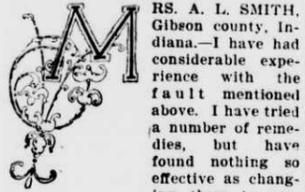


DAIRY AND POULTRY.

INTERESTING CHAPTERS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

How Successful Farmers Operate This Department of the Farm—A Few Hints as to the Care of Live Stock and Poultry.



MS. A. L. SMITH, Gibson county, Indiana—I have had considerable experience with the fault mentioned above. I have tried a number of remedies, but have found nothing so effective as changing them to new quarters, and watching them closely for a few days, getting each egg as it is laid. Several years ago I broke a fine lot of Black Langshans of this habit. This year I had a lot of White Javas that got the habit and I broke them in the same way. The cause is chiefly confinement in close runs. I had to shut up my fowls for several days in the house and that is where they learned the habit. I put them into a new run and gathered the eggs as fast as they were laid for a few days and the habit was soon broken up. When I have a hen that is sitting and brings off an egg every time she comes from the nest I cover up her sitting place and take her out and feed and water her every morning, giving her meat scraps if I have any. I do this for several mornings and after that I have no trouble. I practice taking off my hens, feeding them, and putting them back on the nest, covering the eggs with a warm cloth while the hens are off. I use incubators but usually have some hens sitting toward the end of the season. I had one egg eater this season, but soon broke her as above. Hens will not eat eggs if they have proper animal food. A morbid appetite is the cause. If I should find one that could not be broken by the treatment that I have mentioned I would take her off the eggs for a few days and put another hen on them (as I generally have supernumeraries) and give the egg eater a few china eggs to practice on. She would forget her old habit in a few days. One way that hens learn to eat eggs is by having too many hens laying in the same nest. Some of the eggs are broken, and in this way the habit is begun. Whole eggs or half egg shells thrown to them will teach them to break eggs; that was the way my Langshans learned the trick and my Javas learned it by being kept shut up where they were idle. Now when I feed egg shells I always crush them. I now have about 400 chicks. Of the older broods there will weigh eight pounds. The next brood are three weeks younger, and I have two other broods (incubator) at intervals of three weeks in age. The four broods consist of White Javas, White Cochins, White Langshans, and White Plymouth Rocks with a few half-breed Javas with the latter birds.

Ruben G. Porter, Emmet county, Michigan.—I have had some trouble with hens eating their eggs in the nests where they were laid, but none eating them when they were sitting on them. Make the nests in kegs and the hens cannot get at them and will soon stop the habit.

F. J. Marshall, Butler county, Ohio.—Yes, I have had some experience with the egg eaters. It is a pernicious habit and hard to break up if several get at it at the same time. The best way then is to make a nest slanting so that the egg will roll out of the reach and sight of the hen as soon as it is laid. Care should be taken that the construction of the nest is such that the eggs will not be broken as they roll away. Confined hens are most apt to contract this habit. I have also had hens that were sitting eat their eggs. They would bring off an egg with them every time they came off to eat and keep up the habit till the eggs were all gone. Such hens usually break an egg when getting on the nest and then take it out with them next time they go to feed. I never could remedy this to my satisfaction. Nests for sitters should not be deep at point of entrance as that condition is most likely to result in broken eggs. I think that if they did not get an egg broken at first they would not carry them off, but the smeared eggs make them worse. Whenever an egg has been broken and the other eggs smeared they should be at once washed in lukewarm water and the nests made dark, if possible.

Dehorning Calves.
Cattle ought not to have horns. We all believe that today. It is best to breed them off. There are as good animals of the beef breeds that are polled as that have horns. It is time that horns were bred off the milk breeds. Next best is to prevent the horn starting on the calf. It is not five minutes' time, nor one cent's expense, to do it. I have dehorned many and never failed or made a sore head. After using patented fluids and caustic potash, I now use common concentrated lye, such as the women use for breaking water and making soap. When the calf is less than ten days old is the right time. Simply wet the bump where you expect the horn and rub on as much powdered lye as will equal three grains of corn. Do not wet elsewhere. Let the calf alone thereafter. The scabs will come off and the hair will grow out as nicely as on a natural poll. I do not see that the fighting or butting habit is developed in these dehorned calves. A Jersey bull four years old would have killed my brother had he had horns. He got him down in the pasture and no one was near to help. A shepherd dog came to the rescue. I ask Dr.

