

HINTS FOR THE FARMER.

CARE OF THE TEAM IN SUMMER.

During the summer months farmers and teamsters are liable to have more or less difficulty in keeping the shoulders and necks of their teams from becoming galled and sore. The hotter the weather the more care is necessary. With proper care and vigilance, much of the difficulty can be prevented, and prevention is better than cure. Ill-fitting collars and harness are a fruitful cause of sore shoulders and necks. The collar should fit the neck snug and tight, like a glove fits the hand, with room enough at the bottom to allow the open hand to pass readily inside of it. To secure a perfect fit is of the utmost importance. Frequently collars are purchased during the winter or early spring when the horses are in good flesh. With regular work the team loses weight and as a consequence the collars are too large. Unless carefully watched, and the collar adjusted, the shoulders will become chafed and bruised. It is a good plan to wash the shoulders and neck with cold water every evening, when commencing work in the spring or during hot weather. The addition of salt or alum to the water will make it more effective in preventing any soreness. It removes the inflammation and toughness the skin. I have found the use of a pad—either a hair-filled or a felt pad—advantageous in the case of a collar that is too large. The harness should fit the collar properly and be fastened tight against it. If the harness are not properly fitted the point of draft will not be at the proper place, and the point subject to extra pressure will soon become bruised. I prefer a canvas-faced, hair-filled collar without a neck-pad, to anything else I ever used. They are heavy at the bottom, but light at the top, and are made to unfasten at the top when putting on, which is a great improvement over the old way of slipping the collar over the head. The collar should be well cleaned every morning. All accumulations of sweat and dirt should be removed, leaving the surface perfectly smooth. Sore necks can usually be prevented by allowing no weight to rest upon them. Put springs under the wagon tongue to carry its weight, use no agricultural implement that is not balanced. Let a team pull the weight, but never carry any of it on their necks. Frequent backing without the use of breeching and choke straps will also cause sore necks. Either have the horses properly harnessed or do not force them to back with a load. The style of breeching called hip breeching is serviceable, light and inexpensive. Make the team as comfortable as possible at all times, especially in hot weather. Use harness as light as consistent with the work required, and have them well fitted. Harness should be clean and oiled frequently, using less oil, however, than at other seasons, as liberal oiling has a tendency to make the harness hotter than they would otherwise be. Neat-foot oil is preferable to any other as it will not become gummy.

THE FARMER-BOY.

And in all things be careful that you keep up to the letter of your agreements with your boy. Do not think that because he is a boy you can violate a bargain made with him any more than you would violate one made with a man.

Keep yourself and your boy out of neighborhood feuds. Life is too short to be spent in profitless dissensions. Better suffer wrong than to bristle with indignation over every little fancied slight or injustice, like the porcupine.

By and by your boy will fall in love. It is the inevitable fate, and you need not be surprised at it, and you certainly should not be indignant because of it. And when that time comes, let your boy choose for himself. You would not have wanted that boy's grandfather to do the courting for you. And when he marries the girl of his choice and brings her home to the farm, make her welcome, and treat her with the kindness and consideration you want shown to one of your own daughters when she goes out from the home nest to try her fortunes in the home of her husband's people.

And lastly, but not least, see to it that the health of the women of your household is not ruined by work and cares all too many for them to carry. Never allow them to go to an outside well for water; to split kindlings; to milk cows; to feed hogs; to scrub unpainted floors; to toil long into the hot afternoons, when delicate and sensitive nerves need rest and relaxation.

We know from bitter experience that the hired girl is not perfect, and that the presence in the kitchen of the thrifty housewife is often a vexation of spirit, but she is a necessary evil, and your wife needs her, and must get reconciled to her.

Every mother of a family needs hours of quiet rest—hours for reading, for relaxation, and for thought—that she may train up her boy to ways of truth and home, and be able to make home

so delightful to him that no outside attraction will be powerful enough to draw him away from it.

And may God speed the day when some wise old way shall be again honored and respected, and it shall be the pride of the young men of the not far distant future to be able to say: "This farm has been in my family for more than two centuries, and God helping me, it shall never go out of the name while I live."

TREATMENT FOR PEAR BLIGHT.

This trouble is due to a bacterial disease, the germs of which enter the tree through the flower or breaks in the bark. The young inner bark and the cambium layer are most seriously affected. Situated beneath the bark, it is impossible to check the trouble by spraying. When any particular part becomes affected, as indicated by the blackened leaves, cut off some distance below the injury and burn. Thorough work should be done after the growing period. This is by no means a sure preventive, but it is about the only method of checking the disease.

