A Page for the Farmer and His Family

LIVE STOCK

RAISE, KILL AND CURE PORK

Most Profitable Course for Farmer to Pursue—Any Surplus Can Readily Be Sold.

There's a profit in selling pigs and buying pork—but not for the farmer who follows this practice. The farmer's most profitable course is to kill, cure and can enough pork for his own use and sell any additional amounts which he can produce and for which there is a demand. The practice of home curing pork has suffered through neglect, but it is now being revived, according to the bu-



Hogs in Alfalfa, a Good Home-Grown Protein Feed.

reau of animal industry and the states relations service. These two bureaus of the United States Department of Agriculture are co-operating to encourage the general adoption of this wholesome usage among farmers. Home-cured pork, scrapple, pork pudding, sausage, canned pork, headcheese and lard are among the foods which the farmer should get from his own cellar shelves and not from the city market. All transportation costs and commissions remain in his pockets.

A bulletin, "Killing Hogs and Curing Pork," now being revised by the Department of Agriculture, will soon be ready for issue. New methods and improvements have been given space in this discussion, and details of the processes for canning fresh pork have been added. Canning preserves pork with fresh pork flavors and lessens the toil and time incident to some of the older ways of curing the product. Besides being rapid and simple, the new process saves pounds of pork for all periods of the year which formerly had to be eaten soon after slaughter or be wasted.

SUCCULENT FEED FOR STOCK

Silage Is Best and Cheapest Way, Say Specialists of Bureau of Animal Industry.

Silage is the best and cheapest form in which to store succulent feed, say specialists of the bureau of animal industry of the United States Department of Agriculture. Many forage crops can be made into silage, but corn, where it can be grown successfully, makes the best silage.

Good silage depends upon cutting the crop at the right stage, fine cutting, even distribution, thorough packing, and plenty of moisture in the cut material. When rightly put up and carefully fed, there should be little if any loss through spoiling.

Silage is well suited for feeding to all live stock. Dairy cows need it perhaps more than other classes of animals, because the succulence which it supplies is very necessary for large milk production. It is a cheap and economical feed for beef cattle, from breeding cow to fattening steer. Sheep like it, and it is well suited to their needs. Even horses and mules may be fed limited quantities of good silage with good results.

SCARCITY OF HEAVY HORSES

Farmers Advised to Breed Every Good Draft Mare to Best Stallion Within Reach.

A year ago most farmers thought the day of the draft horse had passed, but they have to think differently now. They see that they are not going to be able to produce these good big horses in time to take advantage of the beginning of extremely high prices. Under the circumstances, the best thing to do now is to breed every good draft mare to the best stallion within reach, even though he is a considerable distance away.

IMMUNIZING SUCKLING PIGS

Sixty to Seventy Per Cent of Serum Cost Can Be Conserved by Treating at This Age.

Tests made at Ames, Ia., by government veterinarians indicate that permanent immunity against hog cholera may be secured by treating sucking pigs. Sixty to seventy per cent of the serum cost can be saved by treating at this age. Further tests are necessary before this practice can be safely advised.

GRAIN GRADING AND MARKETING

Columbia University Added to Number of Colleges Giving Course of Instruction.

OTHER INSTITUTIONS AIDING

United States Department of Agriculture Is Preparing Sets of Trays Illustrating Various Grading Factors.

Columbia university has recently been added to the number of colleges giving instruction in grain grading and marketing. The United States Department of Agriculture, charged with the administration of the grain standards act, is keenly interested in having such instruction made a part of college curricula, particularly of agricultural colleges, and today there are 20 colleges where students study grain handling.

Columbia University Helping.

At New York city the local federal grain supervision office is giving active assistance to Columbia university in outlining and presenting the grain grading course to be given, and similar help is being accorded other colleges by federal grain supervision officials located in 33 districts throughout the United States. The department is also preparing sets of eight type trays illustrating the various grading factors of shelled corn, wheat, and oats, to be sent to colleges teaching grain grading under federal standards.

