

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS

TRAP NESTS PROFITABLE

Trap-nesting was never more profitable than it is today. With moderately high feed costs and low egg prices, it is essential that the cull hens be eliminated and that the heavier producers be selected for reproduction purposes. It is not necessary to operate trap-nests throughout the year unless we wish to make an official record. For all practical purposes, there are two factors which determine in large measure the production value of a hen. These are the intensity of production and the rhythm or cycle of production. Intensity might well be described as the number of eggs which a hen lays on continuous days. For instance, some hens will lay two eggs and skip a day, two more eggs and skip a day. Some hens will lay five or six eggs and skip a day, and maintain that rhythm for some time, while the mediocre hen lays only every other day or three times a week. Obviously the hen which lays for the longest period without skipping a day is the heaviest producer, not only for a given period but in totals which are for the entire year. Rhythm or cycle is the persistence with which she repeats her given intensity, week after week. Some hens show a broken rhythm with no pronounced regularity in production. Trap-nests, if operated for two or three months during the winter and early spring, will determine the intensity and rhythm of the individual birds. The operation of trap-nests during the next four or five months will also enable the poultryman to leg-band and weed out those birds which are persistently broody. Intelligent use of trap-nest records by the breeder means a lot in increased efficiency and production. If trap-nests are not already in use they can well be started before the first of the year and operated through to June. They make possible pedigree hatching and breeding, and to rearing of chicks of known parentage.

DUCK FOOT CULTIVATOR.

An occasional fallow, as one year of fallow followed by two or three years of wheat, has been recommended by the agricultural experiment stations for many years for the western part of the hard red winter wheat region. The experiment stations and farmers who have used the method have found it to be a practical means of stabilizing their wheat production and of reducing costs. One of the chief factors that has prevented a more general adoption of the method has been the tendency of the soil to erode by wind or water during the period when the land is not covered by a crop. This tendency has been fairly great in the past because disk-type implements have been used to cultivate the fallow. With the introduction of the duck-foot-type cultivator into this region the soil may be managed in such a manner as to greatly reduce the tendency to erosion. The duck-foot cultivator is used to keep the land free of weeds during the summer months. It may be set to cultivate shallow and will form a ridged condition on the surface of the field and will leave the clouds on the surface. Both of these conditions are very desirable, because they will aid in checking soil blowing and will permit of more rapid penetration of rainfall into the soil and thus check surface runoff. In the preparation of the fallow the land may be disked in the spring as soon as the first growth of weeds appears and should then be plowed or listed during May or the first of June. The cultivation from June until seeding time may then be done to best advantage with the duck-foot, but on listed land the ridges must first be worked down.

DOES THIS HIT YOU?

It seems that if the farmer is to continue in business, he will have to adopt modern business methods, says a farmer who is looking for the real light. How many farmers know how much it has cost them to produce what they have for sale? Not one in a 1,000, and probably not one in 10,000. How long would a manufacturer of shoes or automobiles, or anything else, be able to stay in business if he did not know the exact cost of the article which he offers for sale? Then there is the problem of the surplus. I believe that the surplus will be reduced as soon as the farmers start accurate cost accounting. If I am selling milk that I know costs me \$3 per hundred to make, and getting \$1.50 per hundred for it, I will not be anxious to increase my business. One way to control the surplus is to reduce the hours of labor. That is the way that the manufacturers do it. The average dairy farmer works 12 hours a day. Why not go on the popular 8-hours-per-day schedule of our city cousins, at least until this surplus disappears? The farmer needs to learn two things: First, an adequate system of cost accounting; second, to play golf. When he learns and does these things he will become a self-supporting, self-respecting member of society. Until then, he will be the symbol of hard luck, and the chronic whiner for relief that he is today.

SILAGE OR FODDER

Silage or fodder—which will it be for wintering beef calves? There's an answer in the calf wintering experiment conducted last winter. Seven lots of calves were fed the following rations: Lot 1, shelled corn and alfalfa (both full fed); Lot 2, shelled corn (3 pounds) and alfalfa (full fed); Lot 3, silage full fed and alfalfa (3 pounds); Lot 4, silage (full fed) and cottonseed cake (1 pound); Lot 5, ground corn fodder (full fed) and alfalfa (3 pounds); Lot 6, ground corn fodder (full fed) and cottonseed cake (1 pound); Lot 7, ground corn fodder

CUTTING HAY BILLS

So far as feeder cattle are concerned it is possible to cut their hay bill in half by grinding all their hay. If we are to take the word of any number of Western farmers who follow this practice. And this ground hay is fed in mixture with the grain, which amounts to another saving in the form of time and labor. One farmer who reduces the roughage by the feed mill process uses an electrically driven mill. "I mix the ground hay right in with the grain while I grind," he says, "and find this plan no extra trouble. Besides, mixing the ground hay and grain prevents the alfalfa

