

Social Forms and Entertainments



"Stone" Guessing Contest.
In answer to the constant demand for new guessing contests I print this. I do not know who was the originator but I pass it on; all the answers are a variety of "stone."

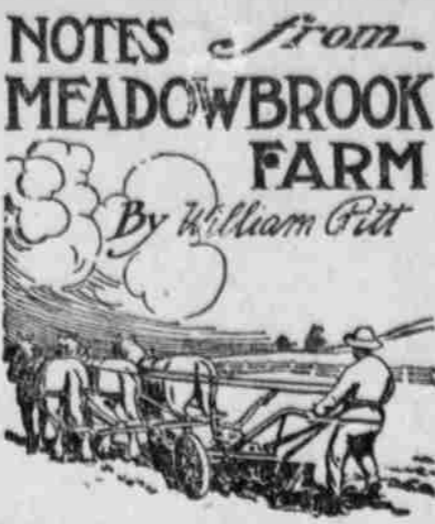
- A stone associated with the fruit of a famous tree?—Cherry.
- A stone at the top of an arch?—Keystone.
- A porous stone?—Pumice.
- A stone used for sharpening?—Whetstone.
- A stone that points to the poles?—Loadstone.
- A stone that is green and red?—Bloodstone.
- A stone that is pressed by the foot?—Flagstone.
- A stone used in a test?—Touchstone.
- A complimentary stone?—Blarney stone.
- A stone that comes with a storm?—Hail stone.
- A ceremonious stone?—Corner stone.
- A stone allotted to every one?—Tombstone.
- A stone found in law?—Blackstone.
- A stone useful in washing?—Soap stone.
- A stone in a rough street?—Cobblestone.
- A suitable prize for this pastime would be a box or silken bag filled with candies which are made exactly like little stones and pebbles. They are found already put up in attractive shell shaped boxes or may be gotten by the pound. They are delicious to eat and a pleasing novelty.

Character Party.
Casting about for some new way to entertain a hostess noted for her originality evolved this scheme.
Her invitations said: "Please come in a costume representing your profession or what you would like to be." It is needless to say that when the twenty guests arrived upon the stated hour (half after eight) there were many exclamations of surprise and astonishment. Some of the costumes were most amusing; the camera fiend was in a black paper cambric suit, on which were pasted snap shots, blue prints and spoiled prints (that would

have been the best of all) he wore a miniature camera for a watch charm and carried a real camera with him, with which he took flashlights of the party, afterwards generously supplying each one with prints as remembrances of a very happy evening. A man who loved "astronomy" appeared with a small telescope and stars, comets, a moon and the sun painted on a black domino. A cauffrette came resplendent in their colors with "votes for women" inscribed all over her gown and she carried a placard with "votes for women" on it.
The hostess had found symbolic favors for nearly every one by which they found their places at the table for each one in their acceptance designated what they would represent.
Around the table each one was asked to explain the merits of his or her profession and I wish space would permit the witty talk and repartee. Try this sometime, the plan may be adapted to quite large affairs. Informal dancing might follow the "spread"

Idea for the Up-to-Date Hostess.
A hostess who entertains a great deal has small cards made with stationery die used at the top or at the left hand corner. This monogram is done in gold, silver, red, blue, pink and violet so she is able to match nearly any color scheme she wishes to carry out in flowers on her table. These cards are used as name cards at each place and if cards are to be played after dinner or luncheon, the table number and "couple" are written on the back of card. Some times a flower is thrust through one corner of the card, a punch being used to make the holes for stem. These individual cards are also most useful to use in sending gifts when one wishes to write an appropriate sentiment and are a little more individual than a visiting card. Try ordering some with your next stationery and you will be ready with place cards for all occasions of the most exclusive style.

Lingerie Shower.
A dear little girl bride who had such a happy preparation time for the great event; says one of her loveliest showers was the one at which all the gifts were bits of lingerie made by her dearest friends.
There were all the intimate bits of personal linen, the girls dividing the work and the expense; there were dainty ribbons run in all the pieces and in the rose papered box containing the set were one dozen tiny square lingerie sachets, edged with lace, a wee gilt safety pin in each for pinning inside the corsage. They were embroidered in the same forget-me-not pattern as the underclothes. These friends began their work as soon as the engagement was made public. A boudoir cap and pillow were also presented at the same time, of similar design and made over pink, the bride-elect's favorite color.
MADAME MERRI.



NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt

Help out short pastures.
Lazy hens are unprofitable.
Quality of food brings results.
Salt the butter by weight, not by guess.
Warm milk is best for the calf, no matter how old it is.
Never think of milking a cow until the udder has been brushed.
The merits of the scratching shed are shown during bad weather.
The careful poultryer avoids large families and keeps his birds busy.
Deliver the cream to the creamery or cream station early in the morning.
It is the crowded, idle birds that are ever ready to get into some mischief.
It is the practice in sections where corn cannot be raised but alfalfa can, to ensile alfalfa.
Silage made of corn and soy beans is more digestible than that made from corn alone.
Cleanliness in all its details is one of the important things to be borne in mind by the dairyman.
The quality of the dam is as important as that of the sire in the production of good horses.
Don't wean the pigs too early. Try letting the sow do that and there will be no set back at that time.
If the milk sours before the cream rises you will make a poor quality of butter besides losing much cream.
If you get tired hearing us talk about silos, throw the paper in the cob basket and go out and build one.
Did you ever think that grabbing sheep by the wool makes a sore place on their bodies? It surely does; don't do it.
Frequent stirring of ripening cream will make better flavored butter, as it causes the cream to ripen more evenly.
There is very little profit in holding over a lot of drakes and ducks destined for market after they are ready to go.
The farm that is equipped with a small gasoline engine has the very best "elbow grease" necessary to turn the grindstone.
Keep salt where the cows may always get to it. They will not consume too much if allowed to use their own "judgment."
It is not too early to select future dairy cows from among this spring's heifer calves. Good dairy stock show their possibilities early.
Train the tomatoes on trellis or on a pole like Lima beans. This treatment keeps the fruit off the ground and brings it earlier.
Don't cut the asparagus after the middle of June. Give the beds a good cultivating, and keep the weeds out of it for the rest of the season.
Golden self-blanching celery is especially desirable for planting late in the season, because it requires much less time to mature than the green sorts.
It is cheaper to keep the herd up all the time than to neglect it for awhile and try later to bring it back to condition. The cow won't make up for lost time.
Many items on the farm, such as cull-fruit, small potatoes, wastes from the kitchen, and other things which will not sell, find a good market through the hog.
The ideal place for hogs in summer is in a wood-lot through which passes a little brook. In such a place hogs will grow remarkably fast, even without large quantities of grain.
Keep the cows as quiet as you can till the time comes for turning them out to pasture. They are not just easy these warm days. They are so anxious to get a bite of grass! Better to keep the bars up a few days longer, though.
In the big cities many heartless contractors work their teams all day and hire them out for the night work, giving them only two or three hours rest in the twenty-four. These are the horses that are often sold to farmers as bargains when they are worn out.

Get a new milk pail.
Chicks relish skimmilk.
Comfortable hens are layers.
Balky drivers make balky horses.
Encourage turkeys to roost at home.
Lazy hens, like lazy men, are not money makers.
It is important to keep the poultry houses scrupulously clean.
See that the dairy cows get all the salt they need these days.
It is not the quantity of food that brings results, but the quality.
Alfalfa hay is about the best roughage that can be given the cow.
Let the colt have shelter from storm, but let him have access to pasture, also.
Too much scientific work in the hen business is a failure. Just use common sense.
Give the ewes daily exercise and fresh air, but do not expose them to storms.
Overcrowding is one of the worst and most frequent mistakes made by poultrymen.
Selling too young and feeding too long are the two wrong ends of the hog business.
Trees that are making a rapid growth of wood do not generally bear much fruit.
Ducklings grow twice as rapidly as chickens, and so require more food for the first few weeks.
The Hollanders have evolved the great milk breeders by working with and not against nature.
Eggs ought to weigh a pound and a half to the dozen or fifty-five pounds net to the thirty dozen eggs.
Where possible, a little grazing at night will help the cows keep up the milk flow at this time of year.
The hens should be allowed any kind of food that is needed as an incentive to greater egg production.
It's more "feed" than it is "breed," but without the latter as a foundation the former becomes wasteful exercise.
A liberal amount of forage crops will never come amiss. If not needed for soiling purposes they are good for hay.
A cow must furnish 150 pounds of butter fat before she has paid her bill. After that, what she gives is profit.
A good grain mixture for chicks is two parts cracked corn, two parts cracked wheat, two parts kafir and one part millet.
Experiments have shown that the greatest gains in fattening are made by young stock when two to four months old.
It is poor policy to change the quarters of hens or pullets while laying for it usually checks or stops egg production.
All clover is rich in protein or muscle forming food, and it is one of the best kind of foods for growing pigs and for brood sows.
Western dairymen are finding out that cowpeas are almost equal to clover or alfalfa as a dairy ration and are a much surer crop.
Diversified farming is the safest, different soils require different crops, and upon all farms rotation is essential to profitable production.
One of the latest inventions for aerating milk is the air pump. It would seem that this is sure to find a valuable place in dairy work.
One point in favor of green manuring is that it distributes the fertility through the soil more evenly than can be done in any other way.
After maturity an animal gains in fat only and so makes less gain in proportion to the food consumed and consequently less profit to the feeder.
Alfalfa not only furnishes protein or flesh-making material, which is deficient in corn, but it tends to offset the heavy character of a ration consisting of corn alone.
Hog raisers differ as to which is the best breed but, as an experienced breeder said recently, it makes little difference provided we have a good foundation to start with.
Peck baskets of the climax type are very attractive and popular on some markets. When the market becomes glutted with tomatoes packed in large baskets it is especially advantageous to use peck baskets.
When you hang a lantern up in the barn, fasten it so that it cannot be knocked down. Sometimes we put them where they will fall if we by accident rise and hit them with our heads. And then—well, then there is trouble; and maybe the barn is not insured, either.

