

On the Land

'Oh, I had the finest kind of a time. She's not cross at all. She told me living alone made her queer, but she's nice for all that—and, fellows, you ought to see all the interesting things she's got in there—a collection of rare stuffed birds, and a lot of old Indian relics. I say, fellows, they're great! You could spend a whole morning looking at them. Then she gave me plum cake and an orange, and made me promise to come again—and I'm going.'

'I guess it is better to own up, after all, when you've done wrong,' said Fred thoughtfully. 'That's what father always tells me.'

'Yes,' nodded Hugh. 'It wasn't only that she was so kind to me and I had such a good time, but—somehow—it makes you feel so much better inside.'

NOT MUCH TO HIS CREDIT

'So that's the oldest inhabitant—one hundred and four years old?' said a tourist to a villager with whom he had struck up a conversation. 'No wonder you're proud of him,' he continued, in complimentary sympathy. 'I dunno about being proud of him,' responded the native; 'he ain't done nothin' in this yer place 'cept grow old, and it's took him a sight o'time to do that.'

THE ASSISTANT'S PRESCRIPTION

The telephone bell rang in the consulting-room of a doctor who was an enthusiastic cyclist. In his absence his assistant answered it, and said the doctor was out. 'Will you tell him,' the voice asked, 'that Mrs. Newman has a gymkhana coming on, and wants to know if he can do anything for it?' 'I will tell him the moment he comes in,' the assistant answered. 'Meanwhile, put a bread poultice on it, and renew every two hours.'

TO FIGHT HIS BATTLES O'ER AGAIN

His dog was a fierce Airedale, which could whip, and had whipped, every other bow-wow in the neighborhood. Then he clipped his coat.

'Yes,' he said to a friend, 'the clipping was my own idea. I believe it made him look better, but it was very awkward for the dog.'

'How was that?' queried the friend.

'Oh, the other dogs didn't know him. He had to fight them all over again.'

A USEFUL HINT

A Berlin wine merchant was accused of selling a wine made of chemicals. He was brought to court, found guilty, and fined. After he had paid his fine, he approached the chemist whose testimony had convicted him. 'How did you know,' he said curiously, 'that my wine was manufactured?' 'Because it contained no bitartrate of potash,' said the chemist. 'In natural wines bitartrate of potash is always found.' 'Thanks,' said the vintner, in a tone of relief; 'it will be found in my wines hereafter.'

FAMILY FUN

The Apple Woman.—A poor apple woman, carrying a basket of apples, was met by three boys, the first of whom bought half of what she had, and then gave her back ten; the second bought a third of what remained, and gave her back 2; and the third bought half of what she had now left, and returned her 1; after which she found that she had 12 apples remaining. What number had she at first?—From the 12 remaining deduct 1, and 11 is the number she sold the last boy, which was half of what she had; her number, therefore, at that time was 22. From 22 deduct 2, and the remaining 20 was two-thirds of her prior stock, which was therefore 30. From 30 deduct 10, and the remainder 20 is half of her original stock; consequently she had at first 40 apples.

A dairy farmer in the Forty-Mile Bush district, who last season milked eighteen cows on a small farm of approximately 50 acres, states that he netted an average of £13 2s 5d per cow for his milk returns.

The growing of peas for soil renovation purposes is advocated by Mr. A. B. Wood, agricultural chemist. 'Not only would the farmers find it profitable,' said Mr. Wood to a *Wairarapa Times* reporter, 'but the land would be left in a good condition, the farmer getting a free supply of nitrogen from the crop. I consider this one of the best means of regaining nitrogen from the atmosphere.'

Something like a record for a big sale of dairy stock was established the other day in Taranaki, when Mr. J. Stevenson's dairy herd of 166 head averaged £8 19s each under the hammer of Messrs. Gillies and Nalder. There were no special breeds, and Mr. Stevenson, who is a Kapuni farmer, is to be congratulated on the condition in which he marketed his stock. Mr. Stevenson has given up dairying for fattening.

There was a large yarding of 3790 sheep at Burnside sales last week. Prices on an average were less by about 1s per head than those ruling at the previous sale. Wethers made up to 29s per head, and ewes up to 27s 3d. There was a yarding of 163 head of cattle, and the quality was certainly superior to that of the cattle sent forward in the previous week. The market opened firmly, and closed with values showing an advance of 10s per head on those ruling at the previous sale, prices ranging up to £15. There was only a small yarding (609) of lambs, which sold at from 9s 6d to 15s. There was a very small yarding of both store and fat pigs. Suckers and slips were not in demand, but porkers and baconers sold very well. Suckers, 6s to 8s; slips, 9s 6d to 15s; stores, to 17s; porkers, 25s to 35s; light baconers, 37s 6d to 45s; heavy baconers, to 61s.

The original making of ensilage was nothing more than an imitation of the dog that digs in the ground to cover up and keep a bone or something else he wanted to keep and eat at a later date. But, while the silo in the ground serves a great deal better than none at all, it falls short of being as satisfactory as those built above ground. Of course the practical use of the silo is the keeping of forage in a succulent condition, and the most general adaptation is for the use of dairy cows. In this use of it the consumption of ensilage has increased very rapidly in the last ten years. The digestive nutrients in forage of any sort seems to be kept in a more satisfactory condition as ensilage than any other way, and a far greater quantity per acre can be got from the land, so that any farmer who keeps many cattle will be certain to find that the silo is very necessary on his farm.

At Addington last week there were moderate entries of stock and a fair attendance. Fat cattle and fat sheep were firm at the recent high rates. There was a moderate yarding of fat sheep, including a few pens of prime wethers. There was a keen demand for all classes, and the late high rates were firmly maintained. The range of prices was: Prime wethers, 23s to 29s; extra, to 32s; others, 17s to 22s 6d; ewes, 20s to 25s 6d; extra, to 27s 9d; others, 16s 9d to 19s 6d; hoggets, 12s 9d to 18s 11d; extra, to 27s. The entry of fat cattle totalled 329, there being a good proportion of prime steers, but a number of not well finished animals were also offered. There was a very good demand, and prices, if anything, were rather firmer. Steers made £7 5s to £11; extra, to £17; heifers, £5 5s to £12; cows, £5 to £10 7s 6d. There was a medium entry of pigs. The demand for fats was good, though prices were barely up to last week's rates. Choppers sold up to £3 14s; large baconers, £2 15s to £3 5s; smaller, 45s to 50s (equal to 4½d per lb); large porkers, £1 16s to £2; smaller, £1 10s to £1 14s (equal to 5d per lb). Store pigs sold very well, large sorts making £1 5s to £1 12s 6d; medium, 16s to 23s; smaller, 11s to 15s; weaners, 8s to 12s; sows in pig, to £2.