

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



By William Pitt

Groom your cows.

The silo is a time saver.

Attend to the horse's feet.

Grow strawberries for home use.

Let the young calves have plenty of sunlight.

We cannot longer raise paying apple crops unless we spray.

Seed grain of all kinds is scarce and high priced again this spring.

The cleanly dairyman keep the dirt out of the milk rather than strains it out.

Whale oil soap may be used to destroy lice, scale, insects and mealy-bugs.

Clover and grass seed always do best when they can be started to early growth.

Profitable beef production in the future means that better gains must be made.

In a gallon of 30 per cent. cream there are two and one-half pounds of butter fat.

When butter refuses to "gather" the cream may be too sour or the temperature too low.

Lack of thorough cleansing of the separator is one cause of flavor in butter being off.

It is a good plan to give a cow a bucket of scalded bran as the first feed after calving.

The shoe should fit the foot. Don't let the blacksmith cut bars or frogs to make the horse's foot fit the shoe.

Field mice been at the young trees? If the bark is gnawed to the wood the trees may be saved by bridge grafting.

Satisfactory results were obtained last year at the Kansas Agricultural college from the use of Kaffir as silage.

Potash, as a constituent of fertilizers, exists in a number of forms, but chiefly as chloride or muriate and as sulphate.

After starting to shed their hair in spring cows are very sensitive to sudden cold snaps. That is when stabling pays at night.

Clover and grass seed may be grown and a good stand secured, on oat ground during the last of April and the first of May.

Narrow doors in the sheep barns are a mighty poor thing. Broken down hips and early dropped lambs are some of the results.

A colt wants to be kept eating and growing and exercising, and anything but fattening, as long as he has a time assigned him by nature to grow.

Any kind of fruit tree will die when planted in ground that is all the time saturated with water. The tile ditch is a necessity in some places.

Early peas may be followed by celery or cabbage or potatoes, followed by late beans or corn, thereby getting several crops from the same ground each year.

A horse must have feet and legs beside weight to be any good at heavy work. Flat bone in the cannons and large, round feet should be looked for in picking horses.

Just now is the time to get the start of the lice and a good first move is to thoroughly clean out the hen house then squirt some kerosene around pretty lively over the walls, roosts, and nest boxes.

Young mares will sometimes refuse to allow their foals to nurse at first. The mare may be tied in the stall and the colt helped to milk. As soon as it has sucked each teat the mother will usually allow it to continue.

A good liniment for all kinds of swellings on dairy cows, as well as on all other farm animals is made by mixing equal parts of turpentine, sweet oil and spirits of camphor. Apply liberally and frequently to the swollen parts.

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 water-tight and at the same time, to prevent dry rot.

Pigs relish potatoes.

Cut back climbing roses.

Care for the farrowing sow.

Treat the young heifers gently.

Groom your horses well and prevent skin diseases.

The dairyman can raise hogs cheaper than any one else.

Old and many young trees are infested with the woolly aphs.

Keeping the fingernails cut may save both milk and mortification.

Kerosene emulsion will kill plant lice more effectively than hellebore.

There is a big difference between a butterfly and a fly in the butter.

Be sure the little pigs have a nice dry place to stretch out in the warm sun.

Milk fever might often be prevented by a little attention to the cow before calving.

Remember that your orchard, especially the young trees, needs good cultivation.

The three important elements of plant food are nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium.

Alfalfa is the most wonderful of all cultivated plants, and the oldest one known to history.

There is no germ slayer better than an ounce of carbolic acid added to a pail of whitewash.

One of the chief advantages of feeding live stock on the farm is the maintenance of soil fertility.

It will take good farming to keep up and increase soil fertility without purchasing feed grown outside.

Teach the children to respect the dragon fly. This friend of ours kills flies and many other obnoxious insects.

If dusty hay is fed, sprinkle with water, and it will save the horse much annoyance; but better not feed it at all.

A box of ashes under a clump of shrubbery will be greatly appreciated by the hens in warm weather.

It is as impossible to estimate the productiveness and value of a cow as it is to guess the exact number of bushels of corn a certain field will yield.

The right kind of a farm garden will keep the family during garden season with the help of the hens. It won't take many hens for this help, either.

A good crop for the orchard would be cowpeas—wide strips sown between the rows of trees. This would make good early hay and is also good for the soil.

While sheep will eat grain and any kind of grass and some kinds of weeds, they are, after all, dainty feeders, and the feed must be absolutely clean.

If you intend to raise sheep for wool buy rams and ewes that are bred for wool, and do not make the mistake of mixing mutton types with wool types.

