NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt

A flock of sheep well managed will help eat the mortgage off the place.

The small fruit drier which can be placed on the range is handy on the farm.

Harvest time will tell the story as to whether you did the spraying faithfully in your orchard.

It is generally the poor cow which the farmer is anxious to sell, remember that when going to buy.

In putting the corn in the silo be sure it is laid down evenly and is well packed. The keeping quality depends much on the way the work is done.

It is never too late to plan for some kind of system of rotation of crops. It may be too late to do anything for this year, but you need to think ahead at least a year to get such a system started right.

Prof. Burnett, Nebraska, and Prof. Holden, Iowa, are both of the opinion that organization of farmers, principally for social and educational purposes, is one thing now most needed in country life.

Fruit and poultry are two of the greatest industries of the present age and require but little capital to start. Begin in a small way and work up. Be thankful if you have not a big bunch of money to put in at the start. It is generally the man who goes slow but sure who makes a success of the business.

Pick a name for the farm, have it neatly painted on a sign board and place it in a conspicuous place in the lane before the house. It will interest passersby, will identify your place, and will prove a wonderful incentive to you to spruce up a bit and make the place look as good as the name you have picked for it.

Pigs fd on skimmed milk do better than upon any other diet, whether fed sweet or sour. Pigs seem to like the sour rather than the sweet, and in either case grain foods should be fed with it in order to make a balanced ration. Skimmed milk as a food for all young animals is an aid to the digestive organs, as there is not a particle of it but is digestible.

In cultivating to preserve moisture the work should be done each time as soon as there is an indication that a crust is being formed. It is particularly desirable to cultivate after each rain, as the packing by the raindrops forms a hard crust. Sometimes a light rain that penetrates the soil for but the fraction of an inch packs the soil so thoroughly that capillary tubes are formed, through which the moisture in the soil is sent off into the atmosphere.

Loss of curd from buttermilk can be saved by straining through a very fine meshed cheese cloth, or by adding a small quantity, about one-fourth, sweet skim milk to three-fourths buttermilk. Let the mixture stand over night at a temperature of about 60 degrees. Then heat the next morning to about 120 degrees and let stand for one hour. The skim milk curd seems to collect the fine buttermilk curd so that there is much less loss during the straining process than is the case when an attempt is made to separate the buttermilk curd alone by the cloth strainer.

Lime sulphur spray may be made as follows: Good lump lime, 15 pounds; flowers of sulphur, 15 pounds; water, 50 gallons. To prepare this mixture, first slake the lime in a small quantity of water, using enough to keep the slaking lime thoroughly wet. When the lime is pretty well slaked, put in the sulphur and add as much more water as is necessary to keep the whole of the consistency of thin cream. Put the kettle or the receptacle containing the mixture over the fire and boil for 45 minutes, or until the liquid is of a deep reddish brown color. Then, dilute to 50 gallons, and apply at once. If the mixture should become cold, crystals will form and weaken the insecticide for the destruction of the lice and their eggs.

We repeat: Test your cows and know what they are doing for you. Dairying pays only when you have profitable cows, and the only way you can know this to a surety is by use of the Babcock tester. The equipment and process is comparatively simple. Here are all the necessary things for making the test:

One Babcock tester of size to suit the herd. One dozen test bottles. One milk test pipette (measuring 17.6 c. c.) One dairy thermometer. One quart bottle standard sulphuric acid. Hot water. In making the test, keep in mind the following rules:

(A) 17.6 cubic centimeters average milk. (B) 17.6 sulphuric acid. Add the latter carefully. If it is poured through the milk it will burn it; let it run down the inside of the bottle. (C) Shake thoroughly. (D) Put into the tester and whirl five minutes. (E) Add hot water until the liquid rises well into the neck of the bottle. (F) Whirl again two minutes, and read the percentage of fat at once. A pair of fine dividers help greatly in convenience of reading.

Keep the drains and gutters clean.

Time to get the fruit boxes ready for the orchard picking.

The dry spell is the time to keep the cultivator going in the corn.

