

# Following Fresh Farm Furrows

# A Glance at Current Topics and Events

## HOG SANITATION.

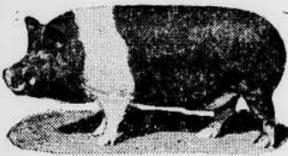
With Dirt and Parasites Removed There'd Be Less Disease.

### DUSTY BEDS PRODUCE COUGH

Sleeping Quarters Should Be Kept Clean and the Floors Sprinkled Regularly With Some Good Hog Dip. The Use of Crude Oil Will Help Lay the Dust.

Coughing in hogs is sometimes a symptom of worms. If this is suspected it would be a good plan to give some good worm medicine, such as a teaspoonful of copperas to each hundredweight of hog, giving it for three successive days. A teaspoonful of turpentine per hundredweight of hog is also recommended as a good worm remedy. These remedies can be given in the feed. If such mineral substances as wood ashes, charcoal, air slaked lime and salt are kept continually before hogs the worm trouble seems to be reduced.

Coughing is frequently caused by dusty sleeping quarters. This is especially apt to occur at this time of the year when hogs are confined to sheds more than during the summer season. Sleeping quarters should never be permitted to become dusty. Hogs cannot be expected to thrive if compelled to breathe this filthy dust, such as is too often found in the sheds where they sleep. Their beds should be cleaned regularly and the floors sprinkled with some good hog dip. The use of crude oil will help lay the dust. Such measure as this will be most effective in preventing worm troubles also. It is much easier and more sat-



Fine Specimen of Hog.

isfactory to prevent hogs becoming seriously infested with worms than to cure them of this trouble. The eggs of the worms are harbored by the dust and filth, and where no special effort is made to keep the quarters cleaned out the hogs quickly become seriously infested with all sorts of parasites.

If all buildings and their surroundings are kept clean and sanitary and the hogs are not allowed to drink filthy, stagnant water trouble from worms and other parasites will be greatly reduced.

## FEEDING THE LAMBS.

Silage fed once or twice daily to lambs being fattened for market reduces the cost of finishing and adds to the net profit.

Slugs should be fed with great care or lambs will "go off their feed," and profits will be reduced.

Shelled corn, clover hay, cottonseed meal and corn silage make an excellent ration.

Cottonseed meal is an excellent feed to put a quick "finish" on the lamb.

Oats have been found a food far inferior to corn as a lamb ration. Corn alone is better than mixed corn and oats.

An open shed is better, as a rule, for fattening lambs than even a well-ventilated barn, bringing higher prices on account of their superior appearance.

### To Register Grade Cows.

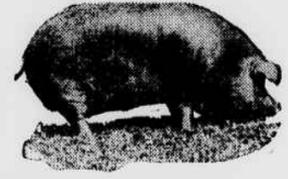
For the specified purpose of securing the improvement of the grade cow and advancing her owner's interests, the American Dairy Record association was recently organized at Salem, O. The new association is to establish an official register for grade cows of distinctive breed characteristics and of good dairy conformation, provided they attain a certain minimum production that can be certified to by well conducted cow testing associations or other responsible authority. Entry into this new registry will not be by the right of birth, but by right of production of the cow herself. Bulls from grade cows are not eligible to registry, and breeders must use pure bred sires in order to record the female produce of their foundation stock.

## SELF FEEDING SWINE.

Practical Method of Growing Gilts Practiced at Iowa State College.

The value of self feeding methods for growing and fattening swine in the dry lot and on forage has been proved. Their use for breeding gilts has been seriously questioned by many, says Professor W. H. Pew, Iowa State college.

The college herd of pure bred swine, maintained for instructional purposes, is composed of representatives of the Poland China, Duroc-Jersey, Chester White, Hampshire and Berkshire breeds. After the pigs were weaned



The Poland China hog originated in Ohio in 1872, and the breed is still a favorite in the corn belt. Poland Chinas are good rustlers, do not require pampering and produce a big percentage of high grade lard and edible meat. They are of moderate bone, and the hams and shoulders are large and well fleshed. The animal shown is a Poland China sow.

in the spring it was determined that the gilts would be fed on self feeders as soon after weaning as possible.

