

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



The idle hoe tells the story of a weedy garden.

There is never an overproduction of choice fruit.

Milk twice a day and milk at regular times if you would obtain the best results from your herd.

Whether it is sunshine or rain, the good dairy cow is always busy turning a profit for her owner.

Chickens in the orchard pick up thousands of insects, worms, etc., which would prove injurious to the trees and fruit.

Starved land cannot grow good crops. Provide the elements which the crop needs and harvest day will be a day of rejoicing.

Don't let the work-day drag out to 14 and 16 hours. Ten hours of field work is enough and will accomplish as much in the long run as a longer day. Try it and see.

A few days of pasturing on the stubble fields after the grain is cut and out of the way will provide considerable good feed for the stock and will be a good thing for the field.

Tile are far to be preferred to the open ditch. They cost more, but they do the work of drainage more perfectly, and do not offer the chance for the soil to wash away as is the case with the open ditch.

Don't haul your hogs in tight box wagons. The loss of one hog by overheating will more than pay for a panel rack for the wagon. Money is well-invested that provides greater comfort for the stock.

The fenced farm is the only one on which livestock can be kept and the rotation of crops followed, and as this method of farming is the only profitable one in the long run, it follows that the farm must be fenced to be handled properly.

Twenty per cent butter fat weighs 8.46 pounds to the gallon after all the air has settled from it, while the 40 per cent. weighs only 8.22 pounds. When fresh from the separator the weight is less because of the air contained in the cream.

Prevent the soil washing on your farm. Many fine fields in some of the western states have been ruined by soil washing. Some are washed so badly that they can no longer be worked with modern farm machinery. Soils that have a good supply of humus are not subject to washing, as they have a greater water-holding capacity.

Unless the stock is fed an amount over and above that which is needed for body maintenance there will be no gain. A thousand-pound steer has been found by experiment to require daily 15 pounds of timothy hay, 12 pounds of clover hay and seven pounds of corn meal just to keep on an even keel. More must be fed if there is to be any gain.

An enterprising merchant in a western town has fitted up a rest room for the wives of farmers who drive to town and who sometimes have tedious waits for the husband to finish his business and his street-corner gossip. Furnished as it is with rockers and tables on which are magazines, fashion books, etc., it is growing in popularity, and is good advertising for the merchant. Here is a hint for merchants in other towns.

Be sure that the influence of the hired help upon your boys is not harmful. You are pressed for the need of help and you take in most anybody that will give you the needed assistance, and that person may be impure in thought and deed, he may be given to vile language and delight in telling the unclean story. Do not let your boy be thrown with such a person whole days at a time. Think of the corrupt seeds which may be sown in a boy's impressionable heart, and which are almost sure to bring forth fruits of misdeeds some day.

Are the lice and mites harvesting your eggs for you?

Charcoal is appreciated by the flock. Provide it for them.

Better to plant a little in the garden and plant well than to half plant a great quantity of stuff.

A little fertilizer well placed will bring better returns than an unlimited quantity carelessly applied.

The community where the good dairy cow is in the majority is the community which is marked by contentment and prosperity.

Well-grown fruit or vegetables, well-marketed, bring a profit which the careless producer never realizes. It pays to do things right.

The draft horse is the one for the farmer to raise, because it can be done in harmony with the other interests of the farm and with the greatest profit.

Tuberculosis in cattle and scab in sheep is spread from the stock yards of the large cities by the feeders who purchase animals from the pens without proper investigation.

Never let the dead wood remain on the fruit trees. It not only provides hiding places for insect pests, but it opens the way to extending the decay into the heart of the tree.

An attachment for the corn cultivator which will replant the missing hills is said to be the invention of a handy Missourian. It fastens on the tongue of the cultivator and is worked from the seat by a string.

The farmer who leaves the machines standing in the fields where they were last used is following an expensive practice. It pays to have a tool house and after a machine is through with to clean, oil and house it.

Good pasturage and plenty of water is all that breeding stock need, but pigs which are to be marketed at six months must have plenty of grain to bring them up to the best marketable weight, about 200 pounds.

Generally speaking, the cow which has had her milk-producing capacity encouraged and developed will be very likely to transmit these traits to her progeny. Raise the heifers of your best cows and you will be on the road to improving your herd.

Don't dope yourself indiscriminately when you feel unwell. More people recover without the use of medicine than with its supposed aid. Give nature a chance and she will do more for you than all the self-prescribed medicine you can pour down your throat.

However fancy the breed of fowls may be, the front yard is no place for their yarding. Reserve the front of the house for green sward and foliage and flowers and relegate the chickens to the rear. However, keep the chicken yard and house as clean as though they were on display.

A morning feeding about eight o'clock will act as an inducement to keep the fowls around the poultry house until after the egg-laying duty has been discharged for the day. Many an egg is lost by turning the hens out early in the morning and giving them the range of the farm.

A neat sign bearing the name of the farm placed near the road so that it can be read by passersby gives character to your place. People think as they pass that the place that has an individual name must amount to something. In picking a name let some characteristic of the place receive recognition.

