

AGRICULTURAL HINTS

MANAGEMENT OF DUCKS.

The Man Who Expects to Make Pekins Pay Must Take Excellent Care of Them.

It is not absolutely necessary to have so warm a house for Pekin ducks as for fowls, but it pays best to have a good comfortable house for them, as will be shown presently. When properly cared for, ducks begin to lay during the winter months; those that are hatched quite early in the spring may lay in December. We should prefer ducks in their second year for breeders, or at least very early-hatched ones, so they might be almost or quite one year old before eggs from them are used for hatching. Ducklings do better that are hatched from eggs that are laid by mature ducks. Ducks can be plucked during warm weather, just prior to beginning to moult; then all the blood has gone from the quill of the feather, and but little pain is given by plucking them at that time.

Ducks sit about on the ground; they do not roost like fowls. It is their habit to lay their eggs very early in the morning, often before daylight; for this reason they are driven into the house at night, and kept shut in till several hours after sunrise, to prevent them from running about and dropping their eggs on the ground wherever they may be. Pekin ducks are a kind of a machine; they seldom lay an egg in a nest, and will lay the most of them in the water if allowed their freedom and are not shut up at night. We doubt if one out of five of them would go into the house to lay if they are allowed to run as they please.

For these reasons they should have a comfortable house that has a good, dry earth floor. This should be covered over with straw or dry meadow grass for them to rest on at night. During cold weather the house should be closed up like the hen house. When spring and warmer weather come, give all the air and ventilation possible while they are shut in. You will find it necessary to drive them in at night, or to give the evening meal within the house, and shut them in while they eat. The litter should be turned over at least twice a week; it should be put out in the sun once a week to air and dry, and at this time the floor should be cleaned and the litter put back. We know that some who keep ducks do not clean the houses all winter. With such care the ducks and their eggs are always covered with dirt.

For old or laying ducks, mix by measure one-half corn meal, one-fourth wheat bran, the rest green food, cooked vegetables and meat scraps. Mix into this some coarse sand, and mix all into a dry mash food with water. The green food should be cut up into short pieces; green rye, oats or clover is good for this. When the ducks are not laying, feed light; when laying, feed strong two or three times a day; if they grow fat, feed less corn meal and meat and more bran. Always feed the ducks in troughs or boxes. They should have plenty of grit and oyster shell. The sand that is mixed in their food is good for digestion or grinding, but they must have in addition to this food grit or shell. Green cut bone or meat of any kind is good for them. All animal food is better if cooked for ducks.

Pekin ducks will do very well with simply enough water to drink, and thousands of them are raised that never had a chance to swim in water at all. At the same time, ducks that are kept for breeders do better when they have the chance to swim and wash in the water.—Country Gentleman.

AMONG THE POULTRY.

If the hen is a machine for converting feed into eggs, it is a plain business principle that the machine should be kept running at full capacity and at the lowest cost. Don't keep a single fowl over winter that you can't make pay its board. Cull them out and sell for what they will bring. The feed and care thus saved may be given to the more worthy ones. Although eggs are a good price they will go higher later on. The hens will be sure to suspect business unless they have comfortable quarters and are well cared for. Increasing the profits depends largely on the observance of these important points: Increasing the quantity, improving the quality, and obtaining a better price for the product sold. To frequently change from one breed to another is neither always attended by more or less expense; in other words loss. Ask to experiment in cross breeding; it still works. Try to find the pure breed that does most profitably. The demand of your fancy and your market, then stick to it and make it pay.

MACHINE-MADE HENS.

In a New England Factory Chickens Are Mechanically Hatched, Fed and Picked.

The old-fashioned Plymouth Rock hen considered she was faithfully doing her duty if she laid about three dozen eggs a year, but the modern machine-made hen is afraid that her head will go off if she does not keep the record up to 200. In those old-fashioned times she enjoyed the honor of motherhood and was considered of much greater importance than being an egg-producing machine. That was all changed with the introduction of the incubator system, which not only cuts off several days in the period of hatching, but does the business in a generally more satisfactory manner than did the mother hen.

Besides this there is the necessity of system all around which leads to the ultimate production of the manufactured chicken.

In one of the largest poultry-producing places of the east a large plant has recently been installed which is probably the most perfect in the world. The entire plant, in fact, is but one vast machine, each floor of which is devoted to the chicken-producing business. On the top floor are located the incubators in which the unhatched eggs are placed on a tray and subjected to a heat of about 90 degrees. Beneath the tray, in which are hatched about 1,000 chickens a day, are the brooders, and here in a temperature of about 90 degrees the chicks remain for 21 days. After being born one day feeding commences, the fare being millet, ground oats and canary seed. For the first week they are fed five times a day, the amount of food being gradually increased, although given less often, their diet being gradually changed to include the coarser grains. By the rapid forcing method of feeding adopted it takes only a week or two to bring the chicken to a weight of two pounds.

