

DAIRY HERD CAN GIVE MORE MILK

Make Improvement by Becoming Member of Co-Operative Bull Association.

SUPERIOR SIRE ESSENTIAL

Production Can Be Greatly Increased in Single Generation and Greater Economy Effected—Scrub Worth More as Beef.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Every dairy herd should produce the maximum of milk at the minimum of cost. This is a war need—produce more food at the least cost of feed. To do this the scrub bull must go. The co-operative bull association has sounded his death knell. No longer can he retard dairy development and hinder efficiency.

By breeding to superior sires milk production can be greatly increased in a single generation and greater economy effected. It has been impossible for the 4,000,000 farmers who produce the bulk of this country's milk supply, but who own an average of less than ten cows, to use bulls of high quality because of the great expense. By joining a bull association any dairy farmer may own a share in an excellent purebred bull at a cost far below that ordinarily paid for a scrub. The initial cost is smaller and the maintenance cost is very much less.

Scrub Bull Worth More as Beef. Dairy bulls are judged by their ability to increase the production of their daughters over the dams. Scrub bulls can only decrease production—thus



Good "Head" of the Herd.

lowering the efficiency of the herd. Their harm is not ended in one generation, but continues indefinitely. With beef at continually high prices, sell the scrub bull, for his meat value far outweighs his dairy worth. A common practice for the farmer with a few cows is to breed to the nearest bull, regardless of breed, breeding, or conformation, and as a result dairy herd improvement is slow.

The cost of bull service also falls heavily on the commercial dairyman with a small herd, as bulls must be changed every two or three years to avoid inbreeding. As a rule, therefore, he buys a bull calf from the nearest farmer who keeps the breed in which he is interested. Too often cost is the first consideration. Too seldom is the bull purebred, and even then authentic production records of his ancestors are not usually available. The result is lack of improvement.

What a Bull Association Is.
A co-operative bull association is a farmer's organization whose purpose is the joint ownership, use, and exchange of three or more high-class, purebred bulls. The territory covered by the association is divided into three or more breeding blocks, and a bull is stationed in each block for the service of the 50 to 60 cows in the block. Every two years the bulls are interchanged. Thus, at small cost, a bull for every 60 cows is provided for six or more years. The cost of bull service is thus greatly reduced, the best of bulls are obtained, and the man with limited means and only a few cows is enabled to improve his herd. Bulls of outstanding merit are preserved for their entire period of usefulness. Associations of this kind teach co-operation, encourage careful selection of cows and calves, introduce better methods of feeding and management, intelligently fight infectious diseases of cattle, and assist in the marketing of dairy stock and dairy products. Assistance in organization may be obtained by writing to the Dairy Division, Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture.

One fact cited by the dairy specialists in support of the co-operative bull association is that about three-fourths of the 23,908,000 dairy cows in the United States are owned in herds of less than ten cows. The owners of these small herds in many cases can not afford to maintain purebred bulls, and for such owners the bull association offers the only practical remedy for the poor quality of dairy cattle. Through bull associations they can improve their cattle and decrease expense.

USE GOOD TASTE IN STYLES

Sensible Fabrics Have the Call and Fashion Responds to Needs of World War Era.

In these days when women are placing their wardrobes upon a war basis, materials, like all other things, must be considered from the standpoint of economy, declares a writer in Vogue. There are wise and unwise economies, and today, when textiles are being produced under the most difficult conditions, and when it is impossible to make fine fabrics at small expense, it is almost invariably wiser to invest in thoroughly trustworthy stuffs. A suit which will not survive a shower and a dress which loses its shape and freshness after a few wearings are poor investments. To obtain materials, therefore, which are worth being made up (and the matter of making up also is more costly than in the past) a woman must reconcile herself to a greater expenditure. Let her curtail the number of her gowns, if necessary, but not the quality.

Fashions this season are exceedingly kind to the woman who is striving to dress sensibly. For instance, the vogue of foulard, now definitely established, is distinctly in accord with the principle of dressing sensibly. A foulard frock is one of the best wearing garments which a woman can include in her wardrobe. Not too formal for morning and quite formal enough for afternoon wear, it may be worn during many hours of the day. If need be, wartime informality will even allow it to appear in the evening.

Some of the new foulards are exceedingly charming; they are attractive in design and exquisite in quality, and nothing drapes more beautifully than this silk. There are two types of the material, one of them dull of surface and the other printed on a satin ground.

