

# NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM



Retentive soils should be drained.

Send to market all old hens right now.

A poor milker, man or maid, is an abomination in a dairy.

The shorter the fattening period the greater the profit from the pen.

If there are any bare places on the lawn now they should be reseeded or resodded.

The disk is a better implement than the plow for breaking up sod in the orchard.

There is a distinct difference between weeds and corn. There should also be an extinct difference.

An orchard will live longer, bear better and be more profitable for being well cultivated and enriched.

Perhaps the first important factor to consider in dairying is the stable wherein the cattle are to be housed.

Strawberries should be cultivated, the weeds eradicated and the moisture conserved for late summer drouth.

When the incubator is to be started for late hatches set things in order and run it two days before intrusting the eggs to it.

The scientific, thoughtful farmer works with his head. He knows every cow, her yield, her condition and her profit producing capacity.

Allow the calf to run with the mother for a day or so immediately after birth. The new milk is necessary to promote a proper digestion.

Aside from the commercial value of the products from the poultry yard the value of fresh eggs and fine poultry for the table should not be underestimated.

No sane and active poultry keeper will tolerate lice in the nest. Place water, feed and dust bath where the hen can easily get at them when she daily leaves the nest.

Unless you secure the guinea eggs and have the young ones hatched under the hens, along with the chicks, they are almost certain to become wild and unmanageable.

Beware of "red rust" in blackberry or blackcap bushes. When seen, promptly dig up and burn infected plant, being careful not to scatter the fungous dust over healthy bushes.

Those who have large apple orchards are fortunate if they have evaporators for drying windfall apples. This is a good way to utilize unsalable fruit and thus add to the profits of the orchard.

Keep your eyes open for better hens. You will often see some advertised for sale. But steer clear of old worn-out stock. None over one or at the outside two years old should be bought or kept on the farm.

For grape-rot and mildew, begin early and spray the vines with Bordeaux mixture at intervals of about two weeks. Newly-set grape vines should be allowed to grow only one main shoot which should be tied up.

When we understand that it requires twenty tons of moisture to produce a bushel of corn we will study to make its evaporation as slow as possible, as crops suffer more from lack of moisture than from any other single thing.

It is quite a temptation sometimes to have a dealer offer you a big price for the best sheep and lambs. If you need them in your own herd, however, you cannot afford to take any price offered. Keep the best and make that best better another year.

Cottonseed meal fed to excess will injure the favor of butter just as linseed meal in excess will injure the grain and flavor. While both of these can be fed to an advantage to dairy cows the best results are possible only when they are used in connection with other materials.

Do not neglect to examine the currant and gooseberry-bushes and look for the white eggs of the currant-worms, and the larva of the currant-sawfly. If you find any, dust the leaves, top and under sides, with finely powdered hellebore, when the foliage is wet, or put a heaping tablespoonful in a gallon of water, and apply.

There is money in bees.

Start an asparagus bed. It thrives on a sandy soil.

Sell off all the roosters except the prime ones for breeding.

The breed of white hogs is rapidly disappearing from this country.

The good roads movement increases the pleasure of moving over the roads.

Some men never discover where a fence is weak until they attempt to climb over it.

Even a city man can come to the front with a small flock of poultry in his back yard.

No cow which averages less than one and one-half gallons of milk per day can be kept at a profit.

Take the chill off the water for the mare, and feed her carefully and keep her quiet for a number of days.

The man who said "that the best poultrymen on most farms are the women," knew what he was talking about.

It is more difficult to secure the seeds of forest trees than any other kinds of seeds, since there is so little market for them.

Beets may be canned or pickled and saved for winter use. When vegetables are scarce they will be greatly enjoyed if saved in this way.

In Japan there are 192 people for every 40 acres of land and 256 cows, 256 donkeys, and 512 swine for every square mile of land in the kingdom.

It is not fair calculation to take the average of the herd as the basis of computing annual profit from the dairy. Let each individual stand on her merits.

