

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt

If you have not started those farm accounts yet begin now.

Remember the cow must have food to keep up her bodily vigor as well as to provide for the milk yield.

Cut the burdock off at the crown and pour a few drops of kerosene on each stalk. Time will do the rest.

Calves should have access to good clean hay at all times if the best results are to be obtained from the grain ration which is fed.

A can with a hole punched in the bottom of it the size of the seed to be sown makes an excellent aid to sowing of seed in the garden.

Get the sunshine habit. You know how sunshine makes the crop grow. Sunshine in the home and about the daily tasks is just as essential.

It is folly to sell off the stock just because the prices seem to be low and it looks as though it was unprofitable to raise them. Be patient and wait for prices to recover, as they will.

The small flock does better than the large flock because the ration of the former is made up largely of the table scraps, which provide a more balanced ration than that provided by the more exclusively grain diet.

An old farmer who has tried it says that common poke root boiled down to a strong tea and added to the drinking water in proportion of one cupful to a pailful of water will cure chicken cholera, and hog cholera, too.

A farmer who fed his hogs the skim milk warm from the separator, mixing with corn meal at the ratio of one to three, that is, one pound of corn meal to three of milk, found that he secured what amounted to 40 cents a 100 pounds for his skim milk.

Owing to the wet weather this spring the weeds have given the farmers a hard fight in most sections. But if by extra effort the fields are kept clean, the crops will show proportionately greater improvement as a result of the more thorough cultivation.

The farmer's wife should be his helpmeet in all things, but not his drudge. She should help in planning the work of the farm but she should not be asked or expected to take the place of a hired man and do rough chores. We think that she should not even be asked to help do the milking.

Ever stop to figure out how many eggs your hens averaged for the year? Perhaps you would be surprised to know how low an average your flock would show. It costs no more to feed a 200-egg-a-year hen than the one that only lays 100 eggs. Why not study the individual merits of your flock and breed for better layers?

Farmers in some sections are experiencing trouble this year from cloudy ground due to the plowing having been done when wet. There is not much which can be done to relieve such a condition. The only thing to do is to watch and put the harrow on the ground at the moment when the clouds appear to have their greatest possible friability, due to their containing a certain amount of moisture.

Whitewash may be put on with the spray pump provided the wash is thoroughly strained before pumping. Otherwise particles are apt to clog in the pump. It is a fast way of getting on the wash and a good way, as the wash may be forced into nooks and corners where the brush cannot reach. Every farmer should have a spray pump, as it is not only handy about the poultry house, but is frequently necessary in the orchard.

In a hog feeding experiment by the Oklahoma station in which Jersey-Jerseys and Poland Chinas were used, six lots of hogs were fed as follows: Lot 1, corn meal; lot 2, seven parts corn meal, one part meat meal; lot 3, eleven parts corn meal, one part meat meal; lot 4, four parts corn meal, one part cottonseed meal, alternated every other two weeks by corn meal alone; lot 5, corn meal, alfalfa hay; lot 6, corn meal, cowpea hay. In this test the cost of making 100 pounds of gain in each case was as follows: Lot 1, \$8.01; lot 2, \$4.94; lot 3, \$4.73; lot 4, \$6.38; lot 5, \$5.88; lot 6, \$6.67.

Self-pruning trees are the subject of an interesting article in the Journal of the New York Botanical Garden by Mr. C. S. Gager, who studied the phenomenon of the self-pruning poplars litter the ground about them with branches, most of which are two years old and bear winter buds. The catapla, the alantus, the horse-chestnut, the elm, the lilac, the mulberry, the maple, and 17 or 18 other varieties of trees have this habit of self-pruning. With some, as the maples, it occurs in spring or early summer; with others, in the autumn. The purpose appears to be to get rid of superfluous branches. The branches thus eliminated are not dead to begin with, but die as a result of the pruning process, which begins by the formation of an "abscission layer," or a brittle zone, at the base of the branch.

Little or no grain should be fed the brood sow when not suckling pigs.

Cleanliness in the hen house is the price of freedom from lice and mites.

Keep the boar in a separate pen far enough away from the sows to keep him from fretting.

The wet land will grow alsike clover when other clovers will fail. Try it. It is high in nitrogen content.

There is no reason to suppose that the Plymouth Rock egg is harder to break than that of any other variety.

Don't be discouraged. Corn often more than makes up in July and August what it has lost in May and June from unfavorable conditions.

In climates where low temperatures are constant during the winter a hillside site for the orchard is to be preferred to the low-lying places.

The grain from two-rowed barley is usually of better quality than that from the six-rowed variety, although the production is not quite so heavy.

