

HINTS THAT WILL HELP THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER TO CONDUCT HIS FARM SUCCESSFULLY.

FATTENING CHICKENS.

The Foreign Method and the Rational Use of Ground Oats Preferred. Dr. E. Cobb, an English poultry expert, gives the following rules observed in the large fattening establishments in England: When the purchased birds arrive, they are placed by themselves in coops separate from those being forced. They are called "feeders."

After being cooped the feeders are allowed no food for 24 hours. After this short fast they are fed from V shaped troughs which are suspended in front of their coops three times per day all they can eat of a thin mash composed of finely ground oats mixed with half water and half milk. During the second week the water is gradually replaced by milk.

At end of second week, perhaps a short time before, the birds do not eat as rapidly as they did, and the "crammer," or forcing machine, is called into requisition. The ration as used in the "crammer" is ground oats and skim milk, sweet or sour, the latter preferred, to which is added fat (tallow in most cases) in proportion of a tablespoonful to each bird.

The same authority also says that the "feeders" should be kept going by hand feeding as long as they continue to put on weight. A bird should never be placed on the "crammer" until it eats heartily. Experience has shown that after ten days or a fortnight most birds will not take enough food voluntarily to make weight. It is then that the forcing machine is brought into requisition.

English fatteners prefer finely ground oats to any other kind of ground grain. Ground barley has been found to be best. Cornmeal pens on yellow fat and tends to give a tinge of that color to the skin, which is very objectionable to the English buyer. In the United States a yellow skin is rather preferred, while it seems a matter of indifference to Canadian buyers.

The birds are not allowed any food for 24 hours before being killed. The object is to have no food in the crop to decompose.

WHEN AND HOW TO PRUNE. In the Summer Months—With Short Stems and Branches. All persons familiar with birches and maples know that if any limbs are taken from them in the late winter or spring time the stubs will bleed freely for a number of weeks, and if such stubs are large ones they seldom heal over before decay has commenced in them.

CONQUERED BY SMELL.

New and Safe Way of Driving Skunks From Their Holes—A Yankee's Discovery. Though the price of poultry has been low for the past three years a man may still earn \$5 with four skunkskins, and he can frequently kill from six to ten of the animals in a night. Even such earnings, however, cannot induce many men to hunt the malodorous animals, and the professional skunk hunters themselves are ever casting about for some new and safe way of taking the beasts. Some hunters employ smoke to drive the animals from their holes, and when this fails ferrets are sent in to stir up the reluctant inmates.

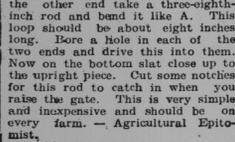
A ferret is an animal without fear and will go into any hole that will admit its body, but when one has visited the winter quarters of a colony of skunks a few times its interest in the sport grows a rapid abatement and finally falls so low that it will sooner die than venture near the place. The hunting of skunks with ferrets that would not make more than three calls at the dens was too expensive sport for poor men to take up, so tame skunks were used as a substitute. All wild animals have a mortal antipathy against tamed members of their own species, and no sooner did a domesticated skunk enter the ground than all residents turned upon the intruder and drove it back, howling from many wounds, chasing it far beyond the entrance, where the infuriated creatures fell on easy prey to the armed men who awaited them on the outside.

Capturing pellets by skunk power had been the favorite method for two or three years, though it was found costly on account of the large number of tame skunks that were killed in the conflicts. Then Henry Damon of East Hampton, Me., made a discovery that will no doubt place his name among the benefactors of his race, says The New York Sun. Damon is a physician without a diploma, who effects his cures by employing the remedies that he seeks in the fields and woods. Finding skunk oil useful in his practice, he caught a young skunk and domesticated it, keeping the animal as a pet about the house.

One day when he was stirring a liquid extract of lavender leaves the skunk climbed over the side of the dish and fell in, where it would have been drowned had not Damon made a timely rescue. The following evening Damon went on a hunt in company with his pet. No sooner had the lavender scented skunk entered the ground than the big fat skunk began to emerge from every hole in the hill, scurrying away and sneezing and choking with disgust. Damon kills more than 40 animals, and having skinned them, went home fully assured that his fortune was made. Since then he has added two new inmates to his den of odorless skunks and let them out on commission, charging 40 per cent. of the gross earnings for his share.

Before sending the pellets to the holes he dips his pet in the lavender extract, after which the most intelligent wild skunk will run through fire or leap over a precipice sooner than face the smell of the abhorred vegetable.