The sitting hen should be given a new, clean box for a nest, filled with the cleanest of material. Place her on the new nest and give her the eggs in the evening.

No animals are bred that are capable of supplying the largest amount of rich milk and storing away the largest amount of flesh and fatness in their bodies at one and the same time.

Most people find that the yearling hens lay more eggs than the older hens, but some chicken raisers claim that the old hens eggs are better for hatching, because they are more strongly fertilized.

Good food never creates the character nor temperament of a cow, nor makes of her a good dairy animal, any more than it never makes a good cow out of a small milker; it is useless to make the effort.

Water or moisture is always on the move. When it rains it soaks the ground, and as soon as it stops raining it starts its upward movement by capillary attraction. It travels from one soil particle to the next and so on until the soil becomes what we call dry.

It must be apparent to every unprejudiced thinking man that if the dairy farmer wishes to obtain the greatest profit in his dairy he must grade up his herd by one of the purebred bulls of one of the four great dairy breeds, Ayrshire, Guernsey, Holstein or Jersey.

All stock will be healthier and will thrive better if salt is kept where they can help themselves daily rather than at intervals. Medicated salts are now put up and sold that are better in every way for the stock than the common salt usually used besides being a better conditioner.

The soil has wonderful absorptive power to hold on to its moisture, for if we place some soil in the oven and drive off the moisture by heat and then examine these soil particles under a powerful microscope we will find each soil particle coated with a thin film of what is termed hygroscopic water.

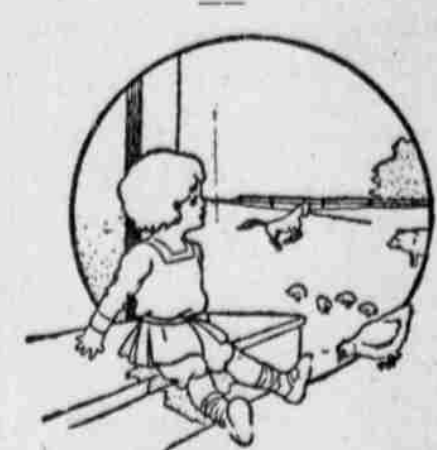
Shade and water are important matters in connection with grazing cattle, and the more nearly natural the conditions can be made, the better. In a pasture which contains no trees, it sometimes pays to put up a board roof to protect cattle from the hot sun in July and August, but summer feeding on a large scale is not generally advisable at all where there is no natural shade in the field.

Unless the cockerels are to be retained for breeding purposes, it is advisable to kill them off as soon as they are sufficiently large, thus clearing the ground and giving more space to the pullets to grow. When cockerels are allowed to run together, growth is considerably retarded, besides which the flesh loses a good deal of its excellence, both in flavor and fineness.

Professor Washburn of the Minnesota division of Entomology at University Farm finds toads to be friends of the farmer. They feed entirely upon an incredible number of insects. The federal department of agriculture, investigating the toad, discovers the startling fact that in 24 hours the insect food consumed by one toad equals in quantity four times the capacity of its stomach, which is practically filled and emptied four times every 24 hours.

# BOYS AND GIRLS

LITTLE ONES.



A little Colts, black and sleek. Does in the barnyard run: He kicks up his heels and flirts his tail, And has such loads of fun.

A little Piggle in the pen. Does scratch with tiny feet: He knows just where to find good things, And soon he roots them out.

A little Chickie in the yard. Does scratch with tiny feet: He knows just where to find a crumb, For it does love to eat.

A little Baby in the house. Runs everywhere and plays: It laughs and crows and merry is Throughout the summer days.

## GLOVE HELPS IN SWIMMING.

Device With Concave, or Dish-shaped Surface, Enables Swimmer to Get Better Grip on Water.

