

POULTRY RAISERS' CORNER

Devoted to the interests of Those Whose Aim is the Raising and Production of First-class Poultry and Eggs.

(Correspondence Invited from County Poultry Raisers and Farmers.)

DON'T FEAR FRESH AIR.

Thorough Ventilation of Poultry Houses Necessary at all Times, and Particularly Desirable in Cold Weather. A Practical Test.

Although last winter was exceptionally severe in eastern Massachusetts, there were not more than two or three days that the south winds of my poultry buildings did not remain wide open from daylight until dark.

Two pens of breeders were housed in an ordinary poultry house with windows to the south. The windows of this house were seldom closed, all winter, until after dark and were always thrown wide open at daylight each morning.

Two other pens were kept in small portable houses of the shed-roof type, 8 by 8 feet, and with water-proof muslin fronts. No glass in these portable houses, just an entire front, 6 by 7 feet, of muslin broken only by the wooden strips used for door frames.

Water will freeze in these houses any day when the temperature falls below 20 degrees above zero outside. The fowls roost on perches placed above a droppings board 2 1/2 feet from the floor, and the front roost is a little more than five feet back from the muslin front of the house.

An average of 15 birds were kept in each of these 6 by 7 portable houses, all of last winter. The muslin door was thrown open every day for as long a time as possible, the front being protected by poultry wire only. The door was only closed during the day when it stormed hard and blew directly into the front of the house.

Egg Yield and Fertility Good.

From these birds, all white Wyandottes, bred for health, the egg yield was exceptionally good and never, from November 1st until March 1st, dropped below 50 per cent, in spite of extremely cold and variable weather.

These portable houses were located in one of the most windy places in eastern Massachusetts, and the temperature last winter varied from 60 degrees above to 28 degrees below zero, often going the full range in forty-eight hours, and from dead calm to high wind in the same time.

During January and February eggs from the birds in these small, practically open portable houses averaged from 90 to 95 per cent, strongly fertile, and gave most excellent hatches of strong, sturdy, healthy chicks.

Use Fresh Air Sensibly.

Some persons who witnessed this experiment—for the test was made with a view to seeing just what the results of such treatment would be—asked me why I did not return to the old method of letting the fowls roost in the trees if fresh air was what was desired.

SWONS AND GRATUITIES ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE WORKING EXPENSES.

The matter is one worthy of thoughtful consideration, and of approval in a broad minded spirit. The Hon. Mr. Emmerson by his success in restoring the equilibrium between revenue and expenditure has done much towards making the solution of the problem easy and near.

FLORAL LOVE TALE.

Amusement for Evening Parties. Entertainers of small parties or clubs who are holding social evenings, at which both sexes are present might provide a few minutes' amusement by running off the following questions and answers:

- 1. The maiden's name and color of her hair—Mari-gold. 2. An adjective which suits her, and her brother's name—Sweet William. 3. Her favorite sport in winter—Snowball. 4. His favorite musical instrument—Trumpet. 5. What time he awakened his father playing on it—Four o'clock. 6. What his father gave him in punishment—Golden-rod. 7. What this made the boy do—Hop. 8. The name of his sister's young man and what he wrote it with—Johnny. 9. What he, being single, often lost—Bachelors buttons. 10. What candies did he bring to Mary—Buttercups. 11. What did he do when he popped the question—Aster. 12. What ghostly trophy did he bring to Mary—Bleeding heart. 13. What did she say to him when he knelt before her—Johnny-jump-up. 14. What did she give him—Tulips. 15. To whom did she refer him—Poppy. 16. What minister married them—Jack-in-the-pulpit. 17. What did he say when leaving one day—Forget-me-not. 18. What was she in his absence—A mourning bride. 19. What fragrant letter did he send to Mary—Sweet pea. 20. What shall we say to them in conclusion—Live forever.

ARE WORTHY OF BEING TESTED - BY ALL HOUSEKEEPERS

Some Are Timely and Should be Preserved for Reference. If a fowl is steamed instead of boiled the flavor is better preserved and the flesh is just as tender.