Smead if it is possible to produce points by dehorning in this way? It is against scientific teaching if I mistake not, yet I had a heifer, a thoroughbred Shorthorn as I thought, having raised her, that had been dehorned at calf-hood and breeding her to our St. Lambert bull, also dehorned when a calf, the result is a perfect poll. I am sure of these facts, yet they upset my theories of heredity somewhat.—Joseph E. Wing.

I can dehorn 100 calves for 10 cents. That sounds big, but it is true. I take the calf from three to five days old and use concentrated lye, a 10-cent box. I take a pair of shears, clip the hair over the nub about the size of a nickel, dampen, but not enough to run down the side of the head, put what will lay on point of knife on nub and rub a little with finger and the job is done. It will form a scab, which will come off itself. I have never had a miss yet. I think it very cruel to cut off the horns. I saw one cow faint away after cutting off her horns.—A. P. J. in National Stockman.

Oleo in France.
The French chamber of deputies has passed a very stringent measure by which it is made illegal for dealers in butter to keep oleo for sale, or vice versa; the fraudulent compositions are only to be sold at places especially designed by the municipality of each town. Moreover, all boxes, firkins, or other packages containing oleo, must bear the word "margarine" in large characters, and a full description must be given of the elements employed in making the composition. In the retail trade all oleo must be placed in bags, on the outside of which are to be found a description of the article with the name and address of the vendor. Full authority is given to the inspectors to enter butter factories and shops, and take specimens for analysis; in the event of the specimens being found pure the cost will be borne by the state. The penalties for an infraction of the new law will vary from six days' to three months' imprisonment, and a fine of \$20 to \$1,000, while in the event of the same person being convicted a second time within a year, the maximum fine will also be imposed. There will also be a heavy fine imposed on persons who place hindrance in the way of the inspectors.

Judicious Feeding of Cattle.
In an address, E. P. Lee said: "If we would be successful breeders of cattle, we should give to our cows an abundant supply of healthful food, proper shelter and exercise; then select the best bull we can afford to purchase, for crossing with them; and when this is accomplished, we have employed more or less imperfectly all the processes under which the domestic animals of the same species develop into breeds. Good food, or the lack of it, exercise in moderation or excess, shelter or exposure, and selection or carelessness in crossing, these make up the sum total of the influences which modify constantly, for better or for worse, our horses and cattle, hogs and sheep. The form, constitution, and temper of every domestic animal is, aside from the characteristics of the species, the effect of the interplay of these causes. Judicious feeding, careful treatment in shelter and exercise, and skillful selection for coupling, are the key notes to the breeder's art. If one of these be lacking, breeding is nearly a failure. If all are defective, the animals that result are well nigh worthless. We must be careful in regard to mating. The breeder should notice the defects of the female he wishes to breed, and couple her with a male as nearly perfect as possible; and especially strong in the point where she is weak, and by so doing for a few generations, we shall have arrived at nearly perfection.

Sheep.
The history of sheep husbandry dates back to almost as remote a period as that of man, and from that time to the present, has justly occupied a prominent position in the commerce of all civilized nations of the world, being a source of luxury, ornament and profit, and when John Randolph of Roanoke publicly proclaimed that he would at any time go a mile out of his way to kick a sheep, he virtually asserted that it would be a luxury to abuse his best friend. I do not propose in this brief essay to give the origin or history of the various families or kinds of sheep, but will view the subject as it exists in our country at the present time, as a branch of mixed husbandry. That a flock of sheep is a necessity on the farm I unhesitatingly assert. As laborers in the field they are industrious and thorough, feeding upon briars and many other species of vegetable vermin, consuming much of all kinds of forage, both in summer and winter, that is rejected by other stock and converting it into and distributing over the field a more valuable fertilizer than it would be in a crude state.—C. C. Morton.

