

# EFFICIENT FARMING

### Keeping Up the Milk Flow.

Once more we are entering upon the season of the year when the dairy farmer expects the greatest yield from his cows and his pastures, and if the season is right the land will be fairly "flowing with milk and honey." Unfortunately, however, the season is not always just as right as it might be. Invariably in one section or another there is a drought with its consequent shortage of pasture and decrease in milk flow.

It is important at this time that some form of supplementary feed be supplied, for if the milk flow is once allowed to decline it is almost impossible to get it up to the previous high mark again. A little extra feed at this time will produce more milk than will three times the amount fed after the decline has taken place. Many will have profited by past experiences and have made preparation for the shortage of pasture by sowing a piece of annual pasture or soiling crop. Others again may have some of the previous year's crop of silage to fall back on. In any, and particularly in the last of the above methods, we have a very efficient means of supplementing the pastures. For those who have not yet made any provision it is not too late to sow an extra acre of corn, some fall turnips, or even a piece of rape. The turnips may be pulled as needed and fed tops and all while the rape may be pastured off in the late summer and fall. Where previous preparation has not been made, cuttings of the regular crops, such as green oats and peas, second-cut clover, and green corn will have to be made to fill the bill.

To speak of grain feeding on pasture at present prices seems absurd, and it will be found to be somewhat of an extravagance except with very high producing cows. Where the grains are obtainable a mixture of two parts bran and one each of ground oats and cottonseed meal is excellent. Apart from the feeding of the cows, there is the question of water and shade supply. Both are very necessary. Where sufficient protection from the flies, in the form of shade or underbrush is not to be found, it would be advisable to keep the animals in the stable during the hotter part of the day, allowing them out in the evening. Where supplementary feed has to be cut and hauled to the cows, less waste will be occasioned when fed while inside. Where the cows have of necessity to be out all day they should have protection from the flies by spraying with some good fly repellent.

### Marketing the Early Broilers.

I have found that the American breeds of poultry make the most profitable broilers. Leghorns are fine for the hotel trade where small portions are served, but I find most housewives prefer a three-pound bird, and our local dealers ask for that weight. Plymouth Rocks at an early age make fine, juicy three-pound broilers. The Wyandottes are a superior breed for broiler raising.

I always grade the broilers and sell them in crates containing birds of a uniform weight. A dealer asking for a crate of three-pound broilers does not wish birds ranging from 1 1/2 to 4 pounds. If a hotel or restaurant manager is purchasing broilers, he wants birds to be of equal size, so the portions will look alike when served to his trade.

Birds of one breed make the best-looking crates of broilers. It is also possible to sell stock of a more uniform weight if they are all of the same breed. If scrub birds range from the Leghorn to the Asiatic type, there will be a great variation in size and quality, even though the ages of the stock are the same.

Some fattening is usually profitable. Confine birds in a colony house or fattening crate. Give them a thin mash of cornmeal and sour milk for about ten days. Keep them stuffed by feeding all they can eat in a short time, but do not allow the mash to remain in the trough, as it will throw them off feed.

Know where your market is before beginning the fattening process. It never pays to ship lean birds. When you use valuable feed to develop the frame and feathers, it never pays to ship them until that frame is padded with a little meat and fat. The broiler with a back like a washboard will never bring second orders.

Early broilers bring the best prices, as there is less competition. In many small towns there is not a strong demand for broilers. Most families prefer a fat hen, and consider it more economical; or perhaps they have a back-yard flock and raise surplus cockerels themselves. Large cities use thousands of broilers, and you can form business relations with commission men who are prompt and square in their dealings. When you find such a dealer, it pays to give him the business rather than speculate with unknown buyers.

Sunday is the day for broiler dinners in the cities, and your stock must reach the dealer in time for the Friday and Saturday trade.

I have found that it pays to turn the

## A Mower is More Than a Machine— It's An Investment

Like any other machine, there is a right and a wrong way to run mowers. Nearly everyone who runs a mower, and does not fully understand its operation, thinks the team must go at a lively gait to make it work properly. Any of the lightdraft, improved machines now made will do all that is expected of them with the team going at an ordinary plow-team speed, and with a pair of horses weighing from 1,000 to 1,100 pounds each there should be no particular strain on them to carry this machine through any hay or grain field.

