

POULTRY AND BEES

HIVE NUMBERS.

Yin Tags and How They Are Fastened to the Hives.

It is well to have each hive with the number so a record can be kept of it. Many ways of applying such have been tried, but nothing has given me more satisfaction than the one pictured herewith. They are made of heavy tin, painted on both sides. On the front is the number, while the back is used for keeping records of the colony with a lead pencil, so they can be easily erased when necessary, and the surface used over again. As this side is protected against the



Hive Number Details.

Wall of the hive it is not necessary to write on it cannot be erased. Notice that a bent entrance. In need instead of a straight one or a slit. It is done for the reason that the latter would soon be driven into the wall of the hive by bees when they are hauled and the "numbers" could not be kept on them. With the bent entrance, explains the Culture, this is quite overcome. The it gets into the hive and will not go deeper into the wood. With this springlike pressure the tin numberplate is held firmly after it has been hooked in place. Such a simple plan on each end of all hives makes so that, no matter which end is placed forward there will be such a simple on which to hang the number. It is not necessary to unhook the tin for making records on the back. Just sleep down beside the hive, lift up the lower end of the tin on the staple hinge and examine the corner or add more. These will be up side down after the tin is turned up, and are readily read from the top.

POULTRY HOUSE FIXTURES.

Everything Should Be Movable So as to Render Cleaning Easy.

The fixtures in the poultry house should be fastened, but everything should be movable because this greatly facilitates keeping things clean and in good shape. As a matter of fact, it is next to impossible to clean out and renovate a poultry house unless all interior fixtures and appliances are movable and can be carried out side the building. More than that, if the roosts and nests are attached to the walls, it is absolutely impossible to prevent lice and mites from spreading over the entire building and lodging in the cracks in the walls where they can scarcely be reached.

The best roosts are those that are all on the same level and not more than two feet from the ground, says the Epitomist. We have our perches only 18 inches above the ground for Plymouth Rock fowls. By having the perches all the same height, crowding for the highest position is avoided, while by having them low it is easier for the birds to get on and off and in series to the feet or bodies of the fowls in jumping or falling or getting pushed off are avoided.

CAKES.

A small flock, well kept and cared for, will be more profitable than a larger one indifferently handled.

A successful breeder says that energetic mediocrity is more prolific of results than indifferently brilliant.

Try feeding dried alfalfa hay and clover, soaked during the winter months, and watch the egg supply increase.

Don't overlook the fact that sunflower seed and millet are both food for chickens during the moulting period.

Pullets should be fed wheat and oats, and beef scraps, if the latter can be had. Also give them milk in any form.

Mites and vermin are the greatest obstacles to success in the poultry business. Keep the vermin away by cleanliness.

Don't sell off your best turkey hens. Save the best and procure a good tom and prepare to improve your flock each year.

A surplus rooster is an expensive ornament in the poultry yard. Eat or kill the surplus roosters before they eat double their value.

Give clean water and plenty of grit. Feed a variety of cracked and whole grains, mostly in a dry state; keep birds out of the grass in rain or dew.

FORCING OR RETARDING.

Suggestions Offered by an Expert Poultryman Concerning Pullets.

James E. Rice, poultryman of the Cornell university experiment station, issued a bulletin relative to the possibilities of forcing early hatched pullets during the summer by retarded or forced feeding.

It is retarding to mean the idea that feeding is necessary during the late summer to check the early tendency of laying, with the hope of getting a larger egg yield in the early winter.

By forced feeding is meant the giving of a rich stimulating mash to induce egg production.

Concerning the results of his work Mr. Rice has certain findings drawn from data which are submitted below:

1. Forced pullets made a better profit than retarded pullets.

2. Forced pullets ate less food per hen at less cost per hen than retarded pullets.

3. Forced pullets produced more eggs of a larger size, at less cost per dozen than retarded pullets.

4. Forced pullets produced more eggs during early winter than retarded pullets.

5. Forced pullets have better hatching results of eggs than retarded pullets.

6. Forced pullets made a better percentage of gain in weight than retarded pullets.

7. Forced pullets showed less broodiness than retarded pullets.

8. Forced pullets had less mortality than retarded pullets.

9. Forced pullets showed better vigor than retarded pullets.

10. Forced pullets showed the first mature molt earlier than retarded pullets.

11. Retarded pullets gave better fertility of eggs than forced pullets.

12. Hopper-fed dry mash gave better results in gain of weight, production of eggs, gain in weight of eggs, hatching power of eggs, days lost in molting, mortality, health and profit per hen than wet mash.

