NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt

Rake and burn up the rubbish.

That low, wet ground will do well in Herd's grass.

Kill a sheep this fall and corn the meat. It is delicious.

Never feed more to the animals than they will eat up clean.

Often the pessimist needs a change of diet as much as anything else.

Keep down the weeds in the fall. It will lighten the work in the spring.

Pig raising is most successful where skim milk is a large part of the feed ration.

Machinery all housed? You cannot afford to let the rust eat out the lining of your pocketbook.

Irregular feeding is one contributory cause to horses acquiring the habit of bolting their feed.

Put a mulch of strawy manure around the berry bushes and the grape vines, but don't put on too early.

Your first mistake is excusable, your second, never; for no man has any business making the same mistake twice.

The dairyman's profits come in during all the year. That is one reason why that type of farming is better than any other.

A good herd of cows of one breed and in thrifty condition is the best kind of an index to the character of the farmer who owns them.

Colts will not raise themselves. Hit-and-miss methods never yet produced the best horses. Remember that raising colts pays if you give them intelligent care.

Careful feeding can keep up the milk flow. It does not pay to let it run down, for once a smaller yield is established it cannot be increased until after another calving.

The cold rains of the fall prove a great drain upon the vitality of the live stock. The farmer that does not provide shelter for the animals is working against his own interests.

Not only place the farm machinery under cover, but oil it up so that atmospheric dampness will not rust the exposed bright parts. A little time now will save days of trouble next spring.

A tidbit in the way of a piece of sugar or an apple will prove ideal in winning the confidence of the colt. Always have something for him, and you will be proud and delighted at the attention he will shower upon you.

Grade up your dairy cows by using a pure bred bull. It may take a few years to do it, but each year saving the best of the heifer calves will give you in time a herd of sows that will prove far more profitable than your present herd.

Raise the best crops you can and sell them at the best price you can, but don't speculate. The farmer that begins to deal on the grain market has taken his first step to ruin, for nothing but failure and loss ever came to the farmer who tried his hand at the game.

An old swindle that is being tried on the farmers again is that of selling them a new and wonderful kind of wheat and binding them by a contract to return to the man (who thus places them in a way to get rich), a certain number of bushels of the grain next year. Look out for it.

Sheep that have been a long time without salt are apt to make themselves sick eating too much of it when the opportunity comes. Be regular in feeding it to them, or, better still, provide a box to which the flock can have access at all times. They will help themselves, and will eat only such as is good for them.

Never let the soil remain bare. Sun, rain and wind will do it harm. It loses a greater amount of its finer particles by the leaching of rain water than does soil that is covered with some crop. It is well for a soil to be covered most of the time, even if the crop grown has to be turned under. For this reason some agriculturists sow a crop in the early fall when it can make only enough growth to partly cover the ground during the winter. They plow this under in the spring.

Some fowls are weak because born that way. They inherited their weakness from the lack of materials or of vitality in the egg. Such birds will require a good deal of doctoring if they are to be kept alive and are the ones on which the most attention has to be bestowed. In any flock there is a certain per cent. of this kind of birds, and it does not pay to bother much with them. They are good enough for eating and should be fattened and disposed of. A weak fowl probably cannot be made strong by any method of feeding, as they seem to be weak in that thing we call the life principle, vitality.

Rape makes a good pasture for hogs.

Plow the land only when it crumbles away from the plow.

Not, "Shall I build a silo?" but "How large shall I build it?"

Get things in shape for the winter. Make the poultry snug.

Try feeding wheat to the hens and see if it will increase the egg yield.

Kind words is the oil that makes the machinery of life run smoothly.

Get after the tent caterpillars in the trees. Cut out their nests and burn them.

Why not a good dairy if a dairy herd at all? You can have such by care in breeding.

Currant bushes should be propagated only from bushes that bear the most and best fruit.

Attend to the tile draining this fall. Perhaps all that ails that young orchard is the need of tiling.

Poison vines growing in the fence corners are poor testimonials to a farmer's character. Dig 'em out.

Good winter quarters must be provided for the sheep if they do well. They need sunlight, fresh air and dry floor.

Neglected to mark the turkeys and now there comes the dispute with the neighbors as to who's who, and what's what.

Pound for pound, sheep manure is three times as valuable as cow manure. One argument in favor of keeping sheep on the farm.

The manure spreader is a drudge saver. Many a farmer thinks he cannot afford one who would find that a few seasons' work would more than pay for it.

The overhead rack is a poor place from which to feed the horse. Besides being an unnatural way for the animal to feed, it causes a great deal of dust, which is a bad thing.

