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WHOLE NO. 927.

Poultry Raising.

Dr. Twitthell's Address—Importance of the Poultry Industry.—Value of the Egg Product of Maine.—Three Leading Principles in Poultry Raising: A Suitable House, House, Advantage of Co-operation, Food Systems.—Give the Boys a Chance.

Parasit to announcement, Dr. A. M. Twitthell, of Yarmouth, Me., associate editor of the Maine Farmer, who has been engaged by the Provincial Board of Agriculture to deliver a series of lectures on Agricultural subjects in various parts of this Province, gave a very interesting and thoroughly practical address in Powell's Hall on Friday afternoon. Owing to insufficient notice and other causes, the attendance was not nearly as large as it should have been, but the meeting was thoroughly representative, and included a number of leading farmers from the Parish of Westmorland. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. J. Anderson, member of the Board of Agriculture.

Dr. Twitthell, on being introduced to the meeting, said that before discussing the subject that had been selected for his address he wished to speak of the work being done by the Maine Board of Agriculture. As now organized, every county having an agricultural society is entitled to send one representative. The annual meetings which were formerly held in the large cities, are now held in villages in the midst of farming districts. Instead of choosing a place of meeting in a commercial centre, the aim now is to select as far as possible the agricultural centres of the State, and there all day meetings are held and local interests are fully and carefully discussed. Under its present organization the Board has done a remarkable work and its constant aim is to make its work practical. The secretary is a practical farmer, and competent lecturers are employed to visit all the agricultural sections of the country and address the farmers on practical subjects.

Turning to the subject of poultry raising, the lecturer said that the annual egg product of Maine was worth more than eight million dollars. Eggs to the value of \$250,000 were shipped from one county. From one small railway station in a farming district 300,000 dozen eggs, worth \$60,000, were exported last year. The production of eggs and poultry is therefore a MATTER OF IMPORTANCE.

There is no fear of overdoing the matter, for it will be a long time before this country will produce enough eggs to supply the demand. The United States imports sixteen million eggs from France annually, and an equal number from other countries. The lecturer said that in discussing the subject he would talk from a standard of dollars and cents. Farming cannot now be carried on successfully by indifferent methods. Increased competition has completely changed the condition of affairs and in all branches of farming improved methods must be used. The study of the farmer who wishes to succeed must be to decrease the cost of his products by increased production. Especially is this true in reference to keeping poultry. A few years ago eggs could be shipped at any time and kept in cold storage or lined without making more than two or three cents difference in the price. Now the difference amounts to ten or twelve cents, and every year the difference in price becomes more pronounced. In raising poultry for profit three leading principles must be observed. The first of these is

KEEPING AN ITEMIZED ACCOUNT. How many farmers know exactly what it cost them to raise a bushel of oats or potatoes, or a ton of hay? To carry on their business successfully they should know the exact cost of everything they raise. It is particularly necessary that the poultry raiser should have precise information concerning the expense of production, for in that branch loss or gain is a question of fractions. If a man keeps fifty hens and each here cost him a cent a day more than is necessary, he is losing fifty cents every day in the year. When the lecturer, as a lad, commenced raising hens, his mother gave him a pass book and asked him to keep an account of every item of expense, and every egg received. He did so, and keeping accounts soon became a habit, so that now he can tell how many eggs he received from any hen he ever owned, the cost of keeping each hen and all the details of the business.

The next leading principle is SYSTEMATIC FEEDING. The time for indiscriminate feeding is forever passed away. A hog to be fed successfully requires a complete ration for producing fat. A cow wants a complete ration of milk-producing food, and a hen must have the food that will produce the greatest number of eggs in a given time. An excellent feed for hens consists of 40 parts shorts, 40 parts oatmeal, and a handful of pulverized oyster shells, well mixed together. The proper way to feed is to give the fowls as much as they want but not as much as they will eat. To put a quantity of food in their troughs and watch them while they eat; if they eat it all greedily it will be well enough to give them more, but if they leave any, take

away what is left and give them no more that day. The last principle is GOOD STOCK.