In a succulent, rapidly growing tree the blight bacteria find more favorable conditions of growth than one which develops more slowly and vigorously. A succulent growth induced by severe pruning should be avoided. Experiments have proven that withholding water from potted trees has checked the progress of the disease. In addition to pear trees, this blight attacks the apple, crab, quince, mountain ash, service berry and several species of hawthorn.

EXTREMES IN FEEDING STOCK.

Extremes are dangerous. One class of farmers do not feed enough for profit, especially after grass is gone, while the other class believes in the theory of "the more feed the more product." Both are wrong. An animal may consume more food than it can digest, making the product expensive. Feeding depends on variety. Too much corn or ground grain in the summer season will cause bowel difficulty, and an excess in winter without the addition of bulky material gives no corresponding benefit, as it is voided. Give the animals a sufficiency, but not exclusively of one kind of food.

IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

The native women of the Philippine Islands are generally very pretty and engaging, with supple figures, beautiful eyes shadowed by long lashes and luxuriant black hair. Their hair may be said with truth to be their glory and they devote much time to its care anointing it with coconut oil and cleaning it with lemon juice. Some of the women wear it hanging down their backs, others build it up in a high knot on the top of the head, which is held in place by a gold comb and ornamented with fancy pins or a bunch of flowers. They wear bonnets and hats, but carry parasols for protection. Most all of the women have fine eyes and feet of which they are very proud. They never wear stockings, but increase their feet in embroidered slippers without heels. They allow the thumb nail of the right hand to grow very large, which assists them in playing the guitar, their favorite instrument. The blouse of the Tagal woman consists of a little skirt made of pino cloth. It is worn loose, and reaches to the waist. The skirt consists of silk, either striped or checked. In the street sometimes is worn a tapiz, or shawl, wrapped tightly around the loins. A profusion of jewelry of all kinds is an important part of the Tagal woman's toilet. Over a neatly folded neckchief is worn a crucifix, or a little bag containing relics, suspended by a chain. Philippine women of all ages smoke long cigars, chew the betel nut, dance, swim and ride, but the great ambition of every woman is to possess a dress, a scarf at least of the famous pino cloth, which it will be remembered is made from the fiber of the pineapple leaf and is quite expensive.

The most important industry that the women of the Philippines are engaged in is tobacco. Women alone are employed to make charutos, and there are no less than 4,000 women busy in the Manila factories. Men make the cigarillos, or small cigars, which are smoked by the natives. Women make all of the cigars. It is estimated that 21,000 women find employment in this business, and only 1,500 men. Each room of the enormous factories contains from 800 to 1,000 women, all of whom are seated tailor-fashion on the floor. At intervals are placed little round tables, and at every one is seated a matron whose duty it is to watch over the dozen or so young women and girls. The noise is maddening, as stoves are used for heating out the leaf. A cigar-maker earns from \$6 to \$10 a month, which is quite sufficient to provide her with necessary comforts and leaves a balance for dress. The married women, whose husbands earn their living for them in the field or factory, keep house in a primitive fashion. The patriarchal custom of making the lover serve in the house of his intended bride's father is universal in the Philippines. When marriages take place there is usually a feast of several days, and the bride of 15 years is taken to the small house which her husband has built with his own hands.

SPAIN AND THE STATES.

FIFTEEN WEEKS OF WAR BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

What Was Transpired Since the Battleship Maine Entered the Harbour of Havana—Interesting Diary.

January 24, 1898.—The battleship Maine ordered to Havana.

February 9.—The De Lome letter published.

February 10.—Senor De Lome resigns and his resignation accepted at Madrid.

February 15.—Destruction of the Maine in the harbor of Havana.

March 8.—Congress votes unanimously and without debate for a defence fund of \$50,000,000.

March 28.—United States Board of Inquiry reports that the Maine was blown up by an external mine.

April 11.—President McKinley sends his Cuban message to Congress.

April 20.—The Government sends its ultimatum to Spain, and the Queen Regent opens the Cortes with a warlike speech. The Spanish Minister at Washington asks for his passports.

April 21.—General Woodford asks for his passports at Madrid and leaves for Paris.

April 22.—War opens with the Nashville's capture of the Buena Ventura and the New York's capture of the Pedro. Havana harbor declared in a state of blockade.