No one would think for a minute that he had a right to invade a bit of woodland upon a farm and carry off firewood, and why should it be thought that the wild fruit growing in such a place is any the more public property? Anything growing upon a man's land is his property, and should not be disturbed or taken without his express permission.

How often does the henhouse need cleaning? As often as it gets dirty. And by dirty we do not mean simply reeking with accumulations of droppings and filthy scratchings. No, we never saw a henhouse yet which could be kept clean short of two cleanings a week. Be faithful during the warm weather or the lice and mites will get the upper hand.

Intensive farming and extensive farming sound a good deal alike, but they are vastly different. Intensive farming means that the farmer is making the small tract pay, while extensive farming too often means that the farmer is spreading himself over so much land that none of his work is well done and his margin of profit is smaller if not wholly eliminated. Farm little and well rather than much and poorly.

STAR WASHINGTON PITCHER



WALTER JOHNSON

Pacific Coast Twirler, Secured by the Washington Club Last Year, Who is Doing Good Work in the Box for His Team.

STAR PITCHERS WORKED AGAINST MORDECAI BROWN

Rival Managers Make Big Mistake in Doing So, Believes Manager Frank Chance.

The Chicago Cubs say that the other National league clubs invariably nurse their star pitchers to oppose Mordecai Brown.

The policy of holding out the best pitcher on the staff to face Brown is one that is almost universal in the National league. It is the usual procedure in all leagues against the best pitchers, but it is a policy which Manager Chance does not entirely agree.

The Philadelphia club can be taken as an example of how that policy works out as a rule. During the recent visit of the Cubs to Philadelphia, Brown, the best of the Chicago National league club possesses, was slated to work, so Murray sent in McQuillen to pitch for the Phillies. McQuillen was vanquished, possibly not through any superior pitching on the part of Brown, but through the general superiority of the club behind him. Then Chance used his other pitchers, who again had the same advantage over Murray's "next best" that Brown held over Quillen, and the result was that Chicago kept on winning.

Had Murray sent one of his "second-class" pitchers against Brown, a game that was almost sure to be lost by the Phillies, he would still have had McQuillen in reserve to send in against those who followed the great three-fingered wonder, and the chances would have been much greater of the Phillies winning, for the general superiority of the ball club might have been partially overcome.

"This is a policy almost universal in baseball," said Chance, "but it does not strike me as being good sense all the way through. It is a different thing for me to use Brown against Mathewson, for Chicago holds, or has held for two years past, enough superior strength over the Giants to bring Brown home a winner in spite of the best efforts of McGraw's star. The result is Brown wins from 'Matty' much oftener than he loses, and the rest of our pitchers are just as strong as any McGraw can lead out.

"Now, it seems to me it would be a more far-seeing policy for a manager to save his star until our star had been used, for the chances of winning would be greater. Of course, Brown is not invincible. He is beaten occasionally, but the chances in baseball are all in favor of his success, and the defeat of the opposing star, other conditions being equal, for he is almost certain to get better backing both in the field and with the stick."

MAJOR LEAGUE NOTES

Pitcher Herbert Sylvester Sincovec, the University of Michigan twirler signed by the Cincinnati club, has joined the Reds.

The Reds will have to do more hitting if they expect to stay up near the top. They have been very weak with the stick for several weeks.

Dode Criss, the St. Louis utility player and pitcher, is leading the league with an average of .489.

Al Bridwell, the former Columbus infielder acquired by the Giants from Boston, punched McGraw for calling him names. Now he's suspended.

Jack Stahl started the season in the lead of the baserunners. On April 24 he had annexed six bases, since that time he has gathered but one.

NEW RULING ON PAY MADE BY NATIONAL COMMISSION

No Club Can Release Player Without Ten Days' Notice and Salary Goes to Same Time.

In rejecting the claim of Player Jerry F. Donovan for salary alleged to be due him from the Philadelphia National League club, the national baseball commission recently made a new rule in cases where players make claim for salary provided for in their major league contracts when they are released to minor league clubs.

The new rule provides that no major league club has a right to release a player at any time unless it gives him a ten days' notice of such release. If this notice is given ten days before the season commences the major league clubs having title to the player need not pay him any salary.

If the ten days' notice covers any part of the playing season then the major league club releasing the player unconditionally must pay him for the number of days such notice covers of the playing season, and if the player is released by a major league club to a minor league club by sale or otherwise the major league club will in such case be required to pay the player the difference in salary between ten days' pay under his major league contract and the amount the player could have earned during the time had he reported promptly to the club securing his services.

Donovan contended that he had signed a contract with Philadelphia for 1908 calling for \$300 per month, and that at the commencement of the season he was released to the Johnstown club of the Tri-State league and that the latter club offered him a contract calling for only \$200, which contract was unsatisfactory to him, and therefore he did not report to the Johnstown club. He requested that the Philadelphia club be required to pay him his salary or else give him his unconditional release.

