

TREASURE STATE FARM AND LIVESTOCK

NEW HOMESTEAD LAW IS ASSURED

ALL DISPUTED POINTS ARE SMOOTHED OUT BY CONFERENCE COMMITTEES.

Of Particular Interest to Farmer Stockmen; Requires Three Years' Residence With Improvement, But No Money Payment Except Filing Fees.

All the disputed points in the Ferris bill to provide 640 acre homesteads, principally for grazing purposes, have been smoothed out in conferences between house and senate, and it is expected that the measure will soon be placed. The bill has been supported by the interior department and western congressmen as a measure for further opening the public domain, and is of particular interest to Montanans.

Opens Millions of Acres.

Many millions of acres of non-agricultural, non-mineral, non-irrigable land would be opened to stock raising homestead settlement under the bill, and it is regarded as one of the most important affecting the public domain passed in years. Under it the lands will be open to any one upon entry and three years' residence and improvement, without any money payment whatever except ordinary filing fees.

Means Thousands of Filings.

Representative Ferris, author of the measure, predicted ten thousand persons are likely to go from each of a number of middle western states to take up homesteads.

A section to which administration officials objected authorizing those already holding homesteads to purchase not exceeding 320 acres of contiguous stock raising land at \$1.25 an acre, was stricken out, in order to prevent speculation.

The agreement provides that where an applicant for stock raising homestead entry applies for entry before the character of the land has been officially designated he will acquire no rights against the government, although his rights will be good against later entrants. The purpose of this was to prevent tying up lands by entrants attempting to stop the government from making another classification and requiring it to institute possession proceedings.

Farmers Apply for Loans.

State Register of Lands Sidney Miller is sending out application blanks to farmers of the state seeking farm loans under the law which was recently interpreted by the state supreme court.

To date there have been about 50 applications by Montana farmers who are seeking loans on their land under the provision of the law.

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If Your Hens Are Not Laying Try a Change of Their Food and Good Results Will Follow

(By Pypsy B. Snelson.)

If your hens are not laying, try a change of feed. All the component elements that make an egg must be provided or there will be no eggs.

If even decently fed, the hens will look and feel well. Nature provides for that first—the hen and then the eggs. Perhaps you are already feeding a scientifically compounded ration. If it does not bring the eggs it falls to accomplish the object of knowledge—results. We know what it takes to make an egg, but not what a particular hen or bunch of hens need for this result. This is no doubt in large part due to the fact that hens are kept under one set of conditions, but under all sorts.

I suppose that everyone has some time failed to induce hens to lay. I know I have, and also to induce cattle to fatten or horses to exhibit energy for food consumed. A change of feed may be beneficial simply because it is better relished or because it is compounded better to meet the animal's need. Lacking exact knowledge, we must cast about like the huntsman or fisherman at fault until we find the solution. The more experience we have, the more likely we are to cast in the right direction and to appreciate the surroundings. One would not cast up wind for a fox nor for a trout on top of the waters on a snowy day, for if he feeds at all he feeds under water. So with a flock of Leghorns or Plymouth Rocks that are receiving an ample egg ration and yet fail to lay. We must seek the cause in different directions.

Food May Be Adding Fat

If both flocks are receiving a ration sufficient for the production of an egg every other day, and not laying it, the food is accomplishing some other purpose. With the heavy breeds it is very likely producing much fat and torpid livers and day by day an increasing disinclination to exercise. The lighter feathered breeds may be stimulated to increased activity by the cold. They can always be better trusted not to overeat themselves. The egg that is not laid may about represent the increased amount of feed you have failed to provide for increased body heat to offset extreme cold. No one can ever teach all these things, and no rigid feeding system provides for them, you can lay to that.

If a feeder of any kind of stock is not interested and observant enough to realize that he makes lots of mistakes he will never amount to much. In a matter so complicated by likes, dislikes and such a variety of circumstances it is only part of the time that our presence will prove sufficient. Knowledge after the fact is not enough. For instance, you are feeding a bunch of lambs. There is a sharp drop in temperature. Their appetites are immediately increased.

