

AN INTERNATIONAL DIFFICULTY.

[Original.]
Hans Becker and Gretchen Stiefel were German peasants, aged respectively sixteen and fifteen. Their fathers' little farms adjoined, and they went to school together. Hans was a tall, dark eyed young fellow, with a fine frame, though not yet properly filled out. Gretchen looked out of a pair of mild blue eyes, and a heavy coil of hair the hue of flax hung down her back to her knees. The two had played together as children and when they came into their teens were still inseparable.

One day Hans, after a consultation with his father, told Gretchen that he was going to America. An uncle had written from there that if Hans would come out he would give him a place in his brewing business and help him to make a fortune. The offer had been accepted. Hans would soon be seventeen years old, an age when every German man must serve his term of military duty before leaving the fatherland, therefore it had been determined that he should go before his next birthday.

Hans and Gretchen were as ignorant of love as at the day they were born. When Hans told her that he was going to America she turned pale, made a few little breath catches, then tears began to well up in her blue eyes. Hans, too, felt a choking in his throat. He folded her in his arms. For the first time it dawned upon them that they were lovers.

The day before Hans was seventeen he sailed for America. His uncle, who had made money, gave him an opportunity. He told him that if he would remain at the business for ten years without returning to Germany he might have a year's vacation, at the end of which he would receive a block of the stock of the brewing company that would make him rich and he should, if competent, be its manager. At the end of the time Hans had complied with the conditions and proved himself well fitted for a manager's position.

Hans and Gretchen had corresponded and pined for each other, and at the expiration of the ten years Hans went to Germany. He found Gretchen a lovely woman, though still a peasant, and they were married. It was in the summer, and they spent their honeymoon in Switzerland. A couple of months before the expiration of Hans' vacation his wife presented him with a son. But alas the boy was born with a club foot.

When Hans and his family were about to sail for America an officer served a paper on him distraining him from leaving Germany till he had served his term in the army. Then Hans knew what he had not known before or had forgotten—that if he remained more than nine months in Germany he again became a German citizen and liable to military duty.

Here was a misfortune. To remain in Germany for the purpose of hanging around a barrack for several years would be equivalent to giving up a fortune in America. Hans knew that the law on this subject was inexorable and was about to write his uncle relinquishing his interests in the brewing company when he discovered that the period spent in Switzerland had made him alien to Germany. He could stay in the fatherland for nine months more before again becoming a German citizen. This gave him a leeway of nearly two months. His wife was in poor health, and he deferred his departure for the United States till a few days before the expiration of the second nine months' period, which would again make him a German citizen.

On reaching New York he found that if the fatherland is jealous of her sons leaving her shores without having done military service the United States is equally jealous of any one coming within her borders who is not in all respects a desirable citizen. Little Heinrich Becker's club foot was an insurmountable obstacle to his being admitted to the national domain. In vain his father pleaded that he would not permit his boy to become a burden on the American people. The law refusing cripples is as inexorable as the law respecting army service in Germany, though the reason for it is more humane.

It seemed that the only plan for the Becker family would be to go back to Germany. But if this plan were adopted German shores shortly after the expiration of the nine months' period, which would make him liable to military duty. Hans began to wish that the nations of the world would unite under one government, so that he might be a citizen of all. He was wanted in Germany, where he could not make a respectable living, that the emperor might be prepared to fight the powers; he was kept out of the United States, where a fortune awaited him, because his son happened to be born with a club foot.

However, Hans Becker had become an American and did not complain of the exceptional injustice of just laws. It was suggested to him that he go to Mexico with his family, from whose border he could easily enter the United States. But he declined to break the law. He determined to send his wife and boy back to Germany, to have his boy's foot operated on by a surgeon and then bring mother and child back again. It happened that on the day they were to sail the head of the emigration bureau at Washington visited Ellis Island, where emigrants are received. The case was referred to him, and he decided that little Heinrich Becker might become one of the 90,000,000 people of the United States.

ALICE C. CUMMINGS.

