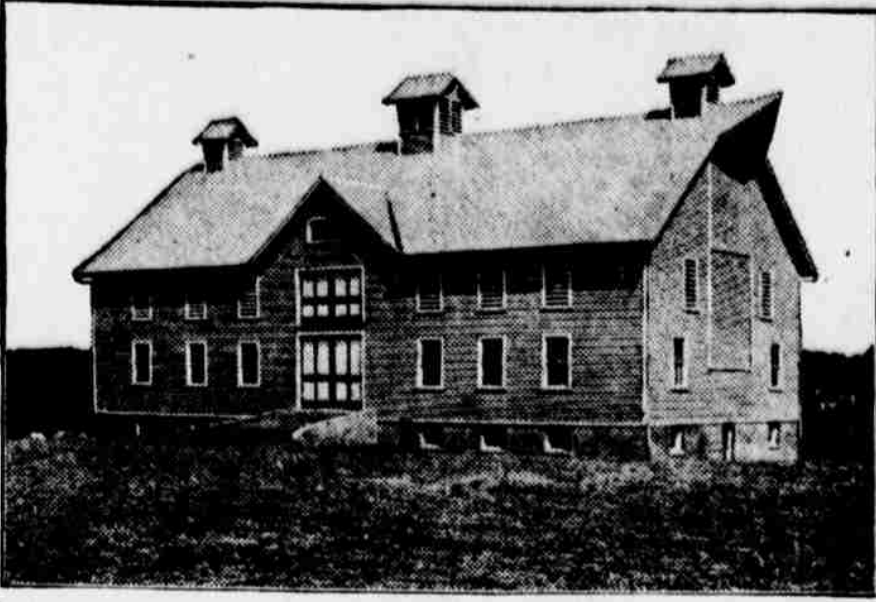


WORK AT BELTSVILLE GOVERNMENT FARM



Horse Barn Erected in 1912.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.) In the summer of 1910 the department of agriculture purchased a farm of 475 acres at Beltsville, Maryland, which is about twelve miles from the city of Washington, to be used for experimental work in animal breeding and feeding, and related subjects. About 190 acres of this are devoted to dairy interests, and the remainder (of which about 95 acres are timberland) to other branches of animal husbandry.

On this farm many problems of economic importance to the public, and particularly to the agricultural public, are given much attention. The farm work is done largely by mares, some of which are purebred Percherons, and the other grades. These mares are bred to a Percheron stallion, and therefore not only earn their living by the farm work they do, but in addition produce foals. In the summer of 1913 the imported Percheron stallion Isolant 65096 (78859) was purchased by the department. He is a

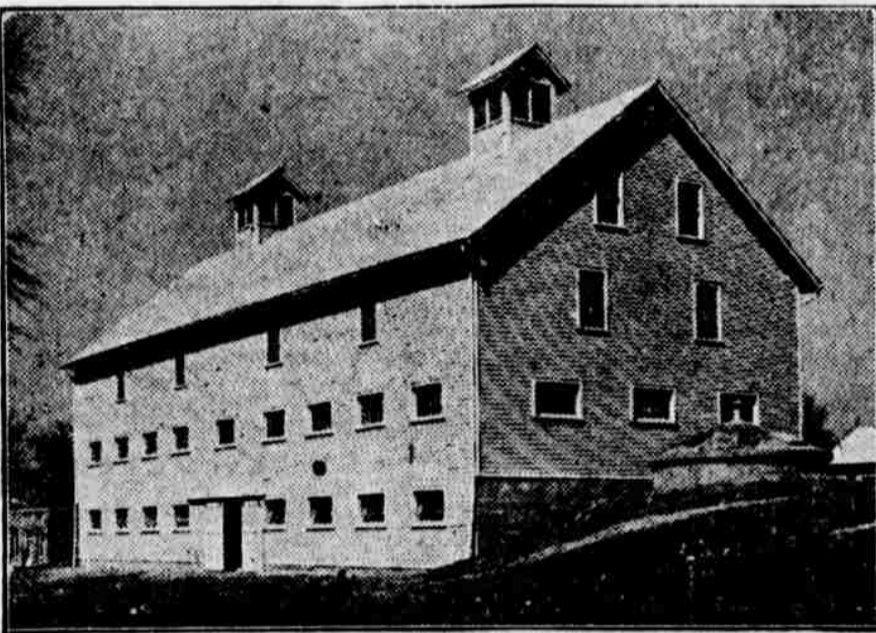


Common Doe and Her Kid, Sired by Toggenberg Buck.

large, black stallion, compact and well muscled, standing 17 hands in height and weighing more than a ton.

