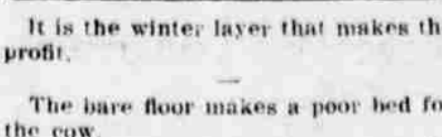


NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



It is the winter layer that makes the profit.

The bare floor makes a poor bed for the cow.

Watch the young trees. Do not let the field mice or rabbits gnaw them.

In feeding hogs devise a system by which every animal will get an even show.

Shake up the cow's bedding every day and remove all the lumps and wet straw.

Watch your flock and be sure and pick out all the hustlers for the breeding pens.

Steady diet of corn is not a good thing for the colts. They need more bone-making food.

Plan to have a good garden this year. It will bring health to the family and will save you money.

Don't cut off a limb unless you have a good reason for doing so. Poor pruning is almost worse than no pruning at all.

The pigs like to be comfortable as well as the rest of the stock. Provide plenty of good clean straw, and see that there are no drafty cracks in the pens to worry them.

Ventilation through a muslin-curtained window and ventilation via the numerous cracks and crevices makes just the difference which there is between well and sick chickens.

If the horses you are using on the road have not been sharpshod yet, attend to the matter at once. It is easy for the horse to strain himself and sustain an injury which is more costly than many times the cost of getting him fixed for the slippery road.

If you are shy on scratching room for your hens try the plan of utilizing one of the sheds where the wagons stand. On nearly every farm there is a shed of this kind which could be fixed up as a scratching place for the hens on days which were too cold for them to get out.

As long as the demand for buggies keeps up—one million are made every year—there must be horses to draw them. Remember that when told that the auto is going to put the horse out of business, don't be afraid to raise good horses. There is always a demand for them.

A good syrup for the hot cakes in winter is made as follows, if you see this before the wife does, tell her about it: To one cupful of sugar, granulated or brown, but preferably the latter, take a half cupful of cold water. Put into a glass jar a day or so before the syrup is needed for use, and stir it occasionally with a spoon. If the cover is tight, it may be shaken instead. A little vanilla may be added if it is liked for a change. This is much less work than the old cooking process, tastes just as well, and does not "go back to sugar."

The growing of nut trees is increasing in favor. You ought to have a few on your farm. There is an increasing demand for nuts of all kinds from the coconut down. This increase is due in the main to two causes, namely, a better appreciation of their appetizing qualities and the numerous ways in which they form a palatable addition to the diet of the average family, and, secondly, to their use by the vegetarians and persons of similar belief—a group small in proportion to the total population, but still fairly large numerically—who use nuts and more particularly the peanut, as a substitute for meat and other nitrogenous and fatty foods.

Here is a story about a goose which goes to prove that the goose is not always as much of a goose as some folks are disposed to think. It was printed in the Farm Journal. Whether it is vouched for by that paper as the truth, and not a nature-fake story, we are not able to say. But here is the story: "A man who drives to town almost daily with a light spring wagon ran over a goose in the road, the front wheel going over the middle of his neck. Just as the goose had his head at the right point the second wheel went over that. The driver looked back to see a dead goose, but he was standing straight up, with his head running off his neck, looking after the buggy in a rather disconcerted manner. The goose evidently came to the conclusion that he had been wronged, and planned a revenge. The second evening after the accident, the goose, lying in wait in a fence corner, came forth, and flew at the horse, putting up a strong fight."

Feed your stop at noon, the main ration morning and night.

Pullets who have not already begun to lay will not begin now until spring.

Open up an account with the hens. See whether they are giving you a square deal.

As a general rule, sticking to one breed of chickens is better than trying a half-dozen different varieties.

Calves dropped during the cold days of winter should be blanketed to protect from sudden changes of temperature.

The dust bath for the hens. Place the box in the sunny exposure in the henhouse. My, how they will enjoy it on bright days.

A pig that is in constant fear of the boss of the herd will not be thrifty. See to it that there is not too much bullying among the herd.

A dry bran sack makes a poor thing to brush the cow's udder off with. It raises the dust and doesn't clean the udder. Use a damp cloth.

The fellow who is always doping chickens to prevent their getting sick is pretty apt to have sick chickens that sure do need medicine.

No methods are so perfect as to need no readjustments or changes. Are you sure you are managing your flock to the best advantage?

Corn gets monotonous as a steady diet, and hogs will become unthrifty where the ration is not varied. Try some of the silage for the hogs, if you have it.

It is a good thing to separate the pigs into lots of six or seven according to size and strength. They will be easier to feed and will thrive better for so doing.