Grass is essential to the diet of the hens, but something else is needed as food.

It is a short-sighted policy for the farmer to work his soil for present gain without thought as to its future fertility.

The value of cream depends upon its flavor and palatableness. Be careful that it does not become contaminated in any way.

In order to make a balanced ration with alfalfa ground corn and barley should be fed, together with a little wheat bran and linseed meal.

The high priced grain calls for the economical cow, which is always and ever the cow which gives a yield of milk inrichness and quantity sufficient to warrant keeping her on the farm.

Feed just enough so that it will be eaten up clean. Left over food calls rats around the coops and you know what that means where there are little chicks.

Feed as much of the produce of the farm to your own stock as you can. In this way you turn back to the soil the fertility and keep improving its condition.

Experienced dairymen who have fed silage would as soon think of dairying without a hay crop as going without silage. Hay and silage are both needed. Alfalfa hay makes an ideal feed in conjunction with corn silage, as it supplies the protein necessary for the balanced ration.

Hot water applications will give relief from the pain caused by contact with poison ivy. After the hot applications wet the poisoned portions over with a strong solution of sulphite of soda, adding some glycerine to keep it from turning white when dry. Repeat the operation when necessary.

The successful dairyman must be a student of the task before him. He must know his cows, know how to care for them, know how to handle their product, and know how to breed for better stock. This of course he cannot do unless he has the pure bred bull to breed from. This is one of the prime requisites of the profitable dairy farm.

It is argued by those who feed all the corn the cattle will consume, swine following at the same time in the pastures, that the hogs will take care of all that is not digested. It is true that swine will gather all the corn in the voidings, but it is also true that cattle when fed very heavily will consume and digest more food than can be assimilated by the system, so that neither the animal to which the grain is fed nor the swine will get the full benefit of the same.

The grubs which often trouble the cow are the larvae of the ox warble fly (hypodermis lineata), and should be squeezed out and destroyed; otherwise on entering the ground they will emerge after a time in the shape of flies to carry on their pestiferous work. By applying fly extruders to the backs of cattle in fly time and sponging the back of each animal with strong salt water or solution of coal tar dip in late fall and early winter much of the trouble can be prevented.

Hogs pastured on rape do well. It will pay farmers to investigate the matter. The Wisconsin experiment station has recently finished a series of experiments and finds much to indicate the value of rape as a hog feed. The conclusions are, that with pigs from four to ten months old, representing the various breeds of swine, an acre of rape, when properly grown, has a feeding value, when combined with a ration of corn and shorts, equivalent to 2,436 pounds of a mixture of these grain feeds and a money value of $19.40 per acre. That rape is a better green feed for growing pigs than good clover pasture, the pigs fed upon the rape having made on the average 100 pounds of gain on 33.5 pounds less grain than was required by the pigs fed upon clover pasture. That pigs are more thrifty, have better appetite and make correspondingly greater gains when supplied with a rape pasture in conjunction with their grain feed than when fed on grain alone. That a plat of Dwarf Essex forage rape when planted in drills 30 inches apart, early in May, in Wisconsin, will yield three good crops of pasture forage in a favorable season. That rape is the most satisfactory and cheapest green feed for swine that we have fed. That every feeder of hogs in Wisconsin should plant each spring a small field of rape adjoining his hog yard, and provide himself with a few rods of movable fence, to properly feed the rape to brood sows and young pigs. That rape should be sown for this purpose in drills 30 inches apart to facilitate the stirring of the ground and cultivation after each successive growth has been eaten off. That hogs should not be turned upon a rape pasture until the plants are at least 12 to 14 inches high and that they should be prevented from rooting while in the rape field. That rape is not a satisfactory feed when fed alone when it is desired to have any live weight gain made in hogs, though it has been found that they will just about maintain themselves without loss of weight on this feed alone.

