ALL ABOUT DUCKS.

Practical Information on Several Important Points.

The following queries were recently asked and answered in The Prairie Farmer:

Is the duck business profitable?

Yes, when rightly managed.

Which is the best breed of ducks—that is, the most or fattest breed—as a source for eggs, for market and for feathers?

The Pekin Ducks of this breed will lay earlier in the season, lay more eggs in a year, mature more and are more valuable for their feathers than those of other breeds. These features are claimed more by some than others.

How many ducks (Pekins) should be mated with one drake?

Five or six.

How many eggs will a duck lay in a year?

That depends upon the breed and the management. Ducks, well cared for, will lay from 50 to 100 eggs in a year.

Will pinking ducks during the laying season hurt any—does it do them harm?

We tried it once and the pinked ducks staid laying while the others did not.

Is it absolutely necessary that ducks should have access to a pond or stream of water?

It is not. Any one, the Pekin breed of ducks for instance, and we have kept them for years without water, except what they could get out of their yards until they are taken out to be fattened for market.

Can fowl eggs be hatched in an incubator?

Of course they can. Hundreds, who never have seen a fowl hatched from any other source in America, hatched all chickens in incubators.

Climate of the British Empire.

The British empire covers as large a proportion of the surface of the globe that its reports upon climate may be taken as a report for the whole world. The table of returns for the year 1890 shows interesting results. One of the most important facts brought to light is this, that the same seasons year after year manifest the extremes of heat and cold, of dryness and of humidity. Another inference drawn from this fact then, that climate is far more regular and surveying than we are apt to suppose.

The highest temperature in the shade noted by the British observers was at Adelaide. The point reached was 109 degs., and this on Dec. 17. The reader will hear in mind that Adelaide is situated in the southern hemisphere, and that it is midsummer there when it is midwinter with us.

For the last five years Adelaide has recorded the highest temperature in the shade. The record for 1886 shows a temperature of 111 4-10 degs. In 1888 it had the highest temperature of any place in the sun—117 1-10 degs. It was also the driest station, having a mean humidity of 42 per cent.

The lowest shade temperature in the empire was recorded at Winnipeg, on February 25—40 9-10 degs. below zero. This station had also the greatest range in the year, the greatest mean daily range, the lowest mean temperature and the least rainfall—fourteen and ninety-five hundredths inches. It does not appear that though the precipitation in the form of snow could have been reckoned in with the reported rainfall.

The highest mean temperature for the year 1890 was reported from Bombay, and the greatest rainfall was observed at Trinidad. It is curious to find that London was the driest of all the stations in the empire, and that it was also the dampest, its humidity averaging 81 per cent. The brightest of all stations was Malta. This had only a little more than half the cloud of London.—Youth's Companion.

Repairs of Incandescent Lamps.

A process for the repair of incandescent lamps, as developed and put into actual practice by a French engineer, may be described as follows: The glassblower takes the lamp and makes a hole at the top large enough to attach a new filament. The lamp then opened is passed to a girl, who, by means of special nippers, cuts the broken filament, which she removes, being careful to leave on each platinum support about one millimeter of filament.

A second girl takes the prepared lamp and places it in a socket, to which current is fed, she then fills the bulb with a hydrocarbon liquid and introduces a new filament previously standardized. By the aid of a pair of special pliers, she touches the filament to one of the earth left and turns on the current. The liquid becomes decomposed into hydrogen, which rises through the liquid, and into solid carbon, which is deposited upon the point, firmly connecting the filaments together.

The same is then done for the other end of the new filament. The glassblower then takes the lamp again, attaches a tube of glass to the opening made, and the required lamp is then exhausted, the process of exhaustion taking three quarters of an hour, each pump carrying five lamps. The bulb is then closed in the usual manner. The different operations described are performed very rapidly, and form an elegant and practical process, and may be repeated many times.—New York Telegram.

Care of a Deformed Child.

The care and training of a perfectly strong child is a serious matter, though fortunately the task is so facilitated by parental love that it is felt sentiment is rarely felt except in discouraged moments, but when the child is handicapped by some physical ailment or disability the task becomes even harder. It is then the rules and systematic aim which are perfectly satisfactory for a healthy child have to be modified, perhaps thrown aside, and other methods of management substituted. Sometimes the changes have to be made not only in opposition to well grounded theories of training of children, but also directly across the grain of our fixed conventions of what is right for children to do and do not. No intelligent parent doubts for a moment where his duty lies in such cases, for the supremest duty for him is to develop and guard his child, regardless of pain, criticism or personal disconfort. The child is the vital part of the problem, and the prescribed law can always be relied on to find the equitable solution.

