

# NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



The poor farm will grow taxes if nothing else.

Good grade draft horses are still in demand. Raise a few.

With your other planning, figure on raising a colt or two this year.

Farm folks need the smile just as much as the crops need the sunshine.

The stock market is the last place in the world where the farmer wants to venture.

Comfortable quarters for the hogs are essential to proper economy of the food ration.

Look through the vegetable bins and let the stock clean up all the small potatoes and the half-rotted apples.

The prosperity of the farmer was honestly earned, which is more than can be said for the success of some business enterprises.

The farmer must plan the work carefully and keep the farm help thoroughly busy if he is to realize a profit on the high wages he is obliged to pay.

Too small a field for the pigs will result in their soiling the clover, resulting in their not eating it so fast. It pays for the sake of the hogs to have a large field.

Why not raise a few mules? They mature younger, and can be set to hard work any time between two and three years of age, a thing you can't do with the young horse.

A good time to begin with sheep. Get a small flock and start it on pasture and you will be ready to give them good care next fall. Meanwhile plan your winter quarters.

The seed corn which was selected last fall and thoroughly dried will prove the wisdom of the farmer in the eyes of his less careful and provident neighbor when the two stands of corn of the coming season are compared.

This sounds well and we believe it is true: "Farming is a profession requiring more shrewdness than law, more technical training than medicine, more uprightiness than theology, more brains and resourcefulness than pedagogy. It is its own reward."

Yes, the cow did kick, but that was no excuse for you losing your temper and lamming her unmercifully with the milking stool. I overheard a farmer say the other day that it had cost him the profits on a cow for three days for the beating he had given the cow.

The first thing to do with the newly born lamb is to get it full of the ewe's first milk. Many a lamb's life can be saved by a little attention at this time. It often occurs that the teat becomes clogged and will not yield to the efforts of the lambkin. Lend a helping hand.

The fall-dropped colt is more convenient on the average farm than those born in the spring. Some of the horses on nearly every farm are idle all winter anyway and the mares might better be nursing colts and giving them a good start than to be eating their heads off and giving nothing in return.

To gain a week on string beans plant as early as you think safe. As soon as the plant appears place blocks or bricks four inches thick at intervals along the rows and lay down 12-inch boards alongside. Then when the danger point threatens cover the plants with the boards and you will save them.

Let the boys on the farm have some animal or plot of ground which is really their own, and then let them realize the profits to be made from them. In this way they will feel a personal interest in farm matters and will learn by practical experience the ins and outs of stock raising and farming. This will tie them to the farm as nothing else will.

Weed out the star boarders from your cow herd.

A good habit to get—cleaning out the hen house twice a week.

Don't be unreasonable. The neglected flock will not remember you.

Don't make the mistake of setting the hen until she is thoroughly broody.

It is easier to raise a good horse than to pick one up when wanted. Remember that.

Whey fed to excess may cause stiff joints in the pigs. Its feeding value is about half that of milk.

The best breed of sheep for the farmer is the one which combines a long fleece with a large carcass.

If you are keeping sheep plan on a good generous turnip crop this year. It is almost a necessity in successful sheep raising.

An Iowa man at last accounts had the corn husking record of the year, having husked 75 bushels in four hours and eight minutes.

A course at your state agricultural college will do more to interest your boy in agriculture and tie him to the farm than any other one thing.

Alsike clover is valuable on heavy soil. It is a lighter growing, finer crop than the medium red, and is shorter lived, but it will pay you to try it.

Begin some kind of crop rotation this year. Don't raise the same crop year after year on the same piece of ground. Give the ground a variety of work to do.

Don't let fine weather over head tempt you out into the field which is still too wet to work. It is bad for the soil, hard on the horses and disappointing to you.

Damp crib corn will prove a curse to many a farmer this year who deaf to the advice to select and care for his seed corn just let matters drift along in the same old way.

It has been proved from experiments that unless linseed oilmeal can be purchased at approximately as low a price as corn per pound no profit from its use with corn and clover hay for fattening lambs is to be expected.

The spoiled horse is generally the one that has been improperly trained. Careful, thorough breaking should so establish the good traits of a horse as to make the acquiring of bad habits almost impossible save where the grossest kind of mismanagement was practiced.

It is a good practice in planting an orchard to alternate the varieties, setting not over two or three rows of one sort and then something else. This will insure heavier bearing through cross-pollination of the blossoms, some sorts not being able to fertilize themselves.

