A Page for the Farmer and His Family

arm Live Stock

AID BOYS) OWN PUREBREDS

Eighty Harshire Gilts Distributed Among Co Members of Tiptor Coty, Tennessee.

"A pig in poke," generally signifies a bad bgain, but not to the members of the ys' club of Tipton county, Tenness. These young business men are qu satisfied with the pigs they drew Hot one day last June at Covington, nn. Through the initiative of Coty Agent G. S. Hollingsworth, whoas been untiring in his efforts to erfect the pig-club work, and with t assistance of the American Hampire Breeders' association, each of t eight banks in Tipton county imrted ten purebred Hampshire gilts om Illinois. Then the boy members the pig club gathered in Covington draw lots for their pigs.

The pross is simple, but its effect upon impssionable boys is wholesome and r-reaching. The boy actually estalshes a regular credit at his bank, real business proposition wherein gs replace the customary notes. Inthis case each member of the club as given a number which entitled m to the pig with the correspondin number among the 80 in the pen. Reports indicate that every boy seend absolutely sure that he had draw the one best Hampshire in the lot, tough a neutral person who examinedthe 80 pigs asserted that there wa really very little difference among a the animals. All weighed about 50pounds, and all were purebred Hnpshire gilts, beautifully marked black and white and of excellent nild and conformation.

Each oy agreed to follow certain approveinstructions in feeding and caring t the gilt and promised to exhibit is selection at a contest to be given inhe county next fall. In ful-



Club By Watching His Pigs While at Pasture.

filling is contract with his bank he will reirn two pigs from the first litter prouced by his sow, in discharge of his note" due the bank. The sow, the remaining pigs of her first litter and al the pigs of future litters become te property of the boy.

Econnists argue that there is no good brgain—that one party or the other s always the loser—but it is hard to find that fault in the pig club boys' brgain. The banks get two pigs for one the boys get a purebred sow and allher potential litters in return for the care and food given the pig, and the county of Tipton is richer in one shrt year by two or three hundred prebred pigs. Uncle Sam and the conty agent, who jointly form a sort ofthird party to the transaction, have th satisfaction of knowing that 80 farn boys have been given a financia interest in agriculture and a primarybusiness education which will mean success in later years.

HOW 'O KEEP HOGS HEALTHY

Among Other Things, Provide Animals With Sanitary Quarters and a Clean Wallow.

To kep swine healthy and thrifty, provide them with sanitary quarters and a clean wallow, in addition to proper fod. But when external parasites affect hogs an effective remedy must beused if losses are to be avoided. Lie and mange mites are the two principal kinds of external parasites ocurring among swine. The mites are particularly injurious in pigs andpoorly nourished hogs. "Hog Lice and Hog Mange" is the title of a new famers' bulletin recently issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, telling specifically how to identify he parasites and describing effective and economical remedies. Plans of hog wallows and dipping vats, together with directions for building them, are given. For information on this important subject, ask the Departmett of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for Farmers' Bulletin No. 1085.

SKUNK HIDES ARE VALUABLE

Circular Gives Suggestions for Making This Supposed Pest Into Profitable Friend.

Skunks yielded $1,000,000 worth of hides to New York state farmers and trappers in one year. The United States Department of Agriculture, in a new circular on the fur industry, gives suggestions for making this supposed pest into a profitable friend of the farmer.

Grain With Blue Grass.

Plenty of grain fed to pigs on bluegrass pasture will bring more dollars and require less labor in the end.

CLEAN COWPEAS MOST VALUABLE

Dealer Reaps Profit for Doing Work That the Grower Neglects to Perform.

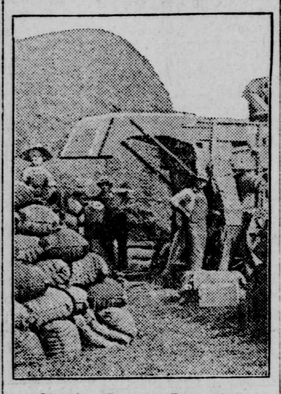
WIDE DIFFERENCE IN PRICE

Despite Commercial Shortage and High Market Prices Producers Do Not Sell More—Specialists Give Timely Advice.

