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**VIGILANT WORK IS REQUIRED TO KEEP THE CHICKS HEALTHY**

If disease and parasites could be eliminated from the poultry flock the work of the owner would be so much simplified and his profits much larger. As this can not be done, the next best thing is to keep under control as rigorously as possible the enemies of the chicken world.

The best way to accomplish this is to get eggs from a flock which has shown no indications of contagious disease for at least a year; avoid putting these eggs in any packing such as chaff, oats, or cut straw, which may be musty or moldy, and hatch them in a new or thoroughly cleaned incubator. The young chicks should be free from parasites and injurious germs of all kinds. To keep them in this condition they should be put into new or clean brooders and permitted to run only upon ground where poultry has not previously been kept or which has not been used for poultry for several years.

**Cleaning Up Used Ground**

Sometimes these directions can not be followed in all respects, if all the available ground has been recently used for poultry, the fowls should be removed from the part which is to be used for the new flock, a good coating of freshly slaked lime should be applied to the entire surface of the ground, and a few days later it should be plowed. It may now be cultivated three or four times with intervals of a week and finally sowed with oats, or other grain. In a few months the greater part of the

germs will be destroyed; but it is best to leave the ground unoccupied by fowls until a winter has passed, as the freezing and thawing of fall and spring are more effective than either continued cold or warm weather.

If the eggs must be hatched under hens instead of in the incubator, the problem of starting a clean flock is much more difficult. Hens are liable to harbor parasitic worms in their intestines and to scatter the eggs of these worms wherever they go. They generally have lice and mites hidden in their feathers, which pass to the young chicks immediately after the latter are hatched; and they may be the carriers of disease germs even when they appear perfectly healthy.

For these reasons hens used for hatching should be selected from a flock known to have been free from other diseases than those caused by accidents for at least a year, and the individual birds of which are lively, vigorous, free from lice and mites and are producing a large number of eggs.

**Clean Hens and Nests**

The hens selected for hatching should be well dusted with a good lice powder before they are given a setting of eggs; their nests should be perfectly clean and should be made with fresh, soft hay or straw; and there should be a box of road dust, or sifted hard-coal ashes, or similar substances, under cover, where they can dust themselves whenever they come from the nest.

When the young chicks are taken from the nest they should be carefully examined for lice. These parasites usually accumulate under the throat and upon the top and back of the head. If any are found, rub a little sweet oil, pure lard, or vaseline with the finger over the parts where the lice are. This kills the lice by obstructing their breathing pores and does not harm the chicks.

By beginning in this manner a flock may be obtained which is practically free from disease germs and parasites, but in order to keep it in this condition the premises must be frequently cleaned and occasionally disinfected.

**WHAT WOMEN WANT TO KNOW.**

Here are a few of the questions that were asked home demonstration agents in Illinois during December. They indicate the kind of service which these extension workers from the United States Department of Agriculture and the state agricultural colleges give (and are willing to give to a still greater extent) to the people in their territories. They may not know the answers to all the questions asked them, but they are in touch with sources of information, both state and federal, and can obtain the knowledge from an authority on the subject. Demonstration agents in any state doubtless could give as diversified a list as this one from Illinois.

"Please plan a sample menu for a middle-aged man and woman who have but \$7 a week for food."

"I cooked lye hominy in an aluminum kettle and it turned quite black. What was the trouble?"

"Can you suggest suitable food for an old man with a weak stomach?"

"What points should be observed in the selection of a pressure cooker, wheeled tray, and vacuum cleaner?"

"Is there a possibility of putting a satisfactory indoor toilet in a house that has neither furnace nor water system?"

"I want to make soap of cracklings and lye. The recipe says to use an iron kettle. Will it do to use my copper, apple-butter kettle?"

"Where can I get a good glass table top?"

"I would appreciate information about any practical electrical dishwasher."

"Can you tell me if the Elberta peach is a good variety to plant in northern Illinois?"

"The women in our unit want to beautify their yards. Can you send us material on landscape gardening?"

"Please send me suggestions for home bureau exhibits at county fairs."

