

# NOTES from MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Caponizing is profitable.  
 Range for the chicks is best.  
 Sheep must have some shelter.  
 Separate the pullets and cockerels.  
 Good feed, good care, good breed, good stock.  
 Some cows are better bred than their owners.  
 Do not put the colts in a pasture fenced by barbed wire.  
 Do you have a lot of young roosters? Sell them for fry.  
 It's a mighty easy matter to overcrowd the chick coops now.  
 It may be wise to protect the colts from the flies during the day.  
 You cannot fatten your cattle while ticks are sucking their blood.  
 Hill culture produces earlier strawberries than matted row culture.  
 Unless a man has a great love for a horse he should not handle colts.  
 A sheep or calf staked in the front yard is a splendid lawn mower.  
 Warm skim milk for feeding purposes soon pays the cost of a farm separator.  
 Most of the fly dopes are fairly good but for results they have to be applied every day.  
 Sheep have just as important a place upon the average farm as any other live stock.  
 Drink is all right for the hogs, but they need some grain and vegetables to go with their milk.  
 There is plenty of farm talk in the air, but it is farm work that counts in the bank balance.  
 A good plan is to make the lots long and narrow and sow them to pasture, plowing up alternately.  
 Remember, chick coops are very apt to become foul and unhealthy while the weather is so sultry.  
 It will only take about half as much grain and other feed to raise a litter of pigs if they be given pasture.  
 There is nothing about green fodder that would have a depressing influence upon the milk flow of the cow.  
 There are about a dozen different breeds of dairy cattle and the best of them all is the kind that suits you best.  
 The best flavored butter is obtained by ripening or souring cream until from 5 to 6 per cent. of acid has been developed.  
 Roughness cannot be made to entirely take the place of grain, but a heavy crop of roughness is not to be despised.  
 Ground limestone is preferable to burnt lime unless two tons of the former cost considerably more than one ton of the latter.  
 There are very few farms on which additional labor expended in preparing the seed bed would not yield handsome returns.  
 A wide range and frequent exchange of pasture will reduce the ravages of the stomach worm, that fearful enemy of the sheep.  
 An enterprising farmer living near a town of 5,000 or more can sell every pound of his butter at full retail price or little above the year round.  
 The man who is trying to raise hogs without pasture and forage crops is like a puppy chasing his tail. He gets plenty of exercise, but nothing else.  
 Sore shoulders on a horse are nothing less than shameful, and no man should consider himself worthy who permits them to appear upon his work animals.  
 If horses are inclined to nab at each other between the stalls, put up some tight wire as a partition. They can see through this all right and still not reach each other.  
 The first incubators used in the United States were tested in 1875. Now thousands are in use in every state in the Union and wonderful progress has been made. In fact, without the use of incubators and brooders, the big commercial plants of today would be impossible.

