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#### VARIETIES RECOMMENDED BY THE O.A.C.

For increased acre yields, it is not only important to use seeds of high quality, but it is very desirable to use those varieties which have proven superior, so says Dr. C. A. Zavitz of the Ontario Agricultural College. The Field Husbandry Dept. has done much in importing, testing, selecting and hybridizing varieties, not only with the object of supplying the most reliable information but also with the aim of originating new varieties which are superior to any already in existence. This is no easy matter to accomplish. We believe, however, that in some of our most important crops of Ontario, varieties of superior merit have been originated. The following list gives our latest information regarding a few of the most desirable varieties of farm crops for use in Ontario:

Oats—O.A.C. No. 72, Banner, and O.A.C. No. 3.  
Barley—O.A.C. No. 21.  
Winter Wheat—O.A.C. No. 104, Dawson's Golden Chaff, and Imperial Amber.  
Spring Wheat—O.A.C. No. 85, Marquis, and Wild Goose.  
Spring Rye—O.A.C. No. 61.  
Winter Rye—Rosen, New Invincible and Petkus.

Emmer—Common.  
Buckwheat—Rye.  
Field Peas—O.A.C. No. 181, Arthur and Canadian Beauty.  
Field Beans—Pearce's Improved Treble and Pea Beans.  
Soy Beans—O.A.C. No. 211.  
Vetches—Hairy.  
Flint Corn—Gold Nugget, Longfellow, and Salzer's North Dakota.  
Dent Corn—Golden Glow, White Cap Yellow Dent, Wisconsin No. 7, and Bailey.  
Sweet Corn—Golden Bantam.  
Sorghum—Early Amber.  
Sunflowers—Black Giant, and Mammoth Russian.  
Mangels—O.A.C. No. 2 (strain of Yellow Leviathan).  
Swede Turnips—Good Luck, and Hall's Westbury.  
Millet—Japanese Panic, and Japanese Barnyard.  
Pasture Rape—Dwarf Essex.  
Cow Cabbage—Sutton's Earliest Drumhead.  
Early Potatoes—Irish Cobbler.  
Late Potatoes—Dooley, and Green Mountain.  
Alfalfa—Grimm, and Ontario Variegated.  
Sweet Clover—White Blossomed Biennial.  
Grasses—Orchard, Tall Oat, and Meadow or Tall Fescue.

### Prevention of Losses Among Chicks

By S. W. Knipe

Recent figures show that there are only about 55 chicks raised out of every 100 hatched, and this is on farms where there exists a better average of poultry conditions. Many poultry raisers try to reduce their loss by "doctoring" sick and weakly chicks. They lose sight of the fact that for the previous 9 or 10 months the stock these chicks were raised from had not the care and attention necessary to produce sturdy chickens, and so care of breeding stock results in chicks hatched with weak constitutions, unable to live under ordinary farm conditions. A strong, vigorous chicken, with good brooding system, clean and proper feeding, should be easily raised to maturity. The greatest loss is owing to lack of vitality, which may be caused by poor parent stock, poor care of eggs before they are set, or poor incubation. On farms, where the fowl are allowed to forage for themselves most of the year, there are many mistakes made in breeding, the fault often being due to both male and female. The male, if he is not vigorous and full of life, will not produce vigorous and full of life chicks. Because such birds give a high percentage of fertility in eggs does by no means warrant the assumption that the chicks hatched will be sturdy. Good hens are almost as important as good males. For best results it is not wise to mate the entire flock, better pick out only the best females and mate them to the best males procurable. Never mate cockerels and pullets. Never use hens which have been sick and out of condition. Bowel trouble and diarrhoea are sometimes caused by infection of the eggs, therefore the necessity of not brooding from any birds thus infected. The best of eggs may be ruined by faulty incubation, not only artificial, but when broody hens are used. If the hen is tightly she should not be used. Nests should be in a place easily accessible, where water and food are conveniently obtained. Incubator chicks are just as strong as hen hatched if they are properly hatched. Too high or too low a temperature, too much fresh air, and wrong moisture conditions are the most common faults of weak chicks from artificial incubation. Do away with these causes and you hatch good, vigorous, healthy chicks. Good incubators are usually obtained by

