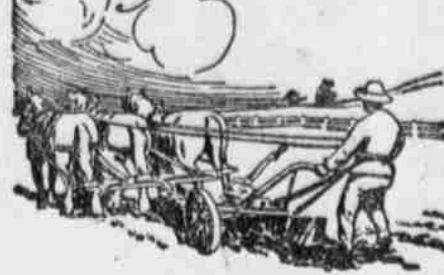


NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



By William Pitt

Flth breeds disease.

Start slowly with poultry.

The horse must have fresh air.

The goose lays a score or two of eggs in a year.

Earliness is one of the main items in raising broilers.

There is a large opportunity for improvement in horses.

Beware of the oily-voiced tree agent. Buy of firms of known integrity.

It is the wise poultryman who studies the comfort of his fowls.

A weed cut before seeding means hundreds less for the ground to be feeding.

A little ground charcoal mixed with the chicks' feed will help keep away digestive troubles.

Common salts will prove a reliable laxative where a physic is needed in the treatment of swine.

Onions, beets, spinach, radishes and lettuce may be sown as soon as the ground can be worked easily.

Eggs cannot be produced without nitrogenous food in some shape. Bones are absolutely essential.

Hardiness in poultry is not indicated by color or plume. Hardiness depends upon the care of the fowl.

Any man who has ever had corns or bunions can sympathize with a horse that has tender feet from any cause.

The successful business man studies the requirements of the market and the farmer should also follow this method.

Go over all garden tools and see that they are repaired or replaced with new ones before next season's work begins.

Plant a quart or two of onion sets as soon as the ground can be worked. White or yellow sets of the smallest size are best.

A boar of heavy bone is more to be desired than one of slight build. Fineness as a quality is more desirable in the sow.

Every farmer should try to have a good garden every year, as it goes a great way in supplying the table with pure, healthful food.

The average farm hen produces about six dozen eggs yearly, which is just about enough to pay her expenses and leave a little profit.

The period of gestation with the sow is 112 days, or 16 weeks, and seldom varies to a great extent. Keep your service record accordingly.

A small plot, even if it is not more than a rod square, on which new seeds can be tried out is interesting and quite often of real value.

The hog raiser is getting started right when he buys a few well bred sows or a pure bred boar. Let every farmer aim to produce better hogs.

Our hogs fail to maintain their size, first, because they do not get enough feed, and second, because they do not get the right kinds of feeds.

Too much care cannot be taken in buying nursery stock. It's heartbreaking to care for trees for four or five years only to discover that they are worthless.

Most hen houses are not sufficiently well ventilated, particularly at night. Pure air supplied without causing a draft is necessary to the health and productiveness of the fowls.

With turkeys it is well to avoid inbreeding, but it is better to keep the same male two years and mate to his own offspring than to select a trio of chicks' year after year without introducing fresh blood.

Black feathers in white varieties are a disqualification, but such feathers unless too frequent are very often found in the whitish birds and are usually removed by expert exhibitors before the fowls are shown.

Charcoal is one of the most essential articles in the food in successful poultry farming. Place ears of corn on cob in oven until charred, and then shell off corn and feed to chickens. An immediate change will be noticed in the condition of fowls and egg production.

Breed first for eggs.

Keep the hen contented.

Cool a heated horse gradually.

Keep the dairy cows comfortable.

Washing eggs opens the pores and hastens decay.

Are you keeping your cows warm and comfortable?

It never pays to work a weak horse beside a strong one.

During inclement weather fowls are better indoors than out.

Like the housewife, the poultryman's work is never done.

There is a greater need for variety of food when fowls are confined.

Change the feed of the horse sufficiently often to have them relish it.

How about the ice supply? Are you going to provide for ice this season?

A pint of kerosene in a gallon of whitewash makes an excellent insecticide.

Begin to plan for a better garden next year. It should include fruit, flowers and vegetables.

Poultry and eggs form more than 16 per cent. of all the meat products produced in this country.

Keep pregnant ewes on the move. That is, make them take exercise—but don't do it with a cur.

Nasal and throat troubles are often caused by dusty sleeping quarters. Bed heavily with clean straw.

A good poultryman is industrious, not easily discouraged, filled with pluck and grit, and full of ambition.

Seventeen hens that weigh about six pounds each ought to have not less than five pounds of grain every day.

It is poor economy to cut down the hens' feed because the egg yield is small.

Be careful not to feed musty and fermented food if you want your horses to go thorough the winter with profit.

Always get a written guarantee with your trees and be sure that the people behind it are able to make the guarantee good.

Little pigs will seldom have the disease of "thumps" if you allow the youngsters plenty of exercise and a large range.