During the fall of 1912, 20 weanling horse foals and 20 weanling mule foals were purchased for the purpose of determining the comparative costs of raising these under farm conditions from the time of weaning until they are old enough for work purposes. A careful record is being kept of all costs, including that of breaking, and full credit will be given to the animals for the amount of work done by them. It is expected that the test will be closed in 1916, when all of the animals will be old enough for work purposes.

There is on the farm a flock of the Barbados woolless sheep. These sheep are very prolific, commonly having three and occasionally four lambs at



Sheep Barn Erected in 1912.

birth. They will also conceive at any time of the year. Barbados ewes are being graded up by the use of purebred Southdown rams and selections are determined mainly by the prolificacy and frequency of lambing, with a view to producing good mutton conformation with ability to breed early for winter lambs. The Barbados have also been crossed with Merinos. The great difference in the fleeces and breeding habits of the Barbados and the Southdown and Merino yields very valuable material in the crossbreeds and their offspring for studying the manner of inheritance of wool and breeding characteristics.

Another industry attracting considerable attention is that of the production of Persian lamb skins, which are the product of the young of the Karakule or Arbi sheep which are native to Russian Turkestan. The industry in this country is in its infancy and there is great need of more information regarding it. The department in its work at the farm is crossing a Karakule ram on Cotswold, Leicester, Cheviot and Lincoln ewes, and has also made crosses on Barbados ewes. This work has not been carried far enough to determine just how valu-

able the skins from such crosses will be in this country.

In connection with the two experiments mentioned, about 100 head of ewes are kept. A roomy and conveniently arranged barn for housing sheep and goats has just been completed and will render it possible to test methods of winter feeding of "hot-house" lambs and breeding ewes. During summer months the sheep are carried upon a succession of forage crops with a view to determining the best plans of planting and grazing forage crops in eastern states.

For the past few years there has been great interest in the milch goat, which has often been hailed as the poor man's cow. Today, however, goats in this country which are good milkers sell for as much as the average dairy cow. On the continent of Europe, particularly Switzerland, breeds of goats which are heavy milkers have been developed, but on account of the prevalence of animal diseases in continental Europe their importation is prohibited. In order to determine the value of the milch goat blood in crossing on our native stock, a flock of common does was obtained, and these were bred to Saanen and Toggenburg bucks. Milk records were kept of the native does, and such records will be kept of the half-bred does, in order to obtain a comparison.

A herd of hogs is maintained for the purpose of studying breeding and feeding problems. A modern, sanitary house has been built, and equipped for conducting this work. There are also a number of small portable houses with sufficient space for a sow and litter or two or three mature pigs.

At the farm house there is also a laboratory for the study of breeding questions. There are usually about 1,000 guinea pigs on hand, representing 30 families. The effects of inbreeding are being studied as the results from such investigations with guinea pigs throw light upon principles that operate in larger animals.

Results that suggest the existence of laws of inheritance in these small animals can be tested out on larger animals. By using guinea pigs a great saving in time is effected. It is possible to secure three generations in a year, thus showing the effects of any special method of breeding in a fraction of the time needed with sheep or cattle and at much smaller expense. The poultry on the farm is located

in and on the edge of a beautiful oak grove, which furnishes ideal shade and range for the fowls, and especially for the young chickens. The equipment consists of one long breeding house, 18 by 108 feet, attached to a feed house containing an office and laboratory, the basement of which is fitted up as an incubator cellar. Most of the poultry houses are of the colony type, and are built on runners so that they may easily be moved onto fresh ground. The front of the long house contains large muslin curtains for ventilation and glass doors for light when the curtains are closed. Lamp incubators and small outdoor brooders are used in hatching and rearing the stock, while many of the chickens are reared under hens.

The stock consists of selected fowls of the following varieties: Barred Plymouth Rock, White Wyandotte, Rhode Island Red, Single Comb White Leghorn and Buff Orpington, with a few White Plymouth Rocks, Buff Leghorns and Dorkings. The foundation stock was secured from some of the best poultry breeders in this country, and is being kept up to a high standard of excellence, both from exhibition and utility standpoints.

AT THE BOOKING OFFICE OFF-STAGE COMEDIES by Will Bradshaw

THEY DECIDE TO TRY IT AGAIN

Freddie Sidders (a sketch writer)—Listen! This is a great idea with a punch. Works right up to a novelty finish and—Bang! If this act don't get six curtains, I'll—
Marion Meade (heavy woman)—No use talkin', Freddie, I ain't on the market for no more acts after that last one.

