

Sun Shelters.

Sometimes it is impossible to let the fowls and chicks run where there is natural shade and in such cases it is absolutely necessary for the success of the poultry keeping venture that some sort of protection from the sun be supplied, especially during the mid-summer months. To compel the fowls to withstand the severe heat and direct rays of the sun during those months is not only cruel but absolutely sure to kill the profit.

A simple shelter is made by driving stakes into the ground allowing them to project two feet above the surface and placing cross poles upon them which are in turn covered with leafy branches of trees. This covering must, of course, be renewed as often as the leaves dry and fall off.

A more lasting structure is made by stretching a sort of tent of cheap unbleached muslin or burlap over the poles and tying or tacking it tightly to them, so that the wind will not blow it off. The ground beneath one of these shelters will presently become more or less foul from use and the stakes must be pulled up and the entire shelter moved to a new and fresh location.

A more lasting and at the same time more easily moved structure is made entirely of wood. It is simply a small, low movable shed which furnishes protection from the sun (and may be made to furnish protection from the rain also) ten or twelve feet square, framed of light scantling and covered on top with thin boards. Sometimes it has a shed-roof (one pitch only) and sometimes it has a double pitched roof with a ridge pole in the centre. The posts which support it should be about two feet high and should be securely braced so that the structure will stand firmly on the ground. All that will be necessary when such a structure is to be moved from place to place is to pick it up and carry it to the desired location, or it can be made with runners underneath the posts so that it may be drawn from place to place.

A Woman's Poultry Profit.

A reader writes: Five years ago I started in the poultry business by purchasing five sittings of Buff Rock eggs. I have bred them alone, sorted out the best pullets every year to get eggs for hatching and have stumbled from one mistake to another. Have fought with lice, mites, cats and rats, besides other robbers. Last February I purchased a 200-egg incubator and a brooder. I had never seen an incubator, saying nothing of running one. I had very little trouble with the incubator but the brooder caused me all kinds of trouble.

I was very anxious last spring to get a start in S. C. White Leghorns. I had no money to send for good eggs or birds but when I had about given up all hope of getting any, a breeder of White Leghorns saw some of my Buff Rocks at the express office and offered to exchange eggs with me. I hatched and raised thirty nice pullets. I sent one pair of the Leghorns last year to our fair and took second prize.

This was the first show I ever attended so I simply selected the birds by guess. I would have exhibited this year if I had had stock to spare but will wait until next fall. I have the quality but it is hard to get acquainted and build up my trade. I am sure I have built a good foundation.

The following is a report of what I sold this last year:

Eggs—January, 150; February, 495; March, 1,828; April, 2,295; May, 2,144; June, 1,207; July, 169; August, 108; September, 80; December, 100. Total, \$7.56 or 714 2-3 dozens, at 15 cents per dozen, the average price, \$107.20; birds sold in market—May, \$11.37; June, \$20.55; July, \$40.40; September, \$7.02; October, \$56.41; December, \$12.60; total, \$148.35; birds sold for breeding, November, \$18.00; December, \$7.53, a total of \$25.53.

The cost of food was about as follows: Grain, \$55.50; stock and laying food, \$1.50; oyster shell, \$1.50; garden stuff and small potatoes, \$3.00; bran, \$9.00; beef scraps, \$2.00; insect powder, \$1.00; total, \$76.50. This left a profit of \$204.58 to pay for my labor.

I am feeding my chicks oats, corn, wheat, carrots, beets, potatoes, cabbage, sunflower and bran. I planted a garden in the spring in a good rich field and I had more than enough vegetables for both house and poultry.

The Gourlay piano responds in sympathy with the temperament of the artist and places within the hands of the musician the entire range of musical effect—while it gives to the student a revelation of musical values in their correct relations.

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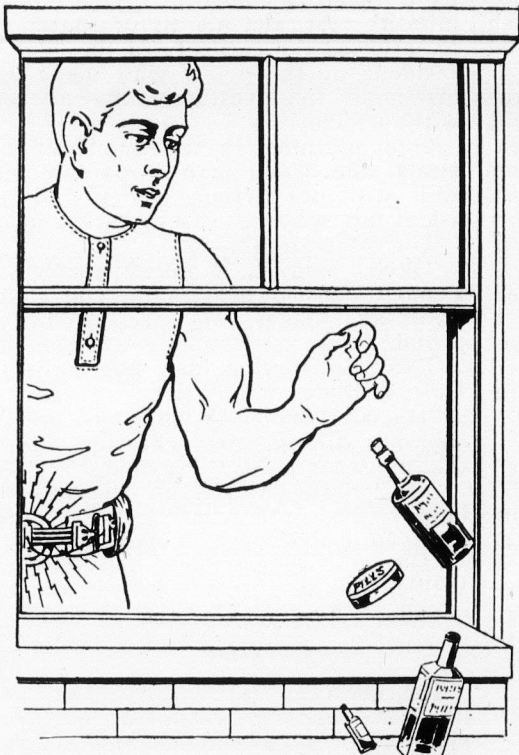
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