In order to increase the effective area of a swimmer's hand, an inventor has provided a glove consisting of an elastic web formed with cots or stalls in which the fingers and thumb may be inserted. The glove is also attached to the wrist by means of a



Swimming Glove.

strap. The cots are made of open-work material, so that they will have a tendency to grip and bind the fingers to prevent the glove from slipping off, says Scientific American. The outer edge of the web is curved downward, forming a concave or dish-shaped surface, which will enable the swimmer to secure a better grip on the water.

**A Queer Ache.**  
One day Mary came to her mother and said: "Mother, my ear aches!" "Does it ache very bad, Mary?" "No." "Well, run out and play, then you will forget about it." Mary went out, but pretty soon she came back and said: "Mother, my ear does ache. It is not the hole, but the ruffle around it."—Delineator.

**The Robin Joined in the Hymn.**  
A clerical correspondent of the Scotsman supplies an instance of the boldness of the robin. He writes: "On a recent Sunday morning I conducted service in an asylum. On my way to the institution I wondered whether my bluff, fearless chorister of last winter would attend. I had missed him hitherto, and feared some mischance had befallen. To my delight, there he was on the upper bar of the window sash just a little down from the top; and as we began to sing, down he darted to the floor in front of the reading desk and poured forth his silver treble with throbbing joy. On the giving out of the text he returned to his perch, and remained silent till the parting Paraphrase brought him back once more to render with full heart his glad song."

**Valuable Find in Argentina.**  
Rubies, opals, crystallized quartz, onyx, talc, gypsum and earth suitable for making porcelain have been found in the sparsely populated territory of Los Andes, Argentina.

**Success demonstrates that it's long head that has no turning.**

## Writing in Bible Times

Prof. Flinders Petrie says that there is nothing abnormal, nothing to be questioned, in the general outlines of the Bible story of the exodus. He contends that the spread of writing in those days has been enormously underestimated. "It is my firm conviction," he says, "that the Europe of a century ago was far more illiterate than the eastern world in the Bible times. We have,

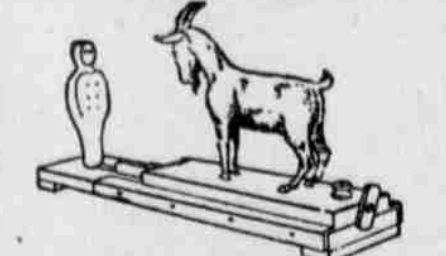
## TEN LITTLE KITTY CATS.

Ten little Kitty cats all dressed up fine,  
One tore her pinafore, then there were nine.  
Nine little Kitty cats eating from one plate,  
One got crowded out, then there were eight.  
Eight little Kitty cats sat up till eleven,  
One fell fast asleep, and then there were seven.  
Seven little Kitty cats playing funny tricks,  
One rolled out of sight, then there were six.  
Six little Kitty cats, learning to dive,  
One went down too deep, then there were five.  
Five little Kitty cats playing on the shore,  
A big wave caught one, then there were four.  
Four little Kitty cats climbed up a tree,  
One fell down again, then there were three.  
Three little Kitty cats met a kangaroo,  
One went home with him, then there were two.  
Two little Kitty cats sitting in the sun,  
One ran in the house, then there was one.  
One little Kitty cat went to buy a bun,  
He never came back, and so there was none.

## TOY BILLY GOAT BUTTS HARD

Novel Device, Invented by Georgia Man, Intended to Cause Much Amusement for Children.

An amusing toy for children has been invented by a Georgia man. It is a rearing, tearing billy goat that butts a mannikin flat in its charge. The toy comprises a base with a figure elastically mounted at one end.



Toy Billy Goat.

The figure normally stands erect, but when struck a blow on the chest will flop over backward and spring back when the pressure is released. Facing this figure a goat is mounted on a platform, through which the animal's forefeet pass to a slide, which is also elastically operated. By means of a projecting button the slide is drawn out. When it is released the elastic makes it fly back and the goat pitches forward, raising his hind legs in the air and butting the mannikin full in the chest or face. The mannikin thereupon falls flat on his back, to the great amusement of any children who may be watching, but upon the goat resuming his normal position, the other figure boldly springs up and faces Billy again.

