

and shipped stuffs, and the independence acquired by the time their mother discards them is highly gratifying. By a gradual increase of the ration of grain or ground food, the youngsters are weaned without any reverses in their progress of growth. The feeding process requires familiarity with humanity, and relieves the young creatures of any fear. The advantages of gentleness among the domestic animals are too many to be enumerated. Providing a well-balanced ration is also desirable. The framework of meat-producing stock and the organs of digestion and assimilation are better maintained by a moderate grain ration once daily for the thrifty-growing youngsters. The quality of the meat when it goes on the market will be enough better to more than meet the additional expense. With a half ration of grain once a day, a larger number of young things may be grazed on a given number of acres. This permits increasing the amount of live stock; or, on the other hand, the increase of the acreage of the farm for grain.

In the case of calves and lambs, it is particularly needful that they be provided while grazing with dry hay, straw or fodder, which will enable them to leave at any time the grass and relieve a discomfort of bloating by eating the dry provender. Only a small quantity of this is required to prevent many of the serious ills which come to the pasture ground. Convenient access to drinking water must be provided. If there is not a flow from a natural stream, if possible nature's liquid should come from a deep well. As a rule, it is not advisable to spare expense in having numerous tanks or lengthy troughs, which will enable the timid to satisfy as promptly as their stronger fellows.

The returning prosperity of business warrants extra attention to the colts. Four or five years from this time, the tiny colt of this season will be in demand. The requirements of a mature horse at that time will date back to the present.

It should be made thoroughly familiar with men, women and children, as well as many other things with which, as a mature animal, it will come in contact. At six months of age it should be as fearless of ordinary sights and sounds as it ever need be. A few moments' patient attention to these details daily will accomplish all that is desired for the future welfare of the little fellows whom we are prone to neglect when they most need the teaching which their docility permits.—*Farm, Field and Fireside.*

FORAGE FOR SHEEP.

By PROF. THOMAS STARR.

The question of growing summer forage for sheep is yet in its beginnings. For the past two seasons we have pastured sheep at our State farm on forage grown thus, and with very much success. On ten acres of light soil with a sandy and gravelly subsoil we pastured eighty-six head of sheep and lambs from May 1 to November 5. The major portion of the soil had not been given any manure for years, although cropped every season for at least six successive years. In addition to the forage thus furnished, nine tons of cured food and six tons of green food were taken from the same land.

The sheep had plenty of food, inasmuch that they kept in fine condition, and the lambs made a good growth. The latter weighed one hundred and thirty pounds on an average when sold at less than one year old, and they brought at the experiment station five and a half cents per pound live weight. One of the lambs served at the dining rooms of the Commercial Club in St. Paul, was pronounced by good judges of the very highest quality, as good as the best that England can produce.

The chief of the foods grown were clover, winter rye, corn and rape grown together, sorghum and dwarf Essex rape. The sheep were pastured on these in turn. The winter rye furnished an excellent bite for fall and spring. Next came a plat of peas, oats and rape sown together. This plat was eaten down three times. After these came corn and rape. The corn and rape furnished an excellent food. The sheep were put on to it when it was about a foot high. The weak point of this pasture was that it did not come again. After the corn and rape, sorghum followed. And rape followed sorghum. Thus the sheep had abundant supplies of food during all the season. When the forage was wet from rain the sheep were pastured on the grass. Movable fences were used.

This system of growing forage for sheep will some day be adopted in all arable sections of the United States, that is to say, it will be adopted in a modified form. Farmers who keep sheep will sow one or more kinds of pasture for them to tide them over the dry period that usually follows the spring months. The advantages of the system include the following: (1) It enables the farmer to keep a much larger number of sheep than it would be possible in the absence of such forage. (2) It enables him to grow a better quality of mutton because of the succulence of the food. (3) The system is death to every form of weed growth. (4) It does not impair the fertility of the land, and (5) The crop that follows such depasturing is sure to furnish an abundant growth in a normal season. Minnesota alone by adopting such a system generally could grow all the sheep in the United States without using one acre of land now under cultivation.

