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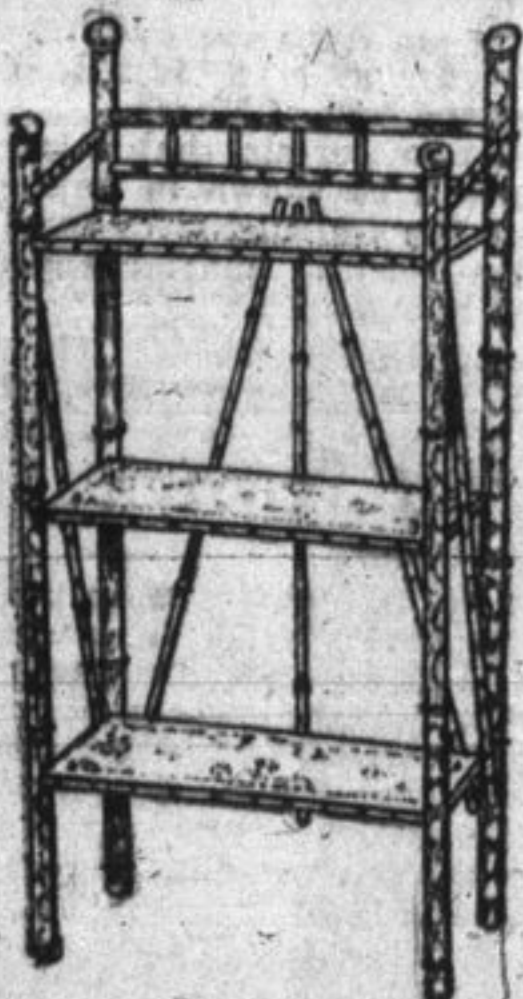
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**Agricultural Topics For Whig Readers**

**Essentials Of Dairy Barn.**

What are some of the things the up-to-date dairy stable should have? First and foremost, good ventilation and much sunlight; then a good floor of wood, cork, tile, wood blocks or cement. Now follow sanitary stalls and mangers for feed, ties that give comfort and that are easily and quickly fastened or unfastened, some method of carrier for delivering the feed right to the mangers, both grain, silage and hay, and a similar carrier for removing the manure from the stalls to the spreader under cover without water vessels in the stall or other means of watering selected in accordance with each individual's choice.—American Agriculturist.

**Preventive Measures.**

Prevention is the one weapon now in the hands of the hog-owner. He can fight hog cholera most directly through the injection of serum. He can go into his pens and legs and build up a defense against cholera by improving the general sanitary conditions. Clean feeding lots, feeding floors, a supply of good water and freedom from worms and parasite will help. They will be worth every dollar they cost within reason.—Farm Progress.

**The Profitable Farm.**

The basis of successful and profitable farming is a fertile soil. Nature's way is to return to the soil just as much as is taken from the soil. The leaves of the forest trees fall to the ground immediately beneath, carrying back the fertility extracted through the roots. The grasses of the prairies rot back each year, and the rich prairie soil is the result.

The pioneer refused to learn from nature. He took liberally from the bounty of the earth, but returned nothing. At first he harvested splendid crops. Ultimately nature shut down on him, and to-day we find ourselves obliged to return to nature's ways in our treatment of the land. First and above all things, we must maintain the fertility of our soils. The dairy farm, on which the crops raised are consumed on the farm and returned to the soil, is going a long way towards maintaining the balance of fertility. The dairyman who buys concentrated feeding stuffs in addition for the feeding of his herd, may actually enrich the soil.—Farm and Dairy.

**Horns.**

Horns are subject to disease as well as hoofs, but they are not, however, liable to so many troubles. There are probably few, if any, diseases; but such things as abscesses in the core following upon injury, and lacerations following upon a break, are not unknown. The liberation of the horn sheath, and a cold carbolic lotion should be applied.

With regard to the formation of horns, Nature plays many peculiar tricks. There is nothing more unsightly than horns set at the wrong angle, and no matter how beautifully balanced an animal is, and how well marked otherwise, its value is seriously impaired if the appearance is spoiled by a badly set horn.

The color of horns, too, is important. Not so long ago, the black-tipped horn which one finds in the Sussex, Shorthorn, and other breeds, was considered a bad fault; but it is not looked upon so severely nowadays. The ideal horn is wax in color, and perhaps one sees it in perfection in the famous West Highland breed.

