



CHRISTMAS AND THE DARKEST DAY

By JOHN E. DOLSEN

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EVERY day the sun grows colder,
Riding lower through its arc.
Will it, as the year grows older,
Leave us always in the dark?

But we know that science teaches
'Twill begin its upward climb
When its lowest point it reaches,
At the solstice—Christmas time.

Earth to all her utmost regions
Shuddered 'neath the march of Rome,
Whose triumphant, pagan legions
Dragged their loot and captives home.

Must her rule go on, unceasing?
Would her armaments be hurled,
With an insolence increasing,
'Gainst a servile, helpless world?

Were Rome's gods alone undying?
And must other nations crook
To her Caesar, deifying
Him with suppliant sword and look?

When it seemed her ruthless power
Nothing on the earth could stem,
In that saddest, darkest hour
Christ was born at Bethlehem.



BEEF AND DAIRY

CATTLE RAISING

For many years cattle raising for beef was the principal industry of northwestern Nebraska and is yet over a large part of this country, but with the homesteading of lands and the breaking up of some of the large ranches into smaller holdings, more and more attention is being given to dairying. And yet with the high price of beef cattle, that part of cattle raising will hardly be overlooked even by the most enthusiastic dairymen. How to successfully combine the two is a growing question in this country.

In this connection the following, which appeared in an exchange some weeks ago, may contain some suggestions that will be valuable to interested persons:

Beef Production from Dairy Stock

Beef from dairy types may come from two sources aside from the meat furnished by the carcass. There are calves from the straight dairy breeds sold at an early age, and calves grown into meat which are the offspring of straight beef bulls. In both instances they must be grown into meat at reasonably young age. From straight dairy cows the calves should be turned off, as a rule, under rather than over twelve months. The reason is found in the tendency to revert more and more to the dairy form and more and more away from the beef form, with advancing age. Even the dairy calf may be made to assume plumpness of form at an early age when fed on suitable foods. The young animals, therefore, of dairy blood will not be much discounted in price as compared with young animals of the beef type. The high prices of meat make it a matter of some importance to obtain meat from such a source.

When the progeny are not wanted for future production in the dairy, the cows may be mated with beef bulls when the object sought is to freshen them for further production. When this method is followed, the best type of beef bulls should be used. This does not mean the progeny will be the equal of animals of the beef types for making beef, but they may be profitably grown with a good class of beef. They will be grown on much the same plan as the calves above referred to, with the difference that they should not be given too much carbonaceous meal when young and more nitrogenous meal, such as oats, in order to secure larger growth. The heavy feeding of carbonaceous foods should come later, as during the weeks—

and it may be months—preceding the finishing, such cattle should be sold at say somewhere between 12 and 14 months. When well fed they will bring a relatively good price, as they will furnish a good quality of meat. In the not distant future considerable attention will be given to the growing of beef from such a source.

POULTRY AND PRODUCE FARM

Wm. Erman of Oshkosh, Nebr., who has been experimenting in growing garden truck the last year, has decided to run a poultry and produce farm to supply the Alliance

market, and as a starter has purchased five acres of Mr. Breckner, in Duncan's Addition, northeast of the city. The sale was made thru the agency of E. T. Kibbie & Co.

With garden stuff and cold storage eggs being shipped into Alliance to supply the local demand, a farm such as Mr. Erman is planning should prove to be a profitable enterprise. He will put up a house and other necessary buildings in the spring on the tract which he has purchased and will put down a good well from which to irrigate at times during the summer when the rainfall does not supply as much moisture as may be desired for the vegetables.

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