A circular piece of tin strung through its center on each end of the line from which the seed corn, bag of nuts or dried fruit is hung in the attic will keep rats or mice from reaching them.

Where too many pigs are kept in one pen they are apt to pile one upon the other, causing the under ones to become overheated. This leads them to get to the outside to cool off, which causes colds.

Last thing at night after the hens have gone to roost throw some wheat into the litter so that madam hen will get busy first thing in the morning before you have time to get around to feed them, and will warm up over the search for the tempting morsels.

If the plants have been in the house window-box long enough to fill it with roots, fertilizer must be applied either in the form of bone-meal or rotted manure, or preferably, by the addition of weak liquid manure. This should only be applied when the plants indicate their need by a check in growth. Such a plan should afford satisfaction.

Scours in calves fed on skim milk is caused by indigestion brought on, as a rule, by over-feeding, but also by feeding skim-milk in poor condition and from dirty pails. Every feeder of skim-milk to calves must sooner or later learn this lesson. He must learn that if the calf has the scours the feeder is not doing his work right. In the case of scours, reform your system of feeding instead of purchasing the many remedies advertised, and in dairy farming one of the important qualifications is the learning not only of making but saving money.

Wrap the young trees with building paper or with wood veneer if you would provide the most effective protection against mice and rabbits. Various paints and washes have been recommended to prevent such attacks but the majority of them are without merit, and some of them are even liable to kill young trees. Some of the washes require renewal after every hard rain. In experiments with a wash of whale-oil soap, crude carbolic acid and water, for apple trees, it was found that in about 48 hours the carbolic acid had so far evaporated that mice renewed their work upon the bark. Blood and grease, said to give immunity from rabbit attacks, would invite the attacks of field mice.

The discussion as to the merits of the low-headed fruit tree over the fruit tree that is trimmed to grow high still continues. It would seem, however, that the low-headed tree has the advantage over the high-headed one in that it is easier to prune, spray, graft or bud, gather fruit from and is about as easy to cultivate. It would seem as though nurserymen ought to take the lead in advocating low-headed trees, and those who propagate, advertise and push the sale of such trees will reap the reward. A nursery tree should have only those limbs within one foot of the ground removed, instead of being mutilated and "bean potted" four feet from the ground. If the tree remains in the nursery the second year the "leader" should be topped at about two and one-half feet and the side branches be cut back to perhaps four inches; this is the proper way to form foundation branches for apple, pear, and plum trees. With peach trees which are always dug when one year old or less, the side branches should never be taken off in the nursery. They should be left for the fruit grower to develop into low-headed trees.

The Apostles Imprisoned

Sunday School Lesson for Feb. 14, 1909
Specially Arranged for This Paper

LESSON TEXT.—ACTS 5:17-32. Memory Verse, 19, 20.

CHILDREN TEXT.—Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.—Matt. 5:10.

TIME.—Immediately after the last lesson. The exact date is unknown, but between A. D. 30 and 33.

PLACE.—Jerusalem; the preaching was in one of the porticoes of the outer court of the temple. The trial was in the hall of the sanhedrin, on the temple hill "between the portico and the temple."

Comment and Suggestive Thought. After the experience of the apostles with Ananias (our last lesson), there was such an increase in the numbers and influence of the church, so many good deeds were wrought, so many of the sick were healed, so widely prevailed the new teaching, that the whole community was stirred, and even the rulers felt the power and the danger to their position and influence.

Their reasons for opposing the Gospel were all reasons why they should have favored it. 1. The lessening of their influence and the loss of prestige was what ought to take place when the rulers ruled for themselves and not for the people.

2. The teaching they opposed was the very salvation of the nation.

3. The apostles "blinded Jerusalem with their teaching." Their success brought joy, salvation, peace, fresh life to great numbers.

4. The apostles and the church were bringing healing to the people, lessening suffering, giving to the poor, reducing crime and vice, giving reality to the angels' song of "Peace, Good Will to Men," they were doing what every good ruler seeks to have done for his people.

V. 19. "But the (R. V., 'an'), angel of the Lord." One of the "ministering spirits sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation." (Heb. 1:14). "In this Book of the Acts the word angel occurs 20 times."

"The ministry of angels." "I believe that angels wait on us as truly as ever they waited on Abraham, or Jacob, or Moses, or Elijah, or Mary, or Jesus himself. The medieval painters were fond of filling the background of the representation, though literally false, was morally true. I believe that angels are encamping around them that fear the Lord."—George Dana Boardman, D. D.

"Opened the prison doors." Silently, without the knowledge of the guards (v. 23), who were asleep or had relaxed their vigilance, being confident of the strength of their prison.