The spread of the horn is remarkable in some of the races which are commercially valuable because of their appearance. These decorative breeds are, however, not wholly ornamental, for in such types as the Loughhorn, the Welsh, and the West Highland, there is plenty of excellent butchering material, only in some cases it is rather slow in maturing. A good spread of horn is 6ft. from tip to tip, and this is only attained by the West Highland breed.

**Milk Memos.**

As a means of preventing milk getting "clattered" in transit it must be cooled to a low temperature, as uncooled milk after travelling a distance always has small lumps of butter floating on the surface. It is also necessary to have the churns full whenever possible, as this does much to prevent milk being churned. If the churn is only half full the milk has plenty of room to splash.

Sterilizing milk destroys all the bacteria in it, but milk thus treated is not suitable for cheesemaking, as the high temperature to which the milk is subjected renders it unfit for cheese. The lime salts, which the rennet works in conjunction with are precipitated by the heat. The natural ferment in milk which assist in the ripening of cheese gets destroyed.

The casein of milk is coagulated by rennet and acids, but not by heat, whilst the albumen is coagulated by heat, and not affected by rennet or acids to any extent as coagulation is concerned. When milk coagulates naturally, it is due to the lactic acid formed

in the milk by bacteria. In cheesemaking rennet is employed to coagulate the milk, as by this means it is easy to control the coagulation.

It is more difficult to cool cream than milk, as the latter easily flows over the cooler. Cream, especially when thick, adheres to the cooler and is continually to be scraped off in the case of buttermaking. The cream is only cooled to the temperature at which it is ripened. For selling, the cream must be cooled to a low temperature, so that it will keep well.

**Winter Care Of Sheep.**

Sheep do not require much care during the summer season. The more liberty they can have the better; but in the winter season they may be kept in a shed, open on the sunny side if necessary. It is usually better to arrange so that it can be closed in case of storm. If possible sheep should have the liberty to range on dry and firmly sodded pastures in the winter when these are not covered so deeply with snow as to make it impossible for them to get food by scraping for it with their feet.

It is not necessary that they should be kept on anything else than on earth floor, provided the same is dry and kept well bedded. Fresh bedding should be added every two or three days. Confining the sheep in a small and ill-ventilated building would soon prove fatal.

Sheep are fond of a change in diet; consequently the greater the variety of feed, fine in character, the better the results. While they are in winter quarters they should be given a small quantity of grain; in the absence of roots. Usually one pound per head before the season for lambs will be enough. No grain is better adapted for such feed than oats. A little bran added will make an improvement. After the lambing season the flock may be safely given about all the grain that will be eaten up clean. No kind of hay is better for sheep than clover or alfalfa.

The sheep has the most delicate sense of smell of any domestic animal, and the ricks and troughs from which they eat will often be more so, unless if not kept perfectly clean. They will not eat unclean food nor drink unclean water, unless compelled by hunger and thirst to do so. Cleanliness is a matter of necessity and must be kept in force, if the best results are to be attained.

Another very important feature is to keep the animals as quiet as possible at all times. They are very timid, and dogs and boisterous men and boys should not be permitted to go about them.—W. H. Underwood.

**Poultry And Profit.**

Of the many get-rich-quick schemes there is perhaps none more delusive than that of poultry raising on paper, and yet, with the proper facilities and applied intelligence, possibly as handsome returns can be had from poultry raising as from any other industry in proportion to the amount of capital invested, and the readiness with which results can be obtained. As a side line for the farmer, or often as an interesting and profitable occupation for the boys and girls on the farm, poultry raising offers great opportunities. The value of the egg as a food is gradually but surely being recognized, with the result that the price of eggs is rapidly increasing. This means that in future good prices for poultry products are sure to be realized.

Recent experiments have shown that flocks with unlimited range, such as they usually have on the farm, have given greater profits per fowl than flocks that were confined. The poultry house should be dry, free from draughts, and well ventilated, but need not be an expensive structure, as was once thought necessary. With both systems of cankering the products, and with plenty of reliable information regarding the business now within the easy reach of all contemplating taking it up, there is no reason why these should not be a development in poultry raising in keeping with its importance. Special bulletins on the subject may be obtained from the Dominion Department of Agriculture and from the various Provincial Departments.

**Horse Talk.**

Patience, perfect control of temper, and an even, musical voice are essentials in the proper training of a colt.

The rapid cleaning up of all marketable horses of all types to supply the demand created by the war, makes it certain that good prices will be maintained for several years. It takes three or four years to grow a colt to marketable age.

