

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS

THOSE KICKING COWS

Not long ago a dairyman got kicked by one of his cows and, being human and like so many of us, he immediately proceeded to give that cow "a good lesson." It so happened, and it almost always does, that the dairyman got a lesson, too, when he thumped that cow over the back with the milk stool. The lesson was about as follows: In September, this cow had produced 41 pounds of butterfat. The cow kicked him while the cow tester was on the job. Both the milk yield and the fat for that milking were down, and the milk yield stayed down for a few days. The result was that from 41 pounds in September the cow dropped to 27 pounds in October. In November, when the dairyman and his cow had again made truce, the yield climbed back up to 37 pounds of butterfat. It cost this dairyman some money to "give his cow a lesson." Long finger nails poked into the cow's teats by an unthoughtful milker probably don't feel especially well. Sometimes teats become cracked or sore from various causes. The cow's reaction is to resent being hurt by the milking process, and she kicks. Occasionally there is a cow that just seems to kick because she likes to. The solution there seems to be to purchase one of these devices to prevent cows from kicking, or use the cow's legs together. Still another solution seems to be to use a milking machine, for seldom does one find a cow that dislikes being milked with a machine if it is properly operated.

SELF FEEDING SWINE

The best measure of a feeding standard for swine, or of a method of feeding, is to be found in the quantity of feed required for 100 pounds gain, the daily rate of gain and the time required to bring weaning pigs to market weights. To determine whether one standard or method is better than another, one must make comparisons of the results obtained under the two or more methods of feeding. No better illustration of this is to be found than from a summary report of several feeding trials in which full-feeding pigs by hand was compared with full-feeding similar pigs by the use of self feeders. The data to be reported cover eight feeding trials involving 16 groups and 103 pigs. The ration fed was corn and tankage plus rape, alfalfa, bluegrass, timothy, or red clover pastures. Shelled corn was fed in all but one trial and in this one trial ear corn was fed. In all but one trial the pigs were carried to approximately 220 to 225 pounds weight. The pigs in the groups that were self-fed averaged 46.9 pounds at the beginning of the feeding period. It took 134 days for them to reach an average weight of 222 pounds. The gain made required 380.05 pounds concentrates plus pasture for 100 pounds of gain. The pigs that were full-fed by hand averaged 47.7 pounds at the beginning of the feeding period. They required 147 days (13 days more) to reach 220.6 pounds average weight. They required 394.81 pounds of concentrates (14.76 pounds more) plus pasture for 100 pounds gain. Not counting other advantages of self feeding, over hand feeding—giving the pigs an opportunity to help themselves at all times—resulted in a saving of 13 days' time, and of nearly 15 pounds feed for each 100 pounds gain. But these pigs were fed on pasture. Let us compare the two methods of feeding with pigs under dry lot conditions. Two experiments in which the self fed pigs averaged 47.1 pounds, and the hand fed, full fed pigs averaged 46.9 pounds at the beginning of the feeding period, show that the self fed pigs put on 1.36 pounds daily per pig, whereas the hand fed pigs put on only 1.16 pounds per pig. The former required 409 pounds feed and the latter 439 pounds feed for 100 pounds gain. These data show that self feeding swine put on more gain in less time with less feed than does hand feeding to the limit of full feeding. While self feeders are by no means automatic in their operation, their use involves considerably less labor than in feeding swine by hand. Self feeding swine has become popular and is today the established practice among those who have given the method a fair trial. It is interesting to note the comment on this method of feeding by several well known swine feeders and experiment station workers. Self feeding swine is not a foolproof automatic method. The operator must do certain things if he is to get better results than from good hand feeding. The feeds offered must be of such kinds and palatable so that the pigs, in making their free choice, will consume the feeds in such proportions as to give them nutrients in the right proportions for their needs. In other words, if either the kinds of feed or the palatability of them are such that the pigs cannot or do not make the proper selection for a well balanced ration, the results will not be satisfactory. If the supplemental, high protein feed, or mixture of such feeds, is not palatable, the pigs will eat too much of the carbonaceous feeds for rapid gains; or, if the reverse is true the pigs will eat too much of the high priced, high protein feeds for cheap gains. It has been aptly stated that "the hog is a physiologist, not an economist; he eats to suit himself, and corn at 35 cents and corn at \$3 look all the same to him." It is important to mention that weaning pigs require more protein than do feeder shotes, say those weighing 150 pounds or more. We must not forget that self feeders are subject to mechanical difficulties under various conditions that keep them from operating perfectly at all times. They must be looked after and kept in good working order. Those who have not tried the self feeding, free choice method of feeding swine will find it a means of making more money from their feeds and from their labor.

