

**AN IMMENSE CHICKEN FARM
TO SUPPLY NEW YORK'S EGGS**

LUXURIOUSLY HOUSED HENS.

NEW YORK is soon to have in its suburbs the largest chicken ranch in the world, states the Herald. At Manasquan, N. J., a company has secured a tract of three hundred acres to establish a giant hen industry, conducted on scientific methods.

The company, say its promoters, intends to control the New York market for "guaranteed" fresh laid eggs. They will, they say, deliver eggs in boxes, each box stamped with the date of laying, and delivered to customer within twenty-four hours after the eggs are laid.

The city of New York last year paid \$20,000,000 for eggs, most of them more or less stale, the consumption being 100,000,000 dozen. The first year's output of the enormous new chicken ranch now being laid will be thirty million eggs. This will be the product of a laying "herd" of from one hundred and fifty thousand to two hundred thousand chickens. The establishment is being planned to rapidly increase to double that amount.

These flocks will be herded under the system invented by Mr. J. R. Benson, an authority on everything pertaining to the hen and its product. Mr. Benson is the general manager of this gigantic concern, which will be the biggest in the world.

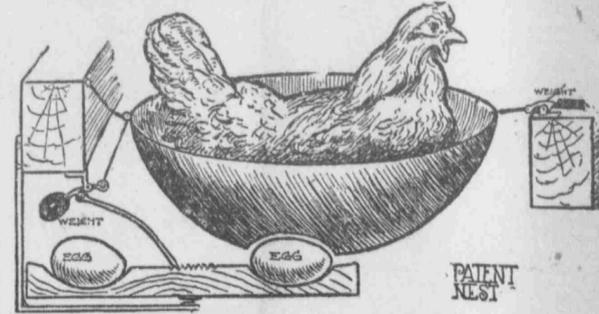
In a recent lecture Professor A. A. Brigham, of the Rhode Island College of Agriculture, at the Poultry Experiment Station, Kingston, said:

"To make an industry of the chicken and its product is not a question of the market, which can always be had, it is not the expense of keeping, which is always low. It is not a question of profit, which, if properly conducted, is large. It is the question how to reach and conduct on a business scale large herds of hens, the chicken business of to-day being merely a home industry. Something, therefore, must be done to make hen raising a national business on a business scale."

This will be accomplished, says Mr. Benson, at the Manasquan egg farm. Under his system any number of chickens can be herded. Instead of allowing them to run at large and mingle freely, as of old, picking their food from all kinds of refuse, they are to be divided into colonies of not above

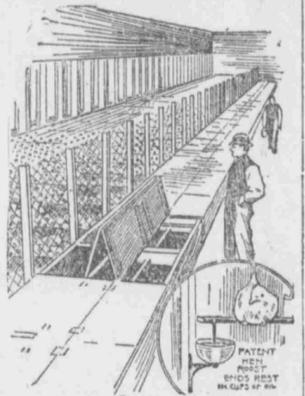
thirty hens. Each colony will have its own reservation, kept in hygienic cleanliness and order, and separate and isolated at all times from the others.

This makes feeding of each fowl possible to insure the greatest productivity, with, as experience has proved, an average yearly yield of two hundred eggs from each hen. The second advantage of the segregation of the fowls is that should a chicken by any chance become sick or breed vermin, the trouble cannot spread beyond



more than one hen is kept, to guarantee that an egg would be free from the taint of incubation. When hens lay in the same nest and from one to a half dozen sit on the nest while laying, the process of hatching has actually begun before the eggs are gathered for the market. This is the main cause why so many eggs spoil.

The new system is the only one which prevents eggs from undergoing some degree of incubation, because the egg is taken from the nest immediately after it is laid. The invention consists of a nest with a hole in the bot-



INTERIOR OF LATEST IMPROVED BROODING HOUSE FOR CHICKENS.

tom suspended immediately over a revolving disc, which receives the egg as soon as it is laid and moves it away from the nest when released by the rising of the hen. The disc is then ready to receive the next egg, and in this way no egg is incubated for an instant.

