A Page for the Farmer and His Family

FARM ANIMALS

SIMPLE FORM OF ORGANIZING

No Capital Is Required, Farmers of Community Meeting and Selecting Officers.

The simple form of organization that suffices for co-operative live-stock shipping associations is one of their leading features. In the first place, practically no capital is required, since payment is not made to members for stock shipped until the returns are received from the market. To organize, it is necessary only that the farmers of a community meet together, adopt a simple constitution and by-laws, and elect officers and a board of directors, who in turn appoint a manager.

Although in order to transact business it is not necessary for an association of this nature to incorporate under the state laws, it is advisable to do so as a protection to the members. If not incorporated, the organization, as such, can not sue or be sued, and in case of the loss of stock from railroad wrecks or other cause the manager could not enforce claims for the association, but each shipper would be compelled to present claims for his own losses. The cost of incorporating is comparatively small—usually not more than $10.

The United States department of agriculture will furnish, on request, the essentials of a model constitution and by-laws.

ENTIRE ABSENCE OF SCRUBS

Ohio Breeder, Recently Enrolled for "Better Sires" Keeps Nothing But Purebreds.

With the gradually increasing enrollment in the "Better Sires" movement, the United States department of agriculture notes unusual interest in registration of sires. Many enrollment blanks on which breeding stock is reported contain the name and registry number of stock, although such information is not specifically asked for. A recent enrollment from a live stock



An Ohio Purebred Shorthorn Bull.

owner in Athens county, Ohio, shows that all his sires—a Shorthorn bull, a Berkshire boar, and a Delaine ram—were registered stock of good quality. In addition he kept a registered collie dog. Furthermore, his Rhode Island Red poultry were all standard-bred.

The result of using purebred sires is shown by the entire absence of scrubs on the farm. All the female animals listed were grades, cross breds or pure breds.

FORAGE SUPERIOR FOR HOGS

Extremely High Prices Make It Profitable to Substitute Grass Crops for Grain.

With the present extremely high prices of grain it is profitable to substitute, as far as possible, forage crops for grain feeds. A saving of 15 to 25 per cent of the total amount of grain and supplements may be expected through the use of forage. Pasture crops, when combined with grain feeds, will produce the cheapest rations for both breeding and fattening hogs, and the cost of gains will range from one-sixth to one-fourth cheaper than when the grain is fed in a dry lot.

It may be possible, in some cases, with an abundance of good forage, to obtain fairly satisfactory gains for a time on such forage alone, but the greatest returns have been obtained when grain was fed in addition to the forage at the rate of two to three per cent of the weight of the hogs per day.

SILAGE LACKING IN PROTEIN

When Fed Without Some Supplementary Feed Less Satisfactory Results Are Obtained.

Silage is lacking in protein and should be supplemented by some concentrate high in protein. When fed without this supplementary feed, less satisfactory results can be expected than when it is properly supplemented. The most economical and most satisfactory proportion in which to feed cottonseed meal to fattening cattle receiving silage is approximately 2.5 pounds daily a thousand pounds of live weight.

PACKAGES MUST SHOW QUANTITY

Various Fruits and Vegetables Must Be Marked Plainly to Comply With Law.

SHIPPERS DISREGARD RULES

Every Opportunity Has Been Given to Trade to Get in Line With Provisions of Amendment—Some Shipments Are Exempt.

Fruits and vegetables in package form, when shipped into interstate commerce, should bear a plain and conspicuous statement of the quantity of the contents in each package, according to a statement made by officials of the bureau of chemistry, United States department of agriculture, who are charged with the enforcement of the federal food and drugs act. Instructions have been issued showing how various fruits and vegetables in different styles of packages may be marked in order to comply fully with the net weight amendment to the law, and also showing what shipments of vegetables as ordinarily marketed are exempt from the net weight provisions. These instructions have been distributed widely among fruit and vegetable growers and shippers.

The bulk of the fruits and vegetables now shipped into interstate commerce are marked in accordance with the law, say officials, but some shippers have overlooked or are disregarding this provision of the law. Since this amendment has been in effect for six years and every opportunity has been given to the trade to get in line with its provisions it is the opinion of the officials that there is now no excuse for any shipper failing to mark the quantity of the contents on packages of fruits and vegetables shipped within the jurisdiction of the law.

