

SHEEP THRIVE IN RED RIVER VALLEY

Farmers Learn Flocks Are Paying Propositions.

Washington.—Farming in North Dakota and western Minnesota is in a transition stage between grain growing and diversified production, and the farmers are making sheep a paying proposition in the transition process. Sheep have been added on hundreds of North Dakota and western Minnesota farms in the last few years. They have added materially to net farm incomes, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Information gathered by the department indicates that sheep can be profitably included in farm enterprises on most of the farms in the Red River valley of North Dakota and Minnesota, and indeed throughout North Dakota, with the exception of the southwestern one-third of the state.

Sheep raising in this area in 1924 was profitable, according to an investigation made by the department in co-operation with the North Dakota Agricultural college. Returns from 190 flocks and as many farms were analyzed. Even though it is usually unwise to start in the sheep business when it is at the peak of prosperity, this should not deter the farmers in this area from starting with sheep in a small way because sheep are especially well adapted to this area and can make a profit at much lower prices for wool and lambs than now prevail, it is declared.

Industry on the increase. Market conditions have favored sheep raisers in the last few years. Since 1922, wool and lambs have commanded prices well above the pre-war level. As a result, the sheep industry is on the increase in most parts of the United States. Sheep are displacing cattle to some extent on the range.

There is a strong tendency to increase sheep in many farm sections, and the demand for feeding and breeding stock has been such as to put the price of feeder lambs much closer than usual to the price of fat lambs. There is a slight tendency throughout the world to expand sheep production in response to higher prices for sheep products. Few countries, however, have much room for expansion in sheep raising except at the expense of other farm enterprises. Accordingly the outlook for the industry in the United States is not unfavorable.

Some important conclusions are drawn by the department from its study of the 190 flocks previously mentioned. The investigation showed, for example, that size is an important factor in determining the income from sheep raising. On these Minnesota and North Dakota farms the income from flocks of sheep increased very nearly in the same ratio as the size of the flocks increased. Thus, from flocks containing 50 sheep each the profit in 1924 was \$204, while from flocks of 150 sheep each a profit of \$724 was realized.

These profits were figured after making allowances for all costs, including interest on the investment in the flocks. Not only did profit per head increase with the size of the flocks, but production costs, both for lambs and wool, decreased.

An important point noted by the investigators is that 55 per cent of the small flocks received attention at lambing time. In the case of large flocks only 6 per cent received inadequate attention at this critical period. The result is shown in percentages of lambs lost. In the case of the smallest flocks the percentage was 12.7, compared with only 3.9 per cent in the largest flocks. Apparently the reason for this condition is that farmers with small flocks do not like to take the necessary time to care for their sheep in the lambing season, whereas farmers with large flocks know it will pay them.

Effects of Good Care. Accurate records of losses at lambing time were not available in all cases. It is therefore believed the beneficial effects of good care were really greater than these figures indicated. The production costs and net profits from these investigations show that every lamb saved at lambing time meant \$3 or \$10 more income in the flock, with very little additional cost.

Though labor made up only 18 per cent of the production costs in these sheep enterprises, it was one of the most important factors affecting the profitability of the business. In winter less than one hour a day sufficed to care for a large flock. Little attention was likewise necessary during the summer. In the critical lambing period, however, the labor requirements were relatively large and were adequately met on farms the operators of which were in a position to hire their field labor and devote their own attention to their sheep. For flocks of from 50 to 150 head, one man's full time was necessary in the lambing season. For larger flocks extra help was required for a period of from two to four weeks. Sweet clover was the principal pasture crop provided. This plant makes

excellent pasture, but has a tendency to cause "bloat." Study of the causes and preventives of bloat from sweet clover is necessary, says the department, because even men who handle their flocks in the most approved manner have losses from bloat. Nevertheless, the total losses from bloat were only 1 per cent of the total number of sheep in the breeding flocks. In a few localities the loss from dogs and coyotes was serious.

A valuable by-product of the sheep industry in Minnesota and North Dakota was found to be in its value in controlling weeds.