The right start with work in the morning makes things run smoothly all day. Try planning out the work the night before, so that each one of the hands has definite work assigned.

It is coming to be more generally admitted that the dairy farm needs the dairy type of cow and the beef producer must hold himself to the beef animals. In other words, the dual-purpose idea is on the wane.

The drainage is a subject which is receiving more intelligent consideration of the farmers than ever before. It is costly improvement, but repays the outlay many fold in increased productivity of the land thus treated.

The trap nest is the only sure way of finding out the best layers, but the observant farmer's wife can pick out the best layers and by keeping them for the breeders next season she will be on the road to improving her flock and increasing her egg money.

Too many poultry yards are unsightly mud puddles after a rain. One farmer eliminated such condition by enlarging his yard space so as to take in a big patch of green and by the poultry house door laying a wide strip of cement and around this cinders up to the point where the green sward began.

New ideas are all right if they are carefully digested and wisely used. The man who plunges blindly ahead into something which sounds good but which may have weak and impracticable points connected therewith, is the man who is constantly making serious mistakes and is making a failure of farming and stockraising.

Have you put in that patch of corn for summer use for the cows? Remember that the pasture gets pretty dry and thin during the hot weeks of July and August and you need something to place out and prevent serious shrinkage in the milk yield. It is a great mistake to let the cows run down in their milk.

Secretary Wilson defines the progressive farm as one who rotates his crops, tile-drains his land, keeps dairy cows or mutton sheep or both, breeds draft horses, does farm work with broad mares and growing colts, and improves the power of the soil by growing legumes. How is it? Do you come into the class thus defined?

A mason who is onto his job and who builds in the interests of his employer says if chimneys are plastered up inside as they are built with a mortar to which one-fourth common salt is added it will have a glazed finish to which the soot will not stick, and hence there will be no chimneys catching fire from the soot accumulations.

A good oil or vinegar barrel cut in half and placed over the pasture spring will make a good drinking place for the stock. Without the barrel the water softens all the soil about which is tramped by the stock until it becomes a mud hole. If the land slopes away from the spring the other half of barrel can be sunk into the ground and a pipe run from the half barrel at the spring.

Spare that tree! There is not a tree of any variety in the United States which should be cut down unless there is an apparent and immediate necessity for its destruction. There are few pieces of wooded land west of the Rocky mountains which will not soon be worth more as they are now than if cleared and under-cultivated. Data furnished by the agricultural department, and from other sources reliable in details furnished, show that this is absolutely the case. Estimates made show that the hardwood timber of the United States will be practically exhausted within the next 16 years. The same estimate, with a lengthened time for destruction, applies to timber of other kinds.

To spray or not to spray is no longer the mooted question among fruit raisers. Rather is the question being asked whether the orchardist can afford not to spray. Tests always prove that the sprayed orchard produces choicer fruit and returns a larger net profit than the orchard not so treated. In a test in Nebraska last year in two apple orchards the cost of spraying in one was about 29 cents per tree for four sprayings, and in the other about 40 cents per tree for five sprayings. Spraying produced a net gain per tree above the cost of spraying of \$1.70 in one orchard, and \$2.56 in the other. It increased the yield of fruit by 1.7 bushels per tree in one orchard, and by 2.1 bushels per tree in the second. The improvement in quality of fruit was also very noticeable. In one orchard the sprayed trees produced 45 per cent. of No. 1 fruit, while the unsprayed trees only four per cent. of No. 1 fruit. In the other orchard about 62 per cent. of the crop on the sprayed trees was first-class fruit, while only about 22 per cent. of the crop on unsprayed trees was first grade.

BED-BOUND FOR MONTHS.

Hope Abandoned After Physicians' Consultation.

Mrs. Enos Shearer, Yew and Washington Sts., Centralia, Wash., says: "For years I was weak and run down, could not sleep, my limbs swelled and the secretions were troublesome; pains were intense. I was fast in bed for four months. Three doctors said there was no cure for me, and I was given up to die. Being urged, I used Doan's Kidney Pills. Soon I was better, and in a few weeks was about the house, well and strong again."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

SAVED FROM MATERNAL WRATH.

Boys' Fervent Prayer Was Answered in the Nick of Time.

A suburbanite is fond of telling this story of his five-year-old son Bobby. Being of an inquiring turn of mind the youngster one day managed to turn on both faucets in the bathtub to see what would happen. It chanced that the stopper was in place, and the tub rapidly filled up, to the great delight of Bobby. Finally, however, the tub became so full that it threatened to overflow on to the floor, and Bobby, having a proper respect for the maternal slipper, became frightened and tried vainly to turn off the water. Being unable to, for some reason, he gazed tearfully at the ever-rising food, and then, mindful of his religious training and the occasional visits of the plumber, he plunged down on his knees, and his elder sister, who happened to be passing at the moment, heard him exclaim, fervently: "O, Lord, please stop this water running! And, O, Lord, if you can't do it, please send somebody that can!"