NEW YORK JERSEYS.

Notable Achievements in a Fine, Pure Bred Herd.

When a New York state man talks about Jersey cows he commonly mentions Delaware county also, and Meridale herd in that county is likely to be spoken of when pure bred Jerseys are discussed.

What is known as Meridale Farms is a tract of land of some 1,400 acres composed of a number of farms which have been purchased from time to time during the last thirty or more years.

The herd of pure bred Jerseys that may now be seen at Meridale is the topic of greatest interest to the visitor. In discussing this herd it is necessary to refer to a certain bull that was raised on the farms some years ago.



JOSEPHINE HOPE.

His name was Matilda Fifth Stoke Pogis. This bull was purchased by a farmer residing some distance away to put into his dairy herd. He was known at Meridale to be an exceedingly fine animal, and several attempts were made to buy him back, but without avail.

The bull grew old and finally died, leaving behind him a remarkable collection of his get not only on the farm of his owner, but for some miles in the surrounding country. At last the owner died, the stock came on the market in the settlement of his estate, and all of this line of stock was added to the Meridale herd. These were the daughters and granddaughters of Matilda V's Stoke Pogis. He had forcibly proved that he was a wonderful bull. Meridale has now about seventy females of that family. Josephine Hope 121,054 has a week's record of 290 pounds 5 ounces of milk and 21 pounds 1 ounce finished butter. Pogis P. A. 116,329 has been tested several times and has made from 17 pounds 8 ounces to 18 pounds 10 ounces, the highest when she was past thirteen years old. She milked as high as 300 pounds in seven days, says H. H. Lyon in Hoard's Dairyman.

Common Cruelty.

Recently on an icy asphalt street we saw more cruelty to horses than in many years' attendance at races. Two horses, singly, were started up a grade with a load of express packages. After a heartbreaking struggle, in which he went to his knees several times, one smoothly shod horse went to the ground. The other was almost down several times, but was still on his feet and struggling when our train pulled out. Humane societies should look after such cases.—Horse Breeder.

No Good in Frozen Grass.

Don't allow the sheep to run out and fill themselves with frozen grass if there is no snow on the ground, thinking it will save food. This grass has little food value and is positively injurious. Exercise is good for any breeding animal, but if the yards are too small let them out on the hard ground or if in the stubble fields only when their stomachs are full, says an eastern sheep man.

THE DAIRYMAN.

"I just want to give the result of an inquiry I made myself as to whether it pays better to raise beef cattle or pay better to raise dairy cattle. I made an investigation of this. I wrote letters to the islands of Guernsey and Jersey, to Denmark and Holland, where, as I understand, the greatest dairy interests of the world are, to find out the actual cash value of agricultural lands in those countries. From Guernsey and Jersey I got the answer that the average cash value of agricultural lands was \$1,250 an acre, from Holland and Denmark from \$400 to \$900 an acre. All those lands are devoted to dairying, and you will always find that the highest priced agricultural lands in the world are devoted to dairying and not to the raising of beef. That tells the story," said Judge Quanton of Iowa before the national dairy convention.

Running the Separator.

Three points worthy of attention when using the separator are specified by Professor Oscar Erf of Kansas: First.—The speed of the bowl has an influence on the cream. A change in speed from one separation to another changes the per cent of fat of the cream. Second.—The temperature of the milk affects the cream. If the milk is warm the cream will be thicker than if it is cold. Third.—The amount separated per hour is another factor. This is especially important, for if the milk is unevenly fed into the bowl the thickness of the cream is vastly influenced.

Sterilized Wash Water For Butter.
The Kansas experiment station considers it both practical and economical to sterilize wash water for butter if it can be cooled and used immediately; otherwise the practice is a useless expense.

Process Butter.
The government inspection of renovated butter last year showed a total production of 63,000,000 pounds of such butter, an increase of 12 per cent over the preceding year.

A GENTLEMAN ... DETECTIVE.

