



MAKING SHEEP PAY MONEY

Extracts from a Paper Read by J. C. Duncan Before Pennsylvania Live Stock Association.

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The title of this subject embraces a wide latitude of questions. Every breeder interested in any of the improved mutton or fine wool breeds will advocate the breed he is directly interested in as being the most profitable sheep. And this must be conceded to a certain extent, as certainly no breeder of the present day would engage in and continue in breeding a sheep that was unprofitable to him as a business. So we will not take up the point of which is the most profitable breed, but for a moment discuss the profitable sheep.

In my experience of feeding both cattle and sheep I have always found I could produce mutton much cheaper than I could produce beef for the amount of food consumed. Notwith-



TYPICAL HAMPSHIRE RAM.

standing this fact, high class lamb and mutton usually sells at a higher market value than beef of the same grade. But allowing them to sell for the same price per pound, we have still a handsome balance in favor of the profitable sheep, from the revenue from the fleece of wool, which usually amounts to from two to three dollars per head, in the average mutton breeds kept on the farm principally for butchers' lambs, and considering the very limited amount of care they require, these are some of the facts we must credit to the profitable sheep.

It is an all-important fact in every branch of industry to consider the source of income, and as related above, sheep usually afford two annual incomes, namely, lambs and wool. But to keep in touch with our subject, the profitable sheep, we might first consider it in a pure bred standard flock, the progeny of which is usually sold to small breeders and farmers who make a business of producing butchers' sheep.

But to make a profitable sheep we must do more than get a sheep of superior breeding and constitutional vigor. In conjunction with the above it must be properly cared for from birth until it is either sold as a sire to head a pure-bred flock or to the butcher for consumption as meat. The care of that animal should be so that it is developed in as rapid a way as nature has provided in order that the development may be done with the least possible waste. This means the most generous and judicious feeding and care carried out in every part of the system.

As any breeder of experience knows, with insufficient feeding and poor care a flock will very soon lose their vigor and degenerate. So that the more rapid growth means not only about one-third less cost in the production of our animals, but animals produced in this way are produced at a less cost for feed and are generally worth more pound for pound on the market.

The even, healthy, rapid development of the young animals is the great thing to be sought for in profitable sheep as in every other class of livestock feeding which is to fit animals for the consumer of meat foods of the present day. It is the tender, juicy, high-flavored mutton that tempts the appetite and fills our desires for that class of food, so that the matter of early maturity is of the utmost importance in the production of high-class meat to make the profitable sheep. These are some of the things we must bear in mind in the production of high-class animals for consumption as meat.

The question will now arise, will it pay the average farmer and breeder of this class of stock? It has been my experience both in breeding high-class pure-bred sheep, also in growing sheep in a commercial way, that the best I could produce was always the most profitable sheep. The market is always good for meritorious animals, either in breeding flocks or in case of lamb and mutton to supply hotels or restaurants in our large cities, where the demand is far in excess of the supply.

There is no animal on the farm today that will give us more clear meat for the amount of food consumed and the work required to take care of it than the sheep.

Prevention.

Prevention of disease of animals is one of the greatest problems our live stock industry will some day be compelled to face. For the individual, however, it is a simple problem, and no good business man would hesitate as to the best course to pursue.

Black rot in grapes, eh! You should have sprayed with the Bordeaux mixture.

The best way to get rid of old sheep is to fatten and sell to the butchers.

FARMS RUNNING DOWN.

Why in Some Cases the Well-Kept Places of the Fathers Have Suffered Decline.

Any observant man who drives through a long settled farming district cannot fail to note that old farms that were once beautiful in every way are beginning to look desolate and untidy. The writer could name districts in which this is notably the case, and in every one of them the reason is that the young folk fail to take a proper interest in the old homestead and in the best methods of farming and tidiness. One of them spoken of about the lack of care manifest upon every hand said: "There isn't a dollar to me in mere tidiness. My time is wholly devoted to necessary work, as that means money." This may be true in a sense, but it is wrong in principle, and when the time comes to sell a farm, tidiness counts, as also it does when strangers seek to learn the character and business standing of a man. The old settlers of many of the fine farms of the country come from the east or from foreign countries, where tidiness rules in farm management. They were so proud of their newly gained homes that they kept them up in fine style; for they had been renters before or too poor even to rent a farm in the old country. Here boys and girls grew up and were educated better than their parents and quickly acquired new and expensive ideas and habits. These young folk now run the old farms or have rented them out and gone to work in the cities. The result is deplorable. The old farms are growing old in every sense of the word. They should be improving in every way, but instead the fences and buildings are going to rack and ruin, the trees require trimming, the fields have become impoverished. There is, in short, every sign of shiftlessness and slovenliness about the old places and the pioneer owners would be sorry indeed could they see the state of decay into which their old homes have fallen. It is time to re-ovate these fine old places, remarks the Farmers' Review. There are associations about them that should be dear to the children of the former owners. They should be kept up not merely for the sake of the dollar, but for appearances and sentiment, and we contend that a farmer tidy by nature and in practice is successful in farming to advantage and will find profit in all that he does for the beautification as well as enrichment of the farm.