Turpentine is the best preventive for moths. Saturate pieces of brown paper with same, and place in boxes.

To boil eggs without the risk of cracking, hold them in a spoonful of boiling water before immersing them.

A little salt rubbed on the teeth is not only very cleansing, but keeps the teeth white, and it also hardens the gums.

If an egg is cracked, wrap it in grease-proof paper, tie it round with string, place in boiling water, and then it will cook quite safely.

Nine women out of ten have one shoulder longer than the other, reading, writing, drawing, and sewing tending towards this; regular physical exercise is the cure for this.

To strengthen the back lie flat on the stomach with the feet flat on the floor and the arms folded across the back; endeavor to raise the upper part of the body as high as possible.

One of the best and simplest remedies for keeping the hands white and soft is by bathing them daily in tepid water in which has been mixed half a teaspoonful of the best glycerine and rose water.

A strong solution of vinegar and water is efficacious in restoring the color of black lace that has grown rusty. Rinse in coffee, then iron while damp, with a piece of flannel laid over it.

Cost of Living in Toronto.

Some valuable information in regard to the cost of living in Toronto was given during a discussion on the wage question at a meeting held in the City Hall last week. One speaker gave the following estimate of the cost of maintaining a workingman's family, consisting of five members: Meat, 100; bread, 300; milk, 220; potatoes, \$40; butter, \$36; fruit and vegetables, \$40; tea, 85; sugar, \$15; eggs, \$12; sandwiccs, \$25; oil \$12; boots and shoes, \$30; insurance, life and fire, and dues, \$50; coal and wood, \$60; clothing, \$80; house furniture, \$20; rent, \$15 per month \$180; total \$730. And then a bare living, no allowance being made for doctor bills or other incidental expenses.

Stock Notes.

—Dr. Broad, V.S., has purchased Dr. McAlpine's fine big bay mare. —Uxbridge Journal: The officials of the Sutton fall fair are nothing if not enterprising. They already have bills out announcing a stake race for three-year-olds on the second day of the fair, Sept. 28th. —Fenelon Falls Star: Mr. George Junkin, of Red Rock, purchased a very fine stepper at W. A. Fanning's sale in Lindsay last week. Mr. Junkin refused fifty dollars on his bargain two days later. —Horses will be a pretty stiff price by sea-side time, from present appearances. Farmers who have yielded to the persuasive prices of the buyers are finding it difficult to replace their work horses except at good figures. —James Sinclair, V.S., of Cannington, has just got together a bunch of fifteen heavy horses for railroad work in the West. An eight of them are black, he has dubbed it the "black shipment."

OUR STATIONARY ENGINEERS.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE PRESENT ACT.

Draft of the Proposed Bill—the Reasons for the Change.

The Stationary Engineers of Ontario are still in a state of expectancy over a Compulsory License Law. Things are moving. The engineers this Province have been firing up on this proposition, never more industriously than of late.

Here is the nutshell history of compulsory license agitation up to date: In 1890 the Legislature was first approached on this now historic matter. The agitation fell flat. In 1891 the engineers went at it again. This time they got an examining board which was given power to grant certificates to all engineers who wished to pass the required examination.

About 1400 optional certificates have since been issued. At the session of 1903 the engineers approached the Legislature for a compulsory license law. They were turned down. In 1904 they went at it again. Partly through the efforts of the Manufacturers' Association they were again repulsed. On the 22nd of November, 1905, a delegation representing a central committee interviewed the Minister of Agriculture on this subject. They got some assurance and a hope that the desired bill might be put through as a Government measure. They have since learned that the bill must go through the Private Bills committee in the usual way. To this end they are still working, and intend to work.

The engineers of Ontario were merely working in a personal cause; they might be less earnest in this business. But a compulsory license law is recognized as a measure which if it ever gets a chance to put this Province on the same line of progress with other provinces, will safeguard the public quite as much as it will raise the status of the engineer.

