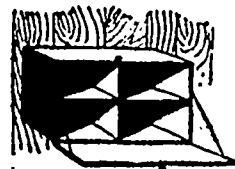


## The Horse.

### A HANDY STABLE CABINET.

Many a stable could be kept more tidy, and much valuable time saved during the year, if a cabinet was in some handy position for the keeping of bottles, brushes, combs, cloths, sponges, buckles, pieces of



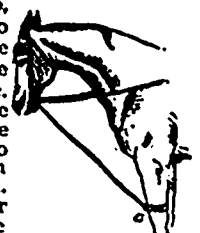
straps, etc. One may readily be made by fixing to the wall or on a stand a dry goods box of the required shape and size. A convenient height is to have it fastened or rest about 5 ft from the floor. If screwed to the side of the barn, the open top will become the side. Put in shelves, compartments, straps, as tool holders, etc. To close the box, a drop-leaf side is put on by hinging at the bottom and fastening supporting straps from the upper corner of the box to the outer corner of the leaf. This will make a table before the closet when open. If this is not desired, put a screw eye in each upper corner, connect with a wire and hang over the wire a thick cloth for a cover.—[J. L. Irwin, Nemaha Co, Kan.]

After Colts Are Weaned they should be given very good care through the first winter. If neglected, and their growth allowed to become stunted, it will be very difficult to make up for it afterward, even with the best of care. Colts should always be kept in box stalls, as they will become weak jointed if they have to stand much tied up in a stall, while growing, without getting necessary amount of exercise. Keep stall well lighted in winter. Feed good fresh hay, free from dust. For grain, feed oats three times a day. Oats are the best grain for horses. But let the morning feed consist of equal parts of oats and bran, made into a mash by scalding with hot water and let it stand until cool before feeding. If 2 lbs of roots can be given daily, sliced very thin to prevent choking, they will aid digestion and prevent constipation by keeping bowels in good order. Carrots and mangels are best.—[Lewis Olsen, Kandiyohi Co, Minn.]

Fencing a Horse Pasture—Probably most of us have had more or less experience with a line fence between two pastures. We have cases of where horses would strike at each other through the fence, and get a foot fast among the barb wires, and with terrible results. A person dislikes to put in two fences where one will do and even that does not fill the bill exactly. About as good a way as we can think of is to spike a piece of 2x4 on the top of each post, as illustrated. It should be 3 ft or more long. Stretch wires along the ends on each side and then one or two underneath, to the posts. A horse cannot get into such a fence with his feet, as the outside wires will hold him at bay.—[James Pearson, Seward Co, Neb.]



To Shackle an Unruly Horse take a short piece of strap, such as an old, worn breast strap, just long enough to buckle around the fore leg above the knee joint as at a. Put a ring on the strap and buckle just tight enough so it will not slip down over the knee joint. Then tie the halter stem or a short piece of rope from the halter into the ring, taking care not to have it too long, not over 2 ft in length. If the animal is very unruly the shorter. Animals will accustom themselves to this sort of a device in a short time, and I think it far more comfortable than a poke.—[H. A. Phillips, Barry Co, Mich.]



F & H can't be beat for the price.—[John Carey, Wyoming Co, N. Y.]

## The Poultry Yard.

### FARMING FOR EGGS.

A well-known poultry grower of southern Middlesex Co, Mass, is a Mr A. Hunter, who keeps 600 hens and raises thousands of broilers every year. Rather more emphasis is laid on the egg laying branch of the business, and Mr. Hunter's White Wyandots have made some splendid records as layers. The hens are kept in long houses divided into roosting pens and scratching sheds for each flock. The roosting pens are 8x10 ft and the scratching pens 10x10 ft, the whole furnishing accommodation for 30 fowls. The scratching shed is open in front, but has doors of oiled cotton cloth which can be closed on stormy days, admitting considerable light through the cloth. The floor of the scratching pen is covered with straw. There is also an outside run 12x125 ft in which the birds are allowed to go when there is no snow on the ground.

The roosting room is connected with the scratching shed during the day, but is closed off at night. It is a tight, warm room with a window in front, which is near the ground. The roost is about 2 ft from the floor, consisting of two joists with the upper corners rounded. Under the roof is a board platform for droppings. Nests are placed under platform, six for each flock. The water dish is set in the partition between the scratching pen and roosting room. Grit and charcoal are kept before them all the time.

