

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



Stick to pure breeds.
 Ducks are easy to raise.
 Dairy cows must have salt.
 Keep the dairy utensils clean.
 It's going to be a great year for silos.
 That fall plowed garden works fine, doesn't it?
 Keep a little gas tar on hand and apply for scaly legs.
 Carry a pipe-wrench with you. It is a general utility tool.
 The incubator never changes its mind. It stays on the job.
 The finer the soil, the better the vegetables, both in quantity and quality.
 A cow appreciates punctuality in milking, as much as a man does in meals.
 Be sure there are no lice on the young stock when they are turned to pasture.
 The supply of good 1,500 to 1,800 pound work horses is always behind the demand.
 As a general rule, the depth to plant should be four times the diameter of the seeds.
 Sweet clover seed hulled weighs about 60 pounds per bushel, and the unhulled 33 pounds.
 If the fetlocks are clipped and the horse's legs are kept clean, scratching will never bother.
 Always water first, then a little hay, and follow with grain; this gives the animal a chance to digest.
 Horses cannot be grown as cheap as they were when land was half the price and grain half the price.
 Mate up the teams intended for work in the spring at least a few days before they are needed.
 Some men plow the garden when the fields are too wet to work. So much the worse for the garden.
 The development of the young horse requires the exercise of the best judgment in handling him.
 The ground should never be allowed to become baked, as in this condition a great deal of moisture is lost unnecessarily.
 In cutting eyes from potatoes leave enough of the potato on them to furnish sustenance until they can draw it from the earth.
 The correct mating is 8 to 15 hens for each cockerel. The smaller the breed the more hens may be allowed with each rooster.
 The smaller the quarters the greater the care. Crowded fowls are much more liable to become affected with vermin and disease.
 Grow early onions from sets but the main crop from seeds. Onions from seeds keep better, grow larger and are of better quality.
 Do you like to see a sick fowl? If the bird is not of more than ordinary value, and the disease is serious, apply the ax with a steady hand.
 When chicks spread themselves out comfortably at night, part way between the heater and walls of the brooder it is a safe indication that the heat is about right.
 It is just as important to rotate garden crops as field crops and it is certainly a great mistake to plant the same crop on the same ground three or four seasons in succession.
 The average weight of a hen's eggs run from 15 to 24 ounces per dozen. A weight of 22½ ounces may be taken as a fair average for good sized eggs, although a weight of four ounces is not unknown for single specimens.
 No need to buy prepared charcoal for farm fowls. Rake up a pile of corn cobs or brush and set fire to it. When it is a mass of live coals, throw on water to put the fire out, and the chickens will do the rest.
 The covered milk pail is one of the new ideas that is being adopted by progressive dairymen everywhere. The extra cost is slight in comparison to the improved condition of the milk. The milk goes through several thicknesses of cheese cloth in most of these covered buckets.

