

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS

OUR DEBT TO MACHINERY . . . Improved machinery has been coming into use so gradually during the last 75 years or so that most of us hardly realize what tremendous changes it has wrought in agriculture and the effect this has had upon our whole civilization. It was only 100 years ago when it took 90 per cent. of the people to supply the needed food in the United States, while today less than 28 per cent. of the population is directly engaged in producing agricultural commodities.

Had labor saving machinery not come into use on the farm it would have been impossible to operate our railroads and our great industries. In the last 20 years or so labor saving farm machinery has been introduced more rapidly on the farm than ever before and there is little doubt but that still greater saving of man labor will be effected in the next 20 years. It is only a matter of time when 15 to 20 per cent. of the population will produce all the agricultural commodities we can use and find a market for in foreign countries.

Much has been said about the number of workers that have left the farm in recent years. It has been claimed by some that this has been the result of unfavorable prices of farm products. To a certain extent, no doubt, this is true, but it is a movement away from the farm that began 100 years ago and will continue for many years to come. It is the result of machinery being substituted for hand labor.

It is well to bear in mind that, other things being equal, the land on which machinery can be used to best advantage is the land that will be worth the most for farming purposes.

CARE OF THE FLOCK

Earlier hatching of recent years has created a problem as to what to do with maturing pullets in summer and early fall and at the same time take care of the old hens.

An eastern agricultural college has worked out the barracks system to meet this need. The barracks house is constructed so that it can be used as either a brooder house or a laying house. It is usually 20 to 30 feet deep, of any length desired; it is generally a long house.

About August 15 all the hens on the farm are culled. Under this system of management the breeders are placed in their permanent quarters and the remainder of the flock put in this long house. The new pullets can be put in the laying houses as all the old birds except the breeders are in the barracks house. The birds in the barracks house are kept confined, and electric lights are turned on at once from 9 to 10 in the evening, in order to get as many eggs as possible. A production of about 50 per cent. will be obtained for the next two months and possibly in November.

As soon as the hens go into a full molt, they should be sold. Some of them may lay until into January. Hens sold as meat at this time will bring a better price as fowls than in the summer. When the hens are disposed of, the house is cleaned and disinfected and is then used as a brooder for the early chicks.

To make room cockerels from early hatches should be sold as soon as possible, and the pullets moved out to range when they are old enough. The cockerels may be held in separate pens in this barracks house to be fattened, however, if desired.

LESS MINERALS FOR COWS

According to the work done at a western agricultural college the importance of minerals in the dairy cow's ration has been overemphasized. They find that complex mineral compounds are positively harmful to cows. For a short time cows fed a ration containing numerous kinds of minerals produce a little better. Then they go the other way and do not produce as much milk or look as well, or have as many and as good calves as those cows getting merely salt and phosphorus-bearing mineral.

The professor in charge has carried on extensive experiments with a large number of cows. He says: "There is very little evidence to show that cattle suffer from the lack of calcium. The ability of cattle to use calcium is far greater than was hitherto believed."

"Phosphorus is supplied abundantly in such feeds as wheat, bran, cottonseed and linseed meal. However, where legumes are fed and little or no protein concentrates, special odorless, steamed bone meal should be fed to furnish phosphorus. A good mineral mixture to feed is equal parts special steamed bone meal and salt. Raw rock phosphate, sometimes called bone phosphate of lime, should never be fed to cattle, due to its high fluorine content, which affects the teeth. Where goiter is prevalent, .05 pounds pulverized potassium iodide should be mixed with each 100 pounds of salt. Shotgun mixtures, or those containing Glauber salts, coppers and sulphur, are medicines and should be used accordingly."

ALSIKE POISONING

What is the cause of alsike poisoning? No one really knows except that under certain conditions not clearly understood, alsike clover is evidently poisonous to the white skin areas of practically all farm animals, particularly horses and hogs, causing a disease called trifoliosis that some farmers confuse with severe sunburn. In one instance, a white-faced collie dog contracted the disease after following his master, a veterinarian, into a field of alsike.