13. Wet mash and grain fed pullets consumed slightly less food at less cost, and produced eggs at slightly less cost per dozen than dry mash and grain fed pullets.

14. Wet mash and grain fed pullets produced slightly larger eggs of slightly better fertility, and showed less broodiness than dry mash and grain fed pullets.

15. Dry mash and grain fed pullets laid eggs of good size at an earlier period than wet mash and grain fed pullets.

16. Hopper-fed pullets ate more than hand-fed pullets.

17. Pullets having whole grain ate more grit and shell than those having a proportion of ground grain.

18. Pullets fed on grain were more inclined to develop bad habits than those having a mash.

19. Earliest producers did not give as many eggs in early winter.

20. Early layers gained as rapidly in weight as those beginning later to lay.

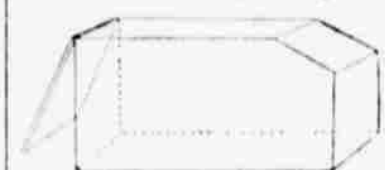
21. Proficiency made but slight difference in weight of hen and weight of egg.

22. The most prolific pullets did not always lay earliest.

COLONY HOUSES.

How Serviceable Ones Were Made Out of Piano Boxes.

We got some piano boxes for the houses, using the largest side for the bottom. We nailed up the top with



Plan of Box.

boards, hung a home-made door to bottom of box and our house was done. These houses, says Agricultural Epitomist, serve the purpose for growing chicks as well as those we used to buy already made. They require so little work and are much cheaper.

Egg Cases.

The sides of an egg case do not want to be of thick lumber, though they would be more substantial if made of such. Thin material gives to jolting and not as many eggs are broken as if the sides of the case were of lumber an inch in thickness. This is one reason why egg cases are thin.

Raise Laying Strains.

In securing a good supply of eggs the inborn tendency of heavy laying is an important point. It is a tendency which goes in certain strains the same as in certain families of cattle, and without it no amount of skillful care and feeding will produce the best results.

Don't wait for mites to appear before beginning to fight them. White-wash the house twice during the fall and kerosene the perches every week or two.

STEAMER PLAYS TAG WITH DEATH

CAPTAIN RELATES EXPERIENCES WITH A TYPHOON AND A FLOATING MINE.

CHINESE COAST IS THE SCENE

Lookout of Vessel Sights Engine of War Just Before Storm Comes Up—Passes Over Boat on Crest of Wave.

New York.—Capt. Lars Anderson of the Norwegian tramp steamer Eklund put into the port of Chefoo on the north China coast while on a tale about how his ship had played tag with a floating mine and a typhoon out off the arm of the Liaotung peninsula.

The experience of the Norwegian captain was novel not because it combined the typhoon and the floating mine. Other ships in the China



The Mine Went Right Over the Ship.

sea up between Shanghai and Korea have struck the deadly engines sown by the Russians and Japanese alike during the war. Although the war has been over two years, floating mines are still holding up in the paths of ships.

According to Capt. Anderson the Eklund was out of Chinnampo, Korea, bound for Taku, when about two o'clock on the first afternoon the lookout on the bridge sighted the floating mine off to the starboard about half a mile ahead. The glass had been falling rapidly all afternoon and Capt. Anderson knew that a typhoon was coming up out of the southeast.

The roaring column of wind struck the Eklund within ten minutes after the mine had been sighted. For the next three hours Capt. Anderson and his crew of 26 were casting dice with death every minute. If the typhoon didn't sink them they were certain that the mine would, only one death would be quicker than the other.

It was inky black all about and the rain fell in torrents. Capt. Anderson and two sailors lashed themselves to the rigging away up near the nose of the boat to keep an eye open for the mine. The rest of the crew simply went below, battened down hatches and waited to hear the crack of doom.