Next in importance to the foulards are the new printed chiffons. The designs are similar to the foulard patterns, though with a chiffon it is always possible to adopt a larger and bolder pattern than that which would be employed for a more substantial stuff, as its delicacy lends an illusively attractive vagueness to the design.

HAT LINES MUST BE SMART

Designers Apparently Deduce That the More Peculiar the Brim, the Smarter the Headgear.

In the Paris shops are shown many satin hats, extremely small models that are excellent for spring wear. They have satin trimming, if they have any—for the lines of the hats are what make them smart, writes a Paris correspondent.

Two exceptionally pretty chapeaux were seen recently. One was of black milan straw with a satin brim in military blue; the only embellishment was supplied by onygrain ribbon and black ostrich. The ribbon bow was made in tiny loops and ends, and was placed at the back of the hat, a little to the side. The ostrich was at the extreme left edge of the brim, in front.

The other model had a black lisse brim and a very high black taffeta crown. The crown band which ended in a bow in the back—at the center of the back—was of French blue ribbon, finished in front with a knot of French flowers.

There are many quaint twists in the brim of hats. The designers seem to feel that the more peculiar the brim the smarter the hat. Ribbon is used extensively and oh, so many flowers. We have rose toques, violet toques and many other kinds, and this revival of French flower hats has helped to revive our flower industry and for this we are duly grateful.

NEW WAIST OF GEORGETTE



To a waist of flesh-colored georgette is added a panel front, broad shawl collar and turn-back cuffs of natural color flit lace.

Black Tulle Dinner Gown.
There is no decrease in Chinese effects. Tasseis, embroidery, brocade and all Chinese fabrics are employed in the new French gowns. Black tulle, embroidered silk net, thread lace and other kinds of lace flounces are among the first French fashions for dinner gowns.

The Zouze Girdle.
The zouze girdle, made of wide ribbon or of the material of the dress itself, is a becomingly draped feature of novelty afternoon frocks.



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"Tenant in apartment Four D, Marbridge court," whispered vociferous Nathan, the young man who worked the switchboard at Curtis & Carter's real estate offices. The young man listened to the voice on the telephone, then turning to the young Mr. Carter, he said: "She wants to talk to one of the firm. Kind o' mad, I should say. Want to talk to her, Mr. Carter?"

"What's she like?" queried the youngest member of the firm.

"Sounds like a cranky old school ma'am. She's awful mad—"

"Oh, well, I might as well talk to her. I'll kid her a little, and maybe that will keep her quiet," and still turning over the papers on his desk, with his right hand, Mr. Carter reached out with his left hand to take the receiver off its hook on his desk phone while the operator connected him with the tenant in apartment Four D.

"So you're pretty cold. Well, now—I didn't catch the name—Miss Crosby—I certainly am sorry. But you'll have to see Mr. Hoover about that. Now, you don't think we're keeping that apartment cold just to make you mad. No, honest, there isn't any way we can get more coal. What—the theaters get coal enough. Well, that's a good one. All you can do, then, is to go to a show. It's matinee day. Now, really, I didn't mean to make you angry. But you see, everyone is kicking, and it really isn't our fault. We can't get any more coal and all we can do is to try and keep cheerful about it. What? You bet that it isn't so cold here in our office as it is in your apartment? Well, now, Miss Crosby, I'll have to admit that it is pretty comfortable here. We've got a southern exposure and we're on the ground floor, and somehow these office building people do manage to get the coal. Yes, it is unfair. What? Why, certainly, I'd be glad to see you. Come right along. Yes, just ask for Mr. Carter, Jr., Frank Carter. Good-by, Miss Crosby. I'll see you soon." He hung the receiver back on the hook and then clapped his hand over the ear with which he had been listening as if to relieve it from the effect of the volley fire that had been charged on it through the phone.

"Wow," he said, addressing the telephone operator on the opposite side of the room, beyond the little wooden fence. "Wow, but she certainly is some sour old maid. I thought I'd kid her into good humor, but it was the wrong tack. I wonder if she'll call my bluff and come down and see how warm we are. But say, Nathan, try to get the coal commissioner on the wire again. It's a shame to run the fires so low. Ask them if they can't let me speak to him personally. It seems as if something ought to be done."

