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FARM AND GARDEN

Pays to Have an Incubator.

Six years ago we purchased a 100-egg incubator and every season it has been set five or six times and have never had one failure nor one bad hatch. The hatches are always in the nineties with the exception of once when we only got seventy-eight chicks. Our hatches are about the same each time each season through. We nearly always have from ninety-two to ninety-six chicks, seldom lower than ninety-three, more often higher than that, and always such strong, lively chicks, almost never a cripple among them—seldom one in 800. Our incubator has not had the advantage of being kept in a cave or cellar, but we have done so well with it that we have purchased another of 120 and one of 240-egg capacity, as we are going into the business more extensively.

We can truthfully say that the incubator is a great time and labor saver and a money maker. It is one of the best investments any farmer or any one who raises poultry can make. Who would care to go back to the slow way of raising chicks with the sitting hen when it can be done with the incubator so easily and so well? With the hen the season of hatching is soon over with, while with the incubator the early chicks for market can be sold when the market prices are best and the early pullets hatched that will be wanted for fall and winter layers. We do not have to wait on the sitting hen to hatch out a few chickens when we have the incubator to hatch them by the dozens.

A good incubator will pay for itself over and over the first season of its use. It is indispensable in the poultry business. To all those who contemplate purchasing I would say, don't get one that is too cheap. Get a good one, even if you do have to pay more. The good ones are the cheapest in the long run. There are some incubators



INCUBATOR AND BROODER.

that have to be watched closely to give results, but these are the thin-walled kind that will not hold even temperature. Our incubator does not get any watching after it is once set going. We leave for an all-day visit any time—even at hatching time—and it takes care of itself.

For the amount invested an incubator will make more money than any machine I know of.—Mrs. L. E. Brack.

Handling Manure.

It is pertinent, also to here refer to the trials conducted by the Cornell Agricultural Station to demonstrate the losses to stable manure when exposed to leaching and weathering. A pile of manure that contained elements worth \$5.48, after being exposed for five months was worth only \$2.03. Leaving manure in piles in the field is an antiquated method that should never be practiced, for the reason that it results in fertilizing the spots where the heaps lie too heavily, giving them fully three times as much of the fertilizing elements as they need, while three times as much ground receives less than it needs, or not enough to make a showing. Where manure is allowed to lie in heaps on a field for a few weeks or a month, it is an impossibility to spread it so as to get an even distribution of organic matter and of the elements of fertility. It is preferable to spread the manure direct from the wagon with a fork, although this is by no means an up-to-date way of handling it. For the most economical results, manure should be hauled direct from the barn as soon as it is made and scattered over the fields by means of a spreader. In this way, and in this way only, can the full value of manure be saved, provided, of course, enough bedding is used in the barn to nicely absorb all the liquid excrement, the plant food of which amounts to nearly one-half of the total in the manure and liquid excrement.

Do Not Let Your Dog Lick You.

A London veterinary surgeon says few people are conscious of the risks they run by permitting dogs to lick their hands and faces. They are liable to get infected with a dangerous kind of worm, which, in man, forms cysts in the brain, liver and other parts of the body and is known as the "hydatid." The worm itself exists in the dog. The danger is so well known to hygienists that a by-law exists which renders the keeping of a dog in a slaughter house illegal. Only a little while ago a case of this disease occurred in London in a dog breeder.

When to Plant Cherries.

About the best time to plant cherry trees is in early fall or very early in spring. It is better to plant in October, even before the leaves fall, stripping the leaves off, than it is late, just before winter sets in. In fact, many trees would do better than they do, were they set early, stripping their leaves, not waiting for the leaves to fall.

Dairy Notes.

Talk over dairy matters with your neighbors. Never use milk utensils for anything but milk. Insist upon pasteurization of the

MAKING GOOD ADHESIVES.

How This Industry Has Been Developed from Handworking Days.

About twenty years ago it was that flour paste, glue and gum arabic, beyond which there was then little known, were first replaced by higher priced adhesives which were more fit for certain purposes and which more than made up for their extra cost by saving in time and labor and by better work. At that time the use of pasting and gumming machinery was in its infancy in this country, and hardly even known abroad. With the growth of American inventive genius the change was made from handwork to mechanical appliances.

