Vital Farm Problems Discussed by Expert

By COUNTY AGENT McVEAN

THE HOG has well been called the "mortgage lifter." It is an efficient user of feeds usually. However science in the effort to increase profits for farmers has discovered that there is a big variation in the ability of blood lines of swine to produce large litters which gain rapidly, economically and have a high percentage of valuable cuts of meat per carcass.

Subjecting swine to this close scrutiny will result in decided improvement in swine in all of the above points. The breeders will make use of the information and will develop more profitable because more economical and efficient hogs.

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POULTRYMEN are likewise introducing record of production methods into their flocks as a more efficient measuring stick than old time records. Hens have to prove their ability to produce profitably or make way for the birds that will do so. Sentiment has little place in the poultry business.

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DAIRYMEN, for 25 years, have had a somewhat similar yardstick to measure their dairy herds. I refer to the Dairy Herd Improvement Association. Through membership in such associations, dairymen may put their dairying on a business basis.

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THE logical time to secure corn for the shows is at husking time. The idea is to save all the best type ears as husking is done. From a large number of ears so saved it is usually possible to select a creditable show sample.

THE International Hay and Grain Show at Chicago just after Thanksgiving time and the State Corn Show in Baltimore next January are fine opportunities to advertise Kent County agriculture.

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SHEEP and lambs especially need frequent treatments for stomach worm control. These internal parasites cause runty lambs cause losses, retard sales, weaken vitality and in general are an unnecessary tax on sheep-growing.

The copper sulphate treatment or drench is inexpensive and easily to administer. Commercially capsules are effective, easier to give but more expensive. Plan now to treat the flock some rainy day when other work permits. Be ready, such days will come. More wool, more lambs, better prices follow.

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THE first of the monthly meetings of turkey growers was held at the Chamber of Commerce on Friday, September 25th. Mrs. Harry T. Williams presided. Attendance was good, discussions lively.

Since the main effort of the association centers round marketing, the discussions were in line. Preliminary figures indicate fewer birds in Kent but not in the nearby territory. Fewer birds in the west are assured. Birds, due to later hatching than usual, will be ready for Thanksgiving in fewer numbers than usual. Due to lack of supply, prices for good quality birds should be better than last year. Probably the price at Thanksgiving will be relatively higher this year, while the Christmas market maybe lower.

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GROWERS who are planning to put in tomatoes next year should at this time seriously consider the advisability of plowing the land now which they expect to plant in that crop next spring, according to H. A. Hunter, specialist in canning crops for the University of Maryland Extension Service. This will greatly aid in reducing the losses from leaf blight which did considerable damage in the State this year.

WINTER GARDENS AND CANNED MEATS AND LIVE AT HOME PLAN

Kent countians desiring to "live at home" have another chance through prolonging the normal garden season by using Fall and Winter gardens. Kale, spinach. cabbage can be grown to good advantage. Lettuce and other crops can be grown if wanted and time permits. Cold frames and hot beds for early spring use can be planned and arranged this Fall—as another means of lengthening the growing season.

Those desiring can also supplement the diet to good advantage by using tin or glass as a means of preserving vegetables, fruits, meats, etc. Nature has furnished a bountiful supply of "makings" for jellies, jams, etc.

Hens, turkeys, pork, boarder cows, etc., put into cans save feed and labor as well as furnishing easily available meats of high quality without the necessity of spending money to secure them.

The pressure cooker is a big time saver in putting up meats. Two demonstrations in its use are being planned for latter part of October. Details later.

SMUT TREATMENT OF SEED WHEAT PAYS

As a means of increasing yield and quality of wheat, the Copper Carbonate dust treatment of seed wheat is a matter of dollars and cents importance. A ten cent per bushel cut on the sales price on wheat, that is barely a profitable crop at best, is a poor way to make money. The merit of the test is widely acknowledged. The machines for treating are available also the dust.

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In drilling treated seed, you may find it does not feed quite so freely as untreated seed. To overcome this point, if necessary set your drill to sow 1 more peck per acre than you usually sow. Checking amount of seed used per acre will reveal the need if it exists.

Another precaution that may prevent trouble is to turn the feed shafts with a wrench, after standing over night or after wet weather, to free the feed wheels. This will lessen the strain on the drill and may prevent damage to the gears or shafts when drilling is resumed.

MORE COOPERATION FOR AGRICULTLRE

In the opinion of many qualified observers agriculture is facing the most di cult period in several decades. And most of the causes behind the farmer's problems are beyond his control as an individual.

The solution to the present crisis may be found in one word—cooperation. Farmers must work together more closely, and so must farm organizations. Overproduction of crops and low prices for farm products require mass treatment, if a cure is to be effected.

The advantages of cooperative production and selling is well shown by the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association of New York, a leader in its field. It is estimated that in ten years its members have received $107,200,000 more for their milk than they would have received otherwise. The league, by controlling about half the milk of its territory, is able to meet distributors on equal terms and assure the dairymen a fair deal.

Agriculture, like industry, has passed far beyond the stage where the individual producer can do business on his own. He must prepare to meet changed conditions with changed methods. Cooperation — another word for mass action—is the way out.

BALTIMORE LIVESTOCK SHOW GROWS

The third Livestock Show at Baltimore Union Stock Yards is to be held October 13-16. The program and premium list is now available and is of interest. The show is making a splendid growth and should be attended by prospective stockmen. Both feeder steers and pigs as well as fat cattle, sheep and swine are shown and sold. Here is a fine opportunity to see the finished product and to determine what type, weight and finish command the top prices. Here is the opportunity to fill your feed lots with feeders. The show and sale bring many feeders to Baltimore.

