

POULTRY FACTS

INCREASE POULTRY STOCK

Opportunities for Specialists to Co-operate With Raisers in Best Production.

Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture. While the main effort in the campaign to increase the nation's stocks of productive poultry is to be directed to the general farmer and the city householder, it does not follow that the specialist in poultry production cannot render good service in this cause. He may find it desirable and conducive to his greater profit to diversify his raising by devoting more attention to live stock other than poultry and producing a larger proportion of his products on his own ground. It may be doubtful in some cases whether a special poultry farm can operate profitably along the same lines as in the past. The grower of table poultry can use his stock, plant and equipment for production along some other line that will be profitable at this time. Indeed, in most cases he must so adapt his business to changed conditions or sacrifice what he has invested in it.

Every farmer that becomes interested in increasing and improving his poultry, and every town resident who begins to keep poultry in the back yard is going to buy stock or eggs for hatching, or baby chicks. This should be at least the normal demand for birds, eggs, and stock in the early part of the year, and also stimulate demand for pullets in the fall.

The attention of poultry breeders who want to produce to meet popular demands may well be called to the advantage of the "farming out" method of producing stock in quantity. Farmers who are interested in increasing and improving their stock and town people who have room to grow more chickens than they wish for themselves will in many cases find it an advantage to grow stock for a breeder in their vicinity. With so much new interest developing, it should be easier than usual to get breeders and the poultry keepers near them to co-operate in the production of fowls, for raising especially. Such an arrangement is to the advantage of both. It reduces the cost of getting good stock to the grower and the risk on growing stock to the breeder.

The success of this line of work and co-operation depends very largely upon early hatching, and that in turn depends much upon the breeders begin-



A Well-Cared-For Flock Produces Economical Eggs and Meat for the Family.

ning at once to interest their neighbors in growing chickens for them. Whether he farms out stock or not, every poultry keeper who looks forward to better times in poultry culture should do his part to bring them, by producing all that he can handle at home.

GEESSE AS PRODUCERS OF FAT

Importance of Adequate Number of Fowls in Poultry Scheme Is Quite Apparent.

Geese hold a sector in the line of the poultry army that makes war against waste. When the facts are taken into consideration that the demand for geese is strong, steady and extends over practically the whole year, that geese excel all other kinds of poultry as producers of fat, a thing of which the world stands at present in dire need, and that their value as egg producers is considerable, the importance of an adequate number of geese in the poultry scheme becomes apparent. Geese take their living in large part from grasses of the pasture and need range of this nature to be kept at a profit.

KEEP SICK FOWLS SEPARATE

When Disease Appears in Flock Place Ailing Birds by Themselves and Clean Up.

When disease appears in a flock of chickens the sick fowls should be separated and placed to themselves. If any have died they should be burned or buried. The house and yards should be disinfected and a hunt begun immediately for the cause of the trouble. Conditions should be corrected as quickly as possible to prevent its continuance.

PARLIAMENT HEARS PRESIDENT SPEAK

JOINT RECEPTION IS GIVEN THE PRESIDENT BY THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT AT ROME.

GEN. DIAZ AND WILSON MEET

Weather Warmer and More Balmly Than That Experienced by Party in France or England.

Rome.—In parliament house a joint reception was given President Wilson by the members of the senate and the chamber of deputies. The function was an impressive one. The large and distinguished gathering gave the President an ovation.

During his speech the President constantly was interrupted by outbursts of applause and when he ended he was accorded an ovation which lasted until he passed through the exit of the building. Outside the throngs in the street took up the demonstration which continued until the doors of the Quirinal closed behind Mr. Wilson.

The weather was warmer and more balmly than the presidential party had experienced in France and England and there was a feeling of relief on their part. The President met with really the first touch of sustained sunshine he had seen since coming to Europe, and he made the remark during the day that the weather reminded him of that at home.

During the day King Victor Emmanuel presented General Diaz to President Wilson, who complimented the Italian commander-in-chief on the magnificent achievements of his army.

