











# NOTES from MEADOWBROOK FARM



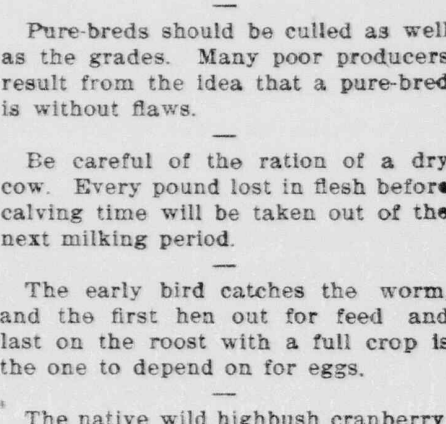
Cows must have salt. Don't keep irritating dogs. Use care in the cow's ration. Sheep help rid farms of weeds. Brooder lamps should be cleaned every day. Chicks should not be fed until they are 36 hours old. Every home should have an abundance of strawberries. Powder the chicks occasionally during the first eight weeks. Experience is of more value than capital in poultry raising. The specialist succeeds in any line of business, while others are failing. Plowing is at best the hardest work our farm horses have to perform. An orchard, if you have one, is the very best place in which you can raise chicks. Cornstalks are valuable as a fertilizer and should be left on the field after cutting. A field of corn after it is a few feet high makes an ideal place to raise chicks in. A few strips of tile will often turn a mud hole into the most productive spot on the farm. An egg may be fertile and hatch and still the chick will not live because of lack of vitality. In cold weather place from ten to thirteen eggs under the hen; in warm weather from thirteen to fifteen. The coop for hen and chicks should be well ventilated, easy to clean, and of sufficient proportions to insure comfort. Eggs from hens that have made a fair showing in laying this winter will be more fertile than those that did heavy laying. It may not pay to keep any very great surplus of corn in the crib, yet it is sometimes mighty comforting to know that it is there. Scarcity of stock cattle of all kinds and high prices asked and offered is a common local condition reported from the corn belt states. When mice creep into the meadows and pastures they need to be broken up and the soil exposed to the sun and air before reseeded. Raspberries produce good crops in the same soil for year, while strawberries produce their best crops the first year they come into full bearing. As a rule, the cause of a flock being unprofitable lies largely with the keeper and the care they receive rather than a superiority of one breed over another. By raising standard-bred poultry one will be able to sell stock and eggs for breeding purposes, and get much better prices than when selling eggs and fowls for food only. Busy hens are not only the best egg producers, but their eggs show the best fertility. In order to keep them engaged at work strew the floor of the pen with hay or straw and scatter the grain in this. One of the safe things to tie to on the farm is a good brood sow—pure-bred. In a few years she and her offspring, if properly cared for, will put many dollars into the pockets of the farmers of the country. Hens prefer the morning sun to the afternoon sun when they cannot have both. Therefore, arrange to open a window in the east end of the hen house when bad weather does not permit of the entire south side being thrown open. The last United States census shows that there are 307,706 women farmers in this country. The numbers has gained since the census was taken and promises to increase. Many women have homesteaded claims in all of the western states and have made successes of farming. If your supply of manure is limited and it is fine in texture better make application after plowing rather than before. It may pay to use part of the manure in the hills, especially for such plants as eggplants, tomatoes, cucumbers, melons, muskmelons and lima beans. Manure used in hills should always be fairly well decayed.