## ANIMALS WEEP FROM GRIEF

Horses Cry From Thirst, Mule From Injured Foot and Other Beasts From Pain or Annoyance.

Travelers through the Syrian desert have seen horses weep from thirst. A mule has been seen to cry from the pain of an injured foot, and camels, it is said, shed tears in streams. A cow sold by its mistress, who had tended it from calfhood, wept pitifully, says Harper's Weekly. A young soko ape used to cry with vexation if Livingstone didn't nurse it in his arms when it asked him to. Wounded apes have died crying, and apes have wept over the young ones slain by hunters. A chimpanzee tried to carry water jugs broke one and cried, which proved sorrow, though it wouldn't mend the jug. Rats, discovering their young drowned, have been moved to tears of grief. A giraffe which a huntsman's rifle had injured, began to cry when approached. Sea lions often weep over the loss of their young. Gordon Cumming observed tears trickling down the face of a dying elephant. And even an orangoutang when deprived of its mango was so vexed that it took to weeping. There is little doubt, therefore, that animals do cry from grief or weep from pain or annoyance.

## A Sack Race.

Another good game is a sack race. For this game, each child is put into a sack, fastened around the neck. The one who is to start the race stands the sacked persons in a row, at a given distance from the winning post. The object of the game is to get to the winning post first by running, hopping or rolling. If sacks are not obtainable, the players' arms may be tied to their sides and their legs tied together. All the players start at a signal. The one who gets there first wins the game.

## A Remarkable Library.

A gentleman a good many years ago built a fine house and wanted to have a good library, and so this is the remarkable order he sent to a book buyer: "I want six feet of theology, same quantity of metaphysics and near a yard of old civil law in the folio."

Success demonstrates that it's long head that has no turning.

# LEOPARD MOTH MOST INJURIOUS OF INSECTS

Pronounced as One of Worst Pests Attacking Shade Trees—Accidentally Introduced Into This Country From Europe.



Female Leopard Moth.

By W. E. BRITTON, Ph. D., Entomologist, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.

A brief note was printed in the last report of this station regarding the occurrence of the leopard moth in Connecticut. Since this note was published considerable evidence has been brought to our attention of serious damage to shade trees, especially elms, by this insect. Pruning of the trees and especially the removal of dead branches reveals the tunnels of the leopard moth larva, which is a borer in the branches and trunks of many species of broad-leaved trees. Several specimens of the adult moths have been captured in New Haven, but it was not known until recently that the insect is doing much injury to the trees in Connecticut.

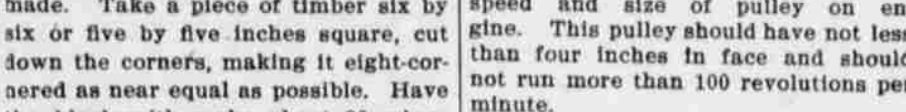
The leopard moth is a European pest, and like many other very injurious insects that we now have to fight, was accidentally introduced into this country, being first noticed in June, 1881, at Hoboken, N. J. Three years later Dr. E. B. Southwick found it injuring trees in Central park, New York city, and in 1894 pronounced it one of the worst insect pests attacking shade trees. The leopard moth was soon found in other cities near New York, and in 1907 Mr. A. H. Kirkland, then superintendent in charge of the work of suppressing the gypsy and brown-tail moths in Massachusetts, called attention to its presence

In Boston. During 1909 the writer was informed of its occurrence in Providence, R. I., and also that many of the fine elms of Cambridge, Mass., were threatened with destruction by this insect. The leopard moth is reported by Professor Smith as occurring as far south as Long Branch, N. J. As it first appeared in Hoboken, N. J., it will be seen that like many other European insects introduced into this country it has spread northward much more rapidly than in any other direction.