The proposed license bill will bear the closest kind of scrutiny by legislators, manufacturers, the general public or the engineers. It represents the engineer's attitude, and Ontario engineers are ready to stand by it. They challenge honest criticism from any source. They believe in this compulsory agitation, not because it is a fad, but because they know it is dead right.

DRAFT OF PROPOSED BILL.

An amendment to an Act respecting Stationary Engineers, Victoria 54, Chapter 141, Revised Statutes, 1897, Chapter 31, annual 1891.

By and with the consent of the Lieut.-Governor-in-Council, and by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, be it enacted that this act be amended by expanding and adding to the words, "casting vote" in section 13 thereof, and the following be inserted in lieu thereof:

- 1. The Lieut.-Governor-in-Council appoint a board consisting of five members, for the purpose of examining applicants and granting of certificates to all persons operating steam boilers of 50 horse-power or over. 2. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any boiler of 50 horse-power or over unless he has a certificate, granted under the provisions of this Act. 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to employ an engineer to take charge of a boiler of 50 horse-power or over unless such person holds a certificate under the provisions of the Act, and any person who shall be guilty of operating, or any employer who shall employ any person to operate a boiler contrary to this Act shall be deemed to have committed a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than — dollars and not more than — dollars for each offence. 4. Every engineer who shall be in charge of a steam plant coming under the provisions of this Act at the time it comes into force or any engineer who has had two years' experience and who applies before the expiry of one year, shall, upon proving his character and upon paying the prescribed fee, receive a certificate for the term of two years, and such certificate must be renewed from time to time as it expires, provided, however, the board shall have power to revoke any certificate upon proof of incapacity, drunkenness or improper conduct. 5. Any person who feels himself aggrieved by the decision of the Board of Examiners, shall have the right (upon notice being given to that effect) to appeal to the Minister of Agriculture. 6. All candidates for certificates, except as provided for in section 4, shall furnish evidence of their good character, and of having at least three years' experience, either as assistants in an engine room, or boiler room, or as having full charge, and shall submit to such examination, written or oral, as the Board may determine. 7. All certificates shall at all times be exposed to view in some conspicuous place in the boiler or engine room, and the failure to expose same will be prima facie evidence of the lack of qualification under the Act. 8. All fees for examination shall not exceed \$— and all renewal fees shall not exceed \$—.

Every Dog Owner Knows This.

(Milwaukee Sentinel). "Do you believe in the saying that a dog is man's best friend?" "I certainly do. Where will you find a man who will stick to you through thick and thin, through joy and sorrow, clinging to you with faithful devotion, even though he be half fed and abused, and then at the last, when life has departed from his body, to give up the shape of sausage to eat with your steaming buckwheat cakes in the morning. Of course, I believe it."

It Would Work all Right.

(Goderich Signal). "Tax vacant property," said a resident the other day, "tax it good and stiff, make little difference between it and an improved lot." How will this theory work out.—Warton Echo. It would work out by making the owner of the vacant land put a house on it or do something with it to enable him to meet the increased taxes or he might be compelled to sell it to somebody else who would improve it. And the lower taxes on improved property would be another influence in the same direction.

Good Luck.

(Samuel Minton Peck, in the Boston Transcript). I think the Spring is coming; The snow's no longer crisp, And when the wind blows from the south, Is heard in every lip— The happy, happy tidings— And see, up in the sky, The leaden clouds are breaking up, Old Winter says good-bye, I think that spring is coming, Last night I saw a star, And though 'twas shining softly, I read its face afar. Fair spring is coming, bring, With laughing gleams and showers Amid the greening woods and fields To write her name in flowers. I think the spring is coming— I feel it in my heart, That seems to throb with fresher beat, And pulse with many a start. If lifeless trees and bushes Awake with breathing fine, Should not the soul of man be thrilled, By presence divine?

Farmers' Telephones.

