



POULTRY FACTS

RAISING GUINEAS NOT DIFFICULT

I've been raising guinea a number of years and have often wondered why they are not more plentiful on general farms, as they can be raised in connection with turkeys or chickens with very little extra labor, writes M. G. Roberts in Farm and Ranch.

Guinea is served on the tables of American hotels under various names, as it is the best substitute for game of any of our domestic poultry. The meat has a distinct game flavor quite different from chicken or turkey.

There are three varieties of guinea raised in America, the Pearl, the White, and the Lavender. I have raised both the White and Pearl varieties, but found little difference between them, although the Pearl might be just a little harder and easier to raise.

These birds are great layers. Although their eggs are not quite so large as hen eggs, they are of a rich flavor. They begin laying early in the spring, sometimes in March, and lay until cold weather if not allowed to set. The first pair of guinea I bought, the hens laid 80 eggs. That I got the first season, and set and raised a brood of young ones, and this exceeds the average chicken hen.

These fowls cannot be confined in small yards and do much good, but if given their liberty on general farms will pick up most of their living. They do not damage planted fields or crops as do turkeys or chickens, as they never scratch, but they will destroy more insects than any other fowl, and never stay away from home. They are always on the lookout for any strange animal or bird, and their sharp eyes will detect the presence of a hawk long before chickens will notice it, and their shrill cries always give warning of any intruder. This fact should make them a welcome addition to general farms where other poultry is raised, if they had no other good qualities.

Any little disturbance in the night sets them to cackling, and therefore chicken thieves usually give a wide berth to the flocks with guinea. Guinea eggs hatch in from 25 to 28 days, and usually all hatch at about the same time. They are remarkably fertile and almost every egg set will produce a guinea chick. They do better when set under chicken hens, as they can usually be given better care. The guinea hen will sit and hatch well, but as soon as the first ones hatched are able to travel she will often leave the nest and the balance of her eggs.

Hens Will Appreciate Clean Winter Quarters

"Clean house now," is the advice of A. C. Smith, chief of the poultry division, University of Minnesota, to poultry keepers of the state who hope to make winter egg production profitable. Here is his recipe for cleaning the hen house:

"Brush down the ceiling and walls, and get all the dust and cobwebs out of the building. Take out all the movable fittings, including nests, nesting material, roosting platforms, water stands, and feeders, and clean thoroughly. Sun and air them for a few days if possible, and then spray with a combined disinfectant and insecticide. Burn all nesting material and floor litter.

"If your floors are of sand or gravel—if properly constructed, you cannot have better—remove as much of the top as has become discolored and replace at once with new, clean, fresh gravel or sand. Spray the entire wall space as well as the fittings."

Typhoid Contagious

Fowl typhoid is highly contagious. It can be carried by surface washings of the soil, by English sparrows, dogs and humans. A good cleanup is the best war measure against this disease, using the plow or spade on yards, with slaked lime, and scrubbing and disinfecting the house. Sick birds should be killed promptly and burned, and the healthy birds moved to fresh ground. Give epsom salts, a pound to 100 birds.

Poultry Plans

Many people have found the budget very helpful in keeping their household accounts in shape but they have not got adopted the same principle in their poultry business. One of the troubles with the way poultry is kept on most farms is too little planning of the work. Many people do not know how many chickens they are going to hatch or buy, what feeds they are going to use, how large a flock they want for the winter or how the birds are to be handled or marketed.

Oat Sprouter

An easily built oat sprouter may be constructed by making an upright frame 7 feet high and about 2 feet wide and 2 feet deep. Seven trays, one for each day in the week, are made to fit into the frame. The outfit may be left in any warm room. If desired, the frame may be covered, and a lamp placed in the bottom to furnish heat. When a tray is emptied, a new supply of oats is immediately placed on it, so that one tray is ready for each day of feeding.

Sacramental Absolution Cure for Diseases of the Soul Caused by Sin

By REV. SELDEN P. DELANY (Episcopal), New York.

THE soul is the tenant of the body, as man is the tenant of his home. Man makes use of the improvements that science and invention have given him, the electric light, water systems and heating plants. He may move out, and when he does his house is no longer a home—it is silent and dead. It is thus with the soul. While it may use the brain, the body, the senses, it is not in any manner to be confused with them. This is an error of materialistic philosophers. They teach that the soul is an effulgence with which the material body glows for a time. Christianity teaches that the soul may exist apart from the body. When the soul leaves, the body dies and relapses into its component elements. As God created the soul and infused it into the body as soon as there was a body capable of receiving it, so one day will He recall it, when and as it seems best to Him.

The soul is a thing apart. It has its needs; the most insistent needs of human life, as necessary to the general well being as the foods of the flesh. It needs spiritual food—the food that is to be found in the bread of life which came down from heaven. It needs to be cured of the diseases caused by sin through sacramental absolution.