The young pigs often become crooked in the legs, if kept on the hard floor too long, and this means that the pig, if a good breed, loses much of its value.

Weighing milk at stated intervals not only tells the owner which are his profitable cows, and which are robbers, but it stimulates rivalry between the milkers.

Alfalfa grows best on a deep, sandy loam underlaid by a loose and permeable subsoil. It will not grow if there is an excess of water in the soil. The land must be well drained.

English farmers do not hesitate to pay as high as \$100 for a pure bred sire ram. Do you imagine they would do this if they could get just as good results from a scrub at one-tenth the price?

The high producing dairy cow is an animal that follows in the wake of civilization. She never goes ahead. Conditions must be suitable before she can be of any value to the farmer.

If strawberry plants are dried out when received by express do not water them, for water on the foliage will quickly cause the crown to rot. Dip the roots in tepid water and lay them in a cool cellar for a few hours.

Four ounces of sulphate of potassium to a gallon of water makes a good solution for killing lice on horses. Benzine is also beneficial. Both applications should be rubbed in twice, a week apart, in order to do the work thoroughly.

Box stalls are safer for fattening horses in than single stalls, but the difference in cost is hardly worth while, for with ordinary care horses can be fattened to just as good advantage when tied in single stalls as when confined in box stalls.

THE CHILDREN



LITTLE TAD GAINED HIS WAY

Squad of Dirty Street Urchins Were Fed in White House by Lincoln's Son, Despite Cook.

Both the steward and the cook had remonstrated with "Master Tad" upon bringing into the kitchen of the White House "such squads of poor, dirty, hungry street urchins to be fed," and at last Peter said that Mrs. Lincoln must be told, says Wide Awake.

Tad flew into a rage, ran upstairs to see his mother himself, and on finding her out, searched the place for his busy father.

Meanwhile, the small objects of his charity waited at the lower door—for Peter had absolutely refused to let them "step inside."

The indignant boy spied his father just crossing the yard with bowed head, eyes to the ground, talking earnestly to Mr. Seward as they walked to the department of state together. He cried out to him at once:

"Father, father! Can't I bring these poor, cold, hungry boys home with me whenever I want to? Isn't it our kitchen?"

By this time Tad had his father by the hand, who stopped to listen to the frantic appeal.

"Can't I give them a good warm dinner today? They're just as hungry as brats, and two of 'em are boys of a soldier, too!—and, father, I'm going to discharge Peter this minute if he doesn't get out the meat and chickens and pies and all the things we had left yesterday. Say, mayn't I? Isn't it our kitchen, father?"

Secretary Seward was shaking with laughter. Mr. Lincoln turned to him with a twinkle.

"Seward, advise with me. This case requires diplomacy."

Mr. Seward patted Tad on the back and said he must be careful not to run the government into debt, and the president took Tad's little brown hands in his own big one, and with a droll smile bid him to "run along home and feed the boys," and added:

"Tell Peter that you are really required to obey the Bible by getting in the mained and the blind, and that he must be a better Christian than he is."

In less than an hour, Mr. Seward said, they passed through the yard on their way to the cabinet meeting, and no less than ten small boys were sitting with Tad on the lower steps, cracking nuts and having a "state dinner."

Mr. Lincoln remarked that the "kitchen was ours."

SLOT MACHINES NOT MODERN

Found in Alexandria Century Before Christian Era, According to Hunter of Curious.

A hunter of the curious tells us that slot machines, very far from being a modern invention, were found in Alexandria, a century before the Chris-



Ancient Slot Machines.

tian era, says the Springfield Republican. According to a historian of that time, there was in existence a sacrificial vessel from which water would flow only when money was dropped in the slot. Now we want to know whether the ancients had chewing gum.

Turned the Subject.

Eddie, who has been punished for eating green apples, is again in the garden, indulging his appetite for the forbidden fruit, when papa approaches silently, and stands frowning down upon him. Eddie hangs his head, with the half-eaten apple in his little fist thrust behind him. Then, suddenly, the trembling lip stiffens, he looks up into the stern face, with a guileless smile, and pipes: "Papa, is green apple pie made out of tur-rants?"

Hard on the Pioneer.

"Now, Johnnie," said the teacher, "tell me what an engineer is?" "He is a man that works an engine," replied Johnnie. "Correct," said the teacher, "Now, Tommy, can you tell me what a pioneer is?" "Yes, sir," answered Tommy; "he's a man that works a piano."

One on Willie Smith.