Feeding Vetch Hay.
As a preliminary report for the purpose of answering some questions regarding the feeding of vetch hay, I present a brief summary of results of our experience in feeding this material. We have fed the vetch hay to fattening steers, and to cows giving milk, and in both cases the results have been very satisfactory. It was compared with clover hay in both instances. The steers made good gains when receiving vetch hay as the only dry food, except the grain. Two steers were fed 42 days on the vetch hay, and gained 3.07 pounds and 2.07 pounds respectively, per day. Those fed on clover hay gained 2.16 pounds and 2.56 pounds respectively. The vetch when properly cured is relished by all kinds of stock. It must

not stand until too ripe before cutting. When fed to milk cows the flow of milk and per cent of butter fat was maintained throughout the test, which extended over a period of 45 days. As a cheap substitute for clover hay the vetch seems to answer the demand very satisfactorily. It is an annual, consequently must be sown every year. In this respect it can not be compared with clover. As a fertilizing crop, it is not as good as clover for it does not root as deeply, nor loosen the soil as completely as clover.—H. T. French, Oregon Experiment Station.

Egg Eating Hens.
I have had some hens eat their eggs where laid, but find that it almost always occurs in midwinter or early spring when the birds are short of grit. It generally commences by laying soft shelled eggs or laying off the roosts at night, when they have an opportunity to roll the eggs around and peck at them. When the spring is fairly on and the laying season in full swing, I have never been bothered except by an occasional case, and if I can detect that hen off goes her head. My sitting hens never bother me by eating the eggs set under them, unless I happen to put in an egg that has a very soft shell and it gets broken in the nest, or in some case where the nest is made in such a manner that the hen has to drop into it from too great height, and thus accidentally break an egg. But those accidents I usually guard against after one experience. As to treatment, if it is an isolated case of egg eating and I can find the hen I chop her head off. But if in early spring or in the winter a mania seems to seize them for egg eating I scatter china nest eggs on the floor and in the nests, and keep all eggs picked up as fast as they are laid for a few days and find no difficulty in stopping the habit in this way. Joseph Murphy, Delta County, Michigan.

Medium Hogs for Market.—Drovers' Journal: Big corn means big hogs. Big hogs means lots of lard, big hams and big pork, which is now, and is liable to remain a heavy drug on the market. The January flurry in the prices of hogs and provisions made everybody feel bullish, and the consequence was farmers and feeders held their hogs long after they ought to have been shipped. While cellars and storehouses have been crowded with heavy, fat stuff that nobody seemed to want, packers say they cannot possibly supply the demand for bacon and cuts of pork made from light hogs at prices considerably above board of trade quotations. There is nothing like supplying the demand with what it wants, and holding already heavy hogs to simply store more cheap corn into them is folly. Better sell the hogs when they are at the most desirable weights and save the corn, which will come in handy.

Silos.—Prof. Georgeson at the Kansas Dairy association convention said: "I would like to endorse the question of silos. We have had fifty-six head of cattle, which we wintered last year, and they were wintered for six months on the corn that was raised on twenty acres or a little less; all put in the silo. They were fed an average of forty pounds of ensilage per day. We began feeding it the latter part of October and it lasted until the middle of May. They got nothing else except a little corn stalks fed in the daytime. It kept them in good condition. The Shorthorns and those cows which we did not care to feed for milk did not get a grain of anything else."

New York Milk.—Mr. Van Valkenburg, assistant commissioner of agriculture for New York, said to a reporter for The World, in relation to milk as the farmers send it in: "About four cans in one hundred show adulteration. They show an average of about 10 per cent of adulteration by watering or skimming. This represents only about sixteen quarts of water added to 4,000 quarts of milk. I claim that there are no two cities in the United States that are supplied with milk so nearly up to the standard made by the state legislature of New York as in New York and Brooklyn."

Fast-Walking Farm Horses.—Any good breed of trotting horses, or any horse which has thoroughbred blood in its veins, can by practice be made to walk fast. No common-bred animal can be made a fast walker. A fast walker is made by careful exercise in that gait and it is a delightful one for a traveler if his steed walks four or five miles an hour. It is also very important to the farmer to have a fast walking team; but it depends much on the rider or driver whether a horse ever attains this highly esteemed quality.—Farm and Home.

Danger in Holding Stock.—The farmer who "holds for a rise" does not always get it. He loses a double interest, for the farmer who has money in hand can save twice the legal interest by buying all his needed winter supplies in bulk and by paying cash for them. After stock is ready for market there is a probability that the added cost of feeding will offset any increase in value.

