

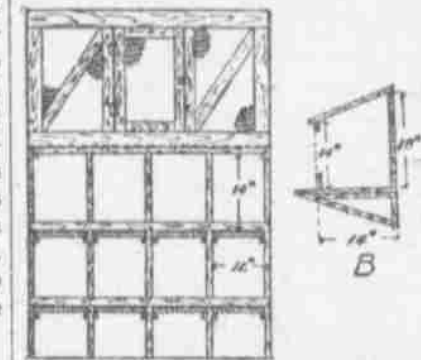
HANDY POULTRY HOUSE

Many Excellent Methods of Arranging Nests.

Building Must Be So Arranged That It Will Be Comfortable Place for Hens. Otherwise They Will Not Thrive.

(By J. G. HALPIN.)
Every poultry house should be well supplied with nests which are easily accessible and readily removed for cleaning and disinfecting. There are many methods of arranging nests, each method having some particular advantage over all others. The nests may in some instances be placed under the front edge of the dropping board, and so arranged that the hens enter from the rear and the attendant gathers the eggs by opening a door or doors on the front side. This is an inexpensive arrangement, as the dropping board forms a cover for the nests.

These nests are dark, which is a decided advantage, as hens like to hide, and there is less danger of them learning to eat eggs. It has the decided disadvantage of making the floor under the dropping boards of little use in feeding. It darkens the floor and hens are much more likely



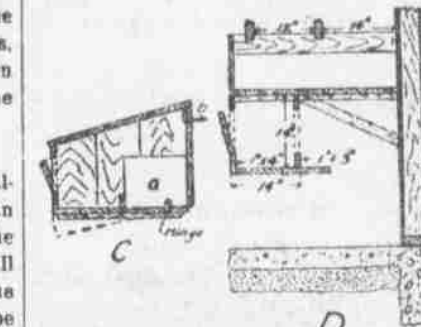
A Tier of Nests With Broody Coop on Top. B. Wall Nest.

to lay in the straw on the floor than in the nests, with the result that many times eggs are left for several days before being gathered. The careful poultryman who furnishes guaranteed eggs will not sell those which have been laid on the floor. In buildings which have a high rear elevation, some of this trouble may be obviated by elevating the roosts and dropping board. This can be done, especially with Leghorns or other light breeds that fly well. For the heavier breeds, it will be found necessary to put in a slanting board with cleats to enable the hens to walk to such a height. It will always be found necessary to keep the floor extremely well bedded. Many heavy hens will jump down from the dropping board instead of walking down the inclined perch and if the litter is thin, they may injure their feet.

Another and quite common arrangement is to fasten small open boxes to the walls of the poultry house. These boxes can be fastened with two 6d nails and easily removed for cleaning. Where this system is used, if the boxes should accidentally become badly infested with mites, the entire box being of little value, can be burned and new boxes put in. This method does not allow trap nesting, and the nests are not dark, yet it is used very extensively by poultrymen.

Where hens are confined and allowed to lay in open nests of this type, the eggs should be gathered at least twice each day. This is an extremely good practice and should be followed, especially on farms where a good quality of table eggs is being produced.

There are several good types of wall nests, some of which are dark



C. Wall Nest. D. Nest Under Dropping Board.

ened and others that are not. A nest for a Leghorn or other small hen should be 12 inches square; for the larger varieties, 14 inches square. The nest should give at least 12 inches head room and be about 14 inches high. They should be kept clean and well bedded with fine nesting material, such as straw or hay. Shavings, excelsior, etc., are not satisfactory as a rule, for they may stain the eggs. Coarse straw and other harsh substances do not make satisfactory nesting material. A hen likes a pliable, soft substance in the nest.

Fowls need a chance to wallow in the dirt in order to free their bodies of scales and lice. Without this, their bodies become covered with broken down scales which, together with lice, cause intense itching. In the winter a dust bath usually has to be provided inside of the poultry house and should be near an open window, so that the sun shines on it during a part of the day. For this purpose a common box filled with fine sand, to which has been added a little insect powder, is quite effective. Sifted coal ashes and road dust, etc., also make effective dust baths. In a house which has a good dry sand floor, or in a cement floored house, where the floor is covered with three or four inches of fine sand, a dust bath is seldom needed, as the hens will wallow in the sand on the floor.

Side whiskers are fashionable, but those who cannot grow them can get a comfortable muffer for 50 cents.