BASIS OF SUCCESSFUL GROWING OF PORK



Hog Cots.
(By W. MILTON KELLY.)

Healthy and vigorous pigs from well-bred, properly matured ancestry are the basis of successful pork growing. With a uniform lot of pigs at eight weeks of age, our chief motive should be to keep them in a vigorous, flesh-gaining condition until they have developed enough bone, muscle and stamina to carry our corn crop to market.
Providing the pigs have been properly weaned, they will have developed stomachs strong enough to handle generous rations without check in their growth by the removal of the sow.
At this time the pigs should have as near as may be a balanced ration. At least the feed must not be all corn, or too starchy or too monotonous in kind. The skill of the feeder will furnish the variety that induces appetite and favors growth rather than fat.
In feeding pigs of this age we are confronted with two problems: First, the danger of giving them too much fat-producing food, and second, the feeding of larger quantities of protein foods than they have the ability to digest and assimilate.
Too much fat is not desirable at this period and too heavy feeding of protein feeds will acquire an excess of that element, thereby stunting their growth. The element of waste in feeding too much protein is important in determining the profits.
I have never been able to compound any rations of grain and commercial feeds that would produce as good results for young pigs as one which skimmilk makes up about one-fourth of the mixture. With a suitable variety of farm-grown feeds we can readily change the proportions of the rations as our observation and judgment may suggest.
The truly scientific feeder must cut away from mixed feeding standards and vary his rations according to the growth and condition of the pigs.
Nor is it likely that one can figure out a ration so well balanced without grazing as to promote the most vigorous growth as will result when the ration is supplemented by the daily run of a field which furnishes succulent and bulky food.
From weaning time until the growing pigs are about six months old protein is the most important element in the ration. Corn is nine-tenths carbohydrates, oats contain more protein than corn, but hardly enough to meet the requirements of the growing pigs. Rye is richer in protein than oats, but as a pig feed barley excels all of the above and is a sure crop in many localities where corn rarely matures.
Clover and alfalfa are highly nutritious, but too bulky to suit the needs of the young pigs. Cow peas, soy beans and Canadian field peas are well suited for pork growing where they can be grown. Various localities

produce feeds that can be used advantageously to balance up a ration. Wheat middlings, linseed oil tankage and other feeds of commerce all have their place in economical pig feeding which must be regulated according to the variety of farm grown feeds that are at hand and the prices of these purchased feeds in the nearby markets.
The man who is engaged in pork growing as a business and not merely feeding fogs to find an outlet for his farm by-products must recognize the fact that young hogs up to six months of age need a growing, not a fattening ration, and that they need feed in judicious quantities.
Regular feeding is essential to a steady, unremitting growth and three feeds a day will give better results than two and in following up this method it is advisable that they be fed only what they will clean up with an apparent relish.
Always bear in mind that the most valuable asset of the growing pig is 120 pounds of bone and muscular development aided and supported by a natural and keen appetite.
From the fifth to the sixth month should be the period of preparation, that is, the time when we are getting the pigs gradually accustomed to their fattening ration.
During this period I have always secured the best results by feeding plenty of corn and giving the bunch the run of a field of clover, alfalfa or cow peas.
In this way their digestive system gradually becomes accustomed to the changes of diet and by the end of a few weeks' feeding are in the best possible condition to make good use of all the corn they are capable of handling.
At the end of this period they should be well rounded out and weigh at least 165 pounds. Notwithstanding that corn has been the object of much criticism by many theoretical feeders, yet the fact remains that corn and water will produce more economical gains than a diet of mixed foods.
Mixed food may produce a little greater gain, but the quality of the pork is not so good and the loss of shrinkage while on the road to market is greater than in the case with the corn-fed hogs.
During the last two months, the finishing period, the previously built frame and digestive capacity, in the making of which a variety of suitable food is essential, is loaded with fat, a process in which corn produces the cheapest gains.
How many pounds can we make the pigs weigh at eight months of age is the great question.
My ideal is the 300-pound hog at eight months of age, but my ideal is quite a way ahead of my present achievements. I think I do well when I market a bunch of pigs that average 270 pounds at that age.