It is the steady gaited horse that covers the greatest number of miles in a day and does it with the least injury to himself.

To grow wool takes good feed and regular feeding. A weak place is made in the wool every time a sheep is stinted a few days.

Cow testing demonstrates that a great many good cows can be kept at a smaller cost of feed. This is not stinginess, but economy.

The boar will worry the sows and pigs if allowed to run with them at all times—keep him by himself after the breeding is completed.

Poultry having access to a sandy stream of pure water usually keep thrifty and free from disease. But look out for polluted streams.

All breeds are good if used for the purpose for which they were created and bred along practical lines, to satisfy the demands of the markets.

From now on you want to be making peace with your ewe. Get so familiar with them that when lambing time comes they will not fear you.

In 100 parts of the yolk of an egg 52 per cent. is water, 45 per cent. is oil and fat and one per cent. each of albumenoids, coloring and mineral matter.

Brood sows that raise only twins and chicken eating hogs are farm robbers to be despised. It is only a short haul to market, and that is where they both should go.

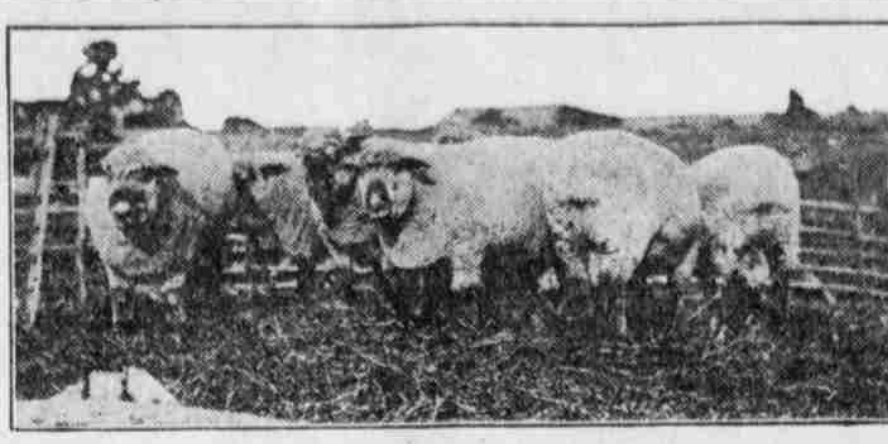
Proper care of the poultry is very important as the weather grows colder. Every possible thing should be done for the comfort of the fowls if winter eggs are to be obtained.

Year in and year out the hens need some grain, some green feed, some good liquid food, milk if they can get it, and plenty of grit. Give them that and you will get eggs—provided they are properly housed.

Never allow any food of any kind to lie around in the hen house, except that which is in the hoppers or the green food. Any grain in the litter or damp mash in the troughs soon becomes foul and unhealthful.

By all means build the roost platforms a few inches below the roosts at the back of the poultry house and build them high enough from the floor so that the fowls can work under them. If they are cleaned every few days it will do much to keep the hen house in good condition.

EXCELLENT HINTS FOR CARE OF SHEEP



Oxford Down Ewes.

Lambs should have their tails cut off and be castrated in from seven to ten days after birth.

Lambs just under ten months old produce better meat at that age than any other.

The best time to market lambs is between January and May.

Never keep more than twenty-five or thirty sheep in one lot together if possible.

The best time to have lambs to come is about two weeks before pasture.

No every man can have pure bred sheep but it is not difficult to obtain a pure bred ram.

It is not a good plan to keep sheep housed up too closely. They should always have plenty of exercise in the open air.

As long as a sheep's coat is kept dry it can stand a good deal of cold weather but rain and sleet are fatal.

A rough boisterous hired man will do more harm to a flock of sheep than he is worth. This is particularly true about lambing time.

Ground corn and cob meal makes an excellent food for lambs, but they should be started on a small allowance at first.

If sheep are turned on to alfalfa pasture and allowed to eat all they want some of them will die from bloat.

Most feeders find better results from grinding corn for young lambs although many feed whole grain very successfully.

The big flocks are going to the far West all the time and are crowding the cattle off of the ranges.

One part sulphur and two parts salt is an excellent combination for sheep. It should be placed where they can always get at it.

Unless you actually love the work, do not attempt to raise a flock of sheep. The shepherd must be in full sympathy with his flock or else he cannot be successful.

If you keep your sheep shut up in a close pen without proper ventilation they will catch cold when they go out into the cold air.

Sheep will drink nothing but absolutely clean water, and will suffer for the lack of it.

A little oil meal fed twice a week with the bran will prevent indigestion in sheep.

Sheep should be changed from one feed to another gradually. They are delicate and cannot stand sudden changes of feed any more than sudden changes of weather.

