

SHELTER FOR SHEEP.

Wimpass of Farm Shepherding in New England.

My flock of sheep, which usually numbers 100 to 150, is left in the pasture as long as they can find sufficient feed, and that is up to the time of the first snows which cover the ground to a depth of three inches or more. Last fall the snow was twelve inches deep when we brought them in. I think the sheep do better on the hills where there is good protection from cold winds than they do in the barn until the weather comes quite cold, provided they can find sufficient feed. Nov. 25 is the latest mine ever stayed out.

When once taken in I do not like to let them out again till spring, even if it comes summer weather for a few days, as it takes about a week or ten days to get them well started on to dry hay feed, and if again turned to grass you have the same process to go over, and that to the detriment of the flock. For the first two weeks we put them on to the best hay we have, and after that they will eat most any good hay.

My experience is that sheep do better in cold sheds and barns than in warm ones. They seem as happy with the mercury at 30 degrees below as with it 60 degrees above—yes, I think they like it better. I only feed them twice a day—the morning feed at about 8 o'clock and the evening at 4 till about March, and then a change to 7 and 5 is made. Sheep are like boys, they don't like to get up early in the morning, and I never like to drive them up, but like to feed them regularly, not varying more than half an hour if possible, says E. L. Tracy of Vermont in New England Homestead.

Woolly Backs on Rough Land.
Although a hardy race in their native mountains, where they must struggle vigorously for existence, sheep become very sensitive when transplanted to more favorable surroundings. In the midst of luxurious summer pastures they lead a life of enervating ease, and some degree of shelter is required to enable them to endure the hardships of cold weather. Occasionally the sheep owner allows his flock to remain in the open throughout the winter, providing only simply built sheds for refuge at night and on stormy days. In such a case the sheep must be furnished with abundant and

THE SHELTER ON THE HILLSIDE.

proper food. But even under such conditions the experiment is a doubtful one, according to a writer in Rural New Yorker, which pictures a hillside shelter in use in New Hampshire.

A great majority of stockmen prefer to house their sheep in the winter in roomy and comfortable barns. Throughout the bracing autumn days the sheep are turned into the sunniest pastures until the final coming of winter. Little harm is done to the vegetation by the first light snow, which may fall in November, and the active sheep soon push it aside to nibble eagerly at the grass below. It is rarely before the 1st of December that the permanent shelter of the sheep barn is sought.

Viewing a Horse.

When going to look at a horse offered for sale it is well to keep your eyes open for signs that will indicate his disposition and other practical qualities. Thus battered places on the posts or sides of the stall may suggest a kicker, says a writer in American Cultivator. Torn or gnawed blankets hint that the horse has vicious habits in this direction and possibly bad digestion, as unnatural habits of eating usually indicate something wrong with the digestive apparatus. If the horse fails to stand squarely on both fore feet one of the feet may be tender or defective. When the horse is moved out of the stall his gait may indicate the condition of his legs and feet. In putting on the harness something may be judged from the way he takes the bit, bridle and crupper. The feet should be examined with special care. Hoofs should be plump and well rounded, not pinched at the heel, not too flat. Heels should be high and strong without spring. Silky hair on the feet and legs indicates strong, flinty bone, but coarse hair suggests coarse, brittle bone.

Cottonseed Meal For Cows.

Professor John Michels of Clemson college, South Carolina, claims that when the health of cows is unfavorably influenced by cottonseed meal it is in all probability due to one or more of the following causes: (1) Feeding the meal in conjunction with unsuitable roughage, (2) feeding it in a stale or musty condition and (3) feeding it in excessive quantity. The composition of cottonseed meal and wheat bran shows the former to be more than twice as rich in nutrients as the latter.

Give the Weanling Exercise.

Don't keep the weanling colts shut up in stalls and standing on hard floors all the time. They need exercise in the open air and on the earth every day to keep their limbs strong and their feet healthy.

Oilmeal in Horse Fattening.

In a large horse feeding establishment oilmeal is fed when fattening horses. It is claimed that it aids greatly in putting on flesh; also that it gives the skin a soft, mellow touch.

SOUND FOOTED HOG.

A Hog Should Carry His Weight Squarely on His Feet.

We desire to call attention to one of the common weaknesses found in all breeds of hogs. We refer to the matter of poor feet. Some of the most inexcusable mistakes that we have ever witnessed in a show ring have been made by judges who placed little emphasis on the importance of a hog walking squarely on his feet, says Iowa Homestead.