The mower should be kept lined up so there is no side draft. This can easily be done by means of tightening nuts found on the machine for this purpose. All slack caused from wear or loose nuts should be taken up each day, or whenever it is noticed. No difficulty should be experienced in finding out when any part needs attention after the operator has run his mower a short while.

Have the knives always sharp, and see that the sections are kept at the right level with grinding. Remove any broken or badly gapped sections. Keep guards in perfect line, and be sure, before removing and replacing, that the guard plates are not worn or too much rounded.

See that both ends of the pitman have no unnecessary motion, and that all bushings are adjusted properly to take up any wear. Renew the small level-gear cogs as they become worn. There is no economy in running any

machine with parts worn enough to cause loss of motion. It is not necessary to have a blacksmith or machinist do this repair work, for any man with ordinary judgment can replace worn parts. There should be no trouble in ordering them from your home dealer, for each is plainly numbered.

When all parts are in place and you feel ready for the season's business, get your oil can and thoroughly go over the machine. Oil frequently with a good quantity of oil. Lubricants are much cheaper than new mowers, and unless you use plenty of oil you soon need a new machine. Often a man will buy a machine with too much blade for his use. The long blades will do about orchard trees and in light grass, but when you come to mow coarser hays or cane and other coarse growths, you need shorter blades. Of course, on large level tracts the long blade is all right.

No machine on the farm, in my judgment, can be made more useful than the mower. Not merely as something to cut hay, but as a weed destroyer. A man with a good team, and a short-bladed machine, can get around in the waste corners and kill more weeds and briars in one day than he could in a whole summer long with hoes, brier hooks, and such tools.

Mowers can be used on head lands, pastures where coarser growth takes them and numerous other little odds and ends can be trimmed with them at less expense and labor than with anything else I know of.

It costs money to feed poultry, and with feed at its present value, the consumption of feed by males kept for no particular purpose is a serious economic waste. During the summer the price declines, and by the early fall when many producers decide to market their male birds, a lower price than prevailed in the spring has to be accepted; the producer thus losing the amount per pound the market has declined, plus the value of the feed consumed by the birds during the summer months. This financial loss takes on a more serious aspect when it is coupled with the amount charged back by the wholesaler for the bad and partially incubated eggs that have been marketed.

Farmers and others selling eggs for market should, therefore, need no urging to kill off, dispose of, or at least remove the male birds from the flock after the breeding season.

### Bedtime Stories

Moss Roses.

This is the story of the first moss rose. One day the little daughter of the Wise Chief fell very ill. No one knew how to make her well again, for that was hundreds of moons ago, before wise men had found so many ways to heal the sick.

All the people were sad, for they loved the beautiful little girl. After they had held a council, the grandmother of the Wise Chief said, "I will go far away into the fields and woods and search until I find healing herbs that will make the child well again."

So, just as the Moon Mother put the stars to sleep under the fleecy clouds, the old woman set forth on her journey.

She first went into the big, cool, friendly woods. There all day long she searched, first beside a singing brook, where the little fishes played in the sunshine and forest trees, then at the foot of the tall forest trees, among the bright red berries and dark glossy leaves. But she did not find the healing herbs.

After that she went into the fields. On the slope of a hill in the distance stood three little pine trees, side by side. They looked as if they were

## Things You Can Do to Boost Your Corn Yield

Big yields of corn are not grown by accident. They may result from using correct methods in growing the crop. The rotation, the preparation of the soil, the character of the seed planted, and the way the crop is cultivated are the important things within control that affect the yield.

Corn is very sensitive to soil conditions. It requires a deep soil well supplied with plant food for its best growth. At the Ohio Experiment Station, where corn, wheat, and oats have been grown continuously for twenty-five years on the same fields, the yield of corn has declined more rapidly than either wheat or oats. Where corn has been grown with these crops in good rotations, which include clover, and when barnyard manure and commercial fertilizers have been used to supply plant food, corn has made the greatest increase in yield.

Corn should not be grown many years in succession on the same field. The best yields are obtained where it is grown after the clover or some other leguminous crop, and when barnyard manure, reinforced with a phosphatic fertilizer, is applied.

