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MOBBING, CROWDING.

The nearest to a bargain counter rush where fifty women fight for a faded green ribbon is where hens are fed from a trough too small. What a grab for grub! What a mobbing, crowding, squawking, fighting! There is an uneven distribution of feed. The timid, weak and young go hungry, while the strong get too much. For maximum results for health, growth, eggs, quality and quantity of flesh among old and young stock every fowl must eat in comfort, get its share, and the feed should be of such a size or consistency that a hen may not fool away her time on a large hard chunk while the rest gobble the grub.

If feed is thrown on the ground the grain should be so scattered that all may have a chance to see and eat, and the ground should be clean, for rotten ground grabbed up with feed is a common cause of worms in the digestive tract of fowls. Young stock should be

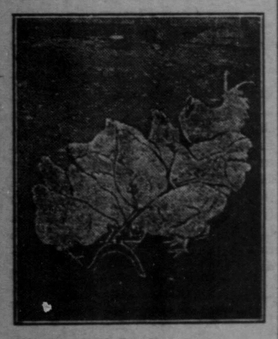


Photo by C. M. Barnitz.

A STAMPEDE FOR BREAKFAST.

kept separate, and if they must be kept in the same yard with adults a screen should be provided into which they only may retire for feed.

Since the incubator places the quantity of chicks in the power of the operator many yield to temptation and hatch too many chicks. They crowd brooders, bad conditions result, and nature proceeds to cut down the brood to a livable limit, and these are often stunted by the experience. Seven hundred dead chicks were gathered up one morning on a Pennsylvania plant. The brooders were crowded, the victims were pushed out of the hovers and, piling up in the corners, had been crushed to death in the struggle to keep warm.

Fanciers must remember that a chick's skeleton is soft. It not only needs a bone maker to build and mature its frame, but there must be room



Photo by C. M. Barnitz.

CURVATURE OF THE SPINE.

for expansion as well as breathing space. Now, look at the second picture and note the curvature of the spine.

This was a hapless creature that hadn't a chance for natural growth because its soft bones were jammed out of shape by chicks kept on the sardine plan. Here is an explanation for much chick mortality, crooked backs, wry tails, twisted breastbones, myriad lice, colds from sweating, and accounts for so many immature fowls that amount to so little for market and eggs.

DON'TS.

Don't ignore your incubator rules unless you find them wrong. Then sing the manufacturer a song.

Don't breed a bird with crooked toes, wry tail or a deformed breastbone. Use the best for show and nest.

Don't feed stale stuff. Fowls have digestive organs capable of pain and suffering, results from using moldy grain.

Don't allow filth to accumulate. To do so is to endanger the health of your flock and family.

DON'TS.

Don't expect to have pretty, white, soft hands and succeed with poultry. Be a man, not a jellyfish.

Don't borrow this paper to read "Poultry Notes." Stealing chickens by night is never right. Stealing chickens on paper is an awful mean caper. If you do it you'll rue it.

Don't carry your business cares home to dinner. Your wife has enough little troubles of her own.

Don't hesitate to kill a drone hen because she is a pure bred bird. Many aristocrats are gilt edged ciphers.

Don't advertise and expect a rush before the printer's ink is dry. An ad. added to an ad. is the practical merchant's fad and brings the pull that makes glad.

Don't worry the editor of this paper by sending him questions about poultry. Send the questions to us. If you send him your check he will gladly return a neatly printed receipt and this paper for a whole year.

Don't be obnoxious to your fellow man by protecting a dog that kills neighbors' fowls. Your foul play may cause gun play.

Don't pin your faith to written guarantees. You may get stuck with truck.

Don't sell bad eggs for hatching with the thought that you'll not be caught because your customer is 100 miles away. You may be within one hour of the judgment day.

Don't be bamboozled by a catalogue two feet thick. The more pictures the more tricksters.

Don't be satisfied with mongrel stock. Full blood flock for full egg crock.

Don't butt in; let that to the goat. Don't grunt; let that to the shote. If tempted to go croak a bit go out and with the bullfrogs sit.

Don't hatch Brahmas, Cochins and Langshans late. March is best for the heavyweight.

