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The AMERICAN FANCIER AND BREEDER



Vol. 21.

De Kalb, Illinois., April, 1904.

No. 4.



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The American FANCIER and BREEDER.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO POULTRY CULTURE.

Vol. 21.

DE KALB, ILLINOIS, APRIL, 1904.

No. 4.

Proper Brooding.

One of the greatest factors in the artificial brooding of chickens is not to overcrowd the brooder, but the most essential point is perfect ventilation. There should be a constant supply of warmed fresh air entering the hover of the brooder and the ventilation of the brooder so arranged as to change the air under the hover so that the little chickens may live and breathe in a pure atmosphere. A great many seem to think that all that is necessary to construct a brooder is a combination of wood, sheet iron and a lamp. This same combination has been the means of "busting" more amateurs than any other one thing. It is not always the brooder that is advertised the most extensively that is the best. Before you buy look them all over carefully and see that the one you select is built on correct principles, that it is not a fire box. Look out for cold corners, for chicks are prone to crowd into them, huddle in a bunch for warmth, and some of them get crippled or suffocated. Run the brooder at the right temperature, give grit, charcoal and dry rolled oats, fine cracked wheat and corn. Keep the floor clean use a little br. in juice and there is not much trouble to raise brooder chickens, providing they were not hurt in incubating and were from good, sound healthy breeders.

The Farmer and Fowls.

When we come to the farmer we have to look at the matter from a very different standpoint. As a rule upon most farms a number of poultry are kept, and in a great many cases improvement is only desirable in the direction of securing better quality birds and adopting systems of management which are calculated to yield the best results. I do not propose to discuss at any great length this question, because such information has been given frequently, and what the farmer has to do is to look on his poultry from the commercial aspect rather than as a mere accessory for the sake of pleasing his good wife. Development of poultry keeping by farmers, however, involves an absolute revolution in methods. So soon as extension takes place, housing the birds in the farm buildings is no longer possible. What can be done with fifty fowls would be undesirable for many reasons if there are three or four hundred. Not only is this unnecessary from the fact that a great flock of fowls around the farm would be a nuisance, but at the same time they

would not succeed, owing to the fact that they would be largely in excess of the natural food available for them, and their number would mean that the soil in the immediate neighborhood of the farm buildings would rapidly become tainted. Under these circumstances there is no other alternative but to include the poultry-keeping as part of the farm operations, and practically to adopt the same system as followed in connection with larger stock, namely, putting them out upon the land. Only in this way is it possible for farm poultry to yield the best results. When scattered out upon the farm they obtain a considerable part of their food, they are useful in utilizing much material that would otherwise be wasted, and moreover the manurial results are very considerable. Upon a farm every fowl should be worth from 25 to 30 cents per annum by reason of the manure it contributes to the land, but this can only be when they are properly distributed. This fact explains why the portable house system has been introduced so successfully. In fact it would have been impossible to increase poultry keeping upon the farms without some such method.—Poultry Culture.

Why The Barred Rock Is Popular.

A few days ago a farmer drove up in front of my office and called me out to look at a coop of Barred Plymouth Rock cockerels which he had brought in to sell to his brother farmers. I was looking for a starting point for this article, and here it was at my door. It was this: "People will gather around a coop of Barred Rocks when they will hardly notice some other breeds which from the standpoint of beauty far exceed the more modestly attired Rock."

While I was looking at the cockerels a man stopped up and bought seven and in a few minutes a lady bought another, which she put in a box and took out into the country to her farm. All were sold for breeders. Later another chicken fancier drove up in his buggy and got me to take a peep at the birds. When asked if he liked Barred Plymouth Rocks he replied in the affirmative and said he liked them because the Barred Rock is 'the chicken that everybody wants.' There you have it in a nutshell. The Barred Plymouth Rock is the bird that everybody wants, and when you have something everybody wants, then you have something in which there is money; and when you have something in which there is money, you have a popular thing. See the point, now,

don't you? I have tried a number of birds, but none of them suited me quite so well as the Rock, for I can always dispose of my surplus at a handsome price. They are good, table fowls and are able to take care of themselves in any emergency.—Clint Thompson, in Poultry Culture.

Green Food In Yards.

It is well enough to advise green food to fowls for those who live on farms in the country, but there are many who cannot provide green food as readily as they desire. In this connection a Western reader asks a question which will no doubt be of interest to many others, as follows:

"I have a small flock and live on a town lot. It is difficult to procure green food at any season of the year with me, especially as I am a working man and must leave home during the day. What would you suggest in a case like mine?"

