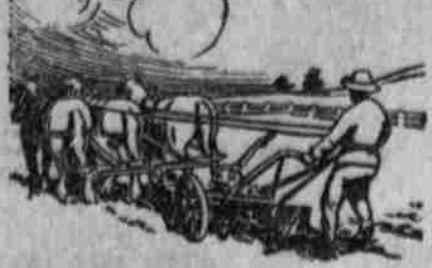


NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



Named your farm yet?
Salt the steers in the pasture.

Cats are a source of grave danger to chickens.

Bee-keeping is a profitable adjunct to poultry raising.

Fight the weeds of all kinds and keep bad ones from going to seed.

If you want to kill weeds, cultivate or hoe them when the sun shines hot.

The bear should always receive some consideration as well as the sow.

An electric power is the most convenient power for operating a power churn.

Domestication plays a very prominent part upon the prolificacy of animals.

Have regular hours for doing the milking and milk the cows in the same order.

The market garden furnishes a large amount of waste products which may be utilized for poultry food.

If you buy a homer that has large warts on its beak you may be sure that it is more than two years old.

Cream should be kept at a uniform temperature and that should be as low as possible as long as it stays on the farm.

Any person who can secure seed of black or honey locust can readily grow his own trees of these two species.

Do not let the little colt follow the dam while she is at work. If the dam becomes heated the milk is injurious to the colt.

Remember that rape may be sown any time in July. It grows very fast if moisture is available and soon makes feed.

Much depends upon the selection of the dairy cow. Do not expect the beef type of animal to fill the requirements of the dairy.

During the warmer months horses doing the ordinary farm work derive much benefit and comfort, if given a pasture lot at night.

The time is here when thought must be given to the comfort of the cows if their owners expect to sleep with no twinge of conscience.

Do not change the work horse from grain to grass too suddenly. In fact, horses on heavy work every day should have very little grass.

Milk with clean, dry hands, never allowing the hands to come in contact with the milk. Do not allow dogs and cats to be around at milking time.

An authority says that potatoes should not be planted in hills. It is much better to plant them in deep furrows and keep the ground level.

The eggs laid by the pullet in the first vigor of her life and the eggs laid after a rest of the hen are the eggs that produce the strongest chickens.

Keep the turkey hens with their broods away from the old turkeys of the flock as the latter are sometimes apt to peck the young and may injure them.

From early spring until August sow a few rows of summer lettuce every two weeks or so, and thus try to provide a continuous supply of good heads.

The cost of a concrete floor can often be saved in the amount of fertilizer that is kept from going to waste. It also makes a more sanitary stable.

Steers fed on clover hay will not only consume more roughage, but also more grain than those fed on timothy hay if grain and roughage are fed according to appetite.

Milk paint, properly prepared and applied, makes about the best and cheapest weather coating for wooden outbuildings and fences that there is—that is, where milk is on hand, of course.

There are other men who succeed with sheep, and there are men who want to kick a sheep every time they see one. These last should not bother with sheep at all, but nearly every man is competent to handle some kind of livestock if he will set himself to it.

