

On the Farm

CHOOSING THE FAMILY COW.

In choosing the family cow one is not limited now-a-days in the matter of breed. Well-bred stock has become so general that ordinarily one can buy at option an individual of almost any of the approved breeds, not a pedigreed animal, perhaps, unless a rather high price is paid, but a "high-grade," which means that the animal is not of registered pedigree, but is nearly enough pure-bred to be so for all practical purposes. It remains, then, to choose whether one will buy a Holstein, a Jersey, an Ayrshire, or one of any other of the breeds commonly in use.

The choice must be made in accordance with what is most wanted, whether milk or cream. If cream, the choice, most emphatically, should be a Jersey or a Guernsey. But for feeding infants, a milk a little less rich in butter fats than that given by these animals is generally better. An ideal cow for this purpose is a cross between the Jersey and Ayrshire, and this, perhaps, is as good a family cow as can be had for all the uses generally required. But it is only occasionally that a cow bred in just this way is to be found, and a cross of the Jersey or Guernsey—which are strictly butter breeds—upon any of the approved milk breeds makes an animal of very similar characteristics. The strictly milk breeds are not recommended for family cows.

The first thing to remember in choosing a cow is that the cow most feminine in appearance is the best milk producer. Roughly speaking, she should be shaped something like a wedge—large and well-developed behind, and small and fine in front.

She should be wide between the hips and low in the flank, with her hind quarters set a little apart, so as to give room for her udder. Her body should be of good size, but should round outward, rather than downward, and her rump should be straight—that is, the root of her tail should be evenly on a line with her back-bone. The shoulders should be thin and rather narrow at the top; chest deep rather than broad; neck thin, head small, but longish—clean-cut and fine in the muzzle. The horns should be small and of fine texture; and the eyes rather large, but mild and gentle, and not showing much of the white. Her skin should be soft and pliable and the finer and silkier her coat the better.

The udder should be large and well-developed, but should stay properly in its place and not sag down too low. The four teats should stand well apart from each other, forming a "square" udder, and they should be smooth and soft, free from warts, or excrescences. They should also be long enough to be taken hold of by the whole hand in milking, as when they are so short as to have to be held between the thumb and two fingers, the work of milking is greatly increased.

The udder should always be free from fleshiness, and after being emptied of milk it should be soft, shrunken and somewhat wrinkled. Fleshiness in the udder cannot be detected when it is full, and the only test is to have the cow milked. This test also shows how much milk she gives and whether she is gentle.

If the cow has any habit—such as breaking out of her pasture or, worst of all, self-milking—it can rarely be discovered on such first examination as the purchaser can give, even if he is very careful; but it is sure to show itself later. So in this matter he must trust the seller and take his chance. But the chance, after all, is not a very long one for the overwhelming majority of cows are free from these habits, and if she is gentle to milk and handle there is usually little to fear.

A great many new owners of cows are disappointed at first in the amount of milk obtained. This is because the cow is always uneasy and homesick in a new place, and must become thoroughly wonted to her new surroundings before she

IN PAIN FOR YEARS

"FRUIT-A-TIVES" BRINGS RELIEF



MRS. FRANK EATON
Frankville, Ont., Sept. 27, 1909.
"I suffered for years from headaches and pain in the back, and I consulted doctors and took every remedy obtainable without any relief. Then I began taking 'Fruit-a-tives', the famous fruit juice tablets, and this was the only medicine that ever did me any real good. I took several boxes altogether, and now I am entirely well of all my dreadful headaches and backaches."
(Signed) MRS. FRANK EATON.
50c a box, 6 for \$2.50 or trial box, 25c.
At dealers or from Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

Fashion Hints.

SEEN IN PARIS SHOPS.

Lingerie gowns are taking on touches of bright color. Sleeves generally are still close fitting and quite long. Some of the handsome new sweaters are of white with large sailor collar and cuffs in color.

A noticeable feature of the season's blouses is the tendency to simulate a wide front closing.

Suede patent leather, and natural kid belts are in high style with silk, wool and linen costumes.

Coat lengths vary a bit, though most of them are below the hip length, and a number have novel vest effects.

Striking are the long evening gowns of white tulle with the back stitching of the seams done in black.

The chanteuse belt pin may be in gilt or silver with the rooster head in gold and red. The head is in half relief.

Coat lengths are a bit shorter, varying from thirty-two inches to the half length, which is usually that of the Russian blouse.

Buttons are not now used in great numbers, and are always selected with great care to guard against undue prominence.

Draped effects and overskirts in some form are so marked a feature of the gown of the day that their absence is almost exceptional.

Buckles made of tiny rosebuds, forget-me-nots, or other flowers are among the freshest of the spring millinery accessories.

Pinks dot foulards are seen in beauty those of any previous season advances. Made up with a plain silk they are exceedingly effective.

Never were silk colorings more soft and entrancing than this summer. They are not vivid, but generally in wonderful half tones.

There seems to be a universal liking for drapery as the artistic addition which lends grace to the narrow, straight lines of most gowns.

Summer materials surpass in beauty those of any previous season and both materials and style of the hour seem made for each other.

Frocks for summer made in shirt waist and skirt are exceedingly popular, and the materials used are linen, silk, or the usual summer fabrics.

Black pipings are in favor, being used to emphasize important lines of a costume. They serve excellently the desire for a touch of black.

