

NOTES from MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Keep after the mites.

Chickens relish cracked corn.

Silage is the cheapest feed.

The incubator is always on the job.

Thorough milking tends to develop a cow's udder.

The silo makes the best crib on earth for soft corn.

Better get at that new silo right away after harvest.

Water should be supplied in the pasture these hot days.

Don't make the mistake of pasturing the clover meadow too close.

It is a pretty safe rule to select breeding pigs from the largest litters.

Where apple trees blight, remove the affected limbs at once and burn them.

The practice of keeping the cows in the yard at night with no feed, is most wasteful.

The work horses appreciate an occasional chance to roll and get a bite of grass.

It is best to make haste slowly while plowing corn, especially the first time through.

A wet soil causes corn roots to grow nearer the surface, while a dry soil sends them deeper.

Silage must be put into the feeding program of every beef producer who wants to fit steers for market.

A nation-wide movement for the prevention of waste would do more than a nation-wide revival of industry.

When each cultivator shank collects a handful of corn roots in once across the field something is wrong.

Giving cows a good dry feed before turning them on a rank growing forage crop does away with danger of bloat.

If your hogs have to get their drinking water out of a muddy pond, don't complain if they are wormy and unthrifty.

The uniform excellence of a bunch of feeders from a poor side address much to the profit of raising and feeding pigs.

During the first years of an orchard, proper pruning is one of the important items that means much in the years to follow.

Cement floors slightly roughened are the best for the cow stable, easy to keep dry and clean if plenty of sunlight is let in on them.

Oats and peas should be cut for hay when the oats are in the milk stage and the advance pea pods contain reasonably good sized peas.

A shadeless pasture is but little better than a prison for the cows these hot, sultry days. If there are no shade trees, an open shed will do quite well.

Hot! Yes. But when we see how the sunlight makes vegetable life—how it revivifies, purifies and sustains life—we do not wonder that there were sun worshippers.

Bran is a very satisfactory feed for the dairy cow, since it gives bulk to a ration, is slightly laxative and provides protein and phosphorus so necessary in milk production.

About this time of the year the farmer will do well to look up a promising candidate from his barnyard or pasture, or from his grain field, to run for the first prize at the county and state fairs.

No more chickens will be hatched this year; why keep not needed roosters around another day? If you cannot eat or sell them, let some needy neighbor have them. You will make money by doing so.

The time to stop churning has much to do with making good butter. To keep on until the butter is in big lumps makes it waxy and greasy. The time to stop is when the grains are about the size of wheat kernels.

In market quotations the term "Asparagus chickens" is often used and not understood. It refers to chickens large enough to broil with early asparagus. They are usually hatched in late July and August, pushed along till November, then killed, and put in cold storage for the winter. They are taken out and eaten in the spring.

Weeds harbor flies.

Overhaul the corn crib.

Kerosene kills onion maggots.

The untrained dog is a nuisance.

The use of hooded pails means cleaner milk.

The horse should be given food free from dust.

The importance of the sorghums is often overlooked.

Line fences well kept up help to make good neighbors.

Alfalfa should ordinarily be cut when it is coming into blossom.

There is no grass that will stand flooding for any considerable time.

A crop of potatoes should be sprayed at least twice with Bordeaux mixture.

Hogs should be fed as near as possible at the same hours, morning and evening.

One of the cheapest root crops to grow for stock is turnips. Plant early this month.

No animal that gets only feed enough to support life can make a gain or profit.

Sometimes a week's chill rains or cold weather will set the pigs back a month in their growth.

In selecting the brood sow remember that the size of the litter is an important factor in her profit.

Father and the boys appreciate the garden at meal time during the vegetable season, if at no other time.

When building that dairy barn be sure to make it large enough to accommodate the growth of your business.

It is the amount of food over and above the quantity required to sustain the life of the animal that counts for profit.

It is just as important that every horse should have his own collar all the time as that the man should wear his own shoes.

Where young orchards are kept perfectly clean by cultivation, there is seldom much injury sustained from mice during the winter.

Young hens should not be set after their first laying of eggs. By the time they want to set the second time they will make good mothers.

The greatest crop the farmers of the world have raised has been Liberty and Freedom. The oppressed farmer is never a good farmer.

