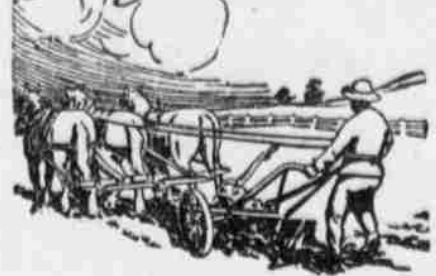


NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



By William Pitt

All animals need salt.

The hog is a debt payer.

Every farm should have a silo.

A silo built of concrete will preserve silage well.

Milk and corn meal makes a fine forcing feed for friers.

A good time to cull out inferior birds is when the market is up.

The finer the soil, the better the vegetables, both in quantity and quality.

Feed the soil if you would have the soil feed you, apples forcibly to worn-out lands.

Grape vines require frequent shallow cultivation throughout the entire season.

In setting an orchard stick to the proven varieties. Let some one else do the experimenting.

The thermometer must be used as regularly in the dairy during the summer as during the winter.

At this time of the year care should be exercised in housing the pullets that are to be the winter layers.

In breaking a colt, remember that it is an easy matter to overload and ruin him by causing him to balk.

Bran is a very good feed for cows. It is light, palatable and rich in mineral matter, especially phosphorus.

With fruiting orchards, mineral fertilizers are often great assistance, but an excess of nitrogen should be avoided.

Annual flowers can be hurried along by watering them with a tablespoonful of nitrate of soda to a pailful of water.

Herold pruning measures are needed to bring many old trees into bearing; but it need not all be done the first year.

The theory that one can overfeed the growing pullets has been exploded, and many a flock has been retarded by under feeding.

The earlier in the season after the "June crop" that thinning can be done, the better it will be for the tree and remaining apples.

The most humane method of dehorning a cow is to do the work with a little caustic potash when the horns are just starting on the calf.

When the strawberries are off the vines remove the mulch and cultivate thoroughly to kill off the weeds and put the soil in fine condition.

Some folks have their houses so that they can open them up all around the foundation walls when it is hot, and let the air circulate everywhere.

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.

Throw open the windows every night, but tack some wide-meshed cloth of some kind over them to keep out things that have no business in the house.

Alsike clover is a perennial and can be grown on ground that is too low and moist for the medium red or mammoth, but it is grown equally well on high ground.

Men who are inexperienced in alfalfa growing should have forced on their attention the important lesson that it pays well to put a little labor on the surface after removing each crop.

In selecting eggs for hatching much care should be used. Select only nice brown, well-formed and good-sized eggs from healthy stock. Keep them just cool and incubate them as soon as possible.

When buying pedigreed stock the wise buyer will study the pedigree of the man who bred the animal as carefully as the animal itself. A good reputation is a valuable asset when selling registered animals.

From 15 to 18 pounds of hay should be given a horse during the day. This is equivalent to five or six pounds to a meal. But it is not well to give so much at noon or morning, as they have not the time to eat it, and going to work right away prevents proper time for digestion.

Keep the pigs growing.

Look out for chicken lice.

Order crates and boxes early.

Timely harvesting is necessary.

Gather all the brush from the orchard and burn it.

When cream appears moldy on the surface it is overripe.

You are safe to buy an old sire, but don't get him very fat.

An orchard neglected for one year virtually puts it back three years.

Early turkeys are what pay, and these can only be had from early laid eggs.

Plenty of exercise is one very important item for keeping a flock healthy.

The use of silage for sheep feeding purposes has been tried out to a limited extent.

There is no reason why potatoes should not be cultivated with a riding corn cultivator.

If you want a fine, early yellow peach, put two or three Triumph trees in your next nursery order.

Some tell the sex of the guinea fowl by its wattles. Those of the male are double the size of the female.

A liberal application of ashes to the soil where cabbage plants are grown is a preventive of clump root.

Condiments that stimulate egg production are very much like anything that stimulates a human being.

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

Good fruit can be raised only with care and attention given to spraying, pruning and generally good care.

Gooseberries require a cool situation, with plenty of air and moisture, and should be partially shaded.

It requires two-thirds of a full ration to keep a cow in fair condition before there is any milk production.

A blockish built mare with a large barrel on short legs is likely to produce a better foal than the tall, leggy kind.

Capons are the most profitable part of the chicken industry.

Frequently disinfecting the hen-houses, coops and drink and feed dishes is likely to save lots of trouble from disease.

It does not require any great ability at figures to show that there is a great waste in selling hogs when they are but half fed out.

Truck crops suffer least from fungi in seasons that open with a cool spring and end with a very hot summer, with rainfall below the average.

Raspberries and blackberries should be mulched with straw or litter after they have been shallow cultivated two or three times in the spring.

