Care of the New-Born.

Many stockmen in this country would save enough money each year to pay their taxes if they would only devote more attention to live stock at the time of the birth of the animals.

The pregnant females should be dieted and measures taken to provide an adequate amount of exercise to keep them healthy and strong. Breeders are very loath to work their mares when heavy with foal, preferring rather to have them well, fat and sleek, apparently thinking that by this the developing young will be better nourished. One of the fundamental principles regarding the development of the embryo is that, regardless of the state of nutrition of the mother, the nutrition of the developing young is uniform and constant. This is true unless the mother be so poorly cared for and fed that her vitality is greatly impaired.

The circulation of the blood is the channel through which this nourishment must reach the young. The blood is propelled through the vessels over the body by the action of the heart. The vigorous, moderately fleshed animal has a stronger and steadier heart action than the fat, idle one. Exercise is a great factor in the even, steady circulation of the blood. This is especially true of hogs, cattle, and sheep, which at the best have an imperfect, pampered heart action, due to being bred continuously for food production.

Rations containing high percentage of fat and protein should be cut in half or discarded for a laxative carbohydrate diet, ten days to two weeks before the date of the expected arrival of the offspring.

Someone should always be in attendance at the time of parturition to see that the offspring receives the all-important first nourishment, which is necessary to strengthen the vital process and supply body warmth.

A blanket and rough towel should be at hand to dry the young, and if necessary keep it warm. Sometimes the young become entangled in the fetal membranes or after-birth, and is suffocated. These should be removed, and if the connections have not been severed with the body of the young, do this, tying the cord close to the body with a stout string dipped in pure tincture of iodine and finish the operation by painting the stump of the severed cord twice with iodine.

If the little fellows are weak, hold them up to nurse and syringe out the rectum with a solution of glycerine two ounces, soap one ounce, and water eight ounces, warmed to body temperature (100 deg. F.). This will aid the first bowel action so necessary to the subsequent life and health of the young.

If the mother has fever or the udder is caked, artificial feeding must be the order. This does not present a difficult problem for any of the young except the colt. Here a low fat-containing whole milk is most desirable. It must be fresh, clean, and warm, and should be made up as follows:

For each pint, lime water four ounces, sugar one tablespoonful, whole milk twelve ounces. Use half of this for the first feeding, the remainder to be given in two hours. Great care must be taken to have the nurse bottle absolutely clean.

Orphan colts may be hand-fed and reared in this manner. After three days the sugar may be omitted, and regular feeding periods established three times in twenty-four hours. At the end of two weeks they will learn to drink readily from a bucket.

Colts reared by hand should be carefully guarded against cold and indigestion, as they are usually more delicate for the first month than others.

How I Equipped My Farm Office.

I know a very successful farmer. He has been retired for many years now, but he did not quit farming until he had become the owner of several hundred acres of land, practically all of which he acquired as the result of hard work and good management.

I have been in his home often, and the most distinct impression of good management that I have had of this farmer is that of his spending his evenings at his desk in one corner of his living room.

He seemed never to be better pleased than when he had some bulletins or reports, and was making sketches and calculations relative to the adoption of a new method or practice in his own farming operations.

Somehow I grew up with the desire to emulate the success of this farmer. As to the success I have had, much is yet to materialize; but I have already emulated his methods and proved their value.

Realizing that my means and requirements did not justify the creation of a special office structure, I followed the example of my predecessor and placed my desk in one corner of the living room. There is now and then a time when I find the environment non-conducive to office requirements, but there are vastly more times when I am glad that my desk is where it is. In the evenings I can visit with the family, at times, and then do the daily desk work in the interim.

I purchased a fairly high-priced desk that makes an attractive article of furniture. Thus the desk adds to the appearance of the room instead of detracting from it. A comfortable desk chair seems quite as essential as the desk.

Another advantage of having the office headquarters at the house is that some member of the family will likely be there to give attention to a business caller.

Where possible, the telephone should be within reach of the desk.

I also have a typewriter. The first one I procured was a standard make; but, being of an old style and second-handed or rebuilt, it cost me only $20. Now I have an up-to-date machine, with all the modern conveniences, two-color ribbon, back spacer, tabulator, etc., which cost very near $100. The cheaper machines, however, are very serviceable, and I find that my old machine served me about as well as my new one.

By careful selection from a variety of designs, and having it made to order instead of selecting it from a dealer's stock, I secured a desk that encloses the typewriter within it when not in use.

