

EFFICIENT FARMING

Feeding for Spring Lambs.

We feel very confident that farmers do not realize how much it means, in final results, to save practically all the lamb crop. Many years' experience has taught us that if we save all our lambs success is assured, while if we lose a heavy per cent. failure is almost inevitable. We find the measure of our success here is usually the measure of our real profits in the fall.

As we drive throughout the country in the early spring it is not an unusual sight to see enough dead lambs thrown out, or up on some old shed, to make a fine profit for the owner had they been saved and grown to maturity. There are many things that lead up to success or down to failure at this point.

In the matter of ewes owning their lambs we find the previous care of the ewe is by far the most potent factor. We all know that self preservation is the first law of nature. And while the ewe doesn't think yet we have never been able to just determine where instinct leaves off and reason begins.

But we do know this, that the ewe that is thin and out of condition is very apt to drop her lamb and walk away and leave it, thus leaving both lamb and owner in trouble. Nature seems to say, I have not the necessary vitality nor strength to care for this added burden. While the ewe that has been well fed on properly balanced foods is vigorous and strong, her milk is abundant, her mother's instinct will also be strong and there is no danger of her deserting her offspring.

The effect will also be very apparent in the lamb. If insufficient or improper feeds have been used the lamb will be weak and lack the power to properly care for himself. While the lamb from a properly cared for ewe may be dropped, as we have had them this winter, right out in the snow on a bitter cold day and yet jump up immediately and get busy for his dinner, and both ewe and lamb came along all right.

However, the past is gone, but what we do even from now on will mean very much. Sheep should have some form of succulents, roots or silage. However, if silage is used it should be good silage as rotten silage is dangerous for sheep. We have always fed silage liberally to our sheep and uniformly with good results. If neither roots or silage are available we would recommend a portion of the feed be fitted best pulp, as a partial substitute. While best pulp is not excellent, yet it is a vegetable feed and if the sheep have plenty of good water with the pulp, it assists greatly in the digestion and assimilation of the other feeds besides its own food value.

We consider much is gained by feeding a variety of feeds. Indeed, we never feed even one feed of silage alone but put the hay, bean pods or other dry roughage into racks and throw the silage onto it, thus pressing it well down in the rack. In this way each feed seems to give a relish for the other. All stock enjoy a variety of feeds as well as we do ourselves.

Many farmers feed one kind of roughage until it is all gone then another and so on. I wonder what these farmers would think if their wives should say to them in the fall, "Now, the potatoes may freeze and be spoiled so we better eat potatoes for a couple of months. Then perhaps our cured meats may not keep as the weather warms toward spring, so we had better eat our meat for six or eight weeks, then we will 'stirring out' an bread."

What would these farmers say? Yet this is exactly what many farmers are asking their stock to do. No, we should try to store our feeds in a manner to make them available for mixed feeding through the entire feeding season. Stock will show their appreciation as far as it is possible for a dumb animal to do so.

There are scientific reasons underlying mixed feeding which many do not understand. While the protein, carbohydrates and fat of any two feed-stuffs may be practically the same, we find the elements there in just a little different chemical combinations

and thus have a little different effect on the digestive tract of the animal. And we must realize that it is not what the animal eats but what it is able to properly digest and assimilate that measures the final results to us. And experience has led us to believe we get much better results by mixed feeding.

And as to liberal feeding we feel it always pays, and especially so it true when the price of sheep in the markets are as high as they are at this time and the price of feeds are at so very low levels.

As a rule we find good clean cut beams about the cheapest and best for the base of our grain ration. When

we consider the high protein and mineral content of the beam and realize what this means to the proper development of the fetus offspring we feel at this price no sheep man could afford to not have beams for his breeding ewes.

One-half beam, one-quarter corn and one-quarter oats in bulk makes a good standard mixture. Oats are always good but usually too high in price is why we do not use more.

If the ewes have not been liberally fed with grain one should start in carefully and gradually increase. A good liberal handful, or about one-fourth of a pound, is a good ration for a good-sized ewe until she drops her lamb, when it may be increased liberally.

