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JUNE 19, 1907

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

945

MUSHROOM CATSUP.

Can you give me a recipe for making mushroom catsup?

Alta.

C. C. M.

Ans.—Put the mushrooms in layers with salt sprinkled on each layer, and let stand four days. Then mash them fine, and to each quart add two-thirds of a teaspoon of black pepper, and boil two hours in a crock set in a kettle of of boiling water. Strain then from the liquor without squeezing; then boil the liquor by itself for an hour; let it stand to cool and settle; then add it to the solid part, put in cans and seal securely.

RHEUMATIC HENS.

I have about nine hens out of a flock of 45 that are sick. They lose the use of their feet, and, when trying to run, propel themselves along with their wings. They get so bad they will lie out on their side, and also seem to be troubled with their breathing; before they get so bad, they seem all pinched up, get small and their heads become dark. They have the run of an orchard and field of spring seeding. Have been fed on wheat, oats and barley mixed, also apple peelings. If you will tell me a cure, I shall think more of your valuable paper than ever, and I think it is about all right now.

A. SUBSCRIBER'S WIFE.

Ans.—The hens are troubled with rheumatism. Rheumatism in hens may have a number of causes: damp quarters continued exposure to cold and wet, too much meat or too little green food. Give them 15 grains of iodide of potassium in each quart of drinking water; common baking soda is also very good. One teaspoonful to a quart of drinking water. See that their houses are dry and sunny; give them plenty of green food, and those not affected should get through all right.

CRIPPLED CHICKENS.

As a result of our last hatch from the incubator of about 80 chicks, we had a number that seemed to have no use of the upper part of their legs or thighs. We called them sprawly-legged chickens. Can you tell us the cause of this, and is there any treatment for the disease?

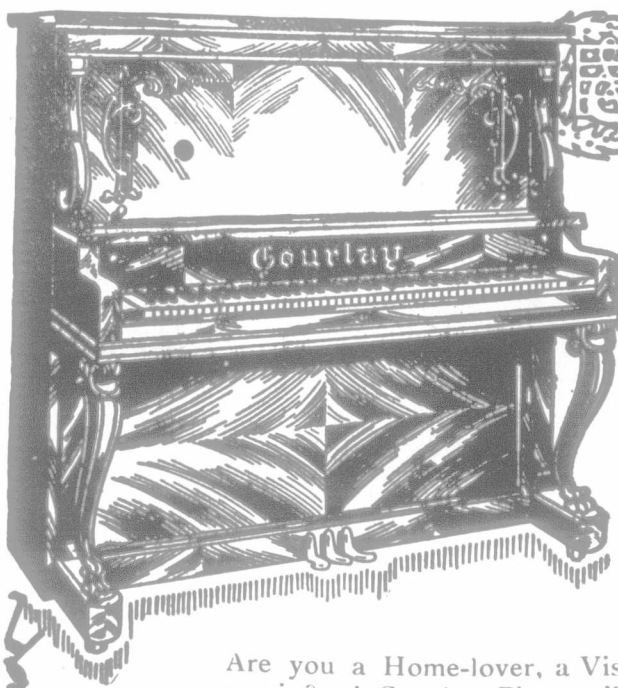
J. H.

Ans.—I take it to mean that at the time the chickens were hatched they had no use of their legs; that is to say, these chickens were deformed at the time of hatching. One might take from the description that the chickens, when they were some days of age, developed this trouble.

As to the cause of the first inference, I do not know that there is anybody who is absolutely certain of the causes of cripples. We have plenty of illustrations of where cripples are caused apparently by the parent stock not being in normal condition. There are also numerous instances in which the trouble appears to be caused by variations in temperature, probably I should say excessively high or low temperatures.

My observation leads me to believe that where an incubator heats unevenly one is almost sure to get a much higher number of cripples than where the incubator heats evenly. Also where you start a machine with the temperature on the eggs either excessively high or low, the chances are that you will get more cripples.

If one were to take the second inference from the enquiry, the trouble, in this case, would be caused by excessive feeding and a lack of exercise. This should not happen at this season of the year. If the chickens are allowed to run out of doors on a fairly large range one can feed them about any feed he chooses, and they will keep on their feet, but in the winter-time a great deal of care is required or the chickens will lose the use of their legs. The remedy for this is to supply an abundant amount of fresh air, exercise and none too liberal feeding.



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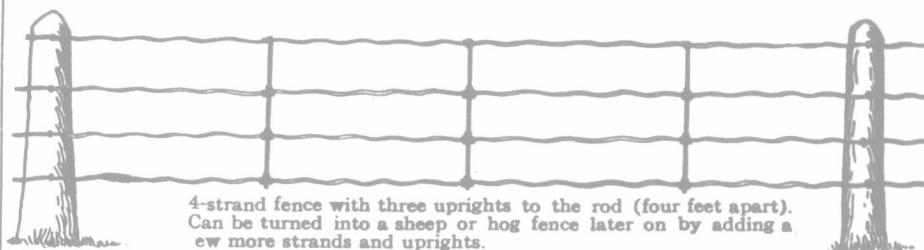
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