Mowing the field of young alfalfa may check the weeds but it will also check the alfalfa. The ground intended for alfalfa should be so thoroughly prepared that weeds have no chance to start until after the alfalfa is well along and firmly rooted. Alfalfa that gets the right start will prove very inhospitable ground for the weeds.

Horticultural societies of other states might well emulate the example of the Indiana Horticultural society which is making a practical effort to encourage the commercial fruit industry of the state. It co-operates with the farmers' short course at Purdue university, offering cash premiums at a fruit show which is held during the course. The fruit business of Indiana is still to be developed.

It takes no more work or food to feed a 700-pounds-butter-in-a-year cow than it does to feed the one which produces but 200 pounds. Why not weed out the poorer cows and get in those which pay a good profit? A cow ought to produce at least 300 pounds of butter fat a year to make it worth while keeping her, but many a farmer is keeping cows which will not produce half that.

Get a good bull—pure-bred if you can afford it—and breed up your herd. Cornell university, New York, has just shown what can be done in this direction. A cow of ordinary grade was kept and the progeny for four generations was tested. The cow was producing 225 pounds of butter in a year. By the use of a pure-bred sire the next generation produced 275-pound cows and in the fourth generation two cows, descendants of the original one and improved sires, made an average of 450 pounds of butter in a year. This ought to settle the question as to whether pure-bred or grade animals are preferable for the dairy.

## WHEN SERVING ICES

ORANGE BASKETS MAKE A PRETTY RECEPTACLE.

Either That or Halved Oranges—How to Prepare Them—Peaches and Oranges Make an Excellent Dessert Dish.

Nothing is prettier for the table than jelly or ices served in orange baskets or halved oranges with the two sides tied together with ribbon.

One way to prepare these baskets is to draw a circle around the orange, cutting through save for an inch right in the middle of each side for a handle. Cut away the skin along each side of this handle and carefully remove the pulp of the orange from the spaces left. Throw the rinds into ice water so they will not dry out before using. Wipe carefully and fill with any mixture desired.

If one has a very sharp knife the top of the orange and each side of the handle can be cut into scallops with a good-sized circle, cut in the center of each. Or the handles can be left plain and twined with smilax or tied with a bow of paler yellow, violet or green ribbon.

By Way of Variety.—When the family rebels at having canned peaches served to them as dessert, try the experiment of combining the peaches with oranges. Drain off the juice from the peaches and sweeten it slightly unless it is already very sweet. Cut up a dozen oranges to every quart of peaches and arrange them in a glass dish in alternate rows. Sprinkle each with powdered sugar and pour over all the sweetened sirup of the peaches. Serve very cold.

To Clarify Sugar.—Put two pounds of white sugar into a saucepan and pour over one pint of cold water. When this has dissolved put the saucepan over a moderate fire. Beat the white of one egg and before the sirup becomes hot stir the egg thoroughly through. Watch it carefully and when commencing to boil remove the scum as it rises. Boil until the scum ceases to rise, then remove from the fire and either bottle it for future use, or use it at once. This will keep for a month or more if made airtight. The above is the old-fashioned method, but it is the best.

A Pleasant Variety.—Instead of passing plain crackers and cheese with salad, a pleasant change is given by having cheese straws or cheese crusts instead. The latter are small squares of bread covered with grated cheese, either cream or Parmesan, seasoned highly with salt and pepper and browned in a hot oven. Round water crackers can be substituted for the bread. These should be buttered first before the cheese is sprinkled on them.

Sauce for Boiled Celery.—Celery is a good nerve food. It should be boiled in salt water until it is tender, but not to the breaking stage. Drain it and serve it neatly with a cream dressing.

A hot lemon sauce is delicious with it, as it takes away the flat taste. Melt two tablespoonfuls of butter gradually; beat up the yolk of an egg and add the melted butter to it, cooking until it begins to thicken, when it must be removed from the stove at once. Stir in the lemon juice, a half saltspoonful of salt and a pinch of cayenne pepper, and serve immediately. Pass it in a sauce boat, if preferred, rather than pour it over the celery.

### In Lattice Work.

An attractive waist is made entirely of strips of material either woven into a lattice work and fastened at the intersections with medallions of lace or else laid diagonally across the front, alternating with bands of lace or embroidery. The pattern of the waist is first cut in brown paper and on this the material and lace are basted.

### A Good Supper Dish.

Order a can of mustard sardines. These are inexpensive and very good. Make a cup and a half of white sauce by melting two level tablespoonfuls of butter and adding the same quantity of flour. Mix well and add a cup of hot milk. Stir until thickened and well cooked, then add an egg well beaten and salt and pepper to taste. Add the sardines, which should be opened and the long bones removed. Heat thoroughly and serve.