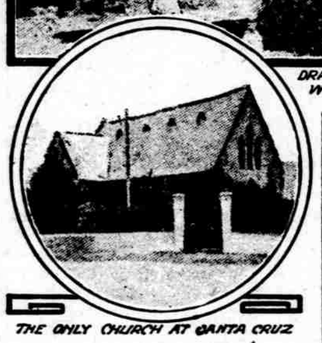
One of the World's Great Rivers.

The Nelson river may be described as one of the greatest rivers of the world as regards the actual volume of water discharged into the Hudson bay. Its total length is approximately 400 miles, and the drainage area is tremendous. Its tributaries cover the whole of Manitoba, the greater portion of Alberta, Saskatchewan, North Dakota and Ontario west of the Great Lakes, where they also enter Montana and Minnesota.

"The Fortunate Islands" Teneriffe, Chief of Canaries

NATIVES TREADING OUT CORN

DRAGON TREE, WITH WHOSE SAP DEAD WERE EMBALMED



THE ONLY CHURCH AT SANTA CRUZ

Teneriffe!

What delightful memories crowd into my mind as I write the name of that beauty spot in the Canaries, for the recollection of the six weeks I spent there will always be an abiding one with me.

In campaigning one naturally expects things to go awry, but when holiday-making one demands that everything shall go smoothly. Happily for me all did go well—from the moment I went by the London and North-Western's famous 5:50 to Liverpool, until I disembarked from the steamer at Santa Cruz, where I was met by my friend Adamson, representing Messrs. Hamilton. Thus I set foot on the Fortunate Islands of the ancients, those isles whose beauty brought to them the name applied originally to a land that was but a myth—the Fortunate Islands, Islands of the Blest,or Happy Islands, set in the western ocean, on which the souls of the blest were made happy. And very glad I was that jealousy of the charms of the place is not as great now as it was when the men of the fleet of Carthage, under Himilco, found them so delightful, and described them in such glowing language, that the senate, fearing a general exodus from Carthage, forbade any to visit the Fortunate Islands on pain of death, lest, seeing them, many should be tempted to stay on them.

Santa Cruz itself is one of the most delightful places in which anyone can desire to spend a holiday, for it is picturesque, full of handsome balconies and quaint nooks and corners, while the "view-towers" placed on the roofs prevent uniformity in the architecture. This beautiful town has been the capital of the Canaries since 1821, and this year celebrates its jubilee as a city.

The city contains many matters of historical interest to the Englishman. One of the most striking is undoubtedly that connected with Nelson, who attacked the city in July 1797, and met with the only defeat recorded in his career. Santa Cruz is remarkable, too, for the fact that it was here that Nelson's arm was shattered by a cannon-ball. Having anchored some two miles off the town on July 24, he made a feint to draw the garrison away from the fort, and at midnight some seven hundred men in boats were directed against the Mole, where they arrived within half a gunshot before the enemy discovered them.

Forty guns at once opened fire. The cutter, containing some two hundred men and several boats, was sunk, and many of the other boats were dashed to pieces by the surf, which was running high, as the men jumped ashore. Nelson's arm was shattered by a cannon-ball as he stepped on the jetty, and he was carried back to his ship by the men.

In a glass case on each side of the altar in the parish church of the Conception may also be seen two flags which were obtained on that night. Happily for England's prestige, they were not taken by the enemy. They were lost when the boats went down, and were subsequently washed ashore and preserved as trophies. There is a story to the effect that when a British man-of-war visited the fort a few years ago, some midshipmen landed, and going to the museum where the flags were then exhibited, actually succeeded in getting them away. Before the ship left the port, however, the loss was discovered and the representatives of the Spanish authorities went on board and explained the position to the captain. He at once issued an order that the flags were to be forthwith restored. This was done, while the captain expressed many regrets at the occurrence.

Close to the chapel in which the flags are kept is another, over which hangs a cross enclosed in a glass case with a descriptive tablet beneath recording that: "Here is enclosed the cross placed by the conqueror of Teneriffe, Don Alonso Fernandez de Lugo on the altar before which he celebrated mass of the holy sacrament for the first time on the shore of Anaza on the 3rd of May, 1494." Anaza is the ancient name given by the original inhabitants of the island to the portion of the shore on which Santa Cruz stands.

