

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



By William Pitt

Begin slow with poultry.

Dairy records are essential.

Cull out the non-laying pullets.

Be careful with the pruning knife.

There is not much profit in fussing with sick fowls.

Trim the trees now. Cut out the cross branches.

The cow's udder should be carefully cleaned before milking.

One never realizes the value of his timber until his wood lot is gone.

Many horses have died from blind staggers caused by eating moldy baled hay.

The farm separator is too good a step-mother for the calf to get along without.

No animal is more susceptible to improvement by breeding and feeding than the pig.

If we cannot get the best cows there are, let's get the best we can and then work for better.

If too much rich table scraps are fed to the hens in confinement look out for soft-shelled eggs.

Culling the pullets may seem a small matter to many, but it adds dollars to the year's profits.

Pure-bred hogs receiving scant care quickly degenerate, and are about as worthless as the genuine scrub.

Figure now to cut next winter's feed bill as much as possible by planting sufficient acreage to forage crops.

Poultry on the farm, in place of being an expense is often a help in destroying insects and many kinds of seed.

One-half the difference between a \$20 and a \$100 cow is often the result of the difference between a poor and good sire.

Select good eggs from a healthy flock and set your incubator in a well ventilated cellar or room with an even temperature.

In a market fowl the breast is the main thing, but in order to obtain a desirable breast it is necessary to have a good body first.

Alfalfa alone will not produce perceptible gains on pigs, and if fed alone may be considered as a mere maintenance ration.

Pig-raising will permit many systems of management and a person should work out a system best adapted to his farm and stick to it.

In catering to the trade where fruit is marketed try to put yourself in the position of the buyer and then furnish the quality of fruit the trade wants.

Do not plant block orchards of one variety of apples, plums or peaches; mix your varieties so as to give proper pollination to the blossoms. Don't forget this.

Every farmer knows that if he turns his cows or any other cattle onto a good bluegrass pasture in the spring of the year excellent results will be obtained.

Plenty of grit and oyster shells should be before the hens all of the time. Remember, the snow makes their usual supply of these necessities inaccessible in the winter.

Celeriac is a form of celery in which the root, rather than the stalk is edible. The seed is sown and the crop is secured the same as celery, except that blanching is not required.

Breed is all right, and no farmer can afford to ignore it, but the cow which gives the best returns from a given amount of feed is the animal to tie to. "By their works ye shall know them."

A sheep that is kept in a dry place sheltered from the wind will not suffer, even on the coldest nights; but if the stable is allowed to get too warm and close they are almost certain to suffer when turned out the following day.

The hog enjoys clean surroundings and comfort in his buildings just as much as a hen or the horse or the cow, and the best way to get the best results is to furnish him with this kind of comfort. This doesn't necessarily mean pampering; it means just common sense care.

Use only pure seed.

Hens need much exercise.

Keep the hog troughs clean.

Deep, fall plowing is preferable.

Abuse generally educates the cow to kick.

A tree that is overloaded cannot produce good fruit.

The more the study, the greater the success in dairying.

Streaks in butter are usually caused by an uneven distribution of salt.

In disinfecting the interior of an incubator, use a fine spray if you can.

Tomatoes require a large amount of water, but this must not be overdone.

When not too expensive potatoes may be fed to cows in limited quantities.

Keep the cows clean and you will not have so much trouble with stringy milk.

No farmer is measuring up to his privilege who does not keep a flock of poultry.

Keep materials and tools in their proper places, to be accessible on short notice.

Poultry cannot be successfully raised without the application of brain and muscle.

The Plymouth Rock breed of chickens has long been known to be one of many good qualities.

Pruning trees in the orchard is a thing which easily may be overdone by an inexperienced man.

Millet is a good hay for cattle, and it should be used for that purpose; don't run any risk with horses.

If you want to be really up to date sweep down the ceilings of your stables and whitewash them.

Lettuce thrives best in a light, sandy loam, but when it comes to horseradish the land cannot be made too rich.

There is little available data concerning the value of ground alfalfa as a feed for dairy or fattening cattle.

Poultry makes good insect destroyers for orchards. Have the runs extend into the orchards when possible.

A large portion of the clover failures can be attributed to a lack of knowledge and consequent inattention to details.

A light surface dressing of eight to ten loads of manure per acre will increase the yield of grain next year if applied properly.