Walks Across Country Searching for Parents

Newark, N. J.—Does anyone know the whereabouts of Billy Hunter's mother and father? Anyone who has information of them will put joy into a real boy's sad heart and give him a chance to settle down instead of prowling the country hunting every nook and cranny for the parents he never knew.

Billy just stopped off at Newark with Teddy, his pal, a happy-go-lucky, brave little fox terrier.

He was placed in St. Michael's asylum in Jersey City when he was two. That was eighteen years ago. Until he was fourteen he was shifted about to fourteen other asylums and homes. All trace of his parents was lost.

Four years ago he set out in search of them and has not stopped since. He remembers his mother's maiden name was Agnes McHugh and that his father's name was Andrew Hunter.

Interesting Anniversary

Abbotts Langley, a little village in Hertfordshire, England, is preparing to hold a commemoration this summer in honor of its most distinguished native son, Pope Adrian IV, the only Englishman ever to occupy the Vatican. A tablet is to be unveiled in the parish church to mark the fact that this pope was once a little Hertfordshire boy, named Nicholas Breakspere. A pageant will be held in the grounds which once formed the garden of the house in which Nicholas was born some four centuries ago. Being only an easy hour's motor-car run to the north of London, the village is expecting to entertain a large number of pilgrims.

How Conditions Change

Natives living in northern Alaska beyond the Arctic circle are turning from the snow igloos and dugouts to homes built of lumber and brick. Capt. John Worth, master of the Carolyn Frances, first visited the Bethel and Kusokwim river districts in 1904, in quest of furs, gold and ivory. Then the Eskimos and Indians lived in almost primitive style. Last year he again went north on a trading mission and found all changed. The natives have become interested in reindeer herding, fur farming and gold mining, and, following the white man's ways, are content in modern houses, as far as possible in that isolated country.

Why Fish Is Not Meat

The distinction between fish and meat grew up in the Catholic church. In the book of Acts it says, "Abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled." From the early days of the Latin church this passage was interpreted as referring only to the flesh, blood or marrow of such animals and birds as constitute flesh meat. Fish, mollusks, crabs, turtles, frogs and such cold-blooded creatures were not considered as coming under the injunction.—Pathfinder Magazine.

How to Keep Floor Clean

On a stormy day spread several newspapers on the floor where the family enter the home and let them remove their rubbers there. When rubbers are dry they can readily be removed by the respective owners—to save work for mother. The papers can be burned. There is no soiled rug and no floor to clean.

Congress Record for Laws

In sixty-eight sessions, covering 150 years of its existence, congress has passed 50,000 laws, or about 730 for each session, according to figures published in the Congressional Record. Of these forty-nine were unconstitutional.

Value of Cheerfulness

Cheerfulness is the best health cure that can be administered to self or others. At first it may cost a little effort, but eventually it may become a habit. Doctors and nurses practice cheerfulness, and in many cases it beats medicine.—Gett.

HOW

MANUFACTURERS OF GLASS TURN OUT THEIR WORK.—According to a glass expert, the most interesting part of the manufacture of glass is its geography. He says the glass in your milk bottle, for instance, was assembled from the ends of the earth, and upon being assembled started its backward journey to the far corners. As a common example, let us consider the mason jar. This jar starts its career in a quarry in West Virginia as common sand. To this is added soda ash from Ohio; limestone from Michigan; field-spar from North Carolina; niter from the mountain deserts of Chile in South America; antimony from Utah; a small amount of cobalt from Canada, and selenium, a sister of sulphur, from Montana. All these materials of all colors, compositions and shapes are fused together to form these jars, bottles and other transparent glassware. A zinc cap from Missouri is placed on top of the jar. Inside this cap is a white porcelain liner which is made of all the previously mentioned ingredients to which are added fluor-spar from Kentucky and cryolite from Greenland.