Clover silage is excellent.  
 Never whip a shying horse.  
 Keep all young stock growing.  
 Making baby beef is a high feeding art.  
 Clean coops mean healthy, profitable chicks.  
 Young turkeys and dampness do not get along together.  
 Any soil that turns blue litmus paper pink needs lime.  
 If you haven't a hog house, prepare to build one next fall.  
 Experts say that topping corn materially reduces the yield.  
 Plenty of good loose dirt should be allowed the molting hens.  
 The manners of the horse usually reveal the temper of his owner.  
 Turkeys need a wide range. They do not do well confined to yards.  
 Every day you keep the lambs after they are big enough to go is a loss.  
 Caponizing is another job the farmer neglects—and thereby loses money.  
 Water the horse before you give him hay. Hay before grain, concentrates last.  
 Good feed will put life into a horse a hundred times better than an 8-foot whip.  
 Pasture and exercise develops a strong frame in all kinds of young stock.  
 Rye may be sown in the fall and used as a late fall and early spring pasture.  
 Stubble that cannot be stirred this fall should be disked to conserve the moisture.  
 Don't be in any hurry about weaning the heifers you will add to the dairy herd.  
 It is well to remember that ducks need plenty of cool shade during the hot months.  
 Live stock furnishes manure and converts forage crops into marketable products.  
 The green straw pile is not infrequently the sign of a green hand managing the separator.  
 Keep up the supply of oyster shell. The lime in it is an essential article in the production of eggs.  
 It pays to grade melons, and it pays to market them in the large baskets now growing in popularity.  
 No land is so rich that its owner can afford to waste the manure that is made by his farm stock.  
 In this hunt for the profit dollar, keep an eye on the combination of ensilage and clover or alfalfa hay.  
 The foundation for a silo made of concrete and properly reinforced need not be more than twelve inches thick.  
 A half-blood Holstein cow bred to a registered Holstein bull will produce a three-quarters Holstein animal.  
 Sheep must play an important part in the restoration of fertility to the worn-out grain-raising areas of the country.  
 Rotation of crops is one of the simplest, practical methods of increasing the productivity of the farm and distributing labor.  
 Illinois milk producers found they had to organize to get living prices for their product. This is needed in all lines of farming.  
 The most profitable way of marketing grain and fodder is through stock. They produce manure, which is very necessary to the soil.  
 As a rule, sons of great producing cows are more liable to beget large producing daughters than are great producing cows themselves.  
 The cow that comes in fresh next month is just about the most profitable one of the whole year and dairymen are beginning to find it out.  
 A common error of the expert-enced feeder is failure to provide good shelter. Lambs can not make good gains with wet feet, or soggy fleeces.  
 It is advisable to place a box of grit or coarse sand where the turkeys can find it, as not all farms have sufficient quantity for the purpose of good digestion.  
 The failures in poultry culture are no more common than any other commercial activities, and are usually traceable to a want of proper knowledge of its requirements.  
 Be sure that the roosting quarters are well ventilated at this time of the year. Pure air is free and inexpensive and will enter every nook and corner of the poultry house, if it is permitted. It is one of the very essential things. Close, stuffy quarters are very injurious.

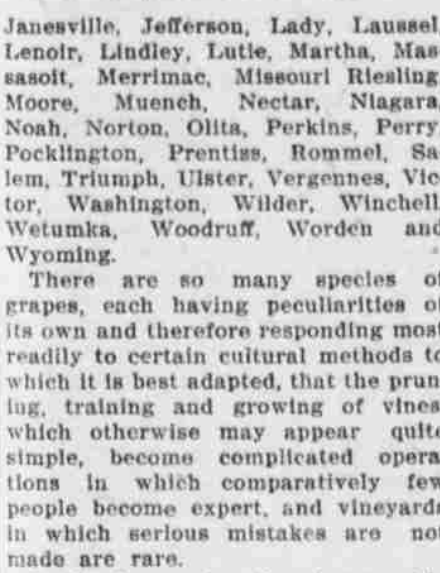
## THREE DISTINCT AGRICULTURAL REGIONS IN U. S. SEGREGATED BY SPECIES GROWN

American Native Grape is Grown Almost Entirely in That Section of Country Lying East of Rocky Mountains — Few Cultural Methods Illustrated.

