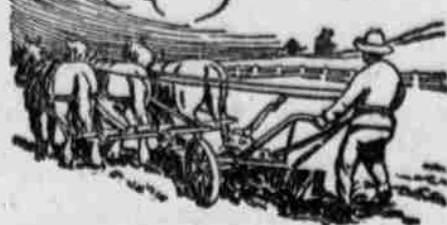


# NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Bees require water.

Rotation improves the soil.

Rape is excellent for swine.

Kafir is harder on land than corn.

Do not forget to provide shade for the poultry.

The better the man, the better the cow. Every time.

Cold water is practically useless for removing bacteria.

Cover crops must be used to prevent the loss of plant food.

You can't tell by the looks of a dairy cow how honest she is.

An inch of rainfall on an acre of land weighs more than 10 tons.

Harrow teeth are made to be turned, yet how many people do it?

A pasture arranged to include a few shade trees is 25 per cent. better.

If hens develop the feather-pulling habit, send them to market at once.

Corn and alfalfa make a combination that cannot be equalled on the dairy farm.

Liberal feeding of the dairy calves is money put where it will draw big interest.

Don't forget the weeds that are getting ready to go to seed along the roadside.

Every farmer should have a small wheel seeder and a small wheel garden hose.

It is a mistake to keep a non-descript bull simply because he cost a little money.

Sore shoulders are the result of ill-fitting collars, and not always those of this season.

Paper may be made to stick to whitewashed walls by an application of vinegar to the walls.

Clabbered milk drained and left to dry makes a fine feed for young chicks. Rub it fine before feeding.

Second of third crop alfalfa, if properly managed, furnishes a very satisfactory pasture for sheep.

All cows that are hearty eaters are not profitable producers, but all profitable producers are hearty eaters.

It is usually mere guesswork to tell the age of a hen by her appearance after she has passed the pullet stage.

Gentleness and patience are always important in the dairy barn, but doubly so when handling the young heifer.

Instead of feeding wet mashes to chicks try giving cracked grain in small quantities in litter. It's good health insurance.

Cultivation hastens the liberation of plant food by permitting air to permeate the soil and oxidize or burn out the organic matter.

Live stock husbandry will postpone soil depletion for a longer period of time than grain farming, but it will not prevent depletion.

The eggs from matured hens will hatch better and produce stronger chicks than the eggs of pullets. They are usually larger, too.

To avoid sore mouth in pigs, the little fellows should have their large front teeth removed as soon after they are farrowed as possible.

When the plow horses are brought in at noon the harness should be removed and the shoulders washed and rubbed dry while they are feeding.

The results of the tillage experiments with disk and mold-board plows indicate that for deep plowing the disk is preferable to the mold-board plow.

While meat is an excellent food for egg production, on account of its nitrogenous quality, there are a number of other feeds which also are high in nitrogen, among which may be found linseed meal, malt sprouts and gluten feeds.

Cows are not nearly always to blame for being unprofitable. Before selling a cow to the butcher you should be able to look squarely at the cow and say honestly that you have done your part to get her to be a profitable creature.

Sheep like rape.

Scaly leg is very contagious.

Feed the dairy cows a variety.

A sod mulch protects the orchard.

Every idle acre is a tax on every acre in use!

The young calves need an abundance of sunlight.

Grooming is as important as feeding for working horses.

The careful stockman gives his manure spreader daily exercise.

The United States produces more corn than all the rest of the world.

Cows should not be kept too long on one ration, no matter how good.

The soft maple is a fast growing tree that loves a fairly moist climate.

More fresh air and less hot air are what is needed in the dairy business.

It should be remembered that a horse can do more than his feet will stand.

Whenever hogs are confined to one feeding place a feeding floor should be provided.

Butter is eaten more as a relish than for the actual constituents it contains.

The United States is responsible for two-thirds of the cotton crop of the world.

It is just as necessary to fit a collar to a horse as it is to fit a shoe to the foot.

Ducks are very fond of dandelions chopped and mixed with ground grain.

From the time corn tassels out until it becomes ripe it increases its dry matter five-fold.