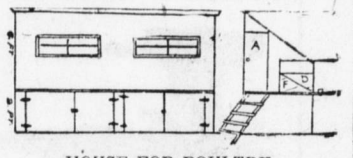
The chicken is then taken to the floor below, where a very limited space is allowed for the running around and where a number of cramping machines are located. The crowded pens on this floor are the first and last glimpse the modern chicken catches of the world into which it is born, for here it begins to fatten rapidly, as the cramping machines force an abnormal quantity of food down its throat. It takes from two to four weeks to bring the weight of these chickens up to about six pounds, at which time they are exactly in shape for market. They are then removed to the floor below where are the guillotines and plucking machines. Here they are disposed of more rapidly than in any of the foregoing processes, the killing and dressing being carried out with the greatest speed possible, so that the fowl may be placed in the packing barrel as nearly warm as possible and reach the market while perfectly fresh.

It is a surprising fact that the products of this establishment receive better favor at the hands of poultry buyers in the large cities than does the old-fashioned farm-fresh product. The owners of the plant expect to make a fortune out of their enterprise and are really making money fast already.—Boston Letter.

WELL-PLANNED HOUSE.

It Also Has the Advantage of Being Convenient and Saving a Lot of Valuable Space.

The chicken house illustrated here-with has the advantage of affording large space in proportion to the size of the building. The arrangement of the parts used for different purposes are such as to provide accommodations that are often wanting in large



HOUSE FOR POULTRY.

and expensive buildings. This house has the advantage also of being very convenient to care for, as will be seen by the illustration. The nest boxes are in the upper part under the windows. (F) is the floor of the passage way and (d) is the droppings board with hinged door to open at the back of the house, thus making it possible to clean the droppings conveniently without entering the roosting place. The dimensions of building are as follows: Front, nine feet high; back, six feet. Upper story, front, six feet; lower scratching room, three feet. The length and width dimensions to be governed by size of flocks kept.—Agricultural Epitomist.

Pay Attention to Perches.

The ordinary ladder perch causes the birds to struggle to secure the top position, and much harm frequently results. The birds upon the topmost perch will also be very near the roof. If a sudden frost should come on during the night the cold will strike down at the backs of the birds, resulting in disease. The fowls upon the highest rung will also be in a draft, as the ventilation in a good house is at the top. There is another objection to this form of perch, which is that the fowls are exceedingly liable to injure themselves in flying down from the highest rungs. It is advisable to have all perches the same height and at a distance of not more than two feet from the ground, and there will be fewer lame fowls.—Farm and Fireside.

If you keep large hogs without gain, and keep pigs on a maintenance ration only, look out for loss in both ways.

HERE THIS IS IT

KNOWN BY THE SIGN



ST. JACOBS OIL

Cures Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Lumbago, Sprains, Bruises, Soreness, Stiffness, etc and so on.

CONQUERS PAIN

Just Like Her.

Mrs. Bombazine—O, I never have any trouble in spelling correctly; but I'll admit that I make a mistake now and then through carelessness.

Mrs. Blunt—Yes; I remember the funny mistake you made in asking for a berth in the sleeping car.

"How did I spell it? 'Berth?'"—Boston Transcript.

Most Important to Us. Teacher—Tell me some of the most important things existing to-day which did not exist 100 years ago. Tommy—Us.—Stray Stories.

Some people would rather be consistent than be right.—Chicago Daily News.

The best way to make people believe you is to admit that you are a liar.—Washington (Ia.) Democrat.

Notice that you seem to be "in the way" oftener than you used to be? That is one of the signs of old age.—Atchison Globe.

"Pa, what's the difference between wit and humor?" "You don't need to use dialect to make wit funny."—Chicago Record-Herald.

There are two classes of unpopular men—those who never think before speaking, and those who never speak what they think.—Town Topics.

She—"O! I just love architecture! Don't you?" He—"No; it always seems to be getting in my way. I'm learning to run an automobile, you know."—Philadelphia Press.

Miss Featherweight—"I hope you are feeling better to-day, Mr. Boreham?" Mr. B.—"No, I'm very dull and low-spirited." Miss F.—"Ah, but you seem more yourself."—Punch.

"Why do you bring this to me?" thundered the weary editor, thrusting the MS. back into the hands of the post. "Because," replied the bard, timidly, "I have no stamp."—Boston Post.

