

Downers Grove Reporter

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BOOST—DON'T KNOCK

Blinders on horses and auto horns are marked to go.

The Sunday joy ride continues to claim its toll of sorrow.

A northwest tornado can always knock out General Humidity.

A Kansas man is using a vacuum cleaner to catch grasshoppers.

Do you remember how you used to hunt the sunny side of the street?

The automobile tires sold in this country this year will total \$120,000,000.

It's only a few inches from the hobble skirt to the new style of bathing suit.

Life insurance companies do not as a rule care to take a risk on baseball umpires.

To the slogan, "Socks for women!" we defiantly shout back, "Shirt waists for men!"

Best buyers are those who wait for the "best sellers" to get into the 50-cent editions.

A vacation wisely chosen and sanely spent is an investment sure to bring handsome returns.

Strange as it may seem at first thought, no grape seed was ever found in a vermiform appendix.

Missouri reports a bumper apple crop. Atlantic City wires that the boardwalk is thronged with peaches.

Some men will do anything for money. Among them is the Texas man who raises rattlesnakes for a living.

A Chicago young woman is suing for \$10 for a broken heart, and yet she was no doubt taught in school to aim high.

Aviation may be a dangerous pastime, but it has nothing on running a passenger train sixty miles an hour in a fog.

There is always danger for the innocent bystander, especially in the vicinity of a youngster with a hose watering the grass.

What has a bathing girl picture on the cover of a magazine to do with literature? What has the magazine, for that matter?

Cleveland's latest project is a 3-cent dance hall. Someone in that town appears to have overlooked the possibilities of a 3-cent store.

Weather experts say that rain can not be produced artificially. But the delusion is as tough a stayer as long-range almanac predictions.

The Russian explorer who threatens to reach the north pole has one great advantage. When he feels cold he can use his whiskers as a muffler.

Whoever devised the soft collar and soft cuff for summer wear missed his guess by about six months. They are hotter than the armor plate kind.

An Ohio woman, ninety-one years old, boasts that she has never been kissed. Still at ninety-one a woman's memory isn't apt to be of the best.

Mascagni, the composer, says the public does not know what it is talking about when it says chorus girls are old enough to be grandmothers.

Fining an automobilist for running his machine too slowly is something new, but a leisurely Chicago man got on the street car track and obstructed traffic.

A Chicago judge has fined a man for swearing at a dog in the presence of the woman who owned the dog. It pays to be polite, even when talking to a dog.