CORN SILAGE FOR SHEEP IS PROPER

Michigan Farmer Finds It Excellent Ration When Allowed to Ripen and Mature.

Silage is not always satisfactory as a ration for sheep. Sheep growers in many localities will have nothing to do with it as a feed for their flock. They will admit its undoubted value as a cattle ration, but their experience has been against it so far as sheep are concerned.
I believe that well matured silage can be fed to sheep with the very best results. I have been feeding it for several years, and since the first year the results have been all that could be asked for any ration.
The first year that I planned to use silage as a winter feed for sheep, I planted eight acres of corn to be used in filling the silo. It was planted rather late, and, as I was somewhat afraid of the frost, the crop was cut a little early. It was planted very thick, sown, in fact; and when cut the leaves were green and heavy with sap. The ears were poorly hardened, writes a Michigan farmer in the Farm Progress. Some of them were barely hard enough to escape being in the soft stage of development.
I was doubtful about the quality of the silage, and my doubts were confirmed when I began feeding it. It was given to the sheep in small quantities in connection with clean timothy hay. Some oats were fed with it at times.
The older sheep did not appear to thrive on it as they should, and the younger ones began to appear sickly and thriftless. It had a tendency to

loosen the bowels of the animals even when fed in small quantities.
Next year I harvested a crop of corn that was much riper and more mature than the first. I let the blades and husks assume a ripe color before running the crop through the cutter. There was no trouble that season or at any time since.
It has been fed to sheep of all ages ever since the first season. From two to two and one-half pounds have been given daily to everything from spring lambs to ewes with sucking youngsters at their sides. They have been uniformly as thrifty as though fed on a grain and hay ration, and the cost has been much less.
Green corn, especially when put in the silo uncut, has been the cause of silage ration for sheep acquiring such a bad reputation. When corn is left to ripen enough that it could be husked in the field, it can be placed in the silo and fed to the sheep with the very best results.
Looking to the Pedigree.
Look at the pedigree of the stallion you patronize, and if it is not issued by one of the recognized registry associations don't use that horse. Many farmers will contend that a grade horse that is a good looker is just as good for a sire as a pure-bred, and expense is much lighter.
Some of the handsomest, soundest and most perfect horses are grades, and while they are splendid animals for use they are unsuitable to breed to. Every grade has a yellow streak in him, and this is just as likely to show as his good qualities.
Air in Cow Stable.
Keep the air as pure as possible in the cow stable. Look well to the ventilation. Do not disturb the manure in the gutters or stalls until after milking is over and the milk is removed from the stable.

DAINTY SUMMER COSTUMES



THE first is in lilac cotton crape. The left side just a little draped under the seam, which is curved in slightly about the knees; buttons trim the upper part of seam. The bodice has the sides and sleeves cut together; the full front and center back are in white, and the trimming each side is white lace and a strap of lavender silk of a little darker shade than the crape; the sleeves are trimmed to match. Hat of drawn lavender soft silk, trimmed with pleated lace and pale pink roses. Materials required for the dress: 4 1/2 yards 40 inches wide, 1/4 yard silk 40 inches wide, 3 yards lace, about 1 dozen buttons.
For the second white cotton foulard with narrow blue stripe is used. The skirt has pieces laid over each side that are shaped at lower part, then drawn in by a tassel; buttons trim the front edge of these pieces. The bodice is cut out in a deep square in front to show a vest with turn-over collar of white cotton voile and a small bow of blue silk to match the waistband; the edge of the square is outlined with a frill of soft lace; lace ruffles finish the sleeves. Hat of black Tegel, trimmed with a bow of wide blue chene ribbon.
Materials required: 4 1/2 yards 40 inches wide, 20 buttons, 2 1/2 yards lace, 1/2 yard white voile 28 inches wide.