How to Mark Packages.

Fruits and vegetables in baskets, hampers, drums, cartons, boxes, crates and barrels may in general be marked by either weight or dry measure, or when packed in barrels may be marked in terms of the United States standard barrel and its subdivisions of third, half or three-quarters. Statements of dry measure should be in terms of the United States standard bushel and its customary subdivisions of half-bushel, pecks, quarts, pints or half-pints. If the quantity of the contents be stated by weight or measure, it should be marked in terms of the largest unit contained in the package, except that in the case of an article with respect to which there exists a definite trade



One Method of Showing Contents of a Basket.

custom for marking the quantity of the article in terms of fractional parts of larger units, it may be so marked in accordance with the custom. For example, if the package contains a pound, or pounds, and a fraction of a pound, the contents should be expressed in terms of pounds and fractions thereof, or of pounds and ounces, and not merely in ounces.

Small Open Containers.

Crates of "flats," containing small open containers of apricots, berries, currants, cherries, grapes, peaches, plums, prunes, peppers, tomatoes and the like, should be marked on the outside of the crate or "flat," with the number of small containers and the quantity of the contents of each. When the crates are so marked it is not necessary to mark the quantity of contents on the small open containers within the crates.

Exempt for the Present.

It is not necessary for the present and until further notice to mark the quantity of contents on the following fruits and vegetables when marketed in the manner indicated; asparagus in boxes and cases; beets with tops, bunched, in drums and hampers; cabbages in crates; cantaloupes and cassabas in crates and baskets; carrots with tops, bunched, in drums and hampers; cauliflower in crates and hampers; celery in boxes and crates; eggplant commonly wrapped in paper and packed in crates; kale in barrels, baskets, and hampers; lettuce in barrels, drums, baskets, and hampers; onions, with tops, bunched, in drums and hampers; pineapple in crates; radishes, bunched, in drums and hampers; romaine in hampers; spinach in barrels, baskets, and hampers; turnips with tops in drums and hampers.

Federal inspectors have been instructed to examine interstate shipments of fruits and vegetables to see that the quantity of contents is marked in accordance with the law. Copies of Item 253 on the "Labeling of Various Packages of Fruits and Vegetables with the Quantity of the Contents" will be sent free upon application to the bureau of chemistry, United States department of agriculture, Washington, D. C.

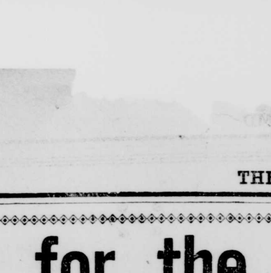
BIG ACCOMPLISHMENT BY JUNIOR CLUB BOY

Poland China Gilt Is Winner of Two First Prizes.

William Stuart of Weiser, Idaho, Awarded Free Trip to International Stock Show—Swine Breeders Are Defeated.

Does junior club work pay? Four or five years ago it was not looked upon seriously, but now the whole agricultural extension system as carried on by the federal government through the colleges and county agents, etc., is enthusiastic about this work, and the breeders themselves are beginning to believe that there is something in it. There is a reason for this, and that is that some of the boys are showing their fathers that careful selection and feeding will win out over slipshod or poorly planned methods.

A notable example of this is the case of William Stuart, the fourteen-year-old son of Dan H. Stuart of Weiser, Idaho. This boy has been in pig-club work for two years. He selected for himself early last season a



William Stuart and His Poland China Gilt.

Poland China pig for which he paid $17.50. This pig was fed and shown at the Idaho state fair at Boise this year. There it won first prize for the champion pig over all club contestants in the state, which entitled him to the $175 free trip to the International Live Stock Show. It next won the award of first place in the open class for Poland China sows under six months of age, in which competition he defeated the swine breeders of the whole state of Idaho.

William Stuart's father is not a breeder of purebred hogs, but simply raises a good grade of Poland China pigs for the market. Therefore this accomplishment by William in the feeding and developing of this prize pig represents what club work is doing all over the country.

The fact that banks throughout the country are taking an interest in this work speaks well for the good which it is accomplishing.

William is one of thirty boys from all sections of the country who will visit the International this year.