A 20-acre poultry farm has been added to the equipment of the University of Illinois.

Speaking of the matter now, second crop clover added to corn improves the ensilage.

The value of corn silage to the beef producer is not limited to its use in winter feeding alone.

A vessel holding 1,000 pounds of water will hold about 1,032 pounds of whole milk.

Poultry balance their own rations if they are given a wide variety of feeds to select from.

Some farmers are even so busy in harvest time that they haven't time to stop and do the oiling.

Always water first, then a little hay, and follow with grain; this gives the animal a chance to digest.

This is a good time to put a square of tar paper in the bottom of each nest box for the benefit of lice.

The levelness with which a horse walks is one of the best evidences that his legs work in harmony.

When you get a good team let the other fellow whistle, but don't put a price on it, and so invite its early sale.

Prepare for the colt that's coming by giving the mare easy work, and plenty of nourishing food and good water.

Penning chickens is the best way to get a fine flock, for it means that you are getting eggs from the best hens you have.

Keep pigs growing from the start. Never let them go short one week because you are busy looking after something else.

For a brood sow prefer one of good length and breadth of body and placed on short, strong, well-made legs, set wide apart.

When our hens are allowed to become overfat, a disorder of the oviduct is often the result, which causes it to "break down behind."

Silos will be built in large numbers this year, as many farmers had a sad experience keeping their cattle alive during the long, severe winter.

Sour milk is about as good for growing a young calf as so much fog. Ice-cold milk is but little better, and excessive quantities are even worse.

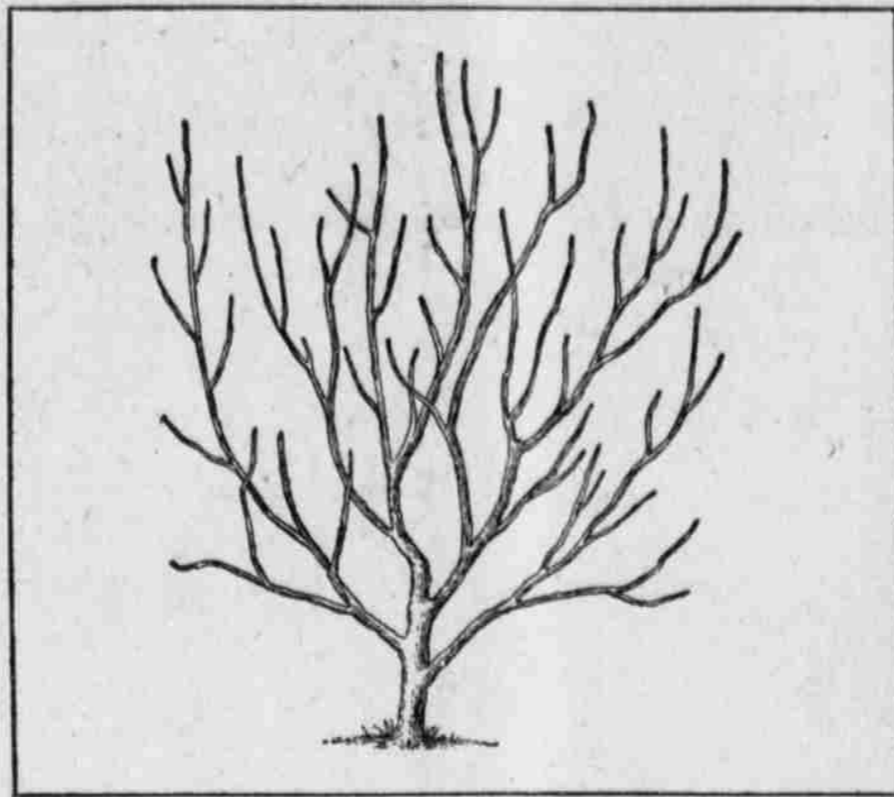
It pleases the cow to be milked quickly, and gets her in the habit of giving down promptly. It is often the slow milkers that make the strippers.

In the feeding of ducklings, dry grain is unsuitable. They will not eat enough sharp grit to digest it. Whole wheat and cracked corn, boiled together and let stand until cold, will give good results.