"I have some chickens I do not care to keep on feeding. Please send me directions for canning them."

"Can you tell me if—malted milk contains the necessary vitamins?"

"Will you please suggest a program for our women's club this year?"

"Will you please send to us a simple play for children which will emphasize the need of milk?"

"Please send us budgets for an \$1,800 income. There are four in the family."

**POTATO SUBSTITUTES.**

The scarcity of potatoes and the consequent rising price is a matter of great anxiety among Washington housewives who must answer the ever-present question of "What shall we have for dinner?" The potatoe

**Modernizing English Spelling**

(By J. M. Tadlock)

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**SIXTH STUDY.**

Almost every etymologist who has published any work upon the etymology of English words has called attention to numerous words in which mistakes have been made in Anglicizing borrowed words. Some of these errors have occurred from faulty tracing of the origin of the word, and others have resulted from carelessness or ignorance of some of the early dictionary makers. The printers of that age also contributed something toward the errors which crept into the written forms of many words by their well-meant but defective attempts to correct seeming errors, and to regulate the spelling of words the etymology of which they did not understand. Sometimes they even shortened or lengthened words to make them fit into the line of type, or for other reasons equally absurd. In other cases they followed a fancied analogy and thus went astray. These mistakes persist notwithstanding the fact that the errors often have been shown. These words should all be corrected to agree with the original root words, particularly if the word is made simpler thereby.

Words which have come into the language from foreign tongues should follow as nearly as the rules of English will permit, the orthography of the word in the original. First among the words of this character to be changed is the word "Angls", and "Anglo-Saxon." The term in our own English was always spelt with E, and the A came from the Latin usage. We do not say "Angleterre" and "Anglaise" as the French do, neither do we use the spelling for Anglo-Saxon which the Latin races apply to it. It is the one word which should be characteristically English. Let us, therefore, always say "Anglo-Saxon", just as we do England and English, and never spelt it with an "A".

Three words deriv'd from the Latin root "cedere" are mis-spelt. They are "succeed", "exceed", and "proceed". All other similar derivatives from this root are spelt "cede". The three above mentioned should be corrected to conform with the others.

succeed    acede    precede    concede  
procede    recede    secede    excede

Words deriv'd directly from the Latin cepi (cepi, ceptus) retain the p of the perfect stem, and the same is pronounce'd as part of the word:

percept    except    deception  
concept    precept    reception

But those coming into our language from the French, although originally from the same Latin root, should follow the French form which drops the p from the noun forms, and employs "v" in the verbs:

receiv    deceiv    conceiv  
recit    deceit    conceit

Words with "ph" coming directly from the Greek should retain the ph in the English word: geography philosophy telephone diphthong Phillip physician sphere phrase

But those which came into our language thru the modern languages change the ph to f to agree with the modern usage:

feasant (pheasant) fantom blasfeme  
sulfur (sulphur) fantastic blasfemus  
Filipino frenzy sulfurus

Errors made by printers or dictionary makers should be corrected wherever the correct form is simpler than the erroneous one.

1. Soder; corrected from "solder". The "l" was erroneously inserted because the Latin original is "solidere"; but it is not in the Old French word from which language the word came into English.

2. Couid; corrected from "could". The past tense form of "can" was, in early English written "coud", but when it appeared alongside of "would" and "should", the past tense forms of "wil" and "shal", some printer thought he saw a discrepancy, so he proceeded to "correct" the irregularity, and make them all look alike, regardless of the fact that "wil" and "shal" contain the letter "l", and "can" does not. The l was at first pronounce'd in both would and should, but later it became silent. There was never any reason why coud should contain an l.

3. Det, and dout; corrected from "debit" and "doubt". The silent b was inserted by the lexi-

tion of food, and these vegetables are especially essential when we are substituting cereal products for potatoes.

At the present price of potatoes an equal amount of fuel value can be obtained from rice, hominy, barley, or cornmeal, at about one-third the cost. With the addition of green vegetables or fruits, bulk and mineral may be obtained, thus making a better balanced meal than when potatoes are served as the only vegetable.