With a good corn crop almost ready to crib and plenty of other feed every farmer should prepare to raise and fatten a few hogs this year.

If you have had a crop fail for you two or three times it will pay to look deeper than mere climatic conditions. Probably there are other causes which you can remove.

"In the shade of the old apple tree" is a mighty good place to spend a few minutes at noon these hot days. A little rest at noon gives speed to the work of the afternoon.

It costs just as much in soil fertility to raise a weed as to raise a wheat or oat stalk. Land is not resting if it is raising weeds. Even they ought to be plowed down for fertility.

Now is the time to swat the mites, and be sure that it is a mighty swat, because the pesky mite is a mighty mean mite of an insect that is the bugaboo of egg production.

A whole lot of farmers would better sell their cows and buy their milk and butter. It would be cheaper than the price they are now paying, although they do not realize it.

Constant care is one of the secrets of success in the breeding or feeding of stock of all kinds. It is only the man who likes such work that will measure up to the greatest success.

Some crops have root systems which go much deeper than the soil is plowed or broken up. It takes strength to send down the roots which might be used in sending up stalk. Deep plowing pays.

Beet growing is beginning to become a very profitable as well as a popular crop in many sections. The general price is \$5.00 per ton and the general yield in many sections runs up to 20 tons and better.

A well-known seedsman states that maggots can be prevented from destroying onions by sprinkling along the rows of onion plants sand scented with kerosene. Stir half a pint of oil into ten quarts of sand.

Gluten meal and gluten feeds are by-products left in the manufacture of starch and glucose from Indian corn. Corn consists largely of starch. The waste product from the manufacture of starch or sugar is relatively much richer in oil and protein than corn. Many factories are removing part of the corn oil from the waste, so that some gluten meals carry but little oil.

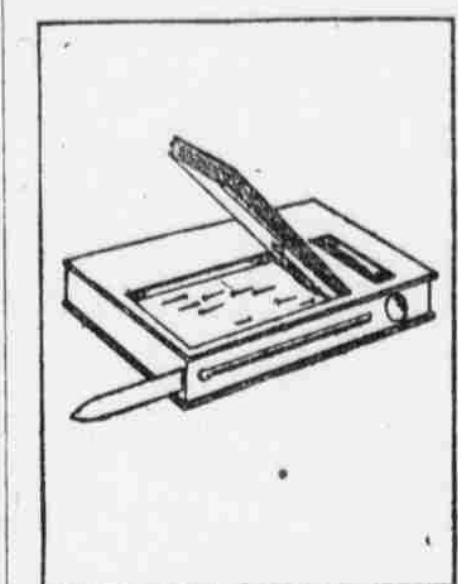
THE CHILDREN



USEFUL LITTLE POCKET BOOK

Knife, Pins, Needles, Notebook, Pencil Sharpener and Other Articles in Combination.

One of the most complete combination articles ever put on the market is the pocket book designed by a Pennsylvania man. This compact and astonishing little device includes a pen-knife, pencil sharpener, notebook, pin-cushion, nail clip and several other necessary things. The contrivance is about the size and shape of a large match box. In a slide along one side is a knife blade, which, by means of a projection extending through the slot, may be thrust out when needed and replaced when not in use. Part of the box is a lid, on the bottom of which is fastened leaves of blank paper, forming a writing pad or notebook. Beneath this lid is a padded



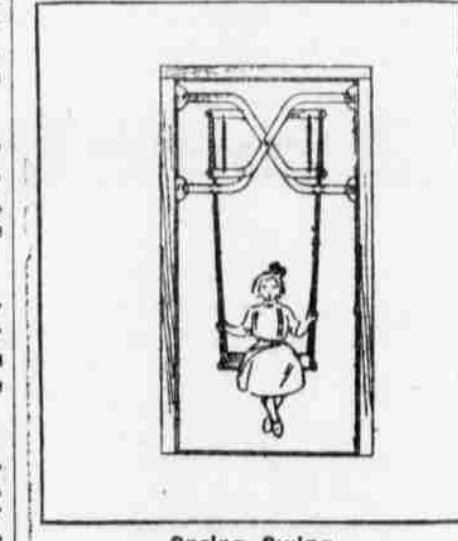
Handy Pocket Box.

surface for pins, needles, etc. At one end of the box is an opening large enough to admit a lead pencil and equipped with a sharpening knife inside, while the nail clip is operated by the lid of the box, which works on a spring. With a change of linen and undergarments and one of these boxes a man might travel round the world.

