

# NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



The essential thing in keeping sweet potatoes is dryness.

Cold nights and frosty grass never put a pound of flesh on any animal.

Well groom the horse and he will work well for you; neglect him and he will prove an indifferent servant.

Go slow with the new variety of fruit tree, the new breed of stock, the seed of the new variety of grain. Test them out first.

Growing crops on the land in the summer should be followed in the winter by the growing of crops of beef and pork and mutton in the barns.

Oil meal is good for the horses. It keeps them in good condition and makes their coat soft and sleek. Give a handful to each horse once a day.

While sheep do not need as warm housing as other stock, they must be kept dry, both under foot and overhead. Keep the sheep stables well cleaned.

An excellent plan in handling sheep is to provide well-protected yards into which they may be turned on fine days, and have a shed for the stormy, blustery weather.

Put the unthrifty appearing ewes by themselves and give a little extra feed. Perhaps they are suffering from the greed of the bosses in the flock and are not getting a full ration.

Sweet potatoes are packed in ventilated barrels for shipment just as are apples. They must be packed snugly and the cover pressed on so as to make sure that there will be no shifting in the barrel.

The need of the establishment of county agricultural high schools is being urged, and the success of the Duna county (Wis.) school is an illustration of what such a school may do for farming communities.

A cheap field shelter for sheep and cattle can be made by erecting a framework of poles supported by posts set in the ground, over and around which a straw stack can be placed, leaving the south side open.

It is not enough to know how much each cow is producing, but how much the production has cost. To do this you must not only weigh and test the milk, but keep account of the feed and estimate its cost to you.

There is more clean money in winter dairying than in summer dairying. With a silo to provide succulent feed, and cows freshening in the fall and winter, the highest returns can be counted on from the herd. No flies to bother in the winter time.

Don't let pails of milk stand in the barn while all the cows are being milked. Remove it at once and get the separator at work upon it while it is warm. Cool the cream as soon as possible. Never mix warm cream with that which has been cooled.

Green scum which collects on standing water and in stock tanks is caused by thread-like plant called spirgyra. Cleaning tanks once a month will keep them free from the trouble. Some use a spray on the tanks made up of a six per cent. solution of copper sulphate.

The use of molasses as a ration for cattle is not so new as some would suppose, having been so fed as early as 1811. Germany being perhaps the first country to use it. Farmers in this country are coming to understand its value, finding that it increases the milk flow and keeps cows in good condition.

A farmer who has seen wash water and dish water impregnated with soap and dirt fed to hogs raises the question as to whether such diet is healthful. Such water is the best kind of fertilizer, but we doubt whether it feeds the hogs any good. Slops which contain food scraps and the liquid leavings from the kitchen are of course different and provide the hogs with food elements which are good, that is if the slops are not allowed to sour and spoil before feeding.

The president of Bowdoin college declares that the county fair as at present conducted has outlived its usefulness and has degenerated into an immoral exhibition at which crooks and gamblers play the star parts. We wonder what fair he attended this year? There may be county fairs which come within the scope of his criticism, and if there are such it is indeed high time that a reform was instituted, but the fairs we have come in touch with have been of a decidedly educational character, the exhibitions of fine stock, farm, garden and orchard produce, and of farm machinery being better than ever. Amusements of a clean, wholesome sort have their rightful place at every fair and provide the farmers and their families with the stimulating recreation that they need. However, too much care cannot be exercised by fair officials in seeing that objectionable features do not creep in unawares. Be sure that the parties seeking the concessions are reliable and can provide credentials from other fairs where they have exhibited.

It's oats that make the old mare go. It is good for the chickens, too.

Put a little ginger into the horse by way of the curry comb and brush.

Have a definite aim before you in the desire to improve your live stock and you will make some headway.

Eggs that vary much in size or color should not be packed together in the same case. Such ill-assorted cases never bring good prices.

One farmer who has had a good many waste apples and tomatoes this fall has cooked them and fed them to his big flock of chickens and they have thrived on them.

Don't keep the mongrel dog about the farm. Get one of good breed, preferably a collie, and then train him to do something useful in connection with the farm work.

The rusty pail or pan should be banished from the dairy, because it not only taints the milk but increases the danger of germ contamination, rust pieces being more than apt to harbor large numbers of bacteria.