DURABLE FARM GATE. Very Simple and Inexpensive, and Can Be Used to Separate Stock. The best farm gate I ever saw made is a gate that can be used to separate stock. It is made so it can be raised at one end to let hogs or sheep under while cattle and horses cannot get through. And in case of snow it can be raised and opened. Get the number of slats you wish and make the gate. Then take the four end pieces 1x4 bolting them on to the slats with one bolt in each



EXCELLENT FARM GATE. End of slats so the gate can work up and down. Now take for the brace two pieces 1x3 or 1x4, bolt them at the top on the outside of the slats and pieces using a bolt long enough to go through five slats. Now on the other end take a three-eighths rod and bend it like A. This loop should be about eight inches long. Bore a hole in each of the two ends and drive this into them. Now on the bottom slat close up to the upright piece. Cut some notches for this rod to catch in when you raise the gate. This is very simple and inexpensive and should be on every farm. Agricultural Epitomist.

Good Grasses for Pasture. The Ohio experiment station gives good advice when it recommends bluegrass, redtop, red clover and timothy for permanent pasture. The red clover enriches the ground, and soon runs out. The timothy furnishes feed while the slower bluegrass is getting started. The redtop furnishes good pasturage between the two growths of bluegrass, which is at its best only in spring, early summer and fall. The timothy will do so more or less on land that is not naturally moist; but these three grasses should be used in the formation of a permanent pasture wherever they thrive.

Care of the Orchard. During a dry summer and autumn the orchard soil should be kept in tillth until the crop of fruit and wood are matured or until rains come.

THE LAMBING SEASON.

Points For Novices on Management of Young Ewes. Every sound principle of physiology goes to show that the ewe, like every other domestic animal, should be suffered to remain as quiet as possible for some time after parturition. There should be no hasty interference with a newly born lamb if it appears to be doing well. But if, on making the usual efforts, it fails to obtain a supply of milk the ewe should at once be examined, not always, particularly in young ewes, commencing immediately after lambing, though in a few hours it may be abundant. In this case the lamb should be fixed in the meantime artificially. Sometimes, too, when a ewe has a full udder of milk the openings of the teats are so firmly closed that the lamb cannot force them open. The pressure of the human fingers, lubricated with a little moisture, will usually overcome this difficulty. The necks of the lamb will generally keep the orifice open afterward, but it may require a little looking after.

A young ewe, owing partly perhaps to the novelty of her situation and partly sometimes either to her excessive fondness for or indifference toward her lamb, will not stand for it to suck as soon as it makes the attempt, but will turn about to express it or will stamp, hiss or in cold weather she may thus interpose a dangerous delay to its feeding. If she is caught and held by the neck until the udder is once well drawn out, she will generally require no further attention.

It will sometimes be found that a ewe which refuses to stand to be suckled by her lamb will be found to have a hot, hard, inflamed udder, particularly if she is in high milk. This is a sign of inflammation of the mammary glands in the udder. In this case the udder should be fomented for some time with hot water containing a weak infusion of opium. The oftener the fomentation is repeated the sooner the inflammation will subside and the proper flow of milk ensue. If a ewe has lost her lamb and from neglect the udder has become swollen and indurated has formed in it, into garget, it is one of the best applications.

WEANING PIGS. The Main Thing is to Keep Them Growing Steadily. As soon as pigs are old enough to begin to eat food other than that which they receive from their mother a small pen should be so constructed as to admit of the greatest amount of exercise, and a small trough placed in it where milk or slop may be placed with a little shelled corn, so that the pigs can eat at pleasure without being disturbed by their mother, says an Ohio grower in National Stockman and Farm. By this means the young pig soon learns to rely less upon its dam for nourishment and more upon that which it gets itself.

Besides, when weaning time comes the dams may be taken away from the pigs, and neither will experience any inconvenience from the change. Certainly, if care is taken the pigs will not be checked in growth in the least, and will keep on growing just the same. Last year we weaned 52 head, and under such treatment as outlined above they weighed an average of 100 pounds at 4 1/2 months old. This was not an extraordinary growth, and yet it was very satisfactory when we consider there were 52 of them.

The main idea is to keep the young pig growing steadily. In fact, as pig growing steadily, the pig will require more labor and feed to develop it than it otherwise would. It is just as easy and decidedly more profitable to the grower to provide such food and care as will keep a steady, healthy growth in the pig from start to finish as it is to let them go on the "root hog or die" plan and have them not only unequal in size, but stunted in growth, and to be ready to time and feed to bring them out than are necessary.

