

Improving Cream and Milk Supply

Scoring Contests Serve to Create Interest in Better Quality.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)
 Cities, villages, and even whole counties are improving their milk and cream supply through scoring contests, says the United States Department of Agriculture. While the contests are of various kinds, all of which serve to create an interest in better quality milk, two general classes are emphasized by the department as worthy of consideration. These are the contests in which samples of milk and cream are submitted voluntarily and surprise contests in which the samples are collected from the distributor or producer without warning. The bureau of dairying has drawn up plans for use in such contests which should be of interest to any community contemplating a milk-improvement program.

Samples Specially Prepared.
 Where the samples are specially prepared by the exhibitor and submitted voluntarily for scoring, the results may or may not indicate the quality of the product regularly sold. And yet, says the department, when contests are first held in a community or large territory, they do have considerable educational value because they show that milk of high quality can be produced by observing certain simple rules. Voluntary samples are perhaps a better method to use in the first stages of improvement work.

Surprise Contests.
 Surprise contests, on the other hand, are a means of determining the average quality of the milk which each distributor is selling daily. Each dairy is generally scored on the average of several samples taken at random over a period of several months. The score is therefore representative of the daily output. Well-organized inspection departments usually give the dairyman reports of each sample soon after it is collected, and if it is unsatisfactory there is a chance for improvement before another is collected. For this reason an excellent opportunity is offered the inspector for doing educational work. This, coupled with the public recognition given dairymen who produce a superior product, has helped to obtain marked improvement in the quality of milk and cream in communities where surprise contests have been made a part of the regular inspection program.

Stock Keepers Without Silos Are Handicapped

Stock keepers without silos in many parts of our country are handicapped and sooner or later will be obliged to give way to the man who is producing with economy and profit. It is estimated that an average silo will save a stock farmer \$200 per year, and on this basis \$400,000,000 would be saved each year. At the same time the corn growers would be securing as much more by getting a good price for the corn they market.

Such a proper use of the silo would not cause an oversupply of stock or stock products, but it would produce them at a great saving which would be enjoyed by both the producer and consumer. Economy helps all, while waste and extravagance damage all.

The stock farmers of this country, except those who are depending solely on the open range, should understand that the silo for many years has proven an economic means of producing stock and stock products. The ignoring of this fact, and practice in the corn belt of the old-fashioned methods of feeding, are largely the cause of the present distress among the farmers of the corn belt. A proper use of the silo would go a long way toward settling the present agricultural problem, and it is certainly worthy of our careful consideration.

Sudan Grass Forage Is Recommended for Swine

Sudan grass and sorghum are very similar, and while the Missouri station does not have any experimental data available showing the value of Sudan grass it is believed that they will vary little from those obtained with sorghum. The general recommendations for feeding hogs on Sudan grass would be the same as those given for feeding on sorghum. Sudan grass may be pastured with little or no risk.

The Kansas station makes the following report regarding Sudan grass: "Sudan grass is the best annual forage crop for hogs in the warmer sections of the country, and it compares favorably with alfalfa as a mid-summer hog pasture because it is very hardy and stands the hot, dry summer very well. Results secured at the Kansas experimental station showed that Sudan grass compared very favorably with alfalfa as a pasture crop for fattening hogs and for brood sows."

Chicks Need Sunlight

Chicks, as well as older fowls, need sunlight. In some way it helps the little fellows to make better use of the lime in their feed, and so aids in preventing leg weakness. This is due largely to the ultra violet rays in sunlight, and these do not seem to pass through ordinary window glass. They apparently go through "glass cloth" all right, and of course direct sunlight can be used on warm days.

August Seedings of Alfalfa Not Favored

Winter Poorly and Produce Small Crop.

August seedings of alfalfa are poor security for the farmer. L. F. Graber, alfalfa specialist at the Wisconsin College of Agriculture, warns farmers against August seedings, for experiments at the college show that they winter poorly and quite often produce a small crop the following season.

"If we have plenty of rain and good weather to promote late fall growth, alfalfa may get a good start before winter sets in but dry weather and unfavorable fall growing conditions are far more likely," Graber declares. He points out that August seedings which make only three or four inches of top growth do not yield profitably the following season.

August seedings sometimes succeed, but are always a big risk, Graber asserts. Since the farmer is completely at the mercy of the weather with late summer-sown alfalfa, he recommends waiting until spring to make a successful seeding.

In warning against the late fall cutting of alfalfa, Graber maintains that there is absolutely no danger of alfalfa smothering itself even though a fall growth of two or three feet remains during the winter. At the college farm, alfalfa has been allowed to grow to an entire year without cutting. The following year this field was among the best in thickness of stand and vigor of growth. A heavy fall growth for winter protection is good insurance, Graber concludes.

Muskmelon Growing and Marketing Discussed

Muskmelons usually referred to by the trade as cantaloupes are grown commercially and for home use over a wide range of territory in the United States, but the big commercial producing areas are located in California, Colorado, Arizona, Georgia, North Carolina, Maryland, New Jersey and Arkansas, according to Farmers' Bulletin No. 1468-F, "Muskmelons," just issued by the Department of Agriculture.