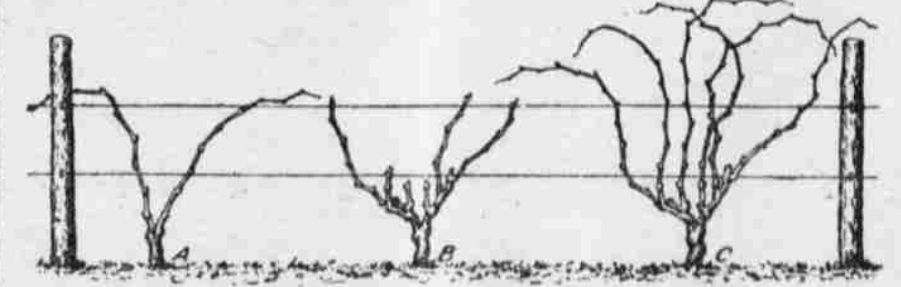
(By GEORGE C. HUSSMANN, Pomologist, United States Department of Agriculture.)  
 There are three distinct viticultural regions in the United States which segregate themselves by the grape species grown in them.  
 The Vinifera region, in which Vinifera varieties are almost exclusively grown, is located almost entirely west of the Rocky mountains, so much of it being in California that those not conversant with grape varieties erroneously call them California grapes. With few exceptions either the spur, stool or short pruning system is used for the stockier growing varieties, and the long or cane pruning system is usually used for the longer growing varieties, but either system is often modified to suit individual varieties. Thus the spurs are sometimes left longer in the spur system, and either spurs and canes left longer or spurs cut on the laterals in the cane system. Stakes only are used to give the vines the necessary support; this method allows the vineyard to be cultivated crosswise as well as lengthwise. Vines trained on trellises are comparatively rare in California.  
 The more generally known Vinifera varieties grown in this district are the Alexandria, Alcañete Bouschet, Aramon, Burger, Cabernet, Sauvignon, Calmette, Carignane, Chasselas de Fontainebleau, Cornillon, Emperor, Flame Tokay, Green Hungarian, Grenache, Malaga, Mission, Mondeuse, Mourvèze, Pizzutello, Petit Syrah, Purple Damascus, Riesling, Semillon, Sauvignon Vert, Sultanina, Sylvaner, Valdepenas and Zinfandel.  
 The Muscadine region of the South Atlantic and Gulf states includes the entire southeastern coastal plain extending from the Potomac to Florida, reaching well up into the Blue Ridge mountains and along the Gulf coast to the Rio Grande river, spreading to the north along the Mississippi river into the great central plains to southeast Missouri and the Tennessee river. In this region improved varieties of the Rotundifolia and Munsonia species are grown for various purposes, the better-known varieties of these being the Eden, Flowers, James, Mish, Scuppernon and Thomas. The multiple cross-wire system or overhead arbor is almost exclusively used. As previously mentioned, these arbors are very similar to the overhead trellis or parrales system used in Spain with the Almerian varieties commonly seen in our markets packed in cork dust and called "Malaga" grapes.  
 The third or American native-grape region is the one in which improved

varieties of the more northern native grape species and hybrids of them and the Vinifera species are grown. This region comprises all that part of the United States which lies east of the Rocky mountains. Of late years a few plantings have also been made in parts of Oregon and Washington, but the industry is most extensive in the states west of the Hudson river and north of the Ohio river that border on the Great Lakes and in the more centrally located states of the Mississippi valley. In this district the high-renewal, horizontal-arm spur, horizontal block, fan, Hudson horizontal, four-cane Kniffin, umbrella or two-cane Kniffin, Munson, overhead Caywood and Chittenden systems are used, the localities in which they originated or are most common being

A Vine in its Fourth Year Pruned According to the Block System.



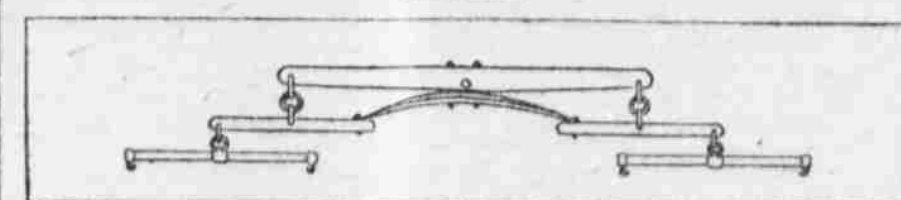
Janesville, Jefferson, Lady, Laussel, Lenoir, Lindley, Lurie, Martha, Massachusetts, Merrimac, Missouri Riesling, Moore, Muench, Nectar, Niagara, Noah, Norton, Ollita, Perkins, Perry, Pocklington, Prentiss, Rommel, Salem, Triumph, Ulster, Vergennes, Victor, Washington, Wilder, Winchell, Wetumka, Woodruff, Worden and Wyoming.  
 There are so many species of grapes, each having peculiarities of its own and therefore responding most readily to certain cultural methods to which it is best adapted, that the pruning, training and growing of vines which otherwise may appear quite simple, become complicated operations in which comparatively few people become expert, and vineyards in which serious mistakes are not made are rare.  
 In the fan system the vine growth which is trained to an upright trellis is annually renewed to within a short distance from the ground. The vines are cut back usually to four canes and as many spurs each year; the canes are spread out and tied to the trellis, giving the vine the shape of a fan. The illustration, A and C, shows an unpruned vine in the third and fourth years. B shows the same vine pruned the fourth year for this system.  
 The advantages claimed by the advocates of this system are (1) that most of the old wood is dispensed with each year, (2) that the vines can be easily laid down and covered in winter when needful in the extreme