One of the great troubles with the apple tree that has been built with a top around a main leader is that it usually is too high.

As a breed improves in ability to lay on flesh rapidly and thicken the cuts, the refinement of features and bone always follows.

The egg producing qualities of the hen, like the butter making qualities of the cow, will determine the hen's value at the end of the year.

In digestible nutrients alfalfa and sweet clover are nearly on a par, but stock know a difference and will take the alfalfa every time if they can get it.

Do not deceive yourself with the belief that you can successfully raise poultry without admitting plenty of sunshine to the poultry yard and the houses.

Strawberries must not be uncovered too early. The mulch should remain on so as to retard growth, and thus make the bloom appear after the late spring frosts.

Do not feed the chicks until they are at least 36 hours old and then let the first feed be something soft, such as hard-boiled eggs mixed with oatmeal or breadcrumbs.

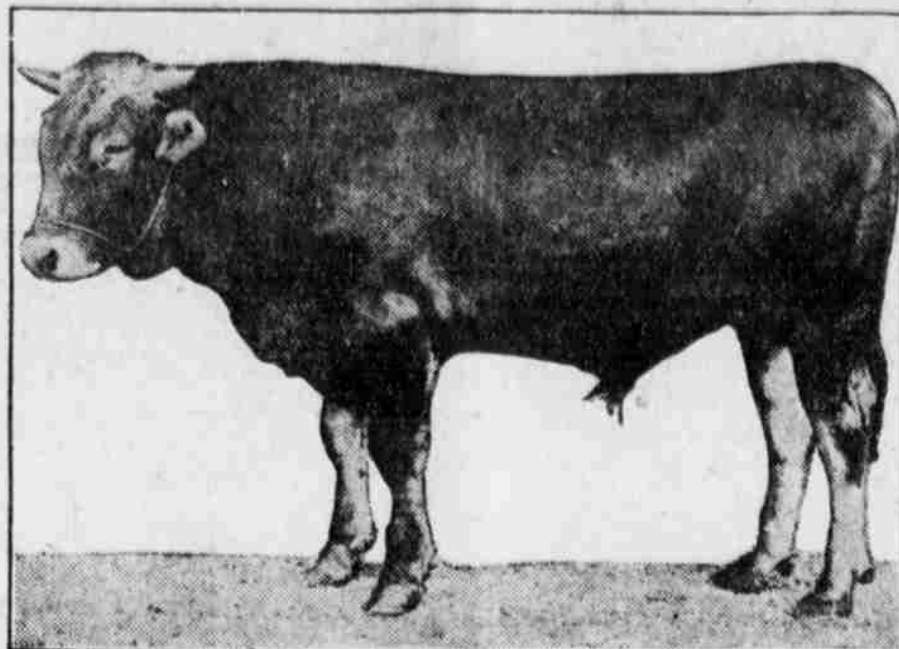
Be sure seed of the best possible quality is purchased for the garden. Neither the gardener nor farmer can afford to use poor seed because it is cheap. It is the most expensive in the end.

Cull out the sows that produce stock that is not good size. Send to the butcher's block the sows with small litters. Get out of the herd the peevish hogs and the pigs of low vitality. Then some money will be made in handling swine.

Make a careful survey of your farm. Are you using your land to the best advantage? Are you using all of it to the best advantage or have you a barn lot large enough for the handling of 25 head of cattle, ten head of horses, a dozen or so of sheep or hogs; with one team, a milch cow and a couple of pigs running in it?

It has been demonstrated that over-grazed stock ranges on the national forests can be brought back to use under a system of regulated grazing faster than if they are left unused.

ADVANTAGES OF SWISS BREED OF CATTLE



Excellent Specimen of Swiss Type—16 Months' Old Bull.

There are many ends for which the Swiss cattle are bred in Switzerland. The first objects in all cattle breeding are the products of milk and of meat, but the animals can also be used for work. In general that which is most wanted is to obtain an average live-weight, this weight being a little higher and subject to variation in the Simental breed than that of Schwyz. The heights and inclinations of more or less importance, the diversity in the composition and the fertility of the soil, and in the management and care given to the cattle, influence a great deal the live-weight and size of the cattle coming from different regions and establishments. Thus in some districts they prefer raising cattle of an average weight or of great weight, while in other regions only cattle of lighter weight are bred. In the regions where the Schwyz cattle are bred, there is a greater difference on account of the great number of different methods in the way of raising and managing the cattle. Yet the ends aimed at are the same in the two breeds with one difference only; that those animals which are of lighter weight and less well managed have much less meat and precocity. In every case, what is striven after, is to obtain healthy and strong cattle. In summer the greater part of the cattle breeders of the Mittelland send their cattle up to the Alpine pastures, and moreover there is a great deal of exchanging between the cattle breeders of the Alps and those of the plains.