I have a small file to guide me in my transactions. This I keep on my desk. Then I carry with me at all times a small note pad with leaves easily detachable. Thus, if while out in the field I happen to think of something that should be done two weeks ahead, I jot it down on the pad, and then that evening I make a memorandum of it to be filed under the future date. Each evening I refer to the file for all notes and memoranda that have accumulated for the following day, so as to be ready for them in the morning.

One very great advantage of the typewriter over the pen is that it enables one to keep a legible carbon copy of all business letters, which should be filed for reference along with all correspondence received. A typewritten letter on the farm's business letterhead speaks much for the modernness of efficiency of the owner.

Ships.

"Just wait till daddy's ship comes in,"
My mother says to me,
When I want things that cost a lot.
Now is it far to sea

I wonder, with the pony cart
I've waited for so long?
But when I ask my dad himself,
He says the wind is wrong,

And it won't be in for quite a spell;
And then he takes a map
And makes a dot in some far sea.
"There's where it is, old chap."

I hope the captain of the ship
Will take the best of care
Of everything that's in the hold,
Of all my treasures there.

I hope he'll feed the pony and
Be sure to clean my gun,
And keep the tracks of those toy trains
Together, so they'll run.

I hope he knows the way to here.
Perhaps he'll come at night,
And just unload and ship away.
My daddy said, "he might."

It's rather nice to think of when
I'm all tucked up in bed,
And just exactly how it looks
Is all inside my head.

I see the captain and the crew,
The shining sails and mast;
You know, it is a sailboat, so
It can't come very fast.

It looks quite like a pirate ship,
With flashing deck and spars;
My daddy says the mast's so tall
It reaches to the stars.

Oh, when my daddy's ship comes in
How happy we will be!
But I wonder if I'll miss thinking
Of it and of the sea!

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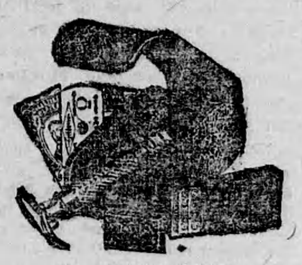

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INTERNATIONAL LESSON NOVEMBER 30.

Jesus Teaches Peter True Greatness—John 13: 1-16, 36-38. Golden Text, Matt. 20: 28.

13: 1-16. To Wash the Disciples' Feet. The sandals which they wore strapped to their feet would have been left, in Oriental fashion, outside the door. It was a welcome refreshment to have the hot and dusty feet bathed in cool water. This office would usually be performed by a slave, but these men were away from home, in a hired or borrowed room in the city, and servants were lacking. Good friends as they were now, perhaps not one of them would have thought of so ministering to the rest. He would have regarded it as a menial task, to which he would not stoop.

Jesus presents us here with conduct truly human, and not less truly divine. He was their Master; it was His high privilege to serve them. Removing His outer garment, He girded Himself with the towel and poured water in the basin and proceeded to wash and to wipe their feet. Amazed and stricken dumb they permitted Him until it came Peter's turn. The impulsive and generous-hearted Peter would not suffer his Lord to so demean Himself. With what gentleness and tactfulness Jesus answered his protest! The meaning of what He did was, of course, not clear at that moment, but, He said, "Thou shalt know hereafter."

Jesus gave this act of His not only the character of a lesson in unselfish service, but also the significance of a parable. Peter was quick to see what He meant when He said, "If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me," and with immediate surrender he said, "Lord, not my feet only, etc."

The figure of verse 10 is drawn from the custom of the public baths, so common in those days. He who had been in the bath, when he returned home needed only, of course, to wash his feet, soiled by the dust of the road. Jesus makes, therefore, the washing of the feet here a symbol of complete spiritual cleansing. Whether or not there is more than this in His words it is difficult to say.

Yet there was one there whose heart no outward washing could cleanse. Judas, the traitor, had submitted to his Master's kindly service but he did not put away the black treachery which lodged in his heart,

"I have given you an example." Jesus had shown them how far love might go. There was no service, no humblest office of kindness, which he would not perform for those men who had been His companions and whom He loved. He would have them so think and so act in their relations with each other. It is not the mere form of foot-washing that is here prescribed; it is rather the spirit that will express itself in many and various acts of ministry.

"The trivial round, the common task,
Will furnish all we ought to ask,
Room to deny ourselves, a road,
To lead us daily nearer God."

"The servant is not greater than his lord." We serve the Lord Christ. Into all our social and business relations we must carry this spirit of service. "If any man have not the spirit of Christ he is none of His." Compare Phil. 2: 1-11.

