

**WHERE FARMER DOES NOT SPECIALIZE
LITTLE ATTENTION IS PAID TO QUALITY**

**Result is That On Vast Number of Farms Where No Milk,
Cream or Butter is Sold Cows Are Mostly Inferior—
Poor Foundation for Success.**

Unless we are actively engaged in the dairy business, or raising beef cattle, we are not apt to pay much attention to the quality and money value of our cows on the farm. The result of this is that on a vast number of farms where no milk, cream or butter is sold, the cows are mostly inferior.

Of course, this is no reference to the men who go in for beef breeds of cattle rather than dairy breeds. But there are a great many men who do more or less in the dairy line, and who nevertheless keep inferior stock, says a writer in the Farm Progress. In most cases I think it likely this is due to the fact that the owners of such stock are not sufficiently familiar with cows and cow values to be influenced to secure better stock.

As I have owned a large number of cows, I know very well what a poor investment a lot of inferior cattle are. But, judging from what is seen on the majority of farms over the country, "cows are cows;" and so long as some milk and some butter—though it may not always be in abundance—are supplied, the owners let it go at that.

As a rule, men who have that sort of indifference to their cattle, also have scrub hogs and poultry, and in a general way all the features about the farm are of the scrub type. I do not believe any man of this type can ever be a very successful farmer. The same interests that make a man a successful business man make the farmer a successful one.

The farmer who owns poor scrub cows, not good for either milk or butter-making, and worth little on the

fresh meat during the entire time when it is cold enough to keep the meat till each family can get its share. The only drawback to the plan is that the beef is often on hand at a time when the hogs are killed and the meat salted down, and there are few families that do not like fresh pork so well but that they eat a lot of it, both fresh and salted, before it is made into bacon.

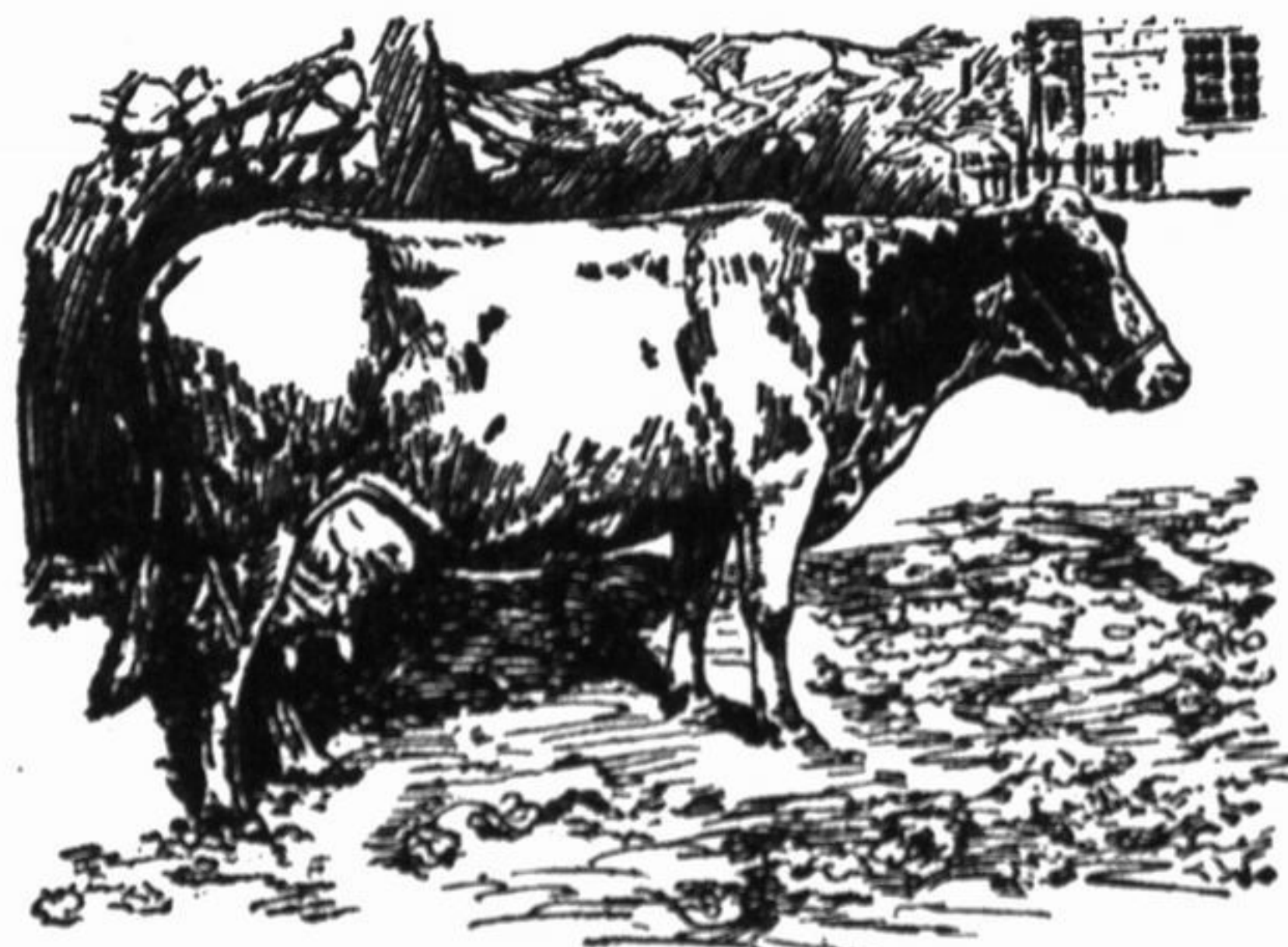
Of course, this fact interferes with the consumption of much beef on farms after cold weather sets in; but no family, no matter how well they like hog meat, ought to eat it too freely.