SPRING SWING FOR CHILDREN

Interesting and Amusing Arrangement for the Little Folks is Shown in the illustration.

An interesting swing arrangement for children. Attached to the supporting frame are four levers pivotedly mounted relative to each other, two levers extending in one direction and two in the other. The ropes supporting the swing-seat pass through the upper lever ends and are attached to the lower ones, and the weight of the person swinging tends to draw the



Spring Swing. Levers together, thus giving a springy action and considerably extending the swinging period.

FLINT LOCKS STILL IN USE

Old-Fashioned Muskets Remain Principal Weapons of Many Natives in African Jungles.

Old flint-lock muskets are still the principal weapons of hordes of natives over vast tracts of Africa. The existence of these ancient arms keeps alive a steady demand for gun flints, a demand which is supplied from the little Norfolk village of Brandon, where there are flint pits which have been worked, as remains found establish, for at least 30 centuries. The business is a hereditary one. Large masses of flint are got out of the quarries and then flaked or split (the process being termed "knapping") in order to get at the core, which alone is used. The workmen place the flint upon a pad upon their left leg and tap it with a short, heavy hammer. Four fifths of the flint thus dealt with is waste, but of the remainder gun flints, carbine flints and pistol flints are still manufactured, while tinderbox flints are prepared for the shepherds of the remoter parts of Spain and Italy.

One Way of Identification. "We got twins over at our house," said Johnny, boastfully, "and they're alike as two peas." "How do you tell 'em apart?" asked the neighbor. "Oh, I put my finger in John's mouth, and if he bites I know it's Jim."

Her Inference.



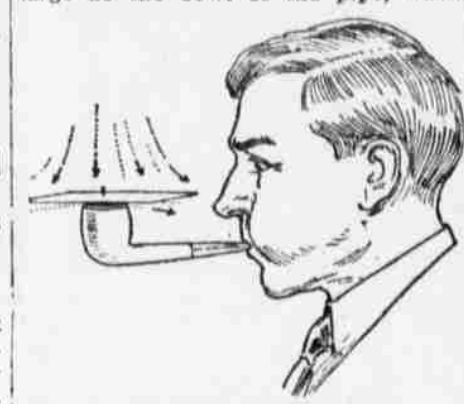
My Father is a Tailor sure. Because I heard him say. My business, child is pressing. I must hurry off today!

BLOWING A CARD FROM PIPE

Nothing Would Seem to Be More Simple—Peculiar Principle of Aerodynamics Involved.

At first thought, nothing would seem simpler than blowing a card off from a pipe, if the card is laid horizontally on the bowl of it and one blows through the pipe stem; but when one tries it, he is amazed to find that he cannot do it, says the Popular Mechanic. In order to make the experiment satisfactorily, a pin should be put through the card into the bowl of the pipe, so that it cannot slide sideways. Under these conditions, the card cannot be blown from the pipe except occasionally by a very sudden puff.

The uncanny fact that the card cannot be blown from the pipe depends upon some of the peculiar principles of aerodynamics. One would feel certain that, when he blows, the card would fly immediately into the air. It will be noticed, though, that the column of air which ascends is only as large as the bowl of the pipe, while



Card Cannot Be Dislodged.

the surface of the card which is expected to be lifted is many times greater. As soon as the card rises a little, the downward pressure holds it to such an extent that the air flows out sideways in every direction along its surface. When it gets to the Blow Ever So Long and Hard, the edge of the card, it draws some of the air from the upper side with it. This causes a current of air from above to descend upon the card and to hold it down.

PATIENCE OF A LITTLE BOY

Affecting Little Story is Told by Lady Somerset of London Youth's Remarkable Courage.

Lady Henry Somerset, whose labors in behalf of the children of the London slums are constant and earnest, says the Youth's Companion, tells this affecting story of the way in which her interest in these little ones was aroused:

I was moved in that direction by the rare patience and imagination of one little boy. His example convinced me that patience was one of the qualities I needed most, and in seeking it I grew into that work.