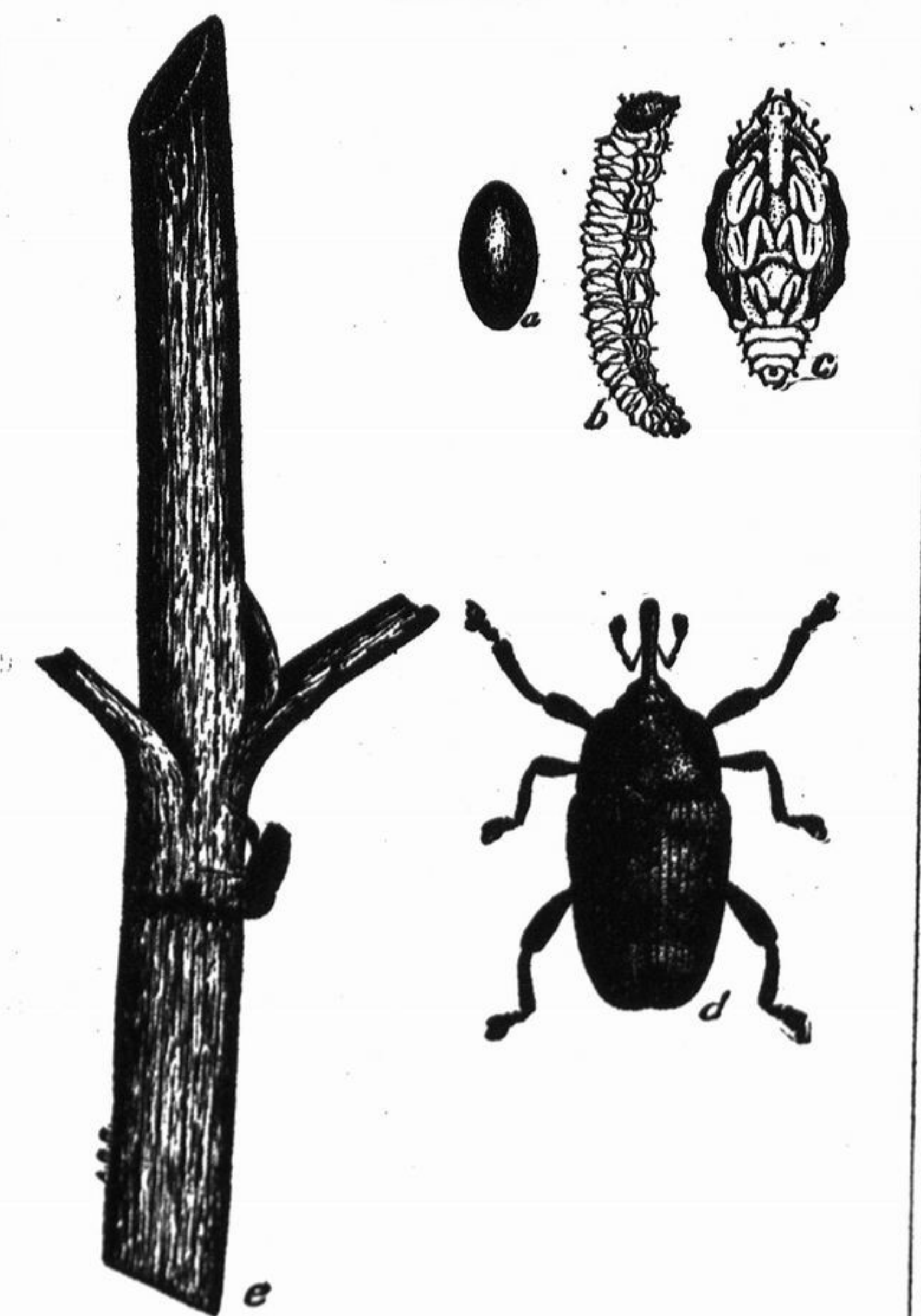
All's fair in love and war. That is why the lovelorn young men at summer resorts who whisper undying affection are not relegated to the Annals Club.

One of the blessings of a cool wave in midsummer is that it gives men a chance to forget how much less comfortably they dress in hot weather than women do.

The Russian proposal that the Fowls and the sea by dividing Turkey among themselves overlooks the fact that the Turks are likely to prove very indigestible.

GIRDLER ATTRACTS ATTENTION AS ENEMY OF THE GRAPEVINE

Plants Caused to Present Ragged Appearance on Account of Dead Tips Resulting From Attack of Insect—Has Been Found in Several States From Missouri to Pennsylvania.



The Grapevine Girdler. a, Egg; b, Larva; c, Pupa; d, Adult; e, Beetle Girdling the Cane Just Below Its Egg-Chamber. The Upper One of the Twin Holes in the Center of the Cane Contains the Egg. All Greatly Enlarged.

(By FRED E. BROOKS, West Virginia Experiment Station.)

The grapevine girdler is an insect not often mentioned in entomological literature, probably for the reason that in the past it seems to have confined its attacks chiefly to the plant known as Virginia creeper or five-leaved ivy, *Ampelopsis quinquefolia*, and has seemed, therefore, of but little economic importance. In this state it appears now to have developed a preference for the grape. In several localities I have seen grapevines presenting a ragged appearance on account of the dead tips resulting from the insect's attacks, but I have never been able to find either the beetle or evidences of its work on *Ampelopsis*.

