POULTRY

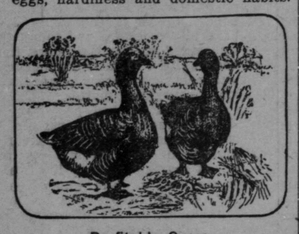
PROFIT IN GEESE AND DUCKS

Fowls Are Important Adjunct to Farm and Farmers Living Near Water Should Raise Them.

Those living close to water should raise geese and ducks. They will get a large part of their food from the streams and swamp lands, requiring very little grain during the summer months.

Toulouse geese are hardy, early layers and prolific, often raising two broods of goslings a year. The young early take care of themselves on good pasture and grow rapidly. They should have oatmeal made into mash daily, and afterward a few oats or barley scattered over the grass late in the evening. By careful feeding they grow very fast and by Christmas have been known to weigh 20 pounds each. Embden geese grow to a large size and are said to be nearly equal to the Toulouse variety in early maturity.

Of the four varieties of ducks, Rouen, Cayuga, Aylesbury and Peking, we give the preference to the last for size, early maturity, abundance of eggs, hardiness and domestic habits.



Profitable Geese.

The best location for a duck farm is on a tidewater stream or cove, where there is a constant succession of sea food with every tide. If given a little house upon the shore and a variety of grain at the evening meal they will come home regularly every night without further trouble. The eggs are mostly laid very early in the morning. The ducks should be kept shut up in the yard until they have laid their eggs. The Peking and the Indian Runner are the most prolific layers. The feathers of the Peking duck are of the best quality, white, with a creamy shade. The feathers command a good price. It is not necessary to have much water for ducks, yet it is true that ducks will get a large portion of their living out of the water. Ducks must have a grass range and plenty of fresh, clean water to drink, and they should also have a trough of water to bathe in if there is no stream handy.

WHICH ARE BETTER LAYERS?

Poultrymen Are Debating Whether Hen or Pullet Is Capable of Greater Egg Production.

No matter how successful we may become in any business we are trying all the time to find how we may increase our profits. To increase our profits means, of course, an increase in the output of our goods, whatever it may be. Poultrymen are now debating whether the hen or the pullet is capable of the greater egg production. There is good argument on both sides, says the American Cultivator.

Some claim that while hens lay less than pullets they lay larger and heavier eggs, and because of this fact the eggs command a better price than those laid by pullets. This is true, but in many sections of the United States eggs are sold without grading, and consequently the smaller egg is able to command as good a price as the larger one.

Others are in favor of pullets because they lay so many eggs which, they claim, possess a better flavor than those laid by hens. No one disputes the fact that pullets lay more eggs than hens.

The question of which is the better, hens or pullets, will never be answered so that it will please everyone. It is simply a matter of the likes and dislikes of the individual poultryman.

Personally the writer favors pullets. There are a very few of them that lay undersized eggs, and if he wishes the poultryman can easily cull them out. The average Leghorn pullet commences to lay when about six months of age, while many of them start at



Single Comb White Leghorns.

five months. Therefore it is a very easy matter to raise pullets so that they will be laying the winter after they are hatched.

The eggs of pullets do not hatch as well as those of hens. Not only that, but the chicks do not seem nearly so strong and lively as those hatched from hen eggs. For this reason, then, the writer would advise pullets for market eggs and hens for breeders.

ONE WITH A FUZZY HAT

By GEORGIA HORN.

"Land sakes! There he comes again, Susie! Why, you know—the one with the fuzzy hat an' the plait in his overcoat. He sure has got his eye on you! Yestid'y when I come up to the table to take his order instead of you he was so upset he ordered raspberry sundae instead of his usual chocolate soda. An' raspberries out for months! Go on— none of us will interfere—you wait on him!

"Mebbe he's a millionaire. That would be fine for Susie. Nobody can act more like a lady than she can, only she's got her hair too light. I'm so glad mine is a nachurl blond. Lilly, see that old lady just coming in? The one who looks as though she was going to die in a minute or two, and bought her clothes in the remnant basement? Well, you listen to me—that's old Mrs. White-Jones, and she has a million relatives waiting to get their hands on her bank account, and she's tough as a nut. Travels all over the world alone at her age and never loosens up a penny.

"Y'ought-a seen her nephew in here with her the other day. He helped her out of the electric just as careful as though he was afraid she might accidently sink through the pavement. 'Auntie, dear,' says he, 'try a riffle parfait with nuts—you'll like it!' 'Young man,' says she, 'piffle parfaits are 25 cents a piece, and as long as I'm paying the bill I guess you'll get along on a ten cent drink! Extravagance is the curse of the age!' And then I'll bet she drove downtown and bought a bushel of diamonds.

"Two v'nilla' sodas and one mint lemonade? Yes'm. No'm; there ain't no strawberries now. Why, I don't know—I expect they get tired growing this time of year.

"See that party in the blue suit and feathers? She's mad because I can't pick strawberries off'n the chandelier for her. I'bet it hasn't been very long that she had enough money to come into a swell shop like this here one is.

"Yes'm, you ordered chocolate. Beg pardon you said so distinctly. I didn't hear you mention mint lemonade at all. Well, of course I can change it if you say so.

"No use trying to please that bunch, ordering chocolate and then claiming it was mint lemonade! Gee, this sort of a job is fierce and wearin' on a girl!

"Look there, quick! Just coming in! That's Daisy Duberry, and she draws $800 a week for doing a half hour stunt on the stage! Think of it! She doesn't look so much, but I wish to goodness I knew where she buys her complexion. Isn't it a peach? I'm crazy about that hat she's got on, and I'm going to fix my hair like hers before I'm a day older.

