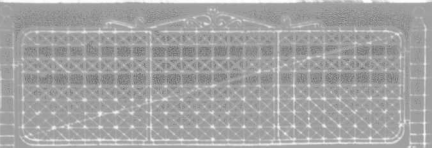


The electrically-welded, solid-piece frame gives strength and stiffness to

Peerless Farm and Ornamental Gates

We build Peerless Gates to last a lifetime—handy, convenient and attractive. They remain staunch and rigid through all kinds of rough usage. The frame is

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made of heavy steel tubing electrically welded into one solid piece. The Peerless Gate, like the Peerless Fence, saves expense because it never needs repairs. We also make poultry, lawn and farm fences of exceptional strength. Write for free book.

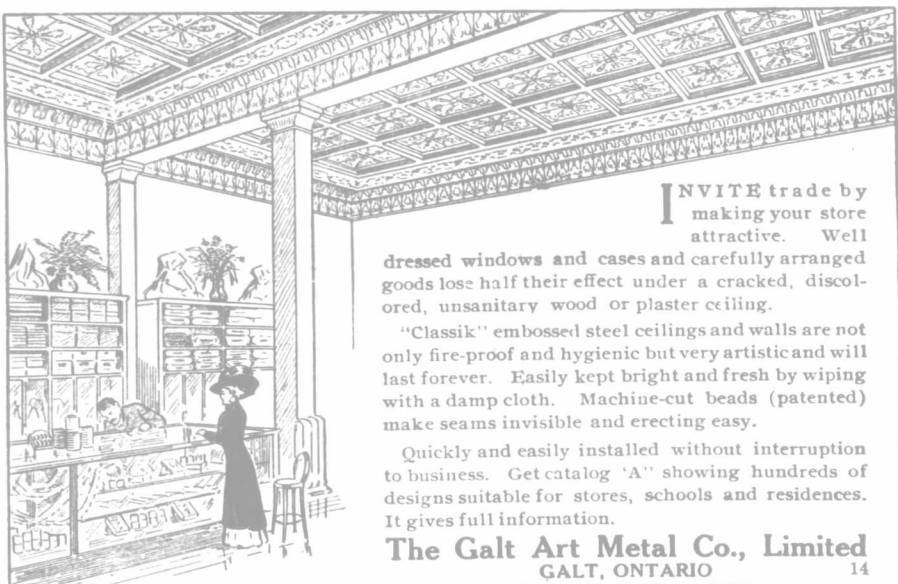
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Ask for Sackett Plaster Board and the Empire Brands of Wall Plaster

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WINNIPEG, MAN.



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dressed windows and cases and carefully arranged goods lose half their effect under a cracked, discolored, unsanitary wood or plaster ceiling.

"Classik" embossed steel ceilings and walls are not only fire-proof and hygienic but very artistic and will last forever. Easily kept bright and fresh by wiping with a damp cloth. Machine-cut beads (patented) make seams invisible and erecting easy.

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LOCAL AGENTS in all districts will be pleased to quote rates and furnish other information.

346,460.20 bushels. 12th December elevator report shows 166,255 bushels; discrepancy or shortage, 180,205.20 bushels.

NO. 4.

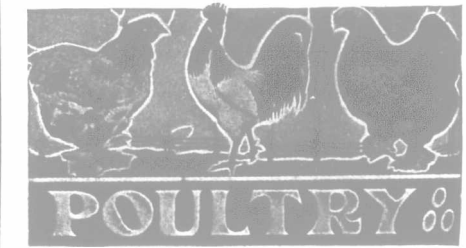
Deducting shipments from receipts, there should have been on hand, 36,853.40 bushels. 12th December elevator report shows 31,866 bushels; discrepancy or shortage, 4,968.40 bushels.

From the statements submitted by Mr. Gibbs, it appears that there were inspected out of the elevator during the week ending December 12th, 106,999.50 bushels more than the total receipts sent in to me; but this might be explained by some shipments which had been omitted from the elevator receipts by mistake, and if so it would reduce the total over-shipment of No. 1 to 370,000 bushels, and if a fair allowance were made for mistakes in the measurement it would be found that the quantity over-shipped of No. 1 would about balance the under-shipment of 2 Northern and other grades.

Mr. Hudson informs me that the matter was fully discussed before the magistrate, the evidence taken before me being referred to, and the various statements produced, and after a somewhat lengthy argument the magistrate decided to impose the fines above referred to.

Mr. Hudson advises me that a prosecution of the party making the statement for perjury would probably be very difficult to sustain. That a prosecution for the mixing of grades would also be a very difficult one to sustain, and that a magistrate might give the company the benefit of the doubt, unless an actual weigh-up of the grain in the elevator had been made. It would also have involved a protracted and expensive contest.