Reasons for this intervention. 1. The apostles and the church were still in training for greater battles and harder work. Hence by this deliverance they were taught faith in God, and courage, and assurance that their bold, defiant course was approved by God.

2. It was a great advantage to the cause, as they went on preaching the gospel, impressing the people that it was God's cause, and the apostles were his messengers, speaking his truth.

3. It was a direct refutation of the Sadducees' doctrine, a blow at their position.

4. It tended to impress the minds of the enemies of the apostles with respect for them as under God's special protection, and probably suggested to Gamaliel (v. 34-39), his fear that by opposing the apostles the rulers might be opposing God himself.

5. Hence, it influenced the result of the trial, and made the escape from prison a type of their greater deliverance from the power and wicked desires of the rulers.

V. 21. "The apostles obeyed, and entered the temple early in the morning." R. V., "about daybreak," as soon as the gates were opened. "Called the council," "the sanhedrin," "together and," better "even" "all the senate."

Peter's argument. Critics have noticed the structure of Peter's brief defense as one of the finest specimens of pleading on record, clear, direct, true, personal, an argument without a flaw. Of course only the barest outlines are given in this report. See Peter's previous address.

The charges against the apostles. (1) Disobedience to and defiance of the national and lawful authorities. (2) Hence disloyalty, almost treason, to their country. (3) Charges to them seemingly slanderous, against their rulers, that they themselves were disobeying their God in whose name they ruled. These charges were not merely serious, but, to a Palestinian Jew, overwhelming.

The boldness and courage of the apostles was very great.

Threefold Victory of the Apostles. First, The arraignment of the apostles gave them an opportunity to preach the Gospel faithfully to the rulers, who could not easily be reached in any other way.

Second, They were released from their bonds, and were free to continue their work with all the more power because of the outcome of the efforts to put a stop to it.

Third, They themselves received a new inspiration of power. They rejoiced in their sufferings for Jesus' sake, and in public and in private, in the temple courts, and from house to house, they preached that Jesus was the expected Messiah.

The attractiveness and persuasive power of the apostles and the early church is very marked, and was one of the most influential means of leading others to become Christians. The plea of some men lacks the genial, lovable qualities which would enable to attract young and old to the religion they love.

ONE KIDNEY GONE

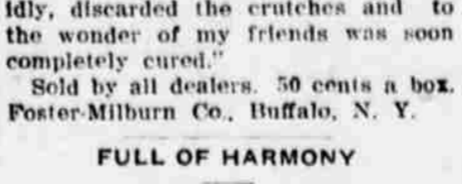
But Cured After Doctors Said There Was No Hope.

Sylvanus O. Verrill, Milford, Me., says: "Five years ago a bad injury paralyzed me and affected my kidneys. My back hurt me terribly, and the urine was badly disordered. Doctors said my right kidney was practically dead. They said I could never walk again. I read of Doan's Kidney Pills and began using them. One box made me stronger and freer from pain. I kept on using them and in three months was able to get out on crutches, and the kidneys were acting better. I improved rapidly, discarded the crutches and to the wonder of my friends was soon completely cured."



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A Black Eye for Home.

It is a coming fashion to hire a hall to entertain your friends, to give dinner parties in a hotel, to be married in a church, to be taken to a hospital when you are sick and to an undertaker's as soon as you die, and left there until the funeral. The tendency is to conduct all public occasions away from home. The home is getting a black eye.—Atchison (Kan.) Globe.

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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 the 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. This case out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surface. 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.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

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Whether in summer, autumn, spring or winter the tree always has a distinctive and majestic beauty that serves to endear it to all that come under its influence.—From "Our Trees and How to Know Them," by Clarence M. Weed.

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Even a wise man occasionally has time for the silly chatter of a pretty girl.

Lewis' Single Binder straight 5c. You pay 10c for cigars not so good. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

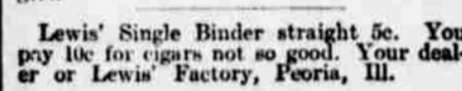
One poor turn deserves another—from the organ grinder's viewpoint.

Use Allen's Foot-Paste. Cures tired, aching, swelling feet. Trial package free. A. S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

"Easy money" is the kind that always comes to the other fellow.

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To get its beneficial effects always buy the genuine—manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, and for sale by all leading druggists.

Minyon's Cold Remedy Relieves the head, throat and lungs almost immediately. Cures Croup, whooping cough, the nose, takes away all aches and pains caused by colds. It cures Grip and obdurate Croup and prevents Pneumonia. Price 25c.

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