

**POULTRY RANCH.**

[Our Poultry Editor is Harry H. Collier, No. 950 C St., Tacoma. Address him on all Poultry matters.]

**FOWL PICK-UPS.**

Do not forget to watch for lice, for the little pests are always on hand. Give them a good dose of coal oil on the roosts and in the cracks around the house, and they will make themselves scarce.

Spade up the runs of your chicken yards and feed the grain by scattering in the newly-turned earth. On pleasant days the fowls will break up every sod looking for stray kernals, which will give them good, healthy exercise.

Do not allow your chicks their liberty in the morning until the sun has dried off the grass. Dews are dangerous to the little fellows.

A good feed for young chicks is cracked wheat or corn. If you have no hand mill, put some in a cloth, hold it tightly and beat up with a hammer. To watch the little chicks enjoy it will pay you for your trouble.

The severe weather last month was very trying on young homing pigeons hatched the latter part of January, but the present outlook is encouraging for a fine lot for the young bird races this season.

Confine the old hen in a coop near the garden and see what havoc the chicks will make among the garden insects. Try it and you will be surprised at the result.

Why do not Yakima poultrymen organize a club and get in working shape for the state fair so as to have a rousing poultry show? Start now. If some one will take the lead many others will be ready to help.

Farmers usually leave the care of the poultry to their wives and daughters. This is all right, but they ought to assist in fixing up the yards, coops, etc.

Every one who keeps a dozen or more fowls should raise a small patch of sunflower seed for them. They will grow in any nook or corner, and need very little attention. Allow only one stalk to grow in a place. They yield enormously and the seeds give the flock a glossy appearance and are healthful.

A great many breeders of poultry care nothing for their reputation. When they receive orders they ship inferior stock, relying on enough new customers to keep up their business. Such men are a detriment to the fraternity and ought to be prosecuted.

A gentleman residing at Seattle and owning mining property at Monte Cristo will use homing pigeons this season to carry messages from the latter place to Seattle.

Boil small potatoes, carrots or beets, mash fine and mix with corn meal or

shorts, adding a little fresh meat, and see how the birds will take to them.

On with the poultry convention. Talk it up, and we will show the people that this interest is something immense.

Another week has gone by and we have heard nothing from the readers of THE RANCH. Write something, if it is only a line to let us know you are alive. If dead, send in your obituaries.

There is little danger of an over-supply of eggs in this country. The man who has plenty of nice fresh eggs for sale can always secure good prices for them.

A pound of poultry flesh may be produced as cheaply as a pound of pork, and sells for twice the price in market.

If your fowls have contracted the habit of feather pulling, feed them scraps of meat. Meat cracklings are also excellent.

**Eggs and Chickens.**

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