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Questions and Answers.

Miscellaneous.

Steel Cable for Hay Fork.

Is steel cable better than rope for a hay fork? What is the right size to get? Will it run on the same pulleys as rope? What will it cost per foot?

H. H. C.

Ans.—We have never seen steel used. Rope is in general use in Ontario and as a usual thing it ranges from 3/4 to 1 inch.

Whitewash.

How is a whitewash, that will not rub off, made? Can it be applied to painted boards?

M. E. E.

Ans.—Slake one-half bushel of lime in warm water, keeping it covered during the process. Strain the liquid through a fine sieve or strainer, and add one peck of salt previously dissolved in warm water, three pounds of ground rice boiled to a thin paste, half pound of powdered Spanish whiting and a pound of dissolved glue. Add five gallons hot water to the mixture. Stir well and let stand for a few days, then heat and apply hot. One pint of this mixture will cover a square yard.

Drainage Outlet—Hens Moulting.

I own two acres of orchard in the town. One man who lives to the east of the lot has a very wet garden, and for some time he has been at me to run a drain across my orchard and put a large box inside his garden. He promised to put on one man and do half the work, so we started on a Friday morning and run on an old drain right across the orchard which had been there for years but was blocked. After working at it two days we were not nearly completed. My neighbor came over and told me he had done his share, and said that I would have to fill in the rest of the drain and put in the box in his garden. Under these circumstances can he compel me to finish it as the drain is to his advantage?

1. Can I fill in the drain and charge my neighbor for the time I am spending on the drain? Can he compel me to run a drain through my lot to drain his garden? Who is responsible for keeping this new drain in working order?

2. Can a man drain his surface water on my lot where there is no water course? Should he not pay me part or all the expenses for a drain, as it is all for his own benefit?

3. How can I get my hens to moult early? I would like to have them moult in July or August, before the eggs go up in price? I want them to begin early in the fall and keep it up all winter. What do you think is wrong with little chicks about three weeks old that get dull and droop their wings and in two days are dead? I cannot see any vermin on them. Please give cause and cure, also the best mixture to spray the hen-house to keep it clean.

Ans.—1. If the natural water course is through your orchard it is necessary for you to give an outlet, but the neighbor would be responsible for a share of the expense. If it is left to an award each party affected by the drain would have to do a certain amount of work, depending on the extent of benefit the drain is to his land. The upkeep of the drain would be apportioned in a similar manner. Not knowing the circumstances of agreement or lay of the land it would be difficult to say whether or not you could charge your neighbor for work you thought he left unfinished.

2. Not unless it is the natural water course. An engineer would levy the expenses according to the amount of land benefited by the drain.

3. Place the fowls on half the usual rations for 15 or 20 days. The effect of this treatment has a tendency to stop egg production and loosen the old feathers. At the end of 20 days resume full ration. A little linseed meal may be added to the mash. The chicks have symptoms of white diarrhoea, which may be caused by improper incubation, improper brooding, chilling, poor ventilation, poor food, filth or specific organisms. Diseased chicks seldom amount to much. House in clean, comfortable quarters; feed wheat, corn meal, shorts and bran equal parts mixed with buttermilk and give plenty of green feed. Coal oil is splendid material to apply to a poultry house to rid it of vermin. Whitewash with carbolic acid added is also good.

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Pleasant Valley Farm Shorthorns For sale, 9 bulls of serviceable age. We can interest you in a real good bull at a right price, for herd headers or use on grade herds. Some sired by (Imp.) Loyal Scot; also females. Write us before buying.
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