

Things the Farmer Likes to Know

CLOVER FOR PIGS.

Feed Sows and Their Litters on Pasture.

PUT ABOUT TEN ON AN ACRE.

An Effort Should Be Made to Have Enough Animals to Keep the Grass Eaten Down Before It Attains a Rank Growth.

The number of hogs that can be kept on an acre of clover pasture naturally depends upon the kind and size of the hogs and the natural fertility and productiveness of the land on which the clover is growing, writes W. F. Purdue in the National Stockman. Much also depends on the weather, for if there is an abundance of rainfall more feed will be produced on a given area than during a dry season.

In estimating the number of animals that an acre of pasture will support it

FARM WISDOM.

There is no reason why the farm home should not be just as attractive as the city home. In arranging farmhouse plans those that are adapted to the city can easily be changed to suit farm needs. Make your wife's workshop as attractive and convenient as any to be found anywhere.

The inside of a modern dairy barn looks very different today from the inside of a dairy barn twenty years ago. We are beginning to realize that sunshine is a necessary part of dairy sanitation. In fact, it is the principal factor.

The time is rapidly approaching when dairy products, the same as all other commodities used for food, will be paid for according to quality.

The septic tank deserves a place on every farm. It is one means of bringing city conditions to the farm home.

LIVE STOCK ON THE FARM.

How a Grain Grower Turned a Loss Into Substantial Profit.

A number of years ago a North Dakota wheat farmer, whose exclusive grain growing had put him deep in debt, desired from his bank a loan of \$1,000, writes J. C. McDowell in the Kansas Farmer. Except the horses there was no live stock—not a cow, a pig or even a chicken—on the place. The banker, a very shrewd business man, was able to analyze the problem and to discover the cause of the farmer's financial difficulties, and he agreed to make the loan only on condition that the borrower change his system of farming.

The system outlined by the banker required that a portion of the loan should be used to purchase two cows, half a dozen pigs and a small flock of poultry. It also provided for a fair sized vegetable garden. Grain farming was to be continued as before. The banker figured that the live stock and the garden would, in poor as well as in good seasons, fully support the farmer's table. He figured that in poor years the farmer would be able to play even and that in the good, and even in the average year, the farm would produce enough to gradually wipe out the debt.

The farmer reluctantly agreed to the banker's terms, received the loan and met the conditions. In five years he was out of debt and rated as a substantial and prosperous farmer and business man. To him farming had ceased to be a game of chance and had become a business.

TO IMPROVE THE FRUIT.

Thinning Advised For Those Who Want Product of High Quality.

To many it is a waste of time and labor to thin fruit trees, but with few exceptions it should be done. When the tree bears a light crop little thinning is necessary, but since most trees bear too much it is necessary to thin them to obtain fruit of proper quantity and quality. The purpose of thinning is to secure large, healthy, well flavored fruit in culling out the knotty, diseased, ill flavored ones. In order to prevent waste, feed the culls to hogs and poultry.

Culling out can be gauged by no fast rule. It is seldom overdone since the fruit grows fast up to harvest time. It is best to pull each wormy and blighted fruit. Such fruit will either drop from the tree before picking or prove worthless for storage or marketing.

Thinning will also prevent good fruit from contamination. In addition, the remaining fruit has a greater chance of development because the tree is not called upon to nourish those infested. The fruit produced from trees that have been thinned is of far superior quality.—American Agriculturist.

CAPONS THAT COUNT.

The best capons are hatched in early spring and operated upon during early summer, before extremely hot weather begins, says the Country Gentleman. The birds are then ready for market during and after the holiday season.

Cockerels of any breed can be made to increase in weight by being caponized. The larger breeds will permit of much greater gains and are therefore more desirable. For the production of capons on the farm the Plymouth Rocks are among the best fowls to keep, since the females may be kept for eggs and all surplus cockerels caponized.

June and July are the best months for the work, because spring hatched chicks reach proper size then and also because birds caponized at this time arrive at the proper age and weight for marketing at the season when there is the greatest demand and the best prices prevail.

Profitable Feeding.

As soon as the live stock farmer has made a good start the silo and paved feed lot must follow. The silo makes profits in every direction, and a paved lot permits the hogs to save 15 per cent of the corn fed to cattle above what they would save if fed in the usual mud lot. In addition to cattle comfort and manure saved.

BACILLI STICKS TO FLY.

The bacilli that cause decay are with the fly, and they cling to him when he wanders over the baby's face and hands or roosts upon the milk bottle. Flies are the reason why the undertaker keeps more than one white beard.

Common Looking People.

