

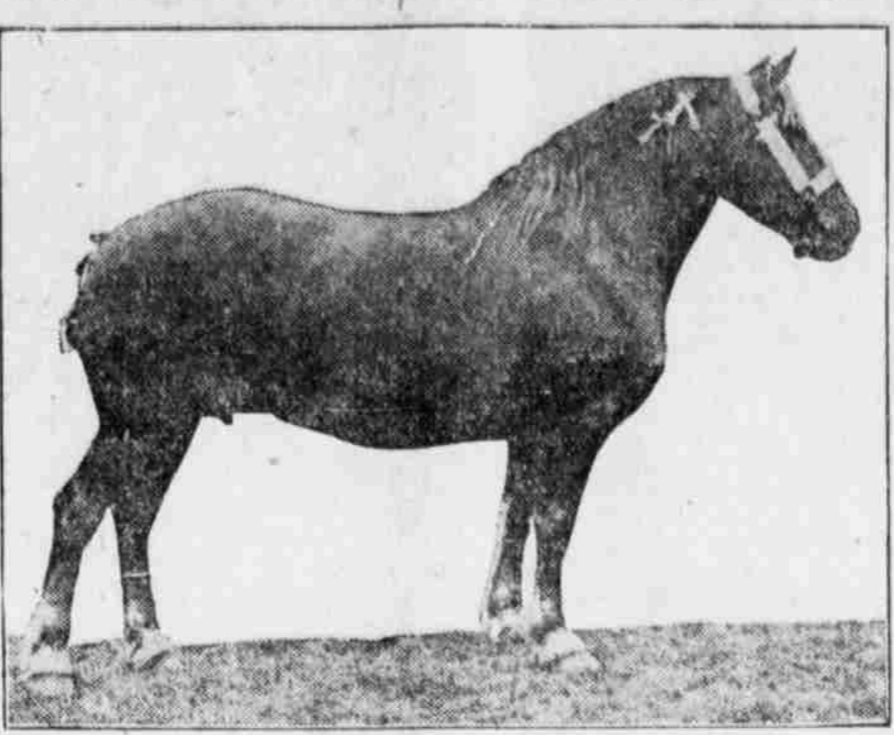
## NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



Whitewash the henhouse.  
 Give the pigs a variety of feed.  
 The toad is the farmer's friend.  
 Cleanliness is essential in dairying.  
 Heavy pruning conduces to wood growth.  
 Raise chickens with the simplest rations possible.  
 Properly managed, a flock of sheep is always profitable.  
 Successful chick feeding is based on carefulness in details.  
 If many sheep are kept, it is best to divide them into small flocks.  
 Hay should not be put in the barn when damp with dew or water.  
 Pasture that lasts all summer is about as uncertain as taxes are sure.  
 Rare good judgment is required in working a mare that is suckling a colt.  
 Don't cut more hay than you can get in a day if you are in a rainy district.  
 The health of the horse depends to a great extent upon the cleanliness of his skin.  
 Watch for lice and leg scale on the poultry and find time to kill them and whitewash the coop.  
 A fair hatch of strong, healthy chicks is to be preferred to a greater number of weak ones.  
 The ewes should be judged very much as a dairy cow—good milkers grow their lambs most rapidly.  
 Silage is the best and cheapest form in which a succulent feed can be provided for winter or summer use.  
 Soft shelled eggs indicate a lack of lime in reach of the hens. Provide ground oyster shell or old broken mortar.  
 Eggs from hens that have made a fair showing in laying last winter will be more fertile than those that did heavy laying.  
 A gradual change in feeding brought about before the pig is weaned will make the weaning period much less trying on the pigs.  
 After the chicks are two weeks old they can be gradually weaned to cracked wheat and finely ground oats with the hulls removed.  
 Dutch cheese is an ideal food for young turkeys, and how they do thrive on it; but chicks should never be fed exclusively on the scalded curd.  
 Leg weakness is a common complaint with young chicks and if allowed to continue unchecked will cause great onslaught with the chicks.  
 It does a flatfooted horse lots of good to have his shoes taken off and be given a run of two or three weeks in the pasture after the season's work is well along.  
 Cut the oats hay as soon as you can see a general tinge of yellow over all the field, for the grain is then doughy and the stalk and the blades are filled with sap.  
 Can't expect the hired man to be interested very much in some one else's work. The man interested must be there with both feet and busy brain to watch for the small leaks.  
 Some poultrymen feed cracked corn to both old and young fowls for the reason that it is harder to find and gives the birds more exercise in eating it than the whole kernels.  
 Here is an old neighbor's remedy to remove warts from a cow's udder: "Take equal parts of pine tar, sweet oil and lard. Heat and mix well. When cool apply to warts once a day after milking."  
 The careless man sometimes leaves the door of the corner open at night but his carelessness is enforced on his mind very strongly when he finds that a horse or cow is foundered from eating too much grain during the night.  
 The cow raised on the same farm where she was born will always do better than anywhere else. Here she feels contented—at home, if she has good treatment—and contentment has a good deal to do with the thrift and profits of the dairy cow.

