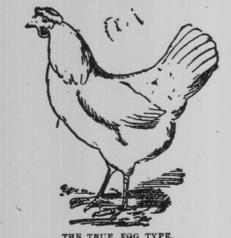


THE TRUE "EGG TYPE."

It is quite as pronounced in hens as in the "Dairy Form" in Good Milk Cows.

Dairyman have long ago found out that they must breed to a certain form, in order to increase the certainty of securing productive dairy animals; but with the great bulk of those who keep fowls for profit "a hen is a hen," whatever her shape or her external characteristics. Poultry is unprofitable to many, and of only small profit to very many others, for the simple reason that from one-third to two-thirds of the flock consists of inferior layers. The good layers in the flock may be able to support the others and pay a small profit, or they may not be in sufficient numbers to cause any profit at all to appear. Just as the dairyman weeds out the poor performers at the stall, so the poultryman must weed



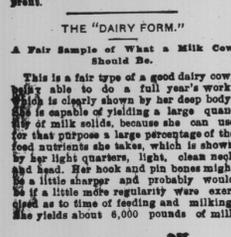
THE TRUE EGG TYPE.

out the poor layers and give the good layers a chance to yield a fair profit. One method of weeding out the poor performers is by taking careful note of the pen with a little experience can soon learn to pick out the poorest layers in a flock. As there is a "dairy form" which is the best record as layers, just what the "egg type" is may be a matter of some dispute as to minor points, but good poultry opinion has agreed upon essential points—points which are reproduced in the accompanying outline of a prolific laying hen. Such a bird must have a long body, which should be deep in the posterior part. The tail should be carried well up, the neck should be medium long, the head not too large, and the eyes bright. Good layers nearly always have large, or medium large, combs, and these are a bright red. A hen with a pale, shriveled comb is never a good layer. A prolific laying hen, moreover, almost always shows good activity—even in the case of the larger and more sluggish breeds. In the latter case the good layers will not bustle about like the Leghorn, but will be found, however, "keeping overlastingly at it," searching for bugs and worms if on free ranges, or for grain in the litter if confined, though much, of course, depends upon judicious feeding in either, or any case. Prolific fowls can as certainly be picked out by the eye as can profitable dairy cows; and while a hen that has the "egg type" and other external marks of being a profitable fowl may sometimes turn out to be a poor layer, as cows with fine dairy form sometimes prove disappointing at the stall and show, yet these will be found the exceptions that prove the rule. And in this connection it may be stated that the easiest way to get a uniformity of "egg type" fowls is to breed thoroughbred birds for generations have been bred for prolific laying qualities. Some of the best laying breeds, as the Leghorns, the Plymouth Rocks and the Light Brahmas, are very uniformly of this type, and in selecting breeders year after year this form should constantly be kept in mind. Weed out the unproductive birds and give the others a chance to show the desirable form.

THE "DAIRY FORM."

A Fair Sample of What a Milk Cow Should Be.

This is a fair type of a good dairy cow, being able to do a full year's work, which is clearly shown by her deep body, which is capable of yielding a large quantity of milk solids, because she can use for that purpose a large percentage of the food nutrients she takes, which is shown by her light quarters, light, clean neck and head. Her hook and pin bones might be a little sharper and probably would be if a little more regularly were exercised as to time of feeding and milking. She yields about 8,000 pounds of milk.



FAIR "DAIRY FORM."

and 250 pounds of butter per year. With systematic feeding and milking her annual butter yield would not fall short of 200 pounds. She can easily eat and digest 10 pounds of grain, 10 of hay and 15 of clover hay, and at present prices of feed she will produce a pound of butter for about five and a half cents worth of feed. She is a persistent milker, which is shown by her great feeding powers, which may disposition to lay up flesh. This is that she is an industrious feeder, and not growing flesh she must convert it into milk, for there is nothing else she can do with it.

Sunlight Destroys Bacteria. Bacteria grow best away from the light. In fact light checks the growth of most species and the direct rays of the sun kill (with but few exceptions) all forms of bacteria and even spores, and kill them rapidly. Sunlight is our great natural germicide. There is then a scientific basis for the housewife's placing her man and other dairy utensils in the sun. She has been calling in the sun's aid to add to the effectiveness of her cleaning. The cheese and butter-maker as well might in like manner make use of this important adjunct to cleanliness. It is in the dark places that bacteria flourish best; and to this fact may be ascribed much of the unwholesomeness of poorly lighted stables, cellars and the like. Of course we have also to consider in many of these cases dampness and stib as well. Sunlight dries the one and shows up the other, and as we in Canada see much of the sun we might employ it more. —From Prof. Robertson's report.

