

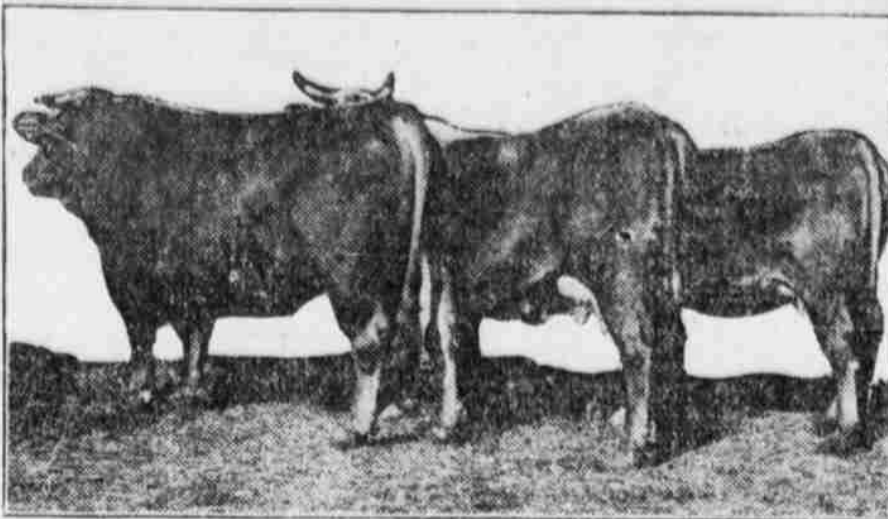
NOTES from MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Store the garden tools.
 Diversified farming is best.
 The guinea is a great forager.
 The silo is the farmer's friend.
 The calf of today is the cow of tomorrow.
 A good dispositioned horse is one that is healthy.
 A mule scents danger almost as unerringly as the elephant.
 The man who raises scrub stock usually raises scrub grain.
 Manure piles are good for the production of gapes in chickens.
 The more rapidly the animals are finished and fattened, the greater the profits.
 Unprofitable cows should be fattened up at once and sent to the shambles.
 The collie is the only dog that has any business around sheep. Shoot the prowling cur.
 Under like conditions, young animals make the largest gain in proportion to food consumed.
 Sheep rightly managed can be made to aid the farmer materially in ridding the land of noxious weeds.
 Don't allow the sheep to rush or squeeze through doors or gates. It may injure the unborn lambs.
 Plowing gardens in the fall gets rid of most of the weed seed and makes them easier to tend next spring.
 The larger the animal is and the rougher it is the greater the amount required for the food of support.
 Go out and purchase one or more good sows and enjoy your own pork as well as an increased bank account.
 You should be feeding for the lamb crop. The ewes must grow wool, lambs and mutton all at once. Feed accordingly.
 It is impossible to produce clean milk and cream unless the cows, stable, milking utensils and separator are clean.
 Corn is perhaps one of the best single grains for poultry, but it is very fattening and should not make up the entire ration.
 There is no play connected with earning a living, neither is there any play work connected with any department of farm work.
 In hot weather or in drawing heavy loads, watch your horse's breathing. If he breathes hard or short and quick, it is time to stop.
 Farming is now becoming such a complicated business that certain factors are just as necessary in making it a success as in any other business.
 Poultry houses that are up-to-date are no longer double boarded affairs that are closed up at every point, but are fresh air houses with plenty of ventilation.
 Early selection of seed corn from the field of standing corn permits a consideration of the stalk on which each ear grew and the chances each stalk had.
 Rye, barley and oats, equal parts, ground and made in a slop with skim milk, will make any pig make a hog of himself in short order. It is the best feed out.
 In formulating a ration due regard should be had to its palatability. A cow will give better returns if she relishes her food. It stimulates the appetite and aids digestion.
 Every bit of manure that can be secured, should be scattered over the fields at this season while you have time. The yield of your land can be increased in no easier or cheaper way.
 If an animal gets out of condition, appears to run down and does not relish its food, a little flaxseed boiled in oats and fed two quarts at a time for a few days will soon give him a good appetite.
 Do not select seed corn from hills having only one stalk, as a good ear on such a stalk is due to favorable conditions rather than to its inherent ability to yield well under average conditions.
 There is no one breed of poultry which can be said to be the best layers under all conditions, and, as a matter of fact, any of the prominent breeds will be profitable for egg production if bred with that idea in view.
 To insure the best results and to be entirely successful with any system of feeding requires that it be done at regular hours and in quantities suited to the wants and capacities of each animal. This entails judgment and discrimination.
 Hens demand some mineral matter to form the shell of their eggs. Do not forget the oyster shell and the hard, sharp grit. These will furnish material for the formation of the egg's shell and at the same time will keep the fowls in a healthy condition.