"Joaksmith, it appears, is married and has gone to housekeeping." "Not at all. What made you think so?" "He's been writing so many jokes about servant girls lately, he must have had some experience with them." "Nonsense! If he'd had such experience he wouldn't joke about it."—Philadelphia Press.

"Dear me!" said the British belle, "I wonder if those horrid Yankee papers are daring to insinuate that we have large feet." "Why, dear?" asked her friend. "Oh, I was just reading one that said: 'The American shoe has invaded England, and the British ladies are wearing large numbers.'"—Philadelphia Record.

BAKING A TURKEY.

According to This Authority Many Cooks Do It the Wrong Way.

"Ninety-nine women out of every one hundred, ninety-nine cooks out of every one hundred, will bake a turkey with the back to the pan," said a New Orleans man who keeps in touch with the kitchen, according to the New Orleans Times-Democrat, "and this is a mistake. I said ninety-nine out of every one hundred. Rather should I have said that the mistake is almost universally made. But few cooks ever think of cooking the turkey any other way. There seems to be a demand for well-browned turkey breast. But in browning the breast they sacrifice the sweetness of this part of the fowl. The best way to prepare a turkey is to bake it with the breast down. I learned this lesson from Mme. Begue, whose place down in the Old Quarter near the French market has become famed all over the country. She never thinks of baking a turkey with the breast up. The breast is turned to the bottom of the pan, instead of being dry and tasteless when it is served, is richly flavored, and as sweet and juicy as one would care to have it. You see, all the fine flavoring of the turkey, the juices of the dressing and all the daintier touches flow down toward the breast of the fowl, and when the white meat is served you get the full benefit of every flavor added during the process of preparing and baking the turkey, in addition to the distinctive taste of the fowl itself.

"Inconvenient and awkward? Not at all. It is just as easy to cook a turkey in this way as in any other way, and the result is infinitely more satisfactory. It is no trouble to arrange the fowl in the pan. If you decide to place the fowl on the table before carving it you will find that it will look quite as well as it would if baked in the usual way, and certainly it will taste much better than it would if you baked the breast until it was dry and flavorless."

Sure Cure.

Miss Assum—Dكتور. I read somewhere that onions were a good remedy for weak nerves. Is that so? Dr. Bright—I don't know about that, but I think an onion is a good remedy for a weak breath.—Philadelphia Press.

Best for the Bowels.

No matter what ails you, headache to a cancer, you will never get well until your bowels are put right. Cascarets help nature, cure you without a gripe or pain, produce easy, natural movements, cost you just 10 cents to start getting your health back. Cascarets Candy Cathartic, the genuine, put up in metal boxes, every tablet has C. C. C. stamped on it. Beware of imitations.

His Preference.

Head of Foreign Missionary Bureau—Where would you prefer to locate as a missionary? Young Missionary—Well, if possible, where the natives are vegetarians.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Stops the Cough and Works off the Cold. Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Price 25c.

Had become a Habit.

"I've been looking for my husband for the last two hours," said an agitated woman to a calm one. "Don't be excited, madam," replied the latter. "I've been looking for a husband for the last 25 years."—Tammany Times.

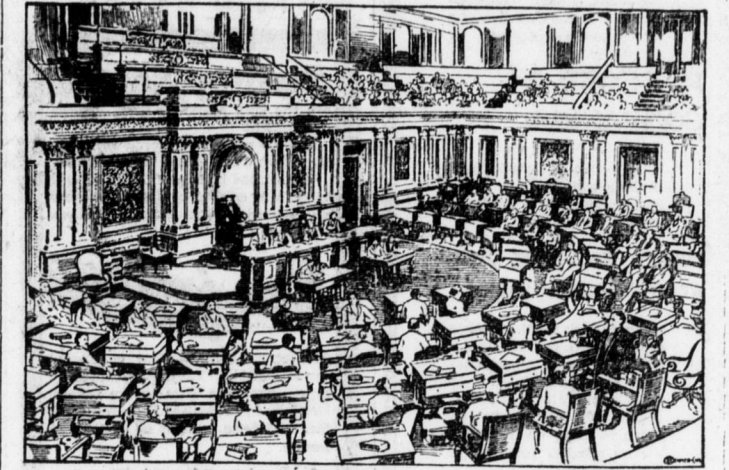
PUTNAM FADELESS DYES color more goods, per package, than any other.

Hazarding a Guess.

Delia—What is this copper company that the man of the house does be talkin' about so much? Bridget—Shure, Oi suppose 'tis a policeman's union, no less.—Philadelphia Press.