A Vine at Different Ages, Showing the Method of Training by the Fan System: A, an unpruned vine in its third year; B, a pruned vine in its fourth year; C, an unpruned vine in its fourth year.

northern sections, and (3) that if after pruning the canes are tied and spread fan shaped on the trellis, as they should be, the young upright-growing shoots fasten themselves by their tendrils and need practically no tying. This system has the disadvantage of bearing the fruit too low and is not now so generally in use as formerly.  
 A system combining some of the points of several other systems is the horizontal block system. In this the vines are manipulated as with the other systems and pruned for the first four years, after which the unpruned vine is pruned as shown in the illustration. As practiced in some localities this system appears to be a combination of the high-renewal and the horizontal-arm spur systems.

## ABSORBS SHOCKS FROM HARD ROADS



When a team is pulling a heavy load over a rough road or pavement it is subject to repeated and sudden shocks, which cause much unnecessary fatigue. The illustration shows how to make a doubletree that will absorb all shocks and sudden jerks and prevent sore shoulders.  
 The spring may be one taken from an old buggy. All teamsters that care for their horses and want them to stand up to heavy work without constantly having sore shoulders should make and use a doubletree like the one which is shown in the accompanying illustration.

**The County Fair.**  
 The county fair is of greatest practical benefit to the exhibitor. When the farmer or stockman enlists as an exhibitor at the county fair, the seed of improvement has been sown and the results will be found each year thereafter on the farm, in improved live stock, improved machinery and a general spirit of advancement in all lines of agriculture. The county fair well-managed is the cheapest advertising medium, with the most far-reaching results, that the county can secure.

**Introducing New Blood.**  
 When one finds that it becomes necessary to introduce new blood in the flock first consider what are the special faults among your fowls, and then, if possible, find the breeder strong in the points that you are weak in, and purchase the stock from him.

**Peanut as Hog Food.**  
 The peanut is coming to its own as a hog feed. It has been given a good fair trial and it has stood the test most satisfactorily.

## DOULTRY

MANY FAVOR TOULOUSE GEESSE

More Compact in Shape Than Other Breeds and Gender Will Weigh About Twenty Pounds.

(By GEORGE E. HOWARD.)

Toulouse geese are more compact in shape than other geese, and are preferred by many for this reason. The head is rather large and short, and they have a comparatively short bill that is stout at the base; the neck is carried well up and is of medium length. They have a broad back of moderate length, which curves slightly from the neck to the tail; their breasts are broad and deep. The body of the Toulouse goose is moderate in length, broad, and very deep and compact, the more compact the better; and in birds in good condition the belly almost touches the ground. Their wings are large, strong and fold nicely against the sides, and they have comparatively short tails and stout thighs and shanks. In color of plumage they are a dull gray. The head is gray and the neck dark blue-gray, which shades to a lighter gray as it approaches the back; the back is of dark gray, while the breast is light gray. The body plumage is light gray, which grows lighter and becomes white on the belly; the white extends back to and around the tail, covering the fluffy parts. The primaries of the wings are dark gray or brown; the secondaries are a shade darker than the primaries, with very narrow edging of lighter gray, and the coverts are dark gray. The tail feathers are gray and white, the ends



Pair of Gray Toulouse Geese.

tipped with white. Their eyes are dark brown or hazel in color; their bills are of a pale orange color, while the shanks, toes and webs are of deep reddish-orange color.  
 The standard weight of the adult gander is 20 pounds; adult goose, 18 pounds; young gander, 18 pounds, and young goose, 15 pounds.

## SEPARATING YOUNG AND OLD

Growing Pullet Requires More Food Than Old Birds and Feeds Better When by Herself.

Young chickens, like young people, have more or less timidity, and therefore it is not well to run young and old together, at least it is much better to have them separate if you can well do so. Then again the pullets are still growing, and they need plenty of flesh-forming feed, such as barley, bone, meat, with less of fattening foods.  
 The hen should not be deprived of these either, but she can get along on less, as what you give her will not be taken away from the purpose for which you intended it, as in the case with the pullet, which not only needs these things for making the egg, but to go toward the development of her body.  
 It naturally follows, too, that the developed bird will require less feed than the pullet, and because the pullet is somewhat timid she is likely not to get enough, or even her share. The young will feed more free among themselves, and, if you can possibly do so, keep them to themselves.