The boys and girls of Columbia county are going to demonstrate the

cographer, who knew more of Latin than he did of his mother tongue, because the Latin original from which the French words "dette" and "doutte" were deriv'd, are "debit" and "dubitus". A perfectly useless silent letter was saddled upon the boys and girls who have had to learn to spell English from that time to this. Let's write them according to the French originals, and leave their cousins "debit" and "dubitus" to represent the Latin branch of the family.

4. Dain; corrected from "deign". Dain, disdain and dainty all come from the same French word, "dainer", which in its turn was from the Latin "dignitas". The g sound had dropped out before it reached the English, and was not written in the Middle English word. Dain and disdain should be spelt alike.

5. Sovran and forein; corrected from "sovereign" and "foreign". The dictionary maker evidently got these good old English words mixt with "regn", from the Latin "regere, regnum", to rule. But neither "sovrain" nor "forein" has any relation to the Latin. They should be spelt as Milton and other early writers wrote them.

6. Agast, and gastly; corrected from "aghost" and "ghastly". These words are in no way related to the word "ghost". The lexicographer seems to have inserted the h for no other reason than he fancied they were akin to this word.

7. Iland, and ile; corrected from "island" and "isle". These words come from the Gothic, and are in no way related to the Latin "insula", from which the dictionary maker got his silent s.

8. Aile; corrected from "aisle". The silent s got into this word by association with "isle". Should be written without the s, as it was by early writers.

9. Demene; corrected from "demesne". The old French term did not contain the silent s. Its insertion was a blunder.

10. Delibl; corrected from "delebl". Indelible and delible should be spelt alike. There is no other English suffix "ebl", and no reason why this exception should be tolerated.

11. Rime; corrected from "rhyme". This good old English word was probably confus'd with the Greek "rhythm" by the lexicographer, who therefore spelt it erroneously with the "hy" instead of i.

12. Beuty; corrected from "beauty". The Old French "beute" and not "beau" is the word from which beuty was deriv'd.

13. Harken; corrected from "hearken". Hark contains no e, and there should be none in harken.

14. Controler; corrected from comptroller. Mistake of the early etymologists. The older form is controller.

15. Ake; corrected from "ache". Historically the original word was spelt "ake" for the verb, and "ache" (pronounce'd "atch") for the noun form, just as bake, verb, and hatch, noun. Later they were confus'd, with the result that the wrong spelling was given the verb.

16. Words with "ae" and "oe" should drop the a and o.

dieresis esophagus Phenician medieval  
esthetic ecumenical Phenix anesthetic

17. Epitomy; corrected from "epitome". Anatomy comes from the same Greek word, and it is not spelt "anatomy". Besides, the tendency is to pronounce epitome in three syllables, ep-i-tome. The "y" ending obviates this difficulty.

18. Vittils; corrected from "vittuals". The Old French was "vittailles", Middle English, "vittiles". When the etymologists discovered the Latin "victualia", they immediately inserted the truant letters, and made it conform with the Latin in appearance, though it was pronounce'd the same as before.

19. "L" was inserted in "fault" (frate) and "d" in adventure (aventure) and many other errors have been made in words, but as the inserted letters are now pronounce'd, it is better to allow them to stand as they are, and make no change.

The lexicographers have made many other errors in words of less common use, but most of them seem less flagrant violations of the rules of representation, and therefore not so necessary that they be corrected.

In our next and last study we shall take up the powers of the various letters and discuss the few irregularities which we find in the representation of the ordinary long and short sounds of the language, the different sounds of "s", "c", and "g"; and the formation of some plurals. The corrections suggested will concern only words whose sounds are represented in an unusual way, or combinations of letters which are used to stand for sounds commonly represented by some other letter or combination of letters.

The only boys and girls' strawberry club in the state has been organized in the vicinity of Dayton, to prove to the people of Columbia county that strawberries are a possibility.

Each of the 46 members have agreed to take at least 250 plants and care for them for a period of three years, which covers the best productive time of the berry. This will mean the setting out of over 13,000 plants and will demonstrate whether or not the delicious berry is entitled to a place among the wheat fields of that section.