In fattening turkeys for Thanksgiving and the holidays there is nothing better after all than old corn and corn meal boiled with potatoes. Feed three times a day. If skim milk is to be had mix with the mash.

Clean out the ditches and furrows through the strawberry beds and cover the beds lightly at first. As the winter advances and the ground freezes harder, put on more covering to keep the plants from winter killing.

The cold, drafty stable does not mean comfort for the stock, nor does it mean profit for the farmer. Remember that every bit of discomfort which you permit your stock to suffer by so much reduces the amount of your profit.

Do not market half-finished poultry. There is no economy in stinting poultry you are fitting for market. Push the food into them and get them fat as quick as possible. No trouble selling such poultry, and they bring the best of prices, too.

Crop rotation pays, as many a farmer is proving by actual test. It has been found that two years in clover and three in corn will give as much corn as five years in corn grown continuously. Two clover crops as clear gain are worth having.

Some form of crate is used by many farmers in ringing hogs, but where such contrivance is not at hand the business can be done by slipping the noose of a strong rope over the upper jaw of the hog. The hog can thus be held while a second person puts in the ring.

Prof. Hansen of South Dakota has brought back from Siberia a yellow flowered alfalfa plant which he thinks will be specially adapted to growth in our northern latitudes. His efforts to develop such a plant will be followed with much interest.

Early stages of a cold in chickens can often be cured by two applications of a mixture of one part spirits of turpentine and three parts sweet oil. Anoint the face and eyes with the preparation and pour five or six drops down the fowl's throat if there is a wheezing or rattling there.

A good-sized turnip cut in half and nailed to a board will furnish entertainment and food for a flock of hens for half a day. Another good way to keep the hens busy in cold weather is to fasten a beet or carrot or other root from the ceiling of the hen house by a string, having it just high enough so that the hens will have to jump for it.

Remember that temperature has everything to do with the churning quality of butter. In summer you must bring it down to 60 degrees and in winter you must bring it up to that temperature if you would have the butter come readily, and remember this that though your cream may be of the right temperature you may have difficulty if the churn is too cold.

With the idle days lightening up on the horses' diet. During the months of hard work the horse has had feed rich in nitrogen (the base of protein) and has needed it, for he was using it up in the expansion and contraction of muscles; but when idle, on account of stormy weather or leisure, and fed his working ration, too much nitrogen has accumulated in the muscles. Therefore a hard-working horse that has been well fed should, on being given a holiday for several days, have his ration changed. Corn is a good substitute for oats in such a case. If clover hay has been fed, timothy hay should be substituted.

A ten-year test by Prof Munson of Maine shows that cultivated trees made larger growth and produced more fruit than trees that were mulched. Another experiment was to show the effect of commercial fertilizers and stable manure in comparison with each other as a soil fertilizer. The unfertilized trees showed clearly that on this virgin prairie soil additional plant food is absolutely necessary. While the rotting turf sets free a considerable amount of plant food when culture or mulch is first given this material is soon exhausted, and the trees assume the yellow, stunted appearance which is too familiar. There is an apparent advantage in the use of stable manure in comparison with chemicals, because of the humus. In many orchards this humus can be more cheaply supplied in the form of straw or cheap hay, or on cultivated lands in the form of green manures and cover crops. No difference was observed in the effect of different forms of potash salts. There is nothing too insignificant to escape the peering of the inquisitive. As a distorter and magnifier nothing is in the class of curiosity. It makes a dagger thrusts in pin pricks, and

# WATERWAYS OF KASHMIR



side luxuriant crops, marked out by rows of fruit trees, soothe the eye, and rise gradually to be lost in the cedar forests of the hills above. No one seems to be hurried or troubled, yet, with the shortness of summer and the demand for labor in public works there remains but scant time to prepare for the long winter. From Sopore we can send the boats round to Tulis in the Woolar lake, and ourselves pass up the Lolab valley to rejoin them later.

