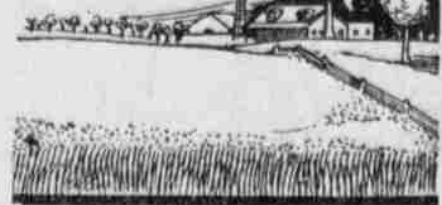


NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

by
William Pitt



Use a pure-bred sire.

All poultry relish skim milk.

Whitewash the poultry house.

Grade the potatoes when shipping.

Keep the sheep in out of the cold storms.

Ewes should be two years old before being bred.

Thorough milking is good for the udder. It develops it.

Unless a man has a great love for a horse he should not handle colts.

The very best of feed and care will be at least partially wasted on scrub cows.

Other things being equal, the busy hen may be depended on to lay the most eggs.

A poor, half-fed ewe cannot do her work any more than can a thin, emaciated horse.

Barley is a hard grain for chickens to digest and it is best to feed it only occasionally, if at all.

A little granulated charcoal mixed with the soft food for the poultry is excellent in cases of diarrhoea.

Onions from the garden, chopped up and mixed with the feed, will help keep the flock vigorous and healthy.

He who wishes to ride safely should make it a habit to examine the harness before getting into the carriage.

A good way and one that will appeal to most flockmasters is to save a piece of the second growth hayland for their use.

The silo means excellent feed stored in small space. Just what is needed when the grass in the pasture is dry.

A chicken's stomach is not made of iron, and the same diet day after day harms them as much as it does a human.

If the heifers kick some when you begin to handle their little udders, never strike them. Speak quietly and be patient.

Keep an egg record and do not fail to make entries daily. The successful poultryman must be business-like in every respect.

The hen that lays 50 eggs a year costs just as much for feed and care as does the one that lays 150 eggs. Take your choice.

A cover for the separator when not in use has its share in turning out a cleaner product and lengthening the life of the machine.

The last milk drawn from the udder contains 10 to 12 per cent. of fat while that milked out first has only about 2 per cent. Pays to get it all.

The best and most profitable cows are the first to suffer from exposure to cold, because they are the most highly and sensitively organized.

Every careful dairy farmer should have good stock but he shouldn't buy such stock until he is sure he can give it the kind of care it deserves.

The most fertile and productive farm can easily be made poor or a run down one by being enriched according to the management of the owner.

When the fall rush of work comes along, it is not always easy to do the milking at regular hours, but this should never be neglected, even for a day.

Udders should be wiped with a cloth, and all possible means used to prevent dust from rising in the air of the stable and afterward settling into the milk.

Pick out a sire with a good disposition. Never raise a colt from a naturally vicious tempered mare. Peculiarities of disposition are almost invariably transmitted.

Clean the poultry drinking dishes or fountains every day and disinfect them with boiling water twice a week to kill the germs of disease, which are likely to accumulate there and infect the whole flock.

Hens that are kept for breeders should be ones that have never been forced for heavy egg production. Because of the terrible strain on their reproductive systems the larger percent. of their eggs are infertile and what chicks do hatch are weak.

Get a pure-bred ram.
Store pumpkins in the field.
The average calf is neglected.
Silage is essentially roughage feed.
Good sheep are a good property at any time.

Fowls will eat nearly all of the common vegetables.

Build the feed racks where the stock can eat in the shelter.

Don't neglect storing green food for winter for the chickens.

Be careful about the man who handles and cares for the colts.

Match the team not only in size and color, but in gait and disposition.

It pays best to have a horse well broken when he is offered for sale.

Only pigs coming from prolific parents should be retained as breeders.

If possible, plan for dry box stalls with dirt floors in which to winter the colts.

Cream containing 24 to 28 per cent. fat will yield about 3 pounds of butter per gallon.

Horses and colts may be fed silage in limited quantities, especially when not at work.

Working a team when hungry or thirsty is inexcusably throwing away costly vitality.

The practice of watering horses at a public drinking trough sometimes leads to a lot of trouble.

The wide-awake, ever-watchful poultryman is seldom troubled with sickness among his fowls.

At this season of the year, after a few sprinkles of rain, it should afford very good picking for them.

