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Party's Fate on One Vote.
Instances are common enough in elections when a single vote turns the scale but for that vote to decide not only the fate of a candidate, but of a party as well, is rare. Yet a majority of one in parliament, which may logically depend on a majority of one in the country, has worked some of the most momentous results possible. The classical example is the act of union of 1790, certainly among the largest, most important and most remarkable changes ever accomplished by a legislative body. One hundred and six voted for it and 105 against. Then a majority of one carried the great reform bill in 1832.

Majorities only a little bigger have again and again been responsible for far-reaching consequences. A majority of five threw out the Melbourne government in 1839. By the same figure Lord John Russell's government was defeated in 1838. Gladstone went out of office in 1871 because he lacked three votes, and the public education act, one of the most important ever passed, was placed on the statute book by a majority of two.—London Chronicle.

Wild Dogs of Asia.
The whole tribe of wild dogs, which in closely allied forms are to be found in the wildest jungles and woods of Asia, from the Himalayas to Ceylon and from China to the Taurus—unless the "golden wolves" of the Roman empire are now extinct in the forests of Asia Minor—show an individual and corporate courage which entitles them to a high place among the most daring of wild creatures. The "red dogs," to give them their most characteristic name, are neither large in size nor do they assemble in large packs. Those which have been from time to time measured and described seem to average some three feet in length from the nose to the root of the tail. The pack seldom numbers more than nine or ten, yet there is sufficient evidence that they are willing and able to destroy any creature that inhabits the jungle, except the adult elephant and perhaps the rhinoceros, creatures whose great size and leathery hide make them almost invulnerable to such enemies as dogs.—Harper's Weekly.

London's Big Ben.
Why is the large bell in the tower of the house of parliament in London called Big Ben? The average Londoner himself seems to have no idea how it got its name. When the building was designed Sir Benjamin Hall had a great deal to do with carrying out the plans of the architects, being high commissioner of public works, and his coworkers appreciated the fact that to him the city of London was largely indebted. So when the question came up in parliament as to the name of the enormous bell that was to be hung in the tower a member shouted, "Why not call it Big Ben?" This suggestion was received with much applause as well as with roars of laughter, for Sir Benjamin was an enormous man, both in height and girth, and had often been called Big Ben. From that day on the bell whose peal every Londoner knows has been known only as Big Ben.—Harper's Weekly.

Mighty in Titles.
The ruler of Turkey, in addition to the titles sultan and kha-khan (high prince and lord of lords), also claims sovereignty over most districts, towns, cities and states in the orient, specifying each by name and setting out in each of his various titles "all the forts, citadels, purlieus and neighborhood thereof" in regular legal form. His official designation ends, "Sovereign also of diverse nations, states, peoples and races on the face of the earth." All this is in addition to his high position as "head of the faithful" and "supreme lord of all the followers of the prophet," "direct and only lieutenant on earth of Mohammed."

The Great Eastern.
The dimensions of the one time world famous Great Eastern were as follows: Length, 692 feet; width, 83 feet; depth, 90 feet; tonnage, 24,000 tons; draft when unloaded, 20 feet; when loaded, 30 feet. She had paddle wheels fifty-six feet in diameter and was also provided with a four bladed screw propeller of twenty-four feet diameter. She had accommodations for 800 first class, 2,000 second class and 1,200 third class passengers, 4,000 in all. Her speed was about eighteen miles an hour. The Great Eastern was finally broken up for old iron in the year 1889 after a checkered career of some thirty-one years.

Fair, but Stormy.
A gentleman boarded the Karori car at Kelburne avenue. Recognizing a friend on one of the seats, he nodded pleasantly and then said, "Well, what do you think of the weather?" "Oh, horrible!" was the reply. "And how is your wife today?" "She's just about the same, thank you!"—New Zealand Free Lance.

No Ear For Music.
"How do you like the music, Mr. Jenkins?" said Miss Parsons. "I'm sorry, but I have no ear for music," he answered. "No," put in Mr. Jasper. "He uses his for a pen rack."