You increase their corn. The weather turns warmer and they fail to clean up. Some of them go off feed altogether, and it takes days to remedy the fault of one day. If you had let them satisfy their increased appetite with hay they would still have come sharp to their corn.

It is more difficult to find illustrations in hen feeding, but we must ring the changes between the fat-forming food, the fats and the proteins if we are to be successful, or, and there is much in favor of this method with the light breeds, allow the fowls to satisfy their own wants at the hoppers.

In egg production we find that an egg is composed of fat, albumen and mineral salts. Sixty-four per cent of it is fat. This shows that we must feed a hen sufficient fat-producing feed to supply the necessary fat to the body and a surplus to be used in making the yolk of the egg. In other words, a hen to produce an egg every other day must have surplus fat in her feed which weighs two-thirds as much as the yolk of an egg. This is a considerable quantity of fat to extract from ordinary feed, but it is absolutely necessary or egg production is not possible.

Figures on Proper Production.

Then comes the white of the egg. This is practically pure albumen and water. It contains hardly a trace of fat and a small quantity of mineral salts. Albumen in an egg is the same as the albumen in lean beef, the fat in the fat of beef, the fat in milk and in the gluten of grains. Unless a hen is fed enough of the proteins which produce albumen, production of eggs will fall off. All grains contain albumen, so do milk, lean meat and green feeds. These each contain various proportions of the fats also.

The hen which lays ten dozen eggs in a year will have produced fifteen pounds of eggs, composed of the choicest part of the feed consumed. This will be from three to five times her own weight and it will at once be seen that her vital machinery must be kept working at high pressure all the time in order to do the work required of it.

Like milk cows the more hens produce the more feed they need. They need a wider ration when they are laying. Corn is one of the best feeds for it has 5 to 7 carbohydrates to one part protein. When they are not laying they need but little fat making food. A breed and strain of chickens suited to hopper feeding without the owner having to provide for so many contingencies has much to recommend it to busy people and farmers with other stock to feed.

I observed these precautions in giving my hens a properly balanced food ration on the Bally Horse ranch, with results that were most gratifying.

Keep the Feet of Your Hens Dry If You Would Have Eggs

Each year more and more farmers are coming to appreciate the fact that the freedom of the farm which makes the hens lay in summer is not desirable in winter. In winter on the farms where egg cases are conspicuous hens are not seen wandering about in snowy or muddy feed lots. Egg laying is not a natural winter oc-

cupation and it cannot be fully stimulated under natural winter conditions. A diet rich in protein and minerals is one absolute necessity and winter ranging about the farm does not supply that. Hens must have warm dry feet or they will not lay well and so they must be kept under shelter in stormy weather. Many successful poultrymen make it a rule never to allow the laying hens to get their feet into the snow. They must have vigorous exercise or they will not lay and they do not stir about energetically outside when the ground is cold and the fields offer no green food or insects to tempt them. Instead they are inclined to stand on one foot and warm the other beneath the feathers.

Confine the flock under shelter with a southern exposure, admitting free sunlight and fresh air; scatter the grain rations in deep litter; provide protein in skim milk or beef scraps; supply mineral matter in oyster shell and ground bone; substitute cabbage, mangels, alfalfa hay or sprouted oats for the green feed or summer diet and it will be surprising how the hens respond to this imitation of summer diet and environment.

PIANOS AND AUTOS FOR THE FARMERS OF THE NORTHLAND

Joe Whetstone of Glentana says there actually are farm houses in the Glentana country which do not contain a piano, farm garages which house only Fords, and there are some homesteaders in that section who have fried chicken and fresh eggs only once a day. Whetstone tells of the experience of William Niehoff, a Glentanian, who rented several hundred acres of land last spring and seeded it to wheat. His profit for his season's work is about \$8,000. Niehoff hauled his grain 50 miles to the nearest elevator.