It is nearly always best to save some of the old sows, especially to farrow the early spring litters.

If the old corn has lasted until husking time there is some danger of overfeeding the hogs on new corn.

The cows may be fed silage any time after the silo is filled. No need to wait for it to wait for it to "cure."

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

Make sure that there are no drafts in the hen house. Close up knots and cracks before roop gives the signal.

Separate the young cockerels from the old birds. Feed them well, and have each lot as uniform in size as possible.

Butter soon loses its delicate fine flavor. The sooner your customers get it after it is made the better they will like it.

Poultry raising offers to women an excellent means of making money, because the work is not too taxing for their strength.

Sporadic salting is bad for any animals and especially horses. It may cause colic. Keep salt before the horse at all times.

The cow that is underfed and the cow that is overfed both work to disadvantage and both fall in the best profit to their owner.

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

The farmer who has a gasoline engine and feed mill should experiment a little with raising crops to grind for feed for hogs and cattle.

Men who rushed their sheep to market last year are sorry, and men who are rushing their best hogs to market this year will be sorry next year.

Produce sold from the barns is gone forever. That which is fed on the farm leaves a residuum of good manure to keep up the fertility of the land.

New blood should be introduced nearly every year with chickens, turkeys, ducks and guineas to keep up the constitutions, health and vigor of the flock.

Air-slacked lime sifted or scattered over the dropping boards will assist the cleaning process materially and also take up much of the dampness from the droppings.

When a horse shies at an object speak kindly and reassuringly to him and gently urging him up to it, let him smell of it and see that it does not hurt him. He will soon learn to have more confidence both in himself and his master.

A ewe that is in good flesh or that is gaining in condition each day is bound to be in good health and bursting with rich red blood. In this condition she most readily conceives to the services of the ram and, in the opinion of most, the percentage of twins is larger.

PROBLEM OF MOST PROFITABLE BREED OF SWINE IS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE

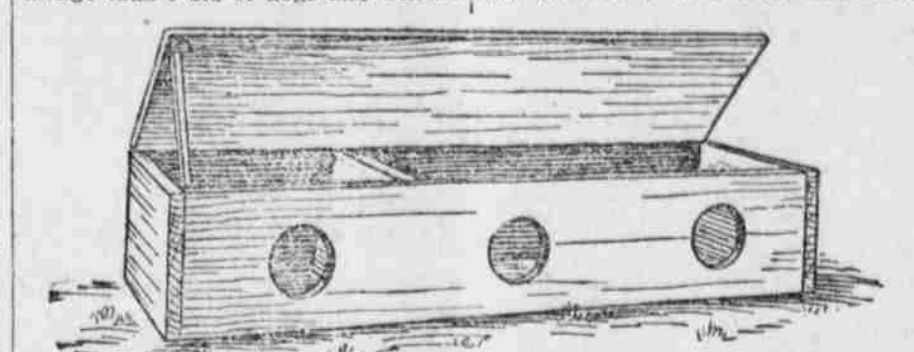
Many People Say, "Raise the Breed You Like Best, and You Will Be Successful," but That Is Not Always the Case—Experience of Maryland Hog Raiser May Help Others.

The question of which breed of hogs to raise in order to obtain the biggest profit, has proven a very serious one with many farmers. Some people say, "raise the breed you like best, and you will be successful," but that is not always the case. The following experience of a Maryland man may help other swine breeders.

From an experience of over 30 years in hog raising during which time I have tried almost all of the popular breeds I have settled upon the Berkshires and their crosses as the most profitable hog for me. Thirty-one years ago I broke away from the razor-back, and invested in a pair of pure-bred Essex pigs but soon found that they were too small for profit. I then tried the Chester Whites, but I found that in our climate I generally succeeded in raising a larger crop of mange than I did of hogs and when I

my best grade Poland China sows, and today I have an ideal hog for profit, a pig that is always ready for the market from a month old, always fat, a rapid grower and one that has dressed for the past three years that I have been raising them, all the way from 150 to 230 pounds at from seven to eight months old, and which I think is the most profitable age to kill them.

