

The Poultry Yard.

TURKEYS ON THE FARM.

When my three hen turkeys had laid their first laying, I broke up two, setting the other one on 15 eggs, making the nest so that the eggs lay flat, not rolling on each other, and setting the rest of the eggs under hens, so they would hatch about the same time with those under the turkey, then I let the hen coop be near the turkey's coop, so the young ones would be by the turkey in the day time. This turkey coop needs to be large, but I let the hen cover some of the little turkeys at night.

Keep the old turkey quiet, but the young need liberty, and they must be kept dry in rainy weather. When they are little I give each one a drink of milk, and give pepper and milk to drink every day, keeping a small dish setting by them. Feed bread and milk with pepper in it. I see that they all eat or drink every day. I feed much curd, made from thick milk. Cracked buckwheat is excellent when they are old enough to eat it. I feed buckwheat once a day and clamsheels pounded quite fine.

As soon as they are large enough, I get them to roost in a tree, then they need less care, feeding only 2 or 3 times a day. When the other two turkeys had laid their second utters, I set them both, taking out all the old straw and putting in new before placing the eggs in the nest. —[S. E. Miller, Albany Co., N. Y.]

AMATEUR TURKEY RAISING.

A man who knew nothing about poultry consulted a turkey raiser and began work. He took an old wagon bed without bottom and with pieces of boards made the sides 2½ ft high. One edge of the pen was over a chip pile where five or six pans of ashes had been piled. Two-thirds of the inclosure was over bluegrass and one-half of the pen was roofed over so as to keep out rain and the remainder was covered with wire screening so as to admit sunshine. Into this commodious and pleasant shelter the mother turkey and her 12 little ones were placed about May 20. An old dripping pan placed under the edge of the coop was filled with clean water once or twice every day.

The mother turkey was fed wheat and corn, while the young ones received nothing but cheese made from sour milk. There was plenty of room in this inclosure, plenty of light and sunshine, and as the young turkeys were

able to get out and go about the yard, they did exceedingly well, not one of them being injured by lice or dewy grass. The old turkey was not let out until the latter part of August, at which time the young ones were sufficiently strong to stand any kind of weather.

HINTS IN HENOLOGY.

Bran is a good laxative food for young chicks.

Notice which hens lay the largest eggs. Sometimes the largest hens lay smallest eggs.

All nests should be movable. Lice collect behind permanent nests and give a great deal of trouble.

After the hatching season, all surplus cocks should be marketed, as their food is a total waste and is quite a serious item of loss.

Cleanliness and pure water are important items in prevention of cholera and bowel diseases. Don't let the drinking water stand in the sun.

The great mistake of beginners is to attempt a large number of breeds.

POULTRY FEEDING DEVICE.

Fowls waste much food, and make unfit for eating much more, by getting



COVERED FEED TROUGH.

into the dishes containing their rations. Many devices have been arranged to meet this trouble. An excellent one is shown in the illustration. The top is hinged, and so can be raised to put the food inside. The fowls can then insert only their heads at the sides and ends. The roof-shaped top, having a sharp apex, affords no chance for getting upon the feedbox, and remaining there, as is the case with flat-topped covers. This device will also aid in keeping the hens from pecking at each other when eating, as the space for moving their heads about is limited.

Advantage of Brooders—Allowing that a hen will bring up 20 chicks in good shape it would take eight hens to bring up our incubator hatch of 200. Now put the chicks in three brooders, so they won't be crowded, and the oil will cost for the lamps about 3c per day. How much less can you feed the eight hens for? I never saw a house on a brooder chick and I raised about 1000 in '96. So that does away with dusting for lice. —[H. O. Allen, Vt.]

Queries—G. H. M.: The continued blindness is a result of roup. Nothing can be done for them and they are

hardly worth keeping alive.—L. H. W.: Gluten meal is a good poultry food if fed with plenty of bran or other bulky matter. Storrs expert poultry department says artichokes, if cut up fine, or cooked and mixed with the morning mash three times a week, are all right.—S. R. C.: The R I Red breeders at their meeting during the Boston show voted to disqualify the pea comb and appointed a committee of five to revise the existing standard and report at the next annual meeting.

Buff Leghorn Experience—No new variety has ever taken a stronger hold



on the admiration of fanciers as well as farmers. I started with a trio; the two hens were a little too light in color and the cockerel was a gr J buff with a little dark in the tail, and I bred from them the following season about 30 good birds. Every hen was a true Cochinchina buff, the cockerels did not run so well in color, but I do not think the Buff Leghorn will, if properly bred, show any larger percent of defective birds than some older breeds. They are similar to other varieties of Leghorns and are superior in some respects, being somewhat larger and laying a larger egg, and yet holding to the true Leghorn type. —[W. G. Jamison, Pa.]

The Luxury of Fresh Eggs—There are too many farmers who are sumptuously on eggs in their various palatable forms who never for a moment take time to think how much money they would necessarily expend were they obliged to purchase this same healthful, strength giving food. —[O. D. Schock, Berks Co., Pa.]

Free Meat—Spade up the runs or let the fowls follow the plow in the field. The best kind of fresh meat supply is right underfoot.

Best Chick Food—The trouble with raw corn meal dough is that it often causes several kinds of bowel disease, especially if allowed to get sour. Bake the food or feed dry, granular oatmeal for the first few weeks, supplying plenty of water to drink.

Feed wisely, plentifully and regularly. Keep water always before the chicks, Guard carefully at night.

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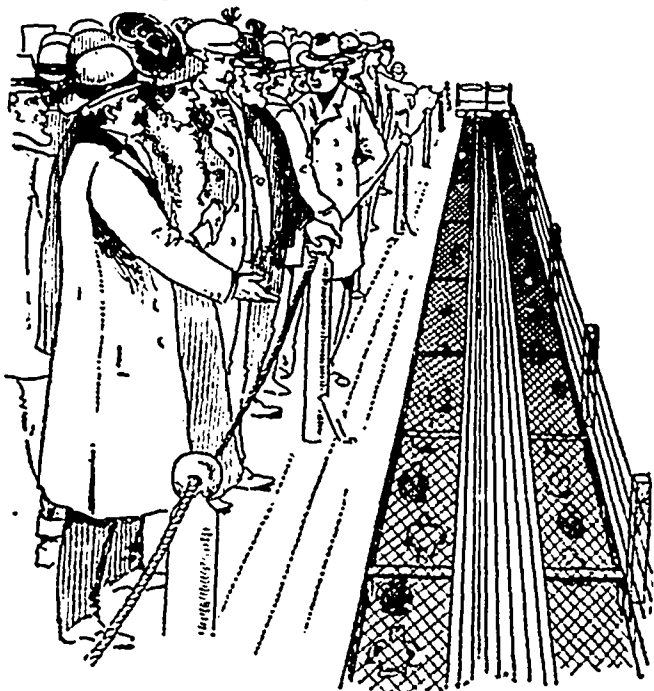
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Watching Chicks at Exercise.

A common cause of sickness and loss among early chickens is lack of exercise. Young chicks require constant activity just as growing children need an immense amount of exercise to keep them in health and vigor. In H. H. Stoddard's book, the New Egg Farm, several devices are described for keeping the chicks at work. The one shown in the illustration was exhibited at a fair in Nebraska. The chickens are kept running from one end of the yard to the other by means of a clock work arrangement, which at intervals shakes grain into the litter.