Don't commence at the wrong end. Some may think that good stock would be the first requisite, but there is more in the individual than there is in the breed. Don't think the hens you have are no good, nor that any one breed is perfect. If you wish to raise chickens, keep the hens you may have, but get a thoroughbred cock of a desirable breed. The best breeds can only be determined by experience and by practical observation. The best general purpose hen is broad between the legs, with yellow legs and skin. Black Spanish and Minorcas will produce a few more eggs than the large, yellow skinned breeds, but they are not so hardy and their eggs are not so large, while for the table they are much inferior in size and delicacy to the Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes and Brahmas. The peculiar excellence of any kind of stock is not a natural condition, but is the result of breeding, which implies special care in feeding. Take the different breeds of horses in this country, put them together and feed them alike and they will soon lose their distinctive characteristics. The hen is a machine capable of taking food and producing what is wanted. Every pullet, before it has laid an egg contains within it the germ of about 750 eggs. These embryonic eggs may be developed in three years or less, or a dozen years may be occupied in their production, hence the necessity of giving food that will force the development. The lecturer said that when he got his hens in such a condition that they would produce 365 eggs in a year he would not be satisfied until they were able to develop the whole 750 in that period. When anyone starts to raise hens the first thing necessary is

A SUITABLE HOUSE. A building to accommodate 50 hens should be 12 feet wide, 7 feet high, and be better to be sheathed with tarred paper as well as shingled. There should be three windows on the south side, each containing 12 lights of 8x10 glass. The house should stand on sandy soil, for dampness is fatal to success. To ensure ventilation there should be a double flue running from the floor through the roof, one flue having an opening near the ground and the other several feet higher. The nest boxes should be so constructed that the hens cannot go out on them. The feeding troughs should be covered with slats so that the hens can eat the food without being able to get into the trough. The troughs may be made of 2x3 stuff with chamfered edges and should be made movable, and kerosene should be applied to the sockets where they rest. A pail for holding water is also necessary to the complete equipment of the poultry house. In cold weather hens should have all the corn they can eat before going to roost to keep up the natural heat; the best way to feed it is to scatter it about them so that the hens will have to search for it, and it is better for them to be employed in this way an hour or two every day. The best food for laying hens is wheat, and next to that comes oats. Barley is good, and buckwheat is excellent in moderate quantities. Corn should be only used for fattening, or producing heat, as it contains 75 per cent. of fat producing matter. The proper time for hatching chickens for fall laying is in April, and hens that are set in April and have not more than seven eggs. If spring layers are wanted, they should be hatched in September. Chickens intended for layers should not be hatched in June, July or August. The best way to set hens is to wait till three or four hens are ready to sit and then set them all at once. After the hens have been sitting ten days the eggs should be tested and all that are not likely to hatch should be removed. In France eggs are tested 26 hours after the hens are set, and all that do not show signs of life are taken away and sold, the probability being that some of them find their way to the United States. After the chickens are hatched those that are intended for market should be fed so as to make a rapid growth, and then fattened at once. Nothing is better for putting on fat than cornmeal, and fowls that are being fattened should be confined in a partially darkened room. If properly fed they will double their weight in ten days, but if kept in confinement longer than that they will grow poor. The lecturer said he didn't see how our farmers could afford to sell chickens by the pair. There is always a demand for a good article at a good price, and to sell poor, half-grown chickens is a serious loss. The fowls of houses in which fowls are confined should be plastered with covered with plaster or dust, but never with ashes. Once a week or so the droppings should be swept up and placed in barrels, and this should occasionally be worked over, and it will at last resemble commercial fertilizer, and be almost as valuable. Farmers can always be sure of getting good prices if they are careful to always send a good article to market. Maine farmers averaged 19 cents per dozen for their eggs last year, but some by being careful to supply nothing but good eggs, of a uniform size, obtained a much larger price. The shipment of eggs would afford an excellent chance for co-operation among the farmers of this Province.

