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It is guaranteed that Father John's Medicine positively does not contain any alcohol or any dangerous, habit-forming drugs or opiates. It is a pure and wholesome, nourishing tonic food—a doctor's prescription, not a patent medicine. Begin taking it today.

AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS

THE LAMBING SEASON.

The shepherd should endeavor to be with the flock as much as possible during lambing time. A visit to the sheep pen late at night and early in the morning may often prevent losses.

The ewes with lambs should be fed some laxative food a few weeks before lambing so that they will not be constipated at lambing time. If grain is being fed, it should be slightly reduced a few days before lambing. Wheat bran with a little oil added is a good laxative. Clip the dung locks and tags from the rear, under and flanks a few days before lambing. Hinged huddles, 6 feet long by 4 feet high, hinged together, make satisfactory lambing pens which may be attached at one end of the pen.

If a ewe appears to be unable to deliver her lamb, the attendant should find out what is wrong and assist her. Cleanliness and gentleness are two important things to keep in mind at this time. Wash the hand and arm with some disinfectant, rub on some vaseline or lard and insert into the vagina. The attendant should find out if the head is coming first, with front feet extended underneath, which is the normal position. If in any other position, the attendant should carefully turn to proper position. Pour some lard or oil into the passage, which tends to soften the vagina. The ewe will be able to deliver the lamb, unless too weak, in which case she should be assisted. A lump of pure hog's lard inserted into the womb after difficult parturition is very healing. If the case has been severe, flush with a solution of a few grains with warm water in which a little disinfectant or boracic acid has been added.

Strong lambs will soon be on their feet and nursing, need very little attention. Some lambs come apparently lifeless. Remove phlegm from mouth and nostrils, open the mouth and blow into it to start lung action. Next lay the lamb on its belly and slap it gently on the body just over the heart. Repeat this action several times and unless the lamb is very far gone it will show signs of life.

After a couple of days the ewe's ration should be increased with milk producing foods. She will require more grain. Succulent feeds as clover or alfalfa hay, corn silage or roots, along with a little grain will cause a good milk flow which will make the lambs grow rapidly.—R. E. Bozr, Sheep Specialist Extension Service, Connecticut Agricultural College, Storrs.

BUYING THE BULL.

What a pure-bred bull should be and what he actually does must be judged from two entirely different angles, and generally at times separated at a span of three or more years. No matter how good a bull's pedigree may look on paper, if his offspring are a poor lot he is not a propitious bull for good qualities and deserves to go to the butcher.

"Whether a pure-bred breeder or not, every man who keeps cows and a bull should read a breed paper," says G. C. White, of the Dairy Department at Connecticut Agricultural College, Storrs. "When one becomes interested in pedigrees only once in two or three years, at bull buying time, the weak, wobbly effort to give this subject intelligent consideration is but natural. Reading a breed paper prepares the mind for the selection of a sire."

"A great deal too much emphasis in selecting sires is given to color or other unimportant points, by those who make no effort to keep informed. Plenty of men will refuse to purchase a Jersey or Guernsey that does not have just the right shade of fawn or a Holstein or Ayrshire that doesn't have just enough white, regardless of the other points of merit, and yet when these animals are used what color do they transmit? Generally all possibilities within the breed crop out with little or no uniformity.

"Much emphasis should be given in selecting a bull to the evidence of production in his veins and to freedom from anatomical defects such as weak backs and drooping rumps. Much attention should also be focused on the dam for she should represent the highest type of the dairy cow and have every evidence of production. It is desirable, therefore, to see her even if it necessitates considerable trouble and expense.

"What a bull should do is to improve the herd in production and uniformity. How much he can improve the herd depends upon the present capacity of the herd and upon the bull's prepotency in the right direction. If he merely maintains the standard in a well developed herd he has rendered valuable service in a certain sense. If his daughters are less capable than their dams he should be discarded. The better the herd, the greater the care required in selecting a bull. When the production gets beyond 10,000 pounds of milk per year, it becomes a matter of "trying" out bulls before full responsibility is thrust upon them.

CONNECTICUT COWS.

Milk cows in Connecticut on January 1, 1920, numbered 113,900, according to government figures. This number is slightly larger than that of 1919, or 1918, but somewhat smaller than in 1917. The average value per cow was \$105 in January of this year against \$94 last year and \$73.50 in 1917. Taking the United States as a whole, there are nearly one million more dairy cows in 1920 than there were in 1917.