Upon reaching the glasshouse these materials are mixed thoroughly in the proper proportions and fed into a huge furnace called a tank. The average tank holds from 100 to 500 tons of the liquid. A fire in the bottom of the tank plays over the liquid constantly raising its temperature to 2,600 degrees. The mixture is continuously fed in at one end of the furnace while the finished glass is drawn from the other. It takes from one to two days for the glass to travel the length of the furnace which may be from 20 to 40 feet long. When the glass comes from the furnace it is still like black molasses in winter. Its property of gradually hardening on cooling allows it to be blown or worked into various shapes. In the old days all glass was blown and pressed entirely by hand. But now machines do all the blowing and pressing much faster and more accurately than man.—Pathfinder Magazine.

How Civilization Has Wiped Out Grasshopper

The early history of the New England states affords numerous records of the invasions by grasshoppers upon the crops of the settlers. During the period 1743 to 1756 a great scourge of these hungry insects occurred in Maine, and other outbreaks occurred in Vermont during the year 1797 and 1798. When agriculture began to be established generally in the great plains region of the United States, lying west of the Mississippi river and east of the Rocky mountains, during the decade 1870-1880, a migratory species of grasshopper, commonly known as the Rocky mountain locust, frequently swooped down from its breeding grounds on the benches of the mountain range in such great swarms as to destroy practically all cultivated crops over vast areas of country, reducing thousands of families almost to starvation. As the settlement of the Rocky mountain region progressed the breeding grounds of this destructive pest ceased. Thus there has not been a serious locust outbreak of the Rocky mountain locust since 1880, and this particular grasshopper has ceased to be a pest of any great importance.

How Apes Help Science

Monkeys and apes are being raised on a farm in French Guinea by the Pasteur Institute for experimental purposes in studying measles, typhus, yellow fever and other diseases that cannot be transmitted to rabbits and guinea pigs, commonly used in such tests. Chimpanzees are also kept at the farm, as they are considered the most suitable of all the animal "relatives to the human race" for the studies and also afford material for experiments in psychology. A director is in charge of the laboratory and special buildings have been erected for taking care of the patients while they are given inoculations and treatments.

Venering Long Known

In the cartoons on the walls of the tomb of Rakhmara, near Thebes, drawn about the time of the Exodus, carpenters are shown bolting glue, splitting wood into thin shavings for veneer, and gluing the veneer on "o coarser woods.

Situation Ate's

An old bachelor says that a man is sometimes ensnared by the same kind of extravagant dressing in a woman as he likes short after marriage.

Opportunity and Thrift Are Brothers in Blood

One of the benefits of thrift comes from the fact that often the possession of a small amount of money at the right time marks the turning point in the possessor's life.

The world is full of instances of those who have found the way to great success when, through thrift, they were able to take advantage of some special opportunity for self-advancement.

Disraeli said: "The great secret of success in life is to be ready when your opportunity comes."

To those who are drifting along from day to day without getting ahead and apparently making no effort to do so, this advice should come with special force. Money should not be saved merely with the object of being ready for some great opportunity in life, but the fact remains that without saving and getting ahead there will never be opportunity for any progress whatever.

It also is to be borne in mind that opportunities for personal progress often come to those who, because of their thrifty habits, have gained the good will and confidence of some person who is in a position greatly to advance their interests.

Thrift brings its rewards in countless ways aside from the mere piling up of savings. One of these is the development of industry. The thrifty man is well organized; he is of the type that inspires confidence upon the part of the employees and executives who are looking for men to fill important posts.

The man who is thrifty can rest assured he is making no mistake. It may not be possible for him to look ahead today and see the advantages that will come from today's sacrifices. But the day of reward will arrive.

Thrift and opportunity are always on friendly terms.

Boomerang Proof

Robert W. Chambers, the only novelist in the world to pay a five-figure income tax, said at a luncheon in New York:

"Novelists are cancelled. Some people declare they are modest but—well, any such declaration as that reminds me of two pretty girls who reclined in their bathing suits on the warm sands of Palm beach.

"So you're flirting with young Scrawley Scribbs, the novelist, are you?" said the first pretty girl. "I don't see how you can stand him—such a cancelled duffer as he is."

