

NOTES from MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Save some of the old sows.
Keep the colts in condition.
Single crop farming is disastrous.
Large-flaked bran makes good food.
Scab often attacks calves while in the stable.
The laying flock will make good use of surplus skim milk.

Corn, hogs and alfalfa is a pleasing and profitable combination.

A box stall is better than the pasture for the lame horse needing rest.

For fitting sheep for winter, no better feed can be found than just plain oats.

Red clover in bloom is not good for hogs, but when young it makes a fine pasture.

A lump of rock salt kept in the barnyard or pasture constantly, is better than the weekly "salting."

Green feed fed to milk cows will insure larger profits, and as a good aid to this result is a silo.

Extra feed for the turkey flock from now on will mean extra pounds of weight by Thanksgiving time.

See that your calves don't get poor this fall, for if they do the chances are they will stay poor all winter.

The fleece of the rams should be dense, even in quality, and of a strong, clear white fiber throughout.

After mated, give your birds the best sanitary conditions possible, and keep the houses free from lice and mites.

Make it a rule to count the biddies every day. Some folks never do this. They might be robbed and never know it.

A choking cow may sometimes be relieved by using a greased rubber hose as a ram to force the obstruction down.

The common method of flushing the ewes is to turn them onto some fresh succulent pasture that has been saved up for them.

In a very short time, ground bone, meat scraps, etc., will have to take the place of bugs and worms in the daily diet of the flock.

It is well to fight shy of the dairy cow that is offered for sale cheap these days. At best she is probably good only for beef.

To make fall pigs do well they must be provided with warm sleeping quarters day and night, and filled with sunshine during the day.

Buttermilk is an excellent food for the growing stock. It may either be fed as a drink or mixed in a mash food. Sweet milk is also good.

The demand for dairy products will never fall off seriously so long as quality is good and the present rate of increase in population continues.

Whether corn should be planted in rows or in hills for silage purposes depends largely upon whether the soil is badly infested with weed seed or not.

Every sheep in the flock ought to pass under the eye of the owner at least once a day in order that he may discover his very first signs of disease.

Culling the flock properly is the mainpring of success in poultry farming. If you have neglected this very important matter do it now. There is yet time.

When pure-bred swine are kept for breeding purposes they should be given every opportunity for bone and muscle development rather than the production of fat.

Chicks hatched in June, July and August begin laying in February and March and lay enough the first season to pay for the extra care. Hold on to pullets hatched during these months.

Every acre of land that does not produce a crop is a burden to its owner. It costs money to let land lie idle and it is just as much of a mistake as idleness in a healthy man is a crime.

Keep a high grade sire at the head of your flock of sheep which will allow you to conscientiously charge your neighbor the high price for a choice ram for his flock. That's the way to do business.

Give the sheep pure water.
Growing pigs require protein.
Keep the young cockerels separate.

The hog has paid off many a mortgage.
The richer the cream the less danger of souring.

There is money in raising colts. Stick to draft breeds.

Keep the fall pigs separated from the shoats and older hogs.

Do not let the colts run down in condition on frost-bitten grass.

The final rinsing of milk pails should be in boiling hot water.

The most expensive bull that a man can buy is generally a "cheap" bull.

The nourishment in skim milk is most available if fed before it cools.

All stirring up and handling of dry feeds should be left until after milking.

The possibilities of the hog is matter almost wholly in the hands of the feeder.

The stallion that is worked regularly every day will get the most and best colts.

Lay the foundation for a pure-bred herd by buying a few good thoroughbred sow pigs now.

An occasional washing of the churn with lime water will keep it from getting that offensive smell.

Don't leave your straw-roofed shed covered with snow to drip down on the young calves and pigs.

A halter-wise weaning colt means an easily handled horse when it is time to put him in harness.

Make a Saturday afternoon chore of cleaning the poultry house and so insure its being done regularly.

Sour milk is more relished by fowls than sweet milk; sweet skim milk is best for mixing mashes.

If the hogs are dying and the cause cannot be found, have an expert hold several post mortem examinations.

Two very important points in raising poultry are to keep plenty of grit before your fowls and not to overfeed them.

A Kentucky bulletin says that a little alum in the drinking water is among the best preventives of chicken diseases.

If the best of results are to be had in the winter dairy some provision should be made for at least a small root crop.

When a farmer grows corn to round up and finish off hogs for market, there is sure to be a nice bank account to his credit.

Cows found chewing old bones, pieces of wood, manure, etc., need a change of feed. They crave for something do not get.

Milk vats made of slate or metal are preferable to those made of wood, because they are more easily kept in a sanitary condition.