I do not care to winter any pigs over so I sell all the fall litters and have my spring pigs come about the first of April. All of my sows are then in pens and as soon as the pigs begin to run about I raise the doors high enough to let them in and out on the lot, where I teach them to eat a mixture of skim milk and mill feed till they are six weeks old, when I shut them in the pens and turn out the sows. They are kept in pens till they are butchered, their feed consisting



Box for Feeding Alfalfa Hay to Small Hogs. Such a Box Prevents Waste by Tramping.

did raise a hog from them it was all fat and had to be made into lard.

Next I tried Jersey Reds and I found them a very coarse hog and very hard to clean on account of the thick coat of wool they invariably had underneath the hair. So I discarded them to take up the Berkshires, and was so well pleased with them that I stuck to them until the popularity of the Poland-China became so great that I was induced to try them. I found them a fine hog, with one exception. While they made a large hog when matured, they would not take on fat like the Berkshire while young and growing rapidly and I had to make the hog first and fatten him afterwards.

Just here I concluded that I could make a cross that would give me the hog I wanted, for while I liked the early-maturing, easy-fattening points in the Berkshire, I wanted a large hog, so I bought a pure-bred Berkshire boar and crossed with some of

almost entirely of the skim milk and mill feed until I can cut my earliest planted sugar corn, which I plant every two weeks from May 1 to July 15, to be fed to them, stalk and all. This I give them once a day all they will eat in addition to their other feed until late in October, when I put them on a feed of new whole corn for about two or three weeks to harden them. I also give them at intervals during the summer all the charcoal and wood ashes they will eat and once or twice I treat them to a dose of cholera specific, in which I have always been a great believer.

With this hog and this course of feeding I killed two lots last winter. The first at eight months old, made an average of 199½ pounds and the last at five days less than seven months old, made an average of 178½ pounds of beautiful pork, nicely streaked with lean and a perfect Berkshire ham. I still stick to this breed as the most profitable for me.

SUPERIOR POINTS ON DAIRY FEEDS

Relative Qualities of the Different Rations for Milk Cows.

Alfalfa meal, more convenient to handle than hay, much easier to adulterate, price usually excessive, rich in protein.

Beet pulp, soaked up, a good substitute for silage or roots but higher priced.

Bran (wheat), light, bulky, appetizing, high in mineral matter, high in crude fibre. Relatively expensive at present prices.

Buckwheat, low in protein—usually pays to sell it and buy back the middlings.

Buckwheat middlings, heavy usually economical source of protein, tend to make soft, oily butter.

Bulky feed, bran, gluten feed, ajax flakes, distillers' grains, corn and cob meal.

Constipating, cottonseed meal, corn fodder and hay.

Corn, easily digested, usually cheapest source of energy. Pays to grind.

Corn and cob meal, bulky, considerable crude fibre, nearly equal to corn meal in ration because of bulky nature. Grind fine.

Cottonseed meal, high in protein, heavy, should be fed with something else, makes for hard butter, relatively cheap source of protein, ordinarily should not constitute more than one-third of the mixture.

Distillers' dried grains, rich in protein, very variable in composition, bulky, must be fed with other feeds.

Dried brewers' corn grains, light, bulky, high in protein, not readily eaten alone.

Last Days of the Ranches.

The day of large ranches in Texas is passing away, but there are still four with an area of over one million acres each and quite a large number of over 500,000 acres. Much of this land is bought as low as 20 cents per acre, and is now worth \$4 to \$7 per acre. These ranches are being continually divided up into large farms. Last year over one million acres of ranch lands were sold to small settlers for general farming purposes.

Excellent Super Baits.

In the production of comb-honey there will always be on hand a large number of left-over, unfinished sections, and these make excellent baits in the supers for the late flow, and should be judiciously distributed through the supers that can now be put over the strong colonies.

FEEDING CATTLE FOR FIRST TIME

Profit Depends on Steady, Consistent Gains From Rations.