Port Hope Times: Mr. G. W. Jones, of Newtonville, was in town on Saturday for the purpose of organizing a local telephone line for Hope and Clarke townships. Lines have already been built from Orono, Pontypool and Newtonville, and the object is to build another line into Hope township with connection with Port Hope. Mr. Jones obtained the names of fifteen to twenty farmers who are anxious for connection. In the fall it is expected that some 200 subscribers will be connected on the line. An extension is now being built from Tyrore to Orono. For farmers who live less than a mile of line the charge is only three dollars per year for a phone, and in addition they receive half the tolls that they collect from their neighbors. The charge for those who do not connect the line is ten dollars a year.

BARGAINS! BARGAINS!

As we have to vacate the old store by the 1st of April, we are arranging our stock for the greatest sale of Footwear that Lindsay ever saw. The date will be made known in due time. Our terms are Strictly Cash.

P. J. HURLEY, SUCCESSOR TO N. HOCKIN. LINDSAY'S GREATEST SHOE HOUSE.

ELECTRIC LAMP TO HEAT BED.

Clothing Caught Fire and City Boarder Had Narrow Escape.

Peterboro Review: A young man, who boards with a well-known resident of No. 2 ward, went to his room one night during a cold snap and thinking to have things comfortable he lowered the burning electric light, and let it between the blankets. A few hours afterwards, when changing his position, he discovered that the bedding was on fire, and he had quite a time extinguishing the blaze. The mattress, coverlet, and sheets were rather badly scorched.

A claim was put in by the proprietor of the house to recover the loss, and the amount demanded was paid, but under protest the local representative of the company pointing out pretty directly that the boarder should make good the loss, as he was responsible for it through his carelessness. There is a moral in this tale, the accuracy of which is vouched for, and that is, do not take a burning electric light in the bed with you, the result may be disastrous.

WHERE SHE FELL.

Young Lady at Lakefield Relates Experience at Recent Carnival.

Peterboro Times: Yesterday The Times was given an outline of a conversation in the house of a young lady from Lakefield, who attended the recent Foresters carnival. The story, told by a guest at the young ladies' father's house, runs thus: "You ought to have seen me," said the vivacious young lady to a guest, the clergyman of her family. "I'd just got the skates on, and made a start, when I came down on my—"

"Maggie!" said her mother. "What? Oh, it was funny! One skate went one way, and the other 't'other and down I came on my—"

"Margaret!" reprovingly spoke her father. "Well, what? They scooted from under me, and down I came on my—"

"Margaret!" yelled both her parents. "On my little brother, who had me by the hand, and likely to have smashed him. Now, what's the matter?"

The girl's mother emerged from behind the coffee pot, a sigh of relief escaped from the minister, and the old gentleman turned the conversation.

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Crockery Bargains

We find ourselves on the threshold of spring with a larger stock than we desire of Dinner and Tea Sets and Toilet lines. These might move out in the regular way of business before our spring importations arrive, but we're not going to run any chances—we've marked the prices down a third to make them move quickly. Only about half-a-dozen buyers of Dinner Sets and ten buyers of Tea Sets can secure the low prices, so it's a case of "First come, best choice."

SPRATT & KILLEN, THE FAMILY GROCERS.

NEW SPRING GOODS.

We have just received a few consignments of the latest Novelties in Dress Goods; they are beautiful and altogether new in design.

New Mohair Muslins in checks, plaids and plain patterns, at 25c per yard.

Swiss Spot Muslins in white, navy, brown, myrtle alic blue, at 20c a yard.

Beautiful figured Muslins with tucking effect, white ground and floral decorations, at 25c a yard.

Fine White Organdies in Dresden effects at 35c a yard.

Some elaborate designs in white Silk, Organdies, Dresden patterns, very suitable for evening wear or fine weather, street or visiting costumes, also for wedding ceremonies, price 85c per yard.

Prettier than ever are the latest Silks for Shirt-waist Suits, Shirt Waists and Gowns. Every quality and price.

New White Vestings and Linen Suitings. These are to be worn more than ever this season, as white goods seem to be the choice of the leaders of fashion.

