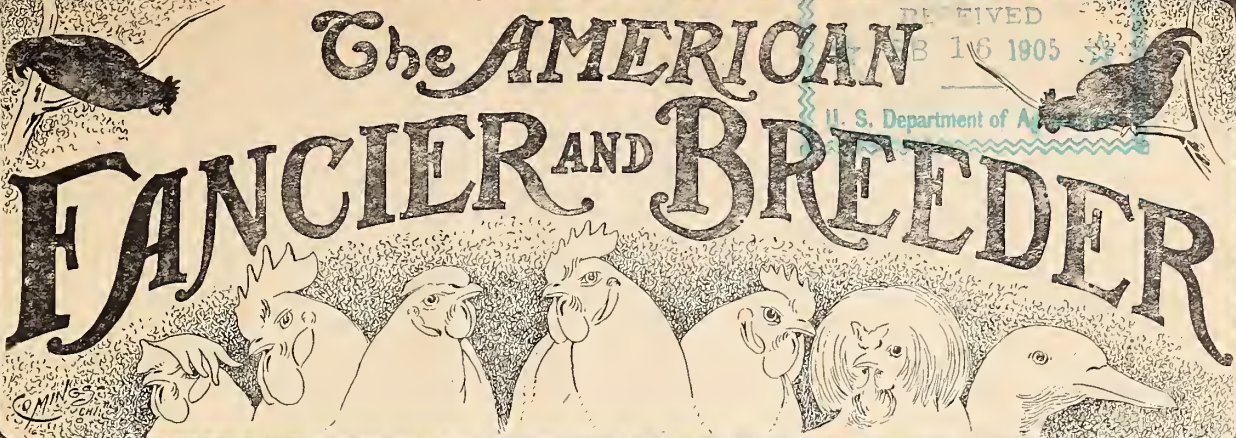


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The AMERICAN FANCIER AND BREEDER



Vol. 21.

De Kalb, Illinois, August, 1904.

No. 8.



White Wyandotte Cock
Owned and bred by F. Cisewski, Winona, Minn.

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The American FANCIER and BREEDER.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO POULTRY CULTURE.

Vol. 21.

DEKALB, ILLINOIS, AUGUST, 1904.

No. 8.

World's Fair Pigeon Show.

The department of Live Stock of the Universal Exposition has made no mistake in the selection of the superintendent of the pigeon exhibit. Col. Charles F. Mills, the chief of the Department of Live Stock Exposition, was besieged with applications from prominent and influential parties desirous of securing the appointment as Superintendent of the exhibit at the World's Fair and his selection will be quite generally approved. The gentleman selected will doubtless have the honor of conducting an exhibition that will largely surpass in number and quality of any former show.

This office is in the receipt of advice that Mr. Henry Tiemann of Baltimore has been appointed Superintendent of the Pigeon Show at the World's Fair. Mr. Tiemann needs no introduction to the pigeon fanciers of this country, and as an importer and breeder he is well known in England and France, and especially in Germany, his fatherland, the home of so many of our modern varieties of pigeons.

From his boyhood he has been a fancier of homing pigeons, was one of the members of the Baltimore Homing Club and is a member of the National Homing Pigeon Fanciers' Association. Mr. Tiemann deals largely in all varieties of pigeons and his city place is headquarters for pigeon fanciers but his country place where he breeds nearly all the leading varieties is his pride.

Twelve years ago Mr. Tiemann made his debut as a pigeon judge, at Pittsburg. From that time on he ranked has as one of the most successful and reliable pigeon judges. Nearly all of the leading specialty clubs have called upon him to place the awards at the large shows. For the past eight years he has been one of the judges at the Madison Square Garden, New York, and is thoroughly familiar with the best methods of our leading pigeon shows and has judged the best of them. He organized and carried through a most successful tournament in his own city one of the largest and best pigeon shows of the past year.

Pigeon fanciers all over the country can rest assured that under Mr. Tiemann's supervision their interests at St. Louis will be most carefully and intelligently looked after, and that only those who know and those who have the reputation of fairness in placing awards will be recommended by him as judges.

Something About the Egg.

Notwithstanding all that has been said about eggs we are of the opinion that a great many people do not fully understand some very simple things about eggs. Eggs for culinary purposes and eggs for hatching differ largely and the purposes for which they are bought are wide apart. Eggs for hatching should not only be fertile, from good healthy breeding stock free from disease but the parent stock should be pure-bred or the purchaser has been deceived. The man who gets a setting of eggs from the grocery at grocery prices that are from the pen of some breeder should not feel aggrieved if he fails to get good birds. He should not feel disappointed if he fails to get any chicks. The breeder may have sold those eggs to the grocer for table purposes, and he may have destroyed the pens before taking them to the grocery and then not violate any laws of equity as between man and man. Should infertile eggs be sold a grocer for table purposes that is just what he wants them for, and he does not care whether they are laid by a hen worth 15 cents or 15 dollars.

