



FARM AND GARDEN

SHEEP IN DIVERSIFIED FARMING.

Sheep pay well when kept on a general farm where grain is grown and where other live stock is raised. They are economical feeders under such circumstances because they get their living mostly from fence corners and other out of the way places.

Their appetites are peculiar when compared with other animals because they seem to prefer weeds and brush to the ordinary tame pasture grasses.

An experiment at the Minnesota station showed that out of 480 kinds of weeds there were only fifty kinds that sheep would not eat.

A farmer in Livingston County, Illinois, said that his sheep had made him \$1,000 in three years by living principally in the fence rows in the summer time. Besides the money received, he has got rid of a great many noxious weeds.

Mr. Winter, another Illinois farmer, figures that the lambs sell for as much as the ewes cost, and that the wool pays the cost of their keep. He estimates the value of a full grown healthy sheep at \$6.00. A flock of ewes will average one lamb each. A 100 pound lamb will bring six cents per pound or \$6.00 which returns the original value of the ewe. He may reasonably expect a 9 pound fleece which at twenty cents will bring a dollar and eighty cents, enough to pay for the keep of the mother and offspring.

The most advantageous time to sell is when the lamb weighs eighty pounds. At this weight the cuts are comparatively small and the buyer is better satisfied, as the cuts are more convenient to use besides being more economical. The customer is assured that he is buying lamb instead of mutton. Of course it is important to have the lamb fat. It should be in such condition that you cannot feel its ribs easily. If the side of the lamb feels like a wash board it is not fit for market.

The health of sheep can only be maintained by close acquaintance and individual attention. If the ear of a sheep lops down it is a good sign to investigate because this is one sign that the sheep is not in good healthy condition. There are many other health signs that must be learned in order to make a success in raising for them.—Epitomist.

PROTECTION OF CHERRIES.

One of the annoying incidents in the raising of cherries is the ravages of the birds. This causes a very great loss, especially in the early years of fruit bearing, because the cherries are not so numerous that one can lose a few thousands of them without noticing it. We have had occasion recently to notice the great depredations made in the cherry trees by the robins and blue jays. It does not take long for them to greatly reduce the crop on a young tree.

We believe that it will pay for every grower of cherries to plan some protection by netting. It is said that in European countries this method of protecting cherries is common. The obstacle in the way of doing this in this country is that the demand for such netting is not large enough to make it an object to manufacture it. It has been said that imported netting can be secured at 1 1/2 cents per square yard. If a demand can be created, this kind of netting should be made at a low cost, as the meshes could be large and the whole inexpensive.

In the case of protecting the trees with this material, the trees could be kept trimmed to the shape that would make the covering of them with netting the most simple. In Europe, trees are trimmed into all kinds of shape, and all kinds of fruit trees are bound to trellises, or made to grow in shape of fans against the side of houses. Trees so controlled in their growth are easy to protect.—Mirror and Farmer.

FARM NOTES.

Wood ashes make an excellent fertilizer for the lawn or garden. Apply at the rate of one to two tons an acre. An ordinary barrel will hold about 200 pounds.

Experiments have proved that trees set 40x40 feet apart yield more apples an acre than those set 30x50 feet, although a much less number of trees to the acre.

The standard apple barrel in this country has a 17 1/2 inch head, 28 1/2 inch stave and 64 inches for over-bulge, outside measurement, and holds an average of about 118 quarts.

Winter injury to orchard trees could be avoided to a great extent by keeping the trees in a thrifty, vigorous condition. Weak, unhealthy trees are less able to stand extremes of temperature than thrifty ones.

Watch the weeds in the straw berry patch and don't let the fall rains give them a fresh start.

The laxative effect of wheat bran as a stock food is due to an organic phosphate compound known as phytin.

Chickens should not be neglected because they are smaller than other domestic animals. Their needs are just as big in proportion.

When two or three cocks are used with the flock, some careful poultrymen feel sure it is best to let only

one out each day, the remainder being kept in confinement and well fed till a systematic rotation brings a day of freedom to each.

It is impossible to grow first-class fruit well colored and of good size in a crowded, shady orchard. The trees should have plenty of room.

