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A CHRISTMAS SUGGESTION

You often wonder what to buy to send to some distant friend or relative. We would suggest a year's subscription to the Guide-Advocate. It is a gift that is most appreciated every week and lasts throughout the entire year. Far better than sending your own copy every week.

\$1.50 TO ANY PART OF CANADA

HENS ARE NOW LAYING

By Lighting Pens Till 9 p.m. Egg Production Nearly Doubled.

Cause, Symptoms and Cure of Ringworm Explained—As It Is Very Contagious the Stockman Must Take Great Precautions to Prevent Its Spread.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

MOSTLY everybody who is keeping poultry wants to get eggs in winter. Generally speaking, the number of eggs gradually goes down from week to week from September to January and then there is a slow but gradual increase until March, April and May, which in Ontario are the best months for egg production.

It is unusual, and in most cases very unwise, to publish figures in regard to experiments until the material has been very thoroughly tested, but in this particular case, considering the high cost of feeds and the general scarcity of new laid eggs, we are giving the figures on a rather short test of but four weeks' duration. The results appear to be generally true in all pens tested and are in accord with results obtained elsewhere.

The increase in egg yield has been obtained by the use of electric lights, or prolonging the day. The facts of the matter appear to be that a hen's crop is too small a reservoir to hold sufficient feed for the long night. A hen, to lay, must have a surplus of feed over and above that required for body maintenance.

In these particular trials, the results of which are given below, the lights were turned on at dusk and were turned off at nine o'clock at night. The birds get their first feed in the morning at seven o'clock and a few dull mornings require lights for about one hour.

The usual feed of grain given at about four to five o'clock in the afternoon is missed or only a handful or two of grain is given to twenty-five birds, simply to keep them moving a little. The full feed is given at about eight o'clock.

The following results have been secured:—

No. of birds.	Eggs laid week beginning				Total.
	6th.	13th.	20th.	27th.	
50 April hatched pullets (electric lights)	150	211	250	264	875
50 April hatched pullets (no lights)	14	74	130	174	392
25 yearling hens (electric lights)	96	89	108	369	362
25 yearling hens (no lights)	62	70	60	253	253
100 Maines, all lights	416	401	404	444	1,635

There are many people keeping poultry who have no electric lights. Fair to good results have been secured elsewhere by using ordinary barn lanterns. The danger of fire when using lanterns is materially increased. We have not tested these as yet but hope to have them under way soon. For electric lighting we use three ordinary bulbs for a pen of one hundred birds, or one light in a two-five bird pen.—Prof. R. W. Graham, O. A. College, Guelph.

Ringworm.

Ringworm is a contagious disease to which all classes of animals, and man, are subject.

Calves and young cattle appear to be more susceptible to the trouble than other animals, but no age renders an animal immune. It is purely a skin disease, and is due to the presence of a vegetable parasite, which is readily capable of being conveyed from one animal to another by direct contact; the hands of the attendant, pails, stable utensils, clothing, harness, saddles, blankets, the contact of one animal with the stalls, etc., of affected animals, etc. In like manner, curry-combs, brushes, rubbing cloths, etc., that are used on affected animals of any class, if used on other animals, become a fertile cause of infection.

Symptoms.—While any part of the animal may be the seat of the disease, the skin around the eyes and back, appears to be the favorite seat. The first symptom shown is usually an itchiness, which is followed by a slight form of eruption, which soon assumes the appearance of little yellowish scales of a circular form, the mass scales forming a circular space, hence the term "ringworm." A variable number of these circular patches may be noticed on different

Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA

parts of the body.

Treatment.—It is necessary that great care be taken to avoid the conveyance of the virus from the diseased to healthy animals. Where practicable, it is well to remove all non-infected animals to non-infected premises. The infected premises should be disinfected by thoroughly sweeping and dusting, and then giving a thorough coat of an insecticide, as a hot 10 per cent of one of the coal tar antiseptics or carbolic acid, or a coat of hot lime wash with 5 per cent carbolic acid.

Local treatment consists in moistening the scales with warm water and soap, or sweet oil, removing them in order to expose the unprotected surfaces of the affected areas. An insecticide, as tincture of iodine should be applied once or twice daily until cured.—J. H. R., Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

WAR BEGAN IN APRIL, 1913

Huge War Credit Was in That Year Voted in Germany and Supported by Socialists.

When did the war begin? April, 1913; not August, 1914, as the press always has it, writes Charles Edward Russell in Harper's. The real declaration of war was made by the German reichstag when it struck observing Europe dumb and chill by passing, an extraordinary war credit of \$250,000,000; and to that act of belligerency in a time of profound peace the socialists in the reichstag gave practically their support.