For hatching purposes eggs should be fertile, since this is something beyond the control of the breeder. It has been claimed that a fertile egg when fresh can be told from one not fertile, but we know of no way in which it can be done. We have frequently heard complaint made of eggs that failed to hatch, the party claiming the eggs were not fertile because they were all rotten and hatched no chicks. This is a wrong impression. Infertile eggs when incubated three weeks are almost as clear as on the day they were laid. Many do not believe this and we know of no way to convince them except they make an experiment.

Per-*up* the males for two weeks, select a setting of eggs and put them under a hen and note the eggs at the close of the three weeks period. Therefore, infertile eggs are always clear after having been incubated. The fertile eggs will hatch chicks if given proper incubation. If the germ has been week, it will start, die and the egg decay and is then what is termed rotten. A decayed egg indicates weak fertilization, unhealthily hens, chilling process or improper incubation. There is something about a fresh egg that is apparent at first sight by an expert although the average person may not notice it. The shell has a clean, new,

fresh appearance which becomes more and more faded, slick and greasy with age.

The air space in a fresh egg is very small and it becomes larger as the egg becomes aged. In order to test this, procure several eggs about ten days apart, marking the date on each egg when laid, and with an egg tester test them some evening in a dark room and note the condition of the air space. By a little study one may be able to determine very closely as to the age of any egg. Once learned it will always stay with the individual who learns it. The fresh egg has a rougher shell than the stale egg. When boiled the fresh egg will stick to the inside of the shell while the stale one will slip out easily. It requires a longer time to boil a fresh egg than it does a stale one and likewise easier to beat into a froth. No one can distinguish a fertile egg until it has been incubated at least five days.

Free Range and Confinement

As the season for incubation closes I hear from many sources that it has been a bad one for hatching, and that many chicks died in the shell and after coming out. There seemed to be much weakness among your chicks this spring. It is doubtless owing to various causes, the most prevailing being, likely, overfeeding of parent stock, and the want of a variety. I am assured that it is one thing to feed and quite another thing to do so correctly. It is a good idea to handle breeding birds often. One can tell, by so doing, whether he is over doing. Where breeders are confined in yards it is more difficult to breed accurately than if they have larger range. I read much in the journals attempting to impress one that stock does as well in yards as when it has farm range, but surely to attempt to do this is in conflict with nature's law. It is her pleasure that the birds shall be as free as the air, and herein lies one of the grandest secrets of health. Feed your birds -- or any stock -- while kept confined and there is a lack of exercise to work it off and create an active digestion. Where a rigorous absorption of food is brought about surely it tends to health and good pecuniary results. I am aware that confinement affects the breeds seriously; some are more sensitive in this respect than others. I am persuaded that if all breeds could have a farm -- small one -- to place each breed in, we would hear in a few years of less weakness and have better success in the business -- L. W. JANE.

How To Raise Chickens In Northwestern Canada.

To successfully raise chickens is considered by many beginners a hard problem. In the raising of chickens the slightest mistake means failure, and an experienced person it difficult to attend to the numerous details without making any errors. The advices of many authorities vary so widely that the beginner when reading so many different methods becomes confused, and very often the advices of the writers are of little use.

When raising young chickens, the first question that arises is "How, what and when to feed?" 24 hours after being hatched the chickens receive their first feed. This should be oatmeal and bread soaked in hot water, then squeezed dry, to be fed four times a day, and continued for a week. When a week old an occasional feed of small grain cooked with potatoes mashed finely is given. In cases where milk is to be had, a drink of this stimulant should be given at least three times a day, which will surprisingly promote vigor and prompt digestion. Till the age of a week, water must be withheld, since they are receiving milk, but if they get none of the latter, water must be given, though very sparingly. At the age of three weeks the oatmeal should be stopped and grain frequently fed, and if any vegetable matter can be had, they should receive a liberal supply every day. When older chicks should be supplied with whole oats and wheat every day, but if green food is fed their grain may be reduced. This food should never be fed until they are pretty old, as very much of same may cause improper digestion, which often results in loss of a chicken in a good many severe cases. After this period the owner can himself judge good nourishing food and with good care they are able to withstand any disease, if it should attack them.

By acquiring knowledge of feeding them the beginner will desire to know what conditions ought to prevail in order to raise chickens. If they are raised by a mother hen a great deal depends upon what kind of a mother she is, if careless she may lose half her brood, while if not so she may do as well as a good brooder, but of course other things are necessary besides a good mother hen. When owning a brood of chickens in late days of April and early in May, the hen needs protection from the cold. Her quarters should be a coop, which would be proof from rain and wind and at the same time prevent her escape from the coop and allow the passage of chickens in and out as they please, and also preventing entrance of any small animals. Such a coop could be constructed at a trifling cost, and be made by any handy man in a few minutes. To prevent rain from coming through the paper and light on the roof will serve the purpose, while if tacked along the sides it will keep out the wind. It should be large

and placed firmly on the ground. One side should be boarded up with lath placed a small distance apart, so that chicks can pass back and forth, but close enough to prevent the admittance of any small animals.