The second invention saves the expense of numerous attendants and the lives of the smaller hens. One of the greatest troubles and trials of poultry farms has been that of feeding. Unless time were taken to scatter the food far and wide the larger fowls beat away the smaller from it, and the result was that the smaller were imperfectly nourished, impairing their laying capacity. As small hens may be as prolific as larger ones, and as overfeeding produces fat and diminishes the importance of fair and even distribution of food to laying hens is plain. To make this cheap and easy, an electric food scatterer has been invented. The attendant places the feed in it and upon pressure of a button at a central station the food is scattered simultaneously in all sections evenly over the surface of the reservation.

The third improvement is to destroy the vermin, the enemy of fowl. Most vermin pass from fowl to fowl at night, when the fowls are roosting, and crawl up the walls of the chicken house and out upon the perch. These assaults are rendered vain by a perch which is set in a cup, in which the vermin are caught and destroyed before they can reach the fowls.

The eggs will be collected from the nest disc several times a day. Packing and shipping will go on continually. A few hours will bring them to New York in the cars of the company and delivered by their own trains each morning. The fresh laid eggs will be packed and shipped in paper boxes

where the largest chicken farm today is at Sydney, Ohio. This plant has the capacity of raising one hundred thousand broilers per year, but it does not sell the egg product. To accomplish this it has a flock of less than fifteen thousand hens. Cudahy, the great packer, has a chicken farm of eighteen thousand head near Milwaukee, and this is considered one of



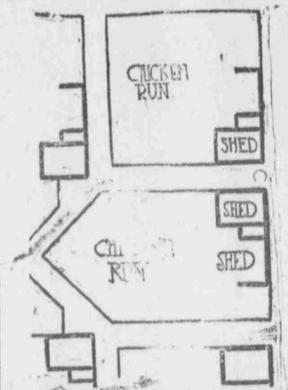
the largest in the country. One New Jersey concern is said to be the largest chicken and egg purchaser in this country, but never have its flocks exceeded eighteen thousand.

"Few people know that the insignificant little hen is one of the greatest profit makers and wealth producers. The revenue from keeping fowls for eggs if the herds can be properly handled, watched and controlled is greater than in any other industry," said J. R. Benson.

"Becoming convinced years ago that there was big profit and room for great improvement in poultry raising, I started experiments and study, not in methods of breeding, but to devise proper methods of herding. I found that it is possible on a small area to keep an unlimited number of small herds. This system caused the greatest production. Two hundred eggs per year per fowl was not a high average, and each hen could be made to pay a profit of at least \$2.50 per year. I started with fifteen hens, then increased this to ten families of fifteen each. The result was the same if not better."

Mr. C. H. Wyckoff, of Groton, N. Y., one of the successful small poultry raisers, keeps about six hundred head of laying fowls, in small colonies, solely for eggs for the market. His total egg yield was 117,000 eggs for the year ending October 1, 1909. His receipts were \$4.08 per year for each of the six hundred hens. He figures \$1.08 per year per hen for keep and expenses, showing a net profit of \$1800 per year for this colonized flock of six hundred. And this is the profit, says Mr. Benson, on an investment of less than \$600.

Mr. Benson estimates that this mammoth egg ranch will cost, equipped and stocked with 150,000 hens ready for a daily lay of 80,000 to 100,000 eggs, about \$266,000. The yearly expense of running this plant will be, including feed, delivery system, etc., about \$210,000. The yearly income is figured at \$510,000 for eggs and \$75,000 for non-producing fowls sold as broilers, etc., or a total of \$585,000. If



HOW HALF AN ACRE OF GROUND WILL BE DIVIDED TO KEEP 500 CHICKENS WITH EVERY 25 CHICKENS ISOLATED AND SEPARATE FROM THE OTHERS

this large gain is borne out in practice, as these gentlemen confidently believe, the docile little hen will become a bigger money maker and profit bringer than even the biggest of money making inventions and investments.