In "The War Time Diary of John Hay" in Harper's Magazine is this record of a famous saying: "The president (Lincoln) tonight (Dec. 23, 1863) had a dream. He was in a party of plain people, and as it became known who he was they began to comment on his appearance. One of them said: 'He is a very common looking man.' The president replied: 'The Lord prefers common looking people. That is the reason he makes so many of them.'"

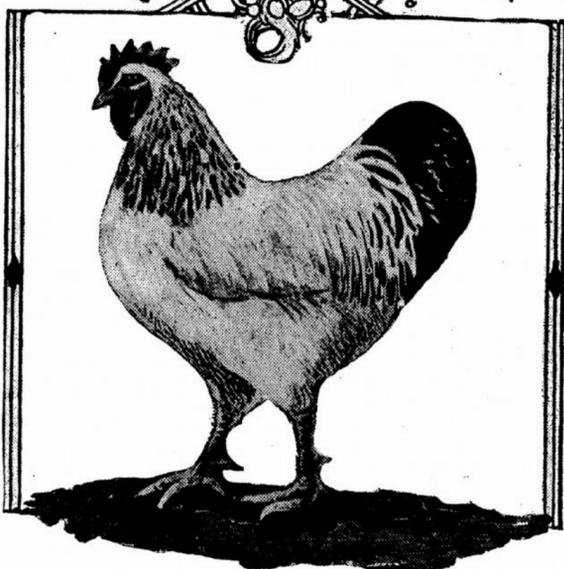
Declined With Thanks.

Beggar—Won't you give me a nickel for my starving wife, sir? Pedestrian—Nothing doing. I'm married already.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Just Turned It.

He—How old are you? She—I've just turned twenty-three. He—Oh, I see—thirty-two.—Boston Transcript.

One Fowl That Has Few Faults



The poultryman who is looking for a fowl which is noted for its beauty as well as its utility can do no better than to center his attention on the Columbian Plymouth Rock. This bird originated from a cross of White Wyandotte and Light Brahma. It has the fine markings of the Light Brahma and the size and conformation of the Rocks. It has a yellow, juicy, meaty carcass and lays a good quantity of big brown eggs. The illustration shows a Columbian cock.

should be remembered that individuals of the improved breeds that have been well handled and fed on a variety of feeds will eat more grass and get more out of it than animals that have been confined in yards and pens and fed almost entirely on concentrates. With the latter class the stomachs have not been expanded, and they are not capable of holding much coarse feed, and consequently such hogs cannot give as good returns for grass consumed.

It is safe to say that pigs weighing from 125 to 150 pounds will consume ten to twelve quarts of grass per day while being fed slops and a fairly good ration of grain feeds. An acre of clover growing on good rich soil in the early part of the season will furnish pasture for at least ten pigs of the size mentioned. Four or five brood sows, with their litters of pigs, can also be pastured on an acre of clover. Good judgment necessarily must be used in this matter. Overpasturing is not desirable, but an effort should be made to keep enough animals on each acre of pasture to keep the grass eaten down before it attains a rank growth.

Swine eat only the short and tender grass. Few of the rank and coarse stems are consumed. In case a sufficient number of animals to keep the grass eaten down cannot be kept in a field, as soon as the clover blossoms it should be mowed and cured for hay, after which a new growth will start, which the pigs will relish. In this way the maximum results from the clover will be secured.

COVER CROPS ESSENTIAL.

A blanket of cover crops is needed in every orchard at least half the year. An old orchard on sloping land, which is inclined to grow heavy wood on the trees at the expense of fruit bearing, needs a thick cover crop, such as common red or mammoth clover. In some successful orchards alfalfa has been used, and, though it is not generally regarded as a desirable orchard cover crop, there are instances where the alfalfa in an old orchard has been pastured by hogs and has proved an advantage for a year or two. It is then turned under and the orchard cultivated clean for a couple of seasons, with winter cover crops of crimson clover or vetch.

The barometer of the orchard condition is the growth of wood and the condition in which fruit is matured. If the cover crop is too heavy and is allowed to sap the ground of moisture in midsummer the fact will immediately be noted in slow maturing fruit and short growth on the terminal branches of the trees.

Many old trees need to be checked in their growth of wood to make them produce. The abundance of blossoms in an orchard is evidence that the heavy cover crop has had this effect.—Country Gentleman.

Too great stress cannot be laid on the importance of plenty of fresh air in the poultry houses if the birds are to keep in good condition.

ANCIENT ROMAN THEATERS.

When Rome was in her glory and the theater most popular distinctions between spectators long remained unknown. When distinctions were made the best seats were not assigned to the priests, for the drama had no such religious significance for the Romans as it had had for the Greeks, but were set apart for the more aristocratic portion of the community.

