FARM TOPICS

NEGLECTED BIRDS NOT GOOD LAYERS

Low Summer Production May Continue Into Fall.

By Roy S. Dearstyne, Head of Poultry Department, North Carolina State College.—WNU Service.

Low egg production in hot weather often causes poultrymen to neglect their flocks, with the result that production continues low in the fall when it should be increasing.

Good management in hot weather not only keeps birds in better condition for heavy production later, but it also keeps up production through the summer.

Shade to protect birds from the sun during the hottest part of the day is essential to thrifty birds. A portable range shelter provides shade where birds can feed and rest.

Since range crops usually become dry and unpalatable in summer, the birds need an ample ration in their feed hoppers. Plenty of fresh water should be available at all times.

Plenty of grain should be fed during the developing season. A good mash should be fed also as it contains vital food elements that are not provided in a grain diet alone.

Where crippled and subnormal birds are found in the flock, they should be culled out at once. Such birds never pay a profit and their low vitality often makes them the starting point for an outbreak of contagious disease.

Lice and mite infestations occur frequently in summer and result in heavy losses unless checked at once.

Fowl pox can be prevented by vaccinating the birds at an early age. The disease usually breaks out in the fall when the birds are in full lay and making a profit for their owner. Leghorns are especially susceptible to pox.

Creep-Fed Calves Thrive on Corn, Cottonseed Cake

Calves creep-fed made their best and most economical gains on a ration of shelled corn and cottonseed cake in a test by the United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Missouri state experiment station at Sin-a-Bar Farms, Grain Valley, Mo.

At the end of the 140-day test calves fed the shelled corn and cottonseed cake averaged 8 pounds more than another group fed ground shelled corn and cottonseed cake, 13 pounds more than calves fed ground corn, cottonseed cake, and alfalfa-molasses mixture, and 22 pounds more than a group receiving shelled corn, cottonseed cake, and alfalfa-molasses mixture.

The calves receiving ground corn, cottonseed cake, and the alfalfa-molasses mixture, ate 25 per cent more feed and acquired a better finish at the end of the feeding period than those fed shelled corn and cottonseed cake. The difference in market price of the two groups, however, did not justify either the cost of grinding the corn or the additional cost of feed.

Calves from each group, when fed in dry lots for 196 days after weaning, on the same rations they had received before weaning, showed no significant difference in total gains. Those fed shelled corn and cottonseed cake were the heaviest at the end of the experiment although not so well finished as the ones fed ground corn.

High-grade Shorthorn calves were used in the feeding tests and the market value was estimated at the end of the feeding experiment by commission merchants on the Kansas City stockyards.

In the Farmlot

Careless handling kills live stock on its way to market.

• • •

The greatest boon to farmers and their wives is running water installed in the home.

• • •

Except for dresses, shoes represent the largest clothing item bought by farm families.

• • •

The horse's collar should be thoroughly cleaned each evening after the day's work is done.

• • •

For safety dairy products are best kept covered and in the coldest place in the refrigerator.

• • •

Alfalfa leaves are worth saving; they are about three times as valuable in nutritive value as the stems.

• • •

Unless cows have an abundance of pure water to which they can go at any time, milk flow will be affected.

• • •

The general belief that grasshoppers make an excellent turkey feed was not upheld in experiments at Oklahoma A. and M. college.

• • •

Except for air, water is the most common, most readily supplied, and often the most inexpensive substance that poultrymen can give to their hens.

Termites Destroy Wood, Paper, Sometimes Cloth

Termites are tiny, blind insects that destroy wood, paper and sometimes cloth. Their nearest living relative is the cockroach, writes a correspondent in the Boston Herald. There are many species of termites, but in this country the most common are those called subterranean termites.

These termites live in colonies deep in the earth where it is dark and moist, not in the wood as many suppose. They shun light and soon die if cut off from moisture.

There are three castes of termites in a colony: The workers, which provide food and shelter for all. The soldiers, hard-headed and with fierce jaws, who defend the colony against attack. The sexed termites at mating time, spring and fall, develop wings and eyes, they swarm from the ground, fly a short distance, mate and then shed their wings. Each mated pair tries to creep back into the earth to found a new colony. The queen spends the rest of her life laying eggs, hundreds a day.

