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How To Assure a Supply of Clean Milk

The Barnyard 1. It should be well drained clean and dry and should be as much sheltered as possible from the wind and cold.

The Stable 1. Gow stables should be well lighted and ventilated. The ventilation should be preferably from the top.

The Milk and Milkers 1. No person having any communicable disease, or one caring for persons having such disease, should be allowed to handle the milk or milk utensils or assist in the milking.

2. The hands of the milkers should be carefully washed immediately before milking. The hands should be thoroughly washed with soap and water and carefully dried on a clean towel.

3. Milk with dry hands; never allow the hands to come in contact with the milk. The practice of moistening the hands with milk, or to spit on them, is to be condemned.

4. The milker should wear a clean washable jacket, used only when milking, and kept in a clean place at other times.

5. Always brush off and wipe the udder and surrounding parts just before milking. If the cows are very dirty, wash with a cloth or sponge, and then dry the udders and teats with a clean piece of cloth or sacking.

6. Milk quietly, quickly, cleanly and thoroughly. 7. The first few streams from each teat should be rejected, as this milk contains more bacteria than the rest of the mess.

8. All milk drawn from the cows 15 days before and 5 days after calving shall be rejected, and also all milk from diseased cows. If any accident occurs by which a pail full or partly full of milk becomes dirty, do not try to remedy this by straining, because the soluble filth and the bacteria cannot be removed by straining, but reject all this milk and rinse the pail.

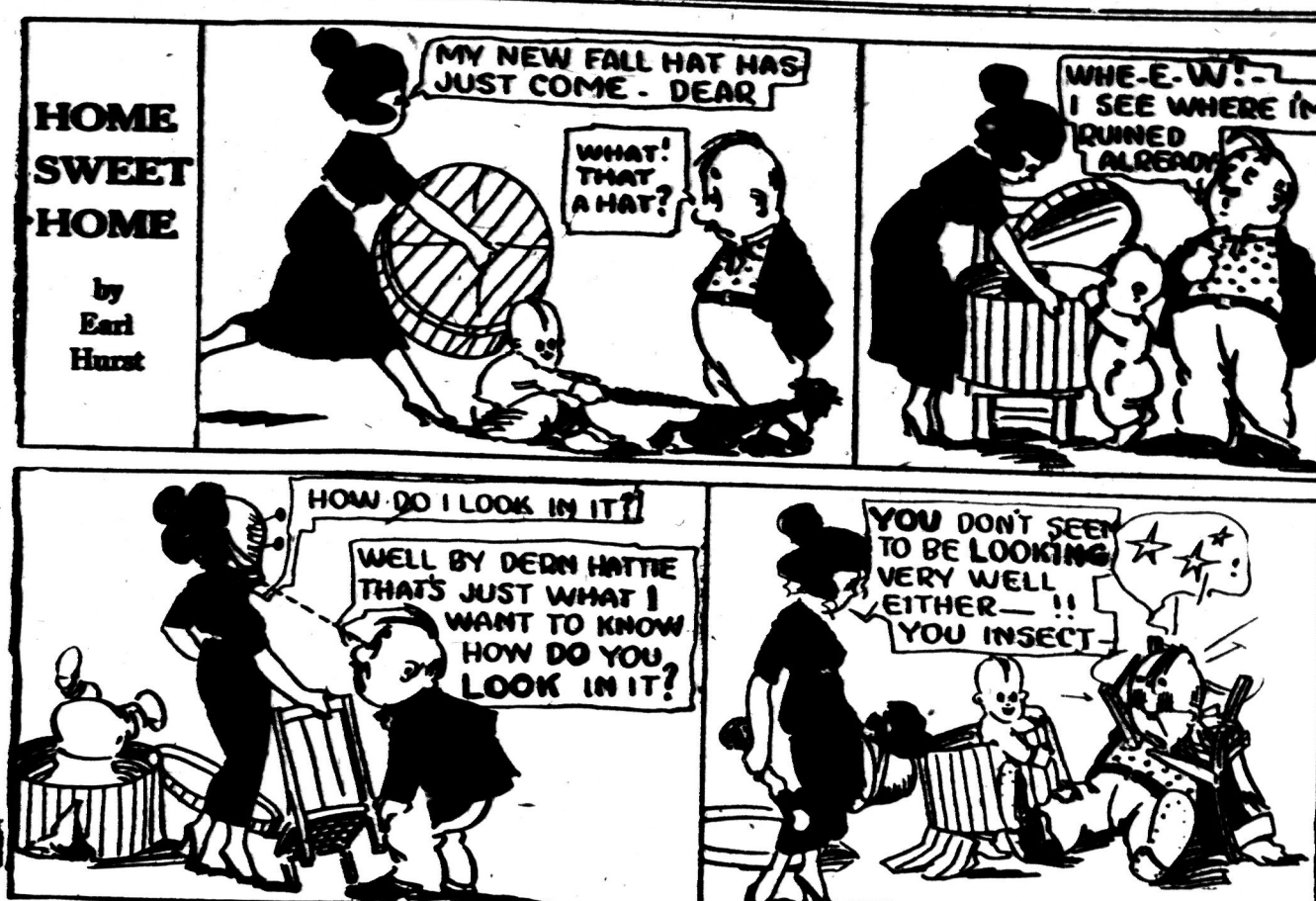
9. The milk in which the milk is drawn should have a small opening at the top as can be used in milking. This renders the collection of manure and dust with the milk, less likely.