I was in a hospital on visiting day while the doctors were changing a plaster cast which held the crippled boy's limb. The operation was exceedingly painful, I was told. To my surprise, the little sufferer neither stirred nor winced, but made a curious buzzing sound with his mouth. After the doctors left I said to him: "How could you possibly stand it?" "That's nothing," he answered. "Why, I just made believe that a bee was stingin' me. Bees don't hurt very much, you know. And I kept puzzlin' because I was afraid I'd forget about its being a bee if I didn't."

Odd Riddles.

When may a man call his wife "honey?" When she has a large comb in her head.

Who was the first to swear in this world? Eve. How so? When Adam asked her if he might take a kiss, she said, I don't care a dam if you do.

How can it be proved that a horse has six legs? He has four legs in front and two behind.

Why is a gun like a jury? Because it goes off when discharged.

What is that if you use it well will look at everybody; but if you scratch its back it will look at nobody? A looking glass.

Why had Eve no fear of the measles? Because she'd Adam (had-em).

At what age should a man marry? At the parsonage.

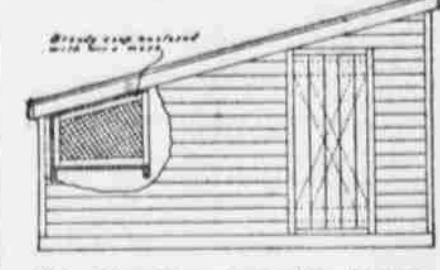
POULTRY

CARE OF THE POULTRY HOUSE

Lice and Mites Cause More Losses Than All Other Things Combined—Spray is Urged.

(By J. S. JEFFREY.)

It is quite possible to have the best poultry kept in well-built houses, well fed, and still not get any profit or pleasure from them. In too many cases where a good start has been made the house is neglected and allowed to become filthy and infested with mites. It may be said that filth and mites generally go together, for while a house that is kept fairly clean



Side Elevation of Poultry House.

may be infested with mites, it is very seldom that a dirty house will be found to be free from these pests.

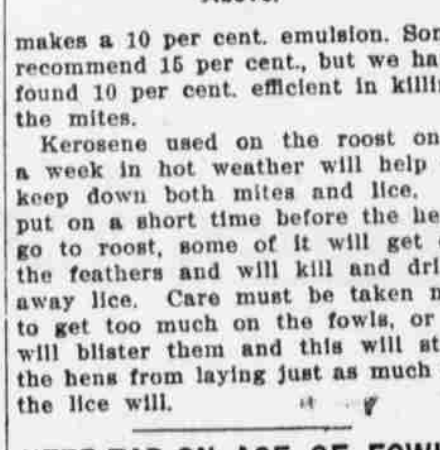
Lice and mites cause more losses among poultry than all other things combined.

Poultry houses should be so arranged inside that the poultryman can keep down the mites without an undue expenditure of time and energy. Mites live in a house and must be killed there. Dusting the hens will never get rid of them.

The best means of getting rid of mites in the houses is to spray thoroughly with kerosene emulsion. This should be done twice with an interval of from five to seven days between the sprayings.

The emulsion is made as follows: Cut up one pound of soap and dissolve it in hot water; while the water is hot, stir in two gallons of kerosene and continue stirring for fifteen to twenty minutes. It is important to have the kerosene, soap and water well mixed, especially if it is not to be used at once. To this mixture add seventeen gallons of water. This

Two-Compartment Trap Nests, Showing "Stop Louse" Roost Hangers Above.



makes a 10 per cent. emulsion. Some recommend 15 per cent., but we have found 10 per cent. efficient in killing the mites.

Kerosene used on the roost once a week in hot weather will help to keep down both mites and lice. If put on a short time before the hens go to roost, some of it will get on the feathers and will kill and drive away lice. Care must be taken not to get too much on the fowls, or it will blister them and this will stop the hens from laying just as much as the lice will.

KEEP TAB ON AGE OF FOWLS

Enables Poultryman to Cull Out Hens That are Unprofitable—One Method Favored.