Most of the termites in any subterranean colony are the workers. They never stop work, day or night. Their chief duty is to provide food for the entire colony. Their food is cellulose. As wood, paper and cloth are mostly cellulose they naturally attack articles made from these materials. Their chief source of cellulose supply is the wood in buildings. Even if the walls are not wood, the floors, sills, joists, etc., are. Termites are seldom seen at work because they are blind and work in the dark.

Musk-Ox Was First Seen Along Hudson Bay Shore

The musk-ox was first seen on the American continent by a French officer along the west shore of Hudson bay, Canada, in 1720. The S-shaped horns are indigenous to the musk-ox in North America and closely resemble the horns of the dangerous African cape buffalo.

At one time, according to scientists, the musk-ox roamed as far south as Philadelphia, but now they are non-migratory. One record tells of a bull that roamed less than a half mile from one spot during a whole summer.

The oxen eat the Arctic grasses, lichens, and moss and in winter they use sharp hooves to break through the snow crust to reach vegetation beneath. They have developed "pushers" on their nostrils, similar to the snout of a pig.

When attacked by Arctic wolves, the oxen form a threatening phalanx, heads outward.

Arctic explorers frequently have urged domestication of the animals and their importation into the United States.

Its odor is the musk-oxen's only defense against the hard-biting flies that thrive in the Arctic circle. The musk-ox has no tail.

History of Cremation

The custom of cremation is very ancient, and was almost universal among the Aryans of early India, the Greeks, Romans, Slavs, Kelts and Teutons, states a writer in the Philadelphia Inquirer. The graves of North Europe throughout the Bronze age contain only jars of ashes. Christianity, and a belief in the resurection of the body, gradually suppressed the custom of cremation; but, beginning in Italy in 1870, the custom revived, and has been legal there since 1877. The practice spread throughout Europe and very rapidly throughout the United States. Germany's first crematorium was erected in 1878, England's in 1885. The first municipally owned crematorium in England was built by the city of Hull in 1900. Crematoriums in the United States date from 1876, when Dr. F. J. LeMoyne established one at Washington, Pa.

The Chaldeans

The Chaldeans were not Egyptians but were a Semitic tribe, similar to the Babylonians, who probably migrated from Arabia into lower Mesopotamia about 700 B. C. They were absorbed in the great Persian empire and some of their descendants probably remain in that part of Asia. They were polytheists and noted for their knowledge of astrology and occult science. It appears quite likely that the Wise Men from the East were Chaldeans or Babylonians.

Claims First Sleeping Car

That the first sleeping car to be built and placed in actual service on this continent was designed and made in Canada is stated in an article in the Canadian National Railway Magazine. The plan for a sleeping car was prepared in 1859 in preparation for the visit of the then Prince of Wales, later to become Edward VII, and the actual construction was carried out at Brantford, Ont., in a plant later used for malleable iron castings for passenger and freight cars.

"Old LaFayette House"

The "Old LaFayette House" built in East Haven, Connecticut, by Captain Bradley more than one hundred and sixty years ago, is preserved in excellent condition. The house received its name from the fact that LaFayette stayed in it on two occasions. When Captain Bradley built his home, it was painted white. The house was moved to Darien, Connecticut.

James Smithson, Founder of Institution, English

James Smithson was a natural son of Hugh Smithson, duke of Northumberland, by a Mrs. Elizabeth Macls of Wiltshire, England. He was educated at Oxford, and early became a chemist and scientific writer. One of his maxims was: "The man of science is of no country; the world is his country, all mankind his countrymen," a maxim which was illustrative of his life and death; for he spent most of his life in France and Germany, was buried in Italy, and left his entire fortune, some half million dollars, to the United States government to be administered for "the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men."

Smithson was born in England about the year 1754; the exact place and date are unknown, notes a writer in the Cleveland Plain Dealer. He died at Genoa, Italy, June 27, 1829, and was buried in the English cemetery near that city. In 1906 his remains were brought to this country.

As a scientist he was honored by being elected to the Royal Society and many other learned bodies, but that which does most to immortalize him is the Smithsonian Institution, established by act of congress in 1846. From the income of the fund, the Smithsonian building was erected, while gifts and accumulated interest have since greatly increased the endowment.

The institution aids investigators by making grants for research and exploration, providing for lectures, publishing scientific papers, initiating scientific projects, etc. It has administrative charge of the National museum, the National Gallery of Art, the National Zoological park, the Astrophysical Observatory, and other agencies.

Mortgage Plan Was Born in Seventeenth Century

The mortgage is evolved from the Seventeenth century when a written document first became obligatory in a property transaction.