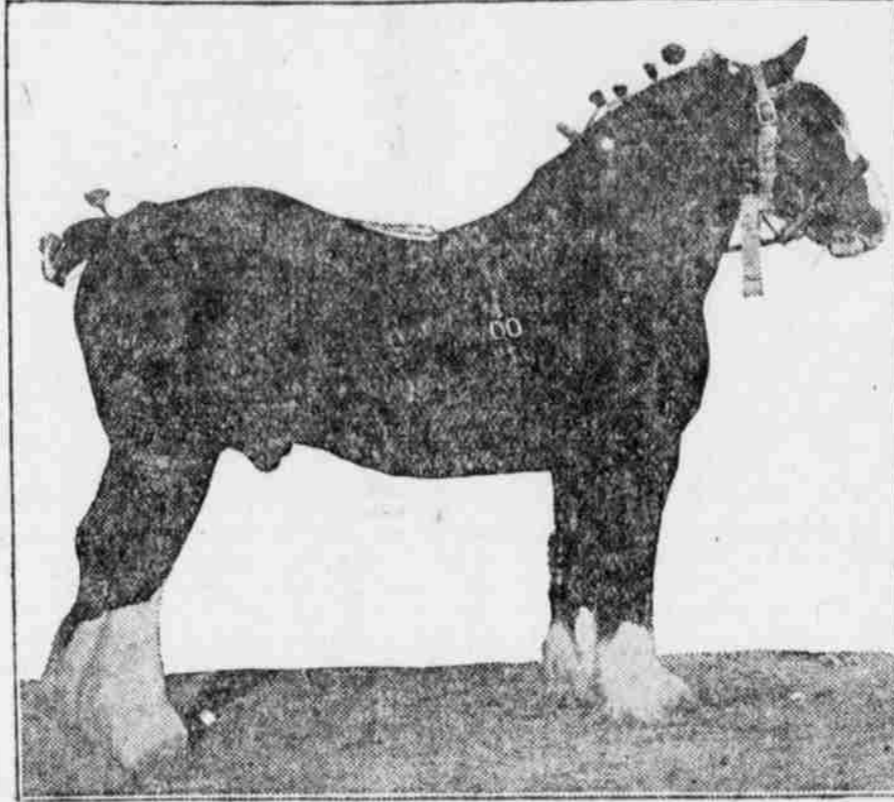
Give the chicks grit.  
 Keep the cow comfortable.  
 Keep some sheep for mutton.  
 Look out for the water supply.  
 Growing chicks need an all-round diet.  
 Provide plenty of light in the basement stables.  
 Sprinkling the hogs with kerosene controls lice and fleas.  
 Make yourself a present of a really good cultivator this season.  
 Dust the setting hens and keep them free from lice at all times.  
 No way to freshen eggs after they get stale. Sell them when fresh.  
 Grass is the world's greatest asset and we have oceans of it this year.  
 A lot of hogs in a hog lot promise a lot of money in the inside pocket.  
 While the ewe is yielding milk for her lamb she is also growing a fleece.  
 The best lima beans are mostly grown for family use and not for market.  
 Early turkeys are what pay, and these can only be had from early laid eggs.  
 The poultry industry has greatly increased the cultivation of the sunflower.  
 Ordinarily any hog, young or old, may be relied upon to eat more than it can digest.  
 If the hired man is worthy of his hire, it is a good plan to tell him so once in a while.  
 Cut out blighted branches of pear trees several inches below point where the blight occurs.  
 A big wheat crop this year is no reason for failure to prepare carefully for that of next year.  
 Bolster springs on the fruit wagon will prevent crushing of fruits when hauling a load to market.  
 Properly trained in colthood a horse will follow his owner and obey his voice as faithfully as a dog.  
 Cows producing only a moderate flow of milk need very little, if any, grain when pasture is abundant.  
 When visiting the pasture call the colts by name and give them some grain, a lump of sugar or an apple.  
 A gentle mother makes gentle chicks. When the mother hen is wild and flighty, it is hard to tame her young.  
 Little chicks must be kept away from older ones and away from the flock of old fowls if they are expected to do well.  
