

the breeding season, which is from about March 15th to June 15th. When at liberty more than one male may be kept in the flock, but if the birds are confined the case is different, for then the males are always quarreling.

5.—To get good eggs for hatching, the fowls must have plenty of exercise. During the breeding season I keep ten hens with one cock in each pen, with a large yard attached, and give them all the exercise I can.

6.—At no time do breeding hens require pampering, but good care is necessary. (1st) Give them all the liberty possible and make them scratch for their grain food for exercise. (2nd) Give plenty of vegetables and green food. (3rd) Do not overcrowd the fowls nor overfeed to get them too fat. (4th) Keep them clean and healthy.

7.—(a) For fifty fowls I should have a house 12x30 feet, 4 feet high at rear and 8 feet high in front; shed roof. (b) The house should face the south, so as to get as much sunlight as possible. It should also be located where the birds can get out into the barnyard in winter without going through much snow. (c) After getting the frame work of the house up I should tack heavy building paper on the studding, then put on the rough outside boards and battens. The inside should then have paper tacked on and then covered with tongued and grooved lumber. The windows should be double glazed. (d) Face the house south and have about half the south side of the house glass, but no glass in the roof. (e) A poultry house will generally get ventilated without any special contrivance. More fowls are killed by drafts than foul air in their house. (f) For a dust bath have a large, shallow box in one corner of the house, filled four or five inches deep with a mixture of sand and fine coal ashes. (g) The water vessel should be placed on a stand off the floor so the birds cannot foul it. A water fountain is the best, as it keeps their drink a great deal cleaner and purer. (h) The nests should be placed in the darkest part of the house. The interior arrangements of a poultry house are often quite hard to describe, for sometimes one way is as good as another, and these little matters do not affect the productiveness of the fowls or the ease of taking care of them. Fowls should always be given their liberty unless the weather is very cold or stormy.

8.—Lime wash the henhouse in spring and fall and thoroughly dust the fowls with Persian insect powder about once a month. Disease seldom comes where good care and food are given. If a fowl shows signs of sickness it is best to kill her and bury her away down deep. It seldom pays to doctor a hen—“prevention is better than cure.”

9.—For laying hens, as a morning food take equal parts, by weight, of cut clover hay, ground oats and bran, and half the quantity of linseed meal. Steam the clover hay, then mix in the others until it is all dry and crumbly. In the afternoon throw on the floor their feed of wheat, oats, barley or corn. Give wheat three times a week, oats and barley once each, and corn twice. (b) In fattening give all the corn they will eat, both whole and ground. (c) I only feed grain twice a day. (d) Green bones in limited quantities are very valuable for laying hens. Give one ounce per hen three times a week in their morning food. Vegetables cannot be fed too liberally; in fact, green food should always be within their reach. Have never fed sunflower seed in quantities.

10.—A good hen should lay ten dozen eggs a year, but the majority do not come up to that number. Broilers should be sold when about ten to twelve weeks of age, or when they weigh one and one half to two pounds.

11.—No, turkeys, ducks and geese should not be kept in the henhouse. All of them are very annoying and quarrelsome with hens, and are apt to hurt them. Ducks and geese sit on the floor and so foul the litter that the hens do not care to scratch in it. A henhouse is usually too warm for turkeys.

12.—Turkeys are usually very profitable. They require good care while young, but when older they are hardy, and do not harm farm crops, but their roaming disposition is sometimes very troublesome. Ducks do not usually prove very profitable on a farm, neither have I much faith in geese. But as I have had but little personal experience with these last two, I do not wish to make any positive remarks. My idea is that not more than two species of fowl should be kept on the same farm. I consider the hens the most profitable. By attention to details there is no reason why fowls should not be a very profitable branch of farming; and with the encouragement that the Government and agricultural press are now giving to the poultry industry, it is time farmers woke up to their own interests. JNO. J. LENTON.

Ontario Co., Ont.

Dearth of Milkmaids.