In the case of a child with a deformed spine in England, an orthopedic medic is mentioned and found following then in the physical. Parents and others who have by an application had the prevention secured that consciousness or sympathy before the world or society and which has been spared out of the painful stress for comfort in the respite the sensitive pouch. That there should be the more careful prevention of spinal curvature is a child, as we sufficiently, for the trouble is that the time for such prevention should begin, and how long one should be continued. The child should be kept at home and allowed to run without any suspicion of their deforming power so long as a child is not conscious of it. The slight deformities from habits are not sound, and the time for remedying serious portends is one thousand of—Farmer's Home.

Too Young.

Dodge—My dear Mrs. Quizzerfel, how much you bring out a young child on such a day as that! It's fifteen degrees below freezing.

Mrs. Quizzerfel—Ah, doctor, you will always have your joke. How can a child of this age possibly know anything about the thermometer?—Exchange.

The Pan-Republic League.

In 1892, some time during the Columbian exposition, will come to the United States a congress that will have most important bearing on the destinies of the world's republics. It will be the realization of a splendid dream that horned in the patriotic brain of Henry Clay, the western, place as odd as this republic. It will be the meeting of prominent delegates from all the republics of the world. That is it primarily. Besides these delegates all the nations of the earth, all good societies and organizations friendly to the cause of human freedom and advancement, will be invited to send delegates.

The representatives from the world's republics will constitute the senate, or upper house of the congress. The other delegates, who will perhaps be the larger body, will constitute the lower house of this unique and august assembly. The outcome of the congress will be the burning forth in full, shining armor of the Pan-Republic league, designed to protect and forward the interests of all the republics of the earth. It will be a sort of mutual protection league against influences adverse to the republics. Such federalization of nations is this only the start, the project not the poet have dreamed of.

The American preparations for the meeting of the delegates are in the hands of a committee of 250 citizens of the United States. The committee itself, like the league, is unique. Probably never before were gathered together in brotherly sympathy and with one object in view such men as Cardinal Gibbons, of Baltimore; Robert G. Ingersoll, agnostic, and Dr. Gustav Gottheil, Jewish rabbi of the Temple Emanuel, New York city. Protestant bishops and doctors of divinity, John Clark Ridpath, the historian, and Ben-Hur Wallace are others of this remarkably constituted committee.

The aims of the congress are the most cheerful, hopful and progressive of any congress of nations that has ever met heretofore. They will be the lessening of the human race by the intelligent consideration of questions like these. Measures for the establishment among civilized states of the principle of arbitration instead of the barbarous code of war, the disarrangement of nations, the dissolution of standing armies and the substitution therefor of the rule of intelligence, morality and justice among the nations of the earth.

There will also be considered such matters as perfect international intercourse on terms of equality and justice, mutual advantage among the nations in trade and commerce, the diffusion of international intelligence, the education of the citizen, the diffusion of knowledge and the freedom of the press. If Russia, if even Germany sends as delegates to this remarkable congress of nations, how will it seem to them to see in one of the leading papers of the country a caricature of a very high official personage representing him as an individual dog with a second high official personage depicted as his towering tail, and underneath the question, "Does the tail wag the dog?" In Russia the author of that cartoon would tramp to Siberia, in Germany he would be imprisoned, but in the United States neither high official pays any attention to the matter, thereby showing both wisdom and good temper.

The physical well being of the nations will likewise be discussed at this congress. We have come to that stage of civilization where the health of one nation means the health of all.

A little time before his death General Sherman wrote to the general committee of the Pan-Republic congress:

America is daily on the threshold of her history, and the American government is to give the part of prominence to the human family. The whole world turns to us to see the result of our experiment in self-government. We don't believe in the divine right of kings, but we do believe in the divine right of kings, but we do believe in the divine right of kings, as by been almost too infinite for us to contemplate. We are the first people who have set a people tried to have taking the reins of government. We have stretch the sinews and wheelers enough of history, and we are now at the beginning of our national manhood.

"The question of point and conclusion in talk and writing is one that today is engaging attention quite as much as that of saving leather and cotton through improved machinery. A whole side of an idea can no longer be affended for a single pair of shoes," says the Boston Herald.