SPRAYING TO DESTROY LICE.

Every reader knows the composition of kerosene emulsion, as it has been given repeatedly, and many of them have had experience in the work of spraying. Now, kerosene emulsion is sure death to lice, and is much cheaper than unadulterated kerosene. While it is understood that by spraying the poultry-house twice a week with the emulsion, thoroughly saturating the floor, walls, roosts, nests, yards, fences, etc., lice will be destroyed, yet it is not an easy matter to get the lice completely off the bodies of the hens. Dipping them in the emulsion is not satisfactory, for unless extra care is taken that the emulsion is perfect (no free kerosene) the hens will come in contact with the kerosene which floats on the top, if unmixed, which is very irritating to their bodies. To avoid this, have an assistant hold the fowl by the legs, head down, and spray the emulsion well into the feathers, com-

pletely saturating the bird, wiping off the head and face and turning it loose. Every louse will be destroyed. Do this once a week until you are satisfied that your object is accomplished. Always anoint heads with a little melted lard or vaseline each time. When you actually deluge the poultry-house with solutions for destroying lice, and finish a hard day's work in so doing, you must not conclude that you have settled the lice problem. Those who combat lice make only a partial attempt. There is no such thing as getting rid of lice by one effort. Lice must be kept out; and, as they multiply rapidly, the work necessary for cleaning the premises of their presence must be done as regularly as cleaning a stable, though not so frequently. The easiest way to get rid of lice is to first deluge the house with the kerosene emulsion. In two or three days deluge it again. Then once a week the house may be lightly sprayed with the emulsion. Always dust with air-slaked lime after the house has dried off. If this is done regularly, the work of keeping down lice will be a simple matter, and require only ten minutes' time.—*Poultry Keeper.*

A HANDY EGG TESTER.

To make an egg tester to use with a common lamp, follow these directions as given in the *Fanciers' Review*: Take a pasteboard box about seven inches long, six inches wide and six inches deep. Cut a hole in the bottom big enough to fit the large part of a lamp chimney, and a hole opposite in the top just large enough to let the top of the chimney through. Next cut a hole about the shape of an egg, but rather smaller, in one end, so that it will be opposite to the lamp flame when the tester is slipped over the chimney. Now cover the box outside with any dull, black cloth, so that no light can get through, and you are ready for business. Light the lamp, place the tester in position, and the egg to be tested over the oval opening in the side. Turn it gently as you look, and its condition will be clearly exposed to view.

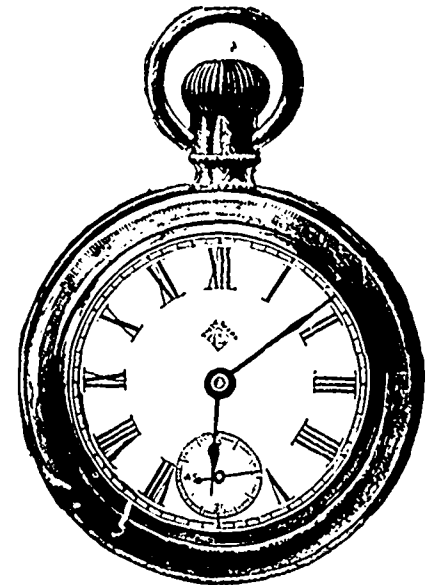
FARM NOTES.

The Delaware County, N.Y., Farmers' Institute, recently adopted the following as expressing the minds of those present as to the best work on the farm:

1. That grass is the best crop on the farm.
2. To maintain the fertility of the soil without grass is practically impossible.
3. That no more than one third the farm should be under plow at one time.
4. That a rotation of crop for six years is the best for our county.
5. The rotation shall be as follows: Two years in corn, one year in oats, two years in meadow, one year in pasture.
6. That a permanent pasture made on the native sod is best.
7. A pasture that will not pasture one grown animal on one and one-half acres is incomplete.
8. That level culture in corn is preferable.
9. That shallow cultivation is recommended when the land is first in good order.

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