The orchestra was by law set apart for the senators. Later, perhaps after 67 B. C., the first fourteen rows back of the orchestra were, by the law of Roscius Otho, reserved at Rome for the knights, says Art and Archaeology. Similar arrangements obtained in Roman theaters outside of Rome, though in a provincial town like Pompeii as many as fourteen rows of seats can hardly have been necessary for the knights.

Augustus regulated the whole matter afresh. He confirmed the special privileges already granted to senators

and to knights. He relegated the lowest classes to the highest seats and made the women sit apart, likewise in the uppermost places. It is possible that he was the sponsor also for the more exact regulations laid down concerning places of honor for magistrates, priests, etc.

The seats of highest honor were those on the tribunalia. Here the editor and the emperor sat on the right side. On the other tribunal the vestal virgins had their places, and with them the empress.

A Glance at Current Topics and Events

New British Chief of Staff.

London, May 3.—Major General Sir William Robert Robertson, quartermaster general on the staff of Field Marshal Sir John French, with temporary rank of lieutenant general, has been promoted to be the chief of the imperial general staff to succeed Major General Sir Archibald James Murray.

No explanation was given why General Murray is to be succeeded by General Robertson. Twice in the present war General Murray has been mentioned in reports. In September General French spoke of him as having been one of those who had "worked day and night unceasingly, with the utmost skill, self sacrifice and devotion." In October General French again added him to his roll of honor.

Sir William Robertson's work as quartermaster general of the British army

public safety, issued an order that Pittsburgh policemen hereafter must recognize badges worn by boy scouts.

The order resulted from a complaint received by the director that a man claiming to be a patrolman had interfered with Harry Stein, a boy scout, when the latter was trying to give first aid to a little girl who had rushed from her home with her clothing in flames as the boy was passing. The girl later died.

Rockefeller Lake Dries Up.

Tarrytown, N. Y., May 3.—John D. Rockefeller has spent \$200,000 in making a lake on the Buttermilk hill section of his Pocantico Hills estate. Twice within the last six months the bowl has been filled, and both times the water has disappeared over night, leaving a dry, sandy bottom.

The disappearance of the water was a mystery to Mr. Rockefeller until some of his workmen discovered quicksand in the bed of the lake. It is said that Mr. Rockefeller will spend another \$200,000 if necessary to overcome the difficulty.

A year ago an artificial lake near the Bedford road on Mr. Rockefeller's estate disappeared over night. He is greatly interested in the work on the Buttermilk Hill lake, even neglecting his golf to oversee it. He spends much of the day there and rides home in an automobile truck when the men quit work at night.

American College Conference.

Meadville, Pa., May 4.—Educational leaders from all parts of the country will gather at the centennial celebration of Allegheny college here in June to discuss college matters, among which will be a plan for the standardization of courses of study. The program for the conference will be devoted to the ideals and achievements of the American college, what enters into its curriculum, its place in education and its future. Sessions will begin June 22.

Among the speakers will be the Rev. Dr. William H. Crawford, president of Allegheny college; Abraham W. Harris, president of Northwestern university; Dean Charles H. Haskins of Harvard university; Provost Edgar F. Smith of Pennsylvania university; John H. Finley, commissioner of education of New York state and ex-president of the College of the City of New York; W. H. P. Faunce, president of Brown university; P. P. Claxton, United States commissioner of education; Charles F. Thwing, president of Western Reserve university; Professor Alexander Melkielejohn, president of Abherst college, and Henry C. King, president of Oberlin college.

He Advocates Safety.

Washington, May 3.—Charles C. McChord, newly elected chairman of the interstate commerce commission, brings to his new office the knowledge of affairs gained from a wide field of personal and official experience. Previous to becoming a member of that body four years ago he had twelve years' active experience as railroad commissioner of Kentucky.

Soon after admission to the bar of Kentucky he was elected prosecuting attorney of Washington county and was twice re-elected. During his entire twelve years' service on the Kentucky railroad commission he was its chairman.

The associated railroad commissioners of the United States twice elected him president of that body.

He carried through to enactment his bill conferring upon the Kentucky



Photo by American Press Association.

commission authority and power to regulate the railroads of that state.

This was at a time when the unprecedented excitement and passion existed in Kentucky, which resulted in the assassination of Governor Goebel and forced the legislature to remove its sittings from Frankfort to Louisville.

Since he has been a member of the interstate commerce commission he has reorganized and systematized the safety work of the commission into what is now known as the division of safety, all of whose work has been under his supervision.

Prettiest Vassar Girl.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., May 3.—Miss Julia Anita Parker of Hyde Park was voted the prettiest girl in the sophomore class of Vassar college when she was chosen as the grand marshal of the bevy of twenty-six girls who will carry the daisy chain at commencement exercises June 8. Miss Parker is tall and athletic, has dark hair and brown eyes and an olive complexion.