A WORM HATCHERY.

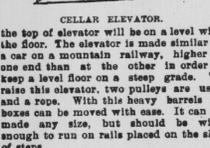
Utilized to Advantage as One of the Sources of Food for Growing Fowls.

During the fall and winter whenever we cleaned out our henhouses we threw the cleanings in one corner of our garden lot, writes E. B. Gear in the Agricultural Epitomist. We used mill sweepings, wheat chaff, short straw, etc., in the houses for scratching purposes. All of these, together with the chicken manure, made quite a compost heap, that heaped inside like the manure pile at the back of the country stable usually does. In removing the stuff for fertilizing purposes to the garden in the spring we turned the great many worms and grubs as the base of the heap. Our young chickens were right at our heels every time we turned the compost or broke the earth beneath it, scratching and working away after the vermin that infested the lower part of the heap. They would go also of their own accord after each shower in the spring of the year and work industriously in the heap. This led us to investigate further, and also to leave a good part of the refuse in a heap for them to scratch over. We discovered on digging down about six inches that the earth beneath the edges of the heap was honeycombed with holes made by what the boys call fishworms, and that whenever it rained and the surface soil later the worms came to the surface, and then the chicks would scratch down a little and get them. At the top of the ground where the fertilizer lay there were a great lot of very small red worms and a great many white grubs. After taking a good view of the situation we decided to foster our worm hatchery and to utilize it as one of the sources of food for our little chickens. In warm, showery weather it yields abundantly, but in dry spells the worms seem to go deeper into the earth, and can be obtained by deep digging only.

CELLAR ELEVATOR.

With Its Aid Heavy Barrels and Boxes Can Be Moved With Ease.

The object of this kind of elevator is that it requires no extra opening, as a vertical elevator would, it being placed in the cellar doorway. It is made to roll up the two by four's which are used for rails, on wheels such as old straw carrier wheels which have a flange. A pit is dug in the cellar bottom deep enough so that



CELLAR ELEVATOR.

the top of elevator will be on a level with the floor. The elevator is made similar to a car on a mountain railway, higher at one end than the other in order to keep a level floor on a steep grade. To raise this elevator, two pulleys are used and a rope. With this heavy barrels or boxes can be moved with ease. It can be made any size, but should be wide enough to run on rails placed on the side of step.

STUDIES IN MILK SECRETION.

The Cornell Experiment Station, since the spring of 1894, has been conducting official tests of thoroughbred cows of various herds throughout the State. Representatives of the station have made 210 tests of 153 animals. The yield of milk for seven days is found to vary from 156 to 854 pounds, and of butter fat from 8 1/2 to 21 1/4 pounds. The grain eaten daily by cows in the stable varies from 14 to 18 1/2 pounds, and of coarse fodder from 4 to 12 pounds. The largest daily ration consumed by one animal consisted of 18 pounds wheat bran, 15 of corn meal, 8 of ground oats, 6 of cottonseed meal, 2 1/2 of oilmeal, 2 1/2 of clover meal, 2 1/2 of corn cuttings and 1 1/2 of oat stalks. The wide variation in food eaten, and in yield of milk and butter fat, is no more striking than the varying amount of different cows to use their food economically. The amount of food in dry matter required to produce 100 pounds of milk varies from 28 to 124 pounds, and to produce one pound of fat from 1 1/2 to 45 pounds. On the question of variation in the quality of the milk, it is shown that there is slight variation between animals of different ages; that up to 90 days from calving there is little if any change in the quality of the milk; that the milk of the older cows does not run so wren in quality as the milk of the younger animals; and that the highest per cent. of milk solids is found in the milk of cows that usually follows the shorter period between milkings, and the lowest per cent. of fat usually follows the longer period, most of the highest per cents. coming at noon and most of the lowest per cents. in the morning.

MORNING AND EVENING MILK.

Two milkings should not be put together under any circumstances till both are cold. If the warm morning's milk is added to the cold night's milk, and both taken together to the creamery in the same can the milk will most assuredly be in bad condition when it reaches the separator. The cause of the bad condition is of course the same as given above, lack of cooling and aeration before starting; but the action seems to be intensified by placing warm milk in with the cold. This seems to be due to the fact that in every case bacterial formation will have established itself in the night's milk, and the addition of the warm milk increases the growth of these undesirable elements very rapidly. —Farmers' Review.

