

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM



Stock like turnips.
Screen the water tank.
Give every horse his own collar.
Cull the ewe flock before breeding.
The soy bean is an excellent legume.

A pig should never be compelled to squeal for his food.
Cut the weeds out of the fence corners before they go to seed.

Pigs fed on dirty, dusty floors are apt to contract lung trouble.

A two-piece stave silo makes practically as good a silo as a one-piece.

How about underdraining that low place on the farm? Now is the time.

You must have vigor in the sow if you expect strong vitality in the pigs.

The hoe is a wonderful tool for conserving the moisture around the small plants.

No need of "pitch holes" or ruts in the road. Use the King road drag, brothers.

All young animals to be profitable should be kept growing from birth until maturity.

Clean out the sheepfolds and sprinkle thoroughly with plaster before putting in beds of straw.

The self-sucking cow and the confirmed fence breaker are equally disagreeable to have in the herd.

Farmers will not get the full benefit of the rural free delivery until after they get the parcels post.

The total production of phosphate rock in this country in 1910 was 2,654,988 long tons, valued at \$10,917,000.

After all that may be said in favor of other pastures, clover stands at the head when it comes to the right thing for pigs.

Don't let those cockle burrs go to seed on stubble ground seeded down. Run the mower over the field before seeds form.

Do not cut the grass a day too early or a day too late. Send in the mower just when bloom shows like a mist over the field.

Get ready to cull the ewe flock before breeding this fall. There are some ewes that are too old and should go to market.

A dust mulch for the garden is better than a sprinkling can. Stir the soil every few days and you will need to carry very little water.

A sharp disk is the best tool that can be used to level down the hogs on a piece of rough, boggy slough land after the tillers are through.

There is money as well as humanity in providing shade for picketed or shut-in calves or other animals. It costs so little to try this it is a shame not to.

Selling crops as soon as they are harvested usually means that one gets a very poor price for one's product. As a general rule the prices of grains go up a little later on.

A parasite with a long and unpronounceable name has been introduced into California to fight the codling moth. It is said to be making good and has begun the destruction.

Make a start in sheep this fall by buying 25 high grade ewes and a pure bred ram. We did this and sold enough of the increase the next spring to more than pay for the first investment.

Naturally, fowls are healthy, and no stock on the farm has been so much abused. Yet in spite of all the ill-treatment they receive they do much better than any other stock on the farm of equal value.

Molting is a great factor in the production of blackberries. There is sufficient water in the sub-soil to ripen this fruit, provide you do not let it get away. Frequent cultivation is the remedy to apply.

In closely built houses, where there is poor ventilation, the air becomes contaminated by gases arising from silt and the accumulation of droppings. As the hens are exposed to these gases during the night, it is no wonder that the system becomes poisoned by them and disease results.

A farm shop is handy.
Little chicks must have shade.
Prepare for hog marketing time.
It is time to get the machinery under cover.
A hog cannot help being dirty in a wet, filthy pen.
Try to have the water tanks under some sort of shade.

In milking it is the last few pulls that produce the profits.

A dog that worries stock has no business on the dairy farm.

A good shade goes a long way toward thrift in the hog pens.

To get the best results the cow must be kept quiet and treated kindly.

Oil is cheaper than harvesters. Good oil is cheaper than thin cheap stuff.

A screen fly trap setting near the back kitchen door rids the house of many flies.

There is going to be a lot of alfalfa sown this fall. How much of it will be on your farm?

It pays to get out and do as much work as possible in the early part of these hot days.

One thing that keeps the hired man on the farm is a neat, well-kept, and well arranged farm.

A disk from an old pulverizer makes a good anchor for holding the end post of a wire fence.

Milking the cows clean and carefully has a tendency to develop a persistent habit of yielding milk.

It doesn't cost any more to be cleanly than otherwise. And there's more profit and satisfaction in it too.

Silage is highly relished by both cattle and sheep, and is fed with profit to these classes of animals.

Our advertising columns are interesting this month. Look them over carefully. May find something you want.

Three tablespoons of formalin to a pint of half water and half milk is an efficient poison to set where flies congregate.

The silo should be placed where it will not interfere with the sunlight entering the barn, or interfere with the entrance or exits.

Supplement the short pastures with those green crops you planted last spring. Didn't do it? Too bad. Remember next time.

A little gunny sacking over that poor cow's or calf's back, when it is picketed near swarms of flies, will help out the feed surprisingly.

Flies can't hatch without a manure or dump pile to incubate in. Keep everything clean and there will be a few million less of these flies.

Sheep and poultry go well to gether, and when once the buildings and fields are ready for them, how little work, compared with other stock, it takes to care for them.

