

MAKING BREAD IN MANY WAYS

A Few of the Numerous Methods
By Which It is Manu-
factured

In visiting Greece I was struck with the primitive ovens built behind most of the houses in small towns, says a Greece letter in the Bakers' Weekly. They were like large beehives, built of clay; they were evidently solid up to the soles, then had the arched roof over, with a door at one side. They are heated with fires of straw and twigs.

In some places we find holes dug in the earth and lined with stones in which a fire is kept burning until sufficient heat is raised, the bread being then put in and a stone laid over the opening, with a fire on it to keep up the cooking heat.

In these ovens, we are told, the South Sea Islanders bake their bread, fruit, yams and roast pork, and doubtless they answer the purposes very well. In some eastern countries fire put into a large earthen jar with nail mouth and sloping sides, the cakes of bread being stuck on the outside of the jar to bake.

Then we know the old fashioned griddle, so much used in old Scotch houses, on which scones, bannocks and oatcakes are fried. This is also employed in Scandinavia for baking the universal "Flad brod," and it is also in use in many other countries in various shapes.

In Cornwall the old kettle style of oven is still used for home baking, the dough being laid on the hot hearthstone with a large round iron pot inverted over it. Fire outside of this keeps up the baking heat and the Cornish "kettle bread" is very good eating indeed, even if it is a little puddingly in the centre sometimes.

Even more primitive means of baking have to be used sometimes, as when the Austrian digger rolls up his "damper" in leaves and covers it with hot ashes to bake; but still all methods from hot stones to draw plate ovens are used for the one great purpose, to make bread, and the variety of means used for this end goes to show the universal importance of that article. Regular bakehouses with proper ovens seem to have been in use however, for hundreds of years, and doubtless many relics of them are still in existence.

CLEANING AND POLISHING

How to Keep Glass and Silver Ware
In Good Condition

A chamois of extra fine quality, put up in clean, separate oiled paper packages, is now to be had. One can polish glass, silver or enamel with it, using any of the usual polishing agents, then wash and dry the chamois, with the happiest of results. It will not become hard and stiff. When dry it may be pulled in shape and will be found as soft as when purchased. This has been tested in our Experimental Station, in comparison with higher priced imported skins, much to the disadvantage of the latter.

The larger pieces of silver, especially the ornamental pieces, hard to clean, may be immersed in a bath of boiling water to which considerable washing soda or borax has been added. Let boil for an hour, then dry, and polish with chamois and whiting. Rub a paste of whiting on the smaller silver and then polish with the chamois. This paste is best made with alcohol. If ammonia is used the silver will have to be repolished sooner.

The cleaning of table pads is a problem. The small asbestos pads may be cleaned by putting them in the furnace and letting them burn clean, a plan which is not feasible with the pad that covers the table. This will have to be cleaned with benzine, sponging the spots as in the case of any fabric.—Good Housekeeping.

PRIDE TOOK A FALL

Once upon a time a poor beggar man, who lived in a country where the king was called a Sultan, stood in a street and begged.

By and by there came walking along the street a man who was dressed in very fine clothes.

The beggar, who knew that such a man would have money in his pocket, cried out in a loud voice for help. Now the man in very fine clothes lived in the palace of the Sultan, and he was called the Sultan's favourite. But instead of giving the beggar man some money he just picked up a stone from the ground and threw it at him. And the beggar man picked up the stone and put it into his pocket.

"Perhaps some day," said he, "I shall be able to throw it back at the laughing fellow and revenge myself."

Well, week after week passed by, and at last the beggar saw the haughty man who had thrown the stone at him riding on the back of a camel. But the man was not haughty now for the Sultan had sent him away. And as he rode on the back of the camel to prison all the other beggar men threw stones at him.

The beggar man took his stone out of his pocket. But instead of throwing it he dropped it onto the ground.

"No," said the beggar man, "I will not throw it back, though he threw it at me. It is mean and cruel to revenge oneself on a man who has become poor and unhappy."