Don't breed from fowls with crooked backs nor expect much from old louse racks.

THAT HUMAN ALARM CLOCK.

How oft when sweetly dreaming,
With soft pillows 'neath my head,
That old nickel clock starts screaming
Loud enough to wake the dead!
Burr-err, whir! You bet I hear it;
Scares me most out of my skin,
And I nearly get a cat fit,
Wakened by its awful din.

But of all the blamed alarm clocks
There's that mugwump with long face,
With his old gong ever going,
While his hands great troubles trace.
Burr-err-er! Our knell he's sounding.
Hear the old calamity gong!
List a moment! Hear him grinding
Out the sickening, solemn sound.

Soon all coal will be exhausted.
Then all men will freeze to death.
Soon the earth will be so crowded
Won't be room to get your breath.
Country's going to the bowwows,
And, though preachers pray and yell,
This old world is getting worser—
Everybody's going to hell.

Never mind his nasty dingdong
If it does your soul disgust.
Some day, like that nickel howler,
His mainspring will up and bust.
Then we'll throw him on the junk pile,
Face and hands all smashed to naught,
Cans and dead cats pile upon him.
There he'll rot and be forgot.

C. M. BARNITZ.

FEATHERS AND EGGSHELLS.

When two or more toms are allowed to run with a flock of turkeys there is a continuous scrap. The natural result is bloody heads and infertile eggs. One male to eight females is best; breeders two years old give best results.

If you simply rent the land on which you raise poultry it will not pay to put up permanent buildings. In such case colony houses on wheels or runners are best. You may easily take them along gypsy style if you move.

When drakes fight don't get rattled; just turn in a few more females. The new affinity will restore the equanimity.

An interesting battle occurred on a farm near Clearfield, Pa., when a skunk sought to capture a goose. Her screams brought the old gander, who in the face of a hot fire charged the enemy and hammered him to jelly. The flock was sent to the factory to have their feathers renovated.

Dr. Herbert D. Peace, in testifying in behalf of a New Jersey rot and spot concern, told the court that it was possible for a person to get 800,000,000 bacteria into his system without injury to health. Now, Dr. Wiley, does this statement hit the spot, or is it all rot?

There were so many henroosts robbed in Lancaster county, Pa., that the state police were put on the job, and it was not long until they had put six men and two women in jail for chicken stealing.

Barley is one of the prime grains for poultry, and when it rose to $1.13 at Chicago and continued to rise poultrymen got the shivers. With wheat below $1 and barley soaring in the air, it's strange that so few farmers raise such a paying grain.

When the battleship Texas was made a target for the shells of the New Hampshire, to test the effects of the explosions on animal life, a cat and chickens were placed in the hold. The old ship was riddled, but the cat walked quietly out of a turret the base of which had been smashed by a twelve inch shell, and the roosters kept on crowing.

When saloons in Cincinnati advertised chicken free lunch the meat inspector got busy and made a raid on cold storage poultry that was being sold so cheap. He condemned 20,000 pounds of rotten poultry and found meat at one plant that had been in storage for six years. Next!

C. M. Barnitz.

"GIVE THAT CALF MORE ROPE."

When that swelled head blows himself up
And tells how smart he is,
How he has brains—yes, brains to spare—
For running any biz,
Don't you get mad at the blowhard
And hit him a good poke.
Just let him blow his own head off—
Just "give that calf more rope."

When that old kicker sends his heels
A-flyin' in the air,
A-kickin' here, a-kickin' there,
A-kickin' everywhere,
Don't you throw out a lasso
The blame old mule to choke.
He soon will kick himself to death.
Just "give that calf more rope."

When that self righteous Pharisee
Blows his horn round the streets
And tells how pure a heart he has
To every one he meets
Don't throw a rope around his neck
And hang up the old bloke.
Like Judas, he will hang himself.
Just "give that calf more rope."

When that big liar with mean mouth
Goes slingin' mud around
And shootin' off his lying tongue
Wherever chance is found,
Oh, say, don't build a fire
His measly hide to smoke!
The devil's got him by the neck.
Just "give that calf more rope."

C. M. BARNITZ.

In several European countries, including France and Belgium, elections are always held on Sundays.

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