Have a hospital pen where the sheep that give evidence of being sick can be isolated and treated. Many a contagious disease can in this way be kept from spreading in a flock.

Pull a few of the tomato plants on which green tomatoes still hang and put in the cellar. They will ripen and you will continue to have ripe, fresh tomatoes until after Thanksgiving, if you manage right.

The chief trouble with the party line is that some folks make hogs of themselves and monopolize the telephone in visiting to the prevention of the transaction of urgent business by other parties on the same line.

Watch the chickens when the farmer is going through the barnyard, and you can often learn a heap as to what kind of a man he is. If the hens run as though in fear of their lives be sure that that farmer has a brutal strain in him which even the chicks have discovered.

Don't let the fences get in bad repair. It is not only an invitation to the stock to get breechy, but it makes the work of fixing them up much more difficult than would have been the case had they been fixed in season. Remember the old adage, "A stitch in time saves nine."

A road which has successfully stood the test of two years at Mankato, Minn., and cost only 80 cents a lineal foot, was made by overlaying the ordinary road with crushed stone and gravel upon which a dressing of cement was spread followed by a coating of sand and then well rolled.

In our opinion the best time for a cow to come fresh is in the fall, for the stimulus which then comes to the lacteal glands will with proper feeding and care continue a good milk flow through the winter; then, with fresh grass in the spring, a still further stimulus is received. On the other hand, the cow that is fresh in the spring receives all the stimulus at once, then as fly time comes she begins to shrink and when she goes on winter feed she falls off rapidly.

A farm paper suggests a use for old tin cans by melting off the tops and bottoms and straightening out the tin and lining the inside of the chicken house. It certainly would make the walls and corners mice and rat proof, but how about the lice and mites? The small overlapping pieces of tin would prove ideal hiding places for the pests. This difficulty might be overcome, however, by whitewashing and making sure that the cracks were plastered flush with the whitewash.

We were interested in watching a busy bunch of chickens around one of our trees the other day, and on investigation found that they were putting forth their best pecks toward thinning the ranks of a host of bark lice that were swarming on the trunk of the tree. They were getting a square meal while at the same time they were ridding the tree of a pest, and thus making a double profit for me. The orchard is a good place for the poultry, I thought, as I contentedly passed on about my work.

Good vinegar can be made from apple parings in the following way: Take the parings and put them in a six-gallon stone jar and tamp them with a potato masher till they are pretty well bruised, then pour water over them till covered. We continue to put parings in till they have been in a week or more, then we strain out the parings and pour the cider into a keg and repeat the operation till one keg is full. We then lay an old piece of cotton cloth over the bung and let nature do the rest. In two months we have a keg of the finest kind of vinegar.

LIVE STOCK

PHOSPHATE FOR HOGS.

Why They Need Food Containing This Element.

A noted veterinary authority says: "If hogs show a tendency to weakness on the legs, feed less corn and more bran." The reason why bran is good for weak bones is, that it contains more phosphate than corn. But if the farmer has provided himself with a few bags of raw ground phosphate rock, he will find it an excellent thing to sprinkle a little of it on the floor of the pen every day. The hogs will root for it greedily.

Two years ago we studied the phosphate experiment made with pigs, at the Wisconsin experiment station. It was most convincing of the truth of the statement we have made, declares the Hoard's Dairyman. Three pens of pigs, of three each, were taken for the experiment. One lot was fed as farmers ordinarily feed hogs; the second lot was fed the same as the first, except that a little phosphate was added to their food daily. The effect was astonishing in the increased strength of the second lot. But it was with the third lot that the full truth was unfolded.

This lot was fed food from which all the phosphate had been extracted by washing, but the process left all other elements such as the nitrogen and potash, in full strength. The effect of this loss of phosphate on these pigs was very striking. They were stunted in size though well covered with fat, and at the stage of the experiment we saw them, they could not stand on their legs a minute. Get one of them upon his feet for a moment and he would commence to falter at once.

Here was a lesson in the principles of nutrition that was very valuable to the man who can take it. Phosphorus is one of the most important elements we have for the support of the brain, nerve and bone in animal life, and for seed growth in plants.

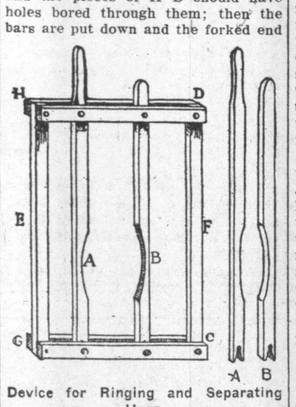
We have always noticed that our own hogs will at once commence to root in and eat the ground phosphate when we sprinkle it on the floor of their pens. A small handful each day to each hog is valuable for the animal and the greater efficiency of the manure.