Freddie Sidders—It wasn't my act, was it? Didn't y' have no friends 't put you wise that Vance Van Bardon's act is over people's heads? Who wants society stuff?
Edna Flanigan (ingenue)—Vance Van Bardon's material wasn't handled right; I seen that myself. I was in the act. Marion was cast for a society queen—imagine! I was supposed to be her daughter just home from boardin' school an' loaded down with table manners and that kind of stuff. That was all right. I can play debutantes to a finish. I had some home trainin' myself an' my langwidge is right there, believe me. It was Marion's or Algy's flivver, I think.

Algy (late of the 'Alis)—W'at? I queered the act, y' s'y? I made the mistake of me young life goin' out with y'. I'll tell y' who it was—little Percy Davis, sittin' right 'ere.

Dad Wadell (who knew Booth)—By sight!—When I saw the act it made me weep—for Art.

Percy Davis (juvenile)—You awful London supernumerary, to insinuate that I ruined Marion's act. Have a care, sir! Remember I played on Broadway. I may have been a chorus man, but I outlived it.

Freddie Sidders—Old Dad has your number, crowd, when he says it was all to the ash can. I heard it myself.

Dad Wadell—She was leaning on a broken reed.

Marion Meade—Tryin' to say I can't play society ladies, huh? I was out there holdin' the crowd by my personality. It's a wonder the rest of you lasted a minute without me.

Percy Davis—I can't explain the

Percy Davis—Why didn't you decide that long ago, my dear? I lost a good position in a show on account of your act. All I had to do was wave a pennant and say "Rah, rah, rah, for Vassar." What fools we mortals be. No more and never again!

Algy—We decided that for you long ago. No more and never again with us. I'll always think to me dyin' d'y the eggs that 't me was meant for you.

Dad Wadell—I believe so. You were standing on the spot he just stepped from.

Freddie Sidders—So they thrum eggs, eh? I thought they only howled and tried to climb over the "foots" to mob you.

Edna Flanigan—I wish you was there that night, Freddie. Me tryin' to look like a young bud an' throwin' my lines like a leadin' lady with no support except Algy.

Algy—There's a girl knows the truth. 'Ear what she said about no support but Algy?

Freddie Sidders—No wonder! The actin' was all right; they was no idea to the act. No finish. Listen to this sketch of mine for five people. New idea, never been worked.

Marion Meade—Please don't, Freddie.

Freddie Sidders—Act opens full stage; fancy door center; fireplace at right; moon streamin' in window with balcony backing. Old guy—for you, Dad—dozin' at fireplace. Burgular opens window with a jimmy; comes in. Is loading silver into bag when

butler—Percy's part—comes in to tell the old man his daughter eloped with the strange young man across the street. Burgular sees butler and sneaks into closet, pulls door shut and locks himself in. A woman in black comes to see the old man—Marion's part; old man recognizes her as child-hood sweetheart; proposes. The daughter and the strange young man—Edna and Algy—return to ask the old man's forgiveness and enough to start housekeepin'. Burgular in closet



"You Awful London Supernumerary, to Insinuate That I Ruined Marion's Act. Have a Care, Sir! Remember, I Played on Broadway."

downfall of our act. Mr. Van Bardon is such a high-minded gentleman. His writings in the Literary Indigestible are dreams of thought. The idea we had was so uplifting. When you think of the psychological message we had to deliver.

Edna Flanigan—Oh, chocolate eclairs! Listen to that man talkin' sickanological stuff. That's what was the matter with it.

Percy Davis—M' dear, don't you think the object of the theater is to deliver a message?

Algy—No, that's for the A. D. T. Listen to me spoof when my 'cart is breakin'.

Dad Wadell—When you tried to deliver your message that night there was nobody home.

Edna Flanigan—When Algy threw me his line—what was it?

Algy—I said: "You must give me your promise tonight, Agnes. Prince Boris is not the man to wed you, the proud and only daughter of Count Lionel De Jessep. Your manner, your breeding, your culture, must revolt at the thought of a nobleman who has naught to offer but 'is disputed title.' Clevah, I s'y."

Edna Flanigan—Can't you fancy me playin' opposite that?

Dad Wadell—I saw you and I cried in anguish.

Percy Davis—It was just after that. Van Bardon don't have his people in mind when he writes the material.

Marion Meade—Don't you think I can play a lady?

Edna Flanigan—Don't y' think I can do a swell doll?