Last fall a conference of teachers of farm crops in a number of agricultural colleges with federal grain supervision officials was held at Chicago, where the entire grain situation was discussed with a view of equipping the instructors with information that would enable them to formulate courses of study in grain grading and marketing. Every phase of the grain trade was covered and a report of the conference prepared for distribution among the various colleges interested.

Grading Demonstrations.

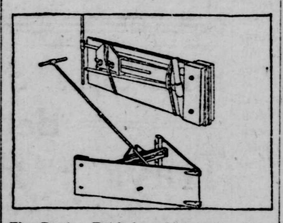
Grain grading demonstrations covering a period of from one to twelve days have been given by United States Department of Agriculture experts before students of agricultural colleges in 17 states. The department is prepared to assist colleges in every possible way in furnishing them with authoritative information regarding the objects of the grain standards act and the practical application of its provisions.

SNOWPLOW IS COLLAPSIBLE

Simple and Inexpensive Contraption May Be Folded Up and Carried From Place to Place.

The Scientific American, in illustrating and describing a snowplow, the invention of V. W. Mason of Bridgeport, Conn., says:

The object of the invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive and collapsible plow, which when folded may be easily carried from place to place.



The Device Folded, and Open for Use.

A further object is to provide a plow of the manual type, so constructed and counterbalanced that its pushing and pulling steering handle, relatively fulcrumed, exerts a varying downward pressure according to the depth and resistance of the snow. The plow can be adjusted to clear a path from 28 to 36 inches in width.

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT IS GOOD

Larger Yield Obtained on Pacific Coast Than Some of Native Commercial Varieties.

Tests made by the United States Department of Agriculture with 130 lots of Australian wheats recently introduced into this country have brought out three varieties adapted for growing on the Pacific coast, where they have produced larger yields than some of the native commercial varieties. They are known as Federation, Hard Federation and White Federation. The Australian varieties in general are susceptible to most cereal diseases, but many of these are not destructive in the Pacific coast region.

ERADICATION OF COCKLEBUR

Plant Is Double-Barreled Gun Affair, Carrying Two Seeds—Circular Tells How to Kill It.

In eradicating the cocklebur, remember that it carries a double-barreled gun. Every bur carries two seeds, only one of which sprouts the first year. Even when the product of that seed has been killed the other will be in shape to make trouble the next season. The United States Department of Agriculture has a circular on the cocklebur—how to get rid of it.

WOOD CUTTING GOOD JOB DURING WINTER

Work Does Not Interfere With Regular Field Crops.

Logs Cut in Cold Weather Season Are Not Subject to Rapid Drying—Farmers May Profitably Turn to Some Sawmilling.

Farmers, as a rule, have too much to do at certain times of the year and not enough at others. Many farms are unprofitable because their owners have little or nothing planned for winter. Wood-cutting can be done at any time, but cool weather favors the rate of production, and in the winter the work does not conflict with that on regular field crops. If cut in winter logs are not subject to rapid drying,



Cutting Wood for Fuel by Use of Gasoline Engine.

nor to checking at the ends of the logs, which often occurs in summer-cut logs and apparently reduces their sale value.

Because of injury resulting from the southern pine bark beetle in the hot season, it is practically necessary to cut pine in the fall and winter months. Damage and loss in summer often come from wood-rotting fungi, including the "bluing" and other staining of wood. For these reasons a good many farmers turn profitably to logging and sawmilling for a few fall or winter months each year. Nearly every kind of wood product can be satisfactorily handled in winter, according to the forest service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

MALE BIRD MARKINGS

1. He should possess the characteristics and markings of the breed and variety of which he is a member.
2. Strong vitality.
3. Active movement.
4. Good health as indicated by ruddy combs and wattles. (It is not advisable to use a bird for breeding which has ever had a disease even if there are no indications of it at present.)
5. No marks of effeminacy. Crow should be strong and clear.
6. Remember the foundation of success in the breeding of poultry is the correct matings of the breeding pens.—B. W. Fairbanks of the Colorado Agricultural College.