Air Space for Cows.—The department of animal industry considers that each cow should have at least 600 cubic feet of air space.

A diet of fruit and milk, it is said, will reduce flesh at the rate of five pounds a week.

It has been found impossible to build a lighthouse on Diamond Shoal, off Hatteras, but the government will put in a lighthouse at once, and she will be the strongest ever made.

Suburban Life.
Whether you know it or not that second year in the suburban house is a crisis and turning point in your life, for it will make of you either a city man or a suburban and it will surely save you from being, for all the rest of your days, that hideous betwixt and between thing, that uncanny creation of modern days of rapid transit, who fluctuates helplessly between one town and another; between town and city and between town and city again, seeking an impossible unattainable perfection and scattering remonstrant servant maids and disputed bills for repairs along his cheerless track.—Exchange.

Trying Ordeals for Presidents.
It writing of the "Pardoning Power" (invested in the President) Hon. Benjamin Harrison says in June Ladies' Home Journal: "The papers in these murder cases are usually voluminous—a full record or an abstract of the evidence making part. If the trial seems to have been fairly conducted, and no new exculpatory evidence is produced, and the sentence does not seem to have been unduly severe, the president refuses to interfere. He cannot weigh the evidence as well as the judge and jury. They saw and heard the witnesses, and he has only a writing before him. It happens sometimes that the wife or mother of the condemned man comes in person to plead for mercy, and I know of no more trying ordeal than to hear their pitiful and sobbing utterances, and to feel that a public duty requires that they be denied their prayer."

The question often asked—"Why are pupils of the New England Conservatory so uniformly successful as teachers or performers?"—is readily answered by those who have been fortunate enough to become acquainted with the institution. With an equipment superior to that of any other school, with both American and foreign teachers of the highest rank, with Boston, the art center of America, to furnish the test opera and concert, it is easy to see why one year of study there is better than two elsewhere. Its prospectus is sent free.

Makes a Beautiful Gown.
Nothing could be more simple yet more beautiful than a gown made of the fine French organdie muslins, figured in shadowy designs of trailing roses and shaded green vines. The newest patterns are like a breath of early June, and one of these dainty gowns is made with a plain skirt finished with a deep hem, the bodice gathered into the neck and belt, and trimmed with braces of green velvet ribbon over the shoulders, with small leather buckles half way down the front. Lace and velvet ribbon from the neckband, which has a buckled bow at the back, and velvet loops and ends fall on the skirt from the left side of the belt.

An Appeal for Assistance.
The man who is charitable to himself will listen to the mute appeal for assistance made by his stomach, or his liver, in the shape of dizziness, vertigo, and queer sensations in the regions of the glands that secrete his bile. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, by their stimulant action, may be what you require. Hasten to use it if you are troubled with heartburn, wind in the stomach, or note that your skin or the whites of your eyes are taking a yellow hue.

A Reminder.
Down the postoffice steps the Rev. Dr. Fythly carefully picked his way, then his feet suddenly shot out, and he went down right in the midst of a group of stock brokers. "Ah, good morning, doctor," laughed the stock brokers, recognizing the minister, "you remind us of the wicked man, whose foot slipped." "Nay," retorted the good minister, "but rather do I seem like the man who went down to Jericho." "How is that?" chorused the brokers. "Because he also fell among the thieves," murmured the doctor, as he got up and moved decorously away.—New York Recorder.

Hall's Catarrh Cure
Is taken internally. Price, 75c.

Don't Drift Into the Critical Habit.
"Do not drift into the critical habit," writes Ruth Ashmore in discussing "The Critical Girl," in June Ladies' Home Journal. "Have an opinion, and a sensible one, above everything, but when you come to judge people remember that you see very little of what they really are, unless you winter and summer with them. Find the kindly, lovable nature of the man who knows little of books. Look for the beautiful self-sacrifice made daily by some woman who knows nothing about pictures, and teach yourself day in and day out to look for the best in everything. It is the every-day joys and sorrows, my dear girl, that go to make up life. It is not the one great sorrow, nor the one intense joy, it is the accumulation of the little ones that constitute living, so do not be critical of the little faults, and do be quick to find the little virtues and to praise them. So much that is good in people dies for want of encouragement. As I said before, have an opinion, and a well-thought-out one, and above everything that comes into your life, but do not have too many opinions about people. Their hearts are not open books, and as you must be judged yourself some day, give them the kindest judgment now."

