

POULTRY.

BREAKING SITTING HENS.

Farmers seldom want hens to sit after June 1st, but they offer to sit all the same, and how to wean them from this is one of the problems many poultry keepers know not how to solve. If the methods employed were not so cruel it would be amusing to watch the efforts of the farmers and their wives to break up the sitting hens. One ducks them in cold water three or four times a day; another puts them in a covered tub with a few inches of water in the bottom; the next one throws them from the nest as found there, and others fill up the nest with stones, bricks and old tin pans. Now, all such methods are cruel, senseless and generally useless. If you do not want the hens to sit at all, remove them from the nests the very first night they are found there after the other fowls have gone to roost, and shut them up in a bottomless coop, on the ground. Feed lightly, give plenty of water, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, they will be over the sitting fever in a week. Give the obstinate hundredth hen a cockerel for company and she will soon forget all about raising a family.—Ex.

AN ENCOURAGING TONE.

An Illinois man wrote to an incubator proprietor for a circular on Artificial Hatching. The circular explained the profits of the business as follows.

Take a 300 Egg Incubator, price.....	\$70
Eggs for three hatches.....	15
Food.....	50
Oil.....	1

Total outlay..... \$136
Credit by 600 chicks at \$2 per dozen (the very highest price here), \$1200, or a loss of 65 cents on three hatches.

At this rate it is plain to be seen that an incubator would soon make a man rich—on the other side of the fence.

POULTRY MONTHLY HINTS FOR JULY.

Culling the early broods will receive some attention this month and next by breeders who think something of their reputation. With some it annually becomes an imperative duty. Culling them and separating them into classes to make room for those selected to keep over, giving extra care to those retained for special merit and providing for the well being of the late broods will be the order of the month, as generally practiced by our best breeders.

Nothing is lost by attending to the culling process in time. As the summer advances broilers depreciate in value. The danger, too, of vermin and disease "twin scourges" of the poultry yard, and the separation from the flock of inferior birds gives the others a better chance to improve and grow up, and the breeder can well afford to be more liberal and diligent in his feeding and care, for he has stock in his yards that he knows is worthy of his attention and solicitude.

The cockerels and pullets of the early hatched broods should be separated. Others should be separated later. Small flocks of either sex about the same age should be put together and allowed all the range it is possible to give them. Old and young fowls should never be put together, for the young birds will suffer from the tyranny of the older ones, being forced away from their food and roosting places, they seldom thrive when penned together.

Chickens hatched late in the season require different treatment from that given early broods. A few months ago sun-

shine was indispensable, now shade is important. The hot sun of midsummer weakens both young and old birds exposed to it. The coops should be placed under the shade of some tree or shrubbery, the chicks will get enough of the sunshine while running around, but when tired, or with crops full a shady place is refreshing.

THE POULTRY KEEPER, Printed at Chicago, Ill., is the best poultry journal ever published.—Woonsocket, R. I., Patriot. Read their large advertisement in another column.

POULTRY NOTES.

For the CANADIAN FARMER:—

Buttermilk is excellent for chicks and adult fowls, and may be given in a drinking dish and mixed with the soft food.

Even as late as last month spring broilers were high in price, as well as scarce. The demand was good but the supply short.

The droppings are easily removed with a broom if the coop is cleaned often and the floor well sprinkled with dry dirt after each sweeping.

Broom corn is splendid food for fowls, and a small patch of it should be grown for that purpose. It is a good change for them, and highly relished.

A pound of poultry can be raised at less cost than a pound of beef, and in proportion to cost of labor and food the profit is greater from poultry than from beef.

If your fowls are confined place a good piece of grass sod in the yard every day. They will clean it of grass, scratch the dirt to pieces and dust themselves with it.

When the fowls retire for the night notice that the heat is not too oppressive, as may be the case this month. Apoplexy will be common at this season especially if the hens are fat.

Although rather soon for selecting early pullets, be careful to observe them, and the first that show the red comb, or seem well developed, should be marked; they will be the first to lay.

The spade is very useful in the garden, but more so in the poultry yard. Frequent spading of the yards is the safest and surest way of preventing disease and promoting the health of the fowls.

It is not time to fatten fowls, so avoid feeding sweet potatoes in any manner. In the latter part of the fall a mixture of sweet potatoes, meal, and buttermilk will fatten them quicker than anything else.

The largest cocks will be those which show no indications of development, as they will continue to grow until well advanced. Taking a longer period in which to mature, they will make the best cockerels before next spring.

Young turkeys should be forced now. They will pick up enough on their range, but should be induced to eat as soon as they come up to roost. By giving them a meal every morning and evening they will learn to expect such, and come in at regular hours. The food will also greatly assist to forward them ahead for Christmas.

The young Plymouth Rock pullets will no doubt show dark stripes down the front of the legs, but do not discard such, as the dark parts will gradually fade into the desired yellow as they grow older. The supposition that Plymouth Rocks have yellow legs is not correct, for the large majority of them show dark stripes at first, especially the pullets.