Many farmers who have experienced this trouble are firm in the belief that it occurs only following heavy dew or rain, and the effect may be unusually severe when there is bright, hot sunshine after the dew. This sounds reasonable, since

MORTALITY IN CHICKS

If chicks begin to die at the age of 5 to 7 days, the cause is usually unabsorbed yolks. Often the reason lies in feeding too soon or too much, but may be from overheating either in the incubator or brooder house. There is no cure; it is necessary to remove the cause.

HOW ABOUT YOURS?

Keep back-country roads in repair. One of the best farms in the country will soon be untenanted. The young folks won't live back where they can't easily get out with the car, and the old folks will soon be gone.

there is some evidence that the disease is really due to the effect of sunlight after the animals have been made susceptible by the alsike.

FEEDING GROWING BIRDS

Growing birds require a ration containing less protein than do baby chicks. Home mixed growing rations may be built from the starting ration by decreasing the percentage of meat or milk products in the ration or by increasing the percentage of scratch feed in the total ration. The changes made in recommended formulas for chicks, to adapt the feeds to growing birds are: To use ground whole oats instead of hullless oats in slightly increased amounts in the mash. Use whole grain feeds, both with the mash to be used with grain and also with the all mash method when it is used.

Mash feeds should be kept before the birds on range in outdoor hoppers located close to the house. Water should be kept in a container within a few feet of feed hoppers. Milk vessels, if milk is used, must be kept clean. Some good sources of calcium should be provided in separate hoppers.

If the chicks are handled on a commercially prepared mash, the same general rules for feeding will apply. If a commercial feed is used in developing the chicks, the directions for feeding as supplied by the firm manufacturing the feed will be found practical and perhaps most satisfactory for the particular feed being used.

TRAPS FOR MAGGOT FLIES

The most irritating menace to the cattleman of the range during the summer is the maggot that is produced by the green fly. On large ranges and in timbered sections where animals are not seen more than once a week, worms often eat large cavities out of the animal's body before the infestation is discovered.

Recent experiments have proved that an entire section of ground may be freed from this menace by setting a baited fly trap in the pasture.

The ordinary wire fly trap, so constructed that the fly enters small holes near the base and moves up into a compartment where the light is available, is altogether effective. A small portion of beef liver is often used for bait.

A few traps over large pastures have entirely eliminated this pest. All carcasses should be burned, since the green fly propagates in flesh and other filth, and feedlots should be plowed under thoroughly.

PRESERVING EGGS

In experimental work for two seasons it was found that certain preservatives maintained the eating quality of the eggs to a greater degree than others. Lime water seemed to give best results. Two pounds of fresh lime were used and five gallons of water previously boiled.

After slaking the lime with one gallon of the water the rest was added. This solution was stirred quite frequently, allowed to settle, and then the clear liquid or saturated lime solution was taken off the top and poured over the eggs. After six months the great majority of them poached fairly well. They were of good quality and flavor.

One pint of table salt added to this lime water solution also produced a very good egg. The water-glass solution came third on the list, but these eggs were of inferior poaching quality; more of the yolks stuck to the sides of the eggs, the white was thinner, and the eggs were not so good in flavor.

HANDLING MANURE

Barnyard manure is often carelessly handled in this country. Not infrequently from 30 to 50 per cent. of its value is allowed to go to waste through leaching and fermentation when much of this loss could be prevented by more prompt hauling. The value to the farmer of barnyard manure depends to a large extent upon the soil to which it is applied.

Tests made at an experiment station show the value of manure in crop returns varied from 53 cents to \$7.45 a ton, depending upon the fertility of the soil. The average obtained from 16 fields of what might be called average corn belt soil, when manure was applied once in a four-year rotation at the rate of nearly 10 tons per acre, was \$2.63 per ton. This value was based upon the increase in crop returns due to the manure. Similar tests made elsewhere would indicate that the value of barnyard manure may safely be placed at \$2 to \$2.50 a ton. It is worth taking good care of this by-product.

