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farm. Price £20 per acre. Terms ar-
ranged.

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Price £16 10s per acre. Terms arranged.

SHEEP COUNTRY for sale in all parts
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HORTICULTURE.

Everyone interested in gardening should
have some knowledge of the various
method of propagation in reference to
trees, shrubs and plants, generally, and
also as to the special subjects in which
they are interested. The various means
are, seeds, cuttings, layering, division,
budding and grafting.

Almost everything can be raised from
seed at least in its specific or "type"
form, whilst many hybrids and sports do
not produce seeds or if they do they can-
not be reproduced true to the seed parent
whilst others revert to the type, some-
times giving a proportion true to the
seed parent and others of intermediate
hybrid form. Many trees are raised
only from seed and for these the small
grower generally depends upon the trade
growers whilst a considerable number can
be grown from layers and others from
cuttings. Most shrubs can be grown
from layers and many from cuttings, and
with these it must be remembered that
in many species the male and female
plants are distinct, in many cases the
flowers of the male being insignificant,
quite different from the female and of no
value for their flowers, the female plants
only giving handsome flowers, berries or
seeds. In all these things the plants of
commerce as required for gardens or shrub-
beries must be got from layers or cuttings.
All trees and shrubs raised from seed are
slow to bloom some taking many years to
mature and reach the blooming stage.
Some seeds also are slow in germinating,
lying in the ground for two years or more,
or requiring heat, and often disappointing
the grower who is anxiously watching for
results.

By seeds—annuals, and biennials must
of course be raised by this method. An-
nuals for bedding which are so greatly
grown and take such an important place in
all ordinary gardens should be raised un-
der glass as unless left till late in the
spring the growth is so slow and the dan-
gers of loss so great that there is much
disappointment, and if sown later in many
cases the best of the season for blooming
is over before they come into bloom.
Petrol tins can now be got in quantities,
and cut lengthways to a depth of three or
four inches make excellent seed pans.
Good clean soil free from weeds and in-
sects, and fairly rich, should be procured,
and the pans filled so that when the soil
is pressed down fairly firm it reaches
nearly to the top of the pan. Artificial
manure should be avoided unless the soil
is prepared a long time before use as it
is injurious to many tender seeds, even
such strong seeds as sweet peas resent it.
The seeds may be sown broadcast or in
thin lines and the covering of soil neces-
sary depends upon the size of seeds. Very
small seeds should be left on the surface
with perhaps a very slight stirring with
the point of a stick and a pressure on the
surface which can be done nicely with a
piece of glass. Medium sized seeds should
be similarly sown and covered about an-
eighth of an inch by a sprinkling of fine
soil, and large seeds may be covered half
an inch. Sowing may be done from the
middle of July to the middle of Septem-
ber, according to the conditions that can
be given to them, and the requirements
of the grower. Pricking out as soon as
the plants are large enough gives sturdy
plants that quickly establish themselves
when planted outside where they are to
bloom. As however, "pricking out," takes
considerable space, very good results can
be got with most things by a reasonable
thinning when small and planting out in
little clumps.

Many hardy annuals can be sown out-
side where they are to bloom and thinned
when large enough, but if dry weather or
winds come on when they are small they
should be given a little protection if pos-
sible as well as a few waterings.

As biennials need not be sown so early
all of a hardy nature can be sown out-
side in beds where they can be protected
and watered when necessary, and should
be "pricked" out in a nursery bed so as
to produce good fibrous roots for trans-
planting when the time comes. Hardy
perennials can be treated the same as
biennials, but those kinds which are known
to be somewhat delicate when young, or
slow to germinate, can be raised more
easily in pots or boxes, as generally speak-
ing only a limited number of plants are
desired. *Romneya coulteri* for instance
takes months to germinate and under cool
conditions generally a year.

The mechanical newsboy is in use in
America. A coin is put in the slot, a
handle turned, and the newspaper is de-
livered.

THE FARM.

WEANING PIGS.

Do not wean all your pigs at one and
the same time. When you think it time
to wean, instead of taking all the pigs
away from the sows, pick out the "tops"
—say, 50 to 60 per cent. of those that
show greatest growth and vigour; turn
these from the sow, or sows, leaving the
weaker ones, those that show they have
been "robbed"; let these tail-ends run
with the sows for another week.

One that has not tried this plan will
not realise how great an improvement
can and will be made in that one week
by the weaker half. The fact is that
when finally turned with the "tops"
there aren't any tops; they will be an
even lot, and anyone who has fed pigs
knows how valuable "evenness" is. An
even lot will not only return a greater
poundage on a given ration, but will also
bring a high price at selling them.

This plan means more pounds of pork
without in any way increasing either
numbers or investment. Again this plan
is better for the sows—no congested
udders, no spoiled teats.

Herd testing is becoming an important
factor in the advancement of British
dairying. Milk recording societies, subsid-
ised and fostered by the British Board
of Agriculture, are springing up all over
the country. A milk-recording society
in Yorkshire has a membership of 1,400.

TREAT THE BULL WITH DISCRE- TION.

The ordinary bad tempered bull seldom
does harm, other than irritating men's
nerves and keeping the womenfolk anx-
ious, but the quiet, docile, "kind as a
kitten" bull is the one to keep an eye on.
Years may pass without anything happen-
ing to injure his reputation; but all the
while he may be waiting his chance.

Every bull should be handled and man-
aged at all times as though he were
known to be dangerous. He is danger-
ous, whether he has shown symptoms of
it or not, and some day may make the
fact sorrowfully manifest.

ENCOURAGING MILK CONSUMP- TION.

