

NOTES from MEADOWBROOK FARM

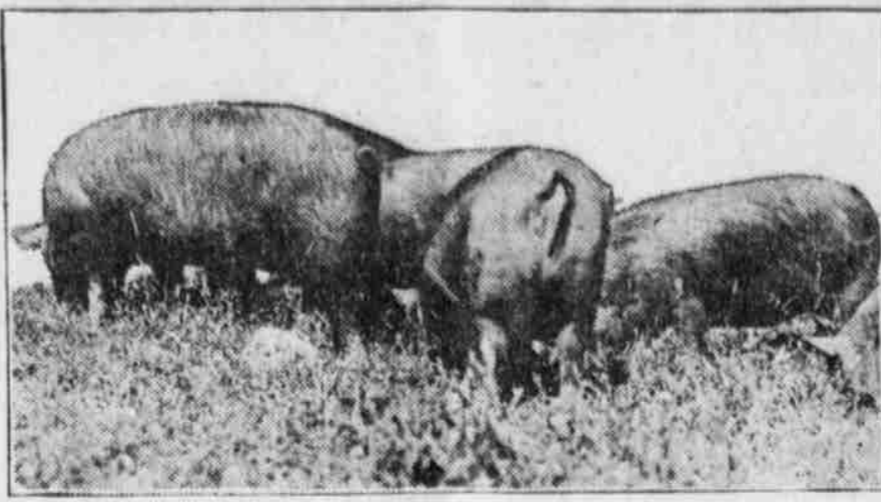
By William Pitt



Look after the fences.
Feed the pigs in troughs.
Don't use musty flower pots.
Push all pigs that are being fattened.
Do not give up the plan for putting up a silo.
There is nothing better for the growing pigs than oats.
The colt that is never handled is always harder to break.
Flax chaff, saved, will save the ice packed for next summer.
If the plow lugs heavily examine it carefully for slightly sprung beams.
A little carelessness may result in the loss of a part or a whole litter of pigs.
A good seed bed is always necessary if we would get a good stand of alfalfa.
The ripening of cream is properly done only by careful and painstaking attention.
Wool of good quality, quantity and texture grows only on the backs of thrifty sheep.
The fall chick, like the fall pig, is hardly ever profitable when it comes late in the season.
Ewes intended for breeders should be carefully looked after when the cool weather starts in.
Don't keep unsightly or crippled chickens, even though they have been valuable birds in their day.
A dirty milker is worse than a dirty cook. To wet the hands with the milk when milking is a dirty habit.
A good poultryman is industrious, not easily discouraged, filled with pluck and grit, and full of ambition.
Birds being fattened at this time of year need cool, shady quarters, but as little room as possible for exercising.
To take a ram just because he can be gotten cheaply and regardless of his qualifications is very poor economy.
The house wren is a very beneficial bird to have about the orchards, as it eats immense quantities of insects.
Money invested in tile increases the producing power and the real value of the low farm as no other investment can.
It is not only hard to sell a lean chicken in market, but it also is poor eating. A little care and feed will make them more inviting.
Nowadays a farmer may sell a pair of mules for enough to buy an automobile, but nine times out of ten he would do better to keep the mules.
Divide the fencing on the farm so as to change the hog lots, rotating them in crops and making use of the manure else you do not reap the full profits.
Bowel troubles in calves are sometimes caused by milk that is excessively rich. Milk that is moderate or low in butter fat is usually better for young calves.
It requires feed to make a lamb of any kind, but a sheep or lamb will come the nearest to making something out of nothing of any kind of a domestic animal.
So long as wool does not grow on trees nor lamb chops on bushes, there will be a need for sheep, and a flock of sheep can be made to yield a fair profit by the right kind of management.
With hogs, especially, the feeding that produces a steady, speedy growth, is the most profitable. A pig that is stunted in the early days of its life should never have a place in the breeding herd.
To a very considerable extent the true value of farming land should be measured by the interest which it earns on a given amount without reducing its fertility and after all expenses are taken from its gross annual product.
When the hogs come up to the trough to eat, look them over for graybacks. If you find them, thin some kerosene with water and rub it along their backs. An old cloth or a little brush broom with the liquid on it will do the work all right.