Until the growers see fit to place their cowpeas on the market in a clean and attractive condition they may expect the wide difference between the price they receive and the wholsale price charged by the dealer to continue, say marketing specialists of the bureau of markets, United States Department of Agriculture. When the dealer is compelled to do work that the grower fails to perform, it is the dealer who enjoys the profits.

Marketing Factors.

According to estimates prepared by the bureau of markets some 100,000,000 pounds of cowpeas enter commercial channels every year. Of this quantity 25 per cent is of mixed varieties and sold at a discount of from 50 cents to $1 per 100 pounds. A large percentage of it also is made up of poorly thrashed, unclean stock containing much foreign matter and packed in second-hand bags, improperly sewed. As a result of the use of these inefficient marketing methods the average wholesale selling price for recleaned stock during the spring of 1920 was 60



Cleaning Cowpeas Pays Well.

per cent higher than the average price paid the growers for the 1919 crop of cowpeas. Similar conditions prevailed with regard to the 1917 and 1919 crops.

To secure higher prices for cowpeas, specialists of the bureau of markets who have made a careful investigation of the matter recommend the following practices:

1. Clean cowpeas thoroughly before marketing. All hulls and other foreign matter, as well as light and immature seed, if any, should be fanned out.

2. Keep the varieties pure. Only straight varieties should be planted for grain or seed production, and precautions taken to prevent mixing at harvest time.

3. Sack in new even-weight bags, well sewed. This prevents waste in handling and the package will be more attractive to the buyer.

4. Market in as large lots as possible. It costs the shipper or local dealer practically as much money to receive, weigh, record and pay for one bag of cowpeas as it does a ten-bag lot. If car lots are available the cost of handling per unit is still smaller.

All efforts made by farmers or growers to improve the quality and marketability of cowpeas add to the initial selling price.

Cause of Shortage.

Cowpeas are usually grown as a catch crop, and on most farms regarded of secondary commercial importance. Yet the farm value of cowpeas produced in the United States is something like $30,000,000 a year. Approximately 750,000,000 pounds of cowpeas are produced annually, about 45 per cent or 340,000,000 pounds of which is required for planting. Of this latter quantity 15 per cent is sold by growers direct to farmers and 30 per cent normally enters commercial channels to be distributed by various dealers. In 1919, and again in 1920, the demand for cowpeas for planting purposes exceeded the commercial new crop supply, and abnormally high prices prevailed. Despite this shortage and the high prices, practically no effort was made to increase the commercial supply.

In the opinion of the bureau of markets the commercial shortage was not due to decreased production, but to failure on the part of the growers to prepare more of their cowpeas for commercial distribution. To increase the commercial supply it is seemingly necessary for growers simply to conserve the supply produced, and to prepare and market more of it for planting purposes. Such action would directly result in a larger profit to producers of cowpeas, and indirectly benefit farmer consumers who desire to grow the crop for purposes other than grain production. To feed cowpeas suitable for planting purposes to live stock is a practice that growers should readily perceive unprofitable in view of the prices that cowpeas now command.

VELVET BEANS MAKE GOOD GRAZING CROP

Excellent for Cattle and Hogs in Fall and Winter.

Usual Period for Pasturing Is About Three Months but This May Be Lengthened or Shortened as Deemed Advisable.

Velvet beans are an important grazing crop for cattle and hogs in the South in autumn and winter, according to specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture. They are not grazed well by horses or mules, or by any live stock until after they are well matured or frosted. As the leaves, vines and pods decay but slowly when subjected to weather conditions, velvet beans will furnish feed until early spring. It is usually better to let the crop stand until it is well matured, or until it is killed by frost, as the leaves will be off the plants at that time and the corn which has been planted at the same time may be gathered with less difficulty.

The amount of grazing which will be afforded will, of course, vary with the growth of the crop and the quantity of corn not gathered, but it is the custom with many cattlemen to allow one-third to one-half acre a month for each steer or cow. The usual period for pasturing velvet beans is about three months, but this may be shortened or lengthened as deemed advisable. When the period is longer because of large acreage in proportion to the number of cattle there is necessarily some loss of feed through decay.

Hogs should be permitted to follow the cattle, as they will consume practically all the beans which the cattle fail to get. A common practice is to allow one or two hogs in addition to the cattle for each acre of beans. A good stand of velvet beans should produce about 150 pounds of beef and 100 pounds of pork an acre.