His prayer was answered, for his sister rose to the occasion and turned off the water and temporarily saved Bobby from the much-feared slipper.

ONE ON THE DOCTOR.

St. Peter's Query Decided Reflection on Medical Attendant.

Dr. Arthur T. Holbrook told a story on his profession.

"A man by the name of Evans died," he said, "and went to heaven, of course. When he arrived at the pearly gates he said to St. Peter: 'Well, I'm here.'"

"St. Peter looked at him and asked his name. 'John Evans,' was the reply. 'St. Peter looked through his book, and shook his head. 'You don't belong here,' he said, pointing to the exit. 'But I am sure I belong here,' said the man. 'Wait a minute,' said St. Peter. 'He looked again and in the back of the book found his name. 'Sure,' said the guardian of the gate, 'you belong here. But you was not expected for 20 years. Who's your doctor?'—Milwaukee Free Press.

Where the Urchin Scored.

The busy man stopped before an office building and leaped from his carriage. At the same moment an ambitious urchin ran forward and piped: "Hey, mister, kin I hold yer horse?" "No, you can't!" snapped the busy man. "Won't change y' much," insisted the urchin. "I don't care about the charge," impatiently responded the man, throwing a blanket over his bony steed. "My horse will not run away." "Gee, mister, I didn't think he'd run away!" "No?" "No, I thought he might fall down."

DROPPED COFFEE

Doctor Gains 20 Pounds on Postum.

A physician of Wash., D. C., says of his coffee experience: "For years I suffered with periodical headaches which grew more frequent until they became almost constant. So severe were they that sometimes I was almost frantic. I was sorrowful, constipated, irritable, sleepless; my memory was poor, I trembled and my thoughts were often confused. 'My wife, in her wisdom, believed coffee was responsible for these ills and urged me to drop it. I tried many times to do so, but was its slave. 'Finally Wife bought a package of Postum, and persuaded me to try it, but she made it same as ordinary coffee and I was disgusted with the taste. (I make this emphatic because I fear many others have had the same experience.) She was distressed at her failure and we carefully read the directions, made it right, boiled it full 15 minutes after boiling commenced, and with good cream and sugar, I liked it—it invigorated and seemed to nourish me. 'This was about a year ago. Now I have no headaches, am not sorrowful, sleeplessness and irritability are gone, my brain clear and my head steady. I have gained 20 lbs. and feel I am a new man. 'I do not hesitate to give Postum due credit. Of course dropping coffee was the main thing, but I had dropped it before, using chocolate, cocoa and other things to no purpose. 'Postum not only seemed to act as an invigorant, but as an article of nourishment, giving me the needed phosphates and albumens. It is no imaginary tale. It can be substantiated by my wife and her sister, who both changed to Postum and are hearty women of about 70. 'I write this for the information and encouragement of others, and with a feeling of gratitude to the inventor of Postum. Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read 'The Road to Wellville,' in pkgs. 'There's a Reason.' Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

Washington Whisperings

Interesting Bits of News Gathered at the National Capital.

Taft Boom Was Born in Barber Shop



WASHINGTON.—The nursery of Taft's boom for the presidential nomination was a room in the executive offices of the White House grounds, where President Roosevelt, before he left for his home at Oyster Bay, was shaved each work day. Here, when the boom was a green and tender thing, its first young shoots pushed to the light. Here it was coaxed to sturdier growth. Here, in full blossom, it was talked over and admired.

Frank Hitchcock was the official and the president the unofficial manager of the Taft boom. The president, at these heart-to-heart talks with the candidate, was in a barber chair. A certain White House messenger wielded the razor and lather brush. It was the only part of the day when official business did not claim all of Roosevelt's time. It was Taft's one chance to do most of the talking.

Even then, the barber had to be watchful, and quick to snatch away the brush or blade. When Taft wants to talk he sometimes forgets he is being shaved. If the barber's hand had not a gambler's quickness, the president would have had the lather brush

in his eye as often as he had it in his mouth. The shaving of the president and the midday cultivation of the boom of Taft started at 1 p. m. and lasted a half hour.

Taft, when he was in Washington, often saw the president several times in the morning. But Mr. Roosevelt had many things on his mind then and no leisure. For an hour or longer after 11:30 his outer office was filled with men who had appointments.