The captain tied himself to the stanchions of the bridge where his hands could reach the engine room signals.

Before the storm had been on for an hour Capt. Anderson suddenly saw

TIED TO TREE IN BLIZZARD.

Student with Feet Bound Crawls Through Drifts to Room.

Galesburg, Ill.—Gagged and bound to a tree for several hours during the fierce blizzard which swept over this part of the country the other night was the treatment inflicted on Clarence Robinson, a student at Hedding college, at Abingdon, by masked young men.

Robinson was near Hedding college park early in the evening, when he was suddenly set upon from behind. His assailants bound his hands and feet, placed a gag in his mouth, and then tied him to a tree. Unable to call out to attract attention, young Robinson struggled for several hours before freeing himself from the tree. His hands were so numb that he could not untie the rope that bound his feet, and he crawled six blocks through the snow drifts to his boarding house.

A fellow student cut his hands and helped him into the house, for he was completely exhausted. His ears,

both lookouts at the bow turn in their place and frantically signal, holding up their hands and pushing them away from them with the violence of desperation. Anderson promptly pulled the signal for reversed engines and although the boat was only going at half speed it slackened so suddenly that it began to lose head.

The bow slowed, and then a great lumber rose up alongside and crinkled high over the starboard rail. The captain cast one hasty glance at the wave and tried to right his bow so as to meet it. He wasn't quick enough. The wave came and with it the mine.

There the thing sat on the top of the wave, said Capt. Anderson, in detailing the adventure afterward. "It looked like a hedgehog all curled up and asleep, with the glass prickles sticking out in all directions. To break one of those tubes of glass would be to set off enough gunpowder to blow the ship in shivers."

"I saw the wave curl, with the mine right at the crest, then it broke and came down over the starboard rail. About 40 tons of water, more or less, hit the bow and shoved our nose under until the water came up to the bridge."

"I thought we were never going to come up. And, sir, that mine went right over the boat on the top of the wave, passing so near the bridge that I could have reached out and touched it. It showed off the port rail and disappeared behind the ship."

That was all the captain of the Eklund saw of the floating mine. When the typhoon passed he found the two lookouts, still lashed to their posts, dead. Otherwise the ship and her crew were unharmed.

KIMONA-GLAD SHE WAITS FOR OTHER CLOTHING

WOMAN'S TRAVELING SUIT IS LOST AND SHE ENDURES GREAT MENTAL ANGUISH.

Cleveland, O.—By and by, Mrs. A. Quint, who is in Havana, will receive a letter from the folks at home telling her that the mental anguish which she endured while her wardrobe was abbreviated to a silken kimono has been alleviated by \$8.75 and international truckage. This award was made in the court of Justice of the Peace Virgil Terrell.

Mrs. Quint was staying with her father, G. W. Wahle. This was in November and she was on the point of returning to Cuba, her home. Her return ticket expired on a Monday and her wardrobe, with the exception of a traveling suit, the kimono and matters of minor mention, was in a trunk which had been taken to the station.

The first link in the train of complications were the circumstances that made it impossible for her to leave on Monday. An extension of time on her ticket until Friday was granted by the railroad. It was then that Mrs. Quint decided to send her traveling suit to a dye house. She says the company agreed to have the garment returned on Tuesday and Mrs. Quint was reduced to the kimono. Mrs. Quint wore the kimono on Tuesday and Wednesday.

That night she was invited to a sort of farewell dinner party, but while kimono is the gladsome garment for the bonnet it is an architectural misfit for soup and fish. She sat Cinderella-like in her room that night while the friends speeded the parting guest who was not present.

Thursday afternoon Mrs. Quint and her mother rushed into a department store and bought another traveling dress. They waited at the house so long for the cleaner's delivery wagon that Mrs. Quint had to hop on her train while it was moving out. Two days after she reached Cuba the suit arrived. She sent back the hurry-up traveling suit to the department store. She was awarded the \$8.75 as rentage of the department store suit, mail and express cost, with some thrown in for wear and tear on the tear ducts.

cheeks, feet and hands were frost-bitten and curatives had to be administered.