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PREVENT WASHING OF SOILS

Deep Plowing and Other Methods Will Materially Help Farmer in Cotton Growing Section.

In cotton growing sections of the south, where the single-crop system is employed, so great is the soil water-washing that it requires only a few years to wash away parts of farms under tillage. Some attempts are being made to correct these conditions.

The cotton grower must reject the old methods which were followed in the early days, and he must plan to turn the soil to greater depths. Deep plowing not only facilitates the flow of water through the soil, but it also assists in opening up or breaking the hardpan layer which frequently results from shallow cultivation. Under such treatment the upper layers of soil absorb and retain larger quantities of the free water. Subsoiling might also be mentioned in this discussion, although this is a practice that has not been adopted in the southwest. The deep-tilling machinery provided by some plow companies will certainly bring about improvement in the character of the surface layer of soil, and will ultimately assist in securing better yields on farms which heretofore have been cultivated at a loss.

Contour plowing is adapted to moderate slopes, and should be applied on fields that are gently rolling. Our system of farm management should also provide for an increase in the supply of humus. It is not a difficult matter to secure vegetable matter, even in sections where livestock husbandry does not form a part of the general farm plan. The cowpeas are an ideal crop for this purpose, and since it takes the same place in the south that red clover does in the north, it should be cultivated more generally.

Underdrainage may also aid in removing the free water from the surface of areas which remain exceedingly moist during the springtime. When such water is removed the surface soil is left in a more open condition, and with the advent of heavy rains the surplus water passes readily through the soil, and thus preventing severe erosion.

Mention should also be made of crop rotation. The use of catch crops in order to maintain vegetation upon the surface during the greater part of the year is recommended; the maintenance of a permanent covering of grass on fields that are hilly (Bermuda grass answers well), and the reforestation of exceedingly steep slopes are also features which deserve more than a passing consideration. The terrace has not been adopted on the Oklahoma farm except in one or more sections. Just how far this plan can be developed remains to be seen.

WORK IN BARLEY BREEDING

Several New Forms Have Been Produced, Most Important Being Tennessee Winter Variety.

The bureau of plant industry has been doing extensive work in barley breeding, particularly those of winter varieties and those of the beardless and hull-less types. Several new forms have been produced, the most important being a strain of Tennessee winter without awns. This is a valuable improvement, as the awns have always been objectionable. This barley will be increased as rapidly as possible and introduced among the farmers. Several beardless and hull-less barley hybrids which seem promising have also been developed. Investigations are being made by the government of the adaptation of beardless and hull-less barleys. These varieties were at first used exclusively for hay purposes, but strains have been developed that mature their grain at high altitudes where other grain are generally unsuccessful.

GENERAL FARM NOTES

The best way to doctor a pig is not to let him get sick. Winter only as many sows as can be given perfect care.

Sheep feed drafts of cold air in spite of their heavy fleeces. To do their best sheep must have plenty of pure, clean water.

Feed the boar for vigor, not for fat, and let exercise enter into his development. Watch the colts' teeth. Not infrequently they become long and need attention.

Beef cattle show a shortage, both as to numbers and weight at the big markets. Good juicy sweet apples suit hens first-rate. They ought to have a few every day.

The more comfortable you keep your hogs the more profits they will return to you. The man who pleases the poultry will find the latter doing its best to please the man.

The value of a hen is measured more by her winter's work than by her year-round record. A gloomy house makes a heavy-hearted hen, and your best success comes from birds that are happy all day long.

Account should be taken of every pullet and cockerel and every hen and cock held over for the laying and breeding season.

About the best remedy for scaly legs, which is the work of miniature parasites, is an application of sulphur and melted lard once a week.

Young cattle make more economical use of their ration than mature cattle. Hence they can be fed on a narrower margin than older cattle.

For rheumatism in horses, salicylate of soda, or salol, may be given in the feed. The dose is two drams of the first, or one dram of the latter, given three times a day.

Big hens with lots of feathers ought not to be housed with those that are lighter clad. It may not be warm enough for one kind and too hot for the other. Suit your houses to your stock.

In the PUBLIC EYE

WOULD EDUCATE MAN BEHIND THE PLOW

To carry knowledge of scientific agricultural methods directly to the man between the plow handles, and thereby increase the agricultural products of this country by at least 20 per cent, Senator Hoke Smith in a speech in the senate the other day urged the passage of the Smith-Lever bill to establish agricultural extension departments in colleges of agriculture.