A half-hour later young Carter heard a very low but unmistakable whistle. It was Nathan's way of indicating that something worth observing was occurring in the office. There was a note of admiration in the whistle—distinctly it was his way of signaling to the other boys in the office and Mr. Carter, who was still young enough to be interested in such a signal even though he was a member of the firm—the proximity of a pretty girl.

Carter looked up from his paper, caught the direction of Nathan's gaze and then whistled an answering whistle, very low, but still audible to Nathan. It was a pretty girl and she was approaching in the vicinity of Nathan. Enveloped in a voluminous fur-trimmed rough woolen coat of a dark violet hue, with her hands encased in a black muff to match the fur on her coat, with a picturesque black velvet hat, cut on the poke bonnet order, that cast much shadow on her face, there was still enough opportunity to see that the girl beneath so much warmth-giving clothes was young, animated and pretty.

The bewildered Nathan looked up as she approached and to her query that Carter did not hear, he nodded to the desk of the youngest member of the firm. Then the violet coat and the delicate aroma of violet sachet that went with it moved toward the little wooden fence that hedged in Mr. Carter's desk.

"Here I am," said the girl. "I'm the tenant in Four D, Marbridge court. Where do you want me to sit—inside the fence or outside?"

Carter jumped from his seat and was so confused that all he could say was: "Inside the fence—please take this chair, any chair, any chair. Yes, indeed. You—actually Miss Crosby? How very good of you."

"No, I won't take your chair. I'll take this little one," she said, slipping out of her coat and revealing a very neatly fitted plain blue serge dress beneath. She placed the chair precisely half way between the radiator and the window where the light would come over her left shoulder. "There," she said. "I like it just like that. I shall knit and not disturb you at all. Please sit down, Mr. Carter. You can't imagine what a pleasure it is to be warm."

Carter noted a tone of asperity in the girl's voice but he did not feel in the least irritated by it. He tried to swing himself around in his swivel

chair so that he could go on with the work before him, but the chair seemed to swing of its own accord around again so that he sat looking at his guest.

"So—so you took my invitation seriously, did you? I'm glad." He laughed with embarrassment and the girl opened two blue eyes wide and round, with studied naivety, behind which Carter knew lay much sarcasm. "Why, didn't you mean that you wanted me to come?" she asked. "You first suggested the theater, but you see, I've been at the theater till I've seen every show in town and every movie in the neighborhood. And I simply must get these army sweaters done!" Carter noticed that she had taken a half finished khaki sweater from her bag.

Even to his inexperienced eyes the knitting seemed wonderfully firm, warm and compact and he noted the gold ends of the knitting needles.

"I've called on all my friends. You see I don't know many people in town, and I've shopped till I've bought a trunkful of things I don't need. I've spent hours in church and other hours in the museum and the public libraries. So your invitation was very welcome. Perhaps if I had always lived in the North I could stand the apartment. But you see this is my first winter North. I came with my aunt and now she has gone away for a few weeks and I'm alone. One feels the cold more when one is alone, I think." Then promising not to disturb Mr. Carter any more she continued her knitting in silence. From time to time when Mr. Carter felt that her eyes were intent on her knitting he swung around in his swivel chair and caught a timid glance at the girl. Sometimes he noticed the graceful ankle, at other times the slender capable hands that were so neatly framed in the light white lace cuffs of her dark sleeves. At other times he noticed the glint of auburn in her hair and then again the long curve of the dark lashes that shaded her blue eyes. He did not know that from beneath those long lashes the blue eyes were perfectly capable of observing his stolen glances though the graceful fingers went on uninterrupted with the needles and wool.

"Couldn't you give me a job?" Nancy Crosby put this question to Mr. Carter one day after she had been making her visits to his office for the purpose of keeping warm during the course of an entire week. "I am getting tired of knitting. One can't do that all the time. I could do copying for you and sort over papers perhaps and stick up envelopes and stamps and things."

So Mr. Carter secured a little mahogany desk, had it placed beside his own and there established Nancy Crosby as his volunteer assistant. They had finally agreed that the money that she earned as his assistant should be contributed to the Red Cross.

It was in the afternoon of that day that Mr. Carter dropped in at the Marbridge Court and getting the emergency key to apartment Four D from the janitor there let himself into the empty apartment and did a little amateur tinkering on his own account. That morning through his incessant efforts a goodly supply of coal had been deposited in the coal bins of the Marbridge Court.