If the onions are not growing well, a little nitrate of soda or hen manure sown broadcast, before or during a rain, often helps them to fill out.

You don't have to take the frost out of the bits these days, but you might take the fire out of your temper and save much suffering in the horses' mouths.

Sugar-beet growing means more than the mere profits from growing the beets. It introduces a higher type of agriculture and the crops raised in rotation are better.

At this season cows should be dry, so as to avoid milking during fly time and excessive heat. Pastures are short, too, and a dry cow can stand it better than a good milker.

It pays to whitewash, ventilate and properly light stables; to brush and curry cows; to use clean and well-covered utensils, to cool milk quickly and to have a cool place for the milk.

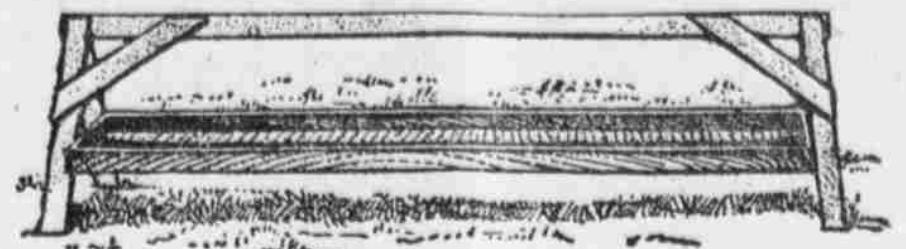
Cowpeas or soy beans are frequently sown in standing corn at the time of the last cultivation or they can be sown after such early-harvested crops as wheat have been removed in case it is not too late in the season.

Those who contemplate starting an alfalfa patch should bear in mind this one fact, that under ordinary circumstances no one factor will contribute so much to the success of the crop as an application of farmyard manure.

It's a toss-up between milking out in the cool yard where mosquitoes and flies pester the cows and the tall works like perpetual motion, and the darkened barn, with a row of hot corks adding to the heat of the day.

It is very important that the pastures of the dairy cows should be kept free from all weeds or plants which will impart a bitter or disagreeable taste to the milk or butter. Ragweeds, especially, should be mown off every time they start up.

FEEDER RACKS SAVE FODDER AND LABOR



Self-Feeder Racks Which Save Fodder and Considerable Labor.

Self-feeder racks for supplying roughage to sheep or cattle are not only the means of saving considerable labor, but, according to tests made at the Colorado experiment station, are the means of saving a great deal of hay. One lot of lambs at this station were fed whole hay in a self-feeder rack, and another lot whole hay in racks on the ground, such as are in common use in many sections of the country. The average gain of these two lots was practically the same, the lot feeding from the self-feeder averaging only one pound heavier than the other, says the American Agriculturist. Also, the grain consumed varied but little, being only nine pounds more for a 100-pound gain in the first lot than in the second. The great saving came in the cost of roughage.

The lot eating from the self-feeder consumed 601 pounds of hay for each 100 pounds of gain, and those eating off the ground consumed 733 pounds of hay for each 100 pounds of gain. This indicates a difference of practically 20 per cent. in favor of the self-feeder racks. It makes a difference of 42 cents in the cost securing each 100 pounds of gain. These results were secured on alfalfa valued at \$5 per ton. With a higher price the difference would be correspondingly greater.

These self-feeding racks cost \$1 per running foot completed. They had the ordinary capacity of four lambs per running foot, two on each side, not so much space being required at a self-feeder as at an ordinary rack, since all the lambs will not eat at one time. As already stated, the saving in this one experiment amounted to 42 cents per 100 pounds of gain. This is equal to about 14 cents on each lamb. Counting four lambs per running foot, this would make a saving on one season's operations of 56 cents. In other words, the rack would pay for itself in two years. It is thought that when a type of self-feeder is developed for handling chopped hay better results may be secured from it than have hitherto been possible, by reducing the waste caused by wind.

KEY TO SUCCESS ON DAIRY FARM

More Can be Accomplished When Farmer and Animals are Care-Free and Contented in Mind.

(By B. L. OUTNAM.)

The dairyman who is looking for results will not allow the dog or the small boy to worry his cows. He knows that if he wants a well filled pail they must not be frightened but kept quiet and content.

The grower of beef cattle is sure to weed out the one that is continually bawling, when it should be grazing, for the simple reason that there is more waste than gain of adipose tissue at such a time. The stock content to feed upon the good pasture at hand rather than busy themselves trying to break into forbidden fields, possibly not nearly as good, are the ones that make the most gain in weight.

The hen that is dogged every time she finds a nice soft place to scratch is not the one that makes the best egg record. She may be hard on the garden, but a good fence would easily fix that. Do not discourage her natural efforts and then expect her to do her best for you.