If you are bothered with rats around the chicken coops, mix corn meal with plaster of paris, and provide plenty of drinking water nearby. The rats will eat the plaster and drink greedily. The water and the plaster will unite and solidify, killing the pests.

## TWO IMPORTANT REQUISITES IN PROFITABLE PEAR ORCHARD

Objects to be Obtained in Pruning and Training are to Secure Symmetrical, Evenly Balanced Heads; Admission of Sunlight and Air and Foliage for Shade.



Intermediate or Natural Form.

(By G. B. BRACKETT, Pomologist, United States Department of Agriculture.)

Pruning and training are important requisites in the successful management of a pear orchard. The objects to be attained are: (1) Symmetrical, evenly balanced heads; (2) the admission of sunlight and free circulation of air into all parts of the tree tops; and (3) the maintenance of sufficient foliage to protect the trunks and branches from the intense heat of the sun's rays, which would otherwise be likely to scald and injure both tree and fruit.

Pruning should begin as soon as the trees have been planted by cutting back the young tree at the time of planting to the height from the ground it is proposed to start the branches to form the head of the tree, which should not be over 12 to 15 inches, as shown in figure 3. This cutting back will cause several of the upper buds to break and grow, thus starting the top or head at the proper height. The starting branches should be watched and only such left to grow as are to form the main branches. The strongest shoots should be left at equal distances apart around the stem and should tend obliquely outward so as to spread and make an open head. The second year these shoots should be shortened back to the extent of about half of the growth, as shown in figure 4. The same plan should be continued the third and fourth years.

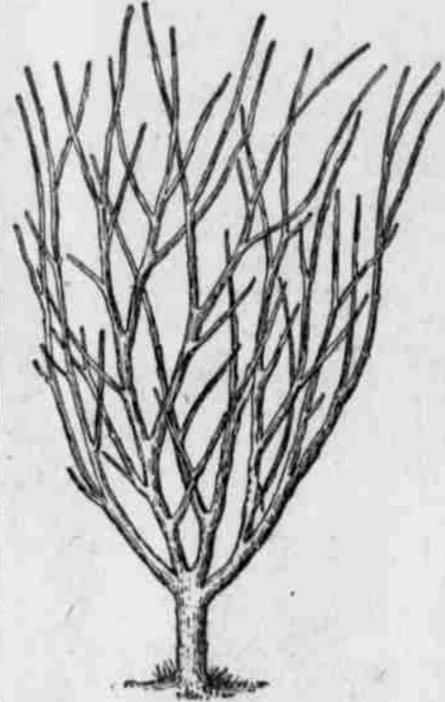
In all pruning, to give the desired form to the head and especially while the tree is young, the orchardist should keep clearly fixed in his mind the form of the tree as it is to be when old; for what may seem to be an open head when the tree is young may prove to be too dense and crowded when the tree is older. The branches should not be too close together for convenience in gathering the fruit.

During late winter or in early spring before the sap starts, each tree should be carefully looked over

and renewed by severe pruning cutting back all the branches that are not in a healthy condition. This pruning will cause new, vigorous shoots to grow. The new growth will need to be cut back as occasion requires. By persistent pruning an entire new top may be formed in a few years.

When the removal of a large branch is necessary, the wound should be covered with grafting wax, paint, or some other substance that will prevent evaporation and keep the wood from checking and consequent decay.

The intermediate form is probably the best for training the pear. It is a compromise between the vase and the pyramidal forms and its outlines



Vase or Goblet Form of Top.

are not so conventional. The tree is allowed to grow more in accord with its natural habit, but it must be checked more or less in its growth so as to conform to the ideas of the planter. Different varieties of the pear vary greatly in their habits of growth. Some trees are upright and some are of a drooping habit. Both of these forms should be modified. Upright branches are shortened back and induced to spread out; and the limbs of the tree inclined to droop are encouraged to grow more nearly upright

## RAISING BELGIAN HARES PROFITABLE

Care in Selection of Stock Is First Important Consideration in Starting in the Business.