QUALITY IS URGENT FACTOR

Striking Example Furnished by Kentuckian, Who Markets Eggs, Poultry and Fruit.

An example of the part that quality plays in a business of direct marketing of farm produce is furnished by the experience of a man in Kentucky who markets eggs, dressed poultry, meats and fruits to consumers in Nashville, Tenn.

The business was established over two years ago by obtaining a friend as the first customer. From this modest beginning the producer has obtained sufficient customers to buy all of the high-grade produce he can supply. Most of the shipments are made by parcel post.

This business is conducted on the basis of high quality with adequate returns, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Customers are selected with as much care as most consumers show in selecting a producer from whom to buy farm produce. Customers are retained by never breaking the rule to supply only the best produce raised on his own farm. If, when an order is obtained, this farmer does not have produce of the highest quality, he informs the customer and states that unless otherwise instructed the produce will be shipped at the earliest possible date.

USEFUL FOR CUTTING BANDS

Device Illustrated Is Handy for Man Pitching Bundles to Shredder or Silo Filler.

The following is a handy way for cutting bands. The man who is pitching bundles to a corn shredder or silo filler can cut the bands as he pitches them to the machine, thereby saving the aid of one man to cut the bands.



Band Cutter for Bundles.

I also find it handy to cut the shock ties on corn when loading from the field, says a writer in the Farmer. To make same I attached a mower sickle section to the fork handle, as per illustration.

UNITED STATES APPLE CROP

Official Estimate Is Given at 223,000,000 Bushels, an Increase Over July Figures.

The official estimate of the apple crop in the United States is given as 223,000,000 bushels, and the commercial crop at 33,900,000 barrels, which is an increase of 3,666,000 barrels over the estimate given for July.

CLEAN EGGS BRING PREMIUM

Dirty Product, No Matter How Fresh or How Large, Always Sells at Big Discount.

Eggs that command a premium are, first of all, spotlessly clean. A dirty egg, no matter how fresh or how large it is, is always sold at a discount. One or two dirty eggs in a dozen will lower the price for the whole dozen

DAIRY FACTS

POOR COW IS LIKE LAZY MAN

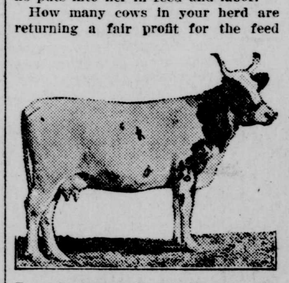
"Boarder" Should Be Discarded Forthwith and Replaced by Profitable Producer.

How many dairymen would keep a hired hand on their place who got up when he felt like it, worked when he felt like it, and did just as he pleased? Such a hired man would be a losing proposition and the man who would keep him would soon become bankrupt.

On the other hand, how many dairymen are keeping boarder dairy cows that produce just as little milk as they feel like producing, with little or no profit to the owner?

A dairyman cannot afford to keep a man that does not do more work than he is paid for doing. Neither can he afford to keep a cow that does not return more money to him than he puts into her in feed and labor.

How many cows in your herd are returning a fair profit for the feed



Easy Matter to Permit Cows to Decrease in Milk Flow but Hard to Bring Them Back.

consumed and how many are returning little or nothing or even costing money to keep? The profit made from a cow depends upon the amount of butterfat produced and the cost of producing same. Monthly records and the Babcock test will detect the boarder cows. Why waste time and money on cows that do not pay for their keep?—W. E. Spangler, Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins, Colo.

SALT ESSENTIAL IN RATION

Material May Be Supplied by Mixing With Feed, or It May Be Left in Convenient Box.

Practical observations and scientific investigations have shown that salt is essential in the ration of a dairy cow. From one to three ounces per day is needed, depending upon the amount of milk produced. According to Babcock's investigations at the Wisconsin experiment station, a cow needs one ounce per day per 1,000 pounds live weight with an additional 6-10 of an ounce for each 20 pounds of milk produced. Salt may be supplied by mixing the proper amount with the feed, or it may be placed in some convenient place where the cow can get at it daily and take such amounts as her appetite demands. Many dairymen prefer to place a lump of rock salt where the cow can lick it at will. This is really cheaper and there is less work. But, however you feed it, don't forget that the cows must have it—not once every week or two, but at least each second day and each day is better.

