

Geese cause but little bother in the hatching season as they generally make their nest in some out of the way place, and there they hatch their profitable, little brood. If the goose should build her nest out of doors one should see that there is no ice under it. The eggs should not be left out in cold weather, as chilled eggs do not hatch.

The goose and her brood should be put in a warm, dry pen, and the goslings should be kept dry for about two weeks. They should be fed about the same as you would young ducks. Bread soaked in milk is a very good food. When about a month and a half old they will find a good deal of their food on the water.

Some people raise geese on town lots with good results, but they do better on the farm where they can get plenty of green grass and fresh water. Geese spend most of their time on the water and are not much inclined to wander and being of this nature, they are seldom bothered by wolves or foxes.

The best breed of geese is the Toulouse as they are large and good layers.

Geese, like some people, love a home and quietness and should not be disturbed.

AN OLD HAND.

Managing Brooder Chicks.

Much depends upon the treatment a chick receives during the first few days of its life. If one has things at hand just as he wants them, it is best to have the brooder in the same room with the incubator and have it warm enough so that the chicks may be moved from the incubator to the brooder without chilling, but as this is not usually practicable one should be careful to put them in a basket containing old woolen cloths and cover them, warming the cloths before putting the chicks in. A chill when being removed from the incubator has been the death of many a chick. It leads to bowel trouble or congestion of the lungs.

The brooder should be heated to a degree between 90 and 95 degrees F. and should be kept so for about two days. Then the temperature should be lowered about one degree a day till it reaches 75° F. where it should remain till the chicks are old enough to leave the brooder.

After the chicks have been put into the brooder they should remain as quiet as possible for at least twenty-four hours. If food or water is given them too soon it interferes with the accumulation of the yolk which nature has provided as the chick's first food. Any interference for the first day with the digestion of the yolk is likely to make trouble. After remaining twenty-four hours in the brooder each chick should be given a little water by dipping the bill into a shallow drinking vessel. A tea saucer with a cup turned upside down in the middle to keep the chicks from getting into the water does very well.

After giving them water scatter a little chick food, such as most poultry supply houses furnish, in dried clover leaves or other litter. If one does not wish to go to the expense of chick food corn-meal baked into dry bread and crumbled fine will do. Fine grit must also be furnished if the chick food is not used. Most, if not all, chick foods contain grit.

When the chicks first begin to run about it is necessary to see that they find their way back under the hover when they first come out. It does not take them long to learn but if left to themselves some of them are almost certain to get chilled.

Cockerels will grow faster and pullets will come to laying maturity much more quickly if the chicks are given a little meat scrap each day after the third week. It is not well to give them meat earlier as it may give them bowel trouble.

Above all things keep the brooder clean. To eat out of its own droppings will kill chicks faster than any disease. Make them scratch for their food in fine litter and look out for lice, especially head lice.

Crossfield, Alta.

W. I. THOMAS.

Three Enemies of Ducks and Chicks.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Re enemies of prairie chicken; on 147 acres of plowing on my farm there was only one bird's nest and that was a pintail duck's. My hired man used to stop the team and move the eggs away in his hat until the land was plowed wide enough to place the nest out of danger. This duck hatched out her brood and took them to the neighboring slough, without being slaughtered by the terrible farmer. The three most destructive enemies to wild fowl are the wolf, the crow and the hawk. I do not agree with Mr. Macklin, Glenora, Man. I have been cleaned out to the last chicken by the prairie wolf. The thief will not eat mice or gophers as long as he can get lamb or chicken,

and as far as his utility as a gopher destroyer is concerned, the wolf is not in it with strychnine. As for the crow, it is the McCurdy of the feathered tribe. He is an unmitigated thief. Where the prairie is burnt, he will find almost every duck or other fowl's nests. A young lady who moved some wild duck's eggs and replaced them by barnyard fowl eggs, had to her chagrin the experience of picking up the empty shells after the crow had feasted on them. Out of a dozen nests, I knew of only one that was left to hatch out, the crows found and destroyed the rest. And in traveling over the prairie it is a common thing to find empty egg shells. The hawks never cease to hover over the marshes from the time the young ducks are hatched until the freeze up.

Maymont, Sask.

JOHN PARKER.

Guinea Fowl Pointers.

Usually the best time for hatching guineas is in June, or when you are sure that the weather is settled and the nights warm. The little chicks are very tender and it does not take much bad weather to chill them, which is fatal.

Hens are much to be preferred as mothers to guinea fowls, as they stick closer to the nest at hatching time and are much more careful in the brooding. For the first week or two the chicks must be carefully penned or they will wander away and get lost. The wild nature creeps out very early and chicks sometimes but an hour or two old will wander almost incredible distances.

In feeding, it is best to use dry feed, such as rolled oats broken up very fine, or rolled wheat, with a little millet or other small seeds after the first ten or twelve days. After that other grains can be gradually added, or a dry crumbly mash, if preferred.

After the first few weeks the chicks require freedom. Confinement is almost sure death to them.

FIELD NOTES

A Canadian Farmer Speaks of the Tariff.