German newspapers are worried over the spread of irreligion in the empire. They seem to have been a good while waking up to it.

Pantry Conveniences.

It may well be the pleasure, as it is the duty, of every housekeeper to see that the pantry is kept in good condition. It is to a large extent a criterion of the habits of the person having care of it. If disorder and a lack of neatness are found here it will extend to the whole house. Wise and has the planning of a house it is always well to place the kitchen and pantry where they will have a northerly or northeast exposure. Generally in this inspection when a refrigerator is to stand in it.

There should be at least one outside window in the pantry, preferably two, if there is room for them, and two are better to give a draught of air. Instead of covering the windows with papers, which must frequently be removed, it is well to use white oilcloth, which comes quite cheaply now. This can be easily tacked on, and with a little care will last for years. It is easily wiped off, and it also gives a very cheerful air to the whole pantry.

As far as possible have either the sinks wooden boxes, with tightly fitted covers, for the dry articles, such as sugar, corn meal, oatmeal, beans, etc. Let each be plainly labeled and have its own place, so as to be found at once. Too many persons set such articles down in paper bags, which are liable to be upset or broken, and also invite mice and cockroaches and other vermin.

Either cover the floor with oilcloth or have a good, some or two of jute appearance, both are easily cleaned. A chest of drawers in the pantry is a great convenience, where towels, kitchen tablecloths, ironing sheets, holders and dusters and such articles can be kept. The vastly finer barrel and crackers, be used by making a chest under the pantry shelf, the entrance to the barrel being by a hinged portion of the shelf, which can be lifted to give access to the barrel.—Prairie Farmer.

Less Civilization and More Pan.

Travelers who have been through the Straits of Magellan always are enthusiastic about the physical development of the Patagonians that put off in boats from the innumerable islands there to trade wampums and other furs for, alas! tobacco and whisky. These savages are of splendid figure and stature, giants of a stately palm tree. Various travelers have testified that they are, as to their physique, the most magnificently formed men on the face of the earth to-day. The men are especially handsome. All of them handle their skillfully canoes in a high sea in a way that would make the best of the crews men of a national college swim. How they do it white men has never yet been able to determine. Moreover, no dolphin ever was more graceful or at home in the water than these big, magnificent savages. Hardy, healthy, perfect physically, they are defy the very elements.

A traveler recently among them says that he saw a mother with a babe in one of the boats that came off to meet the steamer. Entirely the child displeased the woman in same way. Thereupon the fine savage mother seized the baby by the foot and scooed it into the icy sea. When she drew it out it merely "whimpered a little," and then curled up in the bottom of the boat and went to sleep. For the splendid, hardy savage child this domestic discipline served the purpose exactly.

The rest of the story is that these fine, well-born, hardy in size, perfect in physical development, wear no clothes at all, but go quite naked, even in winter. They have been used to it for ages, and they mind it no more than you would to wash your hands in cold water. All the missionaries can do, these glorious wild creatures will not wear clothes or shoes in houses. May it not be that we civilized people have lost quite as much as we have gained in our lungs and pluck of standing our tight leather shoes and our furnace heated houses? Let our cows, hall heals, hatchless gowns and hundreds of civilized diseases answer.

Dr. Sharp, of the Academy of Natural Sciences, says the northern division of the Caucasian race is growing persistently darker skinned and the golden and flaxen blonde type is disappearing. He attributes the gradual darkening to the retention of biliary pigments in the blood, owing to the action of heat, and that is owing to the artificial heating of the houses of civilized people in modern times. In winter our houses are now as warm as in summer, and that is gradually making of us a darker skinned race. But if heat makes men dark skinned then cold ought to make them fair, whether they are of the Caucasian race or not. Cold has had its way with the Esquimaux for many centuries now, and they are still as dark as they can be, for white people.

"When the average legislator feels the cold gray eye of the critical public fixed upon him in condemnation for careless or improper conduct or waste of the public time, he always thinks it a good thing to try to right himself before the people of this state by jumping on the railroads," says the Philadelphia Telegram. "Cold gray eye of the critical public" is a good and new contribution to journalistic literature.

There is only one railroad into the heart of Africa. It is under the auspices of the Portuguese government and runs 180 miles from Loanda toward the interior. When finished it will penetrate several hundred miles farther. Meantime it is in full operation as far as it has gone with daily trains. It was built by native negro labor.

A Corner in Corn.