 For young pigs and milking cows silage has no equal. It is the ideal substitute for pasture and a perfect conditioner.  
 Poultry houses should afford good ventilation for the fowls even if it gets rather chilly inside at times. Chickens don't need hot-houses.  
 Cement floors frequently cause rheumatism unless they are overlaid with plank, or a plentiful supply of bedding is at all times in place.  
 Watch the road makers, and insist upon substantial culverts and upon bridges strong enough to carry the heaviest engine in the neighborhood.  
 Bag a number of bunches of grapes. They will be very nice after the exposed bunches are gone. Bagging keeps the insects off and prevents decay.  
 Make the nests big enough so the hens can get in and out without breaking the eggs. Make the entrance to the nests from the back to make them dark.  
 Sandy loam with a clay subsoil makes excellent orchard land, while hillsides, if properly treated, can be turned from barren wastes into profitable fruit crops.  
 Oats hay should not be stored or stacked so long as there is any dampness in it, as it is naturally a moist forage and will heat and spoil very readily if stored too soon.  
 Sometimes the wing feathers of little chicks grow so fast that they become too heavy for the chick to carry and in that case they should be clipped off close to the wing with a pair of shears.  
 It is a common mistake to seed too heavily in planting potatoes. One or two good thrifty stalks are enough to the hill. More will make them all weak and spindling and give you fewer potatoes, and they will be smaller, too.  
 A drive now and then around the pasture and field will tell you about the need of fixing the fences. Keep the fences in repair and by so doing you will save trouble from stock getting into fields and doing damage, not only to the crop, but often the stock may be injured by over-feeding.