FEEDING COWS SAWDUST

The facetious statement, repeated in a joking way, "Put green goggles on the cows and fool them by feeding sawdust and shavings," is apparently not going to be necessary in future to feed them that product. It has been found by experiment that sawdust from non-resinous soft woods can be used, but it first must undergo a process of treatment with certain acids, which change a part of the dry matter into carbohydrates. However, the low protein content of sawdust as a feed would not augur well for its future use.

GOOD DAIRY HEIFER RATION

Missouri Station Recommends Alfalfa and Corn With All the Silage She Will Eat.

One of the cheapest and best winter rations for the dairy heifer, according to the Missouri station, is an average daily of about six pounds of alfalfa hay, two pounds of corn, and silage at free will (this means on the average about twenty pounds daily). This kind of ration has kept the heifers growing at just about the right rate to make the best kind of mature cows, and yet the expense has not been unduly great.

HIGH COST OF COMMODITIES

Killing of Calves for Veal and Spaying of Heifers to Fatten for Beef Is Cause.

That the killing of so many calves every year for veal, and the spaying of heifers and fattening them for the block, is responsible in a large measure for the present high prices of certain food commodities, there can be no question.

SPLENDID DESIGN FOR FARM HOME

Nine-Room House Fills Needs of Large Family.

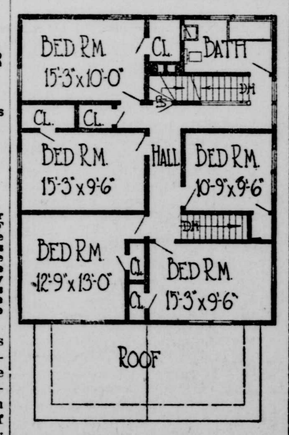
HAS CHEERFUL SUN PARLOR

Six Bedrooms Afford Accommodations for Large Family—Conveniences to Lessen Work of Housekeeping.

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.

It often has been said, and statistics seem to bear it out, that farmers' families are considerably larger than those of city dwellers. For this reason, farmers need plenty of room—the one-room condensed apartment would be out of place in the country. A large family calls for a large home and plenty of bedrooms—the surrounding farm gives the children all the playground they need. In the final analysis some one has to raise large families to offset the decreasing birth rate in the cities due mainly to congested conditions, and the farmer assumes the burden. He has the compensating feature, however, of getting his children's help when they have grown up. In the face of the existing shortage in farm help this factor becomes tremendously important. In order to keep his sons on the farm after they have grown to manhood one

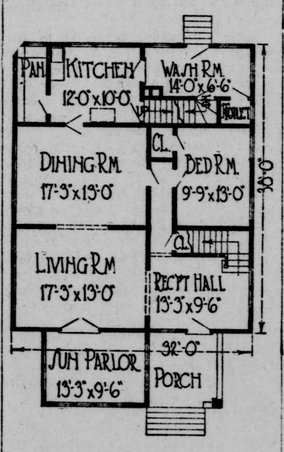


Second Floor Plan.

of the first things he should do is to make home life and surroundings as attractive as that of the cities.

For this reason he should build a substantial, modern home. In this home he should install as many of the latest conveniences and comforts as his means will permit. He should build this home so that it will be attractive both inside and out.

In the case of the farm home shown here with floor plans, that result has been foremost in the mind of the builder. Certainly, anyone will admit, this farm home is pleasing and indicative of a true hospitality. It is built of frame, with face brick foundation and

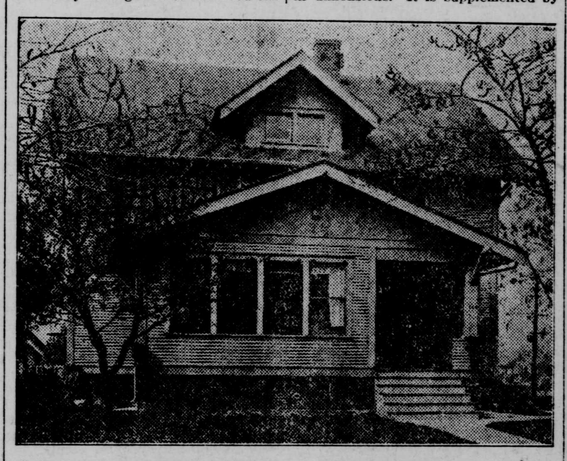


First Floor Plan.

stucco above the first story. Instead of the usual full-width porch, part of this space has been converted into a cozy, cheerful parlor, 13 feet 3 inches by 9 feet 6 inches. It has four good-sized windows in the front and two on each side, thus shedding a wealth of warmth and light into the adjoining living room. As the family spends most of its spare time in this room it is essential to have it as pleasant as possible. Dark rooms always make for depression. A sunshine house is a happy house.