Modern Meatmaking. The great black and thick sided porkers that were once such favorites are now not desirable, says a writer in American Agriculturist. They have given place to the young, quickly grown animals. In order to avoid the danger of a mixture of breeds, a continuous growth. If it is reduced to a mere shadow during the winter months and then the following season allowed its freedom on the rich range grass of the west, it will lay on too much fat and not enough meat. Tallow is not what is wanted; it is meat that the present generation desires. The eastern feeders are fully aware of that fact, for they never allow an animal to stop growing from birth until it reaches the slaughter house. They will cultivate the taste of the meat eaters to such a degree that it will force those who cannot procure sufficient feed to keep their animals in good flesh through the winter to sell them at weaning time.

Holstein-Friesians For Beef. In the range of the Short-horn, Hereford and Holsteins, not pure breeds, but high grades, says a Montana man. I butcher usually one or two heaves a week and find that the Holstein will average with the other breeds. In fact, the heaviest, fattest animal I have butchered was a Holstein calf that reared a calf the following winter and dressed out nearly 800 pounds of good beef last September. This was never fed a pound of anything but salt.

Make fat cattle as comfortable as possible in every way, and for your pains the weight of beef made will amply repay you when you sell them to the butcher.



In good pasture regions it is a noteworthy fact that most of the dairy cows show better health than those kept in regions where the grass is less luxuriant and plentiful, says a New York farmer in American Cultivator. In some of the states where grass pastures were naturally good years ago the cows presented a far better appearance than they do today when the crop has crowded out the grassfields or poor farming has permitted them to degenerate. Unquestionably the grass question has much to do with the health of our dairy cows.

One of the best dairy cows was never yet produced in regions where the grass was poor, and we cannot do better than to go back to first principles in our efforts to improve the stock. The prime requisite is good grass, and that no amount of good feeding or care will quite make up for it. Good grass pastures mean good soil and well watered land. To obtain these there is needed good farming, general and dairy farmers have crowded out the grassfields or poor farming has permitted them to degenerate. Unquestionably the grass question has much to do with the health of our dairy cows.

Because we do not have sufficient pasturage of the right kind for our dairy cows we have to consider ways and means to feed them so they will keep in health and yield the greatest amount of milk. We have to mix foods in different proportions to increase the butter fat or richness of milk and cream. All this is attended to by nature when the pasture is rich and succulent. That is the foundation of the whole system of dairying. Let us have better grass, better pastures, and then we will have better dairy cows.

Temperature For Cows. A lower temperature is necessary in summer than in winter, because, says a writer in National Stockman. Always test it with a reliable thermometer, and if the churning can be done early in the day so much the better, for when the sun gets hot it is almost impossible to have the butter come nice and hard, even with the ice, mess without this most necessary adjunct. Some of the symptoms of a rule can be given as to temperature of churning. Much depends upon the cows, the cream and the temperature of the room, but it is safe to say that for exhaustion separates the butter in health and yield the greatest amount of milk. We have to mix foods in different proportions to increase the butter fat or richness of milk and cream. All this is attended to by nature when the pasture is rich and succulent. That is the foundation of the whole system of dairying. Let us have better grass, better pastures, and then we will have better dairy cows.

Temperature For Cows. A lower temperature is necessary in summer than in winter, because, says a writer in National Stockman. Always test it with a reliable thermometer, and if the churning can be done early in the day so much the better, for when the sun gets hot it is almost impossible to have the butter come nice and hard, even with the ice, mess without this most necessary adjunct. Some of the symptoms of a rule can be given as to temperature of churning. Much depends upon the cows, the cream and the temperature of the room, but it is safe to say that for exhaustion separates the butter in health and yield the greatest amount of milk. We have to mix foods in different proportions to increase the butter fat or richness of milk and cream. All this is attended to by nature when the pasture is rich and succulent. That is the foundation of the whole system of dairying. Let us have better grass, better pastures, and then we will have better dairy cows.



Professor Roberts of the Cornell experiment station gives direction for forming a permanent pasture, which we condense, says American Agriculturist. Plow deep and sow with buckwheat to be plowed under when in bloom. If part of the land is moist, sow it with four quarts of rape seed per acre, which may be fed down by sheep, but if fed or not turn rape stubble. If cost is not too great, sow from 10 to 20 bushels fresh slacked lime per acre and then harrow it in. After this or when seed is sown use from 100 to 200 pounds per acre of a mixture made from 1,000 pounds acid phosphate, 300 pounds dried blood, 200 pounds nitrate of soda, 300 pounds muriate of potash.