The horse that is compelled to fight flies continually cannot get in a full day's work, or at least if it does there is less in stamina, which eventually tells on the life work of the animal. Neither can it do its best with an ill-fitting harness. The horse that is comfortable and in good spirits is the one which makes the record.

A flock of sheep harassed by dogs soon show the trouble in their general condition as surely as in their manner. Fleetness of foot is not one of the characteristics of the animal and when this is lost as a means of preservation it is to the detriment of the flock.

The farmer and his family, as well as his stock, accomplish more when care-free and in a happy turn of mind. All nature is fresh and cheerful. It is profitable for us to be likewise!

CULTIVATE IN CELERY PATCH

Work Should Begin After Pastures are Well Started in July—Keep Soil Out of Plant.

After the celery plants are well started in July, commence to cultivate. It is much better to give a shallow cultivation rather than deeper ones, as the roots of celery grow quite near the surface, and cultivating two inches deep will accomplish just as much as four inches, provided, of course, that the ground is cultivated often enough to keep a mulch of loose soil. When the plants have attained a height of about ten inches blanching may be started.

Usually the plants will be quite spreading, and they should be first gathered together, and held in place with one hand, while the soil is drawn to them with a hoe in the other hand. Care should be exercised that no soil gets into the heart of the plant. This is likely to cause the plant to rot.

Hilling should not be done when the ground is dry enough to crumble. If done when the soil is wet the plants are liable to rust. On a small scale celery may be blanched by putting boards 1 inch thick and 2 to 14 inches wide on each side of the row and filling the space around the plants with sawdust or soil.

Good Hog Pastures.
A good pasture for hogs is one which is tender and nutritive. Blue grass makes a good pasture during the spring and late fall. Rye and blue grass make a little winter pasture.

BATS OF VALUE TO THE FARMER

Besides Destroying Mosquitoes and Other Noxious Insects Guano Deposits Are Rich.

(By H. W. HENSHAW, Chief Biological Survey, Department of Agriculture.)

There is no doubt of the great value of bats in the destruction of mosquitoes and other noxious insects, especially beetles. For years we have been interested in the subject and have examined many bat stomachs, with a view to finding out the precise species upon which the different bats feed.

The investigation, however, is beset with difficulties owing to the fact that bats habitually seem to thoroughly chew their insect food before swallowing it, with the result that the determination even of general insects taken for food is very difficult, while the identification of soft-bodied insects like mosquitoes is practically impossible. Because they destroy so many insects we advocate the protection of bats wherever they occur.

None of the species that inhabit the United States do any harm, although they sometimes cause annoyance by congregating in large numbers in the attics or under the eaves of country houses, when the noise they make coming and going frequently disturbs the inmates of the house. This trouble, however, can always be easily cured by stopping up the holes and compelling the bats to take up their residence elsewhere.

In connection with the economic importance of bats the value of their guano as a fertilizer is not to be overlooked, as it brings a high price wherever it can be obtained in marketable quantities. In fact, the erection of artificial shelters for bats for the purpose of obtaining the guano has frequently been advocated, as also has an attempt to increase the number of the mammals, having in mind their destruction of noxious insects, especially mosquitoes.

We know of at least one instance, in Mexico, where a small dwelling was given up to the exclusive use of bats for the purpose of annually or semi-annually gathering the guano for sale.

POULTRY

FEW LESSONS WITH TURKEYS

Breeder of Twenty-Two Years' Experience Finds Business More Profitable Each Year.

I have raised turkeys for sale 22 years, and find it a more profitable business each year, says a writer in the Farm and Fireside.

I have had to learn many lessons by quite an expensive route. One year I failed entirely by too close incubating. Another year I let my turkeys wander at their own will and roost where they pleased. Again I allowed some to go up in the trees—a hard storm blew them out and drowned 24 beauties. Since these lessons I have worked differently.

I change either breeding hens or toms every other year. I usually buy a thoroughbred bronze from some unrelated flock. I keep old hens for breeders, and find their poulters more healthy. One early turkey is more profitable than three late ones, so I use the first eggs and sell the later ones. Chicken hens are set on the first laying and the poulters given to the first turkey hen that becomes broody. Large, airy pens or coops with rainproof roofs are built quite a distance from the house.

The hens are kept up two weeks, and then turned out every morning, unless the weather becomes rainy. They have learned to come when called, and will answer me from ever so far when I call "Pee turk! Come on!" I am never too busy or too tired to get them up at the approach of a hard storm, and at four o'clock in the evening. They soon learn to come home. After they are five or six weeks old I never feed at noon.

I feed no sloppy feed, but have good luck with wheat or corn bread, cracked corn, cooked soft, wheat, mashed potatoes, etc.

The first two weeks are the most particular. I give each poult a grain of black pepper when it is 24 hours old, and a stroke of lard of vaseline from bill to top of head.