Make it your business to call early and see these pretty goods before they are picked over. February is always the month for selecting Muslins, as everyone likes to get best patterns.

O'Loughlin & McIntyre. CASH AND ONE PRICE.

An Ad'vt in The Post Pays—People Read Them

OLD AGE PENSIONS ON INTERCOLONIAL.

Precedent Says the Dominion Government Should Bear the Original Expense of the System for a Few Years.

(Moncton (N. B.) Transcript, Feb. 17.) There is fair reason for supposing that public opinion is gradually being educated to recognize that an important step towards improving the output on the Intercolonial Railway for the same expenditure of wages is to decrease the number of employees whose advanced years preclude their giving a return in physical toil or mechanics' skill, equal to that of their prime.

How shall this be done? There are only two courses open for adoption.

The first is the dismissal of all employees who have passed a given age but public opinion will justify revolt against that course as being based upon a soulless ingratitude. The government of Canada has employed these men in the years of their highest physical strength and mechanical ability and it would be ungrateful now to throw them aside like a squeezed orange. The liberal party too is indisposed to act unjustly, although the overwhelming majority of the three hundred employees of the I. C. R. who have passed the age limit were the appointees of their Conservative predecessors and therefore are compelled to retain these aged employees on the pay roll, rather than dispense with their services unjustly.

The alternative course is to establish an old age pension fund connected with the I. C. R.

There is reason for believing that the Hon. Mr. Emmerson, as Minister of Railways and Canals, and also his Deputy Minister, Mr. Butler, are strongly favourable to a pension proposal as desirable before the work of placing the Intercolonial Railway upon a sounder permanent basis can be accomplished.

But the difficulties in relation to a pension plan are greater in the starting than in the operation. Why? Because it would be unfair to throw upon the new or younger employees the burden of helping to maintain upon a pension list the large number of aged men now in the railway's employ and towards which pension fund the probable pensioners have never contributed.

But there must be a start. How then can it be made? The existing employees, may well be asked to contribute towards a pension fund, which shall come into operation at a given future time, but how may the present proposed and probable future pensioners anterior to the time be provided for? The future pension fund may be accumulated jointly by assessments upon the employees and

grants from the railways, but that makes no provision for the present.

The financial condition of the Intercolonial Railway obviously does not permit its at present bearing any new obligations of this class, and the western public opinion is so hostile to increased expenditures on the Intercolonial Railway as to make the solution increasingly difficult.

Such being the case it would further seem that the maintenance of the pension fund for the first years of its operation must fall wholly upon some source of revenue other than the employees themselves, if satisfaction is to be given and grievance avoided.

It has already been pointed out that the revenue of the I.C.R. does not permit of its assuming such an obligation at present. How then shall it be met? It is suggested that for a given term of years the Dominion itself should bear the first years of the pension fund, and bear the same as a charge upon the general revenues of the country. If the Dominion does not assume this obligation, the establishment and operation of the fund will necessarily be indefinitely postponed. But if the Dominion undertakes to bear the charge of pensioning existing aged employees for a given term of years, it will help thereby to place the I. C. R. upon a solid business basis with a certainty of the railway's operating government railways and some critics are disposed to claim that Australia furnishes an example for Canada to follow.

In Victoria, Australia, it would seem that the pensions and gratuities to railway employees are not included in the working expenses. In his report for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1905, for the Victorian Railways Commission, Mr. Thomas Tait, the chairman, under the heading of "Pensions and Gratuities" says as follows:

"The amounts paid for pensions and gratuities, which are not included in the working expenses, were £29,793 and £12,953 respectively for the years 1904-5 and 1905-6, as compared with £23,512 and £17,024 respectively, a total of £100,538 for the previous year. "The number of officers and employees in the service at the 30th June, 1905, entitled to pension or compensation on retirement, was 2,186, a reduction of "10 compared with the preceding year." The point of the whole quotation, it will be seen, is that these PEN-

To Cure a Cold in One Day. Cures Grip in Two Days. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. On every box, 25c. This signature, E. W. Little.