### To Clean Chased Silver.

To eight quarts of soft boiling water add one-half pound of soda, stir until dissolved. Into this mixture dip the pieces of silver one by one, rinse in clear warm water, and dry with soft cloths. Polish with camellia. The tarnish will disappear as like magic and the silver look like new.

### Scrub Gas Stove.

Nothing is so difficult to clean as a gas range. I have tried using a small, stiff scrubbing brush with entire satisfaction.

## The Evolution of Household Remedies.

The modern patent medicine business is the natural outgrowth of the old-time household remedies.

In the early history of this country, EVERY FAMILY HAD ITS HOME-MADE MEDICINES. Herb teas, bitters, laxatives and tonics, were to be found in almost every house, compounded by the housewife, sometimes assisted by the apothecary or the family doctor. Such remedies as picra, which was aloes and quassia, dissolved in apple brandy. Sometimes a hop tonic, made of whiskey, hops and bitter barks. A score or more of popular, home-made remedies were thus compounded, the formulae for which were passed along from house to house, sometimes written, sometimes verbally communicated.

The patent medicine business is a natural outgrowth from this wholesome, old-time custom. In the beginning, some enterprising doctor, impressed by the usefulness of one of these home-made remedies, would take it up, improve it in many ways, manufacture it on a large scale, advertise it mainly through almanacs for the home, and thus it would become used over a large area. LATTERLY THE HOUSEHOLD REMEDY BUSINESS TOOK A MORE EXACT AND SCIENTIFIC FORM.

Peruna was originally one of these old-time remedies. It was used by the Menonites, of Pennsylvania, before it was offered to the public for sale. Dr. Hartman, THE ORIGINAL COMPOUNDER OF PERUNA, is of Menonite origin. First, he prescribed it for his neighbors and his patients. The sale of it increased, and at last he established a manufactory and furnished it to the general drug trade.

Peruna is useful in a great many climatic ailments, such as coughs, colds, sore throat, bronchitis, and catarrhal diseases generally. THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES HAVE LEARNED THE USE OF PERUNA and its value in the treatment of these ailments. They have learned to trust and believe in Dr. Hartman's judgment, and to rely on his remedy, Peruna.

### Doing True Work.

It is not by regretting what is irreparable that true work is to be done, but by making the best of what we are. It is not by complaining that we have not the right tools, but by using well the tools we have.—Ruskin.

### NEURALGIA

The real meaning of the word Neuralgia is nerve-pain, and any one who has suffered with the malady will not be so anxious to know of its nature as to hear of its antidote. Though scarcely recognized by the profession and people half a century ago, it is now one of the most common and painful ailments which afflict humanity. As now generally understood the word signifies an affection of the nervous system, with pain in the course of the principal nerves.

The two great causes of Neuralgia are, Impoverishment of the Blood and Deficiency of Nerve Force; and the treatment of it is not so obscure as many would be led to suppose. The first thing is to relieve the pain, which is done more quickly and satisfactorily by ST. JACOBS OIL than by any other remedy known; the second object is to remove the cause, which is accomplished by the abundant use of nourishing food, of a nature to strengthen and give tone to both the muscular and nervous systems.

The shortest and the surest way to prove a work possible is strenuously to set about it; and no wonder if that proves it possible, that for the most part makes it so.—South.

### Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces. We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

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## Imported Stallions At Lincoln

Fifty Head of Percherons, Belgians and Shires in the Barns of Watson, Woods Bros., & Kelly Co.

Nebraska stockmen should certainly appreciate this old reliable firm of importers. Our correspondent found the best lot of draft stallions it has ever been his good fortune to see. Among the lot were numerous prize winners in France, England and Belgium. We were surprised at the low prices asked for such stock. This, however, is largely explained from the fact that Mr. Watson was across the water during the late panic scare. He was the only importer that kept on buying, and of course got some bargains that they are now giving their customers the benefit of.

### Unincumbered.

In the course of an examination of a negro witness in the Jackson, Miss., chancery court a few weeks since, the attorney asked: "Are there any incumbrances on your land?" "Naw, suh," responded the witness, "nothin' but pines."—Law Notes.

The season for destructive storms is at hand. WIND and LIGHTNING will destroy and damage buildings and kill and maim stock in barns and pastures. Protect yourself by insuring them in the Nebraska Mutual Ins. Co., home office, 141 South Twelfth street, Lincoln, Neb. Write us for particulars.

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