The old-fashioned inquiry of “Where are you going my pretty maid” is no longer answered in the North of England by “I am going a-milking, sir,” she said. One of the features of the time is the dearth of maids who can milk cows. Female servants no longer vie with each other in filling the pail, but appear to be better adapted to strum the piano than milk a cow. This fact was elicited in a recent case of wrongful dismissal in Yorkshire, in which the master pleaded he hired the girl to milk cows and churn, and not to play on the piano.—*British Dairy World*.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[In order to make this department as useful as possible, parties enclosing stamped envelopes will receive answers by mail, in cases where early replies appear to us advisable; all enquiries, when of general interest, will be published in next succeeding issue, if received at this office in sufficient time. Enquirers must in all cases attach their name and address in full, though not necessarily for publication.]

Legal.

WATER COURSE.

“A, B and C are the owners of three successive farm lots—A the easterly and C the westerly. There is a stream of water which runs across the farms from east to west in the natural water course. The water does not get freely away over the farm of C, and backs up and renders a considerable part of the farms of A and B less valuable. By cutting a ditch through a swamp on C's farm the water would pass over, and it would greatly benefit C, as well as A and B. Can the making of the ditch be forced, and at whose cost and how?”

[Yes, the ditch can be forced through. The fence viewers, under the statute, would be required to determine the proportion of the cost to be borne by the parties benefited.]

CLEARING AND BURNING OFF.

“What precautions is a person legally bound to take, who is burning off brush, stumps, etc., on his farm, to avoid liability for damage to surrounding property?”

[He must take great care and exercise every reasonable precaution to prevent damage by spread of the fire, and if he starts a fire at a place or time when it is reasonably likely to spread and damage another's property, and damage results, he is liable.]

STREAM, FLOATING LOGS, ETC.

“1. A is the owner of a cleared farm bordering on a lake. Through the farm runs a large creek, which extends from A's farm across a public highway and into a farm nearly all bush belonging to B. The stream is navigable through A's farm and part way over B's farm all the year round for purposes of shipping timber, etc. Can A legally prevent B from passing through his farm over the stream in the use of it for the purpose of shipping timber, etc.?”

“2. At the point at which the stream crosses the public road between A and B can a boathouse be built upon the roadway without the consent of the Council?”

“3. Can a boathouse be built anywhere along the margin of the stream upon private property; and if so, are there any restrictions?”

[1. The Rivers and Streams Act provides the right to float sawlogs and all timber down rivers and streams, and for this purpose to remove any obstructions, doing no unnecessary damage, and A in this case cannot prevent B from using the stream for all the usual purposes for shipping the timber, etc.

2. No.

3. Yes; the only restrictions would be that such structure must not obstruct the right of any one to his lawful use of the stream for floating timber, navigation, etc.]

CHATTEL PROPERTY OWNED BY HUSBAND OR WIFE.

“At marriage the wife's father gave her certain farm animals, and during the following two years the wife continued to own these animals, or others in their place, and bought a calf from her son which she also claims as her own. In case of dispute now between husband and wife as to who owns these animals, which is legally entitled?”

[As the husband consented to the wife owning the animals as her own up to the time of the dispute, the wife is the owner as between themselves, but in an action between a creditor of the husband and the wife, the animals, it would probably be held, are liable at law to be taken to satisfy the debt.]

WILL AND CODICIL.

“P made his will in Ontario, and about a year ago removed to the State of Michigan. In Michigan he added a codicil to his will, which he signed, witnessed by only one witness. Where can the will be proved? Is the codicil regularly made and valid?”

[The will would have to be proved both in Michigan and Ontario in order to deal with property in both places, and being executed in the presence of at least two witnesses, is eligible for probate in either Ontario or Michigan. The codicil to be effective in either Michigan or Ontario should have been witnessed by at least two witnesses, and therefore is void.]

Veterinary.

INJURY TO JOINT.

ALEXANDER FRASER, Stormont Co., Ont.:—“I have a cow that has a lump on the left shoulder. I first noticed it about 8 or 9 months ago; when first seen I thought it would result in an abscess and that I could lance it. It is now about 18 inches in circumference, very hard, of a bony or gristly substance; she has become very poor, and lame on that leg. Can it be cut out; what would you recommend me to do for it?”

[From the symptoms described, we are of the opinion that you have a very severe injury to the joint itself and the cow is not likely to do any good. The animal being lame is evidence that the joint must be involved and the extensive character of the deposit also points to the fact that the ani-

mal is not likely to make a good recovery. We would recommend that you try a strong blister to the parts, composed: powdered cantharides, one ounce; potass. tartrate of antimony, one dram; lard, four ounces. This should be applied every week until improvement manifests itself by the formation of an abscess. We would not recommend you to try and cut it out, only a professional man who has good knowledge of the anatomy of the parts should do that.