At the first one o'clock shaving time came the first respite. The room in which the president was shaved is a small, narrow one, between the president's office and that of Secretary Loeb. It is used as an anteroom to both offices. On the wall is a long, framed photograph of a squadron of battleships.

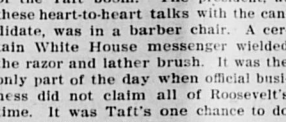
At this window is a low-set leather upholstered chair. Against the wall at one side a writing desk.

When the time for shaving arrived the low, leather covered chair was pulled out from the wall. A neat foot rest of two steps was produced from under the writing desk and set in front of the chair.

Roosevelt took his place. Then came Taft, who pulled up another chair alongside.

When Taft was away Roosevelt often received others in the shaving period. Sometimes the correspondents talked with him there. Sometimes it was Hon. Jimmy Garfield, he of the classic brow.

Wholesale Prices Are Highest in Years

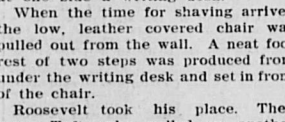


cent. higher than the average for the year 1907.

When the commodities are divided into nine groups every group shows an increase in price in 1907 as compared with 1906. For farm products taken as a whole this increase was greatest, namely, 10.9 per cent.; for food, 4.6 per cent.; for clothes and clothing, 5.6 per cent.; for fuel and lighting, 2.4 per cent.; for metals and implements, 4.1 per cent.; for lumber and building materials, 4.9 per cent.; for drugs and chemicals, 8.3 per cent.; for house furnishing goods, 6.8 per cent., and for the miscellaneous group, five per cent.

The effect of the money stringency in the latter part of the last year is reflected in the decrease recorded in all commodities during November and December, the average price showing a decrease of 3.5 per cent. below October. Of the 258 articles for which wholesale prices were recorded 172 showed an increase in the average prices for 1907 as compared with 1906; 25 showed no change and 51 showed a decrease.

Wiley's Poison Squad End Their Test



thought by scientific men to be objectionable because containing caffeine or other injurious substances, there is a wide field for the students to experiment.

One of the most interesting possibilities is the determination of whether or not feunegreek, the famous old world herb remedy, which is part of most medicines advertised to increase flesh, is really what it is said to be, and will accomplish the purposes for which it is advertised. A class in feunegreek is said to be one of the possibilities of the early future.

Condition foods for animals also offer a field of endeavor. That Dr. Wiley may yet explore to determine if the claims made for the various brands of food are really true.

The experiments conducted by Dr. Wiley are the first large experiments of the sort conducted in the scientific world. The classes, which were started in the fall of 1902, have already gone through a variety of experiments. Borax and boric acid were the first to receive attention, sulphuric acid, benzene, formaldehyde and copper salts have also been fully tested as to their effects on the human system when taken with food.

Makes New Record for Cabinet Changes



The chances are that he will continue to serve through the term of Mr. Roosevelt, and should Secretary Taft succeed to the presidency, it is possible that Secretary Wilson would continue in the cabinet. It will be 12 years next March since Wilson became secretary of agriculture. He is 73 years old, but a man of great activity. However, it has been a matter of some surprise that he has continued in office so long, as it has been the Roosevelt tendency to get younger men into his cabinet.

Dummy Used to Make Test.

Walking day and night, without a single stop, a dummy soldier is making 100,000 steps every 24 hours in an endurance test to determine the life of several new cartridge belts which are under consideration by the board of ordnance and fortification of the army. The dummy's tour of duty is at the Rock Island (Ill.) arsenal. The dummy is the size of an average soldier. By a special mechanical apparatus it is made to walk, with the guidance of a wire cable, as though on sentinel duty, in a circle in one end of a box. The mechanism is such as to give the dummy the same motion as would be experienced by the average soldier in walking. About the waist of the figure are strapped the various belts, one at a time, which are being tested. Each is filled with the regulation number of rounds of service cartridges, the principal test being made with the sharp-nosed bullets, to determine how long it will take for these to wear through the pockets of the belts.

British Commerce Through the Suez.

One-seventh of the foreigners commerce of Great Britain passes through the Suez canal.

A Woman's Duty.

The woman of taste keeps abreast of the fashions in a way—that is, she drops wornout styles and adopts whatever new ones she can adapt to her use. If she can afford it she patronizes first-class dressmakers and gets her money's worth by wearing her clothes two or three seasons without losing her prestige as a well-dressed woman. There is an advantage in this method, as you can see, and I have been told by women who use it that there is economy as well.