"You may talk about your wheat corners," said the old Miner, "but they don't compare with the corner in corn a man got up in California in the early days. San Francisco at that period was a tumbledown village of pine boards built on a marsh. The place was overrun with large, long tailed, mouthless rats which made life a burden to the inhabitants. We who lived there then weren't particularly delicate in our personal tastes, but when it came to losing toes and fingers while we slept we got right up and objected to the limit of our vocabularies. There were a few cats in the town, of course, but they seem to keep too busy to increase any, and their daily wages were so full of excitement that they didn't live long. Well, it finally got to be a case of too bad, and cats were spoted on the basement fifty dollars per ordinary cat.

"Experienced cats and cats with records brought higher prices. Down in the southern part of the state they had more cats than they knew what to do with. A sharp chap in Los Angeles heard about the state of affairs in Frisco, and he goes and borrows all the money he can and then buys up every cat south of Tehachapi at four for one dollar. Then he lands Cap Bailey's Sea Bird with them, letting him up to sixteen and sixteen cents off. He goes on his cats seventy-five dollars apiece, and clears several thousand dollars. The rats did the business, too, and inside of six weeks there wasn't a solitary rat in San Francisco. But we had a time afterward getting rid of the cats."—Chicago Post.

Work a Boy Is Above.

When you hear a boy whistling his way through the dark you know that boy is afraid and is whistling to keep up the dollar. When he has cash to buy without a light, stops calling out in very concerned tones to the grown up people in the room lest you are not deserted so to his sudden desire to continue the society of his elders. He is trying to keep himself from breaking out in a sudden panic of fear. Rather than it arouse your deepest admiration for his heroism when you see that some boy stood on the railroad track as long as he dared when the engine came whizzing close upon him. He is only another of a little boyish bravado, and will get out of the way before there is any harm done.—New York Evening Sun.

Now Is the Time

To purify your blood and fortify your system against the debilitating effects of coming weather. At no time stands in the latter half to so troublesome a condition, the health

Sick Headache

and Nervous Prostration, which Hood's Sarsaparilla is so well adapted to cure. It gives strength and vigor to the nervous system, and enhances the appetite and invigorates the entire body.

"I have been troubled a great deal with headache, had no appetite, no strength, and felt as if I was all run down. Hood's Sarsaparilla has done me good in every respect. I know it is my duty to speak of it, and I have found it a good spring medicine ever since." H. A. STEPHENS, 19 Grant Avenue, Grand Rapids, Mich.

My Nerves Are All Right

And I have added 10 pounds in 6 months, as the result of taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, says Mr. E. H. Sun of the firm of Sun & Eddy, Rochester, N. Y. "I had almost

Chronic Dyspepsia

for anything long very bad, and I was broken down from overwork so that I could not sleep nights. But my appetite is now in perfect condition, and for all the above benefit my gratitude is due Hood's Sarsaparilla."

"Water-Brash

and dyspepsia troubled me for 10 years, and after trying various things I concluded to take Hood's Sarsaparilla. The effect is more relief to me than anything I ever took." J. M. Jackson, 427 Jefferson Street, Toledo, Ohio. If you suffer from

Indigestion

or dyspepsia try Hood's Sarsaparilla. It gently tones and strengthens the stomach, assists digestion and creates an appetite.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

Only $10 Down With High Prices. THE SEWING MACHINE ONLY $10 Warranted for 10 Years. Equipped in Elegant Manner with Latest Improvements, and is equal to any in the trade. Is the Best Family Machine in the World. Has Patent Reversible Feed, Self-Adjusting Tension, Self-Threading Shuttle, Self-Setting Needle, Self-Winding Bobbin, Self-Adjusting Bobbin Winder, Self-Regulating Lift, Self-Adjusting Hinge Support, Self-Adjusting Treadle, Self-Lubricating Bearings, Self-Adjusting Set Screws, Self-Adjusting Tension Release, Self-Adjusting Stop Motion, Self-Adjusting Take-Up, Self-Adjusting Bobbin Winder Tension, Self-Adjusting Presser Foot, Self-Adjusting Balance Wheel, Self-Adjusting Stitch Regulator, Self-Adjusting Bobbin Case Latch, Self-Adjusting Shuttle Driver, Self-Adjusting Shuttle Carrier, Self-Adjusting Shuttle Guard, Self-Adjusting Thread Guide, Self-Adjusting Thread Cutter, Self-Adjusting Thread Tension, Self-Adjusting Thread Take-Up