This coop should be occupied for three weeks when the hen and brood may be let out in the morning and chase back at night. To keep chickens in a right temperature is half of raising them, and failure in this point may cause other troubles, which the beginner may attribute to other causes.—

JAMES McRAE.

in Poultry Tribune.

Chicken Chat.

There have been scores of books and pamphlets issued upon live-stock diseases. Some of these cost a considerable sum and some can be had very cheaply. Then again some of these are worth what they cost and others nothing. The diseases of horses, cattle, sheep, and swine have been discussed over and over again in these works. But the diseases of poultry have seeming been neglected and many poultry keepers have become rightfully indignant because of this fact. Every farmer's wife is more or less interested in poultry. Many are making almost as much from their flocks as the good man is making from his fields and herds. The question of disease is constantly coming up and when it does come up it makes a hole in the profits. A most convenient and reliable little book, called "Chicken Chat" is being sent out by the Zenner Disinfectant Company 107 Bates St., Detroit Mich. It is one of the booklets that is really helpful and instructive. Every one who keeps turkeys, duck, or chickens could easily afford to pay a good price for the booklet of the "Zenoleum people" write us that they will send it free to all the readers of this paper. This is an excellent opportunity to get some information upon the various poultry diseases. It is your own fault if your flocks is caught by a disease which you are not able to handle, and you lose some valuable birds before you can get the necessary advice. A little "Chicken Chat" do you. The address is given above. Write at once.

Care of Ducklings.

The incubating of ducks' eggs is not different from hatching of hen's eggs, but the care of young ducks is radically different in many respects from that required for chicks. Unlike chicks, the ducklings must be removed from the incubator very soon after the hatch is complete and the young ones dried off. The nest of the brooder after the ducks are in should be little less than that of the nursery in the incubator from which they are taken. This runs from 95 to 100 degrees, and should be continued for 24 hours, during which the ducks should be kept under cover most of the time.

The first feed should be given when they have been in the brooder a few hours, and

nothing better than stale bread moistened with skimmed milk in which is sprinkled a little coarse sand or fine grit. It should be fed on shallow tin plates, which are easily and frequently scalded. After the first day food should be offered four or five times a day and any not eaten promptly removed. If a sufficient quantity is available, the bread and milk diet should be continued for two or three days, when wheat bran and cornmeal in the proportion of two parts bran to one of meal may be added gradually increasing quantity from one-third at the beginning to three-quarters at the end of the week. A proportion of one-quarter bread may be continued with advantage, and the sand or grit should be 5 per cent of the whole from this period on. Powdered charcoal sufficient to make it pretty black may be sprinkled in the food once a day, and granulated charcoal and grit need to be within reach of the young ducks constantly.

Water with the chill taken off should be within reach. Ducks must have water even though they spend their time in distributing the contents of their drink over the surface of the pen, creating a condition decidedly detrimental to their well being. To avoid this it is sometimes advisable to remove the water after each meal, a fresh supply being provided for the next.

If the beginning of the finds the second week duckling strong and full of life, it augurs well for a fast and steady growth to killing time or to maturity. The ration and manner of feeding it may remain unchanged, but the youngsters must have exercise, part of which should be in the open air and on the grass when convenient.

Green food should be provided from this time forward. If early in the season, chopped cabbage or mangel wurzels may be fed separately, or steamed cut clover from which the strong stems have been removed may be fed in the mash, making 20 per cent of the whole. But when green grass or clover can be obtained it is much to be preferred and should be gathered cut fine and fed in the morning while the dew is on.

Animal food is needed after the first week. Beef scraps are most in favor for this purpose on account of its availability and keeping qualities. It should be silted for the young ducks until they are three weeks old and may be increased in quantity 5 per cent of the mash during the second week to 10 or 12 per cent at the end of three weeks.

This ration will give good results until it is time to fatten the birds for market.

Reliable Poultry Journal.

A favorite remedy for chicken cholera is an ounce each of glycerin and water and 10 drops of carbolic acid. Give once in 12 hours in doses of five drops.

A spoonful of oil of turpentine is a good remedy for pewern in poultry.

A hen can be fed almost anything that a cow will eat, and many things besides,

The fifty-first annual McHenry county fair to be held at Woodstock, Monday Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 22 to 26, promises to be a record breaker in point of exhibits, attendance and there will be no let-up on the part of the agricultural board in its efforts to make the events of the 1904 the greatest exhibition in its history.

