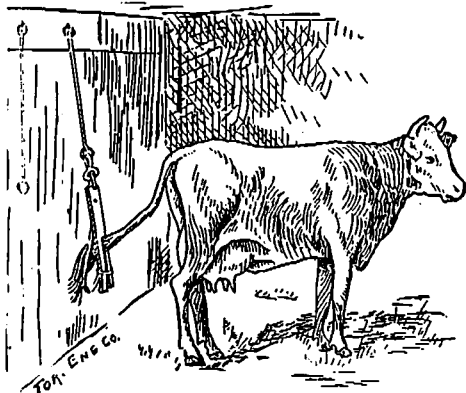


Cibe Stock.

A Milking Device.

The air is swarming with flies, bringing a return of the vexations with which milkers are all so familiar. The plan shown does not mean that one has to hitch the cow by the tail to hold her while he milks. The device is designed to be used in the stables to keep the cow's tail out of the pail and out of the milker's face, which is usually the second



place she wishes to put it. It is made of a small piece of hickory, with a long, deep notch sawed in one end. A clinched nail or screw keeps it from splitting further. The long hair or brush of the tail is slipped between the prongs, and the ring is slipped over the ends, thus securely fastening it. The ring is fastened to some part of the stick with a string long enough to permit its being put in place readily. Strapped to the upper end of the stick is a snap into which is slipped another ring at the end of a small rope attached to the wall behind the cow. When the milking is finished, with one hand slip the lower ring off the prongs and the whole will drop back against the side of the stable, and the tail be free. Small ropes, with rings at the end, are fastened along the back of the stable midway between two cows, one answering for both. The fastener is unsnapped and moved from ring to ring as needed. This is valuable not only as an aid in fly-time, but as a cause of additional cleanliness, which at some seasons is the greater benefit.

SWEET milk is always best for pigs as it has more food value than sour milk, but it may not digest so rapidly. There is danger in sour milk from over fermentation, and animals are sometimes made sick by excess of fermentation and die. There is no such danger in sweet milk.

WHEN it is possible to avoid, neither the brood sows nor the growing pigs should be confined during the summer. If it can possibly be done give them the range of a good pasture at least during the next two months. They will keep so much healthier and thrive so much better that this plan can readily be made profitable.

SHEEP must have plenty of room and fresh air. If crowded on a field the ground soon becomes foul with droppings, and this tends to cause disease. There is no tendency in sheep "to develop disease," naturally. It is the fault of the shepherd when a flock becomes diseased, and crowding is the worst of all faults.

It is better to water cows after feeding, and give food dry. A ruminating animal does not want its regular food in a sloppy form. There should be full mastication in order to secure a full secretion of saliva or the discharges from the glands which are situated on each side of the base of the tongue and the mouth, which fluids perform an important part in the processes of digestion. They begin the work, and each set of glands secretes a different fluid, which acts on the food. This work is so important that a calf will do better on half the milk which it sucks than double the quantity it drinks.

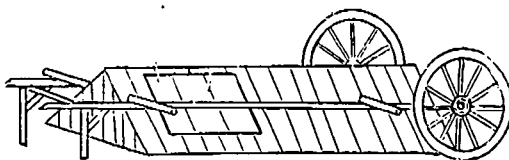
THE period of perfection or maturing will vary with cows. When the turning point comes, and a cow begins to fail, it is not profitable to keep her for the dairy. She may, however be kept for a breeder. A cow will not fail with age simply, but her ability to eat and masticate will be lessened, and also her ability to convert food into the solids of milk. Old cows, as well as old people, should have very nutritious foods if they are expected to keep up their physical force.