THE SELF FEEDER

A self-feeder is a labor saver of no mean proportions; especially is this true when it is supplemented by a self-waterer. A bunch of pigs on pasture provided with a self-feeder and self-waterer can be cared for with a minimum of labor and with a maximum of efficiency. No matter how careful a feeder a man may be, if he hand feeds there will be times on busy days when the hogs will not get their feed at regular periods and sometimes they will be without water. On the other hand, when feed and water are constantly before them they will eat deliberately and drink often, which is undoubtedly one of the main reasons why more pork can be produced from a given amount of feed by self-feeding than by hand feeding.

CARE OF BROOD SOW

Brood sows need exercise. They also need alfalfa in the ration. If the alfalfa is fed in a rack placed some distance from the place where the sows sleep, they will get both the exercise and alfalfa.

TRY IT AND LEARN

Those who are still fattening hogs on corn alone should conduct 30 or 60 day tests and ascertain the number of bushels of corn it requires to produce 100 pounds of pork. If they would do so, they would find that the feeding of corn alone is much more expensive than when it is supplemented with feed.

THE DAIRY ICE HOUSE

Three tons of ice for each milk cow—that's the amount to put up. It takes about 16 cakes (22x22 inches) to make a ton when ice is 8 inches thick; 13 cakes 10 inches thick; 11 cakes 12 inches thick; 9 cakes 14 inches thick.

Married to Tenor



Toti Dal Monte, coloratura soprano of Chicago Opera company, who, friends learn, was married to Charles Lomanto, twenty-five-year-old tenor, in Melbourne, Australia. The ceremony took place in August. (International Newsreel)

60-Year-Old Flapper



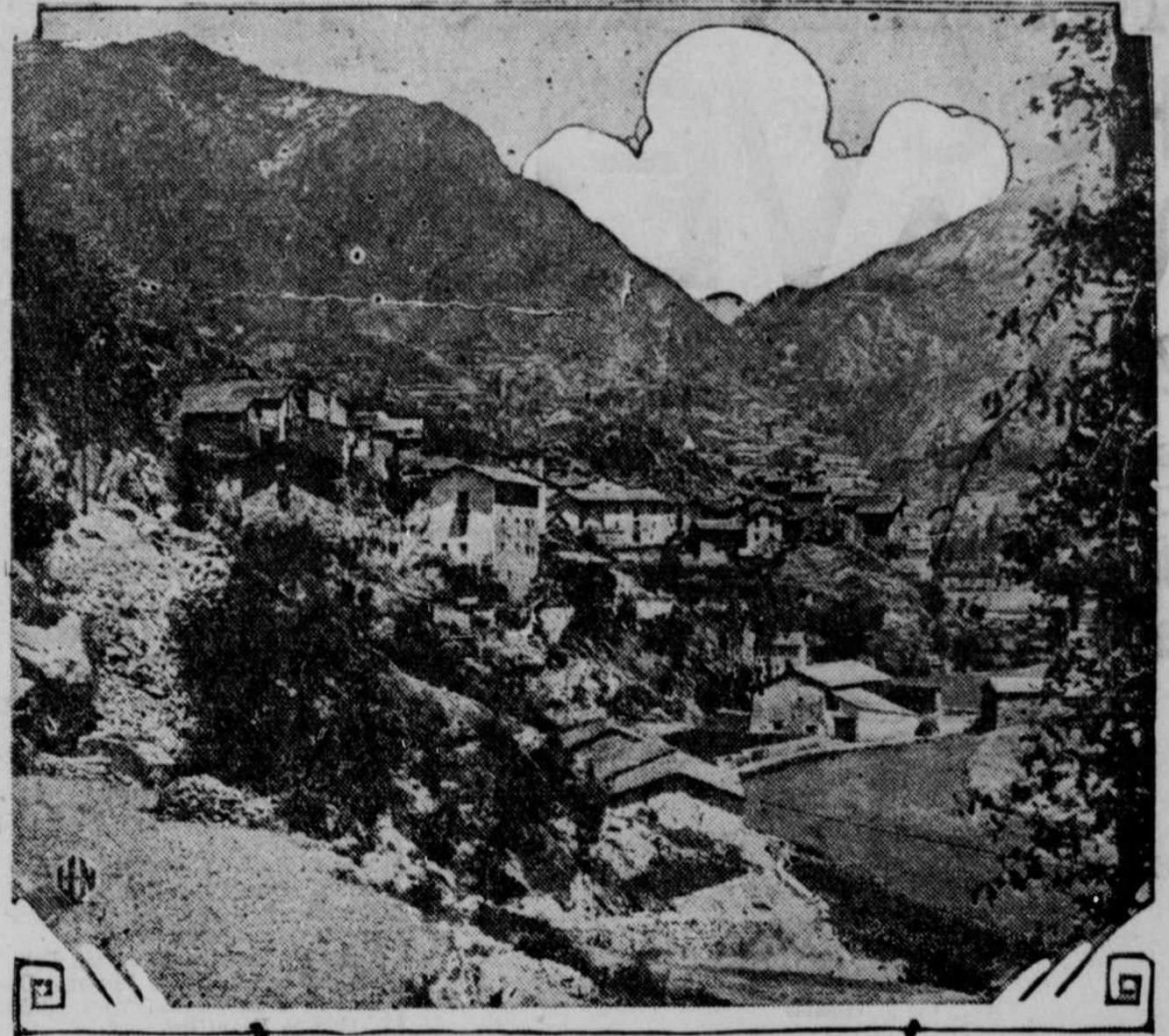
Ho, Hum! Fanny Ward is back looking not a day older than when she departed these shores many months ago. The perennial flapper—she's 60 and can prove it—was a passenger on S. S. Berengaria, returning from that dear Paris. (International Newsreel)