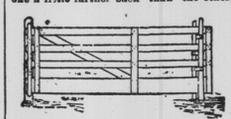
CUTTING OFF THE COMBS.

In cold climates, where the combs of the fowls are sometimes frosted in the winter season, it may be advisable to cut the combs when they are about three months old. This is done by using sharp shears or a razor. Cut off the combs and powder close to the surfaces. It is apparently cruel, and is not to be recommended except when there is a difficulty of frozen combs, which are more painful than the dubbing. —American Gardening.

WILL NOT SAG.

The Slide-and-Turn Gate Which May Be Made by Farmers Themselves at Odd Old Times.

The gate illustrated herewith is not new and untried, but has been used successfully and proved its practicability though it is not as widely known as it should be, and some who attempt to work it do not understand the details. It is known as the slide-and-turn gate. I have quite a number of them in use on my farm, says C. E. Benton in the American Agriculturist, where I formerly had bar posts and bars, and find them a great saver of time, as well as being more secure. To hang this gate I set the two posts at the right about three inches apart and one a little farther back than the other,



SLIDE-AND-TURN GATE.

as shown in the illustration. When the other one is set in place the gate in position, block it up to the proper height and nail three crosspieces to connect the two posts at the right, the middle crosspiece being reversed, as shown, in order to brace them. The gate rests and slides on these pieces and they hold the two posts rigidly in place. Against the other post 1 1/2-inch pieces are nailed, one under each board of the gate, and these are connected by a rope or chain over them from top to bottom, thus forming a succession of mortises into which the gate ends are thrust. Making the gates is good employment for rainy days, and although simple as they are, I never knew a hired man who could make one and do right; it is work in which the ordinary hired man makes a very good assistant. I use undressed pine, 10 inches wide for the lower board and 8 inches wide for the others, as well as for the bottoms and braces. The bottom at the left is placed 4 inches from the end, then leaving the end over them free to slip into their places on the post. The gate may be entirely put together with clinch nails, but it will not materially increase the expense. Where an extra strong gate is needed, as for a barnyard, I use 1 1/2-inch spruce and make it entirely with bolts.

For posts I use well seasoned chestnut from which the bark is removed before setting. The two at the right may be left round, but for the other it is better to use a larger one split in half, as this gives a good firm center, on which to make the rests for the gate. The gate when made is 4 feet high and 15 feet long, but the width in the clear will drop to 12 feet or something less than 12 feet. To open it, slide it back half its length, when it will nearly balance and may be turned on its center. For a general farm gate to be used instead of bars it is the best I have ever tried. The posts never sag, the gate is always easy to open and to shut and is bolstered by snowdrifts to a hinged gate, and it is an all-round good thing to have on the farm.

HOW TO KEEP THE MILK CLEAN.

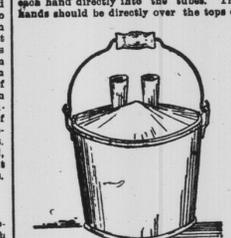
Samuel Gray Tells Hoard's Dairyman How He Does It.

When cows are stabled, no matter how well they are bedded, considerable filth will often adhere to the flank and udder, which is very difficult to remove. It will take more work to keep a cow in the cleanly condition of the millionaire's coach team than the ordinary milkman can afford to devote to her. Besides unmentionable filth, there will be hair, sand, and particles of all kinds ready to drop into the milk. The dust floating in the air, all of which, tends to get into the uncovered milk pail. With this kind of milk as clean as possible, I got the stinner to make a cover for the pail, which I have found answers the purpose very well. The cover fits well and to it is not so easily jarred off, has a slightly convex upper surface, and has two tubes about an inch and a half in diameter, and three or four inches high extending upward. The tubes are placed about two inches and a half apart and about the same distance from the edge of the cover. The milkman holds the pail between his knees, with tubes of the cover on the opposite side from him, and milk with the back hand directly into the tubes. The hands should be directly over the tops of

FAIL TO KEEP MILK CLEAN.

The tubes and are clean to them as possible, so that the hands may protect the openings from falling particles while milking.