Never keep a scrub hen.
Keep the hens scratching.
Get rid of surplus cockerels.
Skim milk is best for growth.
Whips do not improve horses.
Keep salt and charcoal before the hogs.
A long whip never made a man a good driver.
Very beneficial to the farmer is the woodpecker.
Feed floors save feed and keep it clean and wholesome.
Allowing unnecessary limbs to grow is a waste of plant energy.
Draining butter well before salting will help its keeping qualities.
Birds are worth dollars and cents to the farmer and the orchardist.
A dull plow-lay is one of the most rapid money-wasters on the farm.
Have regular hours for feeding your horse and give him sufficient time to eat.
Good breed, good feed and good care are essential in producing good dairy cows.
It would be a patriotic act to sow that weedy roadside to alfalfa or sweet clover.
A pound of mutton can be produced at less cost than any other kind of meat.
Hot bed sashes are usually 3 by 9 feet in dimensions, but smaller sizes may be used.
Sacrificing good mothers and breeders has put many a farmer out of the hog business.
Exercise is a better laying stimulant for the hens than heat-producing condiments.
Handle the brood sows so that the young pigs will begin to grow from the time of their birth.
Hogs running on alfalfa should receive grain rich in carbohydrates, for alfalfa is rich in protein.
The irritation caused by a poor driver lessens the ability of a good horse to do its best work.
If you are buying a horse, get him on a slow trot. Then, if ever, he will show any lameness he may have.
The worst thing about it is that the man "who has better birds at home" really believes what he says.
A weekly coal oil bath for nest boxes and roosts will not give lice and mites much of a chance to spread.
Be so careful in the choice of a blacksmith that it is not necessary for your horse to wear an interfering boot.
It is entirely possible that you may be able to double the income from your cows by selling half of them.
It pays to let the flock have plenty of nourishing food during the moult. Moulting is quite a strain on a bird's vitality.
There is nothing that produces stiffness, inflammation and unsoundness faster than standing still in a stall day after day.
The Houdan is a small-boned fowl, having a thick breast, and the flesh is tender and juicy. They make fine broilers and the best roasters.
All indications point to high beef and pork this winter. That being the case we may expect to see eggs soar too. Don't sell off too many pullets.
Keep your horses well groomed, as a well kept animal not only appears better but keeps easier, feels better (like a man after a bath) than one neglected.
So construct your poultry house that every piece of its contents is easily shifted and moved. By doing so you will greatly facilitate the inevitable war against parasites.
The cow-horn turnip, when left in the ground, is a great soil improver, the decaying of which adds humus to the soil, and puts the land in the best possible condition for future crop production.
Do not sell the horse that has grown old in your service to a huckster or a junk dealer, to be beaten, starved and abused. It is too much like sending one's worn-out father to the poor farm.
The trap nest is a regular detective. It tells the facts of the case, it tames the hens, it gives accurate reports, it arrests the robber hens, it gives an honest count and it exposes the fraudulent hens.
The following formula for roup pills is recommended: Half a dram each of cayenne pepper, ginger and mustard, half ounce of plain vaseline or clear lard, mix thoroughly and add enough flour to make a stiff dough. Make into pills the size of pea. Dose, one night and morning.

USING COMMON SENSE IN THE HOG LOT



Berkshire Gelts.

In breeding swine we must consider the type of hog the nearest market demands.
Never sacrifice a good body in order to shorten the snout or decrease the size of the ears.
Buy a boar of some reliable breeder who has been working for years to get the correct type of a pig and who is prepared to furnish the type you desire.
With well bred hogs your feed and care will produce the best results.
It is mistaken idea that breeding animals to do well must be fed only enough to keep them alive.
At mating time both sire and dam should be in the pink of condition to produce the best results.
Feed a pig all he can eat without squealing. This can be done only by watching him eat and knowing just how much he needs.
An old school teacher once said to her class on physiology, "the internal organs of a hog are the nearest like those of a human being and any dumb animal," unless it be a man.
Swine are natives of a tropical climate and should have warm and dry quarters.
In this era of cheap woven wire fences there is absolutely no excuse for a nasty ill-smelling hog yard near the house where disease is bred, and the best fertilizers of the farm dissipated into air.
Is it any wonder that pigs lose their thriftiness and constitution and become weak in the back with crooked legs when they are confined in an 8 by 10 pen that is cleaned but once a year, and then when the owner has time. Stop and figure the losses that result from pigs that do not do well and are restless when all they need to make them comfortable and contented is the run of a nice clean pasture where they can leave their droppings to the benefit of the soil.