We can wander through the forests, the retreat of bears, who no doubt regard us with an appreciative eye the ripening of the crops below; we can note how the yellow pollen of cedar is blown in clouds across the valley, until the landscape is hidden in a golden haze, and then descending to the Woolar lake, over a steep and stony road, welcome the shelter of the pine trees on its banks. The vast sheet of water lies placid in the evening light, and one could hardly believe in the disasters which sudden storms have caused, and may again cause, on the lake, were it not that the ominous clouds are already gathering on the snow peaks to the north, and ere mid night a mighty wind falls from the heights, churning the dark waters into milky foam and threatening to dash our feet against the rocky shores. It passes, and with the dawn we venture out to make the six miles' passage and arrive in safety on the northern bank. Then up the quiet canal to the Jhelum river and along its busy stream till the turning to Manasbal is reached, where the clear, deep water lies in peaceful solitude, reflecting the snow-capped mountains which surround it.

The people come with offerings of fruit and flowers, and the turmoil of the night and the exertions of the early morning are forgotten ere the voyage is continued onwards to Srinagar, the home of the Hindu rulers of the country, the city which in the past took the best of the labor and produce of Kashmir and absorbed the vitality of the country, but is now left, save for a few months of the year, to the busy traders of Kashmir.

The ancient fort of Hariparbat alone reminds us that we are still in the vicinity of the capital; but it is overshadowed by the storm-clouds which gather on the snowy heights, and its pretensions to dominate the landscape become insignificant. Then, with the early morning, turn to the north and see how the risen sun is drawing up the moisture to form clouds in the hill-tops, while the misty distance holds the imagination in golden haze; or, later in the day, go with the people as they work in their floating islands, or collect the produce of the waters, or pass from village to village to seek acquaintances and gossip with friends, and you will recognize, what they feel but cannot express, that their lives, often of hardship, are bound up in their lake dwellings, so that to leave them for the sterile plains of India produces a longing which may not be satisfied save by returning to their birthplace.

Beware of the man who cheats himself in a game of solitaire.

## EVIL THAT IS IN CURIOSITY

Above All, It is a Trait That is Distinctly Vulgar.

Curiosity makes more discomfort than many another more censured trait. It is equally trying for the prayer and the "pryer."

To bother about what is none of your concern is distinctly vulgar. The well-bred woman waits until news comes her way; does not go on a still hunt for it.

The curious woman may not mean impertinence, but rarely fails to be credited with it, says a writer in the Philadelphia Times. There is no greater impudence than to seek to know what others are trying to conceal.

Curiosity is a malignant growth; once get the germ and soon it will affect the most trifling affairs of life. There is nothing too insignificant to escape the peering of the inquisitive. As a distorter and magnifier nothing is in the class of curiosity. It makes a dagger thrusts in pin pricks, and cannot rest happily until suspicions are verified.

The curious woman is not only a nuisance to her friends, but is thoroughly unhappy herself. To go through life with the belief that every one has something to hide from you is misery.

The curious woman need not think to conceal her falling. The prying look and roving eye is an unmistakable placard.

Overinquisitiveness defeats its own ends. The curious woman misses many an interesting bit of news that people keep to themselves, rather than gratify her morbid desire for knowledge that is none of her business.

He is an eloquent man who can treat humble subjects with delicacy, lofty things impressively and moderate things temperately.—Cicero.

"Here's where I am driven to drink," remarked the horse as it was hitched to the brewery wagon.—Philadelphia Record.

# Gossip of Washington

What Is Going On at the National Capital.

## Mystery of a Missing Mink Overcoat



WASHINGTON.—Unless St. Anthony speedily answers his prayer, or some other agency of the lost and found intervenes to help him, it may be necessary for Senator McCumber of North Dakota to insert an advertisement in the newspapers of his state for a mysteriously missing overcoat.

In the second week of his strenuous campaign for the presidency Judge Taft invaded North Dakota. He was accompanied by a cold wave that met him at Minneapolis. Great preparations had been made for his entertainment at Fargo, where the arrangements contemplated a visit by the Republican presidential candidate to a big barbecue near the edge of the city. All these plans were outlined to Mr. Taft by a local committee which boarded the train at Crookston, Minn. When Mr. Taft hinted that he had no garment to protect him from the cold, local committeemen said they would see to it that he was provided with proper habiliments.

When the Taft special reached Grand Forks, Senator McCumber got Fargo on the long-distance telephone and said he wanted the chairman of the county committee to be at the station with an overcoat that would fit Judge Taft. A hundred loyal sons of Fargo were willing to shiver in the raw prairie blizzard that the next president of the United States should be properly clad. The difficulty was to find a man of the Taft physical proportions who owned an overcoat.