Never feed more than one-fourth of a pound per day per head at the start and when on full feed three or four weeks later the limit should be two pounds.

ESSENTIAL POINTS IN CARE OF MILK

System of Safeguards Should Be Observed in Dairy House and While in Transit.

Milk is kept wholesome after leaving the cows by a system of safeguards observed during milking in the dairyhouse and while the milk is in transit from the farm to the consumer.

The precautions observed during the milking are sterilized white duck suits for the milkers, careful washing of hands after each cow is milked, milking through a sieve into the pail, and straining the milk when it is poured from the pail into the can.

The foremilk, as the first milk that is drawn is called, is also discarded, thus preventing any bacteria which may have found their way into this part of the milk from getting into the milk that is kept.

All the milk is exposed to the barn air but a very few minutes and is taken into the dairy just as soon as the cans are filled.

The range of yield per pound of milk is very wide, it taking from eight to ten pounds of the richest milk up to 30 and over of the poorest to make a pound of butter. The average of common stock in the country is about 25 pounds. Anything between that and 20 pounds of milk for a pound of butter is good. Below this is very good, and extra down to eight and ten pounds is extraordinary. At ten pounds to the imperial gallon, eight quarts would be 20 pounds of milk.

IMPROVEMENT OF ALL LIVE STOCK

Good Ram on Bunch of Grade Ewes Is in Many Cases More Than Half of Flock.

(By HOWARD HACKEDOM, Missouri Station.)

The use of a good sire is one of the recognized principles of improving the live stock. This principle is generally considered to be fundamental by all breeders of live stock, both breeders of pure bred stock and breeders of animals for the open market. However, some breeders through neglect, or a lack of knowledge and interest in the improved types, use sires which retard the general quality of their flocks and herds, rather than advance it.

Judging from the quality of native lambs on the various Missouri markets, lamb producers of this state are realizing more fully each year the economy of investing in good sires.

A good strong yearling ram should be able to serve 50 ewes. A good ram when used on a block of grade ewes is in many cases more than half the flock, because he will usually have greater ability to stamp his character on the offspring than have the ewes. So with a small flock of grade ewes, worth from \$4 to \$10 per head, one can afford to purchase a good mutton ram. As the value of the ewe flock increases one can afford a higher class ram.

WHAT KITTY MEANT

By F. H. SWEET.

As they walked she told her companion of new plans. That very day she had secured employment in the blanket factory, and would commence work the next morning.

Six months before she had come home a broken wreck—her husband recently killed in a drunken brawl, her own life spoiled, as she thought, by the man against whom she had been warned. But now, with renewed health and resolution, she was about to commence life again, to build up from the wreck. Halstead listened quietly until she had finished, then broke out:

"You know there ain't no need for it, Kitty. You know I've been waitin' for you to get strong so I could say the same thing I did before—before you met him. It didn't seem right to persuade you when you first came, you was so weak an' tired. But now you're strong again an' know your own mind. An', Kitty—his voice trembling in spite of his efforts at self-control—I've been waitin' a good many years. I've never felt to marry anybody else."

Her hand rose impetuously, to stop him.

"But you must think to marry somebody else, Halstead," she said earnestly. "You're too good a man to be wasted that way. An' you must stop thinkin' of me, for it can't ever be, after—after what's gone by. I ain't much, but I couldn't be so mean as to harm a man like that. Now, Halstead, please—touching his arm as she saw the grim amusement on his face—"don't make me go on feelin' I've ruined your life. There's Nelly Bocup. She likes you, an—"

Halstead laughed aloud.

"No use talkin' that way, Kitty," he interrupted. "I want you, an' if I can't have you now, I'm willin' to wait awhile. When it gets too hard I shall grab you up an' run so fast an' far you won't be able to get breath to say no."

"I'm sorry, Halstead." There were tears in Kitty's eyes, but her voice was firm. "I shan't ever marry any man to hamper him. It won't be no use for you to wait and ask me again, ever."

There was much sickness in the town that fall—a malignant spotted fever, highly contagious—and one by one the poorer portions of the town were put under quarantine. Then one evening Halstead helped what he thought to be a drunken man to his home, and the next day the man came down with the fever, and within a week was dead. Within an hour after Halstead heard this he was on his way to the woods for what he said was to be a few days' hunting. In reality, it was to watch himself.

One morning before people had begun to appear on the streets, he staggered to the sidewalk outside the fence of his sister's home, where Kitty boarded.

"Mary, oh, Mary," he called. Then when his sister appeared at the door. "Don't come any nearer. You know that empty cabin up by the big rock, where we walk sometimes?"

"Yes."