The player's claim was rejected because the committee only had his statement that he signed a contract, while the Philadelphia club stated positively that he did not sign a contract.

"Silk" O'Loughlin is a firm believer that the baseball fans of to-day would prefer to witness a low score, great pitching and fast fielding game, than a veritable slugging bee, productive of a dozen runs or more. "The truth is," said O'Loughlin, recently, "that about two or three hard hitting big score games in a season is quite enough. These 15 to 6 games are too much like old-fashioned village three-old-cat for the red-blooded fans of to-day. The truth is, too, that the games that make new fans and bring the old ones out the next day are the 1 to 0, 2 to 1 and 3 to 2 contests in which, from start to finish, a hit or a brilliant fielding play will turn the tide of victory or defeat. The fan who declares he likes to see 'slugging' believes what he says, but he is mistaken. If it is the visiting team that is doing the 'slugging' this fan doesn't get over his madness for a week. The games that live in one's memory are the games in which both pitchers are at their best; in which the ball is all the time in play; in which the hitting is just hard enough to make sensational fielding possible, and in which a score is so close that the result is actually in doubt until the twenty-seventh out has been made on both sides." O'Loughlin sees 154 games a season and has the opportunity to test the temper of all kinds of crowds.

MEANT TO GIVE WILLIE A TIP.

But the Lady of the House Amended His Father's Instruction.

"My son," said the head of the family after he had read all the sporting news, "here is a good thing for you to remember. I give it to you out of the store of my experience. Had I understood it at your years it would have saved me a good many mistakes:

"Always notice the way your friends laugh. By their laugh you may know their character.

"The laughter of human beings is based on the vowels. If a man laughs in A—the open tone of A which is ah—then he is frank and honest, a little fond of noise and excitement, perhaps, and perhaps of a somewhat fickle disposition; but at any rate honest. You can trust him, son.

"Those who laugh in E—pronounced ay—are melancholy. Those who laugh in I—pronounced ee—are gleeful. Children most often use that tone, as do the simple, the obliging, the affectionate, the timid and the undecided folks.

"When your mother asks me if I am going to the club again and I laugh, using the ee sound, it is not because I am timid, but because I am undecided. It is well to make a note of these things.

"Those who laugh roundly in O are generous and inclined to be of a daring nature, the former of which is a good thing, son, and the latter very bad for little boys.

"Never trust a man who laughs in U. He's a scamp. The gas man laughs in U. Yes, indeed, after you grow up you will notice these things."

"Yes, Willie," said the lady of the house from the other side of the table, "remember what your father says, because to-morrow night he will want you to repeat it to company and say he told you. But for your own instruction I will tell you an easier way to pick out nice people than that somewhat complicated method mentioned by your dad.

"Notice the thing that makes men or women laugh. Never mind how they laugh or in what vowel sound they do it. Find out the thing that creates the laughter.

"If it is really a funny thing they are all right. If it is some predicament that some one else is in or some idea that is not kindly or gentle then they are not all right. And, Willie, it is about time you went to bed now."

"No woman ever did have a sense of humor," remarked the head of the family of the family as he went out and silently closed the door after him.

Magnesia Preserves Teeth.

One who has tried the experiment says that if the teeth are thoroughly brushed at night the last thing before retiring and a piece of magnesia the size of a flbert taken into the mouth and chewed so as to bring it in contact with all of the teeth at all points it will prove of great advantage.

"The magnesia not only corrects the acidity of the mouth, but forms by some chemical action not fully understood a coating over the enamel, which remains over night and protects the teeth from any injury from the stomach acids. It also assists in preventing the recession of the gums, which is such an unpleasant trouble.

Brushing the teeth with a six part solution of dioxide of hydrogen is extremely advantageous. A few drops of myrrh used daily to brush the teeth is an old and favorite corrective of bad breath and decay.—Health.

A Freak Rose Bush.

W. R. Wilson, the president of the Huntingdon (Pa.) borough council, has an oddity at his home on Mifflin street in the form of a perfectly white rose blooming on a rose bush which has borne only red roses and on which all the other flowers now blooming are red.

The rose is a climbing Rambler, and about eight feet from the ground up the side of the house the one perfectly white rose has grown, standing out prominently among the red ones surrounding it.

He Would Return.

"Fifty dollars is the price," said the magistrate, "and I hope, sir, never to see you here again."

"Never to see me here again? Why, you're not resigning, are you?"

And with a nonchalant laugh Tooring-Karr threw a crisp \$50 bill to the clerk, entered his waiting 90-horse-power racer and set out to break another speed law.

Resilient Support.

"I might have known that Bubkins would come out as an advocate of elastic currency."

"Why so?"

"Because he is such a bouncer."

Want the Practical.

Preaching optimism is, of course, well enough, but those who are out of work would be better satisfied with something a little more practical.—Buffalo Commercial.

Summer Frivoly.

"What will the program at the educational convention at Ocean City embrace?"

"I don't know, but if I am consulted, I say all the pretty teachers."