"Cancelled?" said the second pretty girl. "Cancelled your grandmother! Scrawley Scribbs is as modest as a woodland violet. Why, I asked him last night who was the greatest living novelist in America, and he blushed, and bit his lip, and murmured confusedly that it wasn't for him to say."

Festival of Old Music

A festival of the chamber music of the Sixteenth, Seventeenth and Eighteenth centuries is being arranged for August at Haslemere, England, where instruments will be used representing those of olden times. The festival is to be staged by Arnold Dolmetsch, who with other members of his family and pupils will play numerous rare instruments virtually unknown to the average music lover of today. The lute, the recorder, the viol, the virginal, the viola d'amore, the harpsichord, the clavicord, referred to by Rosetti as the "seven sweet symphonies," will be used in rendering the music of the old masters. English music of "the golden age period" (the Sixteenth and Seventeenth centuries) will have a prominent place on the festival program.

London Resumes Polka

Dances of twenty-five years ago have come back as one of the season's novelties in society. On these occasions the dancers wear costumes of the period. The polka, the mazurka, lancers and the barn dance have all been reintroduced with favor, and even that known as the Washington Post, danced to the march of that name, which is often heard on the London radio these days as played by England's best-known jazz orchestra, according to the New York World.

One of the first "quarter-century" dances was arranged by Miss Belle Harding, a social favorite, who was attired in a black dress worn originally by her mother and which revealed a pink petticoat, considered a true symbol of Victorian days.

Racial Divisions

Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, curator of the Division of physical anthropology, National Museum, says that there are only three grand divisions of the human race, the population of the white, Indo-Germanic, Aryan and Semitic being 800,000,000; yellow-brown, including Mongolian or Turanian, Malay, Polynesian, American Indian (7), 712,000,000; black race, including the negro and the Bantu, 180,000,000.

WHY Cats and Witchcraft Have Been Associated.

The place of the cat in man's affection—and dislike—is interesting to trace and to contrast with the corresponding place of the dog, according to the Baltimore Sun.

Dogs have been honored as friends of man almost ever since he began to give vent to imaginative expression. Homer wrote of the dog of Odysseus (Odysseus), who was waiting to die of joy, as a heroic dog should, when his master returned from his years of wandering. If there was a cat in his household Odysseus took no account of it; and no one ever heard of a cat dying for joy of any other of the lofty human emotions sometimes attributed to dogs.

The cat was first recognized, not for its nobility, but as an appendage to domesticity, "the harmless, necessary cat"—necessary to keep the house free of rats and mice—while such praise as there was for domestic animals was bestowed on its natural enemy, the dog.

Cats have a certain air of mystery due to their build; their quietness, their apparent indifference to people, their habit of nocturnal prowling and a supernatural sort of dread that some people feel for them. The air of mystery accounts, perhaps, for the strange place that they have occupied in the history of the occult. They have always been associated with witchcraft and looked upon as sharing the demonic knowledge belonging to witches.

In spite of her nefarious reputation, however, the cat has found favor with a surprisingly large number of distinguished persons, many of them writers and philosophers, who have found in the cat's demeanor the most admirable qualities.

Among the French the annual seems to have been favored above others. Montaigne, Rousseau, Pierre Loti, Taine and Mollere were partial to cats, observing and appreciating their neat and particular habits.

Why So Many Cities Have to Be Rebuilt

Comparatively few people have yet realized that every progressive city in the United States not alone must be rebuilt, but that the rebuilding is now going on and gaining momentum each year, says Thrift Magazine.

It is a natural development that the better-to-do people should have their more modern homes first. Builders during the past few years have concentrated upon apartment houses and commercial structures. In some parts of a few of the larger cities the demand for residential and commercial buildings of the higher type may be nearly filled. New buildings in this class may now come along only as population increases.

But in any report on housing conditions we must not fail to review the condition in our obsolete, dilapidated tenement districts everywhere. New housing must and will include the whole range—the demand for better homes of all classes of workers—before the volume of national building shows any permanent slowing down.