Approximately 82,000 acres are planted to this crop annually, and about 32,000 carloads of the melons are shipped to the markets.

Muskmelons require a well drained or rather light fertile soil with fairly long growing season and plenty of sunshine, especially during the ripening period. Growers must be prepared to combat insects and diseases that attack muskmelons, and good seed is highly essential for profitable production.

The bulletin emphasizes that muskmelons attain their best flavor and quality only when produced on disease-free vines on which they have been allowed to become reasonably ripe before being picked. It contains numerous suggestions concerning production and marketing, including information relative to soil, fertilizers, varieties, cultivation, irrigation, gathering, handling, grading, and packing. A copy of the publication may be obtained free, as long as the supply lasts, by writing to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Contagious Abortion Is Difficult to Eradicate

When contagious abortion has gained entrance into a herd, it is not advisable to dispose of aborting animals with the intention of replacing them with non-infected cows. Even though the aborting animals were removed, there may still remain some disseminators of infection in the herd, as all infected animals do not abort. Consequently, new animals introduced into a herd may contract the disease. By proper control and sanitary measures the valuable cows in a herd can be retained and the offspring from the most resistant dams used to replenish the herd.

The disease is often spread by the sale of infected members of a herd. An unsuspecting breeder may purchase such animals and place them in a healthy herd, thus establishing a new center of infection.

Control measures are essential to prevent animals from infected herds being shown at live stock exhibits, or offered for sale where infection is known to exist. Unless the most rigid, thorough and intelligent precautions are observed in the prevention and control of this disease, hope cannot be entertained for the ultimate suppression of this malady.

FARM FACTS

Garden slogan: Weed 'em and reap.

No one has more poor relatives than the scrub bull.

The campaign for better business methods on the farm is just beginning.

The most important cause of a drop in the milk flow during summer is insufficient feed.

As small grain matures look out for chinch bugs and use barriers if needed to prevent migration.

Carrots don't seem to have much individuality. Put them with pumpkin in a pile and they taste like the real pumpkin. Or put 'em with peas and they taste like peas.

GET-AWAY

You must try Champion Spark Plugs to prove how the hotter, more intense spark they produce increases the rapidity of your get-away. Why be left behind when the traffic signal flashes when a set of Champions will put you out in front?

Champion X—exclusively for Fords—packed in the Red Box 60c Each



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CHAMPION Dependable for Every Engine Toledo, Ohio

Billions in Railroads

It is estimated that by the end of 1925 the total investment in railroads of the United States will reach \$24,000,000,000, the largest sum put into any one industry in the world. In 1925 the improvement bill for the railroads will be \$750,000,000 on conservative estimate. Railroad men are predicting the heaviest fall traffic this year in history and are preparing for it.

What makes radishes so seductive is that one knows he oughtn't to eat them.

Initiative is knowing what to do; tact is knowing what not to do.

Freight Train Phone Latest in Railroad

By means of a telephone connecting the caboose and the cab of a freight train with 73 cars, the engineer and conductor of an Eastern line held conversation recently, saving the need for hand signals and speeding the progress of the train.

As they were pulling out of the yards, the conductor notified the engine men that a car repair man was riding in the caboose and would get off at the east end of the yard and close the switch when the train was in the main track.

This saved slowing up, and later the engineer notified the conductor that, if conditions were satisfactory with regard to the train, he would not stop for water at the next station. Permission to proceed was given, sparing another delay. The wires were strung over the tops of the cars.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Giant English Ox

England has always been famous for her pure-bred cattle and sheep. Nearly 300 years ago huge oxen were produced there. In his diary, Evelyn speaks of an ox that was nineteen hands high and four yards long, and that was in 1649. At that date the Leicestershire sheep had already obtained a great reputation and fetched big prices. The marvelous sheep of New South Wales, one of which recently yielded forty-five and one-half pounds of wool at a clip, are of purely British descent.—Capper's Weekly.

Billions of Bibles

The Bible in the English language is the most widely sold book in the world. Whether or not it is as widely read we do not know, but the American Bible society reports the remarkable total of ten and one-half billion copies sold in 1925. This breaks the record for all previous years. Increases were shown in China, Japan, and throughout the Far East. Russia alone declined to admit the Bible as an influence for good.—The Outlook.

Generous

Indignant Pedestrian—You act as if you wanted the earth.

Calm Motorist—Oh, no, you keep the sidewalks and we'll take the roads.—Boston Transcript.

Everyone knows how to conduct himself so as to get himself "insulted."

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 "So now is come our joyfull'st feast." Keen appetites come with motor journeys. Monarch Cocoa makes the ideal hot beverage for camp meals. It is pure, wholesome, refreshing, rich, delicious.

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Differences in Love

"Man is the hunter; woman the quarry. Once a woman has given all, she longs to go on giving. Once a man has taken all, the quest loses savor. Woman pours out her love from a never-emptying chalice. Man dashes the cup to the ground once he has drained it," writes Jane Cowl, eminent American actress, in an article in Liberty.