It is no economy to save at the expense of good looks. It is a woman's duty to look her best, a duty she owes to her family. If she can secure it by a small expenditure, so much the better, but to save by accepting shabbiness is not creditable save in dire stress of circumstances. Poverty is an excuse for shabbiness and nothing else is accepted by the world, save in the rare cases of shabby millionaires.—Chicago Journal.

The Vital Point.

Judge Gillette was one of the most dignified of old-fashioned jurists. One day he was holding court at a county seat in a rather out-of-the-main-road county, when a violent hubbub in the hallway interrupted proceedings in the courtroom. After quieting the disturbance, the sheriff returned to report to the judge. "It was two men fighting," explained the official. "Danny Flannigan and Jake Jenkins, tough characters about town. I have put them under arrest." And he waited, expecting that the magistrate would order both offenders to be brought in to his presence and committed for contempt.

What was the sheriff's astonishment, therefore, when the judge beckoned him to the desk, and bending down, said in a confidential whisper: "Which licked?"—Illustrated Sunday Magazine.

ITCHING HUMOR ON BOY

His Hands Were a Solid Mass, and Disease Spread All Over Body—Cured in 4 Days By Cuticura.

"One day we noticed that our little boy was all broken out with itching sores. We first noticed it on his little hands. His hands were not as bad then, and we didn't think anything serious would result. But the next day we heard of the Cuticura Remedies being so good for itching sores. By this time the disease had spread all over his body, and his hands were nothing but a solid mass of this itching disease. I purchased a box of Cuticura Soap and one box of Cuticura Ointment, and that night I took the Cuticura Soap and lukewarm water and washed him well. Then I dried him and took the Cuticura Ointment and anointed him with it. I did this every evening and in four nights his hands were entirely cured. Mrs. Frank Donahue, 208 Fremont St., Kokomo, Ind., Sept. 16, 1907."

The Candy Girl.

He was one of those sentimental chaps who imagine the only way to capture a girl's heart is to send her volumes of poetry. Selecting a book of seasonal verse he sent it to his lady fair with the following scribbled on the fly-leaf:

"Dearest, as I seek your heart,
A book of verse I do impart."
And the pretty but sensible girl, who did not care a rap if Shakespeare had been a pirate instead of a poet, returned the verses with the following lines:

"To the woods with this sludge,
If my heart you'd really budge,
Send me up a pound of fudge."

Making It Sure.

The lawyer was drawing up Enpeck's will.

"I hereby bequeath all my property to my wife," dictated Enpeck. "Got that down?"

"Yes," answered the attorney.

"On condition," continued Enpeck, "that she marries within a year."

"But why that condition?" asked the man of law.

"Because," answered the meek and lowly testator, "I want somebody to be sorry that I died. See?"

Knew Him.

"William," said the head of the firm, looking at his watch, "I have business out of town this afternoon and may be detained several hours. If anybody should call—"

"They ain't no ball game to-day, Mr. Spotcash," interrupted the office boy. "I said nothing about ball games. William," rejoined his employer, eying him sternly. "However, my business is such that it can wait until some other day. That will be all just now, William."

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.

For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

Don't forget that a thing isn't done because you intend to do it.

Foot Ache—Use Allen's Foot-Paste Over 60,000,000 times. Refers circulation for free trial package. A. S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

Sufficient unto the day are the 24 hours thereof.

Habitual Constipation

May be permanently overcome by proper personal efforts with the assistance of the one truly beneficial laxative remedy, Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, which enables one to form regular habits daily so that assistance to nature may be gradually dispensed with when no longer needed as the best of remedies, when required, are to assist nature and not to supplant the natural functions, which must depend ultimately upon proper nourishment, proper efforts, and right living generally.

To get its beneficial effects, always buy the genuine Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna manufactured by the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. ONLY SOLD BY ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS one size only, regular price 50¢ per bottle

FOUR GIRLS

Restored to Health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Read What They Say.

Miss Lillian Ross, 530 East 84th Street, New York, writes: "Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound overcame my irregularities, periodic suffering, and nervous headaches, after everything else had failed to help me, and I feel it a duty to let others know of it."

Miss Katharine Craig, 2355 Lafayette St., Denver, Col., writes: "Thanks to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I am well, after suffering for months from nervous prostration."

Miss Marie Solzman, of Laurel, Ia., writes: "I was in a run-down condition and suffered from suppression, indigestion, and poor circulation. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound made me well and strong."

Miss Ellen M. Olson, of 417 N. East St., Keokuk, Ill., says: "Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound cured me of backache, side ache, and established my periods. After the best local doctors had failed to help me."

For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness, or nervous prostration. Why don't you try it?

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.