Personally, I like both pork and bacon better than any but the best and tenderest of beef; but, of course, every farmer's club ought surely to have as good beef as can be had anywhere.

Several times on my own farm we have taken a quarter of a 700-pound yearling, and it kept hanging in the smokehouse from the last of November till we began to smoke the bacon, and it was as good as we could get from the best butcher. Our club claimed to divide the animal into quarters, and we rotated the hind-quarters and fore-quarters among the four, that being the number in it.

After the hogs are killed, of course, almost everybody eats pork in some form most of the time; but I think it would be well to go on with the beef club as long as the weather keeps cold enough to keep it sound and fresh. Having an icehouse on my farm, we could keep beef fresh longer than some of the others.

Probably the best plan of all would



Ideal Type of Dairy Cow.

block, can never expect to make any real profit out of his cows.

Of course, the vast majority of cow owners are those who do not sell milk and butter, and expect to sell veal calves or yearlings, not kept to be butchered at home, do not get any returns from keeping cows except the milk and butter, and now and then some beef or veal from an animal butchered on shares in the neighborhood. Of course, this is no small thing. I have been associated with a neighborhood club a great deal of the time, and we lived where it was handy for a bunch of neighbors to take turn about and butcher a yearling and divide among them.

I have found that we got more out of an animal in that way than where we sold to a butcher to be paid for in fresh beef or cash and bought fresh meat with the money.

If a half dozen families join in this plan they can begin killing in November and keep it up till March, and thus all families keep supplied with

be to arrange with a butcher to slaughter the beef and buy the bulk of it from the club, and it would not then be long before the club would be ready for another one. And, really, it is a good plan, if it can be arranged, to have the beef club continue in operation as much of the time as possible, so that beef may be had more or less all the time from the middle of fall till the middle of spring.

Of course, each member, if he is like me, would want some fresh pork as well as cured bacon all along during the beef period. Maybe the time will come when there can be farmers' cold storage warehouses on a small scale to keep meats fresh as well as help in keeping fruits in sound condition. If such things pay the meat packers and butchers, they would pay farmers as well. But this is one of the things that not many have given any thought to. Yet both health and comfort require some such method of keeping meats, fruit, etc., fresh and sound.

throughout the country amounts to a large total.

Furthermore, he is a pirate and a disturber in the bird world. He preys on some of our most useful and attractive birds, among the number being bluebirds, house wrens, purple martins, tree swallows, cliff swallows, barn swallows, the wrens, catbirds and mockingbirds.

This is a matter of importance to farmers as well as to city dwellers, for the sparrows are getting out further into the country each year and are now found where they were unknown a year ago. The birds upon which it is said to prey scatter more or less widely from the locality where hatched, and are of inestimable value to farmers in many ways. The methods of destruction named by Mr. Dearborn are tearing down nests, catching the birds in traps, shooting in large flocks and poisoning. A systematic movement in villages and small cities is recommended for their destruction.

Causes of Failure With Alfalfa.

Experiments at the Cornell station have been conducted to determine the cause of failure in alfalfa culture, and the practical suggestions derived from the results were that at least a moderately fertile soil is needed for this crop, that the use of phosphate as a fertilizer is valuable in this connection, and that inoculation is futile, unless the soil is in a condition to favor the growth of the bacteria.