It seems a most opportune time for up-to-date farmers to start breeding some good colts.

There will also be an increasing demand for good mules.

Breeding of horses must be done intelligently because there is no place in the market for a misfit. The farmer must breed either a draft horse or a road horse.

If a farmer crosses a heavy and a light horse he will only get a plug. Keep the stable floors even. Standing on uneven floors will cause blemishes and unound legs, especially in colts.

Every horse, young or old, should exercise in harness or yard every day.

One secret of a successful feeder is that he never allows his horses to be thirsty.

Every horse should have a chance to drink.

Bearing on hard with the comb is not necessary when grooming a horse. The dust in most of the outer ends of the hair; brush lightly.

**Hints On Live Stock.**

**Currying Cows.** The brush and currycomb are far less used on cows than they are on horses, yet they are



**EFFECT OF ROUMANIA'S CO-OPERATION WITH RUSSIA.**  
The northern and southern armies of Roumania are in a position to take the Austrian armies on their flanks and to compel a retirement from the whole east half of the Austro-Hungarian empire, thus removing the menace to the Russian left flank, which has postponed several times the invasion of Germany.

quite as necessary to the animal's comfort. Who has not seen cattle rubbing their sides against a fence or tree, or their backs against some overhanging limb? It not only adds to their comfort to rub them down, but it draws the blood nearer the surface, so that the animal is warmer. With the same feed a well groomed cow will keep in good condition when she would be scrawny and rationed if not regularly curried or brushed.

**Care of the Heifer.**—The young heifer ought to be as well fed and cared for as the milk cow, because her future usefulness depends on her condition prior to her first pregnancy. She does not feed so well for milk production or for fat, but ought to be kept in strong growing condition by food that makes one and muscular tissue, and gives vigor of constitution. The heifer should have a more active life than the cow least for milk, but requires just as much in feeding and just as sufficient shelter from inclement weather.

**Grazing on Rye.**—The practice of turning cows on young rye in the fall is a good one, but when the ground is very wet damage to the crop may result. A ration of 45 pounds of ensilage, 8 pounds of clover or hay, 1 pound of bran and 1 of linseed meal will cost about 10 cents a day and be nearly as can be desired. This ration will be better digested than one composed mostly of dry food in the spring to young rye.

**Feeding Silage.**—By the use of ensilage the ration can be greatly cheapened, but ensilage is not a balanced food, and must not therefore be used exclusively. A ration of 45 pounds of ensilage, 8 pounds of clover or hay, 1 pound of bran and 1 of linseed meal will cost about 10 cents a day and be nearly as can be desired. This ration will be better digested than one composed mostly of dry food in the spring to young rye.

**Points in Pasturing.**—Many pasture fields are grazed too near the ground. When a herd of cows has been so long on a pasture they eat the grass down many times and much closer than is done with a mower. No plants will thrive if not given chance for growth, and the grass on some pastures is killed by continually checking its growth, while the feet of animals greatly damage the grass, as the smaller the supply the more tramping by the stock.

**Timely Stable Suggestions.**  
Don't neglect to give your stock plenty of salt. It helps them by stimulating the appetite, assisting digestion and assimilation, and increasing the flow of the fluids of the body. Kept constantly before them, none of the animals will eat too much of it, but if they are not used to it you want to begin gradually and feed up, for an overdose of it might act as poison.

Make sure your stables are thoroughly ventilated, not by loose boards or accidental holes in the windows, but by some system that is well constructed and easily operated.

Make the work of handling ensilage as easy as possible by having a silage fork made especially for the purpose.

Don't take any chances with the bull; don't do it ever "just to be smart." No strong male animal is safe to handle without watching. Use him well, but make him remember always that you are boss and he sure he is securely fastened when your back is turned to him. Your dearest and nearest friends will be less likely than to mourn for you, either dead or disabled for life.

No better absorbent can be used in the cow stable than horse manure, land plaster and road dust. They not only take up the liquids, but prevent the escape of nitrogen.

Don't despise the grade cow. Grades of Jerseys, Holsteins and Guernseys, are always among the best.

Keep some kind of medicine in the stable. Turpentine, if nothing more, is good to have, as this will often afford relief in ailments among live stock.

Don't leave the care of your stock too much to any one else. If your boys have charge of them, be there, directing and giving a word of encouragement, which means much toward interesting them in the work, and insures the animals coming out all right in the spring. Good horse-blankets help to make

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