Sheep relish rape greatly.
Give the animals fresh water.
Thumps results if the young pigs get too fat.
The harvest season is the most trying of the year.
The fields that raise the best crops are the fields that are well drained.
During the torrid days the comfort of the fowls must be closely attended to.
It takes a protracted drought to develop any poisonous material in sorghum.
Through live stock we market our products at home in the finished product.
It would be better to give some of your cows away than to feed them at a loss.
Keep the eggs as short a time as possible and at a cool temperature, 40 to 55 degrees.
All the profit of sheep husbandry is bound up in one thing; the keeping of the flock in health.
A good aphid is one of the worst enemies the orchardist has to combat in the young orchard.
Selling less hay and straw, feeding more cows on the farm, will help reduce the fertilizer problem.
Great care should be exercised in all cases in transplanting evergreens to avoid drying of the roots.
Tomato seeds are easily preserved, and if you have extra good ones pick out the best and save the seeds.
It should be remembered that sows that are to feed large litters of pigs should be well fed and cared for.
The pig that is intended for a brood sow should be fed well enough to keep it in good condition, but not extra fat.
As good insect powder is so cheap there is no use or excuse for allowing old fowls to remain covered with vermin.
If you want late celery for winter, it should be planted any time from the first of July to the middle of August.
String beans should be drilled in double rows six inches apart with just enough space between to allow for cultivation.
Buttermilk is one of the best known feeds for pigs, used in moderation and properly mixed with grain or other feedstuffs.
The foremost method of cultivating alfalfa is with the disk harrow, one of the most excellent farm implements ever invented.
If the skin of the horse is kept clean he will sweat more freely, which is necessary to keep him in good condition.
Too much water is as bad as too little, because the surplus fills up the interstices in the soil, excludes the air and smothers the plant.
For the large tomato worm which was more numerous than usual last year, the best method is to pick them off by hand and destroy them.
Never feed meat scraps that were made of rotten meat. Good, pure feed is the only thing that ever ought to be fed to a fowl of any kind.
It costs money to have things go wrong on the farm or anywhere else, but it is almost inevitable that something will go wrong once in a while.
Before and after the sow farrows, she should be fed very light or the piglets will not be able to take all the milk, or if they do, they will become sick.
Don't forget to thoroughly overhaul the binder before harvest; this is cheaper than to be overhauled by a hallstrom because you let the harvesting drag.
Small-fruit growing and truck farming does not mix well with general farming; but an apple orchard is a profitable appendage to any diversified farm.
A gilt that is expected to be kept for a brood sow should never be bred before she is eight months old, and it is better to wait until she is ten or eleven months old.
It is just as cheap to make a pound of good butter as it is to make a pound of poor butter and when it comes to selling it, the prices are very decidedly different.
All we can do towards the moult is to feed well. Keep the birds in the best condition to stand the strain. Do not try starving or over-feeding, or extreme changes in feeding—all fatal processes.
Clean all dairy utensils by first thoroughly rinsing them in warm water, then clean inside and out with a brush or clean cloth and hot water, and lastly sterilize with boiling water. After cleaning keep utensils inverted in pure air and sun if possible until wanted for use.

IMPROVEMENT MADE IN MODERN TYPE OF BABY BEEF ANIMAL

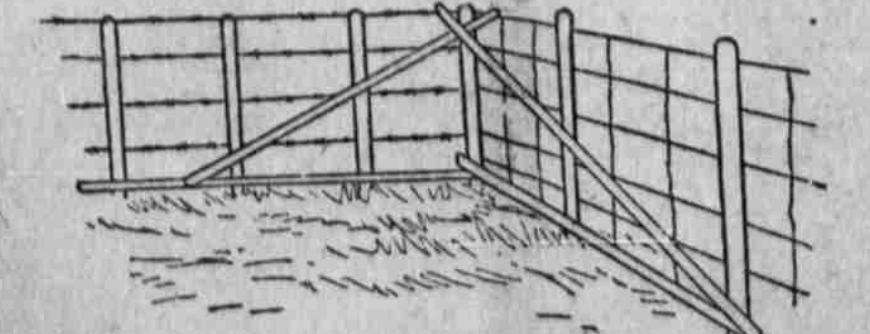
Predicted It Will Continue to Increase in Popularity in Those Districts Where Farmers Do Not Wish to Dairy—Vast Range Areas in West Have Been Cut Up Into Small Farms.



A Bunch of Prize Winning Feeders.