In selecting and buying ewes be very careful not to get disease. Watch for scab. They should always be dipped before leaving their old yards and if possible dipped again on reaching the new home. Look for ewes that show good breeding.

SELECTING BREEDING SWINE.

In selecting his breeding swine the farmer and breeder should give attention first to the sows especially if all are to be bred to the same boar. They should be as uniform as possible, in point of age, size and form, thereby increasing the probability of uniformity in their progeny at marketing time.

They should be selected when young and comprise the very best individuals in the herd. By following this rule a type is established and the vigor turned to good account in maintaining that type in the herd.

As soon as the young sows are selected they should be separated from the rest of the herd that are being fed for market, and be fed and grown on a ration that is mixed with special reference to the duties before them.

With equal care select the boar, a pure bred if possible, to which they are to be bred. If they have faults and all sows have, he should show a good development in the particular points where they are deficient. Breed to enlarge and improve. Do not ever perpetuate and intensify a fault that can be remedied by careful selection. While we must not expect too much of a sire, yet we have a right to expect more of him than of the dam in establishing a type and uniformity in the offspring, although the dam has a great influence upon the general form and vigor of the pigs.

In addition to creating new lines the sow must perform other important functions, and cannot be relied upon to stamp as strong an individuality upon the pigs as the sire. Hence in most cases the sire is more important than the dam.

To have a uniform, even lot of pigs to feed, it is necessary to select a good boar of as near perfect type as can be found and mate him with a uniform lot of sows instead of sows of all ages, shapes and styles.—W. M. K., in the Epitomist.

It is said that if the average egg at the beginning of incubation weighs about two ounces, the newly-hatched chick will weigh about one and a quarter ounces; at one week old, two ounces; three weeks old, six and a quarter ounces; four weeks old, ten ounces; five weeks old, fourteen ounces; six weeks old, eighteen and a half ounces; seven weeks old, twenty-three and a half ounces; eight weeks old, twenty-eight ounces; nine weeks old, thirty-two ounces; ten weeks old, thirty-six ounces; eleven weeks old, forty-one ounces. Of course, these figures will be modified by the feed and care the birds get, but they show the normal development under favorable conditions.

This is more true of the American varieties, such as the Wyandottes, Plymouth Rocks and Rhode Island Reds, also of Orpingtons and Brahmas.—Indianapolis News.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

It has been said that a simple set of books on a farm is not at all a bad idea and would furnish an interesting and instructive as well as a profitable task for even a boy's employment for the son or daughter. Such a system would not be at all complicated, could be easily learned, and could but result in a lasting benefit to all concerned. Added to this system of accounts a reliable market paper and a number of good agricultural periodicals, the farmer's occupation could be conducted on business principles and made always to pay a business profit.—Weekly Witness.

DENMARK COWS ARE TESTED.

It is claimed that in Denmark the dairymen have succeeded in making every animal pay profits. This was done by thirty or more owners of dairies employing an official tester to report upon the results from individual cows. After carefully watching and weighing the milk for a given time the inspector reported on the individuals in each herd. The result was that poor cows went to the meat market and the producing value of dairy cows increased in one year from \$13 to \$60 each. Such results came from a system of working; everything for profit. That is the spirit that controls in successful agriculture.—Weekly Witness.

Blasting marble is impracticable, those who quarry it having to split off blocks in the same method in vogue when the Parthenon was built, more than 2,300 years ago.

The death rate of Russia is the highest in Europe. It is 41 a 1,000 a year.

BONING FOR GRADUATION.



—Cartoon by Berryman, in the Washington Star.

NEW EMPIRES FOR PIONEERS.

Millions of Acres of Indian Lands to Be Thrown Open For Settlement—Offer Homes and Wealth—Include Rich Farming, Timber and Mineral Tracts in Idaho, Montana and Washington.

Washington, D. C. — Millions of acres of fertile Western lands will be made available by President Taft for homeseekers during the next nine months if he follows the policy which has been laid down by the Department of the Interior. The settler may make his selection in any one of the three States of Idaho, Montana and Washington.

It is proposed to throw open 2,872,600 acres, comprising part of five different allotments to Indians. They include farming, timber and mineral lands, sufficient not only to provide homes but wealth to the successful applicants.