FITS stopped free and permanently cured. No more fits, no more pain, no more danger. Restorer. Price 25c a bottle and 50c a box. Educators. Dr. King, 351 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Not the Whisky.
The coroner's jury in the case of Bill Wilcox, who dropped dead Thursday evening after taking a drink at the Last Chance saloon, decided that it was not the whisky which brought about the sad end. Bill had been drinking the same brand for fourteen years, and although the vitriol in it would eat up a hairpin in ten minutes the coating of his stomach was supposed to be proof against any action of any sort of acid. He probably had some heart trouble. We think it must be so, because he asked for a drink to be "choked down," and to his great amazement it was handed out. The surprise must have brought about a fatal shock to the nervous system. The deceased was a harmless critter who never even kicked about the weather, and we hope he's brought up in a temperate climate. M. QUINN.

The spots we see on others are nearly always on our own glasses.

Biting into a peach reminds a man of kissing a girl with whiskers.

There are people who never care for music except when they pay the first fiddle.

A Child Enjoys
The pleasant flavor, gentle action, and soothing effect of Syrup of Figs, when in need of a laxative, and if the father or mother be costive or bilious, the most gratifying results follow its use; so that it is the best family remedy known and every family should have a bottle.

The Favorite Sleeve.
The favorite sleeve of the season combines a short puff with a mousquetaire fullness of the wrist. Although the severe coat sleeve is predicted for early fall, it has so far been seen only in conjunction with a few plain tailor gowns.

Fiso's Cure for Consumption is our only medicine for coughs and colds.—Mrs. C. Beltz, 439 8th Ave., Denver, Col., Nov. 8, '95.

A girl can talk for an hour of what she would if she had \$5 of her own.

If the Baby is Cutting Teeth.
Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, **Mrs. Winslow's SOOTHING SYRUP** for Children Teething.

Some men are never content unless engaged in a conspiracy of some kind.

Irrigated Farms in the Milk River Valley.
Room for many farmers on ditches already constructed in the Milk River Valley of Montana and plenty of chances for colonies to locate on free land and establish ditches of their own. Ditches can be made at little expense other than labor with plows and scrapers, and there is no stony ground, just pure soil. Groves along the river and coal in the adjoining pasture benches lands. Finest opening for irrigation farmers in the Northwest. All the staple crops produced. Markets in the mines and good shipping facilities east and west, via Great Northern Railway. Write to Thomas O'Hanlon, Chinook, Mont., for further information.

The man who has the "big head" often wears a small hat.

FREE HOMES From Uncle Sam.

Nearly 2,000,000 Acres of Government Lands Now Open to Settlement IN NORTHERN ARKANSAS.

They are fertile, well-watered, heavily-timbered, and produce grains, grasses, fruits and vegetables. North Arkansas apples are noted. The climate is delightful, winters mild and short. These lands are subject to homestead entry of 160 acres each. NOW IS THE TIME TO GET A HOME. For further information address E. V. M. POWELL, Immigration Agent, Harrison, Ark. 10¢ postage 10 cents in silver.

Battle Ax PLUG

"The North Pole made use of at last."

Battle Ax PLUG

Always at the front and wherever "BATTLE AX" goes it is the biggest thing in sight. It is as remarkable for its fine flavor and quality as for its low price. A 5 cent piece of "BATTLE AX" is almost as large as a 10 cent piece of any other equally good tobacco.

Standard of the World

For nineteen years we have been building Columbia Bicycles, constantly improving them, as we have discovered better materials and better methods, until today they rank, not only in America, but in Europe, as the handsomest, strongest, lightest and easiest running bicycles made.

Columbia Bicycles

are made in the largest and most completely equipped factories in the world, and every detail of their manufacture is carried on upon thoroughly scientific lines, thus preventing mistakes or imperfections. **\$100** alike.

Columbia Art Catalogue, telling fully of all Columbia, and of Hartford Bicycles, trustworthy machines of lower price, is free from any Columbia agent; by mail for two 2-cent stamps.

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