The species cannot now be regarded as a pest of very serious consequence, except in rare instances, but it has several times attracted attention as an enemy of the grape in this state during recent years, and heretofore but little has been known in regard to its habits.

The distribution of the species seems to be quite general throughout the eastern and mid-western sections of the United States. In 1863 Mr. C. V. Riley, in his first report on the noxious insects of Missouri, mentioned it as forming galls on the common creeper. At about the same time Mr. Benj. D. Walsh had specimens of the insect in his collection in Illinois, marked "Madarus ampelopsis." It was not until the year 1876 that a description of the beetle was published. In that year Dr. John L. LeConte described it in his work on the Rhynchophora of America, and gave it the name which it still bears. LeConte gives its geographical distribution as "southern and western states." Since the description was published the species has received but infrequent and brief notices, but has been recorded as occurring in several states from Missouri to Pennsylvania.

The wound which the beetle makes in ovipositing causes the tip and terminal leaves on the young cane to drop over and die, and shortly afterward to fall from the vine. The egg is not carried to the ground with the prunings when they fall, but it remains in the vine, and the larva which develops therefrom feeds in the heart of the stump from which the leaves and tip were removed.

It is interesting to compare the methods of this insect with those of other species that girdle twigs or small branches in order to kill or partly kill the wood in which their eggs are laid and their larvae are to feed.

The "hickory twig-girdler," *Oncideres cingulata*, a "long-horned" beetle, lays its eggs in the branches of hickory and other trees and then girdles the branch below, by cutting a deep groove with its strong jaws so that the branch above dies and is frequently broken off by the wind. The "elm twig-girdler," *Oberus ulmicola*, a beetle of the same family, attacks elm in a similar manner. The female cuts a deep groove around a twig so that it is easily broken off by the wind. Below the groove she cuts a slit in the bark and deposits an egg and then moves further down the twig and girdles it a second time, now merely cutting through the bark so as to deaden the part above. Another species of the same genus, known as the "black-berry cane-girdler," *Oberus bimaculatus*, cuts a double girdle and lays an egg between the two, in a similar manner, in the young canes of blackberry and raspberry. Still another "long-horned" beetle, the "oak-pruner," *Elaphidion villosum*, lays its eggs in the branches of oak and other trees but leaves the girdling to be done by its larvae. In this case the larva feeds in the heart of the twig until it is nearly full grown and then cuts the twig almost off at the lower end of its burrow. Immediately after the cut is made it retreats into the burrow above and waits for the wind to blow the twig to the ground, where it completes its transformation within the burrow.

The adult of the "raspberry cane-maggot," a two-winged fly of the genus *Phorbia*, lays its egg near the tips of young raspberry shoots. The larva which hatches enters the cane and after working its way downward for several inches it encircles the shoot several times, with a spiral groove made just beneath the bark, which kills the shoot above, and the larva feeds thereafter on the dead wood.

The "currant stem-girdler," *Janus tinger*, a saw-fly, punctures the bark of currant bushes near the ends of growing twigs with its saw-like ovipositor and lays an egg in the orifice. Just above the egg it girdles the twig by making several deep cuts with its ovipositor so that the twig breaks over. The larva which develops from the egg feeds on the pith of the stump.

There are other species that operate in a similar manner, but the ones that have been mentioned will serve to show that the peculiar habit, in one form or another, is shared by insects belonging to widely separated groups. It is interesting that so many species, which in most respects do not resemble each other in the least and which represent at least three orders, have adopted some form of this peculiar way of providing for the safety and comfort of their progeny.

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ERADICATION OF THE GRASSHOPPER

Ohio Station Gives Formula for Making Poisoned Bran Mash for Use in the Gardens.