Breeding ewes should have plenty of exercise and air and no matter about the cold up to lambing time, providing they are always kept dry. Moisture is the natural enemy of the sheep and should be avoided as far as possible.

Community development may be measured in neighborhood get-together meetings.

Smoke

OLD CHUM

The Tobacco of Quality

1/2 LB. TINS-and in p'kgs.

The Sunday School Lesson

MARCH 19

The Downfall of Israel, 2 Kings 17: 9-18. Golden Text—Prov. 14: 34.

Time—B.C. 721.

Lesson Foreword—Amos and the other prophets had predicted the downfall of Israel as a punishment for its sins. Events moved swiftly on. Hoshai the last king of Israel, perished in the evil course of his predecessors. Shalmaneser, the king of Assyria, which was the great world power at the time, made an expedition against Israel, reduced it to vassalage and exacted an annual tribute. One year Hoshai refused to pay tribute and the Assyrians discovered that he had entered into treasonable negotiations with Egypt, the great rival of Assyria. Thereupon Shalmaneser, in another expedition laid siege to Samaria and after three years captured it. The king and a great number of the people were deported to Assyria and forced to live in exile.

I. Disobedience, 9-12.

V. 9. The children of Israel did secretly. Publicly their religion was supposed to be the worship of Jehovah, their national God, and no doubt they observed the religion of Jehovah. But they tried to combine with it heathen elements which they practiced in secret lest God should see them. For secret rites see Ezek. 8: 7-12. Built in high places. The Canaanites, their predecessors in the land, worshipped their gods, the Baals, at what were known as high places. These were altars built on elevated places or hills of which Palestine, as a mountainous country, is full. Tower . . . city. Towers were used for the protection of flocks and vineyards. "These protecting towers were probably adjoined by the rude houses of peasants, and out of these groups of dwellings larger places would arise." What is meant here is that high places were built everywhere, from the smallest human habitation to the largest.

V. 10. Images. As the Hebrew word indicates these images were stone pillars in which a god, particularly the Canaanite Baal, was supposed to have taken up its residence. Sometimes they were carved Groves. These were trees sometimes stripped of their foliage, and sometimes left as they were. Like the stone pillars they were supposed to be inhabited by a god. Sacred stones and pillars were worshipped extensively by the Canaanites. Every high . . . tree. The favorite place for setting up a sacred stone or pole was on a high hill tops or in a grove of trees. (See Jer. 2: 20; 3: 6, 13.)

V. 11. Burnt incense. Incense was made of gums and resins and the perfumes for which Arabia was famous. It was used in the worship of the Jerusalem temple but here it was burnt to heathen gods, probably the Canaanite Baals. (See Hos. 2: 13.) As did the heathen. This was their sin. They should have been a "peculiar people" instead of becoming assimilated to their heathen neighbors. Wrought wicked things. This undoubtedly included their social wrongs, such as the oppression of the poor by the rich, and the miscarriage of justice which the prophets had denounced.

V. 12. Served idols. These were probably images of men, woman, beasts, reptiles and birds. They were set up both in public places and in their homes. Ye shall not do this thing. According to the law of Israel no representation or image of Jehovah was ever allowed and Israel had no right to worship any other god.

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II. Ingratitude, 13-17.

V. 13. Israel had no excuse for its sins. God had not left them in any doubt as to his will. He had sent plenty of prophets and seers to declare His will and to warn them against disobedience (see Jer. 7: 25; 17: 7). All the law which I commanded. Not only had the prophets declared God's will but it was embodied in the law which Israel had solemnly accepted of God in the wilderness. This was Israel's distinct possession, marking it off from its heathen neighbors, and if it had followed this law it would not have become assimilated by its neighbors.

V. 14. Would not hear; refused to listen to the prophets who spoke for God. Hardened their necks. They were stubborn, like an intractable animal which refuses to be driven. Like . . . their fathers. There was an ancient and inherited disposition.