#### SHEEP.

Sheep like fresh air and sunshine. If allowed to run at will they seldom seek protection from chilling winds and cold weather. So long as their fleeces are kept dry, they enjoy freedom. My experience has been that there is danger of housing breeding ewes too closely during the winter months. Like many other flock-owners, I have on cold stormy nights closed the doors and neglected to open windows for ventilation. The following morning the air would be distressingly foul. This, I am thoroughly convinced, is not for the best health of the animals. Breeding ewes need every advantage. Fresh air is not only essential to their well-being, but it costs little or nothing to provide. Opening the windows from the direction opposite to the prevailing winds generally will give the result sought. This arrangement prevents draughts which cause colds.—L. C. R.

#### DAIRY.

Cows, like people, are creatures of habit. They eat most of what they like best, if they can choose their diet. It is very natural for them to consume first the food that is most palatable. In searching for the finest morsels, a delicate feeder often throws her feed about in the manger until it has be-

come soiled or matted up, and then refuses to eat the amount necessary to produce her maximum flow of milk. The appetite of a cow depends upon the condition of the digestive tract. Often the digestion becomes sluggish from an excess of food low in digestible nutrients. The way to overcome this condition is to feed something that will keep the digestive organs active. Silage will do this. So will roots. Succulent food is, therefore, important when teaching the cow to consume the required amount of the foods she should have.

#### Select Bacon Hogs.

Ontario showed a good increase in select bacon hogs in January compared with the corresponding month of last year, the number being 29,207 against 13,815. Alberta showed a slight increase, being 4,185 against 1,386. Quebec showed a decrease, being 4,185 against 7,152, and Manitoba's figures this January were 2,793 compared with 3,708 in the corresponding month of last year.

The wisecracker who said that it is good for one to do something disagreeable each day, apparently did not realize that most of us fulfilled that unpleasant duty by getting up in the morning.

#### Registered Silver Foxes.

The Hon. W. R. Motherwell, Dominion Minister of Agriculture, in the report of his department for the year 1922-23, makes reference to silver fox farming. This industry, the Minister points out, had its inception in Prince Edward Island, in the vicinity of Tignish, somewhere in the early eighties. It has now spread from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and is firmly established on a business basis. According to this Report, the Canadian Silver Fox Breeders' Association was incorporated in 1920, when a stud book was opened for the registration of all foxes that came up to a required standard and which had been bred in captivity for a certain number of generations. Up to the end of March, last year, 10,000 foxes had been accepted for registration and were tattooed on the ears for identification.

The Live Stock Branch of the Department, at the request of breeders, recently took over the inspection of the foundation stock. The period of the year in which foxes may be made is limited from late September until the middle of January. Inspection has to be delayed until this date owing to the fact that it is the quality of the fur that makes silver foxes valuable and some cold weather must be experienced before the quality of the winter coats can be judged. The stopping of inspection in the middle of January is said to be due to the commencement of the breeding season at that time, when ranches have to be closed to all except those in charge.

With respect to the production of the silver fox industry, it is stated that there is a steadily increasing demand for furs of all kinds, and at the same time the supply from the wilds is just as steadily decreasing. Accordingly, in order to keep up the supply, it will be necessary to breed more and more in captivity. As the silver black fox produces a high priced fur and one that cannot be successfully imitated, a demand for his pelt is bound to continue.

#### Pasture for Hogs.

It is generally acknowledged by successful hog raisers that there is economy in pasturing hogs during the growing period. This practice not only develops general thrift but is conducive to the healthy growth so essential to the "select" bacon type. The question then arises, What pastures are best for hog raising? According to experiments conducted at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Japanese millet has proved to be a more economical producer of pork than either oat and barley pasture or sweet clover and oats. The sweet clover and oat pasture came second, barley pasture third, and oat pasture at the foot of the list. During the pasturing period, the hogs were fed similar grain diet in all experiments as well as milk to drink.