Many dairymen are giving their cows simply a maintenance ration, and then complain because there is no profit in dairying. Such dairying don't deserve to succeed.

Don't neglect to cultivate the grape vineyard up to fruiting time. The surface of the soil in the vineyard must be kept mellow throughout the hot July and August days.

Skim the milk clean. The milk containing quite a little butter fat may be most excellent for the pigs, but butter fat at 20 to 28 cents a pound is expensive pig feed.

We saved up some of our profits from farming and invested in some farm land a few years ago. The result may surprise you, but we made 30 per cent on our investment.

The coal ash mulch is certainly good for gooseberries and also for tomatoes. Tomatoes mulched with sifted coal ashes will resist blight and keep green and flourishing longer than without it.

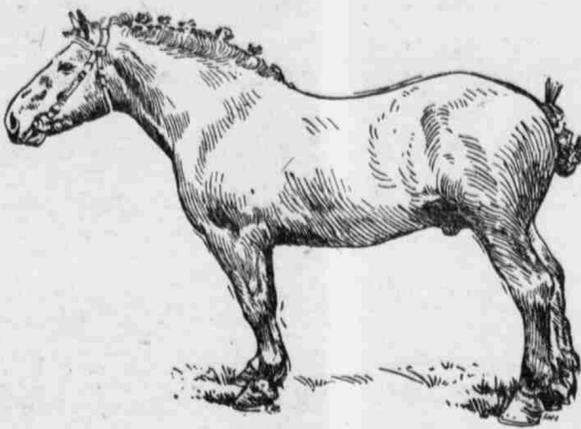
Linseed meal is made by grinding flaxseed from which the oil has been more or less completely extracted. "Old process" contains more fat and somewhat less protein than "New process" linseed meal.

As a matter of fact the farmer owes it to himself, personally, to be a close student of advanced agriculture and of public questions. This is the way to keep the mind alert and active and to keep mentally young.

Catarrh is not roup. It is usually caused by dampness; exposure to a drenching rain is a good starter for the disease. Roup is a purulent catarrhal affection of the air passages. Dr. Sauerbarn says it is a fifth disease and not caused by "taking cold." The difference between roup and catarrh is that the latter has a tendency to get well without treatment, while the former seems inclined to progress to a fatal end.

COMBINATION OF EXCELLENT QUALITIES OF CLYDE, SHIRE AND PERCHERON HORSES

Ideal Type of All Three Great Breeds is Nearly the Same—All Breeders Seek to Achieve Improvement Over Original Animals of District.

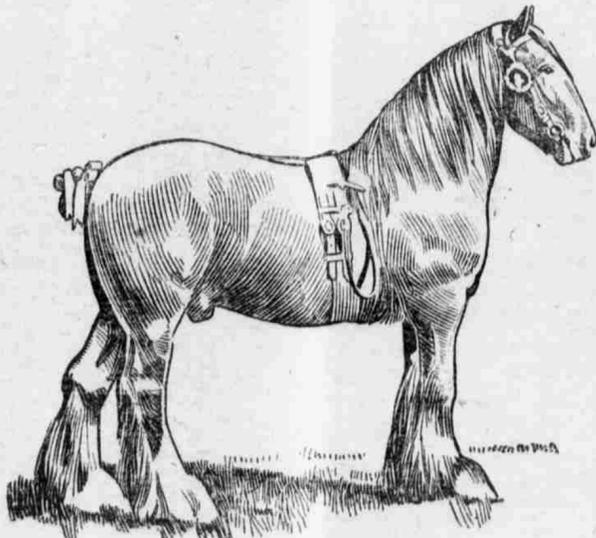


Percheron Stallion "Hoche."

It is, as a rule, well to stick to one breed of horses and to breed that one which has the greatest number of good stallions in one's district. Under Dean Curtiss, however, at the Iowa college, Ames, Iowa, an effort is being made to combine the best that is in the Shire and Clyde horses, and the resources of the college fully justify the experiment and also the kind of horses that are being produced. Many of our most successful show horses have resulted from a cross of Clyde and Percheron, Clyde and Shire or Shire and Percheron in varying degree. The ideal type of all three great breeds is nearly the same; all seek improvement over the original horse of their districts, and when a judge enters the ring, although he is forced to make allowance for differences in each breed, yet he has pretty much the same standard in his mind for all. The ideal begins with deep feet, yet not boxy, but with wide hoof heads and a broad elastic heel and frog. The set of the pasterns must be oblique to give plenty of spring and save concussion, plenty of breadth in cannon bone and tendon with quality, big muscular forearms, not in bunches, both for strength and to denote muscular tendency throughout. Head and neck strong without coarseness, but denoting strong vitality. The draft horse's shoulder may be straighter than the carriage horse's, but it should be oblique enough for the horse to wear himself well and travel easily, which will not be the case with an upright shoulder, or if the legs are not truly set on the body the latter point is often overlooked. A shortish back and a good girth and barrel, with plenty of spread underneath coming from length of shoulders and quarters and big muscular thighs and stifles are needed and the hock should be long and deep and clean, with a proper alignment to the stifles and hip bone. It will be found in seeking these points that every breed has serious and, in fact, disqualifying differences, and Dean Curtiss is merely doing what has been frequently done with other breeds when he tries to take a short cut by combining gray Shires with Clydes and uniting the excellencies of both. That it will take time and an intensification of the desired horse by inbreeding is nothing against the experiment.