VARIETY OF FEED FOR THE FARM CATTLE



The Improved Animal That Has Inherited Fixed Characteristics Is the Best Machine for Converting Farm Crops into Beef. Good Beef Type of Cattle.

(By M. ROBERTS CONOVER.)

To lay in a supply of winter food for the family and neglect to cater to the family cow is an oversight which retaliates upon the owner straightway with unerring accuracy, for the milch cow measures to her owner in proportion as he metes out to her materials from which she is to maintain her own strength and vitality and produce a good flow of milk.
 The demand of her body for greater warmth during the winter months make it necessary that she be in first-class condition—fat and sleek.
 An abundance of food which not only aids in maintaining her bodily warmth, but is of a nature to wet the appetite to its keenest, is essential to keep the milch flow at its best.
 Like other domestic animals, cattle enjoy variety. The available food-material on a well conducted farm affords this. Clover and timothy hay, oat-hay, cornstalks, cowpeas, bran, a quantity of undersized, unmarketable apples, potatoes, squashes, beets and carrots are a delight to the healthy cow.
 Where one has not the facilities for supplying ensilage, the vegetables and fruits mentioned above are a most excellent substitute.
 Turnips, cabbage and strong-flavored vegetables are also relished by this family cow, and are very wholesome, but as they give an unpleasant flavor to the milk they cannot be admitted to her diet.
 Decayed or moldy fruit or vegetables should, needless to state, be rejected. The seeds should be removed from squashes and pumpkins, as they tend to diminish the flow of milk.
 In order that the food be wholesome and nutritious, it must be stored under approved conditions.
 Hay, well-cured, keeps in a mow or a loft with plenty of bottom ventilation. Stalks are usually ricked out-of-doors. This is satisfactory if they are thoroughly dry when ricked, and so tightly packed that those underneath are thoroughly protected by the sloping outside layers.
 Apples should be kept just above the freezing point in the cellar, if possible; potatoes at a temperature of 40 degrees, and squash in a dry place where they will not freeze.
 The squashes should be fed early in the winter, as under ordinary storage conditions they cannot be depended upon for long keeping.

Of the apples, the culls of the early winter varieties are, of course, first used. Those of the Salisbury and the longer-keeping varieties may be reserved for later feeding.
 A bran mash, with chopped beets or carrots stirred into it, is a great treat, and is a beneficial form of feeding which should be offered occasionally. Be sure that the bran or meal offered to the cow is sweet and good, or trouble may result.
 The cornstalks may be fed once a day, and clover or oat-hay at another meal; the meal of the day being the bran-and-vegetable mixture.
 Squashes and large beets should always be partly cut up, as they are difficult for a cow to manage when whole.

KILL WEED SEEDS BY USING A SILO

Do Not Retain Sufficient Vitality to Germinate in Spring, Says Missouri Expert.

That the seeds of the common field weeds when ensiled with corn, peas or any forage used as silage will not retain sufficient vitality to germinate in the spring when returned to the land mixed with manure, is the belief of E. B. Hart, chief agricultural chemist of the College of Agriculture of the University of Wisconsin, and A. L. Stone, state seed inspector.

While there are no experiments on record with regard to the combined chemical action of silage and manure on the germination of seeds, it is quite likely that there is little danger of seeding valuable fields with noxious weeds in this manner. As an added precaution the storing of manure under a shed is, because of the fermentation taking place in the compost heap, to be advocated as a sure means of destroying any weed seeds contained therein.

Trichinosis Fanger.

Danish researchers show that the death of cats and dogs because of trichinosis is very common. Dead bodies, therefore, should be disposed of in a way that will effectually prevent other animals from being contaminated.

COMMON SENSE IN THE FEEDING OF PIGS



A Fine Duroc-Jersey Litter.