The Ohio station advises that for protecting gardens and limited areas from the attacks of grasshoppers, good results are usually obtained from using a poisoned bran mash, prepared as follows:

Str together, while dry, two pounds of paris green and 25 pounds of bran, then moisten with water that has been sweetened with molasses or dissolved sugar, making a wet but not sloppy mash.

For plants set about three feet square, making a wet but not sloppy each way, use a tablespoonful, near each plant, or the mash may be sown over the field broadcast. One treatment should not cost over \$1 per acre, labor not included. Keep the poultry away from the poison.

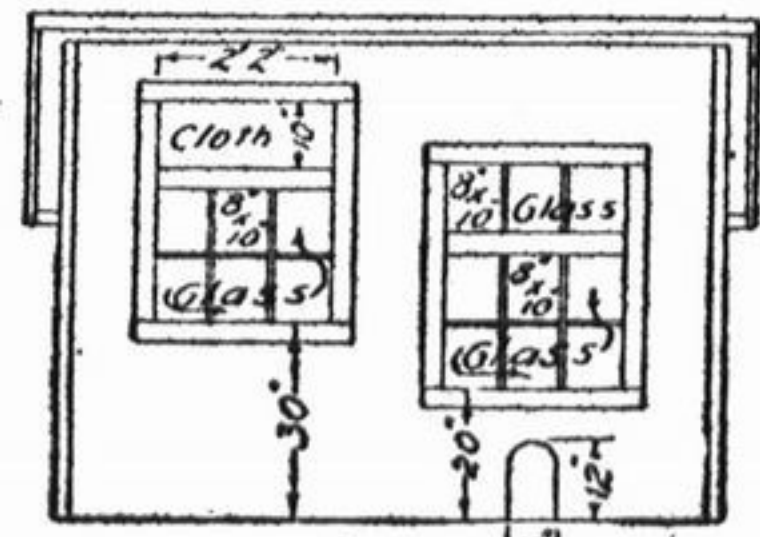
Moderate Litters. It is really better to kill a few pigs at birth rather than compel the sow to raise so many. The pigs do not grow well and the sow gets poor.

POULTRY

COCK PLAN FOR HEN HOUSE

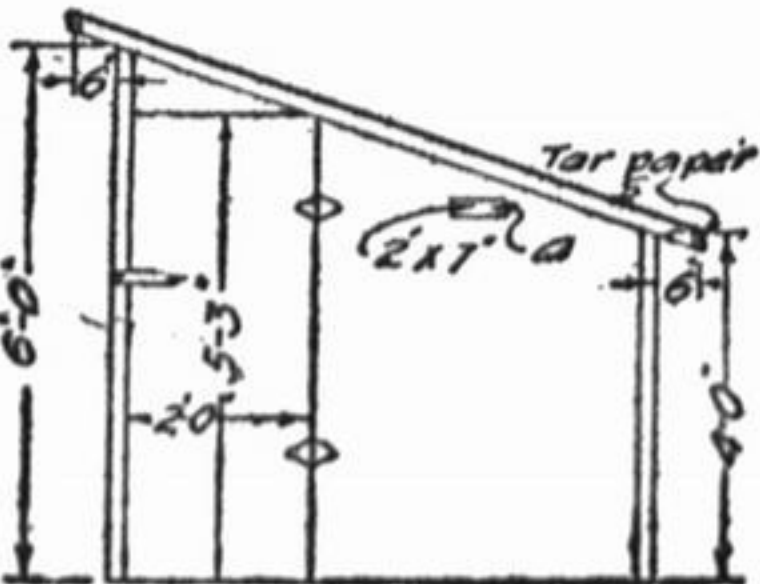
Convenient and Satisfactory Building to Accommodate Flock of Fifteen Chickens in City.