Test all hatching eggs. Keep the calves' pails clean. Some sows are kept too long. Inattention produces bad results. Use insect powder freely to exterminate lice. Green bone is very rich in phosphate of lime. Not enough care is given to teaching colts to work. A well-ventilated cellar is the best place to operate the incubator. The modern farm buildings should be so arranged that they will be rat proof. Boost the acre yield, cut down on the acres, and so solve the hired help question. Well-drained yards and pens will help to keep the hogs more thrifty and profitable. The peach tree responds more quickly to good treatment than any other fruit tree. Shallow cultivation following deep plowing precedes clean fields and profitable crops. Norway spruce trees make a good windbreak, and right now is a good time to plant them. Whole corn is a good feed for sitting hens. Water, grit, and dust baths should also be provided. Beans are very susceptible to frost and should never be planted until all danger from that source is past. New planting of blackberries, raspberries, currants or gooseberries may now be made. Cut back the plants. In Europe cows serve a triple purpose. They are used for the production of milk and meat and for draft purposes. Trees and small fruits generally like application of ashes and bone dust. By fertilizing liberally good crops may be assured. Pure-breds should be culled as well as the grades. Many poor producers result from the idea that a pure-bred is without flaws. Be careful of the ration of a dry cow. Every pound lost in flesh before calving time will be taken out of the next milking period. The early bird catches the worm, and the first hen out for feed and last on the roost with a full crop is the one to depend on for eggs. The native wild highbush cranberry, dogwood, Juneberry, black haw, and wild grape all make good plants for the home yard if properly set. Improved implements will do much to increase the efficiency of the men on the farm and will at the same time increase the productive capacity of the land. For average yields it has been estimated that it takes 400 tons of water to grow a clover crop; for corn it takes 350 tons; oats, 375 tons, and potatoes, 450 tons. There is little doubt that the incubator has not always been given the credit it deserves for having brought the poultry industry up to its present enviable position. Where alfalfa hay is fed as the roughage part of a ration for farm horses at hard work, less grain is necessary to prevent them from losing weight than where timothy hay is fed. In the case where cowpea hay and silage are fed together, there is no question but that better results would ensue were alfalfa hay used instead of the cowpea roughage for this purpose. The cows that gives fifteen quarts every milking, and kicks over the pail as she is being stripped, is like a good many people whose good intentions and virtues are spoiled by one mean trait. A breeding sow should have plenty of nourishing food, such food as will cause a healthy growth and development without inducing the laying on of surplus fat, as a fat sow often has difficulty in farrowing. Top-working apple trees may be done now. Try setting a few grafts. It is not a very difficult operation and it is always interesting to watch the results. Many worthless seedling that are hardy may be changed to be good fruit. Tomatoes are best grown upon single stalks. All suckers should be kept off, allowing only the original stem to grow, and this should be tied to a stake. This prevents rot, and makes better fruit. Dwarf, medium-sized varieties give the best results. The mowing machine that chugs under ordinary conditions is sadly in need of attention. In nine cases out of ten the fault will be found in one or the other of both of the cutting edges. The sickle may be dull or the edges worn off the ledger plates. It is only a half remedy to sharpen the sickle and leave the dull ledger plates in.

**EARLY DAYS OF ANTHRACITE**  
Anthracite as a fuel was once a much doubted novelty. William Endicott, a well-known and highly respected citizen of Boston, now eighty-seven years old, lately read a paper of reminiscence in which he told this story:  
Somewhere in the early '30s rumors had reached Beverly that in Pennsylvania or elsewhere anthracite coal was coming into use as fuel. In order to make trial of it five or six gentlemen joined together and sent to Boston for a cartload, there being no railway.  
From my father's quota I remember a lump of about the size of a peck measure which he placed in the open fireplace and heaped about it an assortment of pine and hard woods. These burned very well, but had no effect upon the coal, even with repeated trials. Considerable fuel was burned upon that occasion, but it was not coal.  
Some little time later, when a grate had been installed in the fireplace and a good fire was burning in it, an old gentleman came in to view the novel spectacle. After looking at it intently for a few minutes he remarked that "it looked expensive," and retired from the scene. Little did he think that his sage conclusion would be quoted after the lapse of three-quarters of a century and then, perchance, put in type and possibly read a century or two later.—*The Outlook.*

## ANCIENT STAY-BUSKS

The illustration shows four eighteenth century, English busks. The busk or "bone," as it was sometimes called, was inserted in the front of the stays and appears to have been visible throughout its length, being held in position by the laces. Objects of this kind are not only of interest on account of their rarity, but because they illustrate indigenous folk art. They are not made by skilled craftsmen nor produced in factories in standardized sizes and patterns by the aid of machinery, but fabricated by ordinary, untutored men.



During moments of leisure mainly as gifts to their womankind. They are almost as primitive in conception and execution as a paddle wrought by a native of the South Seas. When a young man set about making a stay-busk for his sweetheart he fell back upon the traditional elements of ornament, it is true, but he strove besides to combine these elements into such original forms as his fancy dictated.

## THE CALENDAR STONE

The famous Aztec calendar stone, now in the National Museum of Mexico, is a block of basalt weighing 25 tons and having a diameter of 11 feet. Encircling the head of the sun god is a diadem bearing hieroglyphics representing the divisions of time and the Aztec method of numbering the years. The number of days in their year was 365, as in ours. Each year had a different emblem repeated every four years. The first year was called Tochtli, or rabbit; the second, Acatel, or reed; the third, Teepal, or flint; the fourth, Calli, or house. The years were further arranged by thirteens, four such periods making a Mexican age.