The President expressed regret that he would be unable to visit the Italian battlefield owing to lack of time and the necessity of returning to Paris as soon as possible for the work of the peace conference.

AMERICAN MILITARY LAWS ARE DECLARED OBSOLETE

New York.—Administration of military justice in the United States will be one of the subjects considered at the annual meeting of the American Bar Association. The executive committee of the association, at a meeting here, decided it is a subject which requires consideration and "probably some reformation."

In making the announcement, President George T. Page, of Peoria, Ill., gave out a statement in which he declared that the war has demonstrated "that our military laws and our system of administering military justice are unworthy of the name of law or justice." The United States, he said, still is following rules copied from England in 1774, but which were abandoned long ago by Great Britain and which were better suited "to the armies of feudal times than to the citizen armies of a modern republic."

HOOVER, DIRECTOR GENERAL INTERNATIONAL RELIEF WORK

Paris.—President Wilson has appointed Herbert C. Hoover director general of international organization for the relief of liberated countries, both neutral and enemy. Norman Davis, formerly on the staff of Oscar T. Crosby, special commissioner of finance for the United States in Europe, will act as Mr. Hoover's assistant.

This was announced by the American peace commission in a statement which says that the designation of Mr. Hoover to take charge of the relief work is in conformity with the request of the allied governments that the United States take a predominant part in the organization and direction of relief measures. The statement says:

"Upon President Wilson's arrival the result of the investigations of the United States and allied government officials into the food situation of the liberated countries, neutral and enemy were laid before him.

NEARLY ALL FORTY-FIRST DIVISION ORDERED HOME

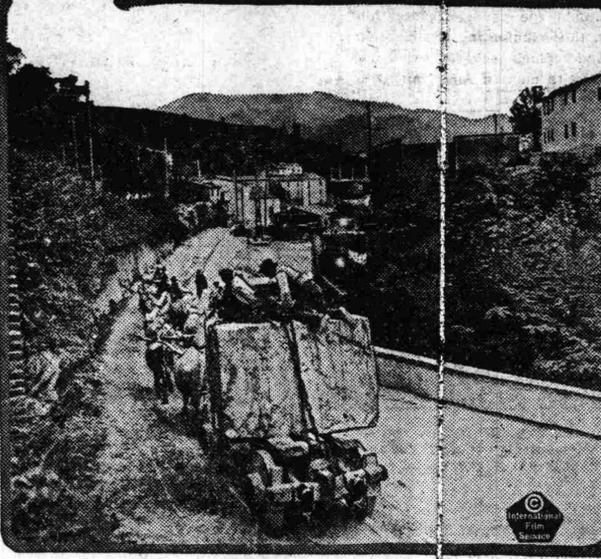
Washington.—Practically the entire forty-first division was included in a list of units announced by the war department as assigned for early convey from France.

The forty-first division was the first to be stationed at Camp Greene. This division was there several months in the fall of 1917 and was transferred overseas from here a short while before Christmas. Charlotte literally "fell in love" with the Western boys.

200 SICK AND WOUNDED YET ABOARD STRANDED LINER

Fire Island, N. Y.—Except for 200 wounded men, every one a veteran of European battlefields and more than half of them helpless on their cots, all of the 2,500 soldiers were passengers on the stranded army transport Northern Pacific were safe ashore or aboard naval vessels at the close of the second day of one of the most remarkable marine rescues in the history of the Atlantic coast.

VINTAGE TIME IN TUSCANY



A Road in Tuscany.

IT WAS the vintage time, and I tried to forget that half of Christendom was plunged in a great war. Leaving the fighting line, I wandered about in the lovely freedom of the hill country of Tuscany, past villas which are surmised rather than seen through the long vistas of grave, still cypresses and around smiling, silver-green olive slopes from whose summits beckon dignified palace fortresses of the Medicis or sterner and more aged ivy-decked towers, writes a Tuscan correspondent of the New York Evening Post. Finally, I reached the road of my morning's quest and stopped where a high wall, after many turns and twists, suddenly opened to a vision of green terraces. It was the gate to the podere upon which Tonino and his forebears have labored for the last century and a half—the family "going to the land," not as serfs, but as willing servants of the soil.