[Copyright, 1907, by C. H. Sutcliffe.]
George M. Travers, clubman, man about town, society man, was selected by the chief of police for detective work. How the chief secured him for the purpose no one knew.

Mr. Travers was to make himself a favorite in society and quietly give away the criminal element moving therein. There was no element of chance that the most astute thief, male or female, could connect him with the police. In the first six months he gave tips that drove three or four families into retirement and a false baron into prison. Then two events occurred simultaneously to give him trouble. A lady guest at a country house was robbed of \$10,000 worth of diamonds the night he himself arrived for a week's stay, and he had no sooner seen her than he fell in love with her.

It was Edith Meridith who had suffered the loss, and Edith Meridith was the daughter of a California millionaire. He was traveling in Brazil for a time, and his wife and daughter were stopping in town. As for references, the father and husband had been a United States senator and three or four other things, and the wife and daughter had moved in the best society on the slope. One might as well have asked for social references from the president's wife.

Mr. Travers found himself in two fixes at once. He was in love, and he could not give away the fact that he was playing detective. He gave his opinion of the robbery, as did all other guests, but he had to stop at that. The room had been entered and the jewelry taken in the afternoon while all the guests were on the golf grounds. The first suspicions were against the servants of course. That is a thing that never fails. The servants were examined and cross examined and put through the third degree, but no clew was obtained.

The whole situation was rendered mighty uncomfortable. Travers, being the last comer, and not arriving until after the robbery, was the only one exempted from suspicion. He could not act openly. A detective was sent for, but he could not make himself known. The opinion of the man, after going over the ground, was that some one had sneaked into the house by the front way. This theory was accepted by all. It did not recover the diamonds, but Miss Meridith was kind enough not to take their loss too much at heart. They represented only a day's income of her father's, and he could afford to lose one day out of the 365.

But after twenty-four hours some other theory had to be advanced. There was a second robbery. This occurred in the evening, while all the guests were looking at fireworks on the lawn. The victim was an old dowager, and her loss was also thousands of dollars. Entrance by the windows was impossible. Entrance by the front hall was impossible. The old dowager's maid had been sitting by a window in the hall upstairs all the time, and she had seen none of the servants spying about. They were suspected again, of course, and again there was a great do. No clew—absolutely no clew. Another detective came down next day, and he gave it as his opinion that a magpie or tame crow had entered by way of the window. That no magpie or tame crow had ever been kept around the house made no difference. You could take his opinion or not.

Even amid this excitement Mr. Travers progressed with his new-born love. Miss Meridith seemed smitten with him also. Perhaps smitten is too strong a term, but she was very glad.

The two talked privately about the mysterious robberies, privately and confidentially. They didn't exactly lay them on to the old dowager, but they understood what each other thought. The mysteries did not break up the party, as might have been expected. This was because the third detective who was put on the case notified host and hostess and all the guests that he suspected one of the servants and must have a week or two to work up his case. After that five peaceful, happy days and nights passed. There were no more robberies. Clews were being picked up like potatoes at digging time. It was only a matter of a few days when the guilty one would be punished and the plunder restored. At the end of those five happy days and nights most of the guests were whispering to each other that Mr. Travers and Miss Meridith would surely make a match of it. They walked and talked by day, and they sat and sighed in the moonlight of evenings, and on the sixth night Mr. Travers went to bed reasonably satisfied. As he did not appear up to a late hour next morning, and as the same was the case with Miss Meridith, their doors were forced. Miss Meridith was gone, and a ladder at her window showed how she went. Most of her wardrobe had gone with her.

Mr. Travers hadn't gone. He hadn't because he was tied and gagged and couldn't go. He had been despoiled of everything, and the two men who had tied and despoiled him had injured his feelings by whispering words into his ear. There was further injury awaiting him. On his dresser was a note written by Miss Meridith. In it she spoke of him as a donkey. She also said she had spotted him from the first. Further, that he had better open an intelligence office for the employment of female help.

It took Mr. Travers two days to find out that there was no millionaire Meridith—no ex-United States Senator Meridith—no Mrs. or Miss Meridith—no clew. And then he resigned.

