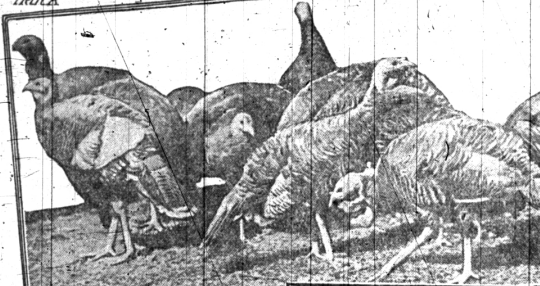
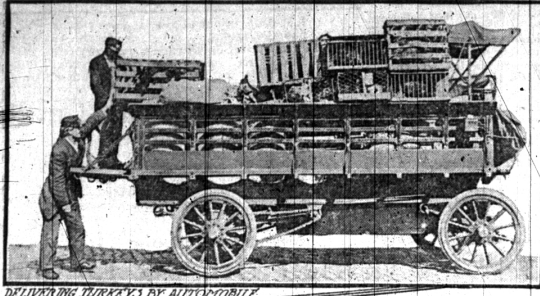


Why is the Great American Bird

MULES SUPERIOR TO HORSES FOR WORK

The Secret of Success

Genious Merit Required to Win the People's Confidence



HE turkey is truly an American bird. It existed on this continent with the Indians before Columbus landed. Only a few years ago among the caves of Arizona the mummified remains of a turkey were found. Practically every cave occupied by the cliff dwellers of that region contained the bones of feathers of the turkey, but this specimen is intact. Its age is a matter of speculation among the scientists of the National Museum, where the specimen is on exhibition.

Another interesting fact in this same connection resulted from a scientific expedition which Dr. C. Hart Merriam made among the mountains of Arizona. He came across a living species of bird identical with the one found mummified and which is now known to the scientific world by his name.

Another recent discovery in connection with the turkey was a Maya hieroglyph. This piece of parchment shows a grocer's account in which are mentioned, with other things, ten turkey hens and five turkey cocks. This is thought to be the first record of the turkey in this country and antedates the expedition of Cortes to Mexico in 1519.

But the turkey goes back farther among the Indians than even the probable date at which the specimen found in the cave existed. Among the Aztecs, for instance, there exist many legends, handed down from time immemorial, which have for their subject the turkey.

The turkey plays a more important part in the life of the Indian than in his legends alone. Not only is it regarded as a choice article of food, but in many tribes it is held sacred. In the parts of the country where the turkey was worshipped with that curious devotion to animals which characterizes different stages in the development from savagery to civilization—it was never eaten except when other food was unobtainable. And these separate notions were divided among various tribes, so that the religious custom would not be violated.

Turkey feathers rank next in importance to those of the eagle with the tribes, while the Apaches, the Pamunks and the Cheyennes chose the turkey's feathers for all ceremonial headdresses and ornaments. The Pamunks tribe used turkey feathers for ornamental purposes on their clothing, as well as for their headgear. To this day, when they don their native costumes, the turkey feather is preferred as ornament.

If Benjamin Franklin's words had been heeded the turkey would have been the national bird of the United States. The eagle is a first cousin to the species known of old in the eastern hemisphere. Furthermore, it has appeared upon the banners of many nations. It was a symbol of the Roman empire. It was known in China for ages, and today it appears upon the banners of Russia, Germany and several other nations.

The turkey, however, is indigenous to America. The early European adventurers and settlers arrived they beheld great flocks of turkeys and it soon became known that they were a favorite food among the Indians. After a while turkeys were proudly sent home as trophies of the chase. In this way the turkey became practically a world-favorite as a food.

When Cortes, in 1519, ascended to the plateau of Mexico, he found a social life developed to a high degree of refinement. He was attracted with oriental magnificence. All the delicacies to be found within the empire were set before him and though some were abundant, the turkey held the place of honor, among the fowl. This was the first time that the Spaniards had eaten turkey, and the experience proved a most satisfying one.

They also saw the great tame flocks of the birds. In fact, since prehistoric times the turkey has been domesticated and raised for market. Today, in Mexico, many of the quaint customs then in vogue are still kept alive. And so it is that the purchaser of today may select his choice of a fowl in the village street. Or, if he prefers, the vendor will bring it alive to his door for inspection, fresh from the farm.