McHenry county stands at the head of all agricultural counties on account of its great natural resources and advantages as well as the energy, pluck and enterprise of its citizens and there is no reason why McHenry should not have the best fair in the world.

The public generally is well informed as to excellent race track, the large seating capacity of the amphitheater, the fine stock barns and stalls for horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, the commodious exhibition buildings, exhibits of agriculture horticulture, manufactures product of the creamery, education, woman's work, youths department, etc.

The dining hall will be run by the Baptist society of Woodstock which insures every body getting all they want to eat and of the best quality.

Tuesday children's day, will be one of the most interesting days of the whole fair. An unique program of amusements and attractions has been arranged which is bound to interest both old and young. This will include automobile speed contests, and parades and a grand parade of children's floats in which school children from all parts of the county are invited to participate seventy-five dollars in five prizes of \$25, \$20, \$15, \$10 and \$5 will be afforded for children's floats, awards to be based on the following conditions:

Each vehicle is to be drawn by four horses and to carry not less than twelve nor more than twenty children. Premium money is to be paid to the drivers who join the parade on children's day with the most attractive and artistic designs. Children in the first prize load will be given tickets to the fair for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Those in the second, tickets for Wednesday and Thursday, and those in the third, ticket Wednesday only. In order to arrange tickets, the drivers must furnish a list of the children in their respective loads to the secretary when they enter the grounds.

The ideal statue representing Illinois, holding in her left hand the shield of state and in her right hand a red streamer with the word "Illinois" in lettering of gold, and which comprises a part of the butter stauary of the Illinois dairy exhibits at the world's fair, will be reproduced in the glass refrigerator in the manufactures building. It is also expected that a large exhibit of tub and print butter will be installed in the same refrigerator by the creamery men and butter makers of McHenry county.

It is proposed to erect a fine corn palace in the center of the agriculture building in

which to exhibit the prize corn and the commercial products of corn,

Entries are already being made and the list promises to be larger than ever before. Exhibitors should remember that Monday is entry day this year are urgently requested to send in their entries as early as possible in order to avoid the rush and confusion which results from all trying to enter their exhibits at the same time.

Liberal purses are offered for speed contests and Supt Hanna promises a fine program if the weather conditions are favorable.

Arrangements are being made for reduced railroad rates and special rates and special trains and a large attendance is expected from all surrounding counties. The neatest and most complete premium list ever issued by the agricultural board is now being distributed and copies may be had upon application to the secretary, Geo. A. Hunt, Woodstock, Ill.

ROLLED OATS, bought loose at the grocer's is a perfect food for growing chicks. Feed twice a day and remember also that you can afford to pay for a really good thing. It can be bought cheaper by the half barrel.

COOP THE MOTHER HEN—Keep the mother hen cooped in a lath A coop. An unlimited range means a loss and disappointment. Be sure that your chicks are shut up at night. Barrels are better than nothing, but small houses are proper shelter; and with the door or slides closed the inmates are safe from marauders and you run little risk of losing 25 chickens in one night.

Oat are said to be an excellent feed for egg production, but don't make oats an entire ration.

Mash charcoal is a splended thing in a poultry yard.

A little later hens will need a meat ration almost daily.

The Fifth Annual Exhibition of the Plover City Poultry and Pet Stock Association will be held at Moline, Illinois, November 22 to 25, 1904. F. H. Shellabarger, Judge. Oscar Hogberg, Secretary.

The Ottawa County Poultry and Pet Stock Association will hold their next annual show January 10 to 13, 1905. J. A. Yant, of Pierce, Ohio will judge. Chas. H. Jordan, Secretary.

The Cambridge Fanciers' Association expect to hold their fifth annual exhibition at Cambridge, Ohio, January 11 to 14, 1905. The Association has secured the services of Mr. H. P. Schwab, Rochester, N. Y., as judge. Jas. C. Sarchet secretary.

HERE'S A BARGAIN—SEND SIXTY cents and get all for one year, Reliable Poultry Journal, Farm Journal and Farmer's Young People. All subscriptions handled, also reading matter at 10 cents a journal. Paul F. Williams, New Brunswick, New Jersey. 8-12

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The AMERICAN FANCIER and BREEDER

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It pays to keep the best poultry as surely as other kinds of stock. A few extra dollars paid for carefully bred fowls for a foundation stock is money well invested and in the end will prove more economical than buying a lot of cheap fowls of indifferent breeding. It is quality and not numbers that should be considered in laying the foundation of a fine flock of fowls. Two years ago C. R. C. Dye of Fremont county visited a great poultry show in Madison Square garden in New York city and paid \$200 for eight Buff Orpingtons. This looked like a big wad of money for seven hens and one cock but after culling out a lot of the produce which did not strike his fancy Mr. Dye's sales in the two years have exceeded \$800. This was surely not a bad investment.