April 23.—President's call for 125,000 volunteers.

April 24.—Spain declares war.

April 25.—Congress declares that war began April 21 by act of Spain. States called upon for their quota of troops.

April 26.—Chairman Dingley reports war revenue bill to the House. Great Britain publishes her neutrality, dated April 23, reciting that "a state of war unhappily exists," etc. Spain appeals to the powers.

April 27.—Matanzas earthworks shell off and silenced by the New York, Puritan and Cincinnati. Steamer Guido made a prize by monitor Terror. Dewey's Asiatic squadron sails from Mirs Bay to Manila and the Spanish fleet leaves Manila to meet him.

April 28.—Congress agrees to a naval appropriation bill of nearly \$47,000,000.

April 29.—House passes bill for popular bond issue of \$500,000,000. Naval bill passes the Senate. Spanish fleet leaves Cape Verde Islands.

May 1.—Spanish fleet demolished by Commodore Dewey in the Bay of Manila. Eleven Spanish warships completely destroyed.

May 4.—The fighting ships of Admiral Sampson's squadron sailed from Key West, after preparing for a long stay at sea.

May 10.—The Spanish Cortes voted the war credits.

May 11.—Major-General Merritt was ordered to the Philippine Islands as Military Governor.

May 12.—News was received of the arrival of the Spanish Cape Verde squadron at Martinique, West Indies. The gunboat Wilmington, the torpedo boat Winslow and the auxiliary gunboat Hudson, while in Cardenas Bay, were attacked by Spanish batteries and gunboats. Ensign Bagley and four of the Winslow's crew were killed and the town of Cardenas was shelled.

May 13.—Rear-Admiral Sampson reported that he had bombarded the forts at San Juan, Porto Rico, with a loss of two men killed and six wounded, the American squadron being uninjured. The flying squadron, under Commodore Schley, sailed under secret orders from Hampton Roads. The St. Louis broke the cable between San Juan, Porto Rico, and St. Thomas.

May 14.—The Spanish fleet was reported at Curacao, off the Venezuelan coast, and Admiral Sampson was off Puerto Plata.

May 16.—The Spanish fleet left Curacao, and Admiral Sampson's fleet was reported off Cape Haytien.

May 18.—The Oregon was announced as safe by Secretary Long.

May 19.—Spain's Cape Verde fleet was reported to have reached Santiago de Cuba. Commodore Schley's fleet, which reached Key West Wednesday, was expected to leave for a secret destination.

May 22.—The cruiser Charleston sailed from San Francisco for Manila, via Honolulu.

May 24.—Admiral Cervera's fleet was reported bottled up in Santiago harbor by the American fleets. The Oregon arrived at Jupiter, Fla.

May 25.—The President called for 75,000 more volunteers. The transports Australia, City of Peking and City of Sydney, with 2,500 soldiers, left San Francisco for Manila.

May 26.—Commodore Schley reported sighting the Spanish fleet in Santiago harbor.

May 30.—Gen. Shafter was ordered to embark 15,000 or more troops at Tampa. Santiago was thought to be their destination.

May 31.—Spanish reports were received of the bombardment of Santiago ports by Commodore Schley.

June 1.—Details were received of the bombardment of the Santiago forts by Commodore Schley on May 31, with the Massachusetts, Iowa and New Orleans.

June 2.—The House of Representatives passed an urgent deficiency bill carrying nearly \$18,000,000 for war expenses.

June 4.—Admiral Sampson reported Naval Constructor R. P. Hobson, with a volunteer crew of seven men, had on June 3 sank the collier Merrimac in the Santiago harbor channel, shutting in Cervera's fleet. Hobson and his men were made prisoners. The Senate passed the war revenue bill by a vote of 48 to 28.

June 6.—Further bombardment of Santiago reported. The House sent the war revenue bill to conference concurring in Senate amendments.

June 7.—Admiral Sampson reported having silenced, on June 6, the Santiago fortifications without injury to American ships. The monitor Monterey and collier Brutus left San Francisco for Manila.

June 9.—The House agreed to the conference report on the war revenue bill.

June 10.—The Senate agreed to the conference report on the war revenue bill by vote of 43 to 22.

June 11.—Six hundred marines from the Panther, who had landed at Caimanera, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, on June 10, under protection from the Marblehead, were attacked by the Spaniards, four Americans being killed and several wounded or missing. The Spaniards retreated.