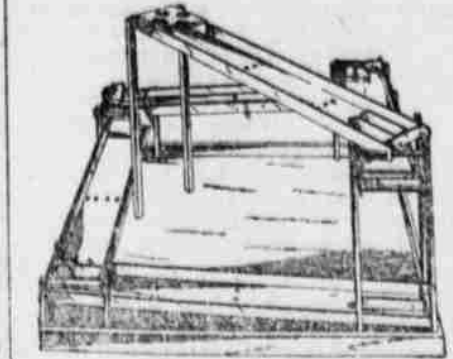
Mother—"What? Smoking again? Why don't you try to be like Willie Smith? He never smokes." Jimmie—"If it made me as sick as it does him I wouldn't neither."

AMUSING GAME OF BASEBALL

Apparatus Invented by Brooklyn Man Whose Mechanism Is Controllable by Skill and Chance.

In describing an apparatus invented by D. J. Hebon of Brooklyn, N. Y., the Scientific American says:

The engraving is a perspective view showing the game apparatus complete. The invention relates to an apparatus whose mechanism is controllable partly by skill and partly by chance for playing an indoor game having more or less analogy to baseball. It comprises parts representing a baseball



Game Apparatus.

diamond or field, and various bases disposed about the same, the parts being disposed so that the balls may be rolled from base to base, and various other provisions being made for "strikes," "balls," "home runs," "base hits," and "putting out." The apparatus further comprises means whereby a ball (representing a player) reaches a base, it may have the effect of liberating other balls lodged upon other bases and located more or less distant from the ball which liberates them.

NEAT LITTLE PARLOR TRICK

Knife is Made to Leap Up and Make Half-Circle, Falling into Decanter—Requires Practice.

Here is a very good trick which may be performed by boys after a good deal of practice. Take a water decanter and place it on the side of the table so that it rests on the very edge



Parlor Trick.

(see illustration). Then take an ordinary dessert knife and place the rounded end of it between the table and the decanter, pushing it about the quarter of an inch under the decanter, or just far enough to make the knife stick out horizontally. When all is ready, strike a sharp blow with the finger beneath the handle of the knife. If the right force is given to the blow, the knife will leap up and make a half-circle in the air in the direction of the mouth of the decanter, into which it will fall, handle downward, if rightly done. It requires a good deal of practice to accomplish the feat, and when practicing it is well to use a large-mouthed decanter till you are sure of your blow. After you have become expert at the trick you can, toss the knife into a medium-mouthed bottle with ease. While practicing, cover the table and your lap with heavy cloth so as to protect both from the sharp edge of the knife should it fall wide of the mark.

Boiling Things Soft.

There are many things, such as eggs, that can be boiled hard, and other things that can be boiled soft, and one of them is the potato.

The potato belongs to a class of foods called starchy, because it is almost entirely composed of grains of starch. These grains are contained in a stiff woody sort of covering, which will not expand, as it is not elastic. If the potato were left in the ground, it would need this starch for its future existence, but when it is dug up and boiled something happens to the starch.

The hot water soaks through the hard woody covering and gets to the grains of starch, which immediately begin to expand, and as the hard covering cannot expand with it, there is nothing for it but to burst, and by the time all the hard part of the potato has been broken up in this way and a quantity of water has been absorbed the potato is quite soft.

Knew It Was Wrong.

The Parson—How did you get that black eye, Tommy?
Tommy—Fighting.
The Parson—I'm sorry to hear that. Don't you know that it is wrong to fight?
Tommy—Yes, sir. That's what I told your kid when he licked me yesterday.

Small Boy's Interpretation.

"I was much mortified today to have Gerald say to me before company: 'Shut up, ma.'" "How discouraging!" "I have done my best to teach the boy to say: 'Mamma, pray be quiet!' when he desires me to cease speaking, but it seems I have labored in vain. What am I to do?"

WHO WHO—and Why

HAILED AS FRIEND OF PEACE

The Japanese legation in Peking gave a dinner the other day in honor of Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard university. In welcoming the scholar, Kokichi Mizuno, charge d'affaires, said:

"Dr. Eliot as president of Harvard university rendered remarkable services to Japan by helping to educate many of the Japanese statesmen, who regenerated their country. I am glad to know that an enthusiastic reception is awaiting him in Japan, and I am glad that he is going by way of Manchuria and Korea. He thus will see things as they actually are. In my four years of consular service in America I heard adverse criticisms of the Japanese activities and enterprises in Manchuria and Korea.



"These criticisms were based on misunderstandings and misrepresentations. We welcome criticism, but we desire it to be based on facts and figures. I do not think any one has the right to criticize Japanese activities simply because they are Japanese. The visit of an impartial observer like Dr. Eliot must result in the removal of the American people's misunderstandings of our activities in Manchuria and Korea. Suggestions and criticisms are most welcome. Japan's national aim and ideal is to unite the two vast streams of oriental and occidental civilizations, thus contributing to the welfare of humanity.