Experiments conducted by many experiment stations have shown that a good quality home-grown seed of an acclimated variety of proper size will out-yield seed introduced from any other locality. This is especially true when seed is moved from a good to a less favorable corn growing region. The best corn to plant is seed that has been properly selected and grown in your locality for many years.

Many people think that it is necessary to change seed every few years. This is not true. The only time that it is desirable to change seed is when

a poor variety of corn is grown, or when no effort has been made properly to select seed year by year. In that case it will pay to secure a good seed from a reliable corn breeder near at hand.

Three objects may be accomplished by cultivating corn: First, the destruction of weeds; second, the conservation of moisture; and third, the liberation of plant food from the soil. There is no question but that thorough cultivation accomplishes all three of these objects. Whether the conservation of moisture and the liberation of plant food are the result of stirring the soil or simply result from the fact that the weeds are destroyed by cultivation is a disputed question, however. That the question is of practical importance is evident. If the elimination of weeds is the principal result accomplished by cultivation, and moisture and plant foods are saved because the weeds are killed, there is no object in cultivating a field of corn in a dry season after the weeds have been destroyed.

It appears from the results of recent experiments, that the destruction of the weeds is by far the most important and that when corn is planted on a well-prepared seed bed, and is cultivated enough to kill the weeds, any additional cultivation will be injurious rather than beneficial.

A rotation of crops that keeps weeds under control, thorough preparation of the ground before planting, and the use of the smoothing harrow that destroys the small weeds as they are germinating before the corn is large enough to work, will be the most effective way of fighting weeds, and will greatly reduce the cost of cultivation.

## YOUR BABY

A series of instructive articles constituting, when completed, an entire course on baby hygiene and care of the child up to six or seven years old. Mothers are urged to read the articles as published, and cut them out for future reference. The information has been prepared by physicians who have made the welfare of the child a life study.

### First Article.

Each year nearly 20,000 babies die in Canada, a large number of which would now be alive if they had had proper care. This tragic waste of life can be very greatly reduced if mothers will acquaint themselves with the important facts of Baby Care.

A baby is such a precious thing that no mother willfully neglects it. Not neglect, but ignorance, is what kills most of these helpless little ones.

The mother should rest in bed for at least a week after baby is born and for several weeks more should not do really heavy work. Various forms of serious female troubles are due to a failure to follow this advice.

The mother's food should be plentiful, wholesome and nutritious, for, of course, baby must be nursed at the breast. The mother should drink plenty of milk, but much tea and coffee are injurious.

Almost all mothers can breast-feed their babies.

If the flow of milk is scanty the mother should:

- Drink plenty of liquids, especially milk.
  - Not do heavy work.
  - Get sufficient rest and sleep.
  - Take an outdoor airing every pleasant day.
  - Avoid constipation.
  - Put baby to nurse regularly.
- In order to train the child and to keep herself well and strong, the mother should systematize baby's daily life, the nursing time, bath, sleep and outdoor periods. If the baby is often fretful the mother should seek the doctor's advice. Under no circumstances should she give soothing syrups or other patent medicines recommended by the neighbors.

### What To Observe in a Baby.

Babies cannot talk, but they have a sign language.

By crying and by movements they can explain a great many things.

Well Baby—A normal, healthy child gains regularly in weight, has a warm moist skin, breathes quietly, eats heartily, sleeps peacefully, has one or two regular bowel movements daily and cries only when he is hungry, uncomfortable, ill or indulging in a fit of temper.

Posture When Sleeping—Quiet, limbs relaxed, sleep peaceful, no tossing about.

Facial Expression—Calm and peaceful. If baby is suffering pain, the features will contract from time to time and the fists will be clenched tightly.

Breathing—Regular, easy and quiet. However, during the first weeks of

Life breathing may be irregular in perfectly normal babies. This should excite no alarm unless associated with other abnormal conditions, such as hot skin and flushed face.

Baby should breathe through the nose and keep the mouth closed. Mouth breathing or habitual holding the mouth open usually indicates enlarged tonsils or adenoids or some other obstruction to the breathing which needs the attention of a physician.

Skin—Warm, slightly moist and a healthy pink color. The skin should be soft and smooth to the touch and the underlying muscles firm. Flabby muscles usually indicate something wrong with the feeding.