Nothing pays better if sent to market in the prime condition than turkeys, but many famers do not understand this. Their turkeys grow on a limited range, getting little or no food at home through the summer, and if fed at all with regularity it is only for two or three weeks before killing. When these lean, bony carcasses are sent to market in winter the owners receive a small price for their birds and still poorer price for the food. The average life of a turkey is only seven or eight months and the true economy of feeding is to give the poult all they can digest from the shell to slaughter.

If they get all they can eat on the range it is well but usually this should be supplemented by regular when they come from the of roost in the morning and two or three hours before they go to roost at night.

Breeder are often advised to bestow especial care upon hens at molting time. Many interpret this as a demand for an extra allowance of food, and in accordance with this idea the ration is increased. As a result the hen goes into winter rolling fat and their failure as layers is fixed from the beginning. The only attention molting hens require is a constant supply of pure drinking water and dry sleeping place. It is unwise to make the latter very warm in the belief that the scanty covering of feathers call for close protection from the chilly air of autumn nights. Exposure to the air under a dry roof will hasten the moulting process. Leave the windows open until November, except in stormy weather. Two weeks after molting resume grain feeding, and if the hens are the right sort you will not be able to feed them heavy enough to shut off the winter eggs.

It is a serious thing, when eggs are selling at 3 cents apiece, to have hens suddenly cease laying, when they should be filling the egg basket. It seems hard on us when the hens, after laying as regularly as clock work during the summer when egg are low, shut down just when there is the heaviest demand. But there is a cause for this. It is not because of lack of food, as the cessation of egg production may happen in one single day. It is due to disease, for the hens may be healthy. The cause is lack of warmth. While the heat of the body comes from the food, yet the cold is so intense that the digestion is not sufficiently rapid to create the heat necessary to protect the bird from the cold. Egg production will cease because nature's first effort will be to protect before it is permitted to do extra work in production. The remedy is simply to guard against loss of animal heat. This is done by keeping the cold winds away, by providing shelter and sunny places for the hens; by feeding them warm food and water. No ventilators, cracks or openings are needed to let in the cold air. If you wish your hens to lay as they do in summer they must have summer conditions. A good feed is, for morning, a mash containing corn chops, ten pounds, barley chops, ten pounds; middlings, five pounds, and bran, five pounds. Mix all this together and then scald with hot water to make a thick mash. Add sufficient water or milk to cool, so that it can be readily eaten by the fowls. Oats, wheat and corn are sufficient for the fowls at night.

Right Kind of a Nest.

Did you ever notice that an egg broken in the nest of the sitting hen is quite as often due to mismanagement as to the fault of the hen? It is bad policy to have the sitting hen house too close to the chicken house.

The hen if given her liberty is apt to go back to her old quarters. The farmer's wife has not time to watch the sitting hens. Examine the earth in the bottom of the nests to see that clods have not formed, and no foreign substance is in the dirt to break the eggs. A piece of sod, grass side up, is to my mind, preferable to the spadeful of moist often advised. Give the hen room to turn around in. If she is not broody enough to remain on the nest unless held on she is better off. The plan is to have a runaway of poultry netting to confine the hens. If the ground is spaded up occasionally, a dust box and food and drink placed inside, the hen will do good work.

Testing the Eggs

The testing of eggs has nothing to do with the result of hatch. People test the eggs to find out whether the eggs are fertile or not prior to the term they are due to hatch. This enables them to select the clear from the fertile eggs. These clear eggs are just as good for cooking or any use that other eggs of the same age can be put, as they would be if never been placed in the machine, being in the machine for a week or ten days has no more influence on clear eggs than the summer weather would have on them in a basket in the house. Clear eggs will kept good longer than will the so-called fertile eggs.

When you have several incubators, if two are filled and started at the same time when they are tested it often happens that that one machine will hold all the fertile eggs, thus saving the time of one of the machines that can be refilled no time lost working to keep clear warm for two weeks. These are the reasons for testing the eggs. You then know in advance what the prospect of a hatch are.

Sweet on Piles, 25 tablets, 25 cents. Sterling Medicine Co., Trenton, N. J.

NEW INVENTIONS.

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

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

752542 Brooder. Sumner Fuston, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

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

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

753228 Chicken Coop. Hall R. Bridgeis, Morgantown, N. C.

754330 Brooder. Martin A. Mills, Exira, Iowa.

754806 Bird Cage. Jos. A. Quelch, New York, N. Y.

755639 Incubator. Fred E. Dolph & Shurman R. Knapp, Battle Creek, Mich.

756277 Incubator. Edgar W. Philo, Salem, New York.

- 756765 Automatic Feeding Device and Fixtures. Zachariah Xevers, Santa Cruz, Cal.
- 756907 Seeder for Poultry Yards, Wm. H. Strathman, Chicago, Ill.
- 756990 Incubator and Brooder Edward T. Tolhurst, London, and Wm. Wilson, London Township, Canada.
- 761676 Stock Rack, Martin F. Holbrook, Otto, N. Y.
- 762371. Incubator, Cyrus W. Zimmer, Ft Wayne, Ind.