Asks Divorce at 13



Mrs. Maria Contreras, 13, pretty refugee from Mexico, is still young enough to be interested in dolls, but not old enough to merit domestic strife. So she has filed an action asking a divorce from her husband, whom she accuses of ill-treating her. (International Newsreel)

To Become Pyrenees Monte Carlo



This exclusive photo shows the quaint, fourteenth century town of San Julian de Loria, one of the many beauty spots in the tiny republic of Andorra, now about to become a Pyrenees Monte Carlo. The little principality, lying high in the mountains between France and Spain, has been acquired by a syndicate of gamblers for \$4,500,000. It is under the

protection of the Bishop of the See of Urgel, on the Spanish side of the border, although the president of France, who, as successor to Henry IV., is hereditary Prince of Andorra. The total population is about 5,000 of the swarthiest, boniest and most taciturn people in Europe. Copyright, 1928, Hwing Galloway

Passes Eighty-eighth Milestone



Above are two exclusive studies of former Premier Georges Clemenceau of France—"the Tiger"—made upon the occasion of his eighty-eighth birthday at his modest cottage in Vendee, France, where, surrounded by his flowers and attended by his elderly servants, the once fiery statesman lives aloof and retired from the world. (International Newsreel)

Will Fight a Duel



Prince Potenziani, governor of Rome, who, because of criticism of his administration, will fight a duel with Prince Lancelotti in the Italian capital if latter is victorious in previous engagement with the Count di Sambuy. Charges of maladministration alleged to have been made on week-end yachting trip brought about the two challenges. (International Newsreel)

Two Kings Go for a Ride



Photo shows King Alfonso of Spain (left) and King Gustaf of Sweden as they appeared in carriage of state during the visit to Stockholm of the Spanish monarch. (International Newsreel)

Sewer Trial Witness



Fred Curren, former secretary to late John M. Phillips, so-called "King of Queens," who is to be called as a witness in the conspiracy trial of Maurice E. Connolly, former borough president, and Frederick B. Seely, former city engineer. (International Newsreel)