Why Crying Hurts Babies

Crying is hard work. When a baby squalms he uses up twice as much energy as when he is asleep. The work of the body, represented by what is called "metabolism," is doubled during crying.

If a baby cries every minute for 24 hours, it does an amount of work equivalent to lifting its own weight to the top of the Washington monument. Dr. John R. Murfin of Rochester, N. Y., has figured out. This seems extraordinary, but it indicates the rate of body growth in the young, says Hygea.

The moral of this story is that if the child is to grow properly, he should not waste his energy in crying. A healthy, properly nourished baby cries very little.

Why the Pessimist Falls

"Pity the poor pessimist. He has no friends anywhere. He is a man without a welcome anywhere. And it serves him right. Pessimism is not only unprofitable, but unsound. Things never turn out as badly as the pessimist predicts. Times are always better than the pessimist anticipates them. J. Pierpont Morgan declared many years ago that he had never known anybody who made money by being faith in America. Mr. Morgan was in business life an optimist on America. He believed in it and had the courage to act on his belief.—Dallas News.

Why Hair Is Singed

Hair grows only from the roots. The hair itself is as lifeless as our finger nails. The theory of singeing hair to make it grow is based on the fact that the ends of the hair split and permit the oil to escape. Singeing, say the barbers, closes up these splits.

Both Swift and Sure Was Vigilante Justice

The Montana Vigilantes, who delivered that territory of such notorious gangs as Henry Plummer's in the '60s, were nothing if not methodical in their self-appointed task. Besides Plummer's band of road agents and murderers, to which a total of 102 deaths alone is credited, the population of the gold fields numbered many fugitives from justice from all parts of the country.

In many places the lawless element was totally superior in force to the honest citizen group, which was driven to the establishment of a Vigilance committee to protect lives and property. Outnumbered as they were, the Vigilantes worked in secret and as mysteriously as possible; their principal tools were the mask and the rope. Some time during the night a white card always exactly seven by nine inches and bearing the numerals 8-7-7 in black ink, was pinned on the tent or tacked on the door of the desperado who had been sentenced to be banished at a secret meeting of the Vigilance committee.

The men who received such a notice knew whence it came and that it meant, "Pack up and leave within 24 hours or swing on the second night." If he had the least glimmer of sense he also knew the warning was no bluff.

The Vigilantes held no public trials, but if sometimes a mistake was made and the victim appealed for a review of the facts through certain channels, he was certain of a second hearing. In such a case a midnight tribunal was held which reconsidered and sometimes reversed the sentence. More often it reaffirmed the banishment with a second placard, against which there was no appeal. If the warning was disregarded, the lawless one found himself the center of a very interesting and determined crowd on the second night and he did not live to see the next sunrise.

The Vigilantes constituted themselves judges, jury and executioners all in one, and their trials were certainly short. Whenever a highwayman or murderer was caught, the leader of the Vigilante band would say:

"All in favor of hanging this man step to the right of the road; those who are for letting him go step to the left."—J. R. Johnston in Adventure Magazine.

Positive Identification

C. E. Collins, superintendent of the identification bureau of Scotland Yard, who has made nearly 500,000 finger prints of criminals and suspects, retired recently after 30 years' service in the London police department. From the finger prints on file in Mr. Collins' department some 200,000 identifications have been made, according to authorities, without a single mistake. "I would stake my life on the probability that there never will be finger prints alike, even if the world goes on indefinitely," Mr. Collins said recently, in speaking of his work. During the next generation, he asserted, finger prints would be much more generally used everywhere, not only in the identification of criminals, but as a matter of record in births, and numerous other directions.

Having Their Fling

It was last year in a strict boarding school, and my roommate and I had always been on our good behavior, writes a correspondent of the Chicago Tribune. We realized we had missed a lot of the fun the other girls had enjoyed, even though they had paid for it by being up before the faculty many times.

One night we decided we'd be daring and slip down, after midnight, to the rarely occupied guest room and sleep in the four-poster bed in there. The corridors were dark, and the stairs creaked, but we tiptoed along until we had almost reached the guest room. Just then we heard the watchman coming down the corridor. We popped into the guest room and onto the bed.

A series of screams aroused every one. We had sat upon a visiting missionary from Africa.

A Surprise

Amateur theatrical stuff had been indulged in by certain members of the group out for a day's outing. One of these stunts included the placing of black wax on one or two of the front teeth, which left an appearance of toothlessness.

One young man, tiring of the wax, tried to remove it and found he could not. He asked a young woman of the party whether she knew how to get the wax off.

"Sure," she said, boldly. "That's easy." And forthwith she grasped the wax firmly between thumb and forefinger and pulled.

Imagine her amazement a moment later when she held in her hand the full upper set of false teeth belonging to the young man.—Indianapolis News.

STRYCHNINE TO CURE CRIMINALS

Doctor Says Prison Error Led to Discovery.

Washington.—To prove his contention that criminals and even degenerates may be reformed, rehabilitated and transformed into useful and upright citizens by administration of doses of strychnine, Dr. Earl R. Dudding, president of the Prisoners' Relief society, offered to sell his body to Johns Hopkins university for experimental purposes.

Doctor Dudding, who says he has been told he may expect just about one year more of life because of a heart ailment, revealed for the first time that he, himself, served time in the penitentiary for a criminal offense.

In fact, he declares he was a criminal at heart and in mind and that it was through a mistake made by an attendant in a prison hospital, who gave him a large dose of strychnine instead of calomel, that his physical and mental being lost all traces of criminality.

The incident occurred while Doctor Dudding was an inmate of the West Virginia state penitentiary in 1910. Although a graduate in medicine, Doctor Dudding never has practiced his profession.

"I thought I never would tell the story," he said, "but I realize it may do humanity some good and I have not long to live. While I was in the penitentiary I became suddenly ill.

"I was removed to the hospital and the doctor ordered a large dose of calomel. Instead, the attendant gave me a large dose of strychnine. Instantly I was convulsed. For three days I hovered between life and death and finally was restored to consciousness.

"When I recovered I was cured of all my criminal tendencies and thoughts. Strychnine is well known as a drug which best controls the human body. I believe that in my case it changed the nerve structures in the brain so as to remove all criminal potentials.

"I think my brain would prove an interesting study to scientists."

Filibuster Developed to Nth Degree in Austria

Vienna.—A committee of the Austrian national assembly has been giving a striking exhibition of obstruction of the public business by a process of talking a measure to death. There is no regulation to prevent the committeemen from speaking forever, and some of them have declared their intention to talk until they gain their point, irrespective of the merits of the case.

There came before the committee the question of nominating a chairman to look into the question of city rents. The Social Democrats were opposed to Doctor Klenbock, former minister of finance, who was desired by a majority of the committee. They began a series of endless speeches on the duties of the chairman, and have kept this up for eight weeks.

One member, Herr Witternig, has spoken for forty-eight hours, spread over a period of seven days. He recently announced he would "mumble" for seven days more. His method is to utter a word every thirty seconds, or two words a minute, and thus to prolong indefinitely his discourse.

Say Yankee Travelers Too Free With Tips

Southampton.—Reports circulated here that the American State department has put its foot down on extravagant tipping by its representatives have brought out tales of the largesse of some American millionaires when they leave the vessels that have carried them across the Atlantic.

It is related among steamship stewards that on one trip recently an American millionaire gave \$10 to every member of the crew of the ship on which he was traveling and \$25 to each of the officers. His tips, it was estimated by the stewards, cost this individual \$10,000.

Another passenger not long ago surprised a steward by presenting him with \$400 after a six-day passage from New York to Southampton.

Equable Temperature

The climate at the equator varies with the altitude above the sea level and nearness to the sea. At Quito, on the equator, 9,350 feet above sea level, the inorning temperature is 47 degrees—the midday temperature is 65 degrees. This varies very little with the season.

Give Name to Town

Shreveport, La., was named in honor of Henry Miller Shreve (1785-1854), a native of New Jersey, who, in 1818, ascended the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Louisville in the Enterprise, the first steam vessel to make the trip.