(full fed), alfalfa (3 pounds), and cottonseed cake (1 pound). At the end of the 135-day period (November 30 to April 14) the figures showed that the feed costs per 100 pounds of gain were considerably lower in lots 5 and 6 than in any of the other lots—\$3.89 and \$3.57 respectively in these two lots. In lot 7 the cost was \$7.22; in lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 the costs were \$3.17, \$3.13, \$3.16 and \$7.33 respectively. Feed cost per head in lots 1 to 7 ran as follows: \$23.84, \$14.43, \$15.76, \$18.44, \$11.14, \$12.19, \$13.76. Lots 5 and 6 had considerable advantage. Estimated profit per head for lots 1 to 7 were as follows: \$3.69, \$3.10, \$3.67, \$6.47, \$5.84, \$7.68, \$3.92. The margins per hundredweight for the seven lots, 1 to 7, were: 25 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents, 25 cents, 75 cents, 75 cents and \$1. It cost per ton to grind the fodder (run through knife and burrs and ground fine enough to crack the kernels) \$1.33 per ton with electric motor and \$1.34 with tractor.

FARM INCOME

The dollars that come to the farm do not represent the farm's entire income. In the attempt to make farming more profitable, as measured by bookkeeping, we rather lose sight of remuneration which belongs to the farm that can not be measured in dollars and cents. It is well enough for the United States Department of Agriculture to study land utilization and the farm problem, to advise the production of crops in keeping with market demands, to urge a certain amount of land be planted to forestry, and the like, but it should also point out the compensation that is peculiar to the farm. The farm can never be placed upon the same basis as industry if the individual farmer is maintained. Through corporation farming this might be accomplished, but we find no one who has given serious thought to farm life who desires to see the farm industrialized. Every thinking man recognizes that the contributions the farm makes to the development of men and women, the opportunity it gives for doing things that bring satisfaction, and its independent life are all compensating factors. All are in full sympathy with doing everything humanly possible to bring sufficient returns to the farm that there may be enjoyed in the farm home the same luxuries as are provided in the city. The farm, however, is more than an institution for making money. It provides for a mode of life which no other industry permits. The farmer who gets a right vision of his job gains pleasure by making his acres more productive, by handling his soil so that it leaves it richer than he found it, for he is but a custodian of the soil. He gains the deepest kind of satisfaction in the breeding of his farm animals. He has opportunity to increase their beauty and production and adaptation to his requirements. The exercise of our ingenuity, the consummation of a job well done, brings the greatest compensation to individuals. The accumulation of money for money's sake has never brought happiness, but on the contrary much discontent. If a boy can become interested in the breeding of a good herd of dairy cows, his enjoyment is secured for all time for he never will arrive at the state of perfection or the time when he can not do more. The rich man who has accumulated his millions can not have this enjoyment because there is nothing that he can purchase that brings him enjoyment; nothing that he can do with his money that will give him the satisfaction that comes to the man who is developing better live stock, better crops, and more productive fields.

SOWS NEED EXERCISE

Winter weather—frozen ground and snow—enforces a restriction of exercise among swine. It has been demonstrated that the results from one class of swine may be unsatisfactory because of lack of exercise. We refer to the pregnant sow. This does not mean that she should be chased about daily throughout the winter. It does mean, however, that she should not be kept continuously in a small pen with scarcely enough room in which to turn around. Pregnant sows should not be forced to wade through deep snow, nor to slip and slide around on a glare of ice, yet they should not be served their meals in bed like some lazy people are said to do. Reasonable and regular exercise is best for pregnant sows. It will make their pigs stronger and better.

LESS PROTEIN FOR SHOATS

Late spring or early summer pigs need considerable finishing before they will reach desirable market weights. With an eye to economy in making pork it is worth while to suggest here that the protein content of the ration may be somewhat reduced during the finishing period provided the ration has carried enough of this nutrient up to the beginning of the finishing period. As proof of this we cite the fact that where pigs are carried through from weanlings to market hogs self-fed on a ration of corn and tankage, they will eat considerably less of the tankage in proportion to corn during the 150 to 200 pound period than for the same amount of gain previous to that time.

USES FOR WAGON HOIST

Farm machinery can be made to return more per dollar expended if it is put to more uses than those intended. For instance, the wagon hoist of a portable elevator can be used to lift the motor out of a car and hold it in a handy position while repairs are being made. Again, the hoist comes in handy in raising machinery so that it may be loaded on a truck bed. It can be used in changing wagon boxes for a convenience at butchering times.

from blowing about the feedlot and insures that the cattle will get the right proportions, since they cannot pick and choose between hay and grain." Last winter he fed out 350 head of cattle and used not more than 20 tons of alfalfa. More and more the hay for the cattle is being ground, as any survey of the West will reveal, for in that way it takes less and rations that must include hay can be accurately balanced.

LEST YOU FORGET

Do not take chances of letting your tractor freeze—if in doubt, drain it. Several dollars and considerable time may be saved.

Men Vote Her Best In the United States



Miss Jean Jamison has been voted "the most beautiful and the most intelligent co-ed in the United States" by men students of Stanford University.