A Mere Guess.

"You are going on a long journey," said the amateur palmist.

But she may have been merely guessing. The man had recently been promoted to the position of cashier in a bank, and she knew it.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Fatigued Them Some.

"This attack on the Americans who have the rubber concessions in the Congo by the natives must rather interfere with the turning of the wheels of commerce."

"Rather looks as if they were getting rubber tired."

Both Guilty.

Doris—Mamma, why is your hair turning gray?

Mamma—Because you are such a bad little girl sometimes.

Doris—What a bad child you must have been, mamma! Grandma's hair is almost white.—Judge.

CHURCH ORGAN STARTS ROW.

"Devil's Music Box" Now Chained to Floor.

Diamond Grove, Mo.—With wife opposing husband and children taking sides against parents—thrilling times and possible criminal court proceedings are in store for the congregation of the Diamond Grove Christian church.

Diamond Grove is a small mining settlement several miles east of Joplin. An organ was the cause of it all.

The organ was purchased recently on the installment plan by the Ladies' Society of the church. The faction which later became known as the "antiprogessives" demanded that the "devil's music box" be removed. The "progressives" consulted a Joplin lawyer, after which they informed the "antis" that the organ must remain.

Soon after this declaration the organ was found in a woodshed back of the church, and suspicion fell on the antis chiefly because several members of this faction were seen to carry the instrument from the church. That night a band of husky progressives reinstated the organ and chained it to the floor.

Threats have been made that arrests will follow if the antis attempt to carry out their avowed intentions "to lambast the devil out of the contraption with axes."

PUZZLE OVER MERCURY.

Professor Says There Are No Planets Between It and Sun.

San Francisco.—That there are no planets between the sun and Mercury and that scientists must find another theory to explain why Mercury does not move in the regular orbit described for it are the conclusions Prof. W. W. Campbell, head of the Lick Observatory, has reached from the development of photographic plates taken at Flint Island several months ago. The plates show the complete absence of any planet between the sun and Mercury.

For 50 years astronomers have been puzzled by the problem that Mercury does not follow the path which should be its natural course, and which mathematical astronomy has outlined for it. That there was a force pulling it from its orbit and that this force was the attraction of planets between it and the sun was the general theory.

Prof. Campbell said: "These photographic plates dispose of this theory, and mathematicians will have to look elsewhere for forces. While the plates have not received their final development, they make the absence of planets certain."

STONES IN PUMP; CITY DARK.

Theaters and Mills Stop for Odd Cause in Chester.

Chester, Pa.—The Beacon Electric Light company's plant became incapacitated, the boiler becoming clogged with several hundred pounds of stones, which the suction pump drew with such force from the river that the screen through which the water passes was broken, allowing the obstructions to pass through.

Suddenly the engine refused to work, and the electric current was shut off all over the city.

As a result of the accident a number of industrial plants, which depend upon the Beacon company's plant for light and power, were compelled to shut down. The Chester Times was unable to issue its edition until late in the afternoon.

The matinee performances at the Chester opera house and the Family theater were in progress when the lights suddenly went out, and the managements found it necessary to open the window blinds, admitting the daylight, and dismiss the audiences, as sufficient illumination could not be obtained to proceed.

ELEPHANTS DRUG ON MARKET.

Very Low Prices Are Quoted to Kansas City Zoo.

Kansas City, Mo.—Some idea of the market value of wild animals may be got from the offers which are being made constantly to the Kansas City Zoological society, which is organizing to establish a zoo in Swope park.

One entire menagerie has been offered for the block sum of \$10,000. In the schedule a male elephant is quoted at \$2,500 and a female at \$3,000. Two male camels are down for \$600 a pair, and a pair of lions are listed at \$700. A family of three lions, two of them males, is marked at \$1,350, and two other females at \$750 for both of them. The explanation is made that a lion is top price at four to five years.

For \$200 the society can get a leopard, and for the same money a hyena. A black bear is priced at \$100, and wolves at \$25 each. A half-bred buffalo is offered at \$150, and an elk at \$100. An offer has been made to the society by an Australian dealer, but his collection is mostly of birds that would be difficult to keep alive in this climate.