There are some things that must be dispensed with because they cannot be obtained, yet there are substitutes which may be used so as to partially mitigate the difficulty. A small clover cutter, cutting clover hay, (which can be bought in small bales), and the cuts not over half an inch in length, will provide a substitute for green food if the cut hay is scalded and allowed to stand over night, sprinkled with bran and fed in the morning. Cut clover hay is also advertised and sold for the use of poultrymen.

A head of cabbage should be kept in a convenient place for the fowls, and a mess of cooked turnips or carrots, twice a week, will prove of assistance. Weeds, green, are relished by fowls and grass cut fine may be given if it can be had.

Green food means something different from the ordinary dry ration. The object should be rather to provide bulky food so as to promote digestion and give the fowls a change. When meat, bone, blood, and animal meal are given the great variety assists in getting the fowls in laying condition, but such foods are very concentrated, and give the best results when fed in connection with bulky food.

Too much green food may not be desirable. In early spring the young rye is too watery, and may cause bowel disease. The object should be to gradually accustom the fowls to all changes of food, and to allow them anything that will serve as a substitute where green food is difficult to obtain.—Poultry News.

How Eggs Absorb Odor.

Very few people realize how sensitive the egg is to bad odors, and how many think that the shell is a sufficient protection against any contamination from without.

But the shell is porous, and the albumen, or white of the egg, quickly absorbs and holds the flavor to any bad odor to which it is exposed, as it also does to any bad flavor in the food given. A writer in *Farmers' Monthly* says that it is scarcely less susceptible in this respect than the milk products. As the hen seems to be almost devoid of the sense of taste, care should be taken to give her only well flavored foods, and the feeding of partially decayed meat or fish, onions and other smelling food should never be allowed when hens are laying. But care also needs to be taken to have the nests clean and sweet, and never to put the eggs where they will be tainted by codfish kerosene or anything else. If it is found necessary to use kerosene on the nests do it at night, that the odor may evaporate before the hens use them. But a better way is to get clean boxes from the grocer when the old ones get so they need to be kerosened. Eggs packed in new pine boxes when sent to market often acquire a flavor of turpentine that certainly does not improve their taste

The Egg Eating Hen.

The egg eating hen is an intolerable nuisance. She is a twin sister to the chicken eating hog. There have been many plans suggested to cure her of this habit, but she is still at it and perhaps always will be. Her appetite is certainly an abnormal one when it craves the contents of an egg. Sometimes red pepper has been put in the shells of the nest egg, but the experiment has not been a roaring success. One poultryman uses nests that are so small that the hen cannot reach down under her body to peck at the egg after she has laid it and the nest box is so high that she cannot reach the egg when she stands upon the edge of the box. Nests are sometimes provided that allow the egg to roll down into a darkened place where the hen cannot see it and she wonders what she is cackling at. Hens rarely eat porcelain eggs.

Starting the Turkey.

Hold the turkey eggs back and set as many as possible at one time. We find eggs will hatch well and produce strong young turks after keeping six weeks. Put the eggs in a box in clean dry chaff and turn the box every day and keep at a temperature of 50 or 60.

The weather in early spring is hard on young turkeys. They die if cooped up during a cold, rainy spell of weather. If the April hatched turkey survives, he does not seem to grow and thrive as well as those hatched, say, the first of May, when the days begin to get warm. At this season he requires little coddling, and with plain living, good care and clean quarters, he ought

to make a valuable fowl later on.

There are many disadvantages in hatching a few turkeys early and the rest at different times. The younger ones become stunted by the older ones trampling over them. When selling time comes an uneven bunch of turkeys is not as valuable as a flock of uniform size. Knowing this, why not set the eggs so that they will hatch as near one time as possible? We will take more pride and pleasure in a nice even lot, all near the same age.

Limited Quarters.

A genuine fancier, if a dweller in a city where the "back yard" is an extremely circumscribed plot of ground, will not be debarred from carrying on his "hobby" by thus being cramped. He will select a breed suitable for his surroundings and by extra care make up to them the disadvantage of location. A good variety of fowls and pro-



The above is one of the best Silver Wyandotte Males ever produced. This bird has won more prizes than any one S. W. male in America. Bred and owned by A. C. Le Duc, Chenoa, Illinois.

per care, will bring success and pleasure. Some of the grandest prize winners were raised under circumstances like the above. A well littered scratching pen to afford exercise is a necessity; plenty of grit, green food good sound grain and pure fresh water. Your fowls will be contented and pay their owner a handsome profit. If you have a space twenty-five feet square, you need not be afraid to venture in keeping a few fowls, but don't overcrowd them, this will be a sad mistake which you will soon learn to your sorrow.

How to Set A Hen.