## INTERESTING NOTES ABOUT THE HORSES



A Fine Type of Clydesdale.

If a mare with a suckling colt shows signs of sore feet on hard roads or stable floors, have her shod lightly.  
 Take a look at the colt's feet occasionally. Keep them clean and if they show signs of cracking pack with damp clay.  
 Never allow your horse to become whip-shy. That kind of a horse is nearly as useless as a gun-shy dog.  
 The bad habit of pawing in the stable is generally caused by irregular feeding. A horse does not like to wait for his meals any more than a man does.  
 Don't be alarmed if your horse evinces a desire to eat dirt, but change his feed and give him what nature craves. Cut out the corn for a few days and feed oats and some roots to vary the monotony.  
 Do not pamper the stallion too much. He can be worked lightly every day to advantage. A five-mile walk does a stallion no good. Give him a brisk drive.  
 Is your horse a cribber? Then give him away.  
 The best horse we ever owned was a Morgan mare whose mother died when the colt was three weeks old. She was raised by hand on cow's milk, molasses and corn meal until she was old enough to take her place at the trough.  
 When your neighbor sells a colt for \$150, and you can only get \$75 for yours, although it is the same age, and just as big, you will probably wish your stud fee had been a little larger.



Another Fine Clydesdale.

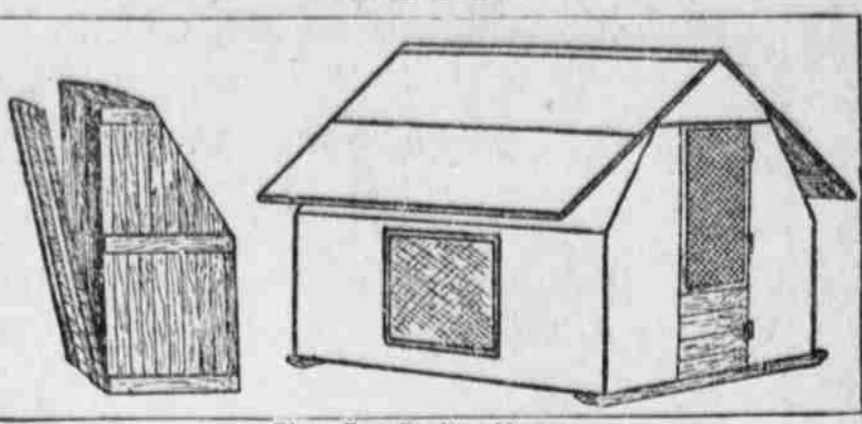
### LITTLE CHICK IS BEST INSECTICIDE

Youngsters Devour Many Injurious Insects—Cheaper to Feed Birds Than to Raise Bugs.  
 (By HELEN WATTS-M'VEY.)  
 One of the best insecticides is the little chick—not the size with strong legs and claws.  
 Coop the old hen close to the garden fence and let the chicks have the run of the garden.  
 Make friends with the birds. It is cheaper to feed birds than to raise bugs and worms.  
 Syringe the carnations occasionally with coal oil emulsion, following this with a dash of cold water upon all sides of the plant, to rid it of green lice.  
 A brass garden syringe is a good investment if you use it properly and often enough to make it pay. It won't use itself.  
 To keep the ants off the peony buds dust well with powdered tobacco and place tobacco stems over the soil about the roots.  
 Ants in the garden may be trapped by placing fresh meat bones or bacon rinds where they collect; when covered with ants dip into boiling water, dry and repeat.  
 Layers of lime or wood ashes around beds of plants will keep the slugs and snails out of the bed. Where they are bad hand pick at night by the light of a lantern.  
 Dalmatian insect powder is a fine remedy for black flies and green lice on plants. Give a light application after a shower or when the plant is wet with dew once a week on all sides.  
 For bark-lice on either ornamental shrubs or trees and on fruit trees, make a rather strong solution of sal soda and apply with a brush (a whitewash brush will do). Use the solution plentifully all over the bark.  
 A layer of lime applied to the surface when the ground is dry and the weather clear will sometimes drive ants from their villages.  
 A watering of hot cayenne pepper tea, as hot as the hand will bear, will rid plants of ants and many other pests if applied to their roots.  
 The best insecticide is the healthy, thrifty growing of the plant.