With regard to the animal's faculty to work, it must be said that since the culture of wheat has, these last twenty-five or thirty years, greatly diminished, in the plains as well as in the alpine regions, very few oxen of the Schwyz breed are seen. Instead of these they use cows and heifers for agricultural work. On the confines of the two regions where these cattle are reared, we sometimes meet with oxen of the Simental breed, which are very precocious and which become very heavy. This does not hinder the Schwyz breed furnishing animals apt to labor. Their black, strong and hard hoofs, their quick temperament,

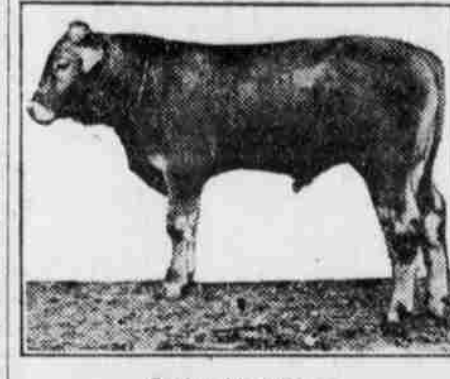


Two-Year-Old Swiss Heifer.

greatly help them in their work even along the smooth roads. Their faculty to fatten is good and the quality of their meat excellent. The live-weight of these animals of the heavy type is satisfactory and might be higher in some districts, if account was kept of their faculty of fattening.

In former times, the descriptions of the cattle, show that then white spots in the hair were rather frequently met with. Till about the middle of the last century the animals with a spot in the middle of the forehead were not excluded from cattle shows, but since then they are getting undervalued and at the present time they are not admitted at the competitions, as no animal obtains a prize with spots, unless they are found on the inferior part of the belly. Those cows that have a spot higher up than the belly or on any other part of the body, are excluded. Cattle having reddish colored hair are not readily received. Yet it must be remarked that the animals which are exposed to bad weather in the alpine districts get a dirty reddish color, but which disappears on changing the animal's way of living. With regard to the form of the body of those animals which are reared and cared for rationally, they show an elegance and purity of form

which gives at the same time a high opinion of health and strength of resistance and of the animal's faculties. The head is nearly always small and refined. Long noses are often met with; broad foreheads, small turned-up horns and a large mouth are the general signs. The neck is of an average length, well covered with hair and having small rumples. You sometimes meet with animals having very narrow chests which is a consequence of bad management, but generally that part of the body is well built. The back is long and rather broad and well developed, the whole trunk in all its development in length



Swiss Yearling.

shows the good qualities of a milk-cow. The limbs are generally well made and strong, seldom coarse. Most of these animals have strong thighs with good muscles, having short shins, the knees, pasterns and hoofs are very strong. The bodies of the cows reared on the declivities of the mountains have sometimes a tendency to throw their bodies backwards, but this tendency is remedied with age.

GOOD PASTURES FOR THE SHEEP

Ewes Should Be Treated Well After Weaning to Reach Normal Condition.

If one will use common sense in giving his sheep good pasture and will raise plenty of pasture, the cost of pasturing sheep will be very low. The late summer and fall is very trying on the breeding ewes, and unless the sheep owner maintains the flock in a vigorous condition the profits are sure to be cut down to a great extent.

It is very good to have an abundance of green pasture and forage crops for the ewes to maintain and regain their strength and flesh which they have lost during the suckling of their lambs. They should be treated well after weaning, so that they will reach their normal condition by mating time. Anyone will find it a serious thing to have their ewes run down and in poor condition at the time of mating.

Take note that the ewes that produce the best lambs at weaning time are usually the best breeders, and should be treated with the best care and management. When a ewe shows a large, heavy lamb at weaning time she is usually very thin and run down. Some owners would dispose of her and think that she was too weak for a breeding ewe because she was so thin at weaning time. Right then they make a very bad mistake. After weaning the ewes can be kept in a vigorous, flesh-forming condition if put on good pastures and a small amount of grain is fed.

