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beets, 200 acres; oats, 250 acres; clover, 125 acres; and barley, 100 acres. The owner sold 9,166 bushels of wheat; 9,166 bushels of oats; 1,130 gallons of alcohol—100 proof; 20 oxen and 800 lambs and sheep. The wheat brought \$1.10 or \$1.13 a hundred pounds; oats \$2 a hundred, and alcohol about \$1.40 a gallon. The steers sold for about 17 cents a pound on the hoof, and the average price paid in Paris for lambs, which are sold when they are four months old, is from \$8 to \$9. A great amount of labor is required to produce these large crops. The ox-drivers receive from \$18 to \$19 a month in addition to a house and garden—rent free if married; the harvest hands, \$26 a month, boarding themselves; shepherds, flock-masters, \$18.75, with their houses and gardens; other shepherds, \$12 and board; laborers, \$17.50; teamsters, from \$18 to \$19, and a house if married. There were fifty laborers in all, thirty of whom, the owner said with great pride, were married. The significance of this remark impressed the writer more forcibly when his host explained to him that the secret of keeping good farm labor was to encourage the men to marry and then to give each a house and garden. "The single laborer," he said, "is the trouble-maker, the striker, and the cause of so much discontent among our growing lads in rural France. I am trying to provide model houses so that I may employ only married men."

The so-called model houses stood by the edge of the highway in the full



Between Love and Fear.

glare of the sun, without a tree or a shrub, a flower or a vine of any kind to add a touch of beauty—a contract to the English laborer's cottage with its tiny flower garden and vines growing about the window. These French cottages contained, besides the cellar, four rooms, two upstairs and two below. The kitchen floor was of tile, while that of the living room was of hard wood. Water was piped to every house. To an American these tiny, ugly houses seemed very poor homes, but when compared with the hut of the average farm laborer in France they were a great improvement.

Wherever the writer has been, either in England or on the Continent, the custom prevails of keeping at least a few steers for beef—an example that we in America might profitably imitate. On this farm twenty of the young work oxen are fattened and sold yearly. The French farmer shows his shrewdness in keeping oxen on all farms where sugar beets are grown, not because they are to be preferred to horses, but because they may be fattened on beet pulp and barley after the season is over and be sold for top prices.

The raising of large crops requires a liberal supply of commercial fertilizer and manure. The latter is carefully preserved in uncovered cement pits about three feet deep by some forty feet square. The commercial fertilizer used for the wheat consists of 44,000 pounds of nitrate of soda, 10,000 pounds of lime and 15,400 pounds of superphosphate, drilled in with the seed at the rate of 250 pounds to the acre. The same quantity is used for both the oats and the

barley. In addition to the commercial fertilizer, 2640 tons of stable manure, of which amount 2,200 tons are bought in Paris, are spread on the land used for beets. This makes about 13 tons an acre, and though this seems rather like short rations to us it is considered a fair amount in France. The sheep, however, are pastured on the beet fields for a week or more before the ground is plowed for wheat, which adds a considerable quantity of manure. The rotation followed is: wheat, planted in the latter part of October and November; oats, followed by bare fallow; barley and clover seed sown in the spring.

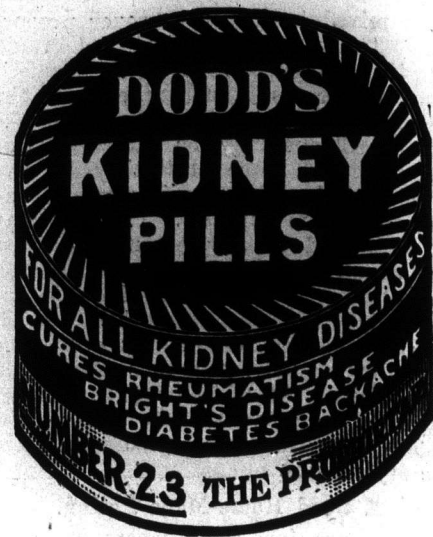
The sheep are kept in large yards until after the oats have been harvested, when they are turned upon the stubble. They then go upon the wheat and beet fields and are brought in again about Christmas time. The breed used on this farm is the registered Southdown crossed on native sheep, which, as far as the writer could determine, were about two-thirds Southdown and the rest just plain sheep. Barley is used a good deal in France for fattening. Instead of being placed in silos it is cut green and buried in great pits to be fed as needed. It did not look appetizing, although the odor was not unlike that of corn silage. No forage, except clover, is grown on this farm, straw being used in large quantities for feed. This practice is common both on the Continent and in England. The keynote of Continental farming seems to be, "Don't buy what you can possibly do without."

Six Essentials in Poultry Raising.

1. Birds of good laying strain; heavy breeds for winter and light for summer.
2. Good housing accommodation, rain-proof, well ventilated (no draughts) and a good scratching shed attached, floor covered with chaff and open front wire-netted.
3. Menu: Breakfast, biscuit or pea meal and bran half and half, well scalded, mix with middlings until a crumbly state. A ball size of fist for each bird. Noon, house scraps and a little wheat. Supper, oats and wheat alternate nights given in scratching shed.
4. If no grass run, plenty of green food: lettuce, cabbage or turnips (mangolds).
5. Oyster shells (broken), and plenty of grit always at hand.
6. Your attention as to cleanliness of houses, feeding troughs, water and runs must be unstintingly given.

Back Yard Poultry Farming.

1. Keep them dry.
2. Keep them clean.
3. Feed them regular as follows:—Breakfast, 7.30. Cooked house scraps mixed up with middlings into a firm ball. 12.30, green stuff. 5.30, corn, a small eggcupful to each hen. The corn may consist of wheat, good oats, barley, or mixed corn if you can get it good. Scratching shed is a good thing: strew the floor with short straw, chaff, or leaves, or anything for them to scratch



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