The Cock chicken house is a convenient and satisfactory house for city lots. It will accommodate 15 individuals if good care is given the flock. A dirt floor is shown at the left in C. At the right in C is a board floor on which the straw litter is placed in



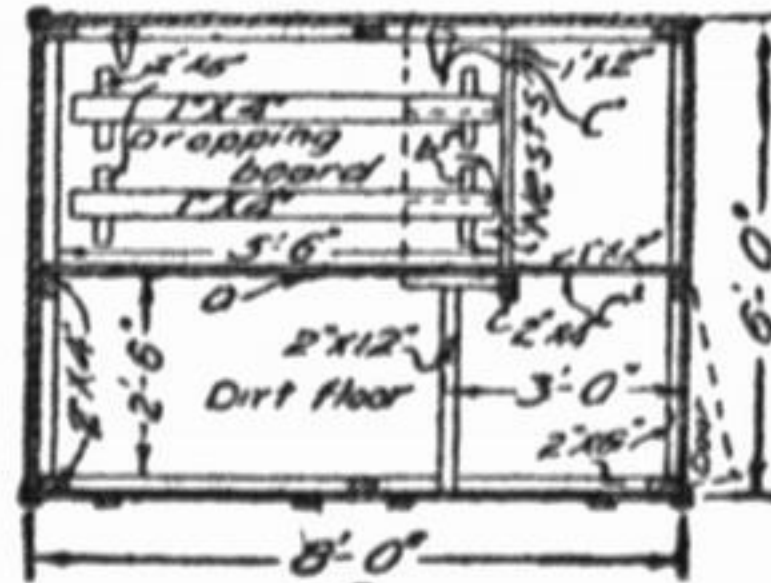
Showing Cloth Screen.

winter months. A piece of 2 by 12 inch material is used as a partition, to prevent the straw from getting over on to the dirt, and is shown in D. The perches, c, on the dropping board are movable to make cleaning easier. The dropping board is hinged and



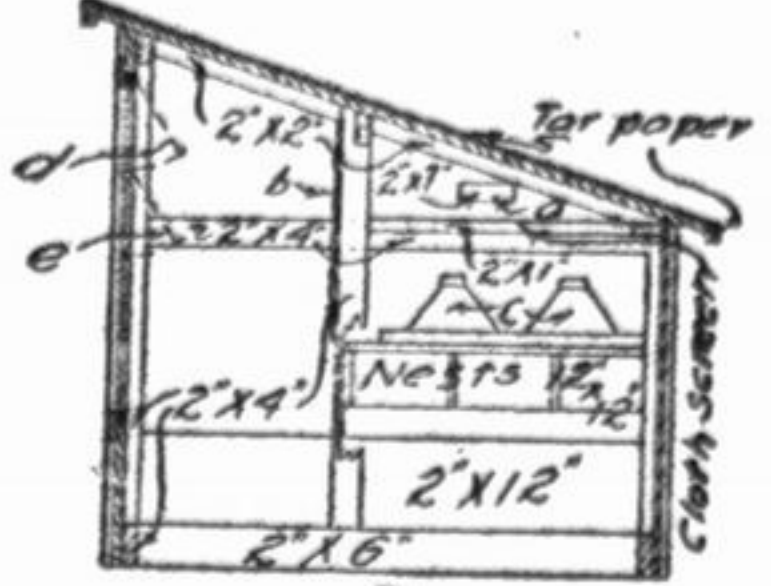
Opening Above Screen.

should be swung up as high as the cloth screen during the day, especially during the winter and early spring. The nests are open under the dropping board and have small doors on the side next to the flooring for removing the eggs. The nests are so constructed



Showing Dirt Floor.

ed as to be removed any time for cleaning. A cloth screen extends the full length over the dropping boards, roosts, and floored portion. The frame work being shown at c1, c2, in C. A drop curtain of canvas is in front to be used on cold nights; this is shown at a in C and at b in D. An opening is made in each end of the house above the screen and is shown at a in B, also at a in D. A cloth screen is hinged above the window in A and is shown open at d in D. The small



Keeps Straw in Place.

three-light glass sash above the six-light sash is also hinged and is shown open at e in D. The roof, side wall and ends are covered with tar paper inside in the half which is devoted to the roosts, nests and part of the floored space. The boarding of this house is nailed up and down.

