

MANURE STORAGE IS BIG PROBLEM

Not Always Convenient to Haul Fertilizer Directly to Fields for Distribution.

PLAN TO PREVENT LEACHING

No Material Loss Sustained Where Concrete Pit Is Employed—In Cases of Heating Loss of Ammonia Takes Place.

In providing for the storage of manure during the periods when it is impractical to take it directly to the fields for distribution the choice rests between some form of shed, or overhead shelter, and some kind of a pit, or reservoir. It may seem that these quite different forms of storage imply different theories in regard to handling the waste, since one leaves the manure exposed to the elements while the other shelters and shields it from rain and weather.

Temporary Storage.

In making provision for temporary storage of manure two things are sought. The first is to prevent the leaching away of soluble portions; the second is to eliminate heating in the manure pile by crowding out the air with moisture so that the bacteria which cause heating will be denied air from which they derive the oxygen necessary for their work. Both the pit and the overhead shelter accomplish the first of these. When a concrete pit is used it makes no difference whether the manure is under cover or not so far as leaching is concerned. The soluble portions cannot get away in either case. When an overhead shelter is used, there will be scant loss from leaching even if the manure is not stored upon a concrete floor, since the litter will retain the liquid portion of the excrement, while the roof overhead will keep off the rain which would cause the pile to leach.

Control Heat of Pile.

As for the second objective—that of controlling the heat of the pile—the pit is supposed, theoretically, to take care of this automatically through the rain that falls upon its exposed sur-

GIFTS FOR CHILDREN IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

Purebred Pig or Calf or Other Animal Is Suggested.

Recent Questionnaire Study of Impressed Stock Showed That Home Influence Is an Important Factor Governing Breeding.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

In selecting birthday and Christmas gifts for children in rural communities, why not give a purebred pig, calf, or other animal? This is the suggestion of the United States Department of Agriculture, which, with the various states, is conducting the "Better Sires—Better Stock" campaign. A recent questionnaire study of the utility value of pure bred live stock showed, among other results, that home influence is an important factor governing the breeding



A Club Girl and Her Prize Pig.

of superior domestic animals. In fact, it ranks in importance next to sales fairs and shows, taken collectively. When parents show their interest in good stock the children are more likely to do so.

One breeder told of receiving some purebred live stock as a wedding gift from his father-in-law. That beginning was an important influence, which resulted in an entire herd of well-bred, profitable animals, a practical influence in the couple's prosperity and happiness.

Gifts of good live stock, the department points out, are not only acceptable in themselves but with proper handling multiply and give pleasure, satisfaction, and financial benefits for an indefinite period.

BEST STORAGE OF POTATOES

Only Tubers of High Quality Should Be Put Into Cellar or Pit—Prevent Freezing.

If best results are expected by storing potatoes, only potatoes of good quality should be stored. Potatoes will not improve in storage but are more liable to go down in quality. Many storage troubles are the result of poor field conditions. Potatoes should be left in the field a few hours after digging to permit them to dry. Immature potatoes will have to be handled and watched carefully.

Potatoes may be stored in open bins in a cool cellar or buried in the ground. If stored in a cellar, they should not be piled more than a foot deep. When stored in layers deeper than this or in sacks, there is more danger of loss from decay.

Potatoes may be buried in the ground over winter. A shallow hole about 6 to 12 inches deep should be dug and lined with about two inches of straw. The potatoes should be placed in the hole and covered with straw and four or five inches of soil. Ventilation should be provided in the same manner as for storing other root crops. As the weather gets colder, place another layer of straw on top of the mound and add sufficient soil to prevent the tubers from freezing.

AVOID SOFT-SHELLED EGGS

Usually Caused by Hens Being Too Fat or Insufficient Supply of Lime Food.

The cause of soft-shelled eggs usually is that the hens are too fat or do not have sufficient food of a lime nature, or have been worried, or the oviduct is not in a good healthy condition, which may be caused by inflammation brought on by overproduction disease or injury. If fowls are too fat, starve them down, furnish them with material for shells, keep dogs, children and male fowls from chasing them, provide perches near the ground, feed lightly and use large quantities of greens and vegetables rather than grain.