Many poor hatches are but the result of ignorance or neglect in properly setting the hen, so we will give our ideas of the matter. Never set a hen in your poultry house where other hens can disturb her, but remove her—unless her nest is already so located—to some quiet place away from the

other fowls. If necessary to move her do it in the evening. Have the nest all ready, and a few eggs placed in it—warmed if in cold weather—and carefully place the hen upon it, then shut her on a day or two, after which let her off to feed. If she then returns to her nest she "means business," and it will be safe to give her the eggs. Have the nest on the ground if possible, if not place a fresh sod or some moist earth in the bottom of the nest. Always have the nest so the hen can walk in instead of jumping down upon the eggs, thus causing them to be broken. Place plenty of corn and water, also a box of dry sand for dust bath, within easy reach of your sitters, and if they are of good habits they will come off the nest once a day, get their fill, shake themselves in the dust tub, and then go back to business. Sometimes, however, it is necessary to watch them and see that they return, or even shut them on the nest and let them off each day. When the eggs are due to hatch, watch closely and remove chicks from the nest as soon as dry, of course putting them in a warm place—a basket with some old flannel, set by the kitchen fire, is our idea. If left in the nest till all are hatched, some are apt to get crushed in the nest, or often the hen will get restless and leave the nest with the first hatched, and the balance of the eggs will be ruined

Feather Pulling.

It pays to have the best houses, outyards, breed, feed and in fact everything in connection with the business should be the best. It is a great mistake to have poor flocks and give them poor accommodations, but the mistake of using poor, cheap food is perhaps the worst. Get good birds, feed good feed, give them your best attention and you will derive both pleasure and profit from them.

The worst of all the vices of poultry is that of feather pulling or feather eating. Great care should be exercised to prevent it as it is almost impossible to stop it after it is once commenced. There are several causes for it among which are overcrowding and lack of meat, both of which must not be allowed to exist or if they do, must be removed to avoid trouble. We had a case of it several years ago which was caused by neglect, but was finally gotten rid of by killing two or three of the worst offenders and giving the others proper care and attention. The habit is very apt to be formed at the moulting season and it is best to watch them closely so as to stop it in the start.

Do not cross your breeds. It is the beginning of a down grade step. No one has attempted crossing the breeds who did not reduce his flock to mongrels.

One of the most economic ways to begin with thoroughbred poultry is to buy the eggs. Set them under a good hen. You may raise some as good as the breeder from whom you obtained the eggs, and which could not be purchased at any price.

Airing The Eggs.

Results have taught us that airing the eggs during their incubation makes them hatch better. The plan is advised by all experienced incubator operators, but very seldom do we see the reasons explained. The answer or why, is very much like the small boy's "because."

Let us reason it out a little; let us assume that the chick in the shell is a live thing, needs exercise, a change of condition, a wakening up, to make it move, expand and develop its own strength. It does not take a great deal of imagination to take these things for granted. We see the sound logic verified in other things than eggs. It is, after all, the natural things tending to develop nature.

The exercising and developing the chick's strength is not all there is to it. This same airing has its influence on the shell, it ripens it. There are, perhaps, things that do not expand or contract with heat or cold, but they are not egg shell. By carefully conducted experiments, I find that eggs perceptibly expand under a temperature of 103 and at 60 again the difference is easily detected with an ordinary machinist's calipers.

These airings, or, in other words, these contractions and expansions, serve to break down the shell's fibers, has a tendency to weaken the stiffness and to make brittle, etc., hence when the chick is due to hatch, it can break through and separate the shell without exhausting its feeble efforts.

While speaking of airing the eggs, will mention a very foolish yet quite a popular idea, that the eggs should be cooled down just so much by the thermometer lying on the eggs. Place no dependence on the theory. The real facts are, the thermometer adjusts itself to the temperature of the room more than it does to the eggs. The thermometer is misleading. In getting at the question in a logical way, if the eggs are plenty warm and the room comfortable they can be aired thirty minutes, while if both the eggs and the room are cool the airing should be delayed until the eggs are plenty warm and perhaps five minutes would be long enough.

Airing eggs during incubation should be governed by considerable judgement. I would not advise much airing the first week of incubation. A little more the second week and still more the third week. This plan is tempering the work in accordance with the growth of the chick and the needs of the situation, and I believe it copies strongly the natural doings of the setting hen; anyhow it leads to success in the artificial method.—M. M. Johnson, in W. P. W.

Individuality in Fowls.

