

or six days in the week. He does not make the mash on Sunday because he wants to reduce the work to its lowest degree on that day, doing no more than the regular feeding, watering and collecting of eggs.

He gives the work for feeding for each day as follows :

Monday he feeds oats or (barley) wheat, whole corn.

Tuesday mash, barley (or buckwheat) wheat.

Wednesday mash, cut bone, wheat.

Thursday oats, barley, wheat (or corn.)

Friday mash, barley, wheat.

Saturday mash, cut bone, wheat.

Sunday mash, barley (or buckwheat) wheat.

Two feeds of cut bone each week one or two of whole corn (according to the season) gives variety to the ration, and to that is added whole cabbages left in the pens in cold weather to tempt them to pick them to get green food, or turnips or beets and carrots are spilt in heaps and put in the pens to be picked in pieces and eaten. Ground oyster shell are always before them and fresh water replenished three times a day (warm in winter) and the waterpans are carefully revised every day. One variation I would suggest is a slightly smaller and lighter feed of mash in the morning, making breakfast rather a full meal and then scatter barley or buckwheat in the scratching material about mid forenoon and the last feed about mid afternoon say 11 A.M. and 3 P.M. to induce even more scratching exercise. To search and scratch for seeds, grains, insects, etc., is the fowls' normal method of feeding ; one grain at a time and the nearer we approximate to nature's ways the better, hence the greatest possible amount of exercise should be compelled. He says he cannot be sure of a sufficient quantity (thirty or forty pounds of bones for a full meal ; sometimes he gets only twenty or even less at a time, and as it is not convenient for him to cut it up on more than two days in the week, he feeds a part ration of animal meal in the mash to balance the part ration of cut bone. If he had enough cut bone to make three or even two full feeds each week, he would rely entirely upon that. He seems to be in doubt whether he would make one of the feeds into the mash, he is not sure, although he says some of the experienced breeders do it and recommend it ; but to cut the bone is such a perfect food in its natural state he seems strongly inclined to feed it fresh as it is cut. I have a personal acquaintance with

Mr. Hunter, meeting him in Boston and visiting his poultry farm at Natick, Mass., and know that he does not speak theoretically, for he is a practical man, honest, square in his dealings and is a breeder of Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes and Brahmas, all bred on utility lines for eggs and flesh. I should be glad had we space to do it ; and perhaps the Editor of the JOURNAL may give me the opportunity at some future time ; to give a description of his plant as I saw it on my visit. This article I fear is now too long.

Yours faithfully,

S. J. ANDRES.

Mints.

Exhibition of Range Cattle.—A decidedly novel and interesting exhibition of cattle is booked for Jan. 24-27, 1899, at Denver. The conditions of entry provide that cattle in competition must be born and bred on the range and never have tasted corn or any other grain. Consequently, instead of a collection of fast stock this will bring together in competition for liberal cash prizes, range bred cattle which will surprise those who have not kept in touch with the wonderful advance of cattle breeding on the plains. It will be a great object lesson of what can be done in the Rocky mountain region. The prizes offered are liberal and the cattle will be judged on their merits as beef makers.

Moistening and Soaking Feeds.—Soaking grain feeds for cattle and hogs is quite generally recommended and the tests made by numerous experiment stations seem to support this general opinion. In nearly every case where pigs were experimented with the animals ate more of the wet food and made larger gains on it. It must be admitted, however, that the additional gain was usually due to the larger amount of feed eaten and not to its moist condition. The Kansas station soaked shelled corn for five steers until it began to soften. Another lot of five was fed dry corn. Those given soaked feed ate 282 bushels, while the other ate 290. The first lot gained 164 lbs more than the others, a difference of \$25.50 in favor of soaking. From this the station concludes that it pays to soak corn for steers if this can be done for 6c. or less. Soaking wheat for pigs is quite generally recommended.—*New-Eng. Farmer.*