MUCH ECONOMY IN BALED HAY

Convenient to Handle and Advantageous in Marketing—Practice Worth Extending.

A recent investigation shows that in some states as many as 10 per cent or more, of the farms are equipped with hay-balers and in many cases the hay that is stored and used on the farm is baled because of the increased economy in storage and the convenience in handling.

The advantages in marketing of hay and straw are the greatest advantages obtained thus far from baling. The advantages of baling the materials which are used on the place warrant considering and the practice is worth extending.

PREPARE LAND FOR ALFALFA

Desirable on Thin or Worn Soils to Green Manure, Plow Deep and Cultivate Well.

It is often desirable before seeding alfalfa on "thin" or worn land to take a year or two in preparing the soil by green manuring, deep plowing, and thorough cultivation; also liming when necessary, with the application, when possible, of manure and phosphate fertilizer.

DAIRY POINTS

BUTTER RATED FOR QUALITY

Producers Lose Much Money Because of Imperfect Conditions and Methods in Making.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

If you are a producer or manufacturer of butter, were you disappointed in the price you received for that last shipment? Quality is the chief factor in determining butter prices, and according to United States Department of Agriculture circular 236, just issued, even small defects in quality may result in the loss of a sale or a cut in price.

Several million dollars annually are lost to producers and manufacturers because of imperfect conditions and methods in production, manufacture and marketing of dairy products, the circular states. During 1920 the marginal difference in the prices of high and low quality butter amounted at times to as much as 15 cents between 57 score and 92 score. Lack of proper attention or care in the creamery in grading the cream, or in churning, working, salting or packing the butter are stated to be mainly responsible for this condition.

The circular enumerates and describes the various factors such as flavor, body, color, salt and package that influence price. These factors are given specific ratings by local and federal butter inspectors, and receivers, in determining the final score of the product, and the ratings are governed by the absence or presence of certain defects described in the circular.

It is stated that there has never been before a time in the history of American butter making when it paid so well to produce high-quality butter as during recent years. But to secure



Taking Butter From Churn.

an active demand and the largest net return not only high quality and uniformity of the product are necessary, but a knowledge of market requirements and good marketing methods are required.

Circular 236, entitled "Defects in the Quality of Butter," has been prepared so that producers and manufacturers may know precisely how butter is rated for quality in the markets, and how the defects which lower the price may be obviated. Copies of the circular can be obtained free upon request to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Influence of Breed

The breed of a dairy cow has a distinct influence on the water content of her milk. For example, Jersey milk as an average contains 14.7 per cent total solids, of which 5.35 per cent is fat, while Holstein milk contains, on the average, 11.85 per cent total solids, of which 3.42 per cent is butterfat. In other words every 100 pounds of Jersey milk contains 85 pounds of water, while every 100 pounds of Holstein milk contains 88 pounds of water. The difference in feeding value amounts to 2.61 pounds of milk solids per 100 pounds of milk in favor of Jersey milk.

There's Money in Milking.

The greatness of the dairy industry is more appreciated now than for several years past. Dairying is actually showing a gain during the past year of several hundred million dollars, while most of the other farm branches show losses into the billions.

Dairy Improvement.

Replacing the low producing cows with better ones and later with purebreds is only one of the ways in which a dairy improvement association helps a community.

Proper Feed for Calves.

After a calf is four weeks old it must have bulk in its ration, skim milk and grain will not nourish it properly. At this age the calves should have all the clover or alfalfa hay they want.

Weed Out Unprofitable Cows.

Even in the leading dairy states, probably one-fourth or more of the dairy cows fail to pay for their care and feed, due chiefly to the fact that the owners do not know which return a profit and which are "boarders."

BULL WRECKS HOME, THEN DISAPPEARS

Animal Chases Crowd of Men and Boys and Then Plays Havoc With House.

Baltimore.—A runaway bull coming from nobody knows where went on a rampage in Southwest Baltimore. Chased by a crowd of men and boys, he finally dashed into a residence, which he partly wrecked, and then disappeared nobody knows where.

