NOTES from MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt

Look out for the little colts.

Sharp tools make the work easier.

A gentle mother makes gentle chicks.

The hen should also be dusted occasionally.

Watch out for lice on the late hatched chicks.

Dutch cheese is an ideal food for young turkeys.

Give the young calf an early chance to nibble at grass.

There isn't a thing wrong with some horses except their owners.

Churning when cream is too warm has the effect of whitening butter.

Nature intends that the calf should have the first milk from the mother.

Handling colts from the start obviates breaking and substitutes training.

Use only a thoroughbred butter-bred sire for next year's crop of calves.

Farmers, as a rule, pay too little attention to the comfort of their work horses.

There isn't much play about dairying, but no other job pays better for hard work.

The draft horse is one farm product that bulls and bears cannot corner nor control.

Sheep do have one real menace, however, in the summer. That is internal parasites.

Let us use more of our own dairy products at home. They are the best that can be produced.

A mule authority says: "There is nothing that walks that will beat an old jennet as a money maker."

Marking chicks or young turkeys with a poultry pounch does no harm, and the fowls will always show the mark.

Ground oats, green clover hay, and sweet skim-milk make a good ration for lambs after they are twenty-one days old.

Be careful not to overwork the brood mare when she is nursing a promising colt, for overheating of her has a bad effect on the milk.

Pasturing grass too soon or too hard is an expensive way of saving feed. It costs several times the amount of feed saved.

The hog house if left open will supply a cool place for the pigs to lie in, and also protect the young from heavy storms and from the hot sun.

Having too many chicks in one brood, whether with a hen or in a brooder, is a common fault. Chicks in small broods always do better.

Have an aim in breeding, and try to breed all the colts to a standard or type. In this way you will get matched pairs which will bring better prices.

Experience the last year has shown it is best make such crops as cowpeas and alfalfa into hay to feed dry and to fill the silos either with corn or kaffir.

This is the time of year when lice do the most damage in the poultry yard. The young chickens should be examined every week for head lice or lice on the body.

When a man wants to use his horse, and has to chase him all over the farm in order to catch him, it is evident that either the man or the horse was not brought up right.

Where silage is used the land can be used to grow another crop of corn. There is no way to get so much off an acre as to put it into corn and put the corn in the silo.

Cattle certainly are scarce. If they were not the great hog year would have the effect of bringing down the price of beef. Shortage of cattle cannot be made up as soon as that of hogs, and we may look for short beef supplies for some time to come.

Most intelligent farm readers know that it pays just as much to raise a scrub as a well-bred animal. What is more, it costs no more. There is a great difference in the prices that the two will demand. Of course, we do not mean to say that very good results can not be obtained from the best of scrub stock.

Leghorns are natural foragers.

Shelter is an important element of success.

Exercise sweating in a horse indicates weakness.

The first essential in making good butter is good cream.

Camphorated oil is good for caked udder or other inflammation.

Frequent stirring while cream is ripening will make better butter.

A hog can be starved to eat almost anything, but it is poor economy.

Make very liberal estimates as to the number of chickens you are to save.

This is the time to begin knocking out another possible feed shortage next winter.

For the young calf just learning to eat there is nothing better than ground oats.

Milking with wet hands is one of the most undesirable habits that a man can form.

Turkeys often get puny and die when several weeks old, from no other cause than lice.

The longer a calf is allowed to suck the cow the harder it will be to make it drink from a bucket.

It never pays to keep more cattle than one can be sure to furnish with ample feed the year round.

By using a little patience a calf can be taught to drink quickly by letting it suck the finger held in the milk.

There are many reliable breeders of Holstein cattle whose entire herds average 10,000 pounds of milk per year.

If a thin sow has more pigs than she can suckle to advantage, take part of them away and raise them on a bottle.

Anybody can raise an ordinary horse and sell it for an ordinary price. It takes blood and feed and care to beat the average.

The main points to make sure about in buying a separator are durability, clean skimming, easy washing, and easy running.

Almost any feed that is high in protein, such as milk or middlings, and the like, is good for sows, pigs and growing hogs.