Nearly everyone knows that in construction work in the cities where teams are used, the mule stands alone as the only means by which such work can probably be done. This being true, it seems strange that farmers have not seen the economy of keeping mules instead of horses for farm work. It is evident that mules are not widely used—at least as widely as they should be.

In the first place, two horses eat as much as three mules, while two mules will do as much work as three horses of the same weight. Farmers who keep mules know they eat less than horses, but few have probably realized the great difference in amount of food consumed. In an experiment the Nebraska team in keeping a horse and a mule, which, between that and the account of the ration during a considerable period, found that it cost 24½ cents a day to keep each horse, and but 12½ cents a day to keep each mule, says a writer in Successful Farming.

On this basis it costs about \$600 a year to keep a horse and about \$300 a year to keep a mule. When it comes to hard work, mules are far superior to horses. They can pull more than horses of the same weight and can stand the strain much longer. One breeder states that they can pull a load almost twice as far as a horse, and can stand continuous hard work much better than horses.

Such a roundabout way explanation, say those who know, is entirely unnecessary. The bird was called Turkey because it was supposed to come from Turkey, where it was known as an Egyptian hen. This, it is claimed, is merely in accordance with a habit very general in the sixteenth century. Whenever new and strange things were presented to an ignorant public, knowledge spread slowly, but superstition was deep, and hearsay was taken for the truth. The fowls of North Europe received this name as coming from South Europe, directly, or indirectly from Turkey.

In France, however, the bird was called "dinde," or in the feminine "dinde," as though it were the fowl of India—from India. The Mexican name for the bird is "huajolote," which scientists claim, indicates the old Aztec knowledge of the turkey.

But whatever dispute has arisen as to the name of the turkey, the fact yet remains that the turkey is indigenous to America. Although scientists believe it is possible that there was a species, the original of the present turkey, indigenous to the West Indian islands, it is generally conceded that all turkeys have descended in some way or other from the three forms known today as the North American, the Mexican and the Honduran.

The Mexican turkey is found with feathers on its body of a metallic black shaded only slightly with bronze, while all its feathers are tipped with white. This appears to be the species first taken to Spain and other European countries. It is thought that the white markings of the variety of domestic turkey known today as the Narragansett come from this species.

The Honduran turkey today is scattered all over most of Central America and is extremely wild. It has a great flight than its cousins of the North. The head and neck of this bird are marked with a ground color of the plumage is a beautiful bronze green, banded with bold bronze, blue and red, with bands of bright black. This bird, however, cannot be bred successfully nor domesticated away from its native habitat, while even there it can hardly be successfully domesticated.

Whatever the turkey may be missed through falling to the place of honor it has progressed well. By Benjamin Franklin—as the mule is— it has nevertheless found a place in the regard of the American people which is held by no other fowl.

Two-Year-Old Mule Calf. Nearly everyone knows that in construction work in the cities where teams are used, the mule stands alone as the only means by which such work can probably be done. This being true, it seems strange that farmers have not seen the economy of keeping mules instead of horses for farm work. It is evident that mules are not widely used—at least as widely as they should be.

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CAUSE OF DISEASE AMONG LIVE STOCK

Lack of Care and Attention Is Responsible for Much Trouble—Attend to Details.

Want of care is the prolific cause of accident and disease among stock. The master to sow or the owner's neglect are probably preventives against trouble or waste; but if the masters or the owners will not trouble themselves to exercise the slightest care needed, we may be sure no one else will.

The careful farmer will never have his team brought in at night without having their legs well rubbed down, the sweat washed off the shoulders, then watered, the stalls well bedded with straw or other material, carefully handled and fed, will attend to the young horses that are badly fed and worked. In the dairy, the least falling off in the yield of a cow should be a cause of inquiry or observation until the reason is found; for that there is much to be learned from a cow.

The feeding of the cows, sheep and horses should be done by the farmer or a competent hand, and not by a boy or another. Have regular hours for feeding, milking and working. More and better work can be done with less exertion by strict attention to details. The most prosperous farmer in our neighborhood at a farmers' meeting stated that his success was largely owing to strict attention to details. "If this habit of close scrutiny and observation becomes the rule instead of the exception, there will be much less trouble and loss for farmers to complain of."

Refresh Air and Exercise Needed. Breeding bulls, sows and stallions should have plenty of fresh air, light and exercise during the winter. Our animals cannot develop good bone, muscle, constitution, etc., if they are compelled to spend the winter in the dark, filthy, poorly ventilated pens and stables and not allowed to exercise during the favorable weather.