Does the Vampire Know? "Won't you help a fellow out for his dear old mother's sake?" pleaded Fred Richards of Detroit to a passer-by.

The picture Richards showed was his "mother" was that of Theda Bara.

The justice suspended sentence.

GET OUT TRAPS AND MAKE MONEY

THE SKIN OF EVERY FUR BEARING ANIMAL HAS-A VALUE AND IS MARKETABLE.

It Pays to Skin Every Dead Animal; the Hide of a Horse Is Worth From \$6 to \$8; Cattle Hides Worth More; Muskrat Skins Are Saleable; Eastern Dealer Quotes Prices.

"It will surprise most farmers to learn how much hides and pelt prices have advanced. Cattle hides are worth as high as \$15; the poor ones will bring \$5 and even a calf skin from a 30 to 60-day old calf will bring \$4 to \$6."

This statement was made by Louis Andersch, of the Andersch Bros, the well known Minneapolis hide and fur dealers. He quoted some additional figures that are of great interest. In part, he said:

Skin Every Dead Animal
"It pays to skin every dead farm animal. There was a time when cow hides were worth only \$1 to \$2, but now they are worth five times as much or even more. Even the hide of a dead horse is worth \$6 and many bring \$8."

"The same is true of sheep pelts. Only the other day a farmer realized \$2.10 for a sheep pelt that he thought was only worth 75 cents."

"Furs are very high, too. Muskrat skins taken off during December and January are worth 20 to 40 cents each. Skunk skins are also bringing top prices. Early in December a farmer boy who had dug out 16 skunks sent the skins to us and got \$32 for them. He wrote back that he was surprised and tickled to get so much Christmas money."

Horse Hides Valuable.
"And just the other day I saw a want advertisement in a Minneapolis daily newspaper from some concern that advertised for old decrepit horses and guaranteed that they would pay liberally for such animals. Those fellows know how valuable horses' hides have become."

"If there ever was a time to get money for hides or furs, it is now. The trouble is so many farmers sell to itinerant buyers who do not pay them what the stuff is worth."

ALL OF THE NORTHWEST SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN SEATTLE LAND SHOW.

The success from every point of view of next year's Land Products Dairy and Stock show to be held in Seattle, is abundantly assured by the personnel of its recently formed organization, which includes the president of each of the four large commercial organizations as well as the principal officer in the west of each railway and steamship transportation line.

There is the same relative reason for a Northwest Land Products Dairy and Stock show exploiting the wonderful advantages of the entire northwest and Alaska, as there is for the various state fairs of this section exploring the advantages of their respective states. There is, however, this difference, that a northwest Land Products, Dairy and Stock show should be on a much larger scale, and the present management of the show to be held in Seattle fully realizing this has provided ample capital to make the Seattle show the kind of an exposition which it should be, under the circumstances. The Seattle show has the backing financially, morally and otherwise, not only of the business interests of Seattle, but very largely of the principal business interests of the entire northwest.

The officers of the new company are positive in their statement that every effort will be made to make the Seattle show the largest show of its kind that has ever been held in the United States.

The immense success with which the Seattle show met last year as a first attempt together with the extraordinary arrangements which have been perfected for increasing the size of the show next year indicates that one can confidently expect to see in Seattle in 1917 one of the best, if not the best, exhibits of its kind that has been held in America.

Next Fair Probably Sept. 17.

Montana's 1917 state fair will in all probability be held during the week of Sept. 17 to 22, inclusive, announced Secretary R. S. Skinner on his return from the annual meeting of the American association of state fair officials in Chicago. The states of Montana, Utah, Washington and Idaho agreed to have four consecutive weeks of state fairs in order to attract race horse owners and livestock exhibitors to the western country and for the further purpose of bringing out the best class of entertainers which could be secured. The setting of the date of the Montana fair during the week as proposed will undoubtedly result in better weather during the fair, in the belief of Mr. Skinner.