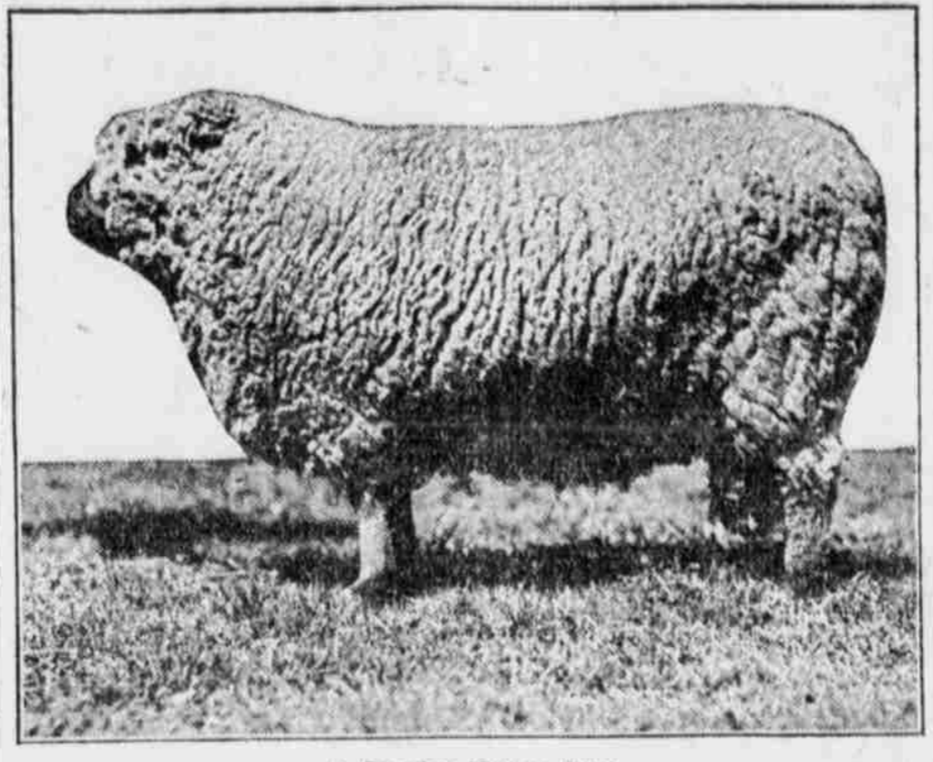
Plan to have some rape.
 Figs must have good pasture.
 Hens require a variety of feed.
 Be careful with chemical fertilizers.
 Spare some of the skim milk for the hens.
 Market your grain and forage products on the hoof.
 Get a nose ring for the young bull while you think of it.
 First class eggs should weigh about 1½ pounds to the dozen.
 Straw is much too valuable to be allowed to rot in the stack.
 An occasional feed of oats will be valuable for the brood sow.
 The ewes that are suckling lambs should be fed very liberally.
 In order to have good-sized sheep grow them rapidly while young.
 A variety in feeding is one way of keeping the flock in good condition.
 Stinting in feeding is repaid by stinting in milk flow and per cent. of fat.
 Buying pure-bred stock by mail is coming to be more and more common.
 You can get no more power from your horse than you give him in his food.

It should be remembered that a horse can do more than his feet will stand.
 Your horse may intend to please you but does not understand your wishes.
 Good feed will put life into a horse a hundred times better than an 8-foot whip.
 A runaway horse is only safe in the stable with a good halter and the stable door latched.
 Growing pigs should not be crowded into close, filthy quarters, exposed to vermin and disease.
 Many a man blames the Lord for a poor crop, which was really the result of his own poor plowing.
 Always water first, then a little hay, and follow with grain; this gives the animal a chance to digest.
 A good spray to disinfect coops and brooders is a mixture of ½ pint carbolic acid in 2 gallons of water.
 Lack of moisture in the incubator is one of the common causes of chicks falling to break out of the shell.
 Don't be tempted to sell your best birds unless you have some better ones in view to take their places.
 Nothing worse than damp brooder floor to start chick illness. Cover them with a little dry earth or old carpet.
 Fresh poultry manure is said to have about twice the fertilizing value of cattle manure, pound for pound.
 Another argument for the silo—it is a weed killer. No weed seed that goes into a silo ever comes out alive.
 A yearling tree is preferred by many to older trees. They are thought to be safer to transplant than two-year trees.
 A cement feeding floor for the hogs can be built for close around six cents, a square foot. It is worth the investment.
 Cultivation is a moisture conservator, but if the ground is dry don't run the cultivator teeth deep; keep the top soil stirred only.
 Truck crops suffer least from frost, in seasons that open with a cool spring, and end with a very hot summer, with rainfall below the average.
 Often the only difference between a gentle cow and a kiker is that the first had a little handling while a heifer and the other didn't.
 Ground limestone or hydrated lime may be applied to a meadow with soil that is acid. Lime may be applied to the meadow at any time, using from one to three tons per acre.
 Chilled eggs are responsible for a good deal of "bad luck" with incubators, but as a general thing eggs in the process of hatching will stand more cooling than many people think.
 A sandy soil can be cultivated much earlier than the heavier soils, and in this there is a decided advantage, as two or three crops can be produced in a season, while only one can be grown on a heavy soil.
 If your stable floor is of plank and in need of repairing, the laying of a thin coat of cement over the old and then putting a new layer of planks on it will serve to make the floor watertight and at the same time to prevent dry rot.