13: 36-38. Lord, Whither Goest Thou? Peter asked his question and declared his purpose, in all sincerity, to follow Jesus, and even to lay down his life for His sake. But he had yet to learn his weakness and wherein lay the true source of strength. He thought it was some danger which his Master would have to meet, or some conflict which He was facing. Had it been that, unquestionably Peter would have followed, and would have followed to the death. Eager, impulsive, generous, brave, he would have been the leader of the little band of disciples, or of larger companies of the Galilean adherents of Jesus, in any battle that would have to be fought. But for Jesus' complete self-renunciation he was not prepared. To see his Master apparently helpless in the hands of His enemies, betrayed by one of his own comrades, struck him with astonishment. He was perplexed and angry, and it was thus that he denied his Lord.

The lesson of renunciation, of forbearance, of self-denial, was and is hard to learn. It is hard to believe that there can be greater strength in weakness than in wrath, that there can be victory in non-resistance, that there can be triumph through death, just as it is hard to believe that there is no true greatness apart from humble service. This was the lesson Peter had to learn, but that he did learn it is abundantly clear in his own subsequent life. Long after, in one of his epistles, he wrote as follows: "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial among you which cometh upon you to prove you, as though a strange thing happened to you; but insomuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings, rejoice; that at the revelation of His glory also ye may rejoice with exceeding joy."

Cheese Salad Dressing.

One cup of milk, one tablespoon of flour, one-quarter cup of vinegar, one-half cup grated cheese, a little white pepper and salt, also a tablespoon of onion juice if liked. Add flour to warm fat. Add milk and cook as for white sauce. Cool slightly and add the vinegar which has been warmed, then add seasoning and cheese.

Do Your Letters Say What You Mean?

Few farmers like to write letters, especially business letters; and after I moved off of the farm to our little village and eventually became postmaster, I was daily called upon to write letters for my farmer friends. They ranged in character from an inquiry for a pure-bred bull to ordering children's underwear from a mail-order house, but the letter that seemed to give the most trouble was the one which offered or attempted to describe something for sale. I never objected to this small service—in fact, I was glad to help. But the fact that men, and young men, too, who were engaged in the enormous business of farming, who hired men and were represented by thousands of dollars of invested capital, who were good breeders and feeders of live stock and were experts in soils, made such a lamentable effort at letter-writing, was sometimes a little sad—almost pathetic.

It detracted in no way from the sterling worth of these men. The simple fact is that until recent years there has been but little need for much knowledge of correct correspondence on the part of the farmer. He has always been compelled to take what the other fellow offered. He has been too busy to write letters, he has had little to sell that needed describing, and he paid little or no attention to correspondence. Every man who writes a business letter should observe certain things.

He should be direct without being stilted. A letter should be natural and not rambling. The day of "I take my pen in hand to let you know" is past, just as the letter that begins by saying, "Yours of May 10th at hand and contents carefully noted," etc., is passing, although the latter example may be found in the correspondence of many progressive business houses. It is sufficient to begin a letter and say what you wish to say without any wordy meanderings.

"Mr. John Jones:

"Dear Sir,—I have two heifers that from your description I believe would suit you," etc., is just as complete and much more businesslike that "I have your letter concerning the two heifers at hand and contents noted, and will say in reply," and so on through a half hundred words.

Mr. Jones wants to know about the heifers he wrote about. He cares nothing about what you did or are doing to his letter. He knows that you have received it and noted contents, else you would not be answering his inquiry.

The letter that eliminates useless words is a great saver of time and paper. Business houses are short of both. In ordering from mail-order concerns, always use the regular order form that is usually mailed with or enclosed in the catalogue. It contains all the necessary information if properly filled out, and a letter is unnecessary unless special information is desired.

Men with something to sell, farmers with pure-bred cattle, hogs, or other live stock, I found to be the most lost correspondents. The tendency seems either to make the article in question too perfect or to depreciate it, with the balance in favor of the former. Men whom I knew to be absolutely honorable, who would not wilfully misrepresent anything in a sale for worlds, would go wild when they tried to describe it on paper. If they sent out this description while it was "hot," they regretted it later. If they left it for a rereading, they sometimes went to the other extreme and left out most of the good points. One of my patrons used to do a considerable business in cattle. He would come in and tell me all about the particular animal he had for sale, and then have me write to a prospective buyer for him.