HOG TRAP FOR RINGING TIME.

Contrivance That Will Make the Task an Easy One.

The accompanying illustration shows a handy device for ringing and separating hogs. The front and adjustable bars only are represented, but the body is in the shape of an oblong box, long and deep enough to admit any sized hog and narrow enough to prevent his turning around.

The parts of the front illustrated as G C and H D should be made double, with the pieces E and F between the strips. The double pieces of GC should be connected with four strong bolts, and the pieces of H D should have holes bored through them; then the bars are put down and the forked end



Device for Ringing and Separating Hogs.

rests on a bolt, while an iron pin is put through H D, and the bar also, making it stationary.

The adjustable hand bars A and B should be made of two by four lumber, and slightly hollowed out, so as to fit the neck of the hog. They are forked on the end and so fit the bolts that are in G C.

The back of the trap is made like the front, says Prairie Farmer, but no bars are used. Instead a board is dropped down in place, thereby keeping the hog from backing out.

The hog is admitted at the back, and when he gets to the front he is gripped around the neck with the bars. The iron pin is put through each bar and the holes of H D. He is held in this position while being rung after which one of the bars is slipped out and the hog passes on.

Catering to the Pork Market.

In the selecting of the boar for the head of the herd that is to produce pork for the market, it must be borne in mind that the public wants big hams that are heavy with lean meat. At the same time it wants long sides that are firm and muscular, for the muscles are the lean meat. It is as easy to cater to what the market wants as it is to go in the opposite direction. The claim of some that the buyers of hogs will not pay the extra price for the extra things they demand is only partly true. The ordinary buyer will get a good thing cheap when he can get it cheap, but he is not always able to have his way.

STOCK NOTES.

Cornstalks contain a large overbalance of starchy materials and should not be used in balancing a ration of corn.

Angora goats cannot stand crowding together; hence they should not be kept in large flocks on small farms.

Cattle differ greatly in their grazing power. This is largely a matter of inheritance

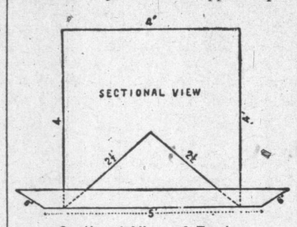
Corn and clover hay or corn and alfalfa hay make a good balance in the ration.

HOG SELF-FEEDER.

Convenient Receptacle for Holding Charcoal, Salt, Etc., for Animals.

A good box or self-feeder for charcoal, salt, etc., for hogs can be made from a box with a frame of four by four inch pine, strongly braced with two by four inch pine, set inside a shallow box with flaring sides, as indicated in the drawing. It should have a cone-shaped center. The corner posts of the box should be toe-nailed to the bottom. The whole or upright part should be made of matched lumber, leaving an open space on each of the four sides at the bottom of about three inches for the mixture to work down where the hogs can get it. The box should be covered to prevent rain getting the mixture wet.

Our plan in making cob charcoal, continues the writer in Breeders' Gazette, is to dig a pit five feet deep and about five feet in diameter. If the soil is such that there is danger of caving, wall the pit up with brick or stone. Have a sheet iron cover made large enough to cover the top of the pit. Start fire in pit and add cobs as fast as those burning come to a glow or red coals. Keep doing this till the pit is full. Then pour on one or more barrels of water in which enough salt has been dissolved to make it quite salty. About two pounds of copperas pul-



Sectional View of Feeder.

verized and dissolved in the water would be a good preventive of worms. Pour this water over the burning mass till the fire is put out. Then cover the pit with the iron cover, being sure that no air can get under the cover to cause it again to burn. Leave till the next day when you will have a pit full of a fine mixture that your hogs will eat in preference to anything you can offer them. Wood ashes in proportion of eight parts ashes to one part salt will also be a good mixture to keep before hogs.

AUTUMN AND WORK HORSES.

Do Not Neglect Them or Half-Feed Them When Hard Work Is Over.

It always seems like a cruel, as well as a risky practice, to work the horses through the spring, summer and fall, feeding them well and grooming them, then as soon as the heavy work is finished take the grain away from them and turn them out to shift for themselves. In the first place, their systems are not accustomed to the grass feed, and it is a shock to them—an abrupt let-down. It is no wonder if they lose flesh rapidly and their general appearance becomes one of sad dejection and unthriftiness.

The frost-bitten grass is not sufficient to sustain them; they eat a great deal of it, get podgy, lose flesh and ambition rapidly. The system is not prepared to stand against the cold, frosty nights and stormy days, and the consequence is that they catch cold and some attain that condition of stomach and lungs called the heaves. The thoughtless owner often attributes the depreciation in value and usefulness to bad luck, instead of bad management.