"The annual value of our agricultural products is, in round figures, \$9,000,000,000," Senator Smith said. "If the increase as a result of this work were only 20 per cent we would have an increased value of \$1,800,000,000, or a sufficient sum to meet the proposed appropriation for 600 years."

Senator Smith pointed to the passage of the Morrill bill for the establishment of land grant agricultural colleges in each of the states of the Union, and of the Hatch bill for the establishment of an experiment station in each state. Upon these the government is now spending about \$4,000,000 annually. Much of this money and of the \$15,000,000 appropriated each year for the exclusively agricultural work of the department of agriculture, he stated, is spent in investigating and experimenting to show how the best and greatest crops can be raised.

"There are students at those colleges who are obtaining much aid from the instruction which they receive, but there is no sufficient provision to carry to the farmers at their homes the valuable information which has been and will be obtained by the work of the colleges and experiment stations," continued the senator.

"According to the plans of the bill," he continued, "the representatives of the colleges in the various states will enlist farmers who, under the direction of the representatives of the Agricultural college, will test the value on their own land of the information brought by the representative of the college."



J. H. HAMMOND WOULD PACIFY YAQUIS



John Hays Hammond has asked the Mexican government to permit him to go, unarmed and accompanied only by an interpreter, into the mountainous stronghold of the Yaqui Indians in Sonora, to pacify that turbulent tribe. The government of Mexico has fought the Yaquis for thirty years, but today the Yaquis are unconquered.

Mr. Hammond expects that the Madero government will give him the permission which he desires. His program is based on his belief that, as a result of his life and work in Mexico, many years ago, the understanding between him and the Yaquis is so thorough as to obviate the risk of his being injured or killed. Major Burnham, the famous American and South African scout and fighter, will accompany him.

Last July Mr. Hammond wrote to Senator Calero, the Mexican ambassador to this country, outlining his wishes to pacify the Yaquis and his plan for accomplishing that object. In this letter he explained that as manager of mines near Alamos, Sonora, in 1882 and 1883, he had many Yaquis working for him, that they were the best workmen he had ever had and that he held them in high regard. He wrote the ambassador of his conviction that he could render important assistance to the government in settling all disagreements and all grudges held by the Yaquis.

The Yaquis maintain in their stronghold at this time, in addition to their warriors, a force of 1,500 men armed with modern rifles. They are absolutely impregnable. Diaz tried to bring them into submission, but failed.

As soon as the Mexican government assures him that it will carry out the promises of fair treatment which he will make to the Yaquis in his own behalf and on behalf of the Mexican government, Hammond will go to his property in Sonora and have natives communicate to the Yaqui chiefs that he would like to confer with them.

MISS BOARDMAN LAUDS BOY SCOUTS

Miss Mabel T. Boardman, secretary of the American Red Cross association, has sent a message to the 400,000 Boy Scouts of America. She rejoices in the good deeds that the Boy Scouts are doing. She compares them with the knights of King Arthur of old.

"The Vision of King Arthur" is the title of Miss Boardman's article in Boys' Life, the Boy Scouts' magazine. Miss Boardman pictures the dying King Arthur, and says: "Something held his clear blue eyes—no glittering armor nor helmet with its visor down—only a boy in simple brown, who stopped to lift a little fallen child. And there? Another guided a blind man through the dangers of the noisy street, and yet another, with kindly men and friendly stroke, stroked some poor, bewildered dog, his master lost. Here one took from her trembling hands the heavy load of some old dame and bore it for her. Another darted swiftly through the town to call the doctor to the aid of some one who was ill. Not here, not there alone, but everywhere, through northern winter snows and under sunny southern skies, the king beheld these knights in brown. Bending over some injured comrade clustered an earnest group. With skillful fingers the wound was dressed; with arms that were strong yet tender the boy was carried home, and on the porch from which the aid was given, behold, a cross of red."

"This is a little story for your Boy Scouts," continues Miss Boardman. "You are the knights in brown. The bold Sir Bevelacere thought the true old times were dead, but you have brought them back to life again."

MME. JUSSERAND BARS "FREE LUNCH"



Mme. Jusserand, wife of the French ambassador, and now dux of the diplomatic corps at Washington, has decreed the abolition of the diplomatic "free lunch route," which is the onerous designation of that indiscriminate and uncensored list of hostesses from whom the attaches of embassies and legations have been wont to accept luncheon, dinner and dance invitations.

