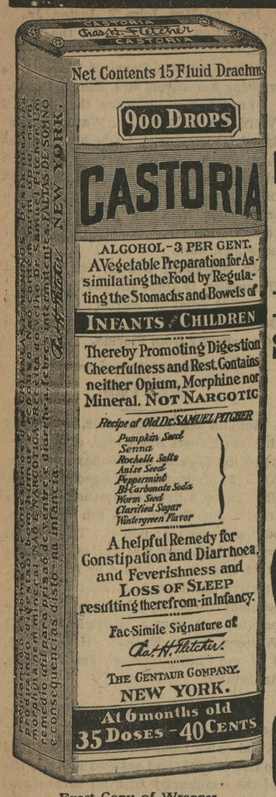


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# POULTRY

## RAISING THE CHIX AN APPEAL TO REASON AND JUDGMENT—OTHER POULTRY NEWS

Reader, you probably have at this time a flock of young chix. They are perhaps causing you days of distress and nights of worry. When you come down in the morning, with everything, the night before, being left in tip top shape, with no "stove chickens" and no "sickly-looking, wing-droppers" in sight, and find a dozen or so chicks dead under the stove or outside the stove, we must admit it is a pretty discouraging proposition. You do all that a human being can do to avert the calamities, and yet they happen just the same. And so it goes on, chix dying by the hundreds and by the thousands—and you, or we either, don't see or know why they do it. And yet there is a reason for everything and we have found that there are two fundamental and important reasons that overtop everything else in raising the youngsters to several weeks of age. Perhaps the greatest losses we have had in the raising of chicks have come from having litter on the floors of the brooder houses. We lost nearly a whole flock of four hundred from a certain, well-known brand of poultry litter that is widely advertised. We lost a goodly number from a number of other kinds of litter in various ways. We have come to this conclusion decidedly, that there should be no litter put in the brooder houses for at least two weeks, and then you should be very careful what kinds of litter you use. Some litter raises a dust which kills the chicks; some other litter the chicks eat and they die of indigestion; other litter gets into the drinking founts and causes water to become sour and ferment to some degree, making a solution that certainly does no good to the young chicks. And so we say, use no litter whatever for two weeks; then use cut straw; if you can't get that, use cut clover or cut alfalfa.

The second thing that causes great mortality among the youngsters is too little heat. In the variety of heaters or brooders used at this time, it is almost an impossibility to overheat the chicks. Hence we must provide against the cold, at this season especially, and not the heat. Chicks will invariable get away from the heat, but if you have not sufficient heat, they have no recourse but to crowd together, getting chilled and injuring each other. And so we say, make no mistake and allow your chicks to get chilled. If you use oil or coal-burning brooders of the improved type, try them out for several days before you put in the chicks and make sure you know what you are doing.

There is no question about it, raising chicks is the hardest and the most discouraging part of the business, and unless you can raise them you can't make a success of the business. Consequently, take no chances about using slipshod methods in rearing the young. It is far better to not attempt to rear them if you are not prepared and do not intend to take the necessary precautions against a high mortality. We know of a party in this section who attempted to divide a brooder into two sections for two different sizes of chicks. The birds were from fine stock and were given every attention possible, but the result was disastrous. The handicap of inferior equipment was too much for them.

At the Bramble Poultry Farm we put 800 chicks under two coal-burning brooders. We have lost less than 50 chicks to date from the flock and they are a month old. Another flock, at another time, just as good chicks at the start, did not do so well, while in past years we have lost whole flocks from various causes. We all lose the chicks, sooner or later, and you, reader, are no exception to the general rule. A well-known authority has said that at least half of the chicks hatched are buried or burned before they are three months old. He is right. You must figure on losing a good percentage and steel yourself against the disappointment that follows in the wake of persistent losses. It is surprising how many you can lose out of a flock and come out ahead.

And so we say, the raising of chicks is an appeal to reason, common sense, and, we might add, judgment, patience and a hundred other essentials.

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A bulletin issued by the New Jersey Experiment Station early last summer dealt with the ravages of chicken pox in their state the past two or three years, and made the statement that there was at least a million dollar loss to the poultrymen of New Jersey during the season of 1919-1920 due to this disease. It was explained that the death rate due to chicken pox was not very heavy, possibly less than 2 or 3 per cent, but that the general depletion of the flock, the colds, canker and roup that followed, together with the loss in egg production during several months, brought the loss to the figures indicated. Chicken pox was scarcely known in the northern states before 1915, being primarily a Southern States' disease. But in recent years the outbreaks have become more prevalent and general, until during the past two years from reports reaching us, we are led to believe that the disease is general throughout the country and will have to be contended with in the future. Zinc ointment and tar, made up as a salve by any druggist, will effect a ready cure of most cases of the disease.

