FARM AND DAIRY

AND RURAL HOME

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POULTRY AND FARM BOYS

The hen has long been a recognized money maker. There are few farms that do not number at least some poultry among their live stock. With many, however, the poultry is allowed to shift for itself. Poultry is more often than not denied the same measure of care that is given to horses and to other farm animals. In recent years, however, the hen has come more largely into her own, thanks to the work of experiment stations and the enterprise of poultry fanciers and others who have proved beyond doubt that poultry can be made a most paying part of the farm.

The average hundred acre farm can profitably support more pourtry than it does. The article on page three of this issue, giving the experience of Mr. L. R. Martin, of Lincoln County, Ont., outlines in a fair measure the possibilities of poultry on the average farm. It is an example of making a side line of the farm profitable and at the same time giving

a boy a training which will prove most valuable to him in after life. Mr. Martin does not quote in figures as to profits, but states simply that they were quite satisfactory. An idea of the profits that may be obtained may be had from referring to the experiience of Mr. Wilbur Bennett, of Peterboro County, Ont. Mr. Bennett gave his experience before the Poultry Institute at Guelph last winter. The poultry plant on the Bennet farm occupies about five acres of ground. From it last year a profit of \$450 was made, the profit being more than was made from the other 95 acres of the farm.

The experiences of Mr. Martin and Mr. Bennett stand out as illustrious examples of what poultry can do for the farm boy. Fathers may well turn the poultry department of their farms over to their boys and encourage them to take the interest in it that the industry merits.

TAKE NO CHANCES WITH BULLS

Farm and Dairy has frequently noted accidents due to attacks from bulls. Such accidents seem to be on the increase. Each summer scarcely a month passes but what several people come to grief by means of infuriated bulls. It is a pity that this needless sacrifice of life is not curtailed. Only last week Mr. Chas. McKay, of Cambray, Victoria County, was accidentally killed by an angry bull while visiting his pasture field to look after his driving horse.

We cannot too soon learn that it is not safe to take chances with bulls. Invariably it is the bull thought to be perfectly docile and is allowed his liberty that in the end turns out to be the destroyer of human life. Bulls over a year should be carefully watched. It is not safe to have them running in the pasture. If a bull is allowed liberty other than a box stall, separate paddock should be provided, and handling should be by means of a stout staff securely attached to a ring in the animal's nose.

BREEDING FROM SCRUB SIRE

The unfortunate results of Mr. Ritchie's breeding as given elsewhere in this issue is just what might have been expected. We purchased by pedigree without ideration of the individual

The purity of breeding in his bull with a long line of ancestors behind him made him prepotent. It gave him the power to impress his character upon hisprogeny. This prepotency on the part of the bull should make us all the more careful in his selection. for he is just as sure to transmit his weak points as that of the strong.

No worse animal could be introduced as the head of a herd, than a bull with some very marked weakness, and with a long line of ancestors behind him, in which these points have shown themselves in different members of the family. One should aim to secure a bull of as good conformation as possible and in which the heavy milking qualities and high test of butter fat have shown themselves in the family and particularly in this bull's mother.

The danger from using grade bulls is, that one may get a good individual that has only two or three crosses of pure blood in his veins, and he descended from very inferior stock on the dam's side. Frequently calves from such a bull will show reverts to the scrub stock of the ancestors.

SOW RAPE FOR FORAGE

The rape plant is rapidly gaining in favor. Large areas are being devoted to this crop annually. It should receive the attention of all stockmen. Rape may be sown at any time from early spring until August. The Dwarf Essex is the best variety to grow. A satisfactory way of growing this crop is to make use of a clover sod plowed in the interval between having and harvest. When worked down to a fine seed bed and sown in drills 30 inches apart at the rate of two or three pounds to the acre, it will furnish an abundance of forage for fall feeding. It may be sown broadcast if desired, but it will make more satisfactory returns when sown in drills as it may then be cul-

While it is out of the question to pasture dairy cows on rape, it provides valuable forage for young stock, sheep and pigs. It is highly prized by cattle feeders for furnishing a succulent food during the fall months and preparing the cattle for winter feeding. Rape is well worth a trial. It is produced at small expense for seed and culture and yields an immense amount of nutritious forage which will be highly appreciated by the stock

BINDER TWINE

Much annoyance is often experienced during the busy time of harvest from using a poor quality of binder twine. It is false economy to purchase poor twine because it is offered at a small price. All binders do not act alike with the same twine. machine that has been in use for a number of years and that has become worn, will usually do better work with a coarser twine than with a fine one.

The difference in the actual cost in harvesting a given number of acres with the different lengths of twine is usually only a trifle. The best quality of manilla hemp is spun finely and makes a twine of 650 feet to the pound. Poorer qualities of hemp and sisal have to be spun coarsely. These latter vary in length running 500, 550 and 600 feet to the pound, according to the quality of material used.

One of the principal defects in twine is the unevenness with which it is spun. An annoyance often met with is that when the ball is nearly all used the twine will tangle and form a knot causing it to break. This can be overcome, to some extent, by throwing the balance of the ball upon the ground and allowing the twine to trail out, not a very tidy operation, it is true, but it often enables one to use a hundred or more feet of twine that otherwise would go to waste.

Dispatches from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia tell of great destruc-

For fire to be getting in its deadly work so early in the season is quite uncommon. It goes to demonstrate more strongly than ever the great need of edequate fire protection. The problem of stopping forest fires is not an easy one, if not impossible. Increased numbers of forest fire rangers and the whole service put under better organization would lessen this wanton waste.

The telephone is coming to be recognized more and more as a farm necessity. Last week a rural telephone was the means of affecting the capture of a tramp in the vicinity of Gananoque. He had attempted an outrage. After the farmer's daughter had reported at home that she had been attacked, a posse of 25 farmers was quickly organized by telephone and a thorough search instituted, which resulted in the arrest of the tramp. The telephone offers protection that should be a part of every farm home.

Decline of the Hog Trade

Peterboro Review (Conservative)

The tremendous slump in our bacon trade and also in our butter trade. comes upon us like the proverbial bolt from the blue. The outlook for the farmer is serious. Farm and Dairy is doing what the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa should have done long ago, viz.: taking note of the slump and taking measures for investigating the cause. Farm and Dairy turned back the Laurier Government from its active condemnation of Free Rural Mail Delivery although not far enough to make Peterboro county one of the 97 routes now estabtablished. It has caught the attention of the same government in the case of the serious slump in the bacon trade. It has done well. But are we to understand that this journal is so more efficient than Mr. Fisher's boasted department of Agriculture If so, why not substitute one for the other and at a vast reduction in expense too. Loss of trade and loss of value in farms are burning the candle at both ends for the farmer with a vengeance.

Co-operation for Pure Milk

(Toronto Star) The Windsor Record quotes with approval The Star's recommendation that the Dominion and Provincial Governments should do more to encourage the production of pure milk, but says that we place the chief if not the entire responsibility on the producer, and that others are to blame. We are emphasizing one base of the subject because we thought it was neglected, but we agree with the Record that there is a resj-ensibility along the whole line, from the producer down to and including the consumer

The Record says that a farmer who ships supplies regularly to Windsor complains that his cans are returned to him in a state of disgusting foulness. The cans are emptied and returned without washing. They are semetimes twenty-four hours in trantion to forests being worked by fire. sit, the condition growing worse all

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