## DOULTRY NOTES

Poultry and eggs are high every winter.  
 All poultry yards should have shade in them.  
 Movable, separate nest boxes are the only kind to have.  
 Three months should bring a broiler to the market stage.  
 Ducks do not stand confinement well. Better turn 'em loose.  
 The care of the fowls is one of the important things that cannot be neglected.  
 Exposure to hot weather is as dangerous to the egg crop as is exposure to cold weather.  
 Keep the dropping-boards clean and free from filth. They should be frequently scrubbed.  
 The poultryman must keep everything clean and sweet about the houses and yards.  
 Linseed meal is good to mix with the mash during moulting season. It helps digestion and regulates the bowels.  
 The average farm poultryman cares more for the number of eggs a hen lays in a year than the number of prizes she wins at the shows.  
 Rough timber used in the poultry house makes the best harbor for lice. Perches, nests, etc., should be made of smooth lumber in all cases.  
 For roup, try putting a few drops of carbolic acid on a hot fire shovel and then fumigate the poultry houses with fowls in it. Keep houses dry.

## The ONLOOKER

WILBUR D. NESBIT



The leaves are turning into gold— They always do the same; It is a little way they have, A sort of green-goods game. The hazy twilight brings a moon That takes up half the sky, And makes a hungry fellow think Of future pumpkin pie.  
 The elder press gets busy now. It does not stop nor lag, And country folks again debate: "Does Cider Cause a Jag?" The price of coal goes up a notch, The price of ice comes down; The folks who spend their coin abroad Are hustling now, in town.

And, oh, the rah-rah boy permits His hair to grow quite long, And burst the air with college yells, Or tunc his college song. The theaters are open and New ragtime songs we equal, These symptoms make it very plain— We know that it is Fall.

## Restful Reading.

We are in receipt of three charming booklets, all of which we are perusing with intense interest. One is "The Effects of Various Fixatives on the Brain of the Albino Rat, With an Account of a Method of Preparing This Material for a Study of the Cells in the Cortex," by Helen Dean King. Another breathing the same spirit is "On the Percentage of Water in the Brain and in the Spinal Cord of the Albino Rat," by Professor Henry H. Donaldson. Miss King's upright treatment of her theme reminds us strongly of a prose expression of the old nursery jingle about the three blind mice that pursued the farmer's wife until she amputated their tails with a carving knife. Seldom have we encountered such blithe expression of etymology. Professor Donaldson's brochure on the amount of water in the brain and spinal cord of the albino rat flows smoothly and rhythmically to the end, but it lacks the graceful touch and facile interpretation of the other. Either book, however, is ideal for a quiet evening at home, with a fire in the grate and the bait in the trap.

The third publication is of especial timeliness. It is "DeForest's Formula for 'An Unsymmetrical Probability Curve,'" and is from the pen of Shinkichi Hatal of the Wistar Institute of Anatomy. Professor Hatal goes directly at the heart of the skew bi-modal curve, and the curve that is limited on one side of the mean, and he utters an appealing truth when he deduces that the analytical constants are determined from the first three moments. Anyone who has ever negotiated an unsymmetrical probability curve, either with an auto or on foot, will testify to this. He also cites the well-remembered fact that DeForest actually obtained one of Pearson's curves many years ago, and his work suggests a more generalized curve.  
 We wish a copy of this illuminative and instructive treatise might be placed in the hands of each person who plans seeing the old year out in the different cafes and restaurants. Provided with the formula for an unsymmetrical probability curve the homeward route would not be nearly so difficult of negotiation.

## Making Him Useful.

"What has become of that poet that ran away with and married the daughter of old Porckenlard, the millionaire meat man?"

"Why, Porckenlard took him into the firm and makes him work ten hours a day writing rhymes for their street car advertisements."

Wilbur D. Nesbit.

## Unusual Event.

Mamma—And you say your Auntie Close gave you a penny, Ethel?  
 Ethel—Yes, mamma.  
 "And what did you say, dear?"  
 "Why, really, mamma, I was so surprised I couldn't say anything!"

## Woman's Program.

Bacon—I see an electric motor to move a cradle or a child's rocking horse has been patented by a woman. Egbert—If the women keep on they will leave nothing for the husband to do while they are out voting.