When a hog walks down on his dew-claws the trouble is generally due to one of two causes or possibly both. A long pastern is a faulty formation, and a hog with this weakness will generally go down under heavy feeding—indeed, he need not be heavy and fat to reveal the weakness to one who knows how and where to look for it. A sharp judge ought to be able to detect it in a class under six months just as quickly as in an aged class where the animals are showing very heavy weights. The second cause of hogs going down, to which we referred, is a weakness either in the tendons or in the bones. It is sometimes possible to find a fairly good formation in the length and shape of the pastern, and nevertheless the hog goes down. In such a case the weakness must be due to failure of the muscles to hold the foot properly in shape, and in such a case the physiological weakness is in the muscles and not in the bone.

"No Foot, No Hog."

We find on turning to the scale of points of the various breeds that from five to ten counts are given for good feet and legs. While in making up a scale this is possibly all that could be allowed, it is strictly true, as is often said of horses, "no foot, no hog." There is no weakness that seems to propagate so easily as the long pastern or the weak tendons around the foot. It is important in the gilt and in the old sow, but it is doubly important in the case of the male. The idea of using on a herd of twenty or twenty-five sows a male with weak feet, is the very acme of shortsightedness. Think of having on the farm 100 or 150 weak footed hogs, and yet this is just what is likely to occur if a poor footed male is used.—Iowa Homestead.

A Life Work For a Man.

Breeding good dairy animals is not yet an exact science. It is an evolutionary work, in which the painstaking, patient, intelligent breeder is co-operating with nature for the production of the improved animals. And nature will not be hurried, so the work of a breeder is not the work of a few tentative matings of animals, showing wonderful results in a few years. It is more nearly a life work for a man and one man's life so often so lamentably short for the length of the work.

BEEF CATTLE.

Results in finishing cattle at the Virginia experiment station indicate very closely that staling is a satisfactory form of roughness to feed during the winter to cattle that are to be finished on grass in the spring; that a moderate grain ration will make fairly satisfactory gains; that this grain ration may profitably consist of one pound of corn or cob meal and cottonseed meal, or, in other words, a considerable amount of protein, which will make for the development of the carcass rather than for the putting on of fat. Corn is sometimes fed to stockers in considerable amounts with the result that they put on a quantity of soft fat and often shrink and drift when put on grass because their bodies have not been nourished with the protein elements necessary to keep them in proper equilibrium.

Cattle Are Lacking.

Cattle we must have to feed our increasing population and to replace the continued drain from our soil made by our heavy yield of field crops. When we miss the cattle upon our thousand hills and along our thousand miles then we have lamentably to admit that "all is not well." We traveled 800 miles in one trip last week through upper Georgia and through the heart of South Carolina and did not see as many cattle as we should find in a distance of eighty miles. The south has not the tenth of the cattle she should have. We are allowing food to waste for want of feeding. We are not growing one-tenth the grass our land would produce with a little work and care.—Editor G. F. Hunnicutt in Southern Cultivator.

Big Dividends on Blood.

The demand for feeding steers is going to keep well bred thin cattle at a pretty fair price this year. Of course some thin cattle are selling at comparatively low prices, but they are the kind that the feeder trade does not want. They will never be good cattle, no matter how much or how long they are fed, and with only one outlet (the cheap meat trade) they must sell low. The man who has well bred stuff always has two markets open to him, and this year, according to National Stockman, the feeder market promises to pay him big dividends on his investment in improved blood.

Current Market Prosperity.

Current cattle market prosperity admits of but one interpretation—the public is eating beef.

Beef is no longer on a bargain counter and despite high cost to the meat eater is going into consumption in unprecedented volume.

All signs point to an active feeder trade the rest of the season. Corn is maturing by the million bushels daily, and every day of high temperatures serves to increase the demand for this cattle.—Breeder's Gazette, Chicago.

MARKET PEACHES.

Some Points on Cultivation and the Use of Fertilizers.

Living in one of the best fruit sections of New York I have been interested in growing peaches and other fruits for about thirty-five years, says a writer in New England Homestead. Practically all sorts do well in Niagara county. Our soil is a gravelly one, especially adapted to fruit culture. Peach trees are at their best when about



SMOCK PEACHES.

eight years old. Some trees at this age will yield from four to five bushels annually. I think it best to prune in the spring. We cut out the tops and all dead wood that may result from winter freezing or other causes. I think it well to keep all wood that is not active cut out.