### SOME ESSENTIALS IN SETTING HENS

Fowl Should Be of Quiet Demeanor and Steadfast Purpose—Squawky Kind Undesirable.  
 (By A. C. SMITH, Minnesota Experiment Station.)  
 It is quite essential to choose a hen of quiet demeanor and steadfast purpose to accomplish what she has undertaken. One of the wild, noisy, flighty kind should not be considered for a moment, for such a one is almost worse than none at all. Visit the house at twilight, lift the hens that are on the nest showing an inclination to sit by the feathers of the back. One that flies from the nest and squawks is not the kind you want. It is possible, though, that she may tame down a little in two or three days, so give her another trial.  
 The hen that, after being lifted a little above the nest, is quick to resume her place and scolds you a little for disturbing her, even perhaps picks you in resentment, is the one you want for the real business of sitting.  
 Remove her to the box prepared for her and shut her in until next morning, when she should be allowed to come off or be taken off for food and drink. She will probably return to the nest herself, and in case she does not, put her back and try her for another 24 hours. If on the third trial she does not return to her nest of her own accord, discard her and try another.  
**Apple-Corer Weeder.**  
 An apple corer will prove more satisfactory for a small garden where a good deal of hand weeding is done than the regular weeder.  
 The corer cuts right down in the earth and lifts the root of the weed out, just as it does the core of an apple.  
**Ten Minutes Well Spent.**  
 Ten minutes work at night when the horses come from the fields washing their faces, shoulders and legs will keep the animals in prime condition.  
**Interest in Milk Machine.**  
 Interest in the flying machine has been put into the shade by the interest in the milking machine.

## MAKE POULTRY HOUSE FROM PIANO BOX



Piano-Box Poultry House.

A useful poultry house is made by removing the backs and tops of two piano boxes of the same size and placing them back to back, leaving a sufficient space between to allow for a door, the opposite end being boarded up. A roof and floor is easily put in, and window space knocked out on the south side. The sides and roof may be papered on the outside.

## MANAGING THE TURKEY

ALL HAVE STREAK OF WILDNESS IN THEIR NATURES.

Birds Will Not Do Well If There Is Too Much Management in Raising—Free Range Is One of Most Important Factors.

The turkey is the only one of our domestic fowls that originated in America. While the chicken has been bred up from the wild jungle cocks and hens of Southern Asia, the white men found the turkey here when they came. And the turkey has changed very little in the three or four centuries since the first Caucasian came to America.  
 Turkeys all have a streak of wildness in their natures. A turkey hen will always do better when she is allowed to steal her nest. If left undisturbed she will bring off much better hatches than if interfered with by well-meaning poultry keepers, says a Kentucky writer in Farm Progress. These wild birds resent interference, and many times I have known them to desert their nests when molested.  
 I always let them alone until after the brood has been brought off. In their wild state they are able to rear their young very well, as they run in woods and along streams where the underbrush and weeds do not interfere with them. In fields and around farm houses it is best to keep them up for a week or ten days after hatching. The young turks are not able to stand being dragged through wet grass and weeds wet with dew.  
 Anyone who understands turkey nature can make some profit from the breeding of these birds if there is room for them to have considerable range. As a bird for yards and coops the turkey is distinctly out of place. I have never known anyone to raise them successfully in confinement, and doubt if such a thing is possible.  
**Akin to Wild Turkey.**  
 The bronze turkey is very closely akin to the wild turkeys still found in small flocks in various parts of the country. When Columbus returned to Spain after his first voyage to America he took with him a few of these beautiful birds. Later voyagers took a great many of them to Spain, and from there they were taken to England.  
 The Old World has been raising these domesticated birds longer than we have, but four centuries of confinement and breeding have failed to breed all the wildness out of their natures.  
 The bronze turkey, direct descendant of the wild turkeys of tropical and sub-tropical America, is the largest of these birds now grown. The old traits of wildness, caution and a tendency to hide when about to set, are still characteristic of the bird. Some of the bronze turkeys reach a weight of 45 pounds, which seems greater than any birds of the wild varieties. Careful and selective breeding has increased the weight and deepened the colorings and plumage markings.  
 Dark eyes, coppery bronze and glistening black plumage, offset and heightened by white markings at the feather tips, are some of the most notable characteristics of the bronze turkey. The basic color of the plumage is black, and over this plays a combination of iridescent greens and coppery lights.