Roughage for Breeding Animals. Clover, alfalfa and mixed hay cut early and cured properly, are the best kinds of roughage for breeding animals of all kinds during the winter.

Get Rid of Poor Cows. A good cow in the hands of a poor dairyman is a poorer proposition than a poor cow in the hands of a good dairyman. Both are very poor combinations, and a good dairyman should not keep a poor cow more than one season.

Efficiency. The capacity of the soil is not to be measured by its fertility alone, but by the ability of the man behind the plow to convert every dollar's worth there is in it.

Chase the Unpleasant Mosquito. In the presence of a mosquito it is our privilege to treat an unpleasant mood with a repellent. We may have to keep it out of our path, without so much as a "You please."

REAL SKIN COMFORT

Following Use of Cuticura Soap and Ointment. The itching and stinging of the skin is a common ailment, and is often the result of a skin disease. Cuticura is a powerful skin purifier and is the best remedy for all skin diseases. It is sold in bottles of 25¢ and 50¢.

The average woman in a white frock who thinks that any man is perfect who thinks she is perfect.

Protect Her Chest. Mrs. Horace Leonard, consulting the doctor about coughing and wheezing, said that she had a cough and that she was a young husband at the shore and that she was a young wife had chosen a very desirable gown.

PROPER FEEDS FOR FATTENING SWINE

Much Material May Be Gathered Up in Fall in Orchard, Garden and Elsewhere.

Flesh and fat are now made at half the cost of grain when the weather is cold and wet. Much food is lost in the orchard, garden and field, which costs little, and would otherwise be wasted. The wheat screenings from the thrashing machine, small potatoes and mix with wheat bran; feed like warm to the sows.

Another important matter is plenty of pure water, wood ashes and corn cob chaff. Sows grazed during the summer in clover and given a moderate amount of bran and middlings made dry along during pregnancy and given a liberal allowance of old corn and pure water one month before delivering will make the choicest kind of pork.

Plan to Induce Exercise. Many swine breeders make a practice of feeding their brood sows at quite a distance from their sleeping quarters, in order to induce them to exercise freely; and I have found this an excellent plan, for many sows become fat during pregnancy and will not exercise unless compelled to.

Watch Sows and Litters. Sows with a young litter should be watched carefully for there are many sows that do not give enough milk to start the pigs off. In such cases the milk should be fed a little while cows milk, warmed at first, and later skim milk, with a handful of shorts in it.

Exercise is Beneficial. Exercise is not only beneficial to the muscular and mental development of feeding sows, but it prevents constipation, which is one of the most serious problems we have to contend with, if our sows are in good flesh condition.

Room for Sows and Pigs. Brood sows and their young require plenty of room, and will thrive best if separated in bunches, as to prevent crowding and fighting at the troughs and feed racks.

Posture Correct. The original form must be well looked. The neck and the shoulders should be in a straight line. The feet should be in a straight line. The tail should be in a straight line. The head should be in a straight line.

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GATHERED-UP FACTS

Under British rule alone there are more than 25,000,000 dwellers in the tropics. Experiments have shown that paper pulp can be economically made from the stalks of the millets that grows prolifically in Manchuria. Investigation in Germany has shown that the partridge eats the seeds of many noxious weeds and insects destructive to plant life, therefore it serves protect. Vice-Chancellor Caspar L. Brice of Singapore notes that coconut plantations are rapidly coming into prominence in the tropics rather than a subsidiary industry throughout British North Borneo. When the ceiling gas has been darkened from the heat of smoke, apply a layer of starch and wash with a piece of flannel. Let it dry and the ceiling will be bright and fresh. No mark will remain.

POSTSCRIPTS

Japan will build at Tokyo an astronomical observatory the equal in size and completeness of anything in the United States or Europe. An attachment has been invented to be snapped over skate runners to permit a person to walk over the ground without removing his skates. Electric locomotives have been built for a German railroad having heavy grades that draw loads of 220 tons at a speed of 4 miles an hour. Scarlet Fever and Milk. Scarlet fever is practically unknown in the tropics and doctors say this is because so little fresh milk is drunk there. The streptococcus, which causes the disease, is not so numerous in milk as it is in the temperate zone. Electric locomotives have been built for a German railroad having heavy grades that draw loads of 220 tons at a speed of 4 miles an hour.