Cause of Rickets.
Worms, malnutrition, inadequate feeding and lack of lime salts in the feed are common causes of rickets in pigs. Stop feeding corn and substitute slop of middlings, ground screened oats, flaxseed meal and milk and add one ounce of lime water to the quart of slop or give a dram of precipitated phosphate of lime in feed twice daily.

If worms are seen in the droppings give sulphate of iron in the slop for five mornings in succession at the rate of one dram for each 100 pounds of pigs and if necessary repeat the treatment in a couple of weeks.

Weak Germs Won't Hatch.
Simply because an egg is fertile is no guaranty that it will hatch out a chick. Weak germs cannot hatch, and this weakness, due to the hen's poor condition, may cause the chick to die in the shell. A hen may be in good condition today and in a bad state tomorrow.

FARM POULTRY



THINGS ABOUT GUINEA FOWL

Birds Make Excellent Substitute for Game and Many Big Hotels Serve Them as Pheasants.

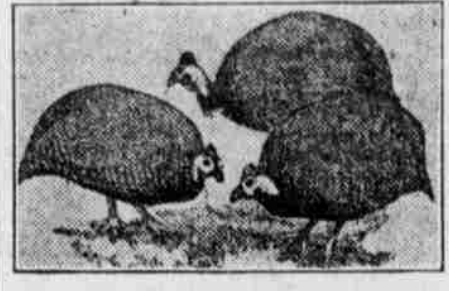
(By MRS. A. JOSEPH.)
The demand for guinea fowls grows stronger every year and is increasing as people become acquainted with the good qualities of their flesh. Those who have learned to appreciate the flavor of the flesh of a plump guinea are not slow to express surprise at the fact that the excellent qualities of this bird have not been more widely recognized.

It is true that the cook book fails to refer to them at all and yet there is not the least question but that they are superior eating to either the duck or the goose.

The young fowl are best broiled, while the older birds may be cooked by any recipe devised for the cooking of chickens, and in any case the result is far more palatable.

The flesh of the guinea is rather dark, but is finely grained, possessing a gamey flavor. For this reason the fowl makes an excellent substitute for game and many hotels in the larger cities serve it for pheasant. The eggs are also much relished on account of their rich flavor.

Every family in the country should keep a few guineas, if for no other purpose than for a "watch" for the



Easy to Raise, Guinea Fowl Are Always in Demand, and Are Considered the Most Delectable of the Domestic Breeds.

poultry flock. In fact, in some places in this state they are called the watchdogs of the poultry yard.

The high, shrill notes which they possess will quickly put to flight any hawk or crow mischief bent; while after night no prowling animal or person can approach a house where guineas roost without arousing their discordant cries of alarm. Their senses of smell and hearing seem to be very keen.

The time required for hatching guinea eggs is twenty-eight days. The guinea is naturally a wild bird possessing a strong instinct to wander. For this reason it is better to raise the young birds under hens as they are more careful of their young than the guinea hens, and a great deal of trouble to get them to behave like domestic fowls will be avoided and if a few chicks can be placed with the brood when first taken off, so much the better; the guineas will then be inclined to stay along with the other birds and will not be nearly so wild as if kept alone.

OATS WILL PRESERVE EGGS

When Carefully Packed in Barrel and Placed in Some Cool Corner They Will Keep Sweet.

(By MRS. D. RYMER.)
Every year I pack a great many eggs and they keep from two to three months, and even longer in perfect condition. I have tried "water glass" and other things, but find that oats will keep eggs longer than anything else.

I pack them in half barrels and use plenty of oats. I first place a layer of oats about three inches on the bottom, and then a layer of eggs, never allowing one to touch the other, or the sides of the barrel. And then follow with another layer of oats until within about six inches from the top, when I fill up the barrel with oats. If the barrel containing the eggs is placed in a cool corner of the cellar or in the attic, or any other dry place, they will keep perfectly sweet, but if allowed to become damp they will spoil.

I have packed eggs in October in this way leaving them in the barn until nearly Christmas and then bringing them to the house. I have used these eggs as late as the following April and have sold them—always stating exactly what they were—and never had a complaint.

Buy a Good Incubator.

It may cost a few dollars more to buy a good incubator to start with, but the saving in eggs which are apt to be spoiled in a poor machine will more than make up the difference in the cost during the first season's run, not to mention the time and work wasted.