V. 15. Followed vanity. In the Old Testament an idol was frequently called "a vanity." That is, it was a mere nothingness, being lifeless and unable to give any help. Became vain. They became as empty and unreal as the idols they worshipped. Went after the heathen. Again and again Israel had been told that they were to be a peculiar people, unlike any of the nations around them. But they were small and weak in comparison with some of the heathen nations and they supposed that by worshipping the gods of these nations they might become powerful as they were.

V. 16. The writer seems to be so passionately indignant with the sins of Israel, that he begins to reiterate them. (See Zeph. 1: 5; Jer. 7: 18; 19: 13.) Molten images, even two calves. Some of the images were carved wood but others were made of metal as these. It was Jeroboam who introduced the golden calves. (See 1 Kings 12: 28.) These were images of bulls which because of their miniature size were called "calves." All the host of heaven. The worship of the stars was introduced from Babylon, the stars were supposed to be inhabited by gods; their movements were carefully watched by the astrologers, because of these movements the gods made their will known. Star worship became very popular in Israel. (See Zeph. 1: 5; Jer. 7: 18; 19: 13.) Baal; was the name of the Canaanite god. There were not one, but many Baals. They were supposed to give fertility to the soil and to preside over the arts and crafts.

V. 17. Caused their sons, etc. This refers to child sacrifice. The children were not made to walk through the fire but were bound to an altar and by means of fire were dedicated to the god. Usually the child sacrificed were made to the god Molech and were regarded as particularly effective in securing the help or favor of the god. Divination and enchantments. These were magical means used for discovering the will of God. But God expressed himself through His prophets and priests without the use of magic.

III. Punishment, 18.

Vs. 3-6 and the Lesson Foreword should be read carefully in connection with this verse. Removed them. The Assyrians who conquered the kingdom of Israel held their empire together by a policy of frightfulness. When they conquered a people they deported them to another land and filled their places with another conquered people. In this way they hoped to break the spirit of their victims. There were none left but the tribe of Judah only. The tribe of Judah formed a separate kingdom and were not conquered until considerably later. The kingdom of Israel as the northern kingdom was called, was much richer than the kingdom of Judah, and since it attracted the attention of the Assyrians, it met an earlier doom.

Application.

1. The cause of Israel's downfall. Doubtless there were various converging causes, but the main one was the elimination of the truly religious experience from leaders and people. We know from the prophet Hosea, and also from the narrative of the lesson passage, that there was a loud appearance of religion (vs. 8-12), but the reality was missing. The ritual was a mixture of foreign customs, and the conduct of the people was frivolous and irresponsible. No man spared his brother. No nation can endure with such a sandy foundation.

2. The great responsibility of the leaders. Hoshai had some redeeming features of character (v. 2), but he did not keep the treaty with the king of Assyria. He thought that he could

How Marville Plans Its Program.

At our May meeting we appoint what we consider a suitable committee to arrange the program for the year. This year, the same is printed on attractive little cards, and each member is entitled to one, so there is no danger of not knowing just when and what we are expected to do.

The co-operation of all probably depends upon the following hints:

Firstly, we try to consider the capability of each one. Some are good musicians, so they always find a place on our musical program. Then, too, we try to know each member's particular interests and choose for her a topic in accordance with her interest. Also we consider the distance to be travelled to the various meetings. As we hold our meetings from home to home we try to choose for each program members who do not live too far from the place of meeting. In this way we seldom have the excuse, "Oh, the roads or weather were too bad and I couldn't get there."

Some, too, are good at demonstrating, so we find that if we choose wisely we may have several excellent demonstrations during the year.

Last, but not least, we have a strong friendly feeling existing among our members and therefore when each gets up to fulfill her part of the program, she expects and receives friendly sympathy rather than stern criticism from her fellow workers of the Women's Institute.

For Home and Country

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES.

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Well Done, New Hamburg!

New Hamburg, one of this year's baby branches, is making excellent progress, being close to the hundred mark in membership, with a prospect of more to come. In addition to their regular monthly program, they have arranged for three classes in basketry for each Monday. There are about twenty in each, 2 to 4 p.m. for the women, 4 to 6 for the school girls and teachers, and an evening class for the business girls. Thus are they successfully endeavoring to meet the needs of the whole community.

