THE REVIEW'S SPECIAL FARM NEWS DEPARTMENT

John H. D. Gray
Editor

Live News About Crawford County Farms and Farmers

TURKEY HISTORY

The turkey as a domesticated fowl, has had but a brief history. Indeed, in comparision with the chicken, it cannot really be called domesticated, for this big bird still nests in the wood, roosts in the swaying tree top, roams far afield to find natural turkey food, and oft, at the call of the wild turkey cock, it flees to the woods and the mountains, to ancestrial allegiance and life. But the chicken is a domesticated antique. It has been digging up gardens and making the neighbors fuss and cuss for over thirty-five centuries. The chicken is lacking in wisdom when compared with the lordly turkey. As proof of that fact, I have daily seen evidence of chickens attempting to cross the Lincoln Highway, but up to the hour of going to press, have never seen anything that would even hint at a turkey attempting such a foolhardy trick.

The so-called domestication of the turkey began less than four centuries ago, and while the chicken has been changed from the natural to the artificial, has been converted from the little wild jungle fowl into a creation radically different in habits, size, shape, color, variety and productivity but with the turkey, nature couldn't be reversed; it could not be taken from the woods and mountains and changed into a machine to meet commercial demands, it could not be raised on the canary cage plan, and failure of men to note that it is a fowl in its own class, with a distinctive constitution that requires special food and environment, has put the United States in the turkey graveyard belt, has knocked the turkey population in a single decade from 6,594,095 to 3,668,708, and where formerly big, lusty, red-headed gobblers sassed you from nearly every farmyard, today but thirteen per cent of our farms produce turkeys, and of these, all but one, at the last census, decreased in product.

Columbus did not discover the turkey. The archives of Spain declare that Pedro Nino found the first turkeys, known to Europeans, in northern Mexico, and bore them across to Spain in 1500, as souvenirs of his trip.

This was the Mexican wild turkey, two other varieties existing, the northern of our woods and mountains and the occellate of Honduras. South America, the latter never domesticated and having plumage like the peacock. The ancient ornithologist called the big, bald-headed bird turkey, which at that time signified foreign, and had no reference to its origin.

In 1852, some of these Mexican birds were taken over to England, and in the meantime the Cabots had discovered the Northern wild turkey, while exploring the North American coast, and had borne them across to England as curiosities of the wonderful New World, and if I have one for next Thanksgiving dinner, it will be a curiosity at my home. It was soon discovered that the big breasted bird, as a holiday centerpiece, beat the stuffed piglet, it was bred on the big estates, and an Englishman mated a Northern gobbler and Mexican hen, and offsprings from this breeding were brought over to America by settlers and became the foundation of our domestic turkey tribe. I have not been able to learn just how long this strain was bred before it was brought over, but it is declared that this fowl is identical with the English Black Norfolk of today.

The Northern wild turkey hen pranced down from her own fireside and mated with this English mixture, and thence came the Bronze Americas, largest and most popular turkey for the President's Christmas dinner. From black or bronze, as a sport, came the White Holland, which crossed with other Bronze White sports has made it almost as large and as strong as the bronze.

Other tribes are the Naragasett, which is two-thirds Mexican, and one-third Northern blood, the slate, half-black and half white Holland, the buff a sport from black or bronze, which is supposed to be the same as the English Black Norfolk, the first domestic strain.

Thus from two species of wild turkeys, have come seven distinct varieties in color and size, especially, much different from their wild ancestry.

Craze for color markings has been detrimental, but craze for unnatural size has made many birds flabby—weak breeders—and is one reason for high mortality among poults.

—o—

CURTAIN FRONT POULTRY HOUSE

We are fully convinced that there is no more healthful arrangement for sectional fronts of the farm poultry house in northern climates than the muslin curtain front.

After using these fronts upon our poultry house for six years, we are sure that we could not have attached any greater improvement to our house for winter keeping of our fowls than the muslin front. In early autumn, as rough winds and frost appear, the hens need slight protection and while the muslin front admits sufficient light, it well affords the needed protection for the fowls. Then, as winter days approach, we can let these fronts down at night and rough stormy days, and the fowls have a most comfortable, light, airy but not breezy, quarters in which to scratch for their feed and exercise stimulative egg resources which they develop with such work.

Cheap, unbleached muslin has been employed by us and is stretched tightly upon frames which are hinged at the top and hook into the roof out of the way when not in use. The very important feature in making a serviceable curtain front is to stretch the muslin over frames very tightly as this adds years to its value and wear.