USEFUL HINTS ON FEEDING THE HOGS

Animals Should Be Separated According to Size—Some Labor-Saving Schemes.

As a general thing, on the average farm too much time is used in feeding and caring for hogs. Unnecessarily slow and tedious methods are employed, whereas shorter cuts in feeding than those practiced at present would produce equally good results either by the use of horse labor, by the rearrangement of the feeding yards and troughs, by the more careful use of pasture and crops that may be harvested by the hogs, and thus reduce the number of hours required to care for the animals and at the same time save labor, says the Iowa Homestead.
Where one is feeding many hogs it frequently is a labor saver to use a horse in transporting swill, water and feed directly from the tank and bin to the pens, yards or field in which the animals are kept. Wide alley hog-houses make possible using the one-horse truck, not alone for hauling feed in, but for hauling out the manure and thereby keeping the surroundings clean and sanitary.
There are few who have taken the trouble to separate the shoats according to size so that they could be fed more easily and satisfactorily. Many prefer to feed hogs of all sizes together, either continuing the feeding until all are full or else wasting time chasing the larger ones away until the smaller ones are fed. Feeding all the animals will hold is a wasteful method, while beating up the big ones while the smaller ones eat is not conducive to gains in either the old or young. It is always well in feeding hogs to sort according to size and limit the number to twenty or thirty in a feeding place.

FARM WATER TANK IS BIG NECESSITY

Force Pump Is Great Help and Engine or Windmill Will Furnish Needed Power.

Water is used more often than anything else in the home, therefore it should be of the best quality and handy.
The old open well was a death trap for everything that crawls, walks or flies, and these, decaying, caused disease and a big doctor's bill. So, writes B. C. Lane of Michigan in the Epitomist, have a good driven well and get the supply from below the surface water. Put on a force pump, and if you are using any quantity of water attach a gasoline engine or a windmill to do your pumping.
Lay pipe to your house (be sure to get it below the frost line) and connect the pipe with a tank. The pneumatic tank in the basement is the best, but an open tank with a loose cover in an upper room is all right. The size of a tank will depend on the quantity of water you use. Have it large enough to hold at least a day's supply. Or, if you can't afford anything better, and it is for house use only, put in a good barrel on a stand in one corner of the kitchen. If you put in a tank run a pipe from it to any place needed, and be sure to have a sink with waste pipe.
If you have only hand power for pumping, you will find it takes but little more exertion to pump water into the tank, and it will save carrying—no small chore.

BEST LOCATION OF THE POULTRY FARM

Do Not Set Hens Late in Fall Unless Buildings Are Well Suited for Broods.

Hens should not be set late in the summer or fall unless there are buildings well suited for housing the young broods. Chickens will not thrive if shut up on a barn floor. They are far better to be cooped up out of doors upon dry ground. They must have sunshine, air, exercise and a full supply of green food, in addition to their regular grain rations and plenty of clean fresh water given twice a day. It requires close attention to all the little points in the feeding and management of poultry to make the business profitable. It is not an easy business. Probably a large proportion of sudden deaths amongst young chickens are due to overfeeding (cramping), badly ventilated coops and yards infested with germs. Give free grass range. Poultry cannot be kept healthy when kept closely confined in small yards.
Chickens require feeding three times a day and only a small quantity at each meal should be the rule. A very successful poultryman says: "One-quarter of a pint of corn is ample grain for a hen for one day without any other food, and one teaspoonful of corn mush or coarse meal per day is sufficient for a young chicken."
In locating a poultry business, select gravelly or sandy land that drains naturally. A hillside sloping to the south, protected by a grove of trees on the north and west, with a stream of running water at the bottom of the slope should be chosen.
Heavy limestone and red clay land, unless well drained, is not suitable for poultry. Such land, even with the best of management, is liable to be cold and wet in the early spring and during most of the winter months.

PACKING HONEY IN PRINTED CARTONS

Neat Little Receptacles Are of Great Convenience to Dealer and Consumer.