Comment and Suggestive Thought.

INTRODUCTORY. — Even before the beginning of the exile, when it was only threatened, there was joined with the warning a promise of restoration. See Isa. 10 and 11. Assyria the oppressor should be destroyed like a cedar, though it towered like the huge cedars of Lebanon (Isa. 10:12-19, 24, 33, 34; comp. Ezek. 31:3-11. Isaiah again and again prophesies the Return (chapters 40-66) and even names Cyrus as the one through whom it should come. Through Ezekiel come promises of the new heart which would render the return morally possible (Ezek. 11 and 36). He pictures the valley of dry bones, symbolizing the condition of Israel in captivity, again coming to life in the return (Ezek. 37). See Ezek. 20, 33, 34. The whole of Ezekiel, as of Isaiah, is an effort, through threats and denunciations of sin, through appeals to do better, through promises and visions of hope, to make the people return spiritually to God, that they might return in visible reality. And he foretells how the nations were so controlled that a restoration of the Jews would be possible. Jeremiah, making the same appeals, goes farther and points out the time when the return can be made, 70 years after the captivity (Jer. 25:12; 29:10).

CORN SHOCK TIER.

Simple Home-Made Device Which Will Help Draw the Stalks Together Until Band Is On.

With corn cutting time any device to aid in the work is worth considering. I have a home-made device for tying corn shocks which I have used



CORN SHOCK TIER.

several years satisfactorily, writes a correspondent of the Ohio Farmer. It consists of a block of wood A, 1 1/2 x 2 1/2 inches, through which is cut an oblong hole, B, entered from square end of block by five-eighth-inch hole for insertion of rope. Block has tapered slot, C, sawed in other end. End of hole, B, is round and smooth next to the slot. Rope, D, D, is half-inch and as long as desired. When rope is around shock with end passed through hole, B, the rounded end of hole serving as a pulley, shock can be drawn tight and rope pressed snug in slot. C holds it till band is on.

FARM HINTS.

Fear sight destroys the value of foresight.

Have you given your wife a chance to admire your skill with the whitewash and paint brush?

Under a proper system of agriculture there is no danger of exhausting the fertility of our farms. —Farmers' Review.

Did you ever mow the potato vines and burn them when blight appeared? What happened? A new growth of vine which is easier to spray. —Rural New Yorker.

A blue grass pasture under intelligent management grows better as the years go by. When once established it is too valuable to break up. Better give it a top-dressing than try to reseed it, unless it is very poor. —Farm and Home.

Oats After Legumes.

Oats are especially helped by being grown after leguminous crops. On many soils it would pay to sow some seeds of pod-bearing plant early in the fall, and allow the crop to make a considerable growth before being plowed under. These oats would be particularly benefited if the vetch, or other pod-bearing crop, has been inoculated with nitrogen producing bacteria, if the field has not previously been in some pod-bearing crop.

The Hay Sling.

A reader in Ohio sums up the hay machinery question as follows: "You do right in advocating the hay loader and hay fork, but you don't say a word in favor of the hay sling. With the loader and sling you can be independent of poor help, providing your wife is willing to drive the horses."

It Is Cruel.

It is little less than cruelty to animal to take lambs from sheep and not strip the ewes out for a day or two afterward. Don't neglect to do it, if you have any regard for the well-being of your flock.

Returning from Captivity

Sunday School Lesson for Oct. 15, 1905
Specially Prepared for This Paper.

LESSON TEXT.—Ezra 1:1-11. Memory Verses 5, 6.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad." —Psalm 126:2.

TIME.—According to Prof. Beecher it was in B. C. 538, soon after the conquest of Babylon by Cyrus. Compare Daniel 5:1 with 10:1. It was 70 years after the first deportation of exiles by Nebuchadnezzar.

PLACE.—Capital of the Persian Kingdom—either Babylon or Ecbatana, and also Jerusalem, to which the exiles returned.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES.—Isaiah chapters 40-66; Ezekiel and Jeremiah chapters 24, 25, 29-35, 50 tell of the return from captivity. The return as recorded in Ezra and Nehemiah.