The Milk 1. Remove the milk of every cow at once from the stable to the milk house or to a clean room where the air is pure and sweet. Do not allow milk cans to remain in stables while they are being filled.

2. A good plan, if modern coolers are not available, is to strain the milk into cans in ice water which reached the neck of the can. 3. The more rapidly the milk is cooled and the colder it is kept the safer it is, and the longer it will remain sweet.

4. Ice should be used in cooling, both in summer and winter, as very few wells or springs are cold enough for the purpose. 5. If aerators or coolers are used, they should stand where the air is free from dust and odor, and on no account should they be used in the cow stable.

6. Milk should always be cooled as soon as strained. If modern apparatus for airing and cooling at the same time is not at hand, the milk should be aered by tipping the covers slightly while cooling the milk to 50 deg. F. in clean ice water. Precautions should always be taken to see that the water is above the milk to be cooled in the cans, and that the water cannot overflow into the cans and water the milk.



The Heavens in September BY M. A. PEASE

Cygnus the Swan, or the Northern Cross, swings high in the sky in September. It is happily one of the great figures in the heavens that everyone can recognize at a glance.

This portion of the sky abounds with birds. Besides the swan, we have Aquila the eagle, and Lyra the falling or swooping eagle.

The early Christians regarded this figure as the Cross of Calvary. It is really much more perfect in form than the far-famed Southern Cross. It stands as a beautiful symbol of Christian faith beckoning all beholders upward and onward.

The nearest lucid star in our hemisphere is in Cygnus, and is known as 61 Cygni. This little star is barely visible to the naked eye, being of great magnitude.

The Capricorn, which appears on the Babylonian boundary stones, the Capricorn of a modern almanac. It is thought that the Chaldeans named the constellation a Wild Goat because that animal in feeding always begins to mount the sky, and hence the goat was adopted as a symbol of the apparent motion of the sun.

The Oriental nations referred to Capricorn as "The Southern Gate of the Sun." It was also considered the Gate of the Gods, through which the souls of men passed at death on the journey to the hereafter.

Mars is low in the evening sky in September. It is steadily drawing near the bright star Antares in Scorpio, and will later in the month pass within three degrees of that bright star.

Jupiter is now a sun of the morning, and will be seen to best advantage as such after the middle of the month. Saturn is also a morning star, but is too close to the sun to be advantageously seen.