Accordingly about the middle of June forty-eight gilts in one feed lot with rape pasture, about evenly divided as to the above named breeds, were started according to the self feeder plan. Shorts in one feeder, tankage in another and oilmeal in still another were supplied. Salt was supplied ad libitum also. Shelled corn was fed by hand twice per day. In other words, the corn was limited. It was intended to keep the gilts thrifty, but not too fat.

About the 1st of October new corn, mostly soft, was fed instead of old corn. On Oct. 15 these gilts were sorted, making two bunches, one of twenty-one to be kept for the breeding herd of the college, and the second bunch of twenty-seven were intended for sale purposes. The entire bunch on Oct. 25 averaged in weight 180 pounds. The bunch of twenty-one kept for the college herd averaged in weight 240. All have been fed the same since division was made. These gilts are thrifty, growthy and not too fat. To date the methods employed have been satisfactory.

## TRAINING OF HEIFERS.

Kindly Treatment Pays In Handling Young Animals.

The young heifer must be kindly handled and accustomed to having people around her, writes a correspondent of the American Agriculturist. I have my heifers so trained that they elevate their tails when they see me coming. They expect me to pat them or scratch their sides or otherwise give them a little attention. How different this is from stepping into a stable, speaking harshly or striking hard with the hand or with a whip! That practice keeps the animals alarmed, and they are always excitable the moment



A Great Milk Producer.

you step in the stable. Kindness, therefore, is the one great thought in handling heifers.

I have been surprised how quickly the young heifer will respond when some dainty morsel is fed out of the hand. They change their mental attitude at once. In beginning to milk I caress the young cow, rub my hand over her flank and sides and then, on sitting down, wait just a few minutes before beginning to draw the milk. This method gains her confidence, and you soon have no trouble whatever in milking or in otherwise handling the young heifer in any manner.

### Dairy Barn Construction.

When constructing a new barn or if the old one is remodeled, see that the walls are smooth and that the ceiling is tight. The floor and the base of the walls should be constructed of cement in order that the liquid manure may be saved and removed.

## KEEP THE TESTED SIRE.

Bulls of Proved Worth Should Be Retained In Service.

The following advice, which is applicable to other breeds of cattle as well as to Shorthorns, comes from the Shorthorn Breeders' association:

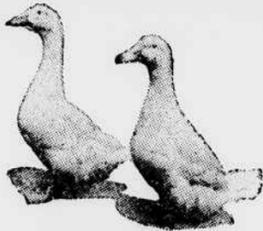
"Many inexperienced breeders make the mistake of going it blindly from year to year in their use of herd bulls. They keep eternally changing, using one a couple of years and then superseding him with a calf. On the other hand, the constructive breeders rely mainly on tested sires, mostly quite a bit of age. Indeed, such breeders have been known to buy entire herds, which they did not want, merely to acquire the old bulls at their heads. A Shorthorn bull that has proved satisfactory as a getter should be kept in service until death or impotence ends his usefulness. When fully matured bulls often get hard to do with and too often for this reason are bundled into the cars and shipped to the shambles. A big loss is sustained each year by such unnecessary and uncalled for sacrifices. The wise breeder goes mighty slow with the use of any untried calf until he knows what the youngster can do.

"New bulls must be introduced into every herd, but there is never any occasion to make the change suddenly, dropping one outright and using another to all the breeding females. A very little ingenuity will enable the breeder to discover what the chosen one is going to do. It doesn't make much difference in what herd a bull succeeds. Every good getter should be allowed to live out his allotted span of life begetting calves after his kind. The wise breeder has always in use a bull on which he can rely for transmission of true Shorthorn character, conformation, weight, substance and flesh. He never goes it blind in his choice of bulls."

## PROFIT IN DUCKS.

Farmers Rarely Give the Necessary Care to Their Ducklings.

Although ducks do not appear to be as well adapted to average farm conditions as fowls, they can be raised successfully and at a profit. Up to the present, however, farmers have rarely given the necessary care to their ducklings to be able to cater successfully to the trade in fancy green ducks. A green duck is a duckling that is grown rapidly and marketed when weighing from four and one-half to six pounds at from eight to twelve weeks old. In



Peking Drake and Duck.

the spring the wholesale price in the large cities in the east and on the Pacific coast for stock of this kind is sometimes as high as 30 cents a pound. The feed cost of producing such a duck has been estimated at from 5 to 6 cents a pound. Later in the year the prices are much lower, and it is not uncommon for a farmer to market his ducks in the fall for less money than he would have received for the birds in the spring. Since the demand for green ducks, however, at good prices is limited it will be well to investigate the market possibilities before investing heavily in the industry.