GIVE GARDEN GOOD CARE.

The manure for a garden is best applied in the fall and plowed under in the spring, and phosphate used in two hill and drill. Do not keep one plot too long for the garden. A change of location means less trouble from weeds, insects and fungus diseases.

Moisture must be conserved in the vegetable garden. This is usually done by tillage, and can also be greatly helped by destroying the plants as soon as they have produced their crop. At the Pennsylvania State college cabbage plants are pulled or cut off with hoes as soon as possible after the heads have been cut and sold. By the time the last heads are marketed most of the stubs and leaves have dried, so they will not interfere with disking or plowing. The ravages of insects and diseases are also checked by destroying the old plants.

Every crop that is raised on the farm should help to put the soil into better condition, both physically and chemically. This is the purpose and aim of the rotation of crops. Frequent surface cultivation makes the

natural food of the plant more available, prevents escape of moisture and holds water in store for summer use. The root is the foundation of the plant. It should be stimulated to early and continuous growth by the best of care in the beginning. Organic matter is the life of the soil.

In the germination of seeds, moisture performs the most important part. For most garden seeds very little is needed. The amateur is more apt to apply too much rather than too little water. In the germination of oil seeds or seeds of low vitality, if water is applied rather sparingly, especially immediately after sowing, the percentage of germination will be larger and the plants more vigorous.

The difference between "moist soil" and "wet soil" is not generally understood. All soils consist of small atoms of soil particles. In a wet soil all space between these particles is filled with water, excluding the air. In a moist soil each particle is enveloped in a film of moisture. Following the air to penetrate between the particles. A wet soil rots the seed; a moist soil sprouts it and promotes its growth.

MEAT ANIMALS IN COMBINATIONS.

The keeping of cattle and of swine appear to be almost inseparable operations. This fact is being brought out in the returns of the "Better Sires—Better Stock" crusade of the agricultural colleges of the United States Department of Agriculture, and co-operating agencies. This general practice has long been known, but much more definite information is being gathered, and the purpose is to extend it to such an extent as to determine the relationships among all meat animals.

If nearly every man who keeps cattle also keeps hogs, and if nearly every man who keeps hogs also keeps cattle, the inevitable conclusion is that the combination pairs, especially when purebred sires are used. But it remains to be determined what are the most common and the best paying proportions. The same thing applies to combinations of cattle and sheep, or swine and sheep, or cattle and sheep and swine. One benefit of the work will be that it will enable a man of small personal experience to avail himself of the wide experiences of a great number of men in working out the combinations of meat animals that he will carry on his farm.

FOREST POLICY NEEDED.

The chief forester of the United States in a recent series of addresses outlined a forestry policy for the entire country. His plan includes close cooperation between the federal government, the state governments and the private forest land owners, the state carrying on such phases of the work as forestry demonstration areas, fire protection, education, extension work, at the same time overseeing and directing the practice of the private owner that he may handle his forest lands with the fullest benefit to himself and to the public.

This policy should be of special interest to Connecticut as a state and to her citizens who own timber lands. One and one-half million acres, or nearly half the total area of the state, is forest land according to Henry W. Hicock, of the forestry department of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Storrs, Conn. If properly handled in the past, this area would have been sufficient to supply the industries of the state with lumber and other wood products indefinitely. At present this is far from true.

"At least sixty-five per cent of the product of our forest," says Mr. Hicock, "is cordwood which is the most unprofitable form of wood and within ten years most of the sawmills in Connecticut will cease to operate for lack of saw timber. This will mean that practically all sawed material will have to be imported from other states. In fact, since the large forest regions east of the Mississippi river are nearing the end of their cut, it will mean that most of our lumber will have to come from the Pacific coast at a very high freight rate.

"Connecticut should not have to import the bulk of her lumber indefinitely. Her forests cannot be made to supply all the needs of her industries immediately for the forests have been too greatly depleted in the past but she should be able in future years, by proper foresight and the use of good forestry methods, to supply practically all the lumber needed for ordinary uses. To do this, good forestry practice must replace the present wasteful, haphazard forms of destructive lumbering."

TEST EGGS TWICE DURING PERIOD OF INCUBATION.