M. QUAD.

THE MILKING PAIL.

Small Top Pail—Scientific View and Common Sense Practice.

While on an editorial visit at Cornell University recently our attention was directed to a lot of milk pails with paper tied over the top of each one. Professor Pearson explained that in the production of clean milk everything possible should be done to keep dirt and other foreign matter out of the pails before and after milking. To guard against this the milk pails used in the dairy department of this institution are sterilized and covered with paper commonly known among grocers as tea paper. The manner in which these pails are covered is shown in the accompanying illustration. In this manner they are carried to the dairy barn, and the paper is not removed until the milk is ready to use it.

Another important factor in the production of clean milk is the character of pail used. Professor Pearson speaks highly of the type shown in the accompanying illustration. With the hood covering part of the opening the amount of dirt that could fall into the opening of the pail is greatly reduced. This means keeping dirt out of milk instead of trying to strain it out.

A pail having a top diameter of fourteen inches has about 150 square inches of open space through which dirt may



HOODED PAIL AND PAIL COVERED WITH PAPER.

fall into the milk. A pail with a top opening ten inches has half as much space, or about seventy-five square inches. One with a six inch opening has about twenty-seven square inches through which dirt may fall into the milk. As most of the contamination occurs from dirt falling from the udder and surrounding parts when the cow is being milked, the great advantage of reducing the top opening of the milk pail is plainly seen.

Some old milkers will protest that they cannot milk into a small opening. We will not argue the question with them further than to say a few days of patient trial would probably be enough to convince them that they can milk into a smaller opening than they had thought possible. Certified milk dairies require a pail with an opening of about six inches in diameter, but in ordinary practice this is not advised. Any one could use a ten inch opening without inconvenience, and if a careful milkster can use a still smaller opening so much the better.—American Agriculturist.

THE VETERINARY.

A flock of sheep became badly infested with Strongylus contortus, and the writer tested the value of creosote in combating these parasitic worms. A 1 per cent solution of coal tar creosote in water was prepared, and each sheep was given four ounces of this solution. Previous to the use of the creosote the sheep had been dying at frequent intervals from the effects of the stomach worm, but after drenching with creosote no deaths occurred during a period of twelve months, after which the history of the sheep was not followed.—H. Taylor in Veterinary Record.

When Hind Legs Go Wrong.

It is a very common practice to feed working horses just the same grain ration when idle that they receive when hard at work. This is wrong and is the cause of two diseases of the hind legs, elephantiasis, or big leg, and black water. In the former the horse that was apparently all right at night will in the morning have one hind leg swollen up three or four times its natural size and very painful to step on. In the latter case the horse may start from the stable all right, but soon goes lame, first in one hind leg, then the other, then both. The muscles stiffen up, he seems to lose all control of the hind limb and if forced to move may fall down. The urine becomes black; hence the name black water. In both cases the trouble may be avoided by changing the grain ration, cutting out part of the concentrated foods like corn and oats and increasing the amount of loosening foods like bran.

Cough in Pigs.

The common cough of pigs that causes loss of appetite and constant severe coughing with heaving of the flanks is due, according to an Illinois swine grower, to costiveness. He has said: "My remedy for cough in pigs is oats. Feed once or twice a week all the oats they will eat. The oats will loosen the bowels, and the cough will disappear."

Swamp Fever of Horses.

For a number of years a form of encephala has been observed in horses in Minnesota, the Dakotas and Manitoba and has usually been referred to as swamp fever. It has caused considerable losses in infected localities. Recently a disease appeared among horses in the Red river valley and appeared to be identical with swamp fever. A careful study of this disease made by the North Dakota station has not yet shown its cause.

Cover the Heated Horse.

If the horse is heated he should never be left standing uncovered, no matter what the weather may be.

THE BARROW AT THE FRONT.