Before that time all lands were believed rightfully to belong to the king, who gave them to the lords with certain incidental obligations. These lords, in turn, parceled out the land to the tenants for other obligations. When a lord transferred property to another nobleman, much pomp and ceremony was connected with the transaction, but there was no written document.

Existing laws require no set pattern in a mortgage, but certain provisions are demanded, notes the Philadelphia Enquirer. The document must describe the parties with reasonable accuracy, and such parties must be qualified to make the contract. The premises must be described with equal accuracy, and the nature and limits of the estate conveyed must be made clear. The debt must also be cited.

Labrador and Britain

Labrador extends across nearly the same latitudes as the British Isles, but the shores of Britain and Ireland are washed by a current northbound from the tropics, while the icy waters of the Arctic flow down past the irregular northeastern coast of North America. There is, therefore, a vast difference in climate. The British climate is for the most part comfortably temperate, with winters usually milder than those which prevail in Ohio. The Labrador climate is described as very severe, cold and stormy. Toward the north its forests gradually diminish, the upper part of the country consisting of bare tundras. The Labrador winters are rated bearable and healthful, due to their dryness.

First Before British Royalty

Born in 1744, Abigail Smith became the wife of a young Massachusetts lawyer, John Adams, when she was twenty. Acknowledged as one of those who helped shape a new nation, John Adams was rewarded with the appointment of first United States minister to Great Britain in 1784, and his wife and eighteen-year-old daughter Abby joined him in London. The following summer they curtsied, as the first bona fide Americans, before British royalty—thereby leading off a picturesque procession which a favored few of their sisters have continued for years.

Land for the White House

The principal owners of the land on which the city of Washington is built were Daniel Carroll, Samuel Davidson, Notley Yount and David Burnes. The land on which the White House stands belonged to David Burnes, an aged Scotchman, who very reluctantly gave up his 600 acres for the federal city when negotiations were in progress for buying up land for the national capital. Daniel Carroll owned a large tract of land along the eastern branch of the Potomac river, which includes the site of the Capitol.

Mountain Lion Is Large

The American mountain lion is one of the largest predatory animals in the United States, sometimes weighing more than 200 pounds. It is recognized by game conservationists as the greatest natural enemy of deer, and stockmen learn to their sorrow that when game is scarce, the mountain lion attacks young domestic stock, particularly colts, lambs and kids and even full-grown horses and cattle.

Tools in Ancient Egypt

Many details of the building of the Pyramids of Egypt are still shrouded in mystery; perhaps will ever be. Yet it is known that the workmen who built these colossal piles of stone, that have endured for more than 5,000 years, worked with tools which we think of as modern implements. They used both straight and circular saws. Their cutting and fitting of the stones have been the marvel of architects for centuries. They also used solid and tubular drills, and knew and used the principles involved in the modern lathe. Both their drills and the cutting edges of their lathes were set with hard jewels of some kind, just as we point drills with diamonds. They had also discovered how to make their drills extremely hard, for the cutting marks show that while their drills could make a cut of a tenth of an inch at one revolution in solid granite there is no indication of wear on the drill.

How to Re-Glue Old Joints

Scraping and sanding the surface of old glued furniture parts is often found to be unsatisfactory in providing a new gluing area. Old glue clogs the wood pores and prevents the new glue from setting firmly. An easy way to assure a solid new joint is to steam the surface of the part to be glued with a damp cloth and a hot iron. The steam raises the grain, loosens the bond of the old glue, and "opens up" the wood pores so that new glue can enter and gain a solid anchorage.

How to Remove Wood Dents

When you accidentally put a dent in the wood upon which you are working it can easily be removed by the following process: Place a dampened cloth or blotter over the surface of the dent and steam with a hot iron. The steam releases the pressure on the bent wood fibers, and they immediately come back into place. Finish by sanding lightly over the spot with fine sandpaper. This method is effective on both hard and soft wood.

How to Shake a Bottle

There's a right and wrong way to do almost everything—even the simple job of shaking a bottle. The right way is to grasp the bottle by the neck, with the bottom up, and give it four or five snappy shakes in a horizontal plane. This will do more to distribute sediment in the bottom of the container than a dozen shakes "up and down."

How to Make Synthetic Wool

In making synthetic wool the first step is to add acid to skimmed milk, precipitating the casein, which is collected and dried. Alkalis then convert the casein into a sticky, honey-like mass, which is forced through fine openings. Through these come threads of synthetic wool, which is weaker than natural wool.