An adult fowl is supposed to produce nearly 100 pounds of highly concentrated manure in a year, but on the average farm, on account of careless methods in attending to the poultry, the bulk of this manure is allowed to go to waste.
 The 17-year locust is said to be due in the middle west this year. Superstitious persons believe that if he carries a letter P on his back it means peace and plenty, but if he carries a letter W we will surely have a strife in some other nation.

MUCH ATTENTION NECESSARY FOR SHEEP FLOCK IN SUMMER

Frequent Change of Pasture Lessens Danger of Infection by Parasites and Gives Animals Chance to Select Things Most Palatable to Them—Water and Salt Essential.



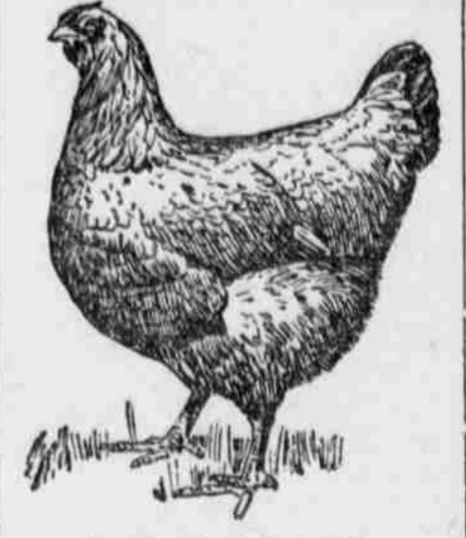
A Popular Mutton Type.

(By E. R. STROETER, Missouri.)
 Summer care of the flock is easy if you have plenty of grass, water and shade. I always have good pastures, being either legumes or grasses. Personally, I prefer blue grass slightly mixed with white clover, as legumes are apt to get the ewes too fat before breeding time.
 I never allow the flock to stay longer than three weeks in one pasture without changing to new quarters. By these frequent changes I lessen the danger of infection by parasites, which is apt to come from too close grazing of pastures.
 A frequent change also gives the flock a chance to select the things most palatable to them.
 My sheep always have access to shade and plenty of fresh water. I am of the opinion that standing water is always more or less infected with dangerous parasites.
 My only means of protection against the gadfly is to plow a few furrows where the sheep stand in the shade.
 A close watch must be kept throughout the summer to keep all tags sheared off and the worms kept out of the wool, caused by wet tags. I also note the general health so that parasites will not get the start of me.
 Salt is kept in the pasture all the time. I do not feed salt alone, but a mixture which I have used and found very helpful in combating parasites, especially stomach worms.
 The formula is: Salt, one bushel; air-slaked lime, one peck; sulphur, one gallon; pulverized resin, two quarts; copperas, one pound. Thoroughly pulverize and mix. Keep in a dry place before sheep constantly.
 Another good way to combat stomach worms is to increase the woody or fibrous content of the stomach, which can easily be done by turning the flock into a cornfield so that the sheep will have the greater portion of their ration consisting of corn blades. I have found this treatment very efficient.
 I castrate my lambs when from seven to ten days old, provided the weather is suitable. Never allow them to get larger than you can possibly help. The docking is done about the same

POULTRY

RHODE ISLAND REDS IN LEAD
 Hens Owned by Pennsylvania Poultry Raiser Ahead of Eastern Egg-Laying Contest.