We greatly favor the frames not made so large, but rather in sections, not over three feet square, for we can open up half of them admitting light and air, plenty of sunshine and the remaining half admit of protection against rough, sweeping winds. We quite often open them in this manner in winter leaving every other one closed to afford semi-protection from cold or blasts.

Before installing these curtain fronts, we always had trouble with sweaty walls, damp litter, foul odors, roup croupy fowls, and sickness of all manner. Since installing an entire curtain front and using it expediently, we hardly know what a sick fowl is and have no dampness to hamper our care of the fowls.

The whole lower front is curtained in this manner and we always have plenty of light, airy, dry quarters and litter in which the fowls revel on stormy, cold days. The bad arrangement of so many farm poultry houses is the cause of low production of winter eggs, and not so often the accused breed of fowls and their feed.

Half of the battle of profitable egg production on the farm is little cares and conviences in taking care of the fowls and not so much their ration to make eggs—G. W. B., Ohio.

—o—

I drove out to the farm of Paul Stensen, four and one-half miles northwest of Denison, to take a look at his Angora goats. About June 1, he bought 150 goats in Omaha and brought them to his farm to clean up the brush on a twenty acre tract, of timber land. They have certainly done their work well, for every bush has been devastated of its leaves and they have also cleaned up the underbrush. When they came to the farm they averaged eighty pounds in weight, but since their arrival they have increased their weight considerably and now average 100 pounds. They have not received a thing to eat aside from what they found in this twenty acre lot. A woven wire fence was placed around the lot, and, I understand, nearly every day one or two of the goats get their horns fastened in the fence and it is necessary to assist them before they get their freedom. They are all males. I understand that Mr. Stensen has decided to sell the bunch, for they have completed the task given them. There is now 149 in the flock, one having passed to his reward. The Angora goat is often confounded with the Cashmere but in reality is quite distinct from it. The principal feature of this breed, of which there are two or three varieties, is the length and quality of its hair, or fleece, which has a particularly soft and silky texture, covering the whole body and a great part of the legs with close matted ringlets. The face has a sheepish expression. The coat is composed of two kinds of hair, the one short and coarse and of the character of hair which lies close to the skin, the other long and curly and of the nature of wool, forming the outer covering. Both are used by the manufacturer, but the exterior portion, which makes up by far the greater bulk, is much more valuable. The process of shearing takes place in early spring and is conducted with the utmost care, the average amount of wool yielded by each animal is about two pounds. The best quality comes from castrated males, the females produce the next best. Angora Turkey, in Asia, about 200 miles E. S. E. of Constantinople, has long been celebrated for its goats, whose soft silky hair, about eight inches long, forms the chief article of export from the city.

—o—

Maplehurst farm located in section twenty-seven, Goodrich township, is the property of John T. Woodruff. I visited this farm last week and saw much to interest me. To look at Mr. Woodruff no one who did not know it to be a fact would believe that he was compelled, on account of poor health, to give up the profession of superintendent of schools in a western city He now looks the perfect man physically and I doubt if there is a better built man in the county. He has lived twenty four hours a day the ideal life that is close to nature, enjoying the freedom of God's great outdoors. His faith in farm life has made him free from his former physical troubles. As you approach Maplehurst farm, you are led to believe that it is no ordinary farm or man who lives there. An arch sign has been placed over the entrance driveway announcing this is Maplehurst farm, and right off the bat, after seeing that sign, you expect to see something out of the ordinary. The farm consists of 160 acres and is well taken care of by its owner who farms it alone. Right now work has started on a new building which will be fifty two feet long and twenty feet wide. It will be a combination machine shed, work shop, and garage. It will have a cement floor and part of the back wall will be made of the same material. The contract has been let for another very useful farm building, it is a double corn crib and granary. It will be 30x32, thirty feet high and have a capacity of 5,000 bushels of ear corn and 4,500 bushels of small grain. An inside elevator will be placed in the driveway, also a dump. Mr. Woodruff attended the State Fair and while there bought a trio of Yorkshire swine. He is determined to have bacon with his eggs, hence the Yorkshire hogs. The Yorkshire is a white breed of English origin. In Denmark, England, Ireland and Canada, where the raising of pigs for bacon is an important industry, the large Yorkshire with is crosses is the most common breed used. I saw a real freak, or curiosity, in the field of seed corn on this farm. As evidence that it is not common will mention that Mr. Woodruff has been asked to exhibit it at the Ames corn show this year. What do you think of this: one kernel of seed corn producing one stock and three suckers upon which are growing four good ears of corn and three nubbins? He has a field of Reed's Yellow Dent seed corn which is well along toward maturity, it has started to dent. 150 choice Chester White spring pigs are doing their best to make hogs of themselves, and they have a very good start right now. I understand that Mr. Woodruff and many other Crawford county farmers will take seed corn to the Ames corn show and they expect to return with their share of the prizes, too.