We begin cultivation in our orchards as soon as the ground is dry enough in the spring. We use a pulverizer and disk until the early part of August. We have not used any commercial fertilizer, but add barnyard manure in the orchard when and where it is needed, this being put on during the winter. We thin our peaches regularly and find it pays.

In the same journal is given an illustration of Beer's Smock, which is popular as a market peach in the orchard sections of Michigan. It ripens the last of September, and its harvesting season lasts until about Oct. 10. The samples shown were taken from a tree seven years old and from which was gathered last season four bushels of prime fruit. They netted the grower \$2 per bushel at the orchard.

TOOLS AND WAGONS.

Providing Shelter For All Implements Saves Expense.

"I either shelter my tools or burn them. A tool not worth sheltering is not worth keeping. My wagon has not been out four nights in the ten years that I have run it. The hay rack is drawn up by pulleys over the barn floor, except when I thrash, and then it is put in a tool barn.

"My horse rake has been in use over twenty summers and has never had a tire set. I have had but two mowing machines in my farming, and I seldom cut less than eighty acres each year. My potato crates are kept sheltered and filled and set in the cellar. They have strips under them to keep them off the ground."

These were the words of a very careful farmer and a successful one. Going by his place one will note an appearance of thrift and neatness. The buildings are in good repair and well painted. There is a large wood pile and a roomy wood shed. One notices also the absence of worn-out wagons, sleighs, harrows, cultivators, etc., scattered about. His tools are kept in repair, and he does not buy more than he can shelter.

By Way of Contrast.

I went through a farmer's orchard, back of his barn, last fall, and it had the remains of nearly a dozen old wagons standing around, with tall weeds grown up through and among them and gone to seed. I wondered how he would gather his apples, says a writer in American Cultivator. It would be a tedious and unsatisfactory task to cut these weeds.

Many of these wagons might have been repaired for very much less than the cost of new ones. Above all, he was in debt for the wagons bought to replace these old ones. A self blinder that cost \$125, on which he has been paying interest for ten years, stood out in a snowdrift last winter.

Next to providing shelter for wagons and tools it is wise to have a place where they may be comfortably repaired in winter or on rainy days.

Holding Cotton at Home.

I will tell you how I have done for thirty years here in Texas, says a writer in Farm and Ranch. When in the fall I begin to pick I sell when the price suits me. Then when it gets lower by the rush of cotton on the market I place large rails or poles skinned flat on ground, three feet apart and place my cotton on them edgewise, not touching each other. After the first rain I change the bale on the other edge and continue this plan as late as May, waiting upon the market and selling when I get ready or am compelled to sell and not calling upon banker or merchant or any other person. This cotton, every bale, has kept perfectly sound, and not a pound is the least damaged.

Virgin Soil For Hotbeds.

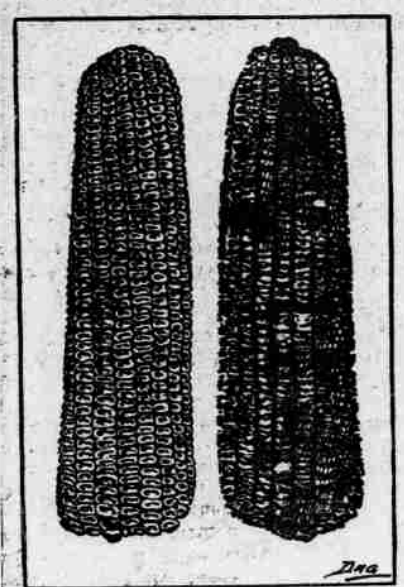
Prepare the soil for hotbeds now. Virgin soil from the woods is best for bedding melons, cukes and sweet potatoes. It is nearly always dry and easily handled in October. Haul and pile it up near the hotbeds so that it can be covered later on. Then when bedding time comes it will be in fine shape to work.—Farm Journal.

Farm and Garden

QUALITY IN CORN.

Tremendous Influence of Seed on the Percentage of Yield.

The wide variations observed with a large number of seed corn samples tested at the Virginia experiment station show that the corn breeder can quickly change the characteristics of the crop, increasing or decreasing the size of the stalk, number of leaves, length and shape of ear and the percent of grain. To select and improve corn successfully one must make an individual study of the desirable and undesirable qualities of the several



EXCELLENT AND POOR QUALITY.

plants and ears and know which to select and which to reject or failure will follow. The importance of choosing the right ears is shown by the fact that the yield from forty samples tested varied from 28.14 to 57.26 bushels in 1905 and from 34.79 to 81.69 bushels in 1906.