The egg-laying contest at the Connecticut Agricultural college, with its 500 pullets from 19 states of the Union, England and Canada, representing 12 distinct breeds and 23 varieties, attracted considerable atten-

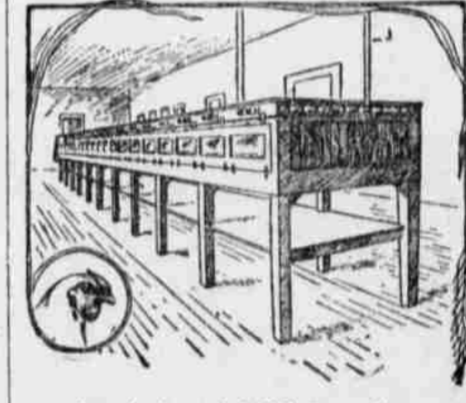


Rhode Island Red Hen.

tion at the Connecticut Poultry association meeting held at Hartford recently, as some of the speakers had birds entered in the contest.
 Following is the report of the leading hens for the twelfth week of the contest:
 John A. Fretchery of Harrisburg, Pa., single comb Rhode Island Reds, 24 eggs; Howard Steele of Philadelphia, Pa., single comb Rhode Island Reds, 23 eggs, Top Notch farm; Walter Mills of Long Island, barred Plymouth Rocks, 21 eggs; C. S. Scoville of East Haven, single comb Rhode Island Reds, 23 eggs, 7 per cent, Notch farm; Walter Hills of Long Island, N. Y., barred Plymouth Rocks, 21 eggs; C. S. Scoville of East Haven, Conn., rose comb Rhode Island Reds, 20 eggs; Woodside Poultry farm, Philadelphia, Pa., white Wyandottes, 18 eggs; Arnold Francis of Oak, Pa., single comb Rhode Island Reds, 18 eggs; F. G. Yost of Sayre, Pa., single comb White Leghorns, 18 eggs.

ELECTRIC INCUBATOR IS BIG

Machine Built for New Orleans Poultry Raiser Has Capacity of 6,000 Eggs—How Worked.



Incubator of 6,000 Capacity.

One of the largest electric incubators in use anywhere in the world was built for a poultry raiser in New Orleans. It is 40 feet long by 5 feet wide, and contains 40 compartments, each having a capacity of 150 eggs, says the Popular Mechanics. Each compartment can be separately con-

trolled, so that any one, or all of the compartments, can be operated, according to the number of eggs to be hatched. The controlling thermostats used do not completely break the heater circuit, but introduce the comparatively high resistance of a small electric lamp when open, thus avoiding sparking at the contacts.

DOULTRY NOTES

Nothing like a few warm days to coax the hens to lay.
 Don't let your breeders get too fat or you will be sorry for it.
 Young ducks should always have plenty of water and shade and grit.
 Green cut bone and meat foods are the worms and bugs in the winter ration.
 No condition powder on the market is as good as wholesome food and plenty of exercise.
 Turkey gobblers should be mated with the hens as early as possible certainly by the first of April.
 The best layers are those fowls that have been bred particularly with a view to increased egg production.
 Inbreeding soon lowers the vitality of a flock. That is why we should get new males or settings of eggs every year.
 There is genuine satisfaction in owning thoroughbred stock and they cost no more to feed. Go in for the best.
 Have you ever noticed the hens following the plow and did you observe how fast the grubs disappeared? This is good for the hens and the land also. Encourage them.
 A bone cutter will surely pay for itself. Green cut bone supplies the hen with ability to produce eggs, nourishes her feathers and keeps her in general good health.

CORN CLUBS IN NORTHERN STATES

Success of Movement in South Encourages Government Officials—Increase in Yield.

Owing to the success of the boys' corn clubs in the south, the department of agriculture has been asked to carry this line of work farther, and it is doing so in organizing boys' potato clubs in the north, beginning with New England. This work has been placed in charge of W. J. Spillman of the office of farm management. The first season's work will commence this summer. The boys will be given a measured acre each, and will be furnished with instructions from the department as to growing and cultivating the crop.
 What the result will be is, of course, still impossible to foresee, but, judging from the success of the corn club movement, it is likely to be of value. This corn experiment was the conception of the late Dr. S. A. Knapp. In the three years of work while he was alive the number of boys in the corn clubs increased to 65,000.
 The average corn crop of the United States is about 25 bushels to the acre, but some of the boys raised as much as 228 bushels to the acre, at a cost of about 40 cents a bushel, including a charge for their own work. Some of the crops that ran more than 100 bushels an acre cost only 8 cents to produce.