Nancy Crosby continued to work for him for a week more. He asked her one day whether her apartment was still cold. "Yes," she said, "it really is dreadful. There isn't any steam in the living room radiator, though the bedroom radiators are all right. But you see I can't stay there in the day time. Isn't it strange, for the other tenants are perfectly comfortable now."

"Yes, it is funny," agreed Carter, and began to read a lease on his desk with eagerness.

At the end of that week Nancy's work was expected to return and Nancy had indicated that she would have to give up her job.

"I took it just to be spiteful. In fact, I came down to bother you, just to make you furious. I thought you were holding off the steam so as to save money and I intended to find out and to make you so tired of seeing me around that you would get the coal at any cost. But really I have had a lovely time. Thank you for making it so pleasant. But now that aunt is coming back I really wish something could be done about that apartment."

"I'll go up myself," Carter promised. "Maybe something is the matter with the living room radiator. I'll have it attended to at once. But—but—we aren't going to forget each other now, are we? You see, I've been getting terrifically interested in you, though I suppose to you I'm an impossible sort of fellow."

"Impossible!" echoed Nancy. "You don't suppose I would have fibbed about the radiator? I hadn't wanted an excuse to be with you. I haven't even noticed whether it was hot or cold."

"You haven't," gasped Carter. "And I put the valve out of commission in your living room."

Family Well Represented in War.
Practically all the members of the family of Henry Phipps, pioneer steel man and millionaire philanthropist, have been called into war service.

Of his sons, John S. Phipps is a captain in the aviation division of the United States Signal corps; Hal O. Phipps is a captain in the ordnance department at Washington, and Howard Phipps is preparing for a commission in the regular army. Mrs. Amy Phipps Guest, a daughter, has converted her palatial London home into a hospital. Frederick Guest, husband of Mrs. Guest, is a captain in the British army, and Bradley Martin, Jr., husband of Helen Phipps, is a major in the United States army.

TOURIST STRAW HAT



This tourist hat is of lizard-green straw. It has a high crown, narrow brim, and rather effective wings on each side.

HOW TO KEEP UP THE STRAPS

Tiny Gold Safety Pin, Covered Over by Sewed-On Pink Rose, Found to Be Satisfactory.

An appearance that might otherwise be the pink of perfection for a woman is often very much marred by the straps of her underwear, which slip, each a different way, from her shoulders and show through the thin blouse. The only solution to this state of affairs when one affects the strap kind of lingerie is some sort of lingerie clasps. Of course, the little gold ones are very fetching, but there are some which can be made almost in a jiffy, and make attractive gifts and favors at parties where girls foregather.

One girl specializes on tiny gold safety pins, sewing atop of them to hide the pin one of those small pink roses which can be bought by the yard. Roses rolled from pink ribbon would answer just as well.

Another girl embroiders hers, using linen or a heavy ribbon, half an inch wide, and buttonholes the edges. Then she sews snaps on them, half on each end, and they are ready to clasp over any number of truant straps. A circle of French knots covers the sewing from the snaps.

Ribbons with a bow on one end, provided with snaps will do the work efficiently and artistically, too.

The crocheter will find it easy to make these little clasps, finishing off the narrow band with a small crocheted rose or shamrock.

NEWER BLOUSES ARE CLOSED

Garments So Arranged That the Deep Collar at the Back Need Not Be Disturbed.

The new blouses are closed in a number of fashions and many of them are ingeniously contrived so that the deep collar at the back need not be disturbed. One model is made with a deep enough V-shaped opening at the front so that it slips over the head—if the head is not too large. This blouse, therefore, has no visible means of closing—or opening. And it is very pretty and the full front falls in unbroken folds and the deep collar of the back is uninterrupted.

And if one puts this blouse on carefully, pulling it smoothly over the hair, it is all very well.

A newer method of getting around the difficulty of the deep collar in the back or the collar across the back, which marks so many of the new blouses, and the desire for the unbroken front, is to slit up the back from the waistline for a few inches—say five or six.

The matter of pulling the blouse over the head is then much simplified, and the results gained are about the same. Moreover, the little buttoned opening at the bottom of the back of the blouse, is, if anything, of decorative value.

OUR FRILLS AND FURBELOWS

Items of Fashion That Should Be of Especial Interest to Women Seeking Latest in Styles.

Gray and yellow make a pretty combination.

Small poke-shaped hats are in evidence.