Those outside of the trade have hardly any idea of what extent handwork has been displaced by machinery and of the wonderful appliances which had to be invented to do it. The gum making line, the New York Sun says, Every one knows, for instance, that envelopes or paper boxes now are made by machines, which do a hundred times more work than could be done by hand and do it better, but it may be news to many that a one-pound bag of sugar or coffee or soap powder is formed, pasted, filled, weighed and closed automatically all in one continuous operation, in these days, all by machinery, till it arrives at the ground floor and is hustled into cases at the rate of several hundred packages a minute.

Such delicate machinery needed corresponding adhesives and these had to be created. Flour paste and glue were out of the question. Work in such lines naturally led to many new ideas which proved of value in any number of other industries, and especially so in the sizing and finishing of paper, silk, cotton, wool, mohair and leather; also in all industries which combine or paste such and kindred materials.

In the many varieties of goods made about every material that has any colloidal qualities, from sea tang to starch and all its derivatives, all natural gums, fats and waxes and all products made from hides, bones and milk were tested. In the course of the studies was discovered a process to make a neutral starch which swells in cold water to the same extent as ordinary starch does through boiling.

Neutral glue, casein, starch, agar-agar, in fact, almost any colloidal material either directly in liquid form or so prepared as to stay liquid in the cold state after being boiled up, are all recent inventions. These, it is expected, will in time get some export business for this country when worked out in every particular.

An industry like making of gums and adhesives, supplying materials to nearly all manufacturing interests, ought to be a kind of barometer of the general condition of trade. The leading houses had only a small decrease of sales last year. The assumption is that the smaller industries did not suffer as did the trades which depend on railroads and building and that the return to normal conditions is at hand.

She Did.

One day, while performing for the inmates of an orphan asylum, Kellar, the magician, walked up to a sedate little girl in the audience and asked: "Will my little lady please examine this handkerchief?"

The blushing child did as she was told. "Now," proceeded the conjuror, "we will see if we can find in it some candy," and, slowly rolling the handkerchief into ball, he held it out to the small maid. "Please blow on it," he said.

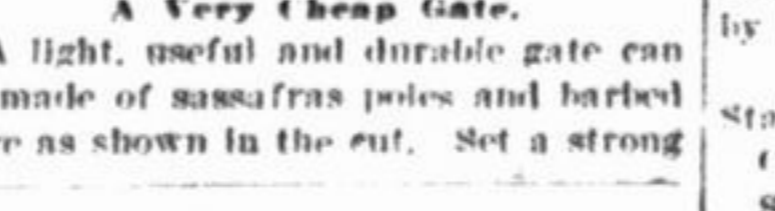
The next moment there was a shriek of laughter from all sides. The child had taken the request literally and had noisily performed the habitual rite. Success Magazine.

Country's Rainfall.

The total rainfall of this country, including snow and that on water areas, was given as 21,000,000,000,000 cubic feet a year. Half or more is evaporated. About one-third flows into the sea. The remaining one-sixth is either consumed or absorbed. Of the 20,000,000,000,000 cubic feet flowing annually into the sea, less than 5 per cent is used for power. It is estimated that 85 to 95 per cent of the volume is wasted in freshets or destructive floods. There are in the United States proper 232 streams navigated for an aggregate of 26,115 miles, and as much more is navigable by improvement.

A Very Cheap Gate.

A light, useful and durable gate can be made of sassafras poles and barbed wire as shown in the cut. Set a strong



POLE AND WIRE GATE.

post 4 feet in the ground in the middle of the gateway and balance the gate on it. The lower rail is made of two forked sassafras poles securely nailed together so as to work around the post.—W. H. Thompson, in Farm and Home.

Alcohol from Peat.

Alcohol is obtained from peat by treating the fiber with sulphuric acid and fermenting with a special yeast. A ton of dry peat yields forty-three gallons of pure spirit at one-fourth of the cost of potato alcohol.

Hints for the Farmer.

Lime sweetens the soil as generous deeds sweeten the soul. Fix the hatches on the old rusty cans. At least don't use them for milk or cream. Keep the sick animals away from the rest of the herd. Put them in the "pest-house."

When live get a foothold spray the hogs; also spray the pens and burn all the rubbish. The scrub cow is the cow that will not respond handsomely to good feed and good care. It is equally as dangerous to work a horse too soon after feeding as to feed too soon after work.

When a man makes a failure of what he undertakes it's bad luck. When he succeeds it's good management. The average yield of corn in the United States is thirty-five bushels per acre. It ought to be twice that. Don't tie to the man who approves of your every opinion. Neither take his advice, because he doesn't think. Why not sow early maturing beets along with your turnips? They give good results and stand as much cold

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