Cecil Rhodes and the Ladies.
It is said by those who know Mr. Cecil Rhodes, the South African magnate, that he has, in common with Lord Kitchener, a strong aversion to the opposite sex. While on a visit to London before the commencement of the war he dined at the house of a very wealthy lady of title, and later, when he was discussing the affair with his secretary, the latter asked: "And whom did you take to dinner?" "Oh, I don't know. Some Lady Somebody," was the reply. "But what did you call her?" "Didn't call her anything—never spoke to her."—Argonaut.

Ruined Icelandic Farmers.
About 800 Icelanders emigrated from Liverpool to Quebec a few days ago, en route for Manitoba and the northwest. The recent order in council rendering compulsory the slaughter of foreign sheep and cattle at the port of arrival in Great Britain has ruined the prospects of many Icelandic farmers, whose sheep require British pasturage before they are fit for killing. This has induced many of the islanders to leave for Canada with their families.—London Chronicle.

His Purpose.
No man proposes to remain single when he proposes he expects to get married.—Philadelphia Record.

**THE YOUNGEST OFFICERHOLDER,
Superintendent of Squirrels Now, But
May Be President.**

Francis M. Marriott, Jr., aged six years, is the little lad who has been commissioned by Governor Nash as "superintendent and general assistant of the squirrels in the State House yard, Columbus, Ohio," and has received his elegantly engraved commission signed by the State's Chief Executive.

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Marriott and their son were with the Governor last summer on a vacation trip through the St. Lawrence and Saginaw River valleys. On this trip Master Francis became very much attached to the Governor, and the Chief Executive found a warm place in his heart for little Francis.

Since the Governor has taken his seat Francis has called on him regularly when he came to Columbus. The little fellow has a love for pets of all kinds, and has been greatly interested in the large number of squirrels in the State House yard.

Little Francis is enthusiastic over his commission. He talks of it thus: "I like Governor Nash because he has given me all the squirrels I want. I am going to feed them every time I go to Columbus. Papa has promised to get me a nice uniform like Dewey



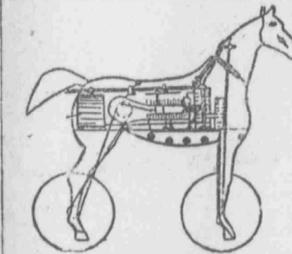
FRANCIS M. MARRIOTT, SUPERINTENDENT OF SQUIRRELS.

wears, and when I feed my squirrels I am going to wear it. I am going to feed them hickory nuts and peanuts, and I don't know if they like sweet cake or not, but I will give them some if they want it."

Francis has been widely congratulated over his appointment, and receives a very heavy mail every day. He is very well known, and thinks that he will have to get a private secretary to take care of the work that has come to him through his new office.

Mamma Got Tired.
"Mamma, does money make the man?"
"I am sorry to say it does sometimes, Tommy."
"Money will make a man go anywhere, won't it?"
"I suppose so."
"If it was down in Cuba would money make a man go to raising mangoes?"
"Don't bother me."
"Do monkeys eat mangoes, mamma?"
"I presume so. I wish you wouldn't talk so much."
"Then if money makes the man go to raising mangoes, and monkeys eat mangoes, don't the monkeys make the mango go—"
"Whack! Whack!"
"Ouch!"—Chicago Tribune.