Though there numbers of large poultry plants throughout the country, yet after all, it is the vast majority of keepers of comparatively small flocks of poultry, from whom collectively, come the greatest output

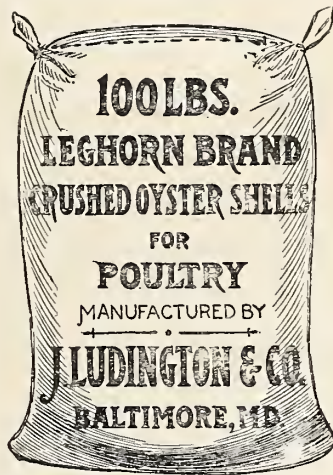
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of eggs, meat and fancy stock.

If the man who has one of these flocks is at all observing he will notice traits of individuality which will distinguish one fowl from another, until to him the leg band will be of secondary importance.

This is a decided gain for their owner as it interests him in them, and the more interest he takes the more likely is his care and management to be used advantageously.

It would seem that no two fowls are exactly alike and some show marked differences in traits. Some hens begin to lay early, others moult later and lay later in the season, while still others lay more eggs, range over more ground and work harder, and if one gets to know them by their actions, call, etc., it is a great advantage.

The writer has one hen which always sings when he appears, another that gives a peculiar call when she thinks breakfast or dinner is coming. There is also a rooster which will not hesitate to attack him if he tries to take a hen from the pen, while the rooster in the next pen will pay no attention if his hens are disturbed.

Some hens of the same breed set better and make superior mothers to others. One

hen will take chickens which she has not hatched, another will reject all save those that came from the eggs on which she has been setting.

One hen will only drive other chickens away from her brood, while still another will be so savage as to deliberately pick to death the unfortunate chick which has trespassed on her territory.

The writer has noticed that when the hens sing or cackle there is quite a dissimilarity in the sound from the different hens.

It will be seen that in a comparatively small flock it is easier to know the fowls thoroughly and it is in the close observation and knowledge of these individual traits which helps make success in the management and handling of fowls more certain.—H. E. Haydock in A. P. A.

Moist balls are recommended by many breeders who keep one in each nest to assist in keeping down lice.

When turkeys are raised by hens they do not require as large a range as when they have a turkey mother. They seem to do as well with the hen, and never seem to be inclined to range over the whole place and that of your neighbor.

The AMERICAN FANCIER and BREEDER

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and this notice to John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., for their big catalogue and farm seed samples. F. P.

TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND TYPEWRITERS IN SCHOOLS.

We hear much nowadays concerning the widespread use of the typewriter throughout the commercial world, but nevertheless, some figures recently published, and the conditions they imply, will doubtless come as a surprise to many people. Facts have recently been collected by the Remington Typewriter Company concerning the number of writing machines used for instruction purposes in the schools of every kind throughout the continent. It appears from this census that the total number of typewriters used for this purpose in the schools of the United States and Canada is 26,673 of which the Remingtons number 15,081.

Typewriters are used in school for one purpose only, namely to instruct pupils in the use of the writing machine. The fact that over 26,000 of them are needed for this purpose, each of which may be used in the course of a day by a number of pupils, shows so early the immense field which the typewriter occupies and the importance which now attaches to a knowledge of the writing machine as a part of the education of youth.

The number of schools of all kinds in the United States and Canada which now give instruction in typewriting exceeds three thousand. A majority of these, of course, are among those classed as commercial schools, but an immense number of public schools as well as religious schools, in all parts of the country have also taken up instruction on the writing machine. It is noteworthy also that the number of writing machines used in schools is increasing at the rate of several thousands a year.

A WONDERFUL BUSINESS

IS THE LORD & THOMAS ADVERTISING AGENCY THE HEAD OF WHICH RETIRED FEBRUARY 1ST.

Possibly there is no line of industry in the United States that has grown in such proportion in recent years as that of general advertising, which includes publicity in newspapers and magazines and outdoor display advertising, and through its tremendous force the entire basis of modern merchandising has been revolutionized.

The Chicago papers of the current week devote much space and time to the wonderful growth of the advertising business as a whole, and that of Lord & Thomas in particular, owing to the retirement of Mr. D. M. Lord, the senior member of the firm, who leaves active business life with a rich competence.

The business of Lord & Thomas has been one of the most aggressive and progressive of its kind in the country, having in recent years been under the active management of Mr. A. L. Thomas, whose judgment on advertising matters is considered as authoritative by the vast body of publicity users. Mr. Thomas has succeeded Mr. Lord to the

presidency and will continue at the head of the firm.

Mr. C. R. Erwin the new Vice-President has been connected with the company for 20 years and is therefore a veteran in the field; associated with him and Mr. Thomas is Mr. Lasker, the Secretary and Treasurer.