In view of this I do not consider that any action of this nature should be taken at present, but that a weigh-up of the elevator should be made as soon as it can be done practically, and in the event of it then being ascertained that there is any serious discrepancy still existing in the grades, the question of cancelling the license should be considered. Mr. Hudson advises me that in his opinion this is the proper course. Not only in this case but also in Empire and Consolidated Elevator Companies' cases.



Poultry circles are being introduced into Canada. Prof. F. C. Elford is busy organizing in the vicinity of Peterboro, Ont.

CHICKENS IN SUMMER

Discussion this week is on the handling of a farm flock in summer, in case it is required the hens should be confined. A number of good suggestions are contained in the following articles, for which the regular three dollar and two dollar prizes are awarded in the order in which the letters appear.

HANDLING A FLOCK OF HENS IN SUMMER

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

During about six years' experience in handling a flock of hens closed in yards I have learned a number of plans, some of which have been of so much value that perhaps they may be of use to others.

My garden is in close proximity to my house, and for convenience and saving steps I had our hen house built just across a drive way from my kitchen door. Thus I can step over any spare moment to see how matters are progressing among the fowls, either in summer or winter. This answers still another purpose. Sometimes in very severe winter weather these visits to the hen family are all the outings I can take, so they give me the only

taste of outdoor life possible in those seasons.

If the spring opens early, as in this year, so does the garden need attention, and if hens and garden are not mutually conducive to the welfare of both, I keep my hens right in the yard.

My hen house is divided into three compartments, and two of them open into yards which are separated by a fence of poultry netting. The third compartment is used for emergencies, sometimes to keep refractory roosters in, and sometimes for setting hens.

I keep the hen houses clean and well ventilated. In the fall before shutting the fowls up for winter, the houses are thoroughly cleaned and fumigated. Plenty of grit and dust is stored for winter use. Then I feed and water them regularly and seldom lose a hen or have any sickness, and never have been troubled with vermin for years past. I keep at present only Barred Rocks, as among the many breeds I have tried I find them as good as any for this climate, and for all purposes, eggs and meat. If I were going to change, as I may do at some future time, I would get White Rocks. Not because the breed is different, but I prefer white feathers.

After the fall weather becomes so that I can keep the hens either outside the yards, or in their houses, I have the yards well cleaned and the ground stirred up. If it is very dirty I have the fence moved, so there will be a fresh run for the ensuing year.

I feed as regularly and water much more frequently in summer than in winter, giving the hens a great deal of green food, such as refuse from all vegetables prepared for table use, and cress, lettuce and other green food from the garden.

If I have nothing better, I gather any kind of weeds which they will eat. Towards fall I feed all radishes which are going to seed, also spinach and my other garden stuff which is not good enough for table use.

It is perfectly astonishing how much fifty fowls will eat, of fresh, green food. Of course, I feed grain also. Wheat, I find, is the best for staple use. I have to be careful not to feed too much grain lest the hens grow too fat and stop laying. Of course I never keep hens older than two years, except in exceptional cases.

Once in a while, often, if I have time to watch them, I let the hens out of the yards for a run, about five o'clock in the evening. They are so absorbed in new hunting grounds that they seldom remember there is a tempting garden in near reach, until the sundown tells them it is time to go to roost.

I think my hens lay quite as well as if at liberty, and I never have to spend time hunting for hidden nests; also, I never have eggs which are doubtful from having been laid long before gathering.

I have to keep them shut in the yards pretty late in the fall, because of garden produce which is late getting stored for winter. Then among my flowers are places where the hens will scratch roots bare, so the poor creatures are almost like prisoners, but where they know no better, they do not I presume, suffer on that account.

Sask. H. M. NEVILLE.

GREEN FEED THE SUMMER MAIN-STAY

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The best way to confine fowls in summer, if one's situation is such that it is necessary they should be penned, is to use wire netting about four feet high. Instead of doing this, however, I got strips from the sawmill and built my fence higher, as I have Leghorns, and they fly very high. The strips are fastened to the wire about two inches apart and extend above the fence.

A house for a flock of twenty or thirty hens should be 20 feet long and about 12 feet wide, so there will be room for the nests and roosts without crowding. The yard needs to be large enough so that a portion of it can be spaded up and planted to green food, rape, say, and some lettuce. This part should be fenced off from the other. Then, when the hens are in one of the yards green feed will be growing in the other, and vice versa.

I never feed grain heavily in summer as the hens are liable to get too fat. A