An Even Score.
"What is your objection to him, papa?" "Why, the fellow can't make enough money to support you." "But neither can you."

No Use For Theory.
Wigwag—It is a pet theory of mine that two can live as cheaply as one. Youngpop—Huh! It's plain to be seen you were never the father of twins.—Philadelphia Record.

Home Course In Poultry Keeping

V. — The Raising of Chickens.

By MILO M. HASTINGS,
Formerly Poultryman at Kansas Experiment Station, Commercial Poultry Expert of the United States Department of Agriculture, Author of "The Dollar Hen."

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MOST of the arguments concerning natural versus artificial incubation will apply to the question of using hens or brooders for rearing. The statement is generally made that the hen is the best mother. Recently doubt has been thrown upon this claim, however, for many experimenters seem to have demonstrated that the discredit that formerly fell upon the brooder is due to the fact that incubator hatched



KANSAS EXPERIMENT STATION BROODER. chicks are not normal and hence not as livable as hen hatched chicks.

This loss of wee chicks is the most discouraging part of the poultry business. If this loss is much greater than 15 or 20 per cent there is something radically wrong somewhere, and the mistake must be found and rectified or failure is inevitable.

Coops For Chicks.
The coops provided for hens with chicks should be one of the most carefully constructed features of the poultryman's equipment. First of all, they must be rat tight and rain proof, but not air tight. They must also be easily cleaned. These points are best obtained by building a platform and setting upon it a floorless coop. The shape of the coop is not important, but it should have an open front protected by a projecting hood, so the rain cannot beat in, and covered with wire netting or in cool weather netting cloth. The coop itself if built of cheap lumber must be covered with roofing paper.

From twenty to forty chicks may be placed with each hen, the number depending upon the severity of the weather. The greatest source of the loss of chicks with hens is from the hungry hen leading the little ones around in the wet grass after rain or heavy dew. The best way to overcome this loss is to keep the hen shut in, opening the coop sufficiently for the chicks to come out and exercise. The hen if provided with corn and water within reach need not be given her liberty for several days after the chicks are hatched and should be shut in for several weeks when the grass is wet.

Brooders for chicks have until within the last few years been heated with kerosene lamps. Lately a great fad has arisen in poultrydom for fireless brooders. These fireless brooders are simply boxes arranged for slow ventilation. The chicks are kept warm by hovering under a cloth arranged in such a fashion as to represent the feathered body of the mother hen. Chicks can be raised in fireless brooders, and in warm climates the method is all right. In the colder seasons and climates, however, fireless brooders have not been found practical by the majority of poultrymen.

Lamp Brooders Best.
Lamp brooders holding from 50 to 100 chicks have been successfully used for many years and are considered the best means yet devised for handling young chicks on a large scale. Steam or hot water heated brooder houses have never proved very successful, and as they are expensive, to start with, I should advise the poultryman to be very sure he knows what he is doing before investing money in a plant of this kind.

The brooder should be large, having not less than nine square feet of floor space. The greatest trouble with brooders in operation is the uncertainty of the lamp. The brooder lamp should have sufficient oil capacity and a large wick. Brooder lamps are often exposed to the wind, and if cheaply constructed or poorly inclosed the result will be a chilled brood of chicks or perhaps a fire.

In a lamp heated brooder one must see that the heat is provided in such a way that the chicks in attempting to get warm will not crowd in corners and trample each other to death. The best brooder heater or hover consists of a tin drum, inside of which circulates the hot fumes from the lamp. Beneath this drum the chicks hover. The best form for the heating drum is a disk with a hole in the center, some-

thing on the order of a doughnut. This hole in the center acts as a ventilating flue and causes a gradual circulation of warm air to pass up through the center and down over the sides of the heating drum, thus keeping the chicks uniformly warm and at the same time providing them with fresh air.

