

POULTRY PITFALLS.

Some Cases of Failure and the Reasons for Success.

There are many dangerous pitfalls in poultry keeping, and it is as necessary to point out the causes of disaster as it is the reasons for success.

There are many causes for failure, and some of those causes are enumerated below in order that people keeping poultry may guard against them as much as possible.

Keeping too many fowls in a pen with an insufficient amount of floor space is a pitfall to be avoided.

Poor ventilation, which is conducive to disease, is an apparent cause for failure.

Closed houses that admit of a limited supply of fresh air from drafts, winds and storms are things to be avoided.

Too much or not a sufficient supply of food is often disastrous in results.

Raising chickens in confinement under too artificial conditions leads to ultimate trouble in the laying and breeding pens.

Improper food or food fed irregularly is a long step toward that horrid word, failure.

Don't Forget the Green Food.

Unhealthy yards or runs and lack of green animal food in sufficient quantities are a common cause of failure.

Inbreeding too closely until the constitution of the flock is impaired is a dangerous pitfall.

Improper matings, such as breeding from too young or too old stock or from birds diseased is a reason for a catastrophe.

Lack of exercise due to a failure to supply proper scratching-material is a common way to get the flock out of condition.

Too early or too late hatches are not profitable.

Lice, which sap the life-blood and undermine the flock, furnish a pitfall into which far too many stumble.

Dampness in the poultry-house, yards or runs is often a source of trouble.

Poultry-houses so long as to create drafts are not to be recommended.

Too many or not enough windows are bad, the former causing too great a change in temperature from day to night, the latter not allowing sufficient sunlight for warmth and comfort.

Most Diseases are Contagious.

Too much leniency shown toward sick fowls and a failure to remove them from the rest of the flock in a hope of their ultimate recovery often leads to the inoculation of the entire flock and the ruin of the enterprise.

Carelessness on the part of the keeper in feeding and caring for the flock is not conducive to the best results.

Lack of constant supply of clean, pure, fresh water before the fowls means defeat in the end.

Lack of charcoal, grit, and coarse foods in sufficient quantities spells failure.

Failure to understand what things are poisonous and detrimental to fowls is a pitfall some readily fall into by their ignorance.

Lack of common use in applying the principles and teachings of the accumulated poultry knowledge of the past is a pitfall that presents itself.

Guard well against these pitfalls that have been briefly outlined, lest perchance through some cause or other you may stumble and fall into the pitfall of failure and defeat. Study well the problems as they present themselves in order that you may arrive at a correct solution. Interpret correctly and wisely the teachings of the past that present difficulties may be readily overcome. If all this is done, pitfalls will no longer exist and success will triumph though failure has seemed imminent.—A. G. Symonds.

Two men had argued about politics until at length they had come to blows.

"Sir," said one with dignity, "you have called me a knave and a fool, you have broken my spectacles, you have punched me twice. I hope you will not rouse the sleeping lion in my breast, for if you should I cannot tell you what may be the consequences!"

WOMEN WHO WERE SPIES.

Many Who Have Found Out the Secrets of Nations.

Women from time immemorial have been the greatest spies in history. Their charms and resources adapt them to every line of apprehensive endeavor, from tracking the erring New York husband to obtaining the plans and the specifications of the battle-ships and the forts of the great powers. To those who are acquainted with the history of espionage, this statement comes as no surprise, for nearly all the most sensational spying cases of recent years have been engineered by unscrupulous women. For when it comes to trickery there is no match for a clever woman, especially if, as is often the case, she has natural beauty allied to her powers of stealing confidences.

Only a few years back an important German fortress had to be entirely rebuilt owing to France obtaining extensive and valuable information regarding its armaments and the geography of the important portion of German frontier that it guarded. And this act was made necessary owing to the ramifications of a French woman whose attractive personality enabled her to worm these secrets from important Berlin officials, in whose home she was implicitly trusted and entertained.

Recently a charming woman who posed as a governess was sentenced to four years' penal servitude for spying. She was employed by two European powers, and by acting as a governess to the children of naval officers in Paris and Berlin she paved the way to acquaintance with those holding responsible positions. With remarkable audacity she annexed charts and plans and sold them in the right quarters. This she found an easy task, having, in her position of governess, ample means of learning in what part of the house such documents were stored, and it was not until a bunch of duplicate keys of a number of Admiralty safes were found in her possession that suspicion fell upon her.

Every one remembers the sensation several years ago when most complete plans of the interior of the first British Dreadnought were published in a German newspaper. About this time an attractive American woman of German descent disappeared from London's society circles, where, by reason of her charming personality and apparent wealth, she had been given a hearty welcome. An enquiry was held on the affair, and it was suggested that this woman probably knew a good deal about the leakage of these important plans, and probably further proceedings would have been taken had not the honor of several officers of high standing in naval and society circles been involved.—New York Press.

BIG FOX SHIPMENT COMES FROM NORTH

126 Animals Worth \$100,000 Brought to Vancouver From Skagway.

Vancouver, B. C., July 22.—One of the most remarkable shipments that has been sent from the North for some time is \$100,000 worth of foxes, which were included in the cargo of the C.P.R. steamer Princess May, which arrived in port from Skagway yesterday. There are 126 animals of the finest specimens, including black, silver tip and red foxes. All are cubs, and one pair of black foxes alone, it is estimated, will be worth \$10,000 when full grown. The shipment is consigned to St. John, N. B., and Prince Edward Island, where there are large fox farms. Two men are in constant attendance upon the little animals, and feed them on condensed milk.

PROGRESSIVE SASKATCHEWAN.

A traveller was asked by a fellow-passenger who had just boarded the train at—well, call it Boosterville, Saskatchewan. "Well, what do you think of Boosterville?" The traveller gave his testimony, which was to the effect that Boosterville was a real live

town, a cute town, a town which meant to get there and which had a great future ahead of it, a town which had made remarkable progress during the short time it had been in existence. "When were you there?" enquired the man from Boosterville. "Bout three weeks back," the traveller replied. "Gee!" cried the Boosterville man in astonishment that such implied ignorance could be, "Gee," you oughter seen it this morning!"

It is better to fence in the garden than to fence in the chickens, for chickens need range.

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