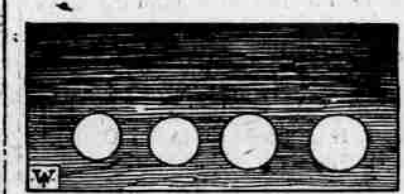
Different strains of the same variety of corn may vary greatly in yield. In the cut the ear on the left is the product from learning corn and shows excellent quality. The ear on the right is from another strain of the same variety and shows very bad quality. When large and small ears were selected from the different samples, the history of which was known, it was observed that the large ears in every instance made a more vigorous germination and a higher yield, amounting in some instances to nearly eleven bushels per acre. This is a point that should be carefully considered by corn growers.

Wheat in the Cotton Belt.

The first week in November is early enough to sow wheat throughout the middle portion of the cotton belt. This crop often succeeds well sown as late as Dec. 1, provided the conditions shall be favorable for germination for two weeks after sowing (not too cold and wet). Land covered with a thick growth of grass, cowpeas or other vegetation is not considered the best condition for wheat, for the reason that wheat likes a compact, smooth surface soil. Turn your land well, then harrow, then roll with a heavy roller, then sow the seed. A one or one and a half ton roller run over a freshly plowed and harrowed surface once or twice will compact the three or four inches of surface soil. The wheat seed should then be put in with a regular wheat drill, says a southern authority. I would not apply less than 400 pounds of fertilizer per acre and would prefer 500 to 600 pounds unless the land be already rich. I recommend this formula: Two hundred pounds acid phosphate, 400 pounds of cottonseed meal and fifty pounds of muriate of potash per acre, supplemented with a top dressing of fifty to seventy-five pounds of nitrate of soda in March if the appearance of the plants seem to indicate the need of more nitrogen.

Grading Apples.

Some apple growers in the Hood River region have been using the grading board shown in the figure. A common board or piece of pasteboard is hung up before the wiper. In this board holes are cut the size of various



THE GRADING BOARD.

sizes, such as three, three and one-half and four tier, etc. As the apples are wiped they are properly tiered. The advantage of this method is that the packers have the apples practically graded and can do much more work in a day, and after the first half day the wipers can usually accomplish fully as much as with the old method.

Beans Fed to Swine.

Beans can be fed to swine only in the cooked form. The pig seems to be unable to utilize beans which are at all hard or firm, even though they have been boiled for some time; hence it is very essential that they be thoroughly and carefully cooked, says R. S. Shaw, Michigan. To supply a single feed of half cooked beans to a pen of hogs robs them of their appetites and relish for their food, if indeed it does not put them off their feed.

The Dairyman

Writing from Marin county, Cal., a correspondent says in Hoard's Dairyman: One sees great quantities of oat hay in this part of the county and little alfalfa. In conversation with a valley farmer living a considerable distance from the coast he stated that in his locality the soil does not seem to be adapted for it, as it failed to thrive. During the long wet season from November to May water stands on the bottom lands much of the time, and the alfalfa is killed out; otherwise it might do well.

But the oat hay seems well adapted for the purpose of provender, and it proves an exceedingly good crop. It is cut with an ordinary mowing machine when in the soft dough stage and is cured the same as hay. To an easterner it looks like straw, and the man who, upon being asked to help himself to hay for his horse, replied later that he couldn't find any hay, but fed the animal some straw, might easily have been pardoned for the mistake.

Some idea of the money value of the crop may be gained when a man can grow, as one rancher here has done the present year, \$3,000 worth of it from a 100 acre farm. Prices are high this year, ranging from \$17 to \$20 per ton, and the yield is good. Butter is high also, selling for 35 cents per pound brick at the present time. But it is good quality.

Vigor In The Flock.

We have learned from the words of caution which have been given by experienced shepherds and expressed by standard sheep literature that the most important thing in the handling of a flock of sheep is to obtain and increase, if possible, a high state of vigor. We call to mind the emphatic words of Mr. Greeley in our institute work in Minnesota when he laid so much stress upon the carriage of the ram, the full and aggressive look of the eye, the broad chest, as shown by a front look at the ram, with fullness of the ribs behind the shoulder, all of which are indications of that high type of vigor which is so essential for the ram at the head of the flock.