All eggs should be tested at least twice during the period of incubation, on about the seventh and fourteenth days and the infertile eggs and those containing dead germs removed, say poultry experts of the United States Department of Agriculture. White eggs can be tested on the fourth or eggs having brown shells often can be tested on the fifth day, but development in not be seen by the use of an ordinary egg tester until the seventh day.

Eggs containing dead germs soon decay and give off a bad odor if allowed to remain in an incubator.

Most incubator companies furnish with their machines testing chimneys. Electric or gas lamps may be used in which will fit the incubator lamps. A box with a hole slightly smaller than an egg cut in the side of the box and at the same level as the light.

A good homemade egg tester or candle can be made from a large shoe box or any box that is large enough to go over a lamp. It is made by removing the end of the box and cutting a hole a little larger than a quarter in the bottom. When it is set over a kerosene lamp, the hole in the bottom should be opposite the blaze. The lamp chimney should project through the other end of the box or a large enough hole be cut to prevent the box from burning.

The eggs are tested with the large end up, so that the size of the air cell as well as the condition of the embryo may be seen. The testing should take place in a dark room. The infertile egg when held before the small hole with the lamp lit inside the box, will look perfectly clear, the same as a fresh one, while a fertile egg will show a small dark spot, known as the embryo, with a mass of little blood veins extending in all directions, if the embryo is living. If the embryo is dead the blood settles away from it toward the edges of the yolk forming in some cases an irregular circle of blood known as a blood ring. Eggs vary in this respect, some showing only streak of blood.

All infertile eggs should be removed at the first test. The eggs containing strong, living embryos are dark and well filled up on the fourth or fifth day and show a clear, sharp distinct line between the air cell and the growing embryo, while dead germs show only partial development, and lack this clear, distinct outline.

CONNECTICUT SHEEP.

Connecticut gained 5,000 sheep in the past year. On January 1, 1920, government estimates credit the state with 29,000 sheep. The number is still insignificant when compared to the census enumeration of 1845, when Connecticut had 238,574 sheep.

WHY PRUNE PEACH TREES?

Peaches are always borne on wood that grew the previous season. Therefore, after a peach tree reaches bearing age it is essential so to manage it as to induce a fairly liberal growth each season.

As a general proposition, very heavy pruning will induce a correspondingly large amount of new wood growth. It follows that the weaker-

growing varieties should be pruned more heavily, relatively, than the very strong-growing sorts.

The growing of an open-headed tree is not merely a matter of keeping the top well thinned out. The position of the branches can be controlled and directed to a marked extent by the manner in which the pruning is done.

Heading in a tree from year to year and pruning with a view to producing an open, spreading, low-top result not only in the development of strong, stocky limbs well able to sustain heavy loads of fruit, but it brings a large proportion of the top near the ground, where much of the

fruit can be harvested without the use of stepladders.

The man who prunes a fruit tree during its first years must have a pretty clear conception of what the tree is to look like when it reaches maturity, and he needs to know from the beginning what is necessary each time it is pruned in order to develop the tree which forms his mental vision. A well-formed plan, based on a knowledge of the underlying principles of pruning, is essential if the operation is to be anything more than a haphazard removal of branches that appear to be in the way.

Some Diplomat
Kiddie Gray got safely away before he butted into American politics. Bright lad, that.—Washington Post.

West Haven.—Usually on Good Friday, if the weather is suitable, the canoe clubs make a trip up Quinipiac river and remaining for the day and cooking their dinner by a camp fire.

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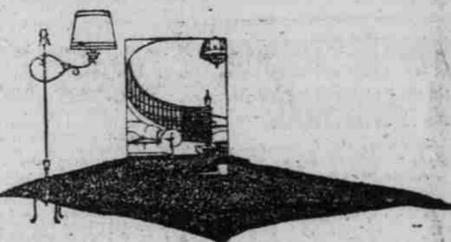
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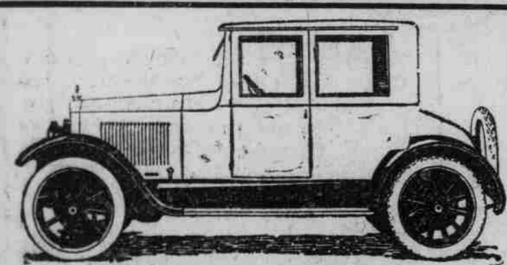
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