How Wood Is Mellowed

New wood can be given the mellowed effect of age with a brown stain which is easily applied with a brush. A wax finish or a coat of semi-gloss varnish over the stain will preserve it and heighten its effect.

Allenby's Crossing of Red Sea

The fact that Pharaoh's Israel crossed the Red sea on dry land need not disturb a generation which knows that in December, 1917, Allenby's heavy artillery, including motor-tractors, did exactly the same thing—so hard was the causeway which appeared in the sea that had been driven back by the east wind. When the guns were over, the road vanished and the "waters returned."

CHRISTAIN SCIENCE SERVICES

"Matter" will be the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, September 19.

The Golden Text will be from Lev. 19:4- "Turn ye not unto idols, nor make to yourselves molten gods; I am the Lord your God."

Among the citations comprising the Lesson Sermon will be the following from the Bible- Matt. 6:24- "No man can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

The Lesson-Sermon also will include passages from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy, among which is the following, page 214—"We bow down to matter, and entertain finite thoughts of God like the pagan idolator. Mortals are inclined to fear and obey what they consider a material body more than they do a spiritual God."

Unless a man is satisfied with himself he is not in the self-made class.

It is easier to get the best of an argument than to prove that you are right.

Never judge a man's reputation for truthfulness by what he says when in love.

A woman has to be in polite society nearly six months before she acquires the art of being rude.

SAFETY FIRST

Before stripes of gold braid indicated the length of service by trainmen you could tell about how long a man had been on the railroad by the number of fingers he had saved while coupling cars by hand and without the aid of safety devices.

The first great industry in America was farming. The forefathers milked the cows and tended the horses before sun-up. At the same ungodly hours the foremothers were starting their day's work, that ended with "setting the bread" hours after dark.

The second industry that arrived had to do with lumbering. Forty years ago lumberjacks worked six months at a stretch with short nightly intervals for sleep. In the spring the men went to twon, blew off the lid, blew in their dough, and went back to camp for another long stretch.

The working hours in early times were unlimited. Believe it or not, thousands of people were killed by horses and mules in those days. Unprotected wheels on threshing machines and farm implements accounted for lots of accidents. About the only old-fashioned way to meet with an accident is to get struck by lightning.

How different the above is from the record of eight General Motors automobile plants that have just finished a seven months competition of the "Sloan Award" without a lost time accident. They worked a total of 4,517,661 hours. The record of the entire General Motors Corporation in the safety drive is the best sustained plant safety record in its history. More than 8,000 foremen representing 225,000 employes, were enrolled in the contest staged in 78 plants, and 266 foremen received radio sets while 266 additional foremen received merit certificates for their records in reducing accidents among the men in their charge, elimination of industrial hazards, safety education and good industrial housekeeping.

It is almost impossible for the layman to realize the methods employed to prevent accidents unless he has gone through an automobile plant. The mark reached in the safety drive is 4.56 accidents per million hours worked, resulting in only .511 days lost for each thousand hours worked.

AIDS FOR PRESSING CLOTHES IN THE HOME

To do good pressing of odd shaped parts of clothing, curved seams, and sleeves, the large ironing board needs to be supplemented by two or three pressing pads that will fit into corners and curves. Miss Helen Sheby, clothing specialist for the University of Maryland Extension Service, says that a pressing pad should be made of ticking or heavy canvas, filled with sawdust or shreds of woolen cloth. She suggests making one board long and narrow for the sleeves, and another somewhat in the shape of a ham for armholes and curved seams. To make a "tailor's ham", as it is often called, cut two oval-shaped pieces of the ticking or canvas, each about 12 inches long and graduating in width from 6 to 2 inches. Stitch these together, leaving an opening for the filling, stuff tight with sawdust or shredded scraps of cloth, and close. Cover with outing flannel; then have a removable, washable cover of muslin.

Another pressing help is a roll for pressing open seams that might become mussed if pressed on a board. A small sleeve board has its place, too, Miss Shelby says, in the collection of pressing accessories. It should be padded and covered like the regular ironing board.

ADAPTED SEED NEEDED FOR 1938 PROGRAM

The seed crop harvested this year must be depended upon to a greater extent than would ordinarily be the case in providing grass and legume seed needed for the 1938 program says Mr. Miller, county agent, because of the small carry-over and the fact that the agricultural conservation program has greatly increased demand for seed of legumes grasses and green-manuring crops.