Recessed under the same roof as the sun parlor, and on one side of it, is the front porch, which leads into a small reception hall. A stairway leading to the cellar starts at the farther end of this hall. The stairway to the upper floor is found in the rear off the kitchen. Of identical size with the living room, and connected with it by an open doorway, is the dining room. The door leading from this room into a narrow hall is opposite the door leading into the only bedroom located on the first floor. This room is very convenient for the hired man, who must get up first in the morning.

In the rear of the house are found the kitchen and washroom. The kitchen is small, but complete, 12 by 10 feet in dimensions. It is supplemented by



a good-sized pantry. The washroom, a convenience that should be found in every farm home, is 14 by 6 feet 6 inches and has a toilet in connection. Modern farmers have running water and bathrooms because they can be installed at a reasonable cost and are a wonderful convenience.

The second floor has been divided into five bedrooms and bath. Three of the bedrooms have windows on two sides and all are provided with ample closet space.

While we have emphasized this house as particularly desirable for the farm it will also fit in excellently in any town or city scheme. In this case the washroom can be easily converted into a laundry and equipped with a washing machine, dryer and electric ironing machine. The extra bedroom on the lower floor, if not needed, can be used as a den or library.

Eventually there will be little to distinguish the farm home from those of the city, because the farm home will be built along similar lines and contain all the conveniences which heretofore have been confined mainly to city dwellings. With the advent of running water and electric light the farm home has jumped ahead with astounding rapidity. Within the space of a few years farm home building has practically been revolutionized and improvements along this line will not stop here.

How Old Is Your Mind?

If the gentle reader should one day meet Mr. Average Man on the street and should tell him that he had a mentality only thirteen or fourteen years old, probably the reader's safety would immediately become a matter of grave concern. The fact that he would in all probability be right would not save him from the consequences of apparently insulting a well-dressed American citizen. But the examination of the intellects of a great cross section of the nation has actually been trayed that the average adult intelligence in the United States is between thirteen and fourteen years old.—R. H Platt, Jr., in the World's Work.

BIRDS EVER READY TO EAT

Waking Hours of Feathered Creatures Seemingly Occupied With Little Else but Food.

When you hear anyone say he has a "bird-like appetite" you naturally think of him as a light eater. But how many persons would like to eat as many as 500 times a day? Many birds do so, and more, according to ornithologists.

Birds live busy lives, putting man utterly to shame by their diligence, though few realize this. There are birds who spend the entire day working for a living. Some pass the time in eating without any cessation, food being provided.

If it is a day's work for a bird to feed itself, what must its labor be when there are from five to ten hungry mouths at home to provide for?

One bird lover tells how he timed a pair of martins bringing in food for their young, and found they paid sometimes ten, sometimes 24 visits with food in an hour; and a pair of swifts brought in food to the family 40 times in an hour. If kept up, this would mean serving over 600 meals in the bird's day of 16 hours.

In contrast were the meals served by a pair of missel thrushes, who gave their nestlings only 70 meals in a day.

Two white owls were noted to pay 12 visits to their nests with mice in 20 minutes. It was reckoned they carried home about 40 mice in an hour.

A good record of work was set up by a golden-crested wren. Only the mother bird fed the eight youngsters in the nest. Her average through 16 hours was 36 meals served an hour.

If she distributed the food fairly each youngster received 72 meals a day. The total number served by this one midget bird was 576.

But a pair of wheatears beat even this fine record. They were kept under observation by a naturalist photographer who found they fed their five well-grown chicks at rates varying from 36 times an hour to the extraordinary maximum of 60.

The food served was moths, flies, small beetles and caterpillars. These insects, while still alive, were handed over to the nestlings.

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"I like a book where everything turns out happily." "I wish that were true of the cook book."



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..."PURITY"...

80 Years Old —Was Sick

Now Feels Young After Taking Eatonic for Sour Stomach

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