

## Breeding Increases Wool Clip

*Animal Husbandry*

Gland grafts for speeding up the growth of sheep and increasing the wool weight, advocated by Dr. Serge Voronoff, famous gland graft surgeon, have not yet been resorted to in this country, inquiry reveals. American sheep growers find that careful breeding alone increases enormously the value of their sheep and also the wool weight. No gland transplantation experiments are being made in this country, so far as is known.

The possible economic value of Dr. Voronoff's work is considered important in European countries, but in the opinion of U. S. Department of Agriculture officials, the cost of performing the delicate surgical operation, even if successful, would greatly offset any gain from possible increase in wool weight and sheep value. However, these officials are still not entirely convinced of the success of Dr. Voronoff's experiments.

In this country breeding has been found to double the wool clip in one generation. An increase of almost 100 per cent. in wool weight was reported by one grower, as a result of breeding. The weight per fleece on his 10,000 sheep was increased from 6 pounds to 11½ pounds. With such results obtained by proved methods

### Radio Check on Bird

*Ornithology*

The age-old problem of where birds go in winter may be solved by the assistance of radio.

Prof. Johannes Thienemann at a bird station at Rossitten, East Prussia, was able, by means of requests for information via microphone, to get valuable check-ups on the movements of a group of storks after number bands had been attached to their legs at the beginning of the fall migratory season last year.

Band numbers sent in by interested members of his radio audience showed that five days after the storks' release on September 26, they were in the Carpathian mountains of Czecho-Slovakia. By October 10 they were near Messini in the southwest of Greece, having flown approximately 1,250 miles in two weeks almost due south. This checks previous experiments with stork migrations made in Germany, but the use of the radio naturally speeds up considerably the process of gathering the required information.

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which are comparatively easy for the individual grower to use, there appears to be no need for attempting the gland grafts advocated by Dr. Serge Voronoff, Department of Agriculture officials commented.

Dr. Voronoff claims that by implanting the male gland of a fully developed ram in an immature ram, the development of the latter, including the wool growth may be greatly hastened.

Dr. Voronoff has been experimenting with several thousand sheep belonging to the Governor-General of Algeria. However, scientists are not agreed on the success of his experiments. A commission sent by the British Ministry of Agriculture and the Board of Agriculture for Scotland to investigate the work reported that the conditions under which the experiments had been conducted, the inadequacy of the data submitted and the method of presentation of these data made the forming of a critical opinion quite impossible.

According to a recent announcement, Dr. Voronoff has been repeating his experiments and believes now that he has met these objections. He expects to give a successful demonstration of the work in the near future.

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### \$4,000 for Bark of Tree

*Forestry*

The highest-priced bark in the world is the distinction claimed for a variety of cinnamon tree that grows in the province of Thanh Hoa, French Indo-China. The tree reaches a height of thirty or thirty-five feet, and bears a white-spotted bark.

When the tree is stripped, the bark is divided into three parts. That from the upper portion of the trunk is esteemed most highly, and that from the base the least. The king claims two-thirds of the bark from the upper two-thirds of the tree as his own; the rest is auctioned off. The bark of a single tree brings as much as 100,000 francs, which even at post-war exchange rates means \$4,000.

The Chinese and Annamese native doctors supply an avid market for this bark; in their mysterious pharmacopeia it is regarded as a cure-all.

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Clouds are sometimes ten miles thick.

## New Hormone Source

*Endocrinology*

A readily available source of the female sex hormone has been discovered by Dr. Siegfried Loewe of Dorpat, Esthonia, formerly of the University of Gottingen, Dr. S. Ascheim of Berlin and Dr. Bernhard Zondek of Friedrich Wilhelm University.

Animal extracts of this hormone have been found to be of considerable value in treating certain disorders in women and girls but there has been difficulty in obtaining them in sufficient quantity. The presence of the hormone in rather large proportions in the secretions of expectant mothers, brought to light by the German scientists, opens up new possibilities in studying this new factor in medicine.

Several of the leading German chemical firms are said to be endeavoring to obtain connection with women's hospitals to secure a source of supply of the hormone to be developed on a commercial scale.

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## Students Explain Happiness

*Psychology*

What sort of young person is happy?

A psychologist at Teachers College, Columbia University wanted to know, so he asked four hundred students to tell whether they considered themselves happy or miserable, rating themselves on a scale of six degrees of happiness and unhappiness. Then he asked them to give a number of facts about themselves.

Reporting the result of his search for the building stones of happiness, Prof. Goodwin Watson told the International Congress of Psychology that the happy student is likely to be a man. He is likely to be above average in health; active in the life of the college; to believe himself able creditably to tell jokes, lead a discussion, act in a play, give a talk on sex, or administer a group of workers; to have a harmonious home; to enjoy his job; to like adventure.

Intelligence appears to have nothing to do with happiness. Nor is much importance to be attached to race, physical disability, size of one's home town, financial, social or educational status of family, nor to personal estimates of ability at sports or at the various arts.

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There are deposits of coal in the Antarctic regions.