FERTILITY IN TON OF STRAW

It Has Ability to Increase Crop Just as Much as Manure, Although It Is Slower to Act.

A ton of straw contains as much fertility as a ton of manure, and although the fertility does not become available quite so quickly, it nevertheless has the ability in the long run to increase crops just as much as manure. Of course the ideal way to use straw is to use it as bedding for animals and then spread it on the land mixed with manure. Where this is impractical the straw should by all means be spread on the land at the rate of around one and a half tons per acre and plowed under.

CHICKENS NEED GREEN FEED

Fowls Must Be Provided With Something to Take Place of Grass Obtained in Summer.

To take the place of green grass obtained by the fowls in summer the flock must be provided with green food in some form. Mangels and sprouted oats are very good. Alfalfa and clover meal are high in protein content and make good additions to an egg-producing ration. Cabbage and carrots are also good green foods.—E. J. Peterson, North Dakota Agricultural College.

WILD ANIMALS SEEK SAFETY

Find Protection in Game Sanctuaries at the Beginning of Every Open Hunting Season.

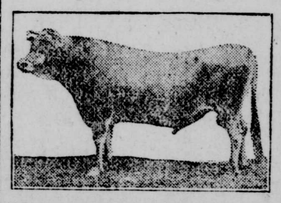
Wild animals know where they can find protection, says a United States Department of Agriculture circular on the fur industry. In places where there are game sanctuaries, wild creatures hasten to them at the beginning of every open hunting season.

DAIRY

GOOD OF BULL ASSOCIATIONS

Experience Shows That Organizations Are Adapted to Every Kind of Dairy Community.

Are you one of those who think a bull association cannot be formed in a community like yours? asks the United States Department of Agriculture. If so, probably you are mistaken, for experience shows that the bull associations are adaptable to



Purebred Sires Should Be Used in Grading Up Herds.

nearly every kind of dairy community that can be found. The annual report of the dairy division shows that there are now about 120 bull associations in 30 different states of the Union, and among all classes of communities.

The extension men of the dairy division find that in very many cases, when the idea of a bull association is discussed, people think that, while such an organization is clearly a good thing on general principles, the conditions in their particular community are not suitable. Many times, in such places, it has been tried, and to the surprise of some it has been found that the conditions did not stand in the way at all. There are many such communities. They have men engaged in dairying; they have scrub or other inferior bulls which should be replaced; and they have the need for better bulls.

Any community in which there are 200 or more cows can better afford to have a bull association than it can afford to be without one; and if the people of the community are neighborly and able to work together in everyday business affairs, they can just as well have a strong association with all its benefits.

CARE FOR BREEDING CATTLE

Have Both Cows and Herd Bull in Good Physical Condition to Insure Uniform Calf Crop.

If it is desired to have calves dropped in the fall or early winter months—November—the cows should be bred in February and March. One way to insure a uniform calf crop is to have both the breeding cows and herd bull in good physical condition at this time. A herd bull that has been left with the wintering herd to shift for himself is, as a rule, in poor condition when the breeding season arrives, and the chances are that he will not be a sure, vigorous sire.

The ration for the herd bull should consist of a liberal amount of roughages, such as corn silage, legume hay, stover, or straw, and in most instances, unless in good condition, a small allowance of grain. The breeding cows should be healthy and vigorous at time of calving, otherwise they should receive in addition to a liberal supply of silage, legume hay, or other roughage, and a small amount of grain, in order that they may give sufficient milk to nourish the calves properly and at the same time maintain their own condition.

COLOR PREFERRED IN BUTTER

That Which Is Not Too Pale Is Generally Favored—Quality Not Always Affected.