The county chairman was in despair until he happened to think of Finn Leech, a "bonanza farmer," whose ranch is only a few miles from Fargo. Finn weighs 340 pounds. The county chairman lost no time in getting in touch with Finn Leech.

"Did Finn have an overcoat?" Sure thing, and it was lined with mink and cost \$175.

"Would he loan it to Judge Taft for use that evening?" Would he? Would a lifelong Republican miss a chance to have his finest garment adorn the shoulders of the leader of his party?

Ten minutes later the overcoat was in the hands of the county chairman and Judge Taft was tucked beneath its ample folds as soon as his train reached Fargo. He wore the coat to the barbecue and to the meetings following the feast. And for that that Finn knows he may be wearing it now as he follows the elusive golf ball over the links at Hot Springs.

The \$175 mink lined overcoat disappeared when Judge Taft left Fargo. Nobody seems to know where it is. Its owner has asked Senator McCumber to make an investigation.

It's colder now in Fargo than it was when Judge Taft visited that city and Finn Leech is willing to wager this is going to be the most severe winter ever known on the prairies of North Dakota.

## Citizens Want a Change in Government



THE liveliest question in Washington just now is that of a change in the district's form of government. As everybody probably well knows affairs are administered now by a commission of three men appointed by the president, one of whom must be an army officer.

There is undoubtedly a growing opinion that a concentration of authority in the district government would simplify the municipal situation and produce better results. The commission plan has its good features. It has long been held up as a model, ideally suited to the needs of the District of Columbia, where suffrage is denied. But frequent and repeated contention and bickering among the members of the board have served to create more or less general criticism of the commission plan, and thus give the propaganda for a change some momentum. With the commissioners obviously working at cross purposes, and airing their differences, and subordinate district officials following

this example by engaging in noisy controversies, it is a logical sequence that the present form of government should gradually be somewhat undermined.

Many substantial citizens and large taxpayers are convinced that a one-headed government would work more smoothly and satisfactorily. This is no new conviction on their part. It has been emphasized in recent exhibitions of division in the present triumvirate, it is true, but the advisability of concentrated authority has appealed to them for years.

These citizens, however, who honestly believe in the wisdom of a change for the public good see great danger in going before congress and asking for a change at this time. If by simple act one commissioner or governor could be substituted for the triumvirate they would urge it earnestly and heartily. But they fear the proposition would mean the opening up of the whole question of the relations between the district and federal government, with a possible alteration of the organic act and perchance the granting of unrestricted suffrage.

Better suffer the ills we have, they argue, than invite ills we know not of, especially as the ills we now have, though vexatious, impose no heavy burdens and involve no maladministration.

## Joy of Department Clerks Shortlived



PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT caused great rejoicing among 25,000 government clerks here the other day, by announcing that he had no intention of compelling the poor overworked employes to labor an additional 30 minutes daily.

But before the rejoicing got to the danger point, he spoiled it all, by adding a postscript that he would permit no department head to increase the salary of any of the employes.

The hours which the department employes now observe are from nine a. m. to 4:30 p. m., with half an hour for lunch.

Up to three years ago, they quit at four o'clock in the afternoon, when very suddenly the strenuous president issued an order tacking on the additional half hour. Then it was rumored that he intended to complete the job by making it a full hour, and keeping the clerks at work until five o'clock every day.

So when the clerks went to work the other day there was great rejoicing in the White House announcement that 4:30 would still be the limit.

Then came the second half of the same executive order directing that no increase should be offered, suggested or proposed in any of the budgets for anybody. Economy was given as the cause.

This order affects not only the Washington employes of the government, but its employes throughout the country, many of whom are figuring on generous increases.

Secretary Loeb explained that the no-increase order did not apply to regular promotions under the civil service, but that it would forbid the increase of any clerk's or official's salary for the same work. It is understood that a number of department heads intended to recommend in their current estimates an increase for some of their subordinates. The presidents order spoils all of this.

## Police Ban on Dazzling Salome Posters



just like some phony canned goods or something like that," said one indignant chorus girl. Just to show that the management did not share the shame of the censor, the posters were pasted up in the theater lobby.

A Soft Answer.

One Sunday evening the old colored pastor of a church in the south stepped before his flock, and as was his habit, began: "Well, brethren and sistern, what am de text to be dis evening?"

There was a pause, and then a voice in a rear pew was heard saying: "Speak on pills!"