If farmers would trust each other and be careful to send nothing but what they knew to be good, they could realize much larger prices. Keepers of first class hotels and restaurants would sooner pay fifty cents a dozen for eggs than run the risk of putting a stale egg before their customers. Leading grocers are willing to pay well for eggs they know to be reliable, for their own reputation is at stake, and they know that if they can obtain a reputation for keeping nothing but first-class stock they will have no difficulty in obtaining remunerative prices from their customers. The lecturer said that there were many ways in which

CO-OPERATION WOULD BE A BENEFIT to the farmers of this Province. It had been tried in some sections of Maine with excellent results. Why should not our farmers combine to send their surplus to market? Maine pays this Province \$25,000 a year for horses, and in doing so the Maine horse-buyers make repeated trips to New Brunswick at considerable expense. Why should not our farmers combine and send one of themselves to make a sale of their surplus horses to the buyers? Why not ship their own potatoes?

THE GRANGE is doing excellent work in Maine in the way of co-operation. Started originally with a view to enable its members to buy cheaply, it had discovered that more important matters claimed its attention, and its object now was not merely to cheapen the price of groceries. Returning to the subject of poultry raising, the lecturer said that no man should go into the business unless he had a liking for it, for success would depend on the amount of care and attention it received. There is undoubtedly money in the business for any one who likes it, for he had proved by experience that a hen can be kept for 85 cents a year, and that the net annual profit on each hen is from \$1.00 to \$1.50. Ducks are also profitable, and strange as it may seem, they do best when kept away from the water. Ducks are enormous layers, and can be grown and fattened very rapidly. An excellent ration for ducks consists of boiled turnips 30 parts, shorts 30 parts, ground oats 30 parts, and ten parts of meat scraps, ground shells and fish bones. The question of food rations is one that should be fully studied. Don't keep hens unless you are sure it pays. Don't sell a pound of hay unless you are sure it pays better than to feed it on the farm. Speaking of feeding hay, the lecturer said he didn't see how farmers could afford to keep cows for milk and butter without feeding grain. He had fed the following daily ration to his own cows with excellent results: 6 lbs. hay, 3 lbs. straw, 2 quarts corn, 4 quarts shorts, 2 quarts meal, 1 peck turnips. In conclusion the lecturer urged his hearers to give their girls and boys a chance. Let them raise poultry, teach them business habits, and if they make money don't put it in your own pockets. Be honest with the boys and give them a chance. When over the time comes that home to the farmer's boy means something more than a place to eat and sleep and work, there will be less complaint about boys leaving the farm to seek other occupations, and there will be fewer deserted homesteads when the old folks have passed away.

The Methodists in their various branches constitute one of the largest divisions of the Christian family. The strength of these branches or divisions is as follows: Methodist Episcopal, 20,263 churches, 14,075 ministers, 1,990,377 communicants; Methodist Episcopal, south, 1,351 churches, 4,434 ministers, 1,956,028 communicants; African Methodist Episcopal, 2,800 churches, 2,600 ministers, 500,000 communicants; African Methodist Episcopal Zion, 2,200 churches, 200 ministers 314,000 communicants; United Brethren, 4,332 churches, 1,298 ministers, 103,000 communicants; Methodist Episcopal, 2,016 churches, 1,729 ministers, 165,000 communicants; Methodist Protestant, 1,799 churches, 1,238 ministers, 133,514 communicants; Evangelical Association, 1,808 churches, 1,069 ministers, 132,508 communicants; American Wesleyan, 495 churches, 179 ministers, 17,720 communicants; Free Methodist, 358 churches, 373 ministers, 12,914 communicants; Independent Methodist, 35 churches, 30 ministers, 5,000 communicants; Primitive Methodist, 125 churches, 90 ministers, 3,857 communicants; Union American Methodist Episcopal (colored), 50 churches, 112 ministers, 3,500 communicants; Grand total—47,302 churches, 29,493 ministers, 4,532,658 communicants. The net gain in these churches during the past four years was 5,581 churches, 5,008 ministers, 588,788 communicants.