If still greater cleanliness is desired, a piece of strainer cloth can be used to push the top of milk pail, and the cover pushed down onto it, making a complete washer, but it would be desirable to strain again when the pail is emptied. If I were ordering pails made complete with covers, I should have them made with straight sides instead of flaring, and have the ears for the bail set down low enough, or out from the edge of the pail far enough, to allow of the flange of the cover going on the outside of the pail. With flange on the inside, and the edge of the cover only even with the outside of the pail, milk that is splashed on the top of the cover, in milking, will run off the cover into the bucket, carrying some dirt with it. Still, if the strainer cloth is used, and the inside flange of the cover is tight, no unstrained milk can get in. If any one has a better thing in the way of keeping the dirt out, let us hear what it is. —E. J. Gray, in Hoard's Dairyman.



FAIL TO KEEP MILK CLEAN.

SKIRTS AND BODICES.

Sometimes They Are Alike, Sometimes They Are Different—An Evening Corset.

Although to have the bodice and skirt alike is now the fashionable rule, there are some notable exceptions to this law, in which there is a decided difference between them, although, to be sure, they



EVERING BODICE.

are in entire harmony and obviously belong together. For example, a street costume having a skirt of dusky blue silk embroidered with chrysanthemums of a subdued yellow. The edges for trimming the jacket as is seen on the skirt; the cravat is of hussar blue silk and the hat of hussar blue velvet.

EVERING BODICE.

A highly pleasing evening bodice for a young girl is illustrated in today's issue. It is of ivory silk, embroidered with ivory, and has a square neckline bordered by a puffing of ivory silk. Bias folds extend lengthwise of the corsage, edged on each side by a ruffe, and a wider ruffe forms a decorative band of ivory silk. The sleeves are puffed lengthwise. The belt is of ivory velvet. This bodice is worn with a skirt of ivory moire velours.

CAPE AND WRAPS.

Changes in Their Style Since Last Year—An Attractive Street Gown.

Round capes, rippled all around, which have been worn for several years, are less used. The long cutaway cape is preferred, and is modernized by the addition of circular ruffles and a high collar. It is a wrap which is not convenient for general



CLOTHES COSTUME.

use, as it is tight around the arms and upper part of the figure, and it is therefore used chiefly for carriage and visiting wear, being made of very rich materials. Materials, silk and velvet are favorite goods, with trimmings of embroidery and passementerie. Shawl wraps are also revived this winter, but are becoming to a tall, dignified figure only. Badly made, nothing can seem more devoid of fashion, but well made and well worn they are an attractive novelty. Circular ruffles are made in velvet and fur as well as in thinner materials, velvet ruffles being used for fur garments and fur ruffles with velvet. The picture showing a gown of chambray cloth, the skirt opening at the left side over a panel of moss green velvet. Clusters of horizontal bands of velvet encircle the skirt, terminating in gold buttons. The tight bodice has a plastron of green velvet, and is trimmed with clusters of velvet bands running obliquely. The collar is of green velvet, the green velvet treader scarf being passed through a gold slide. The sleeves are trimmed with longitudinal bands of velvet. The chemise felt hat is trimmed with green plumes and green velvet.

A Very Clever Young Lady.

Governess—Come, Ethel; it's time for good little girls to be in bed. Ethel—Yeh, Mith Morgan, but you know I have been naughty today. —Jewell's Weekly.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

New Stationery—Novelties For the Fashionable Dinner Table.

Among the season's novelties—which, as usual, are mostly old things revived—may be chronicled deep terra cotta stationery, very ugly and in very bad taste, but sold by the most fashionable dealers in such ware. Hand painted dinner cards, to bear the name of the guest, are a feature at many fashionable houses. They are often very skillfully done and form an attractive souvenir of the entertainment. The subjects chosen by the artist are various, but are all of the same class for the same dinner. Fish, game, fruit, groups of still life in the Dutch style, birds, flowers, figures, all are utilized, and the hostess selects such a set of cards as will suit the character of the dinner to be given. For a



BREAKFAST JACKET.

Young girl's affair, such as benevolent mothers often arrange, birds, flowers and Dresden designs are suitable, while for more serious occasions cards may even be painted to order to suit the purpose. Eastenberg lace is crowding out real lace work for table scarves, centerpieces and dollies. For the matter of that, the table scarf is seldom seen now, having been superseded by the round or oval centerpieces of fine linen embroidered and edged with lace. Colored silk embroidery is often employed, but is less elegant than white. The breakfast jacket illustrated by the one is of checked silk in two tones of green. It is gathered in at the waist by a belt, but has a loose front of plain silk of the lighter shade of green. A circular ruffe of plain silk edges the basque and passes up each side of the front, forming coquilles lined with white silk. The collar and wrist ruffe touch the founce, all being bordered by a fine ruche of dark green silk.