Twenty-five years ago the popular beef animal was a mountain of meat and tallow. Pasture land was cheap and labor low in price; so the raiser could afford to keep the animal until it weighed a ton before putting it on the market. The buyer wanted this kind of animal, for meat was cheap and the consumer could buy large cuts. But new factors have brought about a change in values. As land and labor increased in price the farmer found that the longer he kept an animal the more of his labor went in maintenance and this lessened his profit just that much. Then he found that the higher-priced lands could not be used for beef and that there was more money in raising corn. So men who had been engaged in raising cattle for market started raising corn, and bought their steers from those occupying cheap lands and finished them off themselves. Throughout the corn belt the popular steer has ranged for 24 to 30 months old, says the Homestead. The majority of fattened steers went to market at 30 months, weighing from 1,500 to 1,350 pounds. The farmer preferred to feed these animals because there was generally a good demand for them in the market. When purchased from western cattle raisers they were in thin condition, but were rugged, thrifty, had good appetites, and were in the best shape to make rapid gains.
During the last few years, due to the fact that the sheep industry has been encroaching on the land in the west, and irrigating projects have made fruit raising successful, vast range areas have been cut into small farms for settlers who have no money to invest in cattle. Then, too, great numbers of cows and young stock are being sent to market each year, with a consequent decrease in the number of breeding animals on the range. One of the greatest problems that confronts the cattle feeder of today is where to get hold of feeders.
A number of people who used to feed cattle till 34 or 30 months of age in the corn belt are attempting to raise their own calves and market them around 12 months of age or between the ages of 12 and 18 months, and weighing from 800 to 1,000 pounds. This is what is known as the "baby beef" proposition, and it is a question that is exciting more interest every year among cattle feeders and producers.
Baby beef has not been popular with steer feeders because under conditions formerly existing the man on the range could produce them more cheaply than the man in the corn belt could buy them. The extra land necessary for maintaining breeding cows could be used for corn; the feeding period of the baby beef animal lasted from 6 to 9 or 12 months, while that of the 24 and 30-month-old steer only lasted from 9 to 150 days. Then, too, greater uniformity and more indications of better breeding are necessary in the baby beef proposition in feeding out older cattle. Greater skill in feeding and caring for the young animals is also necessary than in the case of the older ones whose appetites do not have to be catered to. The killer also discriminated against the younger animal because the carcass of the older animal usually carried a little firmer flesh than the young animal, and there is less water in the carcass, so that they kill out a larger per cent of good meat. The feeder himself found that unless he exercised great vigilance, the young animals shrunk more in being shipped to market and finally the consumer favored the meat from the older animal.
If the cattle feeder aims to produce his own feeders, he cannot afford to let his calves lose what is known as "calf fat." It is well known that young animals gain more rapidly in proportion to their live weight and to 100 pounds of food than do older animals. That is, they not only made more economical use of their feed than the older animals, but they take a shorter time to make a certain total gain. The man who turns off a steer that weighs 1,000 pounds, has, if that calf weighed 100 pounds at birth, been given 10 per cent of the total weight by the dam, while the man who keeps the animal till it weighs 1,350 pounds has been given only 8 per cent. The man who can make a steer weigh 1,000 at 12 months has more return for his trouble than the man who keeps it 24 months, with an additional weight of only 250 pounds.
Butchers, too, have changed to suit the demand of the consumer. Although meat is generally considered a luxury in the diet of the poor man's family, it still remains an absolute necessity in the diet of the better classes. But, where people formerly ordered large roasts and steaks, they are ordering steaks and roasts now that are from 50 to 75 per cent, smaller on account of the advanced prices. They find that if they get a small roast from a large animal that it is "long" on bone. The butcher then, to suit the demands for smaller bone demands smaller animals, and during the last few months they have been willing to offer, not a premium on smaller steers so far as dollars per 100 is concerned, but they have brought the price of small steers up so close to that of the large ones that there is really a premium on little steers when we consider the cost of production.
We do not think that the 1,200-pound steer will ever be entirely eliminated from the market, but we do think (if a conjecture is allowable) that the baby beef animal will continue to increase in popularity in those districts where men do not wish to dairy.
Placing the Halter.
With two fence staples fasten an old harness snap from which the spring has been broken to the left side of the horse stall at a convenient height above the manger, says a writer in Practical Farmer, and see that the boys hang up the halter whenever the horse is taken out. When he is brought in, his halter is neither under his feet nor in the manger under his feed, but just where it can be reached most easily and quickly. The point of the snap should be hammered in slightly to prevent the horse catching his halter upon it or injuring himself by rubbing.
The Delicious Sweet Pepper.
Your garden ought to be well supplied with that most palatable vegetable, the sweet pepper. Many people imagine that all peppers are too hot to be eaten with comfort, but this is a great mistake. The only hot portions are the seeds, and they can be removed before cooking. Green peppers are cooked in a variety of ways, and there is no vegetable that produces more table enjoyment than these vegetables if a little study and care is given to their growth and preparation for the table.
Spray for Cabbage Worm.
A good remedy for the cabbage worm which infests cauliflower and cabbages is an ounce of saltpeter dissolved in three gallons of water. The heads should be thoroughly sprinkled and if this is done one application will be generally found sufficient.