Depend Upon It. Accidents will happen despite all care and painful injuries such as Sprains, Bruises, Cuts and Burns result. Every one who has been injured by one of these accidents knows that the best remedy is Yellow Ointment. It is the greatest family remedy for all Pains, Coughs, Colds and Sore Throats. It is a Whopping Cough remedy. It is the greatest remedy. When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria. When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria. When she became a Woman, she clung to Castoria. When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Another Item. Mrs. J. Thompson, of Elms, Ont., writes that she suffered from general weakness and was so reduced that she became almost unconscious. Three bottles of Bardest Blood Bitters completely cured her, and the new remedy commended B. B. to her friends and neighbors.

WOMEN'S COLUMN.

Conducted by Members of Sackville W. C. T. U.

What Prohibition has Already done in Maine and Elsewhere. By careful research and fortified by unquestioned testimony we find that: It has made liquor selling a disgrace. It has greatly modified the drinking habits of young men. It has greatly reduced the number of saloons. It has largely reduced the amount of drunkenness. It has virtually relieved the community of tramps and vagrants. It has increased the demand for labor. It has greatly reduced the taxes. It has increased largely to the value of all kinds of property. It has nearly emptied the jails, prisons and poorhouses. It has greatly reduced the amount of sickness. It has greatly reduced the number of railroad, steamboat and other accidents. It has elevated the moral character of the people. It has largely diminished litigation. It has contributed to the attendance at churches. It has increased the attendance at the schools. It has greatly increased savings-bank deposits and banking capital. It has reduced the criminal cases before the court over fifty per cent., and crime of all kinds, including murders and violence, have diminished more than seventy-five per cent. It has added greatly to the volume of trade, including the demand for wearing apparel, pianos, sewing machines, carpets, furniture, etc., etc., also increasing railroad traffic. In fact all branches of business have a greatly increased prosperity, and the people have better security for their lives, homes and property. The above positively, clearly and unambiguously prove that when prohibition of the liquor becomes general in both State and Nation, drunkenness, poverty, and crime will be almost unknown in the community, and the promised glorious good time will have come for the country. May God speed the day, and each citizen realize his personal responsibility for its consummation!—Demorest's Monthly.

Robert J. Burdette on Continental Temperance. If there is one passage in the letters of American travelers in Europe more tiresome than another it is this: "During our six weeks' stay in Paris we did not see a single drunken person." Then they travel through Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Italy and Spain, and all France, and still they do not see a drunken person. They attribute the sobriety of the people to the fact that they have high living and prohibition, and they never get drunk. Well, now, the only inference one can draw from these remarkable letters is either that the writers themselves were blind drunk all the time they were in Paris, or the Parisian drunkard is a most successful hider. Because while our travelers last year did not see a single instance of drunkenness in Paris, the official police records state that the police of Paris saw and arrested, on an average, a people every day. In fact, the police were so busy in making the official report while reading these letters, and perhaps if the writers drank less and thought more they would remember that official returns will not always agree with letters from the guide-book.

A terrible murder and suicide occurred at Galt, Ont., Wednesday morning, the victims being Henry Main, a private banker, and John Currie. It appears that the man had had some business transactions out of which arose a dispute. At 8 o'clock Wednesday morning Currie purchased a revolver, saying he was going to Detroit. He then went round town and hid his friends good-bye. Shortly after 10 o'clock he reached Mr. Main's office. Without a word, he shot Mr. Main, who was sitting at his desk, with his back to the door. Currie fired two shots, one entering Mr. Main's head, over the right eye, and the other the centre of the forehead. When found, a few minutes later, he was lying on his face in a pool of blood. As soon as Currie committed the deed, he walked across the road to a shed in the rear of the Galt Hotel and put a bullet through his head, killing himself instantly.