DR. WM. MOLE, M. R. C. V. S., Toronto.]

PROBABLY COLIC.

A SUBSCRIBER, Wentworth Co., Ont.:—“I had a colt die rather suddenly last week, which was well, to all appearances, the night before and ate its feed as usual. It was in fair condition, its feed being oat straw, hay, sometimes a turnip, sometimes boiled potatoes with cut straw and meal, and a little salt, which it had the night before. I was at a loss to understand the cause, and upon post-mortem examination found the stomach burst and inside found what I would call bots in large numbers in different places. They had eaten little holes from within and that had evidently been the cause of the bursting. This was no doubt the cause of the colt's death. I would like to know how they got there and how to get rid of them, as I am afraid some of the rest of my horses may have them?”

[Veterinary authorities are generally agreed that there is no evidence that in their normal condition bots are to any considerable extent injurious to the health of the horse. Dr. Stewart, in his work, “The American Farmer's Horse Book,” goes so far as to say: “The bot is hereditary with the horse and is born into the world with him, the colt at the moment of foaling having the little parasite in his stomach in as perfect a state as the horse of six years. He is found attached to the cuticular or insensible coating of the stomach, not by his head, as is popularly supposed, but by his tail. For a month he has a little orifice, no larger than the point of a needle, with which he feeds upon the food in the stomach after it has been softened down into chyme. The bot does not attack the stomach for the purpose of preying upon it or of injuring the animal, but simply (after the death of the horse) to seek to escape from certain death himself.” We are strongly inclined to the opinion that the cause of death in the case of this colt was simply spasmodic colic, which began and ended in a night by the accumulation of gas, causing a rupture of the stomach, or “bursting,” as our correspondent terms it. This is by no means an uncommon occurrence, and would fully account for all the findings of the post-mortem.]

Miscellaneous.

REARING SPECKLED TROUT.

A. B. STECKLEY, Ontario Co., Ont.:—“Could you give the necessary information for rearing speckled trout?”

[A word or two in regard to ponds should first be given. An ideal arrangement is to have a succession of three or more ponds, supplied by springs all along the ravine in which they are built. The lowest pond should be the largest; the others gradually smaller. Some rather elaborate ponds are connected by plank flumes, built zigzag to secure greater length; these having plank partitions every 6 to 10 feet, 2 feet high, to give that depth of channel. A notch is cut in the middle of the upper edge of each plank, of a V shape, to direct the water through at one point, and to allow the trout to pass more easily up and down the flume. By such a succession of little dams we convert a small stream of water into one of quite respectable magnitude.

The whole floor of the flume is to be covered with fine and coarse gravel, and when completed the water will be about six inches in depth, making as nice a place for them to deposit their eggs as the most fastidious trout could desire. The advantage of a succession of ponds for trout is that it prevents, to a considerable degree, the devouring of the young fish by the older ones. After the young trout attain to the size of an inch, or a little over, they should be transferred from the hatching house to the upper pond to remain a year, then allowed to pass into the lower pond. When springs have not sufficient length for a succession of ponds, the young trout may be kept for a year in a tank or pool, the water being supplied by a spring, and then transferred to the pond, where they must run their chances of being devoured. The spill or outlet of the ponds must be protected by wire screens, to prevent the escape of fish.

Artificial Breeding.—The spawning season commences about the 1st of October, and continues nearly two months. They invariably seek very shoal, gravelly rapids for depositing their eggs. In order to procure eggs, the parent fish must always be taken on the spawning beds and after they have commenced depositing their eggs. If the eggs are mature they will flow from the female trout with very slight pressure. The fish should be caught by means of a net or sieve 3 or 4 feet long by 2½ feet wide, the lower or lead line loaded with sinkers. The eggs when deposited from the female are not fertilized, but a male trout always occupies a bed with the female, and while she is laying, he is secreting milt among the eggs, thus fertilizing them. So that when eggs are artificially pressed from the female, they must be mixed with milt expressed from the male in a basin of water, and placed in the pool or hatching box with sandy, gravelly bottom.