There is no question but that one of the most important things to be done today to advance sheep husbandry is to secure the better breeding of the full bloods which we need for our farm flocks, so that we shall not only have good mutton quality with a good wool product (which can be done), but also have that high type of vigor which is so essential to the successful handling of a flock of sheep.

The feeders of lambs have learned that there is a wide difference in vigor between the range lamb and the lamb from the farm. The per cent of increase in the flocks of the range is not equal to the per cent of increase we may have upon our farms. Their losses very naturally take out from their flocks the weaker ones by that law so well recognized—viz, the survival of the fittest, the strongest. Consequently when the feeders buy the western lambs they buy the survivors of the flock. With us on the farm, where we provide shelter and feed properly, we will get an increase of at least about 100 per cent, and in that 100 per cent there will be a certain number that lack in this high type of vigor and strength. I have sometimes said that a sheep would die without giving a single excuse.—O. C. Gregg, Dakota.

Notable Shropshire Ram.

One of the most famous Shropshire rams in this country is Dream Star. American Agriculturist states that he



DREAM STAR, A FAMOUS RAM.

was a prize winner at numerous shows in England, where he was bred, was imported and is now at Altamont stock farm, Dutchess county, N. Y.

This typical animal was shown six times in this country, winning many first prizes and three grand championships.

He Paid the Freight.

"Isn't that a new bonnet on your mother?" asked Miss Nearsite. "I believe so," replied Miss Wheeler, "but papa insists it's on him."—Minneapolis Journal.

A Timid Folk.

"England hasn't had a war for some time." "No, they don't dare. They're afraid Alfred Austin might write an ode about it."—New York Life.

Two Views of a Bear.

He was a "bear" before they wed; She said it was all right. "I like such bears," she softly said, "Because they hug so tight!"

We Invite

Your inspection of our Stock of

Ladies' and Misses' Coats

Wool Dress Goods, Cotton Wash Dress Fabrics

Our Stock is Complete in Every Detail at Right Prices.

Henkle & Davis

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS:

Fifteen words or less, 25 cts for three successive insertions, or 50 cts per month; for all up to and including ten additional words, 1/4 cent a word for each insertion.

For all advertisements over 25 words, 1 ct per word for the first insertion, and 1/2 ct per word for each additional insertion. Nothing inserted for less than 25 cents.

Lodge, society and church notices, other than strictly news matter, will be charged for.

PHYSICIANS

B. A. CATHEY, M. D., PHYSICIAN and Surgeon. Rooms 14, Bank Building. Office Hours: 10 to 12 a. m., 2 to 4 p. m. Residence: cor. 5th and Adams Sts. Telephone at office and residence. Corvallis, Oregon.

W. T. ROWLEY, M. D., PHYSICIAN and Surgeon. Special attention given to the Eye, Nose and Throat. Office in Johnson Bldg. Ind. phone at office and residence.

House Decorating.

FOR PAINTING AND PAPERING SEE W. E. Paul, Ind. 488. 4111

UNDERTAKERS

WILKINS & BOVFE, FUNERAL DIRECTORS and Licensed Embalmers. Successors to S. N. Wilkins, Corvallis, Oregon. Phone 45. 8911

HENKLE & BLACKLEDGE, UNDERTAKERS and Licensed Embalmers. South Main St., Corvallis, Or.

ATTORNEYS

J. F. YATES, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office up stairs in Zierolf Building. Only set of abstracts in Benton County.

E. R. BRYSON ATTORNEY AT LAW. Office in Post Office Building, Corvallis, Oregon.

WANTED

WANTED 500 SUBSCRIBERS TO THE GAZETTE and Weekly Oregonian at \$2.50 per year.

HOMES FOR SALE

WILL SELL LOTS IN CORVALLIS, Oregon, on installment plan and assist purchasers to build homes on them if desired. Address First National Bank, Corvallis, Or.

WILL SELL MY LOTS IN NEWPORT, Or., for spot cash, balance installments, and help parties to build homes thereon, if desired. Address M. S. Woodcock, Corvallis, Or.

BANKING.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF Corvallis, Oregon, transacts a general conservative banking business. Loans money on approved security. Drafts bought and sold and money transferred to the principal cities of the United States, Europe and foreign countries.

The Gazette for Job Work.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher*