

### AT HOME ON THE FARM — with — THE CITY COUSIN

I've been fooled before, but never like this! No telling how long I would have labored under false impressions about farming in North Carolina and in general if I hadn't run across that little book.

It's a brilliantly conceived piece of work that looks like one of those vestpocket dictionaries you see advertised. Although it does contain a definition here and there, it is really the 1947 Handbook for Agricultural Workers prepared by the State College Extension Service, and, to stamp out a new idiom, there is more there than first met the eye of this City Cousin when he plunked down a dollar for his copy.

Did I hear you say "Information, Please?" Well, you've got the right number! You can quit trying to find out what to plant in your "Peace Garden" between March 1 and 15, and if you still want to know what to do for chickens that are drooping from Aspergillosis, Bronchitis, and/or Laryngotracheitis—well, I've got the dope right here in my little manual that tells me everything but the weather forecast for next Easter Sunday!

Little did I suspicion before reading this "Farmer's Best-Seller"—non-fiction that is, sub—that my Country Cousin must be something of a chemist, biologist, engineer, and all-round Medicine Man rolled into one. (This pre-supposes, natchery, that he is already an astrologer, a lawyer, and a clairvoyant.)

"Things Every Successful Farmer Should Know" might well be the title of this five-foot shelf of reference books boiled to a neat 151 pages of data pertinent to this state. (I don't suppose it would take an ounce more of quicklime to whitewash a shed in Maryland than it would down here—depending upon how dirty the shed was—but you get the idea.)

Should the farmer care to know how many acres a machine will cover, he can save himself a lot of time and gasoline by using the formula of page 21. No more jumping on the thing and running around the farm like mad with a stop watch in one hand and the accelerator in the other. Just look on page 21.

Besides learning what Tar Heel farmers should know about forty-seven different field crops that thrive here, you'd be amazed at what I could do on the farm with the electricity consumed in a city apartment in one month.

As I dragged out my January light bill and pressed my new Handbook into use, I was shocked. I had already been shocked by the light bill, but any way this was a pretty strong anti-climax.

I could have baled three tons of hay, churned a ton of butter, shelled twenty-five bushels of corn, saved two cords of wood, threshed three hundred pounds of grain, and milked forty-nine and a half cows. This would have left me with enough Killowatt-hours to give myself a good sun tan and hatch out two and two-tenths

## HEALTH HINTS FOR LIVESTOCK

### RABIES INCREASING IN U. S.; CONTROL NEEDED

Although many do not realize it, one of the most dreaded diseases



Known to man—rabies—is steadily on the increase in this country. The in-

crease in rabies figures show that in 1944 for the first time cases of rabies in animals and man passed the 10,000 mark. In some localities wild foxes and other animals have contracted the disease and have roamed the countryside spreading it. Horses, cows, pigs, and other livestock have become victims of rabies, along with human beings.

The average person may well ask—"What can we do about it?" Perhaps the best answer is provided in a recent report of the U. S. Livestock Sanitary Association which emphasizes "the alarming increase of rabies in certain areas." The report cites the fact that effective control in aggressive programs has centered on large scale vaccination of dogs. The reasons for recommending this control program include these facts:

Dogs are still the chief spreaders of rabies. In communities where all dogs have been vaccinated, rabies has been virtually wiped out. The quality of rabies vaccine has been so improved in recent years that it is extremely dependable, thus removing the objection formerly voiced by persons who were opposed to anti-rabies vaccination. With such a vaccination program, authorities recommend that all stray dogs be impounded, and that dogs being shipped from one area to another be required to have a rabies-immune certificate.

The saving of the life of a single child, it is pointed out, would be worth all these precautions.

### baby chicks.

What about that half a cow that remains un milked?

Let's see now — what page was that on?

It won't be long now before the news of the day will be the extent of the latest cold wave.

Education, despite all theories to the contrary, does not end at graduation but at the grave.

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### "Keep Busy," Says Aged Orange County Farmer

"Keep busy if you want to live a long time!"

That's the philosophy of Clay Dorsett, seventy-year-old farmer who lives near Eiland in Orange County, and, according to reports from E. P. Barnes, assistant county agent for the State College Extension Service, Mr. Dorsett practices what he preaches.

Without any hired help, but assisted by his grandchildren—the oldest is 12 years old—he looks after a herd of twenty milk cows. He recently completed the construction of an up-to-date milking barn, which stepped up the quality of the milk produced on his farm to Grade A, according to Barnes.

In addition to his dairying enterprise, he found time last spring to purchase and feed out thirty shoats, which he sold as top hogs in July, after a feeding period of slightly more than three months. In January, Mr. Dorsett bought twenty shoats averaging seventy-five pounds each, which are being fed principally on two year old corn.

Last fall, Mr. Dorsett bought two baby calves for his 12-year-old granddaughter, Mary Smith, a member of the Eiland Junior 4-H Club.

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## HEALTH HINTS FOR LIVESTOCK

PREPARED BY AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

### A NEW DISEASE OF POULTRY REPORTED

As though poultry raisers did not already have enough disease problems to cope with, a new disease has recently made its appearance in America.

Unfortunately, symptoms of Newcastle disease may resemble several other poultry diseases. There may be a sharp drop in egg production, reduction in food consumption, and a condition that looks like a "cold", which spreads rapidly through the flock. Then the birds become dull, their feathers become ruffled, they breathe with difficulty, and sometimes there are severe convulsions such as tremors of the head, the head backward, or falling the head down between the legs. These signs may be confused so easily with other diseases that it usually requires a laboratory diagnosis to tell Newcastle disease from others.

The incubation period is usually 7 to 14 days, but may be as short as 48 hours, and as long as 21 days. It is highly contagious and is spread by direct contact, by air, and by insects. It is also spread by contact with contaminated feed, water, and manure.

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