

Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

Retention of Afterbirth.

My cow has twice suffered from retention of the afterbirth. Is there anything I can do to prevent the trouble when she next freshens? W. T. W.

Ans.—This trouble is not infrequent in cows kept under all conditions. The cause is not known. Good care and comfortable, sanitary surroundings after parturition, also avoiding chills from exposure or drinking cold water is about all that can be done to prevent this trouble.

Birds are Weak in the Legs.

I have a pen of 36 pullets which appear weak in the legs. Sometimes they are unable to stand on their feet. Their morning feed consists of a wet mash; they get wheat screenings at noon, and they are fed mangels and boiled potato peelings. The grain is fed in a litter of straw. This pen is one of three, but the other two pens, fed in exactly the same way, appear all right. They have been laying well during the winter. What is the cause of the trouble? Should the lame birds be kept in the breeding pen? C. C.

Ans.—It is difficult to diagnose the case from the symptoms given. It is just possible that individual birds are suffering from rheumatism or an inflammation of the connective tissues of the muscles and joints. This is usually caused by exposure or dampness, and is an indication that the pen is not as dry as it should be. If this is the trouble, a warm, well-ventilated pen and a ration which contains plenty of green feed should remedy the trouble. Birds affected with tuberculosis very often go lame. It would be advisable to remove the lame birds from the breeding pen.

Claim on Property—Varnish

1. Could you give any hints concerning the making of a rag carpet, mentioning what colors to use and what style to make it?

2. A father, mother, son and son's wife and family lived together for thirteen years. The father has all claim on everything expecting at his death to leave it to his son. The son died leaving his widow with no title to any of the property. Can his wife collect anything?

3. A father wills his property to his wife, which after her death is to go to two sons. The wife while living signs over to one son his property. The other holds a copy of the will, which had been duly registered. Is this sufficient for any emergency? What should the former son have to show for his title?

4. Could you give a way for making a cheap varnish, also what to use for staining light and dark?

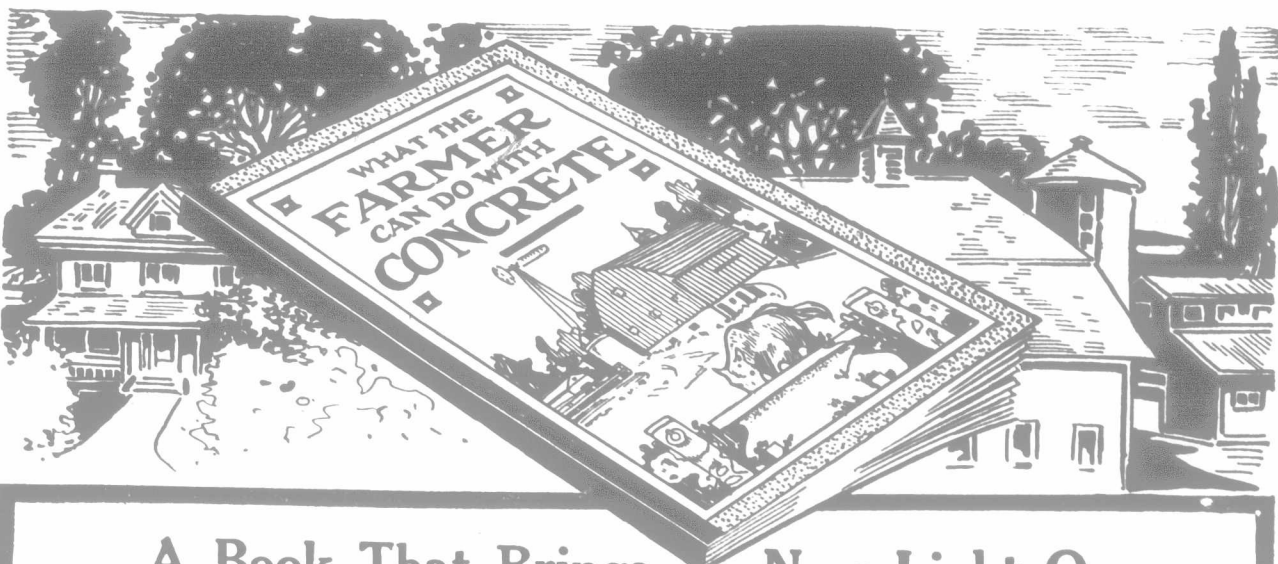
A very cheap and durable paint can be made by mixing cement and milk with dry paint, which will give the color desired. J. McG.

Ans.—1. As the name implies, rag carpet is made from rags. It is customary to cut the material into strips about an inch wide, then sew them together and wind them in balls. Any color material may be used. The pattern, color, or style of the carpet is made by the color of warp. It is necessary to take the rags to a weaver to have them woven into carpet.

2. She has no legal claim on property which is not in her husband's name.

3. If the will states that the son is to get a certain share at a certain time, it should be sufficient. The other son should have the deed of his property in order to make him secure.

4. Varnish is a solution of resinous matter and is made from a number of substances, depending on what it is to be used for. Driers are generally added in the form of sugar of lead or white copperas. For body and lustre amber, anime, lac, etc., are used. A coloring matter soluble in water or alcohol gives the tinctorial effect. Varnish suitable for one material would not do on another. For instance, for black varnish the following materials may be used: shellac 8 parts, resin 5 parts, lampblack 1 part, alcohol 32 parts. Body varnish is made from finest African copal 8 lbs., fused carefully and 2 gallons of clarified oil added; boil gently for 4½ hours, or until quite stringy. Cool and thin with 3½ gallons oil of turpentine. If a cabinet varnish is wanted, fuse 7 lbs. of very fine African gum copal and pour in ½ gallon of pale, clarified oil.



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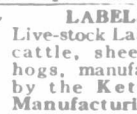
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