GET PULLETS IN

It never pays to leave the pullets out on the range too late in the fall, especially as many are apt to be roosting outdoors in the trees. From now on we get cold nights, and it does not take much damp, wet weather to throw maturing pullets into bad colds, with roup and allied infections. They are better off, even if not fully matured, in good, well-ventilated laying houses where they can be properly fed and handled. The pullet flock should be gotten into laying condition by the middle of October and laying heavily by the first of November. When housing pullets we have found it desirable to handle the birds along the following lines: Each pullet should be banded with a sealed leg band with raised numerals, so that her identity may be clearly established. Next, if there is any chance of the birds being let out-of-doors, especially if they are of the active Mediterranean breeds, they should be fly and mix up one pen with another, the primary flight feathers on one wing should be clipped off about one inch from where they grow out of the wing. This will keep the birds in their own yards. Next, to insure freedom from body lice, as the birds are caught each one should be treated with blue ointment, or mercuric ointment, made by mixing equal parts of the former and vaseline, and rubbing a small particle well into the feathers around and below the vent. One application of blue ointment will keep the birds free from body lice for six months or longer. In the case of most ranges and most pullets there is some infestation of intestinal worms present when they are placed in winter quarters. We have found it feasible to treat the pullets with iodine vermicide when they are placed in the houses. This not only kills worms and worm eggs, but acts as a distinct tonic. Lastly, before the birds are released it is wise to draw a blood sample from the wing and subject it to the agglutination test for B. W. D., eliminating reactors, or isolating them in separate flocks, purely for egg production. If only vigorous well developed birds are housed, the pullet flocks should prove profitable even under the rather discouraging egg price conditions now prevailing.

FATTENING RANGE TURKEYS.

The plump, fat turkey is bringing premium enough over the range-fed bird to pay turkey raisers to fatten their flocks and keep all birds till they are prime. The dealers agree that the demand for quality in turkeys is increasing each year. The United States department of agriculture is helping turkey raisers, and dealers understand just what a prime turkey is by holding a grading school in the center of the turkey-growing region, early this month. The ideal, or United States prime A-1 grade turkey, should be a young, fine-grained, soft-meated bird with a broad, full-fleshed breast and its back, hips and pin bones fully covered with fat. The breast bone must be straight and feathers well grown, as many pin feathers spoil the looks of the carcass. Start out the fattening of the flock by giving an evening feed of grain in small quantities at first, but rapidly increasing the quantity till you are feeding all the flock will clean up. The market flock can also be induced to increase its mash consumption by moistening some of the mash commonly kept before them and feeding this in the forenoon. Feed troughs must be kept clean. Moistening the mash with milk will add to its palatability and to its food value. A good fattening mash may be made up as follows: Fifty five pounds of corn feed meal, 20 pounds of wheat middlings, 14 pounds of ground oats, 10 pounds of meat scraps, 1 pound of salt. Skim milk or buttermilk makes a very satisfactory substitute for the meat scraps; but if used, it is advisable to add about 3 per cent bone meal. Commercial fattening mash is very satisfactory for the market flock.

GRAIN WITH ROUGHAGE

On a good many dairy farms the winter supply of roughage is not of as good quality as under normal crop years. There is a shortage of legume hay for which other less desirable roughage must be substituted. Dairy cows do not eat large quantities of roughage they do not like. While it is advisable to do everything within reason to make substitute roughage more palatable, in most cases it will be necessary to make slight adjustments in the rate of feeding grain. In doing this, however, the price of milk and the cost of grain are very important factors, so much so that keeping production records is going to be a necessity if many farmers avoid losses. With a poor quality of home grown roughage, a high price for good roughage that may be purchased, and only a very ordinary price for milk, dairy farmers can not afford to retain poor producers in the herd.

FATTEN YOUR PULLETS

Much of the success in getting a maximum egg yield from the pullet flock, at the same time keeping the birds in good weight and flesh, depends upon feeding. The pullets, if given nothing but a concentrated laying mash and scratch feed, will lay heavily, but will cease to gain in weight or even lose weight, ultimately going to pieces. This can be prevented and the pullets will continue to gain in weight well into the new year. In addition to their dry mash and scratch feed they are fed each day a fattening mash. An excellent mixture has long been used at the New Jersey egg-laying contest, being fed in open troughs

Atlanta Justice Learns Of His Appointment



Samuel H. Sibley, of Atlanta, pictured in Federal Court, Atlanta, Ga., after he had been apprized of his appointment as United States Circuit Court judge in the Fifth District Court of Appeals. Judge Sibley has been on the Federal bench for the Northern District of Georgia for thirteen years.

Joe Robinson's Spats Cause Capital Furore



If Senator Joseph T. Robinson (above) wants to wear spats to keep from getting cold feet he's going to keep right on wearing 'em, he has told dress fanatics at the capital.

Bright Hues Adorn Stylish Sports Mode



This spectator sports suit, in white crepe and bright blue, embroidered with blue and white rose designs, is one of the most popular sports modes of this season.