To give some idea to the public of the growth of advertising as a whole, it might be stated that in two years the business of Lord & Thomas alone has increased one million dollars in the billing and in the one month of January in 1904 this house has booked \$750,000.00 in advertising contracts from the following concerns, whose names are household words in the United States; Anheuser-Busch Brewing Ass'n, St. Louis; Siegel, Cooper Company, New York; Woolson Spice Company (Lion Coffee) Toledo, Ohio; Hamilton-Brown Shoe Company, St. Louis, Mo.; Sterling Remedy Company, Chicago and New York; The Woman's Magazine, St. Louis, Mo.; Armour & Co., Chicago; Union Pacific Railroad Co., Omaha; Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry., Chicago; Rock Island R. R. System.

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The main offices of Lord & Thomas are in the Trade Building, Chicago and its Eastern Branch is in the American Fract Society Building, New York.

Poultry may be overfed. They will not founder as does a horse, but they become sluggish and unactive and will not lay nor scratch. A heavy feed at night and a lighter one in the morning will compel them to take advantage of the range for part of their range for part of their ration for the day.

NEW INVENTIONS.

Reported especially for this paper by H. B. Wilson & Co., Patent Attorneys, 8th and F Sts. N. W. Washington, D. C.

A complete copy of any of these patents will be forwarded to any person by Messrs. Wilson & Co., on receipt of ten cents. Persons ordering Copies must give number of patent.

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750335 Brooder. Wm. H. Bennett, Chicago, Ill.

751383 Incubator. Nepht Cruser and Jesse W. Clement, Fairview, Utah.

752154 Watering Apparatus for Poultry Houses. Geo. Hacker, St. Louis, Mo.

752230 Heating Apparatus for Incubators. M. M. Johnson, Clay Center, Neb.

752542 Brooder. Sumner Fuston, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

752431 Automatic Signaling Apparatus for Incubators or Hothouses. Horace B. Ault, Newmarket, Tenn.

752765 Poultry House. Joseph J. Edgerston, Berwyn, Ill.

Concerning The Summer Chicks.

I know a few poultrymen who hatch nearly all their chicks during the summer months. The weather is so favorable the little fellows can't help but grow and thrive without the extra care the spring chick requires. On the farm where fowls have free range, it is possible also to rear them on less feed, because they pick up a good part of their living. Insects of all kinds are plentiful, besides seeds of various kinds. Lice are about the worst enemy to the warm weather chick's successful development, but these pests which multiply so fast in warm weather, may be conquered before they have reduced the vitality of the chicks by the free use of a good insect powder. When this fine powder comes in contact with a chicken louse he ceases to live—it stops his breathing. Poultry raisers certainly owe a good deal to the man who first invented this lice exterminator.

I find the summer chick will do better in the orchard than anywhere else on the farm. Here he has protection from the fierce rays of the sun. His little back is not blistered as is often the case when fowls have little or no protection from the heat of the sun. The leafy branches of the trees protect them from summer rains also. Their brood coops are under the trees where it is cool and pleasant for them until they get well started on life's sea; their drinking water (a liberal supply) is kept under the trees where the sun cannot reach it. I am very sure they do not like warm water any better than we do. It is a shame that fowls on many farms suffer for water during the summer months. Many people never neglect feeding their young fowls but they do neglect to provide them with plenty of cool pure water, which is just as important as feed. It is really more essential that they be provided with water. At this season they can hunt their living without going very far but they won't find water on many farms during the dry season unless it is provided for them.

If there are no "varmints" to prey on the young chicks it is best at this season to leave the brood coops open at night—they need plenty of pure air. There is no better disinfectant. When necessary to close the coops close the entrance with screen wire or fine poultry netting, this will give them fresh air and protection also. Barrels that may be bought of the grocer for 10 cents each, make nice roomy brood coops for summer use. To prevent the barrel rolling, place a rock or chunk of wood under each side; discarded pieces of oil cloth or carpet tacked over the top will keep the rain out. The above mentioned frame made wide and deep will effectually close the entrance. The little warm weather birds are so accommodating, they do not require substantial coops.

I like them because there is easy money made rearing them, if they don't bring fancy prices at selling them. Then when the

park barrel gets empty in the fall of the year, I find plenty of young fowls come handy—save buying expensive beef.—F. M. W. in Poultry Tribune.

Proper Feed for Egg-Laying.

The production of eggs depends more upon the care and proper feeding than the breed. It has over and over been proved that the best laying strains will prove unproductive if ill or improperly fed—starved to lay and gorged to morrow, given all soft food this week and all grain next. All the large and heavy breeds require careful feeding in the winter, or they get put on fat too rapidly on account of the small amount of exercise they take when it is cold. Plenty of oats and wheat, with corn in moderation about twice a week, lean meat now and then and abundance of green food always, is the best diet for Cochins, Brahmas, Lugshans, Plymouth Rocks, etc.

