

record. When you remember that all of the horses were American trotters, trimmed up in hackney style, it seems to me surprising that so little was said about the matter in the newspapers. The trotting bred carriage horse of America is the best horse of this kind in the world, and when he beats the world's record in the sale ring it seems to me just to be as big a thing in a way as when he beats the best time ever made on a trotting track.

"I think next year will be the best on record, judging by present appearances."

Milk for Poultry

On every side we hear the warning words "Don't feed any sour food," and in the next moment comes the advice to "give them all the milk, both sweet and sour, they will use." Slop may be the natural food for hogs, but it is not for hens. Milk as a fluid, either sweet or sour, is very good for "mixing ground food for fowls," but when placed in pans for them to eat or drink it is more of an injury than a benefit, for the reason that it soils the plumage and taints the ground, thus attracting the flies and other insects, which bring with them more injury than the good the fowls have received from the milk. One attribute of success, namely cleanliness, is almost an impossibility where milk is used as a drink or fed in pans to the fowls. What can be more disgusting than a lot of half grown chicks besmeared with sour milk and covered with flies! And to add to their sorry plight down comes a misty rain, completing their uncanny appearance.

I have often seen the feeding ground of a lot of growing chicks covered with sour milk and flies, the ground well beaten down with the pitter of the feet of both ducklings and young chicks. What can be more disagreeable than the odor of this feeding spot after a shower has been driven away and the warm sun shines upon the ground and proceeds to bring to life the deposit of many insects drawn to the locality by the besmeared condition of the ground? And those who care for these fowls wonder why gapes, diarrhoea and cholera come to their flocks. None so blind as those who will not see. Why not get all the advantage of the milk by using it to mix with their ground food instead of placing it in pans for them to run through and paint the ground to their own destruction?

Cleanliness is the one great thing with poultry. No one can begin to keep their surroundings in even half-way condition who places pans of milk or slop of any kind for fowls. Many writers advocate the plan, and tell us in glowing terms of the benefits to be derived from this feeding of milk as a slop to poultry. If the benefit is to come to them from the milk, use it each day to mix their ground food with, and feed it to them in boxes or troughs, not upon the ground, and provide feeding space sufficient for all to feed at once. Where no ground food is provided for the poultry, better give the slop to the hogs.—*Country Gentleman*.

How to Make Good Roads

The demand for good roads is not confined to the Province of Ontario alone. The agitation is widespread, and people in every progressive country are waking up to the fact that good roads are an essential factor in the prosperity and welfare of any agricultural community. In far-off Texas the demand for good roads is urgent, and one of our exchanges from that State gives the following bit of advice in regard to making good dirt roads, which may be of value here:

"Probably the best that can now be done is to improve our dirt roads; but this cannot be done by men who don't know how; therefore, scientific road-makers must be employed to direct the work, or it had best not be undertaken. The great enemy of roads in clayey soils is water

—not the water that falls on them, but the water that remains on them after falling. Therefore, arrangements must be made for carrying away the water as fast as it falls. It must not be permitted to stand in ditches made for drainage, but must be carried 'out of sight,' so to speak, otherwise the roadbed will take it up by capillary attraction, soften and succumb. But, properly graded and thoroughly drained, we believe the black soils of North Texas will make excellent dirt roads. When dry, our black land roads are the hardest of all dirt roads, just as they are the softest when wet. But this requires expert work, for water sometimes has a perverse way of running up hill, as judged by the eye, and ditches made for drainage often become reservoirs, bringing water in, instead of carrying it away. And, further, no amount of surfacing will be permanent unless the drainage is complete. We knew a case on a large black-land farm where 400 wagon-loads of stone had been put on a piece of very bad roadway less than 250 yards long, and slowly but surely the stone sank and the mud only remained. The writer suggested a ditch and culvert for drainage, which were made, and the road became solid, without a rock surface. Bad roads constitute the heaviest tax borne by traffic, and to get rid of them almost any practicable expenditure would be money profitably invested."

What Breed Lays the Heaviest Eggs?

It is not enough to know which breed of fowls lays the largest number of eggs, but also which breed lays the largest sized eggs. Some breeds may yield more food value in weight contained in fewer eggs than another breed puts into a considerably larger number. Because of this fact we believe all eggs should be sold by weight and not by the dozen. A dozen large eggs are worth just as much more, as they are heavier than a dozen small ones.

In order to collect some data on this point, the North Carolina Experiment Station made careful weights of the eggs from different yards for the first six months of last year, and found that the heaviest eggs are from ducks. These weigh nearly two and a quarter pounds to the dozen. The light Brahma lay the largest hen's eggs, and these are one and three-quarter pounds per dozen. The lightest eggs are from Leghorn pullets, a little under one and one-eighth pounds per dozen. On what other article of food will people be content to pay the same price for what may vary over fifty per cent. in value? Or what producer of merchantable produce of any other kind will consent to supply all the way up to fifty-five per cent. more than market value, and not think to add to the standard price for additional value?

The same bulletin says it is perhaps an open question whether the flavor of articles of food ever reappears in the eggs produced by hens.

The facts will not be denied for milk after a cow has been regaled on a fresh pasture containing wild onions. Neither will it, if the cow is fed turnips or cabbage, within a few hours before milking. The flesh is also probably tainted, and we have heard reports of fried chicken flavored with onion from the recent feeding of the birds.

In March, 1899, an experiment was begun to find if a small proportion of chopped onion salad with the poultry food would flavor the eggs sufficiently to be noticeable; and if so, how long a time would be required to make the flavor noticeable; and, third, how long can the flavor be detected after the onions are left out of food.

The conclusions are that it is probable that no eggs after a week's abstinence are ill flavored with onions; that flavors can be fed into onions, and that to insure fine-flavored eggs it is necessary to restrict runs enough so no considerable amount of the food can be of such a character as to yield ill-flavored eggs.