Milk is becoming the favourite drink
of factory employees in America. Dairy
specialists sent out by the United States
Department of Agriculture have been
arranging little chats, in which the value
of milk is stressed, to representative
groups of workers in various trades.
In Worcester, Mass., short talks on
milk as a food have been given in eleven
factories. Exhibits have been set up in
some of the establishments visited by the
specialists. After each lecture a number
of pamphlets were distributed. In Wor-
cester, fourteen factories are now selling
milk to their employees during the morn-
ing or at mid-day.

VALUE OF CLOVER.

An English authority says:—"White
clover is an important element in all the
best permanent pastures, and in dealing
with poor soils an effort should be made
to render them more fertile and there-
fore better suited to the valuable grasses
which will make a natural appearance in
due course. On the poorest of soils, the
quisition was mentioned as a desirable
introduction of white clover seed gener-
ally effects remarkable improvement. It
is usually only possible to improve any
particular class of grazing land by put-
ting it into the class immediately above
it. Thus mountain and hill grazing
country may be improved so that white
clover, crested dog's tail, red fescue and
rough-stalked meadow grass will flourish
and the pasture will carry an increased
and more varied head of stock. Grass
now carrying store cattle and sheep can
be improved to maintain forward animals
and become of more value to the dairy
farmer. Good second-class grass may be
converted to carry larger and better herds
of dairy cattle or even fattening beasts.
The adoption of the graduated method of
grass land improvement would add so
much to the valuable herbage of the
country that thousands of
acres of poor and moderate grass
could be brought under an arable
rotation without appreciably affecting the
grazier."

BETTER COWS WANTED.

Our scientific leaders tell us that every
growing child should have about a quart
of milk a day. How much of a cow's time
does it take to produce a quart of milk?
asks "Herd's Dairyman." The average
cow in the United States produces about
14lb of milk a day, at which rate it would
take her about 205 minutes to produce
one day's supply of milk for a child. A

good cow, on the other hand, yielding
6000lb of milk per year, would require
only 144 minutes, while the kind of cows
that a progressive successful dairyman
ought to have would only require 96
minutes to produce this same amount of
milk. Bred down, the question is—which
kind of cows have you? The most out-
standing sign of to-day is that we must
reduce the cost of production to ensure
satisfactory profits. One of the greatest
factors in this reduced cost of production
is more efficient cows. It takes just as
much human labour to feed ten poor
cows as to feed ten good ones. It takes
almost as much human labour to milk the
poor ones as the good ones. It takes just as
long to deliver their product to the cream-
ery. Therefore, there is a tremendous
saving in the actual cost of production
when the cows average 9000lb of milk per
year as compared with those that average
only 6000 or 4000lb.
(cont.)

SKIMMINGS.

While test cutting was in progress in
West Meath several kegs of butter were
discovered many feet under the surface.
The butter was in an excellent state of
preservation, though it had been lying
there apparently for centuries.

It is said that the annual production
of milk in Switzerland per cow has
fallen off nearly 30 per cent. since be-
fore the war. Most of the cows now
milked are heifers, and feed can hardly
be bought.

The Eltham Dairy Company is con-
sidering the installation of an ice cream
plant. In America the central manufac-
tories send the ice cream to retailers,
distances of up to 400 miles by rail.
They have plants that will make 60 tons
per hour, American investigations have
disclosed that the food value of ice
cream as compared with meat is 60 per

The open-air pig system is receiving
considerable attention. The advocates
of this policy of keeping pigs base their
claims upon the natural and hardy
method of rearing, upon the comparative
cheapness of allowing the pig to do more
of its own foraging and the much more
robust animal that is produced. The open-
air system has everything to commend it.

Mrs A. Banks and Son, the noted Jer-
sey breeders of Woodstock Farm, Kivi-
tea, intend establishing a stud of pure-
bred Berkshire pigs on their farm. For
the foundation stock, three sows and a
boar are being imported from Austr-
lia. These pigs were bred by, and are
being imported from that noted Austr-
lian herd established at Hawkesbury
College.

Within one month recently four
American Guernsey cows owned by Mr
W. Marsh, Waterloo, Ia., made records
as the leaders in their respective classes.
Imp Prospect's Rose des Houards pro-
duced 13,157 pounds of milk and 726
pounds of butterfat. Lillia of Iowa 2nd
produced 14,239 pounds of milk, and 776
pounds of butterfat. Lilly of the Prairie
has a record of 11,561 pounds of milk,
and 620 pounds of butterfat. Imp.
Ladock Jenny's record is 15,453 pounds
of milk, and 809 pounds of butterfat.

In breeding dairy cattle selection simply
means the careful culling or exclusion
from the herd at the very first opportu-
nity of those animals that have been tried,
found wanting, and condemned; those
that do not come up to a fixed standard,
and every dairy farmer should have a
fixed standard of performance. At the
same time individuality should not be lost
sight of, though performance should be
placed first.

Mr C. B. Morgan, of Ngawapara, has
planted an acre of lucerne four years
ago last October, and has been cutting
it at intervals for green feed, his cows
getting a cart load every day. He
usually commences his first cut early in
September and takes the last cut about
the end of April. Last year, he cut the
acre six times. It grew up again, so he
put a mob of young stock on to clean it
right up, then he kept the paddock shut
up until he started to cut early in Sep-
tember again. A few months ago, he
put down another half-acre, and secured
a beautiful take, with Marlborough seed.
Mr Morgan has found lucerne a great
fodder for both milk and test. Last
season he put milk and test. Last
Ayrshire heifers under the semi-official
test and she put up 526lb butterfat with
an average test for 12 months of 4.7, and
she was given as much lucerne as she
would eat night and morning.

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At which you stop,
To get your sweets,
While parading the streets,
At all times.

This is the shop
Where thousands stop
To get a drink,
That makes them think
'Tis excellent.