Crying—Babies need a certain amount of crying to develop their lungs. When children cry for everything they want, it is the result of faulty training. If baby is cross or fretful and cries a great deal of the time, it does not mean necessarily that he is ill, but there is something wrong with him. Learn what he is trying to tell you by crying:

- Hunger Cry—A low, whimpering cry, sometimes accompanied by sucking the fingers or the lips. If the meal is not forthcoming it may change to a lusty scream. Babies are as likely to cry from indigestion, caused by overfeeding, as from hunger.
- Fretful Crying—The baby is sleepy or uncomfortable. He may be too warm or tired of being laid in one position. A tepid sponge bath and gentle rub or a change of clothing and taking him out will prove very restful and comforting. If the crying continues consult the doctor. The child may be ill.
- Cry of Colic or Pain—A lusty cry, sometimes rising to a shriek with tears in the eyes. In colic or abdominal pain the knees are drawn up and the fists are clenched. A tight fist is usually an indication of pain. If the crying increases with moving of the arm or leg or when placing the child in a certain position, he may have a broken bone or other damage calling for the attention of a doctor.
- Sick Cry—The very sick baby does not cry hard. There is a low moaning or a wail, with sometimes a turning of the head from side to side.
- Sick Baby—Lean to recognize any change from the normal. Unusual flushing or pallor of the face, sleeplessness, lack of energy, loss of appetite, profuse sweating, especially of the head; peevishness, vomiting, or diarrhoea give warning that something is wrong. Find out what and why.



### THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON JULY 18TH.

David Spares Saul's Life—1 Sam. 26. Golden Text, Luke 6: 27.

1-6. The Ziphites. The "Wilderness of Ziph" was near Hebron, a wild and rugged country which in those days had still patches of woodland. The Ziphites had at an earlier time shown hostility to David and had offered to give him up to Saul (23: 14-24). There are some, however, who think this story and that in chap. 23 to be duplicate accounts of the same event. The "hill of Hachilah" was, probably, between Ziph and En-gedi. The statement that it was before Jeshimon means that it overlooked the barren and rough country which descended steeply toward the deep basin of the Dead Sea on the east. It was in that wilderness, toward the Dead Sea, that David and his men now hid and informed themselves by spies of Saul's movements.

7-17. David and Abishai. Jonathan and Abishai are introduced here for the first time. They were brothers, sons of David's sister Zeruiah, and may have been about the same age as, or only a little younger than, David. They had a very large place in his subsequent life. The daring adventures found Saul's camp but poorly guarded. The spear stuck in the ground seems to have been a symbol of the king's authority, even as, to this day, the chief of a band of Bedouin Arabs has a spear stuck in the ground at the entrance of his tent. Abishai would have had no scruple of conscience, but would have rid David of his enemy at a single stroke. It is a striking testimony to the superiority of David's character and the genuineness and sincerity of his religion, that he held the kingly office to be a gift of God and refused to open his own way to the kingdom by an act of murder. For who can put forth his hand against the Lord's anointed and be guiltless? David had a vivid recollection of the holy anointing oil poured upon his head by the prophet Samuel, and he knew that Saul had been set apart for the kingdom by

the same act of anointing. To David, therefore, his person was sacred. He would leave him in the Lord's hands. The Spear and the Crucifix of Water. From the other side of a valley, at a safe distance, David roused the sleeping camp by his shouts. In the darkness Abner could not see who was calling, but Saul recognized David's voice. David takes a keen delight and a bloodless revenge in taunting Abner for his neglect of watchfulness. "What a man art thou!" he said. "Who is like thee in Israel? Why hast thou not kept thy lord the king? You and your men deserve to die for your carelessness."

My Son David. Once more, and for the last time, the king's better nature is aroused. He can not but see that his life has been in David's hands and yet he has been spared. Surely David's accusers have lied to him and his own fears have been groundless. His old affection for the fresh-faced boy, whose music had charmed away his fits of moody depression, revived. David seizes the opportunity to plead his cause, and confound his enemies who have persistently stirred up the king against him. If the king's anger is from the Lord, will the Lord not accept an offering, but if it is from men who tell lies, may those men be accused.

18-25. Go, Serve Other Gods. David interprets his outlawry as banishment from the country of Jehovah. Of course he did not serve other gods. He remained true to Jehovah, the God of his own people. But that is the way his banishment would be commonly understood in those days, when most men thought of the god they served as confined to one country and to the sovereignty of one people. Of took a long time to learn that Jehovah was true Lord of all countries and nations. David begs that he may not die outside Jehovah's own land of Israel, away from the home and the graves of his ancestors.