With the millet pastured hogs, gains were made at a cost of 4.01 cents per pound as compared with 4.79 from sweet clover and oats, 5.46 from the oat pasture, and 5.87 from the barley pasture lot. The pastures were sown on the 5th of June, and the hogs were placed in the plots one month and one day later when the growth of forage averaged from 6 to 9 inches in length.

Of the several crops tested, Japanese millet proved to have the greater stock carrying capacity. Nine hogs on a plot 115 by 30 feet in size were unable to consume this crop quickly enough, and it was found necessary, after a few weeks, to divide the plot into halves, and place six other pigs on the second half of the lot. The similar ration consisted of a mixture of middlings, shorts, ground oats, ground corn and tankage, with skim milk.

#### Supplying Bacon Type Sows.

The introduction of hog grading has created a general demand for brood sows of the bacon type. To assist farmers in securing these, the Live Stock Branch of the Dept. of Agriculture at Ottawa, through the agency of field men, makes suitable stock available in districts where it is needed. According to the Report of the Dominion Minister of Agriculture for the past fiscal year, 757 head of bacon type sows were purchased in Ontario and shipped for sale direct to farmers in various parts of Quebec. Besides these, more than three hundred Quebec brood sows were turned over from the breeders to districts that had not been supplied. In the Province of Alberta, according to this Report, 42 young sows of the Yorkshire breed were purchased and sold to pig club members, and a quantity of similar stock was made available to Ukrainian settlers. That this work will produce good results in due time is shown from the experience of the Peace River District, which was supplied with bacon type hogs of both sexes two years ago. The stock coming out of the district the year following the introduction comprised a much higher percentage of select stock than that marketed from other parts of Alberta.

Have the harnesses been repaired and oiled, the wagons been greased, and other tools put in repair? If not, it is likely to be now or never. It will pay to make it now instead of never.

When things look dark and discouraging in public affairs, please remember that the sun always comes to the top.

#### THE CHILDREN'S HOUR

##### TWO LITTLE SOMETHINGS.

When little Jackie Rabbit and Billie Woodchuck, Junior, returned from school one afternoon, they found their mothers were not at home. This was very unusual, and they were quite pleased. You see, they lived right next door to each other, so it meant they could have a nice long play together and their mothers would not be there to call them to do some little task.

"Come over and play in my yard, Billie," said Jackie, as he saw his little friend coming out of the house munching a big sugar cookie. (Jackie was enjoying a big ginger one with a raisin in the middle.)

Billie didn't need a second invitation, because Jackie had a big swing for the maple tree in the back yard. Of all the things he liked to do, Billie thought he liked swinging the best. To go as fast as the wind and to fro up among the leaves was heaps of fun. And this is what Mother Rabbit and Mother Woodchuck found their children doing when they returned home.

"Come here, Jackie," called his mother from the back door. And off Jackie went running, with Billie following as fast as his chubby legs could carry him.

"I want you to go on an errand, Jackie. Take this package down to Sammie Squirrel's house. Mrs. Squirrel has a big surprise for you, two little somethings. Billie's mother says he may go with you."

"What do you mean by two little somethings, Mother?" asked Jackie. "Run along, children, and you will see," she answered, "but be sure and hurry back."

"Two little somethings," questioned Billie and Jackie, "what do you think they are?"

"I bet they are two little cars," said Jackie, "and maybe we can ride 'em."

"I'll bet they are two swings, and I can have a swing in each one," said Billie.

"Rap, tap, tap," on Sammie Squirrel's door.

A pretty lady squirrel all in white opened the door.

"Come in boys," she said.

"Please, ma'am, mother sent this package to you," said Jackie. "And she said you had two little somethings to show us."

"That's right, I have, boys. Just wait a minute." And she went tip-toeing into the house.

In a minute she was back. "Come right in this way, boys," she said. "Here are the two little somethings that your mother told you about."

And weren't they surprised when they peeked into the bedroom, for there a snow white cradle were two little baby squirrels.

The boys wanted them to come out and play, but the nurse said they must wait until they had grown to be a little stronger.

"What's their names?" asked Billie. "This one is Sue, and this one is Sally," said the nurse as she tucked them in more closely.