(By W. R. GILBERT.)

A mistake that we often make is that we want our pigs too young. I believe in getting the little pigs started off to eat at three or four weeks old, and there is nothing better than a little milk and shorts to get them started. Then feed them liberally, and by the time you wean them at eight or ten weeks old you have a big, strong, lusty pig.

I am satisfied that a great many of our people lose all the profit in the business by the way they handle the pigs at weaning-time. I am a strong believer in raising little pigs out in the open. Of course you must have shelter for them in storms, and for feeding purposes, but let them have access to the earth; keep them on the ground, and give them green food, and you will get them to develop bone and muscle, and a strong stomach.

They are always on their feed and always at their feed. I like to have them out on a clover pasture, or on peas and rape. For later pasture rape gives satisfactory results. Of course you must feed the pigs reasonably at the same time.

We all know that for economic production a mixture of several grains fed together, will give better results than any one grain fed alone. I cannot lay down a hard and fast

rule. Some seasons oats might be very satisfactory, but if you get such a combination as high-priced oats it would be foolish to advocate them, especially when we have to purchase our feed.

During the winter months, in a root-growing country, I believe roots are a good food and should compose a large portion of the ration, and I believe in boiling the roots and feeding some grain.

Do not load them up with a great lot of water, feed the roots in rather a thick batter, and mix in your shorts and middlings, and whatever grain you might happen to have. For the larger pigs pulp the roots and feed the meal sprinkled on. I like to take the chill off the food, and always see that the pigs clean it, though up, leaving no material in them.

A great many people make the mistake of having food left in the troughs. Pay particular attention to cleanliness, have dry beds, and give them dry straw to lie on.

In the winter months give them wood ashes and charcoal, and sod or earth of some kind. Earth seems to be absolutely necessary to keep the digestive organs in good condition. Milk is one of the best things for a pig. Nothing lengthens them out like milk, if properly handled.

FARM POULTRY

SOME DISEASES OF POULTRY

Care Should Be Exercised to Prevent Unsanitary Surroundings, Spoiled Food and Dirty Water.

(By H. PRESTON HOSKINS.)
 Sick birds should be removed from the flock and dead ones burned, in an outbreak of disease.

White diarrhoea of chicks is caused by a germ which is often passed by the hen to the chick through the egg.

Vessels and troughs in which feed is placed should be frequently scalded or disinfected with a five per cent. solution of carbolic acid.

It is a wise precaution to fumigate your incubator with formaldehyde before placing your eggs in it for hatching.

Be careful in introducing new birds into your flock to see that they are perfectly healthy, and not likely to bring disease with them.

The disease called "scaly legs," is caused by a mite belonging to the same family of parasites that cause mange in cattle, sheep, and other farm animals.

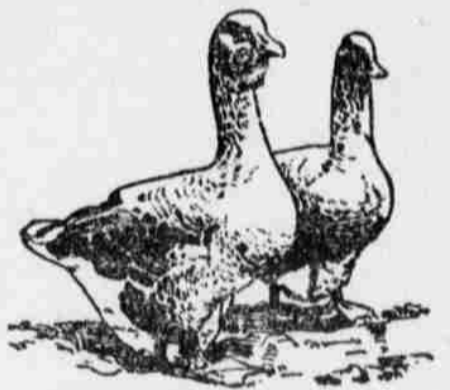
A dusting powder for ridding birds of lice may be prepared by mixing equal parts pyrethrum (insect powder) and flowers of sulphur. Apply it with a powder gun.

Poultry diseases, just like other diseases, are favored by unsanitary surroundings, spoiled food, stale and dirty drinking water, and poorly ventilated and insufficiently lighted coops.

CARE NEEDED FOR GOSLINGS

Several Excellent Little Hints That Go to Make Success With Young Fowls—Keep Them Dry.