Henceforth there will be a rigid adherence to diplomatic and social lines by the young diplomats who have entered too much into the spirit of our democratic institutions and gone to those entertainments where the spirit of conviviality led them.

The gossip in diplomatic circles is that there has been not only a weakening of discipline, but that the young bachelor set, not provided with the large expense account of the heads of legations, have found in the bountiful hospitality of Washington means whereby they have been able to piece out their meager incomes by saving what otherwise would be spent at hotels and restaurants for food and cheer.

TARIFF IS PUT FIRST

PUBLIC DEMANDS REVISION AT EXTRA SESSION.

Trusts and Currency Reform May Wait, Though Congress Can Take Them Up Also If It So Desires.

How many subjects for the extra session of congress? One, or three? The tariff alone, or the tariff, the trusts and currency reform?

The matter has been submitted to Mr. Wilson, and he has it under consideration. We may know his views before the call for the extra session is issued, but certainly we shall have them in that paper.

If Mr. Wilson recommends action on the tariff alone, congress will not be bound by the recommendation. It will be at liberty to travel outside the message, and take up any subject it pleases. Or if Mr. Wilson recommends action on several subjects, congress, if it pleases, will be at liberty to confine itself to the tariff.

The tariff, alone, is a big proposition. Revision—even a gentle revision—will mean much to the country. It bears this resemblance to matrimony. It should not be "entered into unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, discreetly, advisedly, soberly."

And time will not only be important, but necessary. In the house the Republicans will be few in number, and at the mercy of rules making when invoked for short debate. But in the senate they will be strong both in numbers and opportunity. The rules of that body make for liberal debate, and such debate is always demanded.

We shall probably see, then, a tussle worthy of the importance of the business when the action of the house comes up for review in the senate. For however swiftly and firmly Mr. Underwood may have performed his part as chairman of ways and means of the house, Mr. Simmons as chairman of the finance committee of the senate will have to proceed slowly. The enemy in his front will be able to dispute every inch of the way, and will do so.

Of course the Democracy is as much committed to trust legislation and currency legislation as to tariff legislation. But opinion puts the tariff first. Both victor and vanquished agree that the Payne law should be put on the operating table at once. The country has twice voted for its revision, and the sooner the mandates are obeyed the better. The trusts and the currency can wait, and will have to wait only six or eight months. The first regular session of the new congress will follow the extra session at no great distance, and the carrying out of the Baltimore platform can then be resumed.

Haste makes waste, and sometimes sorrow. The Democracy has a big order, and should proceed with care in its execution. In two years—in November, 1914—it will have to give an account at the polls of its stewardship, and if the record is condemned the party's prospects for 1916 will be overcast.

Chairmen No Longer Masters.

The new congress, in one particular at least, will differ radically from its predecessors. In the days of Aldrich and Hale and Hanna an important committee chairman was the committee itself. Then no senator would accept a chairmanship unless the committee membership was in accord with him. Those were the days of the "ruling ten" and of the "inner circle." And, in passing, it might be mentioned that former Senator Beveridge, were he a member of the senate today, would find himself embarrassed in the new company. Whereas Aldrich and Platt and Smoot and Beveridge were the masters of their committees, the older Democrats, who have been referred to as the Aldrich rings successors, not only will be the servants of their committees, but must, in order to make their peace with the party, support the party's progressive policies.

Why the Duty on Prunes?

There is a duty of two cents a pound on prunes just to keep out the product of the pauper fruit-growers of Europe and protect the owners of orchards in California and Oregon. Therefore, we observe with some interest in the trade news that the Santa Clara valley has produced 165,000,000 pounds of prunes, the largest crop on record; that prices are ruling higher than ever, which is attributed to the foreign demand, and that exporting has begun on a liberal scale. Bosnia and Serbia have not yielded their accustomed supplies, and Europe is turning to this country. Yet the export of prunes is by no means a new thing. At various times in the past we have exported quantities of them, and the Pacific coast growers, whose fruit is sold in France, have no need of protection from the French or the Balkan growers.

A Statesman of Efficiency.

The chief advantage of college education is the mental discipline it enforces. The things actually learned in college are often forgotten and seldom used in later life. The habit of straight thinking and earnest study which a man may acquire at college can not help but stay with him to the end.