Will Exhibit Medals.

Frank A. Hazelbaker, secretary and managing director of the Panama-Pacific exposition commission for Montana, has arranged to make a permanent exhibit of all the medals won by the state at the exposition. In addition to taking the grand prize for cereals and apples, Montana won many individual prizes, both at San Francisco and San Diego, and was given the highest award for the best general showing.

Even after she gets that way, it takes a woman a long time to realize that she is fat.

WORLD IN BRIEF

St. Louis.—Five packing concerns convicted of violating anti-trust laws have paid fines aggregating \$62,500.

Nome.—Reindeer herds are multiplying at an amazing rate in Alaska, and it is predicted that a great trade in reindeer meat will develop with the states.

New York.—Cities all over the United States will probably join in a monster protest against the deportation of the non-combatant Belgians to Germany.

New York.—There was a shortage of 105,527 freight cars in the United States on December 1, according to a report made public by the American Railway association.

Paris.—Prisoners taken by the French in their thrust on the Verdun front total more than 11,000, in addition to 115 cannon and 107 machine guns captured or destroyed.

London.—Food restriction has gone into force here. Hotels and restaurants are forbidden to serve more than two courses for breakfast or luncheon and three courses for dinner.

Athens.—A warrant has been issued for the arrest of Eliphtherios Venizelos, the former premier, on charges of high treason and of libeling the Greek general staff in newspaper articles published several months ago.

Chicago.—Joe Leiter, the Chicago millionaire, who is well known in Madison county, where he operated the Leiter mine a number of years ago, has met with an accident while hunting in the woods of Mississippi and will lose an eye.

San Francisco.—A judge of the superior court here has ruled that a wife in California cannot sue for alimony on a judgment rendered in another state. Lawyers say the decision will have a far-reaching effect on the status of divorced couples.

Washington.—President and Mrs. Wilson celebrated their first wedding anniversary with a motor ride, a family dinner party and a visit to the moving pictures. They went to see Annette Kellerman in a feature film. Republican Leader Mann felicitated the president in a speech in the house.

Chicago.—Policeman Edward J. Mulvihill was shot and fatally wounded here by an Italian "masher" whom he was questioning after he had seen the man stop a young woman. The shooting occurred in the Italian district, where there have been nearly a dozen murders in the last few weeks.

London.—It is announced in Berlin that a French battleship of the Patrie class was damaged by a torpedo from a German submarine and that on the previous day a French transport, carrying 1,000 soldiers, was torpedoed southwest of Sicily. The French admiralty denies the loss of a warship of the Patrie class.

Washington.—Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the army, and Major General Leonard Wood, commanding the eastern department, in emphasizing the urgent necessity of abandoning the volunteer system as the nation's reliance for defense, characterize the mobilization of the national guard for border service as a military failure.

Berlin.—It is unofficially estimated here that the losses of the French army total 3,800,000, and the British losses 1,300,000. The Anglo-French losses on the Somme to the end of November are estimated at 800,000, the British share being given as 550,000. The German losses on the Somme are declared to have been less than 500,000.

Minneapolis.—Three persons were overcome by smoke and were rescued by firemen in a spectacular blaze in a four-story building at 223 Third street north. Loss to structure and contents is placed at more than \$200,000. The fire had gained such headway when discovered that 67 persons who were in the building had difficulty in reaching the street.

Stanford University, Cal.—Presi-

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dent Ray Lyman Wilbur of the university has disavowed the act of the organization of Encina hall, the men's dormitory, in refusing admission to J. W. Lum, a Chinese student. "The men of Encina hall are no longer representative of Stanford university," President Wilbur declared, "although up to this time they have been considered so. Such an attitude is a menace to the republic."

Names Is Names.
Charles Coughenhour lives at Huntington, W. Va.

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