Don't let the young turks out until dew is off the grass in the morning if you want turkeys to sell next Thanksgiving.

Why not a concrete vat in the milk house this spring? They are reasonably cheap, eternally durable, and highly sanitary.

Geese, after they get their feathers, are rarely, if ever, attacked by insects, but this will not hold good in regard to goslings.

Put a bell on some of the cows if they run in the woods or a brush pasture. It will save time and steps in looking for them.

A heifer that has a long milking period with her first calf is very apt to establish the habit of long periods if she is well handled.

See that the harness, and especially the inside of the collars where they come in contact with living flesh and blood, are smooth and clean.

In the push of farm work the truck patches should not be neglected, for in these little things lie the farmer's living and his success as a farmer.

On every dairy farm there should be two pasture fields, by feeding off first one and then the other, the cows have a succession of rich tender grass and clover.

Mix half a bushel of dry ashes with a pint of carbolic acid, a pint of coal oil, and a pint of sulphur. Put some in the nests and the hens will not be bothered with lice.

Good quality of wheat straw which is neither moldy nor dusty, will make a fair roughage for horses, and when fed in moderate amounts should not prove injurious in any way.

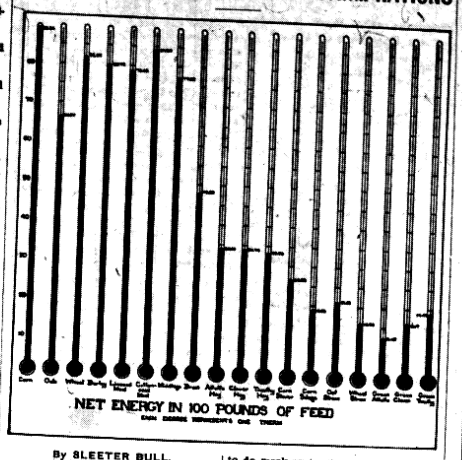
Barb wire fences are bad for horses, but there should be a barb wire strung along the top of the worst fence or the horses will ride it down. The barb wire placed there will do no harm.

The secret of successful gardening is high manuring and fertilizing, a deep, finely prepared soil, thorough and clean culture, choice vegetables put up in attractive form and honest measure.

If, within the last year or so, you have had a case of blackleg among your cattle it will be a good plan to give the pastures a thorough burning over before grass starts. Fire is a great destroyer of disease germs.

Fruits may be used with equal satisfaction and odd much to the variety of diet. What we need is to think of fruits not merely because we like them and find them healthful. They have a great food value which we should learn and remember in their selection.

PRACTICAL USE OF ENERGY VALUES IN CALCULATING THE FARM RATIONS



By SLEETER BULL,
Assistant in Animal Nutrition, University of Illinois.

The sun is the source of all energy. Crops are produced by means of solar radiation and food represents the stored-up energy of the sun's rays. All life upon this earth depends upon the ability of plants to store up energy.

Energy not only runs our mills, factories and automobiles, but also our horses, cattle, and ourselves. We put some coal under the boiler of an engine and burn it. Some of it is not burned, but goes up the flue as soot or smoke and is wasted. Some of the heat which is formed by that part which is burned is also lost via the flue, door, sides of the furnace, etc. Only a part of the total heat or energy which the coal originally contained is finally available, in the form of steam, to do work.

We feed a horse corn. Part of it passes through the animal undigested and appears in the dung. It is wasted, so far as the horse is concerned, just as are the smoke and soot of the furnace. After the feed is digested and taken into the animal body, it undergoes a slow burning process quite similar to that of the coal. Some of it is incompletely burned and is excreted in the urine along with the remainder of the completely burned feed, just as some partially burned coal drops through the grates with the ashes. Some of the energy of the feed must also be used up in the processes of digestion just as, if we put a self-stoking device upon the engine, it would require a certain amount of the energy produced to run the stoker. The energy which is finally available for use by the horse, to do work or to store up in the form of body fat, is the "net energy" of the feed.