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Trapnesting may pay where you can get big prices for the eggs from the [illegible]g, but we doubt if it will in any other way, unless you have a few hens and nothing to do but give them your attention. But in the great variety of cases, esecially as chicken raising exists and is carried on in Kent county, trap-nesting is not practical. How many husbands or wives have the time to take part in this new form of diversion? We know of but few.

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Any old hen will lay at this time of the year, was the statement made to the writer of this column the other day. This is an old statement which has been going the rounds for many years. We have doubts as to its authenticity when applied practically. She may lay once in a while—and it may be a long while—but any old hen will not lay a big percentage at any time of the year. You must feed carefully at this season as well as at any other season to get the results.

## D. W. GRIFFITH'S SPECTACLE "THE BIRTH OF A NATION"

D. W. Griffith's spectacle "The Birth of a Nation" begins its engagement at the Lyceum Theatre, Wednesday, April 12 for two days only. There will be two performances on Thursday: Matinee at 2:30 and night show at 8:00 p. m.

Nothing like this wonderful attraction has ever been seen upon the local boards. It is given here exactly as presented recently in New York City where the drama set a new record for attendance at the famous Capitol Theatre playing to over $46,000, in one week and to more than 150,000 people in a fortnight.

It covers a wide range of American history and touches only the highest points of interest in the great events that preceded and terminated the Civil War. The force that slavery played in producing this crisis is traced from its inception to its abolition. While the basic theme is historical, 18,000 people fill the stage which has a vast territory for its background, 3,000 horses pass before your view in wild dashes over miles of country roadway. The decisive battles of the Civil war are reproduced in faithful detail and you see these conflicts fought again just as they were waged over 50 years ago. Cities were built up only to be destroyed to lend force and verity to the dramatic narrative. One enormous battlefield is shown stretching over an area of 10 square miles and upon these plains and trenches 10,000 soldiers clash in a warfare that is as real as if you were an eye witness of the actual occurrence. Holding the great effects in tether is a story as tender and true as love and romance can be pictured. There are tears and smiles, noble sacrifices and heroic deeds of personal valor. Youthful dreams of love's fruition are rent asunder by the demons of war; home ties snap before the call to arms and suffering such as cannot be imagined is depicted in the crude manner that history is made when men surrender reason to passion and engage in a deadlock of armed resistance.

You see the war start after being shown the causes which precipitated it. You see the great Generals of the contending sections playing their desperate games with human pawns moved into the field of slaughter. Then comes the agreement for peace and Lincoln sets about his superhuman task of healing the wounds by the application of that great love which made him the towering figure of his age. A fanatic's bullet stills the heart which beat so evenly for all humanity. The South is thrown back into a worse fate than war. Their lands are over run by a hungry horde of vengeful politicians and self-seekers. The poor negro is cajoled into a false understanding of liberty and in his ignorance is led into excesses by these scalawags of fortune. Out of it comes the ghostly garbed crusaders of a terrible era to set things aright and return the lands and liberties of peace to their rightful owners. Griffith's miserere sounds the chorus of brotherly love in an allegorical dream which visions the reunion of the divided sections and the welding of that national spirit which has made this country great after baptism in its own blood.

The following wonderful cast will be seen: Henry B. Walthall, Lillian Gish, Mae Marsh, Miriam Cooper, Mary Alden, Josephine Crowell, Ralph Lewis, Joseph Henabery, Raoul Walsh, Donald Crisp, Howard Gaye, George Seigmann, Walter Long and Elmer Clifton.


## A Tonic For Women

"I was hardly able to drag, I was so weakened," writes Mrs. W. F. Ray, of Easley, S. C. "The doctor treated me for about two months, still I didn't get any better. I had a large family and felt I surely must do something to enable me to take care of my little ones. I had heard of

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"I decided to try it," continues Mrs. Ray . . . "I took eight bottles in all . . . I regained my strength and have had no more trouble with womanly weakness. I have ten children and am able to do all my housework and a lot outdoors . . . I can sure recommend Cardui."

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