A great deal has been done in both Shire and Clyde to improve them, but some sire has been sacrificed to get perfection of hoof and pastern in the one breed, and the Clyde was never a heavy barreled horse, the Scotsman preferring a quick, active, grain-fed horse to one which consumed more hay, an article he is not apt to be overburdened with. The great back ribs and barrel of the Shire will be well carried on Clyde legs, the head will be improved, while there is an upstandingness and presence about the great Shire horses that are impressive. The Shire horse is a consistent puller. He will pull without result for a long time without becoming discouraged, while the Clyde horse gets into action much quicker and at the second or third step is in the full swing of his walk, so that a good deal will be gained by a combination of mental qualities expressed in action. I realize the immense debt we owe to foreign importations, but can never rest satisfied until we have developed either new breeds or adapted old ones entirely to our conditions, both general and local, as has been done in the case of the American trotter, saddle horse and Poland China hog.

To make no effort to do this is a negation of the genius of the American agriculturist to meet a variety of soil and climatic conditions by breeding animals suited to their environment.



Royal Duke, Champion Shire Stallion.

NITROGEN DECIDES FERTILITY OF SOIL

In the Body of Plant or Animal It is One of Most Important Elements.

(By C. C. WENTZLER.)

To most people soil is either rich or poor.

If a soil is productive, it is regarded as rich; on the other hand if only limited and inferior crops can be raised, the soil is regarded as proportionately worthless.

Few people excepting those who have made more or less of a study of the soil are aware that, practically, one element decides the fertility of the soil. This is nitrogen.

Nitrogen is one of the most important elements in the soil. It balances the soil and enables the plants to breathe and the nitrogen to hold the oxygen

in check, it would be absolutely impossible to strike a match. A spark would cause an explosion that could be heard as far as the sun while every living thing would be instantly destroyed.

In the body of plant or animal, it is one of the most important elements. In the soil it is the principle element which decides its fertility. Soils are rich or poor according to the amount of nitrogen they contain, especially with regard to the other elements which make up the soil. It is from the soil that most plants get their nitrogen and it is from these plants that we get flesh, butter and eggs, in the shape of protein.

Profits in Onions.

The man who reads of \$1,000 to \$2,000 profits per acre in onions or in any other crop loses his head to the extent of planting a half-acre as a first venture, not knowing whether his soil and climate are adapted to the crop or what chances of sale or storage he has, does not use proper discretion.

POULTRY

EARLY MOLTING OF CHICKENS

Western Poultryman Gives Excellent Method of Controlling Hens in Changing Feathers.

Most people believe that if they can force their hens to molt early they will lay more eggs during the season, but this is not true. Hens that have molted late will lay more eggs during the winter than the early molters.

This has been shown by the most careful experiments, but the facts are not generally known.

Molting hens require a large amount of feed containing nitrogen such as oil meal, meat and other feeds rich in protein. Molting can be forced by cutting down the feed of hens as it has been shown by experiments that scantily fed hens begin molting earlier than those on full feed, but the former do not finish molting much earlier.

Starved hens molt more uniformly than others and this is particularly noticeable in hens two or three years old.

In an experiment conducted by the Cornell experiment station it was found that on a basis of 100 hens the fed flock produced eggs to the value of \$29.97 more than by the starved flock.

The total income from all the birds was \$278 for the starved flock and \$350 for the fed flock, a difference in favor of natural molting for the year of about \$95.

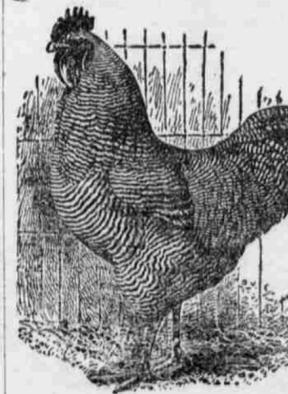
A western poultryman of long experience gives his method of controlling molting as follows:

As soon as the hens are through laying he turns them out on alfalfa, feeding them dry bran only, in addition. Under this treatment they get thin. Then he feeds them a mixed ration of grains and meat, giving a light feed in the morning and all they will eat at noon and night. Under this treatment they finish molting quickly, get new feathers and begin laying in September. By October 1 they are all in good laying condition and make a profit through the fall and winter.

