

The Farm News Department

Special Page Devoted to the Farming Interests of Crawford County, Wherein the News of the Farmer and Stock Raiser is Chronicled From Week to Week.

E. F. TUCKER, Editor

The members of the Farmers' Union will hold a big picnic at Charter Oak on Wednesday, August 20th, in Carstee's grove. It is expected every member of the union will be present and participate in the events. Speakers well known to the union members will speak, and there will be amusements of all kinds, and a general good time is anticipated. See the ad in another column of this issue.

The name Meyer is well known in western Crawford county for it represents remarkable success in farming and stock raising, and in financial matters. Adolph, who bears the name of his sire, lives in section 34, Soldier township, where he owns 320 acres of land, and has it improved to such an extent that it is easily termed one of the best improved farms in the neighborhood. The land is especially adapted to stock raising and agricultural purposes. It is just gently rolling and is well watered but not cut up with too many waterways. The house is a large and very convenient one, well protected from the north winds and has a splendid view from the south. For the livestock and machinery and products of the farm Mr. Meyer has many buildings. The horse barn is 45x72 and there is room for all the horses of the place, 19 in all, the milk cows and hay and grain; an elevator holding between 6000 and 7000 bushels of grain is equipped with all necessary machinery and bins; a cow barn 48x50 with hay above furnishes ample room for many heads of stock, and the hog house is 28x50, built of cement with 20 pens and is exceptionally well lighted from the south and is so situated it is not necessary to have heat during farrowing time. Adjoining this splendid building is a large cement feeding floor with a cement wall; disinfectant is poured into this wall and of course the hogs carry this all over the yards and they are therefore in a most sanitary condition. In each of the yards one finds one of these cement feeding floors. Mr. Meyer says he intends to build another hog house this fall, even larger than the old one. He now has on the farm 200 head of pigs of the Duroc breed, and secured his foundation stock for this herd from McAndrews at Vail. One hundred head of these pigs are of March farrow. During the winter Mr. Meyer had 80 head of brood sows, and altogether had 375 pigs, but lost a number for various reasons. He recently paid a veterinarian over \$600 for vaccinating his herd. The day we were at the place Mr. Meyer and his men were caring for the pigs that had been treated—a lump generally forms on some part of the body after vaccination, and this must be opened. Mr. Meyer does not hold public sales of his hogs, but sells on private treaty, and already fifteen head of fine shots have been spoken for by his neighbors. In cattle Mr. Meyer caters to Aberdeens and at the head of his herd which at this time comprises 29 head, he has some of the George Neddermeyer stock. At this season of the year he keeps considerable help and pays as high as \$90 per month and keeps his man's automobile. And he also has a good car of his own, and keeps the two cars housed in a new cement block garage. Mr. Meyer is well known in the community as a man of integrity, and in all of his dealings he is known for fairness and thus keeps the good will of all.

The height of a woman's kitchen sink and work tables are important factors in her well-being and well-doing, says the United States department of Agriculture. She can't do as much or as good work and feel well and strong with her sink and table so low that she has to bend over to work, or so high that she has to "reach up" as she would were they the proper height. As a general rule 32 to 36 inches from the floor is the height for general work tables and the bottom of the sink should usually be 30 to 31 inches from the floor. However each woman ought to find out for herself the height of the table at which she can work most easily and efficiently, and see that her work tables and sink are adjusted accordingly.

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Edward Meyer, of section 3, Charter Oak township, is a worthy representative of the rich community in which he lives. He was born right on the farm he now occupies, in 1883, and is a son of the late Adolph Meyer, one of the best known settlers of western Crawford county. Edward has not only gained an education in the schools of the county, but he has gained a wonderful and successful education in the school of experience. After quitting school he immediately took up the duties of farm life, and early displayed good judgment in the selection and handling of livestock. Upon the division of his father's estate he came into possession of considerable property, and today he owns 815 acres of as fine land as lays in Crawford county, and it is very highly improved. To become an extensive raiser and feeder of livestock it was necessary to have the improvements, and these he now has and he keeps them in excellent repair. Take for instance the elevator, this building has a capacity for 50,000 bushels of grain, and is equipped throughout with all kinds of machinery for the handling of the grain. Elevator, fanning mill, grinder and all. Mr. Meyer has rented out something like 400 acres of his land, but it is so rented that he virtually controls it. A very large barn will hold the horses of the farm and the number at present is 24. Among these horses are three pure bred stallions, two of them being Percherons and one a French draft. In cattle Edward keeps Aberdeen-Angus, and has used for years nothing but imported stock. He has on the place at this time 75 head of cows and 25 heifers. Recently he sold a fine bull to Charles Greene for which he was paid a long price. Last winter he had the misfortune to lose 25 head of cows, and he has never determined the cause of their illness. In hogs he formerly kept the Poland Chinas, but of late years he has the Hampshires and these he fattens for market. Mr. Meyer and his wife are identified with the Lutheran church and for many years he was school director of his township. He is an up-to-date, live-wire farmer and stock raiser, and we are pleased to have made his acquaintance.

Sir Pieterje Ormsby Mercedes 41st, a Holstein Freisian bull, sold last week in Moorhead, Minn., for an even \$65,000. Four years ago this animal was sold to E. C. Schroeder for \$1500. In the \$65,000 transaction Mr. Schroeder and Gustav Pabst syndicated, and Mr. Schroeder paid \$32,500 for a half interest in the bull he had sold for \$1,500.