The boys wanted to stay longer, but it was time for the baby squirrels to have their nap, so the nurse had to send them home.

"We'll be back to see Sue and Sally tomorrow," said Billie. "You bet we will," said Billie, "and maybe they won't be so sleepy then."

As one rotten apple will spoil a barrel, so will one bad bull damage the whole herd a decade hence.

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## RED ROSE

For particular people—  
Roasted and packed same day in airtight cans

### Home Education

"The Child's First School is the Family"—Froebel.

#### Teaching Our Boys and Girls How to Accept Responsibility

BY HELEN GREGG GREEN.

"I don't understand Aileen! She is positively lazy about the house," complained Aileen's mother. "She'd let me wait on her hand and foot, if I'd do it. And I guess I nearly do."

"My dear," spluttered Aunt Emmy Lou, "I can explain the case. You started wrong with Aileen. When she was a wee girl you were always doing things for her. 'Wait, dear, it's raining. Let mother get your over-shoes and umbrella. If you asked her to dry the dishes, and she wanted to play instead, you would say, 'Run along, dear, mother will do them!'"

"Yes, it's true!" Aunt Emmy Lou interrupted. "I believe in being a child's aid, friend and mother, but never his servant. No wonder Aileen is lazy now. You've taught her to be, encouraged it."

"Oh, Aunt Emmy Lou, don't be cross with me," Virginia smiled. "But I guess you're right. I never thought of her laziness being my fault before."

Why does it take us so long to wake up? From now on, I'll have a different system with my little girl."

But she was just twelve years too late beginning the proper "system."

It's not a kindness to a child to do the hundred and one little things that he should be taught to do for himself. We must teach our children initiative, and to do this they must have little responsibilities of their own. As they grow older these may be increased so that they will gradually become more efficient and better able to face the responsibilities of life.

One of the most unhappy girls I know is one who had a great deal of responsibility thrust upon her when she was wholly unprepared for it. Of course she was not equal to it. Her parents had shielded her all her life from the responsibilities she should have had. Even very small children should be given a small amount of responsibility; first in homeopathic doses, to be increased as the child grows older. Then in time he will be able to accept all that comes in his way in a capable, experienced manner.

#### Record of Performance for Dairy Cattle.

The popularity of the Record of Performance test work for pure bred dairy cattle, carried on by the Dept. of Agriculture at Ottawa, is brought out by the Hon. Mr. Motherwell, Minister of Agriculture, in the report of the work of his Dept. for the year ending March 31st last. In that year alone applications for entry were accepted for 3,868 cows, which was an increase of 882 over the preceding year, and cows were entered for the test from 1,720 farms throughout the Dominion.

A recent modification of the rules governing the test has been brought into effect. This provides for the acceptance of entries only from owners who place all their pure bred milking, or two or three, in the test. The object of this rule is to stop the practice of some breeders entering one or two of their cows and giving them special care in order to make records that are in many instances considerably higher than the average production of the entire herd.

An interesting fact brought out in the Report is that the Minister's own Department was at that time the owner of the highest producing cow in the Dominion—the Holstein-Friesian "Agassiz Segis May Echo," located at the Experimental Farm, Agassiz, B.C. At the time the report was made, this cow held the world's butter fat record for all breeds and ages, having produced within the year 30,886 pounds of milk containing 1,345 pounds of butter fat. This record has since been slightly exceeded by another Canadian bred cow, "DeKoli Plus Segis Dixie," which produced 33,477 pounds of milk and 1,686.5 pounds of butter in 365 days.

#### How to Treat Garget.

In cases of garget, give one pound of Epsom salt in three pints of tepid water well sweetened with molasses; then one-half ounce each of powdered saltpetre and poke root, in feed, once or twice daily. In severe cases give two to four drams of formaldehyde twice daily in water, instead of above medicines. Rub into udder once or twice daily a mixture of one part each of turpentine and fluid extracts of belladonna leaves and poke root, and five parts of melted and unsalted lard or warm sweet oil. In severe cases rub in a mixture of equal quantities of carbolic oil, camphorated oil, and compound soap liniment.—Dr. A. S. Alexander.