The barrow is coming into his own. Costly experience with swine disease, contracted at public market exhibitions despite all possible precautions, induced the management of the international show to abandon classes for breeding swine and open a show for barrows only, that go direct from the pens to the shambles. This idea did not suit some swine breeders. But the barrow show has caught the swing of success and will hereafter receive the support of some interests which have been fighting it. It has demonstrated the possibilities of such a show, and those who came to scoff will remain to pray—and exhibit. The perfection to which pork producing can be brought, mirrored in the exhibits of this section, is among the most absorbing features of this exhibition.

Hampshires Popular.

As heretofore, keen interest was shown in the exhibit of Hampshire barrows. Black hogs with white belts around their bodies at the girth appeal to the curious as well as to pork makers. They are odd, distinctive and flash in the show yard.

But it is not alone the peculiar color marking of Hampshires that accounts for their growing popularity. Packers esteem them for their dressing qualities. This fact has been emphasized in the decisions registered by packing house judges of fat barrows at this show. Each year has marked an increase in the number.

R. L. Rollman of Illinois was first for barrow under six months, the Ohio State university second and Atkinson & Stone, Illinois, third. It was a beautiful trio which took the prizes in this class. A deal of finish and quality was



FIRST PRIZE HAMPSHIRE.

associated with rather heavy bone and coarseness of head. Hampshires made an especially strong pen showing. Grade and cross bred fat barrows made an exceptionally strong exhibit. That certain breeds cross to excellent advantage from the feeder's standpoint was a patent fact in this collection.

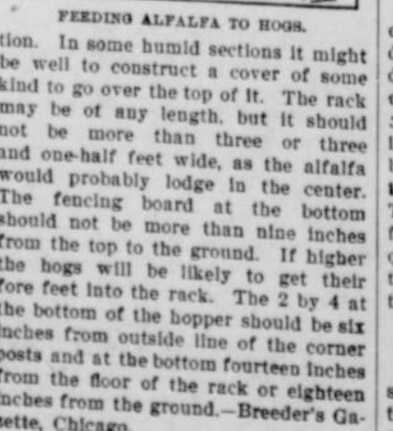
Grand Championships.

The Ohio State university won the grand championship for pen of three barrows. Competition was as edged as a half dozen top notch rival pens could make it. It was the trio of pure bred Berkshires, all bred and fed by that institution, which achieved this distinguished honor. The grand championship single barrow was the mixed bred hog shown by Goodwine & Gonenough.

In breeding the grand champion barrow, from a litter of seven pigs, is three-fourths Duro-Jersey, one-eighth Poland-China and one-eighth Hampshire. He was wonderfully made and wonderfully fed.

Hog Feed Rack.

The illustration herewith shows a form of rack which was designed and first used by a Mr. Davis of Michigan for feeding alfalfa to hogs which are following corn fed cattle. It has been highly indorsed by Professor H. R. Smith of the Nebraska experiment station.



FEEDING ALFALFA TO HOGS.

In some humid sections it might be well to construct a cover of some kind to go over the top of it. The rack may be of any length, but it should not be more than three or three and one-half feet wide, as the alfalfa would probably lodge in the center. The fencing board at the bottom should not be more than nine inches from the top to the ground. If higher fore feet into the rack. The 2 by 4 at the bottom of the hopper should be six inches from outside line of the corner posts and at the bottom fourteen inches from the floor of the rack or eighteen inches from the ground.—Breeder's Gazette, Chicago.

Stable Disinfectant.

Whitewash is one of the cheapest disinfectants and can be easily and rapidly applied with a spray pump. It must be carefully strained before using in the pump, as any lumps will clog the spray nozzle.

CATTLE INTERESTS.

How Beef Finishers Are Faring—Dual Purpose Stock.

By FRASER McLAIN.

Time discredited the prophets and laid the specter of a vanishing cattle industry. A few vital days in the waning of the corn ripening season lifted the depressed balance of the corn crop and added millions of bushels to the yield. Nevertheless the amount of the corn shortage has made itself felt. Many feeders the corn belt cash has looked better in view of the financial flurry, combined with the high cost of feed, than has cattle, and they have held it or turned to sheep or other lines of business in which more profit seemed to appear. This has sent great numbers of calves and other stock to local slaughter houses.