"What's dat?" asked the pastor.

"Speak on pills!" was repeated.

For a moment the old servant of the Lord seemed disconcerted. Recovering himself he began: "Pills! Pills! Well, brethren and sistern, dere am pills an' pills. Dere am quinine pills an' headache pills an' physic pills, an' dere am de kind ob pills our brudder in de rear pew takes when he has been out all night; but de kind ob pill dat I am gona' to speak about dis evening am de Gospil!"—Exchange.

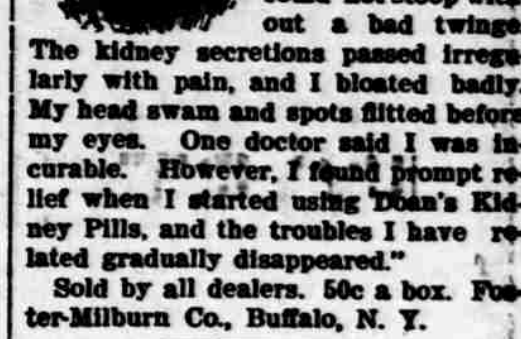
Madeira's Equable Climate.

Madeira is said to have the most equable climate in all the world. In summer the average heat is a little above 70, and in the winter it seldom goes below 60. For this reason, it is a favorite resort for invalids, especially those suffering from tuberculosis and pulmonary troubles.

# SEEMED WORSE EVERY DAY.

A Dangerous Case of Kidney Complaint and How It Was Checked.

Mrs. Lucy Quebeck, Mechanic St., Hope Valley, R. I., says: "Eight years ago I contracted severe kidney trouble and my back began to ache continually. Every day it seemed worse. The most pressing pain my back tortured me, and I could not stoop without a bad twinge. The kidney secretions passed irregularly with pain, and I bloated badly. My head swam and spots fitted before my eyes. One doctor said I was incurable. However, I found prompt relief when I started using Dr. D. Jayne's Kidney Pills, and the troubles I have related gradually disappeared."



Sold by all dealers. For a box, Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Smile's Face Value.

Although most of us would hesitate to express what might be termed the face value of the "modern smile," we certainly realize at times that it is a form of currency which is depreciating. In the "modern smile" we recognize the crude, official thing which neither illuminates, cheers nor bridges awful gaps of silence. It may aver of suggesting a wave of imbecility to declare that we ought all to smile more, but it is certainly true that the charm of a woman's smile was once esteemed even above beauty.

The extraordinary popularity of fine white goods this summer makes the choice of Starch a matter of great importance. Defiance Starch, being free from all injurious chemicals, is the only one which is safe to use on fine fabrics. Its great strength as a stiffener makes half the usual quantity of Starch necessary, with the result of perfect finish, equal to that when the goods were new.

A Clever Fellow.

"Did you friend make a hit at the literary club?"

"I guess he did. He pronounced 'Les Miserables' in a brand-new way and then alluded to it as Victor Herbert's masterpiece."—Washington Herald.

Allen's Foot-Powder, a Powder Formulation, soothing feet, gives instant relief. The original powder for the feet. 25c at all drug stores.

A man may follow his natural bent and yet be perfectly straight.



This woman says that sick women should not fail to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound as she did.

Mrs. A. Gregory, of 2355 Lawrence St., Denver, Col., writes to Mrs. Pinkham: "I was practically an invalid for six years, on account of female troubles. I underwent an operation by the doctor's advice, but in a few months I was worse than before. A friend advised Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and it restored me to perfect health, such as I have not enjoyed in many years. Any woman suffering as I did with backache, bearing-down pains, and periodic pains, should not fail to use Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."

FACTS FOR SICK WOMEN.

For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness or nervous prostration. Why don't you try it?

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.



## If You Work Outdoors

Any cold you contract should be cured without delay, and driven entirely out of the system—unless you wish to invite an attack of Pleurisy or Pneumonia.

## Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant

is known as the most successful preparation ever discovered for Colds, Coughs, Bronchitis, Inflammation of the Lungs or Chest, Pleurisy, Asthma and diseases of similar nature. This famous remedy has been dispensed for over 78 years, and is sold by all druggists, in three size bottles, \$1.00, 50c and 25c.

Dr. D. Jayne's Tonic Vermifuge is a splendid building-up tonic for systems weakened by Coughs or Colds.