—o—

Farmers who never went in for feeding operations before are seriously considering their possibilities and profits. The United States Department of Agriculture has launched a campaign to restock American farms with cattle, sheep and hogs. Every farmer who has roughage or feed going to waste or who can feed stock will be asked to co-operate. The government proposes to do its part by arranging for a distribution of feeders and help in extending credit to farmers. It has been pointed out that every farmer who can feed stock should do so; first, as a patriotic duty to help relieve the meat situation, second, because of the fact that it offers him a better chance of a fair return than in years past.

—o—

Hans Blohm has built an addition to and repainted his residence in Milford township. A trip to his farm will convince you that Hans believes in keeping everything spick and span around the farm.

—o—

J. A. Houlihan now resides five and a half miles northeast of Denison, but he will be located just one mile northwest of town next spring, when he moves onto that 176 acre farm he purchased of C. F. Brogden last week. He paid $210 an acre for it.

—o—

I found Fred Kahl busy mixing "mud" when I called at his farm two miles southeast of Deloit last Friday. Two rooms of his residence is being replastered and a garage, 12x22, will be built to house his automobile.

—o—

About one month ago A. J. Mason purchased the George Wright farm two miles east of Deloit. A porch has been built along the south side of the residence and he is also planning on building a new barn in the near future.

—o—

Samuel Anderson gave me several of those North Western Greening apples last week. They are not as large this year as they have been in former years but the quality is excellent. Mr. Anderson is located on a good farm about one mile southwest of Deloit.

—o—

A person driving along the farm of B. Boysen, one and a half miles west of Deloit would naturally think it would be a poor place to ask, "are you going to make any building improvements this fall?" The farm now looks like it has about everything in the line of buildings that could be desired. However, M. Hansen informed me that work would start right away on a cattle shed, 48x56.

—o—

A new silo has just been completed for J. H. Fink, one and a half miles northwest of Deloit. It is 14x30 and built of cement slabs. A new house and barn were built last fall. The barn is very convenient. It is a combination horse and cow barn. There are three double horse stalls and stanchions for ten cows. The barn is 30x40. A milking machine will be installed next spring. A new cattle shed will be built soon, it will be 24x32. I saw fifty-three choice belted spring pigs in the feed lot.

—o—

Peter Petersen is hauling building material for a new cattle barn on his farm in section thirty-four, Otter Creek township. It will be 40x52. The center section will be devoted to the storing of hay.

—o—

Elmer Birkhoefer has a nice bunch of cattle. He has a herd of twenty-five grade Hereford cows and a pure bred bull which he paid $225 for last spring. He is located on his father's farm three and a half miles northwest of Dow City.

—o—

One and a half miles south of Manilla may be seen a mighty classy bunch of pure bred Hereford cattle. They are the property of Wm. A. Theobald & Sons. At the head of this herd of forty-three head stands Andy Real, the $3,000 bull which was purchased at Omaha last spring. Nearly $10,000 has been invested in bringing together this herd of cattle, and it has all been done this year. The herd consists of twenty-one breeding cows, ten young bulls and eleven heifers. Six head was taken from this herd to the Crawford county fair and they were admired by all. Andy Real is only two years old, but he is a wonder. He is of that low down blocky type and his hind quarters are just about perfect.

—o—

Thirty-five years ago Patrick Mead purchased 225 acres of section thirty-one, Milford township, and it has been his home ever since. He came to the county in the year 1875. He informed me that he will soon start work on a new barn 40x48.

—o—

Peter DeConnick is planning on building a hog house 48x22 on his farm in section twenty-eight, Goodrich township. He is investigating hollow tile brick as building material for the new hog house, and I believe he will decide to use it. I have seen many buildings made of it, and have never heard a complaint from the man who owned such a building. He will also build an engine and wash house 16x14.

—o—

Two years ago Thomas T. Hollander bought the Julius Schroeder farm in section thirty-five in Otter Creek township and has decided the double corn crib and granary is not large enough. An addition 16x26 has been built to it, which makes the building 40x26.