The house in which he sought refuge was occupied by Lewis A. Nash and his family. The bull drove through the back door, knocking it from its hinges and crashing into a gas stove, which he pushed out of his way.

In the next room he found the family, who immediately evacuated. Going



Wrought Destruction Right and Left.

next into the front room, the invader wrought destruction right and left. He tore into the wall with his horns, ruining the wallpaper. He smashed a large mirror. Chairs and tables were upturned, vases broken, and still the marauder showed no inclination to depart.

Finally, some one entered the open back door and came up behind the bull and drove him into the street. outrunning a pursuing crowd, the animal disappeared.

PREDICTS OWN DEATH; KILLED

Guests Do Not Heed Host's Remark, Which Comes True on the Day.

New York.—Arthur Van Ohlen, twenty-five, of Little Ferry, N. J., and another man were burned by steam and suffocated to death beneath the boilers at the Continental Paper company plant in Bogota, N. J. Van Ohlen had a premonition of death the night before, when his sister was entertaining a party of friends at their home.

The party was playing cards, and Van Ohlen's sister, Helen, won two games. Van Ohlen, who had lost, leaned toward her and said laughingly, "Kiss me, sister, I'll be dead tomorrow." Others in the party gave the remark no heed, but when word of Van Ohlen's death reached his home the sister recalled it.

OWL STEALS HENHOUSE KEYS

This Occurred in the Poultry Grounds of the Oregon State Hospital for the Insane.

Salem, Ore.—Hoot owls like chicken meat and a hawk owl has a key to the henhouse at the State Hospital for the Insane. Also the owl has the key that unlocks the switch on the automobile of A. D. Zinser, superintendent of the poultry yards.

It happened like this:

Zinser heard the hoot owl hoot. He feared for the chicks. Not having a gun or a rock at hand, he took a heavy bunch of keys from his pocket, crept within throwing distance of the owl, and let drive.

The keys went wild and dropped into the grass. The owl flitted from the tree, picked up the keys, and disappeared.

Awake to Find House Is Sliding Down Hill

Wenatchee, Wash.—George A. Hauber of Peshastin and his family woke one morning to find that the whole house, together with the land surrounding it, was steadily moving down the hill and headed toward the top of an embankment several hundred feet high. Mr. and Mrs. Hauber, awakened at the same time on noticing an unusual sound, succeeded in getting the other members of the family out of the house without difficulty. The house slid on down for a distance of 150 feet and lodged in an irrigation ditch, which prevented it from going over the embankment.

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The Flavor Lasts

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There are Millions of Acres

of the highest class of soil available for the man whose object in life is to become his own landlord, and who wishes to share in the opportunity which has given wealth to the thousands of Americans who, having started on Western Canada farms with but little money, have made fortunes of their own hands.

Lands are cheap and homesteads farther from lines of railway are free to settlers. Upon these lands can be grown the best of wheat, oats, barley, flax, grass, hay, fodder, corn and sunflowers.

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For illustrated literature, maps, descriptive information, terms of payment, etc., apply to W. V. BENNETT, 300 Peter's Trust Bldg., Omaha, Neb.

Authorized Agent, Dept. of Immigration and Colonization, Dominion of Canada.

Watch Her Step.

"She called me a cat." "Let it pass." "I won't let it pass!" "Do you propose, my dear, to prove she's right?"

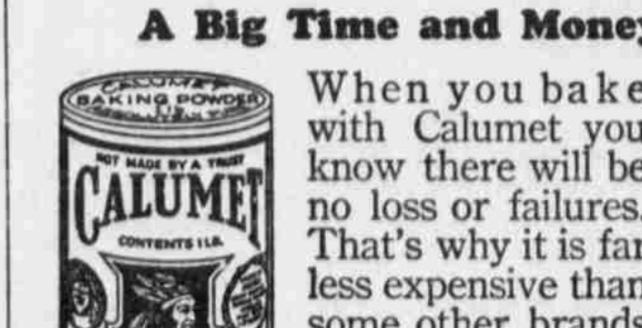
When waterways are frozen in Finland twenty passengers can be carried at a time in an inclosed ice boat that is drawn by an aerial propeller.

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