The so-called Belgian hare is a domesticated form of the wild rabbit of Europe, being bred with reference to its value as a food animal, and its flesh is now generally considered better for food than that of the ordinary hutch rabbit.

Rabbits may be propagated without costly investment in land and buildings, and possess the further advantage that they contribute another animal to the farm stock that may be killed and prepared for the table at short notice. As a rule, the same treatment applies to all forms of rabbits, except the lop-eared variety, which require heated quarters in winter.

Care in the selection of stock is the first important consideration upon entering upon the raising of rabbits, and for the rest of the enterprise only observation and judgment are essential.

While not affording large profits, the raising of rabbits in a small way may be made interesting and fairly remunerative, as well as affording an agreeable change in the family diet where ordinary meats are high priced or difficult to obtain.

### Separate Ailing Chick.

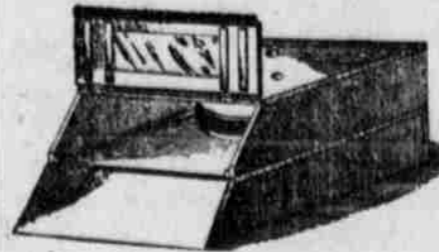
At the first sign of droopiness in a chick separate it from the rest of the flock and it does not quickly recover use the ax and burn the body.

## POULTRY

### WARM BROODER FOR CHICKS

One So Arranged That Little Fellows May Get Their Backs Up Against Cloth-Covered Heater.

In describing a chicken brooder, invented by W. O. Witham of Salem, Ore., the Scientific American says: In this patent the invention has reference to chicken brooders, and the object is to provide one having a



Chicken Brooder.

heater, curved in cross section, which permits the chicks to get their backs up against the cloth-covered heater, so that their bodies may be warmed in the natural way. Another object is to provide means for warming the heater, which will use to the best advantage the heat supplied by the lamp. As warm air from terminals passes through the openings shown in the top of the brooder in the perspective view, it will tend to draw with it air from the housing chamber, which will insure a circulation of air.

### TO DESTROY INJURIOUS LICE

Ten Drops of Pennyroyal Added to a Teaspoonful of Olive Oil Will Prove Effective.

Grease is recommended for lice, but chicks abhor it, and it should not be used unless it is absolutely necessary. Never use coal oil on young chicks, for it is irritating and likely to scald the flesh.

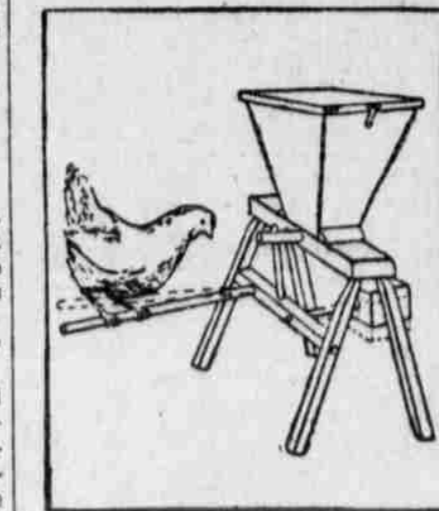
If the large lice are found on the chicks, sweet oil will answer the purpose just as well, and the chicks will not mind it as much. Ten drops of pennyroyal may be added to a large tablespoonful of olive oil. With the finger rub one or two drops well under the wings and down the head and neck of the chicks. The small lice may be got rid of easily, but the large gray ones stick very close and are hard to get off.

The large lice will kill the young chicks, and the owner never knows what the trouble is. They are hard to discern, and will suck blood from the little fellows until their vitality is exhausted, when they die. Watch the young chickens very closely, and do not allow them to be pestered with the large lice, nor the small ones, either, for they also will do a great deal of harm in many ways.

### FEEDER OPERATED BY HENS

California Man Invents Contrivance Worked Automatically by Chickens—Good Exercise.