Lita Grey Chaplin Kidnaped at Stage Door



Lita Grey Chaplin (above) and Georges Carpentier, fighter, were kidnaped by four bandits outside a theatre in the Bronx, New York City, taken for a short ride, robbed of \$16,000 worth of jewelry and set free.

Broadway Star Shares In Father's Estate



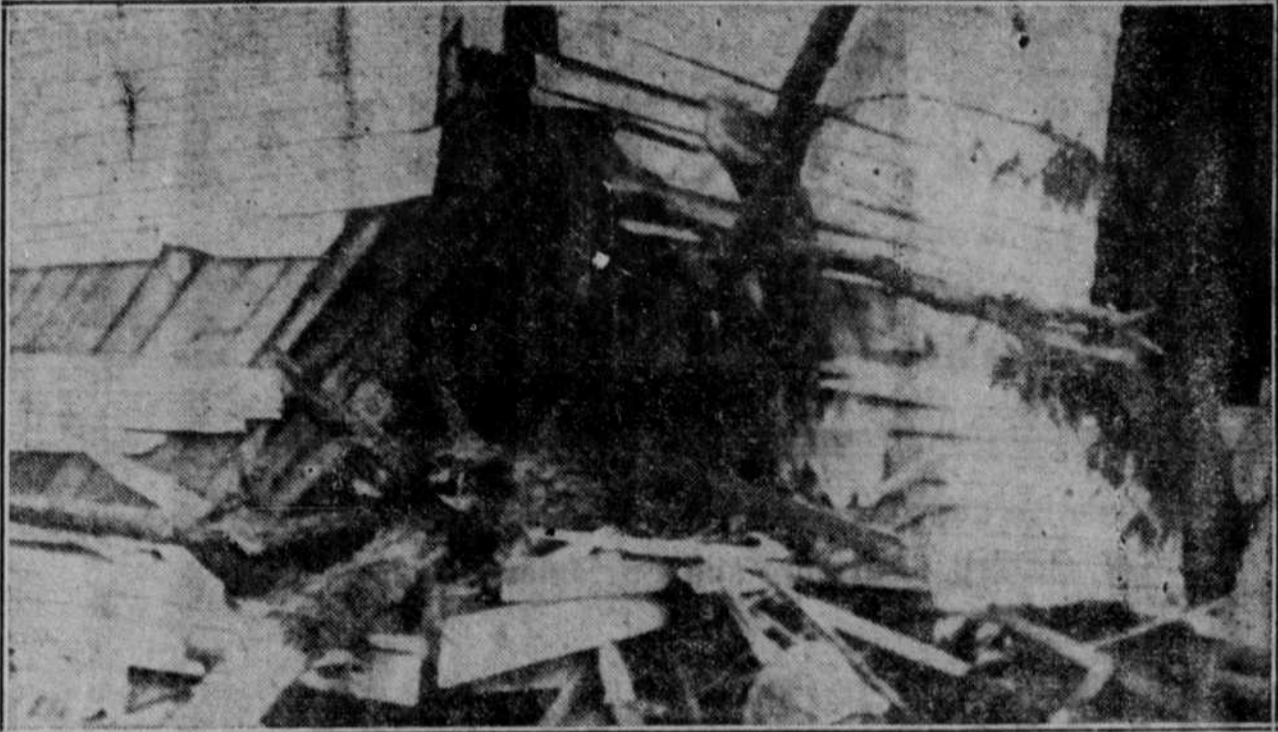
Miss Helen Gahagan, young dramatic star, will share in the \$1,315,000 estate of her father, Walter Gahagan, head of a contracting company, who died a few weeks ago.

Just a Friend of Accused Banker



Mary Curran, "just a friend" of John Malloy, "playboy" cashier of the Chicago bank where she worked—and where Federal officials charge he embezzled.

Twister Strikes North Carolina Home



This unusual picture of tornado wreckage shows a tree that had been torn up by the roots and driven into the side of a house at Wise, N. C., when twisted at stake, killing six.

Ends Her Long Exile



Nothing but work! Tallulah Bankhead, Alabama girl and London's favorite actress, is on her way home after eight years abroad. It won't be a vacation, however, for she begins film work the day after her arrival.

Back to Style of Thirty Years Ago



Shades of 1900 are reflected in this brocaded evening gown. This fitted shoulder mode is again becoming immensely popular.

Pope Assails Divorce And Trial Marriage



The full power and authority of the Roman Catholic Church were invoked by Pope Pius XI (above) to uphold the sanctity of Christian marriages and to stamp out birth control, "companionate" marriage and divorce.

Beach Comber's Haul



Found at Coney Island Ave., and the boardwalk, Brooklyn, N. Y., where it had been left for bootlegger's truck, a huge store of assorted booze filled a room at Coney Island police station.

Army Truck Battles Bus in Washington



More than twenty passengers were injured when a large Army truck crashed into this bus in business section of Washington. After striking the bus, the truck plowed into a car parked at the curb. None of the riders were severely injured.