Poultry Houses.

There are poultry houses and poultry houses. Every one who goes into the poultry business, if he has any originality, seems to strike some peculiarly new idea about the of a hen house and he can talk an arm off of you, telling you why his idea is just a little better than any one else's. Well some of them are better, or else we wouldn't claim to have made any progress in poultry house architecture.

My first poultry house in my present location was only intended for a temporary affair, but before I got through footing the bills I was sorry I hadn't planned for a permanent structure. The worst faults were a poor roof, all the window the south, and poor ventilation in summer. It was a low structure, with a shingled roof, and the heat in the summer was some frightful, although I took most of the windows out.

The first winter my hens did pretty well, but I thought a little more glass on the south would make the house warmer, and as a consequence increase the egg yield. The next winter after increasing the glass, was the worst winter for eggs that I have experienced since I commenced keeping that queen of winter layers, the Black Langshan. I figured it out in this wise. Stay into the house in the middle of a clear winter's day, and the temperature was delightful. With plenty of good food and lots of exercise, a hen that wouldn't lay eggs in such an atmosphere seemed a monster of ingratitude. But I found on going into the house towards evening when the sun was off with incredible swiftness, and the biddies humped their backs and bunched together in a vain endeavor to accommodate themselves to the sudden change in temperature. There was the secret of the whole trouble; a too sudden change in temperature.

Last summer I noticed a plan of an octagon poultry house which struck me quite favorable. The first roof which I put on the old house was not a success, and the second one, which was of patent material, was a leaving badly, and well nigh beyond repair. I must either put a new roof on the old house or build a new one, and I determined to tear down the old structure, which had become an eye sore to me, and build on the octagon plan.

The result has been eminently satisfactory. Without going too much into details, the house is a two-story, single-roof structure, has windows in seven of the eight sides

down stairs, and get some sunlight from morning till night on clear days. However the amount of sunlight at any given time is not sufficient to raise the temperature very much beyond that prevailing outside, and thus the sudden and wide variations in temperature experienced under the old plan are avoided. I got eggs last winter. I got them, my neighbors didn't get them. A combination of Black Langshan biddies, with good food plenty of exercise, and a proper house, will whip any other combination to a finish for winter laying.

The story doesn't end here. It is a good summer house, too. When the weather gets warm enough I commence taking out the windows, covering the space with poultry netting, where necessary, to keep them from getting into the wrong yard. If there is a breeze blowing from any direction they get the benefit of it.

Anyone who has watched the painful efforts of the chickens to draw their breath on a hot summer night in the ordinary chicken houses, will be able to appreciate an arrangement of this sort.

The plan is a good one, economizes floor space, and can be made more convenient in its interior arrangements than any other plan of poultry house. I recommend its consideration to those who are planning for new poultry buildings.

Milk and Meat

Can milk take the place of meat? That is an important point with those who have milk to spare, especially skim milk, but who are unable to easily procure meat. Of milk, 100 pounds will contain ninety pounds of water after it is skimmed leaving ten pounds of solid matter. Meat will contain only eleven pounds of water, leaving eighty nine pounds of solids. The meat solids contain four percent of ash (lime and other mineral matter) while only seven-tenths of one per cent exists to milk. This is seventy one per cent of crude protein in meat, and three and one-half per cent of crude protein in milk. This shows that there is eight times as much water in milk as in meat, while meat is even more than ten times as valuable in the organic and mineral substances compared milk. Of course no two analyses of meat and milk will give the same results, but the above is sufficiently close to give a comparison of the meat milk. In the use of milk in place of meat, the fowl is compelled to drink too much water in order to derive the benefit required. That is concentrated while the milk solids are diluted, and as it is not beneficial for the fowls to consume so much watery material, more harm is done by the use of milk at times than is intended as milk quickly sours when exposed to the direct rays of the sun or in an impure atmosphere. Whole milk contains about thirteen per cent of solid matter; that is, 100 pounds of milk contains thirteen pounds of solids. The thirteen pounds of solids is

will be derived from about forty-eight quarts of milk. There is one way to feed milk, however, which will permit of its use with less water, and that is to make milk curds. Milk curds are excellent for all classes of poultry, but when milk decomposes and spoils, as happens in troughs, it is not so wholesome. Meat varies very much in composition, and if lean meat with bone can be used it will be a valuable food, as the bone supplies lime for the shells, but it is best to avoid fat meat at all times. A bone cutter permits of utilizing a large proportion of material that would be wasted other-wise, and which will provide better egg-producing food than milk. A common belief is that milk can be made to take the place of meat altogether, and many writers have so advised, but such is not possible, as no material abounding so largely in water as milk can be used as a substitute as a concentrated food. Milk is excellent as a portion of the ration, and is relished; but it must not be depended upon entirely as a nitrogenous material.