The position of the caterpillars tunneling in the branches, especially when they are in the tops of large trees, render them exceedingly difficult to reach. If the trees are pruned or otherwise gone over systematically ever year or two the burrows will certainly be detected and can be treated by injecting a few drops of carbon disulphide from an oil can into each and closing the opening with clay, putty, grafting wax or newly made hard soap. The poisonous fumes penetrate throughout the galleries and will kill the borers therein.

Withering branches indicate the presence of the borers and should be removed and destroyed. All twigs and limbs that break off during storms should be gathered and burned, thus destroying many of the borers in their tunnels. All female moths should be destroyed wherever found.

## MIXING CEMENT AND SAND



A good concrete mixer can easily be made. Take a piece of timber six by six or five by five inches square, cut down the corners, making it eight-cornered as near equal as possible. Have the blacksmith make about 80 wings out of flat iron about one-eighth of an inch thick and two inches wide. Cut the pieces four inches long, cutting about miter slant at each end. Drill two holes about one and one-half inches from one end, bent strips in the middle to a right angle with the same slant as ends are cut. Nail these wings onto the eight-cornered timber, going round and round, making an auger like a conveyor auger in a mill or threshing machine. This auger should be about seven feet long. In the middle of each end of the auger or cylinder bore a hole for a short shaft; a piece of gas pipe will do. Head end of the shaft must be fastened securely. Or bore a hole through end of cylinder and through shaft and fasten with a bolt. On outer end of this shaft fasten securely a pulley ten or more inches in diameter, depending on speed and size of pulley on engine. This pulley should have not less than four inches in face and should not run more than 100 revolutions per minute.

Make a trough for this cylinder to work in, using a plank for bottom just wide enough so wings work free. Use 12-inch boards on sides. Leave top open. Put in head at each end, boring hole in center of foot end and making slot at head end so cylinder can be removed by lifting at pulley and pulling endways. Leave opening at foot end of box for mortar to drop through into a mortar box or on a platform. Make a small hopper on head end of box and close by packing a box large enough to hold a sack of cement. About half way to the other end place a barrel with faucet to supply water. Use measures of proportionate size. A boy puts in a measure of cement to a man's measure of sand, pouring in slowly together. Regulate water by faucet, and the machine will do the rest.

## TURNING WASTE INTO VALUE

No System of Farming Has Ever Been Successful Which Does Not Include Keeping of Live Stock.

(By J. E. PAYNE, Colorado Agricultural College.)

The history of the settlement of Western Kansas and Western Nebraska shows that the people who kept milk cows were able to hold their claims and make themselves homes, while many of their neighbors who refused to be in partnership with the cow failed. This has been found true of the early settlers of Colorado and other states. Some people are able to get along without cows, but the chances are against the person who makes the attempt.

It seems to be one of the foundation principles of agriculture that no system can long be followed at a profit which does not make provision for returning to the land in some form the elements of fertility taken from it by the crops. So no system of farming has ever been successful for any great length of time in any climate which does not include the keeping of live stock as one of its important features.

The successful man, be he manager of a farm or a factory, is the man who plans to turn waste products into value. Kaffir, milo, sorghum, millet, stock beets, stock melons, the straw from grain, corn stalks and all other rough feed which is produced on the farm is of a nature that market for it is extremely limited. And some variety of this rough feed is produced in large quantities in every community every year. So much is produced that if the growers tried to sell it all directly for cash, it would not bring enough to pay for hauling it to market. As much as is produced forty miles from a railroad as in the community joining the shipping station. The cow will furnish a home market for all the bulky feed which the farmer can raise, and will take it, delivered at his yard—paying about as much per ton as the care of her owner and his management will permit. The cream produced can be sold for cash, and the farm products will be marketed in concentrated form. What would have required a four-horse team to take to market can be hauled to market, when reduced to cream, in a one-horse buggy.

**Bush Beans.** Try bush beans in hills and see whether you like the plan better than drills; that is, drop four or five beans at spaces of about eight inches. The advantage claimed is that better opportunity is afforded for tillage, as the hoe can be worked with ease about the hills.