"Let us drink to Dr. Eliot, the sage of Cambridge, America's grand old man."

In responding Dr. Eliot said in part, speaking for the Carnegie Foundation:

"The Carnegie Foundation does not contemplate a sudden disarmament. Until the nations have some guaranty against sudden invasions or the cutting off of food supplies armies and navies will be necessary. The Foundation exists for the studying and gathering of accurate information on the forces promoting peace. The majority of Americans do not sympathize with ill informed and jingoistic newspapers. Accurate and reliable information about foreign countries is needed. The Foundation hopes for the establishment of an international court which can, if necessary, enforce its decisions by armed force."

HEADS NATIONAL TRADE BODY



Harry A. Wheeler of the Union Trust company and ex-president of the Chicago Association of Commerce, has been unanimously elected president of the National Chamber of Commerce.

This committee consists of twenty-five members from all sections of the United States, and will be the governing body of the association, having charge of practically all executive matters.

Under the organization the National Chamber of Commerce of the United States will consist of more than 600 delegates from commercial organizations of every character, including chambers of commerce, boards of trades, commercial clubs, merchants and manufacturers associations, and national associations representing several commercial interests.

The by-laws of the new organization provide for methods of disclosing through a system of referendum, the commercial opinion of the United States on questions which are deemed by the directors to be of national importance. No matters of purely local interest will be within the scope of the interest of this new organization, and the directors state that "the power and influence of the new body will be placed behind any proposition when a substantial majority of the commercial associations of the United States have shown themselves to be in agreement."

The directors were authorized to apply for a federal incorporation for the organization.

CROWN PRINCE SHIRKS DUTY?

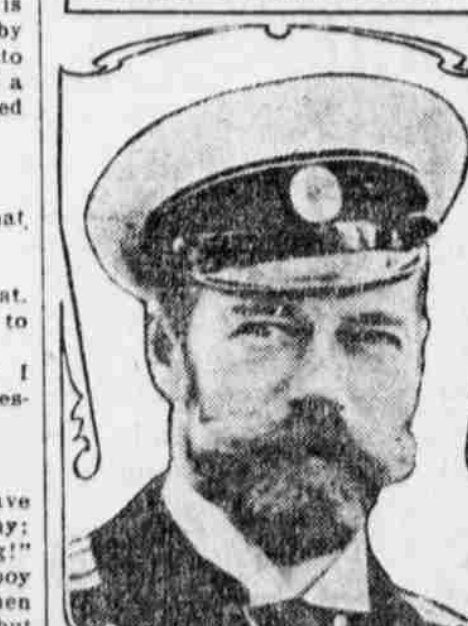
The article attacking the crown prince for neglect of military duties, which is attracting great attention, being reproduced in many leading newspapers, appeared originally in Der Tuerner, a monthly review, according to a Berlin dispatch. It was written by Herr Guenther von Viehbrogge, a retired officer.

The article observes that up to the time when the kaiser appointed his heir to the colonelcy of the famous Death's Head hussars at Danzig last September the crown prince had never done any military service worth mentioning. It was hoped that the command would at last fall to the prince, in whose veins the blood of so many warriors flowed, with genuine enthusiasm for the profession of arms.

"Up to the present, however," continues the article, "the hopes aroused by the transfer to Danzig have remained unfulfilled. The crown prince is absent far too much on leave. Indeed, one might ask when he is at the head of his regiment at all. Immediately after his appointment the august young gentleman went traveling for four weeks, principally to hunt. Soon after his return we saw him in Berlin; sometimes in the reichstag, where he attended the Morocco debates; sometimes at the flying grounds."



CZAR AVERSE TO MONGOL WAR



It is stated in high official circles that Russia does not contemplate the annexation of Mongolia and does not even desire to see it established as a buffer state. On the contrary, Russia feels that Chinese suzerainty is best for the Mongols, who are unaccustomed to self government and are ignorant of statecraft.

For Russia to assist Mongolia in a war for independence would be foolish, as it would alienate from the empire the sympathies of the young Chinese republic, antagonize the other powers and necessitate stronger measures later on. Officials who have the czar's confidence say that should China succeed in making an arrangement whereby the Mongols would be satisfied, Russia would not object to Mongolia's joining the republic.

While the foregoing is undoubtedly the Russian government's attitude, it must be remembered that the Russian press and the military party favor the establishment of Mongolia as an independent buffer state and criticize the government strongly for its conciliatory attitude toward China.