

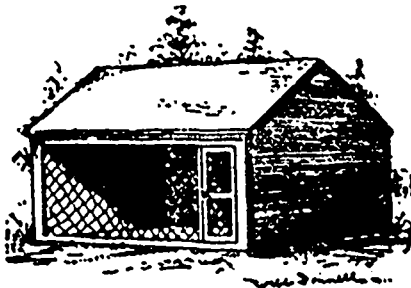
Breeding Pen of Redcaps.

Redcaps are hardy and mature early. For market purposes they are rather better than Hamburgs and are usually non-sitters. The comb, when even and well developed, is very ornamental. Plumage is red and black, legs dark colored, weight 7 to 8 1/2 lbs. Well-shaped combs are rather difficult to breed. Eggs are slightly smaller than those of Leghorns. Redcaps are of the same original stock as the various Hamburg varieties but are of heavier build with very full combs, the larger the better. Wattles and ear lobes are bright red. The legs are rather shorter than those of Hamburgs. Like that breed they are very prolific layers, but eggs are a little undersized.

### The Poultry Yard.

#### ALL SEASONS' TURKEY HOUSE

Those who have had experience with turkeys know that these birds prefer to roost on the ridge-pole of a building rather than under it and that, too, in



HOUSE FOR TURKEYS.

exceptionally cold weather. The turkey does not like close quarters and thrives best where it is given plenty of air. In many sections where winters are not too severe, an open house, as illustrated, will be found an excellent one for turkeys in winter, while in northern regions, even, such a building will be found most useful as a roosting place for both chickens and poultry during the late summer and fall, since they need protection from rain and prowling animals, but plenty of pure air to secure the finest growth. This need of pure air at night is not properly appreciated by most persons who attempt to raise chickens.

#### YOUNG CHICKS IN SUMMER.

If they are dying or seem drooping, examine very carefully for lice. If lice are found, and there is not much dust but they will be, dust with good insect powder and also dust the mother. Dust her extra well under the wings and around the vent. Rub coal oil on her legs. If they are scaly a few applications will clean them, and if smooth it will prevent the hen or chicks from having scaly legs. It is best for all reasons to dust the hen or chicks at roosting time and sprinkle coal oil on the underside of the coop. Sprinkle enough so it will smell quite strong. Sprinkle with

oil twice a week, it is much cheaper than laying lice.

So that they have access to a good dust bath. Sawdust mixed with the fine dust is a great help. It will work into the skin better, and enables the hen to shake the lice off when she shakes herself after the bath. If no lice or signs of lice, i. e. nits, are seen, and the chicks are all right, you have surely neglected to provide "tooth" for the little things. Mix some sharp sand in their breakfast, and have a dish or board of grit, pounded dishes and small gravel in their coop. Of course you don't feed your chicks in their roosting room. There's not much excuse to make a chicken diningroom in their bedroom. It's too expensive in the end. Move your roosting coop to clean ground twice each week.—[W. A. C.]

#### CURE FOR SITTING HENS.

Have a cage nailed up in the hen-house and put the hen and two or three roosters in it.—[J. W. McCarty, Vt.]

A good sharp hatchet proves the best. The next best thing is to provide a small yard with a rooster or two in it.—[Mark Baker, N. Y.]

Remove the sitters as soon as they want to sit to a coop by themselves. Give them feed and water. Let them out in four days.—[R. G. Buffinton, Mass.]

Take a tub or any vessel large enough to accommodate a hen and put two or three inches of water in it. Place the candidate in this and cover the tub so she cannot get out, and leave her there from morning until evening. If the first trial does not cure, leave her in longer the second time.—[Clayton, N. J.]

Remove to a roomy coop supplied with food and water and plenty of light, but no nesting material, and give her as a companion a lively cockerel. Hens that are overfed and kept in confinement are more liable to sit than those that have free range and get an abundance of green food.—[A. R., Mass.]

Wind a strong band of cloth around the leg and tie with a stout cord 3 or 4 ft long and fasten to a staple in the side of a building or tight fence, so she can't wind up, and if possible where the other hens can move over her. Two days without food will take the sit out of them. Another very good way where you have two or more is to put them two days without food in a movable coop on the grass. But a single hen in

a coop is liable to continue sitting.

[George Vanderpool, N. Y.]  
Put them in a small henhouse where there is no incentive to sit and put a good, strong, vigorous male with them. This will break the habit in from three days to one week. If hens are pure-bred the male should be a good one of the same breed. Their eggs can be saved as soon as they begin laying.—[W. B. German, Pa.]

#### TURKS FROM NEST TO MARKET.

When they are all dried off and can walk put them with the mother out in the pasture or any place where the grass is short. Then if you have a good hound you can let them take care of themselves until they get large enough to go on to a roost. At this time it is a good plan to get them up every night for a week or so and feed them a little corn or buckwheat, at the end of a week at about sundown or a little before your turkeys will come home to roost, but of course they expect a little feed and do not disappoint them, if you do you will have to do it all over again. My loss the last season was only 1/2 per cent of what came off the nest.

The best time to dispose of the increase of the flock is at Thanksgiving. The turkey is a national bird at that time. Good prices are usually paid then, better than at any time in the year and the larger bird brings the best prices every time, so that the turkey carrying the most pounds at that time, brings the most money. I shall not discuss the merits of the different breeds further than to say that while an 8 to 10 lb turkey was worth 13 to 14c per lb last Nov., one that weighed 14 to 16 lbs brought 16 to 17c per lb. In the larger bird you not only get the added number of pounds but get from two to three cents per lb extra for every pound the turkey weighs.—[M. L. Asletine, Vt.]

#### THE CHICKEN DOCTOR.

A. S., N. Y.: The fungous-like growth which closes up the eyes and causes a harsh cough is due to roup. Give tincture of aconite in the drinking water, 10 drops to 1 qt.—Marguerite complains that heads of fowls turn black, tongues and throats appear sore, there is a wheezing noise in the throat, and bowel troubles resembling cholera. The symptoms resemble a combination of roup and cholera, with the black head in addition, but it is a distinct disease, apparently brought on by eating smutty corn, wheat or grain that has been injured by heating. The remedy is to feed only sound grain until fowls improve.—H. B. S. complains of chickens drooping, losing flesh yet with enormous appetite. They have free range. The cause cannot be fully determined without further description or examination of dead bird, but tuberculosis is suspected. Separate the sick fowls and kill all those badly affected, as the disease is more or less catching.

Two hundred fowls, belonging to C. H. W., are having a lump on the foot and the other permanently crippled with the effects of rheumatism. These birds will probably be of no further use for breeding. Bathe legs and feet with camphorated oil.—Mrs R. C. B. has hens with diarrhea, combs and gills turn bluish purple, fowls act dumpy. Livers of dead fowls were found much enlarged and full of yellowish white matter. These hens have some affection of the liver, perhaps tuberculosis. Better put well ones in a new location and be careful not to over feed. Put in the drinking water 12 drops podophyllum to 1 pt water.—Mrs P. has chicks dumpy, but apparently not affected with lice. There may be lice lurking about the roots to feed on the chickens at night. Fill all the crevices near the roosts and inside the coop with some potent lice killer or with kerosene. Do not give sour food; provide fine sand for grit.—H. A. R. It is of no use to dose for roup unless the fowls can have a dry coop. Fowls cured of severe roup are seldom of much value afterwards for laying. A good medicine is homeopathic pellets of spongia twice a day.

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