

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Moldy corn is dangerous feed for the horses.

Provide roomy places for the cows. They do better than when kept in the rigid stanchions.

Don't get impatient. Much good land has been spoiled by trying to work it when it is wet.

Get the lambs to eating grain as soon as possible. They should have the grain diet ten weeks before weaning.

High-priced feeds will return a profit if put into a good cow, not a poor one. No kind of feeding pays in the case of the poor cow.

Raise colts, but don't try to do it with the poor, run-down, over-worked mares. Strong colts cannot be gotten in this way.

Be sure that you get a standard grade of cement and that it is mixed in proper proportions with the other materials if you want to get good results.

Give the boy some animal he can call his very own. Let him raise a lamb or a calf, and then have the money when it is grown and ready for market. In this way he will take an interest in things.

The blanket is needed to protect the horse against the sharp, chill winds of spring as much as during the cold of winter. Remember this when the horse has been warmed up by a long drive or a hard bit of work.

If you have overhauled the machinery during the slack days of winter you are in good condition and frame of mind to enter upon the spring activities. If you have not looked over the machinery and put it in good condition, do it at once.

Experiments have demonstrated that between the ages of six and thirteen weeks of a chicken's life it requires from four to four and three-quarters pounds of feed to produce a pound of gain. Between the ages of 13 and 26 weeks it requires from four and three-quarters pounds to five and three-quarters pounds of feed to produce a pound of gain.

Pin worms in the membrane lining the rectum of the horse are exceedingly annoying and cause irritation which seriously interferes with a horse's working capacity. To remedy give rectal injection two or three times a week of three quarts of soapy warm water to which has been added a cupful of decoction of tobacco made by pouring boiling water on tobacco stems and allowing to soak for a few hours.

According to a test made by an experiment station it was found that the eggs of the different breeds in order of their weight were as follows: Black Minorca, Light Brahma, Barred Rock, White Leghorn, White Wyandotte, Rhode Island Red, White Crested Black Polish, Buff Cochins. A great deal may depend upon the strain, as it is known that some hens of any breed normally lay larger eggs than others of the same breed.

If you wish to test the soil to see if it needs lime, take small samples from several points in the field and mix together thoroughly. Then take a cupful of the mixture and moisten it just enough so it will pack firmly in the cup. Thrust a knife down into this soil and work it back and forth so as to leave an opening. Be ready with strips of blue litmus paper. This is a form of blotting paper colored blue with a dye made from certain mosses or lichens. It has the property of changing its color from blue to red, and from red to blue when put into acid or alkaline substances. After the hole is made put a piece of this blue paper down into it and push the soil up around it. Let it stay there half an hour or more, then take the paper out and dry it. If there is much acid in the soil the blue color will change to a pink or red—the more acid the darker the color. If it does turn a pink or darker you may conclude that the soil needs lime. But make more than one test to make certain.

Oil meal is good for the cows. It will prove a pay ration.

Think out your work and the doing of it will prove much easier.

From the first of April to the last of May is the best time to do your hatching.

Alfalfa is as good for the hogs as for the cows. Try for a stand of alfalfa this year.

Early hatches do better than those brought off after the heat of the summer has begun.

Garget or congested udder can be generally relieved by hot applications and vigorous rubbing and kneading of the affected part.

Good grooming, good bedding and good feed will make the good cow more profitable. Don't fool your time away on the poor cow.

Concrete construction on the farm is receiving more and more attention. Strength and permanence in anything built on the farm is a move for economy.

As compared with the old pan method of raising cream, the separator is as far ahead of the old method as the threshing machine is ahead of the old flail method of threshing grain.

Look carefully after the cows that are to calve this spring. Don't let the bright warm days that we get occasionally delude you into thinking that there is no longer need of shelter and care.

Yes, it is some trouble and expense raising dairy cows, but see what you have after you have raised them, if you have saved those from your best cows mated to a pure-bred bull. That is the way to build up a dairy herd.

If trouble with lumpy or stringy milk try this treatment: First give a thorough purge, say a pound of Glauber's salts. When it has ceased to act, give half an ounce of niter and 30 drops of acetic acid twice a day for two days, or longer if not cured.