Among the men who have been phenomenally successful on the farm those who have followed dairying stand out pre-eminently.

If you have neglected to do so, remove the shoes from the work horses, and see to it that the colts have their feet in condition for the winter.

The herd can be made to yield much more butter-fat only through careful breeding. This is a condition that cannot be influenced by feed.

In every 100 pounds of milk there are 87 pounds of water. That is why a good milk cow drinks so much water and that is why it should be pure.

There is a great reduction in the meat supply, which should be taken up by chickens and eggs, but it cannot be done if they are not produced.

The anything-will-do method of managing a fall and winter dairy is not conducive to the receipt of satisfactory bank-check returns at the end of the month.

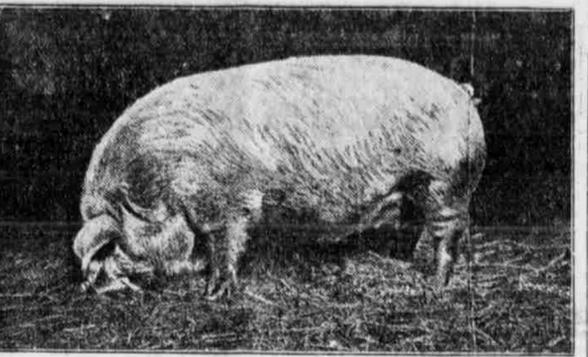
If you are interested in lessening the drudgery connected with dairying, why not investigate the merits of the litter carrier? It means a big saving of time and labor.

Common cows are still selling for from \$25 to \$40. Grade cows of dairy breeding, in communities where all the cattle have been improved through dairy breeding, are bringing from \$50 to \$80 per head. It pays to use a pure-bred sire.

A good way to earn money is to combine the dairy and poultry plants on the farm. In other words, feed the milk to the chickens. For fattening or for laying birds, there is nothing better. It does not make much difference, either, what kind of milk you give them. Sour and buttermilk are as good as any, while sweet milk and curd are good.

SELECTION OF THE HEAD OF SWINE HERD REQUIRES MOST CAREFUL CONSIDERATION

Future Usefulness and Development of Offspring Demand Thought and Good Judgment at Mating Period—No Trouble to Secure Two Litters in One Year if Care Is Exercised.



Grand Champion Improved Chester White Boar.

Careful consideration must be exercised when selecting a boar for a herd of sows. The future usefulness and development of his offspring requires thought and good judgment at the mating period, says R. H. Stone in National Stockman. We cannot afford to use a scrub or a pedigreed runt under any consideration. Remember there are about 2,000 pigs in the first ten generations, and it is essential to develop them along profitable lines. One day spent at mating period, regardless of distances, to find a good pure-bred boar will obviate a year of disappointment.

A litter of eight good pigs from a pure-bred boar mated with a choice sow will require less feed, and when grown will produce 50 pounds of meat per pig more than scrubby ones, thus making 400 pounds of additional meat without additional expense. Our experience shows that a sow that grows eight pigs to maturity twice a year is a more profitable sow than one that produces more pigs and fails to develop them.

Usually the sow has sufficient milk for eight, and when they are allowed to suckle six to eight weeks the pigs are in prime condition to wean without having any setback. The sow can generally be bred successfully on the third day after weaning, and it is no trouble to have her produce two litters per year if you give her the proper attention. Watch her on the

twenty-first day after breeding, and if necessary turn her with the boar again. The popularity of the boar's ancestors on both the paternal and the maternal side, their ability to reproduce good specimens for generations, coupled with good individuality of the breed represented, make his value. He must be a strong, vigorous fellow, active, of good size and good disposition. Pay a price he is worth to you, used in your herd. Any boar is high priced regardless of what you pay for him if he cannot make good on a business basis from a breeder's standpoint.

High-priced boars with popular ancestry in the pedigrees must compensate their owners by producing for them pigs superior to former generations. A boar may be sure breeder for one person, and prove a total failure the way another man might feed and care for him. Never allow him to run at large with the sows. Have an individual pen and yard for him.

A good herdsman appreciates his wants at least six months ahead of time. It is poor policy to defer buying until you want a boar for immediate use, and then take what you can get. When you know you must renew be on the lookout for a few months ahead, and then you can buy one to your satisfaction, both as to price and individuality.

AVERAGE QUALITY OF OUR HORSES

Mare Owners Should Appreciate Value of Pure-Bred Stallions in Breeding.