Now It's an Automobile Horse.
Objection having been made to the automobile on the ground that it has nothing in front of it to "steady" it, and therefore does not look right, an ingenious man has invented and patented an automobile horse. This horse is not to be placed in front of an automobile carriage, but is to be "hitched up" to any carriage. He has the work of locomotion "in his midst," and will draw the carriage after him just as the



THE LATEST AUTOMOBILE.

ordinary unpatented horse would. The motor mechanism in the horse consists of two electric motors, supported upon cross bars, and driving through chains and belts, the shafts of the driving wheels mounted on the horse's hind legs. The steering is effected by reins held by the driver, the neck of the horse for this purpose being intersected and mounted upon ball bearings, and the reins attached to a crosshead mounted on a vertical spindle. This spindle goes down into the horse's forelegs, and by it the legs can be twisted in any direction. The automobile horse can be ridden as well as driven to harness. When he is used as a saddle horse he can be steered by turning the crosshead with one hand. The animal is warranted sound and kind.

FISH-EATING BIRDS.

Seek Their Food Far Under the Surface of the Water.

Nearly all the "killing" of land animals takes place on the surface of the earth. Very few birds even are killed in the air, except by sportsmen and by a few hawks, says the Spectator. In this country the mole, the shrew and occasionally the fox and rat kill prey at a little distance below the surface. But the ocean is foraged and ravaged in all its coast waters from surface to sea bottom by fifty species of aquatic moles, varying in size from the seal to the sea parrot, swift, active and voracious creatures, which abandon the light and land and air temporarily, or for the greater part of their lives, and incessantly burrow in the depths in pursuit of the fish. No form of life escapes them. If any sea creature could hope to avoid the creatures of earth and air it would be the shellfish, great and small, firmly anchored to the rocks on the sea bottom, and often protected by shells of such flinty hardness that no bird and few beasts could be supposed capable of crushing them, even if they worked above water. It is conceivable that the gigantic walrus should dive down to the seabed, and raking the clam shells with his tusk, should crunch them for a meal; but it is astonishing evidence of the invasion of the deep by creatures of the air that the scaup duck, the scoter and the eider, birds of swift flight and normal form, should dive fathoms deep to the mussel and whelk beds and crush and devour these hard-shelled creatures with no more difficulty than a thrush breaks and eats a garden snail.

The only special equipment of the scoters and eiders is the heavy ridge along the upper bill, which strengthens it when crushing the sea shells, and corrugated teeth or notches, like the "roughing" on the inside of a pair of pliers, to aid in holding the shells. Yet they will fish and feed for hours in the roughest weather, devouring their food deep down below, where the surface disturbance reaches them not, and only rising for a moment to take a breath before descending to their submarine dinner table. Equipped with this wonderful power of diving and shell crushing, they fare better than the more ambitious fish-eating birds, which have to pursue their prey in different parts of the sea according to the weather.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Sleep is sweet to the laboring man.—Bunyan.
In the multitude of counselors there is safety.—Proverbs.
When things are helpless patience must be used.—W. Houghton.
Egotists cannot converse; they talk to themselves only.—A. B. Alcott.
Evil is wrought by want of thought as well as by want of heart.—Hood.
The very truth has a color from the disposition of the utterer.—George Eliot.
He that is good for making excuses is seldom good for anything else.—Kendall.
Good taste rejects excessive nicety; it treats little things as little things and is not hurt by them.—Feulton.
Life is at best but a forward child, which must be coaxed and played with until the end comes.—Sir William Temple.
When a man has not a good reason for doing a thing he has one good reason for letting it alone.—Thomas Scott.
To have a respect for ourselves guides our morals, and to have a deference for others governs our manners.—Sterne.
No man was ever so completely skilled in the conduct of life as not to receive new information from age and experience.—Terence.
A true man never frets about his place in the world, but just slides into it by the gravitation of his nature, and swings them as easily as a star.—E. H. Chapin.
Snobs in high places assume great airs, and are pretentious in all they do; and the higher the elevation the more conspicuous is the incongruity of their position.—Samuel Smiles.