The Canadian Club of Toronto is an organization which endeavors to give the most prominent people in politics, trade, industries and other vocations an opportunity to present their best thoughts before the people in after luncheon addresses, which is reported in all the leading papers. Among others who have addressed the Club are John Morley, John Burns, Chas. M. Hays, and a diversity of other celebrities. Recently they invited Mr. E. C. Drury a farmer of Simcoe County, Ont., to tell them what the Canadian farmer thinks about the tariff and is reported in the "Weekly Sun" as follows:

Mr. Drury, in opening, defended the rights of the farmers to a patient and intelligent hearing when this question is being discussed. They are entitled to this because the rural population comprises three-fifths of the whole, and the capital employed in agriculture is three times that of the capital employed in all other industries. More than this, they add \$443,000,000 to the wealth of the country annually, while all other classes add only \$307,000,000 to the common store.

In making this calculation, Mr. Drury deducted from the output of manufacturers the value of the raw material going to make up that output.

Coming down to the tariff question itself Mr. Drury maintained that the farmer cannot be aided, at present, in the selling price of that which he produces by any tariff which can be imposed, because he has a surplus to export, and the market in which that exportable surplus is sold fixes the price both in the home and foreign market. Neither can the Canadian farmer hope for benefit in the future, because Canada will be the last country in the world in which production of foodstuffs will fall to the level of demand. But, while the farmer cannot be aided by the tariff in that which he has to sell, he can be burdened by a tariff on that which he is compelled to buy. As an illustration, Mr. Drury said that by actual experience he had found that it took the price he had received for twenty-five fleeces of wool to pay for a tweed suit which he bought. "We don't know where the money goes, but we have an idea the tariff has something to do with it somehow," said Mr. Drury, amid laughter and applause.

Then, dealing with the demand of the manufacturer that he be protected by means of the tariff against cheap foreign labor and great aggregations of foreign capital, Mr. Drury said: "What is the position of the Canadian farmer in this matter? He pays the bill to help the manufacturer compete with cheap foreign labor. Who pays the farmer's bill? When the Canadian farmer comes to sell his produce he finds it must be sold in competition with

that of the half-savage labor of Argentina, with the pauper labor of India, with the cheap labor from all the world. The Canadian farmer has to face the competition of cheaper labor than the manufacturers have to meet. Moreover, the labor employed by the Canadian farmer costs more, proportionately, than does that employed by the manufacturers.

We have to compete, too, against great aggregations of capital—with the millionaires who feed vast herds of cattle on the ranges of Texas and the plains of Argentina, and that employed on the great farms of the American West, where a battery of reapers cut a swath of five miles long without a turn."

RURAL POPULATION DECLINING.

The effect of tariff conditions was seen in the position held by agriculture to-day. True, farmers are paying off mortgages, but they are doing this by the practice of industry, close frugality, and by putting the savings from the labor of the whole family into a common pot. But that agriculture is not prospering as it should prosper is shown by the census returns. These returns show that the rural population of all Canada increased during the ten years ending 1901 by a little over 1½ per cent., while the city, town and village population of the Dominion increased 31½ per cent. In British Columbia, a Province which is just being opened up, rural population increased 45 per cent. in the ten years, while urban population increased by 142½ per cent. In Manitoba, which is pre-eminently a farming Province, rural population increased by 65½ per cent. and urban nearly 72 per cent.

When we come to the older Provinces a much more unfavorable showing is made. In New Brunswick the rural population actually decreased by nearly 7 per cent., while urban increased by 58. In Nova Scotia there was a decrease in rural population of 11½ per cent and an increase in urban of 68 per cent. In Ontario, which is still the premier Province of confederation from an agricultural standpoint, rural population decreased by 3½ per cent., while urban increased by 14½ per cent. In Prince Edward Island there was a decrease of nearly 7 per cent. in the rural population, and an increase of almost 5 per cent. in the urban population.

"This," said Mr. Drury, "is a deplorable showing. It indicates that we have been withdrawing stones from the foundation and placing them on the superstructure. This is bad for the farmers of Canada and is injurious to the whole country, because the farming element provides the element of physical, moral, and political stability for the country. My ideal of the Canada of the future is a country with a happy, prosperous, and contented agriculture as a basis on which all their industries should be built up."

Cattle Breeders' Executive Met.

The above executive met recently and decided to hold the second provincial auction sale of purebred cattle in the C. P. R. sale pavilion at Winnipeg on May 30. The favorable transportation arrangements made last year, and the unequalled facilities afforded to all parts of the province, and especially N. E. Saskatchewan decided the executive that bearing the interests, which are of course paramount, of the purebred cattle in mind, the only course to follow was that decided upon. Several needed changes, especially in the cattle and sheep classes, were suggested for the prize lists of the two big fairs of the province, which if acted upon should be beneficial to the live stock industry. Get your sale entries in early, it is only two months away, and the earlier the entries are in the more the cattle may be advertised.

Agricultural College Opening.

Intra-mural training in scientific and practical agriculture will first be afforded by the Manitoba Agricultural College which is to open its doors November 6th. This event long waited for by many a farmer's son in the West, bids fair to be realized at last. It is doubtful if any provision will be made for domestic science teaching this year, but after a twelve months' or more experience in running the male side of the institution, the feminine interests will doubtless be given the attention they deserve.

Dear Sirs:

I am well pleased with your Journal, especially so when we see that you are such an advocate of a higher standard of morality and cleanness in connection with our exhibitions. Keep hammering.

S. Marl.

S. B. Oke.