When the City of Mexico was taken by Cortez in 1521 and the great temple destroyed the calendar stone was left in the square. It was buried in 1555 and not recovered again until 1790.—*Popular Mechanics.*

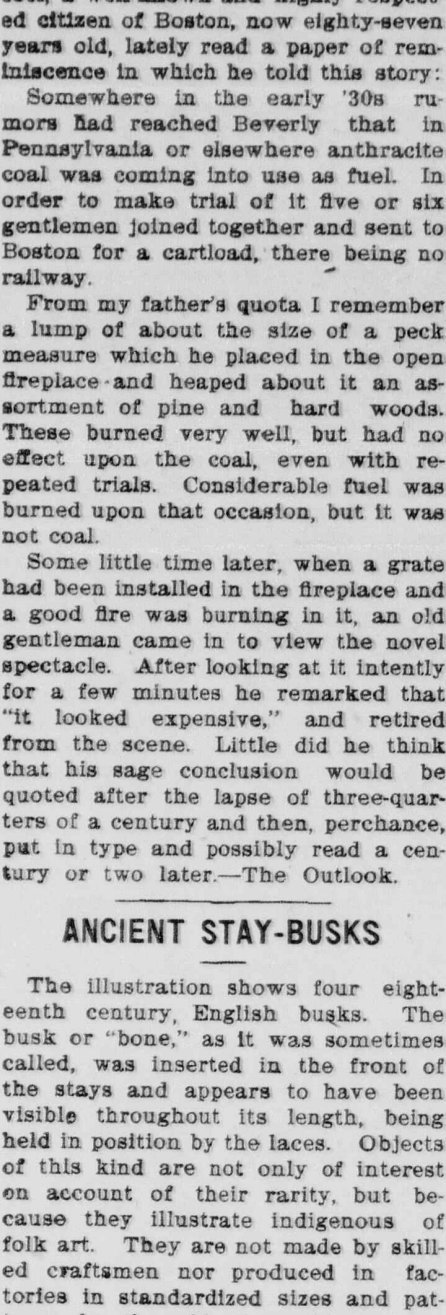
## SHIPS OF CONCRETE

A 500-ton concrete scow, says an exchange, was recently launched at Baltimore, Md. It is 110 feet long, 28 feet wide and has a depth of 10 feet 6 inches. Others, built before this one, have shown a large saving in repairs over wooden craft. It is claimed by the builders that concrete vessels will ultimately create a revolution in ship construction. The Italians have already made use of concrete vessels and have found them practicable, it is stated. Indeed, they seem to be of exceptionally stout build, for one of them, rammed by a small war cruiser, showed no other injury but a crack, which it was quite possible to repair successfully. This accidental test gave the constructor much satisfaction.—*Outlook.*

## COUGHS UP 'PROOF OF GUILT'

Arrested on a charge of stealing \$37 in a hotel, William Frazer of Yonkers, N. Y., confirmed the suspicions of the police by choking and finally coughing up two bank notes. When arraigned before Judge Beall, Frazer said he mistook the bills for chewing tobacco. He was found guilty of larceny.

## Evening Devotion in Aosta



This picture shows a native offering up his evening devotions at a wayside shrine at the Roman bridge, Aosta. This is a section of the Alps seldom touched by the tourist and is most picturesque and interesting. The composition of the picture is very fortunate in its grouping of stone and timber, with the touch of iron in the little grille covering the small window on the left. Aosta is on the Italian side of the Pennine Alps.

## SUGAR AND THE TEETH

There is a prevalent notion that if children are allowed to eat sugar they will have bad teeth as a consequence, says Health. There is no foundation whatever for such a notion. The negroes of the West Indies are excessive consumers of sweets. They eat an enormous amount of sugar cane, molasses and raw sugar. Yet these people have particularly fine teeth. Whatever other injuries sugar may be capable of doing to the human system, it is very certain that it does not do any injury to the teeth.

## LAKE OF PURE SODA

A lake of pure soda, Lake Magadi, in East Africa, was recently visited by an Italian scientist. The lake at a distance appears to be of water. Its surface is solid and dazzlingly white. The lake comprises thirty square miles, and at present a considerable quantity of soda is daily taken from it, while a railway is under construction from the lake to the Uganda railway. When the railway is completed it is expected that Lake Magadi will supply soda to the world.

## MILLIONS OF TELEPHONES

There are said to be 6,000,000 telephone stations in the United States, and the amount of wire made use of totals 12,000,000 miles. Some idea of what this total means may be grasped when we calculate that this length of wire could be wrapped around the earth 500 times, and that it would make 50 separate lines from the earth to the moon, but there would not be half enough wire to reach from the earth to our nearest planetary neighbor, Venus.