BRACING CORNER FENCE POST



An excellent method for bracing a corner fence post is shown in the illustration and it is self-explanatory.

SISTERS

By VIRGINIA BLAIR

Vicky was younger than Edith, but she seemed older. She had such an assured air, and a woman-of-the-world manner which seemed to set her beyond all youthful folly. It was only when she was alone with Edith that she showed the child in her.
"One of us has to seem grown up," she could explain to Edith, "and you are such a baby that I have to put on an extreme amount of dignity."
Edith smiled. "I am not such a baby," she said, "but you have more courage than I, Vicky; I do not believe that you are afraid of anything."
"Yes I am," Vicky admitted. "I am afraid of George Miller, Edith."
The color flamed into Edith's face. "Why—why should you be, Vicky?" she demanded.
"He always looks at me as if he could see through me," Vicky confessed, "and I feel as if I ought to be in short dresses and wear my hair in pig-tails."
"He does not make me feel that way," she said.
Vicky's short nose was up in the air. "Of course not, he's in love with you, Edith."
"I hope not," said Edith gravely.
"Why not?" Vicky demanded.
"Because I don't love him," was the response.
"And he loves you. Isn't that just the way of it? All the good things come to you and you don't want them, while I—"
Edith looked at her in astonishment. "Why, Vicky Osborn," she said "I don't see why you should care."
"I don't," said Vicky bravely, "but George Miller is too good to be hurt." She said the same thing to the young man that evening when he came out white-faced from a talk with Edith.
"I want you to be happy, George," she said.
"You are a nice little thing, Vicky," he told her, "and we've always been good chums. But I cannot come here any more."
Vicky looked after him forlornly. "I couldn't tell him the truth," was her thought,—"that Edith cares for some one else."
She found Edith in tears on the porch. "I am not going to sympathize," Vicky scolded; "you ought to love him, if you don't."
"But there is Richard," Edith faltered.
"He cannot hold a candle to George," Vicky said.
"I believe you are in love with him yourself, Vicky."
Vicky turned on her, her eyes blazing. "Do you think I'd love a man who didn't care anything for me?"
But that night she cried herself to sleep, and in the morning she rose early and went for a walk through the garden and down the road which led to the river. Her big dog, Laddie, followed her. She talked to him on the pier while watching a fisherman drawn in the nets with the morning's catch.
"Edith has always had everything," she said, "She's the pretty one and the popular one. I wouldn't care, Laddie, if she loved George; I'd give him up, but it is such a pity to have so much devotion go to waste."
In silence she watched a boat shoot out from the upper rapids into a placid pond.
"It's George," Vicky said, and rose, ready for flight.
He saw her and waved to her. "Don't you want to go for a row?" he asked.
Vicky consented, and with Laddie in the stern they turned down stream. There was a little inn on a wooded point. There they had breakfast, telephoning to Edith that they would be back at noon.
All that morning George poured the tale of his troubles into Vicky's sympathetic ears. And Vicky listening, said within her soul: "It isn't Edith that he really loves, it's what he thinks Edith is."
Yet she dared bring him no disillusion, for she could not break faith with her sister.
When she reached home she found Edith in a fever of excitement. "Richard wants me to marry him," she said. "He has it all planned, we are to live in his college town and he will finish his studies and have me for his inspiration."
Nothing that Vicky could say or do could influence Edith, and so it happened that the young and irresponsible pair were married within the month, and thus Vicky was left alone. Since the death of their father and mother the two girls had been chaperoned by an old aunt whose feebleness made her poor company for a young and eager girl. Vicky packed her things and went to the city. She took a small studio in an old building down town, and there she painted in company with a half dozen other artists.
There was one man, a Russian, who scrutinized her pictures and gave her valuable suggestions. "You have genius," he told her, "but your heart is not in it."
"I haven't any heart," said Vicky, whimsically.
"You had one once," he said shrewdly, "but it has gone out of your possession. Who is the man?"
Vicky shook her head at him. "There is no man," she said, stoutly. But that night when she went to bed she had a vision of George Miller.
She had not heard from him for a