POULTRY

MISSOURI CURE FOR GAPES

Disease Most Prevalent in Damp Weather, Caused by Worm in Chick's Windpipe.

(By MRS. JOHN J. MOORE, Missouri.)
A most common disease among chickens and one which causes great loss in the summer is gapes. This disease, which is most prevalent in cool, damp weather, is caused by worms, which get in the young chick's windpipe, causing it to gasp for breath and if not dislodged, shutting off its supply of air.

Sometimes the worm can be twisted out with a horsehair, but this is a severe remedy and other worms may take its place.

The following is a preventative and will check the trouble at once: Obtain the leaves of the common woodworm, sometimes called Jerusalem oak, a plant which grows wild in most places, having an erect shrubby stem and small, yellowish flowers. Its leaves when crushed have an unpleasant odor and are used in the manufacture of vermifuge and to protect clothing and furniture from moths and other insects.

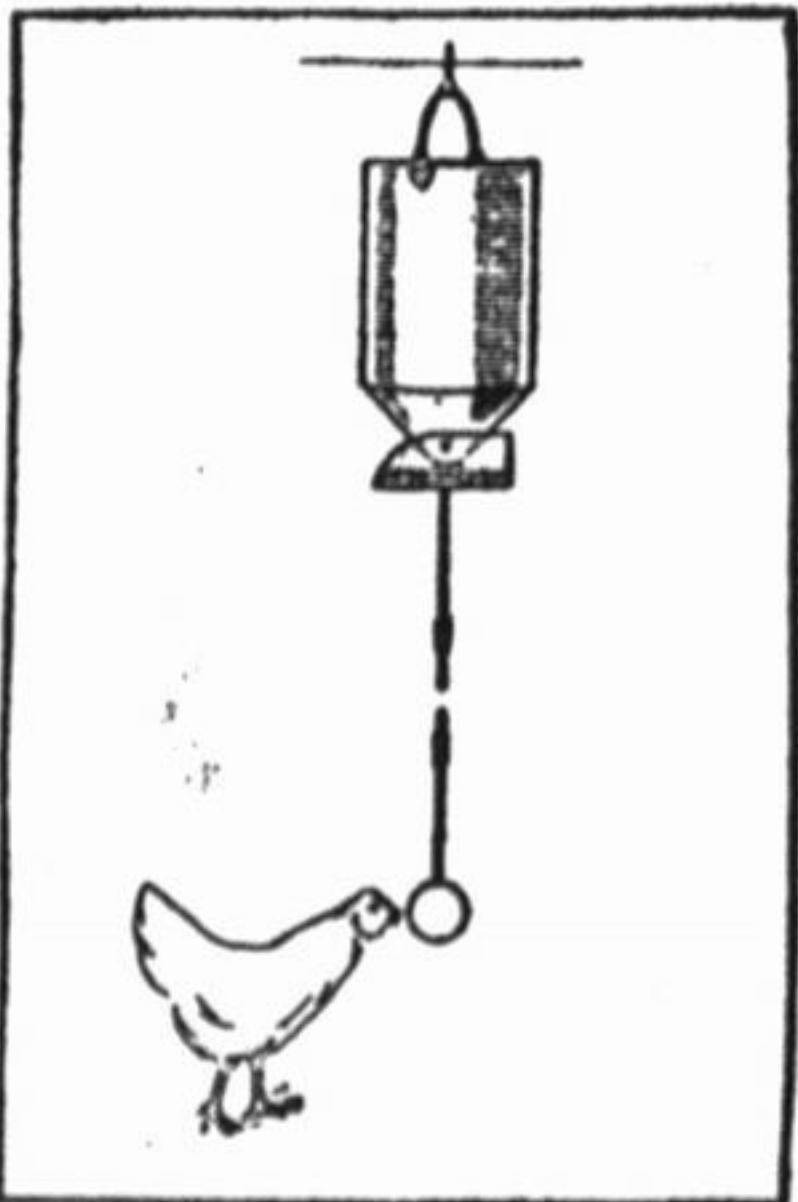
Mash the leaves and mix in a small quantity with the chicken's feed or put in the drinking fountain.

Or, after the seeds have ripened, they may be used instead of the leaves and a quantity gathered for future use.

SIMPLE FEEDER FOR POULTRY

Automatic Device, Shown in Illustration, as Practical as More Expensive Contrivances.