Those who are feeding cattle for the first time this season should remember that getting a bunch of steers on full feed is a matter that requires about a month's time. High-pressure feeding is an entirely different proposition from ordinary rations and the animal must gradually get accustomed to the change if he is to continue to make consistent gains throughout the feeding period. Most feeders prefer to start their cattle on grass, giving a few stalks of fodder corn a day to each steer and gradually increasing. The change is then made to snapped corn fed in the bunks, the final change then being made to husked corn or whatever form the grain is fed in. Every time the ration is changed such changes should be made gradually. This applies especially to the first few weeks in which the feeding is started and to the latter period of the feeding operation, when there is the more danger of getting the stock off feed. And remember, the profit in feeding cattle depends on steady, consistent gains, meaning good returns for the feed consumed, every time they get off feed meaning just so much lost time.

Making Smithfield Hams.

After the hogs have been killed and the meat thoroughly cooled the fresh surface is sprinkled with fine salt-peter until the meat is white, says the Farm Magazine. About three or four pounds of salt-peter is used to 1,000 pounds of hams. Fine salt is then rubbed over the entire surface and the hams are packed in bulk not deeper than three feet. In ordinary weather they should remain thus for several days, at least three. Then break the bulk and resalt with fine salt and again pack. Each ham should remain in bulk at least one day for each pound of weight. The hams are then hung up and gradually smoked for 30 or 40 days with hickory or red oak bark. When the smoking is complete they should be re-peppered and placed in canvas bags to guard against vermin. The Smithfield hams cured as indicated improve with age, and are considered about perfect.

Feeding Roughage.

Feed roughage to the stock before giving them grain, as it invigorates and excites the digestive apparatus to action.

MAKING FOR HEALTH

SYSTEMATIC DAILY EXERCISE A NECESSITY OF LIFE.

Future Health of Children Depends Largely Upon the First Years of Their Upbuilding—Fresh Air the Vital Point.

It is really pathetic to see young girls and women who for the want of a little systematic daily exercise are thin, pallid and weakly. Many women are really not what they make themselves believe they are. At the slightest exertion they say they are fatigued—all fagged out, unable to do anything else for the rest of the day. This feeling is really just a habit that they have acquired and should get rid of as soon as possible. If you want to live long and be healthy get the notion out of your head that every little thing tires you all out, and that it is impossible to do more than a few regular, necessary little duties every day.

Unless a woman is bodily ill or crippled there is no reason why she cannot send the blood bounding through all her veins in such a manner as to stamp the glow of health upon her entire body. Mothers of large families with a household to superintend have not much time, I know, but it is their duty to see that their children take some form of exercise daily aside from the regular routine. Their future health and life depend upon it. Dozens and dozens of sickly and consumptive children are being saved yearly by hygienic habits, fresh air, sunshine and exercise.

It is not necessary to adopt exercises which take up a great deal of time unless one wishes to and has the time to give, nor is it necessary to have all sorts of apparatus to obtain the best results in exercising. One of the best built women I ever saw told me the other day that she exercised ever since she could remember, and never had any bought instruments for her work. Everything was home-made. To their use and to sunshine and pure, fresh air, she owes all that she is today.

It is an easy thing to add a simple exercise to one's regular toilet work in the morning and again a little at night before retiring. It may be just learning to breathe properly. Yet this alone can save you from a cold or perhaps something more serious.

In the morning when you awake, if possible, have someone come into your room before you rise and throw wide your windows if they have not been fully open throughout the night. Lie limp in bed. Inhale through the nose. Fill your lungs to their fullest capacity and then slowly exhale. Do this at least four times or six if you wish. Just before retiring at night, and without any restrictive clothing, stand at an open window with hands on hips, thumbs pointed backward and while inhaling rise slowly upon the toes; hold the breath while counting three, and slowly, while exhaling, drop back upon the feet. Repeat a half dozen times. Six minutes night and morning is all that is necessary. The true value of that twelve minutes of exercise every day, if continued for five or six months, will be so fully apparent that if it required twice the amount of time you could not be tempted to give it up.

If the coming generation is to be strong and healthy the present one must pave the way, and to do this parents and children alike must take some active exercise.

IN VELVET AND VELVETEEN

Gorgeous Wraps Are to Be a Feature of Styles That Will Mark the Coming Season.

Velvet and velveteen are to be used again this winter in the composition of comfortable and handsome outer wraps. These have many points of usefulness, which fully accounted for their great popularity last year and in the spring. They are, however, only suitable for wearing over short skirts which do not need holding up, and even so they are apt to be in the way on muddy days, for it is very difficult to cleanse mud stains from velvet.