long time, but the next morning she wrote him a letter. It was a pitiful little document that held a cry of loneliness. Edith, she said, was busy with her new happiness—everybody seemed busy with their happiness, and she was trying to paint and be happy without Edith, without everybody. Wouldn't George come down as a cure for homesickness?
He came and found her so thin and white that he cried: "Why, Vicky, what is the matter?"
"Nothing," she declared, and on top of her declaration broke down and cried.
He petted her and went away with a picture of her forlorn little face blotting out the image of Edith's beauty. He came down often after that and one day he said: "I love you, Vicky. I want to take you home with me."
"It is pity, George."
"It isn't," he declared stoutly, "you are the one woman in the world for me."
She tried to believe him, but her heart whispered: "If Edith were not married, what then?"
Then like a thunderbolt came the news of Richard's death. Edith, heartbroken, went back to the old home and Vicky gave up her idea of a career and took up, once more, the life that they had led together. She said nothing to Edith of her engagement to George.
One day she took things into her own hands. She telephoned to George to meet her at the pier, and once more he rowed her down the river. And there Vicky set him free.
"But why?" he demanded, "don't you love me?"
She would not meet his eyes. "Edith—" she faltered. "In a little time she will have forgotten her sorrow for Richard—and then—"
"Do you think for a moment, Vicky," he demanded, "that I want Edith?"
"You loved her first," she said.
He leaned forward and took her hand. "Little child," he said, "it was not love that I gave Edith. I thought it was, because I was blinded by her beauty. But when she threw back to me, so lightly, the heart that she had won, when she had no sympathy, no feeling for the boy she had known all her life, I was disillusioned. It was your sympathy, Vicky, which made a man of me. It was your pity that revealed to me what you might be as a wife. The love I had for Edith, compared to my love for you, is as candlelight to moonlight."
And Vicky was content.

INSANITY ON THE INCREASE

Number of Afflicted in the United States **summing Alarming proportions.**
The number of insane persons in hospitals in the United States on January 1, 1904, was not less than 150,151. This was more than double the number of 1890, which was 74,025. From 1904 to 1910 the insane in hospitals in New York alone increased 25 per cent. It is safe to say, writes Homer Folks in the American Review of Reviews, that the insane now in hospitals in the United States number at least 200,000.
The population of Nevada and Wyoming in 1910 together is about equal to the population of the hospitals for the insane in the United States. The total annual cost of caring for the insane in the United States is in the neighborhood of \$50,000,000 a year. About one-sixth of the total expenditure of the state of New York is for the care of the insane.
The New York State Charities Aid association has outlined and is carrying into effect a movement for popular education along scientific lines by sound psychological methods as to the causes and prevention of insanity. As one factor in this educational movement a short leaflet has been prepared stating in simple language the essential facts as to the causes of insanity so far as they are now known.
This leaflet is being printed by hundreds of thousands, and is being placed in the hands of men, women, boys and girls, through every form of organization willing to help in distributing it. It has been sent to every physician in the state, to the principal of every public school, to all clergymen, college presidents and faculties, superintendents of city schools, health officers, county school commissioners, secretaries of Y. M. C. A.'s to officers of labor unions, proprietors of factories, department stores, laundries, to city officials, officers of local granges, officers of fraternal orders; in short, to all the various types of organizations that are willing to promote such an effort for the public good.
Coinage in Northern Nigeria.
Shells still take the place of metal coinage in northern Nigeria. Lately a movement was set on foot to introduce a proper coinage, but as no action has been taken with regard to the demonetizing of cowries, they have never been legal tender in the strict sense of the term, but have been and continue to be accepted by the government in payment of taxes, and are still current among the natives. The government is striving, however, to replace this unsatisfactory form of currency by British coin. The natives of Africa have a very decided preference for silver coins.