CONTROL OF GARDEN INSECTS

Spraying With Solution of Arsenate of Lead Is Effective for Potato Bugs or Beetles.

Spraying with arsenate of lead will control potato bugs or beetles. This poison solution is made of one pound of arsenate of lead to ten gallons of water, with a little laundry soap added to make the solution stick to the leaves. Cucumber, muskmelon and squash beetles may be controlled by dusting the plants with air-slacked lime mixed with lead arsenate powder. When plants of any kind are attacked by lice Black Leaf 40 is generally used. Arsenate of lead and Black Leaf 40 can be purchased at any drug store and they are usually accompanied by directions for their use. Control of vegetable insects and diseases depends much on prompt action as soon as their presence is noticed. Spraying and other methods are necessary some time or other every year, for every plant in the garden is infected at some time with either a disease or an insect.

PROTECT WOODS FROM FIRE.

A tree will make a million matches—a match may destroy a million trees.

Take no chances with lighted matches, tobacco, brush or camp fires.

Forest destruction is quick—forest growth slow.

Burned timber pays no wages.

When fire is discovered, put it out if you can. Get help if you need it.

Are you practicing fire prevention and forest protection?

OATS NEED MORE ATTENTION

Crop Ranks Next to Corn and Wheat in Acreage and Value, but Yields Are Unsatisfactory.

Oats rank next to corn and wheat in crop acreage and value in the United States. But, notwithstanding this, less attention has been given to the production of oats than to any other important grain, so that yields often have been unsatisfactory and the crop sometimes unprofitable, say specialists of the United States department of agriculture.

DAIRY FACTS

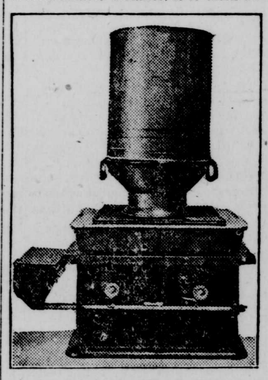
CAREFUL HANDLING OF MILK

All Vessels Should Be Freshly Scalded to Remove Bacteria—Cover Will Exclude Odors.

No matter how well milk has been handled up to the time it is delivered to the consumer, it cannot be expected to keep well if it is carelessly treated thereafter. It should be poured into pitcher, pan, or other vessel—freshly scalded to remove any bacteria or mold spores—and kept in a cool, clean place free from dirt, flies, etc. New milk should never be mixed with old, unless it is used at once, as the bacteria in the old milk will, of course, be added also, and the mixed milk will not keep as well as the fresh milk alone.

Bacteria are thickest where there is dirt and decay, and milk should therefore be stored only in clean, sweet places. It is safer to keep it covered, to exclude not only dirt and bacteria, but also the flavors and odors which it so easily absorbs. If kept at a temperature of 50 degrees Fahrenheit or less, good milk should remain sweet for 12 hours at least, after it reaches the consumer, and ordinarily for 24 hours or more, dairy specialists of the United States department of agriculture say. Sometimes in very hot weather housekeepers complain that in spite of all precautions it sours quickly, even in the ice box. This is often due to the fact that the air of the ice box, although it seems cold in contrast with the heat outside, is really not cold enough to check the growth of the bacteria; if a thermometer placed inside registers more than 50 degrees Fahrenheit, the fault is almost surely in the temperature of the ice box, and not in the milk.

In large cities, where most of the milk comes by morning trains from a considerable distance, it is often im-



Sterilization Is the Efficient Method of Preparing Milk Cans for the Reception of Sanitary Milk.

possible to deliver fresh morning's milk in time for breakfast, and that milked the morning before must be given to patrons who insist on an early delivery. They would get their milk from 12 to 18 hours fresher if they would take it in the afternoon instead.

AIR-TIGHT WALL IS NEEDED

In Building a Silo Protection Must Be Provided for Silage to Prevent Molding.

It makes little difference what material is used in building a silo as long as the silo is practically air tight all around the walls and bottom. Wood, cement, tile, iron, and plaster silos have been used with success. Protection against mold is largely dependent upon the exclusion of air, and for this purpose an air-tight wall is required and the ensiled material should be properly packed in the silo. Silage will keep equally well in any one of the silos mentioned provided the walls are properly made, are air and moisture tight, and the material is correctly ensiled.

REINFORCING INSIDE OF SILO

Where High Winds Prevail It Is Good Insurance to Place Wood Hoops at Top and Bottom.

Where high winds prevail it is good insurance to reinforce the inside of a stave silo with wood hoops at the top and bottom. Pieces of thin, narrow lumber, usually weather boarding, are nailed to the staves so as to form a hoop of 4 to 5 thicknesses of the weather-boarding, care being exercised to break joints. The strips are 8x10 feet long and they may be soaked in water so as to bend easier.

CAPACITY OF COW'S STOMACH

Not Enough Nutrition in Pasture Grass to Make Maximum Production of Milk.

The bulky nature of pasture grass places a positive limit upon the capacity of the cow to take feed. In other words, the cow's stomach cannot contain grass enough to supply the required nutrients for maximum milk production; therefore a part of the ration should be of a more concentrated nature. Good pasture contains an abundant supply of succulent palatable and nutritious grasses.

GOOD BARN FOR THE DAIRY FARM

Accommodates 30 Cows and Mow and Silo Hold Feed.

HAS LABOR SAVING DEVICES

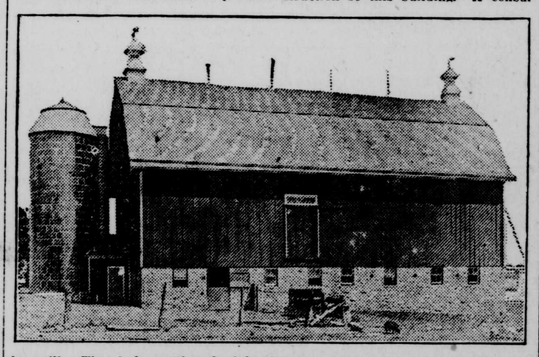
Modern, Sanitary, Well-Ventilated and Conveniently Arranged Cow Stable Is a Good Investment for Any Farmer.

By WILLIAM A. RADFORD.

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building work on the farm, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford No. 1827 Prairie avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only inclose two-cent stamp for reply.

While consumers have been complaining of the increased cost of milk, the lot of the producers has not been a bed of roses. High prices of feed and the greatly increased cost of labor are two factors that have made milk and the other dairy products cost more.

There is one way in which dairymen can reduce their costs of produc-



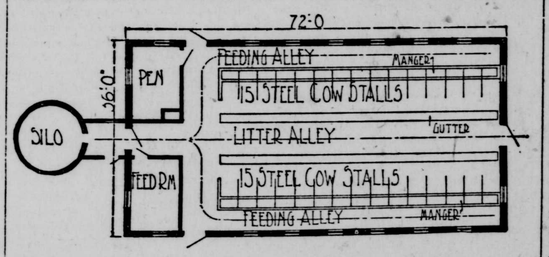
ing milk. That is by cutting the labor cost. That can be done by conducting his operations in a modern building—the barn.

Experience has taught dairymen the value of a modern, sanitary, well-ventilated and conveniently arranged cow stable. One observer on a recent trip through the middle west remarked on the number of barns that were being built. That is not surprising when it is considered that the modern dairy barn will save 30 per cent in labor costs, and increase milk production from 10 to 20 per cent.

One type of the modern dairy barn is shown in the accompanying illustration. Here is a frame structure, set on a masonry foundation that is only 36 by 72 feet in dimensions, but will house 30 milking cows and enable the owner of the herd to do the work necessary in caring for the animals a great deal more quickly and with a smaller number of men. It is so designed and constructed that the cows will be healthy and more productive.

In exterior appearance this is a good barn. It has a gambrel, or roof with broken lines, and is attractive in appearance. Adjoining is a silo, 12 feet in diameter, of hollow clay building tile, wherein is stored the winter's supply of fresh feed for the cows. Above the stable is a roomy mow for hay and other roughage.

The floor plan that accompanies the exterior view of the barn shows the layout of the cow stable. Through the



center of the stable runs a litter alley, along either side of which are 15 cow stalls. On either side of the stable, with the stalls facing them, are feeding alleys. Over both the litter and feeding alleys is a carrier track, which enables the owner to remove the litter and carry the feed to the mangers mechanically. The dotted lines show the course of the carrier. At one end the track runs out to the manure pile or pit. At the other the track connects the feeding alleys with the feed room and silo chute.

The floor of the stable is of concrete with steel stall partitions. At the rear of the stalls, along either side of the litter alley is a gutter, pitched to a drain, making it an easy matter to flush out the refuse. It is a profitable plan to have the drain connected with a concrete tank for liquid manure.

Sunshine and fresh air are two things that nature provides that cows need indoors as well as out. At the same time there should be no drafts on the animals, especially in winter. This barn is equipped with a modern ventilating system. In the side walls and following the slope of the roof are ventilator shafts that are connected with the suction ventilators on the roof. These ventilators suck out the foul air through the ventilating shafts, and keep the air in the stable sweet and clean. Seven windows on each side of the stable permit the entrances of sunshine, which helps to keep the stable sanitary.

When it is considered that fresh water is one of the necessities for healthy, high-producing cows, it will pay every dairyman who has a herd of any size to equip his barn with running water connected with automatic drinking cups at the stall heads. How much water a cow will drink when it is available, is shown by a 24-hour watch that was kept on a stable containing 24 animals. There was not a minute in the 24 hours when one of the animals was not drinking. Tests also have shown that a continuous supply of fresh water in the stable will increase the flow of milk 10 per cent.

Such a barn as this is not expensive to build. Costs, however, vary in different localities and it is not possible to give figures on the cost of construction of this building. A consultation with the local contractor and lumber dealer will bring an estimate. This should be done at once, if the barn is to be finished by the time the herd is brought into winter quarters.

Such a barn as this is a good investment on any farm where special attention is paid to dairying. It will save its cost in a few years in the saving made in labor and in the increase of milk production. To save labor requires that the labor saving barn equipment be installed.

Costs of material that go into buildings have been greatly reduced during the last few months and a better supply of lumber and other materials now is available. A visit to the local material dealer and the contractor will show that this is a good time to build, whether a new barn, home or any other farm building is needed.

FINDS LONG-SOUGHT SECRET?

Woman Said to Have Discovered the Tree That Produces the Cacique-Carey Wood.

Since Columbus crossed the ocean blue the world had sought in vain, until last year, for the tree that produces the cacique-carey wood, which wood, though few of us have learned the fact, is one of the strongest, most durable, most beautiful woods that botany can boast, says the New York Evening Post.

When Christopher visited Central America local "caciques" or kinglets were wielding scepters made of "cacique" wood called "cacique-carey," or royal turtle wood, later, because of its resemblance to the mottled shell of a sea turtle. It was dark red wood, harder than mahogany, but it could readily be worked. It would not crack or warp. It exhibited remarkable strength without brittleness and it firmly refused to decay. But it appeared only as the heart wood of decayed trunks, which the natives would not or could not identify.

Famine and American curiosity discovered the secret fifteen months ago, when Mrs. S. P. Vernon of Cristobal, in the canal zone, asked her husband for the name of an agreeable looking tree in a Panama village. As an experienced husband he doubtless answered promptly "splufus niger," but as a curious botanist he explored the stranger with a knife until he found within its center the mysterious "cacique-carey."

Humorous Literary Errors.

Certain literary errors are committed, not through ignorance, but in downright absent-mindedness. At times they are ludicrous. Trollope made his Andy Scott come whistling up the street with a cigar in his mouth, and Defoe assures his readers that Robinson Crusoe before taking off his clothes to swim to the wreck, took the precaution to fill his pockets with biscuits. Later, in "Around the World in Eighty Days," Jules Verne brought his hero to his club in triumph just as the clocks of London were striking ten minutes to twelve!

Into Unknown Australia.

An expeditionary party, representing a west Australian railway league and the commonwealth government, has been traveling in the Northwest and far north of western Australia. Some idea of the immensity of this little-known corner of the commonwealth may be gathered from the fact that the party covered 1,500 miles by steamer along the coast, thence by a motorcar traversed 1,000 miles of country. A vast belt of country was found stretching eastward from the Leopold ranges into the northern territory, capable of carrying 20,000,000 sheep if opened by railway. In the driest season on record not one beast of poor condition was seen by the party, a striking proof of the richness of northern Australia.

Just Like a Relative.

"Do you think he loves you?"

"I think so. He is beginning to talk like a member of the family."

"In what way—telling them all he loves them?"

"No. He said to me last night that we have got to begin to teach my little brother not to be so fresh. And then a little later he said my father certainly does smoke rotten cigars."—Houston Chronicle.

Home Town Helps

DIVIDENDS FROM THE GARDEN

Showing Made This Year Should Make All Resolve to Have Their Own, if Possible.

Home gardens are declaring dividends, regular, extra and midsummer specials all being included in the distribution. These profits have been coming to the home gardener from the time the first lettuce, the first radish, the first green onion was ready for the table. The variety of dividends is limited only by the wisdom of the man who planted the garden. The earlier dividends are accompanied now by others more seasonable, the entire distribution increasing the pleasures of those who taste and enjoy.

The man who prepared the garden plot, who made the soil ready, who laid it out, planted the seed, put out the plants and gave care and thought and attention each day, has already had his investment back in greater health, to say nothing of the pleasures that have been his in helping and studying the productive forces of nature. Now he gets the special dividends in delicious table offerings, everything tasting better because of the toil and thought he gave it. And he can laugh and grow merry over some high prices quoted because the little back-yard garden spot, to which he gave time and toil, has helped him solve the high cost of living in part. What is there that pays so much for the work as the back-yard garden?—Ohio State Journal.

BEAUTIFY THE WASTE SPOTS

Unsightly Places May Be Given an Attractive Appearance if Paid a Little Attention.

Borders in the garden and yard are like frames that lend beauty to the picture. In many gardens and lawns there seems to be no space that can be spared for flowers, yet there are walks of cement, brick or cinders, waste spaces along the alley, or around small buildings which if bordered with some flowers would change the entire appearance of the place.

China astors, old fashioned pinks, English daisies, forget-me-nots, sweet alyssum, candy tuft, and verbenas are good varieties for almost any soil or climate. In places where a taller border would bring out the picture, use sweet William, Oriental poppies, or the stately hollyhock. Then find a high place for a bird house, or plant some shrubs for nest places.

The true home picture is lacking without the birds and flowers. —The Thrift Magazine.

Town and Country.

I wonder when ambitious cities will learn that it is a dangerous business to be everlastingly campaigning for a greater population. Nearly every town and city in the United States had one slogan, "More population in 1920." This has been going on for the last fifty years until we see our farm population decreased to the danger point. The 1920 census will show five million less people living on the farms in this country now than there were in 1910. It will show an increase of population for the nation of twenty millions. This means twenty-five million more people in the towns and cities and five million less people to feed them. Unless these city folks can find a substitute for bread, meat and potatoes, something serious is going to happen.—John A. Simpson, Farmer.

The Small Towns.

It has been figured up that there are about 12,000 small towns in the United States, half of them with populations of 500 or less. It is these small towns that the rural people are intimately associated with. They sell their produce there, buy the things they need; in fact, these are a part of the rural community. Some of these small towns will become cities, but a very large per cent of them will remain as they are. It is no disgrace to live in a small town, but the rule is that these people are waiting until next year, or some future year to improve their schools, put in sidewalks, a water system, or a sewer system to safeguard the health of the people, or before taking any steps to improve the social and living conditions of the children.—The Thrift Magazine.

Billboards Indicted.

Not alone because they are a blot on the landscape, boardings are considered an evil in more tangible ways. When they are not strongly supported there is always danger of their falling over in storms. Unless they are of fireproof material they are easily inflammable and often serve to carry fire from one building to another. If the boards are not raised several feet from the ground the space back of them almost invariably becomes a dump for refuse and a convenient place for criminals to hide.

Signboards nearly always shut out sunlight and air. To prevent this as much as possible, some cities limit the height and width of the board. The importance of breathing space around a building is recognized by a number of millionaires.

Years of a Watch's Usefulness.

The roller jewel of a watch makes every day 432,000 impacts against the fork, or 157,680,000 blows during the course of a year, which figures out 3,153,600,000 blows during the space of twenty years, the period for which a watch is usually guaranteed to keep good time.

Aren't People Queer?

Exchange—"Mr. John Roberts has gone south following his recent illness." Foolish to follow it; he should be glad to get rid of it.

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