The Athens' Method.

At the beginning of each Institute year a meeting of the directors is called at which each one is expected to bring topics for papers or subjects for discussion to be used in the program for the new year.

Get Ready for the Bird Helpers

Frame this into every day of the year, "Birds Make Agriculture Possible." By destroying insect pests they save crops worth millions of dollars every year. Every farmer who does not encourage and protect bird life on his farm is defrauding himself and his country. Birds serve farmers so well that every one of them could well afford to erect a monument to these unassuming and willing bird helpers.

In these days of tree repair work, and great demand for lumber, and wood for fuel purposes, birds have a time of it to locate nesting sites. Therefore, cavities in trees are not so often the home of bird families as in the past. We must provide nesting sites for them, and this can be done with a very small outlay. Anyone who is at all handy with tools can build a bird house. I would have farmers remember that many times the spring storms kill the early arrivals, and it is as necessary to provide shelter for them at this time, as in the winter; as well as such food as suet to help to keep them fit to combat the inclement weather. It is a trying time for the birds after spending the winter in the sunny south. They brave the elements for us, so that they will be north in plenty of time to serve our needs.

Beef or mutton suet is a cheap way to reward these little workers, for their willing services to you. Tie the suet to tree trunks or branches, and also hang up buns, cracked, and meat scraps for the blue jay and crow. They need part meat diet and this will also prevent these birds from preying upon the smaller birds.

During stormy weather sunflower seeds are appreciated. Under normal spring conditions birds can scurry about and secure ample food, but at any time a variation in diet is refreshing. They will be thankful for the bread crumbs which you may throw on your window sill, porch, or other places.

Wood to Use for Bird Houses.

Wood for bird houses should be the non-heating kind. The best wood is cheapest if you want real results in the number of aiding the birds to increase in number. Many young birds are smothered every season, because "any old kind of wood" proved fatal to them. If you paint the houses be sure to use good oil paint, as nearly

all birds reject houses on which cheap paint is used. Do not use tin can houses. They are cruelty to bird life. During the warm part of the spring and early summer days they attract the sun's heat, and as a result the young are often smothered to death, or suffer intensely. The robin and phoebe will accept the bird shelf; a mere platform, with a "roof," of course. Most birds prefer houses made from the limbs of trees. Trees felled by storms may be used. Birch and chestnut, as well as elm, are good to use for bird houses. Two limbs may be cut in ten or twelve-inch lengths. About two or three inches from one end bore an entrance hole. On the opposite side make a lengthwise incision through the entire bark. Remove bark carefully with a wooden wedge. Then saw off a section of the wood, about an inch thick or more from the bottom. Nail the bark to this section, letting it overlap a little, and close the slit at the back by nailing it to a narrow strip of wood. Some people recommend the use of tin for the roof, but if it is possible to get a very thin piece of wood for the roof, and to arrange it so that it may be easily removed to clean the house, it is much to be preferred, especially if you have to place it where the sun will beat on it.

Make Farm Life Interesting.

Every farmer should encourage the martins to come to his place. If you will furnish them with a house they will do good work for you. They will accept a two-family house, or an apartment containing as many as fifty rooms. If you want to invite the martins to your farm put up your houses at once, for a martin "scout" will soon be coming to inspect your premises, as to whether you have housing facilities for his flock. Old martin houses should be cleaned out, as well as painted. You will have to watch the English sparrow, for they will cause martins, as well as other birds, no end of trouble. I have found that if I did not destroy the English sparrow which my place, before the other birds arrived that by a constant "chasing" of these intruders, they finally took the hint and stayed away. Martins are such good company for your children. If we aimed to give our children all the pets possible, farm life would prove much more interesting to them.—Pauline Ward

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NEW ALBINO TOMATO. Pure white in color, containing no acid. 7c. 25c. postpaid.

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A leader as a summer head lettuce. Fla. 10c. or 50c. 2 or 5c. postpaid.