An Opinion on Dry Feeding.

The poultryman must erect a comfortable house on a dry and elevated site. The roosts must all be on the level, and the windows so arranged the fowls will not be obliged to roost in a draft.

Cleanliness is a necessity. Neglect to observe the rules of cleanliness will outdo all your other work. Clean quarters are just as essential as food and just as necessary to health. Fowls cannot breathe impure air continuously at night and remain healthy very long. Unclean surroundings debilitate the fowls and render them more subject to disease. Vermin results from filth and neglect to keep the poultry house in proper condition, says a writer in the Poultry Tribune.

Feeding is brought to a real science, the poultryman feeds his flock with some aim in view; there is no guess work about it. He knows what to feed to induce egg laying; to fatten, to get them ready for market quite a different ration is necessary. He has found out that growing chicks, which are making flesh, bone, muscle and feathers at one and the same time, need a varied diet of the most nourishing food. Sloppy cold water with oat meal mixed in, he considers almost a poison, especially so when he expects to fill the egg basket.

The most profitable hens lay at seasons of the year eggs are scarce and the price is high. The thing to do then is to provide conditions which will be conducive to egg production. Laying hens depend less upon the season of the year than they do upon the weather. This being the case, all poultry keeper should provide comfortable quarters for the hens in both winter and summer. Why is it that the hens will be in good condition and just as soon as the first cold snap comes every one of them will stop laying? It is a matter that is worth the attention of poultrymen and philosophers.

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The Rearing of Turkeys

The period of incubation lasts from 26 to 30 days. Leave the turkeys untirely alone until the hen leaves the nest, for the young will not eat until they are a day or two old. When removed from the nest three boards a foot wide set up edgewise in the form of a triangle with some boards laid across one corner for protection in storms make a good pen to confine them in, leaving the old hen at liberty and she will not leave them.

I usually feed wheat bread soaked in new milk and meal baked into johnny cake. A pint of meal and hard boiled egg chopped fine with new milk enough to moisten it makes a good mixture. They should be fed often, say five times a day at first, but only what they will eat up clean. Probably there is no better food than sour milk made into Dutch cheese, but sloppy food should never be fed to them. After they are two or three weeks old, I feed corn and oat ground together.

The first weeks are the most difficult to keep them healthy and growing. After they are a month old there is usually no trouble.

They should not be allowed to run in wet grass when small. Be sure they come every night to roost and a good way to encourage this is to feed them each night on their return. They should be fed well all summer and they will be fat and bring enough more to pay for the feed.

Nov. 1. An excellent time to clean out a poultry house.

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Egg-eating Hens.

The egg-eating hen is an abomination to polite poultry society. She is a creature of morbid appetite and obnoxious habits. How they become egg-eaters has never yet been revealed to common mortals by the apostles of occult sciences, any more than the chicken eating hog has been analyzed in the relation of cause and effect. The egg-eating hen cannot be trusted any farther than sheep killing dog. She is as treacherous among fresh laid eggs as the pet cat is among a room full of canaries turned loose. If some one could invent an appetite for an egg eating hen that would induce her to devour rotten eggs, that person would be sound and supreme benefactor to his day, his race and his generation. Of this however, we are rather inclined to despair, for we regard an egg eating hen as a clear case of total chicken depravity, the end of which should be hailed by all well-wishers of her race.

THE BARN AS A POULTRY HOUSE.

On many farms it is the practice to let the fowls roost in the barn. The practice is a bad one. If the chickens are scrubs or of a small variety of thoroughbreds, they will seek the highest beams as their roosting places; if of the larger breeds, they will take possession of lower lodgements, most likely the harness pegs or carriages and implements, and the entire barn and whatever is in it is constantly filthy and unuseful. Besides there will be lice and mites where poultry stay, and these pests could not be in a more aggravating place, nor one harder to rid them, than the barn. They annoy the horses, the cattle, the attendants, and everything. Better not have poultry at all than to let the fowls roost in the barn.

A patch of rye for hens to run on during warm days throughout the winter will help to fill the winter egg basket. It is late but it may be sowed yet with profit.

There is a mistake made in calling for extremely heavy weight in a breed. Select birds about the standard weight for the chosen breed, and get them thick-fleshed and solid.

The Wyandotte is a beautiful fowl, and it is one of the best all around varieties. A flock of pure white Wyandottes are hard to beat for beauty or use.

It is no use to say the common fowl is no good, for it is they that have made the reputation of this country for eggs. But the thoroughbreds are better, and we believe it will be a glad day when farmers generally turn to them.