Historical interest and beauty of situation and climate are sooner or later bound to pall on the holiday maker, unless he is able to obtain that material comfort in his temporary habitation which gives him, as the sawing is "A home from home." The Grand hotel Quisiana is situated some four hundred feet above the level of the sea, and commands a beautiful view of the harbor, and of the famous peak which is to the island almost what Fuji is to Japan.

Charming as the hotel and its arrangements are, there are, however, certain improvements which might be introduced. One of these is a lift. Its absence is due to the fact that the owner did not want to encourage the presence of invalids, who would, otherwise, be tempted to patronize the hotel on account of the excellence of the cuisine, for he realized that healthy people do not care to have illness brought prominently to their notice at all times. So great, however, are the demands for greater convenience that, I was told before I left, it is intended to extend the hotel on a large scale, and to install lifts, while bungalows will be erected in the grounds for the accommodation of invalids, who will not therefore mix with the ordinary visitors. Another drawback, which is, however, proof of the popularity of the house, is that the tourists who land at Santa Cruz for the day and go to Quisisana for luncheon or dinner invariably find that there is no room for them. When, however, the hotel is extended, a new dining-room is to be provided for these visitors, while a large ball-room is also to be added, together with little suites of bed-rooms, dressing-rooms, and bath-rooms, the bedrooms being built with balconies so that it will be possible to sit on them and enjoy the view, which is a never-failing source of delight, for the harbor is as full of animation as the land is full of picturesqueness.—Melton Prior.

Favored Steady Occupation.

There is nothing worse for mortals than a vagabond life.—Homer.

Work to Save Chicago Babies.

The United Charities of Chicago and the city's health department have joined forces for a summer campaign to save the lives of babies. Maps have been prepared showing where every baby died last year, and the efforts of 500 workers who will be in the field will be especially directed to these districts. The progress through the early part of the summer is expected to be so effective that last August's record of 719 deaths of babies under two years of age will not be repeated. The city will be mapped into 24 districts, each under the particular supervision of some organization. There will be 21 free milk stations, numerous day nurseries and five tent hospitals for babies.

The Family Tie.

Not a great many years ago the Family Tie was regarded next to the Bible. But borrowing from relatives and employing them has so weakened the Family Tie that it isn't held in as high veneration as an old teapot with the spout knocked off.—Atchison (Kan.) Globe.

Seek to Prevent Noise in Cities.

The German Society for the Prevention of Noise, which was founded in 1908 by Dr. Theodor Lessing, in Berlin, has in preparation lists for distribution among the people who rent houses and apartments "which will contain information as to rest-disturbing noises. These lists will be printed on paper of various colors. One color will contain the addresses of noiseless houses, one where there is a little noise, and still another where much noise may be expected. It will soon become known when a house is classified with the noisy ones and landlords will try to improve conditions so that their house may receive a good color."

Warfield's Stage Career.

David Warfield was born in San Francisco November 28, 1866, and made his first appearance on the stage at Napa, Cal., in 1886, as Melter Moss in "The Ticket of Leave Man." He first appeared in New York in 1890 in a monologue at a concert hall. Mr Warfield married Miss Mary Gabrielle Brandt on October 5, 1899. Mrs. Warfield is not an actress.

For the Hostess

Chat on Topics of Many Kinds, by a Recognized Authority

A Pilgrim Rug Party.

A pilgrim rug party is the very latest fad—shades of our grandmothers! Do you suppose under this disguise they would recognize the old rag carpets which adorned every room? Time has certainly turned backward in its flight and the older the fashion the newer, more up to date it seems to be. The "hit-and-miss" style of rug may somewhat resemble the old rag carpet, but the exquisitely woven ones of blue and white, green and white and green and pink are such artistic things that their relationship to the plebeian rag carpet is remote, save in the method of preparing the materials. Only cotton fabrics are used, and as in the olden day, a pound and a half ball weaves into a rug of a square yard in size. Well, now for the party. It was for a bride-elect, and the cards said "thimbles," so we were prepared to sew. We found piles of dark blue denim strips cut into about an inch wide. These were sewed together and wound into a hard ball. Then there was a pile of white strips—before us was a completed rug. By the time refreshments were served the rags were sewed. The cost of weaving is very small. The bride-elect was delighted with this new fashioned shower.