Instead of to seek a flea the ancient Greek version has "to seek my life," which is likely to be the correct reading (v. 20; compare 24: 14).

I Have Sinned, David's forbearance and magnanimity wrought what no act of violence could have done. It brought real repentance to Saul's heart and an honest confession to his lips. That is the noblest kind of revenge—revenge that wins, and heals, and saves.

Patience without push is not a virtue, but a vice.

## Encouragement Aids Character Building

They were discussing a girl who had succeeded in a most surprising manner after apparently having no special ability for the first twenty-five years of her life. At school she had appeared stupid, in her teens she had been awkward, shy, self-conscious, absolutely impossible; then suddenly she had simply broken away from the home ties and traditions, plunged into the world of work and "made good." Even more, she had won a certain amount of near fame and was demonstrating to every one that not only was she not stupid, but that her abilities were of a rare excellence!

How had it happened? That was the question handled among her astonished acquaintances, and amid the million surmises only one woman came near to the truth. She said: "She has not changed at all. It was always in her, but her surroundings kept her back." She did not mention the particular influence which had had such a startling effect, but I, who knew the family, had no doubt, for they were one and all critics!

From the grandmother down to the young brother, they all prided themselves on their smartness, principally demonstrated by a cutting sarcasm masquerading as wit, and the one member of the family who had any real depth of either intellect or character was simply nipped by the frost of their disapproval until the little buds of originality which she tentatively put forth from time to time shriveled up and died.

God alone could tell how at last she mustered up courage to simply go away from the ungenial atmosphere and bravely set out to be herself and to live her own life, but once having broken away and getting among strangers who had eyes to see her possibilities she had simply blossomed out into a new being.

There is nothing new about this family weakness for carping and criticizing those of the household. It is many a long year since Eternal Wisdom said: "A prophet is not with-out honor save in his own country." But of all the unhappy failings of humanity there is none so far reaching and disastrous in effect.

In the first place, it has such an abominable effect on the critics; it warps and sours and narrows the whole disposition; it even deteriorates from the appearance; for there never yet was a man or woman who allowed himself or herself to habitually look on the disagreeable side of things who, when they came to middle age, did not show it very distinctly in their face, while the kindly, cheery, tender-hearted individual who was a chronic "booster" for every one with whom he came in contact mellowed more and more as the years go on, and even though unendowed with beauty of feature grows to a more enduring loveliness of expression.

And don't you know that people always "play up" to our expectations of them? Perhaps at first our confirmed determination to believe only the best of every one may leave us open to the suspicion of being fools, and those with whom we come in contact may make capital of our credulity; but if we go steadily on believing in their truth, though we know they are lying; believing in their kindness, though we are bruised by their selfish thoughtlessness or brutality; believing in their honor and courage, though we see their cowardice and their meanness; in the end the seed of good which is in every one of us will triumph.

Human nature is not altogether bad, but the good requires fostering and care. The little seed must be watered and nourished by evidences of trust, and be warmed by the sunshine of understanding love. I know that you can quote thousands of examples where this treatment did not apparently prove successful, but can you be sure that the love, sympathy, and trust were genuine, that they lasted in the very face of failure and did not lose heart or falter?

## Do You Think as Hard as You Work?

A battle is sometimes won by just hammering away along the same old lines, but the thing that wins most battles is a carefully planned strategic move. A strategic move means shifting the attack to some unexpected point, or making it in some new way that the opposition is not prepared to meet.

Farming is a battle the winning of which lies in producing and selling things so as to make interest on what you have invested, to pay and treat your men so they will stick, and to make enough to live well and put a little by—at the same time building up, or at least not depleting, the soil. The man who looks at it this way is pretty apt to win out at farming. It simply requires this: that you shall think as hard as you work—or harder.

It is the planned attack that wins bushels and bank accounts as well as battles.

Open the door, let in the air. The winds are sweet and the dowers are fair; Joy is abroad in the world, and if our door is open it may come in.

Ask us to deliver the famous "MAGNET" We have it, can't you see?

ONTARIO ARCHIVES TORONTO