The smaller and more active breeds require more soft and stimulating food than the heavier kinds. They will stand more corn and less oats and more meat, and strange to say, if fed the same as the heavy breeds they will lose condition, while the others are positively putting on fat, showing plainly the difference between a sluggish disposition and a quick active one. The best time to give soft and stimulating food is in the morning, and as early as possible. One can often buy damaged oatmeal, peas, beans, etc., from the storekeepers, which are a great help in the poultry yard, for the fowls like change of diet, and are as much the better for it as we ourselves. Cooked vegetable peels and fruit parings mixed with meal, scraps of bread and some finely cut up grass or hay, and if very cold, a few chillies or a teaspoonful of pepper, make an excellent morning meal.

Charcoal is a great aid to digestion and should always be placed within their reach. An excellent form in which to give it is as charred corn. Throw a dry cob of corn into the fire until the grains are well blackened, then throw it, without shelling, in to the fowls, and watch how they will pick at it.

I notice that most of the poultry journal advocate the use of plenty of milk, both sour and sweet, for the poultry. I do not agree with them at all. Double-sour milk is excellent when sweet and in the cold parts of the country the freshly turned sour milk is good for them. But in the warmer districts I have found that sour milk is anything but beneficial, particularly for young chickens. It may be that the heat causes some chemical change to take place quicker in the hotter parts, but I know sour milk frequently causes diarrhea, and where much given the hens lose color and get a yellowish or bilious hue, while the eggs become watery. A little thick milk once a week or so may do good, but when it at all warm it should be given out soon after it has turned. Sweet milk is excellent and chickens can never get too much of it while mixed with

oatmeal, pollard, etc., nothing is better for rearing young chicks.—Mrs. Lawson in an Australian Journal.

Results of Overfeeding.

Sometimes a fowl which has hitherto appeared perfectly well is observed to stagger about, holding its head either to one side or tilted back a good deal. It has got a brain seizure and if not quickly treated will soon die. Very frequently, indeed, it does perish, despite any treatment. Such troubles are generally caused by gross overfeeding. The treatment is to remove the affected bird to a rather dark place of moderate temperature, and feed very sparingly on bread and milk. First of all give a good purge of Epsom salts, and follow twice a day with a powder composed of three grains antipyrin and two grains salicylate of soda; mix with a little moistened flour, and put over the birds throat. A few drops of acid, hydrobrom, dil. put into the drinking water (keep in an earthenware vessel) now and then, as the bird is recovering (just as much as will slightly acidulate it) will help to bring her round. Keep away from all male birds or other feathered stock until recovered. A common barn-door fowl is not worth such treatment, but many a fancier would be glad to save a good specimen of pure breed, if possible.

Keeping Eggs.

To every three gallons of water add one pound of fresh slaked lime, and one half pint of salt. Have it well dissolved. Drop in your eggs one at a time, but mind do not crack them. If you wish to keep them one or two years if you can do so. But you must use them as soon as taken out or they will spoil. When you put in all you wish take a thin piece of board and put on top and on that put a little salt and lime that the top may be as strong as the bottom. If these are kept at sea and in different climates, why not keep on land and in a cool cellar? Should you wish to keep to transport, dissolve sufficient gum shellac to make a thin varnish in alcohol, let them dry, then after giving each egg a coat pick them in bran or sawdust. When wanted wash off the varnish, and they are ready to be cooked.—Ella M. Hess in Epitomist.

Give the Fowls Grass.

Give the fowls that are penned up all the grass they will eat. This is at once the cheapest and best food that can be given them. In winter, clover hay cut fine and steamed and mixed with bran and shorts, is the best thing that can be fed to laying hens. At this time of the year lawn clippings are the most available food of this kind that can be had, as they are short and may be cut fresh at any time.

It is wonderful how some will stick to the plan of compelling one good hen to support two or three drones. Keep nothing that does not give profit.

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Green Bone for Poultry.

The wisdom of using green bones for the extra ration or to complete a ration for laying hens is found in the fact that grain (corn in particular) is hard to digest, and a full ration of grain is too great a tax on the digestive energies of the fowl.

Poultry naturally lay at a time of year when they can get bugs, worms and vegetable matter—kinds of food that enrich the blood and tone up the system, preparing them for the extra work of laying. Green bones have the same tonic effect and egg-producing value.

Generally hens will not lay in the winter months without something of this kind. When for any cause the digestive powers are weak the feeding of excessive quantities of grain food will aggravate the trouble and fill the blood with crude, half digested matter, unfit for egg formation.