The German proverb that the manure pile is the farmer's bank depends for its truth a good deal upon the way the banking is done. Such banks don't pay interest if every rain is allowed to wash away the best part of the manure. The surest way to get full value for all the manure made on the farm is to get it out on the land as soon as possible.

The Peggy mentioned in the following item from Judge, up and died before we had a chance to use it, but the point which is made is none the less true: At the leading poultry shows throughout the country, a hen called "Peggy" is being exhibited. This hen is supposed to be worth \$10,000. We have no good reason to doubt this statement. At the present price of eggs, even an old barnyard fowl that is doing anything at all for her country is a pretty valuable piece of property. It is no longer a goose, but a hen that is laying golden eggs.

Prof. C. B. Laue declares his belief that the milking-machine is one of the advance steps in dairying. I have watched its workings very closely and the results obtained indicate that it is entirely practical. That it is a labor-saving device there is no question. For example: Two men with the machine will milk a herd of 60 cows in less time than it requires four men by hand. This makes it possible for the other two men to go into the fields with the teams early in the morning and work until evening, as it is not necessary for the drivers to take part in the milking. This is no small item, as on many farms it would amount to \$10 a week in cash and for 30 weeks a net saving of \$300.

Unclean methods are as inexcusable in the barn as in the house. The handling of the milk and the milking in the barn has more to do with its quality than its after handling after it is brought to the dairy room. It is really astonishing to see how careless and unclean a man, who in other things is most particular, will be when it comes to milking. If the good woman has been in a hurry when washing the dishes and left a spot on a plate or a fleck of dried egg on the back of a fork, the man of the house is likely to wipe it off ostentatiously on a napkin or the table cloth. But if that same man does the milking that evening it will not be at all surprising if the one who strains the milk finds some straws, hairs, and manure sediment in the strainer or the bottom of the milk pail. There are some men who are careful in milking; they brush off the udder carefully before beginning and they keep the cows clean. But we all know there are a lot of others who are so careless that the milk they bring in is really filthy. Straining the milk removes the visible dirt, but it does not remove the contamination or make the milk any cleaner. Surely the good housewives bear much from us.

Fancy Neckwear



The vogue of fancy neckwear has reached the proportions of a mania. The amount of money spent on neckwear by the up-to-date woman makes serious inroads upon an ordinary dress allowance, and her new Dutch collar, or Eton collar (which it really is), has become almost a craze among younger women. Many different designs are shown on this page.

These collars are made up of plain linen or of linen and lace, which appeal to those young enough for the somewhat youthful effect. They are mounted on a band, but are much deeper than the ordinary flat turn down. They spread a little, coming down to almost Eton depth in front, but with sharper points and narrower openings than the Eton models show.

Other collars, much closer to regulation Eton lines, but mounted on a band which while not high brings the collar up more closely around the throat than the Eton, are much worn, and are comfortable for warm weather, though essentially of youthful character. They are made of embroidered linen of varying softness and sheerness, ranging from the stiff boyish collar to sheer collars, exquisitely hand-embroidered and inset with lace.

Soft bows of silk with tassel and fringed ends are worn with these low, turn-over collars, also jabots of lace or of finely plaited linen and lace fastened just under the chin by a long jeweled pin.

PLAYHOUSE FOR A CHILD.

Simple Contrivance That the Busy Mother Will Appreciate.

The small wooden fences used by many mothers to keep the kiddies in bounds are well known. Not so familiar is a miniature playroom invented by one young mother, who objected to having her child's toys scattered all over the room.

She bought a large box. Had the sides cut down to allow it to go under the bed. The box was put on rollers so it could be easily moved.

The inside was lined with chintz that could be readily taken out when soiled. On the upright sides of the box was white muslin, to which was pasted all sorts of gay pictures and animals that children love. When finished this miniature picture gallery was given a thin coat of varnish so it could be wiped off when soiled. The baby's toys were inside.

When baby was deposited in his playhouse he was out of harm's way, and could amuse himself for hours. When he was through playing all that was necessary was to push the box under the bed, where it was hidden by the valance.

Ribbons for Lingerie.