—o—

Ernest Miller will move all the buildings on his farm in section thirty, Otter Creek township, except that fine and dandy new residence he built this spring to replace the old home destroyed by fire. The buildings will be repaired and overhauled. When I called he informed me that he intended to buy a pure bred Hampshire sire and understand he did so at the Arion fair.

—o—

Nic Naeve is repairing all of the buildings on his farm located about one and a half miles south of Schleswig. He attended the Iowa state fair and while there purchased a Chester White male pig.

—o—

While visiting at the home of T. J. Rule in section twenty-seven, Paradise township, I saw a number of things which recalled bygone days. In the year 1879 Mr. Rule and his parents, and the other members of the family, moved onto this farm which later became the property of Tom. When the family moved onto the farm there was a dwelling which is now upon the farm, but it is somewhat run down at the heel, nevertheless, there is enough of it left to remind one of the days of yesterday. The building was built of black walnut and oak and much of it is left in good condition. In those days walnut was used for building purposes. A new residence took the place of the old building soon after the family moved to the farm and that building, with a few changes, is now the home of Tom and family. I was shown the old granary, which is a two story building with basement. In the second story I saw seed corn and other articles stored, but that room has a history, and no doubt has a tender spot in the hearts of many of the old settlers. It was used for a dance room, and many is the time that young folks then, but old now, have gathered to dance. Yes, many were there at the country ball, and danced to the music of the fiddle, when first lady and foot gent met in the middle. Every heart was beating faster than the merry tune, and their eyes parted with eager joy and their round cheeks flushed with the beautiful motion of the dance. Those were grand old days, when the dancers came from far and near in bob sleds and really enjoyed life at its best. Oysters were brought to the farm and oyster soup was served to the noisy and merry crowd of young people. They danced all night, 'till broad daylight, and then went home with the girls in the morning. In the home is an old clock which has been given the proper prominence its age deserves. It is a Seth Thomas clock and was purchased of John R. Barr, Dewitt, Iowa, Dec. 4, 1869. Mr. Rule has now in his bins over 650 bushels of winter wheat and intends to plant 40 acres this month. I had the pleasure of visiting the orchard and sampled its fruit. I was also given a sack full to take home with me. This was my first visit to the farm and, while going there a stranger, the whole family made me feel like I was a member of the family a short time after I had called. I was entertained at dinner and want to say that it was good to be there.

—o—

Charter Oak Times: You notice this week an advertisement telling of a sale of the lumber in the old mill, and when that is made it will mark the finish of the milling industry in Charter Oak. Our farmers did not raise wheat to make it pay, and our housewives preferred to be cheated by something from out of town. Between the two, the mill died a natural death, but its going will be mourned, nevertheless. Its machinery has all been shipped away, its inner workings are all gone, and there is no further reason for encumbering the ground with it. Otto Nipkow has bought the lots and will make a small fruit farm of them.

—o—

Grundy Republican: Chas. Wilhelm bought one of the lots in the new addition at the south end of Third street and this summer he planted it to beans. He harvested his crop last week and got eight bushels of hand picked navies from the lot which measured almost an even one-sixth acre, or at the rate of forty-eight bushels to the acre. Now beans are costing $8.00 per bushel wholesale in Grundy Center but when Mr. Wilhelm tried to dispose of his beans he could not find a sale for them at the prevailing price and finally disposed of them at $5.50 a bushel to W. D. Wilson. The reason advanced for the lower

(Continued on Page Seven)

Corn Pain Stopped Quick

Corns Lift Right Off With "Gets-It"

Blessed relief from corn pains is simple as A B C with "Get-It."

When you've been limping around for days trying to get away from a heart-drilling corn or bunny callus, and everything you've tried has

only made it worse, and then you put some "Gets-It" on and the pain eases right away, and the corn peels right off like a banana skin—'ain't it a grand and heavenly feeling?"

"Gets-It" has revolutionized the corn history of the world. Millions use it and it never fails. Ladies wear smaller shoes and have pain-free feet. We old fellows and young fellows forget our toes and feel frisky as colts. Everybody with a corn or callus needs "Gets-It." We will all walk about and enjoy ourselves as we did without corns. Get a bottle today from your druggist, or sent on receipt of price by E. Lawrence & Co., Chicago, Ill., 25c is all you need to pay.