Locust is Due

The 17-year locust is said to be due in the middle west this year. Superstitious persons believe that if he carries a letter P on his back it means peace and plenty, but if he carries a letter W we will surely have a strife in some other nation.

COLORING FOR CONCRETE WORK

Venetian Red and Common Lampblack Should Not Be Used as They Are Liable to Fade and Run.

The following materials for colored concrete work have been recommended by an American authority, according to Cement Age. The quantities given are per barrel of cement, mixed dry with the cement and sand. The sand must be thoroughly dry. In mixing the colors should be made deeper than the required tint, as drying results in bleaching. Venetian red and common lampblack should not be used, as they are liable to run and fade. The schedule for colors is as follows:
 For brown, 25 lbs. best roasted iron oxide; or 15 to 20 lbs. brown ochre.
 For black, 45 lbs. manganese dioxide.
 For blue, 19 lbs. ultramarine.
 For buff, 15 lbs. ochre. (This is likely to considerably reduce the strength of the mixture.)
 For green, 23 lbs. greenish blue ultramarine.
 For gray, 2 lbs. boneblack.
 For red, 22 lbs. raw iron oxide.
 For bright red, 22 lbs. Pompeian or bright English red.
 For purple, 20 lbs. Prince's metallic.
 For violet, 20 lbs. violet iron oxide.
 For yellow, 22 lbs. ochre.

Hauling Manure as Made

Cart away the manure as fast as a load collects around the barn. It is better for the soil to cart it out at once, and there is less danger of indoor odors around the barn during the hot weather. After a small grain harvest there is generally a good place to apply the manure on the stubble field.

The ONLOOKER

WILBUR D. NESBIT
 Song in Sap Rising Days



I used to know the names of things, I knew the birds and flowers, I knew the mystic charm that brings The sunshine or the showers; I knew how whistles should be made, How elm bark should be peeled, I knew a hundred games we played In forest and in field—
 And O, to be a boy again! To know the simple joy again Of yelling for an echo from the side of some far hill, To dive, and come up shivering, With lips all blue and quivering— But to have been the "first one in" the pond below the mill!

Today I take things solemnly; The wonder is all gone— No eerie whistle could call me To go ahead at dawn. Two fingers V-wise have no lure, I cannot trade a knife With "cross-my-heart" and "certainly sure," Nor say "You better life!"
 And O, to be a lad again, To have the fun I had again— To feel the spring sap rising in the current of my blood, To start the day all cheerily, And meet the night all wearily, Half-brute, half-boy, to revel in the friendliness of mud!

NOT THE COFFEE.



Mrs. Feedem (to new boarder)— You cannot find any grounds to complain against this coffee.
 New Boarder—No, ma'am. I was complaining about the grounds.

Some Statistics.
 "Is it true that your business is very dull during Lent?" asked Dante, who was gathering the material for his justly celebrated write-up of Mephisto's domain.
 "Well," replied Mephisto, "it drops off in some lines, but we more than make up the loss with husbands who are confronting the spring bonnet proposition."

As He Read It.
 "I call that downright impertinent of old Doc Smudgers," growled Mr. Meddergrass. "Of course, I know I owe him his bill, but he ain't got no right to send all his prescriptions around here signed 'Smudgers, M. D.'"
 "Why, paw, what's the matter with that?" asked Mrs. Meddergrass.
 "Matter? Don't M. D. stand for 'Money Due'?"

In the Spring.
 In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns from thoughts of love, For he sees the costly bonnets and knows what they're fashioned of, And he knows about their prices, so he murmurs in despair That he must wait to get married till the women's heads go bare.

Couldn't Tame Her.
 Attendant—The lion tamer has been injured, and cannot perform tonight. Museum Manager—What happened to him?
 Attendant—He tried to discharge his cook this morning.

One Good Thing.
 "There is one good thing about this classical music," remarked Mr. Meddergrass. "You can start or stop anywhere you want to without spoiling the sense of the piece."

To Restore the 'Air.
 Mrs. 'iggins—'Wot' this 'ere 'Air Restorer they advertise so much?
 Mrs. Tellem—Why, it must be something to revive drowned people.

Wilbur D. Nesbit