The exact temperature of the brooder is of no particular consequence. The warmest part of it should always be just a little too warm so that the chick may go toward or from the heat, as it pleases. The comfortable chick sleeps squatting down with its head stretched out. If cold it stands up in an effort to get near the heat which is above it. These attitudes of the chicks are by far the best thermometer for the brooder.

The arrangement of the brooder for the sleeping accommodations of the chicks is important, but this is not the only thing to be considered in a brooder. The brooder used in the early season, and especially the outdoor brooder, must have ample space provided for the daytime accommodation of the chick. This part of the brooder must be well lighted and somewhat cooler than the hover. As soon as conditions will permit get the chickens out on a large floor or, better still, on the ground. Keep the chicks scratching in daylight and sleeping stretched out at night, and the most difficult problem of poultry raising has been solved.

Feeding Chicks.
Little chicks should not be fed for forty-eight to seventy-two hours after hatching. Nature has provided for their nourishment during this period, and people who worry about them starving are wasting pity. Another error made by kind hearted people is in thinking the chick needs bread and milk, hard boiled egg yolk or some other soft food or wet food. On the contrary, the chick should be given the same class of food that it would get if it first saw daylight in its native Indian jungle.

The natural diet consists of seeds, insects and fresh sprigs of grass. This we must duplicate the best we can. A chick may be first fed any grains that chickens eat in later life if the particles are small enough for the chick to swallow, and they do not need to be so small, either, for newly hatched chicks can swallow Kafir corn or whole wheat. Hulled oats and millet are two of the choicest grain foods for young chicks. Wheat, cracked corn and Kafir corn are staple poultry food.

Feed small quantities and as often as is convenient. If the food is buried in a deep litter they must work longer getting it out. The idea is to have them always hungry enough to hunt for food and always a little food for them to find. If the chicks are at liberty feeding often is not so important. Three times a day would be sufficient, while if they roam far in the fields, finding much food, morning and evening feeding is all that is necessary.

It is highly important that the young chicks be given a little meat food in some form. Commercial beef scrap, to be had at the feed store, is the best meat food for any sort of poultry. For chicks hatched in the spring of the year and allowed to range outdoors no special provision for green food need be made. If hatched in the winter it is highly important that this be provided in some form. There is nothing better for winter green food than kale, which if planted the season before will keep green all winter in almost any climate. Early lettuce and



FRESH AIR COLONY HOUSE.

other greens may be planted by those who are engaged in chick growing in a small way, but a cheaper and more feasible way is to sprout oats. Oats are sprouted by being soaked in warm water and allowed to remain in a warm place for several days. They are ready for feeding when the sprouts are two or three inches long and are devoured greedily by chicks of all ages. This absurdly simple idea has been extensively sold as a get-rich-quick poultry scheme.

Young chicks should be provided with grit of some sort. Special care is necessary to keep fresh water before them at all times. The water dish in the brooder ought to be partitioned off in such a way that chicks can reach their heads only to the water dish; otherwise they will get themselves wet. The customary chick watering fountain is made by inverting a bottle or can in a shallow basin so that the water will run out as the chicks require it.

It is especially desirable that all young growing poultry be given free range, as there is no time in the life of an animal when exercise and liberty are so essential as during the growing period. Chicks from the age of four weeks to six months are very easily taken care of, as practically the only loss during this period occurs from the depredation of thieves, human or animal. If good rat tight coops are provided which are closed at night and fresh water, grit and hoppers of beef scrap and cracked corn are kept before the chickens at all times they will thrive upon the ranch and need little care.

Puzzled the Packer.

The first organized work of women in a relief corps was led by Florence Nightingale in the Crimean war of 1855. So unaccustomed were people to that service at the time that it called out some curious comment. Writing of "Chinese" Gordon, Dr. Butler tells in his book, "Tea and Good Men," how the boys at Cambridge met the call upon them for hospital stores.

One day a letter came suddenly from the war office telling us that any warm clothes for the invalids at Scutari would be prized by Miss Florence Nightingale. At once in every college a committee was extemporized of lending undergraduates, charged to collect presents of flannel jackets, trousers, "blazers," rugs, greatcoats, furs, even sealskins.