GIVE THE FOWLS PLENTY OF GRIT

The Only Way to Protect Their Digestive Organs—The Right Kind to Use

Unless fowls are provided with grit of a suitable kind, a great amount of extra work is thrown upon the digestive organs, which in time become overworked and consequently debilitated.

The gizzard of a fowl is the main organ by which its food is ground into a digestible state, but this organ cannot itself properly perform the necessary function of grinding such food as hard grain. It requires assistance in the form of hard and sharp particles of grit. These particles, mixing with the food, and being continually kept on the move by the action of the gizzard, pulverize such food and render it into a proper state for nourishing the fowl's system. When one handles an emaciated fowl, as likely as not one handles a bird that has been deprived of the necessary aid to digestion in the form of sharp grit.

Many poultry-keepers imagine very wrongly that fowls can find for themselves all the grit they require, especially if the birds are running at large on by-ways, upon runs composed of ashes, or where there are shallow streams with gravelly bottoms. But road grit is generally too small for the fowls' requirements; ashes are too soft to be classed as grinding material, while the small round pebbles picked up out of the beds of shallow streams are too smooth to perform the work of grinding properly.

While ashes are of little use as a grinding agent they are excellent for the fowls to scratch about in, containing as they do a certain amount of lime, which provides the laying hens with material wherewith to shell their eggs.

Kind of Grit Needed

It is impossible to keep fowls—and by fowls I mean all classes of domesticated poultry—in a healthy condition and in profitable lay for any length of time unless they are provided with grit of a suitable nature both as an aid to digestion and in shelling their eggs, and for this purpose good flint grit must be chosen.

Many kinds of grit, good, bad and indifferent, are advertised for sale among poultry-keepers. Many samples are too large for the ordinary sized fowls, some are too small, and others are composed of the wrong materials.

The grit intended for ordinary-sized fowls should not be larger than small peas, and those for turkeys not larger than good sized peas, while for bantams they should equal split-peas or lentils in size. Chicken grits intended for birds up to a month old should resemble in size linseeds or millet seeds.

Forms Egg Shells

In addition to the sharp flint-grit so essential for digestion or foodstuffs, laying hens require grit of a limey nature, such as old mortar or crushed oyster shells, or they will be unable to properly shell their eggs. It is true that the foods fed to fowls contains lime salts but in far too small a quantity to provide for the needs of a laying hen, and unless the balance can be made up from other sources the bird is liable to produce thin-shelled or shell-less eggs.

Shell-less eggs, when accidentally broken, offer a tempting meal to any fowls that see them, and such fowls are apt to acquire the egg-eating habit. Lime in some form should therefore be kept within easy reach of laying fowls, so that they can partake of it as nature demands. Crushed oyster shells form the best kind of shell-making material, and as they can generally be got for the asking from oyster sellers, they should be secured where possible, and turned to good account for the fowls.

YOUNG POULTRY

Keep Reducing the Stock as Much as Possible

By all means keep reducing the young stock as much as possible. All the cockerels that show no signs of quality kill off, as they need a lot of food to keep up to the standard, and at the present time, when food is so dear, it does not pay to feed birds that are only of killing value. Separate if possible the wasters, and then force for three weeks, which will add flesh and weight and greatly increase the price. If breeding for exhibition, and only the best are needed, do not be afraid to clear out the useless pullets. It is against the wishes of many breeders to sell or kill any that may lay eggs, but unless the range is unlimited the crowding of the ground by poor stock is fatal from the first. That man is most successful who goes through his birds carefully, selects those required for show, and then clears the rest off at once. The small breeder has had a bad season, for wet weather plays havoc with small fowls that are uncovered, and the foul matter produced soon breeds disease. Few and good is better than many of moderate quality.

A PIG-STEALING ITEM
Magistrate: "You admit that you stole the pig?"
Prisoner: "I 'ave to."
Magistrate: "Very well then. There has been a lot of pig-stealing going on lately, and I am going to make an example of you; or none of us will be safe."

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