"That sounds all right," he would say. "That is just the way it is, but I'll be doggoned if I can make it sound right when I try to write it out."

He could not write as he talked. That is the trouble with many men with stuff to sell. It also affects the sales letters of many business men in other lines. The best writer of sales letters that I know says he holds an imaginary conversation with every prospective buyer, and then attempts to transfer it to paper.

There is a difference between writing a sales letter to a personal friend and one to an entire stranger. In the first case, a letter may be intimate, but in the latter case it can hardly be more intimate than your talk would be if the buyer came to your farm. If you were a breeder of Shorthorns and a man came to your herd for a Shorthorn, you would meet him with ease and talk without embarrassment or intimacy. If you can do that in a letter it will be a good one.

Then there is the letter of inquiry. No matter whether you write concerning a farm, a cockerel, or a flock of sheep, carry the same directness that a sales letter carries. Furthermore, do not describe an ideal and expect to buy it at bargain prices. There used to be a lady who wrote to me every year for cockerels to head her poultry flock. She always filled a letter-size sheet of paper, and invariably wanted two cockerels for $5. If I could have filled her order for the sort of bird she described I should have considered myself a marvel among marvels. In ten years of breeding one variety of chickens I never came up to the ideal that woman set for her $2.50 bird.

Proper stationery helps the appearance of the farm correspondence. Letter-size paper, either ruled or unruled, is best because the entire letter can be made on one sheet. It is 8½ x11 inches, and the most commonly used size for a typewriter. One of these machines makes your business letter readable and more businesslike. If there is a youngster who will learn to operate a typewriter, and if you do any considerable correspondence, the $25 or $30 invested in a good second-hand or rebuilt machine will be worth while. The ordinary business-size envelopes, called No. 5 by your postmaster, are the most convenient.

THE TRAPPER.

Don'ts For Fur Shippers Young and Old.

The actual shipment of furs is one of the most important phases of the business of trapping, and it must be done right if the trapper is to realize the full, high value that pelts are bringing in the markets to-day.

Before giving a formula for packing furs it might be well to list a few "don'ts" for the benefit of the young trapper, who is likely to do the very things that these "dont's" aim at. Here they are:

Don't send your furs while pelts are still green. Scrape of surplus fat and flesh. They should be dry enough to hold their shape before shipping.

Don't place skins pelt to pelt. Pack them fur side to fur side.

Don't place one skin inside another.

Don't roll, fold, crease or bend skins.

Don't wrap each skin in a separate covering. This practice shuts out air and allows decomposition to set in.

Don't ship furs by freight—send by parcel post or express.

Don't fail to list the contents of your shipment and write your name and address on an inner card attached to the pelts and to the outer card attached to the bag or bundle.

If you follow these instructions, about all there is left for you to do is place your dried pelts fur side to fur side, with the smaller pelts forming the centre of the bundle in a flat pile.

Tie this pile securely with stout twine (never use wire, as it cuts the pelts), and place it in a sturdy burlap bag. Sew the top of this bag up, or close it with a pucker string. Make sure always that this job is well done, and you will lose no furs in transit.

The package ready, it should be sent to market, either by express or parcel post. If the latter method is used, always insure your shipment. In either case, always get a receipt for your shipment.

The Dairy

When cows are given ice cold water in winter the heat from their bodies must warm the water and it takes feed to make heat. Often they will not drink much ice water from a tank where the ice has been broken up with an axe. A tank heater takes the chill from the water and the cows not only enjoy it but they will drink larger quantities and this has a direct relation to the amount of milk produced.

When cows have to drink from an outside trough several hundred feet from the stable they seldom drink enough water during cold weather. They eat expensive feed without taking the water into their systems which is needed for health and the production of large quantities of milk. Sometimes this condition can be improved by using galvanized pails as individual watering troughs beside the manger of each cow. Then the cow always has water available in spite of the outside storms. She will drink more often and give more milk.

Some dairymen have watering systems installed in their dairy barns and find them practical, both as to the amount of work saved in watering the stock and the increase in the milk produced.

Caution Regarding Canned Foods.

No canned products should be used which show any one of the following signs of spoilage:

1. Gas bubbles in the jars, the tops of the jars blown, and a squirt of liquid as the top is unscrewed.
2. An odor somewhat resembling rancid cheese.
3. A mushy or disintegrated appearance of the solid parts of the contents of the jars.

Do not test for spoilage by tasting but discard all products showing these signs.

Buy Thrift Stamps.

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