People who regard chickens as not having enough sense to get in out of the wet will have to revise their opinions. A California man who knows something about fowls has designed a feeder which is operated automatically by the chickens themselves, and if a hen is too dumb she is apt to starve to death. A hopper containing feed is placed on a trestle. The valve from which the feed is discharged is normally kept closed by the weight on one side of the swinging fulcrum. To open the valve, weight must be applied to the other side of the fulcrum and this is done by the chicken jump-



Chicken Feeder.

ing upon a projecting arm. When she sees a few kernels of corn she jumps down and eats them and then has to spring up again to release some more, thus getting exercise and an appetite for dinner.

### Best Land for Turkeys.

On farms having high, dry land, which has a light growth of grass, and where a new breeding gobbler has lately been introduced, the largest flocks and the most thrifty looking turkeys are found.

### Keep Chickens Separated.

Never allow chicks of all ages to run together. The stronger and larger ones will get most of the food, and will fight and crowd the weaker ones ill, if they do live, will never amount to anything.

## The ONLOOKER BY WILBUR D. NESBIT

### The Futility of Things



Well-up, Mistah White Man, I lissen what yo' say; I tuk en tuk mah habits en I th'row dem all away. Dey come en ast me coxin' won' I shoot some craps tonight. I tun en holler, "Satan, yo' dess hustle out mah sight!" En now dess ev'y mawnin' when I gittin' out o' bed I lookin' fo de halo dat yo' 'low grow on mah haid!

Whah dat halo fo' mah haid? Whah dem wings dat gwine ter sprout? I lookin' fo' dem alays. But dey ain' yit peoplin' out!

Umph-uh! Mistah White Man, when yo' tol' me all mah sins En yo' en show me virtuous whah de long, straight rof begins, Yo' got me scathed o' dancin', en yo' fix 'me so dat now De squealin' o' a fiddle mek me want ter run, somehow! I do no double-shuffles en I cut no pigeon-wings— But I ain' see no halo en dem splendid yutheh things.

Whah dat halo dat yo' say Gwine ter set dem lak hif fit? Whah dem wings ter fly away? Not a feather sprouted yit!

Laway, Mistah White Man, when yo' tuk me by de hand En' 'zohked me ter spuhn 'em en ter show mahself a man, Yo' coax me twell I promise dat I doan' play cahds no mo'— Dess when I tun ter tun de jack fo' trumps three times in fo' I feels mahself backslidin', en I's nach'ly lettin' go— Dat halo dat yo' talk of, hit ain' nevah made no show.

Whah dat halo en dem wings? Mistah White Man, doan' yo' see Dat it ain' gwine do no good 'Te be good ez I kin be?

### Literary Comment.

The November Chautauquan publishes as a leading article "The Problem of Sweating in England and the United States."

Without dipping into the article we might say offhand that perspiration is the same the world over.

It may be that the United States being the land of liberty perspiration is manifested more freely than in England. However, it is a summer subject, we should think.

Uncle Sam is usually represented as a slender man, while John Bull is always pictured fat and red-faced. The latter type of man is generally supposed to lose flesh more rapidly because of perspiration. However, the skinny man is said to suffer more from the heat. We don't know yet what the problem is, but we should say that if an American citizen wants to sweat in England he can appeal to his diplomatic representative if he is forcibly restrained. We are in favor of granting the same right to an English subject in our land. Fair play all around, we say. There need be no problem at all. Let each man be a law unto himself, especially in hot weather.

Maybe the problem in England is to make the average British hotel clerk move fast enough to induce perspiration at all.

### Knew His Limitations.

"Old man," we say to our friend, "it's none of our business, of course, but why did you drink so much wine and eat nothing at all at the dinner?" "I know where I got off," replies our friend, whose lack of refinement is offset by his possession of riches. "I can't figger out where an' when to use all them knives an' forks, but I'm there when it comes to usin' the glasses, kid."

### Much Above It.

"Yes," they said, "Mr. Diggem is above his occupation." "What," we asked, "does he do?" "He," they replied, "is a well-driller."

### A Hard Problem.

First Scientist—This is a puzzling case, indeed.  
Second Scientist—I should say so. Why, this would puzzle an amateur scientist.

Wilbur D. Nesbit