It's a short-road that has no road-house.

Calamity is virtue's opportunity.—Seneca.

New Dishwasher-Sink

A dishwasher-sink has been invented. In the middle of the bottom of the sink is a large opening which is closed by a cover-plate when the dishwasher is not in use. Beneath the opening is a wire-net basket held in a cylindrical metal container.

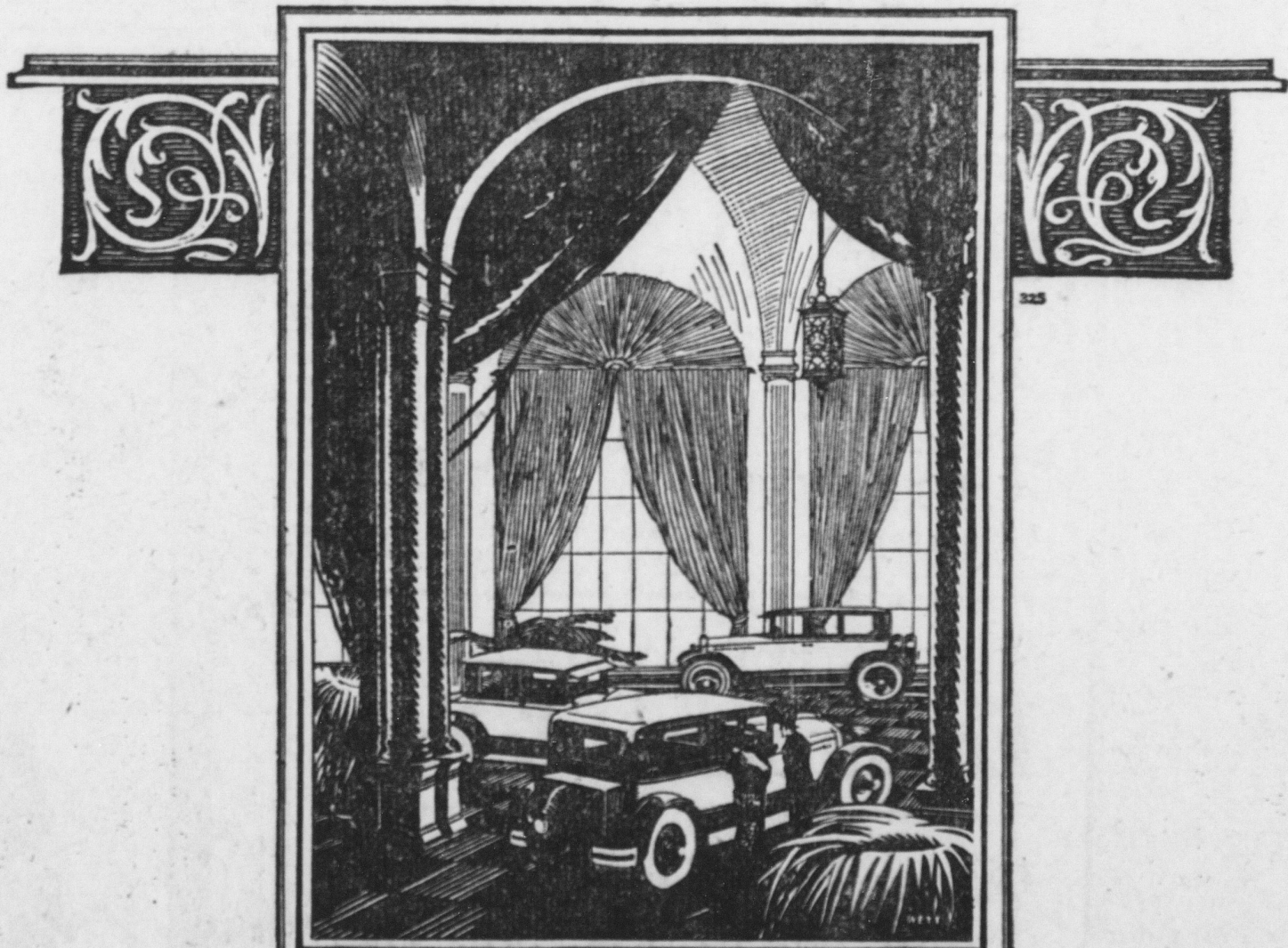
Chewing Gum

America's chewing gum bill in the last year was \$90,000,000, exclusive of the cost of gasoline necessary to remove it from the trousers.

Go to a friend for sympathy—to a pawnbroker for a loan.

FISHER BODIES

GENERAL MOTORS



LOOK AT THE NEW CARS AND SEE—BODY BY FISHER

The new car announcements of General Motors have swept Fisher into the greatest eminence in motor car history.

Everywhere you see the emblem—Body by Fisher. In all price classes, it is the inescapable badge of quality. The leaders, such as Cadillac, Buick, Chevrolet, Oakland, Oldsmobile and Pontiac, all display as one of their proudest assets the symbol—Body by Fisher.

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