The sections under consideration include 310,000 acres at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; 64,000 acres at Lemhi, Idaho; 1,200,000 acres near Flathead, Mont.; 153,600 acres near Spokane, Wash., and 1,145,000 acres in the vicinity of Yakima, Wash.

Long ago it was decided that the Indian reservation must go, the Indian be absorbed into the civilization of the American continent and the districts set aside for him made available for homes for sturdy Americans. It has been decided that the present year is the time to do this.

The readiness of the people of the United States to gamble has led the Government to surround its land openings with restrictions. Even with these the proportion of those who applied for lands at last year's openings to those who obtained them was fifty-seven to one. There were 114,769 in the first class, and it is estimated that only about 2000 were rewarded with good farms. It cost the applicants on an average of \$20

each to go to the sections where the openings took place, which is one of the requirements.

Almost all the applicants for the new lands come from east of the States in which the new lands are located, but very few leave the Atlantic slope to try their fortunes in the West. Twenty States furnished the greater part of the applicants last year. Nebraska headed the list with 37,268 applicants. This is accounted for at the Land Office by the fact that the settlers in Nebraska were pioneers, and while they have been successful they have in many cases insufficient wealth to establish their sons in the high priced lands of that State. This is true, perhaps in a less degree, of the fertile State of Iowa, which is credited with 32,413 applicants. South Dakota furnished 17,124; Illinois, 7988; Indiana, 918; Kansas, 5371; Kentucky, 153; Michigan, 726; Minnesota, 3029; Missouri, 6065; New York, 191; North Dakota, 554; Ohio, 344; Oklahoma, 264; Pennsylvania, 190; Texas, 134; Washington, 19; West Virginia, 19; Wisconsin, 1778; and Wyoming, 38.

Lands were offered last year in the town of Gregory, S. D., at not less than \$1 an acre, after having been subject to entry at the rate of \$2.50 an acre for four years previous. These were suitable for grazing, but in many cases could be made to yield good crops. There is the word of the Government for the statement that lands in that locality entered four years before have not only produced good crops, but were selling at the time the opening was advertised at \$20 to \$50 an acre.

JAMES J. HILL DEFENDS PATTEN.

Predicts Country Will Need All Its Wheat to Feed the People.

Seattle, Wash.—J. J. Hill, chairman of the Great Northern Board of Directors, discussing the recent wheat corner, said:

"It is a mistake to say James A. Patten cornered the wheat market. It is merely a case of a man taking advantage of an opportunity. It has been but a few years since it was estimated that the average consumption of wheat per annum in this country was six bushels, but now the experts argue that it is seven bushels. The census of 1910 will show that we have a population of 90,000,000, which will mean that we will require for our own use 630,000,000 bushels hereafter.

"We raise now probably 650,000,000 bushels of wheat in the United States with good crop conditions.

BELL SOLVES PROBLEMS OF AIR.

His Tetrahedral Kite Will Settle, Not Fall, if Shot to Pieces.

Philadelphia.—Expressing the hope that in the very near future, perhaps some time this summer, he will have perfected a flying machine that will revolutionize navigation of the air, at least two important particulars, Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, detailed to the American Philosophical Society the experiments he has made and those that are to come.

In his effort to evolve a perfect machine Professor Bell will leave the aerodrome type of machine and place his dependence in what he has denominated the tetrahedral kite, a kite which has the form of a huge triangle and is composed of many small cells.

"All of the machines now in use," the inventor said, "even that of the Wrights, who lead the world in flying machine construction, lack stability in the air. That is one fault. Another and more dangerous flaw is the

fact that when an accident happens to one of these machines it falls to the earth with extreme rapidity, endangering the life of the aviator. On account of their lack of stability in the air the safety of the aviator depends almost entirely upon his skill.

"The tetrahedral kite is perfectly stable in the air, as has been demonstrated by repeated tests. In case of an accident it will descend to the earth gently and smoothly as a bird would. It could even be broken in half and still reach the earth in safety. In times of war this would be an invaluable attribute, as the kite would be able to stand any amount of shelling."

It is these two things that will be the subject of the experiments this summer. Professor Bell has been conducting his work at his summer house in Braddock, Nova Scotia, a small town on the shore of Lake Bras d'Or, and in Hammond's Spout, N. Y.