The best grades of comb honey should be put on the market in neatly printed cartons. They are a great convenience for the dealer, they serve to keep honey free from dust, and also prevent marring the delicate comb when handling from the grocery to the consumer's kitchen.
Cartons are so inexpensive and so useful that it is surprising that more of the best comb honey is not put on the market in them.
Of course, those using cartons should be very careful to see that only the most perfect sections of honey are put into them. A honey purchaser will seldom buy cartoned honey the second time if she has been once deceived—by getting, for instance, a partly filled comb in a carton; or, perhaps, a dirty-looking comb.
Cartons should be used more extensively than they are now, as they also furnish an added opportunity to send printed honey information with each comb of honey sold.
Road-Dust for Chicks.
Begin this month to gather road-dust in barrels for the hens to bathe in during winter. In the summer they dig in the field and sun themselves, half buried in the dust.

CHIMESSETTE AND COAT COLLAR MAKE NOVEL COMBINATION

THIS neck piece is a novelty, serving the purpose of an ornamental coat collar and a chimesette to match, both in one piece. To make it successfully one must first select a strong but filmy pattern in the machine-made laces. They will stand washing and not draw out of shape. They do not need to be stayed with net, as the threads of which they are woven are very firm.
In order to make this neck-piece fit, a good sailor collar pattern of tissue paper is to be laid over the coat collar and brought under the lapel. The chimesette ends are then cut from paper and curved out to fit the neck in front, with the paper extended at each side to meet the sailor collar. Pin the pieces together where they meet and remove the collar. After trimming away the superfluous paper, paste the two pieces together.
When the pattern has been cut in this way, it may be found to be a little irregular. Just one-half of it is needed in cutting the lace, so this irregularity does not make a difference.
The collar is cut from all-over lace



folded either crosswise or lengthwise. On this double fold of goods place half of the pattern and cut the collar by it.
It is not a bad plan if the lace is of a very open pattern to baste it to a paper foundation before binding the edges.
A narrow fold of fine net headed with a cord or soutache braid finishes the collar. Cut the fold on the straight of the net in a strip two and one-half times as wide as the finished fold is to be. Fold it and baste it to the collar. If soutache braid is used

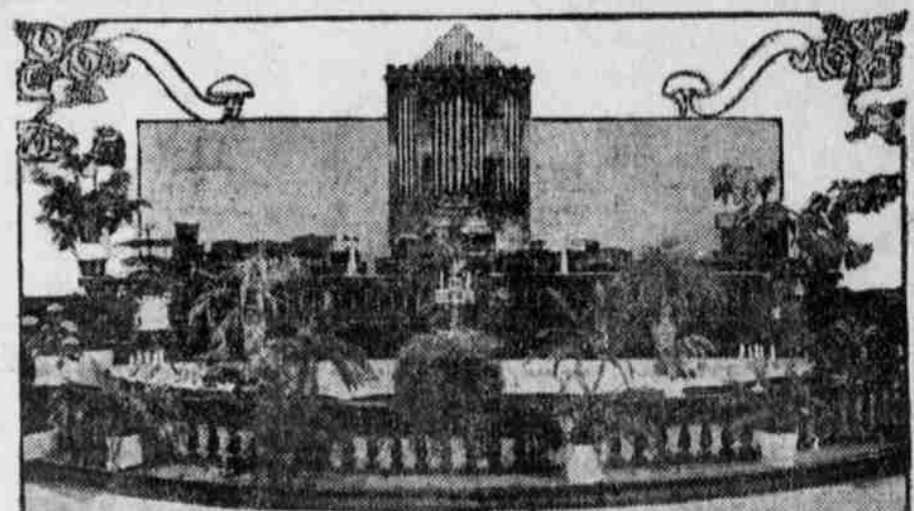
it may be machine stitched to place at the same time as the fold. Narrow lace edging or heading may be used instead of a very small and fine finishing braid.
Small fancy buttons finish the chimesette at the front, but it fastens with tiny hooks and eyes placed under them.
This neck piece is made up in many materials. It is pretty in French embroidered batiste, in plain wash net or of the finest crochet laces. When made entirely by hand something is added to its value. It is a novelty that will make an acceptable Christmas present. One who knows how to make fine tatting could make up the piece of little tatting wheels. Such a development will produce a gift worth several dollars.
For practical wear, however, the machine made wash laces and nets are best of all. It is the crisp freshness of such little accessories that makes them charming.
JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