Sold in Denison and recommended as the world's best corn remedy by R. Knaul, Grau Drug Co.

Stomach Troubles Since Childhood PERUNA Made Me Well

I Now Enjoy The Best of Health.

Mr. Wm. W. Everly, 3325 North Hancock Street, Philadelphia, Pa., writes:

"I have been troubled with stomach disorders since childhood, but after taking six bottles of your Peruna, I now enjoy the best of health. I also had catarrh in the head, which practically has disappeared thanks to the Peruna Co. for their good work."

Those who object to liquid medicines can procure Peruna Tablets.

160 Acre Farm At Auction

Three parties own the following described farm, and in order to dissolve partnership we have decided to sell at public auction the NE¼ of Section 24, Township 82, Range 37 west of the 5th Principal Meridian, Iowa township, Crawford county, Iowa, located 1 mile west of Manning, 2 miles east of Aspinwall, known as the Hans Griebel farm, on

Friday, Sept. 21

Sale to be Held on Farm

Commencing at 1:30 P. M. Sharp

160 acres more or less according to government survey. Improvements consist of 2 fair houses, good large barn, corn crib, hog house, chicken house, granary, windmill, reservoir, system of water works.

Land lays rolling, but not rough. Practically every acre farm land; fenced and cross fenced. A little work will make this one of the very best farms in the vicinity. Located one mile from Manning on a main traveled road, not in the independent school district. Manning is considered the best town in Iowa of 2000 population. Three railroads, best of markets, good uptodate stores, good churches, very best of schools, new high school under construction at the present time, and Manning has the name of doing things right.

Anyone wanting a home close to school, this is your chance to get one at your own price. [redacted]

Farm known as the Hans Griebel farm, located 1 mile west of Manning.

TERMS: $1000 day of sale. $22,000 can be left in land 10 years at 5 per cent interest. Balance March 1, 1918, when deed and abstract showing good title and possession will be given.

For Information Address

Cols. Tate and McLaughlin

REAL ESTATE AUCTIONEERS, MANNING, IOWA.

FARM AT AUCTION

213 Acres

On account of poor health, I have decided to retire from farming in this locality and will offer to the highest bidder my farm, located as follows:

All in Sections 8 and 9, township 84, range 35, west of the 5th P. M., Carroll county, Iowa, (full legal numbers given at date of sale). 4½ miles southeast of Carroll, 3 miles north of Willey, 7½ miles southwest of Glidden, Iowa.

Friday, Sep. 14

Sale to be Held on the Farm

Commencing at 1 Sharp

Farm contains 213 1-8 acres according to government survey. All tillable and extra well fenced; part hog tight. Generally considered to be one of the best farms in this part of the country. The farm is well watered; wells have never been known to go dry.

Improvements consist of one good seven room house, one large barn, will hold 60 head of cattle, 10 head of horses and room for 45 tons of hay, one silo 14x32, one double corn crib 8x24, one extra good granary 18x26, good chicken house(ice house and machine shed 24x32. Good grove around house and small apple orchard.

TERMS: $1500 day of sale. $11,500 now on farm first mortgage to run 5 years at 5½ per cent. Will leave $18,000 more back on farm in second mortgage 5 years at 5 per cent. Balance of purchase price to be paid March 1, 1918, when deed and abstract showing good title will be given.

We invite you to be with us on sale day. Remember the date and come. [redacted]

A. B. VENTEICHER, Owner

HALL & DOMINISSE, Sale Managers, Templeton, Iowa. TATE & McLAUGHLIN, Auctioneers, Manning, Iowa

Keeps Your Stove Shining Bright

Gives a brilliant glossy shine that does not rub off or dust off—that anneals to the iron—that lasts four times as long as any other.

Black Silk Stove Polish

is in a class by itself. It's more *carefully* made and made from *better materials*.

Try it on your parlor stove, your cook stove or your gas range. If you don't find it the best polish you ever used, your hardware or grocery dealer is authorized to refund your money.

There's "A Shine in Every Drop"

Get a Can TODAY

Winter Wheat, Alfalfa and Timothy Seed

All other kinds of farm seeds. Come and see our seed and get our prices before buying elsewhere. Phone 396

The Denison Seed Company Denison Iowa

Step Into Our Yard!

Look around. Ask questions. Examine our stock. Get our prices. See our galvanized sky-lights, window ventilators, carbo steel posts, wood and iron gates and some of the BEST COAL in Iowa.

W. R. TEMPLE CO.