PLYMOUTH ROCK IS POPULAR

Blocky Shape Makes Them Excellent Breed for Broilers—Much Favored as Utility Fowl.

The Barred Plymouth Rock is without a doubt the most popular breed of chickens in this country—more of them are found on the farms than any other breed. On special poultry farms the Leghorn is a very popular breed, and in the poultry farming districts the Rhode Island Reds are almost exclusively used, says a writer in the Rural New Yorker. As a general utility fowl the Wyandottes



Prize Winning Rock.

are second in popularity to the Rocks, the white variety being the most popular.

Their blocky shape makes them an excellent breed for broilers. Like the Plymouth Rocks and Rhode Island Reds, they lay a brown egg. The Leghorns lay a white egg, and in this respect they have a slight advantage, as most markets prefer the white egg, though there is no difference in the qualities of eggs with a brown or a white shell.

POULTRY NOTES

Overcrowding ducklings will induce feather-pulling.

Kerosene is sure death to lice, if applied as a spray.

Hens suffer from overheating as much as from starving.

It is provoking to have hens steal their nests this time of the year.

The feeding of onions to laying hens has produced an onion flavor in eggs. A hen egg-bound will be seen to visit the nest repeatedly without result.

Fodder corn makes fine green food for poultry of all ages. Try it fed green.

Many will realize this fall and winter that the early-hatched chick is the winter layer.

It is not advisable to allow ducklings bathing water before the weather is warm and pleasant.

Market at once all males not kept or breeders, and all pullets that have not kept pace with the rest of the flock.

The ONLOOKER

WILBUR D. NESBIT

HOW TO GET RICH



If anybody wrote a book on wealth—

He read it.

On gaining coin by energy or stealth—

He read it.

A book "How I Had Success in Life,"

Or "Rules for Cutting Coupons with a Knife,"

Or "How to Best Secure a Wealthy Wife"—

He read it.

From early youth, when such books came his way,

He read them.

All pearls of wisdom millionaires might say—

He read them.

If anybody composed some maxims wise,

Or others told their struggles, for the prize,

By night and day, with tireless, eager eyes,

He read them.

But when a chance for fortune came to him,

He missed it.

When Luck went by, with lantern burning dim,

He missed it.

Each chance to make a million sauntered by,

Unnoticed by his restless, hopeful eye;

He first must understand things—that was why

He missed it.

"Twas in the papers just the other day—

You read it.

About a carriage that took him away—

We read it.

It was the springless, bumping poorhouse van,

And on the seat, at ease this luckless man

Held in his hands a book: "Great Wealth—

The Plan."

He read it.

They've Sworn Off.

Our esteemed co-laborer in the uplift, Miss Laura Jean Libbey, responding to the anguished appeal of a fair young thing who writes to her for advice as to the theoretical mental attitude of her steady company, says:

"Most men like to carry packages."

We fear that something has embittered Laura. Can it be that neither the odoriferous spearmin, nor the sly sen-sen, nor yet the pieces of Araby have concealed the maraschino and the bitters upon some one's evening salutation? It was our impression that the cloven breath was conspicuous by its absence in these days of the year.

"Most men like to carry packages"—that reads more like Carrie Nation than Laura Jean Libbey!

Had Read the Verdict.

"John Henry Muggins!" exclaimed his wife at 3 a. m., "where on earth have you been all this night?"

"At home, m' dear," asserted Mr. Muggins, observing with curious interest the gyrations of the hall tree.

"At home? Why, you haven't been near this house since supper."

"That's all ri'," was the strenuous response. "I wadh wizzin shignal distance all evenin', jush' shame!"

The Other Possibility.

"I'm always afraid when I go home in the evening," says the man with the desiccated hair, "that I'll find that my wife has taken one leg of my best trousers for a hobble skirt."

"Huh!" says the man with the roaming whiskers. "I'm always afraid the blamed style will subside and my wife and daughter will try to make me a pair of pants of their hobble skirts."

He Protested.

"In the name of humanity, I protest!" declares the South American patriot.

Vainly we urged our proposition upon him.

"No!" he thunders. "We will never consent to having a baseball league in our country. We have war enough as it is."

A Thorough System.

"But," we protested to the general manager of the One Horse Railroad, "you advertise fast and slow freights, yet you tell us you only run one freight train a day. How is that?"

"Well," he answered. "We put the fast freight in the front cars, and it reaches the town head of the slow freight."

Hebur D. Nesbit.