Fred Knop of Soldier township, is another breeder of exceptional Durocs, and he caters to the cherry red, as does Samuelson, McDonald and others. He is now getting ready a herd that he will show at Des Moines and at Sioux City and the Arion fairs. In all he has 60 head of young ones, 30 brood sows and two herd boars. Sensation as a yearling weighs better than 500 pounds and was purchased from Ed Kernes of Nebraska. He is a fine specimen of the breed, well balanced throughout, good action and color. Giant Model Jr. at 10 months weighs around 400 and is a pig that Mr. Knop raised himself. He has the making of a reputation for himself as he is so well proportioned, smooth with a good coat of hair, and Knop says he is a winner. When we called at the Knop place Mr. Knop was over at Richard Baak's helping with the threshing and we looked the hogs over with the consent of Mrs. Knop. Later we met Mr. Knop and he told us something of the herd. He has five fall boars that are described as being "dandies," and three of these will make a part of the show herd. The Knop Durocs are well known throughout Soldier township as well as in other parts of the county. For next year Mr. Knop has rented the Julius Christensen place of 160 acres and will move thereon next March. The place is more suitably adapted for his purposes than is the present location, and Mr. Knop says he will do much better on the new place. Mrs. Knop is a daughter of Mrs. Geo. Ulrich, one of the old settlers of near Charter Oak. This season she raised 450 chickens

Under the caption of "What Women Are Doing on Iowa Farms," the Iowa Farmer devotes some space to Mrs. F. H. Sheridan, of Vail, and tells what she is doing with her day-old chicks—and 5,000 egg incubator.

Joining the Bartelt place to the south is the 240 acre farm belonging to J. H. Reisser, who lives in Charter Oak, where he owns a 5 acre tract. The 240 acres have been worked by Henry Listmann for a number of years. Men was made in these columns during the late winter of the death of Mrs. Listmann, and because of her death the husband and sons have decided to give up farming for a time. They had the farm well stocked, running 25 head of cattle and 65 head of Red Hogs. They lately sold a number of hogs that averaged 225 in weight. John, the older son, was discharged from the army last June. He served six months in France and was a member of Co. M, 7th division.

The many friends of James J. Houston will be glad to learn that he is again at home after having been at a hospital in Sioux City. He lives in section 1, Boyer township, on the old home place of Patrick Houston. There are 200 acres in this place, and James J. had the big share of the work to look after because the son, J. P., was away in the navy, being in the aerial force flying airplanes. He was discharged last July however, and as soon as he reached home he could not get into civilian clothes soon enough to begin work on the farm. Mr. Houston keeps some 48 head of Shorthorn cattle and also a number of Duroc Jersey

of the Buff Plymouth Rock breed and has 100 old ones on the place. She also has a few White Leghorns. Mr. Knop and his brother-in-law, Herman Ulrich, spent last Sunday week at Atlantic, where they visited relatives.

We formed the acquaintanceship of Fred Watke, of section 28, Soldier township, on last Friday. He is a successful farmer of his township, and raises considerable stock, some of it being pure bred. He is a hale fellow well met.

Lou Staly is operating his father's farm in Willow township, three miles southwest of Charter Oak, where he is working 320 acres. This season he has in 110 acres of corn and 110 acres of oats. He keeps Aberdeen Angus cattle and has 50 head. He went to Geo. Neddermeyer for his stock, and he has some good ones in the herd. He is a fancier of Durocs and owns 72 spring pigs. He sold 17 head of brood sows that averaged around 250, and for which he received \$21.55. He has just completed a new chicken house on the place. His brother, Paul, is assisting in operating the farm.

Many of the farmers of Soldier township have finished threshing this year's crop, and among these we mention Richard Baak, of section 32, who finished Friday. His grain turned out fairly well. Mr. Baak had pretty good success with spring pigs and raised 90 head from 20 brood sows. He keeps the Hereford cattle and owns 48 head. He went to Missouri for his herd bull and purchased a very good animal at \$250. This year he is taking care of 57 acres of corn, 23 acres of wheat and 57 acres of oats. He was born on the place where he still resides; this farm was built up by his father, August Baak, and the home is in the best of repair. Mrs. Baak has many chickens and 40 geese.

The Chas. Bartelt farm of 160 acres in section 1, Willow township, is being run this year by Fred Plage, who formerly lived over north of Charter Oak. He moved to this place last March and likes it real well. He is getting started in the Shorthorn game and now has 12 head of this breed of cattle. Of this number he milks six sows. He returns from the sale of the cream is quite helpful in a financial way. From \$50 to \$90 are received each month from the cream. Mr. Plage had very bad luck with his Durocs this spring, and out of 70 head of pigs he only saved 22. He has in 70 acres of corn, 7 acres of wheat and 40 acres of oats. Mrs. Plage has 400 chickens. Mr. Plage's post office is Charter Oak.

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Chas. Chase, of near Buck Grove, has just purchased a new Heider three-plow tractor, and the same was delivered to his place on Sunday last by Bruce Rogers, Mr. Chase expects to move near Castana, where he owns a 400-acre farm, and he will use the tractor on this farm.

F. S. Howard, a farmer and livestock raiser of near Sidney, in a recent shipment of stock to the St. Joseph market, broke several records and established some interesting facts.

Not only was his largest shipment of hogs ever sent out of Sidney by one person of his own feeding, but the price at which they sold sets a record.

There were five car loads, or 225 head, averaging nearly 250 pounds each, and Mr. Howard received a check for \$18,149.67, selling the hogs at \$23.10 per hundred.

Not a hog was lost although the weather was extremely hot. He had fed the hogs about four months and estimates he was paid \$3 a bushel for his corn. Mr. Howard has 240 acres of land and the check for these hogs is greater than the price of the land at the time it was purchased.

The exhibitors are anxious to obtain more space, and the porcine section of the fair promises to be one of the biggest swine exhibitions ever seen in the west.

With the opening day of the fair less than three weeks ahead, a large force of men is