For reseeding he advises the following mixture per acre, sown about Sept. 1: Red clover seed, 6 pounds; alsike clover, 5 pounds; Kentucky blue grass, orchard grass, meadow fescue and red top, 3 1/2 pounds of each; timothy, 4 pounds. This is a very good mixture, but for New England we should put four pounds of white clover in place of the alsike or add it to the mixture and if the pasture was for dairy purposes would add four pounds sweet vernal grass and two pounds tall oat grass per acre to insure good early pasturage. The little extra cost would be quickly repaid.

Selecting Pasture Land. Many pastures are not well selected as to character of soil and location and hence are of little aid in profitably maintaining a dairy herd. The best grass land should be chosen—that is, land fertile and capable of retaining moisture, as occurs where there is a clay subsoil. Once established, a good, reliable pasture is the cheapest and hence the most profitable means of maintaining a summer dairy.

The dairy is most profitable in pasture and sod land but is not much seen in well cultivated fields; consequently when any seeding down is done it should be to clover and again plowed up after the one crop is cut and taken off, which should be before any dairy seed has matured.

SHREDDED CORN FODDER.

Readily Eaten by All Kinds of Stock. Cost of Shredding. George M. Calvin of Indiana in The Breeder's Gazette says of shredded corn fodder: Our experience extends over a period of five years. There were eight shredders around and run last season within a radius of six miles of our town. Some are owned by individuals and run the same as thrashing machines, charging 4 cents per bushel. Others are owned by the company plan—that is, four, five or six farmers owning the shredder and hiring an engine, paying \$3 per day for a man and his engine. With us shredded fodder has come to stay until we can get something better at least. Some object to the cost of shredding, but I never knew a man to have shredding done but that he was pleased with it and would have more done if he could.

While the cost looks great, taking into consideration the time of getting the fodder in the dry and the amount saved standing out in stock until it is hauled by hand and fed out and the convenience of feeding and the quality of manure after feeding, the expense is not great. Any kind of stock eats it well, and I never heard of which of our herd here who feed it the year round and by this plan are able to have much more pasture during the summer, as the field of timothy, which they would have to make hay for their stock they can pasture by feeding their corn fodder.

The best time to shred is just as soon as the husked corn will keep when put in a bin, for as this the fodder must be dry on the outside, as there is a great deal of sap in the stock, and with a little rain or very heavy dew the fodder is liable to mold, but later in the season one need not be so particular about this. Our experience is that shredded fodder is not as likely to mildew as cut fodder. The reason why we do not know. I built a rack 40 feet long outside last fall by making a hot iron out of rails, the same as for hay. I find that it keeps equally as well as timothy hay, and by having a fork made on purpose it can be pitched into a wagon and off very well.

ANTHRAX AND MURRAIN.

Prevention and Cure For These Dangerous Diseases. Bloody murrain, also known as red murrain, dysentery and infectious diarrhea, is a disease of an infectious character which appears to be due to eating spoiled or moldy food-stuffs or of grasses which are contaminated by poisonous bacteria, says Har- old S. in Kansas Farmer. The exact cause of this disease is unknown, but that it is infectious in character there seems to be no doubt. It attacks cattle and sheep, also hogs, and rarely man. Some of the symptoms of bloody murrain are similar to those of certain other diseases, particularly that disease known as anthrax.

In bloody murrain recoveries frequently occur after the disease will often yield to treatment, whereas in anthrax the disease is invariably fatal, no treatment being of any avail when once the animal is attacked. Anthrax generally occurs in a certain district where the infection is known to exist in the soil. In such localities the disease is liable to break out at any time and particularly during the summer months. It is prevented, however, by vaccination with Pasteur anthrax vaccine. This vaccine is now successfully employed in almost all the anthrax infected localities of the North American continent.

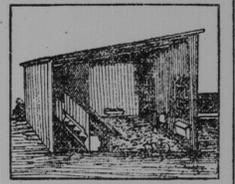
In respect to bloody murrain the exact cause of the disease has not been determined. It cannot be prevented by vaccination, as no vaccine has so far been discovered for it, but, as already stated, it will frequently yield to rational treatment. The removal of the stock to fresh pastures and the separation of the well from the sick animals will almost invariably stop the further spread of bloody murrain, but anthrax infection may be carried from place to place and for long distances.