Then a feed of hard-boiled egg, shell and all, crushed fine, mixed with bread soaked soft and squeezed dry. Fresh water, sand, lime and ground charcoal are kept handy. They eat of all; I never feed too much. I never feed over four times a day, and that often only a week. More turkeys die from overfeeding than underfeeding. I use a flat board to sprinkle their feed on, and keep it clean. It pays to be cleanly with turkeys.

LEGHORN HENS AS MOTHERS

Although Called Nonsetters Occasionally One Is Found and Will Cover Many Eggs.

Although the Leghorns are called nonsetters, they do sit occasionally, and I like them very much as mothers. It would hardly seem possible that a Leghorn hen would cover more



Single-Comb Leghorn.

eggs than a Cochin, but it is a fact, says a writer in an exchange. The Cochin's wings are short and stubby, while the Leghorn's wings are long and she will spread them over a big nestful. Last summer a Leghorn incubated 20 eggs for me and hatched 19 of them. It was, however, in the month of July, and her nest was carefully arranged in a basket; but I never give them less than 15. They take excellent care of their young; being light weight, they seldom hurt a chick by stepping on it, and they will fight intruders fiercely.

POULTRY NOTES

Keep your stock healthy, clean and comfortable.

Not all the failures of poultry life are due to the hens.

The first duck eggs of the season are hardly ever fertile.

Don't gorge the growing chicks one day and starve them the next.

Any fowl is liable at times to produce an egg containing blood spots.

Well grown ducklings very often will begin laying at five months of age.

Chicks like heat, and it is good for them; but there is a difference in heat.

Don't let chicks squeeze through slatted coops until their bodies are deformed.

Poultry breeding as a pursuit is emphatically a labor of love, but it is nevertheless, a labor.

The ONLOOKER

WILBUR D. NESBIT

The OLD TINTYPE



He gazed on the oldtime picture—
The tintype, faded and stained;
And over his face crept shadows
That showed how his heart was pained.
'Twas only an oldtime picture
Of him, in the bygone days
That loom now, ever so faintly
Through memory's mellowing haze.

He sighed o'er the old, old picture,
Dented and scratched and dim;
And smiled at the maiden, dimpled,
Who sat by the side of him—
The maiden, dimpled and happy,
Who was pictured there, also;
The maiden who held his fingers
In the style of the long ago.

'Twas only an oldtime picture,
And taken in oldtime style—
Each held the hand of the other,
And each wore a tintype smile.
He frowned at the oldtime picture,
The tintype, scratched and depressed.
'I wonder,' he muttered grimly,
'I wonder who has the rest.'

An Exigency, Indegd.
With breathless suspense we watched the bloodhounds take up the trail. To our surprise they crossed one lot and then stopped in front of a tumble-down hut. "Make 'em go farther than this," urged the representative of the Daily Yeller. "But this is the end of the trail," protested the owner of the dogs. "I know. But they haven't covered one-third enough territory to make a page illustration."

Modern Enterprise.
"How is this?" inquired the Visiting Potentate. "You have an extra paper on the streets announcing my departure, when I have just arrived." "Oh," was the satisfied response of the editor of the Daily Yeller, "we issued an extra day before yesterday announcing your arrival."

Smile, Etc.
"Funny about young Spenditt, wasn't it?" said the observing man. "Was it?" asked the man of an inquiring mind. "Yes, he lost his money raising Cain in Europe, and then made another fortune raising cane in Louisiana."

The Voice of Experience.
Mother-in-Law—I see where some legislator proposes to tax men for their wives.
New Daughter-in-Law—That would make a tremendous increase in the taxes.
Mother-in-Law—Yes. For a few years.

Merely a Suggestion.
Dr. Dosem—Yes, Miss Wunder, we have carried the practice of vaccination to that point where it is an absolute protection against smallpox.
Miss Wunder—But, doctor, I don't see why they do not vaccinate the smallpox germs and settle the thing for good.

Busy but Not Gaining.
"Well, I be dinged!" observes Mr. Glimber, looking at the freight cars; "that town takes a heap o' cars, but it ain't growed a bit in ten years." "What town?" asks Mr. Humtum. "Capa City. I've seen it painted on every freight car for a long while, an' it always reads 'Capa City 35,000!'"

Wilbur D. Nesbit

They Gossip.
"Although Mrs. Whooper and Mrs. Chaffring have been neighbors for a long time, they never lend each other anything."
"Except each other's ears."

Sure Thing.
"There is one man I want to see paddle his own canoe."
"Who is that?"
"The man who thinks it funny to rock the boat."

What He Objected To.
Visiting Chaplain—Ah, my brother, this world is full of trials.
Prisoner—Oh, dry up, guv'nor! Think I dunno that? It isn't the trials I mind; it's the verdicts.—Sketch.