

# FARM AND GARDEN



## COL. W. A. HARRIS ON SHORT HORNS.

Col. Harris, of Kansas, who is one of the best informed men about Short-horn cattle, in a recent address, referring to the Scotch and other types of this breed said:

"The sage of Sittytton, was an unknown young breeder away off in Scotland. There was a great war going on between the Booths and the Bates, so that the only thing left for him to do was to breed a class of bulls for the farmers. He did this. He wanted the farmers to feel that they could not afford to do without the bulls that he produced, and he did not care for finish as much as he did for constitution.

"This is practical day. We have to know that cattle we produce will be a source of profit, or some other breed will be chosen. We must build up the cattle, and I do not think we have a right to say the Shorthorn bulls are all of a kind that will be of profit to use. We must concentrate our efforts in its direction.

"The Angus, the Devons, the Shorthorns are each found in their particular shire of England, but there is a peculiar adaptability in the Shorthorn breed. They seem to adapt themselves to almost any locality. They seem to grow to fit the surroundings. The Shorthorns are now spread all over England. They would seem to thrive everywhere; it is wonderful. From Argentina to Scotland, everywhere, they seem to adapt themselves to the conditions which they find. And yet there are modifications. It seems to me that there are differences. There is no single type that will fit every condition and we must allow for the difference of climate and surroundings.

"We must pay greater attention to the milking qualities. Everything must be turned to profit. We must have an animal in which the sum total of qualities yield a profit. A great deal has been said and written regarding type. There are some men who run things at our agricultural colleges who are very good, while others are long in theory and short in experience. They say absolutely that two and two equal four. Things won't always work out that way. There are many secrets of gestation and reproduction which we can never know. They insist upon a type which they call the dairy type, and say that nothing can be a great producer of milk except that type."

## HINTS ON BREEDING SHEEP

As the result of several years of experience, the Wisconsin station has published the following conclusions:

"From the breeding records of 124 ewes at this station we conclude that, for such animals and conditions as ours, the normal period of gestation ranges from 144 to 150 days after the date of service, and that more ewes will lamb 146 days after service than at any other time.

"There is no appreciable difference in the period of gestation for male and female offspring in sheep.

"There is an apparent relation between the duration of the period of gestation and the period required for maturity. Quick-maturing breeds to carry their young for shorter periods than those breeds requiring more time to mature.

"Large lambs are on the average carried in utero for an appreciably longer period than small or medium lambs.

"Lambs dropped before the one hundred and forty-fourth day and after the one hundred and forty-ninth day of pregnancy are lacking strength and vitality at birth.

"Shropshire ewes were more prolific than any of the other breeds and crosses, except the fourth cross of Shropshire rams on a Merino ewe foundation.

"One-year-old rams are not so prolific as those of two-year-old. Ewes average a larger percentage of increase in lambs after they reach full maturity, at three years of age, until after they are six years old, when the rate of increase diminishes.

"The amount of service required of the ram in breeding has an influence on the percentage of increase in offspring of the ewes that produce lambs. Ewes bred early in the season of mating to a single ram dropped a larger percentage of lambs than those near the latter end of the season."

## MATCH UP THE HORSES.

This does not imply that those of the same markings or same color are to be worked together. Matching farm teams is more difficult than matching driving teams. A slow walking horse should never be put with a fast walking one, for you will have to constantly urged the slow one, and this soon irritates the other one. Match gaits; match temperaments, and match horse power. These are the essentials to keep in mind when matching up the team for heavy work. Never put a young horse to very heavy, steady work, such as plowing, alongside an old staid horse. The youngster is apt to do more than his share, in spite of all you can do to equalize the work. When breaking a colt I have always found it best to put it alongside a steady even-tempered horse that is not easily "rattled." Such a mate

will soon give confidence to the colt, and he readily falls into work without much trouble. A correspondent says, give the colt some light farm work at first, such as plowing or harrowing. That is risky. We would never hitch a colt to a harrow. One never knows what they are going to do, and a harrow is a mean thing to get a horse mixed up in. Would rather give the colts the light driving, and as they become seasoned give them some heavier work. Match up the colts as soon as possible, and when the teams are matched up, don't change them around unless for good reason. Horses have to learn how to pull and work together.—Indiana Farmer.

## PRUNING FRUIT TREES.

Past experience has caused me to be confident that we should prune our bearing trees annually and properly, cutting out all dead limbs and about one-fourth to one-half of all fruit spurs and keeping all straggling ends of long branches cut back. Also keep the top open so that it may have the benefit of the air and light. Allow none of these trimmings or fallen fruit to rot in the orchard. Burn the brush and let the pigs and sheep eat the fallen fruit. If every one would practice this, there would be more and better fruit. When I have gathered my fruit crop I turn the cows into the orchard, for they are fond of the fruit.