Percy Davis—Deah me, sir, don't you think I can take the part of a perfect gentleman?

Algy—I suppose y' think I can't play a jolly chap, w'at?
Freddie Sidders—Y' got me wrong. I meant that Van Bardon had a nifty outfit working in his act, but his act wasn't there. Certainly Marion can play a lady.

Dad Wadell—I remember in my day a lady was always a lady. They—
Marion Meade—I'll never try it again. After this it's me for Dutch or Irish.

is suffocatin' and begs to get out. Algy opens door. Old man recognizes burgular as his long-lost son. Woman refuses to marry burgular's father. Young man, who is a newspaper reporter, is going to give the story to his paper. Old man gives everybody a million to keep it quiet. The burgular reforms. Curtain.

Algy—Great!
Freddie Sidders—Listen! I have a man who will buy this act and back it if I get the right people. Will you stick? Pay from the start.

Chorus—We will!
Algy—Who'll play the burgular, my dear fellow?

Freddie Sidders—I'm goin' to get a real burgular—friend of mine.

Booking Agent (entering)—Out! It's closin' time.

(Copyright, 1914, by W. G. Chapman.)

Marriageable Ages.

So-called marriageable ages vary very widely in different countries. In Austria a "man" and "woman" are supposed to be capable of marrying and conducting a home of their own from the age of 14. In Germany the age must be at least 18 years. In France the man must be 18 and the woman 14, and in Belgium the same. In Spain the husband must have passed his fourteenth year, and the woman her twelfth. In Hungary, for Roman Catholics, the man must be 14 years and the woman 12; for Protestants the man must be 18 and the woman 15. In Greece the man must be at least 14 summers and the woman 12. In Portugal a boy of 14 is considered marriageable and a woman of 12. In Russia and Saxony a youth must refrain from matrimony till he is 18 years and the woman until she is 16.

Not Garrulous.

Client—What! You expect me to pay you 253 francs for taking possession of such a small inheritance? You should have warned me it would cost so much.

Lawyer—My motto, sir, is "Deeds not words."—Pele Mele.

Drink Coca-Cola. And feel your thirst slip away You'll finish refreshed, cooled, satisfied. THE COCA-COLA CO. ATLANTA, GA. 52

Travel-Talk Bore. "Now is the season when all the world, just back from Europe, is bent on boring us with travel talk. The speaker was Mayor Rockwell of Akron. He resumed: "There are a number of ways to shut these travel bores up. A good way is the Coliseum one. "The bore says to you, enthusiastically: "And in Rome I saw the Coliseum by moonlight. Um-m-m, wasn't it fine?" "The Coliseum?, you answer, calmly, "Which one?" "Of course, there's only one Coliseum in Rome. But the bore isn't sure about it, and if there are two, he doesn't want to expose his ignorance. While he hems and haws and stutters, very red in the face, you easily make your escape from him."

ITCHED AND BURNED. Silverwood, Mich.—"My baby was about six months old when he first began to break out with little pimples on his head and face. Then they would run water and keep getting worse until his head was a regular sore eruption and water would run and stream from it and his face also. His whole body was affected. They were little white pimples which itched and burned something terrible. His clothing seemed to irritate him and it was almost impossible for him to sleep at night. They also disfigured him as they were on his face. "We tried medicine but without success. The trouble must have lasted three or four weeks when I thought I would try the Cuticura Soap and Ointment. I would bathe him with warm water, as warm as he could stand and Cuticura Soap, then apply the Cuticura Ointment. The very first time that I did this it seemed to relieve him as he slept well and inside of two weeks he was completely healed." (Signed) Mrs. L. White, Jan. 29, 1914. Cuticura Soap and Ointment sold throughout the world. Sample of each free, with 32-p. Skin Book. Address post-card "Cuticura, Dept. L, Boston."

Advice to Girls. Mrs. Haverlock Ellis, the English writer and suffragist, said at a girl graduates' luncheon at Sherry's in New York: "I wish to advise you girls never to marry a man to reform him. To marry a man to reform him—that is the same as puttin' your finger in the fire to extinguish it."

For Warm Days. "Why do you call so often on Miss Haughty these evenings? You never did it before." "I know, but she has such freezing manners."

Nebraska Directory. Girl's Ideal School. Primary, Grammar, Commercial, High School. All branches taught. Branch departments limited to twelve girls. Special departments for little girls from six to thirteen years. Children under supervision of teachers at all times. For terms, address: Whitcomb-Carlisle School, Lincoln, Nebraska.

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