All men in the world accustomed to make upon the day's news an intelligent diagnosis must have gasped and stared at this portent. Unless Germany deliberately planned now to bring down upon mankind the war her armament had silently threatened these many years, there was no good reason for this perilous saber rattling; certainly none appeared in the state of Europe. Yet the socialists seemed to be for it; that was the incomprehensible fact.

August Behel, then still active, was the ablest and most famous of their leaders, and criticism from many lands seemed to goad him into a defense. It was of a nature to chill the last hope in any friend of peace. Two reasons he gave for the reichstag's action. One was that President Poincaré of France, who had been but newly elected, was a warlike and dangerous man, and no one could tell to what lengths he might go. The other was that in the Balkan wars the Turks, taught by German officers, had been beaten by the Serbians, taught by French.

The judicious might grieve indeed when they came upon such an offering from such a source, and anybody able to read might see that war was close at hand.

ANGRY AT BEING DISTURBED

Old Gentleman Vastly More Annoyed at Constable Than He Was at Hun Air Raiders.

"He wasn't half angry," said a constable to me, smiling reminiscently as he cast his eye over what remained—mostly top story only—of an old-fashioned house which had suffered in a recent air raid. "You should have heard his language."

"Curious thing," I said, "the top floor doesn't appear to be touched."

"Yes, that's where he was," said the constable. "Of course, we thought he was a casualty. We cleared away the rubbish, and somehow or other got up to his rooms with an ambulance and the doctor. The door was closed, so we started prying it open. That's when the fun started."

"The door was flung open, and there stood the old gentleman with a big book in his hands, his 'specs' on, and in a proper temper. I just caught a glimpse of a cosy armchair drawn up to a blazing fire."

"What the — does this mean?" he says. "Haven't I been disturbed enough this evening? Get out of it, all of you! And without troubling to shut his door, he went back and sat down with his book beside the fire, muttering most awful. It gave me the biggest shock of the raid."—London Mail.

Not Equal to It.

They had not been married very long, but she had grown cold and listless; so one evening, after she had yawned about seventeen times, he said: "You seem to be so cold and indifferent, Malvina. Have you forgotten those happy days when I was paying you my addresses?"

"I should think I haven't! I should think I haven't forgotten those happy days. I never had less than three fellows every evening calling on me."

"But, dear, haven't you got me to pay you attention now?"

"Yes, I suppose I have. You are doing the best you know how; but you don't flatter yourself that you are equal to three, do you?"—Stray Stories.

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT

In Australia there still remain part of the 1916-17 crop, the whole of the 1917-18 crop and the 1918-19 crop will soon be harvested. The last contract for wheat made with the British authorities was in December 1916, before the submarine menace forced the putting of ships on short hauls. For the crop of 1918-19 the Commonwealth has given a guarantee of 97 cents a bushel, or about \$100,000,000, in addition to \$70,000,000 already paid out in advances on former crops.

Miller's Worm Powders are a prompt relief from the attacks of worms in children. They are powerful in their action and, while leaving nothing to be desired as a worm expellant, have an invigorating effect upon the youthful system, remedying fever, biliousness, loss of appetite, sleeplessness, and other ailments that follow disorders caused by worms in the stomach and bowels.

Commends Sailor's Bravery.

For gallantry in rescuing from drowning a lad eight years of age Secretary Daniels has commended Arthur Otto Radcliffe, a seaman of the United States navy. Alongside of the United States steamship Wadsworth, on which the sailor was stationed, lay a tug. A small boy played about the deck with no thought of danger. Suddenly he fell overboard. Before the warning came the child had floated seventy-five yards or more from the tug and ship. Then Radcliffe came into action. Jumping into the water, he swam to the boy and brought him to safety. Radcliffe enlisted in the navy in 1915, at Des Moines, Iowa.

"Germ-Proof" Money.

To a bank in Spokane, Wash., belongs the distinction of circulating the first antiseptic germ-proof national bank notes. The United States treasury is still experimenting with devices to laundry dirty bank notes to brighten crisp ones, but the Spokane bank has the first sanitary money on record. Fifty thousand dollars in bills, put out by the bank, were signed with an ink said to consist largely of carbolic acid. The result is the bills are saturated with an agency which means death to the most vigorous germ who'd live there.

Her Repartee.

"John, I wish you'd stop snoring."
"What's the matter with you now?"
"Nothing, only I'm getting tired of these sleepless nights."



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