An automatic feeder for poultry, simple in design, yet apparently as practical as similar devices of more complicated and expensive design, is shown in the illustration. The feeder, which is hung from any convenient support, comprises a grain container provided with a discharge opening at



Automatic Feeder.

the bottom; a scoop pivoted underneath the opening, and a pendulum-like arrangement with a ball at its end. The chickens peck at this ball, thus causing the pendulum to swing, which tilts the scoop and allows a certain amount of grain to fall to the ground.

Scratching Beds.

If it is possible, do not keep laying hens or raise young chicks without this very necessary article, even on the farm. Place your coops for the little ones near some shady place and there scatter coarse straw manure about three inches deep, then keep it moist at the bottom. If there is no rain, and watch the little fellows go down after the angleworms that flourish at the bottom, and you will see your chicks flourish also. The currant brush is a good place.

POULTRY NOTES

One of the best ways to start is to get six hens, and grow.

To successfully preserve eggs, perfectly fresh ones must be selected. Remember that it is the profit per hen that counts, not the profit per flock.

Milk is an excellent food for growing chicks and, in fact, for any class of fowls.

It does not require much hard work to keep a flock in good condition in the summer.

The simplest form of intestinal disorder to which chickens are subject is ordinary diarrhea.

Better that the chicks roost in the trees than that they be confined in a vermin-ridden building.

There can be no question that a lot of fowls die yearly from no other cause than a lack of food.

The reputation of giving a square deal to every customer is as necessary as that of breeding birds of good quality.

Skim-milk is not a dear commodity in the poultry yard when its beneficial effects upon the stock are considered.

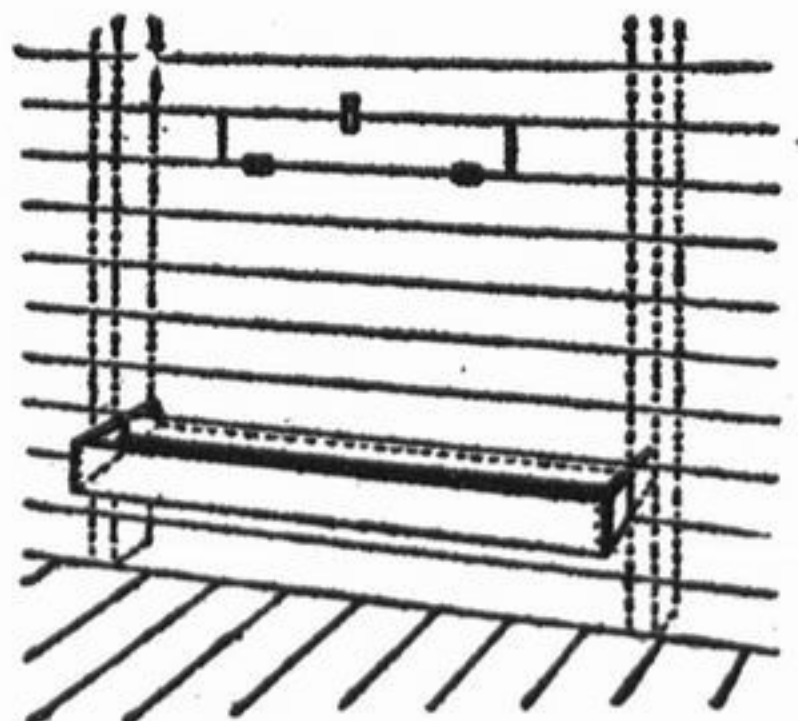
Body lice will worry a flock to death, or so nearly so as to destroy its usefulness. These can be killed, but not easily.

POULTRY

HANDY CHICKEN FEED TROUGH

Where One Thinks Hopper Best to Keep Before Fowls All Time Good Plan is Given.

One of the greatest needs in a hen house is a dry, clean trough for feeding shell, grit, bran or the dry ration. The man who has a celled house can try my method and I'll guarantee he will like it, writes Mrs. M. L. Dean in the Northwest Farmstead. Cut



Trough for Chickens.

through the ceiling board between the studding and take out the board. Put two small hinges on it, replace, and fix a button to hold it in place. Next cut a slit about two inches wide and nearly to the studding on both sides, about a foot above the floor. Insert a trough running back, and slanting to the outside clapboards. Allow the front edge of the trough to come a little above the opening in the wall so the feed will not overrun. With a coal scuttle the trough may be easily filled, and the hens cannot waste, or get on top of the trough and foul it.