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In Aster, Sweet Peas, Tall and Dwarf Nasturtium, Floral Gems. 6 Pts. in each. 50c. each postpaid.

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It is the greatest fertilizing plant known, a wonderful hay and pasture crop, and unsurpassed as a honey producer. 1 lb. 25c. 10 lbs. \$18.00 postpaid. Write for copy of our big catalogue. Here for the address.

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HAMILTON, CANADA

ESTABLISHED 1890

"SEEDS THAT GROW"

Poultry

R. K.: Kindly give me your plan for a poultry house for about two hundred chickens. Would you make a gable roof or a flat one? Is a house 16x40 large enough? Would you use eggs for hatching from chickens that had diphtheric rump the first part of December? I have a good laying strain and would like to hatch chicks from my own chicks if possible. Chickens are healthy and vigorous now. When is the best time to have baby chicks hatched?

It is usually best to allow about four square feet of floor space per bird when building a poultry house. A house twenty feet deep and forty feet wide would be satisfactory. This could be divided through the centre, making two rooms each twenty feet square. Then in the winter you could use one side for the pullets that were being fed for eggs and the other side for the brooding stock which were to take a short rest to save vigor for the production of hatching eggs. Both the gable roof and the flat shed-roof type of poultry houses are satisfactory if other conditions are all right. The shed-roof is most generally used.

It is not usually considered best to use birds for breeders if they have had rump. But if the hens were not very sick and are in vigorous condition now, I see no reason why the chicks might not be thrifty.

I believe that March and April are the best months to hatch the heavy breeds, like Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes. April and May seem the best months for the hatching of Leghorns. Chicks hatched too early may go into a fall moult. Chicks hatched too late do not have time to mature before winter.

The Old Sugarbush.

Buckets to left of us.
Buckets to right of us.
Behind and before us.
Striving and bright.
Drip, drip, drip,
From the sphe's lip,
Nighttime and daytime,
'Bout 'Tis a gay time.

Working like leavers
Toting the sap,
Only seems playtime,
Believe me, old chap.
Chop, chop, chop—
Pile must never stop.
Keep her going,
All roaring and glowing.

Sugar pan bubbles
Brothing and sweet,
Thicker and thicker—
Job 'most complete.
Gleg, gleg, gleg,
Into the stone jug:
First run for candy
For Chinky and Mandy.

Bless me, 'Tis pleasant
Working this way
In the old sugarbush.
This sunny March day.

Too many farmers are places of business and nothing more.

Many farmers are killing their best friends, namely, the snakes which rid the farm of injurious animals, and birds such as certain species of hawks which do good instead of harm. Personal likes and dislikes, coupled with erroneous beliefs that since one snake is harmful all are harmful, and that a hawk is a hawk and should be killed, are some of the reasons why these animals are killed.

DYSPEPSIA IN A S

CHAPLEAU MUCH HE D MEAL TIME

"The Way To My Trouble" is the greatest surprise He Do

About the surprise of my life in which Tanlac brought relief," said Victor Guinness, Montreal. "I was in a terrible stomach trouble at the point where even cooking would not have dared to see me as I knew that no I was I would so my hands shook in pain and I could not sign my name. "I am like a new man. Everything me, my nerves at clock and I feel j and energy all the Tanlac sold by

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Bite off more than y Then chew it. Plea for more than Then do it. Hitch your wagon to Keep your seat, and

Winard's Liniment fo

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Variation—Convoy. Racial Origin—Wels Source—Locality.

Most people are sion that the family is exclusively Irish. people will tell you fact, it has a Welsh the evidence goes to name more often origin than to any

And if it "sound" membered that we not Gaelic, and there to the Irish in land are the Highland s nevertheless decided. "But you must look Welsh names, not names and given names of localities, considerably beyond which family name stabilized and fixed. Welsh followed their simple, though some identifying the individual referred to as "John son of Evan son of I back as far as it was this system really in English influence the most part, adopted of "son" form of family name family name denoting descent. O'Connell's (from "son" of "Con" river", which flows at Abernethy and Merionethshire.

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