### Must Have Reputation.

The man who would build up a good reputation either for dairy products or for live stock must deliver that which he agrees to deliver, he must give value received in every deal that he makes. Honesty is not only the best policy, but it is the only business policy today.

### To Avoid Tainted Milk.

It is desirable to have dairy cattle in a barn by themselves. The odor from horse stalls, filthy calf pens or hog pens is objectionable, because it will taint the milk when it is drawn.

### Making Better Butter.

Much farm butter sells at a low price, not because it is in itself bad, but because it is made to suit the maker and not the buyer.

### Be Regular In Milking.

Regular careful milking permanently improves the animal as a milk producer aside from directly increasing the milk flow.

## PURE DRINKING WATER.

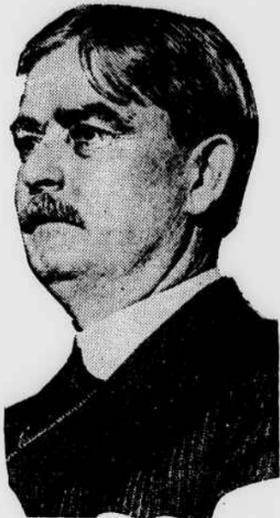
The geologic resource of greatest value to the health of communities is a supply of pure drinking water. It is generally recognized that a number of diseases, prominent among which are typhoid fever and amoebic dysentery—a disease more common in tropical climates, but found also in the United States—are contracted through contaminated water or contaminated food. Therefore a supply of pure water will eliminate one of the sources of such infection.

It is highly desirable to obtain supplies of domestic water from sources

other than the shallow wells, some of them open, that are found near many houses. The water obtained from deep wells has percolated through sands and other material for so great a distance that its impurities have been removed by filtration, and it possesses a sanitary value that cannot well be overestimated, for such water is free from the bacteria causing typhoid fever and the protozoa causing amoebic dysentery, and its use obviates the necessity for shallow wells that may serve as a breeding place for Anopheles, the mosquito to which malarial infections is due.—Geological Survey Bulletin.

### Congressman In Pro-German Plot.

Washington, Feb. 29.—Representative F. Buchanan, one of the men recently accused of violation of the Sherman law in pro-German plots, is serving his third term in congress. He was born in Indiana in 1862. He worked on a farm, then became a structural iron worker and bridge builder. He was president of the International Structural Iron Workers' union a few years



Congressman Frank Buchanan, From Illinois, Indicted In Pro-German Case.

ago, at the time that some of its members were imprisoned for a series of dynamite outrages throughout the country. He became president of Labor's National Peace council upon its formation last April, but resigned Aug. 14. At a meeting of Labor's National Peace council in Washington, June 22, 1915, Mr. Buchanan presided. At that meeting the council outlined a project for the government to take over the manufacture of all arms, ammunition and munitions of war and put a stop to all foreign shipments of arms and ammunition. It also urged all organized labor bodies in this country and Europe to work to bring about a cessation of hostilities; that the government should acquire all patent rights to war munitions and that an extra session of congress should be called to promote universal peace.

### War Cost \$73,000,000 A Day.

Paris, Feb. 28.—After prolonged study of all available statistics Alfred Neymarck, French economist, finds that the daily cost of the war to five of the belligerents has attained \$73,000,000, divided as follows:

Germany, including advances to her allies, \$20,000,000; France, \$16,000,000; Great Britain, \$19,000,000; Russia, \$13,000,000; Italy, \$5,000,000.

Italy's expenses must rise to over \$6,000,000 daily, however, for by the end of July she will have spent \$3,000,000,000 altogether. The belligerent war loans to the end of last October totaled \$24,000,000,000, of which the United States supplied \$900,000,000. The allies have borrowed \$14,000,000,000 and the central empires \$10,000,000,000.

### Heals by a New Process.

Paris, Feb. 27.—Dr. Pierre Roux, director of the Pasteur Institute, announced to the Academy of Sciences recently that a remarkable advance in serum therapy had been made as the result of a discovery by Dr. Bassnet. By the Bassnet method, Dr. Roux said, it was possible to cleanse automatically wounds which hitherto had resisted treatment.