Satin is used for dresses, suits and hats.

Kilted plaids are much in favor for skirts.

Wool embroideries are more than ever used.

There must be a note of contrast in the dress.

Flag blue is combined with gray and chamofis.

Sashes are tied at one side, under the left arm.

The slip-on coat is one that Paris is very fond of.

Wool haphacking is to be used for motor wraps.

White silk is promised for spring suits and dresses.

The corset which laces in back is growing in favor.

The straight Japanese sleeve is one much favored.

Knife Plaitings Good.

Knife plaitings are a very popular trimming, for sheer summer frocks. They are especially adapted to organdies or any striped materials that require little other trimming. These plaitings are also good when used to edge the surplus fronts of a dress that tie in the back in a big bow.

SUCCESSFUL GARDENS ON DIFFERENT SOILS

Good Tillth and Abundance of Plant Food Are Important.

Sandy Loam is Excellent, as It Warm Up Early in Spring and Enables Gardener to Get His Plants Into Ground Soon.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

GARDEN FOR EVERY FARM

It is particularly important that every farm have a well-cared-for garden this year—to furnish fresh vegetables for home use, to reduce the cost of living and to increase the nation's food supply. The quantity of vegetables produced from the garden depends to a great extent upon its location. Give the garden the best site available.

Soils in good tillth and well supplied with plant food produce the best gardens. Successful gardens, however, can be grown on all kinds of soil from light sands to mucks and heavy clays.

It is often possible to select a site with soil that will yield better results with less labor than nearby plots with less favorable soils. Good soil is essential to a successful garden. If the soil in the selected garden site is poor, it must be put into good condition before satisfactory results can be expected. Even where the soil is good to start with, it will be necessary to spend considerable time in improving it by cultivation and fertilization before it is in first-class condition for the production of vegetables.

A sandy loam is an excellent type of garden soil. Sandy soils, as a rule, warm up earlier than others in the spring, and enable the gardener to plant his crops early. Soils too sandy dry out very rapidly and the crops are liable to suffer from drought.

The lay of the land has considerable influence upon the time when the soil can be worked, and a gentle slope toward the south or southeast is most desirable for the production of early crops. It is an advantage to have on the north and northeast a hill, a group of trees, some evergreens, a hedge, buildings, a tight board fence, or a stone wall in order to break the force of the wind.

Drainage is important. Good drainage of the garden area is of prime importance. If this does not exist naturally, it may be supplied by tillage or by artificial drains.

The surface of the land should have sufficient fall to drain off surplus water during heavy rains, but the fall should not be so great that the soil will be washed. On hillside washing can be overcome to a considerable extent by contouring the rows so as to cause the rains to run off slowly. The garden should not contain depressions in which water will accumulate or stand. If the surface is irregular, a little soil can be taken from high places and the low ones filled. Waste water from surrounding land should not flow toward the garden, and the fall below should be such that there will be no danger of it backing up.

A garden site on the banks of a creek or stream that will be liable to overflow during the growing season should not be selected if any other land can be had.

A good fence around the garden plot is almost indispensable. It should protect the crops from all farm animals, including poultry, and should be tight enough to keep out rabbits.

The question of proximity to the house is of as great importance in locating the garden as the character and contour of the ground. In every case it should be as near as possible, so that the work of caring for the crops may be done at odd times and the vegetables quickly secured by the housewife. A kitchen garden located near the kitchen door is a convenience in thousands of homesteads. It is desirable even where a separate larger garden is utilized for the production of the main portion of the vegetable supply for the family.

Importance of Sunlight. In selecting the location for the garden and in planning the arrangement of the crops, the gardener should understand that no amount of fertilizer, watering and care will replace sunshine. Careful consideration should be given to how many hours a day any part of the proposed garden space is shaded. As a rule, foliage crops, such as lettuce, kale and spinach, do fairly well in partial shade, but must have a minimum of three hours of sunshine a day. Plants which ripen fruits, such as the tomato and eggplant, should have a minimum of five hours' sunshine each day.

WAR FUEL SLOGANS

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Keep up with the war program—burn wood.

Cut a cord and help win the war. Save coal for munition industries by burning war fuel.

Now is the time to cut wood. Coal is scarce—there's "wood to burn."

Wood is wartime fuel—cut it and burn it.

Rabbits Thrive Anywhere.

Rabbits thrive and do well in all parts of the country.