"Well, I want you to send some food and water there, soon's you can. I've got the fever. Wait," raising his voice a little bitterly as she withdrew hurriedly into the house. "There ain't a mite of danger this far, not for you nor the children. I won't go near the cabin till you get the things in, so it'll be safe. I'll stay off in the woods a couple of hours. But please hurry, for I'm beginnin' to lose sense of things."

"Halstead!" it was a quiet but peremptory voice from an upper window. Halstead raised his eyes and tried to fix his mind on what he saw there.

"Kitty, Kitty," he said, dreamily, "that you? Better go in an' shut the window. Maybe the wind's blowin' that way."

"Halstead," the voice said slowly and distinctly, "can you go straight to the cabin by yourself?"

"Course," indignantly, "straight's an arrow. But I'll wait two hours."

"No," peremptorily, "you must go at once, straight. I will see about the food and everything else. I'll have a doctor there almost as soon as you are. An' I'll have a nurse. I'd make you come in here, but there's your sister and her children, an' there's children in both the next houses. So maybe it wouldn't be best. No go, straight, straight to the cabin."

Halstead raised his hand to his forehead undecidedly. But the voice had been clear and incisive, and just now it was easier for him to obey than to think. So he nodded vaguely and staggered up the sidewalk. Kitty watched him anxiously until she realized that, in spite of his wavering steps, he was heading toward the cabin. Then she hurried downstairs. Mary met her at the foot.

"What do you mean, Kitty?" she began, wildly, "you're not going up there to him, an' then come back to me an' the children? Most everybody's died of the fever so far."

"That's all right, Mary," answered Kitty soothingly. "I'm not comin' back. You wouldn't have Halstead be without a nurse, would you?"

"But everybody dies most, an' you'll sure take it," remonstrated Mary hysterically.

Halstead did not die, but it was more than three months before he was able to leave his bed and totter across the cabin floor to a seat in the doorway. There he sat for a long

ENGLISH NEEDS A STRAINER

George Fitch Wonders Which Dialect of the Country is Nearest Correct.

The announcement that a society has been organized in England for the purpose of disinterring the English language from the English pronunciation will be hailed with deep delight by Americans.

This society means much to us. For generations Americans have been accused of shocking crimes against the English language. According to Englishmen, who get more indignant over this crime than almost any other except that of beating England in athletics, we have racked, maimed, twisted, butchered and unjointed their peerless tongue beyond recognition. We have admitted this with sorrow, but when it came to reform we have been helpless. Which one of the 79 dialects and contortions of English spoken in England have we defaced? Has it been Cornish, Yorkshire, Cockney or society English? Has it been Oxford English, Liverpool English, or stage English? Has it been the English which makes "d's" out of all the "n's" or the English which translates "h's" into "f's"? Has it been the English which uses "brekker" for breakfast, or that peculiar brand which substitutes "nycher" for nature, "audjins" for audience, and which says "tuppence-happenny" as confidently as if it were spelled that way?

All of this uncertainty has baffled conscientious Americans. In fact, it has puzzled us to the point of paralysis. But now that Robert Bridges, the new poet laureate, who seems disposed to do something more humane than anniversary verse, has headed an expedition for the selection of a real English tongue, we may take hope.

There could be no real objection to talking pure English in this country if the English would only agree among themselves upon the test.—George Fitch in Collier's Weekly.

It Was Possible.

A Vermont man recently visited his brother, the owner of a ranch in one of the arid regions of the west. As the guest was shown over the place, the owner told him of the difficulties and obstacles that had been overcome in making the desert bloom, and he also touched upon his plans for the future.

"You amaze me, Bill," said the visitor. "Is it possible to make a living on such land as this and in such a climate?"

"It sure is. I have had a good deal more than a mere living."

"I am glad to hear that, for you must have laid by something for a rainy day."

The owner smiled. "I've done better than that," he explained. "With the help of an occasional rainy day, I have contrived to lay by something for the dry days."—Lippincott's.

Gave Liberally to Education.

Henry W. Sage, an eminent philanthropist, was born 100 years ago in Middletown, Conn. At the age of twenty he went to Ithaca, N. Y., and engaged in the mercantile business with an uncle. In 1854 he became interested in the lumber regions of Canada and the west. He bought extensive tracts of land, erected the largest sawmill in Michigan, and accumulated a large fortune as a lumber merchant. Some years later he returned to Ithaca, where he took an active interest in the affairs of Cornell university. He established the Sage College for Women, and his other benefactions to the university amounted to more than \$1,000,000. He also endowed a lectureship at Yale college and founded a public library in West Bay City, Mich. Mr. Sage was a trustee of Cornell university from 1870 until his death in 1882.