June 13.—The President signed the war revenue bill. The Santiago expedition, of over 15,000 troops, left Key West, conveyed by warships.

June 14.—Continued fighting at Caimanera was reported, two Americans and seventeen Spaniards being killed.

June 15.—The second expedition to Manila, on four transports, sailed from Manila. The Vesuvius fired her dynamite guns at Santiago forts for the first time, with destructive results.

June 16.—News came of a third bombardment of Santiago by Admiral Sampson's squadron. The Caimanera fort was reduced by the Texas, Suwanee and Marblehead.

June 17.—Admiral Dewey reported from Manila, under date of June 12, that the insurgents had practically surrounded Manila and had taken 2,500 Spanish prisoners. The Cadiz squadron sailed, and the vessels were seen passing Gibraltar, bound east.

June 18.—News was received of further shelling of Spaniards at Caimanera on June 17.

June 21.—News came of the arrival off Santiago de Cuba of Gen. Shafter's transport, with 15,000 troops, on June 20. Gen. Shafter and Rear Admiral Sampson landed at Acerraderos, Cuba, fifteen miles from Santiago, and conferred with Gen. Garcia.

June 22.—Official reports by cable from a station on the Cuban shore, near Caimanera, told of the landing of part of Gen. Shafter's troops at Daiquiri, near Santiago de Cuba, with little resistance.

June 23.—Landing shifted to Siboney and continued during the night by aid of St. Louis' searchlights. Admiral Camara's Cadiz fleet was reported off the island of Pantallaria, half way from Cadiz to Suez.

June 24.—Sixteen American soldiers were killed and about forty wounded in driving back the Spanish force near Santiago. Six of the killed were Roosevelt's Rough Riders.

June 26.—Admiral Camara's Cadiz fleet reached Port Said, Egypt, and awaited orders. Successful conclusion of the landing of the army by the navy in a surf at Daiquiri and Siboney without loss or injury of a single man.

June 27.—It was officially announced that Commodore Watson with a strong fleet would attack Spain's coasts.

June 28.—The President proclaimed a blockade of southern Cuba from Cape Frances to Cape Cruz, also of Porto Rico. Gen. Shafter reported that he was within three miles of Santiago. Capt. Sigbee, of the St. Paul, reported disabling the Terror at San Juan on June 22.

June 30.—Further advances toward Santiago of Gen. Shafter's army were reported.

July 1.—Gen. Shafter reported the beginning of a general assault on Santiago. Gen. Lawton's division carried El Caney, a suburb of the city, and the Roosevelt Rough Riders, with the First and Tenth Infantry, took San Juan, another suburb, after desperate fighting, with heavy losses.

July 2.—The Spaniards made unsuccessful efforts to retake San Juan. Admiral Sampson's fleet continued doing good damage.

July 3.—Admiral Cervera's squadron made a dash for liberty from Santiago harbor, but being headed off by Sampson's ships ran ashore and all were destroyed. The first Manila expedition was reported by Admiral Dewey to have joined him after stopping at the Ladrone Islands and capturing the Spanish officers there.

July 4.—Rear-Admiral Sampson reported the destruction of Admiral Cervera's entire fleet, the Vizcaya, Cristobal Colon, Oquendo, Maria Teresa, Pluton and Furor, in an effort to leave Santiago harbor. Gen. Shafter reported that he had demanded the surrender of Santiago, which had been refused.

July 5.—Camera's fleet entered the Suez canal; his three torpedo boat destroyers, however, started from Port Said back to Spain.

July 6.—The Senate voted to annex Hawaii. The President issued a proclamation of thanksgiving for victories, Hobson and his men were exchanged. The Texas sank the cruiser Reina Mercedes in Santiago harbor. The cruiser Alfonso XIII. was sunk in attempting to escape from Havana harbor. Camara and his fleet were ordered back to Spain from Suez.

July 7.—The President signed the Hawaiian annexation resolutions and the Philadelphia was ordered to go to Honolulu to raise the flag of the United States over the island. Admiral Dewey reported that the American troops of the first Manila expedition had landed at Cavita, and that on July 3 Aguinaldo had proclaimed himself President of the Philippine republic.

July 8.—The armistice between the United States and Spanish forces at

Santiago was extended until July 9 in order to allow Gen. Aguinaldo to communicate with Madrid. Admiral Dewey sent the Raleigh and Concord to Grande Island, Subig Bay, on information that the German cruiser Irene on the previous day had prevented the insurgents from attacking the Spanish garrison. The Irene left and the Spaniards surrendered.