I have three in my house for grit, shell and bran, during the winter. Where one feeds grains and thinks it best to keep a hopper before the fowls all the time, this plan will be liked, as it takes up no room whatever. If one's house is not celled the boxes may be put on the outside of the troughs running through. The top of the boxes should slant so the rain will run off. These, of course, will have to be filled from the outside. With this plan the feed drops down as fast as the hens remove it from the troughs.

INDIAN RUNNER DUCKS EXCEL

Sometimes Called Egg Machines and Also Afford Additional Value by Their Feathers.

Although the Indian Runners are sometimes called egg machines, we find they are of additional value for feathers, by picking them at moulting time, thus saving the feathers; and also preventing them from being scattered over their lots or run, says a writer in an exchange.

While they are great foragers in search of food, they never fail to return home at night.

Taking everything into consideration, there is certainly no other fowl



Indian Runner Ducks.

that affords greater profit for the time and expense required than the Indian Runner duck; and they are not alone an all-round practical fowl, but ornamental as well. Their alert, lively nature, their graceful form; beautiful colors and interesting habits appeal to the artistic sense of every one.

The work alone in raising them is very interesting, because it is easy, clean and honorable, and, above all, there is big profits in it, which is the greatest incentive to all business.

SOME SYSTEM IS NECESSARY

Poultrymen Should Keep Books, Same as in Any Other Line of Business—It Stops Leaks.

Poultry keeping is a business and should be conducted along business lines. Some system of accounting is necessary. The poultryman should keep records of all the income and expenses of his business in order to know whether it is a paying proposition or not. If it does not pay he should know it and either stop the leak or go out of business. An elaborate system of bookkeeping is not necessary. If the poultryman wishes to avoid keeping full accounts he can at least keep a cash account. This does not express the exact financial condition of the business, but is an excellent help so far as it goes.

Raising Chickens.

By all means raise chickens. Two hundred or 300 with plenty of range can be raised to advantage at very small expense because anything needed for food can be raised on the farm. Corn and wheat make a fine chicken feed and for winter cabbage will add to the value of the ration.

A SAFETY-DEPOSIT BOX FREE

There should be a safety-deposit box key in every Du Page county home. Think of the losses and complications that would ensue upon the destruction by fire of all the deeds, wills, insurance policies and other like papers that are now exposed to that danger—tucked away in trunks, desks, and dresser drawers!

Every head of a family owes it to himself and those upon whom such a loss might fall to protect his valuable papers.

And we feel that it is a duty we owe to this community to make such protection so cheap and so convenient as to utterly eliminate this danger within the sphere of this bank's usefulness. Therefore,

Every new patron renting a box in our vault for the year 1913 will be given free rental for the remainder of the current year. Boxes from \$2 a year up.

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK
OF DOWNERS GROVE**

Mertz & Mochel

HARDWARE

COAL and FEED

**Poultry and Field Fencing
Paints, Oils, Brushes, Etc.**

GOLD MEDAL FLOUR

136 South Main Street

TELEPHONE 29

It's There—Even if you Can't See It

Wear alone will prove the sterling worth of our shoes to you. We don't talk cheap shoes to anyone—neither do we talk high priced shoes—but we do talk quality shoes.

Shoes that the manufacturers guarantee—shoes that we can guarantee.

It will pay you to investigate our claim before you buy

MODERN SHOE REPAIRING

CHAS. L. JOHNSON

44 N. Forest Avenue

CENTRAL HOTEL

(Formerly THE PARK HOTEL)

Remodeled and Refurnished under New Management

Rooms and Board: Transients, \$1.50 a Day

Regular Boarders, \$6.00 a week

MEALS AT ALL HOURS

MRS. T. STAHL, Prop.

14 Warren Ave., near Main St., opp. the Depot

**WHAT COMES INTO YOUR
KITCHEN—Should be**



of high quality. We aim to have it so, it will be, if you trade with us.

In order to prove this you should try some of our leading brands of coffee and tea. In package teas we have Lipton's and Tetley's and our bulk teas are the highest grade which can be bought. In Coffee we carry Java and Mocha, guaranteed, Manor House, Blue Shield, Lipton's, Mrs. Rohr's None Such and Batavia. We also have Batavia Vacuum Treated, which is a very fine coffee and positively does not affect the most delicate nerves.

Do not fail to try some of these.

B. E. KEHLER

Dealer in General DRY GOODS and GROCERIES

56 South Main Street, corner of Curtiss

TELEPHONE 61 W.