FOOTWEAR.

The Necessity For Keeping Children Well and Carefully Shod.

The fashion in which children are shod is of great importance, as it affects not only the beauty and comfort of the feet, but also the style of the gait in later life. Moderately loose shoes, decidedly long and with low or spring heels, are the only proper footwear, and these should not be left in use after they have lost their shape, worn over at the sole or heel or stretched so that the foot slips about in them. Children's shoes should be repaired as soon as they begin to wear over, as otherwise bad habits of walking are contracted. A short



EVERING COSTUME.

shoe is the most fruitful source of foot deformity and should be particularly avoided. Patent leather is also bad for the feet, soft kid being a much better casing for the growing foot. Turkish slippers, embroidered with gold, are now much used as dressing shoes. They are very picturesque and may be obtained in all colors of kid. The evening gown illustrated is of white mousseline de sole embroidered with spangles. The full skirt hangs over a plain lower skirt of white satin. The draped bodice crosses and fastens at the side, under the belt of this pink velvet with a jeweled buckle and long ends. The décolletage is framed by a ribbon, secured at the bosom with a jeweled buckle, and the lace which edges the frou forms a jabot in front. Large red roses are worn at the left shoulder. The gloves, slippers and hosiery are white.

WAS READY FOR IT.

Pastor—Have you seriously considered the great question of life, Mary? Girl Parishioner—Yeh, sir.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

ACCESSORIES.

Pretty Hats, Bonnets and Caps For Evening Occasions.

Pretty little theater hats consist of a small draped crown of pink, green, turquoise, straw or cream velvet, embroidered with metals and jewels, with a chon of velvet, satin, mousseline or tulle and a very light, thin, upright trimming, say a



NOVEL BODICE.

Louis Seize bow of velvet. Tiny toques of lace and flowers are also seen. Among novelties may be mentioned a huge butterfly, placed at the front of a little steel and gold embroidered crown. Some very attractive hats of velvet and fur are shown. They are of various shapes and are trimmed with the same materials and with feathers. The fur employed is usually chosen to match the bow or collar-ette worn with the hat. A novel evening cape, falling a little below the waist, consists of white, curled fox feathers. The cape itself and the pelrine are edged with wide white swan's down, and the effect is very light and dainty and exceedingly juvenile. Such a cape would be suitable only for a very young woman.

NOVEL BODICE.

A novel and striking use of fur is shown in the accompanying illustration. The costume is of ash gray cloth, the skirt being plain. The bodice has a blouse front, cut in points at the side and fastened with olives of gray silk. There is a shod basque also cut in points. The entire bodice is trimmed with fine steel galloons and opens over a sort of gumpie of ermine having a very high, rolled, circular collar of the same fur. The sleeves are trimmed with steel galloons and have ermine cuffs. The costume is completed by a hat of gray felt, trimmed with black plumes and black velvet. The belt is of violet velvet.

JACKETS.

Half Length Coats and Those Made to Match Gowns.

Jackets of half length—that is, with basques reaching half way down the skirt—follow the general lines of the skirts. They are tight and plain around the hips, but are somewhat waisted at the lowest



TAILOR MADE COSTUME.

edge. They are close fitting and plain across the bust and are trimmed with appliques, passementerie, embroidery or tulle. The materials employed are cloth, thick silk, matisse and velvet. Very short, tight jackets are made to match the gown and complete the costume and may be much trimmed if it is desired. Sleeves of all outer garments are made as small as is compatible with the easy admission of the sleeve of the gown, and, as gown sleeves are small, wrap sleeves need not be very large. For heavy cloaking goods an ingenious device is used to prevent clumsiness at the armhole. The extra fullness at the top of the sleeve, instead of being gathered into the armhole, is taken up by several small, flat darts, so there are no gathers at all. The one shows a tailor made gown of gray cloth. The tablier is framed by stitched straps, which outline the skirt. The right bodice is trimmed with stitched straps and opens over a plastron of violet velvet, with a yoke and collar of white foulard with large violet spots. An enamel ornament is placed across the edge of the yoke, and the belt and brooch are of enamel. The hat is of gray felt to match the gown and is trimmed with violet velvet and violet plumes.

WAS READY FOR IT.

Pastor—Have you seriously considered the great question of life, Mary? Girl Parishioner—Yeh, sir.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.