This is the first time that the brunette type of beauty has been favored in selecting a grand marshal.

The twenty-four chosen to carry the daisy chain are:

Madeline Hunt, Brookline, Mass.; Eloise Cummings, Pittsburgh; Katharine MacAfee, Chicago; Margaret Hackney, Johnstown; Marion Serrie, Lockport; Phyllis Marshall, Philadelphia; Jane Lyday, Detroit; Anna Goodenow, Jamaica Plain, Mass.; Anne Gardner, Mount Vernon; Annabelle McEldowney, Pittsburgh; Josephine Taylor, Englewood, N. J.; Dorothy Danforth, St. Louis; Dorothy Smith, Walkill; Katharine Tilt, Chicago; Dorothy Carter, Huntington, N. Y.; Doris Drummer, Hamburg; Helen Moore, Princeton, N. J.; Margaret Butum, East Hampton, Mass.; Anne Smith, Memphis, Tenn.; Laura Stilson, Cortland; Dorothy Coppenhaver, Washington; Rachel Beyner, Savannah; Alice MacLair, Tarrytown.

Great Land Opening.

Washington, May 3.—President Wilson has approved the opening to settlement of thousands of acres in the Standing Rock Indian reservation in North and South Dakota, under the homestead laws. After the two states have made selections to which they are entitled, there will remain 39,000 acres in North Dakota and 47,000 acres in South Dakota subject to entry.

Applications will be received at Timber Lake, S. D., and Bismarck, N. D., after May 3 and allowed on May 19 in the absence of conflicts.

New World's Center.

Washington, May 3.—Confidence in a speedy return to normal business conditions was expressed by W. P. G. Harding, member of the federal reserve board. Mr. Harding also predicted that the war in Europe would make New York the world's financial center.

"In some of the federal reserve districts, particularly in the west," said Mr. Harding, "business conditions already are normal, and the federal reserve banks are having few applications for rediscounts. Business is also becoming normal in the south. The advance in the price of cotton is bound to be a wonderful stimulus to general business conditions in the south, but it is to be hoped that southern farmers will not be carried away by this advance and plant another large crop. They should be very conservative in cotton acreage and should materially increase their acreage of food crops."

Soldiers Can't See Wives.

Paris, May 3.—A habit developed by French wives of visiting their soldier husbands at the front has led General Joffre to prohibit such visits and warn the husbands of punishment for their wives' disregard of this order. The perseverance of the wives in eluding the military guards is remarkable in that it is very difficult for any noncombatant to get to the French lines, even the official war correspondents being allowed to go there only for very brief periods. The following order was issued by the commander of one infantry regiment:

Every married man has the duty, as required by civil law, to strive for the obedience of his wife. Therefore every married soldier must be in a position to prevent his wife from visiting him. The worse for the married men if they have not sufficient authority over their wives to enforce the obedience demanded by the civil law. Therefore they are to be made responsible for the obedience of their wives. If in former times a market woman succeeded in getting into the army, inasmuch as it was not possible to throw her into prison, her husband was imprisoned instead, since he was made responsible for the poor military training of his wife. That method was not so foolish as it appears to be at first glance, and it will be applied again in such cases as occur.

President May See Arizona Launched.

New York, May 5.—The new super-Dreadnought Arizona, of which more than 53 per cent has been completed at the navy yard in Brooklyn, will be launched early in June, and as soon as she takes the water preparations will begin for the laying of the keel of the still greater super-Dreadnought California, which also is to be built at the navy yard. Contracts for the materials to be used in the construction of the California are now being let.

The launching of the Arizona is expected to prove one of the greatest naval celebrations in the history of New York. The time selected for the great ship to take her plunge into the East river is one when the entire Atlantic fleet will be in New York waters, making it possible for 25,000 officers and men of that organization to witness the ceremony. President Wilson will be urged to go to Brooklyn for the launching. If he does he will be the first president to witness a battleship launching in New York in the last ten years.

The Arizona will be the fourth of the great battleships built in the New York navy yard to be launched, the others having been the old flagship Connecticut, the Dreadnought Florida and the super-Dreadnought New York, the last named the new flagship of the Atlantic fleet. When she goes overboard she probably will be about 65 per cent completed, which indicates that it will be early in the spring of 1916 before she is ready to take her place as a unit of the first super-Dreadnought division of the Atlantic fleet. Her sister ship, the Pennsylvania, was launched at Newport News, Va., last Tuesday.

May Recognizes Boy Scouts. Pittsburgh, May 4.—Charles S. Hubbard, director of the department of