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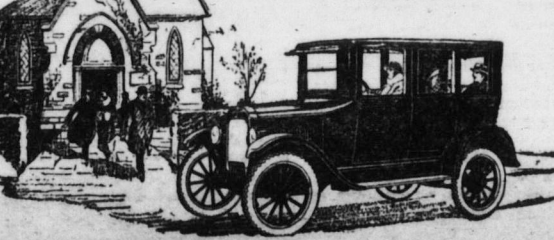
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#### KEEP THEM ON HAND

Every household should have at hand a package of absorbent cotton. We still hear this called "medicated cotton" but it is not medicated; its virtue as a dressing for wounds is solely because it is sterile. It may be bought in packages of ten-cent size or up. The smallest size is the most expensive, and it is best to buy a package large enough to be of real service.

Absorbent cotton makes an excellent dressing for the chest in bronchitis or pneumonia; it always gives comfort when applied to rheumatic joints, and it is indispensable in dressing any severe wound.

However, it must not be applied next a surface upon which the skin is and retard healing. The dressing to apply next to a wound is sterile gauze which may also be bought in small or broken, or it will stick into the wound large packages as desired. When a package of gauze is opened in order that a part of it may be used, it is important that it should not be touched by anything that is not sterile. The scissors in cutting it should have been sterilized, either with carbolic acid or by boiling. A package of gauze handled carelessly is of no more value as a dressing for wounds than any old rag that lies around the house.

A safe antiseptic which should be in every household is boracic acid (boric acid) which may be bought either as a powder or in crystals. The crystal form is the best for making solutions, but since the powder will not only dissolve into solution, but also will serve as a dressing, it is best to buy it in powdered form.

#### Prolificacy of Breeds of Sheep.

In 1923, investigational work under the supervision of the O.A.C. Animal Husbandry Dept. was undertaken, endeavoring to find the standing of the different breeds as regards percentage increase. In this work 500 yearlings from ten breeds and 431 from one, the Romney Marsh, were studied. In most cases these yearlings covered a period of five to seven years and care was taken to get yearlings distributed throughout the year. The following table shows the standing of the breeds as regards percentage increase:

Dorset Horn	161.6 per cent.
Leicester	154.0 per cent.
Oxford	152.2 per cent.
Hampshire	149.9 per cent.
Suffolk	148.2 per cent.
Lincoln	144.8 per cent.
Shropshire	143.0 per cent.
Southdown	142.9 per cent.
Cheviot	139.8 per cent.
Cotswold	138.0 per cent.
Romney Marsh	118.9 per cent.

The average increase for all the mutation breeds was 144.6 per cent. The long wool breeds' increase was 138.5 per cent. Minus the Romney Marsh, which showed lower increase, the average was 145.6 per cent. The increase for all medium wool breeds was 148 per cent.; minus Dorset Horn, 145.8 per cent. When the two breeds that show abnormal figures are omitted, the increase for the long wool breeds and medium wool breeds is practically the same.

#### Keep the Animals Comfortable.

The careful stockman will see to it that his live stock is comfortable. It is not always an easy matter with the mercury hovering low and the wind exceeding the speed limit.

The man who has had his own best interests in mind has looked well to the little things that mean animal comfort before the cold arrives. Nevertheless, there are always plenty of things around a barn full of live stock that need doing from day to day.

We talk a great deal about quality in cattle, or hogs, or sheep, but it matters little what the quality may be if the animals do not get quality care, profits will be conspicuous by their absence. The margin of profit is small enough these days, even with a combination of good care and good live stock, but, of the two, good care is most important.

There are a thousand and one things that may be considered under the head of good care, but they may all be summed up in the one word, "comfort." The stockman who has a heart and an eye for business will look well to the comfort of his charges, and will not himself rest in comfort if they are not. Incomplete rations, damp beds, drafty living quarters, are not conducive to creature comfort. If you want to know the effect these things have on animals, try them yourself.

We hear that dog meat is being eaten in Germany. Maybe some of our mutton-flavored canines could profitably be exported.