Entering the terraced farm, I skirted a stout wall with ivy spreading lovingly over its gray stones; a hedge of winter roses followed me in fragrant companionship all the way to Tonino's farmhouse, a structure poised bravely over a precipitous ledge of rocks.

The house itself might be called an architectural slant of walls, chimneys, stone flags and steps running off and down in all directions till they seem to merge with the vines and the olive tree and the green sod. I lingered a moment, then followed in the wake of a primitive oxcart, painted bright red, on which the empty grape vats rumbled sonorously as the plodding beasts dragged their draft over the stony road.

Harvesting the Grape Crop.

It was a pagan—almost bacchanalian—picture, as those huge cattle, white and big-horned, moved slowly and professionally down the way, flanked by grape vines in endless, festive wreaths and festoons strung from tree to tree. At the lower terrace a host of neighbors was busily at work cutting the dew-moist grapes, dropping the luscious bunches into picturesque baskets lying all about. The sun played in glad, shifting shadows in and out of the vines and olive trees, while the damp soil, drinking in the solar warmth, exuded a moisture heavily odoriferous with the abounding vitality of Mother Earth.

The harvesters included many women, some territorial soldiers on leave and a few children. No one, old or young, gave signs of fatigue; the labor was pursued slowly and easily, not at all as a struggle in overcoming time, or resistance. It was this seeming slowness of the laborers in Italy which often gives to the outsider, especially to the nervous and strenuous American observer, the impression of a wastage of time in the accomplishment of things. This apparent slowness, however, is rather a wise restraint and distribution of effort, coupled with traditional skill or special hardiness, which bring about results by deftness as well as by mere expenditure of force.

So, at this harvesting, all of that crowded, terraced acreage had been shorn of its grapes by sundown, and all the fruit carried away to the wine press.

Supper for Tonino's Laborers.

At nine in the evening we gathered at Tonino's house for the harvest supper, to which, by immemorial custom, everyone who has labored in the vineyards must be invited. We entered by the kitchen door, near which hung a little oil lamp patterned after those of the Etruscans; at the long table in the main room of this casa colonica sat three generations of harvesters—24 men, women and children.

A warm, soothing, "natural" odor of oxen and stable came thinly and not unpleasantly into the feast chamber, which had that dignity of proportion and fine simplicity of lines which speaks of Tuscan taste, even in these humble quarters. A light hung from the center of the ceiling threw a rather dim illumination over the festive board, but amply sufficient for us to see all the good things which awaited our impending attack. First soup was served from huge bowls into deep, ca-

pacious dishes, next came a rich and satisfying fritto misto, and then large platters, burdened with pasta redolent with an herb savored sauce. There was plenty of honest wine to wash down the huge slashes of war bread served out generously to all of us.

No Bitterness in War Talk.

After the pleasant business of eating was over the men started talking about the war. It was a simple, rather objective discussion, without bitterness or hatred, of something unpleasant which had to be done, but all must wish that it should be ended and laid aside as soon as possible. Then the conversation waxed warm in the more direct and personal realities of the year's corps, and the promise for the coming seasons. One by one the little children snuggled closer to their mothers' sides, and childish heads bent sleepily over the table or fell, relaxed and safe, on arms soft and solicitous with maternal care. The drowsiness of a hard day's labor crept irresistibly upon the men, urging them to well-earned and refreshing sleep.

We said good night and started homeward; the little oil lamp by the door had flickered out, but a faint moonlight was bathing the landscape in a soft, mystical indistinctness; far away the domes and towers of Florence rose skyward like dream symbols of hopes and darings, of love and faith.

I sat in contemplation, watching the moonlight wax stronger and brighter, making more real and definite the picture of peace on earth spread so wondrously before me, till my thoughts wandered away to another harvest scene, far removed among sterner but no less peace-loving mountains, a harvest scene of battle wherein men like those with whom I had gathered grapes today were the protagonists.