There are open classes for fat cattle, classes for fat cattle from South Eastern States in car lots—open classes for groups of these fat steers or heifers—open classes for individual steers or heifers — open classes for groups or heifers with liberal prizes also championship ribbons are awarded in class. 4-H Calf Club fat cattle compete for breed and championship prizes. Feeder cattle of Hereford, Shorthorn or Angus breeding compete in two classes for good prizes prior to the sale. First class under 550 pounds in weight—second weighing between 550 and 850 pounds.

Fat hogs in car lots and by pens of five by weight classes compete for prizes. Individual barrows have prize money. Champion ribbons in each class will be awarded.

A new feature this year, will be the Collegiate Livestock Judging Contest under the supervision of Dr. DeVoe Meade, Head of Animal Husbandry Department of the University of Maryland. Horses, cattle, sheep and swine will be judged.

A questioner in a medical colum wants to know what makes him yawn frequently. Perhaps he is tired.

"I'd pack up and go to Paris right now," said a rich idler, "if I could stand hearing American song hits of 1926."

There are archdukes and grand dukes all over Europe now, but the shooting of one of them would never start another war.

MORE CROPS ARE URGED FOR KENT

There comes a time when every one has to take stock of themselves. Our farmers and Land Owners have reached that point. The present year makes us realize that something is radically wrong with our present method of producing and marketing crops. Most of the crops we have grown to be shipped this year have not more than paid for package and freight leaving nothing for seed, fertilizer and labor. The land investment produces nothing and the Farmer has nothing with which to pay his overhead and other obligations and it occurs to me that this condition should not exist here with the wonderful opportunities we have for disposing of a great many of our crops to our Canneries.

We have all the different characters or kinds of soil ranging from the sandy loam, red loam, clay loam and slay soils, cable of producing large crops of fine quality.

We will start with our tomato our old standby, which does well on most any of our soils. We grow the best colored and grade of tomatoes produced in this country and as you all know it has been our great money crop. This year the new grade law went into effect, which has worked a hardship on our farmer and packer, however, I believe it will be beneficial to both farmer and packer when once it is worked out so that it will be understood. We all know this crop has meant millions to Kent.

There are quite a few other crops we can raise in Kent county successfully for the canneries if they would add them to this business. A little encouragement will no doubt bring about this future. We have canneries in the county that have been packing peas, lima beans, stringless beans, spinach, beets, black-eyed peas, white navy beans, carrotts, turnips, pumpkins, sugar corn, peppers and cucumbers. Our different soils are adapted to growing all of the above mentioned crops successfully. These crops grown for the cannery are all cash crops, coming in lump sums, which gives one money with which to pay his obligations. There is not a farmer in our county that cannot grow at least four of the above mentioned crops on his land successfully and on a profitable basis.

In Kent county we ought to be growing at least 2000 acres of sugar corn, as we have some fine corn land, and we are not growing the quantity of peas, stringless beans and lima beans, that we night. We should be planting 2000 acres of white navy beans and 2000 acres of black eyed peas, two more crops we are not at present growing for our canneries. These two crops are not perishable and are land improvers. The other canning crops above mentioned can be raised successfully and profitably.

It is up to each farmer to go over his soil or have the County Agent do it for him and see which crops his land is best adapted to and then contract for the number of acres he can take care of in each crop and realize the additional cash over and above the crops he is now growing.

Every farmer should keep sufficient cows to have fresh milk and butter for home use and if possible some milk to sell. He should keep from 150 to 200 hens for layers, besides his broilers to sell in Spring and Summer. These hens will go a long ways towards supporting the family for things they have to buy from the stores. Each farmer should have a garden with all the different fresh vegetables for home use, one of the compensations for living on a farm. He should raise enough hogs to furnish him with meat for his family for the whole year. He should raise enough corn to feed his animals and poultry. While we cannot compete with the west in growing wheat it is worth while growing to keep up rotation and furnish straw for bedding and making of manure. He should have a field of alfalfa for hay as stock and poultry both like it, and where the land is well adapted to growning alfalfa, it should be raised to sell.

There are numerous other crops we can raise here, such as soy beans, cow peas, cantaloupes, watermelons, sweet potatoes, white potatoes, strawberrries and asparagus and other crops, all of which can be grown successfully, but what I want to impress on our farmers is the unusual condition and opportunity we have to dispose of so many crops without the cost of packages and raise advantageously, and if grown for the canneries will give employment to lots of labor and make better markets for these crops year by year.

It is my opinion that if the farmer will start growing several of these crops his land is best adapted to for the canneries and continue to raise the general crops he is at present growing he will become prosperous our community will become prosperous and the land value will double in value in the next five years.

CONTRIBUTED.

Look at date on your KENT NEWS and see what you owe on it.

GOOD BYE SUMMER

How can we make the tipping flower
Softly serene this Autumnhour?
For every golden head that shines
Will know a time of mystic signs.
There is a piece of turfy ground
That gathers to itself all sound
When Autumn boldy dark unveils
Its vesper-music of high gales.
A tenor from a rocking-wave
From Time's own Ocean, Life doth save
To sing to sleep some summering-one
With slumber-songs ever, anon!
Thus cradled may each golden head
By dimpling-tides be put to bed.

A country has about hit botto when an honest man is the only one who doesn't know how to keep out of jail.

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SEED WHEAT CLEANED & TREATED FOR SMUT

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Wheat which was badly infected with smut sold from five to ten cents per bushel off.

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30 bu. per acre at 8c off, $240
2 bu. seed per acre, 20c
Your labor 2c per bu, 4c, .24

Saving per acre $2.64

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This does not take into consideration your loss of growing smut where wheat should grow and smut that is blown out through the thresher.

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