AN English agricultural writer gives the following advice regarding the treatment of farm horses at this season: Farm horses, he says, are generally turned into the pastures or fed with green food in the yards at night or when not at work. Either of these plans is beneficial to hard-worked animals that have been living for months principally on dry food. The cool, green food acts as a natural medicine, purifying and giving tone to the system, and the feet of those turned into the pastures benefit by their cool surroundings. Under these circumstances, many people make the mistake of thinking that horses require less care and attention, and that the green food is sufficient for them, and so it is, if they are not required to work; but horses that have to work on the mowing and reaping machines, etc., should be allowed some grain, and be groomed and cleaned to remove the sweat and dust from their skins. Negligence in this respect often lays the foundation of future skin troubles. He is not in favor of giving them grain alone, but mixed with chaff. Many horses, too, are improperly watered, which is a fruitful source of stomach ailments. Water is often withheld during working hours, with the result that when allowed to go to the pond or drinking trough the horse drinks more than is good for it. A little water that has been exposed to the influence of sun and air rarely does any harm, even while the animal is at work, especially to those that are accustomed to it. For horses in the hay and harvest fields some water, with a little oatmeal stirred in it, is both nourishing and refreshing. Any one who has worked in a hay or harvest field must know how refreshing a drink is, and how much better he can work after one, than if tormented with thirst. The same applies to the horse. When horses leave off work for the day they should be allowed to cool before being watered, after which they may be fed and cleaned, and then turned into the field or yard. When the water supply is obtained from a spring or well it should be exposed to the influence of sun and air some hours before the animals drink it, as it is the icy coldness of such water that is injurious. The best way to attend to this is to fill up the drinking trough each time after the animals are watered.

The Poultry Yard.

How to Move Large Chicken Coops.

Poultry raisers have long agreed that a frequent change of site for the poultry houses is beneficial for both birds and the land, but it has usually ended here. The coops are too heavy for one man to move, especially when soaked with rain, and the time of two or more men needed to move a coop is so valuable that the regular changing of coops turns out to be but a pretty theory. How to speedily and cheaply shift them is shown in the accompanying sketch. A pair of strong wheels and an axle



MOVEABLE CHICKEN COOP.

have shafts attached that are long enough to reach the whole length of a coop and project for a brace rod and handles. The coops are built broad on the ground and sharp at the top, and are high enough to project one-third above the axle. When it is

necessary to move one, these long arms are drawn over it and rest on the sides two-thirds of the way from the ground. Wooden pins are then thrust through holes made for them in the peak and just above the arms at each end. One man can now raise the entire coop with fowls and transport it wherever desired, and at once with the same arrangement move a dozen similar coops, without any difficulty or loss of time.

LAY in a stock of road dust and gravel for next winter's use.

A GOOD shade convenient to the poultry house will add to the comfort of the fowls.

FEED the growing chicks well, for every day that they are not doing their best there is a loss.

EARLY in July is the best time of year for setting duck eggs. Set a goodly number and if set under hens, see that they are sprinkled every other morning.

THIS hot weather is just the best kind of a time for breeding lice. For the best results give them a frequent diet of whitewash and kerosene oil, applied with a force pump or a brush.

FEED lightly during the summer, and only such kinds of food as will not produce fat. Oats and barley, bran and middlings, and a little wheat, will be all that is necessary for fowls at liberty.

BREAD soaked in milk and squeezed dry makes one of the best feeds that can be supplied to young poultry. It is better fed in this way than if given sloppy. It can be fed on clean boards rather than in troughs.

FRESH water should be kept before the fowls at all times now. It is a good plan to put a drop of carbolic acid, or a small piece of copperas into the water every day, and to wash out the dish thoroughly and frequently.

DON'T forget to use plenty of air-slacked lime and crude carbolic acid about the poultry-houses and yards through the summer. Put an ounce of the acid into every gallon of whitewash, and use the latter at least every two weeks if you have many fowls.

GROW a lot of cabbage for next winter's supply of green food. Some of the second crop of clover put in a tight barrel—a silo in miniature—is also excellent. Next to these comes good, bright clover hay, cut fine and softened with steam or hot water when wanted for use.

EGGS to be fresh must be collected daily. At this season of the year the laying hens will keep the eggs so warm as to start incubation, and the eggs are stale when gathered. Very warm weather has the same influence on them. Keep your eggs cool, and, if for hatching, turn once every twenty-four hours.

OPEN sheds for roosting, are far superior to the regular henneries, for summer. The free currents of air passing through dries the droppings, the noxious properties being eliminated by evaporation; besides, the birds escape, in a great measure, the parasites of the old quarters, and they get pure air while perching.

To prevent hens from eating eggs, frequently give them raw meat for food, and be careful not to suffer broken eggs to lie within reach at all. Also have the nests in dark places, where the hens cannot easily see the eggs. Another safe way is to have the nests covered in such a way that the hen has not room enough to stand perfectly upright. The entrance should be from the side.