STOCK.

PRACTICAL STOCK BREEDING.

A live-stock breeder and correspondent of the *Pennsylvania Farmer* says: A scrub heifer bred to a thoroughbred bull for her first calf, and then repeatedly bred to the same bull, will improve in her breeding so that each succeeding calf will be better than the preceding one, and this to a greater extent than if she had been bred to different bulls though all equally good and of the same blood. This rule holds good with horses and sheep, as well as cattle. Stick a pin right here. If you are breeding cattle, get a good bull and keep him. If you conclude to breed Durhams, do so; if Holsteins, or any other breed, do so, but don't breed to a Durham bull one year and a Holstein the next. You must stick to the one thing if you expect to breed good grades of either. And more than this, a cow that has once been bred to a scrub bull, if bred promiscuously to different bulls, even of the same breed, will never produce as good calves as she would if bred several times in succession to the same individual bull. The men who have good heifers, high grades of thoroughbred and does not want to raise their first calves and who raises a scrub bull because it is cheaper, is saving pennies to-day at the expense of dollars in the near future. Use nothing but thoroughbred males on all kinds of stock, and, all things being equal, the longer you can use the same animal the better. I do not mean by this that it is advisable to use him on his own progeny, but on the original animals it may be continued indefinitely.

BREED TO THE BEST.

The success of almost all undertakings depends largely upon the patronage received from the public. Especially is this true in regard to the introduction of a better stock of horses into a country. The man or company of men who have energy and push enough in them to break away from their old foggy ideas, and that one horse is as good as another, and that what they have is good enough, who will spend their time and money in procuring better, should have the hearty support of all who are interested in horses. It would be hard to estimate how much the country is indebted to those who have made a specialty of the importing and breeding of nothing but the best strains of horses that can be procured. Were this realized by every farmer that raises horses, that whether for his own use or for the trade, there would not be a better investment imaginable than in first-class stallions. Such a state of affairs is being more nearly reached every year, and while a few short-sighted men who are always ready to throw cold water on anything progressive have argued that the thing would be overdone, the prospects are better than ever before for still greater advances. To overdo a thing like this is one of the impossibilities, and the man who has an inclination in this line of enterprise need not hesitate for fear of it not being profitable, if he invests his money judiciously and manages carefully after he has invested. It will be surprising to compare the average of the horses throughout the country in twenty years from now with those of the present, so great will be the improvement.

Straw and ice water is a poor diet for cattle.

STOCK NOTES.

A farmer who keeps poor sheep should not grumble at the low price of wool.

You can clean your horses' manes and tails by putting a little kerosene on them and then washing them with hot water.

The best cure for cows that suck one another is to fatten them up and sell them to the butcher.

A milk cow always returns with a large interest all money spent in giving her good feed.

Barley is a good feed for stock. California horses are fed on that food alone so far as grain is concerned, and they are able to go a long distance with little fatigue.

When a horse is first turned on young grass he will often slobber to some extent. This is annoying, but can be remedied by giving him a head of cabbage before driving him.

The acres of good land in pasturage and hay is estimated to feed a cow one year in England. In the American Dairymen's Association they reckon four acres to a cow.

Young farm animals should have access to water, especially in warm weather, no matter how much milk fed them from the pail or furnished them by their dams.

Colic in the horse very often arises from errors in dieting. Feed judiciously and regularly. Don't give water immediately after eating. By doing so digestion will be impeded and colic will result. Water often and give but a little at a time.

It is a great mistake to put lambs on poor pasture simply because they can "eat close." Once stunted in their growth they may never reach their proper size. The earlier you can have your lambs ready for the stall the better, and the more profitable in everything.

This is the time for building as there is a better opportunity for estimating how much stock is necessary for keeping over till next season. We would suggest the necessity of lining the under side of the roof with tarred paper, not so much as a protection against dampness, but to prevent cold draughts from above in winter.

A colt's feet are sound and well formed before he is shod and the ill of a horse's feet are occasioned by shoeing and cured by running barefoot. All ailments, such as spavin, ringbone, &c., can be traced to bad shoeing. A barefoot horse will often travel freer, keeping his footing better and show less fatigue from a journey or a hard day's work than if shod. The kick of an unshod horse is not as dangerous as when shod, and stumbling rarely occurs; cutting, interfering, overreaching and forging never.

An old farmer cures balky horses by lonesomeness. He had a horse who would not pull. He left him standing at night, not for fun, in the barn after covering him with blankets. In the morning the horse would not draw the load to the barn. At noon he went back to him again and tried to drive the horse to the barn. He would not go, but when the farmer started to go and leave him he followed. The old farmer says he had got hungry and lonesome. He was fed well when he got to the barn, and did not balk afterward.

Mrs. E. H. Perkins, Creek Centre, Warren Co. N. Y., writes: She has been troubled with asthma for four years, had to sit up night after night with it. She has taken two bottles of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, and is perfectly cured. She strongly recommends it, and wishes to act as agent among her neighbors.