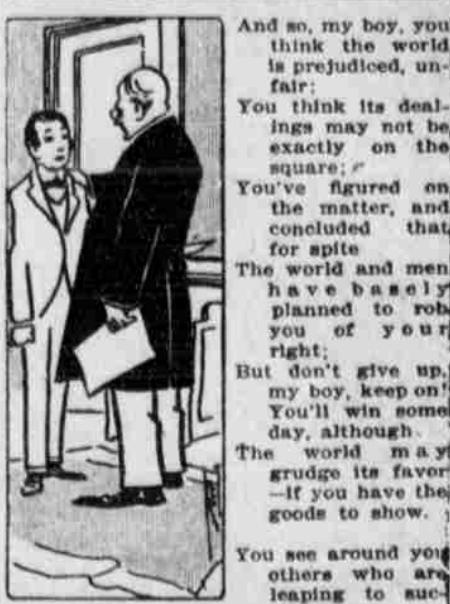
Eggs for Hatching.

Eggs from old hens should not be used for hatching purposes. Select eggs from young birds of good type, color, form and breed characteristics. Special attention must be given to selection if the breed is to be improved.

The ONLOOKER

HENRY HOWLAND

When A Man Can Show the Goods



And so, my boy, you think the world is prejudiced, unfair— You think its dealings may not be exactly on the square;— You've figured on the matter, and concluded that for a while you'll have to make do with what you've got;— But don't give up, my boy, keep on! You'll win some day, although— The world may grudge its favor— If you have the goods to show.

You see around you others who are leaping to success— Although they know far less than you and also merit less;— You see the world her gifts present to them and pass you by,— You look in bitter wonderment, and can't imagine why;— But don't let failure cloud your face, though conquering be slow— The world must yield some day—in case you have the goods to show.

You think the world is partial to your rivals who succeed, And does not fairly deal with you—it may be so, indeed— But don't give up, my boy, keep on; the world may cease, some day— To have the wish to hold you down, may let you have your way— And look again, my boy, at those who leave you far below;— You'll doubtless find that, after all, they have the goods to show.

Dignity.

"Very sensitive man, Briggsley is. Did you ever notice it?"
"Not particularly."
"Yes. Holds his honor mighty sacred. About a year and a half ago he became indebted to me for \$35. "I suppose he couldn't sleep till he got it paid?"
"No, it wasn't quite as bad as that. I used to go around every month or two and ask him if he couldn't let me have some of it, but it never seemed convenient for him to do so. Finally, a few weeks ago, I sold the claim against him for \$7.50. He refuses to speak to me now. He says I have attempted to impugn his honor. He told me in plain words that he didn't think I would be as small and mean as that for a mere \$35, and I'll confess that I did feel, when I saw how cut up over it he was, that I had done a rather shabby trick. The other day the man who bought the claim told me he had seen Briggsley about it and the latter had offered to settle for \$11. I'm sorry I wronged him and hurt his feelings. I suppose it was, as he says, very small and mean of me to be unwilling to lose the whole thirty-five rather than upset his dignity. He says I have none of the finer instincts of a gentleman, and I guess it must be so."
"Is that all of the story?"
"Not quite. When the man to whom I sold my claim for \$7.50 called for a settlement yesterday Briggsley wanted to split the difference and call it square for \$3.75. Dignity's a great thing when you put it up against a business proposition."

A PRUDENT FATHER.

"What profession do you intend to have your son take up after he gets through college?"
"I did think of having him become an architect, but I've changed my mind. It will be easier for him to put things up by going into the ice business."

Her Dress.

Take up the picture; gaze On what she used to wear In foolish, olden days— See how she fixed her hair.

The things she wears today Long hence may make me smile; A year from now we may Laugh at this season's style.

Take up the picture—see! And yet your father swore A fond fidelity In spite of what she wore.

Ah, lovely ones, I guess 'Twas God that made you fair, And not the foolish dress The world has made you wear.

The Chief of His Clan, Too.

"Pa, what's a pessimist?"
"A man who always thinks when he gets up in the morning that it's going to be the worst day of the season."

The All-Round Adage.

"It's well to look before you leap, Or you must pay the cost; However dark the hole or deep— Who hesitates is lost."

Practical Man.

Girl (to prominent actor)—I suppose there is some role you take special interest in.
Actor—Yes, my dear young lady, the pay roll.—Boston Transcript.