(By C. W. McCAMPBELL, Kansas.)
Improvement in the average quality of our horses rests with the mare owners and the sooner they come to realize and appreciate the value of, and to demand the services of, good, sound, pure-bred stallions, the more certainly and rapidly will the general average of our horses be improved. It is the intensified inheritance resulting from many generations of breeding the best to the best, using no outcrosses, and always with the same ideal and purpose in mind, that enable the "pure-bred" to stamp his characters upon his offsprings. The "grade" with two, three or four topcrosses lacks this intensified inheritance of characters and his diversified inheritance precludes his use as a sire. These are facts, not theories. Practical illustrations may be seen on every hand if we will simply allow ourselves to see them. As an illustration, at a recent farm sale, colts rising three, uniform in quality, ready to do considerable work the coming season, sold at an average of \$75 a head. Colts rising two, averaged \$46. The sires of these colts were ordinary grade stallions whose service fees ranged from \$6 to \$9. Weanlings from the same mares but from a very excellent pure-bred stallion standing for \$15, sold for \$101, this being \$25 per head more than rising three-year-olds brought, due entirely to the influence of a good, sound, pure-bred sire. The service of a grade or scrub stallion is expensive even if given free of charge. On the other hand, do not breed to a stallion simply because he happens to be registered.

Beware of stallions that are hereditarily unsound, for it is just as unprofitable to raise unsound horses as it is to raise scrub horses. You may ask what is meant when certain unsoundnesses are designated as hereditary. It means that such unsoundnesses are due primarily to a weakness of the part involved and that this weakness may be in the form of one or all of the following conditions: poor conformation, poor quality of tissue, or an indifferent quality of tissue.

Grease is Rabbit-Repellent. It is not advisable to put axle grease on fruit trees in order to prevent rabbits and rodents from gnawing them. A little grease might not do any damage, while too much might injure the trees. Where the climate permits some green crop, such as oats, rye or wheat will tempt the rabbits. The trees can also be protected by wrapping them with old paper, thin boards or screens.

FEEDING SHEEP DURING WINTER

Value of Regularity in Care of Animals Demonstrated by Experiments.

Sheep should be fed regularly in the winter. In fact, as much depends on the regularity of feeding as on the feeding itself. Those who are familiar with the characteristics of sheep know that they always become restless about feeding time.

The value of regular feeding has been demonstrated by experiments with two flocks, at a certain western agricultural experiment station. One was fed daily at six o'clock in the morning and again in the evening, while the other was fed at different times during the day. The result was that the flock fed regularly turned out in a thrifty condition in the following spring, while the others were thin and sickly.

Many of the latter flock had died during the winter, fully eight per cent. of the lambs had either died at birth or made only a stunted growth. By feeding at a set time every morning and evening better results will be attained. The essentials in the winter care of sheep are regular feeding, plenty of water and salt and roughage.

PLANTING FRUIT SEEDS IN FALL

Will Freeze Sufficiently During Winter to Cause Them to Sprout in Spring.

(By W. L. HOWARD.)

Large seeds like peaches and plums may be planted in the fall, and they will freeze sufficiently during the winter to cause them to sprout readily in the spring. Small seeds like the apple, grape, etc., should be mixed with sand in the fall or early winter, and placed in a shallow, open box. The box should be set flat on the ground on the north side of a building where it will keep moist and remain there all winter to freeze and thaw as often as it will. The contents of the box should never be allowed to dry out. Very early in the spring, just as soon as the soil in the garden will do to work, the seeds should be planted in rows and covered very lightly. The seeds may be separated from the sand with a sieve, but this is unnecessary, as sand and all may be sown in the row. Take care that the seeds do not become dry before they are planted. Apple seeds begin growing very early, so that care must be taken to get them in the ground before sprouting begins.

POULTRY

TREAT FOWLS FOR CHOLERA

Sharp Axe is Advocated Where Disease Has Reached Advanced Stage—Use Good Common Sense.

The best treatment for fowls in an advanced stage of cholera is the instant use of a sharp axe and the complete burning of the carcass, says the Farm and Fireside. Those mildly affected should be at once removed to remote quarters and there treated. The following will prevent cholera among fowls, but plain, common sense must also be used, and plenty of it at all times:

After the coop or house has been thoroughly sprayed with a solution of one part crude carbolic acid to one part gasoline and three parts hot water and allowed to dry, spray or brush all the interior, nestboxes, roosts, etc., with hot whitewash. Place clean straw chaff for a litter, and after a thorough cleaning of the water dishes or fountains, refill with pure cold water, to which is added to each gallon two ounces of well-dissolved sulphate (not sulphite) of soda. Allow no other liquid or drink for three weeks or a month. Disinfect all runs, etc., where cholera-infected fowls have been, with the acid formula. Feed lightly or not at all on mash feeds, substituting cracked, mixed, dry grains in place, and the cholera will leave. Thoroughness in all particulars should be observed.