Surveys made of the seed situation show that demand for seed of soil-conserving crops in 1937 and the 1936 drought reduced the commercial reserves of seeds of domestic clover, alfalfa, sweet clover, lepedeza, soybeans, cowpeas, and of grass seed in general to much lower levels than normally prevail.

In general, seed that has been grown locally for a period of years is likely to be well adapted and, if properly harvested, stored and cleaned, may be expected to give excellent results, according to Mr. Miller.

Now that we have a self-operating typewriter we are very much in need of a machine that will get busy and do our thinking.

FISHING FAIR GRAND CONTEST, SEPTEMBER 18TH.

Hundreds of anglers and well known people will make their way by land, water, and air to the Fishing Fair at Solomons, September 18th and 19th. This picturesque sport fishing port will be the "hub" of bay fishing these two days, and, from the program outlined, all will have a good time.

The people of Solomons have left nothing unturned to make the visitors feel at home and to catch the big fish.

The Fishing Fair is more than a big fish catching contest. It is the annual convention of the anglers of the East—with a full program of activities, contests for twenty-five beautiful trophies and fifty prizes, and a display of the best the bay offers in sport fishing cruisers, equipment and captains.

Trophies will be presented Sunday afternoon, September 19th, at about three o'clock by Congressman Stephen W. Gambrill, Congressman T. Alan Goldsborough, Sentor George L. Radcliffe, Mayor Howard W. Jackson, and others.

Solomons is ready and promises to give the visiting anglers and guests the best that they have in food and entertainment, and to the visiting guides and yachtmen they offer without charge their docking facilities. You'll want to go to the Fishing Fair, so make up your party and call your favorite guide and say to your friends "I'll see you at the Fishing Fair".

SURPLUS MARYLAND POTATOES BOUGHT BY FEDERAL AGENCY

More than 37,000 bushels of Irish potatoes were purchased recently from Maryland producers by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation in an effort to remove surpluses from normal trade channels, it is announced by S. B. Shaw, chief of the Maryland State Department of Markets. Officials of the State Department of Markets inspected the potatoes and cooperated in other ways in making the purchases.

The potatoes were consigned to the relief agencies of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Maine, Indiana and the District of Columbia for consumption by persons on relief rolls.

A program for the purchase of surplus potatoes has been under way in a number of states, Mr. Shaw says. It was instituted when it became evident that the potato market would be greatly burdened by current supplies far in excess of normal requirements, which would force down prices and reduce returns to farmers. The purchases benefit not only the individual from whom they are made, he stated, but all producers of the commodity involved.

ADVENTURE IS COMING IN THE AMERICAN BOY

Readers who like adventure and the lure of far places will find plenty to please them in coming issues of The American Boy Magazine. They'll read, for instance, of seamen and sabotage and San Francisco waterfront trouble; of daring adventure in the world of pseudo-science, and of a feud aboard a plunging, battleship.

They'll read, too, of excitement aboard a transport plane blaring over jungled Mexican mountians, and of stranger planes that are not bound to earth but swing through the noiselessness of space. Readers can follow young ex-Mountie as he searches for clues in the wild northlands, and Tierney, the pie-eating detective, on the trail of city criminals.

A new feature in The American Boy is picture pages that tell stories. Pictures, for instance, that vividly show a day in the life of a coast guardsman, and how an Eskimo husky sled dog does his work. They transmit the thrill of battling a hundred pound, water-churning tarpon. Tips on how its done are also given pictorially—ranging from how to run a broken field to how to be correct in a ballroom!

NOTE: Subscription prices of The American Boy will be raised in the near future. Send your subscription order at once to take advantage of the bargain rates now in effect: one year at $1.00 or three years at $2.00. Foreign subscriptions 50c a year extra. Send your name, address and remittance to The American Boy, 7430 Second Blvd., Detroit, Mich. On newsstands the price is 15c a copy.

ORPHANS' COURT

The Orphans' Court for Cecil County, in regular session transacted the following business:

Bonds—Hammond C. Nickle, Adminstrator of Mary H. Nickle; Alan Kirk, Executor of Holliday H. Kirk; Clifton Waters, Administrator of Maggie Runner; Alfred Harris, Guardian of Paul Anderson.

Final account of Anna M. Pennington, Trustee for Robert E. Garrett,