Early Maturity of Hogs. Why not rear the early maturity and early marketing of hogs a little further, if we can find the period in a pig's life when the carcass will bring its highest net profit, and then sell? We have already shortened the hog's life from two years to one year, to ten months, to nine months, and yet many claim that the profit begins to decrease before even that brief age is reached. The American Swineherd says: A pound of flesh is produced more cheaply before the pig is 6 months old than it is possible at any time afterward. Then why should the pig be kept after the age of 6 months? However, it takes two months to rear a pig that the packer wants a heavier hog than can be grown in six months. However, we believe the hog's life will be still further shortened and that the hog raiser will profit by it.

Cross Breeding of Swine. During recent years a great deal has been written and said about the crossing of different breeds of swine in order to secure larger litters, better carcasses, more bone, early maturing, better bacon type, etc. In some instances the cross of the breeds may prove advantageous, but it must be done wisely, else disappointment will oftentimes follow such a practice. I believe that with good care and proper selection the above mentioned desirable characteristics can be secured from any of our generally recognized breeds without the introduction of any foreign blood. Cross breeding may sometimes prove useful, but it is not a wise policy to make it a general practice.—Professor W. J. Kenney.

POULTRY HOUSES.

Plan For a Comfortable, Convenient and Inexpensive House. In planning a poultry house we should consider these things: First, cost; second, comfort of the fowls; third, convenience as to feeding, cleaning and keeping free from insect pests. The house as shown is 10 by 13 feet, faces the south and is eight feet high on the south side and seven feet on the north, or lower, side. The outside walls may be constructed of either double flooring or boards, with battens on the outside and tarred paper between. It is always well to leave a two inch air space between the two walls if the inside ceiling of flooring is fitted tightly together and the outside cracks are closely battened, as the dead air space thus made will make the house warmer in winter and cooler in summer. The passage, as shown in the illustration, is a board floor, and the poultry room has a floor of dry earth. In winter this floor should be covered with short straw, leaves or clean litter of this kind, in which the grain that is fed should be thrown to keep the hens busy scratching in order to force them to take necessary exercise. The divisions between the poultry rooms and hallway, if there are more



INTERIOR VIEW OF HOUSE. rooms than one, should be boarded about two feet above the floor where there are no roosts and from there to the roof should be made of wire netting, as shown in the cut. The arrangement for nests is shown in the illustration. This makes it convenient to gather the eggs from the hallway.

The dusting box is placed where the sun can shine directly on it through the windows, and on the south wall is shown a hopper, in which is kept a supply of grit, while the water fountain or vessel stands before the other window in winter and in the coolest corner of the house in summer. The perches are shown so plainly that no explanation is necessary, except to say that perches, dropping board, nest boxes and every other inside fixture should be so arranged that they can be taken out and cleaned without trouble at any time.

As will be seen this is about as plainly built as it is possible to make a poultry house. It is in effect a square box with a shed roof, and such a house may be extended indefinitely, according to the number of fowls that are kept. It is easy to apply disinfectants to any part of such a house, and to whitewash it is only a matter of putting the wash on plain walls, which are accessible and have nothing attached to them to prevent going over them rapidly.

If the dropping board is always kept dusted with air slaked lime or sifted coal ashes, they will not only be easy to clean, but the dust will make it impossible for lice to crawl about from perch to perch, and they will in effect be prevented from crawling back and forth from one perch to another, as the dusty lime or ashes is death to them.

This design is given as embodying all the good points of a cheap poultry house which is convenient and may be made perfectly comfortable. Any one who can handle a saw and hammer can do all the work on such a house except hanging the doors and putting in the windows. The inside arrangements are all that is necessary. As to the outside, the builder can make it as ornamental as he wishes.—American Poultry Journal.

Black Minorcas For Utility. I breed Black Minorcas for a number of reasons, among which are utility, beauty and commercial value. I place utility first because my experience has demonstrated that there are few better utility fowls than the Black Minorcas, especially as now bred. First, they certainly excel in egg production any other fowl, as they lay as many eggs as and a much larger egg than the Leghorn. The size and beauty of the Minorca egg are certainly very attractive to the eye, and their large size makes them very much in demand for market. Then, too, the Minorcas have been advanced in size very much in the past few years and for a table are growing in favor right along. Fanciers are no longer satisfied to breed Leghorn-Minorcas, but want them to be at standard weight and above to be at all satisfied, until now we see on exhibition Minorcas much above the requirements of the standard as to weight. Neither the fancier nor his customer will be satisfied with fowls which fall below standard requirements as to weight.—R. F. Palmer in Poultry Monthly.