Green cut bone not only furnishes almost the exact material required for the egg, but it stimulates and arouses the digestive organs, rendering other kinds of food of greater value in the economy of egg production.

I began to give my attention to the keeping of hens when a boy, more than thirty years ago. I fed them well and gave them good care, but I could not make them lay in the winter time.

Discouraged I gave it up. A number of years after I took up the business again, and secured my first profitable winter laying by feeding meat scraps to start the hens. I then bought bones and meat of the butchers, cut them with a hatchet and fed them.

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I found it paid me well even at the high prices paid for the bone and the hard work of cutting.

Meat consumers became more exacting and the meat cutters found it expedient to cut out more bone and pieces of meat for the waste box. This waste was offered at a cent a pound. This was the poultryman's opportunity.

Then the introduction of bone cutters facilitated the matter of cutting. Bone cutters were imperfect in construction at first, but they sold readily, because it was an advancement. They have now become greatly improved, and are sold at a low price, and all first class bone cutters will do good work.

Green bone will certainly make hens lay. I have fed it for a long time and noted its effect. I have sometimes been obliged to discontinue its use and have always observed a falling off in the number of eggs laid. Green bone at a cent a pound is cheaper than grain and far more satisfying. Forms or preparations of animal food for hens put in a condition for keeping any length of time may contain all the elements necessary in a hen food, but they are not so easy to digest as the fresh article. Preserved foods are NEVER so healthy as the fresh.—E. L. MITCHELL.

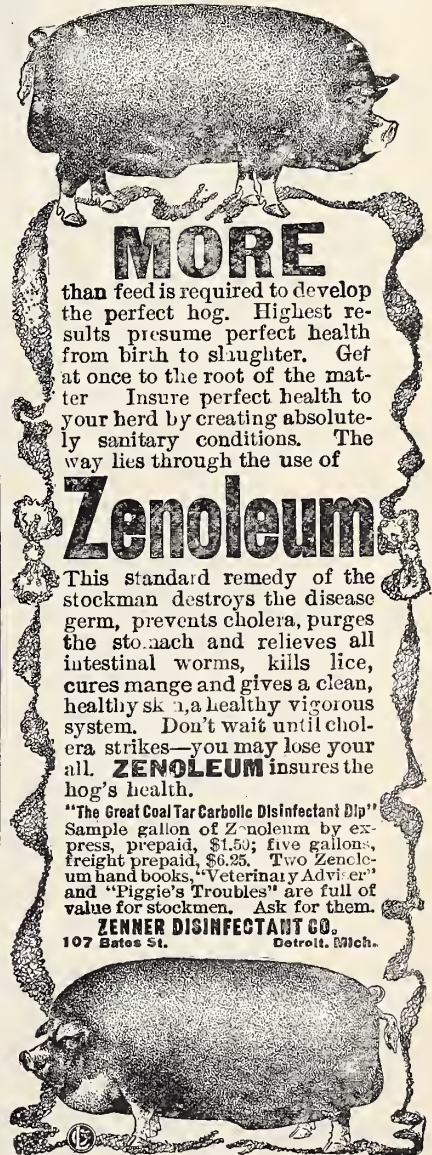
Buttermilk for Poultry.

Milk in every form may be properly fed to poultry, and the economy of feeding skimmed milk to laying hens is gradually becoming better understood. On a farm where dairying is carried on it will be found that buttermilk also may be fed to the fowls and pay better than by disposing of it in almost any other way. It will decidedly increase the egg production, and after a few days the fowls will look eagerly for the appearance of the dish the buttermilk is usually brought in. When buttermilk is fed, no water need be given, and the slightly saline qualities of the buttermilk will be advantageous to the fowls. Buttermilk is richer than skimmed milk, and is, of course, better for the laying hens in moderate quantities, while for fattening purposes it can be fed constantly with the best results. The farmer who has plenty of buttermilk will find that it pays better to give it to the fowls than to any other stock on the farm. The buttermilk that would grow a pig would grow enough poultry to buy all the pork an ordinary family needs. When it comes to a choice between giving it to the pigs or the poultry, give it to the poultry.

Moving Chicks.

A great many poultrymen raise a brood of chicks in a yard away from the hen house, where the breeder wants to put them in their winter quarters. When one has such a brood that they wish to change, and there is no fence to confine them, just take the chicks and mother hen in the brood coop and place them where you want them

and take a piece of woven wire fencing, three feet high, drive four or six stakes around the coop and fasten the netting around them, making the enclosure say ten feet in diameter. They are as safe in this enclosure as though they were tied, though able to see all over the premises. Confined thus for a week, then the netting removed, the chicks will stay right there. Trying to drive chicks to where you want them is a very difficult matter and cannot be easily accomplished—P. J. K.