"Oh, look at that! Kitty nabbed her! 'Spose she thinks she'll get tickets or something, an' I've always waited on Miss Duberry whenever she's been in! I'm going to tell Kitty what I think of her! Jealous thing! Not that I care for the tip she always gives—it's just the principle of the thing!

"Think you're smart don't you, Kit? I'll pay you back for jumping my customers—she is, too! Miss Duberry is a p'rticular friend of mine, I'd have you know.

"Yes, sir; I was just on my way to wait on that farthest table. Nobody sems to pay attention to the new customers unless it's me. Not that I want to name any names, but there's no use expecting Kitty to wait on any one else, as long as Miss Duberry is in here.

"Guess that'll hold Kit for awhile. The old man's cross, and he won't do a thing to her.

"Two maple sundaes and two hot chocolates? Yes'm.

"Get next to my parties in the corner, girls. They made their hats at home and they've got on rings enough to light the shop if they were hung up high. What do you make of that? They must be somebody. Nobody but big guns can be so contrarylike. The others don't dare.

"What? Hot chocolate? Beg pardon, ma'am, I'm vur-ry careful to get my orders correctly, and what you said was two maple sundaes and two chocolate ice-cream sodas. Nothing was said about hot chocolate at all. But, of course, we aim to please, and I'll change it for you if you insist!

"Gee! I wish women wouldn't change their minds so! They never know what they order! Here, Josie, you take these hot chocolates to those two vinegar cruets with the awful hats and the rings over there—I've got to fix my hair.

"It's about time for that young man with the lovely eyes to drop in for his tea. I think he must be English, and sometimes younger sons get to be dukes and things, you know! Where's my vanity case? Well, I like your nerve, Susie! I—

"Yes, sir, I'm attending to business. I didn't know you objected to a girl's sitting down just a minute when she's worked till she's ready to drop!

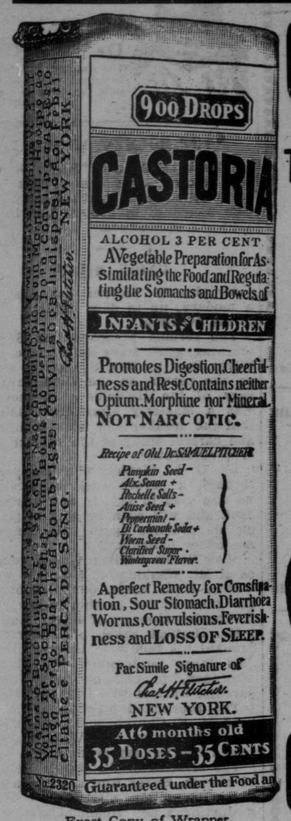
"I'd like to hit him, I would! Always snooping around for fear we're not earning our pay! Gee! The life we are leadin' is a hard one for a girl."—Chicago Daily News.

Where Her Shoes Were.

Dorothy, aged five, was having trouble assembling her clothes on arising.

"Why, where are your shoes, Dorothy?" asked mamma.

"I don't know, mummie," the five-year-old gravely replied. "But I saw them walking around with Margaret in them last night after I had gone to bed."—Indianapolis News.



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HONEYSUCKLE IN BLOOM

Spring Weather Starts Flowers in Central Park

New York, Jan. 25.—New Jersey has no monopoly these days of blooming flowers, the kind that ought to bloom in the spring. Park Commissioner Stover announced today that the employes of his department had notified him that honeysuckle are flowering all over Central Park. What is more, the commissioner had a sizable bouquet of the little beauties on display in his office.

In all the years of his long service Mr. Stover says that he has never before seen honeysuckle blooming at this time of the year. But then it has been a mild winter—a very mild winter.

The New Jersey stories are vindicated.

Firemen on Eastern Railroads Threatening to Strike. Statement by the Companies Involved

A strike is threatened by the Firemen on all the Eastern railroads.

The strike vote now being among the $30,000 men affected, will undoubtedly result in a vote pledging the men to walk out if their demands are not granted by the railroads.

Such a strike would seriously interfere with, if not entirely interrupt, the operation of all the railroads in eighteen states containing more than one-half of the population of the United States. It is important that the public know what is liable to take place.

The strike vote follows various conferences between railroad managers and representatives of the men. The latter, in their "A True Statement" of these conferences, which has been circulated among the men in connection with a blank strike ballot, say:—

"Evidence that the responsibility for a failure to arbitrate all matters in controversy (and thus avoid the turmoil incidental to a strike ballot, and distress that must result from a strike), rests upon the railroads and not upon the locomotive fireman, is an important part of this statement."

That the public may know how inaccurate the above statement is, the railroads in the territory affected desire it to be clearly understood that:

First.—The railroads are prepared to apply to the Firemen— and have already communcated this to their committee— the conclusions embodied in the award of the Board, which, to the satisfaction of the country recently arbitrated the differences between the locomtive engineers and the railroads. The roads have also signified their willingness to grant certain increases in wages.

Second.—The railroads are prepared to arbitrate the present case independently by a Board of five or seven men appointed by some such disinterested authorities as Chief Justice White of the United States Supreme Court, M. A. Knapp, Presiding Judge of the United States Commerce Court, and Dr. C. P. Neill, United States Commissioner of Labor, as was done in the Engineer case.

Fifty four railroads, including the Western Maryland, are involved.

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Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

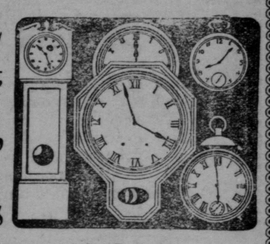
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