

GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

whose pens are in the lead are the best and oldest breeders. If there is any doubt as to this matter in anyone's mind, a careful study of the contest could not fail to convince him that a hen's laying qualities do not depend upon her breed, but upon her breeder. As in the case of the gun, it is the man behind the hen. To lay well, a hen must have a long, unbroken line of great layers on the female side of her pedigree, and as long a line of sons of great layers on the male side.

male side. Just here is where the greatest mistake is made in breeding layers by some breeders. Many a person will think it wise to mate a Leghorn cock to large hens, in order to get pullets which will lay better than their mothers, showing that they recognize the influence of the cock on the laying qualities of his pullets, but when they come to breeding pure-bred stock they entirely overlook the fact that the pullets from a Wyandotte or Plymouth cock of a bred-to-lay strain, and those from a Leghorn cock of a bred-to-lay strain, will run so close in number of eggs produced that it is hard to say which will win, while those from a Leghorn cock of a poor-laying strain will lay much less than either of the others. A great many seem to think that it makes no difference about the family or strain, so long as they have a Wyandotte, Plymouth or Leghorn cock, or one from some variety with a laying reputation. Such persons should watch a laying contest for a time. They would soon become anxious about the laying qualities in the ancestry of their male birds.

A Second Crop Vegetable.

A proper rotation of crops is necessary if successful results are to be expected, and in most cases it is important to adopt a regular system of cropping the garden. After the early peas or lettuce the land can produce a second crop of turnips, that are more tender than if seed is sown earlier in the season. The ground being in good heart, seed can be sown in shallow drills, twelve inches apart, and thinned out as soon as they are large enough. If weather is not the black fly is likely to discover the young plants as soon as they have made the first leaves, but can be kept in check by a sprinkling with unleached ashes and sulphur. Too little importance is attached to deep culture by digging, or by plow, in the vegetable garden, and it has proved a sad drawback to the success of most of the roots in the crispness produced by quick growth. Soils differ, and it requires some knowledge to get the most out of the land without being any detriment to the soil.

The more rapidly the turnip is grown the better flavored it will be, and the land cannot be too rich for this crop. In olden days a good land produces the largest and best roots. In many parts of England the turnip is grown wild, and it seems specially suited to a moist climate and a situation of this vegetable was evidently as well known in Shakespeare's time as now, and used as an emblem of hardness or as a missile, for we find in the *Henry VIII.* And of Windsor "the rather strange manner" bowled to death with turnips. It is now generally known that birds are very voracious of the seed of the turnip, and that sometimes, when the seed is sown, the fault is with these feathered robbers, and that devour all species of brassica, taking them from the ground even after it is rolled and sown. But, in spite of enemies, the autumn-grown turnip will flourish in the cool months, even becoming sweeter for a little frost, and taking its place as a winter vegetable for food for the table.

A writer in Commercial Poultry states that women are better poultry-raises than men, and gives various reasons, most of which are, no doubt, just as true in this country as elsewhere. Western women, however, cannot show what they can do in poultry-raising without some assistance from the men in arranging proper buildings, and attending to such details as cleaning the pens, etc. There is no busier person in this country than the average woman on the farm.

than the average woman. The writer referred to says: "My wife can start the hens to laying legs when the weather is away below zero, and this is a trick I can hardly do myself. A woman cannot beat a man in everything connected with the chicken business, for when it comes to making and repairing coops, driving nails, digging holes with a spade, making fences, or building anything, they are failures. My wife is a perfect failure when it comes to digging a hole in the ground deep enough and big enough to bury a dead hen in, but when it comes to arranging things around the premises, fixing nice, cosy nests, and cooing the hens to lay by giving them dainties from the table of the garden, a woman will double discount a man."

Women are naturally more gentle in disposition, and for that reason are better fitted to look after the hens. ~~And when~~ ^{When} two hens are fighting, a woman will gently part them before they have killed a number of chicks or injured themselves; while a man will let them fight it out, if it takes all summer and kills all the chicks in the barnyard. If a man would conclude to separate two belligerent hens, he would throw one over the barn and kick the other over the

men look at a woman's clothes and then they look at her face. When it comes to good-looking women, it is the face that counts. When it comes to good-looking men, it is the clothes that count. When it comes to good-looking men, it is the clothes that count. When it comes to good-looking men, it is the clothes that count.

to. In the majority of people there was an instinct which calls for a certain amount of amusement, and which should be so judiciously extent, be catered to. The work and play makes Jack Farmer, is an old machine in the life of the farmer of the growing season. Any other walk of life, as of the schoolboy. Men are keeping too much to one's self almost invariable has a tendency to make one's "squeamish" benedicty, irritable, morbid, even condescend. One seldom finds an open-hearted, whole-souled, "good-around" individual who does not have a reasonable amount of intercourse with his neighbors of his, as the case may be. It takes association with others to rub off the angles and develop the sympathies. Granted that this is not a waste of time, social gathering is not a waste of time, but an absolute necessity to human development, and should be encouraged in every rural community. Apropos of this question the Farmer's Review tells of a rather unique sort of entertainment which was given in Massachusetts last year. In the spring a lecturer of the fringe presented to many of the members a seed potato, to be planted and the increase exhibited in the fall. Then they observed "potato night" a long table in the center of the hall was laden with exhibits, and papers relating to potato-raising were read, followed by a discussion of the subject. A prize was given to the one having the best exhibit. Potato races added amusement to the occasion and potato chips made a delightful lunch.

Possibly, the Massachusetts government may suggest an idea for somewhat similar reunions along "potato" or some other line for the coming summer, and reunions in which profit and pleasure may be advantageously combined.

Spraying is not a general method to be applied to orchards to cure all ills. It is simply a method for applying specific applications to orchards to protect the fruit from various injurious insects and fungous diseases. The application of any one remedy will not answer for all insect remedies. Several of these require special treatment. The work requires constant attention, beginning with the first movement of vegetation in early spring.—[Dr. J. James Fletcher, before the N. S. Fruit-growers' Association.]

There is much that is interesting in the report of the annual "laying" contest, held at the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, in Australia, where the year's test has just been completed. It clearly demonstrates two facts: That in selecting hens for layers the strain is of more importance than the breed, and that those who want eggs must breed from stock which has been bred for years from selected hens of unusual laying qualities.

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In this year's contest, 100 pens were from the three varieties above. These are the varieties which the greater part of the attention of the poultrymen. The Silver Wyandotte which the White occupies with us is observ- able, as one reads the advertisements and com- ment in the Australian poultry, that the men gives the account of the contest, that the men

The final report of the Ministry of Agriculture for the wheat harvest of 1946-47 shows that the total production was 16,468,680 bushels, an increase of 9.3 bushels per acre, and with a surplus carried over from the previous year will total about eight million bushels for export.