I believe it is a good plan, continues this correspondent of the Orange Judd Farmer, to give the work horses a run to grass after the heavy work is done, but would not take all the grain away, nor leave them out nights and during cold storms. The run at fall grass will save part of the hay, but it should not constitute the whole diet. It is bad management to let the horses run down in flesh now when they can be sustained on much less grain, and at less cost, than they can be put in condition with toward spring. Exercise in the field each day is very beneficial, and the taste of grass is a change which they relish; but do not go to extremes and overdo the matter. The prudent man who has in mind the comfort of his animals, as well as the financial value of them, will keep a watchful eye on them and jealously guard them against conditions that will depreciate them in appearance, value and usefulness.

GIVE THEM A CHANCE.

Sheep Require a Change of Pasture to Do Their Best.

In Missouri, and probably in almost all sections of the country, we have land that will furnish good pasturage for sheep and goats, yet we do not consider it of value for pasture for other animals, writes a Missouri farmer in Farmers' Voice. For that reason we keep the sheep on the pasture that nothing else will eat and expect best results. Often this is the best of pasturage, but a sheep requires a change, even more than other animals. If we recognize the fact that sheep are profitable on almost all of our farms we must remember that it is to our interest to get the best possible out of the sheep, and that can be done only by having several pastures and changing the sheep from one to the other as occasion demands.

I know it is usually conceded that a sheep will live and thrive where a cow or horse would starve, and this is often a good reason for keeping them. Yet it is poor economy to keep the flock on the same pasture because you need the other pasture for the cattle. Try changing the flock every few weeks, using three different pastures, and note the improvement. Cattle and horses may be pastured on the grass when not in use by the sheep. It is simply the change that does them good. They should never be kept on low, flat land long at a time.

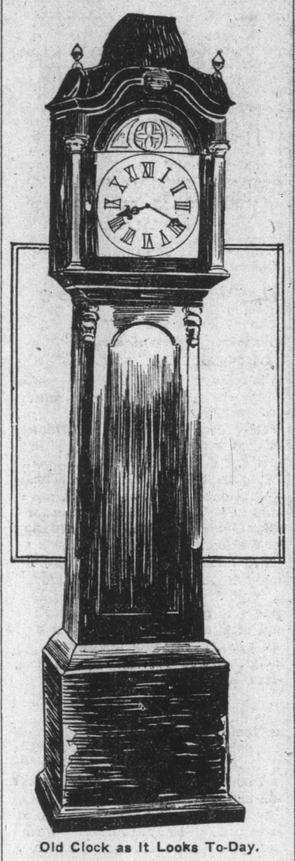
Must Be Considered.

With the increased value of pasture lands comes the necessity for considering the milk producing power of beef cows.

CLOCK 240 YEARS OLD.

Old Heirloom Now Property of Carnegie Museum in Pittsburg.

Pittsburg, Pa.—A curiosity which attracted great interest in the collection of curios at the Carnegie museum during the sesqui-centennial celebration is a clock of the "grandfather" type, so perfectly preserved that it appeared almost like a masterpiece from a modern clockmaker's shop. But it is really



Old Clock as It Looks To-Day.

240 or more years old, and it was only by approaching it closely that observers could detect evidences of the weight of years bearing on the finely-colored mahogany. A close look at the dial would also indicate it was fabricated very many years ago, but at a casual glance it appeared almost like a product of to-day. This is due to a work of careful restoration which is wonderful in its way.

Only a few months ago the clock was a wreck, badly battered by the same old Father Time whose doings it was wont to record. Then it was the property, descended to him through two preceding generations, of G. F. Muller of Sewickley. Joseph F. Taylor, an expert in clocks, who lives at Emsworth, heard of the ancient and useless, save as a relic, clock, and procured it. At the end of five months' patient and persevering work Mr. Taylor had the old timepiece in the perfect state of restoration that won it approving comments at the sesquicentennial collection.

CONFIRM ENVOY'S RESIGNATION.

Mexican Ambassador to United States Quits Office.

Mexico City.—The Mexican foreign office has confirmed the resignation of Enrique C. Creel as ambassador to

Enrique C. Creel.

the United States. Senor Creel for some time past has held the double post of governor of the state of Chihuahua and ambassador at Washington, and he now desires to devote all his attention to the former office. His successor to the post at Washington, which is the highest in the Mexican diplomatic service, has not yet been decided.