Steel Trust to Drop Dealings

With Unions Altogether. Pittsburgh.—Notices were posted at the various plants of the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company that on and after June 30 the company will refuse to deal with the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel, Sheet and Tin Plate Workers. The company is the last of the subsidiaries of the United States Steel Corporation to deal with union labor, and it is asserted that the corporation has now decided to drop dealing with the union altogether.

Chicago Roads Order Special Cars

to Run to Cemetaries. Chicago.—Plans for funeral cars for the surface lines were sent to the officers of the Chicago City Railway Company by Bion J. Arnold, chief traction engineer. Haste in getting the cars has been precipitated by the carriage drivers' strike. The first test on the surface lines is to be made on the Calumet and South Chicago Railway, now operated by the City Railway. They are already used by the Metropolitan West Side Elevated Railway.



FASHION NOTES.

Echarpes are much in vogue. For evening wear there are some very pretty ones to be seen of chiffon embroidered in gold.

Although bright tints are not eschewed, the general tendency is for soft, delicate tones, light shades prevailing.

If Paris can have its way, the whole tendency in millinery will be toward quaint effects.

New materials undoubtedly point toward a continuance of the director style, though there is reason to believe that it will be greatly modified.

At the millinery shops the trimmings are ostrich tips in mixed shades—mauve and old blue, black and mauve and green and navy blue.

The tunic is becoming an all-important part of the dress. The jacket is one of the revivals seen in some of the handsome imported costumes.

Cabouchens of straw with jewel centers will be seen on some of the smart hats.

Skirtings are nearly all striped, which adds to the long-lined effects of the season.

Messaline silk in exquisite Dresden patterns makes the dainties of under-skirts.

Very unusual are some of the French chevrons, which show the Roman stripe effect.

Light frocks exhibit embroidery rather than the lace trimmings of former seasons.

Shirring over cords and in tiny puffs will be seen more and more.

Except for an occasional scant flourish, all trimming is put on in lengthwise form.

Figured as well as striped henriettes are seen in the shops in all the newest colorings.

Imitation cluny lace in linen makes effective trimmings for wash dresses.

SAILOR SUITS.

Some people think that the regulation sailor suit must be made of blue flannel and trimmed with white braid. Of course, this is very appropriate; it is extremely good-looking and it wears awfully well, but it certainly isn't an attempt at variety, and in the dressing of the little folk we like to avail ourselves of all possible variety in fabrics, for so much in the way of style which may be claimed by the grownups is denied them. Do you know that shepherd's check in black and white makes very smart little sailor suits, and brightened with decorations of red, they are very attractive and youthful?

Tartan plaids, too, make very handsome suits and the decorations for these may be red, white or black.

No material is more satisfactory than serge, and a sailor suit of red serge, with trimmings of black, is very stylish. Serge in a rich shade of brown, with decorations in yellow or white; make a handsome suit and black serge, with white trimmings, and white serge with black trimmings, make a most appropriate style of mourning for a child. Sailor suits of white serge or white linen may be used for "dress-up" occasions and, with red or blue decorations, are very effective.

For the everyday suits, for little men and women there is no more satisfactory material than dark-blue wool serge. It is well worth while to select a good quality of this material for this purpose, as it receives a hard wear and may have recourse to the wash tub even as does a suit of linen or cotton.

Of all the styles of clothes for children the regulation sailor suit is less quickly outgrown; therefore, as it may be used for several years, it is wise to select serge of a good quality.—New Haven Register.

CURE OF OLD AGE.

The cure for hurry is the cure for old age—to take time every day, to become again as a little child, interested in one thing at a time as if that were the only thing. Instead of whirling all the time dizzily on the rim of life, we must take frequent times to get back to the center again for our bearings—back to the silent center whence we came. At that silent center we find all our child faculties waiting to be recognized and appreciated.

Many cases of failing memory are mistaken ones, due to unreasonable expectations!

How many grown-ups forget as many times a day as any child does?

The trouble is we expect, or try to compel ourselves to remember a great burden of inconsequent and irrelevant things that the brightest child on earth could not remember; and we are so preoccupied trying to carry these things in mind that our minds are half-absent at least, from the new things that are happening now and that ought to have our full attention, as they would have a child's full attention.—Elizabeth Towne in Nauticus.