## AIRSHIPS USED IN BALKANS

Writer Vividly Describes Two Scenes He Witnessed During the Recent Conflict There.

"As I stood watching one day I saw two scenes in this grim drama which made my pulses beat with great excitement," says a writer in "The Balkan War," a book by Philip Gibbs and Bernard Grant. "A great bird flew across the sky toward the city and as it flew it sang a droning song like the buzzing of an enormous bee. It was a monoplane, flown by a Bulgarian aviator, who had volunteered to reconnoiter the Turkish defenses. It disappeared swiftly into the smoke wrack, and for some time I listened intently to a furious fusillade which seemed to meet this winged spy. After half an hour the aeroplane came back, flying swiftly away from the shot and shell which pursued it from the low lying hills. Its wings were pierced, so that one could see the sky through them, but it flew steadily from the chase of death, and I heard its rhythmic heart beat overhead. Its escape was certain now. It had mocked at the pursuit of the shells, the loud beat of its engine above me was a song of triumph. I watched it disappear again—to safety. So it seemed, but death has many ways of capture, and when I came back to Mustafa Pasha that day I heard that the unfortunate aviator, after his escape from the guns, had fallen from a great height within sight of home, and that the hero's body lay smashed to pieces in the wreckage of his machine.

"Then on another day I saw another drama in the air. While my eyes watched the smoke clouds from the siege guns something twinkled and glittered to the left of the four tall minarets of the great mosque of Adrianople. It was the smooth silk of an airship which caught the rays of the sun; this cigar-shaped craft rose slowly and steadily to a fair height, though I think it was tethered at one end. It rose above peaceful ground into a great tranquillity, which lasted about ten minutes. Then suddenly there was a terrific clap of thunder and a shell burst to the left of the airship. I gave a great cry. It seemed to me that the frail craft had burst and disappeared into nothingness.

"But a few seconds later, when the smoke was wafted away, I saw the airship still poised steadily above the earth, untouched by that death machine. A second shell was fung skyward, far to the right, and for an hour I watched shells rise continually round that airship, trying to tear it down from its high observation, but never striking it. I do not know the names of the men who piloted that ship, but whoever they were, they may boast of a courage which kept them at their post in the sky amid that storm of shells."

## A Ship of the Far East



These picturesque vessels are still seen in the waters of the orient. Bulky and awkward as they appear to occidental eyes, they are handled with surprising skill by the oriental sailors. The vessels are employed chiefly in coastwise trade.

## Moors and Turks

The Spanish Moors were of Arabic stock, and were as different from the Turks, except in the single matter of religion, as the Turks are different from the Europeans. The descendants of the Moslem warriors, who took Spain from the Christians, founded there one of the most wonderful civilizations known in history—which they would never have done had they been Turks. In Cordova, Granada, Seville, Toledo and other places, art, science, philosophy and many of the graces and humanities bloomed like a garden, while the rest of Europe lay in mental decrepitude and a dry rot.

## Ancient Advocates of Suffrage

In casting about for original ideas and suggestions for the many floats which formed the principal feature of their parade on the last day of May, the Just Government League members discovered that even in Biblical times there were advocates of the suffrage movement. As a result, three Bible celebrities were represented in the pageant. They were Miriam, the sister of Moses, and Deborah and Hulda, the Israelite judges. These three were gorgeously arrayed in garments befitting their time and occupied one of the most elaborate floats in the pageant.

Madam L. Von F. Mountford, a resident of Jerusalem, lecturer on Bible lands and an authority on the correct dress for the ancient days, gave the benefit of her knowledge for the purpose of making the Biblical float and figures true to legendary times. Miriam, the sister of Moses, was presented as the woman who led the woman's parade across the Red sea. The banner of Deborah showed her as leader of the armies of Israel and Hulda was suggested as a teacher and leader.—*Baltimore American.*

## Aztecs Had No Fear of Hoodoo

The famous Aztec calendar stone, now in the National Museum of Mexico, is a block of basalt weighing twenty-five tons and having a diameter of eleven feet. Encircling the head of the sun god is a diadem bearing hieroglyphics representing the divisions of time and the Aztec method of numbering the years. The number of days in their year was 365, as in ours. Each year had a different emblem repeated every four years. The first was called Tochtli, or rabbit; the second, Acatel, or reed; the third, Teepal, or flint; the fourth, Calli, or house. The years were further arranged by thirteens, four such periods making a Mexican age.

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