UNITED STATES SENATOR THURSTON,

The Brilliant Statesman from Nebraska, Makes an Important Public Utterance.



INTERIOR OF UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER.

Ex-Senator John M. Thurston, of Omaha, Nebraska, is one of the most prominent and influential men in the country. He made the speech nominating President McKinley at the St. Louis convention, and was made permanent Chairman of this convention. He was also made Chairman of the convention that re-nominated President McKinley at Philadelphia. He was recently appointed by President McKinley Chairman of the St. Louis Exposition Commission.

This prominent gentleman recently wrote the following letter to The Peruna Medicine Co., of Columbus, Ohio:

Washington, D. C., April 6, 1901.

"I have used Peruna at various times during the past year or two with most satisfactory results."

"It entirely relieved me from an irritating cough—the result of excessive effort in the presidential campaign, and I am a firm believer in its efficacy for any such trouble."—Jno. M. Thurston.

Catarrh has already become a national curse. Its ravages extend from ocean to ocean. It stands to-day before the nation as a thoroughly tested, accurately scientific internal remedy for catarrh. There are practically no medicinal rivals in the field.

Peruna is not a local application or temporary relief; it is a permanent cure. Peruna is a systemic remedy. It eradicates catarrh from the system. It cures catarrh wherever located. Its cures are radical and lasting.

Therefore, Peruna is receiving the incense of the leading statesmen and history-makers of the day. Address the Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O., for a book of testimonials, containing letters from prominent men and women concerning Peruna.

The catarrh remedy, Peruna, seems to be the main expectation in this direction. Dr. Hartman, President of the Hartman Sanitarium, devised the remedy, Peruna, over forty years ago, and the remedy as a catarrh cure has been

Real Pleasure. Her Father—Aha! I caught you kissing my daughter, sir! What do you mean by that sort of business? He—I don't consider it business at all, sir, but pleasure, merely pleasure.—Philadelphia Press.

The Peruna Almanac. The druggists have already been supplied with Peruna almanacs. There is sure to be a great demand for these almanacs on account of the articles on astrology which they contain. The subject of astrology is a very attractive one to most people. The articles on astrology in the Peruna almanac have been furnished by a very competent astrologist, and the mental characteristics of each sign is given, constituting almost a complete horoscope. A list of lucky and unlucky days for each month are given. There will be a great rush for these books. Ask your druggist for one early before they are all gone.

"Dear Old Lullaby!" "I wonder why Cholly remains in the Turkish bath for such a length of time?" "Oh he says that the steam reminds him of a London fog."—Chicago Daily News.

Opportunities Wasted. She was entertaining the assembled company with an account of their first quarrel and how, after making it up with one another, her husband had planted a tree in remembrance of it.

"If we had only done that," whispered the minister's wife to her husband, "what a splendid avenue we might have had!"—Stray Stories.

I am sure Piso's Cure for Consumption saved my life three years ago.—Mrs. Thos. Robbins, Maple Street, Norwich, N. Y., Feb. 17, 1900.

But Few Experts. The life work of most of us consists in making a living, and it is deplorable how comparatively few experts there are in the business.—Puck.

Cure your cough with Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar. Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute.

A careful analysis of the results would probably show that Chance most favors those who leave the least to it.—Puck.

Why Syrup of Figs is the best family laxative

It is pure.
It is gentle.
It is pleasant.
It is efficacious.
It is not expensive.
It is good for children.
It is excellent for ladies.
It is convenient for business men.
It is perfectly safe under all circumstances.
It is used by millions of families the world over.
It stands highest, as a laxative, with physicians.
If you use it you have the best laxative the world produces.

Because

Its component parts are all wholesome.
It acts gently without unpleasant after-effects.
It is wholly free from objectionable substances.

It contains the laxative principles of plants.
It contains the carminative principles of plants.
It contains wholesome aromatic liquids which are agreeable and refreshing to the taste.

All are pure.
All are delicately blended.
All are skillfully and scientifically compounded.

Its value is due to our method of manufacture and to the originality and simplicity of the combination.

To get its beneficial effects—buy the genuine.

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FOR SALE BY ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS.

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HAZARD GUN POWDER

If you use cartridges, be sure that they are loaded with HAZARD BLACK or HAZARD BULLETS; then if you miss what you shoot at, you may be sure the fault was not with the powder.

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gives instant relief and POSITIVE CURE FOR PILES. For free sample address "ANAKESIS," Tribune Building, New York.

RHEUMATISM

Van Buren's Rheumatic Compound is the only positive cure. Past experience speaks for itself. Depot No. 2, California Ave., Chicago.

PILES

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A. N. K.—C 1899