Dr. Bassnet employs the polyvalent serum discovered last year by Drs. Leclainche and Vallee. Dr. Roux said 420 wounded men who had been in hospitals from six to fourteen months were treated according to Dr. Bassnet's method. As a result the infection seemed to revive in the wounds. Abscesses formed and burst spontaneously, eliminating bits of bone, splinters, bullets, pieces of clothing and even drains and silver threads left in the incisions by mistake.

After this had happened, Dr. Roux said, the wounds healed quickly in most cases, and men who had been lying helpless for months were discharged cured.

### Prize Puzzle In Pedigrees.

Washington, Feb. 28.—One thousand dollars is offered for information that may show how evolution takes place, in an announcement by the American Genetic association. There is no longer any room for doubt that evolution does take place, according to this body of scientists, but there is still debate on the question of just how it works.

The information sought is believed by C. L. Redfield, a Chicago member, to be in the hands of genealogists, live stock breeders, college students and naturalists, and in order to enlist the co-operation of these people he has offered, through the Journal of Heredity, organ of the American Genetic association, five rewards of \$200 each.

Mr. Redfield will pay \$200 for evidence that any one of the 2,000 or 3,000 intellectually great men or women of history was the product of an ancestry which represented, on the average,

four generations to a century. He will pay another \$200 for evidence that any one of the 200 or 300 extraordinarily great men or women was the product of an ancestry which represented, on the average, three generations to a century.

The prize donor adds that intellectual greatness cannot occur in conjunction with a series of early reproductions, and these offers are intended to draw out information on that point.

Members of the American Genetic association have been investigating this question and have found that most great men come of old parents. They have been able to discover but two cases of eminent men where the ancestry represented, on the average, as little as thirty-three years to a generation. These are William the Conqueror and Frederick the Great. If there are any other great men in the history of the world who were the products of several generations of early reproduction Mr. Redfield wants to find out the circumstances.

### Limburger Cuts Death Rate.

Monroe, Wis., Feb. 29.—Physicians of Green county, which had the lowest death rate in the state last summer, attribute the healthy condition of the community to the eating of Limburger cheese.

Last year 3,041,465 pounds of this cheese were produced in the county, and as a staple of food it largely displaced meat.

The quarterly report of the state board of health recently issued gave Green county a death rate of 7.2 per 1,000 compared with 9.2 for the state at large.

### Offer New Plan For Mails.

Washington, Feb. 29.—A substitute proposal that the interstate commerce commission shall determine what the government shall pay to the railroads for the transportation of the mails was made before the house committee on postoffices by railroad officials appearing in opposition to the post-office department plan to change the existing system of payment.

The postoffice department is advocating legislation that would require the railroads to handle the mails on a "space basis" rather than by weight. This recommendation, generally opposed by railroad interests, was met with the countersuggestion that the matter of pay be left to the interstate commerce commission, with proviso that the pay shall be continued on the weight basis and the mails shall be weighed yearly instead of quadrennially.

Ralph Peters, president of the Long Island Railroad company, reminded the house committee that the railroads were related to the problem of national defense. Mr. Peters and Vice President W. B. Worthington of the Southern Pacific system presented the side of the railroads in the mail pay controversy.

### Jew Is Home Secretary.

London, Feb. 28.—For the first time in her history of nearly 2,000 years England has a professing Jew in the role of principal secretary of state to the crown.

True, Benjamin Disraeli attained the dignity of premier and died as the Earl of Beaconsfield. But he was a member of the Church of England, like his father before him, whereas Herbert Lewis Samuel, who recently succeeded Sir John Simon as secretary of state for the home department, has remained a strict adherent to the faith of his forefathers.

Nor is he the only member of his creed in the cabinet, for in the shuffle following the retirement of Sir John Simon owing to his objections to the



Herbert L. Samuel, a Jew, is Now Home Secretary of England.

compulsory military service law for single men Herbert Samuel's first cousin, Edwin Montagu, has been advanced from the secretaryship of the treasury to the chancellorship of the duchy of Lancaster.