ECONOMY IN THE BEST FEED

Nothing Gained by Purchasing Supplies for the Poultry Because They Are Called Cheap.

(By A. G. SYMONDS.) No matter what food is given the fowls be sure it is the very best that can be procured. It does not pay to buy poor grain or poultry food of any kind. Some people think it is economical to buy poultry supplies because they are cheap.

The best is none too good, is a rule as applicable here as anywhere else. Only the very best grains should be sanctioned. Only the choicest brand of beef scraps, fine cut clover, alfalfa, and other foods of this sort should be used. There is nothing that will repay one better for good care and food given them than a flock of hens. See to it then that in the matter of foods given them only the best be procured and only the best be fed.

Value of Charcoal. For all kinds of digestive troubles, charcoal is one of the best remedies.

Trouble With the Eyes. Sometimes tiny hairs become loosened and get beneath the eyelids. Before going to all the trouble of examining the upper and lower lids, fill the wash bowl with cold water and open the eyes under water. Open and shut them several times, and in nearly every instance this will wash out the bothersome hair. It will at least loosen such a hair so that it may be easily removed by the cotton-tipped toothpick.

Hats Denoted Liberty. In Rome slaves, when they received their liberty at their masters' hands, wore cone-shaped felt hats, which came to be the symbol of liberty. After the death of Nero the citizens of Rome wore pointed hats to show that they were relieved from the oppression of a tyrant. Later on, when the Netherlands threw off the Spanish yoke, they adopted a hat in the coat of arms of that nation.

Musical Prodigy. A seven-year-old boy of Rennes, France, is the latest musical prodigy to burst upon the world. He is an admirable, even a brilliant, pianist, but has genius for composition, and sonatas, symphonies, piano pieces of all kinds flow from his pen. It is said to be pretty good stuff, too. A number of the great composers have begun to invent melodies before the age of seven.

Prison Delicacies. Iced champagne, black currant jelly and soda water are among the articles of diet which a prisoner in hospital can choose at Wandsworth prison. What! No caviare?—London Globe.

Protest Against Social Ill. You cannot expect a teacher to have the skill of an artisan, the experience of a horticulturist, the spirit of a naturalist, and the culture of a county councillor, and then pay him the salary of an office clerk.—Exchange.

She Knew Him. "Good-by forever!" said the young man, coldly, as he prepared to depart. "I leave you now, never to return." "Good-by," said the fair maid in the parlor scene. "But before you go let me remind you that you can telephone me in the morning ever so much cheaper than you can send a messenger, and you can buy me a box of chocolates with the difference."

Evasively Answered. "Oh, Mr. Smith," she said, "last night I had such a delightful dream! I positively dreamt that you and I—only you and I, mind—were traveling on our honeymoon. Do you ever have dreams like that, Mr. Smith?" "I am afraid I used to, Miss Antique," he answered, "but now I am more careful over my suppers."

Severe Reflection. A discussion on appointments to the Most Noble Order of the Thistle gave rise to a caustic saying on the part of Disraeli. Among the names suggested was that of a certain peer, who displayed more zeal than judgment in his support of the Conservative party. "Oh, no!" remarked his ungrateful chief, "I couldn't give Lord the Thistle. He'd eat it."

Found in Old Battle Ground. While cutting turf in Corlara bog, County Roscommon (Ireland) on the estate of Mr. J. J. Doyle, J. P., a number of copper battle-axe heads, armor and military utensils were unearthed the other day at a depth of about thirty feet. On this spot was formerly fought a fierce battle between the clans of the O'Rourke's of Breffni and a sept of the O'Connors of Roscommon.

"If our man doesn't make a record in the legislature," says the Whitestock Courier, "we'll send him to congress, where he'll be lost sight of and never heard from again."