On the other hand, they frequently save the trouble of changing the dress, since they lend a sufficiently afternoon appearance to the figure even when they are worn over comparatively plain costumes. They also form an admirable background for furs, with a glimpse of lace at the throat.

A smart model has a turned-back collar of sailor shape not extended in long revers to the waist, which forms a pleasant change. On the waist line it is fastened by a motif of folded black velvet and braid, and to this fastening it is drawn slightly up in fullness from the right to the left side. This gives it a very up-to-date air for anybody who has the patience to be eternally brushing.

Face of Serge.

If any who are puzzled to determine which is the right side of serge will follow this rule, given me some years ago by a worker in cloth, the difficulty will vanish, says a contributor to Needlecraft. Whenever there are diagonal lines in the weave, as in serge, or in the pattern, as in some suitings, these lines run from the upper right-hand corner to the lower left-hand, on the right side. In many materials other than serge, these diagonal lines may be seen, such as merino, cashmere, and even broadcloth, though not so evident in the latter.

Social Forms and Entertainments



A Budget of Queries.

Will you please tell me if it is necessary to thank or express your pleasure to a young gentleman each time after he has taken you to a place of amusement providing you have been going with him steady?

Also, is it proper for a girl of eighteen to allow a young man to kiss her good night if she has been going with him steady for only four months?

Should a gentleman ask to call on a girl each time he wishes to see her, or is it a girl's privilege to ask him to come and see her.—E. S. H. and P. J. H.

It is always polite to thank a person who has shown you any attention, even if that person be a well-known friend. I consider it decidedly improper to kiss a man good night, and ungentlemanly in him to ask it. He has no right to your kisses and will respect you much more if you hold yourself in reserve. It is not necessary to ask permission to call every time, for among good friends it is understood that they are welcome.

Questions From "Brown Eyes."

I am very much interested in your corner of the paper and would like to ask you a few questions.

My birthday is in December, on the 15th. I would like to invite a few of my girl friends in the afternoon and some of my boy friends in the evening. I will be sixteen and will have them come on either Saturday or Monday.

How should I word the invitations?

What shall I have for refreshments for the girls and boys after supper? How should I entertain them?

For this party I think I would ask the guests, tell the girls you want them to come in the afternoon and the boys in the evening for the ice cream and birthday cake.

After all have arrived why not have charades, acting out the words, coffee (cough fee), dramatic (dram-atic), sinecure (sin e cure). You will find this makes good fun.

A Suitable Toast.

Please give me a good toast to give at a Christian Endeavor society gathering.—X. Y. Z.

Try this, seems to me it ought to do very nicely:

To those who have passed me on the highway and gave greeting,
To the possible friends who have come my way whose eyes lingered as they fell on mine,
May they ever be eager with youth, and strong with fellowship
May they never miss a welcome or want a comrade.—McGee.

Engaging the Minister.

Have read your valuable information in answer to questions and I want to ask you a few questions myself. When both parties concerned in a marriage attend the same church, which should engage the minister to perform the ceremony?—A. M. H.

In the instance mentioned, where both go to the same church, I think it would be best for the two to call together, or the "man in the case" may go alone, or the arrangements could be made by a letter to the minister from the bridegroom-elect.

Luncheon Menu.

I would be most grateful if you would outline for me a simple but correct luncheon menu.—Janet.

Bullion. Breadsticks.
Chicken Croquettes. Green Peas.
Creamed Potatoes. Finger Rolls.
Waldorf Salad.
Wafers. Neufchatel Cheese.
Ice Cream. Claret Sauce.
Small Angel Cakes.
Coffee.

Guest Book Verses.

Kindly give me through your columns verses suitable for a guest book.—A Daily Reader.

I think either of these quotations suitable:

"Dear Lord, I thank thee for my friends."

"Give to the world the best you have, and the best will come back to you."

To Use Advertisements.

Will you kindly tell me how to use advertisements at a party as a contest? By using a picture, should they know the manufacturer?—J. A.

Use just the picture with the name of manufacturer left off. It is astonishing how much we do not know when it comes to guessing "ads," although they may be seen every day and all are familiar.

MADAME MERRIL