A Peach Luncheon.

This affair will be seasonable as long as peaches are ripe and the weather favorable, for the invitations read "luncheon served on the lawn," but the hostess will make provision to have the house decorated to give a woodsy, outdoor effect should the day prove inclement.

If the sun shines spread a round table with a dainty cloth under a canopy made from awning material supported at the four corners by stakes driven in the ground. Decorate this sylvan dining room with Japanese lanterns and vines.

For the table centerpiece have a pink enameled basket filled with peaches and leaves; while facsimile peaches done in water color will be the place cards. Use gold or silver ink for lettering the names.

Here is a very attractive menu and withal easy to serve, a fact much appreciated by the cook.

Tomato and herring canapes, jellied chicken, potato croquettes, olives, shrimp salad, delicious peach omelet served with brandied peaches, salted almonds in spung sugar shaped like peach baskets; and for dessert individual peach ice cream served on real peach leaves made of pistachio cream. Peach brandy in tiniest of Venetian glass liqueres finished the repart, with cups of French coffee.

The hostess wore a common frock of pink, with pale yellow trimmings, which is a most Frenchy combination if just the right shades are selected.

A Floral Card Party.

During the summer, whether at the seashore or mountain, people are apt to keep in mind their special charity (and every woman has one these days). Card parties seem to be the most popular way of making money, and this method has proved not only pretty but successful. A floral card party is carried out by giving prizes of potted plants and keeping the score with flowers, either carnations, roses or some blossom that does not wilt quickly.

Invitations are sent for a "floral progressive card party" on cards cut in the shape of a flower. Jonquils, tulips, marguerites and roses lend themselves admirably to the scheme. To the winners pass vases containing the score flowers. At the finish every one will possess at least one or more of the fragrant reminders of their good luck.

The ice cream may be molded in floral shapes, and the small cakes ornamented with candy roses, crystalized violets and rose leaves may be mixed with the bonbons. Each guest is supposed to contribute 25 or 50 cents, whichever sum is agreed upon, to the charity for which the party is given.

MADAME MERRI.

IN VOGUE

All parasols have long handles.

It is undoubtedly a year of silks.

Clinging gowns are still the rage.

Velveteen toques are in great demand.

Many guimpes are being made without collars.

Foulards and pongees are the favorite fabrics.

Taffeta silk is the ruling favorite in sunshades.

Satin violets, in all shades, will figure on new hats.

There is no end of border effects among the new cottons.

Bodices are longer in front, but as high as ever at the back.

Crepe de Chine Scarf.

A white crepe de chine scarf with shired stripe border and gold metal-fringed ends is very pretty.

New Idea in Blouse

SEPARATE waists of an entirely different color are no longer considered fashionable, but they have been so serviceable a part of woman's wardrobe that it is almost impossible to do without the blouse in some form or another, so ingenious dressmakers are endeavoring to disguise separate bodices and make them look as if they were part of the frock, while yet being detachable and fit to wear with other skirts.

For a linen skirt a charming blouse is shown in the second illustration, the linen, of the same color as the skirt, or with touches of that color, being folded across the front and cut in a deep V over a vest of tucked lawn. The vest or guimpe has a Puritan collar, which finds its echo in the cuffs on the plain bishop sleeves. A ribbon girdle with a knot of silk at the side adds a note of color, as does the large button at the fastening of the blouse. The button is of the same color as the belt.