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V. 1. "In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia." Not his first year as king of Persia (B. C. 546), but either as conqueror of Babylon (538) or the first year of his personal rule at Babylon after his other conquests (536). "The word of the Lord by the prophet Jeremiah" (25:12; 29:10) promising that he would bring about a return from captivity after 70 years. "The Lord (Jehovah) stirred up the spirit of Cyrus." It is quite possible, it is even implied in the narrative here, that Daniel, or some prominent Jew, called the attention of Cyrus to the prophecy in Jeremiah, and especially the remarkable prophecy in Isa. 44:26-28; 45:1.

V. 2. "Thus saith Cyrus." It is probable that the author here gives the substance of the proclamation, and not the full official document. "He hath charged me." He accepted the prophecies as a charge from the God of the Jews.

V. 3. "Who is there among you?" The return was to be a volunteer movement which in all respects was the best both for the purpose of Cyrus and for the new Jewish settlement. The "God of Israel . . . which is in Jerusalem." As the chief seat of his worship.

V. 4. "And whosoever remaineth," R. V. "is left" of the captives, survives. Connect in any place where he sojourneth, without a comma, with let the men of his place, his heathen neighbors, help him with silver, etc., give him funds for his journey, and the freewill offering in aid of the temple.

V. 5. "Then rose up the chief of the fathers." The Return described in to-day's lesson was under Zerubbabel a prince of the royal line of David, called the Tirshatha, or Pasha (Ezra 2:63), and under Joshua, the hereditary high priest (Ezra 3:8). These were among the "chief of the fathers . . . and the priests."

V. 6. "And all they that were about them." Their heathen neighbors and friends, as in Egypt at the time of the exodus.

V. 7. "Cyrus the king brought forth the vessels of the house of the Lord." "Nebuchadnezzar little thought that he was unconsciously preserving the sacred vessels of Israel in a safe and inviolable stronghold, till the day when Jehovah would bring about their restoration to His people."

V. 8. "By the hand of Mithradath" (given by, or dedicated to Mithra, the sun-god). He had these treasures in his charge. "Sheshbazzar" (fire-worshiper): The Persian name of Zerubbabel (born in Babylon).

11. "All the vessels . . . were five thousand and four hundred." This is more than double the sum of the preceding numbers—2,499. It is probable that only the larger or more costly vessels were numbered in detail, and the 5,400 includes a great number of smaller and less costly ones. So they are reckoned by Josephus (Ant. Jud. 11:1).

Illustrative Points.

This is a picture of God's discipline of His people. He does not love to afflict His children. He gives bitter medicines in order to bring back health. His afflictions are to purify the heart, to ennoble the character, to break the power of sin. Note that it is a sign of God's favor to have trials. "If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons" (Heb. 12:7). "The devil desires to winnow Peter, not Judas. The thief does not break into an empty cottage, but into some furnished house or full granary." —Adams.

He Knew His Trade.

"Madam," said the tramp, as a middle-aged lady came to the door in response to his knock, "would you give a poor old man a bite to eat?" "Why," replied the lady, "you are certainly able to earn a living. You don't look every old." "Looks are often deceitful, lady," answered the wanderer. "I'm old enough to be your grandfather." A moment later he was seated in the kitchen and nothing she had in the larder was too good for him.—Stray Stories.

Model Saloonkeeper.

Sam Hey, a saloonkeeper who had kept a place in Bradford, England, and died the other day, would give workmen only one drink on pay day till they had been home. He used to say: "You must go home and give your wife your wages. You may then come back and have another drink when you have washed yourself and brushed up." The English workman does not "clean up" before leaving his workshop.

Wooden Shoes from Holland.

Adam Clephas lately received through the custom house officers 100 pairs of wooden shoes, imported here from Rotterdam. Mr. Clephas receives three or four similar shipments each year, finding a ready sale for the wooden shoes among German truck gardeners and others. It is claimed they are an excellent shoe to keep the feet dry, and easy on the wearer.—Louisville Herald.

Czar's Investments.

The czar of Russia, it is said, has \$25,000,000 invested in English securities, and it is also declared that he would in an extreme crisis fly and live in England, as other troubled monarchs have done before him. Then he has a second string to his bow in the \$6,000,000 invested in American rails, iron and coal.

Too Many Applicants.

The government of Quebec is finding itself embarrassed by a law entitling the parent of 12 living legitimate children to a hundred acres of crown lands. Up to June last 3,400 applicants had received their claims. Since then another 1,000 have applied, and every month brings in from 100 to 200 applicants.

Low Down.

In Boston, the other day, a young lawyer who spends most of his time trying to seem busy and prosperous, went out for awhile, leaving on his door a card neatly marked: "Will be back in an hour." On his return he found that some envious rival had inscribed underneath: "What for?"

Stronger Than Gibraltar.

A Russian writer says that Yokosuka, the fort of Yokohama, is more strongly fortified than Gibraltar. The fortifications were built under the supervision of German military engineers, while American and English experts built the signal and submarine mine systems.