The latest touch for lingerie is to have cherry ribbon bows to fasten up the dainty garments instead of the old familiar baby blue and pale pink. This is a very decided change and one that indicates a complete revolution in the general dressing of the particular woman. Where before she attempted to wear only feminine garments of the soft shades, she now would not think of wearing the plain white gown without some touch of splashy embroidery.

As you see, she carries out the idea even to her dainty bits of lingerie. Light shades are far too quiet. Something really definite must be worn, and while all of the embroidered undergarments are quite, simple and trimmed only with hand embroidery or a band of real valenciennes lace, the color of ribbons makes up for lack of feminine frills and furbelows.

Bordered Mulls.

Among the many pretty French mulls a new idea has developed in narrow stripes of color that end in the border design, and correspond to the deepest note of the tinting given to the flowers in that, or to the Persian pattern, for this latter effect is almost more popular this season than any other and comes frequently above a solid color border band that is in some very beautiful new hue. Mousseline d'India is another very light and airy fabric of but little more than gossamer texture and is plaited lengthwise, which gives a tiny bayadere stripe to the gown when the goods are used as attached flounces or in tunic effect, which the 30-inch width makes necessary. The side border is in either two narrow bands of Chinese flowers, as quaint as if worked on a sampler, or in little cross bars of the color, broken by a center stripe; other groundings with pin dots of color have Persian designs at border.—Vogue.

Curls in Fashion.

Among the folk fashions borrowed from Poland is that curious one of the dangling curls at the sides of the face. Some of the daring women in Paris are trying the little curls which fall over the temples and account for the stray locks about the ear.

REALLY NOVEL SOFA PILLOWS.

How One Woman Found Use for Small Embroidered Tea Cloths.

A woman who can cleverly utilize odds and ends that most of us would throw away has found a fascinating use for small embroidered tea cloths that are too small for a card table and too big for a centerpiece. She turns them into sofa pillows that are striking in their novelty.

If the cloth has a deep embroidered border the center of linen is cut away and the border applied to a cover of colored art linen, giving it an air of handsome hand embroidery. These cushions are made up to button so they may be easily laundered.

A tea cloth with drawn work border is used as a cover to a colored lining which gives a charming effect with no work. Sometimes a large monogram is embroidered heavily in the center of the tea cloth. It is done either in white or in a color to match the lining.

This is an excellent way to use centerpieces that have worn into holes though the border is still in good condition.

FOR A RAINY DAY.



Natty empire raincoat of elephant gray, waterproof silk, trimmed with black satin sash, cuffs and collar, and silver buttons and belt buckle. Such a coat is dressy enough for general spring wear.

Renewing the Edge of Skirts.

In buying a new petticoat it is always wiser to get one several inches too long. Run in one or two tucks just above the flounce, and when the edge is worn it can be cut off, rehemmed, and the tucks let out, and the skirt takes on a new lease of life. Do not leave the drawstring in the top of the petticoat. This means a certain ridge at the waist line. The top should be cut off, darted to fit, put into a narrow band and fastened with a hook and eye or button.

Scarfs Edged with Satin.

There is a widespread belief that the colored chiffon scarf may not last much longer because it is too universal. The tulle scarf and those of metallic net will be even more popular.

They have been edged with fringe and fur but the new thing is to finish the sides and ends with a narrow binding of self-colored bias satin.

INHERITED KIDNEY TROUBLE.

Could Feel It Constantly Gaining Ground as Time Passed.

Mrs. Frank Roseboom, 512 W. Washington St., Moscow, Idaho, says: "Kidney trouble was hereditary, and my parents spent hundreds of dollars trying to cure me. I was nervous, my eyesight had failed noticeably, my circulation was bad, sleep fitful, heart action irregular, and my back so weak and painful I could hardly stand it. There was also an irregularity of the kidney secretions and a cold always made the whole trouble worse. I could tell many other symptoms, too, but shall only add that Doan's Kidney Pills made me free of all of them." Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Modern Improvements Wanted. Charon was indignant. "That spirit wants the ferry equipped with the wireless system," he snorted.

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Per Salszer's catalog page 20.

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