North Dakota State Capitol Burns



The seat of government in Bismarck, N. D., going up in flames. Official records of all departments, dating back to the days before statehood, were destroyed with the forty-six-year old building.

Just By Way of Diversion



Professor Albert Einstein, famed German scientist, is also master of the bow, and this art, too, he taught himself. Here's an unusual view behind the scenes of his public life.

French Actress Resigns But Changes Her Mind



Mme. Cecile Sorel, famous French actress, tendered her resignation to the Comedie Francaise, Government-owned theatre in Paris. But directors called the star before them a few hours later and persuaded her to withdraw it. No explanation was given of why Mme. Sorel wanted to sever her connections with the company.

It's a Big World



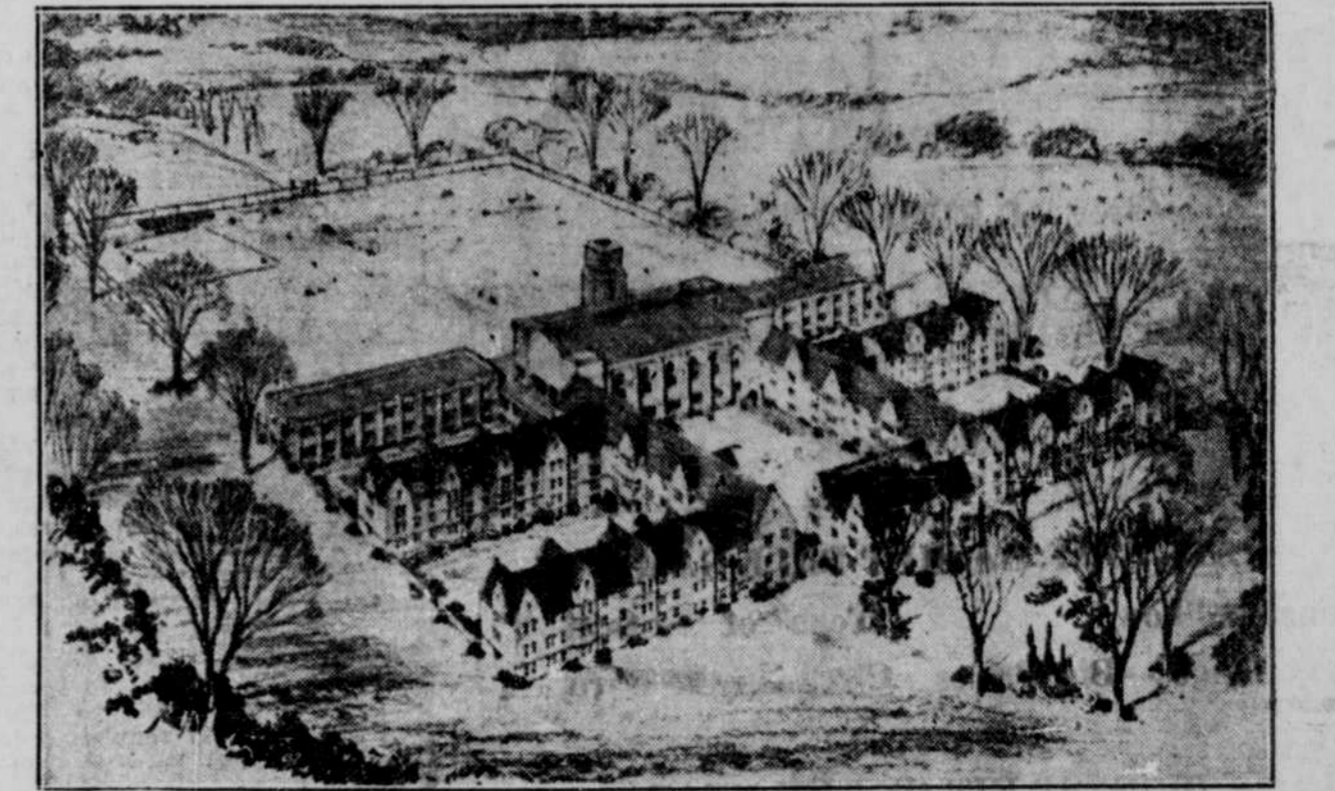
By means of this 50-foot Michelson-Pease interferometer, Dr. F. G. Pease (above), of Mt. Wilson Observatory, Cal., has measured gigantic stars as large as 400,000,000 miles in diameter.

Recalled Because She Loves Nice Things



Alexandra Kollontay has lost her job as Soviet Ambassador to Sweden. Reds didn't like the style in which she lived in Stockholm.

Type of Prisons Urged for N. Y. State



Architect's drawing shows new type of prison suggested by special commission appointed to solve problems caused by overcrowding and other conditions which have led to serious outbreaks in the past few years in New York State prisons. Prisoners who were not of the hardened type would be kept here in rooms instead of in cells.