A foulard blouse is pictured in the first illustration, this is to be worn with a high directoire skirt of a similar color as the blouse or the velvet trimming. The blouse is laid in wide box plaits across the front and back and tightly fitted into the waist line. It has loose, long sleeves edged with a ruffle of plaited lawn and a wide embroidered collar. A new note is struck by the velvet ribbon tie which hides the fastening of the blouse, starting with a knot at the collar and continuing to the top of the high skirt. The velvet tie, as has been said, should match the skirt or be repeated in some parts of the dress, either in folds on the skirt, buttons or stockings.

It is this necessity for harmony in color that makes or mars the really fashionable costume. Colors in waists should be repeated on skirts, hats or footwear.

The other two blouses show one of the handkerchief effects. The high tucked blouse is of lawn and insertion and the high-waisted girdle or fichu can be made at the side. The last blouse shows a charming folded arrangement completed by vest and cuffs of white net embroidered with big black spots. The folded material should be of the same color as the skirt, but can be of lighter goods, silk or muslin.

Scarf Dresses the Fad.

Many of the handsomest evening gowns have been fashioned from the tinseled Syrian scarfs which may be bought now in most department stores for much less than the extravagant prices asked by the solemn and crafty-eyed Egyptian nomads who proffer these wares to summer-resort visitors. In these days of narrow skirts and sleeveless evening bodies half a dozen of the scarfs should make a very graceful dress, and one may choose white tinseled with silver or black wrought with gilt. The Egyptian maids wore their scarfs, or yazmaks, hanging straight from the shoulders and confined about the hips by heavy girdles. A stunning evening frock along this idea was hung in surplice fashion over a tunic of old gold chiffon, and the girdle was of cloth of gold sewn with jade-colored beads. Another dress, made of black scarfs, was draped about the figure in the style of the Tanagra statues.

Cravat with Double Ends.

If you have a strip of brown silk, taffeta or messaline, and a little silk in pretty contrasting color, such as ecru delicate green or blue, make one of the new cravats with double ends. These are cut like a man's string tie, but with a difference. A perfectly plain bias fold of the silk is used to go round the neck, but where it meets in front each end branches off into two parts, giving four ends in all. These ends are all lined with silk of a contrasting color. The effect when tied is very pretty. The cravat must not be less than a yard in length.

A Necktie Slide.

Some of the new lace jabots on white blouses are provided with a touch of color, vivid in the extreme, in the form of a slide through which the plaited jabot or the lace bow is slipped.

It is made of a circle of buckram covered over with closely shirred silk, satin or ribbon in gorgeous color. Brilliant orange is one of the favorites; deep rose is another. Some of the jabots made partly of black velvet are supplied with these pretty slides, which give much the impression of a silk rosette.

WELL DEFINED.

De Quiz—What's your idea of the difference between optimism and pessimism?

De Whiz—O! the optimist says it is spring when it isn't and the pessimist says it isn't when it is.

Time to Change Subject.

The Courier-Journal tells of this embarrassing statement made by a well-known Louisville woman who is known as "saying things without thinking." Her daughter was entertaining a young man on the front porch and the mother was standing at the fence talking to the neighbors next door. In the yard of the latter was a baby a little over a year old, and it was trying to walk. "You shouldn't let it walk so young," advised the thoughtless matron. "Wait until it's a little older. I let my daughter walk when she was about that age, and it made her bow-legged." The young man began to talk energetically about the weather.

Had to Hear Evidence.

Some ladies were visiting at Blanche's home one day. During the conversation, while the visitors were there, one of the ladies was describing how the blowflies laid eggs and they hatched out as maggots. Four year-old Blanche did not seem to be interested in the conversation nor pay any attention to what they had been talking about. After the visitors had gone, Blanche said:

"Mamma, I don't believe flies lay eggs."

"Why?" asked the surprised mother

"Because I never heard one cackle," explained the doubting Blanche.

Hospitals a Benefit to Property.

The National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis has recently concluded an investigation, which shows that 67.5 per cent of the tuberculosis sanatoria and hospitals of the United States have been a benefit to the property and health of the communities in which they are located. In the case of more than 63 per cent. of the sanatoria the presence of the institutions has helped to increase the assessed value of surrounding property.