The question now arises as to what use all this is to the practical farmer. Simply this: It has been determined how much net energy is necessary for different animals under certain conditions. The amount of net energy in our common feeding stuffs has been determined. Write to your congressman for Farmer's Bulletin No. 346, U. S. Department of Agriculture. This contains these feeding standards and the values of the different feeds. These tables make it much simpler to calculate a ration than by the old method of digestible nutrients.

Just as we measure corn by the bushel, so we measure energy by the "therm." A therm is the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of 250 pounds of water one degree Fahrenheit; i. e., when we speak of 100 pounds of corn as having a net energy value of 88.84 therms we mean that if the energy available to the animal be converted into heat it would raise the temperature of 250 pounds of water 88.84 degrees.

The accompanying figure shows the comparative net energy values of some of the more common feeding stuffs expressed in therms per 100 pounds. The height of the mercury column in the thermometers indicates the temperature to which 250 pounds of water would be raised if the net energy of 100 pounds of feed were converted into heat.

In the use of these energy values, it must not be forgotten that a certain amount of protein is required by all animals, and this must also be taken into consideration in forming the rations.

URGENT DEMAND FOR TEACHERS OF FARMING

By A. W. NOLAN,
Assistant Professor of Agricultural Extension, University of Illinois.

The demand for teachers of agriculture in elementary, secondary and normal schools throughout the country is urgent and persistent. This call for teachers of agriculture has arisen partly through a growing public sentiment among the country people themselves, who believe that their educational, financial and social conditions will be improved by the introduction of agriculture into the schools; and partly through the alarm of the commercial leaders who know that the future of trade and business depends upon a permanent agriculture and that a permanent agriculture cannot exist without a system of agricultural education. The result of this awakened public sentiment, and this alarm of the commercial world has been rapid introduction of agriculture into the existing public schools and the establishment of separate agricultural schools all over the country. National and state aid, together with enforced legislation, has given impetus to this movement.

Important national and state legislation calculated to give further stimulus and support to this movement is now pending. The Dolliver-Page bill in congress, providing for instruction in agriculture in secondary and normal schools, and the proposed legislation in our own as well as in several others states, to give state aid to high schools teaching agriculture, indicate that the call for teachers of agriculture is going to be still more insistent.

The problem constantly arising in this connection is "Where are we to get well trained teachers at salaries we can afford to pay?" Naturally we must look to the colleges of agriculture for these teachers. The colleges of agriculture are well equipped to give the technical training necessary for these teachers, but not until recently have they made any attempt to give professional training for prospective teachers of agriculture. Consequently it is difficult to get the graduates of our agricultural colleges interested in teaching. They are looking to the industrial and commercial side of agriculture rather than to the teaching of the subject in the schools.

One great disadvantage under which instructors, even in agricultural colleges, are working, is insufficient contact along practical lines and in pedagogy. They are usually graduates of some well recognized college of agriculture, but have very little training in method of presentation of their subjects and in the practical application of the same so as to obtain the good will of the farmers. More and more the methods of teaching secondary agriculture seem to be lecture and laboratory work, rather than field work. Whether this is better remains to be seen, but it is tending this way, because teachers and educational leaders have not known how to make agriculture a practical field study as well as a book and laboratory course.

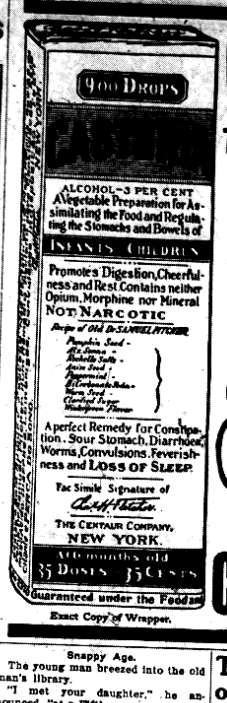
Another difficulty arising in the work of teaching agriculture in the public schools is the question of salary. School superintendents are saying that it is unfair to pay the agricultural men more salary than the other teachers get, that the agricultural men are not usually able to be of much service to the school system, aside from their special subject, and are therefore not worth more than other teachers. If the agricultural teachers in the public schools continue to get the higher salaries which they rightfully demand, they must see to it that they make their services felt in the school system, and that there can be no question about the breadth and depth and liberality of their education.