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Security In Investments.

In a general way all investments may be divided into two classes: First, the investment which is for the purpose of receiving a regular income; second, the investment which is for the purpose of making great profits.

The man who buys stock usually takes one of these two positions with reference to his investment. If he has a sum of money on hand which he thinks ought to be earning something he looks about to find some stock which is a sure, safe investment, which he can dispose of without loss at any time, and which will yield him a small annual dividend. Such an investor does not expect

to become rich by holding such stock, nor does he wish to risk the whole or any part of the money he has thus invested. He has probably paid par value or over for such security and can sell it at any time for what it cost him. In other words, the purchase of such a stock is similar to buying United States bonds or putting his money in a savings bank at 3 per cent interest. He does not expect that his securities will be worth much more than he paid for them and is satisfied if he gets his money back when he wants it and has been drawing a fair income meanwhile.

It is almost impossible to find a stock which will answer these requirements of safety and security and at the same time have a

chance of leaping up in value to many times what was paid for it.

On the other hand, the investor may wish to place his money in some stock selling at a low figure and which may become worth ten times or a hundred times what he paid for it. If he buys such a stock, it should be for the purpose of making big profits. There must be an element of risk, and this element is always in inverse ratio to the element of security and safety. In this class are the investments in stocks of mining and oil companies. Some years ago, for instance, the investor of this kind could have bought at from 10 to 50 cents a share the stocks of some of the greatest mining and oil companies now in existence, worth at the present day from \$50 to \$100 a share.

A third class of investments might be said to exist which combines to some extent the characteristics of the two kinds mentioned. This class would be of course, the ideal investment, combining security with the chance of large profits; and it is the wish of every investor when he puts his money in stock that he can get it back at any time and that he has meanwhile a chance of making large gains. But he must realize at the same time that the stock is probably in one of the two classes mentioned and he must be willing to take the chance if he wants big returns.

In mining and oil industries there exist the same possibilities of failure or success as in any business, and the only sensible course for the shrewd investor is to eliminate as far as possible the chance of failure in the company in which he invests by finding out all he can about it before he buys stock. By making a proper investigation before he buys he is able to determine whether or not he will have a fair deal, and if he has this it is all he can ask for and all he does ask for.

If he investigates first, finds out about the company's property, its prospects, who are the men back of it, and how his money will be devoted, he is enabled to eliminate the element of chance as far as it can be eliminated in the business world.

It is not too late to order eggs of the pure breeds. Send in your orders and get your chicks hatched. May is a lovely month for chicks, and they will secure a good start and make rapid growth.

Pigeons should have salt always where they can eat as much as they require. But do not feed it in the form of our common table salt. Coarse, ground or rock salt is better. My favorite plan for feeding salt is to nail up a large piece of salt codfish in the flying pen, where convenient; the birds will pick at this and they seem to enjoy it. Often four or five will fight for a place to stand pick at this codfish. When it gets dry, place it for a few moments in the bathing pan to soak. The salt which impregnates the water is beneficial for their bath.

G. S. BANTAMS.

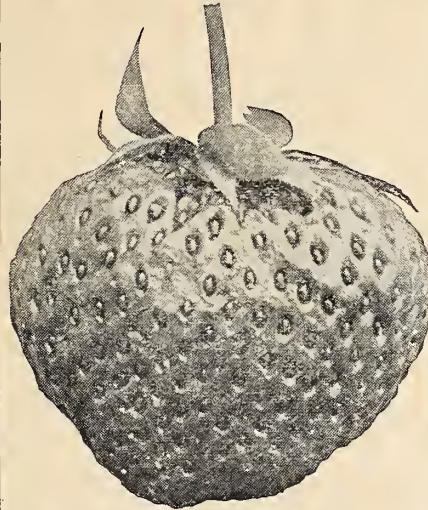


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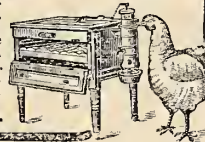


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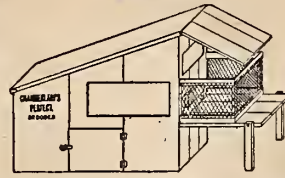
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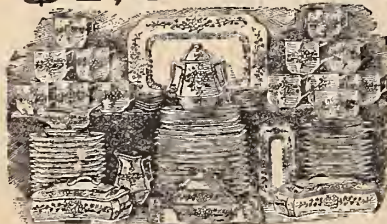
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