Italy Scouts Plant Trees.

The boy scouts of Italy have been entrusted with the nation-wide propaganda for reforestation, and results of the boys' efforts are expected to count as one of the most effective services ever rendered to a state by this organization, which has attained fully as great proportions and prominence in Italy as it has in the United States.

The boy scouts of Italy, beginning at once, will not only give their own help in the actual work of reforestation but will inculcate it as one of the cardinal principles of their organization.

BADEN-POWELL AND SCOUTS.

On the anniversary of the outbreak of the war in Europe, Lieut. Gen. Robert S. Baden-Powell, founder of the boy scout movement, addressed the following cablegram to the Boy Scouts of America:

"Hope scouts will join in increased effort to make fifth year of war successfully the last."

Chief Scout Executive James E. West replied as follows:

"American scouts through splendid war service program have gloriously justified value organized boyhood. Are pledged to hundred per cent participation in effort to make fifth year successfully the last."

DOINGS OF THE SCOUTS.

The scouts of Montclair, N. J., with a hastily contrived apparatus, succeeded in heliographing from Glen Gray to Montclair, a distance of sixteen and a half miles. Communication was opened and short messages were read.

Fire broke out three times in the mountains back of Plainfield, New Jersey, and each time the boy scouts went out to fight it.

A Brooklyn troop of scouts assisted an old lady to secure food and fuel.

BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

GERMAN MISUSE OF SCOUTS

How German terrorism has extended even to the perversion of the objects of their own boy scout organization is told by Thomas M. Johnson, a staff correspondent of the Evening Sun of New York, with the American First army in France. He says:

"The fear of German boy scouts, as much as anything else, intimidates the German people at home, according to prisoners captured in the last few days.

"Several prisoners, including Prussians, explain this seemingly strange statement by saying that German boy scouts in the cities, lads of fifteen and sixteen years of age, have been drilled and equipped with machine guns and placed under orders by the military authorities and the police—drilled as thoroughly and strictly as German soldiers themselves and taught the goose step.

"German civilians, weakened by lack of food and knowing the murderous power of machine guns, are in awe of these youngsters, who are beginning to give themselves the airs of Prussian officers. If this is true, it is a valuable sidelight on militarism."

SCOUTS AIDED AT EXPLOSION.

The value of organized boyhood in an emergency was fully demonstrated in the cities of New Jersey to which refugees fled from South Amboy, where the explosion of a great shell-loading plant occurred.

No call was issued for the boys, but they responded of their own volition and worked as hard as they could, doing everything and anything asked.

Some of the scouts rode with the drivers of conveyances which were bringing the people from Amboy. They helped the refugees into the cars, carrying babies, bundles and family pets, and making things comfortable on the ride. Others acted as messengers in the armories, carried cots and blankets, swept floors, waited on the canteen workers, passed out refreshments, entertained the children by playing games with them, and, in fact, boys could be seen at all times busy as bees, doing everything that was helpful.

SCOUTS DRYING PEACH PITS.



Splendid Service Rendered Uncle Sam by These Youthful Heroes.

ITALY SCOUTS PLANT TREES.

The boy scouts of Italy have been entrusted with the nation-wide propaganda for reforestation, and results of the boys' efforts are expected to count as one of the most effective services ever rendered to a state by this organization, which has attained fully as great proportions and prominence in Italy as it has in the United States.

BADEN-POWELL AND SCOUTS.

On the anniversary of the outbreak of the war in Europe, Lieut. Gen. Robert S. Baden-Powell, founder of the boy scout movement, addressed the following cablegram to the Boy Scouts of America:

"Hope scouts will join in increased effort to make fifth year of war successfully the last."

Chief Scout Executive James E. West replied as follows:

"American scouts through splendid war service program have gloriously justified value organized boyhood. Are pledged to hundred per cent participation in effort to make fifth year successfully the last."

DOINGS OF THE SCOUTS.

The scouts of Montclair, N. J., with a hastily contrived apparatus, succeeded in heliographing from Glen Gray to Montclair, a distance of sixteen and a half miles. Communication was opened and short messages were read.