Malines Frills for Plain Frocks.
Providing they can, be kept fresh-looking, there is no easier way of dressing up the plain little frock in serge or dark silk which nearly every girl has for early autumn wear than a wrist, neck and plastron set in white malines. The wristlets are merely very full three-inch-wide frills, shirred onto narrow ribbons by which they may be attached to cuffless sleeves, and the collar consist of two frills—one of three-inch width overlapping one of four-inch width—at the center of the back, where they are wired to stand up and whence they taper gradually to beneath the chin, where they lie flat and are secured under a narrow velvet pump bow. The plastron is a bib-shaped affair of finely tucked malines extending from the shoulders to below the bust and further lengthened and widened by a three-inch frilling.

Powdered Coiffures.
White wigs met with enough success at Paris fetes of the late summer, and at fashionable watering places, to indicate that powdered hair will be in vogue for evening in the coming winter. The high helmet-shaped coiffure will also probably be adopted, as it is suited to the period of style when the hair was powdered.

Test for Hooks and Eyes.
To avoid using hooks and eyes that will rust, always test them with a magnet. If they can be drawn by the magnet they contain steel and should not be used on anything that requires laundering.

Church Decoration for October Wedding



HE who chooses to be wed in October, has the best chance of a bright and wonderful day and is sure of an Indian summer honeymoon of glorious weather. June brought its troop of lovely brides this year, but those of October will outnumber them according to the gossip of those who report the doings of the social world.
Before this the bride and her maids and all her feminine "kinery" are ready with their gala day attire. But it has become a pretty custom to leave the decoration of the church to the young friends—or old—of the bride, and October offers a splendid chance for the effective decoration of church or home with the familiar and dear things that grow about everywhere.

Whether gathered from the woods and fields, or loaned by the bride's friends—the necessary greenery is not hard to obtain.
Modern churches, with their ample rostrums, are easily decorated. The first requisite to a successful result, is to know when to stop—to be careful not to crowd in more than the spaces justify. Then we are to remember that green and the darker tones of autumn foliage should predominate with the more vivid colors sparingly used.
The windows and the altar are positions of greatest advantage for the placing of church decorations. Guarding against over-crowding does not mean being skimpy in placing foliage and flowers in their places, but in so placing the decorations that the attention will not be taken away from them by unnecessary decorations elsewhere. Except for greenery the isles down which the bridal party moves to the altar or departs therefrom should be left untrimmed.
Boughs and vines from the forest will take care of the windows and ferns are pretty placed among them. With foliage for a background the flowers for the altar should be chosen in only one color or a color with white. White alone in blossoms is very beautiful especially if autumn leaves are chosen to be used with them.

Asters and chrysanthemums suggest themselves for the October wedding. There is a wide choice of color in either of these. The chrysanthemum is a regal flower. Big, white ones used with a setting of autumn leaves, palms and ferns will make a decorative scheme to be proud of.
An altar is pictured here in which green, white and pink made up the color picture, set against the light gray of the church walls. It is a charming decoration. There was ample room here for placing the growing plants and the cut flowers. Added to these, cut glass candelabra, with wax candles, gave the sparkle and glow of candle light. This light was, of course, not needed but it was a beautiful touch among the greens and flowers.
About the altar small potted plants were placed, ferns and green foliage, set at rather wide intervals at each side. At each side a large jardiniere containing a foliage plant with green leaves striped with white (like "ribbon grass") displayed the stately disposition of its leaves. Small tables provided the necessary height on which to place the plants and flowers. A small stand at each side held the candelabra.
In this church the altar has two levels—and upon the second the choir is placed. The organ stands at the back. A choir of women, dressed uniformly, and in white, is an added attraction and the singing of the wedding march more effective than an organ rendering alone.
For a home wedding the windows, mantels and doorways provide the points of greatest advantage for placing flowers and foliage. Greater latitude in using color is possible because there are separate rooms each of which may be decorated in its own color scheme. But nothing should be introduced that will prove other than an attractive background for the wedding party. Therefore the apparel of the bride and her attendants must be considered and decorations made with reference to them. Autumn foliage provides many colors.
JULIA BOTTOMLEY.