It is rumored here that the real reason for Ambassador Creel's resignation is that he will enter the Diaz cabinet as minister of government, colonization and industry, in succession to Olegarie Malina, whose anti-American attitude in the matter of the mining law regarding concessions is said to have displeased President Diaz. Senor Creel is pronouncedly "American."

Such a Good Boy!

Willie—Huh! you always read about good little boys. Anyway, I never make any noise running down stairs like other fellows.

Sister—Pooh! That isn't true.

Willie—It is so. I always slide down the banister.—Judge.

Clearly to Be Seen.

"We had a dispute at our club the other day as to which was the most beautiful feature—the eye or the nose."

"Well, what happened?"

"We put it to a vote, and the eyes won.—Baltimore American.

Wheat Rust Everywhere.

Wheat rust is limited to no section or grade of grain, but is encountered all the world over.

LAME BACK PRESCRIPTION

The increased use of whiskey for lame back rheumatism is causing considerable discussion among the medical fraternity. It is an almost infallible cure when mixed with certain other ingredients and taken properly. The following formula is effective: "To one-half pint of good whiskey add one ounce of Toris Compound and one ounce Syrup Sarsaparilla Compound. Take in tablespoonful doses before each meal and before retiring."

Toris compound is a product of the laboratories of the Globe Pharmaceutical Co., Chicago, but it as well as the other ingredients can be had from any good druggist.

NOTHING LASTS IN THIS WORLD.

The Girl—Oh, Jimmy, how I wish this could go on forever.

Jimmy—Well, I'm afraid it won't. I've an idea dat barb wire fence ahead of us 'll stop us.

Unusually Severe Drought.

The water in Lake Champlain during the recent drought reached the lowest point recorded in local history, nine feet below high water mark. Steamers were obliged to abandon many of their trips on account of the impossibility of making landings at the docks. The mountain brooks became almost dry, and the beds of some of the largest rivers were mere threads of water. The drought and forest fires were ruinous to agricultural interests.—New York Sun.

$100 Reward, $100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

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The Good That Never Dies.

Dickens: There is nothing, innocent or good, that dies and is forgotten. Let us hold to that faith or none. An infant, a prattling child, will live again in the better thoughts of those who loved it, and will play its part, through them, in the redeeming actions of the world, though its body be burnt to ashes or drowned in the deepest sea.

Every man ought to aim at eminence, not by subduing others, but by raising himself by conscious effort.—Webster.

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For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

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Allen's Foot-Ease for corns and bunions, hot, sweaty callous aching feet. 25c all Druggists.

Stealing time from sleep is a poor way to beat it.

Put new shoes on the youngster.
Look at them in a week.
They're usually battered, scraped, almost shapeless. Get a pair of Buster Brown Shoes.
Scuffing, scraping, kicking doesn't mar them—they thrive on knocks. They wear.

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For youngsters, $1.50 to $2.50
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Sloan's Liniment is the best remedy for sprains and bruises.

It quiets the pain at once, and can be applied to the tenderest part without hurting because it doesn't need to be rubbed—all you have to do is to lay it on lightly. It is a powerful preparation and penetrates instantly—relieves any inflammation and congestion, and reduces the swelling.

Sloan's Liniment

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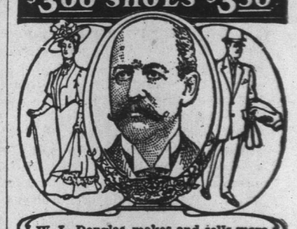
W. L. DOUGLAS $3.00 SHOES $3.50



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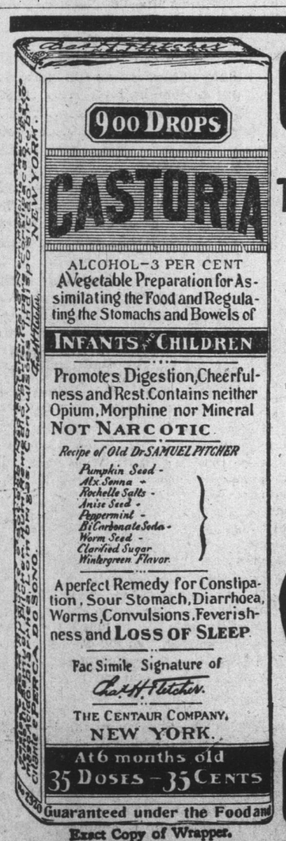

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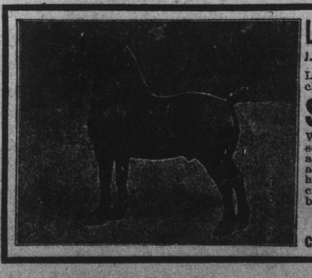

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