In a few hours box after box was filled with these treasures, and all the boxes were kindly and gratuitously packed for by the leading upholsterer of the town, his foreman simply remarking to me in a tone which General Gordon would have enjoyed: "A nice consignment for a lady, sir."

Cause of Twilight.

Twilight is a phenomenon caused by atmospheric refraction. When the sun gets below the horizon we are not immediately plunged into the darkness of night. Although the sun is below our horizon, rays of solar light are bent or refracted by the terrestrial atmosphere and continue to furnish some slight illumination. The process continues with diminishing intensity until the sun is so far below the horizon that the refracting power of the atmosphere is no longer able to bend the rays enough to produce a visible effect. The time after sunset that the sun reaches such a position varies with the latitude of the place. There is less twilight at the tropic zone than at the temperate or frigid zone. This is due to less time taken by the sun's rays to pass through the atmosphere, at the tropic zone the sun's rays being perpendicular and at the temperate and frigid zones oblique.—New York American.

With a Grain of Salt.

The earliest record of the saying "with a grain of salt" dates back to the year 63 B. C., when the great Pompey entered the palace of Mithridates and discovered among his private papers the description of an antidote against poisons of all sorts, which was composed of pounded herbs. These, according to the recipe, were to be taken with a grain of salt. Whether this was meant seriously or as a warning sarcasm is not known, but thenceforth it became the custom to say that doubtful preparations should be taken with a grain of salt. From this the meaning got transferred to sayings of doubtful truth. "Attic salt" was a Greek synonym for wit or penetration, and the Latin word "sal" had somewhat of the same meaning. It is thus easy to see how the saying "cum grano salis" could have come to mean the necessity of accepting doubtful or suspicious statements "with a grain of salt."

Molokai and the Lepers.

The general idea of the leper settlement on the island of Molokai is wrong, says a writer in Harper's Weekly. Instead of the entire island being used for the leper colony the settlement comprises only eight square miles out of a total area of 261 square miles. It occupies a tongue of land on the northern side of Molokai. The north, east and west shores of this tiny spit are washed by the Pacific, while on the south side rise precipitous cliffs of from 1,800 to 4,000 feet, which make the isolation seem even more hopeless than the beautiful deep blue waters of the sea ever could. The most difficult and dangerous trail, constantly manned by government guards, foils escape, if it were ever contemplated, by the land side.

Stupid Husband of a Noted Singer.

Catalani's husband, a handsome Frenchman, was even more unintellectual than his wife—he was stupid. Once, having found the pitch of the piano too high, she said after the rehearsal to her husband: "The piano is too high. Will you see that it is made lower before the concert?" When the evening came Catalani was annoyed to find that the piano had not been altered. Her husband sent for the carpenter, who declared that he had sawed off two inches from each leg, as he had been ordered to do. "Surely it can't be too high now, my dear," said the stupid husband soothingly.

Through the Cracks.

When the celebrated divine Edward Irving was on a preaching tour in Scotland two Dumfries men of decided opinions went to hear him. When they left the hall one said to the other: "Well, Willie, what do you think?" "Oh," said the other contemptuously, "the man's cracked!" The first speaker laid a quiet hand on his shoulder. "Will," said he, "you've often seen a light peeping through a crack?"

A Poor Player.

Griggs—So you got home from the club at midnight. Well, I suppose you told wife you had to work late at the office. Played upon her sympathies, eh? Briggs—Well—er—yes, but either her sympathies were out of tune or I'm a damned poor instrumentalist.—Boston Transcript.

Good and Sufficient Reason.

Editor—But, my good fellow, why do you bring this poem to me? Imprecious One—Well, sir, because I hadn't a stamp, sir.—London Tatler.

Opportunity seldom comes with a letter of introduction.

THE MASTER SUN.

Sirius, the Dog Star, May Be the Center of Attraction.

Astronomers once believed that the entire starry universe revolved around a center of attraction, and the star named Alcyone, in the group of the Pleiades, was selected by Maedler as marking that great center.