Flying Machine.

A San Francisco professor has invented a flying machine which experts declare alights as softly as a feather, and is under complete control. It resembles a bird and has eight wings, which the operator directs with his hands and feet.

Swell Apartment.

One room at Tsarkoe, the czar's palace near St. Petersburg, has walls of lapis lazuli and a floor of ebony inlaid with mother-of-pearl. Another has walls of carved amber, and the walls of a third are laid thick with beaten gold.

MARKET REPORT.

Cincinnati, Oct. 6.	
CATTLE—Common	\$2 50 @ 3 50
Heavy steers	4 65 @ 4 85
CALVES—Extra	8 00 @ 8 00
HOGS—Ch. packers	5 60 @ 5 65
Mixed packers	5 35 @ 5 60
SHEEP—Extra	4 65 @ 4 75
LAMBS—Extra	7 40 @ 7 50
FLOUR—Spring pat.	5 25 @ 5 50
WHEAT—No. 2 red.	88 @ 89
No. 3 red	85 1/2 @ 85 1/2
CORN—No. 2 mixed.	56 1/2 @ 56 1/2
No. 2 white	57 1/2 @ 57 1/2
OATS—No. 2 mixed.	30 @ 30
RYE—No. 2	68 @ 70
HAY—Ch. timothy	13 00 @ 13 00
PORK—Clear mess.	16 60 @ 16 60
LARD—Steam	6 95 @ 6 95
BUTTER—Ch. dairy.	15 @ 15
Choice creamery	23 @ 23
APPLES—Choice	3 00 @ 4 00
POTATOES—Per bbl	1 50 @ 1 75
TOBACCO—New	5 00 @ 12 00
Old	4 50 @ 14 75

Chicago.	
FLOUR—Winter pat.	5 10 @ 5 20
WHEAT—No. 2 red.	83 1/2 @ 84
No. 3 red	79 1/2 @ 84 1/2
CORN—No. 2 mixed.	51 1/2 @ 51 1/2
OATS—No. 2 mixed.	29 @ 29
RYE—No. 2	68 1/2 @ 68 1/2
PORK—Mess	15 00 @ 15 70
LARD—Steam	7 1/2 @ 7 1/2

New York.	
FLOUR—Win. str's.	4 00 @ 4 25
WHEAT—No. 2 red.	88 1/2 @ 88 1/2
CORN—No. 2 mixed.	59 @ 59
OATS—No. 2 mixed.	32 1/2 @ 33 1/2
RYE—Western	72 @ 72
PORK—Mess	17 50 @ 18 00
LARD—Steam	7 05 @ 7 05

Baltimore.	
WHEAT—No. 2 red.	83 1/2 @ 83 1/2
CORN—No. 2 mixed.	57 1/2 @ 57 1/2
CATTLE—Steers	4 00 @ 4 50
SHEEP—No. 1	2 50 @ 3 00

Louisville.	
WHEAT—No. 2 red.	86 @ 86
CORN—No. 2 mixed.	57 @ 57
OATS—No. 2 mixed.	29 @ 29
PORK—Mess	12 00 @ 12 00
LARD—Steam	7 25 @ 7 25

Indianapolis.	
WHEAT—No. 2 red.	86 @ 86
CORN—No. 2 mixed.	54 1/2 @ 54 1/2
OATS—No. 2 mixed.	27 1/2 @ 27 1/2

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LOUISVILLE & NASHVILLE RAILROAD.

Time Table in Effect, May 1, 1905.

Going North	Train 4, Daily
Leave Berea	3:46 a. m.
Arrive Richmond	4:15 a. m.
Arrive Paris	5:28 a. m.
Arrive Cincinnati	7:50 a. m.

Going South	Train 3, Daily
Leave Berea	1:11 p. m.
Arrive Knoxville	8:10 p. m.

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Time table in effect April 16, 1905.

EAST BOUND.	
Versailles	11:00 a. m.
Nicholsville	11:00 a. m.
Valley View	11:24 a. m.
Richmond, Ky.	11:53 a. m.
Irvine	1:05 p. m.
Beattyville	2:40 p. m.
Beattyville Jct.	3:00 p. m.

WEST BOUND.	
Versailles	7:55 a. m.
Nicholsville	6:55 a. m.
Valley View	6:28 a. m.
Richmond, Ky.	6:00 a. m.
Irvine	7:25 p. m.
Beattyville	10:50 a. m.
Beattyville Jct.	10:30 a. m.

No. 2 and 6, 1 and 5 make close connections at Nicholasville and from Lexington and Cincinnati, and at Versailles to and from Shelbyville and Louisville. No. 3 connects at Beattyville Junction for Jackson. For further information address any local agent, or

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