The color of good butter should be clear and even throughout. Although the shade of the color does not always affect the quality of the butter, preference is generally given to that which is not too pale in color. When the cream is churned at too high a temperature, the butter comes quickly, but loses much of its natural color. Churning at too low a temperature, and consequently for too long a time, also destroys the color of the butter produced. Color in butter is often spoiled through overwashing or overworking it. Butter is of a paler color from sweet cream than from ripened, as in the former case there is more buttermilk in the finished product.

FOR CLEANING MILK BOTTLES

Cold or Lukewarm Water Prevents Hardening and Sticking of Albumen and Casein.

When milk bottles are allowed to stand, the casein hardens on them and it is almost as difficult to remove as when it is burned on by the use of hot water. If it is necessary to let your milk bottles stand for any length of time, it is best to pour cold, or lukewarm water into them, which will prevent the hardening and sticking of the albumen and casein. Then, when it becomes time to wash them, lukewarm water can be used followed by hot water, boiling water or live steam. By this method, the bottles will be clean, and all bacteria will be killed by the hot water.

HOUSE OF MODEST POPULAR LINES

Ideal Dwelling for a Family With Children.

LOW COST IS A FEATURE

Design Is Attractive and Has All the Essentials of a Real Home—Has Three Bedrooms and Sleeping Porch.

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, 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 enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

To many people the most important considerations in the building of a home are substantial construction and comfort within. They are not keen about a pretentious exterior or some freakish design which will attract attention. Rather, they prefer a house of modest and popular lines, plain in design, but radiating a feature of good old-fashioned comfort. Too often in the construction of a house these fundamental features are overshadowed by the demands of a faddish age and as a result the finished structure is far from attractive and in many cases not at all comfortable or conveniently arranged.

These faults certainly cannot be found in the substantial, modest yet pleasing home shown here. While it is attractive, none of the more essential features of a real home have been sacrificed to gain this effect. It is one

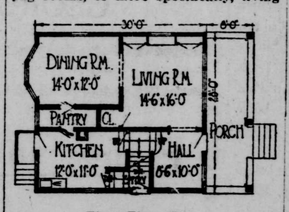


of the thousands of houses of the same type that are to be found in all sections of the country. Built of frame with a rough-faced concrete block foundation, a little variety has been gained in the outward appearance by the use of shingles as siding above the first story.

The front porch is wide, open and spacious, adding to the frankness of the whole design. A single door with long, narrow panels and small panes above leads the way into the home.

The stern lines have been broken by roof dormers on each side. The house is practically square, being 28 feet wide and 30 feet long, not including the front porch. The advantage of square dimensions have been often emphasized in these columns. This type of house is very economical in cost of construction.

On the first floor are the three living rooms, or more specifically, living



First Floor Plan.

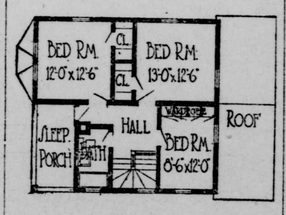
room, dining room and kitchen. The front entrance leads into a small hall which in turn leads into the living room on one side and to the staircase to the floor above. The living room is 14 feet 6 inches by 16 feet, and is fitted with wall bookcases. Windows on two sides provide plenty of light and ventilation. A small closet in one corner provides storage place for clothes.

The dining room is in the rear of the living room and has double exposure, a large bay window of semi-circular shape in the rear and a window on the side. It is 14 by 12 feet. Access to the kitchen is afforded by a passage-way through the pantry, which is between the dining room and the kitchen. This passageway is made possible by two doors opposite each other in the pantry. The kitchen is 12 by 11 feet. A stairway leads from the kitchen to the basement.

Upstairs are the sleeping rooms and bathroom. Three bedrooms and a sleeping porch have been provided for. The bedrooms are all about the same size, each having windows on two sides. It is very important in building a home of this kind or of any other kind, that the bedrooms have plenty of window space through which ventilation can be obtained. The old idea of no air in the sleeping rooms is now a dead letter. It has been found that plenty of fresh air is very beneficial in sleeping quarters.

For those desiring more ventilation, the sleeping porch can be used very advantageously. Each bedroom is provided with a clothes closet, while one has a large wardrobe.