July 9.—Gen. Shafter reported that the armistice at Santiago had been extended until 4 p.m., July 10.

July 10.—Santiago refused to surrender. Thousands of refugees left the city and sought American protection. The St. Louis reached Portsmouth, N. H., with 692 Spanish prisoners, including Admiral Cervera and Capt. Eulate, of the Vizcaya.

July 11.—Artillery attack on Santiago was reported to have begun. Gen. Miles reached Cuba.

July 12.—Gen. Trol again refused to surrender Santiago.

July 13.—Gen. Miles reported that a truce had been arranged until noon July 14 at Santiago.

July 14.—Gen. Trol surrendered Santiago city and about one-third of Santiago province to the American army under General Miles and Shafter on condition that his troops should be sent back to Spain.

July 16.—Gen. Shafter cabled that Gen. Trol, under authority from Madrid, had finally surrendered, the only condition being that the United States should send the soldiers back to Spain.

July 17.—The American flag was raised at noon over Santiago after the Spanish army had marched out and laid down its arms.

July 18.—The President issued a proclamation, which was sent to Gen. Shafter, ordering that the local regulations of the conquered territory should be disturbed as little as possible.

July 20.—Gen. Miles reported that he was ready to leave Guantanamo Bay with transports for Porto Rico, but that a naval convoy was lacking.

July 21.—Gen. Miles, with transports and a convoy left Guantanamo for Porto Rico. Gen. Calixto Garcia, of the Cuban army, near Santiago, formally resigned and withdrew his forces because of non-recognition by Gen. Shafter.

July 22.—Gen. Miles reported the progress of the Porto Rico expedition from Mole St. Nicholas, Hayti. Gen. Anderson at Manila reported that Aguinaldo had declared a dictatorship and that the Philippine natives expected independence.

July 23.—Two thousand Cubans at Santiago drew up a petition to President McKinley asking that Spanish officials at Santiago should be removed.

July 24.—Gen. Shafter reported that 3,000 Spanish troops at San Luis and Palma Soriano, in the surrender district, had laid down their arms to Lieut. Miley.

July 25.—Gen. Miles, with the Porto Rico expedition, began landing near Ponce, south coast. Gen. Merritt arrived at Manila and assumed command.

WORDS.

If the merely idle word is one day to be accounted for and judged, what of the untrue, the impure, the profane, the malignant and cruel words with which this earthly air is continually charged? Only a movement of the lips, a moment's stirring of the air, and all is silent, as though the word had never been spoken; yet a fellow-creature's happiness has been blighted; a heavy burden has been made still heavier to bear; a heart has been robbed of its guilelessness and trust; the seed has been sown of a career that ends in ruin and death. Those words are not dead. Though they seem to be buried in everlasting oblivion, yet, when the judgment throne is set and earth's myriads are gathered together to be by their words justified or by their words condemned, they will return with solemn, reverberating echo out of the darkness of the past, and fall with dismay and shame on the ears of those who spoke them. And those words—faithful, pure, benign—passing to and fro among men like white-winged angels, carrying messages of love and hope and healing from heaven; words almost divine in their ennobling influence, helping us ever onward and upward along life's journey—those, too, will awake from their sacred slumber, and amid the grateful murmur of the multitudes whom they have gladdened, comforted and saved, their blessed sound will be heard on earth once more.

CHEERFUL WIDOWS.

Do you ever think, when you see a woman following meekly along in the wake of some braggart and self-asserting man, or when you see a wife start when her husband suddenly speaks to her, and a look of fear comes creeping up in her eyes, do you ever think what a story of bulldozing and intimidation is behind that, asks Dorothy Dix. Sometimes I hear a woman say that it doesn't matter what she wears because nobody ever notices it, or that her husband never praises her, or notices her housekeeping except to find fault, and then, no matter how fortunately she is situated, no matter how fine her gowns, or how fashionable the location of the house, I know I am looking on a bit of domestic tragedy that is just as deep and dark and bitter, as can be woven out of the woof and warp of a woman's disappointed hope and love. And when a well-to-do woman gets up in a public meeting and says she can't join so and so, or give her mite to such and such a charity until she asks her husband, we all know that we have a glimpse of an oppression and slavery that is all the bitterer because it masks in the guise of freedom, and that some day we are going to see a mighty reconciled and cheerful widow enjoying insurance money.