The Journal feels that President-elect Wilson shows in remarkable degree the benefits of college training.—Chicago Journal.

Feels Its Responsibility.

The Democratic party, as well as its president, has since the election shown that it appreciates to the full the responsibility that has been imposed on it. Its great victory seems to have sobered rather than elated it, which, of course, is as it should be. The special session, which is to meet shortly after the inauguration, ought to be able to put through a satisfactory tariff, that will remedy the present defects, within a reasonable time.

RHEUMATIC ADVICE

Prominent Doctor's Best Prescription Easily Mixed at Home.

"From your druggist get one ounce of Toris compound (an original sealed package) and one ounce of syrup of barbascoia compound. Take these two ingredients home and put them into a half pint of good whiskey. Shake the bottle and take a tablespoonful before each meal and at bedtime. This is said to be the quickest and best remedy known to the medical profession for rheumatism and backache. Good results come after the first dose. If your druggist does not have Toris compound in stock he will get it for you in a few hours from his wholesale house. Don't be induced to take a patent medicine instead of this. Insist on having the genuine Toris compound in the original one-ounce sealed, yellow package. Hundreds of the worst cases were cured here by this prescription last winter. Published by the Globe Pharmaceutical Laboratories of Chicago.

COULD STAND PLAYFUL DOG

Young Man Considerably Relieved When He Learned the Animal Was Not in Earnest.

"Have you seen papa's new dog, Carlo?" she asked as they sat in the parlor.

"Yes," he replied, uneasily. "I have had the pleasure of meeting the dog."

"Isn't he splendid? He is so affectionate."

"I noticed he was very demonstrative," returned he, as he moved uneasily in his chair.

"He is very playful, too. I never saw a more playful animal in all my life."

"I am so glad to hear you say that."

"Why?"

"Because I was a little afraid that when he bit that piece out of me the other evening he was in earnest. But if he was only in play, of course, it's all right. I can take fun as well as anybody."

SOMETHING SWELL



"Going to have turkey on your birthday?"

"No! I'm going to blow myself this year for an elaborate feed. I'm going to give a bacon dinner to the family."

No Sale.

Rubby had arrived home while wife slept and at the breakfast table there was a cold silence.

"A penny for your thoughts, my love," he ventured.

"For two cents I'd tell you what I think of you," she returned, with a dangerous gleam in her eye.

He did not raise his bid.

't at Because.

"Why was the beauty doctor so angry with Anna?"

"Because she told him she was coming to him to get a few wrinkles. . . ."

It keeps wives as busy providing for the inner man as it does husbands providing things for the outer woman.

Dr. Pierce's Peppermint, small, sugar-coated, easy to take as candy, regulate and invigorate stomach, liver and bowels. Do not gripe. Adv.

It takes a genius to save money or write good poetry.

LIFE'S STRUGGLE WITH ILLNESS

Mrs. Stewart Tells How She Suffered from 16 to 45 years old—How Finally Cured.

Euphemia, Ohio.—"Because of total ignorance of how to care for myself when verging into womanhood, and from taking cold when going to school, I suffered from a displacement, and each month I had severe pains and nausea which always meant a lay-off from work for two to four days from the time I was 16 years old.

"I went to Kansas to live with my sister and while there a doctor told me of the Pinkham remedies but I did not use them then as my faith in patent medicines was limited. After my sister died I came home to Ohio to live and that has been my home for the last 18 years.

"The Change of Life came when I was 47 years old and about this time I saw my physical condition plainly described in one of your advertisements. Then I began using Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and I cannot tell you or any one the relief it gave me in the first three months. It put me right where I need not lay off every month and during the last 18 years I have not paid out two dollars to a doctor, and have been blessed with excellent health for a woman of my age and I can thank Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound for it.

"Since the Change of Life is over I have been a maternity nurse and being wholly self-supporting I cannot overestimate the value of good health. I have now earned a comfortable little home just by sewing and nursing since I was 52 years old. I have recommended the Compound to many with good results, as it is excellent to take before and after childbirth."—Miss EUPHEMIA ADELIA STEWART, Euphemia, Ohio.

"If you want special advice write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential) Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman and held in strict confidence.

THOMPSON'S EYE WATER
JOHN L. THOMPSON, NEW YORK, N.Y.

PISO'S REMEDY
Best Cough Syrup, Sore Throat, Croup, Whooping Cough, etc. Sold by Druggists.

FOR COUGHS AND COLDS