Food Coffee for some time and are now in a perfect condition of health." Grace C. M., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Put a piece of butter in the pot, the size of two pats to prevent boiling over.

THE BOYS WANTED.

"I want a young man to go into my office," said a busy man of affairs to the head of a high school not long ago "and my requirements are very simple. I want an earnest, industrious boy, who can spell well, write a good hand, possess at least a fair knowledge, and who can carry out intelligently the directions that are given to him.

"Your requirements are hard to meet," replied the teacher.

"Plenty of boys are looking for positions, but few of them like the conditions you impose. They do not think it worth while to learn to spell; we do everything in this school to persuade them of the importance of the accomplishment; but the boys hear of great and successful men who cannot spell, and many of them are led to think that they may get along in the world without that accomplishment. Others do not rely on the persistent work of acquiring a good hand writing, or of learning to run the typewriter skillfully, which is now so necessary in many lines of work. They want easier roads to success."

It is to be hoped that this teacher takes an unnecessarily gloomy view of the boys of the present generation. He doubtless does. It is the testimony, however, of all employers that only a small part of the young men seeking positions comprehend the real seriousness of life's competition, and the necessity of preparation in these seeming trifles which count toward perfection.—Montreal Witness.

PUSH 'EM UP.

It was a long, alippery, steep hill, covered with snow and ice, and the old darkey and the mule and the heavily laden cart were toiling up. They were on the car track in the hope of making the climb easier, but could only creep along; and then—here came the electric car whizzing up behind, with its clanging bell and impatient passengers. When the car had come to a standstill behind him the old man got out as nimble as his well-wrapped feet—two bundles of rags—would let him, and with his thin old coat blowing about in the sharp wind, vainly tried to urge the mule on. At last he called out, "Boss, dat mule can do no mo' den he is doin. He's pullin', sah, with all his might."

There was some grumbling among the passengers. All at once the idea struck the conductor: "Let's hitch on and push 'em up the hill."

So he told the old darkey to take his seat again, and slowly the electric car was moved up against the pole that projected from the cart's back. Then, with the electricity turned on, darkey and mule and cart were soon speeding up the hill. The mule pricked up his ears and expressed astonishment from his head to the tip of his tail, while the smile on the old darkey's face will long be remembered.

Be patient with the weary, the weak and old. Whenever you have a chance, hitch on the electric car of your youth and strength and give a push up the hill of life.—Mrs. E. Y. Mullins.

How to Remove Stain.—All stains should be removed before the articles are put in the wash-tub. The sooner a stain is treated the more readily it will yield to treatment. Pour boiling water through fruit stains; when obstinate soak in a solution of oxalic acid. Wash vaseline stains in alcohol; paint in turpentine or alcohol; varnish, in alcohol or green vegetable stains, in alcohol, kerosene or molasses; for stains from blood, meat juice use white of egg in cold water. In the case of milk, cream, sugar or syrup stains soak in cold water and wash with soap and cold water. Tar, wheel grease or machine oil stains should be rubbed with lard and allowed to stand a few minutes, then they should be washed with soap and cold water. Tea, coffee or cocoa stains should be removed with boiling water; if obstinate, with a weak solution of oxalic acid.

The crisis in the ranks of the Liberal party in England has reached an acute stage. This fact was publicly admitted and deplored by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the leader of the party, in a search at Southampton Tuesday night. Although the rumors that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman has already resigned the leadership of the party are premature, a meeting of the party has been suddenly convened for next Tuesday, when it is expected he will offer his resignation. The Imperialist section of the Liberal party, headed by Herbert H. Asquith, former Liberal home secretary, has been doing its utmost to enlist Lord Rosebery on its side, but up to the present time the latter has made no sign of meeting its desires.

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is what is needed to repair waste, to give tone to the nerves, quicken the weary brain, and replace lassitude and weakness with health and vigor. The increase in weight, the firm step, the bright eye, and blooming cheek proclaim a cure.

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Baltimore Sun; Russia is simply paying back the United States in the latter's own coin. If we do not like the coin it is no fault of the Czar's government, for it is of our own minting—the extravagantly lauded, overvalued coin of protection. It is no use for our protection friends to get angry at Russia or to denounce every American who does not assert that the Czar's government has committed an unjustifiable act. It is simply a case where, the biter has been bit. The sensible way to avoid such trade disturbance is to adopt and practice the principle to give and take—to make concessions to Russia if we expect to retain concessions from the Czar's government.

The Canadian government has not had full details of the flag incident at Skagway, but the customs department is inclined to think its importance much overstated. The office at Skagway is not a customs house, and we have no collector of customs there, but what is known as a transit officer, who inspects shipments designed to pass in bond through the strip of territory now held by the Americans to the Canadian Yukon beyond. By this system delay is prevented of goods being held up for customs examination across the White Pass Railway. Similar offices exist at Portland, Chicago and elsewhere, and American transit officers affix seals to shipments from Canadian points. Flags are not usually flown on these offices.