Those, however, who stood by the good beasts and filled their feed lots as usual seem, on the whole, to have fair prospect of winning out when the "cashing in" fever reaches the end of its course, the length of that course depending on easy money and the turn of prices in the corn trade, which no man may forecast. With diminished feed lots the smaller number of cattle that will be brought to a finish on the short corn crop should mean a good fighting chance for future satisfactory profits. The cattle situation is by no means unique. Mutton finishers are loudly complaining of unprofitable operations. But, then, this is one of the usual untoward events of the holiday season.

The great international live stock show at Chicago has demonstrated again that American beef finishers may challenge the world with their products. But in respect to prices obtained for fat cattle it proved a sore disappointment to the producers. While the demand at the show auction sales was keen, buyers indulged in no fancy run of prices. The fact that the champion car lot of the show went to the scales at \$5 per hundredweight as against \$17 last year is evidence of the success with which killers kept prices on a basis that they claim to be justified by present business conditions. Unstinted praise for the quality of the cattle hardly atoned for unprecedentedly small values. Six dollars and forty-eight cents was the average price per hundredweight realized on car lots.

Feeding Beef and Milk Stock.

Now that the beef and milk combination promises to be in greater favor in this country it is of interest to farmers to know something of the methods of the past masters in the art of producing dual purpose cattle. Eng. sh. breeders of dual purpose animals very rarely allow their young stock to suckle.

Bull calves are fed on whole milk or on a gruel of whole milk or skim milk with flaxseed meal, cornmeal or oatmeal. As they grow older barley meal, cotton cake, roots and hay are added to the ration and the milk decreased. A rather fleshy condition is usually sought for.

Dual purpose heifer calves are fed on skim milk and grain rations, and large amounts of proprietary calf foods are used. Skim milk rations are usually prepared by boiling the grain in water and adding to the milk while still hot.

Cost of Raising a Calf.

There are some things of which I do not keep a strict debit and credit account, and raising calves to cows is one, but I strongly suspect that I cannot produce a good, well grown heifer with her first calf for \$50 or perhaps \$60, but the expense comes gradually, and after a while one has a fine young cow and does not always have the \$80 to buy one. Then the strong point is that if the calf has been bred right, with a good cow for its dam and for its sire a bull descended from a line of dairy kings and queens, if the calf has been fed right and the heifer fed right and enough and handled right, we can embrace the reasonable assurance that the calf will develop into a heifer and the heifer into a cow that will mature into a usefulness worthy of her inheritance.—W. F. McSparran.

Salting the Butter.

Good fine dairy salt should be used and never the common coarse barrel salt that is used by many. The salting may be done in the churn when the butter is in the granular form if it is a box or barrel churn. The salt can be sifted on the butter by putting on a part, then revolving the churn halfway over, thus making the butter fall with the salted side down, then sifting on the rest of the salt. Then revolve the churn a few times, after which the butter can be taken out and worked on a butter worker.—C. P. Goodrich.

Fodder For Wether Lambs.

There is no doubt as to the preference of the sheep in the choice of fodders. Clover hay seems to be the fodder they relish most, then pea straw, corn fodder and timothy hay. The condition of the fodder will materially influence the gain, for if it is musty, burned or dusty or has been allowed to grow too coarse they will neglect it. Two or three pounds of any of the fodders mentioned will be about the quantity that wether lambs nine or ten months old will eat daily through the fattening period.—Craig.

Feeding Roots to Hogs.

It is usually better to feed green or succulent feed whole and apart from the meal. Where the roots have to be pulped, however, as is the case with sugar beets and turnips, dry meal may be mixed with the pulped mass and prove very satisfactory. Roots or succulent feeds need, with one or two exceptions, never be cooked. Potatoes, turnips and pumpkins, however, are more valuable cooked than raw.—J. H. Gridale.