Today the insistent problem is housing. Solutions have been found for in-



Second Floor Plan.

ternational disputes, national controversies and many other far-reaching problems, but as yet none is forthcoming for the most vital problem of all. And as the time passes the situation becomes more acute. There is one remedy—more homes—and only when the great mass of people realize that it is infinitely better than paying rent to pay on a home will this difficulty, or danger, be overcome. More people should own homes. With the gradual adjustment of the nation to pre-war conditions, indications point to a healthy reaction in the matter of home ownership. More modest, comfortable homes of the type shown here will go a long way in bringing the nation back to healthy, sane conditions.

Women Not "Immortals."

Women have applied for admittance to the French Academy, but the "immortals" already there are not in favor of admitting them. M. Poincare is alone in courageously favoring the admission of women. If Mme. Garnier succeeds in forcing open the door, he says, he will not be the last of the Forty to congratulate her. M. Bourget holds that the traditions of the academy are against women being admitted. M. Emile Boutroux sees no objection—if it is the wish of the public. On the other hand, M. Alfred Capus cries, "Hands off the Academy!" He believes that on the day when a woman, or a foreigner, is admitted to the institution it will be destroyed. M. Henri Regnier holds that the rules could not be altered to admit women. If they are to be admitted it can only be done by a presidential decree.

Bibles by Weight in Russia.

In Russia Bibles are bought and sold by weight, in accordance with the decree of Lenine. This man who is "anti-Christ" to the Greek Orthodox church, has himself written books by the score, and not esteeming these products of his brain as "light reading" has ordained that all books be sold by weight. To some extent the Scriptures are being allowed sent in, and the Bible society must give account of the pounds and ounces. On the average, 2,360 Bibles make a ton.

Approaching the Shelf.

There's a hint of sophistication in the reply of a youngster to the question regarding his auntie's age. "I don't know how old she is," he said, "but a cup of tea rests her."—Boston Transcript.

STRAW BALLOT OLD CUSTOM

History Proves It to Have Been Used at Gladiatorial Contests in Ancient Rome.

America's quadrennial visitation has again ravaged the country from Key West to Puget sound, from Maine to California. It is the straw ballot, the New York Evening Post states.

The straw ballot, as such, is a disease that rages rampant only in the United States. Yet it has existed in other countries. In old Rome straw ballots were once used at gladiatorial contests. Later, because of a shortage of straw, the Romans had to use thumbs, an art at which legend has it they became quite ambidextrous. And in Mexico, for another instance, straw ballots are not unknown, except that in the southern republic they are usually designated as "presidential elections."

One of the first references to straw is in Exodus, when Pharaoh pronounced his famous "Ye shall no more give the people straw; let them go and gather straw for themselves." Pharaoh was evidently the political boss of his day, and a shrewd one, for it is reported that "the people were scattered abroad to gather stubble instead of straw."

Notwithstanding the usefulness of ballots of straw—to which Webster pays its compliments as "a thing of smallest worth"—they are as fashionable now as appendicitis ever was.

His Method.

Two negro men were discussing the eloquence of a certain member of the faculty of an educational institution for negroes in a southern state.

"That Professor Biggs sure does like to use high soundin' words, don't he?" asked one of them.

"Maybe dat's jest an affection on his part," said the other darky. "Some folks do like to put on airs in talkin'."

"No, I don't figure it out dat way," said the other. "I kinder thinks he uses them big words because he's afraid dat if people knew what he was talkin' about they'd know he didn't know what he was talkin' about."—Harper's Magazine.

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One Calotab on the tongue at bed time with a swallow of water—that's all. No salts, no nausea nor the slightest interference with your eating, pleasure or work. Next morning your cold has vanished, your liver is active, your system is purified, and you are feeling fine, with a hearty appetite for breakfast. Druggists sell Calotabs only in original sealed packages, price thirty-five cents. Your money will be cheerfully refunded if you do not find them delightful.—(Adv.)

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