Where Is He At? Talking about shows, how in farmland is a fellow going to know where he's at anyhow? There was a young Brahman hen down to Boston last winter took first prize; wasn't anything else like her in the hall room. Over in New York she wasn't in it. 'Nuther hen just pushed her one side, and, say, she was a different style to. Guess a fellow can't raise birds to suit all them air judges. Was the Boston fellow's idea right, or have we got to suit the tother one's style? A neighbor of mine has been raising good ones for eight or nine years, and, 'cordin to that Boston fella, he's got to begin all over ag'in. Tuff on us hen folks.—Dee in Poultry Monthly.

CARE OF YOUNG TURKEYS.

If Kept Perfectly Clean They Have Very Few Diseases. I find if young turkeys are properly fed and kept perfectly clean and free from lice they have very few diseases. Exercise they must have, but very young turkeys can have sufficient exercise on an acre or two, and a great many young turkeys can be saved by enjoying this exercise under your control. I give a little sharp grit in their feed every morning. I use grit and oyster shell, the larger part grit, as turkeys, to be healthy, must have it. I have lost hundreds of turkeys, I know, by not having plenty of grit with which to grind their food. If they get a little sharp grit in their food every morning, it keeps their grinding apparatus in perfect order. Very young turkeys do not find the grit of their own accord, and as they grow older they are liable to gorge themselves with the grit as soon as they discover its use, thereby clogging their digestive organs, while a small quantity in their food each morning keeps them in excellent condition.

Overfeeding is another cause of loss in young turkeys. I feed only three times a day for the good reason that I could not possibly find time to feed oftener with the large number I raise. I find it sufficient. They take more exercise if fed less. Then when they are twice feeding, too, allows the food to digest and gives the digestion a little rest.—Mrs. Charles Jones in Poultry Keeper.

Pigeon Breeders' Mistakes. Some breeders of pigeons are in a desperate hurry and commence putting their birds together earlier than is desirable, with the result that the birds are not forward enough. They will mate, of course, but if not ripe the result will be in a majority of instances a full crop of infertile eggs and consequently considerable disappointment. The arrangement for nests is shown in the illustration. This makes it convenient to gather the eggs from the hallway.

This, as a matter of course, has a tendency to weaken the constitution of the females. Early mating of high class stock in this country is a decided mistake. The changeable weather we experience in spring, unless where lofts are heated artificially and the pigeon keeper is in a position to regulate the temperature, is in nearly every instance the cause of much disappointment and attendant losses. Another fertile cause of failure in many lofts is overcrowding, and the majority of fanciers start the season with far too many birds for their accommodation, and when July and August arrive and the young they have succeeded in raising are added to the stock of breeders any one can easily imagine the congested state of things and the difficulty of keeping the flock strong and healthy.—Feather.

An Ingenious Scratching Shed House. Farm Poultry has an illustration of a scratching shed house made many years ago by that veteran poultryman, K. Felch of Natick, Mass. The partition between the roosting pen and the scratching house is closed at night as shown in the cut. In the morning, when needed, it is swung open into the front of the scratching shed, thus making one very large house for the use of the poultry during the daytime. A cloth curtain may be put at the front of the scratching shed to let down at night whenever the weather is stormy for the purpose of keeping the birds out of the snow and rain. While Mr. Felch's house was designed many years ago, a number of poultrymen are returning to this plan as being the most convenient, economical and practical that has ever been devised.



Boyer's Hen Wisdom. Experiences differ with locations. Think of that before you judge a man's reported experiences. Think of the drinking vessels perfectly dry and you enjoying a cooling drink. There's not much humanity in that act.

The man who will neglect his poultry on the first day of the week because it is Sunday hasn't got any Christianity to spare. The man who will overcrowd his hen roost summer nights should be put in a sweet box himself. A poultry crank isn't the worst man in your work, change your occupation. Don't seek the shade to cool off while your fowls are exposed to the burning sun. Anybody can "keep" chickens, but not anybody can have the chickens keep him.—A Few Hens.

For Dust Baths. The best way to make a dust bath at this season is to spade up a space one or two yards square and a foot deep, sifting the dirt so that all gravel may be removed. The sun will dry it and the hens will use it for ridding themselves of lice. Such a bath should be spaded after each rain, however, the labor of doing so being but a few minutes.—Poultry Keeper.