It has long been known, however, that Maedler's conclusion, which was based on the apparent motions of the stars, was incorrect, and if any universal center exists it has not yet been discovered. In fact, many of the stars seem to be moving in straight lines, some in one direction and some in another, and among these is our own sun. But it is possible that further observations will show that all the stars are really moving in curved lines.

In the meantime it has been found that there are certain groups or sets of stars which appear to travel together. To what set, if any, the sun belongs we do not yet know, but DeLaunay has presented reasons for thinking that those stars whose distances have been measured (that is to say, those which are nearest to us) group themselves around Sirius, the dog star, in a manner similar to that in which the inner planets are grouped around the sun.

If this be correct Sirius may possibly be the master sun of which our orb of day is a distant satellite.—Harper's Weekly.

GLYCERIN.

In Many Ways It Is a Most Remarkable Substance.

One of the great advantages of glycerin in its chemical employment is the fact that it neither freezes nor evaporates under any ordinary temperature. No perceptible loss by evaporation has been detected at a temperature less than 200 degrees F., but if heated intensely it decomposes with a smell that few persons find themselves able to endure. It burns with a pale flame, similar to that from alcohol, if heated to about 300 degrees and then ignited. Its nonvolatile qualities make the compound of much use as a vehicle for holding pigments and colors, as in stamping and typewriter ribbons, carbon papers and the like.

If the pure glycerin be exposed for a long time to a freezing temperature it crystallizes with the appearance of sugar candy; but, these crystals being once melted, it is almost an impossibility to get them again into the congealed state. If a little water be added to the glycerin no crystallization will take place, though under a sufficient degree of cold the water will separate and form crystals, amid which the glycerin will remain in its natural state of fluidity. If suddenly subjected to intense cold, pure glycerin will form a gummy mass which cannot be entirely hardened or crystallized. Altogether it is quite a peculiar substance.

The Barbarous Sutee.

Sutee, or the practice of immolating widows on their husband's funeral pyres in India, was first attacked by the British government in 1829. It was on Dec. 4 of that year that Lord William Bentinck carried a resolution in council by which all who abetted sutee were declared guilty of "culpable homicide." In the year 1817 700 widows were burned alive in Bengal alone, but since the passing of the act the practice has entirely died out. Sutee was really a primitive rite, a survival from barbarous times, and not sanctioned by Hindooism, the passage in the Vedas supporting it being a willful mistranslation. But no previous governor had the courage to violate the British tradition of religious toleration. Lord William Bentinck also suppressed thuggism, which made strangling a religious rite to the goddess Kall.

An Ancient Tragedy.

A historical paper in Lord Montagu's collection in London tells of a strange tragedy "done in Holborn, a little before Christmas," several centuries ago: "A boy seven years old came up into a gentleman's chamber and prattled to him and drew his sword and flourished with it. The gentleman, being in bed wondered to see the boy toss his blade so and said: 'So, good boy, thou has done well. Put in the sword.' The boy persisting, the gentleman rose and held him the scabbard, and the rude hand led, thinking to sheath the sword lustily chopt it into his body. Compe ny were called. One offered to strike the child. 'Let him alone,' quoth the gentleman. 'God is just. This boy' father did I kill five years since and none knew. Now he hath revenge! It' And the gentleman died the second dressing."

His Apology.

Mrs. Minks—I don't want to make scene, but that man over there is staring at me very offensively. Mr. Min—He is, eh? I'll speak to him. Mr. Minks is a few moments later—Did I apologize? Mr. Minks—Yes. He said he was looking for his mother a thought at first that you were she.

In the Same Box.

Jack entering office—By George, it rains is coming down all right. I asked Tom—Where is your umbrella? Jack—It's what I am.—Boston Transcript.

Pessimistic.

"What is an antiquarian, pa?" "A man who, not satisfied with present troubles, is looking for some of the past."—New York Press.

The hearts of men are their bow-strings and their tutors; great acts are their sequences.—Mowbray.