VALUE OF ORPINGTON FOWL

One of Most Popular Variety of Chickens, Not Only for Eggs, but Also for Its Meat.

The Orpington is one of the most popular, if not the most popular fowl, England deserves the credit of having originated them and to a great measure for bringing them to their present state of perfection, although we have in this country at this time breeders who are producing thousands of prime specimens and gradually improving them, especially in color points from year to year.

The Orpington is a fowl of value not only for egg production, in which they are hard to beat, but a most valuable body, it being of good length, broad, deep and well rounded, making a carcass when dressed that is at once attractive and hard to equal. They are rather short in legs, which



White Orpington Pair.

stand rather well apart, which of course is largely due to the breadth and depth of the body. The flesh is white and clean looking, a point that the English prize highly.

They began to import them into this country some fifteen years ago, and they have been gradually on the increase until, as I said, they lead the list in popularity. They have been bred in many different colors in England, but this country recognizes but the three varieties—Buff, White and Black—which seems to sufficiently represent the breed. In type they are supposed to be identical, in fact should be. Breeders of blacks, however, are inclined to claim that this variety more nearly represents the ideal Orpington shape in its full heavy body, etc.

POULTRY NOTES

Ashes scattered under roosts make a good absorbent.

Desirable eggs are said to weigh about 24 ounces to the dozen.

A good, lively rat terrier will earn his keep wherever chickens are kept.

Hot lye water is very effective in cleaning an old poultry house or nest boxes.

Decaying matter of any kind may harbor the germs that cause limberneck.

What is your opinion of the commercial egg foods? Does it pay to buy them?

Don't let your fowls deteriorate. Inferior roosters lose money for you; get good ones.

Do you know that turkeys intended for breeding should be well developed and non-related?

The wideawake, ever watchful poultryman is seldom troubled with sickness among his fowls.

The hardest part of the hen business is marketing the eggs. A good place to build for success is at the marketplace.

The ONLOOKER

S. E. KISER

A TRIFLER



I looked into her eyes
She gazed up into mine,
She smiled and dimples came
And went that were divine.
But, oh, I did not dare
To tell her she was fair,
Though she looked into my eyes
And sweetly smiled at me—
For there were others there,
To listen and to see.

Oh, if, when we're alone,
With no one near to see,
She would look up as then
She sweetly looked at me—
Ah, then would I declare
How sweet she is and fair,
But she never looks or smiles,
Provoking little dear,
Save when she is aware
That folks are near to hear!

Born Diplomat.
"Mrs. Trelawney," said Francis Wallingford, "there is something that I have for a long time wished to say to you."

The president of the Society for the Squelching of Husbands looked over her glasses and frowned. She evidently knew what was coming, but after a moment's silence she said in her most impressive platform tones: "Well, go on. What is it?"

"I—I love your daughter, Miss Gladys. I have reason to believe that she returns my passion, and I want to ask you to give her into my keeping."

Mrs. Trelawney's features hardened, and there was a cold, metallic ring in her voice as she answered: "What recommendation have you to offer for yourself? How can you convince me that you will always love her—that you will always think her beautiful?"

"She looks like her mother," said Francis Wallingford. "That is enough to convince me that her beauty will not diminish as her years increase. Of course, I know that this can hardly be regarded as a final test. You have not reached the age at which women begin to lose their—"

They were interrupted then, but he got the girl.

Man Who Scoffed.
He used to scoff at women.

Called them foolish, brainless things
Who would sell their souls for dresses,
Or for necklaces or rings.

He scorned them for their efforts
To be beautiful and sweet,
But there chanced to be a woman
Fate had destined him to meet.

She was neither good nor lovely,
Though he fondly thought her so;
She was mostly artificial,
But, poor, fool, he didn't know!
Today men look in pity
On the man who used to scoff,
And wonder what will happen
When the mask falls off.

Beginning to Doubt.
"Nope," said Mr. Rockwell, as he wiped his glasses, "I'm afraid John's college education ain't goin' to do him much good, after all."

"Why, Silas," his anxious wife cried, "what makes you say that?" "He admitted in the store yesterday that there was still a few things I knew more about than him."

Business.
Mamma—"Has Mr. Dorrance given you any reason to believe that he means business?" Clara—"Business! I should think he did mean business! I am sick of the word business. All he has talked about the last three times he has been here was papa's business."

One for Her.
He—Goethe says one cannot always be a hero.

She—Well, since I've come to know you better, I am convinced that one cannot always be a fool, either.

S. E. Kiser.