In the face of these difficulties the outlook is encouraging. The young man who has the teaching spirit, who is not taking agriculture wholly for self-aggrandisement, and who wishes to enter a line of service where his work will count for most and where the greatest self-satisfaction can come from needed and appreciated service, can do nothing better than to enter the rank of the pedagogs as a teacher of agriculture.

Some Contact Poisons.

Nicotine Solution—Some of the plant lice become so destructive that it is necessary to combat them during the growing season. Proprietary solutions have proved efficient for summer spraying, and as these are all accompanied with directions regarding their dilution and application, no definite recommendation is made.

Whale-Oil Soap.—Whale-oil soap is used as a summer spray. It is efficient in the control of plant lice and can be purchased ready for use. The spray mixture is prepared by dissolving about one pound of the soap in twelve water and diluting to eight gallons.



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The young man breezed into the old man's library.

"I met your daughter," he announced, "at a Fifth avenue reception. I want to marry her next Friday afternoon at 3:30. She's willing."

The old man turned to his card index.

"Which daughter?" he asked.

"It's Miss Ethel."

"All right," said the old man. "Make it 4:30 and I'll attend the wedding. I have an engagement at the other hour."

It was so ordered. This is a snappy age.—Pittsburg Post.

ALMOST FRANTIC WITH ITCHING ECZEMA

"Eight years ago I got eczema all over my hands. My fingers fairly bled and it itched until it almost drove me frantic. The eruption began with itching under the skin. It spread fast from between the fingers around the nails and all over the whole hands. I got a pair of rubber gloves in order to wash dishes. Then it spread all over the left side of my chest. A fine doctor treated the trouble two weeks, but did me no good. I cried night and day. Then I decided to try Cuticura Soap and Ointment but without much hope as I had gone so long. There was a marked change the second day, and so on until I was entirely cured. The Cuticura Soap we have always kept in our home, and we decided after that lesson that it is a cheap soap in price and the very best in quality. My husband will use no other soap in his shaving mug." (Signed) Mrs. G. A. Selby, Redonda Beach, Cal., Jan. 16, 1911. Although Cuticura Soap and Ointment are sold by druggists and dealers everywhere, a sample of each, with 32-page book, will be mailed free on application to "Cuticura," Dept. L, Boston.

A man thinks a girl is perfectly proper who refuses to kiss him—because he can't think of any other reason why she should refuse.

Quality—quality—is something to consider in purchasing a remedy for constipation or as a laxative. How about Garfield Tea?

When a man's conscience troubles him he thinks he has indigestion.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c a bottle.

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Garfield Tea purifies the blood and clears the complexion. Drink before retiring.

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CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS
SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE.
Genuine must bear Signature
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In this age of research and experiment, a remedy is announced by the scientific for the comfort and happiness of mankind, medicine has indeed made giant strides in the past century, and among the—by no means few—modern discoveries in medicine is that of Theravitae, which has been used with great success in French Hospitals, and that it is worth the attention of those who suffer from kidney, bladder, nervous ailments, chronic weakness, eczema, skin and stomach ailments, etc., there is no doubt, in fact it seems evident that the "THERAVITAE" created although specialists, that these questions are prepared that ways formerly the sole relm of medical men. It is of course impossible to tell in an advertisement all we should like to tell about this wonderful remedy, but those who would like to know more about this remedy that has effected so many—we might almost say, miraculous cures, should send addressed envelope for FREE book to Dr. LeClerc Med. Co., Haverstock Road, Hampstead, London, Eng., and receive a copy, free, whereby the New French Remedy "THERAVITAE" No. 1, No. 2, or No. 3 is set out, if quite and have been seeking in vain during a life of misery, suffering, ill health and unhappiness. Theravitae is sold by druggists or mail 50.00. Forgers Co., 30 Beekman St., New York.

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