Geese require very little feed. After they are feathered they need no shelter. I set five goose eggs under each hen to hatch them. I never put the eggs under the old geese. Make the nests on the ground where possible, writes Sarah Peters of Nashville, Kan., in the Farmers Mail and Breeze. About a week after eggs have been incubated I dip every egg in a pail of warm water, repeating this at the end of the second week. Usually we get a gosling for every egg at the end of the hatch, which is 28 to 30 days. As soon as they are dry I take the goslings out of the nest and when all are hatched put them in a small, dry pen, with a large box, the bottom of which is covered with dry earth or sand. They



A Superior Table Delicacy.

must have grit, preferably crushed oyster shells. I feed them corn bread soaked in sweet milk and give them, sweet milk and water to drink. I put the milk or water in a rather shallow dish with a large stone in the middle of it so the goslings cannot get into it with their feet. After they are a week old they may be fed on bran mixed with milk. I never turn them out until the dew is off the grass and always shut them up when a rain comes up. They like water but cannot stand being left in the rain or dew.

PIANO BOX POULTRY HOUSES

Excellent Shelter Provided for Twelve During Cold Weather at Comparatively Small Expense.

From two piano boxes remove the backs, then place the boxes back to back and fasten in that position. A door should be cut in one end and a window in the other, the roof could be covered with tarred paper or a piece of old canvas, painted. With a roost and a couple of soap boxes added for nests, you have a good house for a dozen hens. A small yard for exercising and dusting should be wired off and a small opening cut in the house to allow the hens to have access to the yard.

In the winter when the hens are confined to the house it would of course be close quarters for them if a scratching shed was not provided. This can be easily done, however, by placing a large packing box against one side of the house and fastening it there; all the boards in the box should be removed except the ends and one side which is to serve as a top. A wide board should be nailed along the ground from end to end of the box, this will keep the snow out and also will act as a brace to keep the box together.

Destroying Vermin.

A dusting powder for ridding chickens of lice may be prepared by mixing equal parts pyrethrum (insect powder) and flowers of sulphur. Apply it with a powder gun.

The ONLOOKER

HENRY HOWLAND

The SWEETEST HOUR



The sweetest hour of all I know is not the hour that brings me praise, Nor that bright hour when morning's glow makes golden all the winding ways; 'Tis that glad hour when, freed from Circumstance's galling noose, I take my baby up and read the simple rhymes of "Mother Goose."

I know the happiness that springs from courage which is proudly shown; I know the joy that profit brings to those who strive for gain alone. But sweetest gladness is my mood when he who keeps my purpose good Enchanted listens while I read the rhymes I learned in babyhood.

What He Would Do.

"Who is that hatchet-faced woman over there who seems to think it is necessary for her to do all the talking?"

"Don't you know her?"
 "No, I never saw her before. If she's married I'm sorry for the poor devil who is her husband. I can't imagine anything more terrible than being tied up to a woman like that for life. Heavens, hear her go! Her voice is like a rasp. I should think her throat would be all worn out. Do you know what I'd do if I were married to such a woman?"

"No. For heaven's sake tell me."
 "Oh, I beg your pardon, old man. I didn't mean any offense. I—I apologize."

"That's all right. You gave me to understand a moment ago that there was something you would do if you were married to such a woman. What is it?"

"I'd hasten to let my friends know it when I took her out anywhere so they wouldn't be in any danger of making the kind of a break I've just made."

Isn't It Good?

Isn't it good, oh, fellow man, To be free from thoughts that are coarse and mean, To be doing the best that a brave man can, With an eager heart and a past that's clean?

Isn't it good, when the morning's bright, To have work to do that is worth your while; To be free from fear and to have the right To begin your task with a hopeful smile?

Isn't it good, when the morning's bright, To have work to do that is worth your while; To be free from fear and to have the right To begin your task with a hopeful smile?

Isn't it good when the sun is low, That you've done good work and done it well?

In Dublin.

A traveler who was in Dublin not long ago noticed in the post office there a number of boxes into which letters were to be dropped. On one of them was this sign: "For Foreign Letters;" on another, "For Domestic Letters;" and on another, "For Letters Too Late for the Next Delivery."

NOT YET.

"And is this," he asked after their first quarrel, "to be the end?"

"Oh, dear, I hope not," she replied. "I have kept all your letters, and you surely wouldn't do away without doing something nice to get me to keep them out of the newspapers, would you?"

Easy.

"If I were dealing with those English suffragettes who go on hunger strikes I'd soon break up the scheme."

"Whenever they started anything of that kind I'd slip a plate of pickles inside the cell door."

Just Another Variation.

"Did you hear about Newman?"

"No."
 "He lost his right leg."
 "Gracious! I thought he had everything in his wife's name."