Fire broke out three times in the mountains back of Plainfield, New Jersey, and each time the boy scouts went out to fight it.

A Brooklyn troop of scouts assisted an old lady to secure food and fuel.

FARM ANIMALS

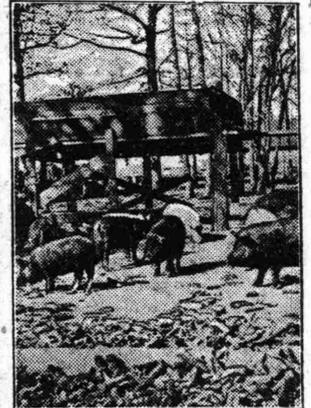
RAISING WELL-BRED SWINE

Return Money Invested More Quickly Than Any Other Farm Animals Except Poultry.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

No branch of live stock farming gives better results than the raising of well-bred swine when conducted with a reasonable amount of intelligence. The hog is one of the most important animals to raise on the farm, either for meat or for profit, and no farm is complete unless some hogs are kept to aid in the modern method of farming. The farmers of the South and West, awakening to the merits of the hog, are rapidly increasing their output of pork and their bank accounts. The hog requires less labor, less equipment, less capital, and makes greater gains per hundred pounds of concentrate than any other farm animal, and reproduces himself faster and in greater numbers; and returns the money invested more quickly than any other farm animal except poultry.

In the trucking and mixed-farming sections of the United States hogs are



A Good Hog-Feeding Floor Saves Feed and is an Aid in Fighting Vermin.

used to consume various unmarketable substances. The value of milk is known on every farm although it may not be fully appreciated, and any one who has fed pigs knows the keen appetite they have for milk and its products. In the neighborhood of many large dairies pork production has become a very prominent and lucrative supplement to the dairy industry. The hog is also a large factor in cheapening the production of beef. Hogs are placed in the cattle feed lots to utilize the corn and other feeds which the cattle have failed to digest and which otherwise would be wasted. Hogs following steers in many cases have increased the profit per steer by \$6 to \$8. Farmers and hotel and restaurant owners are using kitchen refuse to produce salable pork. In fact, as a consumer of by-products the hog has no rival.

However, this propensity in many instances is being taken unfair advantage of through ignorance and lack of care. Milk products, animal offal, etc., which contain disease germs, especially those of tuberculosis, are given to hogs. This practice not only results in spreading disease but causes loss in the hogs themselves through condemnation at slaughter. All such products should be effectively sterilized before being fed.

FEEDING NEW CORN TO STOCK

Not Safe for Hogs and Mules—Liable to Produce Disorders—Give Hogs Minerals.

New corn is not a safe grain for work horses and mules, as it is liable to produce colic and indigestion. If it must be fed, feed only the driest ears, not more than four or six ears at each meal. A small quantity of salt should be sprinkled on each feed. A better and safer method is to feed half corn and half oats.

If green corn is fed to hogs, the safest plan is to feed the entire stalks with the ears on the stalks. Feed small quantities at each meal; spread the corn out in the feed lot so that each one will get its full share.

Keep a full supply of wood and coal ashes, burnt wood and corn-cob charcoal under cover in the feeding pens, so the hogs can help themselves. These minerals are useful in correcting the acidity of the green fodder and corn.

VALUE OF ACRE OF ALFALFA

Result of Interesting Experiment Conducted on Kansas Agricultural College Farm.

Experiments conducted on the Kansas agricultural college farm have shown that 170 pounds of green alfalfa, cut and fed in a dry lot, was equal to 100 pounds of corn. Six pounds of corn was necessary to produce a pound of pork, so the 170 pounds of alfalfa produced 162-3 pounds of pork. Estimating that during the season an acre of alfalfa will yield 20,000 pounds of green hay, this, if cut and fed green with corn, would make 2,000 pounds of pork. Figuring this pork at the prevailing price will give some idea of the value of an acre of alfalfa.