Rough straws are decidedly smart this season, and, strange as it may seem to the uninitiated, the rougher the straw the costlier the hat may be.

The Gibson plaits are used a great deal in children's dresses this season. By means of these plaits the necessary fullness may be admirably adjusted.

Some of the gowns is some of the design of the trimming about the neck line.

Dejected Youth—"I would like to return this engagement-ring I purchased here a few days ago."

Dejected Youth—"Didn't it suit the young man?"

Dejected Youth—"Yes, they thought the young man had already married."

Dejected Youth—"I'm afraid I'm a bit late to exchange it for a present."

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DUKE SELLS AN ESTATE

AN IMPROVEMENT ON THE IRISH SCHEME.

Plan of Duke of Bedford Points an Easy Way to Land Ownership.

The announcement of the Duke of Bedford's small ownership experiment at Maulden, near Ampthill, Beds, has aroused great interest all over England.

The Duke has decided to divide up the great farm, of more than 450 acres, into small holdings, the holders being enabled to purchase on such terms that they will be the absolute owners of the land they have husbanded after thirty-five years, if not before.

It is generally recognized that the adoption of this scheme would offer the most effective practical argument possible against the Socialism, unrest and wholesale emigration which now threaten the peace and prosperity of England.

NOVEL IDEAS.

Some of the most novel features of the project are as follows:

In the Irish scheme, in which the Government sells land on analogous terms, ownership is not completed until sixty-eight years or more have expired.

Ownership at such a remote period is not specially attractive. The Duke, in framing his scheme, has therefore tried to put ownership actually in sight.

The young farmer of twenty-seven, if only he lives over the average duration of life—namely, sixty-two years—will, under this scheme find himself the absolute owner of the land he has tilled.

NO DEPOSIT.

Under the Small Holdings Act passed by the Unionist Government, and re-enacted by the present Government, a deposit is required of one-fifth of the capital value of the land.

"It is my own conviction that the necessity for this deposit has deterred many from sharing in the scheme."

"This deposit means that if a farmer wishes to invest, say, in £500 worth of land, he has to put down a deposit of £100, thereby in many instances leaving himself with no capital with which to proceed with his farming."

Under the Duke's scheme no deposit whatever will be required.

BASIS OF SALE.

The Great Farm estate has been valued on a commercial basis, its capital value having been ascertained by calculations based on a rental at so many years' purchase, the estate being valued at exactly the same price as the Duke has sold other land in the neighborhood.

"A figure of a trifle of over 4 1/2 per cent. was then arrived at as a percentage that will repay capital and interest in thirty-five years. The annual payments required of purchasers will be not greater than the rents charged on the surrounding land."

The rents will be from 31s. an acre upwards, so far as the land itself is concerned.

"When a purchaser buys a holding he will be offered the choice of paying either on the instalment or on the annuity system."

HIGH AT FIRST.

"The payments under the instalment system begin rather high, but diminish year by year, so that a man who pays £6 when he takes over the holding, will only be paying about £1 in the thirty-fifth year."

"A purchaser can become the absolute owner at any time by paying the amount of capital value still remaining."

Sexton's nerves sometimes give way under the constant fire of questions from his talkative eight-year-old son.

"Dad," asked the youngster just as the old man had one evening settled down for a perusal of his newspaper, "Dad, am I made of dust?" "I think not!" responded the unhappy parent. "Otherwise you'd dry up now and then."

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POULTRY NOTES.

Begin with good stock, whether of eggs or fowls.

Young turkeys should never be allowed to get wet.

Best breeds do not insure most profits without proper treatment.

Empty all water receptacles at night so as to start with fresh water in the morning.

Food may be wasted by giving too much as well as too little.

Soft slushy feed is often a prime factor in bringing on the gapes in young chickens.

Never use for breeders fowls which are or have been seriously afflicted with any disease.

The greater number of eggs the hens lay, the cheaper the cost of production in proportion.

Allow no decomposing vegetable matter to accumulate around the house or yards.

The hens cannot make eggs or properly digest their food without plenty of good water.

Thin egg shells are pretty good indication that the ration given the hens lacks mineral matter.

Ducks hatch well in incubators and are easily raised in brooders if they are not crowded.

Do not open the doors of the incubators more than once or twice a day when the eggs commence to hatch.

The only advantage in grinding food for poultry is that it affords a better opportunity for making up a complete ration.

A hen that is made to scratch for everything she eats is in but little danger of eating too much.

When chickens are fed and cared for, just to keep them at a standstill, the food given is actually thrown away.

THE SAFE KIND.

Little Willie—"Say, pa, what is a safe burglar?"

Pa—"A safe burglar, my son, is one who is behind the bars."

A certain Irishman, though a bad jockey, was nevertheless very fond of horses. One day, riding through a street, he was accosted by a would-be wit. "I say, do you know what happened to Balaam?"

"Same as happened to me—an ass spoke to him," came the answer, sharp and quick.

A conductor and a brakeman on a Montana railroad differ as to the proper pronunciation of the name "Eurelia." Passengers are often startled upon arrival at this station to hear the conductor yell—"You're a liar! You're a liar!" And then from the brakeman at the other end of the car—"You really are! You really are!"

The cyclone will never become popular as a national air.

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June 9	Royal Edward	June 23
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