The hens spend most of the day in pleasant weather in the scratching pen hunting for grain which is thrown in the straw. Like all successful egg raisers, Mr Hunter keeps the hens busy scratching for food. The following is Mr Hunter's plan for getting the largest possible egg product:

The Wyandot chicks intended for layers are hatched in April so as to get to laying in Oct or Nov. Small varieties will lay early enough if hatched in May. The chicks are kept growing fast so pullets will reach maturity before cold weather. Five mornings in the week the layers get a mash made of cooked vegetables, or cut steamed celeriac, a little salt and a spoonful of cod liver oil. Meal is added until the mash is as stiff as it can be mixed. The feed consists of equal parts corn meal, fine middlings, bran, ground oats and meat meal, thoroughly mixed. Considerable importance is attached to feeding a variety of food and many variations are made in this mash. At noon and night grain is fed, being scattered among the straw in the scratching pens. The principal grain is wheat, then barley and buckwheat, and considerable corn. The following is the bill of fare for the laying hens: Monday, oats or barley, wheat, whole corn; Tuesday, warm mash, barley or buckwheat, wheat; Wednesday, mash, cut bone, wheat; Thursday, oats, barley, wheat or corn; Friday, mash, barley, wheat; Saturday, mash, cut bone, wheat; Sunday, mash, barley or buckwheat, wheat. In winter the hens are not given all the mash they will eat. They have appetite enough after breakfast to scratch vigorously for the few handfuls of grain that are scattered in the straw after feeding.

These painstaking methods often make farmers smile but the results which Mr Hunter gets are interesting. Below is the record of 125 layers during Dec, Jan and April:

	Eggs	Value	Profit
Dec .....	1626	\$51 49	\$37 43
Jan .....	2063	51 70	37 64
Apr .....	2232	27 50	13 84

It will be noted that the profit was three times greater in Dec than in Jan, although the number of eggs is much smaller. He makes money by inducing the hens to lay egg when eggs are high. The fowls are kept until about 17 months old and then sold. The food bill averages about \$1.35 per fowl per year. The method may be summed up in early hatching, feeding for rapid growth and early maturity, and keeping them laying by good care, good food and exercise.

Pearl Guineas weigh  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 4 lbs each. The color is blue dotted with white. Their disposition is somewhat nervous but my guineas are as tame as the

Brahmas and Cochins. They are very prolific. A hen will sometimes steal a nest, laying from 10 to 25 eggs and hatch them all if not disturbed. I have one guinea hen with a brood of 23. If the first litter is removed they will lay another. In this way I have obtained as many as 80 to 100 eggs from one hen in one season. The eggs are a trifle smaller than those of the average hen and shells are thick and very hard. The young are easily raised if allowed to run at large. They are ready to give the alarm at the approach of hawks, dogs, cats, etc. They are quite ornamental and their eggs and flesh are as good as the best of other varieties of poultry.—[W. A. Smith, N. Y.]

Roosts for Young Chicks—As the chicks attain size they may be taught to go to roost in some unoccupied room. Here they will always be under cover and safe at night. Make the roost of wide strips of board to prevent crooked breast bones. To reduce risk of vermin, hang the roosts as shown in the cut. The strips, placed on horizontal wires to which they are stapled beneath, are held firmly up by wires from the ceiling. No 12 wire is stout enough. The same plan may be



used to advantage in the large poultry house.

used to advantage in the large poultry house.

Timely Work—Road dust, earth and sand to use in winter should be stored under cover before fall rains. Early pullets should be separated from the cockerels and other fowls and fed extra. Shut the cockerels by themselves in a partially darkened, well-ventilated room and stuff for two weeks on two-thirds corn meal and one-third wheat middlings mixed up with sweet skim milk; they will make good roasters. Turkeys should receive a liberal feed every night to induce their roosting at home. White-wash the henhouse, kerosene the roosts and nest boxes, burn the old straw and place fresh nesting material and some tobacco stems in each nest.

Good Fowl—The old-fashioned, but thoroughly practical fowl, the Dominique, is again coming a little into fashion. It has all the virtues of the Plymouth Rock, although a little smaller and not quite so ornamental. It has yellow skin and is a hardy, good-laying breed.

F & H is highly prized for the valuable information it gives from month to month. Although I have only a town lot, I find it saves me many a penny in following its advice.—[Maj F. W. Fairbanks, Elizabeth Co, Va.]

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