RAISES FROGS FOR MARKET.

Mrs. Laura Smith is the only woman frog farmer in the country, probably in the world. She raises frogs for San Francisco and Los Angeles, her farm being midway between these cities. The Californians are confirmed frog-eaters, but fresh legs were scarce until Mrs. Smith took up her frog raising. She got the idea when visiting in Wisconsin. On nearly all the small lakes in that State frogs croak by the million. Indiana sends the legs in bunches to Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis and St. Paul, and the easy profit in the business convinced Mrs. Smith a frog farm would pay in her native State. She had no difficulty in renting a watery waste covering a score of acres. She received a big shipment of frogs from Wisconsin. That was three years ago, and the frogs took to the California climate as if they never had known zero weather in the North. Now the stock has multiplied so that daily shipments go to the chief restaurants in San Francisco and Los Angeles, and Mrs. Smith finds herself within reach of a fortune.

RED HAIR.

Lucy Thompson, of Dea Moines, Iowa, has red hair and a bad reputation. The last time she was in Court the Magistrate assured her that she was one of the naughtiest girls in the city, and she would have to leave it for its own peace. "I would have been a good girl if my hair had not been red, Judge," said she. "Do you have any idea of the humiliation of brick-red hair? Why, ever since I was a little baby I've been ashamed of it. The kids at school used to sneer at it; young fellows passed me up for black or brown or golden haired girls. Boys only liked me when I did naughty things, and I just had to do them or be left out in the cold."

The Judge appreciated—perhaps for the first time—the moral influence of red hair. "Lucy," he said thoughtfully, "I've known you for a long time. I believe you have been a bad girl, and I hope you will try to be good. Do you know, I rather like your hair. It's red, all right, but it's—er—fine."

If Lucy has not been hectored too much already she will realize the Judge's hopes. What he said is probably the first allusion she ever heard to her hair that was not an insult. One man has spoken admiringly of her hair, and the probability is that her self-respect will assert itself and she will be a good girl.

PERSIAN WOMEN ARE PATRIOTIC.

The women of Persia are giving the world a strong argument for equal suffrage. They have joined their husbands in a devoted attempt to maintain the constitution. To their efforts has been due in a large measure the success of the native newspapers. The country now has twenty-five native papers, where four years ago it had only two. Women have actively assisted in establishing the native press, believing it means the best guarantee of the growth of personal and political liberty. In this they base their opinion on the experience of the most progressive Western nations. Now the Persian women are working for the establishment of a national bank. Their patriotism may be gathered from the fact that many thousands of women have agreed to sell their jewels and other ornaments to the end that sufficient capital may be obtained for the enterprise. The movement is an amazing development in a country which for more than a score of centuries has treated women as hopelessly inferior to men.—New York Press.

LINDEN GREEN.

Women have not had time to exhaust the preliminary chatter on the introduction of the murky gray that goes by the name of "London smoke" before Paris comes out with a preference for a new shade, which, it is expected, will become popular under the name of linden green. The name is drawn from the leaf of the linden tree. This green already has been seen in Fifth Avenue in heavy serge walking suits, with a deep, coars rib. The usual trimming is black satin, and dull silver buttons are used. The clever woman, however, is against the present tendency to extensive trimming. One of the most attractive costumes seen in the shopping district recently was of the new green with little more than a suggestion of trimming. It seems a blow against good taste to cover the present street suits with trimming. The lines of certain of these garments are more artistic than any other designs of recent years, and the long easy lines are at their best when presenting an unbroken surface to the eye.—New York Press.

A Living Illustration.

"Very few of us realize the terrible things that may result from a word hastily spoken," said the benevolent woman.

"Well, I realize it," answered the young man who sat by her on the train. "I'm a baseball umpire."—Washington Star.

Waiting Further Orders.

Caller—Nellie, is your mother in Nellie—Mother is out shopping. Caller—When will she return, Nellie? Nellie (calling back)—Mamma, what shall I say now?—Short Stories.

The German Meteorological Society offers a prize of 3,000 marks for the best treatment of meteorological observations obtained in the international ascents.