## HEALTH OF POULTRY FLOCK

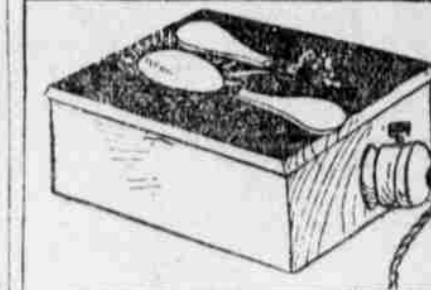
House, Roosting and Nesting Places Must Be Kept Clean and Free From All Disease Germs.

There can be no success with poultry unless the fowls are healthy, and the main assurance of health in the fowls is healthy surroundings and conditions. In the first place, the house, the roosting and nesting place, must be kept clean and free from the elements of disease. Many people now have separate places in which to make the nests for the setting hens and move them from the laying nests to the setting nests before putting under them the eggs for hatching. This is a good plan and it is not difficult when worked out with reasonable skill and judgment. In moving a hen it is necessary to confine her at her new nest for a short time, a day or two perhaps, but if she is broody she will soon accept her new nest, and the eggs may safely be given her. Be sure that setting nests are new and clean. The material used in making them should never have been used in a nest before; then a little lime sifted in the material makes it a nest safe from all the poultry pests. The laying nests, too, should be kept fresh and clean, and a little lime occasionally sifted in them is an important precautionary measure.  
 Each time the house is cleaned it should have a good treatment of lime sprinkled over the floor until it shows distinctly, and dashed or sifted into all the wall and corner crevices and on the roosts. This is scarcely equal to whitewashing, but it is the work of only a few minutes, and it is a great help.  
 The young chicks raised on the farm are expected to have much the same runs year after year. These runs are liable to become germ and disease infested, and then there is complaint of "bad luck with the young chicks." Gapes appears among them and many die without apparent cause. Early every spring such runs should be treated with a liberal dressing of lime. Let it be sown broadcast, or otherwise evenly spread all over the ground until its whiteness can be easily seen. Lime is not costly, and when it is air-slaked it does not take much to accomplish this purpose. It is a practical guaranty against many of the young chick troubles.

## ELECTRICITY TO TEST EGGS

Compact Device Patented to Take the Place of Crude Contrivances Used by Many Grocers.

A compact egg tester has been patented to take the place of the rude contrivances used by many chicken raisers and grocers. An electric light in a neat box, 6½ by 6 by 3 inches,



A New Egg Tester.

shines through two beveled-edged slots in the top. The outside of the box is covered with black felt cloth and the inside is lined with white asbestos. The strong light shining through eggs placed in the slots makes it possible to judge their quality even in daylight.

## Feed Relished by Chicks.

Give the chicks plenty of green food, sprouted oats, or tender grass, also some fine beef scraps or some raw meat cut up fine. They relish the latter and it does them much good, answering the same purpose as insects. Keep the little ones busy by feeding the ground grain feeds in the litter, and feed them four or five times daily.

## Demand for Feathers.

There is a good market for all kinds of feathers. Pick fowls dry and sort feathers, the coarse from the fine. They can easily be preserved until enough are collected to take to market.

## Supplement Nature's Food.

Nature provides food for the chicks the first 48 hours of their lives. Some poultry keepers supplement this with some fine grit and fresh water.

## HINTS FOR THE DUCK RAISER

Twenty Ducklings in a Flock Is Plenty as They Are Rather Easily Injured by Overcrowding.

Do not overcrowd the ducklings. Twenty in a flock is quite enough. Their joints are very tender and easily slipped out of place and for this reason it is not safe to keep too many in a yard. It is also a bad plan to allow other stock to run with them.  
 When frightened a fat duckling is apt to fall over on its back and if not turned over it will lie there and die as it cannot get up from that position by itself.  
 Here is a good ration for feeding young ducks: Bread soaked in milk, bran of equal quantity mixed to the right consistency with middlings.  
 Ducks must have green food of some kind, and if they cannot have a run on tender grass give them sprouted oats.  
 Don't overfeed the ducks with stuff that will swell and clog. Keep them supplied with plenty of water both night and day.