It is not enough that a fowl pays its way; it should be an income maker. Discard the star-borders, those that never miss a meal nor pay a cent.

The number of farms where poultry is raised is put at 88 per cent. of all of the farms of the country; and poultry is kept on a great many village lots.

Flat perches are better than round ones, and low perches are better than high ones. The leghorns and Hamburgs, and fowls of their class crowd for the highest perches.

Poultry that is being fattened for market should not run with the flock, and it is poor business to catch up chickens out of the flock and take them to market. Laying hens are not fat enough for market, and marketable hens are too fat for layers.

The hens need ground bone or crushed shells now.

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COLORS OF YOUNG CHICKS.

There are some points in the breeding of pure bred poultry that are quite phenomenal. We are informed that the Black Java chicks when first hatched, show a predominance of white, which, as they feather out, become pure black. The same is the case with the Langshans; and we are informed that the Bantam Javas do not show, at hatching, the spotted peculiarity of their maturity, but have broad patches of white and of black which would hardly prognosticate their speckled condition at maturity. Now this same peculiarity is seen in the White Plymouth Rocks, which originated from "sports" of the Dominique Rock. The young chicks,

from perfectly snow-white ancestry, will come out into the world with a very "smutty" covering the head and wings are often almost black. The following extract from a letter explains somewhat the condition; "I received two settings of White Plymouth Rock eggs all right on the 1st of June, and set them under two hens. On the 22d my neighbors all gathered about to see my hatches of white chicks. You can imagine my disappointment and chagrin when I had to exhibit to them my little flock one half of which looked like about the head and wings that their "smutty" appearance disgraced the whole flock, and my friends went off quite disgusted, saying that if "those

are fair specimens of chicks from White Plymouth Rocks, I do not want any of them, thank you!" Now, if this man had had patience with them he would have found in a month or two that they were coming out pure white in their feathering. Why the Javas and White Plymouth Rock should exhibit such eccentric traits of coloring from chickhood up to maturity, and why the White Wyandots, White Leghorns, and White Cochins should not—being pure white from the shell—is one of those phenomena of nature we cannot explain; but such are the facts. We can explain the tendency of white chicks or owls to become "cream white", from the action of the sun's rays; but as for the little chicks painting themselves up in the egg shell colors that do not belong to them, we don't understand.

♦♦♦♦♦
There is a Difference.

Some of the breeds lay larger eggs than other, something also depending on the hens and on the kinds of food, but over feeding is as much to do with the hens laying extra large eggs, soft-shell eggs, double-eggs of various shapes. If given opportunities to work for their food, the hens will not fatten very rapidly when producing eggs, and just as soon as the hens can have access to grass, cut off some of the food. It will be a waste of food to feed fowls that have the run of a large field, as they will fill their crops several times during the day with grass, young weeds, seeds, worms and insect of all kinds, securing a greater and better variety than can be provided. They will also lay more eggs if not overfed, as they will keep in good condition when busily at work for their food. Many persons feed their hens when the birds are foraging, and do not know why eggs are lacking, when the cause is too much feed during the spring and summer. It may be necessary to observe each member of the flock, but such work is one of the duties connected with the management of fowls.

If you do not think chickens enjoy a scratch among the leaves in the winter, just throw some leaves into the poultry house, then scatter some whole grain of corn, oats, or wheat among the leaves and you will see some lively scratching and hear some cheerful chattering going on in a little while.

Young Cockerels.

It is a waste of food to keep young roosters after they weigh five pounds a pair, as they are sold as "old roosters" after their combs grow. In the market old roosters bring from five to seven cents a pound, while young ones often sell at from fifteen to twenty cents a pound. It is a loss to keep them longer than when they are old enough to sell.

Let the chick run in the garden if they will. They will gather seeds that will do both them and your garden good.



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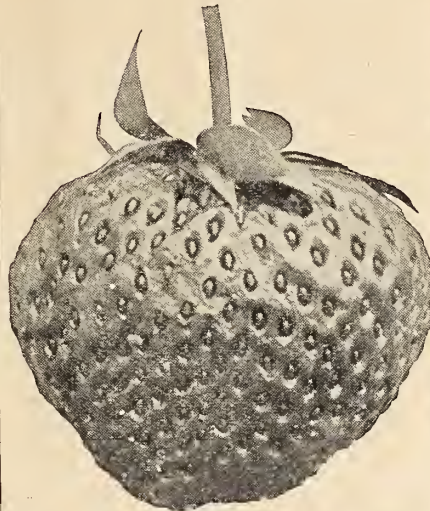
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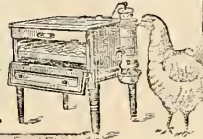


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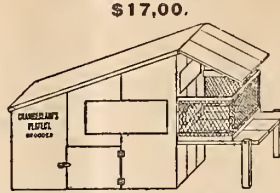
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