Edwin Montagu, it may be remembered, contracted a matrimonial alliance last summer with Lord Sheffield's youngest daughter, the Hon. Beatrice Venetia Stanley, who abjured Christianity for the sake of Judaism in order to wed her husband, who would by the terms of his father's will have been divested of his large fortune had he married a Christian.

### Postage Stamps Lighter.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Even when one sticks on a postage stamp one faces a shortage in German dyes. This was admitted by Director Joseph E. Ralph of the bureau of engraving and printing when his attention was called to a statement in the North German Gazette that lack of German dyes had caused a change in the colors of some American postage stamps.

One billion stamps are printed by the bureau every month.

"It is true," said Mr. Ralph, "that the lack of German dyes has resulted in a slight change in the color of our stamps. The red two cent stamps are lighter. The eight cent stamp, which used to be olive green, is yellowish green. Slight color variations may be noted in other stamps, as we have been without German dyes for about eight months.

"We have been forced to use what you might call adulterated colors, either imported or domestic. These cost more and are not so good. I recently paid in New York \$1 a pound for 'reds,' whereas this color could be purchased a year ago for about 24 cents. The new dyes have only about one-fourth the coloring strength of the old.

"We expect to get in a shipment of German dyes within the next few weeks. Both England and Germany have agreed to let this shipment come through on the understanding that it is strictly for government use. When this is received the postage stamps will brighten up in appearance."

### China's Army 1,000,000 Strong.

Denver, Feb. 27.—China now has an army of 1,000,000 men under arms, according to Captain Cushing A. Rice, U. S. A., retired, who has returned to the United States after a long stay in the east.

"Within the next ten years, Yuan Shi Kai plans, China will have a standing army of 2,000,000 men and a reserve of 10,000,000," Captain Rice said. "However, I see no cause for alarm in this country. Neither do I see cause for alarm about our relations with Japan.

"The Japanese are really friendly to the United States, but they have embarked on an aggressive trade policy which makes them appear inclined to rivalry with us.

"Are the Filipinos ready for independence? They are not."

### Archie Roosevelt Drills Rookies.

Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 28.—Corporal Archie Roosevelt had his first taste of Harvard military life recently when as a noncommissioned officer of Company A, one of the adjutants to the newly formed Harvard regiment, he devoted an hour in drilling members of the awkward squad.

Quentin Roosevelt also is a corporal, being assigned to Company C. Twelve New York undergraduates are officers. They are: Sergeant J. B. Cummings, Corporals N. C. Baker, L. G. Hammesley, G. H. Pendleton, F. M. Warburg, R. M. Benjamin, F. J. Devoan, J. K. Olyphant, D. Moffatt, H. Lillenthal, C. MacVeagh and E. C. MacVeagh.

### Will Transfer Quarantine.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Governor Whitman of New York has taken steps for the immediate transfer to the federal government of the state quarantine station at the port of New York. President Wilson has received from him a letter requesting the immediate assignment of a federal officer to the post of quarantine physician, made vacant by the recent death of Dr. O'Connell. Although the price to be paid by the federal government to the state of New York for the quarantine station is to be determined at a conference of representatives of the national and state governments, it is said that the transaction will involve the payment of \$3,000,000 to New York.

President Wilson has directed Surgeon General Blue to take over the station at New York, and he has designated Dr. L. E. Cofer to take charge. With this transfer the quarantine stations at all American ports, except Baltimore, will be under federal supervision, a change, officials here believe, which will be of great value in guarding the public health after the war.

### To Aid Our Air Observers.

Washington, Feb. 29.—A portable military topographical map for air scouts in the field, which will enable them to make quick and realistic reports of observations, has been invented by Gunnery Sergeant Herman G. Stroschein of the United States marine corps.

Worm gearing, operated by telescopic thumb screws from the sides of the map, will create elevations and depressions thereon, showing terrain, contours of valleys, bodies of water, etc., and should make the aviator's report clear to the newest man in the field of operations, Stroschein claims.

The map will be very light, though strongly built, and it is thought by many military men that one of the great problems confronting aviators in the field—speed in observation—will have been overcome by the use of the marine sergeant's invention.

### Aeros to Locate Forest Fires.

Quebec, Ont., Feb. 29.—Hereafter the superintendent of forest protection in Quebec province will use aeroplanes to locate forest fires.

## Invitations, Reception and Visiting Cards

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