If we carry on a persistent moral struggle against sin and doubt the soul awakes and grows. How foolish it is to ignore the needs of the soul; it is our most precious possession. Of what benefit to enjoy good health, to indulge the pleasures of the flesh, to amass a fortune or build great houses, to acquire lands, if the soul is starved and dying. When the day comes that our bodies have lost strength and vigor, our senses have failed us and our earthly existence draws to a close, what will all this avail us? What will be the condition of our souls?

"What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"

Politics, but Never Personalities, Have Definite Place in the Pulpit

By REV. CHARLES FRANCIS POTTER, New York.

The pulpit not only has the right to discuss national issues of a moral nature, but is in duty bound to do so. The idea that politics and the pulpit should be kept apart and especially that the pulpit should not "meddle" in politics is a quaint survival of the period when religion was supposed to have nothing to do with daily life; when a deacon could in all conscience pass the plate on Sunday and "deacon" his apples on Monday. Those were the days when Christians were so busy getting ready for the next world that they let this one go to pot. Politics was considered "worldly" matters and it was not just the thing for real devout Christians to be concerned with them. Women, particularly, risked their reputations if they showed any interest in political matters.

We have somewhat overcome the inhibition about women in politics, but we have not yet waked up to the fact that ministers have just as much right in politics as women have. The same people are objecting to the pulpit speaking on political matters as used to protest if a woman opened her mouth on subjects that were supposed to belong only to the domain of her husband.

It is true that personalities and partisanship are out of place in the pulpit, but that is not because it is the pulpit but because they are out of place anywhere among gentleness. The important thing to remember is that the pulpit is the place for proclaiming truth and justice, and if political matters get in the way of the progress of truth and justice, then so much the worse for politics.

Expectation of Imports of Gold in Immediate Future an Erroneous One

By BENJAMIN M. ANDERSON, JR., New York Banker.

England alone, of the important countries of Europe, is in a position where gold would be expected to leave, and the possibility of gold's leaving is increased, on the face of things, by the lower rates of interest prevailing in England as compared with those of the United States. The British, moreover, have been reluctant to raise their rates of interest, since there appears to be a widespread opinion in England to the effect that even moderate increases in interest rates discourage business, while low rates encourage business.

None the less, the exchange seems to expect very little gold from England. In the first place the British have been accumulating gold laboriously in anticipation of the merging of the currency notes, and for this they wish to have on hand an adequate gold reserve. In the second place, the export of gold from England would automatically tighten money rates in England, and the British financial authorities, understanding this quite well, may be expected to raise their rates in anticipation of the export of gold, or to use other protective measures, rather than to allow the export of gold to force them to raise their rates.

Even if gold comes to the United States from Europe in moderate volume, there is no certainty that we should make a net gain of gold. Canada ordinarily takes gold from us in the autumn and Canadian exchange is usually strong during the autumn months.

The probabilities are strong against the expectation that we shall gain enough gold to relax our money market in the near future.

Intelligent Reading the Cornerstone of Continuous Intellectual Growth

By DEAN W. S. GRAY, University of Chicago.

Detailed studies of the various activities involved in self-education show clearly that reading and the use of libraries and other printed material are the most common and valuable means of providing for continuous growth. An analysis of the uses made of reading in American life reveals several discouraging facts. First, many boys and girls discontinue reading as soon as they leave school. Second, many adults are not interested in reading and do not know the sources of valuable reading material. Third, the character of much of the material read by adults and provided for children in the homes is open to serious criticism.

The solution of the reading problem lies in vigorous efforts by the home, the school and the community to develop habits of intelligent reading, to stimulate strong motives for and permanent interests in reading, to develop attractive places in which children and adults may read, and to provide worthwhile reading material that satisfy their interests and needs. These obligations cannot be assumed entirely by the home, the school or the community. They are obligations which must be cared for through the co-operative effort of all agencies interested in the welfare of children and adults.

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Jazz Has a Place.

Nothing has done so much good for music in its way, says an authority on music in the *Woman's Home Companion*, as good jazz because it has stirred up a rhythmic vitality and removed a cloying sentimentality which threatened to enshroud music at the end of the last century.

Different Education.

Too few of us have the courage to use what education we have, unless some one has given us a diploma certifying our right to it.—*American Magazine*.

All the bogus reforms and uplifts are founded on a half truth.

Ancient Garb.

Gilbert K. Chesterton was defending women's apparel. "To say the least, they have not stood still. They are forever striving for added attractiveness, added comfort, added utility. But look at the men!"

"The most irrational fantasies often become the most lasting. Two such examples are what are commonly called a pair of trousers and a top hat."

Talking of Jokes.

He had just proposed. She had just refused him.

"You are just a joke," she said.

"Well, can't you take a joke?" he asked.

Had To.

Old Man—Yes, sir, I've smoked for 29 years and then all of a sudden I quit.

Young Man—What brought about the change after so many years?

Old Man—Went to work in a gasoline plant.

Well, Maybe Not.

"I have been reading some of the articles in *Woman's Home Companion* on why people marry," wrote one husband.

"I don't believe the authors know why they marry," he added.

"Nobody knows."

Even you may be envied. Try to think what for.

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