Uranus is in the evening sky about a half-hour after sunset. It will be seen in the Constellation Aquarius. Neptune appears in the morning sky about 4 a.m.

MARSHAL PETAIN'S LITTLE ROMANCE

Remained Bachelor After Losing Pretty Little Cashier

Of the three Marshals of France, one, Marshal Petain, is a bachelor, and all the candidates for the honor of being Mme. le Marechal—rumor says they have many—have come to the conclusion that his heart is as unacquiescent as he made Verdun.

But the truth is that he lost it long ago and was beaten by a rival, says a Paris exchange. He is not the cold, immovable man of popular opinion.

Once, when he was Major and instructor at the Paris War School, he was in the habit of lunching at a restaurant patronized by officers at the corner of the Champ de Mars. But it was not only for the excellence of its cuisine that the future Marshal went there.

Perched at the desk by the door was a lovely cashier. The whole war school was in love with her, but it was supposed that the Major instructor would win over his pupils.

One day the pretty cashier quitted her desk and was seen with orange blossoms in her hair, making her way to a neighboring church. But Petain was not the bridegroom. The bride had passed him by and given her affections to a younger man, to whom the Major was teaching the art of war.

Not long ago the Marshal was visiting the country and the General in command of the district gave a luncheon in his honor. On his arrival at the house the Major recognized in the wife of his host his long-lost love of long ago, now a matron surrounded by her children. As to him, the war had brought honor and promotion to his successful rival.

For a moment the Marshal, who for a man of his rank is shy, was somewhat embarrassed, but the hostess put things right. With a memory, perhaps, of past favors refused, she advanced to meet her guests.

"This time you may embrace me, M. le Marechal," she said; and at their ease the happy company sat down to luncheon.

NO SHELLS? ASK THE HENS. Some so-called poultry experts have advised that laying hens do not need to be fed oyster shells. Strange, isn't it, how we have been throwing away good money needlessly all these years? But in this as in many other vital points I prefer to ask the most interested parties, the hens that lay the eggs.

And I'd like to have the experts tell me why, if laying hens don't need shells, they go for them so ravenously after being without them for a few days. Why will they gorge with feed, confined in a coop, nearly every day, and laying an egg nearly every day, but most insistently in hen language for something which is lacking, and then go into ecstasies when she sees those shells brought by someone who understands that same hen language?

Why will hens persist in putting poor shells on the eggs after the supply of oyster shells has nearly run out? Why will laying ducks gobble shells as though they were choice morsels, as they don't need them? And why do these different kinds of poultry pretty nearly ignore these same shells when not producing eggs?

Perhaps eating shells is an acquired habit like taking snuff or eating pie with a knife. Be that as it may, every known kind of fowl language indicates the desire for and the need of oyster shells for the laying hen.

DON'T KEEP TOO MANY ROOSTERS. The poor old rooster in the farm poultry flock has been getting an abundance of publicity in recent years: The most popular saying is: "Be a booster, sweat the rooster, in the good old summer time." This helps to meet the problem of good eggs in warm weather. Some people are also interested, however, in the male birds during the breeding season, for upon them rests part of the responsibility for strong, fertile eggs and vigorous, livable chicks.

The head of the flock receives most of the blame for the poor hatches of eggs every spring. The farmer thinks if the eggs don't hatch that it is the rooster's fault and possibly buys a new rooster. The male is really only a part of the flock. So far as breeding value is concerned, but when it comes to the fertility problem he is only half. Experiments have shown that one rooster will make fertile many eggs. Usually the first egg after mating is infertile. For the next eight or ten days fertility will show in practically every egg and will continue to show itself in some eggs up to fifteen days. Nearly all of these eggs will hatch and the fertile ones are just as virile on the tenth as on the second day. This shows that it is not necessary to mate a hen for every egg, but that the influence of the male on the future offspring will not be removed for two weeks after he is taken from the flock. If males mix in the breeding pen it is best to wait two or three weeks to insure purity of chicks.

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