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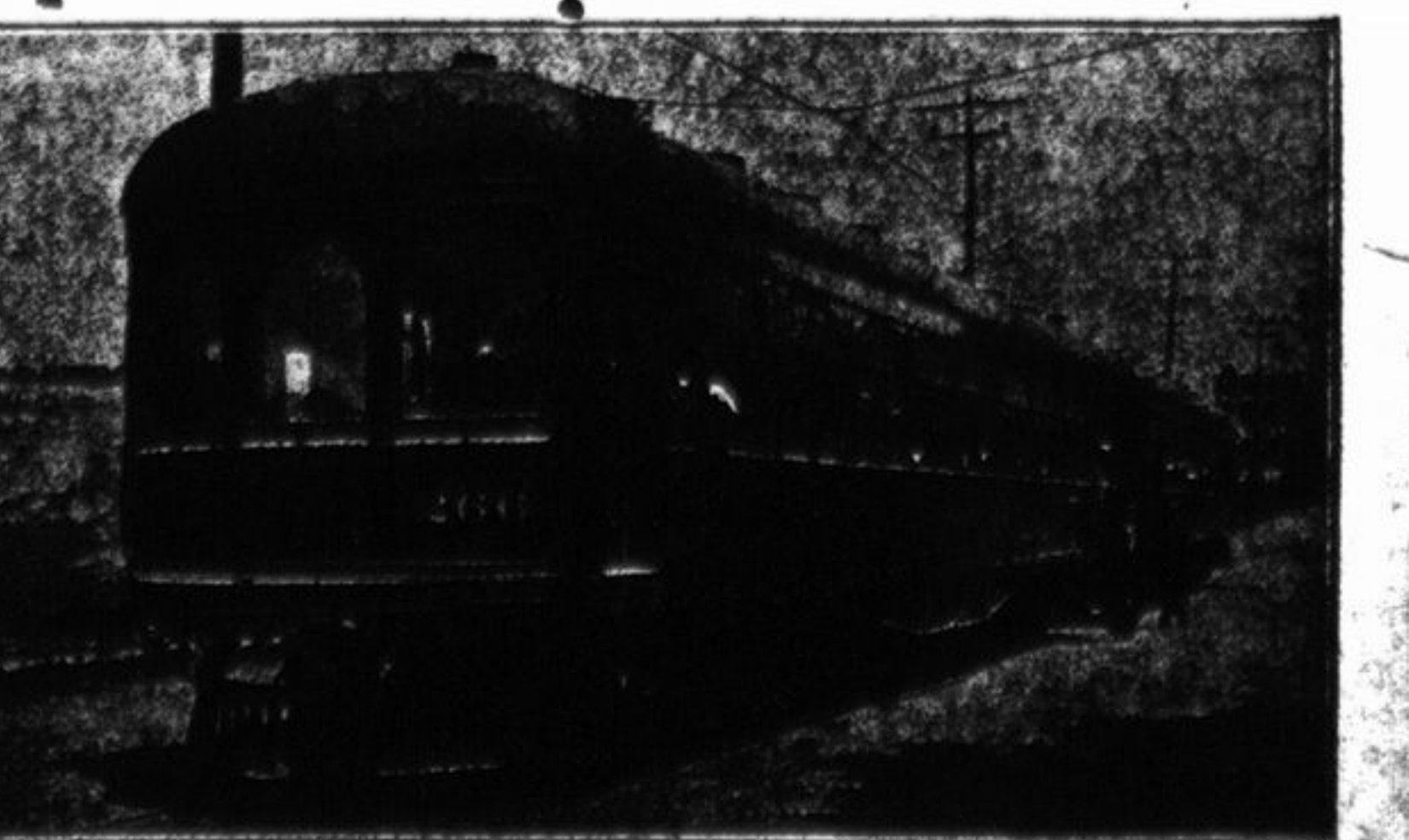
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