I believe the greatest loss to the fruit grower is caused by the neglect of proper pruning of trees and vines; and especially is this true of the peach. Proper pruning will prevent the forming of too many fruit buds, and the dropping of immature fruit will save thinning in some seasons, which is a big help to the busy farmer. Personally, I value pruning and early cultivation of trees and vines more than any other operation in fruit culture.—L. R. Durkee, Hampden Co., Mass.

## ONE WAY TO MAKE HENS LAY.

The question is often asked, how can I make my hens lay? The following, from the Poultry Yard, tells how it may be done:

When hens, especially old ones have been on full feed for months, the egg production often drops to a very low point, and may remain there indefinitely even on a good laying ration. In such cases the best plan is to reduce the feed sharply or even to starve the hens if on range for ten days or two weeks, and then resume heavy feeding. In most cases they will soon be making a satisfactory record.

A well-known poultry editor used to get a great deal of credit by his ability to tell folks why their hens didn't lay. His invariable answer to the question was, "Hens too fat. Starve them." The merit of this answer was that it didn't in the least matter what the condition of the hens might be, a short period on scant rations, followed well on poor hens, generally as on fat ones, unless the poor hens had been by full feeding, was almost certain to start them laying. It worked just as starved already.

A hearty appetite, first-class digestion and not too much fat, will generally bring the desired "shower of eggs."

## CARE OF STOCK.

No animal can remain at a standstill without loss to its owner. If the animal is not gaining, then the labor and food are wasted. If the animal loses only a pound in weight, then the farmer suffers loss of that which he once had, and he must incur additional expense to recover that additional pound, but the time lost cannot be recovered. These facts show the importance of keeping the stock in good condition and having an animal make an increase daily. When there is a falling off in the weight, or the yield of milk is reduced, the cause should be sought, and if an error has occurred, or there is fault in the management, a change for the better should be made without delay.

## THE PEACH TREE BORER.

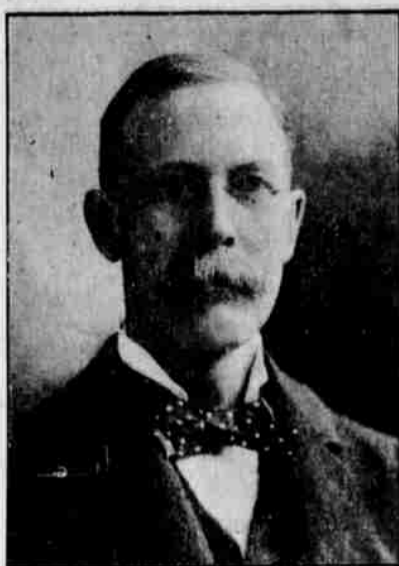
The peach borer is a wasp-like insect, with transparent wings and a richly-ornamented body, banded and striped with gold, and deposits its eggs about the base of the trunk of the tree. The eggs hatch out, the larvae bore into the sap-wood, and cause an exudation of gummy matter, which appears in masses about the base of the tree. The larvae seem partly to live in this gummy substance and partly in the sap-wood of the tree. Sometimes three or four are found on the same tree, occasionally girdling and destroying it, but always inducing more or less of a diseased condition and impairing its vigor. Altogether it is a very objectionable and destructive insect.

Though bitten twice by a monkey and warned that a third bite would be fatal, Mrs. Powell, of Bath, England, refused to part with the animal. She was bitten again, blood poisoning set in and death from heart failure followed.

There is talk in England of celebrating the bicentenary of the birth of Charles Wesley, which occurred December 15, 1705.

# The OFFICERS AND SPEECH MAKERS

## Men who were Prominent in the Italian Celebration at Reynoldsville May 2, 1907.



JUDGE JOHN W. REED,  
Of Brookville, Pa.



MARIANO CANCELLIERE,  
Of Pittsburg, Pa.



DR. GIUSEPPE FEDERICI  
Of DuBois, Pa.



GIUSEPPE SKILLACE,  
Of Reynoldsville, Pa.



CARMINE MARINARO,



LEONARDO DARR,  
Of Reynoldsville.



RAFFAELE GRIECO,  
Of Reynoldsville.



GIOVANNI MEYO,  
Of Reynoldsville.



FRANK SOBELLO,  
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PIETRO M. CANCELLIERE, L. L. B.,  
Of Pittsburg, Pa.



JOSEPH C. CANCELLIERE,  
Of Pittsburg, Pa.



DR. J. C. KING,  
Of Reynoldsville, Pa.



REV.