It is mere guess work to tell the age of a hen after she has passed the pullet stage. To the good poultryman it is important that the exact age of every fowl on his premises be known. Hens that are past the age for profit should be culled out and their places taken by the younger stock. Legbands with numbers may be used when the pullets arrive at maturity, and, if records are kept, the identity of each fowl is easily established. A less elaborate method, and one which no poultrykeeper can afford not to follow, is to punch a hole in one of the four webs of the feet, each web representing a certain year. Special punches for this purpose may be purchased from any poultry supply house, but a small sized leather belt punch can be used to good advantage. The hole is punched very easily when the newly hatched chick is first taken from the nest or incubator. All of one season's chicks may be marked on the same web, although if special hatchings are to be kept separately as high as fifteen combinations can be used. If properly done the hole or traces of the scar will always remain and the identity of the fowl cannot be lost.

Size of Poultry House.

As to the proportionate size of the house to the number of fowls kept, only he who remembers that "there is more profit in a house half full than in a house twice full," is safe from blundering at this point. The most level-headed practical poultrymen insist upon ten square feet per fowl. Contrast this with the room afforded 100 fowls in a 12x20 house, less than 2 1-3 feet of space to each (which is a common sight) and judge as to the chances for eggs in the latter case and take warning.

The ONLOOKER

WILBUR D. NESBIT

The SONG of THINGS



The daylight and the darkness are a song. The clouds that fleck the summer skies with white, The stars that gleam above us all night long, Are symbols of the song of love and light. And deeper chords there are, and harmonies The which no mortal thought has ever found, Because they are eternal ecstasies Too marvel-sweet to be blurred into sound.

Beyond the pulsing cadence of the breeze, Beyond the throbbing monotone of rain, The lilt of bird songs and the hum of bees, There surges up a vast, unfathomed strain Which we may hear all faintly in the night. When all the world has left us quite alone, Or when in awe we stand upon some height— Yet never is that song completely known.

Aye, times we sense it when we feel the thrill Of looking o'er the meadowlands in spring, Or when the snow makes of the tree-crowned hill An icy stillness—then the shadows sing. As do the sun-kissed fields, and distant haze, And all things—all the sky and sea and land; It is the song of all the nights and days That we may hear, but may not understand.

The daylight and the darkness are a song. And all the unknown heights and depths of space, Where myriad systems whirl and wheel and throng, Each fleck of star-dust in its given place— All these, with blades of grass and orchard bloom, And gate-tossed snows and winding flowered ways, And great sea billows, and the rose-perfume, All blend into the song of nights and days.

Abe Martin and a Novel.

Kin Hubbard of Indianapolis—he was named in honor of all his family connections—who spoke at the recent Indiana society dinner—is the author of a new book of Hoosier philosophy. It is called "Abe Martin's Folks," and is issued by the Abe Martin Publishing Company of Indianapolis. Abe Martin is the singularly appealing philosopher who said: "Half the world doesn't know how the other half lives, an' the other half doesn't give a —" A part of the book is devoted to a thrilling novel by Miss Fawn Lippincott. The story is entitled "The Lost Helress of Red Stone Hall," and has more thrills in it than a Carnegie library. We doubt if any of our better known lady or gentleman novelists ever gave so pungent and trenchant expression to the acme of happiness that comes with young love reciprocated than Miss Lippincott does when she pens:

"Marion was not only drunk with joy—she was soured."

Breaking It Gently.

"My adoration for you," sighed the amorous swain, "is as great as the boundless sea before us. Yes, fully as great and deep and steadfast. If I could only convince you—"

"But, Mr. Richleigh," murmured the beautiful maiden, carelessly tracing a pattern in the sand with her parasol, "says that his love for me is as great as a corner residence in New York and a villa at Newport and a country home in the Adirondacks, and he has convinced me that he has them."

Cure Worse Than Complaint.

"Mr. Fijit suffered so much from the heat," said Mrs. Wunder, "that he had an artificial iceberg built in his house. Then the whole family sat around it and read stories of Polar expeditions and were happy for a time."

"For a time?" echoed the friend.

"Yes, only for a time. You see, Mr. Fijit happened to think of how much the ice was going to cost him, and he broke out in a worse perspiration than ever."

Wilbur D. Nesbit.