The mayor and treasurer of Halifax have been empowered to borrow \$3,000 at the request of the art school, and pay it as requested and provided for.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

Scrofula. Is one of the most fatal scourges which afflict mankind. It is often inherited, but may be the result of improper vaccination, mercurial poisoning, indigestion, and various other causes. Chronic Sores, Ulcers, Abscesses, Cancerous Humors, and, in some cases, Emaciation, and Consumption, result from a scrofulous condition of the blood. This disease can be cured by the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. I inherited a scrofulous condition of the blood, which caused a derangement of my system. I have since used four bottles of Ayer's Sarsaparilla and am

Entirely Cured. For the past year, have not found it necessary to use any medicine whatever. I am now in better health, and stronger, than ever before.—O. A. Willard, 218 O'Brien St., Boston, Mass. I was troubled with Scrofulous Sores for five years; but, after using a few bottles of Ayer's Sarsaparilla, the sores healed, and I have now good health.—Elizabeth Warnock, 54 Appleton Street, Lowell, Mass. Some months ago I was troubled with Scrofulous Sores on my leg. The limbs were swollen and inflamed, and the sores discharged large quantities of offensive matter. Every remedy failed, until I used Ayer's Sarsaparilla. By taking three bottles of this medicine the sores have been entirely healed, and my health is fully restored. I am grateful for the good this medicine has done me.—Mrs. A. O'Brien, 106 Sullivan St., New York. Ayer's Sarsaparilla, Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists. Price 42¢ per bottle.

New Spring Prints! JUST OPENED: 1,100 Pieces New Spring Prints; 200 "Chocolate Prints; 200 "Mourning Prints; 100 "Piquette, in White & Fancy; 100 "White & Black Linings. A. EVERITT, Wholesale Warehouse, 92, 94 and 96 Germain Street, ST. JOHN, N. B. Destruction of Capital by Inventions. The readiness with which society comprehends the suffering, contenting on the relentless displacement of labor by more economical and effective methods of production and distribution, and the overmastering feelings of sympathy for individual distress thereby occasioned, causes us to generally overlook another exceedingly interesting and important involved factor, and that is the relentless impartiality with which the destructive influences of material progress coincidentally affect capital (property) as well as labor. It seems to be in the nature of an inviolable law that no advanced stage of civilization can be reached except at the expense of destroying in a greater or less degree the value of the instrumentalities by which all previous attainments have been effected. Society professes its highest honors and rewards to its inventors and discoverers; but, as a matter of fact, what each inventor or discoverer is unconsciously trying to do is to destroy property, and his measure of success and reward is always proportioned to the degree to which he effects such destruction. If to-morrow it should be announced that some one had so improved the machinery of cotton-manufacture that ten per cent more of fiber could be spun and woven in a given time at no greater, or less expenditure of labor and capital than heretofore, all the existing machinery in all the cotton mills of the world, representing an investment of millions upon millions of dollars; would be worth little more than so much old iron, and the inventor and the man who should endeavor to resist that change would, in face of the fierce competition of the world, soon find himself bankrupt and without capital. In short, all material progress is effected by a displacement of capital, equally with that of labor; and, marking the rate of such progress more clearly than the rapidly with which such displacements occur. There is, however, this difference between the two factors involved. Labor displaced, as a condition of progress, will be eventually absorbed in other occupations; but capital displaced, in the sense of substituting the new for what is old is practically destroyed.—From "The Economic Outlook—Present and Prospective," by HOS. DAVID A. WALLS, in Popular Science Monthly, for March.

—An idea of the magnitude of the business done by E. D. Armour & Co., of Chicago, in a single year, may be gathered from the following figures, which we find in an American exchange.—Total distributive sales during 1887 were \$50,000,000; exclusive of board of trade transactions; slaughtered—hogs, 1,381,000; cattle, 525,700; sheep, 118,000. They turned out pork, beef, lard, oil, dry salted meats, sweet pickled meats, and canned meats, and fertilizers to the immense total of 425,355,000 pounds. Their buildings cover 40 acres or ground, the floors of which occupy 125 acres. Chill room and cold storage area, 80 acres, and storage capacity 120,000 tons. Employees, 5,000 in summer, and 6,000 in winter; wages paid last year, upwards of \$3,000,000.

Care of stock has much to do with the result. Study them closely, see what they require, and use common sense in supplying.

Legal.

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