A Kind Emperor.
During a four months' visit in Berlin, Germany, last winter, I noticed numerous sand piles surrounded by happy children of all ages, and wondering why they were allowed the privilege of scattering the sand in this otherwise very tidy city, I made inquiries, and learned that, before the old Emperor William died, he ordered large piles of sand to be placed at intervals on Unter den Linden, and also in all the large parks throughout the city, for the benefit of the poor children who live in the crowded tenement houses.
The pleasure proved to be so great that the children of all classes, rich and poor, mingled together, all armed with spoons, paddles and pans. In Victoria Park, which is situated in the "poor" district, there is one solid acre of fine white sand, where, on a fine day, hundreds of children dig and play, enjoying the kindness of the old Emperor. This impressed me as the greatest kindness I ever witnessed.—Minneapolis Journal.

Sweets From Tar.
Saccharine obtained from tar is 220 times sweeter than cane sugar, and is used in sweetening and preserving jams, fruit preserves and jellies. Unlike ordinary cane sugar when so used it is not liable to mold or ferment. On the other hand, it does not fatten or nourish the body, and in certain ailments is therefore recommended by doctors for sweetening coffee, tea and other beverages in place of the ordinary cane sugar.

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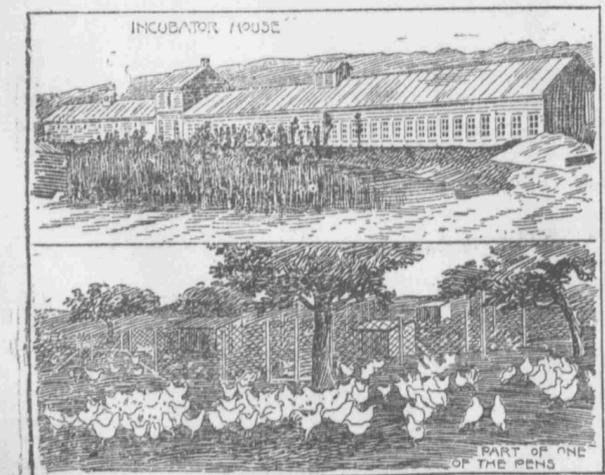
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~ PAYS. ~

CYCLING NOTES.
The coral sands of Bermuda or the finest in the world for cycling.
Two hundred and fifty of the Paris police are mounted on bicycles.
In using resin to hold nuts, do not get any into the bearings, as it will clog them and is difficult to remove.
After patching a double-tire tube do not replace the tube without using soapstone or chalk, or when next the tube needs fixing it may not be possible to remove it.
Saddle soreness is almost always due to a badly adjusted saddle. The rider should first see that the saddle is level laterally, and then should experiment with the tilting until the correct and most comfortable position is found.
A minute puncture is most easily found by passing a sponge saturated in soapy water around the tire. The escaping air will raise a soap bubble over the punctured spot, and the difficult task of locating the puncture is accomplished.
To test a cyclometer start when the index shows an even tenth of a mile, and revolve the wheel seventy-two times. If the index then points to the next tenth the cyclometer is correct, but if over or under it is incorrect and should be returned to the maker.
Regarding the choice of gear or the distance to be covered in a day, the only safe rule in individual cases is for the rider to know his own strength or weakness and not allow himself to be led by vain and foolish emulation of those more vigorous or reckless than he to tax his powers and injure his constitution.
To remove an obstinate crank pin, support the crank shaft from underneath by a block of wood, lay a piece of copper or other soft metal at least an eighth of an inch thick on the thread end of the key, and strike it with the hammer. The soft metal will preserve the threads from injury, and may be used in the same manner to reset the key.



INCUBATOR HOUSE
PART OF ONE OF THE PENS

that one reservation before it is detected; hence there can be none of the epidemics which have sometimes played havoc with the fancy stock fowl on chicken farms. Moreover, the new system permits the immediate

containing from one-half dozen to three dozen. Each box will be secured by a sealed label stamped with the date of laying.
The extent of this ranch is to be very great. Nothing like it exists any-